

# MULTI-GENERATIONAL TRAVEL TRENDS

Connecting the Digital Dots:  
The Motivations and Mindset of  
European Travellers

**expedia group**™  
 media solutions



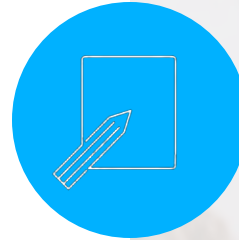
# METHODOLOGY

ONLINE SURVEY



## Data Collection Method

Quantitative Survey



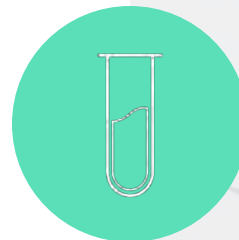
## Field Work

30 March – 7 April 2017



## Qualifying Criteria

Must have booked online travel in the past year



## Sample Size

UK: n=1001

Germany: n=1000

France: n=1002

Total Europe: n=3003





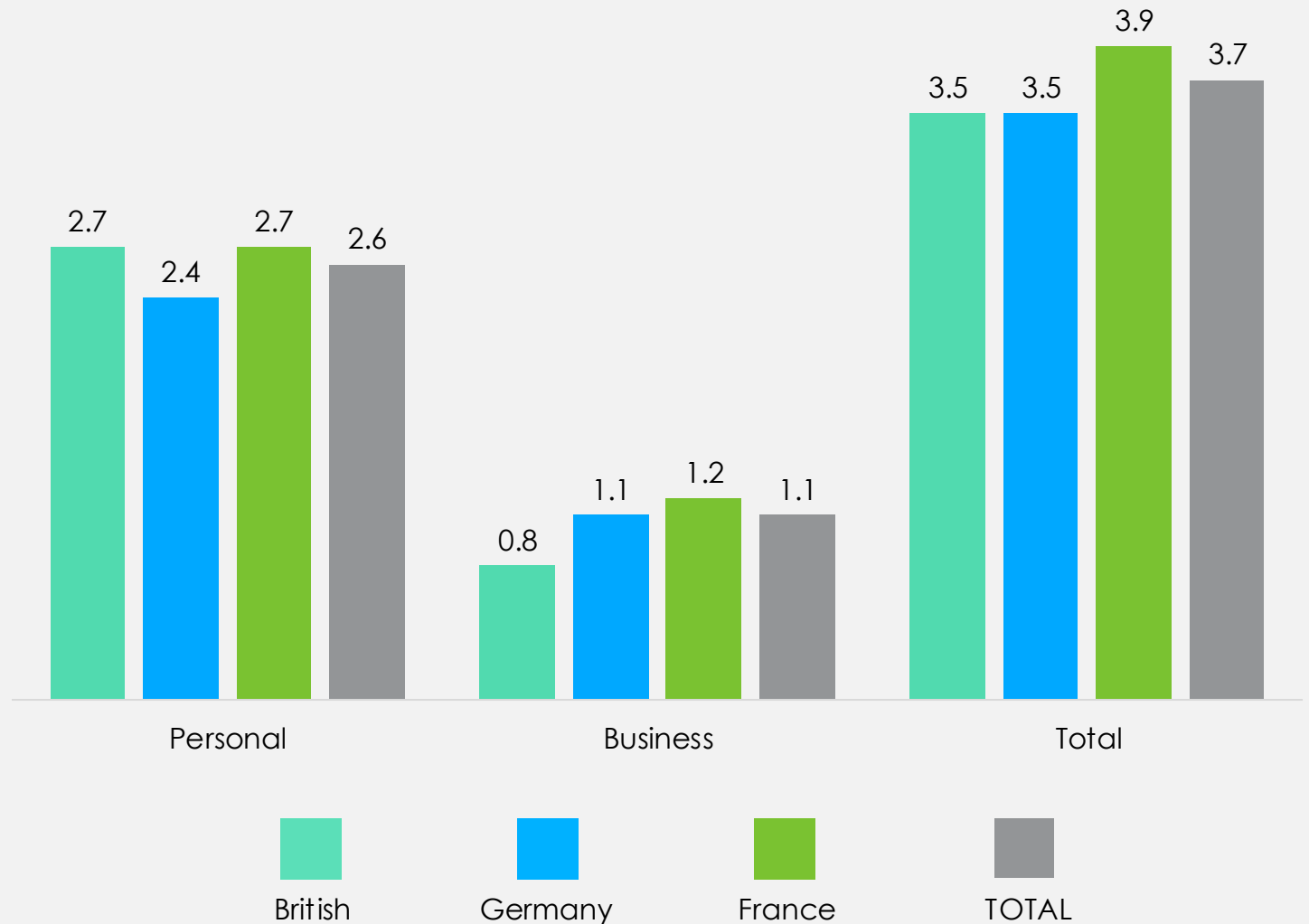
# LAST TRIP LOOK BACK BY COUNTRY



# EUROPEAN TRAVELLERS TOOK MORE THAN 3 TRIPS IN THE LAST YEAR

British and French travellers took the most personal trips, and French travellers took the most trips total

## Number of Trips Taken in the Past Year

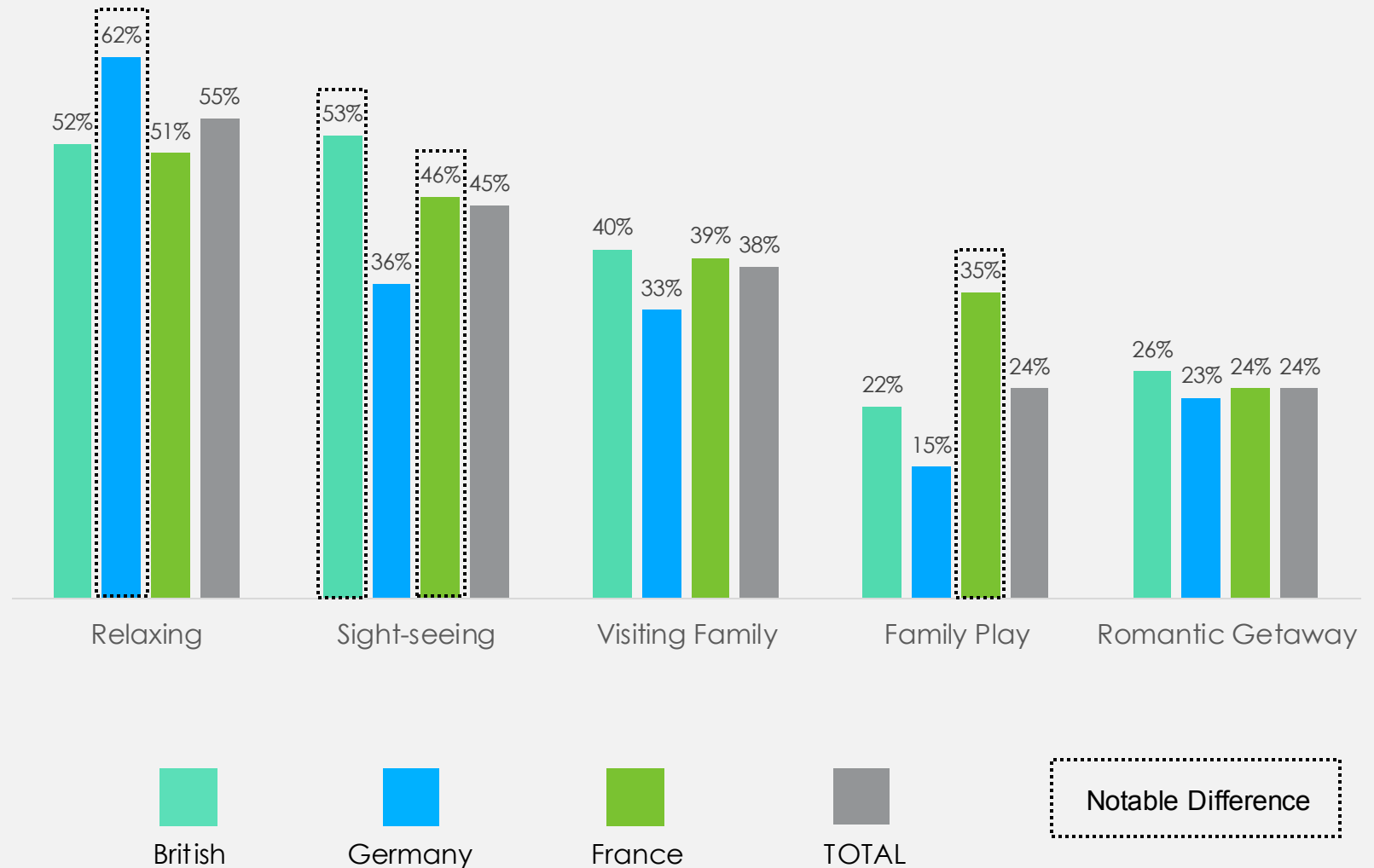


Q9: Typically, how many personal/leisure and business trips do you take per year?  
Total (n=3003) British (n=1001) Germany (n=1000) France (n=1002)

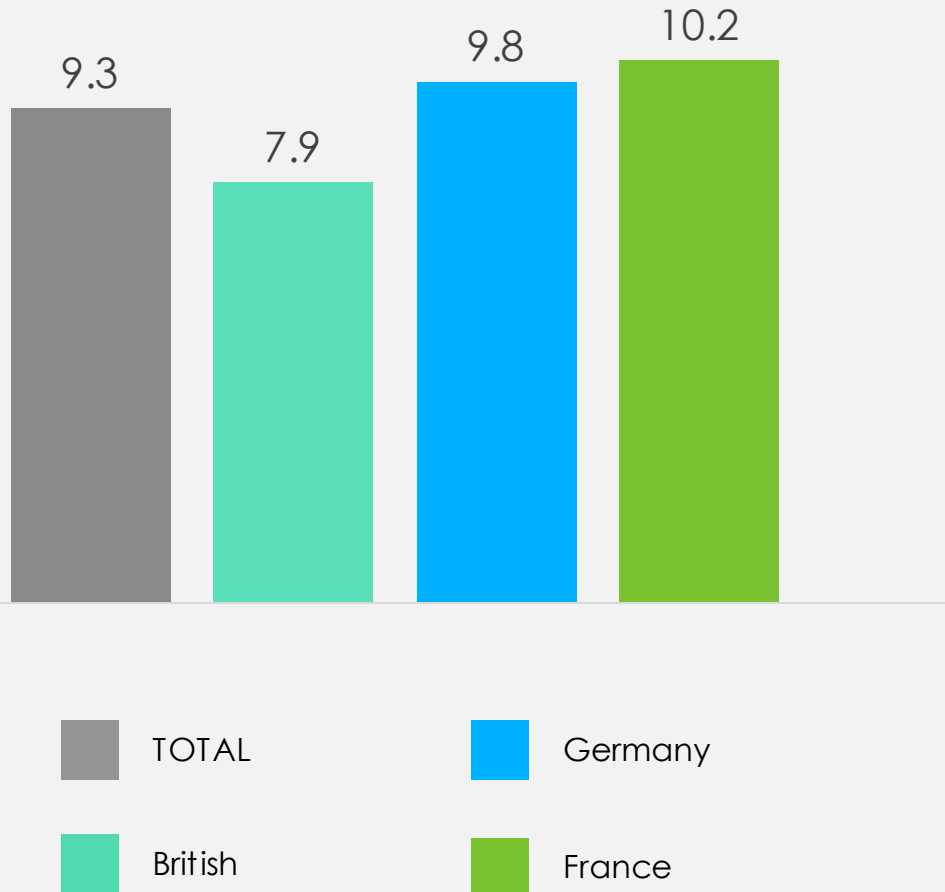
# RELAXING TRIPS WERE POPULAR, ESPECIALLY WITH GERMAN TRAVELLERS

Sight-seeing holidays were also big with British and French travellers, while family play trips were only notable with the French

## Types of Vacation Taken in the Past Year



## Last Vacation Duration in Days



Q15. How long was your vacation?  
Total (n=3003) British (n=1001) Germany (n=1000) France (n=1002)

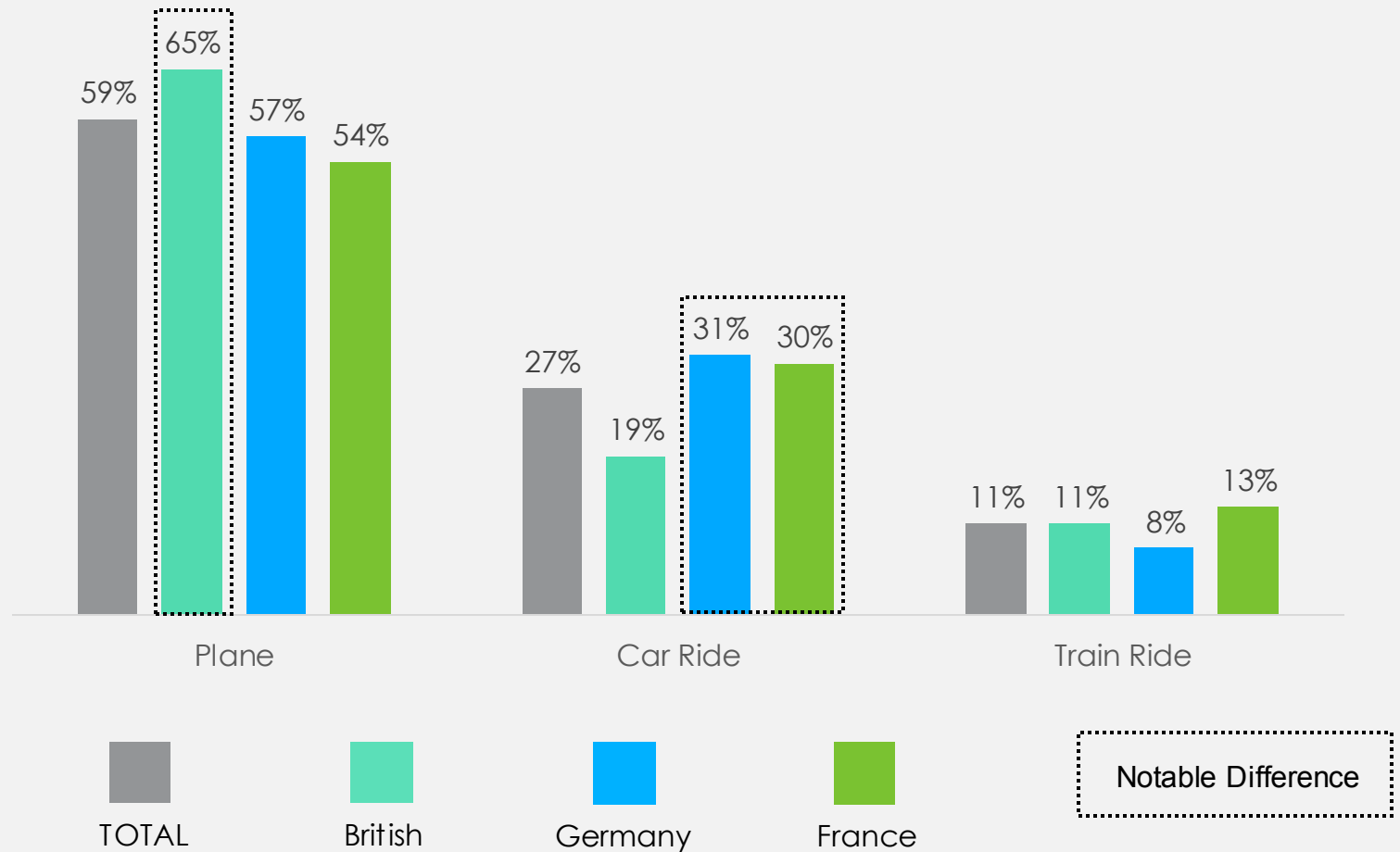
# EUROPEAN TRAVELLERS TOOK ON AVERAGE MORE THAN 9 DAYS FOR HOLIDAYS

At nearly or more than 10 days in length, the last trip French and German travellers took was significantly longer than the last British holiday

# EUROPEANS LARGELY TRAVELLED BY PLANE TO GET TO THEIR LAST DESTINATION

German and French travellers  
were more likely than the Brits to  
travel by car

## Type of Travel to Last Destination

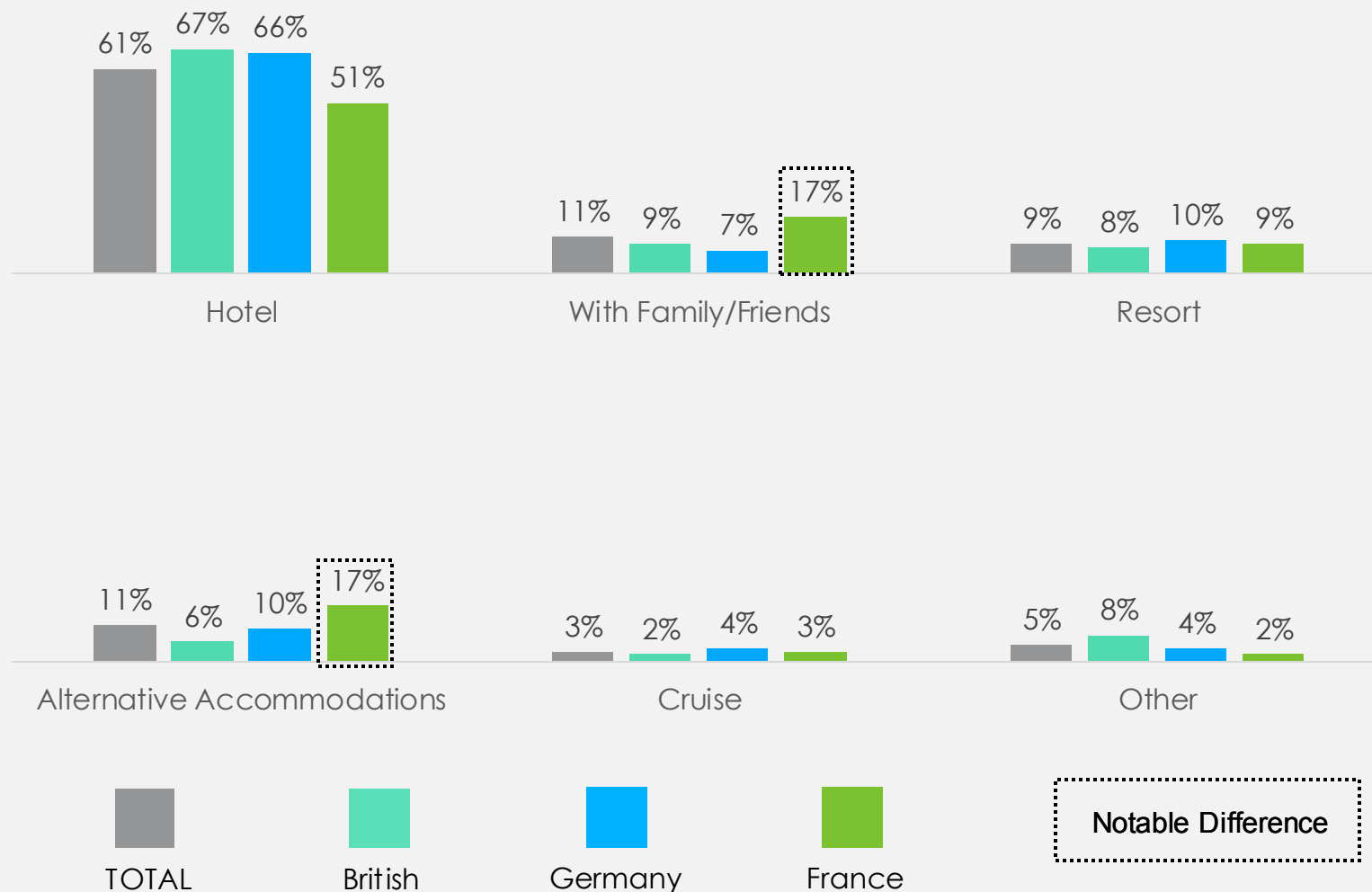


Q16. How did you get to your destination?  
Total (n=2002) US (n=1001) Canada (n=1001)

# 6 OUT OF 10 EUROPEAN TRAVELLERS STAYED IN HOTELS

French travellers are the least likely to stay in a hotel, and most likely to stay with family or in alternative accommodations

## Accommodations of Last Trip

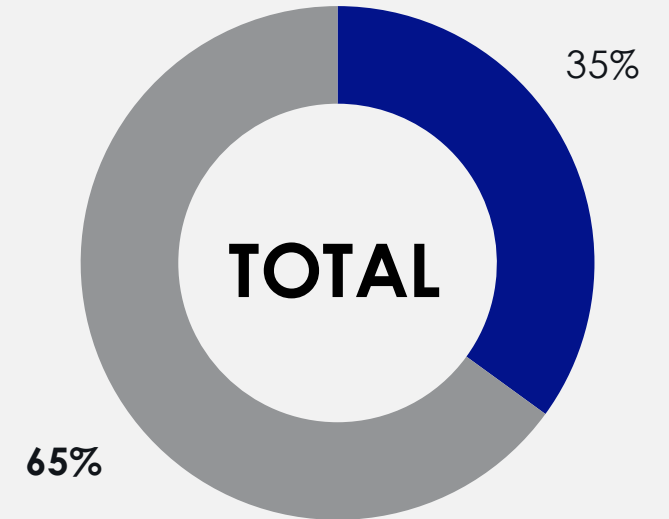
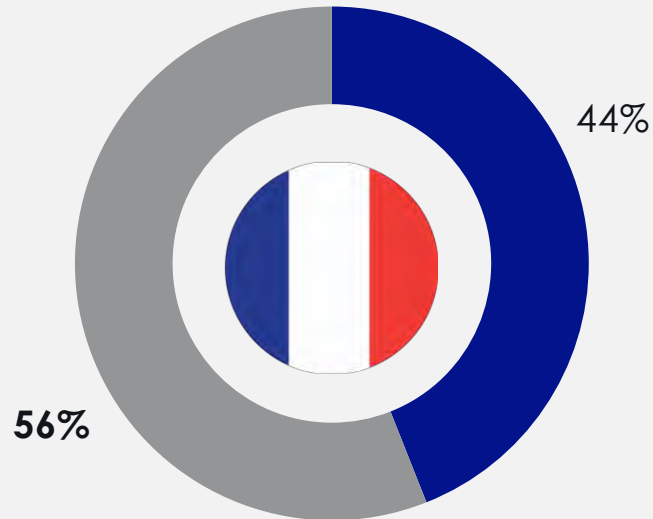
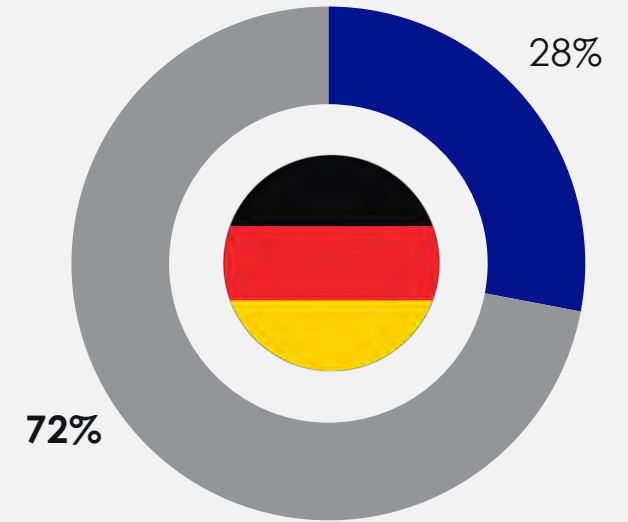
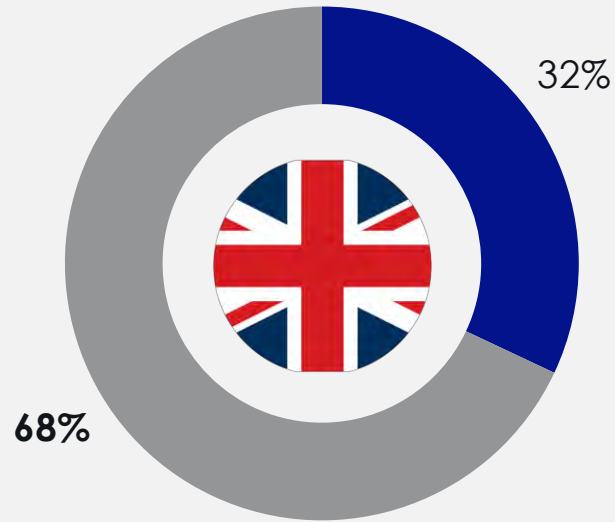



Q17. Where did you stay on your last trip?  
Total (n=3003) British (n=1001) Germany (n=1000) France (n=1002)




# THE MAJORITY OF EUROPEANS TRAVEL OUTSIDE THEIR COUNTRY ON HOLIDAY

Germans were most likely to travel abroad, and the French were most closely divided between a holiday in the country or elsewhere



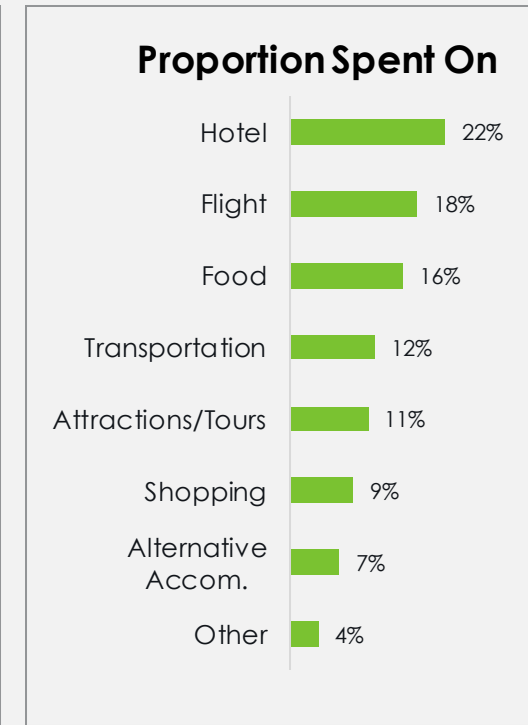
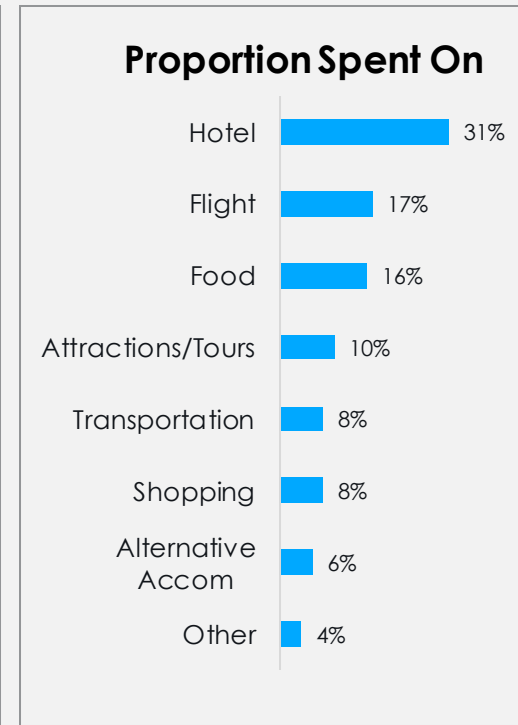
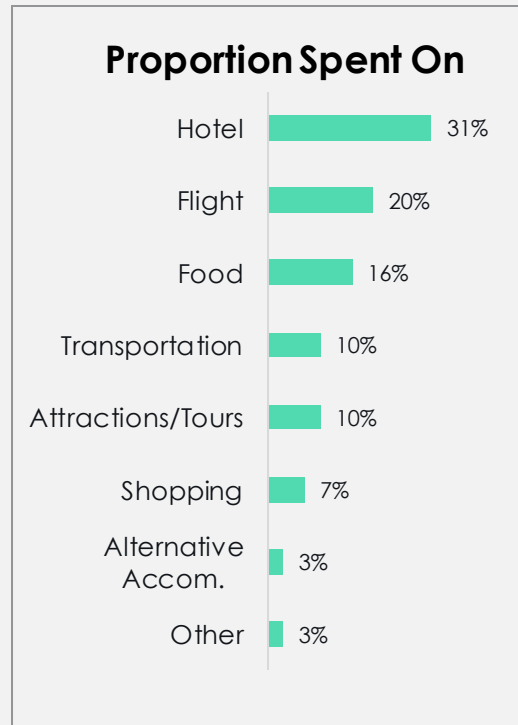
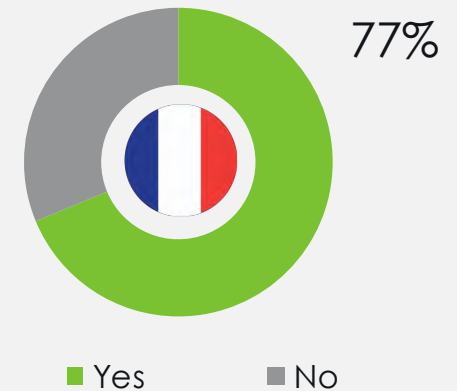
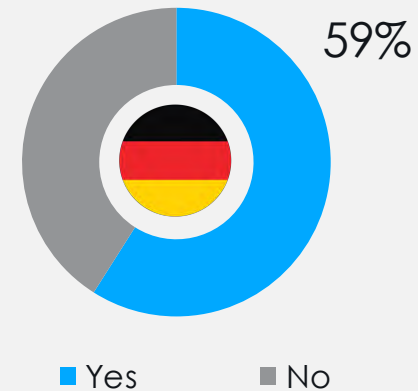
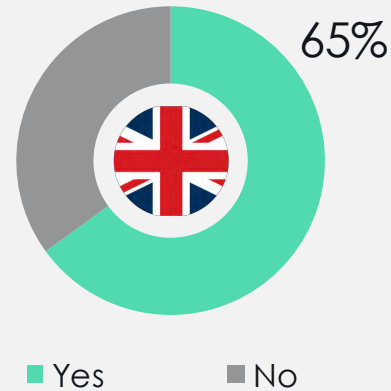
 In my country

 Outside my country

Q14. Was the trip...?  
Total (n=3003) British (n=1001) Germany (n=1000) France (n=1002)

# BUDGET WAS A PRIMARY FACTOR FOR EUROPEAN TRAVELLERS – ESPECIALLY THE FRENCH

Lodging is a significant portion of the budget for each—especially for British and German travellers—with the only difference in the top five being German travellers budgeted more for attractions than transportation



Q18. Was budget a primary factor when you were researching/ booking your last trip?  
Q20. What proportion of your travel budget did you spend on each of the following?  
Total (n=3003) British (n=1001) Germany (n=1000) France (n=1002)





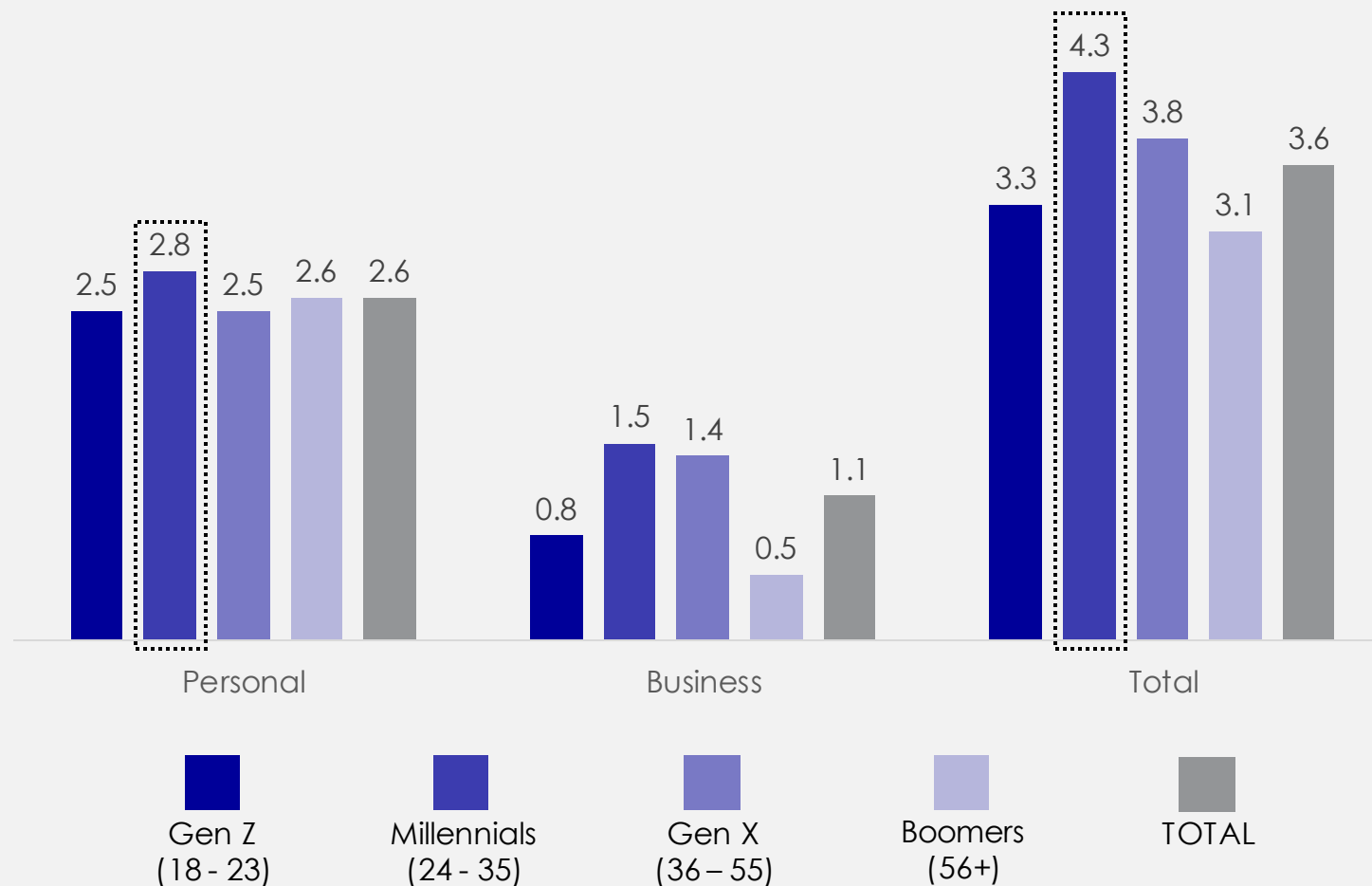
# LAST TRIP LOOK BACK BY GENERATION



# MILLENNIALS TOOK THE MOST TRIPS – BOTH PERSONAL AND BUSINESS

Gen X followed due to the number of business trips they took

Number of Trips Taken in the Past Year  
(Total by Generation)



Q9: Typically, how many personal/leisure and business trips do you take per year?  
Total (n=3003) Gen Z (n=662) Millennials (n=773) Gen X (n=794) Boomers (n=774)

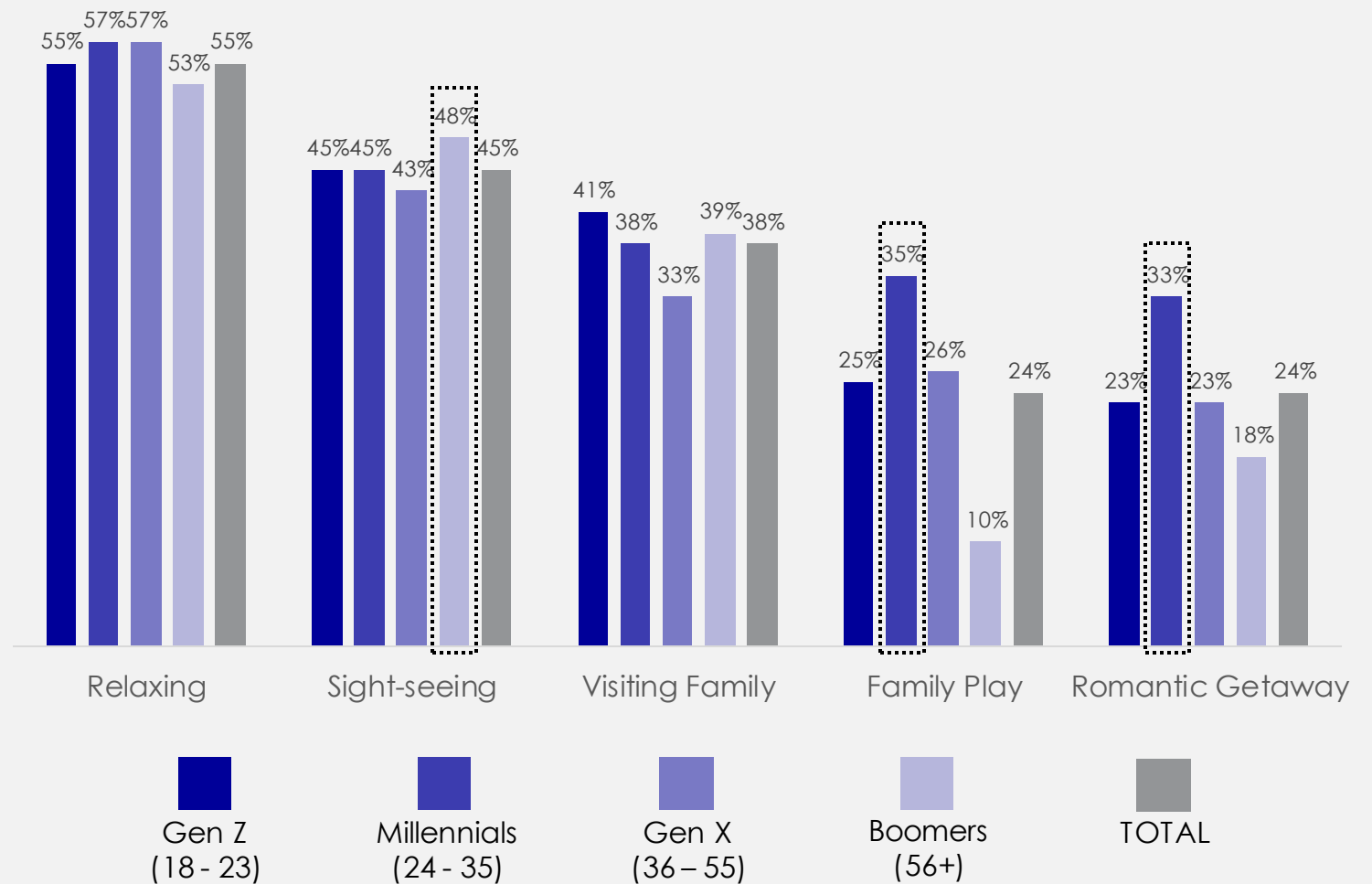
Notable Difference



# ALL PREFER RELAXING HOLIDAYS – ESPECIALLY MILLENNIALS & GEN X

Boomers were more likely to take sight-seeing holidays than other generations, while Millennials were significantly more apt to go on Family Play or Romantic Getaways

## Types of Vacation Taken in the Past Year (Total by Generation)

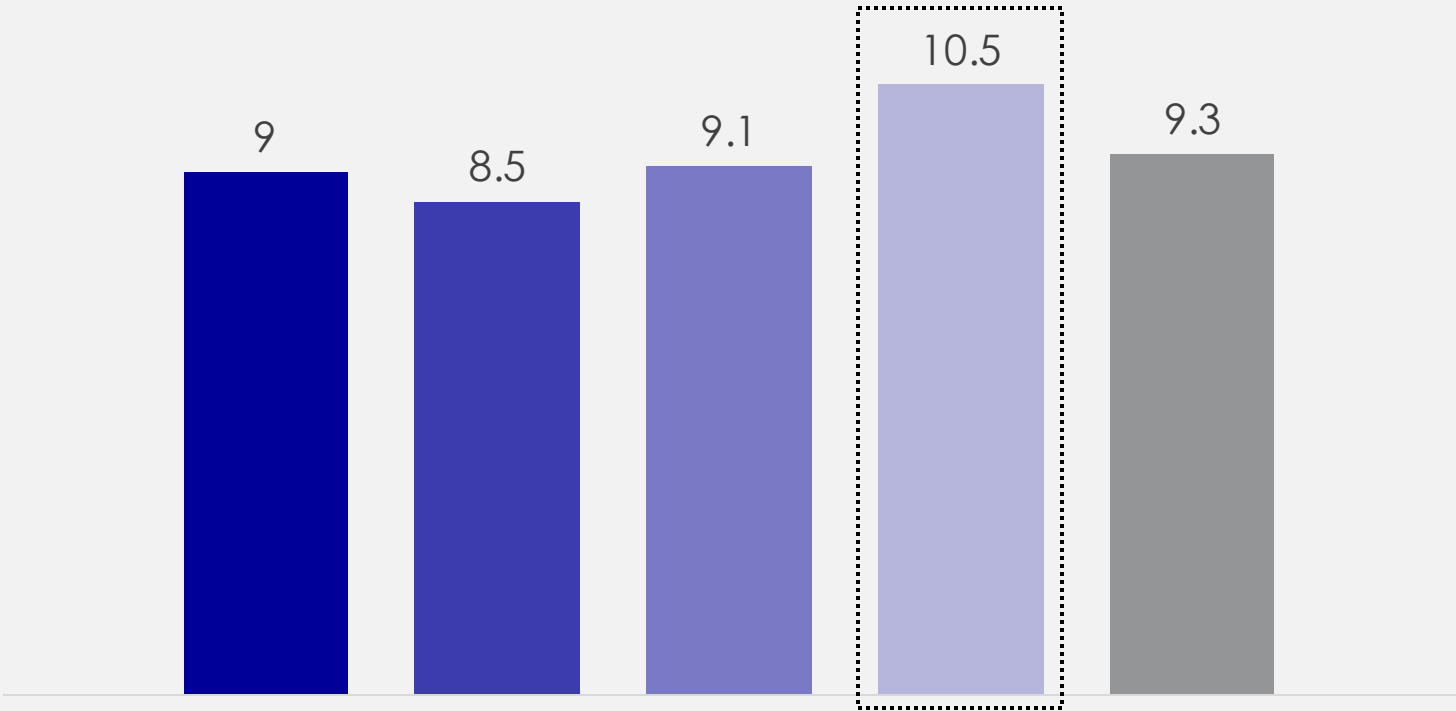


Q10: What types of vacations have you taken in the **past year**?  
Total (n=3003) Gen Z (n=662) Millennials (n=773) Gen X (n=794) Boomers (n=774)

Notable Difference



### Last Vacation Duration in Days



Gen Z  
(18 - 23)

Millennials  
(24 - 35)

Gen X  
(36 - 55)

Boomers  
(56+)

TOTAL

Notable Difference

# BOOMERS TAKE THE LONGEST TRIPS

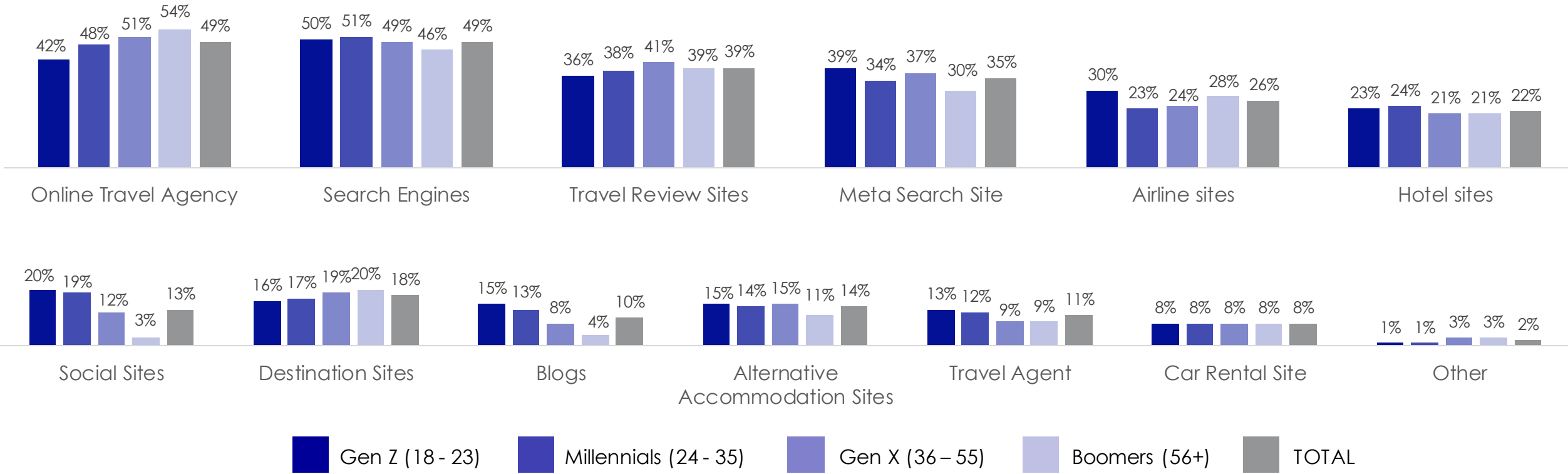
At more than 10 days in length, the last trip Boomer travellers took was significantly longer than the other generations, followed by Gen X and Gen Z at about 9 days

Q15. How long was your vacation?  
Total (n=3003) Gen Z (n=662) Millennials (n=773) Gen X (n=794) Boomers (n=774)

# OTAS PROMINENT IN TRAVEL PLANNING

Especially for Gen X and Boomers, who also rely more on reviews

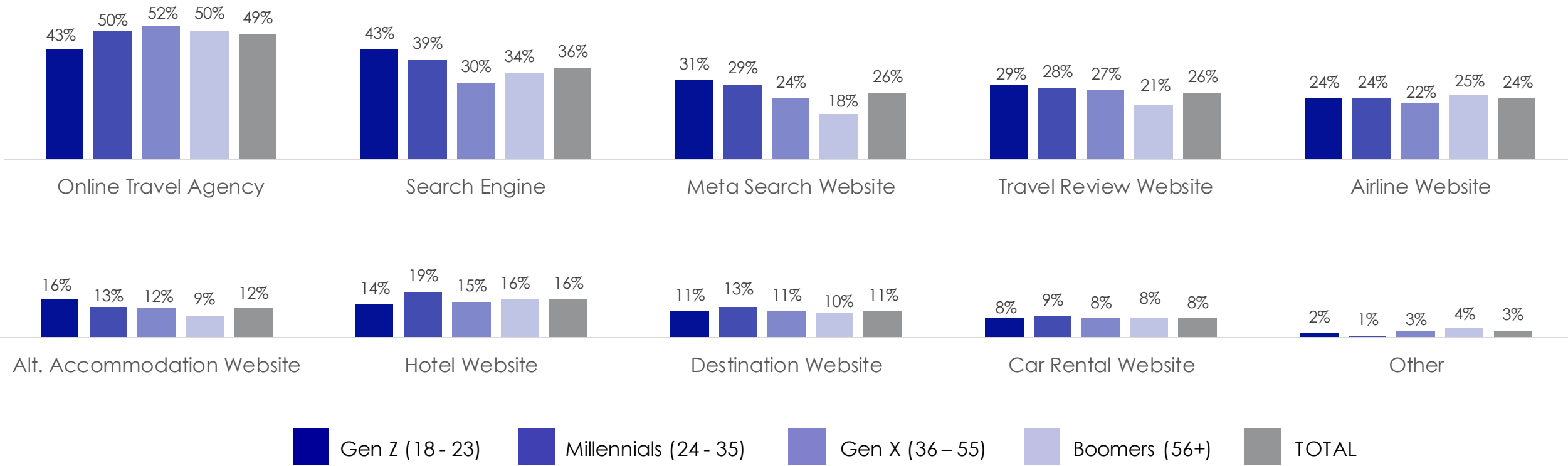
## Resources Used For Planning Last Trip



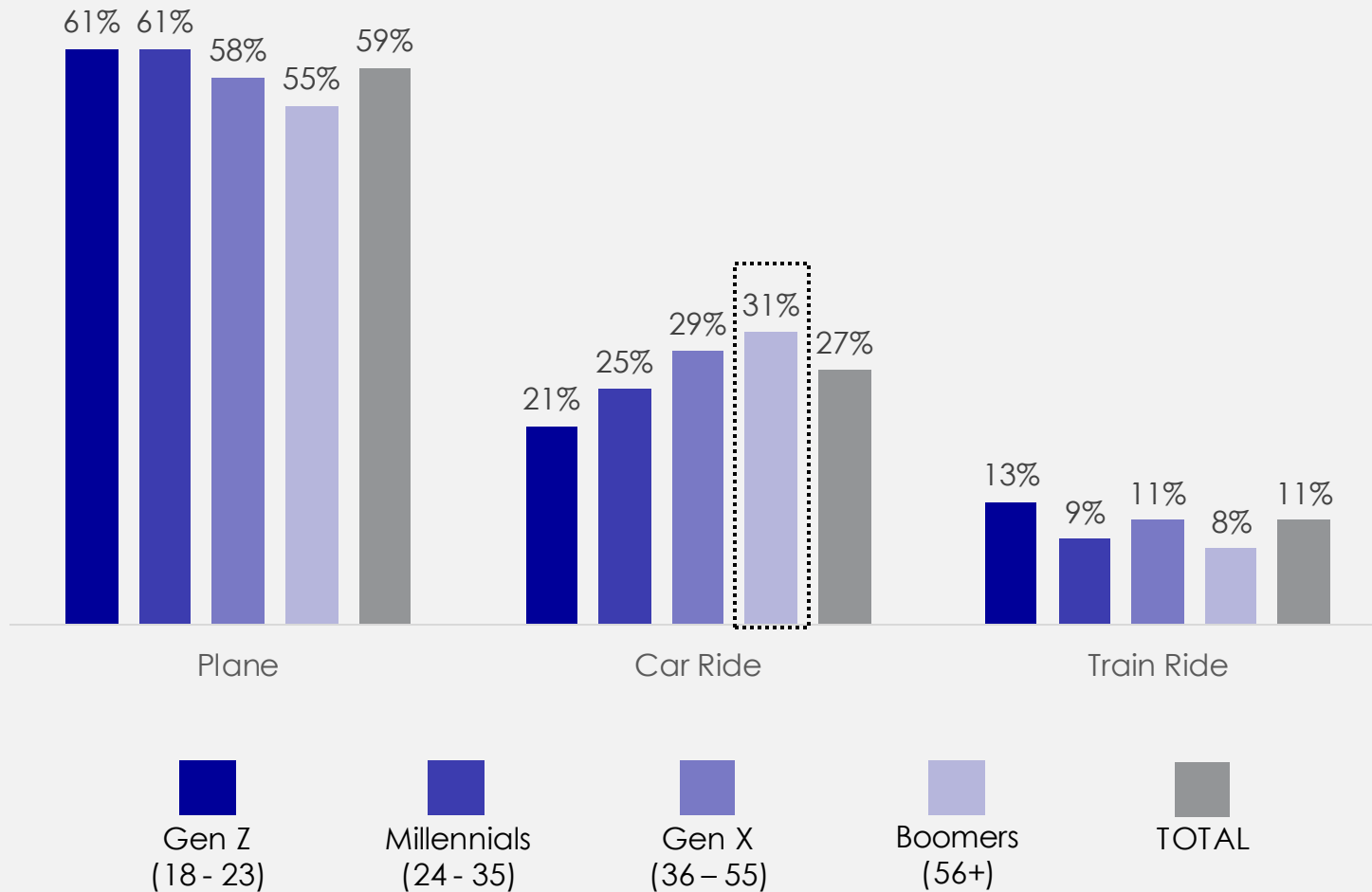
# OTAS LEAD THE PACK FOR BOOKING TRAVEL

Gen X uses OTAs significantly more to book than any other resource

### Sources Used To Book Travel Online On Last Trip



## Type of Travel to Last Destination



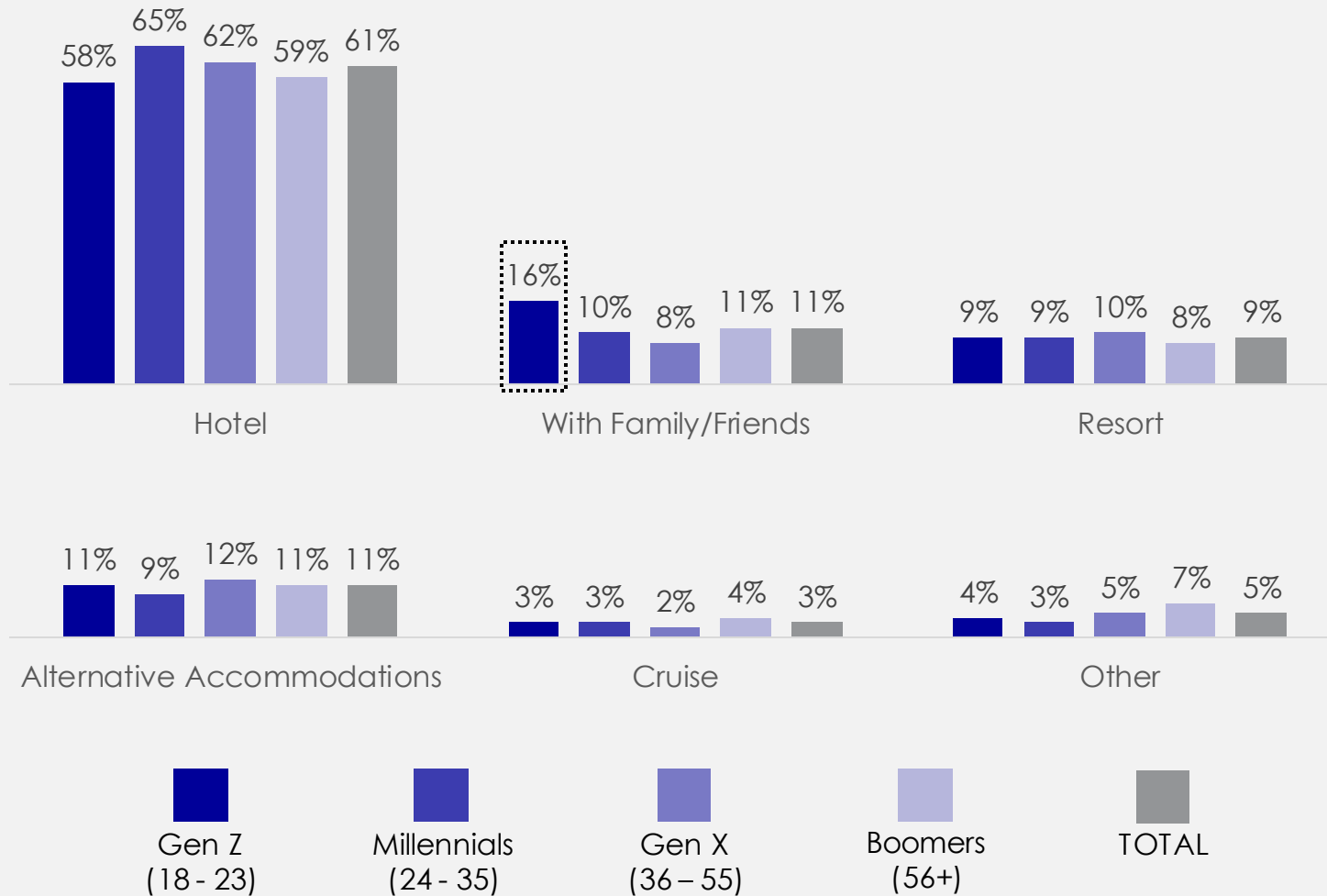
Q16. How did you get to your destination?  
 Total (n=3003) Gen Z (n=662) Millennials (n=773) Gen X (n=794) Boomers (n=774)

Notable Difference

# PLANE TRAVEL MOST POPULAR TO GET TO DESTINATIONS

Boomers and Gen X were more likely to travel by car than the other generations

## Accommodations of Last Trip



Q17. Where did you stay on your last trip?  
 Total (n=3003) Gen Z (n=662) Millennials (n=773) Gen X (n=794) Boomers (n=774)

Notable Difference

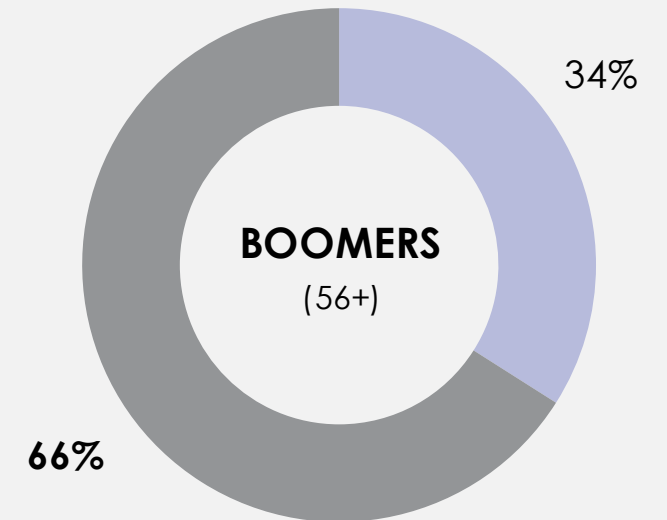
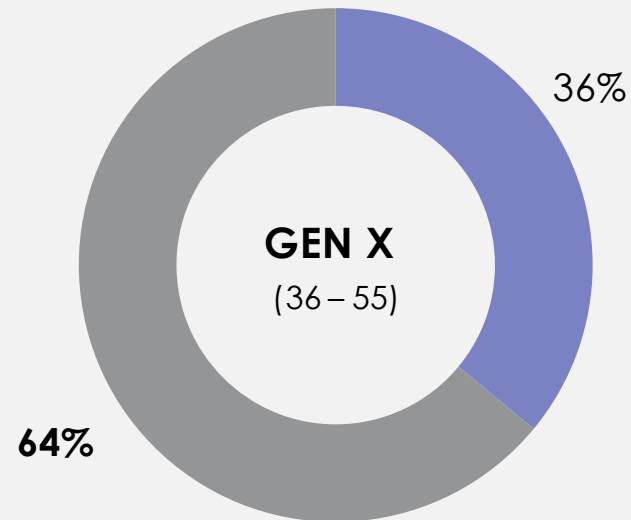
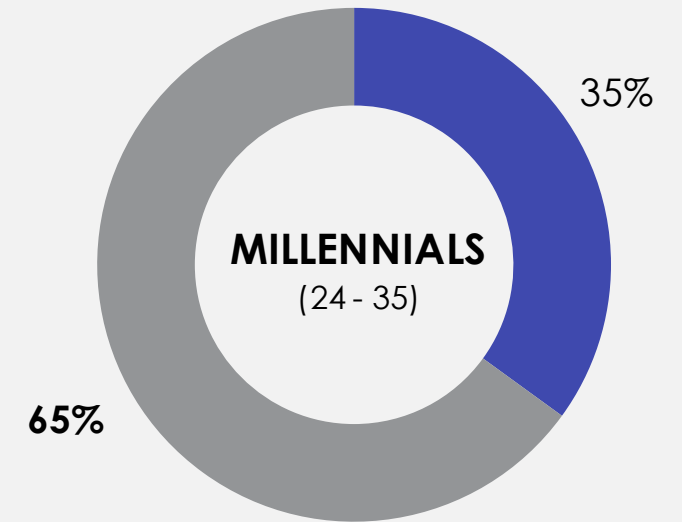
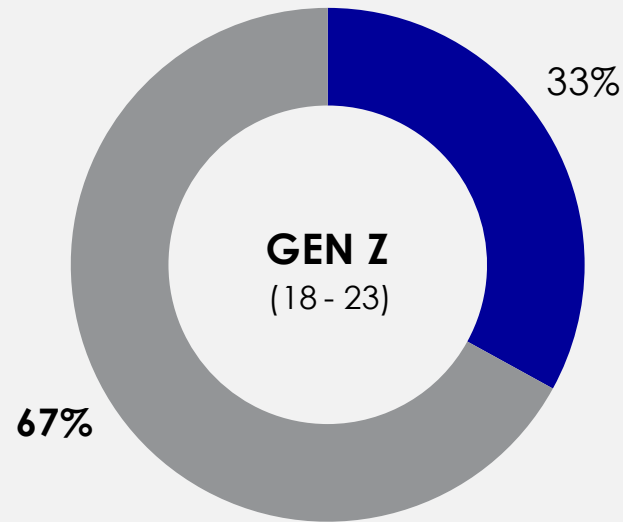
# HOTELS PRIMARY SOURCE OF LODGING ESPECIALLY FOR MILLENNIALS

Gen Z was the most likely of the generations to stay with family and friends



# ALL GENERATIONS LIKE TO EXPERIENCE OTHER COUNTRIES

There is little difference between the generations in likelihood of travelling outside their country

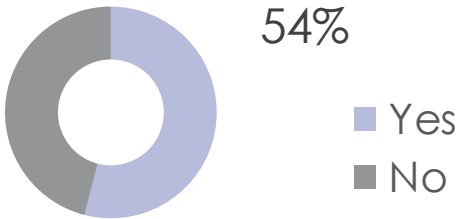
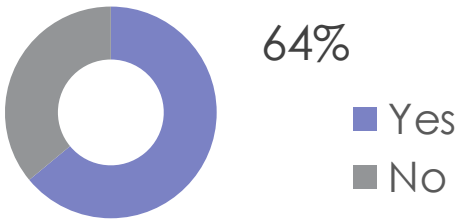
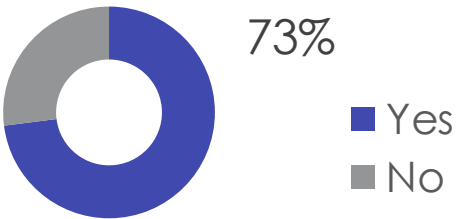
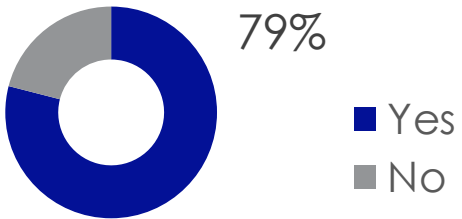


■ Outside my country

Q14. Was the trip...?  
Total (n=3003) British (n=1001) Germany (n=1000) France (n=1002)

# BUDGET KEY FOR YOUNGER GENERATIONS

Younger generations allotted more for flights and attractions/tours than the older generations.



Proportion Spent On	
Hotel	25%
Flight	20%
Food	15%
Transportation	11%
Attractions/Tours	11%
Shopping	9%
Alternative Accom.	5%
Other	3%

Proportion Spent On	
Hotel	28%
Flight	19%
Food	16%
Transportation	10%
Attractions/Tours	11%
Shopping	8%
Alternative Accom.	5%
Other	3%

Proportion Spent On	
Hotel	29%
Flight	18%
Food	16%
Transportation	11%
Attractions/Tours	9%
Shopping	8%
Alternative Accom.	6%
Other	3%

Proportion Spent On	
Hotel	31%
Flight	16%
Food	17%
Transportation	10%
Attractions/Tours	8%
Shopping	7%
Alternative Accom.	6%
Other	6%

■ Gen Z (18 - 23)
 ■ Millennials (24 - 35)
 ■ Gen X (36 - 55)
 ■ Boomers (56+)

Q18. Was budget a primary factor when you were researching/ booking your last trip?  
 Q20. What proportion of your travel budget did you spend on each of the following?  
 Total (n=3003) Gen Z (n=662) Millennials (n=773) Gen X (n=794) Boomers (n=774)



# EUROPEAN TRAVELLER ATTITUDES BY GENERATION

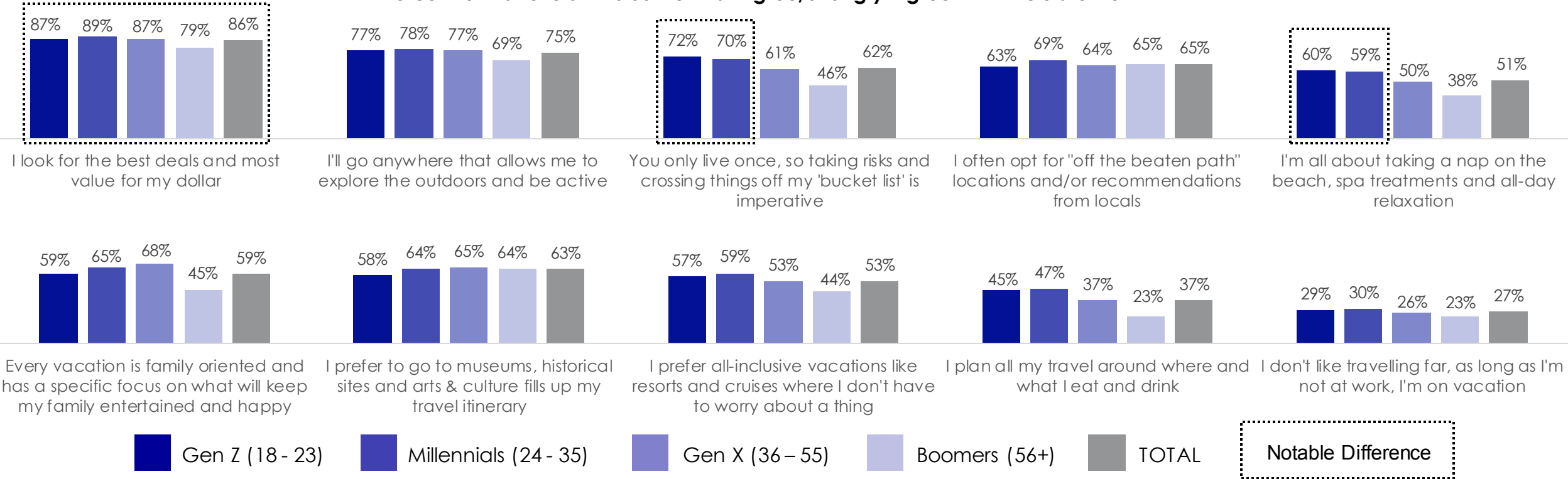


# MAJORITY LOOK FOR DEALS & VALUE

Outdoors and activities also high for all except Boomers, and the younger generations like bucket list and relaxing trips

## Travel Attitudes (Total by Generation)

Percent of Travellers Who Somewhat Agree/Strongly Agree With The Statement



# WHEN ASKED TO PRIORITIZE, ACTIVITIES & EXPERIENCES RANKED SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER

Price and deals are still important  
but not the most important in  
choosing a holiday



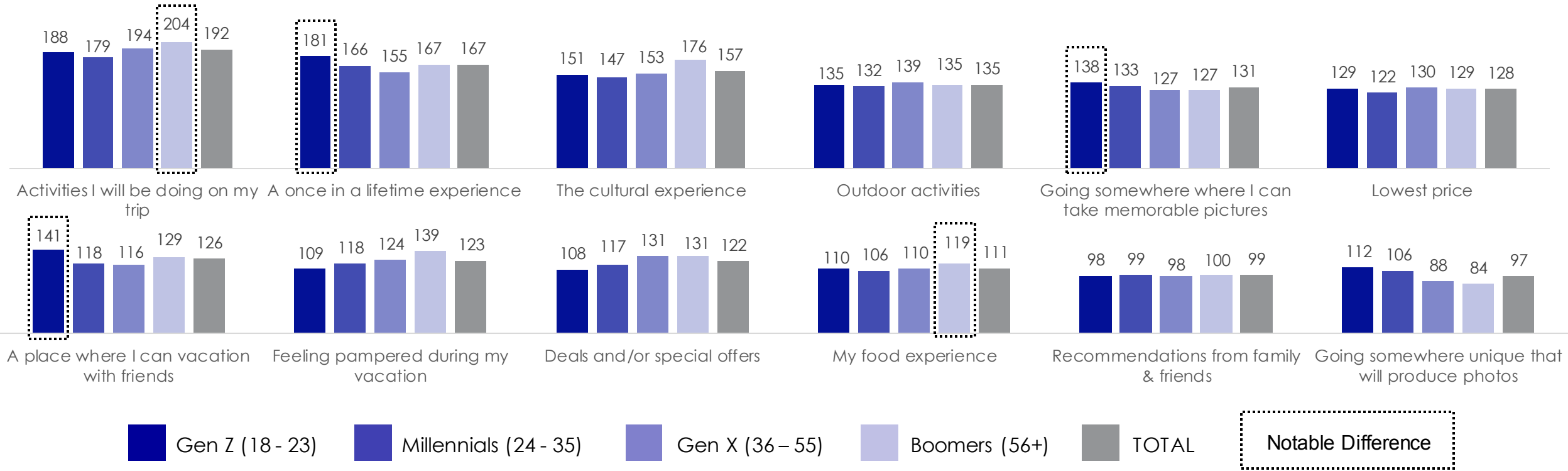
For this exercise, you will go through a small number of different screens where we will ask you to identify which consideration would be **most important** to you in terms of how you choose a vacation/ holiday and which consideration would be **least important** to you in terms of how you choose to purchase a vacation/holiday. Total (n=3003)

Notable Difference



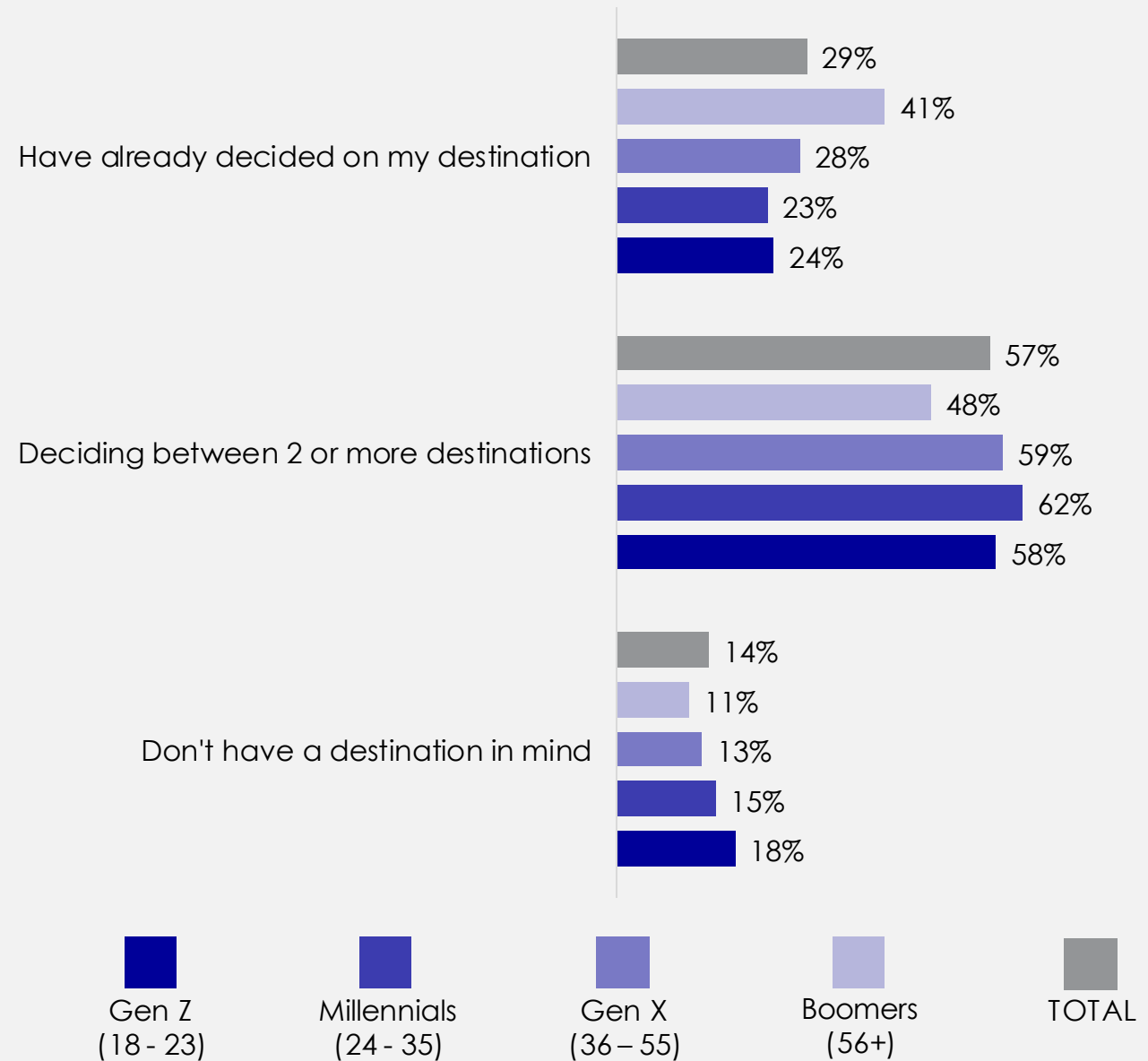
# ACTIVITIES & EXPERIENCES RANK TOP FOR ALL

Activities especially high for Boomers – while Gen Z also looks for bucket list experiences and trips with friends



# ALL GENERATIONS DECIDING BETWEEN MULTIPLE DESTINATIONS

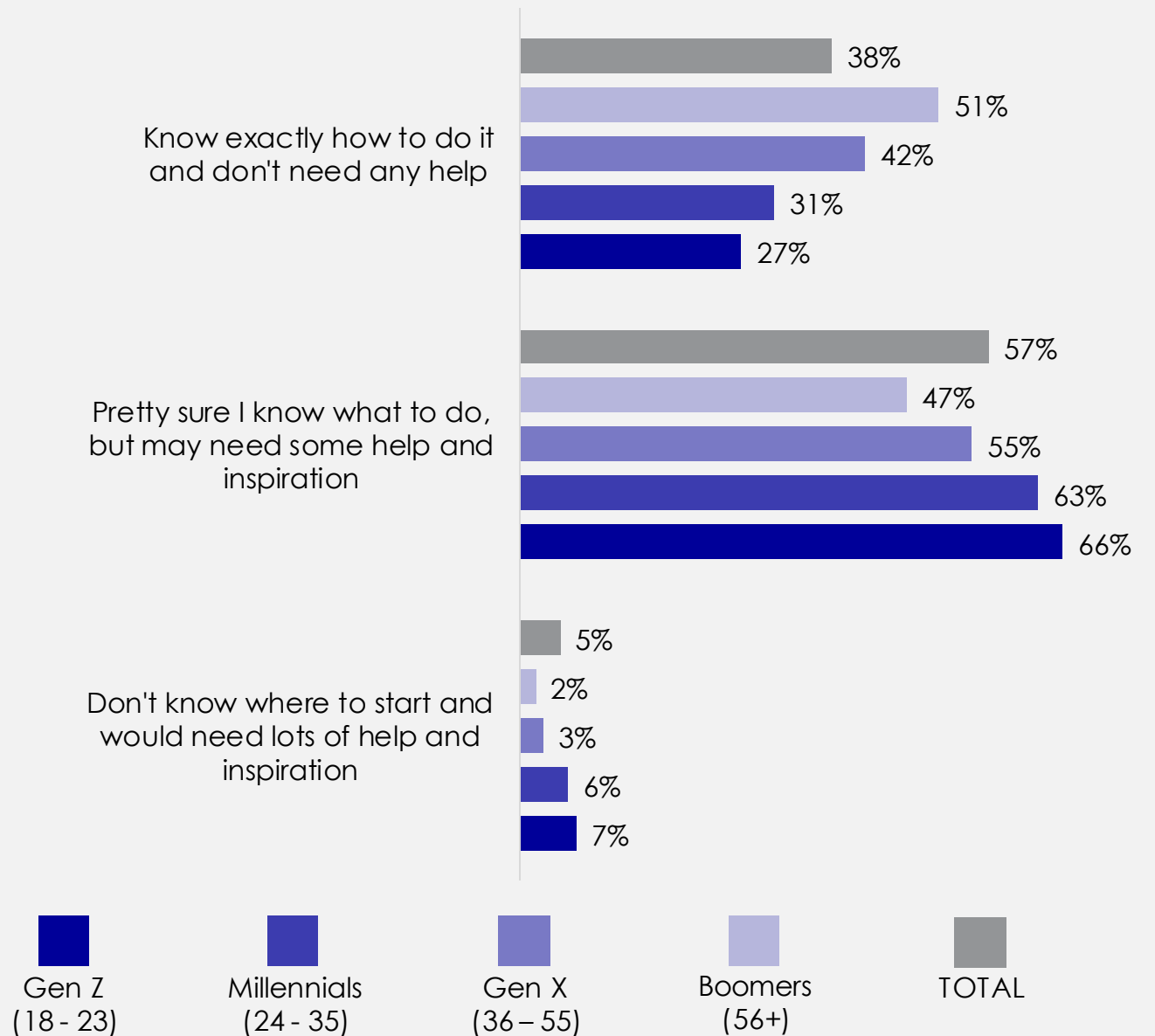
Millennials especially are deciding between two or more destinations when first deciding to take a trip



Q23. Which of the following options best describes the way you feel when you first decide to take a trip? (Please select one)  
Total (n=3003) Gen Z (n=662) Millennials (n=773) Gen X (n=794) Boomers (n=774)

# YOUNGER GENERATIONS OPEN TO DESTINATION INSPIRATION

More than half of Boomers think they know where to go and how to get there, while younger generations looking for ideas



Q24. Which of the following options best describes the way you feel when you **first start planning** a trip/holiday?  
Total (n=3003) Gen Z (n=662) Millennials (n=773) Gen X (n=794) Boomers (n=774)

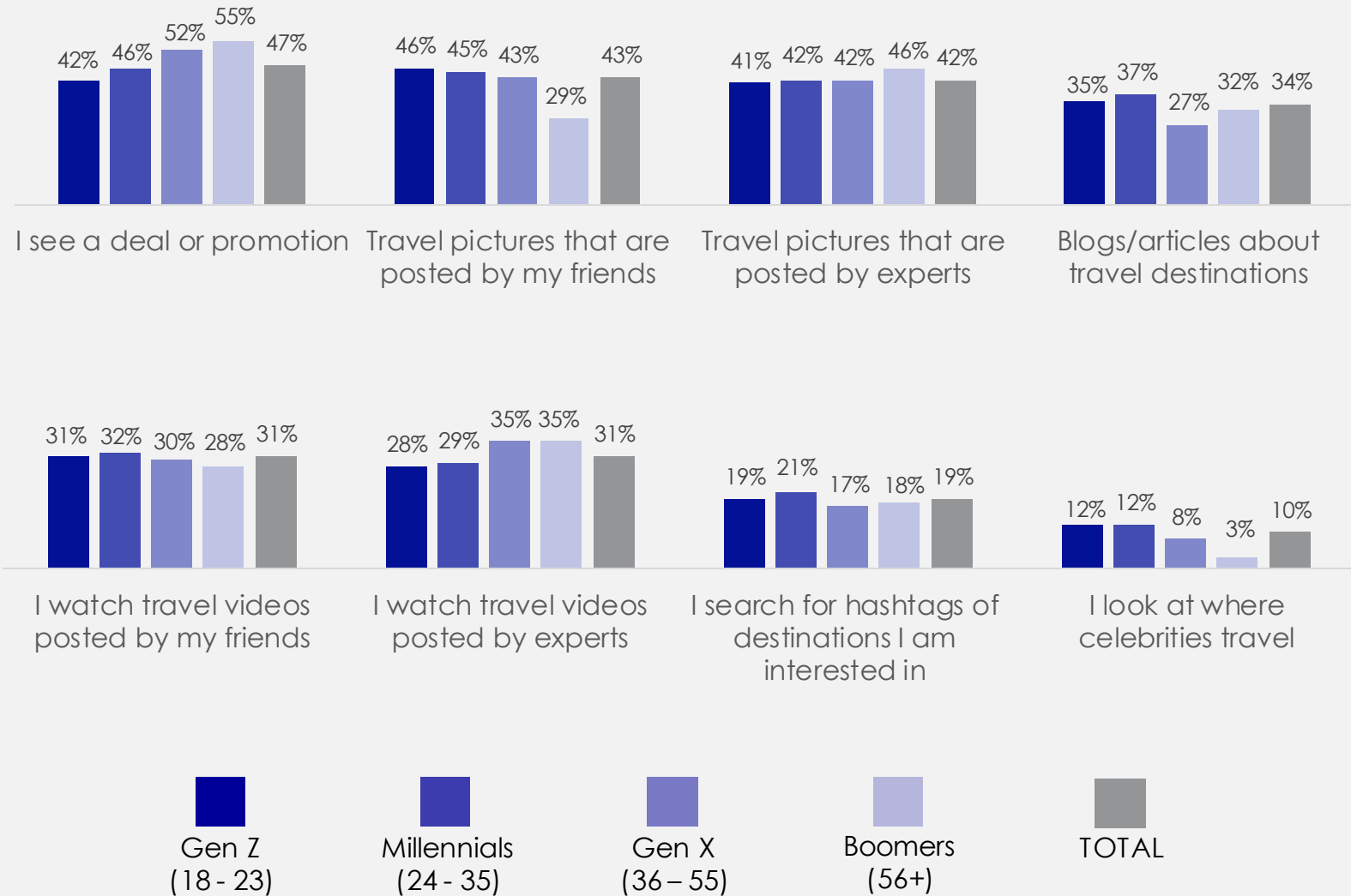


# INFLUENCERS AND KEY CONNECTION POINTS FOR EUROPEAN TRAVELLERS



# TRAVEL PICTURES BY FRIENDS ON SOCIAL MEDIA INFLUENTIAL TO YOUNGER GENERATIONS

Deals on social media can be more influential to Gen X and Boomers

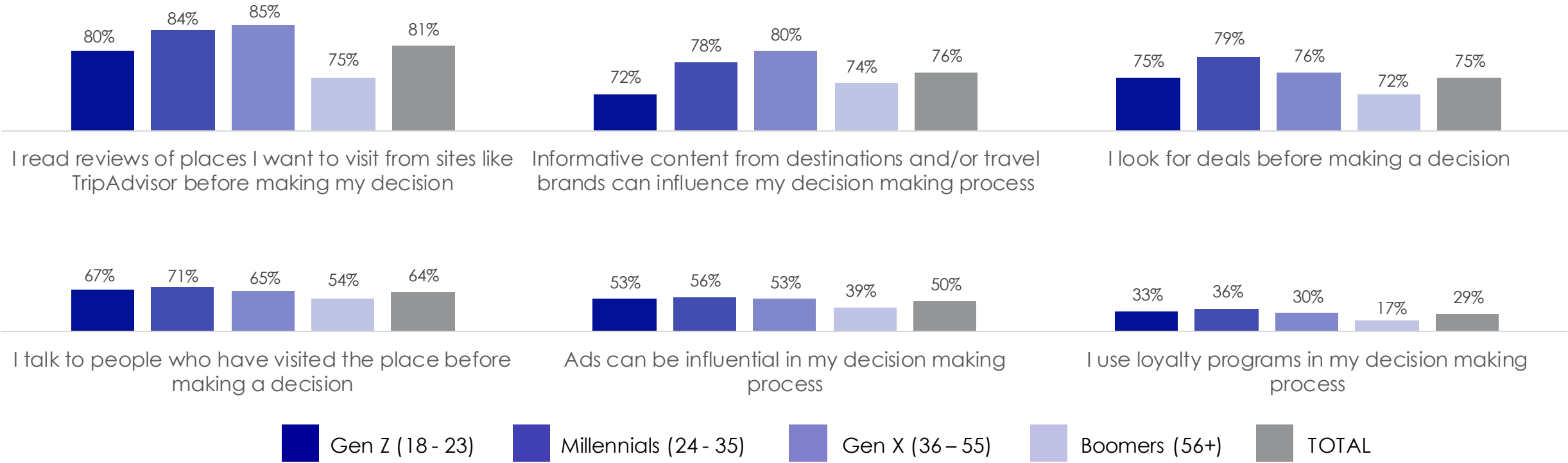


Q29. How does social media influence you? Which of the following influence your decision in booking a trip?  
 Total (n=3003) Gen Z (n=662) Millennials (n=773) Gen X (n=794) Boomers (n=774)



# REVIEWS & CONTENT INFLUENTIAL FOR GEN X

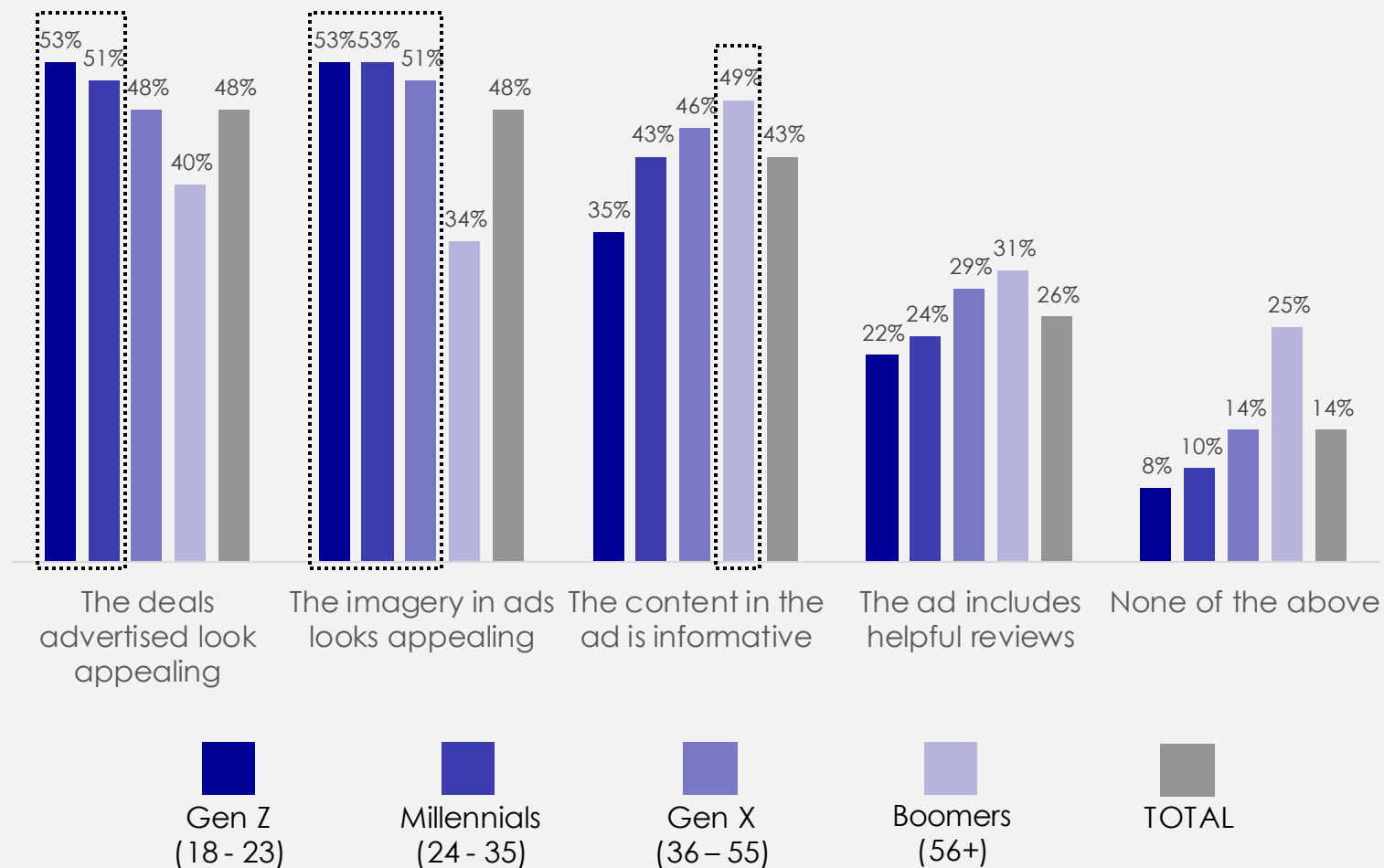
Closely followed by Millennials and Gen Z, who also look for deals and talk to fellow travellers



Q32. Please select to what extent you agree with the following statements. (Please select one for each statement)  
Total (n=3003) Gen Z (n=662) Millennials (n=773) Gen X (n=794) Boomers (n=774)

# IMAGERY AND DEALS IN ADS INFLUENCE GEN Z & MILLENNIALS

Closely followed by Gen X, while ads with informative content and reviews speak more to Boomers – if they are influenced at all

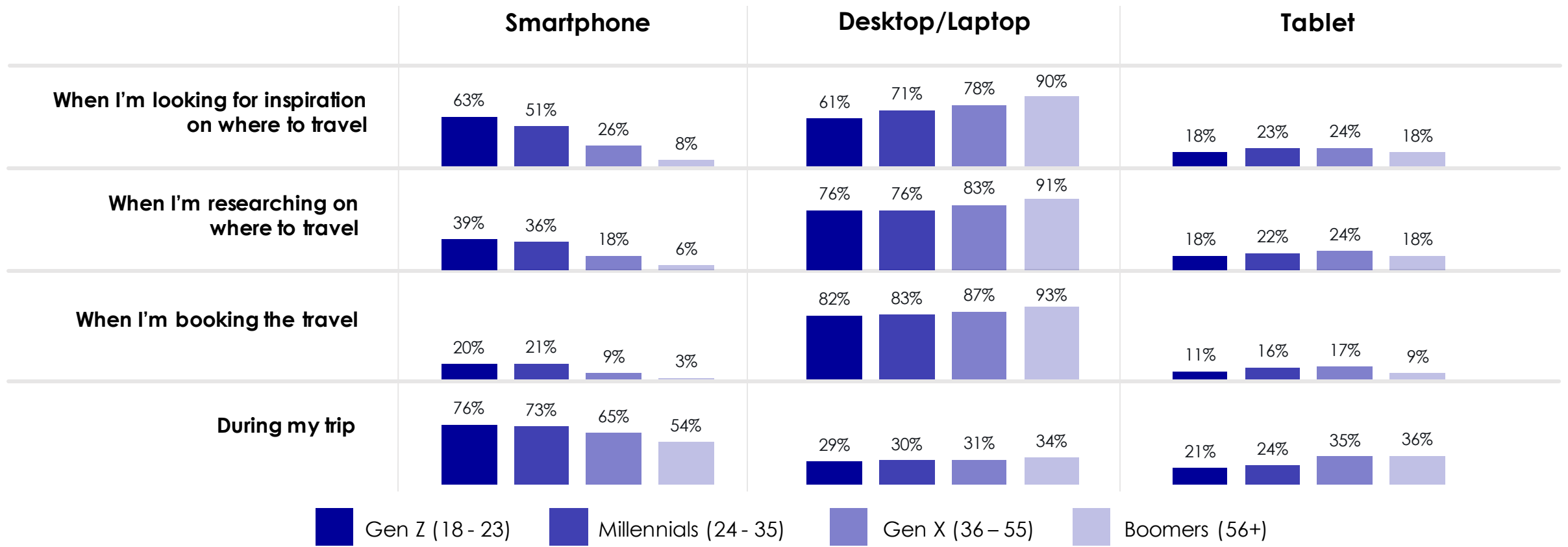


Q32. Please select to what extent you agree with the following statements. (Please select one for each statement)  
Total (n=3003) Gen Z (n=662) Millennials (n=773) Gen X (n=794) Boomers (n=774)

Notable Difference

# COMPUTERS STILL PROMINENT IN THE PURCHASE PATH

When it comes to travel inspiration before booking and during the trip, Gen Z use their smartphone more than the other generations, followed closely by Millennials



# KEY INSIGHTS & MARKETING TAKEAWAYS

▶ Travel imagery is especially impactful to younger generations – whether in social media or online ads

Use compelling imagery when appealing to younger audiences, especially of people who are the same generation

▶ Budgets, deals and value are necessary considerations for all travellers, but when prioritizing activities and experiences hold more sway

Lead with unique activities and experiences – while providing deals to make the decision even easier

▶ Younger generations are online and mobile, but computers are still prevalent for all throughout the purchase journey

Create a multi-screen strategy with relevant content for how and at what stage people are using various devices

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