

SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR) DECEMBER 2003

In 2003 there was a 5% rise in the number of visitors while overnight stays increased 4% compared to the previous year.

Last December 10% more visitors and 12% more overnight stays were registered than in the same month of 2002.

The balance for 2003 in the hotel establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country shows increases both in the number of visitors (5%) and the number of overnight stays (4%) in relation to the previous year. The positive nature of these two indicators is present throughout the three provinces of the A.C. of the Basque Country, albeit to varying degrees in each one, according to Eustat data.

In December 2003, the hotel establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country registered 107,025 visitors. These figures show a 10% increase in relation to the same month of the previous year, some 10,000 more visitors. The number of visitors evolved positively in all three provinces, rising in Gipuzkoa (15%), Alava (10%) and Bizkaia (5%).

Visitors from other parts of the state grew in number by 7% in the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole and there was an 18% rise in the number of foreign visitors. Figures for both groups were up in all three provinces during December.

Among visitors from the state, there was an increase in those coming from Madrid, Catalonia, the Community of Valencia and Galicia, among other places. As for foreigners, there was an increase in travellers from France, Italy, the United Kingdom and USA-Canada, although visitors from Germany and Portugal, among others, fell in number.

Overnight stays registered in December 2003 came to 193,613, meaning a 12% increase in relation to December of the previous year, some 20,500 more overnight stays. Inter-annual evolution of overnight stays was also positive in all three provinces.

The length of the average stay in the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole went up from 1.78 days last year to 1.81 this month and the degree of occupancy by places and rooms underwent a rise of 6% and 2% respectively.

Annual balance 2003

In 2003, 1,585,221 visitors were registered, bettering by 5% the figure for 2002, the first year to see the one and a half million barrier for visitors to the hotel establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country surpassed. In all three provinces the number of visitors increased: Bizkaia by 7%, Gipuzkoa 5% and Alava 0.5%.

The number of overnight stays in 2003 came to 2,962,252, meaning 115,000 more than in the previous year. Here too there was a positive evolution in the three provinces: Gipuzkoa (5%), Bizkaia (4%) and Alava (2%).

The average length of stay fell slightly from 1.88 days to 1.87 during 2003, due to the way this variable evolved in Bizkaia. The degree of occupancy by places fell by point three per cent in the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole as a result of the expansion of the offer in the hotel trade in Bizkaia and Álava, despite the notable increase in the number of visitors and overnight stays.

Table 1: Yearly results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI			ARABA/ALAVA			BIZKAIA			GIPUZKOA		
	2003	2002	Δ %	2003	2002	Δ %	2003	2002	Δ %	2003	2002	Δ %
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS												
OVERNIGHT STAYS	2.962.252	2.847.751	4	484.002	473.852	2	1.174.864	1.134.332	4	1.303.386	1.239.567	5
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	1.585.221	1.512.081	5	277.127	275.756	0	623.887	585.020	7	684.207	651.305	5
AVERAGE STAY	1,87	1,88	-1	1,75	1,72	2	1,88	1,94	-3	1,90	1,90	0
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	44,17	45,76	-3	41,94	46,91	-11	42,25	44,81	-6	47,02	46,22	2

Source: EUSTAT

Agrotourism: In December the number of visitors increased (39%) as did overnight stays (36%)

There were 7,073 visitors registered by the agrotourism establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in December 2003, 39% more than in the same month of the previous year, a rise that affected all three provinces.

Overnight stays in agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country came to 17,178 in December, 36% more than in the same month of the previous year, with positive inter-annual growth rates in Alava (69%), Gipuzkoa (40%) and Bizkaia (18%).

The average stay per visitor suffered a 0.2% setback in the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole although the degree of occupancy by places improved by 24%, an improvement affecting all three provinces.

Annual balance for agrotourism 2003: an 8% rise in visitors and 10% in overnight stays.

84,391 visitors were registered by agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country during the course of 2003, meaning 8% more than the year before, while overnight stays came to 225,249, which is to say 10% more than in 2002.

The increase in both visitors and overnight stays was repeated, although to varying degrees, in each one of the three provinces.

The average stay per visitor went from 2.60 days in 2002 to 2.66 days in 2003, although the degree of occupancy in 2003 remained at practically the same level as that of 2002.

Table 2: Yearly results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI			ARABA/ALAVA			BIZKAIA			GIPUZKOA		
	2003	2002	Δ %	2003	2002	Δ %	2003	2002	Δ %	2003	2002	Δ %
AGRO-TOURISM												
OVERNIGHT STAYS	225.249	203.951	10	34.571	31.414	10	73.310	72.073	2	117.368	100.464	17
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	84.691	78.301	8	15.260	13.313	15	28.109	27.491	2	41.322	37.497	10
AVERAGE STAY	2,66	2,60	2	2,27	2,36	-4	2,61	2,62	-1	2,84	2,68	6
OCCUPANCY LEVEL	27,03	26,95	0	21,42	22,43	-5	27,67	29,61	-7	28,84	26,92	7

Source: EUSTAT

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Table 1: Monthly results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI					ARABA/ALAVA					BIZKAIA					GIPUZKOA				
	12/2003	%	12/2002	%	Δ%	12/2003	%	12/2002	%	Δ%	12/2003	%	12/2002	%	Δ%	12/2003	%	12/2002	%	Δ%
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	193.613	100	172.920	100	12	34.937	100	32.425	100	8	80.589	100	72.696	100	11	78.087	100	67.799	100	15
National	146.589	76	135.950	79	8	29.665	85	28.366	87	5	58.809	73	54.507	75	8	58.115	74	53.077	78	9
Foreigners	47.024	24	36.970	21	27	5.272	15	4.059	13	30	21.780	27	18.189	25	20	19.972	26	14.722	22	36
Capital	124.024	64	116.514	67	6	27.014	77	26.433	82	2	52.642	65	50.152	69	5	44.368	57	39.929	59	11
Coast	16.417	8	13.691	8	20	-	-	-	-	-	7.926	10	6.347	9	25	8.491	11	7.344	11	16
Inland	53.172	27	42.715	25	24	7.923	23	5.992	18	32	20.021	25	16.197	22	24	25.228	32	20.526	30	23
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	107.025	100	97.366	100	10	20.804	100	18.922	100	10	42.628	100	40.507	100	5	43.593	100	37.937	100	15
National	83.270	78	77.461	80	7	17.369	83	16.479	87	5	33.609	79	32.090	79	5	32.292	74	28.892	76	12
Foreigners	23.755	22	19.905	20	19	3.435	17	2.443	13	41	9.019	21	8.417	21	7	11.301	26	9.045	24	25
Capital	69.855	65	66.419	68	5	14.702	71	15.036	79	-2	28.396	67	28.797	71	-1	26.757	61	22.586	60	18
Coast	8.380	8	7.755	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	3.960	9	3.305	8	20	4.420	10	4.450	12	-1
Inland	28.790	27	23.192	24	24	6.102	29	3.886	21	57	10.272	24	8.405	21	22	12.416	28	10.901	29	14
AVERAGE STAY	1,81		1,78		2	1,68		1,71		-2	1,89		1,79		6	1,79		1,79		0
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	35,60		33,64		6	36,39		33,96		7	33,12		34,58		-4	38,19		32,53		17
Capital	37,36		36,31		3	40,99		38,79		6	33,72		35,63		-5	40,34		35,66		13
Coast	30,12		31,68		-5	-		-		-	27,23		35,12		-22	33,44		29,21		14
Inland	33,80		28,47		19	26,32		21,92		20	34,44		31,53		9	36,51		28,79		27
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	41,85		40,89		2	43,82		42,66		3	39,76		42,61		-7	43,57		38,24		14
Capital	42,83		43,07		-1	49,24		48,98		1	39,67		42,79		-7	43,57		39,56		10
Coast	36,81		38,06		-3	-		-		-	33,50		44,04		-24	40,63		33,74		20
Inland	41,32		36,15		14	28,50		22,34		28	43,11		41,31		4	44,62		37,76		18
AGRO-TOURISM																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	17.178	100	12.592	100	36	3.432	100	2.032	100	69	5.707	100	4.824	100	18	8.039	100	5.736	100	40
National	15.674	91	11.318	90	38	2.918	85	2.032	100	44	5.111	90	4.288	89	19	7.645	95	4.998	87	53
Foreigners	1.504	9	1.274	10	18	514	15	0	0	-	596	10	536	11	11	394	5	738	13	-47
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	7.073	100	5.082	100	39	1.328	100	827	100	61	2.451	100	1.941	100	26	3.294	100	2.314	100	42
National	6.774	96	4.851	95	40	1.258	95	827	100	52	2.378	97	1.883	97	26	3.138	95	2.141	93	47
Foreigners	299	4	231	5	29	70	5	0	0	-	73	3	58	3	26	156	5	173	7	-10
AVERAGE STAY	2,43		2,48		-2	2,58		2,46		5	2,33		2,49		-6	2,44		2,48		-2
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	24,00		19,30		24	22,83		15,61		46	25,50		23,33		9	23,53		18,18		29
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	26,21		21,03		25	26,39		16,07		64	27,38		26,28		4	25,38		19,66		29

Source: EUSTAT