

SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR) DECEMBER 2006

Over two million visitors for the first time to the A.C. of the Basque Country in 2006

10% increase in visitor entries and 18% rise in overnight stays in December 2006, maintaining the trend in 2006

134,183 visitor entries were registered at hotel establishments in the A.C. in the Basque Country in December 2006, almost 13,000 more than the same month the year before, which represents a 10% increase according to Eustat data. Visitor entries increased in all three provinces, in Álava by 4%, in Bizkaia by 10% and in Gipuzkoa the rise was 14% in relation to the data for December 2005.

The number of state visitors rose by 13% and the number of foreign visitors was practically unchanged. State visitors increased in presence in all three provinces; in Álava by 6%, in Bizkaia by 12%, and in Gipuzkoa by 18%. Foreign visitors increased in Bizkaia (2%), remained unvaried in Gipuzkoa (0.0%), but fell in Álava (9.0%).

Among state visitors there was an increase in numbers from Catalonia, Madrid, Comunidad Valenciana, Andalusia, and Aragón, mainly, and a drop in numbers from Castile-La Mancha, Extremadura and La Rioja. Among foreigners numbers rose from Belgium, France, Portugal and Latin America, among others, while numbers fell from, Germany, Italy, the UK and USA-Canada mainly.

Overnight stays registered in December 2006 came to 257,364, which represents an 18% increase on the month of December the previous year, i.e. almost 40,000 more overnight stays. Overnight stays have had a positive inter-annual evolution in all three provinces of the A.C. of the Basque Country, rising by 36% in Gipuzkoa, 11% in Bizkaia and 2% in Álava.

The length of the average stay progressed from 7% over this inter-annual period for the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country; it was 1.79 days in December 2005 and rose to 1.92 days last December.

The level of occupancy by places registered an 8% increase, while the level of occupancy by rooms fell by 3% with regard to December 2005. The level of occupancy by places rose from 35.72% to 38.40%, and the level of occupancy by rooms increased from 44.02% to 45.32%.

2006 Annual balance for hotel establishments: 10% more entries registered and 12% more overnight stays than the year before

The balance for 2006 at hotel establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country closed with rises, both in visitor entries (10%) and overnight stays (12%), with regard to the previous year. The positive trend in these two indicators applies to all three provinces of the A.C. of the Basque Country.

In 2006 there were 2,007,548 visitor entries, i.e. 182,000 more than the year before and so for the fifth consecutive year surpassed the figure of one and a half million

visitors staying at hotel establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country, overcoming the two million visitor figure for the first time. Visitor entries increased by 15% in Bizkaia, 8% in Álava and 5% in Gipuzkoa.

The number of overnight stays in 2006 came to 3,858,440, i.e. 398,000 more overnight stays than the year before, the trend also being positive in all three provinces: Bizkaia (16%), Gipuzkoa (9%) and Álava (5%).

The average length of stay rose from 1.90 days the year before to 1.92 in 2006. The level of occupancy by places improved by 1 percentage point in the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country, rising from 47.63% in 2005 to 48.34% in 2006.

Table 1: Annual results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI			ARABA/ALAVA			BIZKAIA			GIPUZKOA		
	2006	2005	Δ %	2006	2005	Δ %	2006	2005	Δ %	2006	2005	Δ %
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS												
OVERNIGHT STAYS	3.858.440	3.459.802	12	544.925	521.239	5	1.746.282	1.499.203	16	1.567.233	1.439.360	9
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	2.007.548	1.825.043	10	313.622	289.354	8	931.326	808.030	15	762.600	727.659	5
AVERAGE STAY	1,92	1,90	1	1,74	1,80	-4	1,88	1,86	1	2,06	1,98	4
OCCUPANCY LEVEL	48,34	47,63	1	44,15	44,48	-1	45,82	45,74	0	53,39	51,16	4

Source: Eustat

AGROTOURISM

Visitor entries rose (10%) and overnight stays increased (23%) in December 2006

7.976 visitor entries to agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country were registered last December, 10% more than the same month the previous year.

Overnight stays at agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country came to 21,933 in December 2006, which represents a 23% increase with regard to the same month the previous year.

The average stay per visitor rose by 12% in the A.C. of the Basque Country and the level of occupancy by places rose by 10%, the increase in the level of occupancy by rooms being an inter-annual 11%.

2006 Annual balance for agrotourism: 8% more entries registered and 16% more overnight stays, and the average stay reached three days

103,639 visitor entries were registered at agrotourism establishments in the A.C. of the Basque Country over 2006, which represents 8% more than the year before, while overnight stays came to 310,955, i.e. 16% more than in 2005.

Visitor entries increased in Bizkaia (13%) and Gipuzkoa (9%), but not so in Alava (-4%). Overnight stays increased in all three provinces: Bizkaia (21%), Gipuzkoa (16%) and Álava (8%).

The average stay per visitor rose from 2.78 days in 2005 to 3.00 days in 2006 and the level of occupancy improved by three percentage points, rising from 28.04% in 2005 to 28.95% in 2006.

Table 2: Annual results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI			ARABA/ALAVA			BIZKAIA			GIPUZKOA		
	2006	2005	Δ %	2006	2005	Δ %	2006	2005	Δ %	2006	2005	Δ %
AGRO-TOURISM												
OVERNIGHT STAYS	310.955	267.574	16	41.348	38.334	8	98.685	81.401	21	170.922	147.839	16
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	103.639	96.192	8	15.897	16.511	-4	34.267	30.401	13	53.475	49.280	9
AVERAGE STAY	3,00	2,78	8	2,60	2,32	12	2,88	2,68	8	3,20	3,00	7
OCCUPANCY LEVEL	28,95	28,04	3	21,26	20,11	6	27,14	27,62	-2	33,14	31,53	5

Source: Eustat

Table 3: Monthly Results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI					ARABA/ALAVA					BIZKAIA					GIPUZKOA				
	12 2006	%	12 2005	%	Δ %	12 2006	%	12 2005	%	Δ %	12 2006	%	12 2005	%	Δ %	12 2006	%	12 2005	%	Δ %
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	257.364	100	217.680	100	18	34.915	100	34.187	100	2	120.411	100	108.640	100	11	102.038	100	74.853	100	36
National	201.310	78	163.044	75	23	29.957	86	28.928	85	4	90.199	75	76.241	70	18	81.154	80	57.875	77	40
Foreigners	56.054	22	54.636	25	3	4.958	14	5.259	15	-6	30.212	25	32.399	30	-7	20.884	20	16.978	23	23
Capital	165.016	64	147.927	68	12	27.480	79	25.730	75	7	81.422	68	78.908	73	3	56.114	55	43.289	58	30
Coast	29.342	11	18.210	8	61	-	-	-	-	-	10.010	8	7.420	7	35	19.332	19	10.790	14	79
Inland	63.006	24	51.543	24	22	7.435	21	8.457	25	-12	28.979	24	22.312	21	30	26.592	26	20.774	28	28
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	134.183	100	121.686	100	10	20.220	100	19.523	100	4	64.911	100	59.090	100	10	49.052	100	43.073	100	14
National	107.568	80	95.097	78	13	17.406	86	16.422	84	6	51.289	79	45.762	77	12	38.873	79	32.913	76	18
Foreigners	26.615	20	26.589	22	0	2.814	14	3.101	16	-9	13.622	21	13.328	23	2	10.179	21	10.160	24	0
Capital	87.629	65	80.878	66	8	15.482	77	14.374	74	8	43.732	67	42.025	71	4	28.415	58	24.479	57	16
Coast	12.695	9	10.487	9	21	-	-	-	-	-	5.005	8	3.875	7	29	7.690	16	6.612	15	16
Inland	33.859	25	30.321	25	12	4.738	23	5.149	26	-8	16.174	25	13.190	22	23	12.947	26	11.982	28	8
AVERAGE STAY	1,92		1,79		7	1,73		1,75		-1	1,86		1,84		1	2,08		1,74		20
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	38,40		35,72		8	31,66		34,06		-7	38,36		36,29		6	41,48		35,71		16
Capital	42,32		41,05		3	39,38		36,63		8	42,46		42,62		0	43,71		41,24		6
Coast	41,01		32,62		26	-		-		-	34,76		27,51		26	45,22		37,39		21
Inland	30,18		26,69		13	18,35		28,07		-35	31,05		25,59		21	35,51		27,41		30
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	45,32		44,02		3	38,09		40,74		-7	46,44		46,70		-1	47,56		41,63		14
Capital	49,86		50,60		-1	48,13		44,55		8	51,14		55,37		-8	48,87		46,14		6
Coast	48,67		38,90		25	-		-		-	41,47		32,99		26	53,58		44,51		20
Inland	35,95		32,20		12	19,81		30,07		-34	38,01		31,31		21	42,49		34,05		25
AGRO-TOURISM																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	21.933	100	17.819	100	23	3.895	100	2.773	100	40	7.542	100	4.852	100	55	10.496	100	10.194	100	3
National	20.123	92	16.504	93	22	3.711	95	2.677	97	39	6.763	90	4.473	92	51	9.649	92	9.354	92	3
Foreigners	1.810	8	1.315	7	38	184	5	96	3	92	779	10	379	8	106	847	8	840	8	1
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	7.976	100	7.281	100	10	1.429	100	1.279	100	12	3.016	100	2.353	100	28	3.531	100	3.649	100	-3
National	7.617	95	6.969	96	9	1.402	98	1.270	99	10	2.889	96	2.172	92	33	3.326	94	3.527	97	-6
Foreigners	359	5	312	4	15	27	2	9	1	200	127	4	181	8	-30	205	6	122	3	68
AVERAGE STAY	2,75		2,45		12	2,73		2,17		26	2,50		2,06		21	2,97		2,79		6
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	23,93		21,84		10	22,04		17,57		25	23,88		18,46		29	24,75		25,79		-4
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	26,96		24,36		11	23,59		19,58		20	26,70		20,32		31	28,59		29,08		-2

Source: EUSTAT

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