

SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR) MARCH 2010

Number of visitors rose by 13% in March 2010

Number of overnight stays was up by 10% compared to March 2009

There were 161,885 visitors registered in the hotel establishments of the Basque Country in March 2010, 18,000 up on the same month of the previous year, in other words, a 13% increase, according to Eustat data. The number of visitors rose by 24% in Álava, 17% in Gipuzkoa and 6% in Bizkaia.

The number of visitors from within Spain was up by 11% and the number of overseas visitors rose by 17%. The number of visitors from within Spain increased in the three provinces: It rose by 18% in Álava and Gipuzkoa, in both case, and by 4% in Bizkaia. Foreign visitors were also up in number in the three provinces, with increases of 51% in Álava, 17% in Bizkaia and 11% in Gipuzkoa.

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

Registered overnight stays in March 2010 totalled 289,054, which was 10% up on the same month of the previous year, in other words, there were 25,000 more overnight stays. The year-on-year performance of overnight stays was positive in the three provinces: they rose by 21% in Álava, 16% in Gipuzkoa and 2% in Bizkaia.

The average length of stay for the Basque Country as a whole fell from 1.84 days in the previous year to 1.79 in March of this year. This index fell in the three provinces: In Bizkaia, it rose from an average stay of 1.88 days in March 2009 to 1.80 day in March of this year. In Álava, it was up from 1.77 in March 2009 to 1.73 in March 2010, and in Gipuzkoa, it rose from 1.80 in March 2009 to 1.79 for March of this year.

The occupancy rate by beds was up 1% to 35.47% in March 2010. It should be noted that this increase affected Álava and Gipuzkoa, where occupancy was up 4% and 12%, respectively, to 32.13% occupancy in Álava and 37.43% in Gipuzkoa. In Bizkaia, the occupancy rate by beds fell by 6% from 37.52% in March last year to 35.16% in March 2010.

RURAL TOURISM

The number of visitors was up by 15% and of overnight stays increased by 5% in the Basque Country, compared to March 2009

The number of visitors in rural tourism establishments of the Basque Country totalled 9,827 in March, which was up by 15% with respect to the same month of the previous year, with positive results in the three provinces. The numbers increased by 21% in Bizkaia, 17% in Gipuzkoa and 4% in Álava. The number of visitors from within Spain was up by 18% in the Basque Country: they fell by 23% in Bizkaia, by 20% in Gipuzkoa and by 6% in Álava. The number of overseas visitors decreased by 24% throughout the Basque Country, as there was a significant drop in the number in Gipuzkoa and Álava, and to a smaller degree in Bizkaia in percentage terms.

There were 21,721 overnight stays in rural tourism establishments in the Basque Country in March, which was 5% up on the same month of the previous year, with year-on-year positive growth being recorded in the three provinces: The numbers increased by 15% in Bizkaia, 3% in Álava and 2% in Gipuzkoa.

The average length of stay per visitor in the Basque Country overall decreased with respect to March 2009, falling from 2.41 days a year ago to 2.21 days in the same month of 2009, with this negative evolution being recorded in the three provinces. There was a drop in Gipuzkoa of 13% as the average stay fell from 2.48 days in March 2009 to 2.16 days in March 2010. In Bizkaia, it dropped from an average stay in March 2009 to 2.19 in the same month of this year and it fell in Álava from 2.40 days in March 2009 to 2.37 days in March 2010.

The degree of occupancy by beds barely fluctuated (0%), rising from 18.32% occupancy to 18.35%, as a result in the increase noted in Bizkaia (13%) that offsets the falls registered in Álava (-5%) and Gipuzkoa (-4%).

Table1: Monthly results

	BASQUE COUNTRY						ÁLAVA						BIZKAIA						GIPUZKOA					
	03 2010	(%)	03 2009	(%)	Δ %		03 2010	(%)	03 2009	(%)	Δ %		03 2010	(%)	03 2009	(%)	Δ %		03 2010	(%)	03 2009	(%)	Δ %	
HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																								
OVERNIGHT STAYS	289.054	100	263.829	100	10		43.848	100	36.266	100	21		135.011	100	132.828	100	2		110.195	100	94.735	100	16	
National	212.303	73	189.732	72	12		34.438	79	29.181	80	18		94.688	70	90.145	68	5		83.177	75	70.406	74	18	
Foreigners	76.751	27	74.097	28	4		9.410	21	7.085	20	33		40.323	30	42.683	32	-6		27.018	25	24.329	26	11	
Capital	184.230	64	170.414	65	8		30.660	70	27.196	75	13		91.259	68	91.170	69	0		62.311	57	52.048	55	20	
Coast	29.862	10	24.888	9	20		-	-	-	-	-		9.396	7	8.617	6	9		20.466	19	16.271	17	26	
Inland	74.962	26	68.527	26	9		13.188	30	9.070	25	45		34.356	25	33.041	25	4		27.418	25	26.416	28	4	
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	161.885	100	143.765	100	13		25.335	100	20.514	100	24		74.950	100	70.753	100	6		61.600	100	52.498	100	17	
National	122.024	75	109.760	76	11		20.117	79	17.056	83	18		55.356	74	53.107	75	4		46.551	76	39.597	75	18	
Foreigners	39.861	25	34.005	24	17		5.218	21	3.458	17	51		19.594	26	17.646	25	11		15.049	24	12.901	25	17	
Capital	103.602	64	92.406	64	12		16.223	64	15.575	76	4		50.496	67	46.274	65	9		36.883	60	30.557	58	21	
Coast	15.173	9	13.813	10	10		-	-	-	-	-		5.465	7	5.163	7	6		9.708	16	8.650	16	12	
Inland	43.110	27	37.546	26	15		9.112	36	4.939	24	84		18.989	25	19.316	27	-2		15.009	24	13.291	25	13	
AVERAGE STAY	1,79		1,84		-3		1,73		1,77		-2		1,80		1,88		-4		1,79		1,80		-1	
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	35,47		34,97		1		32,13		30,82		4		35,16		37,52		-6		37,43		33,51		12	
Capital	40,29		40,74		-1		32,28		34,48		-6		41,38		43,97		-6		43,98		39,39		12	
Coast	33,59		28,19		19		-		-		-		25,15		24,47		3		39,70		30,66		29	
Inland	27,89		27,65		1		31,80		23,37		36		27,25		29,64		-8		27,10		27,09		0	
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	44,57		45,69		-2		40,19		41,02		-2		46,22		50,91		-9		44,44		40,85		9	
Capital	51,23		54,15		-5		41,49		47,05		-12		54,88		60,26		-9		52,38		48,39		8	
Coast	39,20		34,02		15		-		-		-		31,46		30,75		2		44,42		36,13		23	
Inland	34,98		35,35		-1		36,77		28,25		30		35,34		39,27		-10		33,90		33,47		1	
AGRO-TOURISM																								
OVERNIGHT STAYS	21.721	100	20.592	100	5		4.677	100	4.562	100	3		5.851	100	5.104	100	15		11.193	100	10.926	100	2	
National	20.448	94	18.532	90	10		4.478	96	3.982	87	12		5.296	91	4.568	89	16		10.674	95	9.982	91	7	
Foreigners	1.273	6	2.060	10	-38		199	4	580	13	-66		555	9	536	11	4		519	5	944	9	-45	
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	9.827	100	8.535	100	15		1.976	100	1.904	100	4		2.675	100	2.217	100	21		5.176	100	4.414	100	17	
National	9.430	96	8.015	94	18		1.905	96	1.802	95	6		2.525	94	2.047	92	23		5.000	97	4.166	94	20	
Foreigners	397	4	520	6	-24		71	4	102	5	-30		150	6	170	8	-12		176	3	248	6	-29	
AVERAGE STAY	2,21		2,41		-8		2,37		2,40		-1		2,19		2,30		-5		2,16		2,48		-13	
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	18,35		18,32		0		19,54		20,55		-5		15,20		13,47		13		20,01		20,88		-4	
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	20,09		21,42		-6		22,05		23,70		-7		16,51		16,27		1		21,79		24,29		-10	

Source: EUSTAT. EETR - Survey on Tourist Establishments

For further information:

Basque Statistics Office

C/ Donostia-San Sebastián, 1 01010 Vitoria-Gasteiz

Tlf:+34-945-01 75 00 Fax:+34-945-01 75 01 E-mail: eustat@eustat.es

Contact: Gerardo Pérez Aja

Tel:+34-945-01 75 06 Fax:+34-945-01 75 01

Online press releases: [EETR - Survey on Tourist Establishments](#)

Databank: [EETR - Survey on Tourist Establishments](#)