

The number of visitors to the Basque Country was down 1.7% in October 2012

There was a drop of 0.9% in overnight stays

There were 207,187 visitors registered in the hotel establishments of the Basque Country in October 2012, 3,499 down on the same month of the previous year, which is a decrease of 1.7%, according to Eustat data. Visitor numbers were down by 11.2% en Álava, but in Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa they were up by 0.1%.

Numbers of visitors from Spain were down by 6.6% in the Basque Country as a whole. Visitors from Spain reduced their presence in the three provinces: in Álava they were down by 15.8%, in Bizkaia they were down by 2.0% and in Gipuzkoa there was a decrease of 8.2%. The number of foreign visitors to the Basque Country as a whole was up by 8.6%. In Álava they increased by 6.1%, in Bizkaia they rose by 4.3% and in Gipuzkoa they were up by 15.0%.

Amongst visitors from within Spain there was an increase in those coming from Andalusia, The Canary Islands, Madrid and Ceuta and Melilla, whilst there was a greater percentage drop in those originating from the Balearics, Comunidad Valenciana, Murcia and Castilla-La Mancha, on the whole. Amongst foreign visitors there were rises, above all, in those coming from Denmark, Japan, Sweden, USA-Canada, Ireland and Holland. The drop in visitors from Luxembourg, Greece, Finland and Italy was particularly noticeable.

Registered overnight stays in October 2012 stood at 395,979, which was 0.9% down on the same month of the previous year, that is, there were 3,698 fewer overnight stays. There was a positive year-on-year change in terms of overnight stays in Gipuzkoa, where they were up 0.8%, but in Álava they dropped 4.6% and in Bizkaia they were down by 1.1%.

The average length of stay increased slightly, up 0.5% with respect to October 2011 for the Basque Country as a whole, going from 1.90 days in October 2011 to 1.91 days in October 2012. In Álava the average stay was 1.93 days compared to the 1.79 days recorded in October 2011; in Bizkaia it went from 1.88 days in October 2011 to 1.85 this October, and in Gipuzkoa the average stay for this October was 1.99 days, compared to the 1.97 days in October 2011.

There was a 1.6% fall in bed occupancy, where it stood at 47.69% in October 2012 for the Basque Country overall. This drop affected the three provinces. In Álava there was a decrease of 1.4%, going from 42.39% in October 2011 to 41.80% this October. In Gipuzkoa there was a negative change of 1.5%, where it went from 50.22% in October 2011 to 49.48% in October 2012, and in Álava there was a fall of 1.9%, with occupancy going from 49.31% in October 2011 to 48.36% in October 2012.

RURAL TOURISM

Visitor numbers fell by 0.3% and overnight stays were up 2.3%, compared to October 2011

In October this year there were 10,284 registered visitors to rural tourism establishments in the Basque Country, which was a fall of 0.3% with respect to the visitors to rural tourism establishments in October 2011. By provinces, it was observed that in Álava there was a drop of 4.5%, in Gipuzkoa there was a drop of 3.4%, but in Bizkaia an increase of 9.7% was observed. There was a 1.3% overall rise in visitors from within Spain to the Basque Country: they were up 5.6% in Bizkaia and 1.4% in Álava, but they were down 1.1% in Gipuzkoa. Foreign visitor numbers were down by 14.6% in the Basque Country as a whole, falling significantly in Álava and Gipuzkoa, but rising in Bizkaia, all in percentage terms.

Overnight stays in rural tourism establishments in the Basque Country stood at 19,868 in October, which was an increase of 2.3% on the previous year, with year-on-year growth figures positive in Bizkaia, where they were up 14.3%, whereas in Álava they were down 3.2% and in Gipuzkoa they fell by 1.5%.

The average length of stay per visitor increased by 2.7% in the Basque Country as a whole with respect to October 2011, going from 2.26 days one year ago to 2.32 days in October 2012. In Álava there was a rise of 1.4%, with the average stay going from 2.08 days in October 2011 to 2.11 days in October 2012; in Bizkaia there was a rise of 4.3%, with the average stay going from 2.31 days in October 2011 to 2.41 days in October 2012, and in Gipuzkoa there was a rise of 1.7%, where the average stay went from 2.32 days in October 2011 to 2.36 days in the same month of this year.

The bed occupancy rate registered an increase of 0.9%, going from 18.81% occupancy to 18.97% as a result of the rise experienced in the province of Bizkaia, which was up by 17.0%. In Álava y Gipuzkoa, however, there were drops of 6.2% and 4.6%, respectively.

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

	BASQUE COUNTRY				ARABA / ÁLAVA				BIZKAIA				GIPUZKOA							
	10 2012	(%)	10 2011	(%)	Δ %	10 2012	(%)	10 2011	(%)	Δ %	10 2012	(%)	10 2011	(%)	Δ %	10 2012	(%)	10 2011	(%)	Δ %
	HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS																			
OVERNIGHT STAYS	395.979	100	399.677	100	-0,9	56.686	100	59.411	100	-4,6	194.221	100	196.408	100	-1,1	145.072	100	143.858	100	0,8
National	250.485	63	269.541	67	-7,1	42.452	75	46.322	78	-8,4	122.875	63	127.959	65	-4,0	85.158	59	95.260	66	-10,6
Foreigners	145.494	37	130.136	33	11,8	14.234	25	13.089	22	8,7	71.346	37	68.449	35	4,2	59.914	41	48.598	34	23,3
Capital	262.407	66	257.639	64	1,9	42.327	75	43.444	73	-2,6	136.007	70	132.778	68	2,4	84.073	58	81.417	57	3,3
Coast	39.028	10	43.997	11	-11,3	-	-	-	-	-	10.864	6	12.389	6	-12,3	28.164	19	31.608	22	-10,9
Inland	94.544	24	98.041	25	-3,6	14.359	25	15.967	27	-10,1	47.350	24	51.241	26	-7,6	32.835	23	30.833	21	6,5
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	207.187	100	210.686	100	-1,7	29.426	100	33.122	100	-11,2	104.756	100	104.650	100	0,1	73.005	100	72.914	100	0,1
National	133.281	64	142.633	68	-6,6	21.943	75	26.071	79	-15,8	68.475	65	69.849	67	-2,0	42.863	59	46.713	64	-8,2
Foreigners	73.906	36	68.053	32	8,6	7.483	25	7.051	21	6,1	36.281	35	34.801	33	4,3	30.142	41	26.201	36	15,0
Capital	133.355	64	132.097	63	1,0	20.238	69	22.904	69	-11,6	70.034	67	67.381	64	3,9	43.083	59	41.812	57	3,0
Coast	19.668	9	22.077	10	-10,9	-	-	-	-	-	6.815	7	7.843	7	-13,1	12.853	18	14.234	20	-9,7
Inland	54.164	26	56.512	27	-4,2	9.188	31	10.218	31	-10,1	27.907	27	29.426	28	-5,2	17.069	23	16.868	23	1,2
AVERAGE STAY	1,91		1,90		0,5	1,93		1,79		7,8	1,85		1,88		-1,6	1,99		1,97		1,0
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	47,69		48,45		-1,6	41,80		42,39		-1,4	48,36		49,31		-1,9	49,48		50,22		-1,5
Capital	55,71		56,64		-1,6	44,65		45,66		-2,2	58,69		58,79		-0,2	58,19		60,84		-4,4
Coast	43,67		48,91		-10,7	-	-	-	-	-	28,89		33,64		-14,1	54,40		59,49		-8,6
Inland	35,02		35,00		0,1	35,17		35,47		-0,8	35,81		37,77		-5,2	33,87		30,99		9,3
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	58,79		57,39		2,4	51,85		51,43		0,8	61,43		58,64		4,8	58,49		58,65		-0,3
Capital	70,66		67,26		5,1	57,79		56,46		2,4	76,89		69,37		10,8	69,66		71,59		-2,7
Coast	49,50		54,81		-9,7	-	-	-	-	-	34,72		38,51		-9,8	59,52		65,12		-8,6
Inland	42,70		42,18		1,2	38,76		40,81		-5,0	44,42		45,33		-2,0	41,99		38,61		8,8
AGRI-TOURISM																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	23.811	100	23.278	100	2,3	5.186	100	5.359	100	-3,2	7.063	100	6.182	100	14,3	11.562	100	11.737	100	-1,5
National	20.803	87	20.355	87	2,2	4.783	92	4.801	90	-0,4	5.948	84	5.341	86	11,4	10.072	87	10.213	87	-1,4
Foreigners	3.008	13	2.923	13	2,9	403	8	558	10	-27,8	1.115	16	841	14	32,6	1.490	13	1.524	13	-2,2
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	10.284	100	10.316	100	-0,3	2.461	100	2.578	100	-4,5	2.933	100	2.674	100	9,7	4.890	100	5.064	100	-3,4
National	9.395	91	9.275	90	1,3	2.355	96	2.322	90	1,4	2.549	87	2.413	90	5,6	4.491	92	4.540	90	-1,1
Foreigners	889	9	1.041	10	-14,6	106	4	256	10	-58,6	384	13	261	10	47,1	399	8	524	10	-23,9
AVERAGE STAY	2,32		2,26		2,7	2,11		2,08		1,4	2,41		2,31		4,3	2,36		2,32		1,7
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	18,97		18,81		0,9	18,12		19,32		-6,2	18,61		15,90		17,0	19,60		20,55		-4,6
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	20,29		20,63		-1,6	18,32		20,43		-10,3	20,79		17,85		16,5	20,90		22,66		-7,8

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

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