

**Press release** 06/09/2002**SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS(EETR)****July 2002**

## **8% RISE IN NUMBER OF VISITORS IN JULY 2002**

**Overnight stays grew by 5% in relation to the same month the previous year.**

Hotel establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country registered 152,440 entries by visitors in July 2002, 11,000 entries more than in the same month the year before, which represents an 8% increase, according to Eustat data. Entries by visitors increased in all three provinces. There was a 9% rise in Bizkaia, 8% in Gipuzkoa and 6% in Alava.

Entries by state visitors increased 13%, higher than the increase registered among foreign visitors (2%). The number of state visitors increased in the three provinces: 6% in Alava, 10% in Bizkaia and 18% in Gipuzkoa; on the other hand, foreign visitors increased by 7% in Alava and 9% in Bizkaia, while in Gipuzkoa there was a 4% decrease.

Among state visitors there was a significant increase in visitors from Madrid, Andalusia, and the A.C. of the Basque Country and Navarre, and a slight fall in numbers from Catalonia, Asturias and Murcia, among others. Among foreign visitors there was a sharp increase in numbers from France, Germany, Italy and the UK, on the other hand there the number of visitors from the USA-Canada, South America and Portugal decreased.

The number of overnight stays registered in July 2002 came to 286,551, i.e. 13,000 more than the same month the year before, which represents a 5% increase in terms of percentage. The number of overnight stays increased by 9% in Bizkaia and 3% in Alava and Gipuzkoa.

The length of the average stay of visitors staying at hotels in the A.C. of the Basque Country fell in June 2002 from 1.94 days last year to 1.88 in July this year.

The level of occupancy by places remained at the same level as the year before for the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country and occupancy by rooms grew 1% for the whole of the Autonomous Community.

**Agrotourism: Increase in number of visitors (21%) and overnight stays (9%)**

9,839 entries were registered by visitors in Agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country in July 2002, 21% more than the year before, giving a 29% rise in Gipuzkoa, 20% in Bizkaia and a 1% decrease in Alava.

The number of overnight stays came to 28,101, 9% more than in July 2001, this increase affecting the three provinces of the A.C. of the Basque Country: Alava (30%), Gipuzkoa (10%) and Bizkaia (2%).

The average stay fell 10% for the whole of the . A.C. of the Basque Country, rising 32% in Alava and falling in Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa by 15% and 14%, respectively.

For further information:

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Table 1: Monthly results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI					ARABA/ALAVA					BIZKAIA					GIPUZKOA				
	07/2002	%	07/2001	%	D%	07/2002	%	07/2001	%	D%	07/2002	%	07/2001	%	D%	07/2002	%	07/2001	%	D%
<b>HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS</b>																				
<b>ENTRY BY VISITORS</b>	152.440	100	141.101	100	8	26.757	100	25.176	100	6	53.122	100	48.576	100	9	72.561	100	67.349	100	8
National	93.835	62	83.377	59	13	18.908	71	17.850	71	6	32.818	62	29.872	61	10	42.109	58	35.655	53	18
Foreign	58.605	38	57.724	41	2	7.849	29	7.326	29	7	20.304	38	18.704	39	9	30.452	42	31.694	47	-4
<b>OVERNIGHT STAYS</b>	286.551	100	273.132	100	5	47.786	100	46.510	100	3	98.632	100	90.801	100	9	140.133	100	135.821	100	3
National	177.751	62	159.441	58	11	33.492	70	33.416	72	0	59.849	61	53.808	59	11	84.410	60	72.217	53	17
Foreign	108.800	38	113.691	42	-4	14.294	30	13.094	28	9	38.783	39	36.993	41	5	55.723	40	63.604	47	-12
<b>AVERAGE STAY</b>	1,88		1,94		-3	1,79		1,85		-3	1,86		1,87		-1	1,93		2,02		-4
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES</b>	52,86		52,96		0	56,71		56,81		0	45,61		44,27		3	58,01		59,36		-2
<b>AGRO-TOURISM</b>																				
<b>ENTRY BY VISITORS</b>	9.839	100	8.142	100	21	1.308	100	1.316	100	-1	3.470	100	2.894	100	20	5.061	100	3.932	100	29
National	8.220	84	6.638	82	24	1.248	95	1.111	84	12	2.632	76	2.108	73	25	4.340	86	3.419	87	27
Foreign	1.619	16	1.504	18	8	60	5	205	16	-71	838	24	786	27	7	721	14	513	13	41
<b>OVERNIGHT STAYS</b>	28.101	100	25.771	100	9	3.265	100	2.506	100	30	9.872	100	9.676	100	2	14.964	100	13.589	100	10
National	22.930	82	18.833	73	22	3.097	95	2.131	85	45	7.206	73	6.146	64	17	12.627	84	10.556	78	20
Foreign	5.171	18	6.938	27	-25	168	5	375	15	-55	2.666	27	3.530	36	-24	2.337	16	3.033	22	-23
<b>AVERAGE STAY</b>	2,86		3,17		-10	2,50		1,90		32	2,84		3,34		-15	2,96		3,46		-14
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES</b>	42,60		43,87		-3	27,72		23,71		17	46,35		53,17		-13	45,50		45,33		0

Source: EUSTAT