

The number of visitors to the Basque Country was down 5.4% in February 2013

The occupancy rate in hotel establishments stood at 30.25%

There were 123,343 visitors registered in the hotel establishments of the Basque Country in February 2013, 7,096 down on the same month of the previous year, which was a decrease of 5.4%, according to Eustat data. The number of visitors fell by 14.3% in Álava and 6.2% in Bizkaia, but rose by 0.7% in Gipuzkoa.

Visitors from within Spain fell by 7.9% and foreign visitors increased their numbers by 2.4%. Visitors from Spain reduced their presence in the three provinces: in Álava they were down by 16.2%, in Bizkaia they fell by 8.9% and in Gipuzkoa they decreased by 1.0%. Foreign visitor numbers, in contrast, were up in the provinces of Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa, where they increased by 2.0% and 4.9%, respectively, but they were down by 4.1% in Álava.

Amongst travellers from other Autonomous Regions there was a greater percentage increase in those coming from the Canary Islands, Comunidad Valenciana and La Rioja, whilst there was a decrease in those coming from Murcia and Asturias. Amongst foreign visitors there were rises, above all, in those coming from USA-Canada, Japan, Luxemburg and the United Kingdom. The drop in visitor numbers from Denmark, Finland, Greece and Sweden was particularly noteworthy.

Registered overnight stays in February 2013 totalled 214,190, 6.2% down on the same month of the previous year, that is, there were 14,194 fewer overnight stays. There was a year-on-year negative evolution in overnight stays in the three provinces: in Álava they were down 8.4%, in Bizkaia 6.4% and in Gipuzkoa 4.7%.

The average length of stay decreased with respect to February 2012, going from 1.75 days in February 2012 to 1.74 days for the same month of 2013, for the Basque Country as a whole. By provinces, in Álava it increased from 1.88 to 2.01 days, in Bizkaia it maintained similar values to those of February 2012 (1.72 days) and in Gipuzkoa the average length of stay went from 1.72 days in February 2012 to 1.63 days in the same month of 2013.

The bed occupancy rate experienced a decrease of 5.6%, and stood at 30.25% in February 2013 for the Basque Country as a whole. In Gipuzkoa the occupancy rate fell by 13.5%, going from 31.35% in February 2012 to 27.11% this February. In Bizkaia, this fall stood at 2.5%, going from 32.29% in February 2012 to 31.49% in February 2013. In Álava, however, there was a rise of 2.8%, with the occupancy rate going from 32.57% in February 2012 to 33.47% this February.

RURAL TOURISM

Visitor numbers fell by 16.1% and overnight stays were down 18.0%, compared to February 2012

In February this year there were 4,357 registered visitors to rural tourism establishments in the Basque Country, which was a fall of 16.1% with respect to the visitors to rural tourism establishments in February 2012. By provinces, it was observed that in Álava there was a drop of 21.4% and in Gipuzkoa there was a fall of 21.5%, but in Bizkaia there was an upturn of 1.1%. There was an 18.3% decrease in visitors from within Spain to the Basque Country: they were down 19.4% in Álava and 24.9% in Gipuzkoa, and they witnessed a 1.7% downturn in Bizkaia. Foreign visitor numbers increased in the Autonomous Region as a whole, dropping in Álava and rising considerably in Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa, all in percentage terms.

There were 9,445 overnight stays in the rural tourism establishments of the Basque Country in February, which was 18.0% down on the same month of the previous year, with negative year-on-year rates in the three provinces: in Álava they were down by 22.8%, whilst in Gipuzkoa they fell by 20.8% and in Bizkaia they did so by 6.8%.

The average length of stay per visitor decreased in the Basque Country as a whole with respect to February 2012, going from 2.22 days one year ago to 2.17 days in February 2013. In Álava there was a drop of 2.1%, with the average stay going from 2.37 days in February 2012 to 2.32 days in February 2013; in Bizkaia the drop was 7.8%, with the average stay going from 2.19 days in February 2012 to 2.02 days in February 2013, but in Gipuzkoa, in contrast, there was a slight increase in the average stay of 0.9%, where it went from 2.17 days in February 2012 to 2.19 days in February 2013.

The bed occupancy rate registered a drop of 10.4%, going from 10.15% occupation to 9.09%, as a consequence of the downturns experienced in Álava, where the fall observed was 13.8%, and in Gipuzkoa, which was down by 15.0%, whereas in Bizkaia there was a rise of 2.7%.

Table 1: Hotel and Rural Tourism Establishments in the Basque Country. Monthly results

	BASQUE COUNTRY						ARABA / ÁLAVA						BIZKAIA						GIPUZKOA					
	02 2013	(%)	02 2012	(%)	Δ %		02 2013	(%)	02 2012	(%)	Δ %		02 2013	(%)	02 2012	(%)	Δ %		02 2013	(%)	02 2012	(%)	Δ %	
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																								
Overnight stays	214.190	100	228.384	100	-6,2		39.589	100	43.217	100	-8,4		105.881	100	113.070	100	-6,4		68.720	100	72.097	100	-4,7	
National	154.019	72	167.941	74	-8,3		31.610	80	34.832	81	-9,3		74.383	70	80.783	71	-7,9		48.026	70	52.326	73	-8,2	
Foreigners	60.171	28	60.443	26	-0,5		7.979	20	8.385	19	-4,8		31.498	30	32.287	29	-2,4		20.694	30	19.771	27	4,7	
Capital	142.468	67	147.405	65	-3,3		32.009	81	34.435	80	-7,0		72.468	68	75.881	67	-4,5		37.991	55	37.089	51	2,4	
Coast	17.141	8	18.438	8	-7,0		-	-	-	-	-		5.595	5	4.892	4	14,4		11.546	17	13.546	19	-14,8	
Inland	54.581	25	62.541	27	-12,7		7.580	19	8.782	20	-13,7		27.818	26	32.297	29	-13,9		19.183	28	21.462	30	-10,6	
Entry of travellers	123.343	100	130.439	100	-5,4		19.672	100	22.943	100	-14,3		61.528	100	65.626	100	-6,2		42.143	100	41.870	100	0,7	
National	91.230	74	99.082	76	-7,9		16.175	82	19.296	84	-16,2		45.175	73	49.601	76	-8,9		29.880	71	30.185	72	-1,0	
Foreigners	32.113	26	31.357	24	2,4		3.497	18	3.647	16	-4,1		16.353	27	16.025	24	2,0		12.263	29	11.685	28	4,9	
Capital	79.064	64	82.609	63	-4,3		14.747	75	17.346	76	-15,0		40.718	66	42.762	65	-4,8		23.599	56	22.501	54	4,9	
Coast	11.147	9	10.092	8	10,5		-	-	-	-	-		3.508	6	2.874	4	22,1		7.639	18	7.218	17	5,8	
Inland	33.132	27	37.738	29	-12,2		4.925	25	5.597	24	-12,0		17.302	28	19.990	30	-13,4		10.905	26	12.151	29	-10,3	
Average stay	1,74		1,75		-0,6		2,01		1,88		6,9		1,72		1,72		0,0		1,63		1,72		-5,2	
Occupancy level by places	30,25		32,04		-5,6		33,47		32,57		2,8		31,49		32,29		-2,5		27,11		31,35		-13,5	
Capital	36,30		36,79		-1,3		37,25		36,73		1,4		37,88		38,23		-0,9		32,98		34,20		-3,6	
Coast	23,19		27,04		-14,2		-		-		-		19,25		16,90		13,9		25,74		34,52		-25,4	
Inland	22,59		25,64		-11,9		23,44		22,57		3,9		24,01		26,30		-8,7		20,52		26,10		-21,4	
Occupancy level by rooms	40,09		41,02		-2,3		43,80		41,80		4,8		42,98		41,73		3,0		34,30		39,50		-13,2	
Capital	48,65		47,15		3,2		50,10		47,03		6,5		52,11		49,32		5,7		41,39		43,35		-4,5	
Coast	27,77		32,48		-14,5		-		-		-		24,69		22,36		10,4		30,01		40,45		-25,8	
Inland	29,95		33,33		-10,1		26,39		28,55		-7,6		32,49		34,12		-4,8		27,94		34,25		-18,4	
AGRI-TOURISM																								
Overnight stays	9.445	100	11.513	100	-18,0		2.097	100	2.718	100	-22,8		2.528	100	2.712	100	-6,8		4.820	100	6.083	100	-20,8	
National	8.314	88	10.028	87	-17,1		2.073	99	2.457	90	-15,6		2.236	88	2.212	82	1,1		4.005	83	5.359	88	-25,3	
Foreigners	1.131	12	1.485	13	-23,8		24	1	261	10	-90,8		292	12	500	18	-41,6		815	17	724	12	12,6	
Entry of travellers	4.357	100	5.192	100	-16,1		903	100	1.149	100	-21,4		1.252	100	1.238	100	1,1		2.202	100	2.805	100	-21,5	
National	3.984	91	4.874	94	-18,3		883	98	1.095	95	-19,4		1.116	89	1.135	92	-1,7		1.985	90	2.644	94	-24,9	
Foreigners	373	9	318	6	17,3		20	2	54	5	-63,0		136	11	103	8	32,0		217	10	161	6	34,8	
Average stay	2,17		2,22		-2,3		2,32		2,37		-2,1		2,02		2,19		-7,8		2,19		2,17		0,9	
Occupancy level by places	9,09		10,15		-10,4		9,09		10,54		-13,8		8,25		8,03		2,7		9,60		11,29		-15,0	
Occupancy level by rooms	10,77		11,71		-8,0		9,76		11,20		-12,9		10,20		10,21		-0,1		11,60		12,94		-10,4	

Source: EUSTAT. Survey on Tourist Establishments of the Basque Country (EETR)

For further information:

[Basque Statistics Office](#)

C/ Donostia-San Sebastián, 1 01010 Vitoria-Gasteiz

Tel: +34-945-01 75 00 Fax: +34-945-01 75 01 E-mail: eustat@eustat.es

Contact: Gerardo Pérez Aja

Tel: +34-945-01 75 06 Fax: +34-945-01 75 01

Further press releases on EETR - Survey on Tourist Establishments of the Basque Country

Databank on EETR - Survey on Tourist Establishments of the Basque Country