

Total outbound tourists for the third quarter in 2016 were estimated at 151,386, an increase of 6.4 per cent over the corresponding quarter last year.

Outbound Tourism: Q3/2016

July-September

During the third quarter of 2016, the number of outbound tourist trips towards EU countries stood at 137,513, an increase of 8.5 per cent over the same quarter in 2015 (Table 1). Italy and the United Kingdom remained the most popular destinations, with a share of 46.9 per cent of total tourist trips (Table 4).

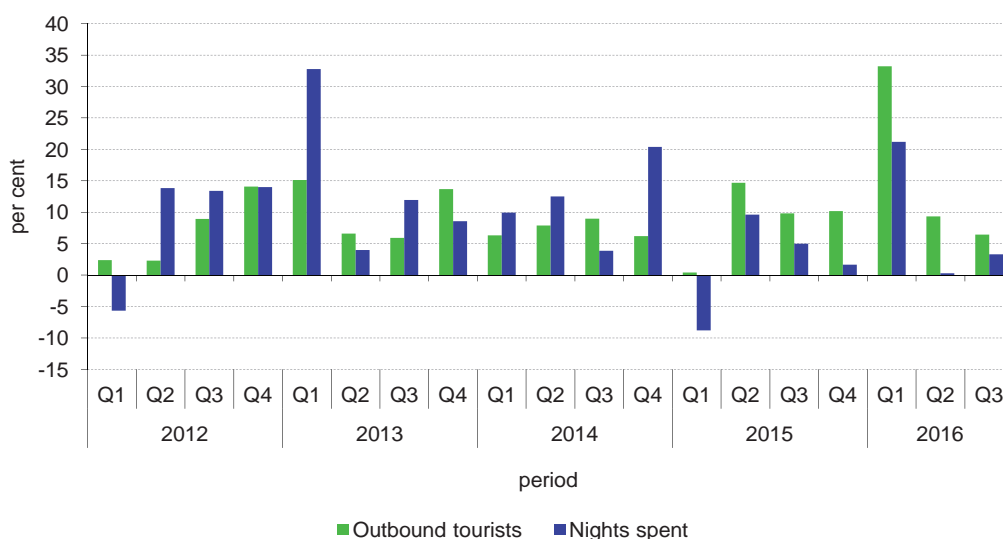
Total nights spent by outbound tourists increased by 3.3 per cent, reaching 1,157,762 nights. In absolute terms, the majority of guest nights were spent in collective accommodation establishments (Table 3).

Total estimated outlay by resident tourists between July and September increased by 4.3 per cent over the same quarter of 2015, and stood at €162.3 million, equivalent to an average €1,072 per trip (Tables 5 and 6).

January-September

Total outbound tourist trips between January and September 2016 numbered 359,181, an increase of 13.9 per cent over 2015 (Table 7). Total nights spent by outbound tourists went up by 6.5 per cent, reaching almost 2.6 million nights (Table 9). In addition, total estimated outlay by resident tourists stood at €342.3 million, 8.4 per cent higher than that recorded for the same period in 2015 (Table 11) ■

Chart 1. Year-on-year percentage changes



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Table 1. Profile of outbound tourists by period of departure

Characteristics	July-September (Q3)			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Outbound tourists	129,495	142,228	151,386	9,159	6.4
Mode of travel:					
Air	120,277	132,907	140,589	7,682	5.8
Sea	9,218	9,321	10,797	1,476	-
Sex:					
Males	68,522	76,701	81,404	4,704	6.1
Females	60,973	65,527	69,982	4,455	6.8
Age group:					
0-24	29,234	29,858	33,188	3,330	11.2
25-44	51,629	57,282	61,739	4,456	7.8
45-64	36,243	41,623	41,203	-421	-
65 or more	12,389	13,464	15,257	1,793	13.3
Destination:					
EU	117,643	126,709	137,513	10,804	8.5
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	82,680	91,681	96,575	4,894	5.3
Non-EU	11,852	15,519	13,873	-1,645	-10.6
Purpose of visit:					
Holiday	89,476	92,424	96,976	4,552	4.9
Visiting relatives and friends	17,601	22,940	24,901	1,961	8.5
Business and professional	13,851	14,688	15,641	953	-
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	8,567	12,176	13,868	1,692	13.9
Organisation of stay:					
Package	45,437	44,320	38,894	-5,426	-12.2
Non-package	84,058	97,908	112,492	14,584	14.9
Duration of visit:					
1-3 nights	23,411	28,459	29,509	1,051	-
4-6 nights	34,332	36,362	42,873	6,511	17.9
7 nights or more	71,752	77,407	79,004	1,597	2.1
Average length of stay (nights)	8.2	7.9	7.6	-0.3	-

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 2. Outbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	July-September (Q3)			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Private accommodation	41,886	48,494	53,444	4,950	10.2
Collective accommodation*	87,609	93,734	97,942	4,208	4.5
Total tourists	129,495	142,228	151,386	9,159	6.4

* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 3. Total nights spent by outbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	July-September (Q3)			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Private accommodation	493,039	541,968	559,184	17,216	3.2
Collective accommodation*	574,174	578,497	598,578	20,080	3.5
Total nights	1,067,213	1,120,466	1,157,762	37,297	3.3

* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 4. Outbound tourists and nights spent by period of departure and destination

Destination	July-September (Q3)			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Tourists					
EU	117,643	126,709	137,513	10,804	8.5
of which:					
France	10,195	9,381	6,420	-2,961	-31.6
Germany	6,751	7,367	10,464	3,096	42.0
Italy	41,045	46,232	48,789	2,558	5.5
United Kingdom	23,223	21,181	22,268	1,087	-
Non-EU	11,852	15,519	13,873	-1,645	-10.6
Total	129,495	142,228	151,386	9,159	6.4
Nights					
EU	891,951	890,233	958,271	68,039	7.6
of which:					
France	75,314	63,244	47,719	-15,525	-24.5
Germany	49,895	56,012	76,445	20,434	36.5
Italy	233,554	273,580	250,941	-22,638	-8.3
United Kingdom	223,531	178,046	195,719	17,673	-
Non-EU	175,261	230,233	199,491	-30,742	-13.4
Total	1,067,213	1,120,466	1,157,762	37,297	3.3

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 5. Total expenditure by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category

€000

Expenditure category	July-September (Q3)			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Package	34,514	36,717	29,825	-6,892	-18.8
Non-package	38,909	42,607	47,465	4,858	11.4
Air/sea fares	20,098	22,007	24,377	2,370	10.8
Accommodation	18,811	20,601	23,088	2,487	12.1
Other expenditure	67,611	76,348	85,000	8,651	11.3
Total expenditure	141,034	155,672	162,289	6,617	4.3

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 6. Average expenditure per capita per night by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category

€

Expenditure category	July-September (Q3)					
	per trip			per night		
	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016
Package	760	828	767	109	116	118
Non-package	463	435	422	52	53	52
Air/sea fares	239	225	217	27	27	27
Accommodation	314	304	298	43	48	46
Other expenditure	522	537	561	63	68	73
Total	1,089	1,095	1,072	132	139	140

Table 7. Profile of outbound tourists by period of departure

Characteristics	January-September			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Outbound tourists	290,026	315,320	359,181	43,861	13.9
Mode of travel:					
Air	270,344	296,667	336,787	40,119	13.5
Sea	19,682	18,653	22,395	3,742	20.1
Sex:					
Males	162,319	177,461	200,798	23,337	13.2
Females	127,707	137,860	158,384	20,524	14.9
Age group:					
0-24	59,617	60,748	68,891	8,143	13.4
25-44	121,553	137,431	159,650	22,219	16.2
45-64	83,945	90,588	99,470	8,882	9.8
65 or more	24,910	26,554	31,170	4,616	17.4
Destination:					
EU	256,862	280,894	322,948	42,054	15.0
<i>of which:</i> Euro area	170,536	191,534	222,946	31,412	16.4
Non-EU	33,164	34,426	36,233	1,807	5.2
Purpose of visit:					
Holiday	169,129	174,406	204,519	30,113	17.3
Visiting relatives and friends	51,865	62,391	71,859	9,468	15.2
Business and professional	48,529	51,233	51,344	111	-
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	20,502	27,289	31,459	4,170	15.3
Organisation of stay:					
Package	72,080	68,762	62,731	-6,032	-8.8
Non-package	217,946	246,558	296,451	49,893	20.2
Duration of visit:					
1-3 nights	73,058	81,606	99,166	17,560	21.5
4-6 nights	83,090	92,869	110,630	17,762	19.1
7 nights or more	133,878	140,845	149,384	8,539	6.1
Average length of stay (nights)	8.1	7.6	7.1	-0.5	-

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 8. Outbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January-September			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Private accommodation	100,275	112,623	133,257	20,634	18.3
Collective accommodation*	189,751	202,697	225,924	23,227	11.5
Total tourists	290,026	315,320	359,181	43,861	13.9

* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 9. Total nights spent by outbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January-September			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Private accommodation	1,200,247	1,261,936	1,311,036	49,101	3.9
Collective accommodation*	1,138,916	1,142,687	1,248,757	106,070	9.3
Total nights	2,339,163	2,404,623	2,559,794	155,171	6.5

* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 10. Outbound tourists and nights spent by destination

Destination	January-September			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Total tourists	290,026	315,320	359,181	43,861	13.9
Austria	3,629	5,099	7,008	1,909	37.4
Belgium	7,085	7,833	7,044	-788	-
France	16,487	16,581	13,397	-3,184	-19.2
Germany	16,225	16,497	22,511	6,014	36.5
Ireland	2,035	3,759	4,416	656	-
Italy	92,504	100,542	121,497	20,955	20.8
Libya	3,757	838 ^u	981 ^u	143	-
Netherlands	8,008	10,522	11,705	1,183	-
Russia	1,580	1,535	1,393 ^u	-142	-
Scandinavia*	5,897	7,546	7,671	126	-
Spain	13,681	14,569	16,620	2,051	14.1
Switzerland	3,700	6,191	6,074	-118	-
United Kingdom	64,442	64,104	65,801	1,697	2.6
USA	3,113	3,180	3,393	213	-
Other	47,882	56,523	69,671	13,147	23.3
Total nights	2,339,163	2,404,623	2,559,794	155,171	6.5
Austria	25,195	35,828	46,529	10,702	29.9
Belgium	39,783	40,274	33,866	-6,408	-
France	111,303	104,246	89,200	-15,047	-14.4
Germany	123,904	118,075	150,528	32,453	27.5
Ireland	23,519	26,622	35,025	8,402	-
Italy	513,639	552,157	571,411	19,254	3.5
Libya	46,978	12,302 ^u	18,624 ^u	6,323	-
Netherlands	58,721	69,750	75,799	6,049	-
Russia	26,124	22,116	19,612 ^u	-2,504	-
Scandinavia*	61,592	84,179	60,411	-23,768	-
Spain	101,316	103,561	120,571	17,010	16.4
Switzerland	24,605	45,724	39,519	-6,204	-
United Kingdom	532,083	492,980	495,233	2,254	0.5
USA	52,529	52,544	51,221	-1,322	-
Other	597,871	644,265	752,242	107,976	16.8

* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

^u under-represented due to small sample size. Please note that these data must be interpreted with caution.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 11. Total expenditure by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category

€000

Expenditure category	January-September			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Package	48,955	50,824	43,901	-6,922	-13.6
Non-package	92,215	101,150	111,877	10,727	10.6
Air/sea fares	49,425	52,832	56,490	3,658	6.9
Accommodation	42,790	48,319	55,387	7,068	14.6
Other expenditure	147,720	163,892	186,548	22,656	13.8
Total expenditure	288,889	315,866	342,326	26,460	8.4

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 12. Average expenditure per capita per night by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category

€

Expenditure category	January-September					
	per trip			per night		
	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016
Package	679	739	700	106	112	114
Non-package	423	410	377	49	52	51
Air/sea fares	227	214	191	26	27	26
Accommodation	288	290	269	44	47	45
Other expenditure	509	520	519	63	68	73
Total	996	1,002	953	124	131	134

Methodological Notes

1. The results in this release are based on the ongoing frontier survey known as Tourstat. Tourist air departures are collected through a continuous survey carried out at the departure lounge of Malta International Airport (MIA). Personal interviews are carried out. A two-stage sampling design is used to survey air passengers. In the first stage alternate days are selected. Then within each shift a sample of passengers is selected systematically.
2. Tourist sea departures are collected through a regular survey, conducted during three separate months every year at the Valletta Cruise Port. A quota sample is used to conduct sea passenger departures in which survey interviewers are guided to select people according to some fixed quota. Survey data is supplemented by administrative data provided by ferry operators.
3. This release focuses on Outbound Tourism, which comprises the activities of residents of Malta travelling to, and staying in places outside Malta and therefore outside their usual environment.
4. The Tourstat survey measures the number of tourist trips carried out during a particular reference month. These differ from the number of tourists as the same person can embark on more than one trip during the same period.
5. Under-represented figures are indicated where applicable for each table and should be treated with caution. Users should also exercise discretion when analysing figures that involve estimates below 1,500 tourists. Such estimates may be subject to variations attributable to low frequency in the sample (sampling errors). Other limitations may involve non-sampling errors, namely those linked to respondents' willingness to provide proper information and others related to language barriers.
6. Percentage changes for tourists based on counts of less than 1,500 are not presented due to sampling errors.
7. Expenditure data in this release represent the budgeted expenditure of outbound tourists prior to their departure.

8. Definitions:

- **Traveller:** Someone who moves between different geographic locations, for any purpose and any duration.
- **Visitor:** The three fundamental criteria used to distinguish visitors from travellers are:
 - a. **The trip should be to a place other than that of the usual environment**, which would exclude short-distance local transport and commuting, i.e. regular trips between the place of work/study and the place of residence;
 - b. **The stay in the place visited should not last more than twelve consecutive months**, beyond which the visitor would become a resident of that place (from the statistical standpoint);
 - c. **The main purpose of the visit should exclude the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited**, which would exclude migratory movements for work purposes.

Visitors (domestic/international) comprise tourists and same-day visitors.

- **Tourist:** Visitors who stay at least one night in a collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
 - **Same-day visitor:** Visitors who do not spend the night in a collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
9. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

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

Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=39>

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