

19% increase in visitor entries in October 2004 in the A.C. of the Basque Country

Overnight stays reached a lower level of growth, 12%, due to a reduction in the length of the average stay by visitors.

171,955 visitor entries were registered at hotel establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country in October 2004, according to Eustat data. These figures reflect a 19% increase in relation to the same month the year before, i.e. 27,000 more entries. Visitor entries saw a positive though unequal evolution in the three provinces: important increases in Bizkaia (29%) and Gipuzkoa (17%) and a more moderate rise in Alava (1%).

State visitors increased in number by 19% in the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country and an identical increase, 19%, was also registered by foreign visitors. State visitors increased in all three provinces: Bizkaia (24%), Gipuzkoa (22%) and Alava (2%). Foreign visitors increased in numbers in Bizkaia (39%) and Gipuzkoa (7%), but their presence fell in Alava (-1%).

Among the state visitors that registered highest increases according to Autonomous Communities, were mainly those from Madrid, Catalonia, Castile and León, Andalusia, Asturias and Castile la Mancha. Numbers fell from Aragón, the Balearic Isles, Cantabria, Comunidad Valenciana and Galicia. The number of foreigners rose from France, Italy, the UK, Portugal and the USA-Canada, among others. Numbers fell from Germany, Belgium, Sweden and Japan, mainly.

Overnight stays registered in October 2004 came to 313,961, which represents a 12% increase in relation to October the year before, i.e. 33,000 more. Overnight stays registered differing inter-annual evolutions in the three provinces, increasing 20% in Bizkaia, rising 19% in Gipuzkoa, but falling substantially in Alava (-20%).

The average length of stay fell in the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country, dropping from 1.94 days in October 2003 to 1.83 days last October. The average length of stay fell considerably in Alava (from 2.03 to 1.61 days) and also, although to a lesser extent, in Bizkaia (from 1.94 to 1.81 days), although in Gipuzkoa there was a slight improvement on the previous year (from 1.90 to 1.92 days).

The level of occupancy, both by places and by rooms, improved the values registered a year before by 9% and 7%, respectively, for the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country. Nevertheless, these two indicators have fallen significantly in Alava, although substantial improvements were made in Gipuzkoa and Bizkaia.

Agroturism: increase in the number of visitors (17%), and above all, in overnight stays (47%) over the past month of October

8,009 visitors were registered last October in agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country, 17% more than the same month the year before, growing 23% in Gipuzkoa and 22% in Bizkaia, but falling 3% in Alava.

Overnight stays at agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country came to a total of 20,634 in October, which represents 47% more than the same month the previous year, with very positive inter-annual growth in all three provinces: Alava (20%), Bizkaia (37%) and Gipuzkoa (70%).

The average length of stay per visitor progressed notable in the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country with regard to October 2003, and rose from 2.05 days a year before to 2.58 this year, this increase affecting all three provinces.

The level of occupancy by places increased by 40% in the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country and the level of occupancy by rooms rose by 39%. Both variables improved their positions in the three provinces of the A.C. of the Basque Country.

For further information:

Euskal Estatistika-Erakundea / Instituto Vasco de Estadística
C/ Donostia-San Sebastián, 1 01010 Vitoria-Gasteiz
Tel: +34-945-01 75 00 Fax: +34-945-01 75 01 E-mail: eustat@eustat.es
Contact: Gerardo Pérez Aja
Tel: +34-945-01 75 06 Fax: +34-945-01 75 01
Press releases on the Internet: www.eustat.es
Data bank: www.eustat.es/bancopx/spanish/indice.asp

Table 1: Monthly results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI			ARABA/ALAVA			BIZKAIA			GIPUZKOA					
	10/2004	%	10/2003	%	Δ%	10/2004	%	10/2003	%	Δ%	10/2004	%	10/2003	%	Δ%
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS															
OVERNIGHT STAYS	313.961	100	280.727	100	12	43.260	100	54.169	100	-20	135.807	100	112.850	100	20
National	223.650	71	197.313	70	13	35.539	82	43.630	81	-19	90.457	67	74.971	66	21
Foreigners	90.311	29	83.414	30	8	7.721	18	10.539	19	-27	45.350	33	37.879	34	20
Capital	206.304	66	178.241	63	16	30.549	71	38.415	71	-20	100.641	74	77.400	69	30
Coast	37.312	12	34.707	12	8	-	-	-	-	-	11.023	8	12.721	11	-13
Inland	70.345	22	67.779	24	4	12.711	29	15.754	29	-19	24.143	18	22.729	20	6
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	171.955	100	144.698	100	19	26.938	100	26.622	100	1	74.874	100	58.267	100	29
National	122.363	71	102.995	71	19	21.566	80	21.215	80	2	51.305	69	41.323	71	24
Foreigners	49.592	29	41.703	29	19	5.372	20	5.407	20	-1	23.569	31	16.944	29	39
Capital	113.519	66	92.850	64	22	18.339	68	18.014	68	2	54.679	73	40.457	69	35
Coast	18.179	11	16.110	11	13	-	-	-	-	-	6.354	8	6.119	11	4
Inland	40.257	23	35.738	25	13	8.599	32	8.608	32	0	13.841	18	11.691	20	18
AVERAGE STAY	1,83		1,94		-6	1,61		2,03		-21	1,81		1,94		-7
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	51,52		47,16		9	44,04		55,30		-20	51,53		44,80		15
Capital	56,38		50,81		11	45,00		57,16		-21	59,23		49,36		20
Coast	51,30		44,78		15	-	-	-	-	-	36,96		35,75		3
Inland	41,21		40,58		2	41,88		51,23		-18	37,82		38,21		-1
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	63,28		58,96		7	53,78		71,46		-25	66,32		57,88		15
Capital	69,64		64,28		8	57,68		76,67		-25	75,17		63,16		19
Coast	57,76		51,02		13	-	-	-	-	-	46,45		43,04		8
Inland	51,25		50,62		1	44,12		56,07		-21	49,15		51,08		-4
AGRO-TOURISM															
OVERNIGHT STAYS	20.634	100	13.997	100	47	3.433	100	2.872	100	20	6.990	100	5.104	100	37
National	18.445	89	12.437	89	48	3.288	96	2.702	94	22	5.782	83	4.388	86	32
Foreigners	2.189	11	1.560	11	40	145	4	170	6	-15	1.208	17	716	14	69
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	8.009	100	6.822	100	17	1.428	100	1.466	100	-3	2.830	100	2.312	100	22
National	7.440	93	6.328	93	18	1.343	94	1.420	97	-5	2.575	91	2.132	92	21
Foreigners	569	7	494	7	15	85	6	46	3	85	255	9	180	8	42
AVERAGE STAY	2,58		2,05		26	2,40		1,96		22	2,47		2,21		12
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	26,61		19,00		40	20,36		19,50		4	30,55		21,49		42
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	29,76		21,46		39	23,40		21,09		11	33,80		24,47		38
Source: EUSTAT															