

# News Release

e-stats service



**No. 85/2004**  
**10 May 2004**  
**Time of Release: 11.00hrs**

## TOURISM STATISTICS

### Tourism departures: March 2004

Estimates from the inbound tourism survey show that in March this year, the number of departing tourists by air reached 6,5019 tourists, a decline of 9.3 per cent over the same month last year.

This decline was attributed, amongst others to the German market which accounted for 15.6 per cent of the market and declined by 18.6 per cent, the Dutch market which declined by 51.6 per cent, the French market which declined by 21.8 per cent and the Swiss market which declined by 23.8 per cent. Other drops in tourist departures included the Libyan, U.S., Russian and Belgian markets.

On the other hand, tourist departures that originated from the United Kingdom, increased by 3.0 per cent over the same month last year and accounted for 48.2 per cent of all tourist departures during the month under study. Other markets recording increases included the Austrian, Danish and Norwegian markets.

### January - March

The first quarter of this year approximates 164,739 tourists departing from Malta, a decline of 3.2 per cent when compared with a total of 170,176 tourists for the same quarter last year. It is estimated that 46.5 per cent of all tourist departures during this period originated from the United Kingdom, a decline of 2.9 per cent when compared to the same period last year. The German market which, accounted for 13 per cent of all tourist departures decreased by 4.8 per cent over the same month last year. Other drops in tourist departures included the Dutch market, the Libyan, the Belgian, the French, the Swiss, the Russian and US markets.

On the other hand, the Italian market which accounted for 8.8 per cent of all tourist departures increased by 21.1 per cent over the same period last year. Other increases in tourist departures included the Austrian, the Swedish and the Norwegian market.

### Accommodation

It is estimated that during the during the first three months of this year, the number of nights spent in the Maltese Islands by tourists departing by air amounted to a total of 1,719,092, a decrease of 2.2 per cent over the same period last year. The number of nights spent in hotel accommodation establishments accounted for 70.0 per cent of the latter total nights spent. In the period under review, a total of 133,007 tourists or 80.7 per cent of all tourists stayed in hotels; an increase of 3.8 per cent over the previous year.

### Tourism expenditure

In the period under review, expenditure on package tours to the Maltese Islands was estimated at Lm25.8 million; a decrease of Lm3.3 million or 11.6 per cent over last year. Non-package tourists spent Lm7.3 million on airfares and Lm4.5 million on accommodation thereby increasing total expenditure on non-package travel by approximately Lm0.04 million or 0.4 per cent over the first three months of last year.

Other expenditure accruing to both package and non-package tourists decreased by Lm2.7 million to Lm18.5 million from Lm21.3 million in the same period last year. In the period under review total expenditure decreased by Lm6.1 million or 9.8 per cent to Lm56.1 million. As a result, per capita expenditure decreased to Lm150.5 from Lm162.3 of the same period last year.

The monthly calendar of NSO News Releases may be consulted on the Office's website at [www.nso.gov.mt](http://www.nso.gov.mt)

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

*Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release*

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

Country of residence	2002	2003	2003/2002 % +/-	2004	2004/2003 % +/-
Austria	1,991	885	-55.5	1,330	50.3
Belgium	926	1,082	16.8	823	-23.9
Denmark	1,775	1,034	-41.7	1,140	10.3
France	4,906	4,158	-15.2	3,253	-21.8
Germany	11,654	12,474	7.0	10,159	-18.6
Italy	4,476	4,330	-3.3	4,312	-0.4
Netherlands	2,460	2,812	14.3	1,361	-51.6
Sweden	482	587	21.8	586	-0.2
United Kingdom	33,757	30,467	-9.7	31,369	3.0
Norway	1,141	735	-35.6	858	16.7
Switzerland	1,534	1,860	21.3	1,417	-23.8
Russia	406	735	81.0	577	-21.5
Libya	1,787	1,340	-25.0	1,099	-18.0
U.S.A.	1,133	1,223	7.9	971	-20.6
Other	10,323	7,956	-22.9	5,764	-27.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>78,751</b>	<b>71,678</b>	<b>-9.0</b>	<b>65,019</b>	<b>-9.3</b>

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

Country of residence	2002	2003	2003/2002 % +/-	2004	2004/2003 % +/-
Austria	3,472	2,359	-32.1	3,185	35.0
Belgium	1,907	2,003	5.0	2,252	12.4
Denmark	3,390	1,823	-46.2	2,210	21.2
France	10,315	8,931	-13.4	8,717	-2.4
Germany	25,321	22,417	-11.5	21,343	-4.8
Italy	13,402	11,958	-10.8	14,476	21.1
Netherlands	4,444	4,509	1.5	3,141	-30.3
Sweden	846	1,038	22.7	1,609	55.0
United Kingdom	73,828	78,883	6.8	76,583	-2.9
Norway	1,891	1,715	-9.3	2,010	17.2
Switzerland	3,863	4,022	4.1	3,839	-4.5
Russia	1,641	1,733	5.6	1,628	-6.1
Libya	5,306	4,588	-13.5	3,194	-30.4
U.S.A.	2,418	2,828	17.0	2,582	-8.7
Other	21,332	21,369	0.2	17,970	-15.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>173,376</b>	<b>170,176</b>	<b>-1.8</b>	<b>164,739</b>	<b>-3.2</b>

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

Country of residence	Holiday		Business (other)		Visiting Friends / Family		Other		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Austria	589	1.0	99	1.3	49	3.4	148	4.0	885	1.2
Belgium	750	1.3	332	4.3	-	-	-	-	1,082	1.5
Denmark	739	1.3	-	-	49	3.4	246	6.6	1,034	1.4
France	3,569	6.1	418	5.4	-	-	171	4.6	4,158	5.8
Germany	10,646	18.1	1,216	15.8	49	3.4	563	15.2	12,474	17.4
Italy	2,316	3.9	968	12.6	99	6.9	947	25.5	4,330	6.0
Netherlands	2,641	4.5	122	1.6	-	-	49	1.3	2,812	3.9
Sweden	306	0.5	135	1.8	-	-	146	3.9	587	0.8
United Kingdom	28,337	48.2	1,065	13.8	784	54.7	281	7.6	30,467	42.5
Norway	501	0.9	99	1.3	49	3.4	86	2.3	735	1.0
Switzerland	1,466	2.5	148	1.9	-	-	246	6.6	1,860	2.6
Russia	587	1.0	148	1.9	-	-	-	-	735	1.0
Libya	739	1.3	381	4.9	49	3.4	171	4.6	1,340	1.9
U.S.A.	818	1.4	283	3.7	122	8.5	-	-	1,223	1.7
Other	4,828	8.2	2,283	29.7	184	12.8	661	17.8	7,956	11.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,832</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7,697</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,434</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,715</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>71,678</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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

Country of residence	Holiday		Business (other)		Visiting Friends / Family		Other		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Austria	1,097	2.1	118	1.9	38	2.5	77	1.9	1,330	2.0
Belgium	626	1.2	118	1.9	79	5.2	-	-	823	1.3
Denmark	708	1.3	118	1.9	39	2.6	275	6.6	1,140	1.8
France	2,587	4.9	510	8.0	38	2.5	118	2.8	3,253	5.0
Germany	8,319	15.7	784	12.3	118	7.7	938	22.6	10,159	15.6
Italy	2,387	4.5	944	14.9	155	10.2	826	19.9	4,312	6.6
Netherlands	1,166	2.2	118	1.9	39	2.6	38	0.9	1,361	2.1
Sweden	273	0.5	313	4.9	-	-	-	-	586	0.9
United Kingdom	29,142	55.0	1,135	17.9	587	38.5	505	12.2	31,369	48.2
Norway	507	1.0	235	3.7	0	0.0	116	2.8	858	1.3
Switzerland	1,102	2.1	79	1.2	79	5.2	157	3.8	1,417	2.2
Russia	383	0.7	78	1.2	-	-	116	2.8	577	0.9
Libya	589	1.1	275	4.3	79	5.2	156	3.8	1,099	1.7
U.S.A.	737	1.4	156	2.5	78	5.1	-	-	971	1.5
Other	3,374	6.4	1,372	21.6	196	12.9	822	19.8	5,764	8.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,997</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6,353</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,525</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,144</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>65,019</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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

Country of residence	Hotels											
	5-star		4-star		3-star		2-star		Unclassified		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	453	1,948	909	6,649	474	3,496	61	61	49	148		
Belgium	919	4,433	595	4,556	325	2,701	53	374	-	-		
Denmark	61	122	53	214	53	267	-	-	258	1,807		
France	1,434	8,341	3,959	25,529	1,727	9,120	488	2,722	97	597		
Germany	4,591	26,314	10,819	82,882	2,998	25,114	86	1,200	220	904		
Italy	3,312	11,770	3,309	15,639	1,343	7,492	294	2,130	-	-		
Netherlands	854	6,295	987	7,384	1,333	9,808	-	-	49	685		
Sweden	274	1,031	183	1,355	139	1,323	73	510	-	-		
United Kingdom	6,278	44,486	34,471	390,409	15,510	218,865	964	17,282	1,195	15,870		
Norway	696	3,517	249	1,749	103	867	-	-	39	1,341		
Switzerland	1,040	5,200	1,541	9,213	541	4,044	61	183	213	1,233		
Russia	464	3,047	360	3,110	282	6,232	-	-	-	-		
Libya	638	3,281	1,103	6,387	1,232	6,702	330	5,408	-	-		
USA	1,296	9,729	937	6,847	49	392	-	-	36	146		
Other	6,674	32,260	5,637	40,376	2,672	24,571	504	2,801	146	881		
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,984</b>	<b>161,774</b>	<b>65,112</b>	<b>602,299</b>	<b>28,781</b>	<b>320,994</b>	<b>2,914</b>	<b>32,671</b>	<b>2,302</b>	<b>23,612</b>		

... Table 5. Tourist air departures by country of residence, type of accommodation and number of nights spent: January-March 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
	Austria	-	-	110	1,561	107	3,102	196	1,637	2,359
Belgium	-	-	61	427	-	-	50	148	2,003	12,639
Denmark	211	2,818	-	-	-	-	1,187	9,025	1,823	14,253
France	73	764	223	1,558	-	-	930	9,081	8,931	57,712
Germany	492	4,656	914	9,200	521	5,964	1,776	29,768	22,417	186,002
Italy	323	1,609	321	2,420	261	3,391	2,795	29,202	11,958	73,653
Netherlands	322	2,365	393	2,985	159	920	412	6,246	4,509	36,688
Sweden	-	-	135	1,709	-	-	234	3,782	1,038	9,710
United Kingdom	5,825	96,850	5,577	75,204	1,983	31,107	7,080	93,484	78,883	983,557
Norway	90	2,756	190	2,135	-	-	348	9,256	1,715	21,621
Switzerland	-	-	421	3,587	-	-	205	7,924	4,022	31,384
Russia	88	1,368	137	961	-	-	402	6,437	1,733	21,155
Libya	53	160	408	1,940	103	1,254	721	4,432	4,588	29,564
USA	-	-	53	374	98	5,666	359	3,208	2,828	26,362
Other	782	5,286	966	12,121	236	19,817	3,752	95,962	21,369	234,075
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,259</b>	<b>118,632</b>	<b>9,909</b>	<b>116,182</b>	<b>3,468</b>	<b>71,221</b>	<b>20,447</b>	<b>309,592</b>	<b>170,176</b>	<b>1,756,977</b>

Table 6. Tourist air departures by country of residence, type of accommodation and number of nights spent: January-March 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	707	4,403	1,132	7,389	670	4,404	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belgium	1,148	6,905	707	5,449	119	794	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Denmark	475	3,150	198	1,924	196	1,351	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
France	2,591	11,964	3,800	25,149	1,023	6,131	79	1,063	-	-	-	-	-
Germany	2,632	15,047	11,943	95,951	2,861	21,551	118	1,094	39	79	-	-	-
Italy	5,883	22,567	3,341	17,692	2,100	12,219	156	668	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	586	2,906	1,377	8,722	469	3,856	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sweden	982	4,470	117	544	-	-	193	1,426	-	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	6,679	42,519	34,471	398,425	21,946	294,113	429	5,414	39	270	-	-	-
Norway	831	3,914	429	4,641	156	2,719	161	1,409	-	-	-	-	-
Switzerland	1,308	7,211	1,297	8,398	598	4,850	156	1,013	-	-	-	-	-
Russia	313	2,501	304	1,975	352	3,178	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Libya	713	3,626	662	3,072	871	9,212	237	592	-	-	-	-	-
U.S.A.	821	5,383	826	6,661	232	1,510	77	730	-	-	-	-	-
Other	5,964	29,691	5,322	54,729	1,780	12,539	391	2,988	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,633</b>	<b>166,257</b>	<b>65,926</b>	<b>640,721</b>	<b>33,373</b>	<b>378,427</b>	<b>1,997</b>	<b>16,397</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>349</b>

... Table 6. Tourist air departures by country of residence, type of accommodation and number of nights spent: January-March 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	No. of tourists	No. of nights
	Austria	-	-	80	557	78	818	518	3,546	3,185	21,117	3,185
Belgium	-	-	120	678	-	-	158	1,525	2,252	15,351	2,252	15,351
Denmark	-	-	39	275	79	630	1,223	12,161	2,210	19,491	2,210	19,491
France	-	-	202	1,254	157	781	865	13,539	8,717	59,881	8,717	59,881
Germany	-	-	678	5,270	551	10,538	2,521	35,920	21,343	185,450	21,343	185,450
Italy	-	-	280	2,848	117	6,825	2,599	18,944	14,476	81,763	14,476	81,763
Netherlands	-	-	318	7,862	77	805	314	4,696	3,141	28,847	3,141	28,847
Sweden	-	-	79	516	40	1,044	198	1,768	1,609	9,768	1,609	9,768
United Kingdom	77	1,343	3,668	37,981	1,766	39,686	7,508	83,228	76,583	902,979	76,583	902,979
Norway	-	-	277	4,949	-	-	156	1,056	2,010	18,688	2,010	18,688
Switzerland	-	-	81	811	-	-	399	10,174	3,839	32,457	3,839	32,457
Russia	-	-	117	7,305	-	-	542	8,715	1,628	23,674	1,628	23,674
Libya	-	-	119	754	79	1,615	513	7,830	3,194	26,701	3,194	26,701
U.S.A.	-	-	79	550	78	695	469	9,066	2,582	24,595	2,582	24,595
Other	41	5,883	549	10,233	705	33,991	3,218	118,276	17,970	268,330	17,970	268,330
<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>7,226</b>	<b>6,686</b>	<b>81,843</b>	<b>3,727</b>	<b>97,428</b>	<b>21,201</b>	<b>330,444</b>	<b>164,739</b>	<b>1,719,092</b>	<b>164,739</b>	<b>1,719,092</b>

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

January-March 2003					
Country of residence	Package Expenditure	Non-package		Other expenditure	Total
		Airfares	Accomodation		
(Lm)					
Austria	310,931	85,307	85,702	180,308	662,248
Belgium	386,809	76,942	71,144	188,295	723,190
Denmark	289,614	41,783	22,285	293,487	647,169
France	1,769,894	265,801	168,394	777,975	2,982,064
Germany	4,396,167	770,343	462,858	2,086,051	7,715,419
Italy	1,304,944	768,002	457,830	1,312,432	3,843,208
Netherlands	779,462	75,479	81,461	560,550	1,496,952
Sweden	137,131	68,430	40,774	105,529	351,864
United Kingdom	13,897,127	2,005,797	1,327,113	10,551,016	27,781,053
Norway	330,555	152,113	58,810	312,514	853,992
Switzerland	973,158	132,475	116,202	404,219	1,626,054
Russia	301,720	73,539	19,457	159,262	553,978
Libya	263,192	514,452	274,967	890,924	1,943,535
U.S.A.	655,267	331,717	194,266	394,553	1,575,803
Other	3,393,371	1,958,134	990,400	3,076,318	9,418,223
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,189,342</b>	<b>7,320,314</b>	<b>4,371,663</b>	<b>21,293,433</b>	<b>62,174,752</b>
January-March 2004					
Austria	570,865	83,628	78,770	282,488	1,015,751
Belgium	282,344	128,403	111,977	201,732	724,456
Denmark	360,049	64,313	27,981	235,942	688,285
France	1,366,423	334,150	218,930	770,973	2,690,476
Germany	3,759,757	621,453	377,638	1,931,093	6,689,941
Italy	1,749,265	917,597	658,454	1,219,917	4,545,233
Netherlands	473,076	111,364	86,799	311,338	982,577
Sweden	200,772	116,662	71,829	156,801	546,064
United Kingdom	13,458,904	1,745,172	1,136,134	9,475,760	25,815,970
Norway	343,343	132,551	71,670	200,438	748,002
Switzerland	745,750	141,367	84,009	332,798	1,303,924
Russia	141,855	132,134	86,278	347,794	708,061
Libya	184,692	217,372	201,975	444,798	1,048,837
U.S.A.	385,355	284,678	141,010	357,153	1,168,196
Other	1,788,511	2,232,827	1,116,579	2,276,819	7,414,736
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,810,961</b>	<b>7,263,671</b>	<b>4,470,033</b>	<b>18,545,844</b>	<b>56,090,509</b>

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

January-March 2003					
Country of residence	Package Expenditure	Non-package		Other expenditure	Total
		Airfares	Accomodation		
(Lm)					
Austria	183.7	128.3	128.9	76.4	123.0
Belgium	260.5	148.5	151.7	94.0	161.6
Denmark	191.9	133.1	104.6	161.0	167.7
France	246.0	153.1	99.1	87.1	152.4
Germany	253.7	151.3	96.3	93.1	155.4
Italy	227.3	123.5	81.4	109.8	130.1
Netherlands	197.9	132.4	142.9	124.3	156.1
Sweden	239.7	146.5	110.5	101.7	143.9
United Kingdom	227.0	113.6	99.7	133.8	162.4
Norway	328.3	214.8	87.6	182.2	208.2
Switzerland	294.5	184.8	162.1	100.5	185.6
Russia	225.0	187.6	72.9	91.9	148.4
Libya	189.5	160.8	93.3	194.2	160.3
U.S.A.	504.4	217.1	147.2	139.5	225.9
Other	293.9	199.3	108.6	144.0	181.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>242.1</b>	<b>147.6</b>	<b>102.2</b>	<b>125.1</b>	<b>162.3</b>
January-March 2004					
Austria	226.8	125.2	125.4	88.7	145.1
Belgium	210.2	141.4	129.0	89.6	134.9
Denmark	194.2	179.6	88.3	106.7	145.2
France	221.4	131.2	94.7	88.4	136.2
Germany	216.8	155.4	100.4	90.5	144.0
Italy	222.6	138.7	110.0	84.3	130.1
Netherlands	185.6	188.1	146.6	99.1	142.9
Sweden	221.8	165.5	122.4	97.4	143.4
United Kingdom	221.6	110.2	93.9	123.7	156.2
Norway	272.9	176.3	120.5	99.7	162.1
Switzerland	251.4	161.9	100.9	86.7	153.2
Russia	227.0	131.7	101.9	213.6	172.6
Libya	264.2	87.1	83.6	139.2	119.1
U.S.A.	363.9	187.0	103.2	138.3	178.9
Other	245.1	209.2	112.0	126.7	161.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>224.1</b>	<b>146.6</b>	<b>103.5</b>	<b>112.6</b>	<b>150.5</b>