

News

Data

Methodology



Salient Points

- Total inbound tourists for July 2026 were estimated at 489,494, an increase of 20.8 per cent when compared to the corresponding month in 2025. Total nights spent amounted to 3,191,483, and total expenditure reached €538.4 million.
- The largest share of guest nights (88.4 per cent) was spent in rented accommodation establishments.
- Inbound tourists in the first seven months of 2026 amounted to 2,621,319, while total nights reached 14.9 million.
- Total tourist expenditure for the period January-July 2026 was estimated at €2,334.0 million, while expenditure per capita stood at €890.

Commentary

Total inbound tourists for July 2026 were estimated at 489,494, an increase of 20.8 per cent when compared to the corresponding month in 2025.

During the month under review, a total of 465,182 inbound tourists visited Malta for holiday purposes, and 13,031 tourists came for business purposes. The largest share of inbound tourists consisted of persons aged between 0 and 24 (38.0 per cent), followed by the 25-44 age bracket (31.4 per cent) (Table 1). British, Italian and Polish residents made up 45.1 per cent of total inbound tourists (Table 4).

Total nights spent went up by 15.1 per cent when compared to July 2025, reaching 3.2 million nights. The largest share of guest nights (88.4 per cent) was spent in rented accommodation establishments (Table 2). The average length of stay of total inbound tourists stood at 6.5 nights (Table 1).

Total tourist expenditure stood at €538.4 million, an increase of 19.1 per cent over the corresponding month in 2025 (Table 3). The average expenditure per night was estimated at €168.7 (Chart 2b).

The number of tourists visiting Gozo and Comino, including both same-day and overnight visitors, totalled 314,708, or 64.3 per cent of total tourists (Table 1).

January-July 2026

Inbound tourists for the first seven months of 2026 amounted to 2,621,319, an increase of 18.6 per cent over the same period in 2025 (Table 1). Total nights spent by inbound tourists went up by 11.1 per cent, reaching 14.9 million nights (Table 2).

Total tourist expenditure was estimated at €2,334.0 million, 15.8 per cent higher than that recorded for the same period in 2025 (Table 5). Total expenditure per capita decreased to €890 from €912 in 2025 (Table 7).

The number of tourists visiting Gozo and Comino, including both same-day and overnight visitors, totalled 1,438,280, or 54.9 per cent of total tourists (Table 1).

Chart 1. Total inbound tourists by month
Reference period: July 2024–July 2026



Chart 2a. Expenditure per capita by inbound tourists
Reference month: July

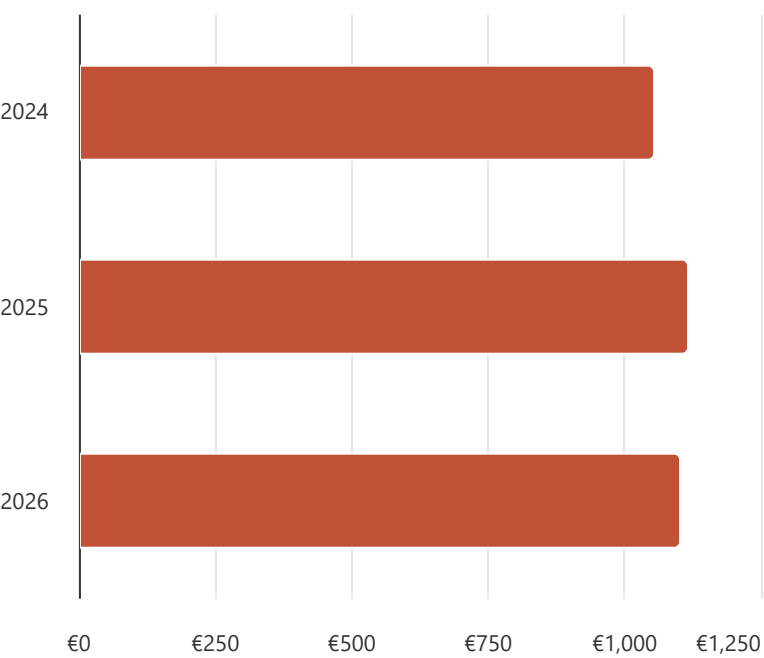
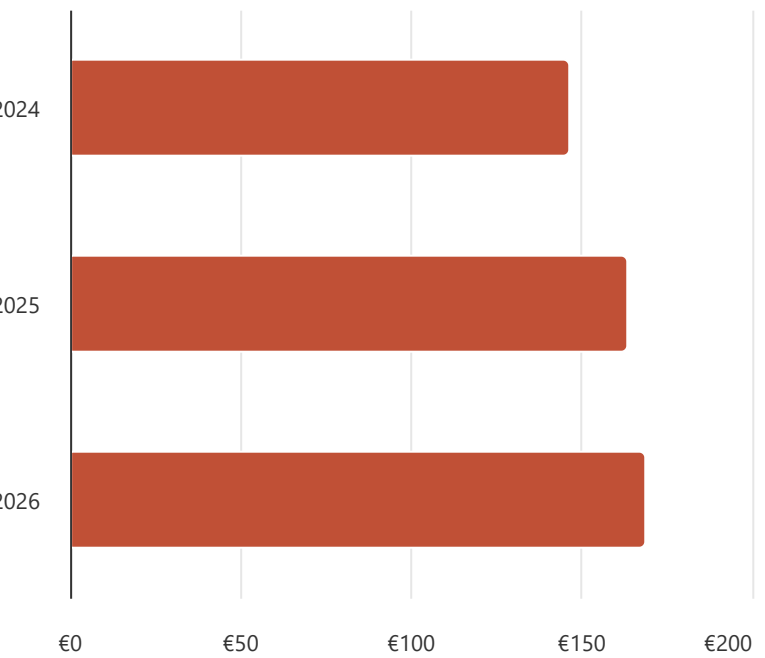


Chart 2b. Expenditure per night by inbound tourists
Reference month: July



Inbound tourism: July 2026
Main tourism indicators

Total inbound tourists 489,494

(1/2) >>

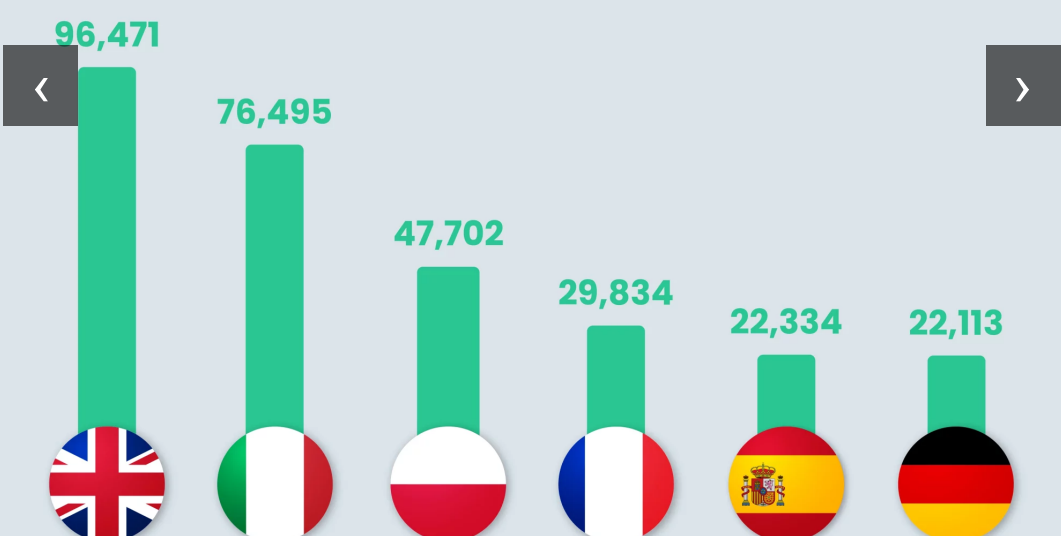


Table 1. Profile of inbound tourists by period of departure

Characteristics	July				
	2024	2025	2026	Change	Percentage change
				2026/2025	
Total inbound visitors	383,104	407,008	489,728	82,720	20.3
Overnight cruise passengers	1,395	1,745	234	-1,511	-86.6
Inbound tourists	381,709	405,263	489,494	84,231	20.8
Mode of travel					
Air	375,007	397,606	480,902	83,297	20.9
Sea	6,702	7,657	8,592	-	-
Sex					
Males	186,463	196,822	244,619	47,797	24.3
Females	195,245	208,441	244,875	36,434	17.5
Age group					
0-24	153,245	146,232	185,956	39,724	27.2
25-44	125,595	129,570	153,882	24,312	18.8
45-64	86,003	105,958	123,132	17,174	16.2
65 or more	16,866	23,503	26,524	3,022	12.9
Markets					
EU	256,944	265,063	320,270	55,207	20.8
of which: Euro area ¹	204,374	204,199	232,223	28,023	13.7
Non-EU	124,765	140,200	169,224	29,024	20.7
Purpose of visit					
Holiday	358,534	381,366	465,182	83,816	22.0
Business and professional	9,580	11,440	13,031	1,590	13.9
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	13,595	12,456	11,281	-	-
Organisation of stay					
Package	86,661	100,041	116,836	16,794	16.8
Non-package	295,048	305,221	372,658	67,437	22.1
Frequency					
First-time tourists	312,119	324,581	390,109	65,528	20.2
Repeat tourists	69,590	80,681	99,385	18,703	23.2
once a year or less	56,773	64,173	81,550	17,377	27.1
more than once a year	12,817	16,509	17,835	-	-
Gozo and Comino visitors					
Tourists visiting Gozo and Comino	255,940	262,929	314,708	51,779	19.7
Same-day visitors ²	235,021	242,488	284,987	42,499	17.5
Overnight visitors ³	20,919	20,441	29,721	9,280	45.4
Duration of visit					
1-3 nights	60,394	62,092	79,389	17,297	27.9
4-6 nights	135,090	148,852	199,264	50,412	33.9
7 nights or more	186,225	194,319	210,841	16,522	8.5
Average length of stay (nights)	7.2	6.8	6.5	-0.3	-

¹ Refer to methodological note 6.² Same-day visitors comprise inbound tourists who visit Gozo and Comino without spending any nights in the place visited.³ Overnight visitors comprise inbound tourists who spend at least one night in rented or non-rented accommodation in Gozo and Comino.

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

January-July				
2024	2025	2026	Change	Percentage change
			2026/2025	
1,984,405	2,239,610	2,650,495	410,885	18.3
11,829	28,618	29,176	558	1.9
1,972,576	2,210,992	2,621,319	410,327	18.6
1,935,781	2,170,975	2,577,177	406,202	18.7
36,795	40,017	44,142	4,125	10.3
942,713	1,031,178	1,269,519	238,341	23.1
1,029,864	1,179,814	1,351,800	171,985	14.6
480,232	492,082	594,787	102,704	20.9
724,568	790,961	930,219	139,258	17.6
578,951	689,213	830,882	141,670	20.6
188,826	238,736	265,431	26,695	11.2
1,329,882	1,464,392	1,722,549	258,157	17.6
1,037,069	1,084,150	1,210,399	126,249	11.6
642,695	746,601	898,770	152,169	20.4
1,811,001	2,053,266	2,440,468	387,202	18.9
96,064	98,021	123,785	25,763	26.3
65,512	59,705	57,067	-2,639	-4.4
486,863	578,944	671,212	92,267	15.9
1,485,714	1,632,048	1,950,107	318,059	19.5
1,559,393	1,757,816	2,048,532	290,716	16.5
413,183	453,176	572,787	119,610	26.4
317,209	347,439	452,579	105,140	30.3
95,975	105,737	120,207	14,471	13.7
1,108,029	1,251,016	1,438,280	187,263	15.0
1,018,160	1,158,719	1,321,398	162,678	14.0
89,869	92,297	116,882	24,585	26.6
518,032	548,582	681,747	133,165	24.3
754,692	880,616	1,092,431	211,815	24.1
699,853	781,795	847,141	65,347	8.4
6.2	6.1	5.7	-0.4	-

Table 2. Inbound tourists and total nights spent by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation				
	Inbound tourists			
	2024	2025	2026	Change
				2026/
Rented accommodation	349,378	369,653	449,862	80,209
Collective	204,757	224,503	270,602	46,098
Other rented	144,621	145,149	179,260	34,111
Non-rented accommodation	32,330	35,610	39,632	4,022
Total	381,709	405,263	489,494	84,231
Type of accommodation				
	Inbound tourists			
	2024	2025	2026	Change
				2026/
Rented accommodation	1,794,121	2,034,094	2,416,853	382,759
Collective	1,219,823	1,371,909	1,594,030	222,121
Other rented	574,298	662,185	822,823	160,637
Non-rented accommodation	178,455	176,898	204,466	27,568
Total	1,972,576	2,210,992	2,621,319	410,327

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

July					
	Total nights spent				
Percentage change	2024	2025	2026	Change	Percentage change
'2025				2026/2025	
21.7	2,459,668	2,421,600	2,821,850	400,250	16.5
20.5	1,280,760	1,389,025	1,609,665	220,639	15.9
23.5	1,178,908	1,032,575	1,212,185	179,611	17.4
11.3	289,996	350,993	369,633	18,640	5.3
20.8	2,749,664	2,772,593	3,191,483	418,890	15.1
January-July					
	Total nights spent				
Percentage change	2024	2025	2026	Change	Percentage change
'2025				2026/2025	
18.8	10,616,108	11,961,909	13,219,827	1,257,918	10.5
16.2	6,504,732	7,399,093	8,297,880	898,787	12.1
24.3	4,111,376	4,562,816	4,921,947	359,131	7.9
15.6	1,558,514	1,482,058	1,723,045	240,987	16.3
18.6	12,174,622	13,443,967	14,942,871	1,498,905	11.1

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

€ 000

Expenditure category	July			Change	Percentage change
	2024	2025	2026	2026/2025	
Package	88,916	107,294	120,895	13,601	12.7
Non-package	167,306	180,642	218,904	38,263	21.2
Air/sea fares	67,726	74,082	86,964	12,882	17.4
Accommodation	99,581	106,560	131,940	25,380	23.8
Other expenditure	145,367	164,285	198,613	34,328	20.9
Total expenditure	401,589	452,221	538,412	86,191	19.1

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		July			Change	Percentage change
		2024	2025	2026	2026/2025	
Tourists	EU	256,944	265,063	320,270	55,207	20.8
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	36,145	31,926	29,834	-2,091	-6.6
	Germany	18,420	22,763	22,113	-	-
	Italy	75,750	65,843	76,495	10,652	16.2
	Poland	21,803	30,408	47,702	17,294	56.9
	Spain	17,125	18,786	22,334	3,548	18.9
	Non-EU	124,765	140,200	169,224	29,024	20.7
	<i>of which:</i>					
	United Kingdom	72,120	81,225	96,471	15,247	18.8
Total		381,709	405,263	489,494	84,231	20.8
Nights	EU	1,785,309	1,771,366	2,000,279	228,913	12.9
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	311,475	273,106	228,317	-44,789	-16.4
	Germany	150,775	163,201	161,840	-	-
	Italy	454,368	389,951	400,432	10,481	2.7
	Poland	147,953	204,626	282,910	78,284	38.3
	Spain	115,772	117,552	137,915	20,363	17.3
	Non-EU	964,354	1,001,228	1,191,204	189,976	19.0
	<i>of which:</i>					
	United Kingdom	469,565	565,210	649,066	83,855	14.8
Total		2,749,664	2,772,593	3,191,483	418,890	15.1
Expenditure (€ 000)	EU	246,968	264,864	310,282	45,418	17.1
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	40,430	37,149	33,058	-4,091	-11.0
	Germany	22,016	26,538	25,383	-	-
	Italy	56,714	48,939	56,138	7,200	14.7
	Poland	20,934	31,424	40,262	8,838	28.1
	Spain	15,910	17,357	20,837	3,480	20.1
	Non-EU	154,621	187,357	228,130	40,773	21.8
	<i>of which:</i>					
	United Kingdom	83,962	105,009	125,804	20,795	19.8
Total		401,589	452,221	538,412	86,191	19.1

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 ¹		January-July			Change	Percentage change
		2024	2025	2026	2026/2025	
Tourists	Belgium	46,938	49,934	48,688	-	-
	France	170,452	167,242	154,011	-13,231	-7.9
	Germany	133,028	139,920	152,341	12,421	8.9
	Greece	39,863	40,119	43,539	3,420	8.5
	Hungary	37,912	43,293	52,400	9,107	21.0
	Ireland	29,752	50,973	65,024	14,052	27.6
	Italy	339,457	323,660	358,403	34,743	10.7
	Netherlands	45,828	44,027	55,588	11,561	26.3
	Poland	146,160	213,783	321,654	107,871	50.5
	Romania	32,581	35,105	52,819	17,714	50.5
	Scandinavia ²	53,596	58,349	75,832	17,483	30.0
	Spain	75,348	88,959	101,994	13,035	14.7
	Switzerland	34,935	38,791	47,064	8,273	21.3
	United Kingdom	386,498	455,236	540,732	85,495	18.8
	USA	38,061	41,435	56,496	15,061	36.3
	Other	362,167	420,167	494,734	74,567	17.7
Total		1,972,576	2,210,992	2,621,319	410,327	18.6
Nights	Belgium	280,970	304,567	282,612	-	-
	France	1,184,343	1,167,430	979,614	-187,816	-16.1
	Germany	931,775	1,000,166	1,031,129	30,963	3.1
	Greece	151,652	159,208	183,662	24,454	15.4
	Hungary	205,177	204,618	243,702	39,084	19.1
	Ireland	197,702	314,307	384,724	70,417	22.4
	Italy	1,727,372	1,643,281	1,740,552	97,272	5.9
	Netherlands	304,343	281,057	349,093	68,036	24.2
	Poland	853,352	1,178,310	1,670,693	492,383	41.8
	Romania	171,003	181,020	249,983	68,963	38.1
	Scandinavia ²	390,722	410,814	506,463	95,649	23.3
	Spain	470,123	521,821	534,449	12,629	2.4
	Switzerland	217,575	253,258	298,508	45,250	17.9
	United Kingdom	2,377,475	2,878,827	3,251,396	372,569	12.9
	USA	201,284	229,629	301,774	72,145	31.4
	Other	2,509,752	2,715,654	2,934,516	218,863	8.1
Total		12,174,622	13,443,967	14,942,871	1,498,905	11.1
Expenditure (€ 000)	Belgium	41,597	46,463	47,162	-	-
	France	149,580	157,807	141,846	-15,961	-10.1
	Germany	130,191	148,022	155,104	7,082	4.8
	Greece	21,159	24,169	26,858	2,689	11.1
	Hungary	24,445	25,421	31,421	6,001	23.6
	Ireland	30,878	54,387	68,568	14,182	26.1
	Italy	196,712	190,974	211,107	20,134	10.5
	Netherlands	46,524	46,167	60,476	14,309	31.0
	Poland	105,982	154,366	216,748	62,382	40.4
	Romania	23,399	27,453	38,959	11,507	41.9
	Scandinavia ²	57,435	65,964	87,382	21,419	32.5
	Spain	55,815	68,319	76,104	7,785	11.4
	Switzerland	36,935	49,391	56,575	7,185	14.5
	United Kingdom	377,794	486,501	567,358	80,858	16.6
	USA	49,107	56,298	77,670	21,372	38.0
	Other	345,209	414,666	470,683	56,017	13.5
Total		1,692,760	2,016,365	2,334,023	317,658	15.8

¹ Top 15 countries of residence for the reference year 2025.² 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 ¹	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
	January-July 2026				
Belgium	12,554	7,586	10,380	16,642	47,162
France	27,635	22,485	38,797	52,930	141,846
Germany	35,202	28,541	38,204	53,156	155,104
Greece	1,952 ^u	5,007	7,456	12,442	26,858
Hungary	2,275 ^u	6,066	9,851	13,229	31,421
Ireland	14,868	9,628	15,263	28,809	68,568
Italy	31,809	30,508	52,558	96,232	211,107
Netherlands	14,024	11,045	12,618	22,790	60,476
Poland	50,280	31,874	51,903	82,691	216,748
Romania	2,873	6,276	10,742	19,069	38,959
Scandinavia ²	18,030	15,442	19,027	34,883	87,382
Spain	13,156	12,011	19,209	31,728	76,104
Switzerland	13,647	9,161	14,450	19,317	56,575
United Kingdom	245,331	55,568	83,142	183,317	567,358
USA	7,581	26,918	19,991	23,181	77,670
Other	59,149	112,914	118,596	180,025	470,683
Total	550,364	391,029	522,189	870,441	2,334,023
	January-July 2025				
Belgium	10,897	7,864	10,667	17,035	46,463
France	40,013	22,842	38,440	56,511	157,807
Germany	41,160	23,976	33,685	49,201	148,022
Greece	1,427 ^u	4,506	6,471	11,765	24,169
Hungary	2,439 ^u	4,867	7,084	11,030	25,421
Ireland	11,808	7,615	11,964	23,000	54,387
Italy	30,871	28,641	48,709	82,752	190,974
Netherlands	9,583	8,403	9,864	18,317	46,167
Poland	34,143	24,994	36,023	59,207	154,366
Romania	2,707	4,312	7,739	12,694	27,453
Scandinavia ²	16,736	12,024	13,974	23,229	65,964
Spain	14,567	10,583	16,685	26,483	68,319
Switzerland	10,141	8,476	14,476	16,298	49,391
United Kingdom	194,691	54,099	75,877	161,833	486,501
USA	5,150	20,641	14,042	16,466	56,298
Other	65,729	95,693	97,843	155,401	414,666
Total	492,062	339,537	443,544	741,223	2,016,365
	January-July 2024				
Belgium	10,654	6,837	9,648	14,458	41,597
France	38,223	21,808	36,641	52,908	149,580
Germany	34,600	20,992	29,967	44,632	130,191
Greece	1,967 ^u	3,720	5,800	9,672	21,159
Hungary	3,275 ^u	4,652	7,017	9,501	24,445
Ireland	6,715	4,939	6,987	12,237	30,878
Italy	32,099	26,788	49,960	87,864	196,712
Netherlands	11,744	7,185	10,169	17,426	46,524
Poland	24,620	16,507	26,268	38,586	105,982
Romania	3,138	3,708	5,776	10,777	23,399
Scandinavia ²	15,838	9,472	10,573	21,552	57,435
Spain	8,719	9,256	15,279	22,561	55,815
Switzerland	7,618	6,452	9,934	12,930	36,935
United Kingdom	129,623	48,620	70,756	128,794	377,794
USA	6,108	17,188	11,618	14,192	49,107
Other	50,894	84,889	84,299	125,127	345,209
Total	385,834	293,014	390,692	623,220	1,692,760

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.¹ Top 15 countries of residence for the reference year 2025.² Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

Notes:

- Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
- 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 ¹	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total expenditure per capita
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
	January-July 2026				
Belgium	999	209	328	342	969
France	917	180	329	344	921
Germany	932	247	370	349	1,018
Greece	459 ^u	127	205	286	617
Hungary	696 ^u	123	214	252	600
Ireland	737	213	362	443	1,055
Italy	619	99	201	269	589
Netherlands	896	277	356	410	1,088
Poland	581	135	225	257	674
Romania	506	133	246	361	738
Scandinavia ²	924	273	381	460	1,152
Spain	795	139	248	311	746
Switzerland	1,113	261	439	410	1,202
United Kingdom	895	208	363	339	1,049
USA	933	543	451	410	1,375
Other	809	265	314	364	951
Total expenditure per capita	820	199	297	332	890
	January-July 2025				
Belgium	816	213	320	341	930
France	904	183	326	338	944
Germany	946	246	380	352	1,058
Greece	409 ^u	123	187	293	602
Hungary	602 ^u	124	202	255	587
Ireland	726	218	380	451	1,067
Italy	623	104	204	256	590
Netherlands	773	266	359	416	1,049
Poland	629	156	232	277	722
Romania	634	140	262	362	782
Scandinavia ²	902	300	394	398	1,130
Spain	727	152	264	298	768
Switzerland	1,303	269	492	420	1,273
United Kingdom	900	224	362	355	1,069
USA	984	563	430	397	1,359
Other	1,001	266	306	370	987
Total expenditure per capita	850	206	299	335	912
	January-July 2024				
Belgium	789	204	321	308	886
France	821	175	312	310	878
Germany	903	219	345	336	979
Greece	443 ^u	104	173	243	531
Hungary	778 ^u	137	225	251	645
Ireland	863	225	373	411	1,038
Italy	592	93	201	259	579
Netherlands	758	237	381	380	1,015
Poland	641	152	255	264	725
Romania	612	134	223	331	718
Scandinavia ²	876	265	362	402	1,072
Spain	709	146	270	299	741
Switzerland	970	236	392	370	1,057
United Kingdom	829	210	361	333	977
USA	1,010	529	408	373	1,290
Other	877	275	316	345	953
Total expenditure per capita	792	196	295	316	858

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.¹ Top 15 countries of residence for the reference year 2025.² Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

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

Characteristics	July			January-July		
	2024	2025	2026	2024	2025	2026
Total overnight cruise passengers	1,395	1,745	234	11,829	28,618	29,176
Sex						
Males	644	853	107	5,360	13,432	13,048
Females	751	892	127	6,469	15,186	16,128
Age group						
0-19	70	135	11	2,049	1,391	1,898
20-39	104	186	18	1,424	2,525	1,947
40-59	233	378	50	3,166	5,575	5,190
60-79	837	868	128	4,503	16,140	17,032
80 or more	151	178	27	687	2,987	3,109
Markets						
EU	103	216	37	4,138	2,993	2,095
<i>of which : Euro area¹</i>	97	183	29	4,044	2,556	1,938
Non-EU	1,292	1,529	197	7,691	25,625	27,081

¹ Refer to methodological note 6.

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. Owing to Bulgaria’s entry into the Eurozone (with effect from 1 January 2026), Bulgarian data is statistically classified as being in the Euro area from January 2026. Comparability between comparative periods should be treated with caution.
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 from 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	489,494	4,294	489,494 ± 4,294
Total nights	3,191,483	82,218	3,191,483 ± 82,218
Total expenditure (€ 000)	538,412	12,510	538,412 ± 12,510

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, and 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 or 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](#).