

Number of visitors fell by 2% in October 2008

Overnight stays down by 1%

There were 178,234 visitors registered in the hotel establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in October 2008, 3,000 down on the same month of the previous year, in other words a 2% decrease, according to Eustat data. The number of visitors decreased by 6% in Álava and in Bizkaia, but were up by 6% in Gipuzkoa, compared to the same month of 2007.

The number of visitors from within Spain remained steady (0%) with respect to October 2007. This number was down in Alava (-7%) and Bizkaia (-1%) but rose in Gipuzkoa (5%). The number of overseas visitors also fell in Álava (-4%) and Bizkaia (-15%) and rose in Gipuzkoa (7%), resulting in an overall decrease of 6% for the A.C. of the Basque Country.

There was an increase in the number of visitors from Cantabria, Castilla y León, Comunidad Valenciana, Galicia and Navara, while there was a decrease in visitors from the Asturias, Madrid and Catalonia, primarily. As regards the number of overseas visitors, special mention should be made in the increase in the number from Germany, Austria, Greece, Sweden and from the countries of Eastern Europe, while there were fewer visitors from Portugal, Italy, Belgium, Ireland and the United Kingdom, among others.

Registered overnight stays in October 2008 totalled 336,511, which was 1% down on October of the previous year, in other words, there were 2,000 fewer overnight stays. The year-on-year evolution of overnight stays was negative in Bizkaia (-2%), but was up by 1% in Álava and in Gipuzkoa.

The length of the average stay went from 1.87 days in October of the previous year to 1.89 in this October for the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole. It rose in Álava from 1.70 to 1.82 days, in Bizkaia from 1.81 to 1.88 and in the case of Gipuzkoa, it fell from the 2.02 days average stay in October 2007 to 1.92 days last October.

The occupancy rate by bed fell by 3%, and dropped from 47.08% in October of last year to 45.53% this October. In Álava, the occupancy rate by be fell from 42.33% in October 2007 to a nearly identical one (42.88%) in October 2008. In Bizkaia, the rate of 47.82% of October 2007 rose to 44.93% last October. It fell slightly in Gipuzkoa, from 47.98% of the last year to 47.42% in October 2008. The occupancy rate per room remained steady for the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole, with although it performed differently between the three territories: it remained steady in Bizkaia, rose by three points in Álava and fell by slightly over a percentage point in Gipuzkoa.

Rural tourism: The number of visitors and overnight stays fell by -4% and -5% respectively.

There were 9,062 visitors registered in October in rural tourism establishments in the A. of the Basque Country, 4% down on the same month of the previous year. The number increased by 3% in Bizkaia and fell by 15% in Álava and by 4% in Gipuzkoa. There was a 5% decrease in the number of visitors from within Spain in the A.C. of the Basque Country: the figure remained unchanged in Bizkaia (0%) and fell in Álava (-15%) and Gipuzkoa (-5%). The number of overseas visitors increased by 12% throughout the A.C of the Basque Country, with the number up in Bizkaia (41%) and Gipuzkoa (1%) and down in Álava (-3%).

Overnight stays in rural tourism establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country totalled 21,210 in October, which was down by 5% with respect to the same month of the previous year. The year-on-year growth rate was positive in Bizkaia (3%) and negative in Álava (-14%) and Gipuzkoa (-7%).

The average length of stay per visitor in the A.C. of the Basque Country overall decreased with respect to October 2007, falling from 2.38 days a year ago to 2.34 days in October 2008

Table 1: Monthly Results

	A.C. OF EUSKADI				ARABA/ALAVA				BIZKAIA				GIPUZKOA							
	10 2008	%	10 2007	%	Δ %	10 2008	%	10 2007	%	Δ %	10 2008	%	10 2007	%	Δ %					
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	336.511	100	338.528	100	-1	44.763	100	44.468	100	1	157.878	100	161.081	100	-2	133.870	100	132.979	100	1
National	224.541	67	223.067	66	1	31.099	69	33.203	75	-6	103.429	66	101.078	63	2	90.013	67	88.786	67	1
Foreigners	111.970	33	115.461	34	-3	13.664	31	11.265	25	21	54.449	34	60.003	37	-9	43.857	33	44.193	33	-1
Capital	203.733	61	211.146	62	-4	31.997	71	30.995	70	3	101.795	64	105.543	66	-4	69.941	52	74.608	56	-6
Coast	40.633	12	36.202	11	12	-	-	-	-	-	12.687	8	12.538	8	1	27.946	21	23.664	18	18
Inland	92.145	27	91.180	27	1	12.766	29	13.473	30	-5	43.396	27	43.000	27	1	35.983	27	34.707	26	4
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	178.234	100	181.180	100	-2	24.549	100	26.152	100	-6	83.862	100	89.128	100	-6	69.823	100	65.900	100	6
National	122.823	69	122.265	67	0	18.209	74	19.538	75	-7	57.775	69	58.265	65	-1	46.839	67	44.462	67	5
Foreigners	55.411	31	58.915	33	-6	6.340	26	6.614	25	-4	26.087	31	30.863	35	-15	22.984	33	21.438	33	7
Capital	107.016	60	112.255	62	-5	16.423	67	17.468	67	-6	53.242	63	57.663	65	-8	37.351	53	37.124	56	1
Coast	19.428	11	16.330	9	19	-	-	-	-	-	6.004	7	6.299	7	-5	13.424	19	10.031	15	34
Inland	51.790	29	52.595	29	-2	8.126	33	8.684	33	-6	24.616	29	25.166	28	-2	19.048	27	18.745	28	2
AVERAGE STAY	1,89		1,87		1	1,82		1,70		7	1,88		1,81		4	1,92		2,02		-5
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	45,53		47,08		-3	42,48		42,33		0	44,93		47,82		-6	47,42		47,98		-1
Capital	50,36		53,91		-7	48,48		44,76		8	49,17		54,62		-10	53,17		57,74		-8
Coast	44,74		40,24		11	-		-	-	-	34,13		35,98		-5	52,08		42,93		21
Inland	37,81		38,41		-2	32,43		37,63		-14	40,48		39,54		2	37,05		37,39		-1
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	59,16		59,01		0	55,79		52,68		6	60,92		60,34		1	58,16		59,85		-3
Capital	66,87		66,23		1	65,14		56,41		15	67,02		66,73		0	67,57		71,33		-5
Coast	52,56		48,23		9	-		-	-	-	46,70		45,51		3	56,35		49,91		13
Inland	48,43		50,35		-4	38,32		44,00		-13	53,55		52,69		2	46,30		49,85		-7
AGRO-TOURISM																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	21.210	100	22.379	100	-5	3.897	100	4.513	100	-14	7.035	100	6.851	100	3	10.278	100	11.015	100	-7
National	17.238	81	19.479	87	-12	3.303	85	4.212	93	-22	5.919	84	6.129	89	-3	8.016	78	9.138	83	-12
Foreigners	3.972	19	2.900	13	37	594	15	301	7	97	1.116	16	722	11	55	2.262	22	1.877	17	21
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	9.062	100	9.419	100	-4	1.625	100	1.905	100	-15	3.161	100	3.066	100	3	4.276	100	4.448	100	-4
National	8.172	90	8.625	92	-5	1.590	98	1.869	98	-15	2.849	90	2.844	93	0	3.733	87	3.912	88	-5
Foreigners	890	10	794	8	12	35	2	36	2	-3	312	10	222	7	41	543	13	536	12	1
AVERAGE STAY	2,34		2,38		-2	2,40		2,37		1	2,23		2,23		0	2,40		2,48		-3
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	20,12		21,74		-7	19,43		23,14		-16	19,79		19,93		-1	20,63		22,46		-8
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	23,17		25,04		-7	23,13		26,51		-13	23,04		23,11		0	23,30		25,84		-10

Source: EUSTAT

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