

Total guests and nights spent in collective accommodation establishments during March 2017 advanced by 13.7 and 3.0 per cent respectively when compared to the corresponding month in 2016.

Collective Accommodation Establishments: March 2017

In March, total guests in collective accommodation establishments numbered 141,223, while total nights spent amounted to 658,791. The increases in total nights spent resulted from 5-star and 3-star hotels. The largest share of guest nights was reported in 4-star hotels, accounting for 324,682 nights, or 49.3 per cent of the total (Tables 1 and 2).

The average length of stay in collective accommodation establishments went down to 4.7 nights in March 2017 from 5.2 nights in the same month of 2016. The net use of bed-places stood at 55.5 per cent, down by 0.5 percentage points when compared to the corresponding month last year (Table 3).

On a national level, there were 166 active collective accommodation establishments during March 2017, with a net capacity of 17,163 bedrooms and 38,573 bed-places (Table 4).

Regional breakdown

Total guests in Malta numbered 134,646, up by 14.7 per cent over March 2016. Additionally, an increase of 3.3 per cent was recorded in the number of nights spent. Total guests and nights spent in Gozo and Comino decreased by 3.5 per cent and 7.2 per cent when compared to the comparative month last year, to 6,577 and 18,924 respectively (Tables 1 and 2).

In Malta, the average length of stay went down by 0.5 of a night to 4.8, and that in Gozo and Comino edged down by 0.1 of a night to 2.9, when compared with the same month last year. The net occupancy rate in Malta declined by 0.3 percentage points, reaching 56.5 per cent, and that in Gozo and Comino dropped by 4.4 percentage points to 34.5 per cent over the same month of 2016 (Table 3).

January-March

Total guests in the first three months of 2017 amounted to 341,159, an increase of 16.1 per cent over the same period in 2016 (Table 5). Total nights spent went up by 6.3 per cent, surpassing 1.6 million (Table 8). The net use of bed-places advanced by 2.4 percentage points to 49.6 per cent (Table 11) ■

Total guests and nights spent

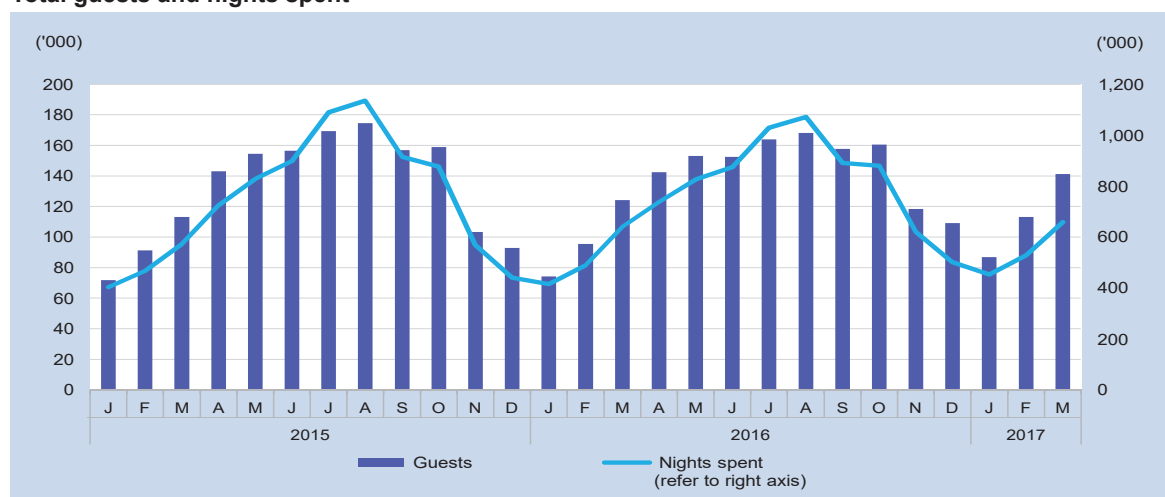


Table 1. Total guests (residents and non-residents) by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	February*		March	
	2017		2016	2017
	MALTA			
Hotel	109,120	119,802	136,192	
5 Star	28,446	27,096	34,616	
4 Star	50,123	61,062	63,438	
3 Star	27,731	28,297	34,673	
2 Star	2,820	3,346	3,465	
Other collective accommodation ¹	3,949	4,367	5,031	
Total	113,069	124,168	141,223	
	Malta			
Hotel	104,402	113,203	130,165	
<i>of which:</i>				
5 Star	26,898	25,161	33,035	
4 Star	48,123	57,878	60,338	
3 Star	27,010	27,194	33,780	
Other collective accommodation ¹	3,411	4,147	4,481	
Total	107,813	117,350	134,646	
	Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	4,718	6,598	6,027	
<i>of which:</i>				
5 Star	1,548	1,935	1,581	
4 Star	2,000	3,184	3,100	
3 Star	721	1,103	893	
Other collective accommodation ¹	538	220	550	
Total	5,256	6,818	6,577	

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 2. Total nights spent by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	February*		March	
	2017		2016	2017
	MALTA			
Hotel	498,853	602,690	624,609	
5 Star	88,487	103,267	111,897	
4 Star	265,830	331,887	324,682	
3 Star	128,441	148,100	168,606	
2 Star	16,095	19,436	19,424	
Other collective accommodation ¹	29,387	36,999	34,182	
Total	528,240	639,689	658,791	
	Malta			
Hotel	487,520	582,869	606,762	
<i>of which:</i>				
5 Star	84,907	97,248	106,764	
4 Star	260,300	321,985	314,914	
3 Star	127,102	145,231	166,549	
Other collective accommodation ¹	28,440	36,419	33,105	
Total	515,960	619,288	639,867	
	Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	11,333	19,821	17,847	
<i>of which:</i>				
5 Star	3,580	6,019	5,133	
4 Star	5,530	9,902	9,768	
3 Star	1,339	2,870	2,057	
Other collective accommodation ¹	947	580	1,077	
Total	12,280	20,401	18,924	

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

Type of accommodation	February*	March		
	2017	2016	2017	
	MALTA			
Hotel	53.8	57.2	57.2	
5 Star	48.2	58.3	54.6	
4 Star	60.4	64.0	62.7	
3 Star	48.3	47.0	51.6	
2 Star	42.3	45.3	45.7	
Other collective accommodation ¹	35.1	41.4	35.7	
Total	52.2	56.0	55.5	
Type of accommodation	Malta			
	Hotel	55.0	58.0	58.1
	<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	49.3	59.7	56.0	
4 Star	61.9	64.7	63.5	
3 Star	48.7	47.2	51.8	
Other collective accommodation ¹	36.8	42.9	37.9	
Total	53.5	56.8	56.5	
Type of accommodation	Gozo and Comino			
	Hotel	27.6	41.3	38.4
	<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	31.8	42.6	36.2	
4 Star	28.7	46.4	45.8	
3 Star	26.0	40.2	40.9	
Other collective accommodation ¹	15.0	13.0	12.9	
Total	26.0	38.9	34.5	

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

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

Type of accommodation	March						
	Establishments		Bedrooms		Bed-places		
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	
MALTA							
Hotel	117	117	15,767	16,058	34,795	35,424	
5 Star	13	14	2,928	3,371	5,712	6,606	
4 Star	43	42	7,575	7,560	16,792	16,846	
3 Star	47	47	4,633	4,518	10,896	10,602	
2 Star	14	14	631	609	1,395	1,370	
Other collective accommodation ¹	41	49	1,160	1,105	2,919	3,149	
Total	158	166	16,927	17,163	37,714	38,573	
Type of accommodation	Malta						
	Hotel	104	105	15,054	15,376	33,237	33,904
	<i>of which:</i>						
5 Star	11	12	2,713	3,156	5,256	6,148	
4 Star	39	38	7,253	7,238	16,104	16,158	
3 Star	43	44	4,526	4,431	10,666	10,418	
Other collective accommodation ¹	34	39	1,090	970	2,764	2,857	
Total	138	144	16,144	16,346	36,001	36,761	
Type of accommodation	Gozo and Comino						
	Hotel	13	12	713	682	1,558	1,520
	<i>of which:</i>						
5 Star	2	2	215	215	456	458	
4 Star	4	4	322	322	688	688	
3 Star	4	3	107	87	230	184	
Other collective accommodation ¹	7	10	70	135	155	292	
Total	20	22	783	817	1,713	1,812	

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Table 5. Total guests (residents and non-residents) by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q4/2016*	January-March (Q1)	
		2016	2017
MALTA			
Hotel	372,538	284,400	328,915
5 Star	99,597	71,249	85,015
4 Star	168,019	139,429	150,458
3 Star	93,976	65,730	84,604
2 Star	10,945	7,992	8,838
Other collective accommodation ¹	15,329	9,476	12,244
Total	387,867	293,876	341,159
Malta			
Hotel	354,429	269,973	315,410
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	94,263	67,886	81,252
4 Star	160,202	131,992	144,155
3 Star	90,441	63,142	82,417
Other collective accommodation ¹	14,411	9,105	10,682
Total	368,840	279,078	326,093
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	18,109	14,427	13,505
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	5,334	3,363	3,763
4 Star	7,817	7,437	6,303
3 Star	3,535	2,587	2,187
Other collective accommodation ¹	918	371	1,561
Total	19,027	14,798	15,066

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 6. Non-resident guests by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q4/2016*	January-March (Q1)	
		2016	2017
MALTA			
Hotel	328,689	241,891	281,777
5 Star	84,282	57,714	70,818
4 Star	149,855	116,234	127,085
3 Star	84,863	60,528	76,203
2 Star	9,689	7,415	7,671
Other collective accommodation ¹	14,444	8,797	10,715
Total	343,133	250,689	292,493
Malta			
Hotel	319,787	236,681	277,171
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	82,070	56,602	69,521
4 Star	145,432	113,506	124,779
3 Star	83,054	59,667	75,412
Other collective accommodation ¹	13,724	8,558	10,029
Total	333,511	245,239	287,200
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	8,902	5,210	4,606
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	2,212	1,112	1,297
4 Star	4,423	2,728	2,306
3 Star	1,809	861	791
Other collective accommodation ¹	719	239	686
Total	9,621	5,449	5,292

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 7. Resident guests by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q4/2016*	January-March (Q1)	
		2016	2017
MALTA			
Hotel	43,848	42,508	47,138
5 Star	15,315	13,535	14,197
4 Star	18,165	23,195	23,373
3 Star	9,113	5,202	8,401
2 Star	1,256	577	1,167
Other collective accommodation ¹	886	679	1,528
Total	44,734	43,187	48,666
Malta			
Hotel	34,641	33,292	38,239
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	12,193	11,284	11,731
4 Star	14,771	18,486	19,376
3 Star	7,387	3,475	7,005
Other collective accommodation ¹	687	547	653
Total	35,329	33,838	38,892
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	9,207	9,216	8,899
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	3,122	2,251	2,466
4 Star	3,394	4,709	3,997
3 Star	1,726	1,727	1,396
Other collective accommodation ¹	198	132	875
Total	9,405	9,348	9,774

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

Type of accommodation	Q4/2016*	January-March (Q1)	
		2016	2017
MALTA			
Hotel	1,892,585	1,453,746	1,548,572
5 Star	389,971	261,615	279,095
4 Star	964,267	791,650	808,872
3 Star	474,189	348,504	409,754
2 Star	64,159	51,977	50,851
Other collective accommodation ¹	107,699	89,071	90,883
Total	2,000,284	1,542,816	1,639,455
Malta			
Hotel	1,829,303	1,414,487	1,511,517
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	373,367	251,891	268,200
4 Star	934,447	770,490	789,468
3 Star	460,402	342,842	405,337
Other collective accommodation ¹	104,999	88,136	88,008
Total	1,934,303	1,502,623	1,599,524
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	63,282	39,259	37,055
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	16,604	9,724	10,895
4 Star	29,820	21,160	19,404
3 Star	13,787	5,662	4,417
Other collective accommodation ¹	2,699	935	2,876
Total	65,981	40,194	39,931

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 9. Non-resident nights spent by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q4/2016*	January-March (Q1)	
		2016	2017
MALTA			
Hotel	1,795,931	1,363,624	1,449,299
5 Star	357,412	233,884	251,158
4 Star	923,030	742,964	759,621
3 Star	453,681	336,344	389,764
2 Star	61,808	50,431	48,756
Other collective accommodation ¹	106,224	87,918	88,279
Total	1,902,155	1,451,542	1,537,578
Malta			
Hotel	1,751,045	1,341,160	1,429,844
of which:			
5 Star	347,279	228,434	245,810
4 Star	900,089	730,004	748,016
3 Star	443,143	333,538	387,712
Other collective accommodation ¹	103,908	87,232	86,826
Total	1,854,954	1,428,392	1,516,670
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	44,886	22,464	19,455
of which:			
5 Star	10,133	5,450	5,348
4 Star	22,941	12,960	11,605
3 Star	10,538	2,806	2,052
Other collective accommodation ¹	2,316	686	1,453
Total	47,202	23,150	20,908

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 10. Resident nights spent by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q4/2016*	January-March (Q1)	
		2016	2017
MALTA			
Hotel	96,654	90,122	99,273
5 Star	32,559	27,731	27,937
4 Star	41,237	48,685	49,251
3 Star	20,508	12,159	19,990
2 Star	2,350	1,546	2,095
Other collective accommodation ¹	1,474	1,152	2,604
Total	98,129	91,274	101,877
Malta			
Hotel	78,258	73,327	81,673
of which:			
5 Star	26,088	23,457	22,390
4 Star	34,358	40,485	41,452
3 Star	17,259	9,304	17,625
Other collective accommodation ¹	1,091	903	1,181
Total	79,349	74,231	82,854
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	18,396	16,795	17,600
of which:			
5 Star	6,471	4,274	5,547
4 Star	6,879	8,200	7,799
3 Star	3,249	2,856	2,365
Other collective accommodation ¹	384	249	1,423
Total	18,780	17,044	19,023

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 11. Net use of bed-places by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q4/2016*	January-March (Q1)	
		2016	2017
MALTA			
Hotel	58.4	48.3	51.1
5 Star	64.6	48.3	47.7
4 Star	63.4	54.8	56.5
3 Star	48.6	38.8	45.8
2 Star	45.8	41.4	41.5
Other collective accommodation ¹	38.5	34.6	33.4
Total	56.8	47.2	49.6
Malta			
Hotel	59.2	49.1	52.0
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	66.5	49.6	48.5
4 Star	64.1	55.8	57.7
3 Star	48.6	38.9	46.1
Other collective accommodation ¹	39.9	35.8	35.2
Total	57.7	48.1	50.7
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	42.0	30.5	29.5
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	39.4	29.5	34.6
4 Star	47.4	33.8	31.3
3 Star	50.0	31.2	29.3
Other collective accommodation ¹	15.9	8.3	13.4
Total	39.4	28.7	27.2

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

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. 692/2011.

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

March 2016	91.7%
February 2017	89.1%
March 2017	87.8%
4. In this release figures for February 2017 should be considered as a second estimate while those relating to March 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:
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. Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.
10. The advanced news release calendar may be accessed at www.nso.gov.mt.