

SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR) APRIL 2008

The number of visitors fell by 14% and overnight stays decreased by 19% in April of 2008

The balance for the first four months of the year shows that the number of visitors and the number of overnight stays are at the same level as the previous year.

There were 159,094 visitors registered in the hotel establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in April 2008; more than 25,500 fewer visitors than in the same month of last year resulting in a 14% decrease, according to Eustat data. The number of visitors fell by 15% in Álava, 14% in Bizkaia and 13% in Gipuzkoa, compared with the same month of 2007.

With respect to April of 2007, the number of visitors from within the state fell by 18% and the number of overseas visitor fell by 4%. In the three provinces, visitors from within the state decreased by 22% in Gipuzkoa, by 15% in Bizkaia and by 14% in Álava. Overseas visitors increased by 12% in Gipuzkoa but decreased in Álava (-19%) and Bizkaia (-12%).

Registered overnight stays in April 2008 rose to 285,405 representing a 19% decline from April of 2007 or 67,000 fewer overnight stays. The inter-annual evolution of overnight stays was negative in the three provinces; it went down in Álava by 20% and in both Gipuzkoa and Bizkaia numbers fell by 19%.

Throughout the A.C of the Basque Country the average length of stay went down 6%: from 1.91 days in April of the previous year to 1.79 days this past April. In Álava it dropped by 6%, in Bizkaia by 5% and in Gipuzkoa by 7%.

The degree of occupancy by place went down from 49.64% in April of last year to 41.38% this April. The decline affected all three provinces. This past April Álava was below the average with a decline of 18% (35.87%) while Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa registered a similar degree of occupancy rate of 42.39% and 42.25% respectively.

It is important to note the affect of Holy Week on this analysis. In 2007 Holy Week was in April while this year it fell in March. To ensure homogenous results, data from the first four months of the year are used to compare this year with the same period of last year.

There were 581,662 visitors to hotel establishments in the A.C of the Basque Country **during the first four months of the year**, which is not a significant variation from the same period of 2007. Overnight stays during this first quarter rose to 1,061,911; which is practically the same as the previous year. The average length of stay as well as the degree of occupancy remained practically the same as in 2007: average length of stay was 1.83 days and the degree of occupancy was at 40%.

Table 1. Results from the first quarter of 2008 in the A.C. of the Basque Country.

	HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS			
	2.008	2.007	Difference	Δ%
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	581.662	580.206	1.456	0,3
OVERNIGHT STAYS	1.061.911	1.067.103	-5.192	-0,5
AVERAGE STAY	1,83	1,84	0,0	-0,7
OCCUPANCY LEVEL	39,67	39,99	-0,3	-0,8

Agrotourism: The number of visitors fell by 24% and overnight stays by 48%

There were 8,171 visitors registered this past April in agrotourism establishments of the A.C of the Basque Country; 24% fewer than the same month of last year, declining by 28% in Bizkaia, 27% in Gipuzkoa and by 9% in Álava. There was a 26% decline in visitors from within the state to A.C of the Basque Country: falling by 12% in Gipuzkoa, by 29% in Bizkaia and by 28% in Álava. The number of overseas visitors dropped by 3% throughout the A.C of the Basque Country; declining in Gipuzkoa (-8%) and Bizkaia (-13%) and increasing in Álava (33%).

There were 17,765 overnight stays in agrotourism establishments in the A.C of the Basque Country in April meaning a 48% decline when compared with the same month of the previous year. There were negative inter-annual rates in Bizkaia (-51%), Gipuzkoa (-49%) and Álava (-37%).

The average length of stay per visitor dropped with respect to April 2007, going from 3.15 days a year ago to 2.17 days this past April.

The grade of occupancy by place fell from 48.06% to 18.06% as a result of the decline of visitors in the three provinces: Álava was at 19.67%, Bizkaia fell to 18.25% and Gipuzkoa was recorded at 20.68%.

There were 28,753 visitors to agrotourism establishments in the A.C of the Basque Country during the **first 4 months** of 2008, meaning a 1% decline with respect to data from the first quarter of 2007.

There were 72,546 overnight stay in the period from January to April of 2008 resulting in a 6% decline from the same period of the last year.

Table 2: Monthly Results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI					ARABA/ALAVA					BIZKAIA					GIPUZKOA				
	04 2008	%	04 2007	%	Δ %	04 2008	%	04 2007	%	Δ %	04 2008	%	04 2007	%	Δ %	04 2008	%	04 2007	%	Δ %
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	285.405	100	352.248	100	-19	35.975	100	44.989	100	-20	137.852	100	169.260	100	-19	111.578	100	137.999	100	-19
National	184.768	65	246.528	70	-25	27.495	76	35.056	78	-22	86.776	63	108.802	64	-20	70.497	63	102.670	74	-31
Foreigners	100.637	35	105.720	30	-5	8.480	24	9.933	22	-15	51.076	37	60.458	36	-16	41.081	37	35.329	26	16
Capital	172.620	60	213.912	61	-19	26.145	73	33.657	75	-22	89.397	65	108.062	64	-17	57.078	51	72.193	52	-21
Coast	30.911	11	43.182	12	-28	-	-	-	-	-	10.149	7	15.484	9	-34	20.762	19	27.698	20	-25
Inland	81.874	29	95.154	27	-14	9.830	27	11.332	25	-13	38.306	28	45.714	27	-16	33.738	30	38.108	28	-11
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	159.094	100	184.455	100	-14	21.834	100	25.686	100	-15	75.944	100	88.408	100	-14	61.316	100	70.361	100	-13
National	107.457	68	130.709	71	-18	17.022	78	19.771	77	-14	50.481	66	59.608	67	-15	39.954	65	51.330	73	-22
Foreigners	51.637	32	53.746	29	-4	4.812	22	5.915	23	-19	25.463	34	28.800	33	-12	21.362	35	19.031	27	12
Capital	96.550	61	111.949	61	-14	15.624	72	18.614	72	-16	48.454	64	55.684	63	-13	32.472	53	37.651	54	-14
Coast	16.477	10	20.566	11	-20	-	-	-	-	-	6.075	8	8.599	10	-29	10.402	17	11.967	17	-13
Inland	46.067	29	51.940	28	-11	6.210	28	7.072	28	-12	21.415	28	24.125	27	-11	18.442	30	20.743	29	-11
AVERAGE STAY	1,79		1,91		-6	1,65		1,75		-6	1,82		1,91		-5	1,82		1,96		-7
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	41,38		49,64		-17	35,87		43,54		-18	42,39		49,70		-15	42,25		51,94		-19
Capital	46,14		56,37		-18	38,80		49,14		-21	48,34		58,25		-17	46,86		57,53		-19
Coast	35,67		48,03		-26	-		-		-	29,09		40,01		-27	40,10		54,09		-26
Inland	35,77		39,62		-10	29,87		32,54		-8	36,34		39,29		-8	37,26		42,83		-13
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	51,16		58,55		-13	45,24		51,13		-12	52,35		59,57		-12	52,07		60,40		-14
Capital	55,99		68,53		-18	49,93		58,61		-15	57,39		72,50		-21	57,48		68,30		-16
Coast	43,56		51,60		-16	-		-		-	37,75		44,10		-14	47,28		57,28		-17
Inland	45,80		44,89		2	34,91		34,79		0	47,76		44,02		8	47,50		50,56		-6
AGRO-TOURISM																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	17.765	100	34.037	100	-48	3.630	100	5.718	100	-37	5.380	100	11.049	100	-51	8.755	100	17.270	100	-49
National	14.495	82	31.308	92	-54	2.817	78	5.336	93	-47	4.430	82	10.133	92	-56	7.248	83	15.839	92	-54
Foreigners	3.270	18	2.729	8	20	813	22	382	7	113	950	18	916	8	4	1.507	17	1.431	8	5
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	8.171	100	10.791	100	-24	1.655	100	1.821	100	-9	2.492	100	3.446	100	-28	4.024	100	5.524	100	-27
National	7.461	91	10.061	93	-26	1.484	90	1.692	93	-12	2.232	90	3.147	91	-29	3.745	93	5.222	95	-28
Foreigners	710	9	730	7	-3	171	10	129	7	33	260	10	299	9	-13	279	7	302	5	-8
AVERAGE STAY	2,17		3,15		-31	2,19		3,14		-30	2,16		3,21		-33	2,18		3,13		-30
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	18,06		34,06		-47	19,67		31,61		-38	16,29		32,77		-50	18,67		35,89		-48
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	19,98		38,73		-48	21,34		35,92		-41	18,25		37,18		-51	20,68		40,93		-49

Source: EUSTAT
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