

SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR) APRIL 2005

4% increase in the number of visitors in April 2005

However, overnight stays registered a slight 1% reduction

Hotel establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country registered 142,938 entries by visitors in April 2005, over 5,000 more than the same month the year before, which represents a 4% increase, according to Eustat data. Visitor entries registered a positive evolution in the provinces of Bizkaia (10%) and Gipuzkoa (3%), but not so in Alava, where there was a 7% turndown in relation to the same month the year before. When interpreting these monthly data and making inter-annual comparisons, we must take into consideration that Holy Week 2005 fell in March, while in 2004 it was in April. Thus, if we compare both the months of March and April this year with the same period in 2004 to eliminate the Holy Week effect, visitor entries increased by 7% and overnight stays rose by 8%, in the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country.

The number of state visitors grew 6% in April 2005, while the number of foreign visitors fell by 1%.

Among state visitors there was an increase in most Autonomous Communities, with the exception of Catalonia and Galicia. There was a rise in numbers from Madrid, Andalusia, Aragón, Asturias, Community of Valencia and Castile la Mancha, to quote the most significant movements. Among foreign visitors, there was an increase in numbers from France, Germany, Italy and Ireland among others, and a drop in numbers from the UK, Portugal, USA-Canada and Belgium, mainly.

Overnight stays registered in April 2005 came to 255,532, which represented a 1% decrease on April the year before, i.e. almost 2,000 overnight stays less. Overnight stays only registered a positive inter-annual evolution in Bizkaia (1%), falling both in Gipuzkoa (-1%), and in Alava (-4%).

The length of the average stay fell from 1.87 days the year before to 1.79 in April this year for the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country, and this reduction extends to Bizkaia (fall from 1.96 to 1.81) and Gipuzkoa (fall from 1.87 to 1.79). Nevertheless, the average stay improved in Alava, rising from 1.67 days the year before to 1.73 in April this year.

The level of occupancy by places decreased by 2%, dropping from 43.66% in April last year to 42.63% in April this year. On the other hand, the level of occupancy by rooms grew by 4%, increasing from 52.23% last year to 54.35% this year for the whole of the three provinces.

Agrotourism: Increase in visitor entries (4%) and drop in overnight stays (-36%)

7,585 visitor entries were registered last April in agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country, 4% more than in the same month the year before, rising 22% in Bizkaia, but falling 2% in Gipuzkoa and 4% in Alava. State visitors increased by 6% in

the A.C. of the Basque Country, while the number of foreign visitors fell by 10%, in the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country.

Overnight stays at agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country came to 14,033 in April, which represents a considerable decrease of 36% with regard to the same month the year before, with important inter-annual decreases in the three provinces: a 38% fall in Gipuzkoa, 36% in Bizkaia and 31% in Alava.

The average stay per visitor fell in the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country in relation to April 2004, dropping from 3.03 days a year before to 1.85 in April this year, the inter-annual decrease affecting all three provinces.

The level of occupancy by places registered a 40% decrease and the level of occupancy by rooms dropped by 37%. The fall in both rates affected all three provinces in 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					
	04/2004	%	04/2004	%	Δ%	04/2004	%	04/2004	%	Δ%	04/2004	%	04/2004	%	Δ%
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS															
OVERNIGHT STAYS	255.532	100	257.433	100	-1	39.690	100	41.259	100	-4	111.314	100	110.098	100	1
National	183.550	72	184.705	72	-1	32.138	81	34.604	84	-7	75.417	68	71.852	65	5
Foreigners	71.982	28	72.728	28	-1	7.552	19	6.655	16	13	35.897	32	38.246	35	-6
Capital	162.941	64	165.411	64	-1	30.957	78	30.748	75	1	76.974	69	77.038	70	0
Coast	31.260	12	32.554	13	-4	-	-	-	-	-	11.074	10	11.869	11	-7
Inland	61.331	24	59.468	23	3	8.733	22	10.511	25	-17	23.266	21	21.191	19	10
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	142.938	100	137.557	100	4	22.981	100	24.714	100	-7	61.664	100	56.170	100	10
National	105.115	74	99.419	72	6	18.607	81	19.979	81	-7	44.350	72	39.042	70	14
Foreigners	37.823	26	38.138	28	-1	4.374	19	4.735	19	-8	17.314	28	17.128	30	1
Capital	91.831	64	88.417	64	4	16.818	73	17.844	72	-6	41.909	68	39.138	70	7
Coast	15.778	11	15.831	12	0	-	-	-	-	-	6.270	10	6.049	11	4
Inland	35.329	25	33.309	24	6	6.163	27	6.870	28	-10	13.485	22	10.983	20	23
AVERAGE STAY	1,79		1,87		-4	1,73		1,67		4	1,81		1,96		-8
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	42,63		43,66		-2	41,33		42,84		-4	41,93		43,44		-3
Capital	46,30		46,97		-1	48,04		46,46		3	46,55		47,76		-3
Coast	42,81		44,86		-5	-	-	-	-	-	34,47		38,41		-10
Inland	35,15		36,07		-3	27,64		34,90		-21	34,22		34,59		-1
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	54,35		52,23		4	52,87		50,71		4	54,85		54,21		1
Capital	59,30		56,49		5	62,47		57,00		10	59,74		59,40		1
Coast	50,96		50,20		2	-	-	-	-	-	43,05		45,57		-6
Inland	45,47		43,24		5	31,50		35,42		-11	46,94		43,01		9
AGRO-TOURISM															
OVERNIGHT STAYS	14.033	100	22.013	100	-36	2.563	100	3.739	100	-31	4.513	100	7.031	100	-36
National	12.312	88	20.024	91	-39	2.339	91	3.564	95	-34	3.978	88	6.137	87	-35
Foreigners	1.721	12	1.989	9	-13	224	9	175	5	28	535	12	894	13	-40
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	7.585	100	7.275	100	4	1.396	100	1.458	100	-4	2.548	100	2.094	100	22
National	7.044	93	6.675	92	6	1.348	97	1.418	97	-5	2.371	93	1.871	89	27
Foreigners	541	7	600	8	-10	48	3	40	3	20	177	7	223	11	-21
AVERAGE STAY	1,85		3,03		-39	1,84		2,56		-28	1,77		3,36		-47
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	17,98		29,76		-40	16,43		24,63		-33	18,23		29,89		-39
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	20,33		32,06		-37	17,72		25,36		-30	20,86		32,11		-35

Source: EUSTAT