

Survey Ranks 'World's Most Unfriendliest' Countries

by [Libby Zay](#) ([RSS feed](#)) on Mar 15th 2013 at 2:00PM



Have you ever been to a country that just seems to give tourists the cold shoulder? Now, there are some figures behind those unwelcome feelings; the World Economic Forum has [put together a report](#) that ranks countries based on how friendly they are to tourists.

The extensive analyses ranks 140 countries according to attractiveness and competitiveness in the travel and tourism industries. But one category, "attitude of population toward foreign visitors," stands out.

According to the data, [Bolivia](#) (pictured above) ranked as the most unfriendly country, scoring a 4.1 out of seven on a scale of "very unwelcome" (0) to "very welcome" (7).

Next on the list were [Venezuela](#) and the [Russian Federation](#), followed by Kuwait, Latvia and Iran (perhaps when visiting one of these countries, you should try your best to [not look like a tourist?](#)).

On the opposite side of the scale were [Iceland](#), [New Zealand](#) and [Morocco](#), which were ranked the world's most welcoming nations for visitors.

Tourism infrastructure, business travel appeal, sustainable development of natural resources and cultural resources were some of the key factors in the rankings. Data was compiled from an opinion survey, as well as hard data from private sources and national and international agencies and organizations such as the World Bank/International Finance Corporation and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), among others.

The report also emphasized the need for continued development in the travel and tourism sector, pointing out that the industry currently accounts for one in 11 jobs worldwide.

All of the results of the survey can be found after the jump.

Attitude of population toward foreign visitors

(1 = very unwelcome; 7 = very welcome)

Friendliest

1. Iceland 6.8
2. New Zealand 6.8
3. Morocco 6.7
4. Macedonia, FYR 6.7
5. Austria 6.7
6. Senegal 6.7
7. Portugal 6.6
8. Bosnia and Herzegovina 6.6
9. Ireland 6.6
10. Burkina Faso 6.6

Unfriendliest

1. Bolivia 4.1
2. Venezuela 4.5
3. Russian Federation 5.0
4. Kuwait 5.2
5. Latvia 5.2
6. Iran 5.2
7. Pakistan 5.3
8. Slovak Republic 5.5
9. Bulgaria 5.5
10. Mongolia 5.5