

# News Release



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**Compiled by:**  
**Tourism Statistics Unit**  
**e-mail: [tourism.nso@gov.mt](mailto:tourism.nso@gov.mt)**  
**Tel: 25997329**

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## Tourism

### Outbound Tourism: August 2008

*Outbound Maltese tourists for August are estimated at 37,337, implying an increase of 4.2 per cent over the same month in 2007. Of these, 89.8 per cent travelled by air.*

### August 2008

In the month under review, Maltese residents departing by air and sea are estimated at 37,337. Of these, 31,386, travelled to EU destinations, the most popular being Italy and the UK.

### January-August 2008

In the period under review, the number of Maltese passengers departing by air and sea amounted to 198,828, an increase of 5.7 per cent over the corresponding period last year. Of these, 85.6 per cent travelled to EU destinations; the most visited countries were Italy and the UK.

During this period, male outbound passengers exceeded female ones, the former accounting for 57.1 per cent of the total.

The largest proportion of outbound passengers - 45.0 per cent - comprised passengers aged between 25 and 44 years, followed by those in the 45 to 64 age bracket who accounted for 37.8 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](mailto:nso@gov.mt)  
<http://www.nso.gov.mt>

**Table 1. Outbound passengers: monthly**

	persons			
	August		Absolute change	Percentage change
	2007	2008	2008/2007	2008/2007
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,836</b>	<b>37,337</b>	<b>1,501</b>	<b>4.2</b>
Transport:				
Air	31,664	33,531	1,867	5.9
Sea *	4,172	3,806	-366	-8.8
Destination:				
EU	29,177	31,386	2,209	7.6
<i>of which:</i>				
Italy	9,781	10,483	702	7.2
UK	6,239	6,832	593	9.5
Non-EU	6,659	5,951	-708	-10.6
Sex:				
Males	19,091	19,565	474	2.5
Females	16,745	17,772	1,027	6.1
Age group:				
0-24	4,013	5,898	1,885	47.0
25-44	14,448	13,674	-774	-5.4
45-64	14,765	15,203	438	3.0
65+	2,610	2,562	-48	-1.8

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

**Table 2. Outbound passengers: cumulative**

persons				
	January-August		Absolute change	Percentage change
	2007	2008	2008/2007	2008/2007
	<b>Total</b>	<b>188,163</b>	<b>198,828</b>	<b>10,665</b>
Transport:				
Air	163,275	175,573	12,298	7.5
Sea *	24,888	23,255	-1,633	-6.6
Destination:				
EU	160,933	170,195	9,262	5.8
<i>of which:</i>				
Italy	65,984	60,938	-5,046	-7.6
UK	38,706	45,121	6,415	16.6
Non-EU	27,230	28,633	1,403	5.2
Sex:				
Males	109,862	113,479	3,617	3.3
Females	78,301	85,349	7,048	9.0
Age group:				
0-24	19,961	24,158	4,197	21.0
25-44	85,228	89,438	4,210	4.9
45-64	73,917	75,247	1,330	1.8
65+	9,057	9,985	928	10.2

\* 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 are 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* refers to 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.