

Total inbound visitors for September were estimated at 279,010, an increase of 15.6 per cent when compared to the corresponding month in 2017.

## Inbound Tourism: September 2018

A total of 239,377 inbound tourist trips were carried out for holiday purposes, while a further 21,416 were undertaken for business purposes. Inbound tourists from EU Member States went up by 11.9 per cent to 224,405 when compared to the corresponding month in 2017. Most inbound tourists were aged between 25 and 44 (39.5 per cent), followed by those within the 45-64 age bracket (33.0 per cent) (Table 1).

Total nights spent went up by 10.2 per cent when compared to September 2017, surpassing 2.0 million nights. The largest share of guest nights (48.4 per cent) was spent in collective accommodation establishments (Table 3).

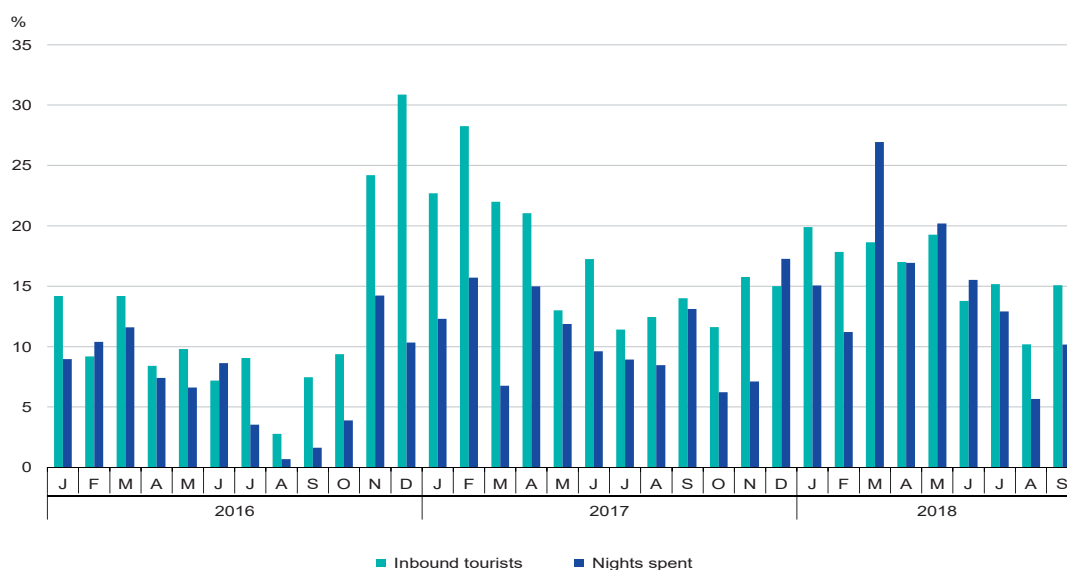
Total tourist expenditure was estimated at €242.7 million, an increase of 4.8 per cent over the corresponding month in 2017 (Table 4).

### January-September 2018

Inbound tourist trips for the first nine months of 2018 reached 2,036,841, an increase of 15.6 per cent over the same period in 2017 (Table 6). Total nights spent by inbound tourists went up by 13.5 per cent, surpassing 14.8 million nights (Table 8).

Total tourism expenditure was estimated at nearly €1.7 billion, 9.3 per cent higher than that recorded for 2017 (Table 9). Total expenditure per capita stood at €827, a decrease of 5.4 per cent when compared to 2017 (Table 11) ■

**Chart1. Inbound tourism: year-on-year percentage changes**  
(excluding overnight cruise passengers)



**Table 1. Profile of inbound tourists by month of departure**

Characteristics	September			Change	Percentage change
	2016	2017	2018	2018/2017	
<b>Total inbound visitors</b>	<b>208,321</b>	<b>241,378</b>	<b>279,010</b>	<b>37,632</b>	<b>15.6</b>
Overnight cruise passengers	1,401	5,497	7,571	2,074	37.7
<b>Inbound tourists</b>	<b>206,920</b>	<b>235,881</b>	<b>271,439</b>	<b>35,558</b>	<b>15.1</b>
<b>Mode of travel</b>					
Air	201,594	229,801	266,119	36,319	15.8
Sea	5,326	6,080	5,320	-	-
<b>Sex</b>					
Males	108,900	118,157	143,803	25,646	21.7
Females	98,020	117,724	127,636	9,912	8.4
<b>Age group</b>					
0-24	38,118	38,372	43,321	4,950	12.9
25-44	74,340	91,764	107,233	15,470	16.9
45-64	66,548	77,331	89,536	12,205	15.8
65 or more	27,914	28,414	31,348	2,934	10.3
<b>Markets</b>					
EU	175,793	200,509	224,405	23,896	11.9
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	86,493	109,094	123,295	14,202	13.0
Non-EU	31,128	35,371	47,033	11,662	33.0
<b>Purpose of visit</b>					
Holiday	180,734	208,759	239,377	30,618	14.7
Business and professional	11,509	13,419	21,416	7,996	59.6
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	14,677	13,702	10,646	-3,056	-22.3
<b>Organisation of stay</b>					
Package	78,519	82,148	86,152	4,004	4.9
Non-package	128,401	153,732	185,287	31,554	20.5
<b>Frequency</b>					
First-time tourists	146,647	173,322	200,202	26,880	15.5
Repeat tourists	60,273	62,559	71,237	8,678	13.9
once a year or less	44,091	47,230	53,950	6,720	14.2
more than once a year	16,182	15,328	17,287	1,959	12.8
<b>Duration of visit</b>					
1-3 nights	30,843	34,787	50,292	15,506	44.6
4-6 nights	50,246	57,583	71,975	14,391	25.0
7 nights or more	125,832	143,511	149,172	5,661	3.9
<b>Average length of stay (nights)</b>	7.9	7.8	7.5	-0.3	-

Notes:

1. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
2. Changes denoted by the dash symbol (-) should be treated with caution. For more information, please refer to methodological note 5.

**Table 2. Inbound tourists by month of departure and type of accommodation**

Type of accommodation	September			Change	Percentage change
	2016	2017	2018		
Rented accommodation	183,133	206,996	236,365	29,368	14.2
Collective	135,935	148,675	159,869	11,194	7.5
Other rented	47,198	58,321	76,496	18,175	31.2
Non-rented accommodation	23,788	28,885	35,074	6,190	21.4
<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>206,920</b>	<b>235,881</b>	<b>271,439</b>	<b>35,558</b>	<b>15.1</b>

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Table 3. Total nights spent by inbound tourists by month of departure and type of accommodation**

Type of accommodation	September			Change	Percentage change
	2016	2017	2018		
Rented accommodation	1,356,573	1,505,543	1,658,057	152,513	10.1
Collective	915,053	958,184	985,245	27,061	2.8
Other rented	441,520	547,359	672,811	125,452	22.9
Non-rented accommodation	277,582	343,055	378,518	35,464	10.3
<b>Total nights</b>	<b>1,634,155</b>	<b>1,848,598</b>	<b>2,036,575</b>	<b>187,977</b>	<b>10.2</b>

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Table 4. Total expenditure by inbound tourists by month of departure and expenditure category**

Expenditure category	September			Change	Percentage change
	2016	2017	2018		
Package	57,718	63,715	66,082	2,367	3.7
Non-package	62,937	76,265	84,717	8,451	11.1
Air/sea fares	30,240	33,576	40,548	6,972	20.8
Accommodation	32,697	42,689	44,169	1,479	3.5
Other expenditure	77,778	91,631	91,931	299	0.3
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>198,432</b>	<b>231,611</b>	<b>242,729</b>	<b>11,118</b>	<b>4.8</b>

€ 000

Notes:

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

**Table 5. Inbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by month of departure and country of residence**

Country of residence		September			Change	Percentage change
		2016	2017	2018	2018/2017	
Tourists	<b>EU</b>	<b>175,793</b>	<b>200,509</b>	<b>224,405</b>	<b>23,896</b>	<b>11.9</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	13,489	16,529	21,580	5,051	30.6
	Germany	14,298	19,201	20,454	-	-
	Italy	32,047	34,488	36,304	1,817	5.3
	United Kingdom	64,071	59,498	70,451	10,952	18.4
	<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>31,128</b>	<b>35,371</b>	<b>47,033</b>	<b>11,662</b>	<b>33.0</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>206,920</b>	<b>235,881</b>	<b>271,439</b>	<b>35,558</b>	<b>15.1</b>
Nights	<b>EU</b>	<b>1,340,861</b>	<b>1,510,751</b>	<b>1,612,282</b>	<b>101,530</b>	<b>6.7</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	93,564	127,219	145,868	18,649	14.7
	Germany	130,642	153,307	162,089	-	-
	Italy	204,759	233,633	234,114	482	0.2
	United Kingdom	529,527	475,312	526,646	51,335	10.8
	<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>293,294</b>	<b>337,846</b>	<b>424,293</b>	<b>86,447</b>	<b>25.6</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,634,155</b>	<b>1,848,598</b>	<b>2,036,575</b>	<b>187,977</b>	<b>10.2</b>
Expenditure (€000)	<b>EU</b>	<b>157,428</b>	<b>184,721</b>	<b>185,935</b>	<b>1,214</b>	<b>0.7</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	11,638	15,534	16,994	1,460	9.4
	Germany	14,068	18,822	19,276	-	-
	Italy	21,243	24,460	22,626	-1,834	-7.5
	United Kingdom	65,151	60,279	66,823	6,544	10.9
	<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>41,004</b>	<b>46,891</b>	<b>56,794</b>	<b>9,903</b>	<b>21.1</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>198,432</b>	<b>231,611</b>	<b>242,729</b>	<b>11,118</b>	<b>4.8</b>

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
3. Changes denoted by the dash symbol (-) should be treated with caution. For more information, please refer to methodological note 5.

**Table 6. Profile of inbound tourists by period of departure**

Characteristics	January-September			Change	Percentage change
	2016	2017	2018	2018/2017	
<b>Total inbound visitors</b>	<b>1,529,857</b>	<b>1,790,963</b>	<b>2,063,457</b>	<b>272,494</b>	<b>15.2</b>
Overnight cruise passengers	14,418	28,990	26,616	-2,374	-8.2
<b>Inbound tourists</b>	<b>1,515,439</b>	<b>1,761,973</b>	<b>2,036,841</b>	<b>274,868</b>	<b>15.6</b>
<b>Mode of travel</b>					
Air	1,477,773	1,724,771	2,000,510	275,740	16.0
Sea	37,666	37,202	36,331	-	-
<b>Sex</b>					
Males	767,241	904,129	1,019,013	114,884	12.7
Females	748,199	857,844	1,017,828	159,984	18.6
<b>Age group</b>					
0-24	322,784	367,446	406,270	38,824	10.6
25-44	533,568	676,001	780,032	104,031	15.4
45-64	469,611	533,944	625,550	91,606	17.2
65 or more	189,477	184,580	224,988	40,408	21.9
<b>Markets</b>					
EU	1,301,815	1,516,468	1,727,072	210,604	13.9
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	690,753	871,160	994,894	123,735	14.2
Non-EU	213,625	245,504	309,769	64,265	26.2
<b>Purpose of visit</b>					
Holiday	1,306,837	1,493,208	1,803,961	310,753	20.8
Business and professional	96,871	137,783	130,980	-6,804	-4.9
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	111,732	130,982	101,901	-29,081	-22.2
<b>Organisation of stay</b>					
Package	593,933	602,664	704,220	101,556	16.9
Non-package	921,506	1,159,309	1,332,621	173,312	14.9
<b>Frequency</b>					
First-time tourists	1,074,383	1,288,312	1,523,122	234,810	18.2
Repeat tourists	441,057	473,660	513,719	40,058	8.5
once a year or less	320,933	343,500	381,591	38,092	11.1
more than once a year	120,124	130,160	132,127	1,967	1.5
<b>Duration of visit</b>					
1-3 nights	251,724	335,013	389,438	54,425	16.2
4-6 nights	380,111	473,912	578,833	104,921	22.1
7 nights or more	883,605	953,047	1,068,570	115,522	12.1
<b>Average length of stay (nights)</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-</b>

Notes:

1. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
2. Changes denoted by the dash symbol (-) should be treated with caution. For more information, please refer to methodological note 5.

**Table 7. Inbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation**

Type of accommodation	January-September			Change	Percentage change
	2016	2017	2018		
Rented accommodation	1,336,909	1,553,396	1,784,287	230,891	14.9
Collective	1,039,683	1,163,387	1,289,381	125,994	10.8
Other rented	297,226	390,009	494,905	104,897	26.9
Non-rented accommodation	178,531	208,577	252,554	43,977	21.1
<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>1,515,439</b>	<b>1,761,973</b>	<b>2,036,841</b>	<b>274,868</b>	<b>15.6</b>

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Table 8. Total nights spent by inbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation**

Type of accommodation	January-September			Change	Percentage change
	2016	2017	2018		
Rented accommodation	9,957,607	10,998,824	12,407,163	1,408,339	12.8
Collective	6,952,748	7,304,952	8,006,056	701,104	9.6
Other rented	3,004,859	3,693,872	4,401,107	707,235	19.1
Non-rented accommodation	1,827,230	2,053,065	2,411,889	358,824	17.5
<b>Total nights</b>	<b>11,784,837</b>	<b>13,051,888</b>	<b>14,819,052</b>	<b>1,767,163</b>	<b>13.5</b>

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Table 9. Inbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by period of departure and country of residence**

Country of residence	January-September			Change	Percentage change	
	2016	2017	2018	2018/2017		
<b>Tourists</b>	Australia	27,457	30,116	38,344	8,228	27.3
	Austria	19,647	24,010	31,661	7,652	31.9
	Belgium	29,389	60,156	54,525	-5,631	-9.4
	France	114,302	141,608	174,683	33,075	23.4
	Germany	111,774	138,604	170,026	31,422	22.7
	Hungary	17,288	21,375	22,629	-	-
	Ireland	25,526	27,402	32,880	5,477	20.0
	Italy	247,950	293,384	315,054	21,670	7.4
	Netherlands	40,575	50,348	45,337	-5,011	-10.0
	Poland	53,827	66,817	74,614	7,797	11.7
	Scandinavia*	94,672	102,088	100,144	-1,944	-1.9
	Spain	43,698	63,388	75,464	12,076	19.1
	Switzerland	29,563	33,168	35,784	2,616	7.9
	United Kingdom	435,115	428,611	499,523	70,912	16.5
	USA	21,287	27,449	35,475	8,026	29.2
	Other	203,367	253,449	330,698	77,249	30.5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,515,439</b>	<b>1,761,973</b>	<b>2,036,841</b>	<b>274,868</b>	<b>15.6</b>
<b>Nights</b>	Australia	323,454	363,298	411,928	48,630	13.4
	Austria	139,910	163,526	217,894	54,368	33.2
	Belgium	201,117	368,859	350,174	-18,685	-5.1
	France	917,714	1,160,573	1,401,326	240,752	20.7
	Germany	903,778	1,037,209	1,268,497	231,289	22.3
	Hungary	130,171	141,618	138,733	-	-
	Ireland	195,441	198,195	249,550	51,356	25.9
	Italy	1,580,692	1,796,261	1,953,576	157,315	8.8
	Netherlands	315,180	371,519	340,854	-30,666	-8.3
	Poland	398,821	460,729	507,147	46,418	10.1
	Scandinavia*	684,941	731,953	726,616	-5,336	-0.7
	Spain	317,210	427,931	495,031	67,100	15.7
	Switzerland	220,631	235,855	255,348	19,493	8.3
	United Kingdom	3,539,006	3,309,430	3,635,626	326,196	9.9
	USA	163,780	191,559	224,281	32,722	17.1
	Other	1,752,989	2,093,373	2,642,472	549,098	26.2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>11,784,837</b>	<b>13,051,888</b>	<b>14,819,052</b>	<b>1,767,163</b>	<b>13.5</b>
<b>Expenditure (€000)</b>	Australia	42,838	45,964	61,045	15,081	32.8
	Austria	17,747	23,256	25,943	2,687	11.6
	Belgium	27,625	47,656	42,335	-5,322	-11.2
	France	102,898	126,270	143,287	17,017	13.5
	Germany	100,174	121,240	144,687	23,447	19.3
	Hungary	12,291	16,326	13,401	-	-
	Ireland	24,373	25,004	29,285	4,281	17.1
	Italy	159,430	188,106	193,969	5,864	3.1
	Netherlands	36,223	44,257	38,377	-5,881	-13.3
	Poland	38,800	48,654	47,820	-834	-1.7
	Scandinavia*	90,350	101,376	92,662	-8,713	-8.6
	Spain	36,736	50,578	51,881	1,303	2.6
	Switzerland	35,195	37,767	37,708	-59	-0.2
	United Kingdom	388,174	368,885	414,866	45,981	12.5
	USA	25,611	31,645	42,189	10,545	33.3
	Other	216,879	263,205	304,724	41,519	15.8
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,355,342</b>	<b>1,540,189</b>	<b>1,684,180</b>	<b>143,991</b>	<b>9.3</b>

\* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
3. Changes denoted by the dash symbol (-) should be treated with caution. For more information, please refer to methodological note 5.

**Table 10. Total expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence**

€ 000

Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
	January-September 2018				
Australia	6,740	21,053	9,739	23,512	61,045
Austria	9,876	3,468	4,151	8,448	25,943
Belgium	13,517	5,341	8,692	14,786	42,335
France	46,996	20,679	28,526	47,087	143,287
Germany	61,661	16,620	22,841	43,565	144,687
Hungary	2,530	2,607	2,892	5,372	13,401
Ireland	5,726	4,954	6,682	11,923	29,285
Italy	44,653	26,066	40,511	82,740	193,969
Netherlands	11,897	4,747	6,450	15,282	38,377
Poland	8,956	7,617	11,904	19,343	47,820
Scandinavia*	29,656	14,717	15,458	32,832	92,662
Spain	10,795	7,741	12,477	20,867	51,881
Switzerland	11,075	5,620	7,335	13,678	37,708
United Kingdom	153,481	50,001	62,813	148,571	414,866
USA	6,884	14,513	8,366	12,427	42,189
Other	67,904	63,791	58,601	114,428	304,724
<b>Total</b>	<b>492,346</b>	<b>269,537</b>	<b>307,437</b>	<b>614,859</b>	<b>1,684,180</b>
	<b>January-September 2017</b>				
Australia	2,686 <sup>u</sup>	15,507	7,248	20,523	45,964
Austria	7,906	2,970	4,085	8,296	23,256
Belgium	13,585	6,711	10,488	16,873	47,656
France	40,187	16,356	24,233	45,495	126,270
Germany	45,160	13,939	20,591	41,550	121,240
Hungary	2,420	2,731	3,585	7,590	16,326
Ireland	4,734	3,953	5,486	10,831	25,004
Italy	42,807	24,578	38,104	82,617	188,106
Netherlands	12,921	5,594	7,306	18,438	44,257
Poland	9,290	7,211	10,637	21,516	48,654
Scandinavia*	32,049	13,762	15,933	39,631	101,376
Spain	9,643	7,361	11,201	22,373	50,578
Switzerland	10,361	5,991	7,188	14,227	37,767
United Kingdom	116,929	47,956	57,952	146,048	368,885
USA	3,605	9,878	6,886	11,276	31,645
Other	49,660	53,486	49,691	110,368	263,205
<b>Total</b>	<b>403,942</b>	<b>237,984</b>	<b>280,612</b>	<b>617,651</b>	<b>1,540,189</b>
	<b>January-September 2016</b>				
Australia	2,639	14,304	7,365	18,530	42,838
Austria	7,761	1,855	2,189	5,942	17,747
Belgium	11,687	3,150	3,832	8,956	27,625
France	38,699	11,977	17,164	35,058	102,898
Germany	43,028	10,841	14,567	31,736	100,174
Hungary	2,789	1,733	2,151	5,618	12,291
Ireland	5,642	3,540	4,813	10,378	24,373
Italy	39,265	19,828	31,246	69,091	159,430
Netherlands	12,621	3,968	4,930	14,704	36,223
Poland	7,861	5,607	8,214	17,119	38,800
Scandinavia*	31,794	10,949	13,477	34,130	90,350
Spain	9,060	5,036	7,382	15,258	36,736
Switzerland	11,075	4,824	5,985	13,311	35,195
United Kingdom	132,723	51,662	56,206	147,582	388,174
USA	1,751 <sup>u</sup>	9,025	5,247	9,587	25,611
Other	47,770	42,313	35,738	91,058	216,879
<b>Total</b>	<b>406,164</b>	<b>200,611</b>	<b>220,507</b>	<b>528,060</b>	<b>1,355,342</b>

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

\* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Notes:

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



**Table 11. Per capita expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence**

€

Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total expenditure per capita
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
	January-September 2018				
Australia	1,383	628	368	613	1,592
Austria	738	190	265	267	819
Belgium	721	149	279	271	776
France	736	186	283	270	820
Germany	737	191	304	256	851
Hungary	477	150	254	237	592
Ireland	582	215	345	363	891
Italy	525	113	220	263	616
Netherlands	628	180	280	337	846
Poland	486	135	240	259	641
Scandinavia*	716	250	310	328	925
Spain	545	138	250	277	687
Switzerland	817	251	384	382	1,054
United Kingdom	703	177	300	297	831
USA	1,201	484	331	350	1,189
Other	815	257	288	346	921
<b>Total expenditure per capita</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>827</b>
<b>January-September 2017</b>					
Australia	965 <sup>u</sup>	567	372	681	1,526
Austria	689	237	371	346	969
Belgium	745	160	285	280	792
France	728	189	312	321	892
Germany	712	186	327	300	875
Hungary	500	165	271	355	764
Ireland	624	199	353	395	912
Italy	515	117	228	282	641
Netherlands	612	191	302	366	879
Poland	538	146	240	322	728
Scandinavia*	733	236	332	388	993
Spain	578	158	274	353	798
Switzerland	879	280	380	429	1,139
United Kingdom	663	190	331	341	861
USA	1,161	406	351	411	1,153
Other	756	285	329	435	1,038
<b>Total expenditure per capita</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>874</b>
<b>January-September 2016</b>					
Australia	893	584	400	675	1,560
Austria	673	229	332	302	903
Belgium	807	211	313	305	940
France	743	193	316	307	900
Germany	740	202	324	284	896
Hungary	522	145	231	325	711
Ireland	623	215	352	407	955
Italy	522	115	228	279	643
Netherlands	666	184	285	362	893
Poland	564	141	235	318	721
Scandinavia*	676	230	338	361	954
Spain	644	170	296	349	841
Switzerland	944	270	375	450	1,190
United Kingdom	687	214	333	339	892
USA	823 <sup>u</sup>	471	341	450	1,203
Other	747	304	325	448	1,066
<b>Total expenditure per capita</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>894</b>

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

\* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

**Table 12. Profile of overnight cruise passengers by month of departure**

Characteristics	September		
	2016	2017	2018
<b>Total overnight cruise passengers</b>	<b>1,401</b>	<b>5,497</b>	<b>7,571</b>
<b>Sex:</b>			
Males	641	2,364	3,491
Females	760	3,133	4,080
<b>Age group:</b>			
0-19	4	111	132
20-39	52	528	452
40-59	203	1,993	1,813
60-79	960	2,636	4,743
80 or more	182	229	431
<b>Markets:</b>			
EU	787	3,301	3,697
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	331	2,480	692
Non-EU	614	2,196	3,874

**Table 13. Profile of overnight cruise passengers by period of departure**

Characteristics	January-September		
	2016	2017	2018
<b>Total overnight cruise passengers</b>	<b>14,418</b>	<b>28,990</b>	<b>26,616</b>
<b>Sex:</b>			
Males	6,739	13,331	12,226
Females	7,679	15,659	14,390
<b>Age group:</b>			
0-19	1,097	1,477	1,071
20-39	1,685	2,515	1,742
40-59	4,106	8,223	6,485
60-79	6,677	14,972	15,750
80 or more	853	1,803	1,568
<b>Markets:</b>			
EU	7,357	16,445	12,818
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	4,583	8,384	4,773
Non-EU	7,061	12,545	13,798

## Methodological Notes

1. This release focuses on Inbound Tourism, which comprises of activities of non-resident visitors travelling to Malta (i.e. outside their usual environment), and staying for not more than 12 consecutive months for leisure, business or other (corresponding) purposes.
2. Inbound tourism trips are collected from an ongoing frontier national survey known as Tourstat. Tourist air departures are collected through a continuous survey carried out at the departure lounge of the Malta International Airport. A two-stage sampling design is used to collect air passengers. In the first stage, alternate days and nights are selected. In the second stage, within each shift, a sample of passengers is selected systematically. Every crossing passenger is counted and respondents are selected using a pre-defined interval of 1:20 for air.
3. Tourstat measures the number of tourist trips carried out during a particular reference month. These differ from the number of tourists in that the same person can make more than one trip during the same period.
4. 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 fixed quotas. Survey data is supplemented by administrative data provided by ferry operators.
5. Absolute and percentage changes between one survey estimate and another based on less than 1,500 tourists should be treated with caution and are represented in this news release by means of the dash symbol (-).
6. The monthly passenger departures data published by the Malta International Airport cannot be equated to the number of inbound tourists because the former is inclusive of departing Maltese and transit passengers.
7. Data on cruise passengers who spent at least one night berthed on board their cruise ship in Malta is compiled on the basis of administrative records held by Transport Malta.
8. Arrivals and nights spent in time-share accommodation are being categorised in 'Private Accommodation' instead of 'Collective Accommodation' as per Eurostat recommendation. In this regard, there may be minor differences in these statistics and statistics published in tourism supply due to the fact that hotels report time-share accommodation under 'Collective Accommodation'.
9. 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=37>).

### 10. Definitions:

- **Usual Environment:** The geographical area, though not necessarily a contiguous one, within which an individual conducts his regular life routines and shall be determined on the basis of the following criteria: the crossing of administrative borders or the distance from the place of usual residence, the duration of visit, the frequency of visit, the purpose of visit.
- **Traveller:** A person 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. more or less 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 be other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited**, which would exclude migratory movements for work purposes.
- **Tourist:** A visitor who stays at least one night in a collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
- **Inbound tourism:** Comprises the activities of non-resident visitors travelling to MALTA (i.e. outside their usual environment), and staying for not more than 12 consecutive months for personal, business or other purposes.
- **Total nights spent:** Nights which a guest actually spends or is registered to spend in a collective accommodation establishment or in a private accommodation.
- **Average length of stay:** The number of nights spent divided by the number of trips during a specified reference period.
- **Rented accommodation:** consists of the following two sub-categories:
  - a. **Collective accommodation:** comprises hotels, guesthouses, hostels, tourist villages, holiday complex, Bed & Breakfast and campsites.
  - b. **Other rented accommodation:** comprises holiday furnished premises (farmhouses, flats and villas), host families, marinas, paid-convents, rented yachts and student dormitories.
- **Non-rented accommodation:** comprises own private residence (owned dwellings, owned caravans and yachts), staying with friends or relatives (even if charged - includes also friends' private apartments) and other private accommodation (oil rig, free-convents, timeshare, dockyards (Palumbo), ship (used for work)).
- **Total expenditure:** refers to the amount that is going to be paid for the acquisition of consumption goods and services, as well as valuables during tourism trips. It includes expenditures by visitors themselves, as well as expenses that are paid for or reimbursed by others. Maltese residents are asked to budget the expenditures which they are about to incur when travelling abroad. The total expenditure is broken down by the following expenditure items:

- a. **Package expenditure:** refers to the whole amount of money spent in transport, accommodation and others services such as rental of a car, activities or outings during the trip.
- b. **Non-Package expenditure:** is the amount of money spent in transport and accommodation reported separately.
- c. **Other expenditure:** is the amount spent on shopping, souvenirs, tickets for concerts or a sport event, entrance to a museum or zoo, day excursions during a tourism trip. It also includes durables and valuable goods, that is, the amount spent on cars, computers, paintings, jewellery and works of art.

11. 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/TOURSTAT-Survey.aspx](https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_C3/Tourism_Statistics/Pages/TOURSTAT-Survey.aspx)

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

Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=37>

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

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

13. A detailed news release calendar is available on

[https://nso.gov.mt/en/News\\_Releases/Release\\_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx](https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx)