Inbound Tourism: March 2025

NR 078/2025 Release Date: 02 May 2025

Total inbound tourists for March 2025 were estimated at 289,030, an increase of 19.7 per cent when compared to the corresponding month in 2024.



During the month under review, a total of 265,650 inbound tourists visited Malta for holiday purposes, and 12,116 tourists came for business purposes. The largest share of inbound tourists consisted of persons 25 and 44 (37.4 per cent), followed by the 45-64 age bracket (33.9 per cent) (Table 1). British, Italian, and Polish residents made up 44.5 per cent of total inbound tourists (Table 4).

Total nights spent went up by 14.8 per cent when compared to March 2024, surpassing 1.6 million nights. The largest share of guest nights (91.8 per cent) was spent in rented accommodation establishments (Table 2). The average length of stay of total inbound tourists stood at 5.6 nights (Table 1).

Total tourist expenditure almost reached €219.1 million, an increase of 19.5 per cent over the corresponding month in 2024 (Table 3). The average expenditure per night was estimated at €136.0 (Chart 2b).

The number of tourists visiting Gozo and Comino, including both same-day and overnight visitors, totalled 145,936, or 50.5 per cent of total tourists (Table 1).

January-March 2025

Inbound tourists for the first three months of 2025 amounted to 693,492, an increase of 18.9 per cent over the same period in 2024 (Table 1). Total nights spent by inbound tourists went up by 15.9 per cent, almost reaching 4.0 million nights (Table 2).

Total tourist expenditure was estimated at €508.5 million, 24.6 per cent higher than that recorded for the same period in 2024 (Table 5). Total expenditure per capita increased to €733 from €700 in 2024 (Table 7).

The number of tourists visiting Gozo and Comino, including both same-day and overnight visitors, totalled 332,627, or 48.0 per cent of total tourists (Table 1).

Chart 1. Total inbound tourists by month

March 2023 – March 2025



Chart 2a. Expenditure per capita by inbound tourists

Reference month: March

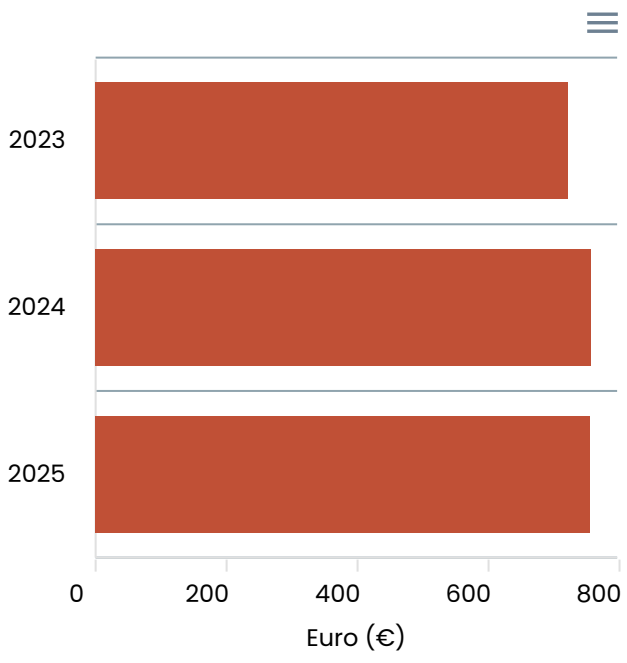
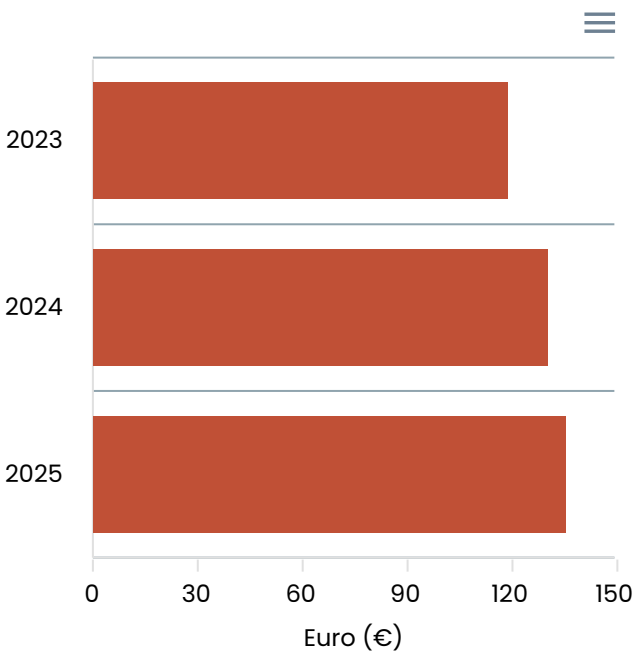


Chart 2b. Expenditure per night by inbound tourists

Reference month: March



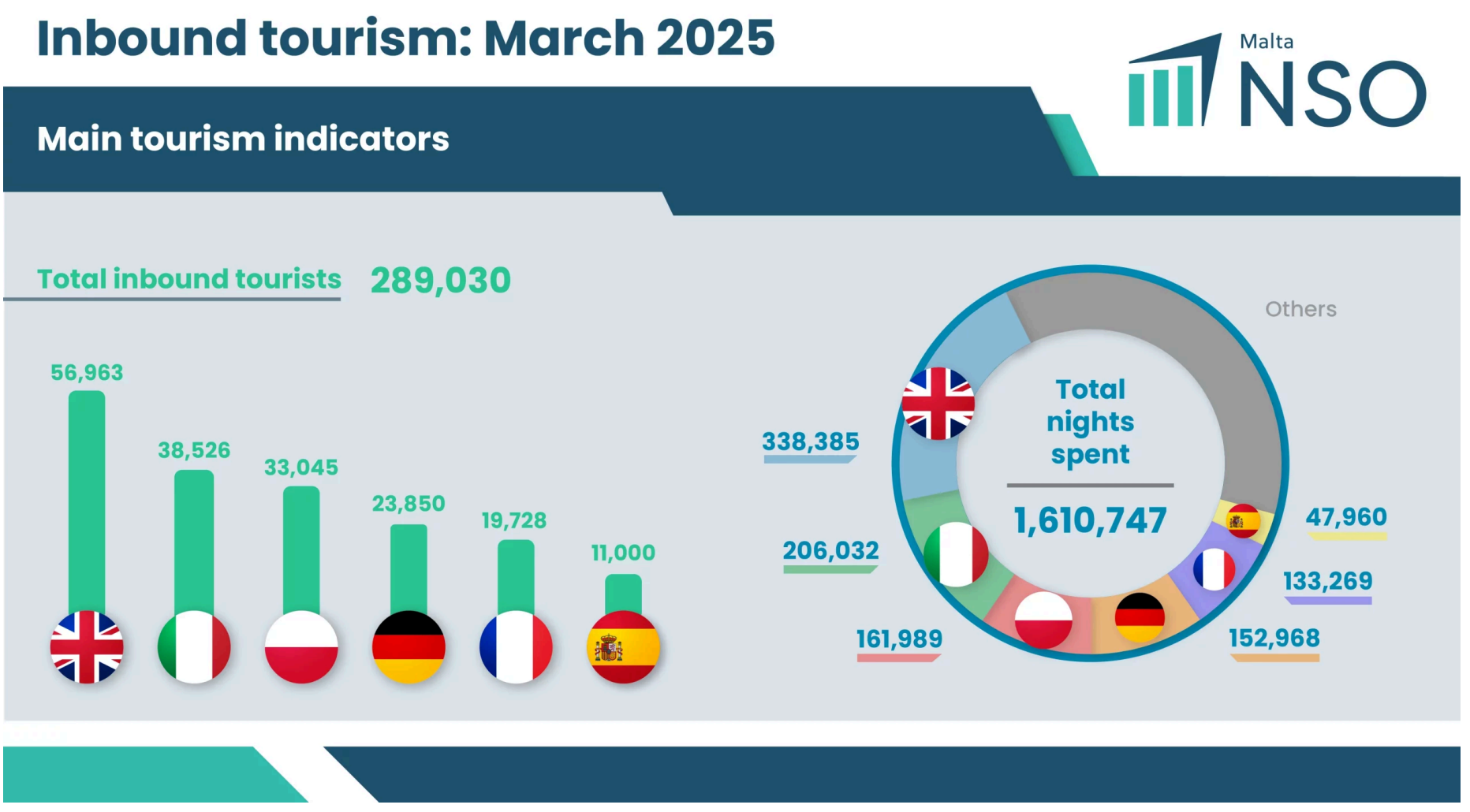


Table 1. Profile of inbound tourists by period of departure

Characteristics	March					January-March				
	2023 (Revised)	2024 (Revised)	2025	Change 2025/2024	Percentage change 2025/2024	2023 (Revised)	2024 (Revised)	2025	Change 2025/2024	Percentage change 2025/2024
Total inbound visitors	**175,025**	**241,552**	**293,727**	**52,175**	**21.6**	**444,616**	**583,391**	**700,902**	**117,511**	**20.1**
Overnight cruise passengers	129	132	4,697	4,565	-	129	132	7,410	7,278	-
Inbound tourists	**174,896**	**241,420**	**289,030**	**47,610**	**19.7**	**444,487**	**583,259**	**693,492**	**110,233**	**18.9**
Mode of travel										
Air	170,461	236,639	284,275	47,636	20.1	432,009	570,549	680,926	110,377	19.3
Sea	4,435[R]	4,781[R]	4,755	-	-	12,478[R]	12,710[R]	12,566[R]	-	-
Sex										
Males	84,545	114,776	132,001	17,225	15.0	223,609	286,956	330,677	43,721	15.2
Females	90,351	126,644	157,029	30,385	24.0	220,877	296,303	362,816	66,513	22.4
Age group										
0-24	28,684	46,851	45,043	-1,808	-3.9	82,337	120,657	121,751	-	-
25-44	67,038	85,151	107,983	22,832	26.8	172,054	214,404	264,512	50,108	23.4
45-64	58,543	79,214	97,995	18,780	23.7	145,456	187,418	236,820	49,402	26.4
65 or more	20,631	30,203	38,008	7,805	25.8	44,639	60,780	70,409	9,629	15.8
Markets										
EU	**117,833**	**165,805**	**201,095**	**35,290**	**21.3**	**308,527**	**404,396**	**487,974**	**83,578**	**20.7**
of which: Euro area	93,628	124,263	144,579	20,316	16.3	238,117	295,776	335,405	39,629	13.4
Non-EU	**57,062**	**75,615**	**87,935**	**12,320**	**16.3**	**135,960**	**178,863**	**205,518**	**26,655**	**14.9**
Purpose of visit										
Holiday	150,933	215,279	265,650	50,371	23.4	391,883	527,627	639,444	111,817	21.2
Business and professional	12,925	14,911	12,116	-2,794	-18.7	30,333	33,298	32,646	-	-
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	11,038	11,230	11,263	-	-	22,270	22,334	21,402	-	-
Organisation of stay										
Package	56,131	71,535	86,340	14,805	20.7	128,303	157,428	192,440	35,012	22.2
Non-package	118,765	169,885	202,689	32,805	19.3	316,184	425,831	501,052	75,221	17.7
Frequency										
First-time tourists	**129,894**	**191,004**	**231,448**	**40,445**	**21.2**	**331,473**	**450,933**	**542,671**	**91,738**	**20.3**
Repeat tourists	**45,001**	**50,416**	**57,581**	**7,165**	**14.2**	**113,013**	**132,326**	**150,821**	**18,496**	**14.0**
once a year or less	33,584	39,048	43,855	4,807	12.3	82,944	97,945	113,860	15,915	16.2
more than once a year	11,417	11,368	13,726	2,358	20.7	30,069	34,381	36,961	2,580	7.5
Gozo and Comino visitors										
Tourists visiting Gozo and Comino	**82,543**	**119,253**	**145,936**	**26,683**	**22.4**	**201,765**	**272,640**	**332,627**	**59,987**	**22.0**
Same-day visitors[1]	77,477	111,603	136,881	25,279	22.7	189,869	255,583	313,631	58,048	22.7
Overnight visitors[2]	5,066	7,651	9,055	-	-	11,896	17,056	18,996	1,940	11.4
Duration of visit										
1-3 nights	53,862	70,628	86,937	16,309	23.1	133,537	182,156	210,793	28,637	15.7
4-6 nights	59,511	101,392	117,630	16,238	16.0	151,427	231,605	285,333	53,728	23.2
7 nights or more	61,523	69,401	84,463	15,062	21.7	159,523	169,498	197,366	27,868	16.4
Average length of stay (nights)	**6.1**	**5.8**	**5.6**	**-0.2**	**-**	**6.6**	**5.9**	**5.7**	**-0.1**	**-**

[1] Same-day visitors comprise inbound tourists who visit Gozo and Comino without spending any nights in the place visited.

[2] Overnight visitors comprise inbound tourists who spend at least one night in rented or non-rented accommodation in Gozo and Comino.

[R] Revised: refer to methodological note 6.

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 and total nights spent by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	March									
	Inbound tourists					Total nights spent				
	2023 (Revised)	2024 (Revised)	2025	Change 2025/2024	Percentage change 2025/2024	2023 (Revised)	2024 (Revised)	2025	Change 2025/2024	Percentage change 2025/2024
Rented accommodation	**157,036**	**222,747**	**270,859**	**48,112**	**21.6**	**906,352**	**1,254,850**	**1,479,237**	**224,387**	**17.9**
Collective	122,086	166,672	203,403	36,731	22.0	630,339	839,637	1,057,322	217,684	25.9
Other rented	34,950	56,075	67,456	11,381	20.3	276,012	415,213	421,915	6,703	1.6
Non-rented accommodation	**17,859**	**18,672**	**18,170**	-	-	**155,420**	**148,017**	**131,510**	-	-
Total	**174,896**	**241,420**	**289,030**	**47,610**	**19.7**	**1,061,772**	**1,402,867**	**1,610,747**	**207,880**	**14.8**

Type of accommodation	January-March									
	Inbound tourists					Total nights spent				
	2023 (Revised)	2024 (Revised)	2025	Change 2025/2024	Percentage change 2025/2024	2023 (Revised)	2024 (Revised)	2025	Change 2025/2024	Percentage change 2025/2024
Rented accommodation	**393,665**	**526,787**	**640,535**	**113,748**	**21.6**	**2,432,780**	**2,914,658**	**3,552,247**	**637,589**	**21.9**
Collective	309,193	401,087	480,124	79,037	19.7	1,612,219	2,002,626	2,429,837	427,212	21.3
Other rented	84,472	125,699	160,411	34,711	27.6	820,560	912,032	1,122,409	210,377	23.1
Non-rented accommodation	**50,821**	**56,472**	**52,957**	-3,515	-6.2	**484,344**	**517,093**	**424,333**	**-92,760**	**-17.9**
Total	**444,487**	**583,259**	**693,492**	**110,233**	**18.9**	**2,917,123**	**3,431,751**	**3,976,580**	**544,829**	**15.9**

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 3. Total expenditure by inbound tourists by month of departure and expenditure category

Expenditure category	March			Change
	2023 (Revised)	2024 (Revised)	2025	2025/
Package	**33,420**	**45,176**	**58,028**	**12,852**
Non-package	**44,006**	**74,330**	**78,504**	**4,174**
Air/sea fares	19,917	32,918	34,851	1,933
Accommodation	24,089	41,412	43,653	2,241
Other expenditure	**49,247**	**63,863**	**82,523**	**18,660**
Total expenditure	**126,673**	**183,369**	**219,056**	**35,687**

Notes:

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

Table 4. Inbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by month of departure and country of residence

	Country of residence	March			Change	Percentage change
		2023 (Revised)	2024 (Revised)	2025	2025/2024	
Tourists	**EU**	**117,833**	**165,805**	**201,095**	**35,290**	**21.3**
	of which:					
	France	15,600	16,823	19,728	2,905	17.3
	Germany	13,754	19,273	23,850	4,578	23.8
	Italy	30,875	37,609	38,526	-	-
	Poland	12,361	22,169	33,045	10,876	49.1
	Spain	5,291	9,098	11,000	1,903	20.9
	Non-EU	**57,062**	**75,615**	**87,935**	**12,320**	**16.3**
	of which:					
	United Kingdom	35,129	46,789	56,963	10,174	21.7
	Total	**174,896**	**241,420**	**289,030**	**47,610**	**19.7**
Nights	**EU**	**665,313**	**914,160**	**1,068,462**	**154,302**	**16.9**
	of which:					
	France	106,643	111,312	133,269	21,957	19.7
	Germany	86,210	128,871	152,968	24,097	18.7
	Italy	164,025	188,387	206,032	-	-
	Poland	72,630	111,075	161,989	50,914	45.8
	Spain	23,632	43,743	47,960	4,217	9.6
	Non-EU	**396,459**	**488,707**	**542,285**	**53,578**	**11.0**
	of which:					
	United Kingdom	217,026	278,758	338,385	59,627	21.4
	Total	**1,061,772**	**1,402,867**	**1,610,747**	**207,880**	**14.8**
Expenditure (€ 000)	**EU**	**76,748**	**111,609**	**135,582**	**23,974**	**21.5**
	of which:					
	France	11,186	13,648	15,772	2,124	15.6
	Germany	11,372	16,072	22,902	6,830	42.5
	Italy	16,334	20,458	20,970	-	-
	Poland	7,867	13,363	19,502	6,138	45.9
	Spain	3,025	5,318	6,120	802	15.1
	Non-EU	**49,925**	**71,760**	**83,474**	**11,713**	**16.3**
	of which:					
	United Kingdom	26,631	35,324	49,216	13,892	39.3
	Total	**126,673**	**183,369**	**219,056**	**35,687**	**19.5**

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 5. Inbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by period of departure and country of residence

	Country of residence	January-March			Change	Percentage change
		2023 (Revised)	2024 (Revised)	2025	2025/2024	
Tourists	Austria	8,158	15,173	10,112	-5,061	-33.4
	Belgium	11,982	15,317	16,791	-	-
	France	40,124	39,472	47,411	7,940	20.1
	Germany	31,239	44,028	48,968	4,939	11.2
	Greece	8,065	10,978	14,762	3,784	34.5
	Hungary	7,851	11,722	14,157	2,435	20.8
	Ireland	9,600	8,877	17,450	8,573	96.6
	Italy	74,212	92,009	91,808	-	-
	Netherlands	6,889	10,040	11,048	-	-
	Poland	36,521	61,722	95,346	33,623	54.5
	Scandinavia[1]	14,833	16,496	17,487	-	-
	Spain	16,359	22,163	26,146	3,983	18.0
	Switzerland	6,220	7,326	7,792	-	-
	United Kingdom	81,840	107,817	129,978	22,161	20.6
	USA	7,279	10,682	11,893	-	-
	Other	83,318	109,437	132,345	22,907	20.9
	Total	**444,487**	**583,259**	**693,492**	**110,233**	**18.9**
Nights	Austria	51,679	80,362	55,626	-24,736	-30.8
	Belgium	72,048	85,950	88,105	-	-
	France	281,889	262,292	308,944	46,651	17.8
	Germany	216,250	303,850	337,553	33,703	11.1
	Greece	33,488	39,992	56,716	16,724	41.8
	Hungary	33,805	59,003	59,718	716	1.2
	Ireland	56,283	55,642	92,605	36,962	66.4
	Italy	491,661	477,080	470,800	-	-
	Netherlands	53,598	62,681	72,557	-	-
	Poland	212,330	341,092	504,397	163,306	47.9
	Scandinavia[1]	121,177	115,973	120,735	-	-
	Spain	81,779	107,922	118,489	10,567	9.8
	Switzerland	38,394	51,176	37,656	-	-
	United Kingdom	520,077	645,441	783,050	137,609	21.3
	USA	50,527	56,186	63,905	-	-
	Other	602,141	687,109	805,723	118,614	17.3
	Total	**2,917,123**	**3,431,751**	**3,976,580**	**544,829**	**15.9**
Expenditure (€ 000)	Austria	6,296	10,788	7,893	-2,895	-26.8
	Belgium	8,730	10,433	12,720	-	-
	France	27,960	29,838	36,028	6,190	20.7
	Germany	25,964	34,580	45,305	10,725	31.0
	Greece	4,383	5,429	7,334	1,905	35.1
	Hungary	3,418	5,456	6,183	727	13.3
	Ireland	7,433	7,568	14,132	6,564	86.7
	Italy	39,040	46,802	47,132	-	-
	Netherlands	5,757	7,642	9,022	-	-
	Poland	22,834	35,956	58,243	22,286	62.0
	Scandinavia[1]	12,227	13,235	16,628	-	-
	Spain	9,367	12,063	14,122	2,059	17.1
	Switzerland	5,864	6,790	6,609	-	-
	United Kingdom	59,322	77,365	105,320	27,955	36.1
	USA	8,909	11,778	15,714	-	-
	Other	65,733	92,330	106,098	13,768	14.9
	Total	**313,236**	**408,053**	**508,482**	**100,429**	**24.6**

[1] 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 6. 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-March 2025				
Austria	2,665[u]	948	1,397	2,881	**7,893**
Belgium	3,363	1,859	2,585	4,913	**12,720**
France	7,841	5,356	9,356	13,474	**36,028**
Germany	13,571	7,074	9,928	14,732	**45,305**
Greece	:	1,344	1,874	3,566	**7,334**
Hungary	:	1,134	1,566	2,983	**6,183**
Ireland	2,833	1,948	2,782	6,569	**14,132**
Italy	9,551	6,711	10,539	20,331	**47,132**
Netherlands	1,484[u]	2,052	2,001	3,485	**9,022**
Poland	15,560	9,093	10,643	22,946	**58,243**
Scandinavia[1]	4,934	2,806	2,676	6,211	**16,628**
Spain	1,666[u]	2,422	3,651	6,384	**14,122**
Switzerland	:	1,265	1,633	2,599	**6,609**
United Kingdom	36,445	12,525	17,068	39,282	**105,320**
USA	1,809[u]	5,789	3,645	4,471	**15,714**
Other	18,164	24,615	22,100	41,219	**106,098**
Total	**122,050**	**86,941**	**103,445**	**196,047**	**508,482**
	January-March 2024 (Revised)				
Austria	3,485	1,531	2,168	3,603	**10,788**
Belgium	2,524	1,688	2,053	4,168	**10,433**
France	8,335	4,398	6,832	10,273	**29,838**
Germany	8,868	5,801	7,761	12,151	**34,580**
Greece	1,018[u]	862	1,145	2,404	**5,429**
Hungary	:	1,149	1,543	2,259	**5,456**
Ireland	1,920[u]	1,174	1,440	3,033	**7,568**
Italy	10,648	6,354	9,696	20,104	**46,802**
Netherlands	1,804[u]	1,370	1,406	3,063	**7,642**
Poland	9,711	5,873	7,634	12,738	**35,956**
Scandinavia[1]	3,343	2,293	2,282	5,317	**13,235**
Spain	2,101[u]	2,155	2,689	5,118	**12,063**
Switzerland	1,475[u]	984	1,803	2,528	**6,790**
United Kingdom	23,650	10,314	14,413	28,988	**77,365**
USA	1,581[u]	4,001	2,523	3,674	**11,778**
Other	13,592	24,352	20,877	33,510	**92,330**
Total	**94,560**	**74,298**	**86,264**	**152,931**	**408,053**
	January-March 2023 (Revised)				
Austria	2,059[u]	864	1,045	2,328	**6,296**
Belgium	1,823	1,398	1,912	3,598	**8,730**
France	6,908	3,843	5,747	11,462	**27,960**
Germany	8,141	4,197	5,015	8,612	**25,964**
Greece	:	725	982	1,964	**4,383**
Hungary	:	604	912	1,533	**3,418**
Ireland	1,143[u]	1,151	1,721	3,418	**7,433**
Italy	8,863	4,935	7,081	18,161	**39,040**
Netherlands	992[u]	1,050	1,264	2,452	**5,757**
Poland	6,267	3,215	3,988	9,364	**22,834**
Scandinavia[1]	2,987	2,030	2,224	4,985	**12,227**
Spain	1,677[u]	1,565	2,233	3,892	**9,367**
Switzerland	:	1,230	1,328[u]	2,337	**5,864**
United Kingdom	18,464	7,305	10,113	23,439	**59,322**
USA	:	3,239	2,295	2,615	**8,909**
Other	9,539	13,467	13,067	29,660	**65,733**
Total	**71,672**	**50,817**	**60,926**	**129,821**	**313,236**

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.
[u] Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.
[1] 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 7. 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-March 2025				
Austria	740[u]	146	227	285	**781**
Belgium	584	167	253	293	**758**
France	600	155	287	284	**760**
Germany	825	215	325	301	**925**
Greece	:	102	157	242	**497**
Hungary	:	90	133	211	**437**
Ireland	466	171	261	376	**810**
Italy	556	90	168	221	**513**
Netherlands	547[u]	246	285	315	**817**
Poland	485	143	175	241	**611**
Scandinavia[1]	782	251	272	355	**951**
Spain	533[u]	105	175	244	**540**
Switzerland	:	214	308	334	**848**
United Kingdom	618	176	276	302	**810**
USA	1,143[u]	553	377	376	**1,321**
Other	886	218	218	311	**802**
Total expenditure per capita	**634**	**173**	**228**	**283**	**733**
	January-March 2024 (Revised)				
Austria	682	149	234	237	**711**
Belgium	599	151	207	272	**681**
France	682	160	264	260	**756**
Germany	651	190	281	276	**785**
Greece	433[u]	99	149	219	**495**
Hungary	:	107	154	193	**465**
Ireland	750[u]	186	263	342	**852**
Italy	550	87	159	218	**509**
Netherlands	511[u]	210	259	305	**761**
Poland	484	140	190	206	**583**
Scandinavia[1]	671	198	238	322	**802**
Spain	724[u]	111	158	231	**544**
Switzerland	677[u]	191	385	345	**927**
United Kingdom	555	158	260	269	**718**
USA	802[u]	459	339	344	**1,103**
Other	727	265	262	306	**844**
Total expenditure per capita	**601**	**173**	**229**	**262**	**700**
	January-March 2023 (Revised)				
Austria	739[u]	157	227	285	**772**
Belgium	538	163	262	300	**729**
France	589	135	222	286	**697**
Germany	676	218	300	276	**831**
Greece	:	111	166	243	**544**
Hungary	:	92	156	195	**435**
Ireland	432[u]	164	283	356	**774**
Italy	517	86	165	245	**526**
Netherlands	525[u]	210	306	356	**836**
Poland	473	137	182	256	**625**
Scandinavia[1]	466	241	315	336	**824**
Spain	535[u]	118	203	238	**573**
Switzerland	:	250	318[u]	376	**943**
United Kingdom	542	152	270	286	**725**
USA	:	491	397	359	**1,224**
Other	635	196	224	356	**789**
Total expenditure per capita	**559**	**160**	**230**	**292**	**705**

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

[u] Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

[1] Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

Table 8. Profile of overnight cruise passengers by period of departure

Characteristics	March			January-March		
	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025
Total overnight cruise passengers	**129**	**132**	**4,697**	**129**	**132**	**7,410**
Sex						
Males	50	54	2,621	50	54	3,872
Females	79	78	2,076	79	78	3,538
Age group						
0-19	17	0	12	17	0	12
20-39	101	6	392	101	6	419
40-59	6	3	588	6	3	721
60-79	5	83	2,789	5	83	4,940
80 or more	0	40	916	0	40	1,318
Markets						
EU	**4**	**9**	**1,337**	**4**	**9**	**1,350**
of which : Euro area	4	8	1,030	4	8	1,041
Non-EU	**125**	**123**	**3,360**	**125**	**123**	**6,060**

Methodological Notes

1. This release focuses on Inbound Tourism, which comprises 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 data 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 data on air passengers. In the first stage, alternate days and nights are selected. In the second stage, within each shift, a sample of air passengers is selected systematically. Every crossing air passenger is counted and respondents are selected using a pre-defined interval of 1:20.

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 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. Sea tourist data for the period January 2023 – September 2024 has been revised due to a revision of the figures from the source. This revision is reflected in all of the figures of 2023 and 2024.

7. 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.

8. Data on cruise passengers who spent at least one night berthed on board their cruise ship in Malta ('Overnight Cruise Passengers') is compiled on the basis of administrative records supplied by Transport Malta.

9. Arrivals and nights spent in time-share accommodation are being categorised as 'Non-rented Accommodation' instead of 'Collective Accommodation' as per Eurostat's recommendation. In this regard, there may be minor differences between these statistics and statistics published in tourism supply due to the fact that hotels report time-share accommodation under 'Collective Accommodation'.

10. 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 15.4 of the NSO's metadata file.

11. Data included in this release are based on sample data and are therefore subject to sampling error. Sampling error is measured by a quantity known as the margin of error, which in turn, expresses the variability between the true population parameters and their corresponding sample estimates. In the table below, the margin of error is used to construct a set of 95 per cent confidence intervals for the main indicators, which gives an indication of where the true population parameters lie.

Sampling variability of inbound tourism figures

Category	Estimate	Margin of Error	95% confidence interval
Inbound Tourists	289,030	2,605	289,030 ± 2,605
Total nights	1,610,747	59,610	1,610,747 ± 59,610
Total expenditure	219,056	6,620	219,056 ± 6,620

12. 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.

- **Resident**: A person is considered to be a resident of Malta/Gozo and Comino if:

a. S/he has lived for most of the past 12 months in Malta/Gozo and Comino;

b. S/he has lived in Malta/Gozo and Comino for less than 12 months but intends to return within a year to settle here.

- **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.

- **Same-day visitor**: A visitor who does not spend the night in rented or non-rented accommodation in the country/place visited.

- **Tourist**: A visitor who stays at least one night in a rented and non-rented 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 rented accommodation establishment or in a non-rented 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 complexes, 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 or timeshare, etc.).

- **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. The total expenditure is broken down by the following expenditure items:

a. Package expenditure: refers to the whole amount of money spent on transport, accommodation and other services such as rental of a car, activities or outings during the trip.

b. Non-package expenditure: is the amount of money spent on transport and accommodation reported separately.

c. Other expenditure: is the amount spent on shopping, souvenirs, tickets for concerts or sports events, entrance to museums or zoos and 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.

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

Sources and methods
Statistical concepts
Metadata
Statistical database

14. A detailed news release calendar is available online.

15. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately. For guidance on access and re-use of data please visit our dedicated webpage.

16. For further assistance send your request through our online request form.