

SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS. FEBRUARY 2018

Visitors to hotel establishments in the Basque Country decreased by 0.8% in February 2018

Foreign visitors were up 6.1%, whereas Spanish visitors were down 3.7%

There were 169,737 visitors registered in the hotel establishments of the Basque Country in February 2018, 1,382 less than in the same month of the previous year, which is a decrease of 0.8%. The number of visitors was down 5.0% in Álava and 3.4% in Bizkaia, whereas in Gipuzkoa it was up 4.6%.

Furthermore, overnight stays registered in hotel establishments of the Basque Country in February 2018 reached 304,383, which was a drop of 1.6% on those registered in February of the previous year, that is, there were 4,889 fewer overnight stays. There was also a negative year-on-year trend in overnight stays in Álava, where they were down by 10.8% and in Bizkaia, with a decrease of 5.5%, but in Gipuzkoa they were up 8.7%.

Table 1.- Overnight stays, visitor numbers, average stay and bed occupancy rates in hotel establishments in the Basque Country. February 2018

	Overnight stays		Visitors		Average length		Degree of occupation (%)		Cost effectiveness by rooms			
	02/2018	m/m-12 (%)	02/2018	m/m-12 (%)	02/2018	02/2017	02/2018	p.p.*	02/2018	p.p.*	ADR (euro)	RevPar (euro)
	304.383	-1,6	169.737	-0,8	1,79	1,81	39,9	-1,2	51,2	-2,6	68,5	35,1
BASQUE COUNTRY												
State	203.904	-4,6	116.620	-3,7	1,75	1,77	-	-	-	-	-	-
Foreigners	100.479	5,2	53.117	6,1	1,89	1,91	-	-	-	-	-	-
ARABA/ÁLAVA	40.922	-10,8	23.169	-5,0	1,77	1,88	35,5	-4,2	46,5	-3,7	64,0	29,7
State	34.408	-10,9	19.168	-7,2	1,80	1,87	-	-	-	-	-	-
Extranjeros	6.514	-10,2	4.001	7,3	1,63	1,95	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vitoria-Gasteiz	32.741	-10,6	17.823	-5,7	1,84	1,94	39,3	-4,7	52,6	-4,4	56,6	29,8
BIZKAIA	151.489	-5,5	83.161	-3,4	1,82	1,86	40,9	-3,2	53,9	-5,8	69,0	37,2
State	98.921	-7,5	56.821	-4,8	1,74	1,79	-	-	-	-	-	-
Foreigners	52.568	-1,6	26.340	-0,4	2,00	2,02	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bilbao	100.588	-6,8	56.084	-4,8	1,79	1,83	45,5	-3,8	58,7	-6,7	73,9	43,4
GIPUZKOA	111.972	8,7	63.407	4,6	1,77	1,70	40,3	2,7	49,6	2,0	69,6	34,6
State	70.575	3,6	40.631	-0,3	1,74	1,67	-	-	-	-	-	-
Foreigners	41.397	18,7	22.776	14,6	1,82	1,76	-	-	-	-	-	-
Donostia / San Sebastián	64.704	1,9	37.531	1,0	1,72	1,71	44,2	1,1	54,0	0,5	82,3	44,4

p.p.*= difference in percentage points on the same month of the previous year

Source: Eustat. Survey on tourist establishments

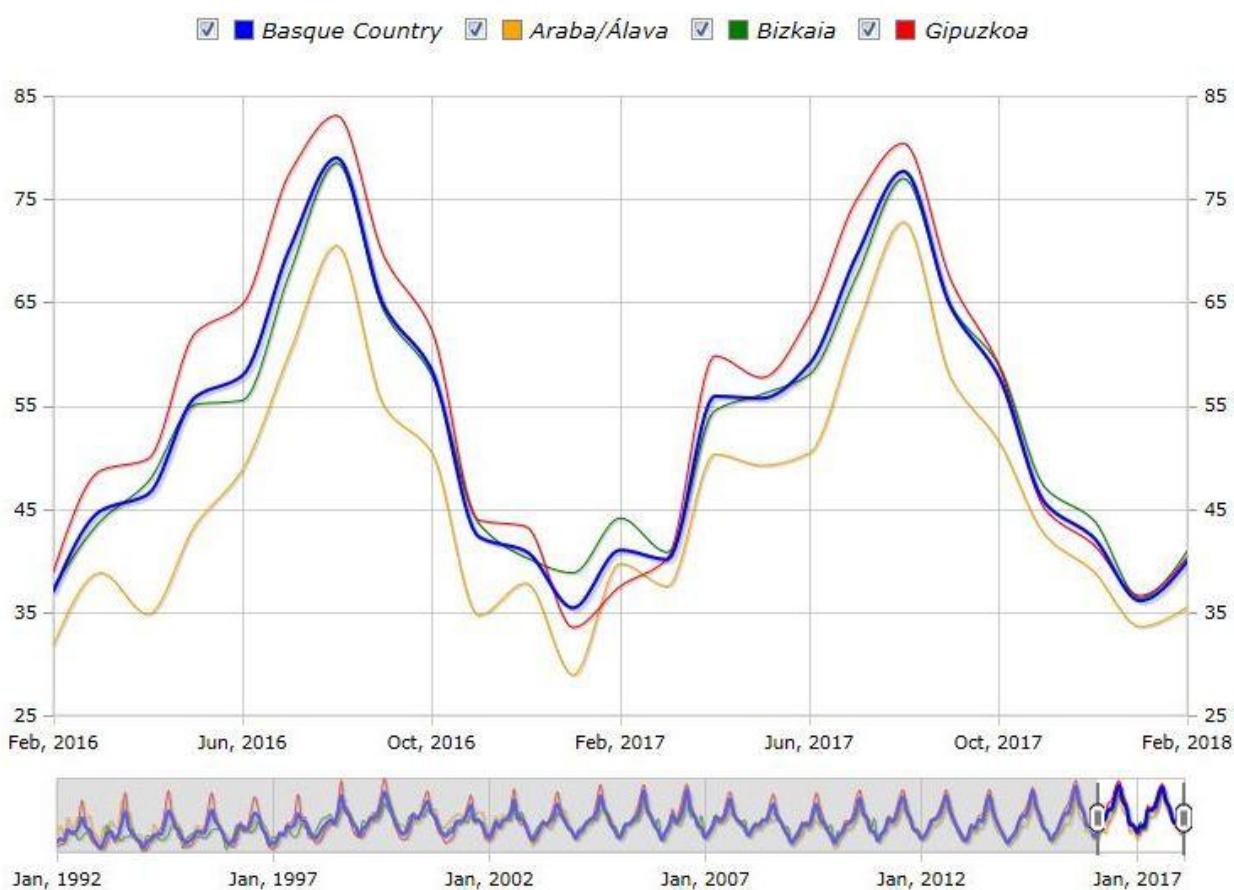
The number of visitors from within Spain fell by 3.7% in the Basque Country compared to February of the previous year, whilst the number of visitors from abroad rose by 6.1%. Álava registered a 7.2% decrease in visitors from Spain, and a 7.3% increase in foreign visitors. In Bizkaia, the number of Spanish visitors was down by 4.8%, whilst the number of visitors from abroad also fell by 0.4%. In Gipuzkoa there was a decrease in Spanish visitor numbers of 0.3%, and the number of foreign visitors rose by 14.6%.

The average length of stay in February was 1.79 days, compared to the 1.81 days average stay registered in February 2017. In Álava there was a decrease from 1.88 days last year to 1.77 days in February this year; in Bizkaia there was also a drop from 1.86 days to 1.82 days; and for its

part, the average length of stay in Gipuzkoa increased from 1.70 days in February 2017 to 1.77 days this February.

There was a decrease of 1.1 percentage points in the bed occupancy rate for the Basque Country overall, where it went from 41.0% in February 2017 to 39.9% in February this year. There were also decreases in Álava and Bizkaia. In Álava there was a drop of 4.2 percentage points, going from 39.7% to 35.5% and a fall of 3.2 points in Bizkaia, going from 44.1% in February 2017 to 40.9% this February. However, in Gipuzkoa the occupancy rate rose 2.7 percentage points, from the 37.5% achieved in February 2017 to 40.3% this February.

Evolution of the bed occupancy rate of the hotel establishments of the Basque Country by province (%)



Source: Eustat. Survey on tourist establishments

The occupancy rate per room was negative, down by 2.6 percentage points, for the Basque Country overall, where the occupancy rate per room stood at 51.2%. In Álava it was down by 3.7 percentage points, standing at 46.5%; in Bizkaia it fell by 5.8 percentage points to reach 53.9%; whereas in Gipuzkoa it rose by 2.0 percentage points, standing at 49.6% occupancy per room.

The highest hotel bed occupancy rate in February 2018 was in Bilbao (45.5%), followed by Donostia/San Sebastián (44.2%) and Gipuzkoa Costa (40.0%).

Taking into account the day of the week, at weekends there was a higher occupancy in the Basque Country as a whole in February 2018, with 50.8% of places occupied, whilst the registered occupancy stood at 35.5% on weekdays.

Finally, with regards to the **profitability indicators of the sector**, the average daily rate (ADR) of hotels in the Basque Country stood at 68.5 euros in February 2018, 1.5% up on the year before. The average rate stood at 64.0 euros in Álava, where it fell by 5.5%; 69.0 euros in Bizkaia, with an increase of 4.2%, and 69.6 euros in Gipuzkoa, where it dropped 0.1%.

The revenue per available room (RevPAR) in the Basque Country overall, which is dependent on the occupancy rate of hotel establishments, stood at 35.1 euros in February 2018, 3.4% less than in February 2017. The RevPAR stood at 29.7 euros in Álava, 37.2 euros in Bizkaia, and 34.6 euros in Gipuzkoa.

In rural accommodation, visitor numbers increased by 1.9% and overnight stays rose by 0.9% in February 2018

There were 5,959 visitors to rural accommodation in the Basque Country, 1.9% more than the same month of the previous year. By province, in Álava the number of visitors was down by 26.9%, in Bizkaia there was an increase of 27.5%, and in Gipuzkoa there was a rise of 5.3%.

The 667 visitors originating from abroad signified a rise of 69.3% with regards to those received a year ago and represented 11.2% of the total number of visitors. For its part, the number of visitors from within Spain fell by 3.0%.

Rural tourism establishments and country cottages in the Basque Country recorded a total of 12,647 overnight stays in February 2018, with an increase of 0.9% with respect to the same month of the previous year. By province, in Álava they were down by 22.1%, in Gipuzkoa 0.3% but in Bizkaia they were up 27.4%.

The bed occupancy rate stood at 12.4% with a rise of 0.2 percentage points from the figures obtained in February 2017. In Álava it decreased by 3.1 percentage points, standing at 9.1%. In Gipuzkoa, the occupancy rate stood at 14.8%, with an increase of 0.6 percentage points in relation to February 2017, whereas in Bizkaia rates fell by 2.4 percentage points, reaching an occupancy rate of 11.3% this February.

Finally, the average length of stay per visitor decreased this February, going from 2.14 days a year ago to 2.12 this last month.

Table 2.- Overnight stays, visitor numbers, average stay and occupancy rates in rural accommodation in the Basque Country. February 2018

	Overnight stays		Visitors		Average length		Degree of occupation by places (%)	
	02/2018	m/m-12 (%)	02/2018	m/m-12 (%)	02/2018	02/2017	02/2018	p.p.*
BASQUE COUNTRY	12.647	0,9	5.959	1,9	2,12	2,14	12,4	0,2
Araba/Álava	2.225	-22,1	1.098	-26,9	2,03	1,90	9,1	-3,1
Bizkaia	3.530	27,4	1.626	27,5	2,17	2,17	11,3	2,4
Gipuzkoa	6.892	-0,3	3.235	5,3	2,13	2,25	14,8	0,6

p.p.*= difference in percentage points on the same month of the previous year

Source: Eustat. Survey on tourist establishments

For further information:

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