

SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR) MARCH 2013

The number of visitors and overnight stays increased by 3.9% and 8% respectively in March 2013

The 2013 Easter Holiday figures compared to 2012 registered a 4.1% decrease in the number of visitors and overnight stays

There were 176,723 visitors registered in the hotel establishments of the Basque Country in March 2013, 6,557 up on the same month of the previous year, which is an increase of 3.9%, according to Eustat data. The number of visitors fell by 9.1% in Álava, but they increased by 2.0% in Bizkaia and by 12.4% in Gipuzkoa, compared to the same month in 2012.

The number of visitors from within Spain fell by 0.8% compared to March 2012 and visitors from abroad were up by 17.9%. Spanish visitors reduced their presence in Álava, where they were down by 13.5%, and in Bizkaia they fell by 1.4%, whereas in Gipuzkoa they rose by 7.0%. The number of foreigners dropped substantially in the three provinces: in Álava they were down by 11.8%, in Bizkaia they were down by 15.3% and in Gipuzkoa there was a decrease of 26.4%.

Registered overnight stays in March 2013 totalled 330,452, which was 8.0% up on March of the previous year, that is, there were 24,429 more overnight stays. The year-on-year performance of overnight stays was negative in Álava, where they fell 6.8%, but in Gipuzkoa and Bizkaia there were rises of 21.2% and 3.6%, respectively, compared to March 2012.

The average length of stay increased compared to March 2012: it rose from 1.80 days to 1.87 this March for the Basque Country. In Álava it rose 2.7%, increasing from 1.82 days in March 2012 to 1.87 days in March of this year; in Bizkaia it went from 1.81 to 1.84, with a percentage increase of 1.7%, and in Gipuzkoa it grew 7.9%, increasing to 1.77 and 1.91 days.

The bed occupancy rate rose by 7.9% for the Basque Country overall, going from an occupancy rate of 37.68% in March 2012 to 40.66% in March of this year. The only decrease was in Álava, where it went from 35.85% to 35.37%; In Bizkaia there was a rise of 7.5%, going from 38.11% in March 2012 to 40.96% this past March, whilst Gipuzkoa registered an occupancy rate of 42.61% for this March against 38.01% registered the previous year, representing a rise of 12.1%.

Rural tourism: Visitors were up by 5.1% and overnight stays by 42.4%

The number of visitors to rural tourism establishments in the Basque Country totalled 9,825 in March, which was 5.1% up with respect to the same month of the previous year, rising by 4.8% in Álava, 7.8% in Bizkaia and 4.2% in Gipuzkoa. There was a 5.0% overall rise in visitors from within Spain to the Basque Country: they were up 7.6% in Bizkaia and 6.3% in Gipuzkoa, but they were down 2.8% in Álava. The number of visitors from abroad increased by 7.4% in the Basque Country overall, with high

percentage increases in the provinces of Álava and Bizkaia, although there was a notable percentage drop in Gipuzkoa.

There were 25,335 overnight stays in rural tourism establishments of the Basque Country in March, which was 42.4% up on the same month of the previous year, with significantly positive year-on-year rates in the three provinces.

The average length of stay per visitor increased with respect to March 2012, going from 1.90 days a year ago to 2.58 days this April.

The bed occupancy rate rose from 14.38% to 20.58%, due to the strong percentage increase registered in the three provinces.

Methodological note: When assessing the year-on-year performance of March 2013, it must be taken into account that Easter fell on the last week of March this year, and the previous year it was in the first week of April.

Figures referring to Easter 2013

The hotel establishments in the Basque Country experienced a 4.1% drop in the number of visitors and overnight stays in the period between Holy Thursday and Easter Sunday (4 nights) compared to the same period the previous year. The number of visitors from within Spain and abroad decreased, both in terms of visits and overnight stays. Visitors from within Spain fell by 2.9% and foreign visitors decreased their numbers by 7.6%. Similarly, the overnight stays of visitors from within Spain fell by 2.1% and from abroad by 10.3%.

Intake of travellers, over-night stays and degrees of occupation in hotel establishments of the Basque Country. Easter* 2013

	Intake of travellers					Over-night stays					Degree of occupation by places			Degree of occupation by rooms		
	2013	%	2012	%	Δ%	2013	%	2012	%	Δ%	2013	2012	Δ%	2013	2012	Δ%
C.A. DE EUSKADI	40.697	100,0	42.423	100,0	-4,1	86.117	100,0	89.810	100,0	-4,1	62,1	70,7	-12,2	64,2	73,9	-13,2
National	30.830	75,8	31.750	74,8	-2,9	66.574	77,3	68.018	75,7	-2,1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Foreigners	9.867	24,2	10.673	25,2	-7,6	19.543	22,7	21.792	24,3	-10,3	-	-	-	-	-	-
ARABA/ÁLAVA	6.443	15,8	7.025	16,6	-8,3	13.438	15,6	14.153	15,8	-5,1	59,3	63,7	-6,9	63,5	66,7	-4,7
Vitoria-Gasteiz	3.816	59,2	4.873	69,4	-21,7	8.508	63,3	10.233	72,3	-16,9	55,0	61,9	-11,1	60,8	65,9	-7,8
BIZKAIA	18.908	46,5	20.182	47,6	-6,3	40.468	47,0	43.483	48,4	-6,9	63,5	71,5	-11,3	66,1	75,1	-12,0
Bilbao	11.291	59,7	12.214	60,5	-7,6	24.806	61,3	26.792	61,6	-7,4	69,9	78,7	-11,2	74,8	85,3	-12,2
GIPUZKOA	15.346	37,7	15.216	35,9	0,9	32.211	37,4	32.174	35,8	0,1	61,7	73,1	-15,6	62,1	75,8	-18,0
Donostia-S. Sebastián	8.412	54,8	8.179	53,8	2,8	18.293	56,8	17.984	55,9	1,7	72,2	83,1	-13,1	73,2	86,8	-15,7

*Easter: thursday to sunday (for nights)

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

By provinces, Álava and Bizkaia posted negative evolutions in the number of visitors and overnight stays, whereas in Gipuzkoa the evolution was positive in both cases. Specifically, In Álava the number of visitors dropped 8.3% and overnight stays 5.1%. In Bizkaia, visitors decreased 6.3% and overnight stays 6.9%. Gipuzkoa, in contrast, evidenced positive values of 0.9% for visitors and 0.1% for overnight stays.

The bed occupancy rate was down from 70.7% in 2012 to 62.1% in 2013.

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

	BASQUE COUNTRY					ARABA / ÁLAVA					BIZKAIA					GIPUZKOA				
	03 2013	(%)	03 2012	(%)	Δ %	03 2013	(%)	03 2012	(%)	Δ %	03 2013	(%)	03 2012	(%)	Δ %	03 2013	(%)	03 2012	(%)	Δ %
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																				
Overnight stays	330.452	100	306.023	100	8,0	47.036	100	50.462	100	-6,8	154.737	100	149.410	100	3,6	128.679	100	106.151	100	21,2
National	231.742	70	223.057	73	3,9	36.723	78	41.097	81	-10,6	107.367	69	105.351	71	1,9	87.652	68	76.609	72	14,4
Foreigners	98.710	30	82.966	27	19,0	10.313	22	9.365	19	10,1	47.370	31	44.059	29	7,5	41.027	32	29.542	28	38,9
Capital	211.777	64	199.332	65	6,2	35.140	75	40.350	80	-12,9	105.252	68	101.941	68	3,2	71.385	55	57.041	54	25,1
Coast	35.915	11	30.689	10	17,0	-	-	-	-	-	8.744	6	7.765	5	12,6	27.171	21	22.924	22	18,5
Inland	82.760	25	76.002	25	8,9	11.896	25	10.112	20	17,6	40.741	26	39.704	27	2,6	30.123	23	26.186	25	15,0
Entry of travellers	176.723	100	170.166	100	3,9	25.211	100	27.721	100	-9,1	84.186	100	82.530	100	2,0	67.326	100	59.915	100	12,4
National	126.736	72	127.753	75	-0,8	20.299	81	23.461	85	-13,5	60.090	71	60.971	74	-1,4	46.347	69	43.321	72	7,0
Foreigners	49.987	28	42.413	25	17,9	4.912	19	4.260	15	15,3	24.096	29	21.559	26	11,8	20.979	31	16.594	28	26,4
Capital	110.142	62	108.262	64	1,7	17.394	69	20.576	74	-15,5	55.612	66	54.760	66	1,6	37.136	55	32.926	55	12,8
Coast	18.904	11	16.420	10	15,1	-	-	-	-	-	5.402	6	4.679	6	15,5	13.502	20	11.741	20	15,0
Inland	47.677	27	45.484	27	4,8	7.817	31	7.145	26	9,4	23.172	28	23.091	28	0,4	16.688	25	15.248	25	9,4
Average stay	1,87		1,80		3,9	1,87		1,82		2,7	1,84		1,81		1,7	1,91		1,77		7,9
Occupancy level by places	40,66		37,68		7,9	35,37		35,85		-1,3	40,96		38,11		7,5	42,61		38,01		12,1
Capital	47,15		43,71		7,9	37,85		40,27		-6,0	49,41		45,52		8,5	49,82		43,24		15,2
Coast	40,74		35,66		14,2	-		-		-	24,51		23,37		4,9	51,77		43,40		19,3
Inland	30,05		28,15		6,7	29,63		24,92		18,9	31,58		29,44		7,3	28,35		27,70		2,3
Occupancy level by rooms	49,02		47,39		3,4	44,58		44,98		-0,9	50,96		48,86		4,3	48,45		46,49		4,2
Capital	58,00		55,63		4,3	50,18		51,74		-3,0	62,26		58,17		7,0	56,50		54,10		4,4
Coast	44,60		40,22		10,9	-		-		-	29,91		27,84		7,4	55,72		47,48		17,4
Inland	36,14		35,41		2,1	31,84		27,34		16,5	38,30		37,61		1,8	35,06		35,59		-1,5
AGRI-TOURISM																				
Overnight stays	25.335	100	17.790	100	42,4	4.109	100	3.361	100	22,3	6.206	100	4.259	100	45,7	15.020	100	10.170	100	47,7
National	23.832	94	16.391	92	45,4	3.894	95	3.361	100	15,9	5.816	94	3.722	87	56,3	14.122	94	9.308	92	51,7
Foreigners	1.503	6	1.399	8	7,4	215	5	0	0	-	390	6	537	13	-27,4	898	6	862	8	4,2
Entry of travellers	9.825	100	9.349	100	5,1	1.664	100	1.588	100	4,8	2.222	100	2.061	100	7,8	5.939	100	5.700	100	4,2
National	9.315	95	8.874	95	5,0	1.543	93	1.588	100	-2,8	2.126	96	1.976	96	7,6	5.646	95	5.310	93	6,3
Foreigners	510	5	475	5	7,4	121	7	0	0	-	96	4	85	4	12,9	293	5	390	7	-24,9
Average stay	2,58		1,90		35,8	2,47		2,12		16,5	2,79		2,07		34,8	2,53		1,78		42,1
Occupancy level by places	20,58		14,38		43,1	15,47		12,11		27,7	17,15		11,30		51,8	24,89		17,45		42,6
Occupancy level by rooms	21,54		16,08		34,0	16,15		13,34		21,1	18,66		13,31		40,2	25,91		19,25		34,6

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

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