

SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR) DECEMBER 2004

The number of visitors rose by 8% and overnight stays increased by 6% during December

In 2004 as a whole, 10% more visitors and 11% more overnight stays were registered than in 2003.

115,769 visitors were registered in the hotel establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in December 2004, according to Eustat data. These figures show an 8% rise compared to the same month of the previous year, which is to say almost 9,000 more visits. The number of visitors experienced a positive evolution in the province of Bizkaia, where there was a 22% increase; in Gipuzkoa it remained unchanged (0.0%) and it fell by 4% in the province of Alava.

The number of visitors from the state grew by 13% in the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole, while the number of visitors from overseas fell by 7%. Numbers of the former increased in Bizkaia (24%) and Gipuzkoa (9%), while those of the latter only rose in Bizkaia (17%), since in Alava and Gipuzkoa they diminished by 14% and 24%, respectively.

Among visitors from the state, numbers rose for those coming from almost all of the autonomous communities, especially from Madrid, Catalonia, Andalucia and Castile and León, among others. There was a fall in visitors from the Community of Valencia, Murcia and Ceuta and Melilla. As for overseas visitors, there was a rise among those coming from Germany, France, Portugal and the USA -Canada, whereas numbers fell for others, especially from Italy, the United Kingdom and Holland.

206,172 overnight stays were registered in December 2004, meaning 6% growth compared to the previous December, which is to say almost 13,000 more overnight stays. The evolution of the number of overnight stays followed a similar pattern to the number of visitors in the various provinces, rising 16% in Bizkaia, remaining unchanged in Gipuzkoa (0.0%) and decreasing in Alava (-3%).

The average length of stay for the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole decreased from 1.81 days the previous year to 1.78 in December 2004. However, this index improved slightly in Alava and Gipuzkoa - by 1% in both cases – but fell in Bizkaia (-5%).

The degree of occupancy by places and rooms improved for the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole thanks to the Bizkaia results, since in Alava and Gipuzkoa the degree of occupancy fell, both in terms of places and rooms.

Annual balance for hotel establishments 2004: Both the average stay and the degree of occupancy by places showed improved figures compared to the previous year

The balance for 2004 in the hotel establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country showed rises, both in the number of visitors (10%) and in overnight stays (11%), compared to the previous year. The positive performance of these two indicators was repeated across the three provinces of the A.C. of the Basque Country, even though its impact differed in each, according to Eustat data.

1,750,434 visitors were registered in 2004, which is to say 165,000 more than the previous year, making it the third year running that the one and a half million mark has been passed for visitors staying in the hotel establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country. The number of visitors increased 19% in Bizkaia, 5% in Gipuzkoa and 4% in Alava.

The number of overnight stays for 2004 came to 3,289,658, which is to say 326,000 more overnight stays than the previous year, a positive evolution also reflected across the three provinces: Bizkaia (19%), Gipuzkoa (8%) and Alava (2%).

The average length of stay went from 1.87 days the previous year to 1.88 in 2004. The degree of occupancy by places improved by two per cent in the A.C. of the Basque Country overall, going from 44.2% in 2003 to 46.9% in 2004. This index improved in all three provinces, but to differing extents.

Table 1: Annual results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI			ARABA/ALAVA			BIZKAIA			GIPUZKOA		
	2.003	2.004	△ %	2.003	2.004	△ %	2.003	2.004	△ %	2.003	2.004	△ %
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS												
OVERNIGHT STAYS	2.963.193	3.289.658	11	484.942	493.110	2	1.174.865	1.392.439	19	1.303.386	1.404.109	8
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	1.585.221	1.750.434	10	277.127	288.945	4	623.887	739.685	19	684.207	721.804	5
AVERAGE STAY	1,87	1,88	1	1,75	1,71	-2	1,88	1,88	0	1,90	1,95	2
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	44,18	46,86	6	42,02	42,88	2	42,25	45,51	8	47,02	49,97	6

Source: EUSTAT

Agrotourism: December saw a decrease in the number of visitors (-8%) but an increase in overnight stays (12%)

6,538 visitors were registered in the agrotourism establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in December, 8% less than in the same month of the previous year.

There were 19,319 overnight stays in the agrotourism establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in December, meaning 12% more than in the same month of the previous year, with positive inter-annual growth rates in Bizkaia (17%), Gipuzkoa (10%) and Alava (9%).

The average length of stay per visitor showed a sharp rise of 21% in the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole and the degree of occupancy by places improved slightly (1%), although the degree of occupancy by rooms diminished (-2%).

Annual balance for agrotourism 2004: there was a 4% increase in the number of visitors and one of 16% for overnight stays

88,076 visitors were registered in the agrotourism establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country over 2004, meaning 4% more than the previous year, while the number of overnight stays totalled 261,906, which is to say 16% more than in 2003.

Both the increase in the number of visitors and of overnight stays was repeated, although to differing extents, in each of the three provinces.

The average stay per visitor went from 2.66 days in 2003 to 2.97 in 2004 and the degree of occupancy showed an 8% improvement compared to the levels achieved in 2003, affecting all three provinces in a similarly positive way.

Table 2: Annual results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI			ARABA/ALAVA			BIZKAIA			GIPUZKOA		
	2.003	2.004	△ %	2.002	2.003	△ %	2.002	2.003	△ %	2.002	2.003	△ %
AGRO-TOURISM												
OVERNIGHT STAYS	225.249	261.906	16	34.571	41.559	20	73.310	85.517	17	117.368	134.830	15
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	84.691	88.076	4	15.260	16.040	5	28.109	29.154	4	41.322	42.882	4
AVERAGE STAY	2,66	2.97	12	2,27	2,59	14	2,61	2,93	12	2,84	3,14	11
OCCUPANCY LEVEL	27,03	29.15	8	21,42	21,89	2	27,67	30,87	12	28,84	31,26	8

Source: EUSTAT

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: Nerea Linaza Díarce
 Tel:+34-945-01 75 14 Fax:+34-945-01 75 01
 Press releases on the Internet: www.eustat.es

Table 3: Monthly results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI			ARABA/ALAVA			BIZKAIA			GIPUZKOA					
	12/2004	%	12/2003	%	Δ%	12/2004	%	12/2003	%	Δ%	12/2004	%	12/2003	%	Δ%
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS															
OVERNIGHT STAYS	206.172	100	193.613	100	6	33.863	100	34.937	100	-3	93.866	100	80.589	100	16
National	164.350	80	146.589	76	12	29.483	87	29.665	85	-1	72.194	77	58.809	73	23
Foreigners	41.822	20	47.024	24	-11	4.380	13	5.272	15	-17	21.672	23	21.780	27	0
Capital	134.663	65	124.024	64	9	26.004	77	27.014	77	-4	63.887	68	52.642	65	21
Coast	19.265	9	16.417	8	17	-	-	-	-	-	7.466	8	7.926	10	-6
Inland	52.244	25	53.172	27	-2	7.859	23	7.923	23	-1	22.513	24	20.021	25	12
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	115.769	100	107.025	100	8	19.937	100	20.804	100	-4	52.185	100	42.628	100	22
National	93.723	81	83.270	78	13	16.981	85	17.369	83	-2	41.677	80	33.609	79	24
Foreigners	22.046	19	23.755	22	-7	2.956	15	3.435	17	-14	10.508	20	9.019	21	17
Capital	74.728	65	69.855	65	7	14.287	72	14.702	71	-3	34.874	67	28.396	67	23
Coast	10.264	9	8.380	8	22	-	-	-	-	-	4.084	8	3.960	9	3
Inland	30.777	27	28.790	27	7	5.650	28	6.102	29	-7	13.227	25	10.272	24	29
AVERAGE STAY	1,78		1,81		-2	1,70		1,68		1	1,80		1,89		-5
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	36,07		35,60		1	35,99		36,39		-1	35,31		33,12		7
Capital	37,98		37,36		2	40,06		40,99		-2	37,15		33,72		10
Coast	40,02		30,12		33	-	-	-	-	-	30,29		27,23		11
Inland	30,93		33,80		-8	26,94		26,32		2	32,54		34,44		-6
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	42,80		41,85		2	42,63		43,82		-3	42,64		39,76		7
Capital	44,66		42,83		4	47,96		49,24		-3	44,91		39,67		13
Coast	45,59		36,81		24	-	-	-	-	-	36,14		33,50		8
Inland	37,66		41,32		-9	28,23		28,50		-1	39,21		43,11		-9
AGRO-TOURISM															
OVERNIGHT STAYS	19.319	100	17.178	100	12	3.744	100	3.432	100	9	6.697	100	5.707	100	17
National	17.860	92	15.674	91	14	3.702	99	2.918	85	27	6.149	92	5.111	90	20
Foreigners	1.459	8	1.504	9	-3	42	1	514	15	-92	548	8	596	10	-8
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	6.538	100	7.073	100	-8	1.376	100	1.328	100	4	2.153	100	2.451	100	-12
National	6.150	94	6.774	96	-9	1.334	97	1.258	95	6	2.051	95	2.378	97	-14
Foreigners	388	6	299	4	30	42	3	70	5	-40	102	5	73	3	40
AVERAGE STAY	2,95		2,43		21	2,72		2,58		5	3,11		2,33		33
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	24,25		24,00		1	22,45		22,83		-2	26,84		25,50		5
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	25,76		26,21		-2	23,59		26,39		-11	29,07		27,38		6

Source: EUSTAT