

News Release



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Tourism

Outbound Tourism: March 2008

Outbound Maltese tourists for March are estimated at 23,888, implying an increase of 23.6 per cent over the same month in 2007. Of these, 90.1 per cent travelled by air.

March 2008

In the month under review, Maltese residents departing by air and sea are estimated at 23,888. Of these, 20,385 travelled to EU destinations, the most popular being Italy and the UK.

January-March 2008

In the period under review, the number of Maltese passengers departing by air and sea amounted to 59,329, an increase of 27.1 per cent over the corresponding period last year. Of these 86.1 per cent travelled to EU destinations; the most visited countries being Italy and the UK.

During this period, male outbound passengers exceeded female ones, the former accounting for 59.6 per cent of the total.

The largest proportion of outbound passengers - 49.0 per cent - comprised passengers aged between 25 and 44 years, followed by those in the 45 to 64 age bracket who accounted for 38.1 per cent of total Maltese travellers ■

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Table 1. Outbound passengers: monthly

	persons			
	March		Absolute change	Percentage change
	2007	2008	2008/2007	2008/2007
Total	19,333	23,888	4,555	23.6
Transport:				
Air	17,839	21,516	3,677	20.6
Sea *	1,494	2,372	878	58.8
Destination:				
EU	16,853	20,385	3,532	21.0
<i>Of which:</i>				
Italy	5,881	7,710	1,829	31.1
UK	4,915	5,349	434	8.8
Non-EU	2,480	3,503	1,023	41.3
Sex:				
Males	11,643	13,613	1,970	16.9
Females	7,690	10,275	2,585	33.6
Age group:				
0-24	2,175	3,197	1,022	47.0
25-44	9,217	11,313	2,096	22.7
45-64	7,307	8,593	1,286	17.6
65+	634	785	151	23.8

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

Table 2. Outbound passengers: cumulative

		persons			
	January-March		Absolute change	Percentage change	
	2007	2008	2008/2007	2008/2007	
	Total	46,683	59,329	12,646	27.1
Transport:					
Air	43,981	55,913	11,932	27.1	
Sea *	2,702	3,416	714	26.4	
Destination:					
EU	44,203	51,069	6,866	15.5	
<i>Of which:</i>					
Italy	13,010	17,166	4,156	31.9	
UK	13,529	17,021	3,492	25.8	
Non-EU	2,480	8,260	5,780	233.1	
Sex:					
Males	29,358	35,368	6,010	20.5	
Females	17,325	23,961	6,636	38.3	
Age group:					
0-24	5,095	5,663	568	11.1	
25-44	23,328	29,042	5,714	24.5	
45-64	16,754	22,616	5,862	35.0	
65+	1,506	2,008	502	33.3	

* 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.