

SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR) JANUARY 2009

Number of visitors fell by 15% in January 2009

The number of overnight stays were down by 16% compared to January 2008

There were 100,983 visitors registered in the hotel establishments of the Basque Country in January 2009, 18,500 down on the same month of the previous year, in other words a 15% decrease, according to Eustat data. The number of visitors fell by 27% in Álava, 17% in Bizkaia and 11% in Gipuzkoa.

The number of visitors from within Spain fell by 14% and the number of overseas visitors was down by 20%. The number of visitors from within the State fell in the three provinces: The number was down by 28% in Álava, by 14% in Gipuzkoa and by 9% in Bizkaia. The number of foreign visitors also decreased in the three provinces: by 24% in Álava, and Gipuzkoa and by 16% in Bizkaia.

There was an increase in the number of visitors from Galicia, the Balearic Islands, Murcia, Ceuta and Melilla, while the number of visitors from Catalonia, Andalusia, Aragon and Castilla y León fell significantly. The number of visitors from Denmark, Holland and South America rose, while there was a decrease in the visitors from France, Italy, Portugal, United Kingdom and Belgium, among others.

Registered overnight stays in January 2009 totalled 182,863, which was 16% down on the same month of the previous year, in other words, there were 36,000 fewer overnight stays. The year-on-year performance of overnight stays was negative in the three provinces: it was down by 21% in Álava and by 16% in both Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa.

The average length of stay for the Basque Country as a whole went from 1.83 days in the previous year to 1.81 in January of this year. This index fell in Bizkaia (-5%) and rose in Álava and Gipuzkoa (8% and 1%, respectively).

The occupancy rate by bed fell by 22%, and dropped from 33.25% in January of last year to 26.09% this January. This drop in number affected all three territories: it was down by 28% in Álava, by 22% in Bizkaia and by 18% in Gipuzkoa.

Rural tourism: The number of visitors and of overnight stays remained stable in the Basque Country, compared to January 2008

There were 4,146 visitors registered in January in rural tourism establishments in the Basque Country, 1% down on the same month of the previous year. The number increased by 17% in Álava and by 7% in Gipuzkoa, but fell by 24% in Bizkaia. The increase in the number of visitors from the rest of Spain was 3% in the Basque Country: there were fewer in Bizkaia (22%) , but there were more in Álava and Gipuzkoa (34% and 8%, respectively). The number of overseas visitors decreased by 39% throughout the Basque Country, with the number down in the three provinces: there was a notable drop in percentage terms in Álava and Bizkaia and a more moderate one in Gipuzkoa (-7%).

There were 10,595 overnight stays in rural tourism establishments in the Basque Country in January, which was 1% up on the same month of the previous year, with year-on-year positive growth being recorded in Álava (72%), but it fell in Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa by 23% and 5%, respectively.

The average length of stay per visitor in the Basque Country overall increased with respect to January 2008, going from 2.52 days a year ago to 2.56 days this January. This positive trend was recorded in Bizkaia and, above all, Álava, while this index fell in Gipuzkoa (-11%).

The occupancy rate by bed fell by 9%, down from 10.73% occupancy to 9.81%, as a result of the decreases recorded in Bizkaia (-28%) and Gipuzkoa (-15%), while there was a 52% increase in Álava, placing it at 12.88%.

Table 1: Monthly Results

	BASQUE COUNTRY					ARABA/ALAVA					BIZKAIA					GIPUZKOA				
	01 2009	%	01 2008	%	Δ %	01 2009	%	01 2008	%	Δ %	01 2009	%	01 2008	%	Δ %	01 2009	%	01 2008	%	Δ %
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	182.863	100	218.959	100	-16	25.834	100	32.764	100	-21	90.208	100	106.809	100	-16	66.821	100	79.386	100	-16
National	136.629	75	159.006	73	-14	19.761	76	25.118	77	-21	66.571	74	76.812	72	-13	50.297	75	57.076	72	-12
Foreigners	46.234	25	59.953	27	-23	6.073	24	7.646	23	-21	23.637	26	29.997	28	-21	16.524	25	22.310	28	-26
Capital	114.948	63	135.344	62	-15	20.848	81	25.035	76	-17	59.471	66	69.194	65	-14	34.629	52	41.115	52	-16
Coast	12.267	7	18.505	8	-34	-	-	-	-	-	4.998	6	5.960	6	-16	7.269	11	12.545	16	-42
Inland	55.648	30	65.110	30	-15	4.986	19	7.729	24	-35	25.739	29	31.655	30	-19	24.923	37	25.726	32	-3
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	100.983	100	119.493	100	-15	14.225	100	19.511	100	-27	51.430	100	57.593	100	-11	35.328	100	42.389	100	-17
National	77.543	77	90.021	75	-14	10.969	77	15.231	78	-28	39.882	78	43.785	76	-9	26.692	76	31.005	73	-14
Foreigners	23.440	23	29.472	25	-20	3.256	23	4.280	22	-24	11.548	22	13.808	24	-16	8.636	24	11.384	27	-24
Capital	62.903	62	74.083	62	-15	11.087	78	14.473	74	-23	32.559	63	36.770	64	-11	19.257	55	22.840	54	-16
Coast	8.063	8	9.503	8	-15	-	-	-	-	-	3.080	6	3.113	5	-1	4.983	14	6.390	15	-22
Inland	30.017	30	35.907	30	-16	3.138	22	5.038	26	-38	15.791	31	17.710	31	-11	11.088	31	13.159	31	-16
AVERAGE STAY	1,81		1,83		-1	1,82		1,68		8	1,75		1,85		-5	1,89		1,87		1
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	26,09		33,25		-22	23,95		33,33		-28	26,14		33,39		-22	26,97		33,03		-18
Capital	28,86		35,97		-20	28,74		36,23		-21	28,89		36,31		-20	28,89		35,25		-18
Coast	19,35		28,43		-32	-		-		-	17,13		24,12		-29	21,24		31,06		-32
Inland	23,27		29,99		-22	14,11		26,47		-47	23,38		30,26		-23	26,61		30,88		-14
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	33,87		43,22		-22	31,95		41,06		-22	34,89		44,87		-22	33,28		41,81		-20
Capital	37,20		47,10		-21	39,51		45,17		-13	37,70		49,27		-23	34,90		44,62		-22
Coast	24,63		32,64		-25	-		-		-	22,32		31,35		-29	26,61		33,44		-20
Inland	30,38		39,09		-22	16,46		29,86		-45	32,53		39,70		-18	33,44		41,63		-20
AGRO-TOURISM																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	10.595	100	10.511	100	1	2.704	100	1.573	100	72	2.575	100	3.344	100	-23	5.316	100	5.594	100	-5
National	8.950	84	7.703	73	16	2.472	91	1.253	80	97	2.249	87	2.583	77	-13	4.229	80	3.867	69	9
Foreigners	1.645	16	2.808	27	-41	232	9	320	20	-28	326	13	761	23	-57	1.087	20	1.727	31	-37
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	4.146	100	4.178	100	-1	947	100	808	100	17	1.007	100	1.319	100	-24	2.192	100	2.051	100	7
National	3.910	94	3.788	91	3	933	99	694	86	34	958	95	1.230	93	-22	2.019	92	1.864	91	8
Foreigners	236	6	390	9	-39	14	1	114	14	-88	49	5	89	7	-45	173	8	187	9	-7
AVERAGE STAY	2,56		2,52		2	2,86		1,95		47	2,56		2,54		1	2,43		2,73		-11
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	9,81		10,73		-9	12,88		8,49		52	7,29		10,10		-28	10,29		12,08		-15
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	12,12		12,89		-6	16,45		9,04		82	9,21		12,64		-27	12,43		14,62		-15

Source: EUSTAT

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