

## SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISMENTS (EETR) DECEMBER 2005

## 5% increase in visitor entries and a 6% rise in overnight stays in December

**4% more entries and 5% more overnight stays were registered over the whole of 2005 than in 2004**

In December 2005, hotel establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country registered 121,686 visitor entries, according to Eustat data. These figures reflect a 5% increase on the same month the year before, i.e. nearly 6,000 more entries. Visitor entries evolved positively in the province of Bizkaia, where there was a 13% increase but there was a 2% fall in the province of Álava and 1% in Gipuzkoa.

Entries by state visitors increased by 1% in the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country, while foreign visitors registered a 21% increase. Numbers of the former fell in Gipuzkoa (-6%) and Álava (-3%), but increased their presence by 10% in Bizkaia. The latter increased numbers in all three provinces: Bizkaia (27%), Gipuzkoa (18%) and Álava (5%).

Among the state visitors there were increases in visitors from Catalonia, Andalusia, Aragón, Asturias and Galicia, among others. There was a decrease in visitors from the Comunidad Valenciana, Madrid and Balearic Isles, mainly. Among foreign visitors, there was an increase in numbers from France, Italy, Portugal and South America, but a drop in numbers from German, the UK and USA-Canada, mainly.

Overnight stays registered in December 2005 came to 217,680, which represents growth of 6% on December the year before, i.e. 11,000 overnight stays more. Overnight stays evolved positively in Bizkaia (16%) and Álava (1%), but decreased in Gipuzkoa (-5%).

The average length of stay improved from 1.78 days the previous year to 1.79 last December, for the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country. This index improved in Alava (3%) and Bizkaia (2%), but fell in Gipuzkoa by 3%.

The level of occupancy by places fell by one percentage point with regard to the position a year before in the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country, but the level of occupancy by rooms rose from 42.80% in December 2004 to 44.02% this past month of December, thanks to the results in Bizkaia.

**Annual balance 2005 of hotel establishments: Both the average stay and the level of occupancy by places improved slightly on the figures for the year before**

The balance for 2005 in hotel establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country closed with rises, both in visitor entries (4%) and in overnight stays (5%), with regard to the year before. The positive performance of these two indicators extends to all three provinces in the A.C. of the Basque Country, although its impact differed in each, according to Eustat data.

In 2005 there were 1,825,043 entries by visitors, i.e. 75,000 more than the year before, and thus surpassed for the fourth consecutive year the barrier of one and a half million visitors staying at hotel establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country. Entries by visitors increased by 9% in Bizkaia, 1% in Gipuzkoa and 0.1% in Álava.

Overnight stays in 2005 came to 3,459,802, i.e. 170,000 more overnight stays than the year before, with a positive evolution in all three provinces: Bizkaia (8%), Alava (6%) and Gipuzkoa (3%).

The average length of stay rose from 1.88 days the previous year to 1.90 in 2005. The level of occupancy by places improved by percentage points in the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country, rising from 46.86% in 2004 to 47.63% in 2005. This index improved in all three provinces but to differing degrees.

**Table 1: Annual results**

	A.C. OF EUSKADI			ARABA/ALAVA			BIZKAIA			GIPUZKOA		
	2005	2004	Δ%	2005	2004	Δ%	2005	2004	Δ%	2005	2004	Δ%
<b>HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS</b>												
OVERNIGHT STAYS	3.459.802	3.289.658	5	521.239	493.110	6	1.499.203	1.392.439	8	1.439.360	1.404.109	3
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	1.825.043	1.750.434	4	289.354	288.945	0	808.030	739.685	9	727.659	721.804	1
AVERAGE STAY	1,90	1,88	1	1,80	1,71	6	1,86	1,88	-1	1,98	1,95	2
OCCUPANCY LEVEL	47,63	46,86	2	44,48	42,88	4	45,74	45,51	0	51,16	49,97	2

**Source: EUSTAT**

**Agrotourism: In December there was an increase in visitors (11%) but a fall in overnight stays (-8%)**

7,281 entries by visitors were registered in December at agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country, 11% more than the same month the previous year.

Overnight stays at agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country came to 17,819 in December, which represents 8% fewer than the same month the year before.

The average stay per visitor fell sharply by 17% in the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country and the level of occupancy by places decreased by 10%, the decrease in the level of occupancy by rooms falling by an inter-annual 5%.

## Annual balance 2005 for agrotourism: 9% increase in visitor entries and 2% in overnight stays

96,192 entries were registered by visitors to agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country over 2005, which represents 9% more than the year before, while overnight stays came to 267,574, i.e. 2% more than in 2004.

Entries by visitors increased in all three provinces, but the increase in overnight stays only occurred in Gipuzkoa.

The average stay per visitor fell from 2.97 days in 2004 to 2.78 days in 2005 and the level of occupancy fell by 4% on the level reached in 2004, and affect the provinces of Álava (-8%) and Bizkaia (-11%), but not Gipuzkoa, where there was a 1% increase.

**Table 2: Annual results**

	A.C. OF EUSKADI			ARABA/ALAVA			BIZKAIA			GIPUZKOA		
	2005	2004	Δ%	2005	2004	Δ%	2005	2004	Δ%	2005	2004	Δ%
<b>AGRO-TOURISM</b>												
OVERNIGHT STAYS	267.574	261.906	2	38.334	41.559	-8	81.401	85.517	-5	147.839	134.830	10
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	96.192	88.076	9	16.511	16.040	3	30.401	29.154	4	49.280	42.882	15
AVERAGE STAY	2,78	2,97	-6	2,32	2,59	-10	2,68	2,93	-9	3	3,14	-5
OCCUPANCY LEVEL	28,04	29,15	-4	20,11	21,89	-8	27,62	30,87	-11	31,53	31,26	1

**Source: EUSTAT**

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**Table 3: Monthly results**

	A.C. OF EUSKADI			ARABA/ALAVA			BIZKAIA			GIPUZKOA					
	12/2005	%	12/2004	%	Δ%	12/2005	%	12/2004	%	Δ%	12/2005	%	12/2004	%	Δ%
<b>HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS</b>															
OVERNIGHT STAYS	217.680	100	206.172	100	6	34.187	100	33.863	100	1	108.640	100	93.866	100	16
National	163.044	75	164.350	80	-1	28.928	85	29.483	87	-2	76.241	70	72.194	77	6
Foreigners	54.636	25	41.822	20	31	5.259	15	4.380	13	20	32.399	30	21.672	23	49
Capital	147.927	68	134.663	65	10	25.730	75	26.004	77	-1	78.908	73	63.887	68	24
Coast	18.210	8	19.265	9	-5	-	-	-	-	-	7.420	7	7.466	8	-1
Inland	51.543	24	52.244	25	-1	8.457	25	7.859	23	8	22.312	21	22.513	24	-1
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	121.686	100	115.769	100	5	19.523	100	19.937	100	-2	59.090	100	52.185	100	13
National	95.097	78	93.723	81	1	16.422	84	16.981	85	-3	45.762	77	41.677	80	10
Foreigners	26.589	22	22.046	19	21	3.101	16	2.956	15	5	13.328	23	10.508	20	27
Capital	80.878	66	74.728	65	8	14.374	74	14.287	72	1	42.025	71	34.874	67	21
Coast	10.487	9	10.264	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	3.875	7	4.084	8	-5
Inland	30.321	25	30.777	27	-1	5.149	26	5.650	28	-9	13.190	22	13.227	25	0
AVERAGE STAY	1,79		1,78		1	1,75		1,70		3	1,84		1,80		2
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	35,72		36,07		-1	34,06		35,99		-5	36,29		35,31		3
Capital	41,05		37,98		8	36,63		40,06		-9	42,62		37,15		15
Coast	32,62		40,02		-18	-	-	-	-	-	27,51		30,29		-9
Inland	26,69		30,93		-14	28,07		26,94		4	25,59		32,54		-21
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	44,02		42,80		3	40,74		42,63		-4	46,70		42,64		10
Capital	50,60		44,66		13	44,55		47,96		-7	55,37		44,91		23
Coast	38,90		45,59		-15	-	-	-	-	-	32,99		36,14		-9
Inland	32,20		37,66		-14	30,07		28,23		7	31,31		39,21		-20
<b>AGRO-TOURISM</b>															
OVERNIGHT STAYS	17.819	100	19.319	100	-8	2.773	100	3.744	100	-26	4.852	100	6.697	100	-28
National	16.504	93	17.860	92	-8	2.677	97	3.702	99	-28	4.473	92	6.149	92	-27
Foreigners	1.315	7	1.459	8	-10	96	3	42	1	129	379	8	548	8	-31
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	7.281	100	6.538	100	11	1.279	100	1.376	100	-7	2.353	100	2.153	100	9
National	6.969	96	6.150	94	13	1.270	99	1.334	97	-5	2.172	92	2.051	95	6
Foreigners	312	4	388	6	-20	9	1	42	3	-79	181	8	102	5	77
AVERAGE STAY	2,45		2,95		-17	2,17		2,72		-20	2,06		3,11		-34
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	21,84		24,25		-10	17,57		22,45		-22	18,46		26,84		-31
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	24,36		25,76		-5	19,58		23,59		-17	20,32		29,07		-30

**Source: EUSTAT**