

28 February 2018 | 1100 hrs | 033/2018

Total guests and nights spent in collective accommodation establishments during the fourth quarter of 2017 advanced by 11.7 per cent and 8.3 per cent respectively when compared to the corresponding quarter in 2016.

Collective Accommodation Establishments: Q4/2017

Cut-off date:
21 February 2018

In the fourth quarter, total guests in collective accommodation establishments numbered 433,149, while total nights spent amounted to 2,166,208. The largest share of guest nights was reported in 4-star hotels, accounting for 1,050,303 nights, or 48.5 per cent of the total (Tables 1 and 2).

The average length of stay in collective accommodation establishments went down to 5.0 nights in the fourth quarter of 2017 from the average of 5.2 nights registered during the same quarter of 2016. The net use of bed-places stood at 58.2 per cent, up by 1.4 percentage points when compared to the corresponding quarter of the previous year (Table 3).

During December 2017, there were 174 active collective accommodation establishments with a net capacity of 17,385 bedrooms and 39,047 bed-places on a national level (Table 4).

Regional breakdown

Total guests in Malta region numbered 411,505, up by 11.6 per cent over the fourth quarter of 2016. Additionally, an increase of 8.3 per cent was recorded in the number of nights spent. Total guests and nights spent in Gozo and Comino region increased by 13.7 per cent and 9.2 per cent when compared to the comparative quarter of the previous year, to 21,643 and 72,054 respectively (Tables 1 and 2).

In Malta region, the average length of stay went down by 0.1 of a night to 5.1 nights; and that in Gozo and Comino region decreased by 0.2 of a night to 3.3 nights, when compared with the same quarter of the previous year. The net occupancy rate in Malta region increased by 1.2 percentage points, reaching 58.9 per cent, and that in Gozo and Comino region increased by 3.3 percentage points to 42.7 per cent over the same quarter of 2016 (Table 3).

January-December 2017

In 2017, total guests surpassed 1.8 million, an increase of 13.0 per cent over the same period in 2016 (Table 1). Total nights spent went up by 6.8 per cent, reaching nearly 9.6 million (Table 2). The net use of bed-places advanced by 1.9 percentage points to 65.6 per cent (Table 3) ■

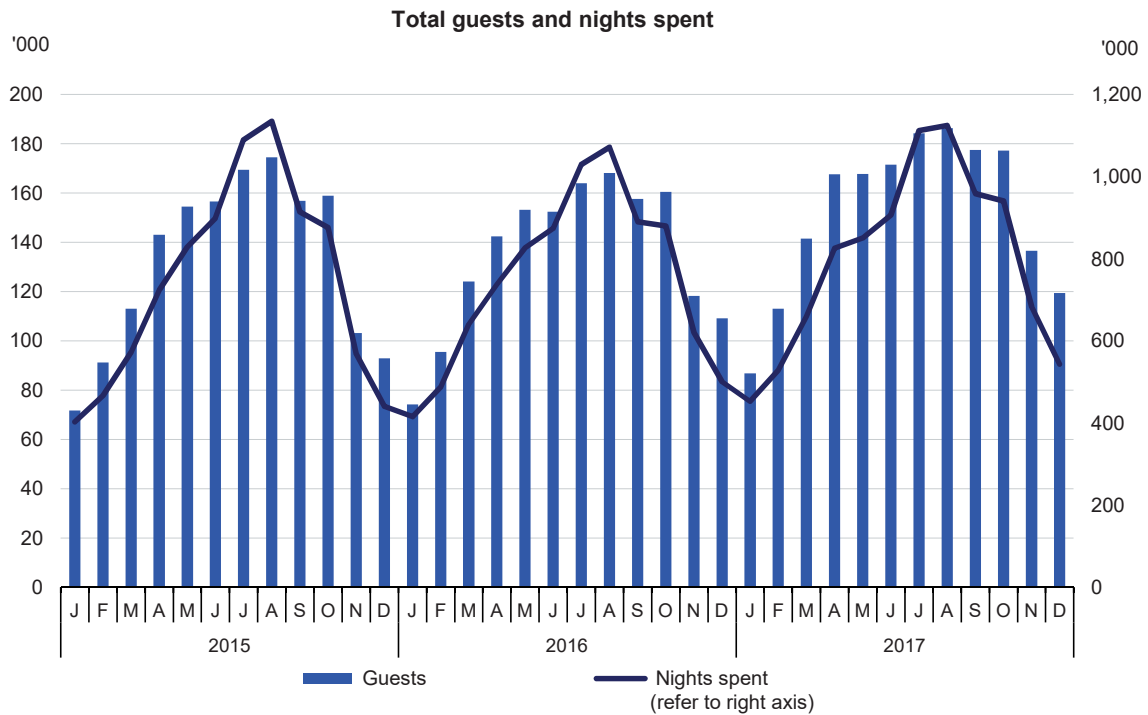


Table 1. Total guests (residents and non-residents) by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q3/2017*	October-December (Q4)		January-December	
		2016	2017	2016	2017
MALTA					
Hotel	518,887	372,538	414,353	1,550,991	1,745,477
5 Star	121,809	99,597	97,084	395,166	421,514
4 Star	231,417	168,019	196,226	708,372	789,755
3 Star	147,354	93,976	109,969	398,097	480,498
2 Star	18,307	10,945	11,073	49,356	53,710
Other collective accommodation ¹	29,140	15,329	18,796	68,541	84,057
Total	548,027	387,867	433,149	1,619,532	1,829,534
Malta					
Hotel	488,328	354,429	394,836	1,468,389	1,658,469
of which:					
5 Star	114,181	94,263	91,301	372,896	398,683
4 Star	221,745	160,202	188,496	674,308	757,653
3 Star	136,374	90,441	104,969	377,954	454,649
Other collective accommodation ¹	25,172	14,411	16,669	64,277	73,284
Total	513,501	368,840	411,505	1,532,666	1,731,753
Gozo and Comino					
Hotel	30,559	18,109	19,517	82,602	87,009
of which:					
5 Star	7,628	5,334	5,783	22,270	22,831
4 Star	9,672	7,817	7,730	34,064	32,102
3 Star	10,980	3,535	5,000	20,143	25,850
Other collective accommodation ¹	3,968	918	2,127	4,264	10,773
Total	34,527	19,027	21,643	86,866	97,781

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Notes:

1. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

2. Monthly tables available in the excel version of this news release:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C3/Tourism_Statistics/Pages/Collective-Accommodation-Establishments.aspx

Table 2. Total nights spent (residents and non-residents) by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q3/2017*	October-December (Q4)		January-December	
		2016	2017	2016	2017
	MALTA				
Hotel	3,011,911	1,892,585	2,048,243	8,473,618	9,049,709
5 Star	585,937	389,971	399,906	1,657,281	1,727,733
4 Star	1,499,783	964,267	1,050,303	4,357,806	4,569,963
3 Star	830,700	474,189	534,859	2,172,843	2,462,726
2 Star	95,492	64,159	63,175	285,688	289,287
Other collective accommodation ¹	182,422	107,699	117,965	497,573	532,077
Total	3,194,334	2,000,284	2,166,208	8,971,191	9,581,785
Malta					
Hotel	2,885,828	1,829,303	1,981,722	8,173,826	8,733,318
<i>of which:</i>					
5 Star	557,302	373,367	382,131	1,580,517	1,647,701
4 Star	1,448,628	934,447	1,019,892	4,220,330	4,432,886
3 Star	790,732	460,402	518,715	2,103,645	2,378,559
Other collective accommodation ¹	168,563	104,999	112,432	484,094	500,524
Total	3,054,391	1,934,303	2,094,154	8,657,919	9,233,843
Gozo and Comino					
Hotel	126,083	63,282	66,521	299,793	316,390
<i>of which:</i>					
5 Star	28,635	16,604	17,775	76,764	80,032
4 Star	51,155	29,820	30,411	137,476	137,077
3 Star	39,968	13,787	16,144	69,199	84,166
Other collective accommodation ¹	13,859	2,699	5,533	13,479	31,552
Total	139,942	65,981	72,054	313,271	347,943

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Notes:

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Table 3. Net use of bed-places by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q3/2017*	October-December (Q4)		January-December	
		2016	2017	2016	2017
	MALTA				
Hotel	83.9	58.4	59.6	65.3	67.4
5 Star	88.8	64.6	62.4	70.1	68.8
4 Star	86.4	63.4	63.0	70.9	71.4
3 Star	78.1	48.6	52.8	55.6	61.4
2 Star	71.6	45.8	55.3	50.4	57.6
Other collective accommodation ¹	58.8	38.5	41.0	45.1	45.7
Total	81.9	56.8	58.2	63.7	65.6
Malta					
Hotel	84.3	59.2	60.2	66.1	68.0
of which:					
5 Star	90.3	66.5	63.9	71.7	70.1
4 Star	86.7	64.1	63.6	71.6	72.0
3 Star	78.2	48.6	52.8	55.7	61.4
Other collective accommodation ¹	60.0	39.9	42.7	46.5	47.1
Total	82.5	57.7	58.9	64.5	66.4
Gozo and Comino					
Hotel	74.3	42.0	46.0	49.1	53.0
of which:					
5 Star	67.4	39.4	41.3	48.4	50.4
4 Star	80.8	47.4	48.1	54.7	55.2
3 Star	77.1	50.0	54.0	52.8	60.8
Other collective accommodation ¹	47.2	15.9	23.0	21.6	30.7
Total	70.3	39.4	42.7	46.5	49.8

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Notes:

1. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

2. Monthly tables available in the excel version of this news release:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C3/Tourism_Statistics/Pages/Collective-Accommodation-Establishments.aspx

Table 4. Establishments with net number of bedrooms and bed-places by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	December					
	Establishments		Bedrooms		Bed-places	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
MALTA						
Hotel	116	115	15,644	16,227	34,150	35,888
5 Star	14	15	3,368	3,512	6,625	6,878
4 Star	39	39	7,011	7,636	15,705	17,324
3 Star	47	49	4,620	4,558	10,385	10,535
2 Star	16	12	645	521	1,435	1,151
Other collective accommodation ¹	45	59	1,040	1,158	3,003	3,159
Total	161	174	16,684	17,385	37,153	39,047
Malta						
Hotel	103	104	14,942	15,571	32,590	34,482
of which:						
5 Star	12	13	3,153	3,292	6,167	6,410
4 Star	35	35	6,689	7,320	15,023	16,640
3 Star	43	46	4,513	4,460	10,155	10,339
Other collective accommodation ¹	38	50	961	1,046	2,826	2,911
Total	141	154	15,903	16,617	35,416	37,393
Gozo and Comino						
Hotel	13	11	702	656	1,560	1,406
of which:						
5 Star	2	2	215	220	458	468
4 Star	4	4	322	316	682	684
3 Star	4	3	107	98	230	196
Other collective accommodation ¹	7	9	79	112	177	248
Total	20	20	781	768	1,737	1,654

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Table 5. Non-resident guests by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q3/2017*	October-December (Q4)	
		2016	2017
MALTA			
Hotel	483,558	328,689	366,912
5 Star	107,795	84,282	82,573
4 Star	218,317	149,855	173,436
3 Star	140,665	84,863	100,739
2 Star	16,780	9,689	10,164
Other collective accommodation ¹	27,594	14,444	17,226
Total	511,152	343,133	384,138
Malta			
Hotel	465,892	319,787	356,758
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	104,343	82,070	80,148
4 Star	211,544	145,432	168,815
3 Star	134,133	83,054	97,967
Other collective accommodation ¹	24,658	13,724	15,951
Total	490,550	333,511	372,709
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	17,666	8,902	10,154
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	3,452	2,212	2,425
4 Star	6,773	4,423	4,621
3 Star	6,532	1,809	2,772
Other collective accommodation ¹	2,936	719	1,275
Total	20,602	9,621	11,429

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 6. Resident guests by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q3/2017*	October-December (Q4)	
		2016	2017
MALTA			
Hotel	35,330	43,848	47,441
5 Star	14,014	15,315	14,511
4 Star	13,100	18,165	22,790
3 Star	6,688	9,113	9,231
2 Star	1,527	1,256	909
Other collective accommodation ¹	1,545	886	1,570
Total	36,875	44,734	49,011
Malta			
Hotel	22,437	34,641	38,078
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	9,838	12,193	11,153
4 Star	10,201	14,771	19,681
3 Star	2,240	7,387	7,003
Other collective accommodation ¹	514	687	718
Total	22,951	35,329	38,797
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	12,893	9,207	9,363
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	4,176	3,122	3,358
4 Star	2,899	3,394	3,109
3 Star	4,448	1,726	2,228
Other collective accommodation ¹	1,031	198	852
Total	13,924	9,405	10,214

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 7. Non-resident nights spent by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q3/2017*	October-December (Q4)	
		2016	2017
MALTA			
Hotel	2,912,030	1,795,931	1,942,875
5 Star	545,326	357,412	366,249
4 Star	1,460,102	923,030	1,001,186
3 Star	814,428	453,681	513,796
2 Star	92,174	61,808	61,644
Other collective accommodation ¹	178,585	106,224	114,711
Total	3,090,615	1,902,155	2,057,586
Malta			
Hotel	2,817,865	1,751,045	1,895,371
of which:			
5 Star	527,420	347,279	355,586
4 Star	1,417,794	900,089	977,280
3 Star	783,815	443,143	501,875
Other collective accommodation ¹	166,892	103,908	110,715
Total	2,984,757	1,854,954	2,006,085
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	94,165	44,886	47,505
of which:			
5 Star	17,906	10,133	10,663
4 Star	42,308	22,941	23,906
3 Star	30,613	10,538	11,921
Other collective accommodation ¹	11,693	2,316	3,997
Total	105,858	47,202	51,501

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 8. Resident nights spent by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q3/2017*	October-December (Q4)	
		2016	2017
MALTA			
Hotel	99,881	96,654	105,368
5 Star	40,611	32,559	33,657
4 Star	39,681	41,237	49,117
3 Star	16,272	20,508	21,063
2 Star	3,318	2,350	1,531
Other collective accommodation ¹	3,837	1,474	3,254
Total	103,719	98,129	108,622
Malta			
Hotel	67,963	78,258	86,351
of which:			
5 Star	29,882	26,088	26,545
4 Star	30,834	34,358	42,612
3 Star	6,917	17,259	16,839
Other collective accommodation ¹	1,671	1,091	1,718
Total	69,634	79,349	88,069
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	31,918	18,396	19,016
of which:			
5 Star	10,729	6,471	7,112
4 Star	8,847	6,879	6,505
3 Star	9,355	3,249	4,223
Other collective accommodation ¹	2,167	384	1,536
Total	34,085	18,780	20,553

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Methodological Notes

1. The objective of the Survey on Collective Accommodation Establishments is to estimate the utilisation rate of bed-places of all active collective accommodation establishments in Malta and Gozo. The variables collected from the survey include:

- Number of residents;
- Number of non-residents;
- Nights spent by residents;
- Nights spent by non-residents;
- Number of room nights sold to foreign residents;
- Number of room nights sold to Maltese residents;
- Number of bedrooms;
- Number of bed-places;
- Number of days the establishment was closed during the month under review.

The collection of the above variables and the calculation of occupancy levels are in line with Regulation (EU) No.

2. The survey is distributed monthly to all collective accommodation establishments, namely hotels, guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages.

3. Response rates:

October 2016	89.3%	October 2017	88.9%
November 2016	89.4%	November 2017	89.3%
December 2016	89.7%	December 2017	88.9%

4. In this release figures for Quarter 3 2017 should be considered as a second estimate while those relating to Quarter 4 2017 are a first estimate, therefore subject to revision in the ensuing release.

5. The Malta Tourism Authority (MTA) licensing department reclassified all collective accommodation establishments registered as apart-hotels to hotels (refer to Legal Notice 351 of 2012).

6. Prior to comparing and interpreting differences between demand-side (based on Tourstat) and supply-side (based on Accomstat) tourism statistics, users are strongly advised to consult concept 8.3 of the NSO's metadata file (<http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=35>).

7. **Definitions:**

- **Bedroom:** a unit formed by one room or group of rooms constituting an indivisible rental whole in an accommodation establishment or dwelling.
- **Bed-place:** in an establishment, this is determined by the number of persons who can stay overnight in the establishment, not taking into account any extra beds that may be provided to clients on request.
- **Residents:** Maltese/Gozitan residents who check into/out of a collective accommodation establishment. A person is considered to be a Maltese/Gozitan resident if:
 - (a) S/he has lived for most of the past 12 months in Malta/Gozo;
 - (b) S/he has lived in Malta/Gozo for less than 12 months but intends to return within a year to settle here.
- **Non-residents:** foreigners who do not necessarily follow the definition of a tourist and check into/out of a collective accommodation establishment.
- **Total guests:** the number of residents and non-residents altogether.
- **Total nights spent:** nights which a guest actually spends or is registered to spend in a collective accommodation establishment.
- **Net use of bed-places:** the net occupancy rate calculated for all active accommodation establishments, net of seasonal closures and other temporary closures. The occupancy of bed-places is calculated by dividing the total nights during the reference period by the number of bed-places and the number of days when the bed-places are actually available for use during the reference period. The result is then multiplied by 100 to express the occupancy rate as a percentage.
- **Average length of stay:** this is calculated as follows:
$$\frac{\text{total number of nights}}{\text{total number of guests}}$$
- **Tourist:** A visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.

8. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Sources and Methods: https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_C3/Tourism_Statistics/Pages/Collective-Accommodation-Establishments.aspx

Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>

Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=35>

Statistical Database: <http://nso.gov.mt/statdb/start>

9. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.

10. A detailed news release calendar is available on

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx