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# The Power of Travel 2050

OUR PERSPECTIVE ON  
**THE NEXT GOLDEN ERA** OF TRAVEL



ALVAREZ & MARSAL

# Looking beyond the noise, travel's structural foundations have never been stronger

## The Velocity of Wealth



Accelerating wealth and rising disposable incomes are expanding the traveler base, supported by a +4Bn middle class and faster shifts from domestic to high-value long-haul travel

## Longer, Healthier Lifespans



A larger working age population and healthier older travelers are extending active travel years, and for the first time seven generations are traveling simultaneously

## Travel as a Necessity



Travel is becoming a human necessity, shifting from an occasional luxury to something people expect to enjoy regularly, as experiences matter more than things

## Diversified Corridors



Travel demand is shifting toward fast-growing regions like Asia, while better connectivity and lower costs are opening up both iconic destinations and under-the-radar hidden gems

**By  
2050...**

**~3Bn new potential  
travelers**

**7-8 generations  
simultaneously traveling<sup>1</sup>**

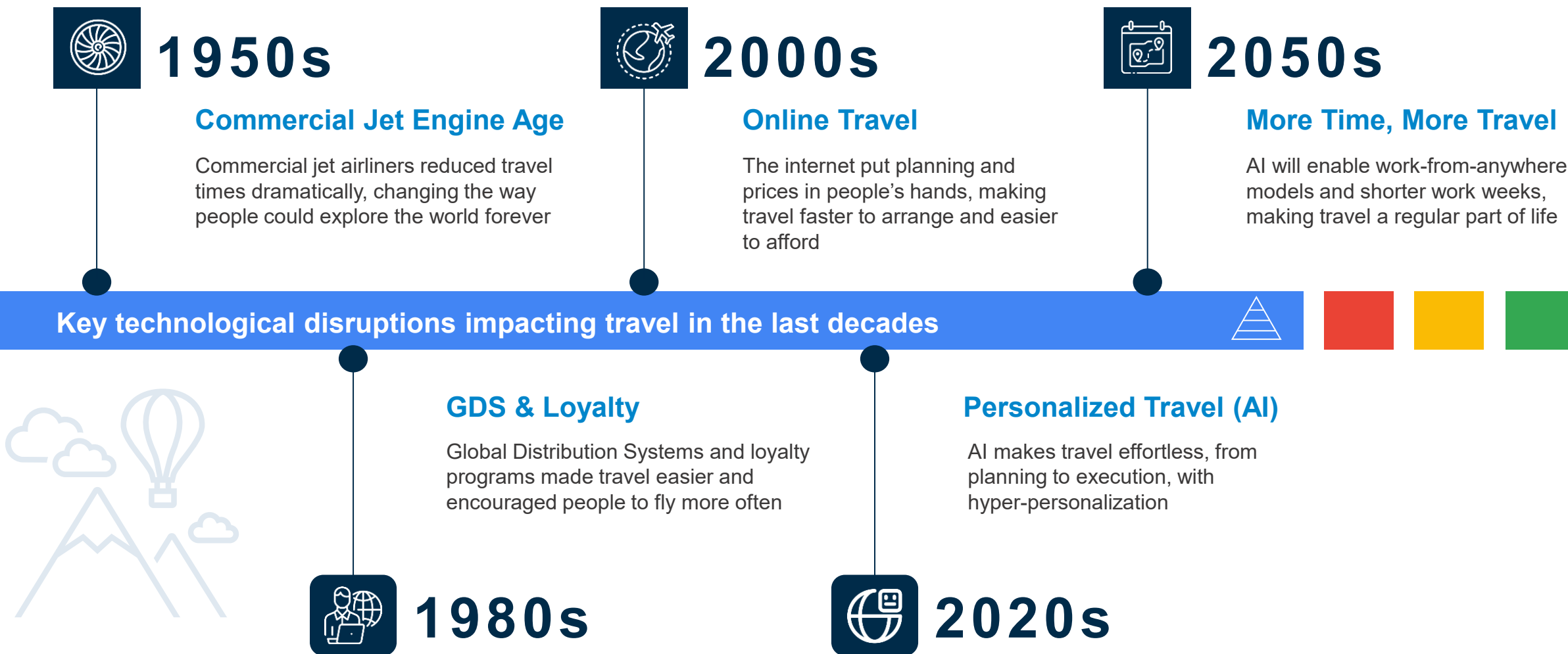
**Travel dominates  
discretionary spending**

**More routes,  
faster connectivity**

Notes: 1. Seven generations are simultaneously traveling in 2025. Silent Generation, Baby Boomers, Gen X, Millennials, Gen Z, Gen Alpha, Gen Beta. By 2050, longer lifespans and the emergence of a new post-Beta generation could result in eight generations traveling simultaneously.

Source: World Bank, The Lancet, United Nations, GapMinder classification, IAIA, AARP, A&M Analysis

# New technologies and productivity gains will transform travel more than any past disruption and enable people to travel more often



# Predictive models were used to estimate future tourism flows, combining key outbound and destination variables with extensive data

↕ Variables 2050

NON-EXHAUSTIVE

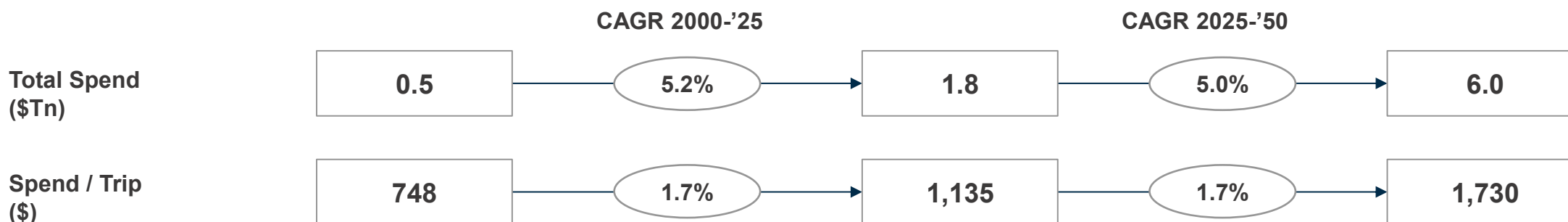
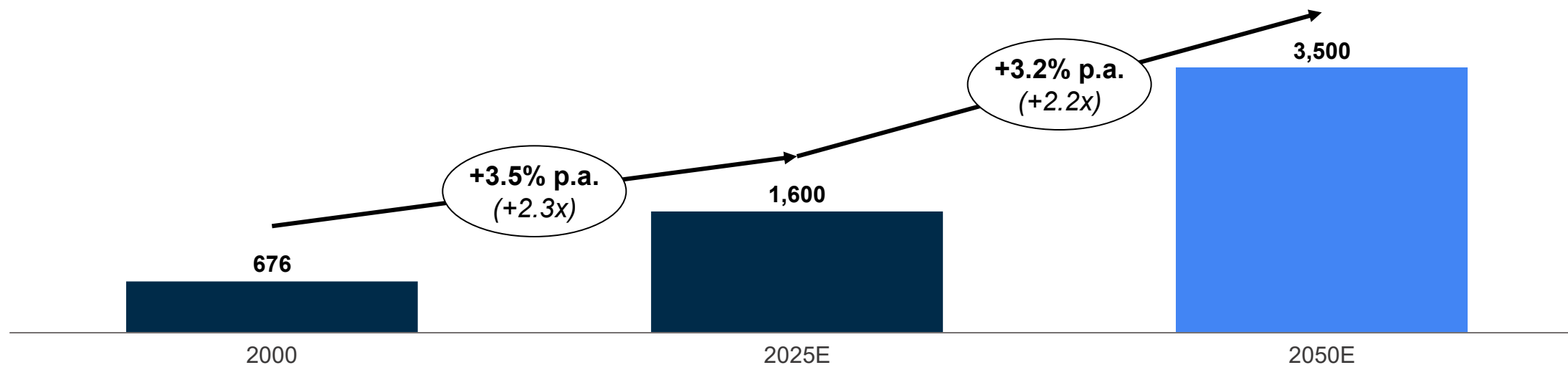
| Socio-demographic        | Travel propensity         | Destination attractiveness       |                               | Key Data Sources                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Middle-Class Expansion   | Trips per person per year | Accommodation supply and quality | Trade and mobility agreements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Google Search</li> <li>▪ A&amp;M Analysis</li> <li>▪ Iberia travel trends</li> <li>▪ UNWTO</li> <li>▪ WTTC</li> <li>▪ World Bank</li> <li>▪ OECD</li> <li>▪ IATA</li> <li>▪ National Tourism Offices</li> <li>▪ World Factbook</li> <li>▪ STR / CoStar</li> </ul> |
| Economic Power & Income  | Distance to Markets       | Transport infrastructure         | Historical & cultural ties    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|                          |                           | Safety and security              | Flow interdependencies        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Cost & Stability Metrics | Passport power            | Linguistic network scale         | Structural geography          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

Notes: Highlighted variables include those used in the modeling as well as business sense checks applied to validate outputs. The list is not exhaustive.  
Source: A&M Analysis

# International trips have doubled in the last 25 years and will double again by 2050, reaching ~3.5Bn departures



## Outbound Departures (#Mn; 2000-2050E)



Notes: Rounded numbers for presentation purposes  
Source: UNWTO, A&M Analysis

# Feeder markets are consolidating, and India and China will emerge as the largest source markets worldwide, reshaping global origin flows

## Top 15 Markets by Outbound Departures (#Mn; 2000-2050E)

2000

| Country <sup>1</sup> | Outbound Trips (Mn) | Outbound per middle class (#) |
|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Germany              | 81                  | 0.99                          |
| USA                  | 61                  | 0.22                          |
| UK                   | 57                  | 0.98                          |
| Italy                | 20                  | 0.36                          |
| France               | 20                  | 0.34                          |
| Canada               | 19                  | 0.63                          |
| Russia               | 18                  | 0.26                          |
| Japan                | 18                  | 0.15                          |
| Netherlands          | 14                  | 0.88                          |
| Switzerland          | 12                  | 1.72                          |
| Mexico               | 11                  | 0.26                          |
| Hungary              | 11                  | 1.38                          |
| China                | 10                  | 0.13                          |
| Belgium              | 8                   | 0.78                          |
| Austria              | 8                   | 0.95                          |
| Below top-15         | 308                 |                               |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>676</b>          |                               |

35%

2025E

| Country      | Outbound Trips (Mn) | Outbound per middle class (#) |
|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| China        | 155                 | 0.13                          |
| Germany      | 115                 | 1.42                          |
| USA          | 115                 | 0.34                          |
| UK           | 95                  | 1.41                          |
| France       | 35                  | 0.58                          |
| Italy        | 35                  | 0.62                          |
| Canada       | 35                  | 0.89                          |
| India        | 35                  | 0.15                          |
| Russia       | 35                  | 0.24                          |
| Saudi Arabia | 30                  | 0.86                          |
| South Korea  | 30                  | 0.58                          |
| UAE          | 30                  | 3.09                          |
| Netherlands  | 25                  | 1.34                          |
| Spain        | 20                  | 0.48                          |
| Mexico       | 20                  | 0.21                          |
| Below top-15 | 790                 |                               |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>1,600</b>        |                               |

33%

2050E

| Country      | Outbound Trips (Mn) | Outbound per middle class (#) |
|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| India        | 415                 | 0.34                          |
| China        | 365                 | 0.29                          |
| USA          | 295                 | 0.80                          |
| UK           | 165                 | 2.31                          |
| Germany      | 160                 | 2.07                          |
| Indonesia    | 75                  | 0.31                          |
| France       | 75                  | 1.12                          |
| Russia       | 70                  | 0.53                          |
| Saudi Arabia | 65                  | 1.41                          |
| South Korea  | 65                  | 1.48                          |
| Brazil       | 65                  | 0.32                          |
| UAE          | 60                  | 5.46                          |
| Italy        | 55                  | 1.05                          |
| Canada       | 55                  | 1.19                          |
| Spain        | 50                  | 1.14                          |
| Below top-15 | 1,465               |                               |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>3,500</b>        |                               |

40%

41%

Top 5 markets in 2000

Top 5 markets in year

xx% % share of overall inbound travel

Notes: Rounded numbers for presentation purposes; 1. 2000 figures exclude Poland (57Mn trips) and Malaysia (31Mn trips) from Top 5 due to lack of / inconsistent data in outer years  
Source: UNWTO, A&M Analysis

# Destinations will democratize as the Top 5 lose share and Below Top 15 countries gain most of the growth

## Top 15 Markets by Arrivals (#Mn; 2000-2050E)

2000

| Country      | Inbound Arrivals (Mn) |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| France       | 77                    |
| USA          | 51                    |
| Spain        | 46                    |
| Italy        | 41                    |
| China        | 31                    |
| UK           | 23                    |
| Russia       | 21                    |
| Mexico       | 21                    |
| Canada       | 20                    |
| Germany      | 19                    |
| Austria      | 18                    |
| Poland       | 17                    |
| Greece       | 13                    |
| Portugal     | 12                    |
| Malaysia     | 10                    |
| Below top-15 | 255                   |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>676</b>            |

37%

38%

2025E

| Country      | Inbound Arrivals (Mn) | CAGR 2000-25 (%) |
|--------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| France       | 105                   | 1.2%             |
| Spain        | 95                    | 3.0%             |
| Italy        | 70                    | 2.2%             |
| USA          | 70                    | 1.1%             |
| China        | 65                    | 3.0%             |
| Turkey       | 55                    | 7.3%             |
| Mexico       | 45                    | 3.3%             |
| UK           | 40                    | 6.0%             |
| Japan        | 40                    | 2.3%             |
| Germany      | 40                    | 8.9%             |
| Saudi Arabia | 40                    | 2.9%             |
| Greece       | 40                    | 7.3%             |
| Thailand     | 35                    | 4.4%             |
| Austria      | 35                    | 2.5%             |
| UAE          | 30                    | 8.2%             |
| Below top-15 | 795                   | 4.5%             |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>1,600</b>          | <b>3.4%</b>      |

26%

49%

2050E

| Country      | Inbound Arrivals (Mn) | CAGR 2025-50 (%) |
|--------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Spain        | 130                   | 1.1%             |
| France       | 125                   | 0.7%             |
| China        | 110                   | 2.2%             |
| USA          | 105                   | 1.7%             |
| Thailand     | 100                   | 4.5%             |
| Italy        | 95                    | 1.2%             |
| Mexico       | 90                    | 2.7%             |
| Turkey       | 85                    | 1.7%             |
| Saudi Arabia | 85                    | 3.2%             |
| India        | 70                    | 5.5%             |
| Germany      | 65                    | 2.1%             |
| UK           | 65                    | 1.9%             |
| Japan        | 60                    | 1.7%             |
| UAE          | 60                    | 3.0%             |
| Malaysia     | 55                    | 3.0%             |
| Below top-15 | 2,200                 | 4.3%             |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>3,500</b>          | <b>3.3%</b>      |

16%

63%

Top 5 markets in 2000

Top 5 markets in year

xx%

% share of overall inbound travel



# In domestic travel, India, China, and the US will remain the global anchors



## Top 15 Markets by Domestic Trips (#Mn; 2010-2050E)

2010<sup>1</sup>

| Country       | Domestic Trips (Mn) | % of Top 15 |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------|
| China         | 2,103               | 32%         |
| USA           | 1,964               | 30%         |
| India         | 748                 | 12%         |
| Japan         | 318                 | 5%          |
| Indonesia     | 234                 | 4%          |
| France        | 194                 | 3%          |
| Germany       | 146                 | 2%          |
| Spain         | 145                 | 2%          |
| UK            | 119                 | 2%          |
| Colombia      | 118                 | 2%          |
| Thailand      | 101                 | 2%          |
| South Korea   | 92                  | 1%          |
| Canada        | 92                  | 1%          |
| Australia     | 69                  | 1%          |
| Malaysia      | 44                  | 1%          |
| <b>Top 15</b> | <b>6,488</b>        | <b>100%</b> |

74%

2025E

| Country       | Domestic Trips (Mn) | % of Top 15 |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------|
| China         | 5,830               | 42%         |
| India         | 3,070               | 22%         |
| USA           | 2,310               | 17%         |
| Indonesia     | 805                 | 6%          |
| Japan         | 300                 | 2%          |
| France        | 210                 | 2%          |
| Germany       | 165                 | 1%          |
| Colombia      | 160                 | 1%          |
| South Korea   | 160                 | 1%          |
| Spain         | 155                 | 1%          |
| Thailand      | 130                 | 1%          |
| Canada        | 125                 | 1%          |
| UK            | 120                 | 1%          |
| Philippines   | 120                 | 1%          |
| Australia     | 120                 | 1%          |
| <b>Top 15</b> | <b>13,780</b>       | <b>100%</b> |

81%

2050E

| Country       | Domestic Trips (Mn) | % of Top 15 |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------|
| India         | 7,220               | 37%         |
| China         | 6,210               | 32%         |
| USA           | 2,615               | 13%         |
| Indonesia     | 1,120               | 6%          |
| Philippines   | 390                 | 2%          |
| Thailand      | 270                 | 1%          |
| Japan         | 265                 | 1%          |
| France        | 250                 | 1%          |
| Colombia      | 250                 | 1%          |
| Germany       | 190                 | 1%          |
| UK            | 190                 | 1%          |
| Australia     | 175                 | 1%          |
| Canada        | 170                 | 1%          |
| Spain         | 165                 | 1%          |
| Malaysia      | 150                 | 1%          |
| <b>Top 15</b> | <b>19,630</b>       | <b>100%</b> |

82%

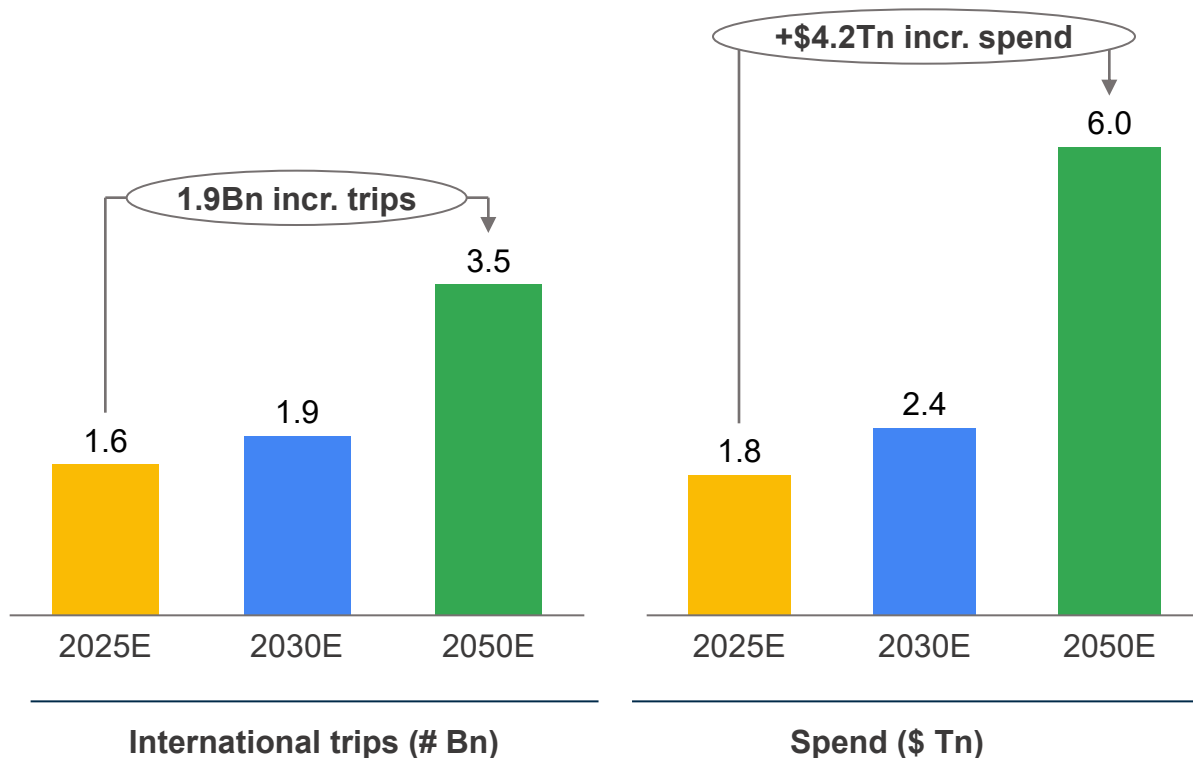
Notes: Rounded numbers for presentation purposes; 1. Only countries with consistent and comparable domestic travel data are included; 2. 2000 figures not available due to limited country data from UNWTO  
Source: A&M Analysis



# By 2050, travel will add 1.9 billion international trips and \$4.2 trillion in spend, but this growth will come with a rising complexity tax that challenges legacy models



## Opportunity



## Complexity TAX



Growth will fragment across regions



Channels and interfaces will proliferate, as social, AI-driven, and traditional discovery and booking coexist



Demand for hyper-personalization, flexibility, and seamless experiences



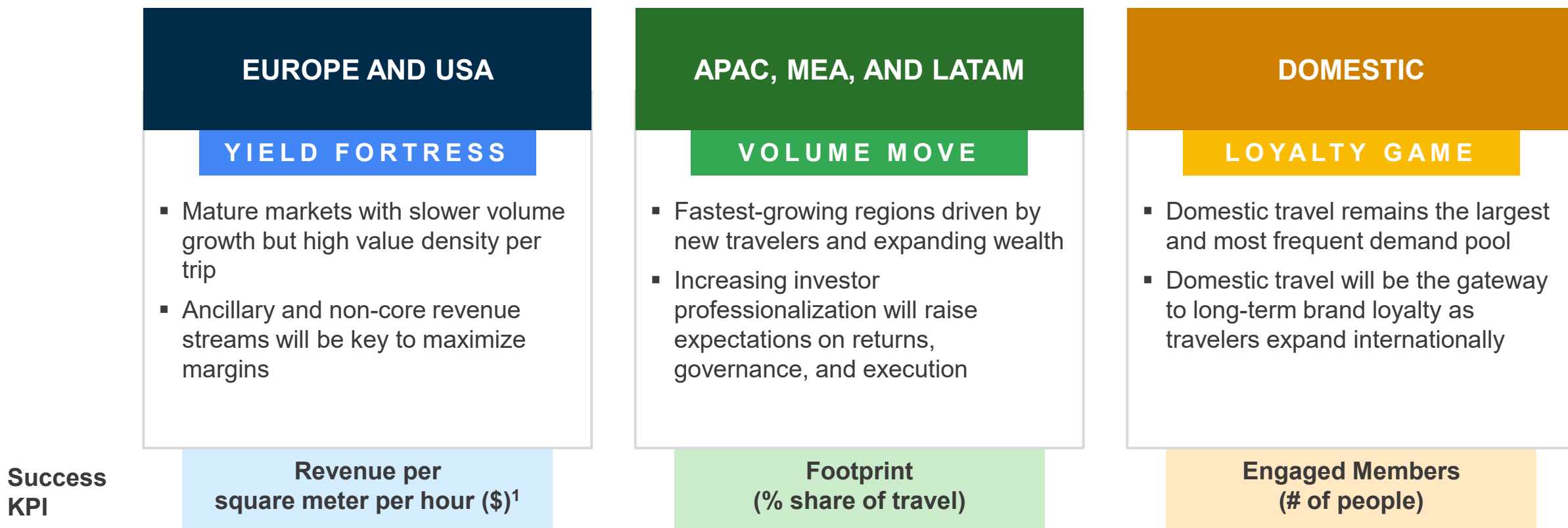
Operating costs rise and increasingly sophisticated investors

# Commercial zones will guide investment decisions, and as operations become more sophisticated, new metrics will be needed to monitor performance



## Implications across commercial zones

DIRECTIONAL



Notes: 1. Revenue per square meter per hour is used as a KPI to measure revenue productivity per available inventory, with the definition of inventory varying by travel sub-sector (e.g., hotel: rooms, common spaces vs aircraft: seats)

Source: A&M Analysis

# Converting growth into value will not be automatic and will require a new playbook across traveler, geography, profitability, and AI-enabled operations



## Overview of implications for 2030

### WIN TOMORROW'S TRAVELER HEART

Elevate loyalty, personalization and brand connection to serve tech-native, experience-driven travelers who will dominate spend by 2050

### GO WHERE GROWTH IS

Adapt your global presence and portfolio as demand shifts to new source markets and diversified destinations

### RUN FOR PROFITABILITY

Re-engineer operations to capture rising demand efficiently through smarter portfolios, empowered teams and automation

### AI AS AN ENABLER

Position AI as the transversal layer that enables better experiences at scale, redefines operations, protects the balance sheet, and optimizes yield

# AI will be the defining gamechanger, with the coming shift to agentic AI reshaping traveler experiences and operating models end to end



## Selection of high-impact Agentic use cases that can transform travel by 2030

NON-EXHAUSTIVE

### FOR THE OPERATOR

1. Personal product and price
2. From OrgChart to Workchart
3. Reshape of the job descriptions and scopes
4. Automated Frontline Operations and Tech Modernization
5. Predictive & Autonomous Property / Asset Management

### FOR THE TRAVELER

- From EA to AI
- Intelligent Spend & Loyalty Optimization
- Undifferentiated inventory gets commoditized
- Hyper-Personalized In-Stay Experiences and Disruption Resolution
- Post-trip memory creates real lock-in



# THANK YOU



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