

SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR) MAY 2004

The number of visitors rose by 15% and overnight stays by 14% in May 2004

The number of foreign visitors underwent a 23% rise and those coming from the state increased by 12%.

159,783 visitors were registered in the hotel establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in May 2004, over 20,000 more than in the same month of last year, meaning a 15% increase, according to Eustat data. The rise in the number of visitors took place in all three provinces: Bizkaia (23%), Alava (13%) and Gipuzkoa (8%), in relation to the figures for May 2003.

The number of visitors from the state grew by 12%, while that of foreign visitors increased by 23%. Both visitors from the state and those from abroad increased in number in all three provinces: Alava (13% and 14% respectively), Bizkaia (16% and 40%), with a sharp increase in overseas visitors, and Gipuzkoa (6% and 12%).

Among visitors from the state, there was an increase in those coming from most Autonomous Communities, but especially, both in volume and growth, visitors from Madrid, Catalonia, the Community of Valencia, Aragón, Asturias, Castile, León and the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country itself and the Autonomous Community of Navarre. Among foreign visitors there was a rise in those coming from France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Italy, USA-Canada and South America among others. The only fall was for visitors coming from Portugal and Sweden.

Overnight stays registered in May 2004 totalled 288,706, meaning a 14% increase with respect to last May, or almost 36,000 more overnight stays. Inter-annual evolution of overnight stays was positive, albeit uneven, throughout the three provinces of the A.C. of the Basque Country, growing 23% in Bizkaia, 10% in Gipuzkoa and 2% in Alava.

The length of the average stay in the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole in May (-1%) was slightly less in relation to the same period of last year. This index rose in Gipuzkoa (2%), remained stable in Bizkaia (0%) and fell in Alava (-10%), in inter-annual terms.

The degree of occupancy by places underwent a 9% increase, going from 43.64% in May of last year to 47.41% this May. The degree of occupancy by rooms also experienced an 8% improvement in the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole, going from the 55.44% obtained in May 2003 to 59.62% this May.

Agrotourism: A rise in the number of visitors (7%) and overnight stays (9%)

6,666 visitors were registered in the agrotourism establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in May, 7% more than the same month last year, growing 23% in Alava, 10% in Gipuzkoa, but decreasing 3% in Bizkaia. The rise in the number of visitors from the state was 6% in the A.C. of the Basque Country: 26% in Alava and 9% in Gipuzkoa, whereas in Bizkaia their numbers fell by 6%. Overseas visitors increased by 17% in the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole, with a sharp increase in their numbers in Bizkaia (42%), more modest growth in Gipuzkoa (11%) and a fall in Alava (-9%).

There were 15,908 overnight stays in the agrotourism establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in May, representing a 9% increase in relation to the same month last year, with positive inter-annual growth rates in all three provinces: in Alava growth was 10%, in Gipuzkoa 9% and in Bizkaia 7%.

The average stay per visitor went from 2.36 days a year ago to 2.39 in May of this year, increasing in Bizkaia, decreasing in Alava and remaining unchanged in Gipuzkoa.

The degree of occupancy by places registered a slight increase of 2%, due to increases in Gipuzkoa (9%) and Bizkaia (2%), since in Alava it fell by 13%.

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Table 1: Monthly results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI			ARABA/ALAVA			BIZKAIA			GIPUZKOA					
	05/2004	%	05/2003	%	Δ%	05/2004	%	05/2003	%	Δ%	05/2004	%	05/2003	%	Δ%
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS															
OVERNIGHT STAYS	288.706	100	252.819	100	14	43.021	100	42.362	100	2	128.555	100	104.380	100	23
National	198.335	69	180.100	71	10	33.960	79	32.451	77	5	85.083	66	72.514	69	17
Foreigners	90.371	31	72.719	29	24	9.061	21	9.911	23	-9	43.472	34	31.866	31	36
Capital	187.348	65	163.180	65	15	29.787	69	32.311	76	-8	91.761	71	73.417	70	25
Coast	34.927	12	33.318	13	5	-	-	-	-	-	12.050	9	11.232	11	7
Inland	66.431	23	56.321	22	18	13.234	31	10.051	24	32	24.744	19	19.731	19	25
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	159.783	100	138.884	100	15	27.637	100	24.358	100	13	68.709	100	55.823	100	23
National	109.305	68	97.994	71	12	21.363	77	18.860	77	13	46.151	67	39.721	71	16
Foreigners	50.478	32	40.890	29	23	6.274	23	5.498	23	14	22.558	33	16.102	29	40
Capital	101.466	64	88.048	63	15	17.878	65	16.926	69	6	47.961	70	39.310	70	22
Coast	19.263	12	17.333	12	11	-	-	-	-	-	7.920	12	6.028	11	31
Inland	39.054	24	33.503	24	17	9.759	35	7.432	31	31	12.828	19	10.485	19	22
AVERAGE STAY	1,81		1,82		-1	1,56		1,74		-10	1,87		1,87		0
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	47,41		43,64		9	43,64		42,37		3	48,43		44,51		9
Capital	51,32		47,11		9	44,04		47,44		-7	53,85		48,18		12
Coast	46,91		47,43		-1	-		-	-	-	37,67		41,41		9
Inland	39,21		34,61		13	42,78		31,54		36	39,24		35,86		9
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	59,62		55,44		8	55,16		55,90		-1	62,64		58,17		8
Capital	64,57		60,40		7	57,85		64,27		-10	68,86		62,79		10
Coast	54,40		54,87		-1	-		-	-	-	46,82		52,77		-11
Inland	49,69		43,93		13	47,33		33,80		40	51,33		45,56		13
AGRO-TOURISM															
OVERNIGHT STAYS	15.908	100	14.633	100	9	2.637	100	2.390	100	10	5.432	100	5.059	100	7
National	12.942	81	13.333	91	-3	2.512	95	2.295	96	9	4.438	82	4.690	93	-5
Foreigners	2.966	19	1.300	9	128	125	5	95	4	32	994	18	369	7	169
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	6.666	100	6.202	100	7	1.318	100	1.068	100	23	2.216	100	2.274	100	-3
National	5.953	89	5.590	90	6	1.248	95	991	93	26	1.991	90	2.115	93	-6
Foreigners	713	11	612	10	17	70	5	77	7	-9	225	10	159	7	42
AVERAGE STAY	2,39		2,36		1	2,00		2,24		-11	2,45		2,22		10
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	20,85		20,49		2	15,55		17,81		-13	23,06		22,63		2
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	23,63		23,07		2	17,41		19,29		-10	25,68		24,65		4

Source: EUSTAT