

**SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR) AUGUST 2010**

## **Number of visitors to the Basque Country rose by 18% in August 2010**

***Overnight stays were also up by 16% compared to August 2009***

In August 2010, there were 266,069 visitors registered in the hotel establishments of the Basque Country, 40,140 up on the same month of the previous year, in other words, a 18% increase, according to Eustat data. The number of visitors rose by 50% in Álava, 18% in Bizkaia and 7% in Gipuzkoa.

The number of visitors from within Spain was up by 17% and the number of overseas visitors rose by 20%. The number of visitors from within Spain increased in the three provinces: They were up by 50% in Álava, by 17% in Bizkaia and 5% in Gipuzkoa. Foreign visitors were also up in number in the three provinces, with increases of 50% in Álava, 20% in Bizkaia and 10% in Gipuzkoa.

With regard to the visitors from within Spain, the greatest increase in the percentage of visitors was among those from Catalonia, Madrid, Andalusia Comunidad Valenciana, Castilla y León and Asturias, while there was a drop in the number of visitors from Cantabria and the Balearic Islands. In terms of foreign visitors, there was an increase, to a greater or lesser extent, in those from all countries except from Belgium, the Netherlands and Ireland. Special mention should be made of the percentage increases in those from France, the United Kingdom, Italy and Germany.

Registered overnight stays in August 2010 stood at 560,371, which was 16% up on the same month of the previous year, in other words, there were 75,600 more overnight stays. The year-on-year performance of overnight stays was positive in the three provinces: it rose by 44% in Álava, by 20% in Bizkaia and by 5% in Gipuzkoa.

The length of the average stay fell slightly with respect to August 2009 and went from an average stay of 2.15 days in August 2009 to 2.11 days in the same month of this year, for the Basque Country as a whole. By provinces, it went from 1.89 to 1.82 days in Álava, from 2.36 to 2.31 days in Gipuzkoa, while it rose from 2.02 to 2.04 days in Bizkaia.

The occupancy rate by beds was up 9% to 67.02% for the Basque Country overall in August 2010. This increase was registered in the three provinces, although to different degrees. In Álava, the occupancy rate increased by 28% from 44.25% in August 2009 to 56.58% in the same month this year. The rate increased by 11% in Bizkaia, rising from 57.78% in August 2009 to 64.02% in August 2010 and there was also a 4% increase in Gipuzkoa, where the occupancy rate for August 2010 was 75.70%.

## RURAL TOURISM

***There was no noticeable change to the number of visitors (0%) and the number of overnight stays increased by 10% in the Basque Country, compared to August 2009***

In August, there were 15,370 visitors in rural tourism establishments of the Basque Country and the figure remained practically unchanged compared to the number of visitors at rural tourism establishments in 2009. By provinces, there were no significant changes to the number of visitors in Gipuzkoa in August 2010 compared to 2009, while the number increased by 32% in Álava. The number fell by 15% in Bizkaia. The number of visitors from within Spain was up by 5% in the Basque Country: by 39% in Gipuzkoa, 8% in Álava and 12% in Bizkaia. The number of foreign visitors also increased by 23% for the Autonomous Community overall. It fell significantly in Gipuzkoa and Bizkaia, but rose notably in Álava, in percentage terms.

There were 76,670 overnight stays in rural tourism establishments in the Basque Country in August which was 10% up on the previous year, with year-on-year positive growth being recorded in Álava (32%) and Gipuzkoa (12%), while it fell by 2% in Bizkaia.

The average length of stay per visitor in the Basque Country overall increased with respect to August 2009, rising from 4.44 days a year ago to 4.87 days this August. This positive trend was noted in Bizkaia, where it rose by 15% from an average stay of 3.99 days in August 2009 to 4.58 days in August 2010, and in Gipuzkoa, where it was up from 4.82 in August of the previous year to 5.37 in the same month of this year. On the other hand, the length of the average stay rose by 7% in Álava, up from 4.25 days in August 2009 to 3.96 in August 2010.

The degree of occupancy by beds was up by 5%, rising from 58.91% occupancy to 61.89%, as a result in the increase noted in Álava (19%) and Gipuzkoa (8%), that offsets the fall registered in Bizkaia (-4%).

**Table 1: Hotel and Rural Tourism Establishments in the Basque Country. Monthly results**

	BASQUE COUNTRY				ÁLAVA				BIZKAIA				GIPUZKOA							
	08 2010	08 2009	(%)	Δ %	08 2010	08 2009	(%)	Δ %	08 2010	08 2009	(%)	Δ %	08 2010	08 2009	(%)	Δ %				
	HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																			
<b>OVERNIGHT STAYS</b>	560.371	100	484.696	100	16	79.089	100	54.749	100	44	251.528	100	210.320	100	20	229.754	100	219.627	100	5
National	368.689	66	320.267	66	15	57.471	73	40.081	73	43	157.170	62	129.720	62	21	154.048	67	150.466	69	2
Foreigners	191.682	34	164.429	34	17	21.618	27	14.668	27	47	94.358	38	80.600	38	17	75.706	33	69.161	31	9
Capital	329.590	59	283.542	58	16	54.586	69	34.691	63	57	151.284	60	131.936	63	15	123.720	54	116.915	53	6
Coast	72.506	13	74.457	15	-3	-	-	-	-	-	29.865	12	27.403	13	9	42.641	19	47.054	21	-9
Inland	158.275	28	126.697	26	25	24.503	31	20.058	37	22	70.379	28	50.981	24	38	63.393	28	55.658	25	14
<b>ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS</b>	266.069	100	225.929	100	18	43.521	100	28.964	100	50	123.084	100	103.981	100	18	99.464	100	92.984	100	7
National	160.469	60	137.733	61	17	28.411	65	18.909	65	50	71.087	58	60.718	58	17	60.971	61	58.106	62	5
Foreigners	105.600	40	88.196	39	20	15.110	35	10.055	35	50	51.997	42	43.263	42	20	38.493	39	34.878	38	10
Capital	155.474	58	130.589	58	19	29.197	67	18.713	65	56	74.742	61	65.122	63	15	51.535	52	46.754	50	10
Coast	27.505	10	28.123	12	-2	-	-	-	-	-	12.771	10	11.297	11	13	14.734	15	16.826	18	-12
Inland	83.090	31	67.217	30	24	14.324	33	10.251	35	40	35.571	29	27.562	27	29	33.195	33	29.404	32	13
<b>AVERAGE STAY</b>	2,11		2,15		-2	1,82		1,89		-4	2,04		2,02		1	2,31		2,36		-2
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES</b>	67,02		61,44		9	56,58		44,25		28	64,02		57,78		11	75,70		72,93		4
Capital	72,16		65,44		10	57,43		43,73		31	69,14		62,84		10	86,59		81,21		7
Coast	77,09		75,36		2	-		-		-	74,11		67,17		10	79,33		81,13		-2
Inland	55,46		49,34		12	54,78		45,18		21	52,60		45,02		17	59,33		56,12		6
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS</b>	69,71		65,52		6	58,54		46,54		26	67,18		62,91		7	78,24		77,71		1
Capital	75,69		69,98		8	60,72		47,35		28	73,36		68,03		8	90,46		86,84		4
Coast	78,61		81,40		-3	-		-		-	74,16		72,07		3	81,63		88,65		-8
Inland	56,86		52,58		8	52,92		45,05		17	54,32		50,40		8	61,31		58,87		4
<b>AGRI-TOURISM</b>																				
<b>OVERNIGHT STAYS</b>	76.670	100	69.800	100	10	10.995	100	8.326	100	32	22.624	100	23.051	100	-2	43.051	100	38.423	100	12
National	66.422	87	58.146	83	14	9.843	90	6.980	84	41	18.372	81	17.262	75	6	38.207	89	33.904	88	13
Foreigners	10.248	13	11.654	17	-12	1.152	10	1.346	16	-14	4.252	19	5.789	25	-27	4.844	11	4.519	12	7
<b>ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS</b>	15.730	100	15.716	100	0	2.776	100	1.958	100	42	4.943	100	5.783	100	-15	8.011	100	7.975	100	0
National	13.564	86	12.892	82	5	2.409	87	1.731	88	39	3.991	81	4.512	78	-12	7.164	89	6.649	83	8
Foreigners	2.166	14	2.824	18	-23	367	13	227	12	62	952	19	1.271	22	-25	847	11	1.326	17	-36
<b>AVERAGE STAY</b>	4,87		4,44		10	3,96		4,25		-7	4,58		3,99		15	5,37		4,82		11
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES</b>	61,89		58,91		5	42,89		36,10		19	55,71		58,00		-4	74,70		69,01		8
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS</b>	63,05		62,68		1	42,24		38,51		10	57,19		59,77		-4	76,96		75,15		2

Source: EUSTAT. Survey on Tourist Establishments (EETR)

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