

News Release

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TOURISM STATISTICS

Air Tourist departures: February 2004

The number of tourists departing by air during February was estimated at 50,900 tourists; a 3.8 per cent increase over the same month last year.

Tourists departing to France accounted for 8.0 per cent of all tourist departures and increased by 1,107 tourists over the same month last year. Other markets recording increases in tourist departures included the Austrian, the Belgian, the Danish, the Italian, the Dutch, the Swedish, the Norwegian, the Swiss and the US markets.

On the other hand, departing German tourists accounted for 10.0 per cent of all tourist departures and declined by 8.1 per cent. Departing. Other drops in tourist departures were recorded from amongst others the Russian, Libyan, British and a group of 'other' markets.

Tourist departures: January – February

In the period under review, tourist departures increased by 1.2 per cent over the same period last year and reached 99720. In the comparable period last year tourist departures by air reached 98498. Around 45.0 per cent of the tourists departing during this period was made up of British tourists who declined by 6.6 per cent over the same period last year. Other declining markets included the Libyan and a group of 'other' markets.

The German market, which accounted for approximately 11.0 percent of all tourist departures during the period under review, increased by 1242 tourists or 12.5 per cent. Other markets recording increases in tourist departures included the Austrian, the Belgian, the French, the Dutch, the Swiss, the Russian, the US, the Danish, the Italian, the Norwegian and the Swedish markets.

Purpose of visit

In the period under review, holiday tourists accounted for 77.0 per cent of all tourists while business tourists accounted for 14.0 per cent. This shows an improvement in business travel to Malta when compared to the same period last year, when business tourists accounted for 12.0 per cent of all tourist departures.

Accommodation

It is estimated that during the January – February period, the number of nights spent in the Maltese Islands by tourists departing by air amounted to a total of 1064717, an increase of 4.0 per cent over the same period last year. The number of nights spent in hotel accommodation establishments accounted for 66.0 per cent of the latter total nights spent. In the period under review, a total of tourists or 79.0 per cent of all tourists stayed in hotels; a drop of 6.0 per cent over the previous year.

Tourism expenditure

In the period under review, expenditure on package tours to the Maltese Islands was estimated at 15.7 million; a decrease of 0.8 million or 5.0 per cent over last year. Non-package tourists spent 4.8 million on airfares and 2.7 million on accommodation thereby decreasing total expenditure on non-package travel by approximately 0.4 million or 4.6 percent over the first two months of last year.

Other expenditure accruing to both package and non-package tourists decreased by 1.4 million to 11.4 million from 12.9 million in the same period last year. In the period under review total expenditure went down by 2.7 million or 7.2 per cent to 34.7 million. As a result, per capita expenditure decreased to 153.0 from 166.1 of the same period last year.

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National Statistics Office
Library & Information Unit
Lascaris, Valletta CMR 02, Malta
Tel: (+356) 21239225, 25997219
Fax: (+356) 21249841
e-mail: nso@gov.mt
<http://www.nso.gov.mt>

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Table 1. Distribution of tourist air departures: February 2002 - 2004

Country of residence	2002	2003	2003/2002 % +/-	2004	2004/2003 % +/-
Austria	918	691	-24.7	971	40.5
Belgium	634	518	-18.3	891	72.0
Denmark	893	360	-59.7	648	80.0
France	3,397	2,745	-19.2	3,852	40.3
Germany	8,218	5,677	-30.9	5,219	-8.1
Italy	3,101	2,605	-16.0	3,284	26.1
Netherlands	1,025	888	-13.4	1,011	13.9
Sweden	180	146	-18.9	524	258.9
United Kingdom	21,117	25,041	18.6	25,030	0.0
Norway	490	613	25.1	728	18.8
Switzerland	677	1,002	48.0	1,501	49.8
Russia	537	446	-16.9	322	-27.8
Libya	1,141	1,561	36.8	1,135	-27.3
USA	582	503	-13.6	726	44.3
Other	4,410	6,224	41.1	5,058	-18.7
Total	47,320	49,020	3.6	50,900	3.8

Table 2. Distribution of tourist air departures: January - February 2002 - 2004

Country of residence	2002	2003	2003/2002 % +/-	2004	2004/2003 % +/-
Austria	1,481	1,474	-0.5	1,855	25.8
Belgium	981	921	-6.1	1,429	55.2
Denmark	1,620	789	-51.3	1,070	35.6
France	5,408	4,772	-11.8	5,464	14.5
Germany	13,668	9,942	-27.3	11,184	12.5
Italy	8,926	7,628	-14.5	10,164	33.2
Netherlands	1,983	1,696	-14.5	1,780	5.0
Sweden	364	452	24.2	1,023	126.3
United Kingdom	40,070	48,417	20.8	45,214	-6.6
Norway	750	980	30.7	1,152	17.6
Switzerland	2,329	2,162	-7.2	2,422	12.0
Russia	1,235	998	-19.2	1,051	5.3
Libya	3,519	3,247	-7.7	2,095	-35.5
USA	1,285	1,604	24.8	1,611	0.4
Other	11,006	13,416	21.9	12,206	-9.0
Total	94,625	98,498	4.1	99,720	1.2

Table 3. Tourist air departures by country of residence and purpose of visit: February 2003

Country of residence	Holiday		Business (other)		Visiting Friends / Family		Other		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Austria	505	1.3	93	1.6	-	-	93	3.3	691	1.4
Belgium	372	0.9	146	2.5	-	-	-	-	518	1.1
Denmark	307	0.8	53	0.9	-	-	-	-	360	0.7
France	2,218	5.6	327	5.6	-	-	200	7.1	2,745	5.6
Germany	4,410	11.1	560	9.7	-	-	707	25.1	5,677	11.6
Italy	1,417	3.6	721	12.4	-	-	467	16.6	2,605	5.3
Netherlands	728	1.8	107	1.8	-	-	53	1.9	888	1.8
Sweden	93	0.2	53	0.9	-	-	-	-	146	0.3
United Kingdom	23,009	57.9	1,208	20.8	557	84.0	267	9.5	25,041	51.1
Norway	293	0.7	267	4.6	53	8.0	-	-	613	1.3
Switzerland	695	1.7	107	1.8	-	-	200	7.1	1,002	2.0
Russia	353	0.9	93	1.6	-	-	-	-	446	0.9
Libya	894	2.2	360	6.2	-	-	307	10.9	1,561	3.2
USA	410	1.0	93	1.6	-	-	-	-	503	1.0
Other	4,044	10.2	1,606	27.7	53	8.0	521	18.5	6,224	12.7
Total	39,748	100.0	5,794	100.0	663	100.0	2,815	100.0	49,020	100.0

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Table 4. Tourist air departures by country of residence and purpose of visit: February 2004

Country of residence	Holiday		Business (other)		Visiting Friends / Family		Other		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Austria	647	1.7	81	1.2	-	-	243	8.0	971	1.9
Belgium	526	1.3	365	5.3	-	-	-	-	891	1.8
Denmark	608	1.6	40	0.6	-	-	-	-	648	1.3
France	2,472	6.3	1,177	17.0	-	-	203	6.7	3,852	7.6
Germany	4,206	10.7	284	4.1	162	9.1	567	18.7	5,219	10.3
Italy	1,581	4.0	1,014	14.6	121	6.8	568	18.7	3,284	6.5
Netherlands	809	2.1	161	2.3	-	-	41	1.3	1,011	2.0
Sweden	443	1.1	81	1.2	-	-	-	-	524	1.0
United Kingdom	22,323	57.0	1,171	16.9	1,213	68.2	323	10.6	25,030	49.2
Norway	363	0.9	365	5.3	-	-	-	-	728	1.4
Switzerland	1,177	3.0	121	1.7	-	-	203	6.7	1,501	2.9
Russia	201	0.5	121	1.7	-	-	-	-	322	0.6
Libya	527	1.3	365	5.3	-	-	243	8.0	1,135	2.2
USA	484	1.2	202	2.9	-	-	40	1.3	726	1.4
Other	2,792	7.1	1,376	19.9	283	15.9	607	20.0	5,058	9.9
Total	39,159	100.0	6,924	100.0	1,779	100.0	3,038	100.0	50,900	100.0

Table 5. Tourist air departures by country of residence, type of accommodation and number of nights spent: January-February 2003 ...

Country of residence	Hotels													
	5-star			4-star			3-star			2-star			Unclassified	
	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	
Austria	268	1,162	5,644	688	142	1,318	61	61	-	-	-	-		
Belgium	403	1,791	2,156	325	79	828	53	374	-	-	-	-		
Denmark	61	122	214	53	53	267	-	-	61	427	-	-		
France	1,053	6,766	12,929	1,934	820	4,473	340	1,835	61	488	61	427		
Germany	1,937	12,488	32,342	4,028	1,513	12,724	-	-	171	806	-	-		
Italy	2,050	7,686	10,633	2,488	631	3,949	110	733	-	-	-	-		
Netherlands	475	2,949	3,098	327	489	3,763	-	-	49	685	-	-		
Sweden	176	588	549	61	53	214	-	-	-	-	-	-		
United Kingdom	4,476	31,344	240,051	20,576	9,614	140,058	401	9,776	925	12,197	925	12,197		
Norway	512	2,474	557	115	53	374	-	-	39	1,341	39	1,341		
Switzerland	695	3,129	4,481	802	344	2,664	61	183	115	641	115	641		
Russia	181	1,620	2,510	275	61	427	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Libya	454	1,618	2,690	660	887	4,681	244	1,099	-	-	-	-		
USA	806	7,026	3,699	449	49	392	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Other	4,443	23,299	23,708	2,987	1,763	17,992	221	1,138	61	427	61	427		
Total	17,990	104,062	345,261	35,768	16,551	194,124	1,491	15,199	1,482	17,012	1,482	17,012		

... Table 5. Tourist air departures by country of residence, type of accommodation and number of nights spent: January-February 2003

Country of residence	Holiday Complex				Apart-Hotel		Furnished premises		Other		Total	
	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights
	Austria	-	-	61	427	107	3,102	147	1,292	1,474	13,006	1,474
Belgium	-	-	61	428	-	-	-	-	921	5,577	921	5,577
Denmark	161	2,473	-	-	-	-	400	2,963	789	6,466	789	6,466
France	-	-	100	703	-	-	464	5,368	4,772	32,562	4,772	32,562
Germany	357	3,857	449	4,035	215	2,414	1,272	25,461	9,942	94,127	9,942	94,127
Italy	151	913	149	1,163	224	1,243	1,825	21,638	7,628	47,958	7,628	47,958
Netherlands	115	802	39	276	110	526	92	3,999	1,696	16,098	1,696	16,098
Sweden	-	-	-	-	-	-	162	3,054	452	4,405	452	4,405
United Kingdom	3,140	52,899	3,554	47,511	1,393	16,814	4,338	48,602	48,417	599,252	48,417	599,252
Norway	53	2,246	154	1,661	-	-	54	375	980	9,028	980	9,028
Switzerland	-	-	39	1,065	-	-	106	5,508	2,162	17,671	2,162	17,671
Russia	88	1,368	137	961	-	-	256	2,107	998	8,993	998	8,993
Libya	53	160	322	1,093	53	909	574	3,299	3,247	15,549	3,247	15,549
USA	-	-	53	374	49	343	198	2,147	1,604	13,981	1,604	13,981
Other	637	4,503	673	4,041	150	12,286	2,481	52,519	13,416	139,913	13,416	139,913
Total	4,755	69,221	5,791	63,738	2,301	37,637	12,369	178,332	98,498	1,024,586	98,498	1,024,586

Table 6. Tourist air departures by country of residence, type of accommodation and number of nights spent: January-February 2004 ...

Country of residence	Hotels												
	5-star		4-star		3-star		2-star		Unclassified		No. of nights	No. of tourists	
	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights			
Austria	318	1,624	738	4,771	319	2,042	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belgium	794	5,141	356	2,338	41	243	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Denmark	239	1,694	198	1,924	38	269	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
France	1,923	8,901	2,193	15,176	516	3,163	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Germany	1,304	7,899	6,321	52,280	1,338	9,831	118	1,094	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	4,397	16,234	2,481	12,691	1,313	8,145	38	38	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	352	1,895	675	3,537	352	2,852	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sweden	629	2,900	-	-	-	-	77	537	-	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	3,793	23,404	19,547	233,947	13,228	177,610	313	4,180	39	270	-	-	-
Norway	635	2,910	118	670	41	1,339	161	1,409	-	-	-	-	-
Switzerland	717	4,102	864	5,565	243	1,623	156	1,013	-	-	-	-	-
Russia	275	2,233	74	383	158	1,908	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Libya	478	2,230	386	1,577	636	2,935	41	41	-	-	-	-	-
USA	472	2,941	555	4,759	77	384	77	730	-	-	-	-	-
Other	4,277	20,668	3,398	23,140	1,038	7,557	351	2,752	-	-	-	-	-
Total	20,603	104,776	37,904	362,758	19,338	219,901	1,332	11,794	39	270	-	-	270

... Table 6. Tourist air departures by country of residence, type of accommodation and number of nights spent: January-February 2004

Country of residence	Holiday Complex		Apart-Hotel		Furnished premises		Other		Total	
	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights
	Austria	-	-	40	281	38	346	402	2,845	1,855
Belgium	-	-	81	403	-	-	157	1,526	1,429	9,651
Denmark	-	-	-	-	-	-	595	4,408	1,070	8,295
France	-	-	162	1,136	117	506	553	11,456	5,464	40,338
Germany	-	-	560	4,207	356	8,669	1,187	11,305	11,184	95,285
Italy	-	-	201	919	38	115	1,696	12,349	10,164	50,491
Netherlands	-	-	241	7,325	-	-	160	996	1,780	16,605
Sweden	-	-	79	516	40	1,044	198	1,769	1,023	6,766
United Kingdom	38	1,075	2,188	22,867	943	23,677	5,125	66,626	45,214	553,656
Norway	-	-	159	3,088	-	-	38	268	1,152	9,684
Switzerland	-	-	81	811	-	-	361	9,899	2,422	23,013
Russia	-	-	117	7,305	-	-	427	7,373	1,051	19,202
Libya	-	-	119	754	79	1,615	356	4,818	2,095	13,970
USA	-	-	40	281	38	537	352	7,121	1,611	16,753
Other	41	5,883	354	2,782	432	22,859	2,315	103,458	12,206	189,099
Total	79	6,958	4,422	52,675	2,081	59,368	13,922	246,217	99,720	1,064,717

Table 7. Breakdown of expenditure by package and non-package tourists

January-February 2003					
Country of residence	Package Expenditure	Non-package		Other expenditure	Total
		Airfares	Accomodation		
(Lm)					
Austria	182,093	67,342	75,570	111,999	437,004
Belgium	165,925	45,836	36,868	96,338	344,967
Denmark	105,172	27,556	14,975	169,051	316,754
France	922,879	163,857	108,507	422,989	1,618,232
Germany	1,839,761	457,919	319,068	1,122,492	3,739,240
Italy	660,798	581,184	342,385	783,350	2,367,717
Netherlands	276,957	48,113	53,853	245,784	624,707
Sweden	55,362	42,268	11,550	50,775	159,955
United Kingdom	8,659,822	1,352,631	877,861	6,327,437	17,217,751
Norway	124,225	127,376	51,734	151,309	454,644
Switzerland	445,382	108,257	101,006	221,864	876,509
Russia	172,679	59,321	13,940	92,124	338,064
Libya	133,194	462,273	214,813	544,277	1,354,557
USA	477,279	155,377	98,965	259,329	990,950
Other	2,349,074	1,268,845	616,037	2,273,245	6,507,201
Total	16,570,602	4,968,155	2,937,132	12,872,363	37,348,252
January-February 2004					
Austria	328,507	38,909	39,100	143,638	550,154
Belgium	154,638	94,978	86,860	140,713	477,189
Denmark	171,503	29,467	6,040	85,513	292,523
France	841,231	245,063	163,483	442,503	1,692,280
Germany	2,024,119	337,953	206,012	989,050	3,557,134
Italy	1,293,736	618,583	426,318	833,214	3,171,851
Netherlands	247,042	86,072	58,246	166,123	557,483
Sweden	163,728	72,919	34,937	108,815	380,399
United Kingdom	8,053,152	1,103,843	635,174	5,847,965	15,640,134
Norway	238,470	84,901	42,359	112,425	478,155
Switzerland	449,601	111,007	65,403	193,616	819,627
Russia	107,152	71,206	35,517	290,526	504,401
Libya	132,339	140,739	136,702	227,058	636,838
USA	273,454	172,755	78,270	200,955	725,434
Other	1,265,961	1,611,377	707,303	1,609,220	5,193,861
Total	15,744,633	4,819,772	2,721,724	11,391,334	34,677,463

Table 8. Per capita expenditure by package and non-package tourists

January-February 2003					
Country of residence	Package Expenditure	Non-package		Other expenditure	Total
		Airfares	Accomodation		
(Lm)					
Austria	174.8	155.9	174.9	76.0	129.3
Belgium	225.7	246.4	198.2	104.6	170.1
Denmark	183.5	128.2	130.2	214.5	187.3
France	244.6	164.0	108.6	88.6	153.5
Germany	264.1	153.9	116.5	112.9	165.3
Italy	228.3	122.8	79.8	102.7	121.1
Netherlands	205.6	137.9	154.3	144.9	167.0
Sweden	241.8	189.5	71.7	112.3	150.2
United Kingdom	233.9	118.7	99.8	130.7	163.0
Norway	305.2	222.3	90.3	154.4	179.5
Switzerland	288.6	175.2	163.4	102.6	177.4
Russia	236.9	219.7	77.0	92.3	155.2
Libya	197.3	179.7	88.8	167.6	152.0
USA	635.5	182.2	133.2	161.7	250.8
Other	310.4	217.0	115.6	169.4	202.3
Total	250.1	154.1	105.2	130.7	166.1
January-February 2004					
Austria	207.9	141.5	142.2	77.4	138.1
Belgium	204.3	141.3	137.4	98.5	136.7
Denmark	180.7	241.5	74.6	79.8	131.6
France	234.8	130.3	94.9	81.0	133.8
Germany	215.7	187.8	119.6	88.4	147.7
Italy	241.7	128.6	98.3	82.0	128.6
Netherlands	183.7	197.9	133.9	93.3	139.5
Sweden	243.6	207.2	128.0	106.4	164.0
United Kingdom	226.7	113.9	86.8	129.3	160.0
Norway	301.5	235.2	131.1	97.6	182.0
Switzerland	257.5	164.0	102.8	79.9	149.5
Russia	210.1	131.6	92.3	276.4	202.8
Libya	244.2	90.6	90.4	108.4	111.7
USA	384.6	192.0	95.3	124.7	179.4
Other	252.1	224.3	106.0	131.8	167.1
Total	230.0	154.2	100.2	114.2	153.0