

News Release



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Compiled by:
Tourism Statistics Unit
e-mail: tourism.nso@gov.mt
Tel: 25997329

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Tourism

Outbound Tourism: August 2007

Outbound Maltese tourists for August are estimated at 35,836, implying an increase of 15.1 per cent over the same month last year. Of these 88.4 per cent travelled by air.

August 2007

In the month under review, Maltese residents departing by air and sea are estimated at 35,836. Of these 29,177 travelled to European Union destinations, the most popular being Italy and the UK.

January-August 2007

In the period under review, the number of Maltese passengers departing by air and sea amounted to 188,163, an increase of 12.1 per cent over the same period last year. Of these 85.5 per cent travelled to European Union destinations; the most visited countries being Italy and the UK.

During this period, male outbound passengers exceeded female ones, the former accounting for 58.4 per cent of the total.

The largest proportion of outbound passengers - 45.3 per cent - comprised passengers aged between 25 and 44 years, followed by those in the 45-64 age bracket who accounted for 39.3 per cent of total Maltese travellers ■

National Statistics Office
Library & Information Unit
Lascaris, Valletta VLT 2000, Malta
Tel: (+356) 25997219
Fax: (+356) 25997205
e-mail: nso@gov.mt
<http://www.nso.gov.mt>

Table 1. Outbound passengers: monthly

		persons			
	August		Absolute change	Percentage change	
	2006	2007	2007/2006	2007/2006	
	Total	31,129	35,836	4,707	15.1
Transport:					
Air	26,295	31,664	5,369	20.4	
Sea *	4,834	4,172	-662	-13.7	
Destination:					
EU	24,727	29,177	4,450	18.0	
Italy	8,076	9,781	1,705	21.1	
UK	6,171	6,239	68	1.1	
Non-EU	6,402	6,659	257	4.0	
Sex:					
Males	17,483	19,091	1,608	9.2	
Females	13,646	16,745	3,099	22.7	
Age group:					
0-24	2,926	4,013	1,087	37.1	
25-44	14,146	14,448	302	2.1	
45-64	12,265	14,765	2,500	20.4	
65+	1,792	2,610	818	45.6	

* Note: Outbound sea passengers include an element of same-day visitors.

Table 2. Outbound passengers: cumulative

		persons		
	January-August		Absolute change	Percentage change
	2006	2007	2007/2006	2007/2006
	Total	167,851	188,163	20,312
Transport:				
Air	144,568	163,275	18,707	12.9
Sea *	23,283	24,888	1,605	6.9
Destination:				
EU	138,035	160,933	22,898	16.6
Italy	51,324	65,984	14,660	28.6
UK	37,731	38,706	975	2.6
Non-EU	29,816	27,230	-2,586	-8.7
Sex:				
Males	100,458	109,862	9,404	9.4
Females	67,393	78,301	10,908	16.2
Age group:				
0-24	13,904	19,961	6,057	43.6
25-44	77,633	85,228	7,595	9.8
45-64	69,397	73,917	4,520	6.5
65+	6,917	9,057	2,140	30.9

* Note: Outbound sea passengers include an element of same-day visitors.

Methodological Notes

1. Maltese air departures are collected through a continuous survey carried out at the departure lounge of Malta International Airport. A two-stage sample design is used for this survey. At the first stage alternate days are selected. Then within each shift a sample of passengers is selected systematically. Personal interviews are carried out. Monthly response rates of around 90 per cent are achieved.
2. Maltese sea departures are collected through a regular survey that is carried out at the seaport. Ferry sailings on every alternate day are selected. Departing passengers are interviewed personally. On average a response rate of 93 per cent is recorded for this survey.
3. The survey which is carried out at the seaport commenced in April 2004. No data for Maltese sea departures is available for the period January - March 2004.
4. The variables with respect to Maltese departures that are collected in this survey include the following:
 - Age
 - Sex
 - Destination
5. The surveys carried out at the airport and the seaport are grossed up using the monthly passenger departures data in respect of each port after removing the number of transit passengers from the data sets.
6. Definitions

Outbound tourism comprises the activities of residents of a given country travelling to and staying in places outside that country and outside their usual environment.

Usual environment consists of the direct vicinity of his/her home and place of work and other places frequently visited.
7. The data in this release are not normally subject to revision.