

The number of visitors in January 2008 rose by 10%

Overnight stays registered an 11% increase in relation to January 2007

119,493 visitors were registered in the hotel establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in January 2008, 11,000 more visitors than in the same month of last year, meaning a 10% increase, according to Eustat data. The number of visitors increased by 13% in Álava and Gipuzkoa and by 7% in Bizkaia.

The number of visitors from within the state grew by 11% and the number of overseas visitors rose by 9%. Visitors from within the state increased in number in all three provinces. In Álava numbers rose by 15%, in Gipuzkoa they did so by 11% and in Bizkaia they increased by 9%. The number of foreigners also increased in all three provinces: by 22% in Gipuzkoa, by 7% in Álava and by 1% in Bizkaia.

Among visitors from within the state an increase was registered for those coming from Catalonia, Madrid and Andalucía in particular. There was a fall among those coming from the Balearic Islands, the Canary Islands, Murcia and Navarre. Among foreigners, those coming from France, Italy, Portugal, Germany, Latin America and Belgium, among others, increased in number while those coming from the United Kingdom, Greece and USA-Canada, among others, decreased.

Overnight stays registered in January 2008 came to 218,959, representing a rise of 11% in relation to January of the previous year, which is to say over 22,000 more overnight stays. The inter-annual evolution of overnight stays was positive in all three provinces: in Álava they grew by 6%, in Bizkaia they did so by 10% and in Gipuzkoa there was a 15% rise.

The length of the average length of stay went from 1.82 days last year to 1.83 this January, for the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole. This index diminished in Álava (-6%) but increased in Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa (2%, in both cases).

The degree of occupancy by place experienced a 7% increase, going from 31.08% in January of last year to 33.25% this January. It should be noted that this increase affected Gipuzkoa (9%) and Bizkaia (8%), while the increase was more moderate in Álava (1%).

Agrotourism: A fall in the number of visitors (-1%) and overnight stays (-8%)

4,178 visitors were registered in the agrotourism establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in January, 1% less than in the same month of last year, increasing by 10% in Gipuzkoa and decreasing by 8% in Bizkaia and by 12% in Álava. The fall seen among visitors from within the state was 5% in the A.C. of the Basque Country overall: they decreased by 22% in Álava and by 8% in Bizkaia, but in Gipuzkoa they increased by 5%. The number of foreigners increased by 69% in the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole, reducing in Bizkaia (-13%), but rising dramatically, in percentage terms, in Álava and Gipuzkoa.

Overnight stays in the agrotourism establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country came to 10,511 in January, meaning an 8% decrease as regards the same month of last year, with positive inter-annual growth rates in Gipuzkoa (10%), but falling in Álava and Bizkaia by 32% and by 18% respectively.

The average length of stay per visitor decreased in the A.C. of the Basque Country overall as regards January 2007, going from 2.70 days a year earlier to 2.52 this January, with this negative evolution extending to the provinces of Álava and Bizkaia, while there was no variation in the index in Gipuzkoa.

The degree of occupancy by place registered a 14% decrease as a result of the falls suffered in Álava (-36%) and Bizkaia (-26%), even though in Gipuzkoa there was a 5% increase.

Table 1: Monthly Results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI			ARABA/ALAVA			BIZKAIA			GIPUZKOA						
	01 2008	%	01 2007	%	Δ %	01 2008	%	01 2007	%	Δ %	01 2008	%	01 2007	%	Δ %	
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																
OVERNIGHT STAYS	218.959	100	196.765	100		11	32.764	100	31.004	100	6	106.809	100	96.910	100	
National	159.006	73	142.222	72		12	25.118	77	22.983	74	9	76.812	72	68.929	71	
Foreigners	59.953	27	54.543	28		10	7.646	23	8.021	26	-5	29.997	28	27.981	29	
Capital	135.344	62	128.643	65		5	25.035	76	26.458	85	-5	69.194	65	63.539	66	
Coast	18.505	8	15.955	8		16	-	-	-	-	-	5.960	6	6.904	7	
Inland	65.110	30	52.167	27		25	7.729	24	4.546	15	70	31.655	30	26.467	27	
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	119.493	100	108.287	100		10	19.511	100	17.288	100	13	57.593	100	53.633	100	
National	90.021	75	81.284	75		11	15.231	78	13.283	77	15	43.785	76	40.004	75	
Foreigners	29.472	25	27.003	25		9	4.280	22	4.005	23	7	13.808	24	13.629	25	
Capital	74.083	62	72.670	67		2	14.473	74	14.109	82	3	36.770	64	36.034	67	
Coast	9.503	8	8.562	8		11	-	-	-	-	-	3.113	5	3.522	7	
Inland	35.907	30	27.055	25		33	5.038	26	3.179	18	58	17.710	31	14.077	26	
AVERAGE STAY	1,83		1,82			1	1,68		1,79		-6	1,85		1,81		2
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	33,25		31,08			7	33,33		33,01		1	33,39		31,01		8
Capital	35,97		33,75			7	36,23		37,87		-4	36,31		33,27		9
Coast	28,43		26,88			6	-	-	-	-	-	24,12		23,67		2
Inland	29,99		27,10			11	26,47		18,90		40	30,26		28,66		6
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	43,22		41,54			4	41,06		43,18		-5	44,87		42,23		6
Capital	47,10		45,51			3	45,17		50,15		-10	49,27		45,79		8
Coast	32,64		34,33			-5	-	-	-	-	-	31,35		30,30		3
Inland	39,09		35,30			11	29,86		22,13		35	39,70		37,54		6
AGRO-TOURISM																
OVERNIGHT STAYS	10.511	100	11.426	100	-8	1.573	100	2.305	100	-32	3.344	100	4.054	100	-18	
National	7.703	73	9.569	84	-20	1.253	80	2.067	90	-39	2.583	77	3.404	84	-24	
Foreigners	2.808	27	1.857	16	51	320	20	238	10	34	761	23	650	16	17	
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	4.178	100	4.228	100	-1	808	100	923	100	-12	1.319	100	1.440	100	-8	
National	3.788	91	3.997	95	-5	694	86	887	96	-22	1.230	93	1.338	93	-8	
Foreigners	390	9	231	5	69	114	14	36	4	217	89	7	102	7	-13	
AVERAGE STAY	2,52		2,70			-7	1,95		2,50		-22	2,54		2,82		-10
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	10,73		12,49			-14	8,49		13,21		-36	10,10		13,58		-26
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	12,89		15,34			-16	9,04		15,21		-41	12,64		16,99		-26

Source: EUSTAT
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