

[SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS \(EETR\) FEBRUARY 2011](#)

The number of visitors to the Basque Country rose by 2% in February 2011

Overnight stays were up by 5%

There were 135,371 visitors registered in the hotel establishments of the Basque Country in February 2011, 3,284 up on the same month of the previous year, in other words, a 2% increase, according to Eustat data. The number of visitors rose by 10% in Álava, 8% in Gipuzkoa, but fell by 3% in Bizkaia.

The number of visitors from within Spain was up 5% and the number of overseas visitors fell by 6%. The number of visitors from within Spain increased in Álava, up by 18%, and in Gipuzkoa, where there was a 9% rise, while it fell in Bizkaia by 1%. The number of foreign visitors rose in Gipuzkoa, with an increase of 7%, but fell by 24% and 9% in Álava and Bizkaia, respectively.

With regard to visitors from other Autonomous Communities, the greatest percentage increase was among those from Asturias, Castilla-La Mancha, Castilla-León, Cantabria and Madrid, while there was a drop in number in the visitors from Catalonia, the Canary Islands, Murcia Galicia and Extremadura. As far as visitors from abroad were concerned, there was a rise in those from France, Germany and the Netherlands. The sharpest percentage decreases were in the number of visitors from Portugal, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Denmark and Finland.

Registered overnight stays in February 2010 totalled 246,064, which was 5% up on the same month of the previous year, in other words, there were 10,955 more overnight stays. The year-on-year performance of overnight stays was positive in Álava and Gipuzkoa, up by 26% and 15%, respectively, but fell by 8% in Bizkaia.

The average length of stay rose compared to February 2010, up from an average stay of 1.78 days in February 2010 to 1.82 days for February this year, for the Basque Country as a whole. By provinces, it increased from 1.68 to 1.94 days in Álava, from 1.73 to 1.85 days in Gipuzkoa, while it fell in Bizkaia from the 1.84 days registered in February 2010 to the 1.75 days in the same month of this year.

The bed occupancy rate was up by 4% to 34.79% for the Basque Country overall in February 2010. This rise affected the provinces of Álava and Gipuzkoa, but not Bizkaia where there was a downturn. In Álava, the occupancy rate rose by 26%, up from 27.79% in February 2010 to 34.93% in the same month of this year. In Gipuzkoa, this upturn was 15%, up from 31.39% in February 2009 to 36.00% in February 2011. The drop was 8% in Bizkaia, down from 36.65% occupancy in February 2010 to 33.89% in that month of this year.

RURAL TOURISM

The number of visitors and overnight stays increased by 4%, compared to February 2010

There were 6,352 visitors in rural tourism establishments of the Basque Country in February, up 4% on the number of visitors in rural tourism establishments in February 2010. By provinces, the number was up by 5% in Álava, 11% in Bizkaia, but it fell by 9% in Gipuzkoa. The number of visitors from within Spain was up by 3% in the Basque Country: by 9% in Álava, a further 9% in Gipuzkoa and fell by 14% in Bizkaia. The number of foreign visitors rose significant for the Basque Country overall. The percentage rise was significant in Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa, but there was a notable drop in Álava, in percentage terms.

There were 13,652 overnight stays in rural tourism establishments in the Basque Country in February, which was 4% up on the previous year, with year-on-year positive growth being recorded in Álava (3%) and Gipuzkoa (14%), but the number fell in Bizkaia by 9%.

The average length of stay per visitor remained unchanged for the Basque Country overall with respect to February 2010, as the average stay per visitor was 2.15 days in both months. In Álava, the average stay fell by 2% from 2.21 days in February 2010 to 2.16 days in February 2011. In Bizkaia, the decrease was almost unnoticeable as the average stay dropped from 2.40 days in February 2010 to 2.39 days in February 2011. The average stay in Gipuzkoa increased by 3% from 1.99 days in February 2010 to 2.04 in the same month of this year.

The bed occupancy rate was up by 2%, rising from 12.83% occupancy to 13.14%, as a result of the increase registered in Gipuzkoa (16%), that offsets the downturn in Álava (-5%) and Bizkaia (-12%).

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

	BASQUE COUNTRY				ÁLAVA				BIZKAIA				GIPUZKOA							
	02 2011	(%)	02 2010	(%)	Δ %	02 2011	(%)	02 2010	(%)	Δ %	02 2011	(%)	02 2010	(%)	Δ %					
	HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																			
OVERNIGHT STAYS	246.064	100	235.109	100	5	42.618	100	33.766	100	26	116.349	100	125.851	100	-8	87.097	100	75.492	100	15
National	182.741	74	174.875	74	4	34.964	82	26.460	78	32	81.973	70	92.530	74	-11	65.804	76	55.885	74	18
Foreigners	63.323	26	60.234	26	5	7.654	18	7.306	22	5	34.376	30	33.321	26	3	21.293	24	19.607	26	9
Capital	158.201	64	149.668	64	6	35.115	82	25.036	74	40	78.058	67	81.653	65	-4	45.028	52	42.979	57	5
Coast	22.751	9	16.750	7	36	-	-	-	-	-	6.548	6	8.005	6	-18	16.203	19	8.745	12	85
Inland	65.112	26	68.691	29	-5	7.503	18	8.730	26	-14	31.743	27	36.193	29	-12	25.866	30	23.768	31	9
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	135.371	100	132.087	100	2	21.956	100	20.040	100	10	66.314	100	68.519	100	-3	47.101	100	43.528	100	8
National	105.038	78	99.982	76	5	18.868	86	15.984	80	18	50.912	77	51.561	75	-1	35.258	75	32.437	75	9
Foreigners	30.333	22	32.105	24	-6	3.088	14	4.056	20	-24	15.402	23	16.958	25	-9	11.843	25	11.091	25	7
Capital	87.305	64	84.304	64	4	16.593	76	13.692	68	21	44.226	67	44.618	65	-1	26.486	56	25.994	60	2
Coast	12.047	9	10.615	8	13	-	-	-	-	-	4.001	6	4.582	7	-13	8.046	17	6.033	14	33
Inland	36.019	27	37.168	28	-3	5.363	24	6.348	32	-16	18.087	27	19.319	28	-6	12.569	27	11.501	26	9
AVERAGE STAY	1,82		1,78		2	1,94		1,68		15	1,75		1,84		-5	1,85		1,73		7
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	34,79		33,33		4	34,93		27,79		26	33,89		36,65		-8	36,00		31,39		15
Capital	39,87		37,20		7	41,12		29,36		40	39,89		41,10		-3	38,91		36,30		7
Coast	34,49		26,83		29	-	-	-	-	-	25,20		25,66		-2	40,52		27,99		45
Inland	26,63		28,54		-7	20,50		24,08		-15	26,09		31,87		-18	30,00		26,15		15
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	43,99		43,01		2	43,89		35,81		23	44,15		48,55		-9	43,80		38,70		13
Capital	50,81		48,34		5	52,71		39,09		35	52,57		54,97		-4	46,66		43,83		6
Coast	41,36		32,55		27	-	-	-	-	-	32,23		32,12		0	46,97		32,99		42
Inland	34,29		36,26		-5	23,79		27,30		-13	33,89		41,04		-17	38,83		33,84		15
AGRI-TOURISM																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	13.652	100	13.069	100	4	2.672	100	2.604	100	3	3.732	100	4.093	100	-9	7.248	100	6.372	100	14
National	11.784	86	11.941	91	-1	2.536	95	2.392	92	6	2.908	78	3.568	87	-18	6.340	87	5.981	94	6
Foreigners	1.868	14	1.128	9	66	136	5	212	8	-36	824	22	525	13	57	908	13	391	6	132
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	6.352	100	6.085	100	4	1.236	100	1.176	100	5	1.560	100	1.707	100	-9	3.556	100	3.202	100	11
National	5.888	93	5.736	94	3	1.220	99	1.116	95	9	1.344	86	1.559	91	-14	3.324	93	3.061	96	9
Foreigners	464	7	349	6	33	16	1	60	5	-73	216	14	148	9	46	232	7	141	4	65
AVERAGE STAY	2,15		2,15		0	2,16		2,21		-2	2,39		2,40		0	2,04		1,99		3
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	13,14		12,83		2	11,43		12,09		-5	11,25		12,81		-12	15,32		13,17		16
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	15,56		14,82		5	13,64		13,92		-2	14,62		14,53		1	17,20		15,44		11

Source: EUSTAT. Survey on Tourist Establishments of the Basque Country (EETR)

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