

SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR) SEPTEMBER 2010

## Number of visitors to the Basque Country rose by 12% in September 2010

***The total number of visitors for July, August and September was 88,000 more than in 2009, up by 14%.***

In September 2010, there were 214,732 visitors registered in the hotel establishments of the Basque Country, 22,829 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 26% in Álava, 17% in Bizkaia and 2% in Gipuzkoa.

The number of visitors from within Spain was up by 8% and the number of overseas visitors rose by 20%. Visitors from within Spain increased their presence in Álava, up by 18%, and in Bizkaia where there rose by 14%, but decreased by 3% in Gipuzkoa. Foreign visitors were also up in number in the three provinces, with increases of 48% in Álava, 22% 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 Madrid, Comunidad Valenciana, Aragón, the Balearic Islands and Asturias, while visitors from Extremadura, Cantabria, Navarra and the Basque Country fell in number. In terms of foreign visitors, there was an increase, to a greater or lesser extent, in those from all countries except from Finland and Japan. Special mention should be made of the percentage increases in those from South and Central America, the United Kingdom and Germany.

Registered overnight stays in September 2010 stood at 414,777, which was 15% up on the same month of the previous year, in other words, there were 55,052 more overnight stays. The year-on-year performance of overnight stays was positive in the three provinces: it rose by 41% in Álava, by 22% in Bizkaia and by 2% in Gipuzkoa.

The length of the average stay increased with respect to September 2009, up from an average of 1.87 days in September 2009 to 1.93 days in the same month this year, for the Basque Country as a whole. By provinces, it increased from 1.68 to 1.88 days in Álava, from 1.77 to 1.85 days in Bizkaia, while it remained unchanged in Gipuzkoa at the 2.05 days registered in September 2009 and which was exactly the same in that month of this year.

The occupancy rate by beds was up by 9% to 52.18% for the Basque Country overall in September 2010. This increase affected the provinces of Álava, where the occupancy rate increased by 24%, up from 38.85% in September 2009 to 48.05% in that month this year, and Bizkaia, where this increase was 14%, rising from 43.13% in September 2009 to 49.28% in September 2010. In Gipuzkoa, the percentage remained practically the same, falling from occupancy of 58.11% in September 2009 to 57.90% in that month this year.

The number of visitors in the Basque Country increased by 14%, 88,000 more visitors, **during the summer months of July August and September**, with respect to the same period of 2009. It rose in the three provinces: it increased by 34% in Álava, by 13% in Bizkaia and by 8% in Gipuzkoa. The number of overnight stays also rose by 14% over that same period. The increase was 35% in Álava, 16% in Bizkaia and 6% in Gipuzkoa. The average stay remained unchanged ( 0%) at an average of 2 days, and the degree of occupancy was 58.58% over these three months, 8% up on the same period of the previous year.

## RURAL TOURISM

***The number of visitors was up by 9% and overnight stays increased by 8% in the Basque Country, compared to September 2009***

In September, there were 10,991 visitors in rural tourism establishments of the Basque Country and was up 9% with respect to the number of visitors at rural tourism establishments in September 2009. By provinces, the number was up by 32% in Álava, 9% in Gipuzkoa, while it fell by 1% in Bizkaia. The number of visitors from within Spain was up by 11% in the Basque Country: they were up by 24% in Álava, by 11% in Bizkaia and 2% in Gipuzkoa. The number of foreign visitors also increased by 8% for the Autonomous Community overall. It fell significantly in Gipuzkoa and Bizkaia, but rose notably in Álava, in percentage terms.

There were 29,012 overnight stays in rural tourism establishments in the Basque Country in September, which was 8% up on the same month of the previous year, with year-on-year positive growth being recorded in the three provinces: up by 44% in Álava, by 4% in Bizkaia and 1% in Gipuzkoa.

The average length of stay by visitor in the Basque Country overall decreased slightly with respect to September 2009, falling from 2.66 days a year ago to 2.64 days this September. There were increases of 13% and 5% in Álava and Bizkaia, respectively, as the average stay in Álava rose from 2.08 days in September 2009 to 2.36 days in September 2010 and in Bizkaia from 2.57 days in September 2009 to 2.71 days in the same month of this year. However, the average stay in Gipuzkoa fell by 7%, down from 2.90 days in September 2009 to 2.70 days in that month of this year.

The degree of occupancy by beds was up by 1%, rising from 24.27% occupancy to 24.52%, as a result in the increase noted in Álava (26%) and Bizkaia (1%), that offsets the fall registered in Gipuzkoa (-4%).

There was the same number of visitors in rural tourism establishments **in the three months of July, August and September 2010 as for the same period of the previous year**. The number of overnight stays rose by 10%, and increased in Álava and Gipuzkoa (29% and 12%, respectively, while the number of overnight stays in Bizkaia remained steady (0%)

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

	BASQUE COUNTRY						ÁLAVA						BIZKAIA						GIPUZKOA					
	09 2010	(%)	09 2009	(%)	Δ %		09 2010	(%)	09 2009	(%)	Δ %		09 2010	(%)	09 2009	(%)	Δ %		09 2010	(%)	09 2009	(%)	Δ %	
	HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																							
<b>OVERNIGHT STAYS</b>	414.777	100	359.725	100	15		63.957	100	45.347	100	41		184.906	100	151.162	100	22		165.914	100	163.216	100	2	
National	265.156	64	237.627	66	12		42.595	67	32.943	73	29		115.601	63	95.159	63	21		106.960	64	109.525	67	-2	
Foreigners	149.621	36	122.098	34	23		21.362	33	12.404	27	72		69.305	37	56.003	37	24		58.954	36	53.691	33	10	
Capital	261.474	63	215.256	60	21		44.588	70	29.899	66	49		124.833	68	96.771	64	29		92.053	55	88.586	54	4	
Coast	49.515	12	48.851	14	1		-	-	-	-	-		15.537	8	15.367	10	1		33.978	20	33.484	21	1	
Inland	103.788	25	95.618	27	9		19.369	30	15.448	34	25		44.536	24	39.024	26	14		39.883	24	41.146	25	-3	
<b>ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS</b>	214.732	100	191.903	100	12		33.954	100	26.915	100	26		99.856	100	85.520	100	17		80.922	100	79.468	100	2	
National	137.762	64	127.674	67	8		23.230	68	19.682	73	18		64.478	65	56.494	66	14		50.054	62	51.498	65	-3	
Foreigners	76.970	36	64.229	33	20		10.724	32	7.233	27	48		35.378	35	29.026	34	22		30.868	38	27.970	35	10	
Capital	132.085	62	113.381	59	16		22.002	65	16.827	63	31		65.771	66	53.713	63	22		44.312	55	42.841	54	3	
Coast	23.688	11	23.861	12	-1		-	-	-	-	-		8.642	9	8.548	10	1		15.046	19	15.313	19	-2	
Inland	58.959	27	54.661	28	8		11.952	35	10.088	37	18		25.443	25	23.259	27	9		21.564	27	21.314	27	1	
<b>AVERAGE STAY</b>	1,93		1,87		3		1,88		1,68		12		1,85		1,77		5		2,05		2,05		0	
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES</b>	52,18		48,08		9		48,05		38,85		24		49,28		43,13		14		57,90		58,11		0	
Capital	59,82		52,50		14		48,87		39,71		23		58,92		47,97		23		68,69		66,61		3	
Coast	55,72		54,66		2		-		-		-		41,37		41,31		0		66,23		64,18		3	
Inland	38,60		38,44		0		46,25		37,29		24		35,41		34,98		1		39,39		42,98		-8	
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS</b>	62,06		57,47		8		58,81		46,77		26		60,63		54,24		12		65,38		66,54		-2	
Capital	72,10		63,55		13		61,98		49,90		24		72,30		60,55		19		79,04		77,24		2	
Coast	62,10		60,98		2		-		-		-		48,10		47,96		0		71,52		69,76		3	
Inland	44,73		46,26		-3		48,35		40,70		19		43,79		44,74		-2		44,87		50,57		-11	
<b>AGRI-TOURISM</b>																								
<b>OVERNIGHT STAYS</b>	29.012	100	26.973	100	8		4.937	100	3.435	100	44		8.501	100	8.170	100	4		15.574	100	15.368	100	1	
National	25.226	87	23.244	86	9		4.303	87	3.117	91	38		7.226	85	6.381	78	13		13.697	88	13.746	89	0	
Foreigners	3.786	13	3.729	14	2		634	13	318	9	99		1.275	15	1.789	22	-29		1.877	12	1.622	11	16	
<b>ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS</b>	10.991	100	10.122	100	9		2.092	100	1.650	100	27		3.137	100	3.179	100	-1		5.762	100	5.293	100	9	
National	9.859	90	8.895	88	11		1.922	92	1.546	94	24		2.686	86	2.631	83	2		5.251	91	4.718	89	11	
Foreigners	1.132	10	1.227	12	-8		170	8	104	6	63		451	14	548	17	-18		511	9	575	11	-11	
<b>AVERAGE STAY</b>	2,64		2,66		-1		2,36		2,08		13		2,71		2,57		5		2,70		2,90		-7	
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES</b>	24,52		24,27		1		19,76		15,68		26		21,98		21,75		1		28,49		29,73		-4	
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS</b>	26,88		25,84		4		21,50		16,74		28		24,51		23,06		6		31,12		31,79		-2	

Source: EUSTAT. Survey on Tourist Establishments (EETR)

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