

**SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR) APRIL 2006**

## **25% increase in visitor entries in April 2006<sup>(1)</sup>**

### ***Overnight stays also registered a 33% increase on April 2005***

Hotel establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country registered 178,946 visitor entries in April 2006, i.e. 36,000 more entries than the same month the year before, which represents a 25% increase according to Eustat data. Visitor entries increased in all three provinces: Bizkaia (32%), Gipuzkoa (21%) and Álava (18%).

State visitors increased by 25% and the number of foreign visitors grew by 26%. State visitors also increased their presence in Bizkaia (34%), Gipuzkoa (20%) and Álava (15%). Foreign visitors also increased in number in all three provinces: in Álava by 31%, in Bizkaia 28% and in Gipuzkoa by 22%.

There was an increase in state visitors from all the autonomous communities, mainly those from Catalonia, Madrid, Castile and León, Galicia and Comunidad Valenciana. There were increases in foreign visitors from France, the UK, Italy, Portugal, USA-Canada and South America and a decrease in those from Germany, Finland, Luxembourg and Japan.

The number of overnight stays registered in April 2006 came to 338,831, which represents a 33% increase on the month of April the year before, i.e. 82,000 more overnight stays. Overnight stays underwent a positive inter-annual evolution also in the all three provinces: Bizkaia (38%), Gipuzkoa (34%) and Álava (13%).

The average length of stay rose from 1.79 days the year before to 1.89 days per average visitor this last April, for the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country. This index increased in Gipuzkoa (rising from 1.79 days in April last year to 2.00 days this last month of April) and Bizkaia (where it rose from 1.81 days last year to 1.89 days), while in Álava there was a decrease (from 1.73 days the year before to 1.65 this last April).

The level of occupancy by places underwent a sharp 20% increase, rising by 42.63% in April last year to 51.27% last April. This positive evolution affected all three provinces: Gipuzkoa (31%), Bizkaia (16%) and Álava (8%). The level of occupancy by rooms also grew by 10% rising from 54.35% to 59.64% in the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country, this positive evolution also affecting Gipuzkoa (20%) and Bizkaia (5%), while there was no variation in Álava (0.0%).

## Agrotourism: Visitor entries increased by 35% and overnight stays doubled <sup>(1)</sup>

Last April 10,269 visitor entries were registered at agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country, 35% more than the same month the previous year, increasing by 46% in Gipuzkoa, 27% in Bizkaia and 22% in Álava. Growth registered in state visitors was 36% in the A.C. of the Basque Country, while foreign visitors who stayed at agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country increased by 23%.

The number of overnight stays at agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country was 28,023 in April, which represents a 100% increase with regard to the same month the year before, with positive inter-annual evolution rates in all three provinces: Gipuzkoa (110%), Bizkaia (94%) and Álava (82%).

The average stay per visitor improved in the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country with regard to April 2005, rising from 1.85 days a year before to 2.73 this last April. This indicator has increased in all three provinces: Álava (48%), Bizkaia (53%) and Gipuzkoa (43%).

The level of occupancy by places registered a 78% increase and the level of occupancy by rooms rose by 71% with regard to the position in April 2005 and for the whole of the three provinces of the A.C. of the Basque Country.

<sup>(1)</sup> **Note:** When interpreting these data (number of visitors, overnight stays, average stay, level of occupancy etc,...) in inter-annual comparisons, it should be remembered, among other factors, that Holy Week 2005 coincided mostly with the month of March, whereas this year in 2006 the whole of the bank holidays in Holy Week took place in April.

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**Table 1: Monthly results**

	A.C. OF EUSKADI				ARABA/ALAVA				BIZKAIA				GIPUZKOA							
	04/2006	%	04/2005	%	Δ%	04/2006	%	04/2005	%	Δ%	04/2006	%	04/2005	%	Δ%	04/2006	%	04/2005	%	Δ%
<b>HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS</b>																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	338.831	100	255.532	100	33	44.715	100	39.690	100	13	153.529	100	111.314	100	38	140.587	100	104.528	100	34
National	250.073	74	183.550	72	36	35.812	80	32.138	81	11	111.838	73	75.417	68	48	102.423	73	75.995	73	35
Foreigners	88.758	26	71.982	28	23	8.903	20	7.552	19	18	41.691	27	35.897	32	16	38.164	27	28.533	27	34
Capital	206.331	61	162.941	64	27	33.197	74	30.957	78	7	97.838	64	76.974	69	27	75.296	54	55.010	53	37
Coast	42.800	13	31.260	12	37	-	-	-	-	-	16.421	11	11.074	10	48	26.379	19	20.186	19	31
Inland	89.700	26	61.331	24	46	11.518	26	8.733	22	32	39.270	26	23.266	21	69	38.912	28	29.332	28	33
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	178.946	100	142.938	100	25	27.181	100	22.981	100	18	81.386	100	61.664	100	32	70.379	100	58.293	100	21
National	131.351	73	105.115	74	25	21.450	79	18.607	81	15	59.272	73	44.350	72	34	50.629	72	42.158	72	20
Foreigners	47.595	27	37.823	26	26	5.731	21	4.374	19	31	22.114	27	17.314	28	28	19.750	28	16.135	28	22
Capital	111.581	62	91.831	64	22	19.299	71	16.818	73	15	53.044	65	41.909	68	27	39.238	56	33.104	57	19
Coast	19.984	11	15.778	11	27	-	-	-	-	-	8.642	11	6.270	10	38	11.342	16	9.508	16	19
Inland	47.381	26	35.329	25	34	7.882	29	6.163	27	28	19.700	24	13.485	22	46	19.799	28	15.681	27	26
AVERAGE STAY	1,89		1,79		6	1,65		1,73		-5	1,89		1,81		4	2,00		1,79		12
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	51,27		42,63		20	44,77		41,33		8	48,53		41,93		16	57,46		43,93		31
Capital	55,41		46,30		20	48,90		48,04		2	53,27		46,55		14	62,31		45,04		38
Coast	50,18		42,81		17	-		-	-	-	41,78		34,47		21	57,36		49,37		16
Inland	44,14		35,15		26	36,02		27,64		30	42,05		34,22		23	49,98		39,16		28
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	59,64		54,35		10	52,93		52,87		0	57,84		54,85		5	65,10		54,43		20
Capital	64,31		59,30		8	58,07		62,47		-7	63,40		59,74		6	69,82		56,38		24
Coast	58,65		50,96		15	-		-	-	-	48,68		43,05		13	66,60		57,87		15
Inland	51,13		45,47		12	40,51		31,50		29	49,87		46,94		6	57,01		50,17		14
<b>AGRO-TOURISM</b>																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	28.023	100	14.033	100	100	4.658	100	2.563	100	82	8.764	100	4.513	100	94	14.601	100	6.957	100	110
National	25.889	92	12.312	88	110	4.339	93	2.339	91	86	8.124	93	3.978	88	104	13.426	92	5.995	86	124
Foreigners	2.134	8	1.721	12	24	319	7	224	9	42	640	7	535	12	20	1.175	8	962	14	22
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	10.269	100	7.585	100	35	1.705	100	1.396	100	22	3.235	100	2.548	100	27	5.329	100	3.641	100	46
National	9.605	94	7.044	93	36	1.575	92	1.348	97	17	2.939	91	2.371	93	24	5.091	96	3.325	91	53
Foreigners	664	6	541	7	23	130	8	48	3	171	296	9	177	7	67	238	4	316	9	-25
AVERAGE STAY	2,73		1,85		48	2,73		1,84		48	2,71		1,77		53	2,74		1,91		43
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	32,03		17,98		78	29,13		16,43		77	30,09		18,23		65	34,47		18,46		87
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	34,76		20,33		71	31,68		17,72		79	32,15		20,86		54	37,74		21,03		79

Source: EUSTAT