

## **11% INCREASE IN TOURIST ENTRIES IN NOVEMBER 2002**

**Overnight stays increased by 6% in relation to the same month the year before.**

Hotel establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country registered 117,516 entries by visitors in November 2002, 12,000 more than in the same month the previous year, which represents an 11% increase, according to Eustat data. The number of visitors increased 23% in Bizkaia and 7% in Gipuzkoa, and fell slightly in Alava (-1%).

Entries by foreign visitors increased 13%, two percent higher than the growth registered for state visitors (11%). The number of foreign visitors increased substantially in Gipuzkoa (21%) and Alava (18%), and more moderately in Bizkaia (6%). State visitors increased substantially in Bizkaia (30%) and also, to a lesser degree though, in Gipuzkoa (4%), but fell in Alava (-4%).

Among state visitors there was an increase in numbers from practically all the autonomous communities, with the exception of Castile-La Mancha and the Community of Valencia, with a high volume from the Communities of Madrid and Catalonia. Among foreign visitors the most important increases corresponded to visitors from France, the UK, Italy and Portugal, with a reduction in visitors from the USA-Canada, Latin America and Germany.

Overnight stays registered in November 2002 came to 228,890, i.e. 12,500 more than the same month the previous year, which represents a 6% increase in percentage terms. The number of overnight stays grew substantially in Bizkaia (23%), a much more reduced growth in Gipuzkoa (2%), while in Alava there was a 15% decrease.

The length of the average stay by visitors in November 2002 fell from 2.05 days the previous year to 1.95 last November.

The level of occupancy by places fell slightly by 1% in the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country and level of occupancy by rooms decreased more so, by 3%. This double decrease is based on the data for the province of Alava.

### **Agrotourism: Increase in the number of visitors (27%) and overnight stays (13%).**

The number of visitors to agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country was 5,340 in November 2002, 27% more than the previous year, increasing 64% in Alava, 39% in Gipuzkoa and remaining stable in Bizkaia (0%). The increase registered for all the A.C. of the Basque Country is due to state visitors who increased in numbers by 29%, while foreign visitors fell in numbers by 11%.

The number of overnight stays came to 12,199, 13% more than in November 2001, this increase affecting the provinces of Alava (29%) and Gipuzkoa (26%), as in the province of Bizkaia there was an 8% decrease.

The average stay fell 11% for the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country, with a general effect on all three provinces :Alava (-21%), Gipuzkoa (-10%) and Bizkaia (-8%), as a consequence of a greater increase in the number of visitors than in the number of overnight stays.

For further information:

 <b>Eustat</b>	Euskal Estatistika Erakundea / Instituto Vasco de Estadística Donostia-San Sebastián, 1. 01010 Vitoria-Gasteiz Tel:+34-945-01 75 00 Fax:+34-945-01 75 01 E-mail: <a href="mailto:eustat@eustat.es">eustat@eustat.es</a> Contact person: Gerardo Pérez Tf: +34-945-01 75 06 Fax: +34-945-01 75 01 Press releases on the Internet : <a href="http://www.eustat.es">www.eustat.es</a>
---	--

**Table 1: Monthly results**

	A.C. OF EUSKADI				ARABA/ALAVA				BIZKAIA				GIPUZKOA				D%			
	11/2002	%	11/2001	%	11/2002	%	11/2001	%	11/2002	%	11/2001	%	11/2002	%	11/2001	D%				
<b>HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS</b>																				
ENTRY BY VISITORS	117.516	100	105.508	100	11	22.487	100	22.650	100	-1	48.648	100	39.505	100	23	46.381	100	43.353	100	7
National	91.754	78	82.760	78	11	18.261	81	19.078	84	-4	37.096	76	28.594	72	30	36.397	78	35.088	81	4
Foreign	25.762	22	22.748	22	13	4.226	19	3.572	16	18	11.552	24	10.911	28	6	9.984	22	8.265	19	21
OVERNIGHT STAYS	228.890	100	216.135	100	6	37.906	100	44.448	100	-15	97.058	100	79.160	100	23	93.926	100	92.527	100	2
National	174.744	76	169.254	78	3	30.860	81	37.248	84	-17	69.016	71	54.881	69	26	74.868	80	77.125	83	-3
Foreign	54.146	24	46.881	22	15	7.046	19	7.200	16	-2	28.042	29	24.279	31	15	19.058	20	15.402	17	24
AVERAGE STAY	1,95		2,05		-5	1,69		1,96		-14	2,00		2,00		0	2,03		2,13		-5
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	43,54		44,12		-1	41,35		54,45		-24	45,05		41,18		9	42,96		42,84		0
<b>AGRO-TOURISM</b>																				
ENTRY BY VISITORS	5.340	100	4.220	100	27	1.033	100	631	100	64	1.703	100	1.711	100	0	2.604	100	1.878	100	39
National	5.145	96	4.001	95	29	1.012	98	623	99	62	1.664	98	1.638	96	2	2.469	95	1.740	93	42
Foreign	195	4	219	5	-11	21	2	8	1	163	39	2	73	4	-47	135	5	138	7	-2
OVERNIGHT STAYS	12.199	100	10.820	100	13	2.073	100	1.612	100	29	3.952	100	4.289	100	-8	6.174	100	4.919	100	26
National	11.526	94	9.813	91	17	2.017	97	1.500	93	34	3.838	97	3.857	90	0	5.671	92	4.456	91	27
Foreign	673	6	1.007	9	-33	56	3	112	7	-50	114	3	432	10	-74	503	8	463	9	9
AVERAGE STAY	2,28		2,56		-11	2,01		2,55		-21	2,32		2,51		-8	2,37		2,62		-10
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	18,88		18,06		5	17,41		13,71		27	19,09		21,99		-13	19,29		17,17		12

Source: EUSTAT