

5% rise in visitor entries and 9% increase in overnight stays in August 2006

Over the months of June, July and August there were 51,000 visitor entries more than over the same period in 2005, which represents a 9% increase

223,769 visitor entries were registered at hotel establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country in August 2006, more than 10,000 above the same month the year before, which represents a 5% increase according to Eustat data. Visitor entries increased in the provinces of Bizkaia (9%) and Álava (9%), but fell slightly in Gipuzkoa (1%), in relation to the data for August 2005.

The number of state visitors rose by 6% and the number of foreign visitors increased by 3%. Both State and foreign visitors increased in presence in Álava (11% and 5% respectively), Bizkaia (9% and 9% respectively), while in Gipuzkoa the former remained stable (0.0%), and the latter fell (-5%).

Among state visitors there was an increase in numbers from Catalonia, Madrid, Andalusia, Asturias, the Canaries and Cantabria among others, and there were decreases in numbers from the Balearics and Extremadura. Among foreign visitors, numbers rose from France, Belgium, the USA-Canada and Portugal, among others, but fell from Germany, Italy and Latin America

Overnight stays registered in August 2006 came to 515,133, which represents a 9% increase on August the year before, i.e. 44,000 more overnight stays. The inter-annual evolution was positive in all three provinces of the A.C. of the Basque Country, rising by 16% in Bizkaia, 11% in Álava and 2% in Gipuzkoa.

The average length of stay underwent a 4% increase in August 2006 for the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country, rising from 2.21 days to 2.30 days.

The level of occupancy by places registered a slight 1% drop, and the level of occupancy by rooms remained unvaried with regard to August 2005. The level of occupancy by places fell from 73.88% to 73.40% and the level of occupancy by rooms rose from 77.63% to 77.72%. This improvement is reflected, above all, in the province of Álava.

In the summer months of June, July and August there was a 9% increase in visitor entries in the A.C. of the Basque Country with regard to the same period in 2005, which represents 51,000 entries more: Bizkaia increased by 14%, Álava rose by 10% and Gipuzkoa registered a 3% rise. Overnight stays increased over the same period by 9%, giving 110,000 overnight stays more than the year before. They increased in all three

provinces. The average stay and level of occupancy remained stable over the three summer months with regard to the same period a year before.

AGROTOURISM

Visitor entries (7%) and overnight stays (15%) increased in August 2006

13,133 visitor entries were registered in August this year at agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country, 7% more than the same month the year before, with increases of 23% in Bizkaia and 9% Álava in, but a 3% decrease in Gipuzkoa. The growth in state visitors was 4% in the A.C. of the Basque Country, while the number of foreign visitors increased in presence by 27%.

Overnight stays at agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country came to 68,020 in August, which represents a 15% increase with regard to the same month the year before, with positive inter-annual evolution rates in all three provinces: Álava (27%), Bizkaia (20%), and Gipuzkoa (9%).

The average stay per visitor improved, rising from 4.81 days a year ago to 5.18 this last August.

The level of occupancy by places registered a 2% increase and the level of occupancy by rooms rose by 3% with regard to the position in August 2005.

Over the three months of June, July and August 2006 there were 9% more visitors at agrotourisms than over the same months the year before, i.e. almost 3,000 more visitors and overnight stays registered a 16% increase, having a positive effect on all three provinces in the A.C. of the Basque Country: Bizkaia (20%), Gipuzkoa (16%) and Álava (4%).

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							
	08 2006	%	08 2005	%	Δ %	08 2006	%	08 2005	%	Δ %	08 2006	%	08 2005	%	Δ %	08 2006	%	08 2005	%	Δ %
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	515.133	100	471.860	100	9	71.093	100	63.847	100	11	232.155	100	199.922	100	16	211.885	100	208.091	100	2
National	362.414	70	319.388	68	13	57.229	80	50.451	79	13	151.706	65	130.150	65	17	153.479	72	138.787	67	11
Foreigners	152.719	30	152.472	32	0	13.864	20	13.396	21	3	80.449	35	69.772	35	15	58.406	28	69.304	33	-16
Capital	298.237	58	287.596	61	4	48.903	69	42.976	67	14	134.184	58	131.769	66	2	115.150	54	112.851	54	2
Coast	69.957	14	65.050	14	8	-	-	-	-	-	30.956	13	26.084	13	19	39.001	18	38.966	19	0
Inland	146.939	29	119.214	25	23	22.190	31	20.871	33	6	67.015	29	42.069	21	59	57.734	27	56.274	27	3
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	223.769	100	213.066	100	5	35.341	100	32.436	100	9	105.132	100	96.104	100	9	83.296	100	84.526	100	-1
National	145.775	65	137.483	65	6	26.337	75	23.831	73	11	64.392	61	58.834	61	9	55.046	66	54.818	65	0
Foreigners	77.994	35	75.583	35	3	9.004	25	8.605	27	5	40.740	39	37.270	39	9	28.250	34	29.708	35	-5
Capital	132.320	59	131.623	62	1	25.162	71	21.430	66	17	64.028	61	67.502	70	-5	43.130	52	42.691	51	1
Coast	24.718	11	24.899	12	-1	-	-	-	-	-	11.515	11	10.921	11	5	13.203	16	13.978	17	-6
Inland	66.731	30	56.544	27	18	10.179	29	11.006	34	-8	29.589	28	17.681	18	67	26.963	32	27.857	33	-3
AVERAGE STAY	2.30		2.21		4	2.01		1.97		2	2.21		2.08		6	2.54		2.46		3
OCCUPANCY LEVEL																				
BY PLACES	73.40		73.88		-1	68.79		62.79		10	69.08		71.57		-3	80.76		80.76		0
Capital	74.98		77.58		-3	69.28		62.90		10	69.02		76.27		-10	86.75		87.05		0
Coast	77.02		75.21		2	-		-		-	74.24		70.59		5	79.38		78.66		1
Inland	68.91		65.69		5	67.72		62.57		8	67.03		60.42		11	71.74		71.69		0
OCCUPANCY LEVEL																				
BY ROOMS	77.72		77.63		0	70.74		65.79		8	73.81		75.32		-2	86.55		86.41		0
Capital	79.29		79.84		-1	71.98		67.51		7	74.28		77.46		-4	91.88		91.50		0
Coast	83.74		81.20		3	-		-		-	79.25		76.58		3	87.80		84.68		4
Inland	72.35		71.10		2	67.66		61.63		10	70.95		69.87		2	76.36		77.75		-2
AGRO-TOURISM																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	68.020	100	59.198	100	15	8.744	100	6.869	100	27	22.168	100	18.405	100	20	37.108	100	33.924	100	9
National	60.488	89	51.303	87	18	8.164	93	6.036	88	35	18.695	84	15.401	84	21	33.629	91	29.866	88	13
Foreigners	7.532	11	7.895	13	-5	580	7	833	12	-30	3.473	16	3.004	16	16	3.479	9	4.058	12	-14
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	13.133	100	12.317	100	7	1.960	100	1.793	100	9	4.489	100	3.646	100	23	6.684	100	6.878	100	-3
National	11.336	86	10.899	88	4	1.773	90	1.564	87	13	3.697	82	3.193	88	16	5.866	88	6.142	89	-4
Foreigners	1.797	14	1.418	12	27	187	10	229	13	-18	792	18	453	12	75	818	12	736	11	11
AVERAGE STAY	5.18		4.81		8	4.46		3.83		16	4.94		5.05		-2	5.55		4.93		13
OCCUPANCY LEVEL																				
BY PLACES	71.85		70.36		2	53.22		41.97		27	67.72		70.60		-4	81.54		81.36		0
OCCUPANCY LEVEL																				
BY ROOMS	77.88		75.70		3	57.50		43.90		31	73.64		75.07		-2	88.54		87.94		1

Source: EUSTAT