

SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR) OCTOBER 2009

## Number of visitors rose by 4% in October 2009

### *Overnight stays increased by 3% in October*

There were 184,403 visitors registered in the hotel establishments of the Basque Country in October 2009, 7,500 up on the same month of the previous year, in other words a 4% increase, according to Eustat data. This increase was based on Álava, where the number of visitors increased by 19%, and on Bizkaia with a 4% increase, while the number fell by 1% in Gipuzkoa with respect to the October figures for the previous year.

The number of visitors from within Spain was up by 7%, while the number of overseas visitors fell by 3% compared to the same month of the previous year. Visitors from within Spain increased by 27% in Álava and 8% in Bizkaia, but the figures remained practically unchanged from the previous year in Gipuzkoa (0%). The number of overseas visitors fell in the three provinces: they were down by 5% in Álava, by 3% in Bizkaia and by 2% in Gipuzkoa.

The greatest increase of Spanish visitors was mainly among those from Catalonia, Madrid, Galicia and Castilla-La Mancha and Navarra and there was a notable drop in the number from Andalusia, Murcia, Navarra and La Rioja. As far as foreign visitors were concerned, there was mainly an increase in the number from France, the United Kingdom, Portugal, the Netherlands and Belgium, while the number from Germany, Italy and the rest of Europe decreased.

Registered overnight stays in October 2009 totalled 346,564, which was 3% up on the same month of the previous year, in other words, there were 10,000 more overnight stays. The year-on-year evolution of overnight stays was positive in Álava and Gipuzkoa, up by 6% in both provinces, but fell by 1% in Bizkaia.

The length of the average stay rose from 1.90 days in October of the previous year to 1.88 in this October for the Basque Country as a whole. It fell by 11% in Álava and 5% in Bizkaia, but increased by 8% in Gipuzkoa. Thus, the average stay in Álava in October 2009 was 1.63 days, 1.80 days in Bizkaia, while it stood at 2.09 days in Gipuzkoa.

The occupancy rate by bed was down by 3%, falling from 45.60% last October to 44.07% this October for the Basque Country as a whole. It fell by 9% in Álava, down to a 45.6% occupancy rate, Bizkaia was down by 6% to an occupancy rate of 42.46% and the rate in Gipuzkoa increased by 2% and had the highest occupancy rate by bed at 48.28%. The occupancy rate by rooms also fell (8%) for the Basque Country as a whole.

## RURAL TOURISM

### **The number of visitors down p by (-1%) and overnight stays were up by (9%)**

The number of visitors in rural tourism establishments of the Basque Country totalled 8,999 in October, which was down by 1% with respect to the same month of the previous year. However, the performance of the three provinces was not uniform. The number of visitors increased by 20% in Álava and by 2% in Gipuzkoa, but fell by 15% in Bizkaia. The values for the visitors from within Spain were practically the same as for the previous October (0%), but there were fewer foreign visitors, with a drop of 11% being recorded for the Autonomous Community as a whole. The number from visitors within Spain was up by 14% in Álava and the foreigners by 294%, even though their relative weight was very small. Visitors from within Spain were down by 13% in Bizkaia and the foreigners fell by 34%. The number of Spanish visitors rose by 5% in Gipuzkoa, but the number of foreigners were down by 17%.

There were 23,066 overnight stays in rural tourism establishments of the Basque Country in October, 2,000 more than the same month of the previous year (9%), with positive year-on-year growth rates for Álava (15) and Gipuzkoa (16%), but negative in Bizkaia (-5%).

The average length of stay per visitor in the Basque Country overall decreased with respect to October 2008, falling from 2.34 days a year ago to 2.56 days this October. The average stay increased in Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa, but fell in Álava.

The occupancy rate by bed was 20.22%, which was the same as the same period of the previous year. The rate increased in Álava (2%) and Gipuzkoa (9%), but was down in Bizkaia (-13%). The occupancy rate by rooms fell by 5% in the Basque Country as a whole.

**Table 1: Monthly results**

	BASQUE COUNTRY					ÁLAVA					BIZKAIA					GIPUZKOA				
	09 2009	%	09 2008	%	Δ %	09 2009	%	09 2008	%	Δ %	09 2009	%	09 2008	%	Δ %	09 2009	%	09 2008	%	Δ %
<b>HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS</b>																				
<b>OVERNIGHT STAYS</b>	346.564	100	336.528	100	3	47.235	100	44.763	100	6	157.019	100	157.953	100	-1	142.310	100	133.812	100	6
National	238.892	69	224.603	67	6	37.265	79	31.099	69	20	107.031	68	103.529	66	3	94.596	66	89.975	67	5
Foreigners	107.672	31	111.925	33	-4	9.970	21	13.664	31	-27	49.988	32	54.424	34	-8	47.714	34	43.837	33	9
Capital	212.764	61	203.706	61	4	32.519	69	31.997	71	2	102.695	65	101.808	64	1	77.550	54	69.901	52	11
Coast	41.115	12	40.500	12	2	-	-	-	-	-	12.917	8	12.551	8	3	28.198	20	27.949	21	1
Inland	92.685	27	92.322	27	0	14.716	31	12.766	29	15	41.407	26	43.594	28	-5	36.562	26	35.962	27	2
<b>ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS</b>	184.403	100	176.898	100	4	29.064	100	24.510	100	19	87.129	100	83.444	100	4	68.210	100	68.944	100	-1
National	130.959	71	121.852	69	7	23.032	79	18.170	74	27	62.012	71	57.599	69	8	45.915	67	46.083	67	0
Foreigners	53.444	29	55.046	31	-3	6.032	21	6.340	26	-5	25.117	29	25.845	31	-3	22.295	33	22.861	33	-2
Capital	116.148	63	107.065	61	8	19.034	65	16.423	67	16	56.801	65	53.245	64	7	40.313	59	37.397	54	8
Coast	18.170	10	19.248	11	-6	-	-	-	-	-	7.016	8	5.821	7	21	11.154	16	13.427	19	-17
Inland	50.085	27	50.585	29	-1	10.030	35	8.087	33	24	23.312	27	24.378	29	-4	16.743	25	18.120	26	-8
<b>AVERAGE STAY</b>	1,88		1,90		-1	1,63		1,83		-11	1,80		1,89		-5	2,09		1,94		8
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES</b>	44,07		45,60		-3	38,74		42,48		-9	42,46		44,95		-6	48,28		47,56		2
Capital	50,00		50,37		-1	41,33		48,48		-15	49,56		49,18		1	55,52		53,19		4
Coast	44,76		44,96		0	-		-		-	32,96		34,31		-4	53,54		52,24		2
Inland	34,45		37,90		-9	34,03		32,43		5	33,56		40,44		-17	35,71		37,30		-4
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS</b>	54,33		59,07		-8	46,40		55,79		-17	54,92		60,92		-10	57,05		57,91		-1
Capital	62,15		66,83		-7	50,57		65,14		-22	64,26		67,02		-4	65,85		67,42		-2
Coast	51,24		52,51		-2	-		-		-	41,11		46,62		-12	58,55		56,35		4
Inland	42,85		48,22		-11	38,73		38,32		1	42,85		53,59		-20	44,66		45,75		-2
<b>AGRO-TOURISM</b>																				
<b>OVERNIGHT STAYS</b>	23.066	100	21.210	100	9	4.465	100	3.897	100	15	6.653	100	7.035	100	-5	11.948	100	10.278	100	16
National	20.576	89	17.238	81	19	4.186	94	3.303	85	27	5.766	87	5.919	84	-3	10.624	89	8.016	78	33
Foreigners	2.490	11	3.972	19	-37	279	6	594	15	-53	887	13	1.116	16	-21	1.324	11	2.262	22	-41
<b>ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS</b>	8.999	100	9.062	100	-1	1.950	100	1.625	100	20	2.684	100	3.161	100	-15	4.365	100	4.276	100	2
National	8.205	91	8.172	90	0	1.812	93	1.590	98	14	2.479	92	2.849	90	-13	3.914	90	3.733	87	5
Foreigners	794	9	890	10	-11	138	7	35	2	294	205	8	312	10	-34	451	10	543	13	-17
<b>AVERAGE STAY</b>	2,56		2,34		9	2,29		2,40		-5	2,48		2,23		11	2,74		2,40		14
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES</b>	20,22		20,12		0	19,78		19,43		2	17,27		19,79		-13	22,57		20,63		9
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS</b>	22,04		23,17		-5	21,37		23,13		-8	18,67		23,04		-19	24,82		23,30		7

Source: EUSTAT

**For further information:**

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