

SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR )FEBRUARY 2010

## Number of visitors rose by 12% in February 2010

### *Number of overnight stays was up by 17% compared to February 2009*

There were 132,087 visitors registered in the hotel establishments of the Basque Country in February 2010, 14,600 up on the same month of the previous year, in other words, a 12% increase, according to Eustat data. The number of visitors rose by 23% in Álava, 14% in Bizkaia and 6% in Gipuzkoa.

The number of visitors from within Spain was up by 11% and the number of overseas visitors rose by 18%. The number of visitors from within Spain increased in the three provinces: it rose by 17% in Álava, 14% in Bizkaia and 4% in Gipuzkoa. Foreign visitors were also up in number in the three provinces, with increases of 49% in Álava, 15% in Bizkaia and 12% in Gipuzkoa.

With regard to the visitors from within Spain, the greatest increase in the percentage of visitors was from the Madrid, Aragón Catalonia and Navarra, while only those from Castilla y León, the Canary Islands and Ceuta & Melilla fell in number. There was an increase in the number of foreign visitors from France, Belgium, Portugal, United Kingdom and Central and South America, while there was a drop in the number from Germany, the Netherlands, Ireland, Finland, Greece and Japan.

Registered overnight stays in February 2010 totalled 235,109, which was 17% up on the same month of the previous year, in other words, there were 33,000 more overnight stays. The year-on-year performance of overnight stays was positive in the three provinces: it rose by 23% in Bizkaia, by 20% in Álava and by 6% in Gipuzkoa.

The average length of stay for the Basque Country as a whole fell from 1.72 days in the previous year to 1.78 in February of this year. This index rose in Bizkaia, from 1.70 days average stay in February 2009 to 1.84 in February of this year. The index remained unchanged in Gipuzkoa, with the average stay for February 2009 remained unchanged this year (1.73). The average stay fell in Álava, as it was 1.68 days in February 2010 compared to the 1.73 days registered in February 2009.

The occupancy rate by beds was down 8% to 33.33% in February 2010. It should be noted that this fall affected all three provinces. It improved by 13% to 36.65% occupancy in Bizkaia, while it increased by 4% in Gipuzkoa up to an occupancy rate of 31.39%. In Álava, the occupancy rate was up 3% with respect to February 2009, to 27.9%.

## RURAL TOURISM

***The number of visitors fell by 4% and overnight stays were down 9% in the Basque Country, compared to February 2009***

There were 6,085 visitors registered in February in rural tourism establishments in the Basque Country, 4% fewer than in the same month of the previous year, even though the results were not uniform in the three provinces. While the numbers increased by 39% in Bizkaia, 18% in Gipuzkoa and 1% in Álava. The number of visitors from within Spain fell by 4% in the Basque Country: there were 36% more in Bizkaia, but fell by 3% and 16% in Álava and Gipuzkoa, respectively. The number of overseas visitors decreased by 5% throughout the Basque Country, as there was a significant drop in the number in Gipuzkoa. However, they increased visibly in Álava and Bizkaia in percentage terms.

There were 13,069 overnight stays in rural tourism establishments in the Basque Country in February, which was 9% down on the previous year, with year-on-year positive growth being recorded in Bizkaia (9%), but it fell in Álava and Gipuzkoa by 4% and 28%, respectively.

The average length of stay per visitor in the Basque Country overall decreased with respect to February 2009, going from 2.28 days a year ago to 2.15 days this February. This negative trend was recorded in Gipuzkoa and Álava (1.99 and 2.21 days, respectively), while this index rose in Bizkaia by 6% to an average of 2.40 days in February 2010.

The occupancy rate by bed fell by 12%, down from 14.66% occupancy to 12.83%, as a result of the decreases recorded in Álava (-14%) and Gipuzkoa (-32%), while there was a 51% increase in Bizkaia.

**Table1: Monthly results**

	BASQUE COUNTRY					ÁLAVA					BIZKAIA					GIPUZKOA				
	02 2010	(%)	02 2009	(%)	Δ %	02 2010	(%)	02 2009	(%)	Δ %	02 2010	(%)	02 2009	(%)	Δ %	02 2010	(%)	02 2009	(%)	Δ %
	HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																			
OVERNIGHT STAYS	235.109	100	201.664	100	17	33.766	100	28.198	100	20	125.851	100	102.210	100	23	75.492	100	71.256	100	6
National	174.875	74	147.556	73	19	26.460	78	23.130	82	14	92.530	74	72.252	71	28	55.885	74	52.174	73	7
Foreigners	60.234	26	54.108	27	11	7.306	22	5.068	18	44	33.321	26	29.958	29	11	19.607	26	19.082	27	3
Capital	149.668	64	129.176	64	16	25.036	74	22.964	81	9	81.653	65	69.855	68	17	42.979	57	36.357	51	18
Coast	16.750	7	15.897	8	5	-	-	-	-	-	8.005	6	7.045	7	14	8.745	12	8.852	12	-1
Inland	68.691	29	56.591	28	21	8.730	26	5.234	19	67	36.193	29	25.310	25	43	23.768	31	26.047	37	-9
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	132.087	100	117.488	100	12	20.040	100	16.341	100	23	68.519	100	60.006	100	14	43.528	100	41.141	100	6
National	99.982	76	90.185	77	11	15.984	80	13.624	83	17	51.561	75	45.300	75	14	32.437	75	31.261	76	4
Foreigners	32.105	24	27.303	23	18	4.056	20	2.717	17	49	16.958	25	14.706	25	15	11.091	25	9.880	24	12
Capital	84.304	64	76.360	65	10	13.692	68	13.153	80	4	44.618	65	40.643	68	10	25.994	60	22.564	55	15
Coast	10.615	8	9.950	8	7	-	-	-	-	-	4.582	7	3.946	7	16	6.033	14	6.004	15	0
Inland	37.168	28	31.178	27	19	6.348	32	3.188	20	99	19.319	28	15.417	26	25	11.501	26	12.573	31	-9
AVERAGE STAY	1,78		1,72		3	1,68		1,73		-3	1,84		1,70		8	1,73		1,73		0
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	33,33		30,78		8	27,79		27,03		3	36,65		32,38		13	31,39		30,29		4
Capital	37,20		34,94		6	29,36		32,60		-10	41,10		37,53		10	36,30		32,14		13
Coast	26,83		24,70		9	-		-		-	25,66		23,71		8	27,99		25,54		10
Inland	28,54		25,59		12	24,08		15,45		56	31,87		25,37		26	26,15		29,77		-12
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	43,01		41,40		4	35,81		36,52		-2	48,55		44,96		8	38,70		38,42		1
Capital	48,34		48,00		1	39,09		44,48		-12	54,97		52,67		4	43,83		41,92		5
Coast	32,55		32,07		1	-		-		-	32,12		32,23		0	32,99		31,93		3
Inland	36,26		32,89		10	27,30		19,05		43	41,04		34,09		20	33,84		36,45		-7
	AGRO-TOURISM																			
OVERNIGHT STAYS	13.069	100	14.379	100	-9	2.604	100	2.724	100	-4	4.093	100	2.786	100	47	6.372	100	8.869	100	-28
National	11.941	91	12.528	87	-5	2.392	92	2.632	97	-9	3.568	87	2.463	88	45	5.981	94	7.433	84	-20
Foreigners	1.128	9	1.851	13	-39	212	8	92	3	130	525	13	323	12	63	391	6	1.436	16	-73
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	6.085	100	6.313	100	-4	1.176	100	1.184	100	-1	1.707	100	1.230	100	39	3.202	100	3.899	100	-18
National	5.736	94	5.947	94	-4	1.116	95	1.156	98	-3	1.559	91	1.143	93	36	3.061	96	3.648	94	-16
Foreigners	349	6	366	6	-5	60	5	28	2	114	148	9	87	7	70	141	4	251	6	-44
AVERAGE STAY	2,15		2,28		-6	2,21		2,30		-4	2,40		2,27		6	1,99		2,27		-12
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	12,83		14,66		-12	12,09		14,06		-14	12,81		8,49		51	13,17		19,33		-32
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	14,82		17,83		-17	13,92		16,50		-16	14,53		11,13		31	15,44		23,34		-34

Source: EUSTAT

For further information:

[Basque Statistics Office](#)

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