

SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR) AUGUST 2005

Visitor numbers rose by 9% and overnight stays by 11% in August 2005

In June, July and August, 37,000 more visitors were registered than in the same period of 2004, meaning an increase of 7%

213,066 visitors were registered in the hotel establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in August 2005, almost 18,000 more than for the same month of last year, meaning an increase of 9%, according to Eustat data. Visitor numbers increased in the provinces of Alava (21%) and Bizkaia (20%), but not so in Gipuzkoa, where there was a 4% reduction in relation to the figures for August 2004.

The number of visitors from other parts of the state grew by 10%, while visitors from abroad increased by 8%. Both visitors from the state and from overseas increased in number in Alava (27% and 7%, respectively) and in Bizkaia (23% and 15%, respectively), while in Gipuzkoa the former group diminished in number (-7%) and the latter increased (2%).

Among visitors from the state, there was a rise in the number of those coming from Catalonia, Andalucia, Aragon, Castile la Mancha, Galicia and Castile-Leon, among others, and a fall for those coming from Madrid, La Rioja and Ceuta and Melilla. Among overseas visitors, numbers rose for those coming from France, Germany, United Kingdom, USA-Canada and Belgium, among others, and fell for those coming from Italy, Portugal, Finland and Sweden.

Overnight stays registered in August 2005 came to 471,860, representing an 11% increase compared to last August, or in other words, 47,000 more overnight stays. The inter-annual evolution of overnight stays was positive in the three provinces of the A.C. of the Basque Country, growing 19% in Alava, 18% in Bizkaia and 3% in Gipuzkoa.

The average length of stay underwent an increase of 2% in August 2005 for the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole, going from 2.17 days to 2.21 days.

The degree of occupancy by places and by rooms registered a positive evolution, with a 7% increase for the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole. The degree of occupancy by places went from 69.25% to 73.88% and the degree of occupancy by rooms went from 72.46% to 77.63%. This improvement was reflected, to a greater or lesser extent, across the three provinces.

The summer months of June, July and August saw a 7% increase in the number of visitors to the A.C. of the Basque Country, in relation to the same period of 2004, meaning 37,000 more visitors: Bizkaia had an increase of 15% and Alava one of 5%, while Gipuzkoa remained at the same level as last year. In the same period, overnight stays underwent a 9% increase, with 96,000 more overnight stays than last year. This increase was true of all three provinces. The average length of stay and the degree of occupancy improved over the three summer months by 2% and 6% respectively.

AGROTOURISM

The number of visitors rose (16%), but that of overnight stays remained steady (0.0%)

12,317 visitors were registered in agrotourism establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in August, 16% more than in the same month last year, decreasing by 17% in Alava, but growing by 38% in Gipuzkoa and 7% in Bizkaia. There was a 20% rise in the numbers of visitors from the state in the A.C. of the Basque Country, but the number of those coming from overseas reduced by 5%.

There were 59,198 overnight stays in the agrotourism establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in August 2005, meaning that numbers remained steady in relation to the same month of last year, with positive inter-annual growth rates in the provinces of Bizkaia (8%) and Gipuzkoa (3%), but a negative inter-annual rate in Alava (-23%).

The average stay per visitor fell from 5.57 to 4.81 days in August.

The degree of occupancy by places decreased from 74.54% to 70.36% and the degree of occupancy by rooms went from 77.77% to 75.70%.

Over the three months of June, July and August 2005 10% more visitor entries were registered at agrotourism establishments than over the same months the year before, i.e. 3,000 more entries and overnight stays which represent a 5% rise, positively affecting the provinces of Guipúzcoa (9%) and Bizkaia (2%) but with a negative effect in Alava (-9%).

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Table 1: Monthly results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI			ARABA/ALAVA			BIZKAIA			GIPUZKOA					
	08/2005	%	08/2004	%	Δ%	08/2005	%	08/2004	%	Δ%	08/2005	%	08/2004	%	Δ%
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS															
OVERNIGHT STAYS	471.860	100	424.075	100	11	63.847	100	53.687	100	19	199.922	100	168.977	100	18
National	319.388	68	293.440	69	9	50.451	79	41.646	78	21	130.150	65	106.578	63	22
Foreigners	152.472	32	130.635	31	17	13.396	21	12.041	22	11	69.772	35	62.399	37	12
Capital	287.596	61	255.645	60	12	42.976	67	35.586	66	21	131.769	66	110.818	66	19
Coast	65.050	14	61.852	15	5	-	-	-	-	-	26.084	13	23.857	14	9
Inland	119.214	25	106.578	25	12	20.871	33	18.101	34	15	42.069	21	34.302	20	23
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	213.066	100	195.188	100	9	32.436	100	26.869	100	21	96.104	100	80.344	100	20
National	137.483	65	125.383	64	10	23.831	73	18.833	70	27	58.834	61	47.826	60	23
Foreigners	75.583	35	69.805	36	8	8.605	27	8.036	30	7	37.270	39	32.518	40	15
Capital	131.623	62	117.505	60	12	21.430	66	17.102	64	25	67.502	70	55.002	68	23
Coast	24.899	12	24.176	12	3	-	-	-	-	-	10.921	11	9.567	12	14
Inland	56.544	27	53.507	27	6	11.006	34	9.767	36	13	17.681	18	15.775	20	12
AVERAGE STAY	2,21		2,17		2	1,97		2,00		-2	2,08		2,10		-1
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	73,88		69,25		7	62,79		55,00		14	71,57		63,74		12
Capital	77,58		69,45		12	62,90		52,75		19	76,27		65,16		17
Coast	75,21		78,46		-4	-	-	-	-	-	70,59		73,29		-4
Inland	65,69		64,43		2	62,57		60,01		4	60,42		54,89		10
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	77,63		72,46		7	65,79		57,55		14	75,32		67,58		11
Capital	79,84		72,27		10	67,51		57,01		18	77,46		68,27		13
Coast	81,20		82,93		-2	-	-	-	-	-	76,58		80,54		-5
Inland	71,10		68,32		4	61,63		59,03		4	69,87		61,10		14
AGRO-TURISM															
OVERNIGHT STAYS	59.198	100	58.946	100	0	6.869	100	8.961	100	-23	18.405	100	16.978	100	8
National	51.303	87	50.754	86	1	6.036	88	7.597	85	-21	15.401	84	13.465	79	14
Foreigners	7.895	13	8.192	14	-4	833	12	1.364	15	-39	3.004	16	3.513	21	-14
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	12.317	100	10.580	100	16	1.793	100	2.168	100	-17	3.646	100	3.413	100	7
National	10.899	88	9.095	86	20	1.564	87	1.928	89	-19	3.193	88	2.630	77	21
Foreigners	1.418	12	1.485	14	-5	229	13	240	11	-5	453	12	783	23	-42
AVERAGE STAY	4,81		5,57		-14	3,83		4,13		-7	5,05		4,97		2
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	70,36		74,54		-6	41,97		53,23		-21	70,60		70,67		0
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	75,70		77,77		-3	43,90		53,66		-18	75,07		75,43		0

Source: EUSTAT