

12% Increase in visitor entries in July 2006

The number of overnight stays registered an increase of 10% on the month of July 2005

According to Eustat data 213,627 visitor entries were registered in hotel establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country during the month of July 2006, i.e. almost 23,000 more entries than during the same month of the previous year, representing an increase of 12%. Visitor entries increased in all three provinces in the A.C. of the Basque Country: Alava (17%), Bizkaia (16%) and Gipuzkoa (7%).

Entries from visitors from other parts of the Spanish state increased by 13% on July 2005 while the number of foreign visitors increased by 10%. The number of visitors from other parts of the Spanish state increased in Alava (21%), in Gipuzkoa (14%) and in Bizkaia (9%). The number of foreign visitors increased in the provinces of Bizkaia (28%) and in Alava (6%), but fell in Gipuzkoa (-6%).

Among Spanish visitors there was an increase from almost every Autonomous Community, particularly from Madrid, Castilla-Leon, Andalucía, Cantabria and Asturias. A fall in visitors was only registered in those coming from the provinces of Extremadura and Murcia. Among foreign visitors, the numbers coming from France, Belgium, United Kingdom, Portugal, USA-Canada and Latin America all rose, and there were fewer visitors registered coming from Finland, Ireland and Sweden among others.

The number of registered overnight stays in July 2006 rose to 412,668, representing an increase of 10% on July of the previous year, that is, 39,000 more overnight stays. The number of overnight stays has increased in all three provinces: Bizkaia (15%), Alava (8%) and Gipuzkoa (7%).

The average length of stay in the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole underwent a decrease of 2%, from 1.96 days last July to 1.93 days for the average traveller in July 2006. This statistic only increased in Gipuzkoa (rising from 2.14 days in July last year to 2.16 days in July this year). In the case of Bizkaia there was a moderate fall (from 1.82 to 1.81 days) and in Alava the decrease is more noticeable (dropping from 1.82 days in July 2005 to 1.68 days in the same month of 2006).

Occupancy levels for both places and rooms registered an increase of one percentage point, increasing from 59.24% in July last year to 59.84% this July and from 66.40% to 66.80%, respectively. This increase in place occupancy is reflected in both Alava (5%) and Gipuzkoa (4%). However, in Bizkaia there is a two point fall in the level of place occupancy. The level of occupancy for rooms fell in Bizkaia (-3%) and in Alava (-1%), but increased in Gipuzkoa (6%).

Rural guest house and Farmhouse accommodation (Agrotourism): Visitor entries increase (13%) as do overnight stays (17%)

13,484 visitor entries were registered at agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country in July 2006, 13% more than the corresponding month last year; specifically there were increases of 23% in Bizkaia and 14% in Gipuzkoa, while there was a 12% fall in Alava. The increase in visitors from other parts of the Spanish state was 15% for the Basque Autonomous Community, whilst the number of foreign visitors staying in rural guesthouses or farmhouse accommodation registered a moderate increase (1.0%) between July 2005 and the same month of 2006.

The number of overnight stays in these establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country was 46,307 in July, representing an increase of 17% on the same month of the previous year, with positive inter-annual growth figures in Bizkaia (24%) and Gipuzkoa (22%), while this indicator reflected a fall of 22% in Alava.

The average stay per traveller has increased throughout the Basque Autonomous Community with respect to July 2005, rising from 3.30 days from one year ago to 3.43 in July 2006. This indicator reflected increases in the provinces of Gipuzkoa (7%) and Bizkaia (1%), while in Alava it fell by 11%.

In the A.C. of the Basque Country the level of occupancy according to number of available places registered an increase of 6% and the level of occupancy per room registered an increase of 10% on July 2005.

Further information:

*Euskal Estatistika-Erakundea / Basque Institute of Statistics
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							
	07/2006	%	07/2005	%	Δ%	07/2006	%	07/2005	%	Δ%	07/2006	%	07/2005	%	Δ%	07/2006	%	07/2005	%	Δ%
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	412.668	100	373.626	100	10	53.809	100	49.854	100	8	170.281	100	147.949	100	15	188.578	100	175.823	100	7
National	274.243	66	247.310	66	11	41.786	78	38.175	77	9	106.299	62	93.564	63	14	126.158	67	115.571	66	9
Foreigners	138.425	34	126.316	34	10	12.023	22	11.679	23	3	63.982	38	54.385	37	18	62.420	33	60.252	34	4
Capital	245.513	59	229.736	61	7	39.533	73	36.505	73	8	102.392	60	96.641	65	6	103.588	55	96.590	55	7
Coast	58.946	14	55.508	15	6	-	-	-	-	-	25.055	15	19.536	13	28	33.891	18	35.972	20	-6
Inland	108.209	26	88.382	24	22	14.276	27	13.349	27	7	42.834	25	31.772	21	35	51.099	27	43.261	25	18
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	213.627	100	190.882	100	12	31.977	100	27.357	100	17	94.149	100	81.445	100	16	87.501	100	82.080	100	7
National	141.960	66	125.472	66	13	24.283	76	20.098	73	21	58.987	63	53.873	66	9	58.690	67	51.501	63	14
Foreigners	71.667	34	65.410	34	10	7.694	24	7.259	27	6	35.162	37	27.572	34	28	28.811	33	30.579	37	-6
Capital	125.495	59	116.164	61	8	22.045	69	19.151	70	15	56.467	60	51.456	63	10	46.983	54	45.557	56	3
Coast	28.530	13	25.403	13	12	-	-	-	-	-	13.355	14	10.794	13	24	15.175	17	14.609	18	4
Inland	59.602	28	49.315	26	21	9.932	31	8.206	30	21	24.327	26	19.195	24	27	25.343	29	21.914	27	16
AVERAGE STAY	1,93		1,96		-2	1,68		1,82		-8	1,81		1,82		-1	2,16		2,14		1
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	59,84		59,24		1	52,24		49,59		5	52,27		53,20		-2	72,28		69,76		4
Capital	62,75		62,54		0	56,50		53,55		6	53,42		56,29		-5	79,92		75,77		5
Coast	65,68		66,49		-1	-		-	-	-	62,36		53,54		16	68,37		76,54		-11
Inland	51,86		49,14		6	43,20		41,25		5	45,62		45,43		0	62,53		55,78		12
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	66,80		66,40		1	56,73		57,05		-1	59,94		61,67		-3	81,16		76,89		6
Capital	69,89		70,20		0	61,55		63,28		-3	62,81		64,72		-3	86,90		82,51		5
Coast	72,07		70,77		2	-		-	-	-	66,09		60,94		8	78,03		78,82		-1
Inland	59,07		55,97		6	44,78		42,07		6	51,88		54,51		-5	73,77		64,78		14
AGRO-TOURISM																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	46.307	100	39.469	100	17	3.839	100	4.909	100	-22	14.813	100	11.957	100	24	27.655	100	22.603	100	22
National	38.102	82	32.160	81	18	3.397	88	4.305	88	-21	11.571	78	8.794	74	32	23.134	84	19.061	84	21
Foreigners	8.205	18	7.309	19	12	442	12	604	12	-27	3.242	22	3.163	26	2	4.521	16	3.542	16	28
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	13.484	100	11.956	100	13	1.599	100	1.818	100	-12	4.672	100	3.803	100	23	7.213	100	6.335	100	14
National	11.496	85	9.983	83	15	1.418	89	1.653	91	-14	3.736	80	3.033	80	23	6.342	88	5.297	84	20
Foreigners	1.988	15	1.973	17	1	181	11	165	9	10	936	20	770	20	22	871	12	1.038	16	-16
AVERAGE STAY	3,43		3,30		4	2,40		2,70		-11	3,17		3,14		1	3,83		3,57		7
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	50,40		47,61		6	23,41		29,11		-20	46,94		48,76		-4	62,96		54,45		16
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	55,54		50,33		10	26,55		30,99		-14	51,26		49,75		3	69,79		58,76		19

Fuente: EUSTAT