

31 January 2014 | 1100 hrs | 021/2014

Tourstat data for December showed an increase of 3.1 per cent in total inbound visitors when compared to the corresponding month in 2012. Excluding the 326 passengers who stayed overnight on board their berthed cruise ship, the increase amounted to 6.5 per cent.

## Departing Tourists: December 2013

Departing tourists during December were estimated at 65,345. A total of 52,986 inbound tourist trips were carried out for holiday purposes, while a further 8,315 were undertaken for business purposes. Holidaymakers registered an increase of 11 per cent over the previous year. As in previous months, most inbound tourists came from EU Member States, while tourists from Non-EU countries increased by 27 per cent. Malta's main tourism markets continued to be the UK and Italy.

Total nights spent went up by 6.8 per cent, reaching 567,553. In absolute terms, the majority of guest nights were spent in collective accommodation establishments. However, in percentage terms, a substantial increase was noted in the number of tourists residing in private accommodation. The average length of stay was 8.7 nights, at par with 2012 levels.

During the reference month, total expenditure of departing tourists was estimated at €49.5 million, a decline of 1.3 per cent over the corresponding month a year earlier. All expenditure categories registered decreases.

### January-December 2013

Inbound visitors last year reached a record 1.6 million, an increase of 9.3 per cent over 2012. Of these, 1,582,153 were departing tourists, up by 9.6 per cent over the comparable period in 2012.

Most departing tourists were holidaymakers, predominantly from the euro area. An increase of 23.9 per cent was registered in tourists from Non-EU countries (Table 8). Non-package travel was higher than package travel, with an estimated 52.2 per cent of departing tourists. Nonetheless, those opting for package travel advanced by 8.0 per cent when compared with 2012.

Male tourists accounted for 52 per cent of the total, while the largest proportion of inbound tourists were aged between 45 and 64.

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Total nights spent by departing tourists last year went up by 8.7 per cent, reaching almost 12.9 million. The majority of guest nights were spent in collective accommodation establishments, where an increase of 7.2 per cent was reported. The average length of stay was 8.1 nights.

During the period under review, total tourist expenditure was estimated at €1.4 billion. This estimate is 8.6 per cent higher than that for 2012. Increases were recorded throughout all expenditure categories. Total per capita expenditure stood at €910, a slight decrease over the previous year ■

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**Table 1. Profile of departing tourists**

Total (including overnight cruise passengers*)	December			absolute change	percentage change
	2011	2012	2013	2013/2012	2013/2012
	<b>55,573</b>	<b>63,694</b>	<b>65,671</b>	<b>1,978</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Departing tourists</b>	<b>54,902</b>	<b>61,373</b>	<b>65,345</b>	<b>3,973</b>	<b>6.5</b>
<b>Overnight cruise passengers</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>2,321</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>-1,995</b>	<b>-86.0</b>
Mode of travel:					
Air	51,133	57,393	61,255	3,863	6.7
Sea	3,769	3,980	4,090	110	2.8
Sex:					
Males	32,628	35,549	37,569	2,020	5.7
Females	22,275	25,824	27,777	1,953	7.6
Age group:					
0-24	6,995	7,797	10,436	2,639	33.8
25-44	19,421	20,480	24,133	3,653	17.8
45-64	19,515	21,069	20,574	-496	-
65+	8,971	12,027	10,203	-1,824	-15.2
Markets:					
EU	45,581	50,502	51,531	1,029	-
of which: Euro area	24,778	28,368	28,767	400	-
Non-EU	9,321	10,870	13,814	2,944	27.1
Purpose of visit:					
Holiday	44,322	47,749	52,986	5,237	11.0
Business and professional	6,848	8,894	8,315	-579	-
Other	3,732	4,729	4,044	-685	-
Organisation of stay:					
Package	21,017	24,490	24,836	346	-
Non-package	33,885	36,883	40,509	3,626	9.8
Frequency:					
First-time tourists	33,268	37,531	36,597	-933	-
Repeat tourists	21,634	23,842	28,748	4,906	20.6
less than or equal to once a year	11,911	13,381	14,281	901	-
more than twice a year	9,723	10,461	14,467	4,006	38.3
Duration of visit:					
1-3 nights	12,802	14,824	16,104	1,280	-
4-6 nights	16,325	14,542	15,913	1,371	-
7+ nights	25,776	32,006	33,328	1,322	-
Average length of stay (nights)	8.0	8.7	8.7	0.0	0.0

\* Refer to Tables 6 and 7

**Table 2. Departing tourists, by type of accommodation**

	December			persons	
				absolute change	percentage change
	2011	2012	2013	2013/2012	2013/2012
<b>Total</b>	<b>54,902</b>	<b>61,373</b>	<b>65,345</b>	<b>3,973</b>	<b>6.5</b>
Private accommodation	11,679	15,141	17,775	2,634	17.4
Collective accommodation*	43,223	46,231	47,570	1,339	-

**Table 3. Total nights spent by departing tourists, by type of accommodation**

	December			nights	
				absolute change	percentage change
	2011	2012	2013	2013/2012	2013/2012
<b>Total</b>	<b>440,655</b>	<b>531,352</b>	<b>567,553</b>	<b>36,201</b>	<b>6.8</b>
Private accommodation	140,252	197,717	251,266	53,550	27.1
Collective accommodation*	300,403	333,636	316,287	-17,349	-

\* Comprises hotels, apart-hotels, guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

**Table 4. Total expenditure by departing tourists, by expenditure categories**

	December			€000s	
				absolute change	percentage change
	2011	2012	2013	2013/2012	2013/2012
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,797</b>	<b>50,100</b>	<b>49,466</b>	<b>-634</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
Package	10,262	13,449	13,062	-387	-
Non-package	12,482	15,491	15,259	-231	-
Air/sea fares	6,305	8,504	9,309	805	-
Accommodation	6,177	6,987	5,950	-1,037	-
Other expenditure	16,052	21,160	21,145	-15	-

Estimates for expenditure are rounded to the nearest thousand

Table 5. Departing tourists, nights spent and total expenditure, by country of residence

	December			absolute change	percentage change
	2011	2012	2013	2013/2012	2013/2012
	<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>54,902</b>	<b>61,373</b>	<b>65,345</b>	<b>3,973</b>
<b>EU</b>	<b>45,581</b>	<b>50,502</b>	<b>51,531</b>	<b>1,029</b>	<b>-</b>
<i>of which:</i>					
France	4,006	3,426	3,830	404	-
Germany	3,660	5,962	5,463	-499	-
Italy	10,468	11,042	13,143	2,101	19.0
United Kingdom	18,471	19,378	19,053	-325	-
<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>9,321</b>	<b>10,870</b>	<b>13,814</b>	<b>2,944</b>	<b>27.1</b>
<b>Total nights</b>	<b>440,655</b>	<b>531,352</b>	<b>567,553</b>	<b>36,201</b>	<b>6.8</b>
<b>EU</b>	<b>362,633</b>	<b>439,712</b>	<b>406,306</b>	<b>-33,407</b>	<b>-</b>
<i>of which:</i>					
France	32,265	32,976	29,622	-3,354	-
Germany	32,679	56,483	47,403	-9,080	-
Italy	50,747	58,393	64,783	6,389	10.9
United Kingdom	166,165	192,892	175,049	-17,843	-
<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>78,022</b>	<b>91,640</b>	<b>161,248</b>	<b>69,608</b>	<b>76.0</b>
<b>Total expenditure (€000s)</b>	<b>38,797</b>	<b>50,100</b>	<b>49,466</b>	<b>-634</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
<b>EU</b>	<b>30,232</b>	<b>36,628</b>	<b>34,876</b>	<b>-1,752</b>	<b>-</b>
<i>of which:</i>					
France	3,014	2,732	3,126	394	-
Germany	2,950	5,321	5,168	-153	-
Italy	5,413	5,446	6,079	633	11.6
United Kingdom	12,509	13,406	13,042	-364	-
<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>8,565</b>	<b>13,472</b>	<b>14,590</b>	<b>1,118</b>	<b>8.3</b>

Estimates for expenditure are rounded to the nearest thousand

**Table 6. Overnight cruise passengers by nationality and gender**

December 2013			
Nationality	Males	Females	Total
<b>Total</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>326</b>
<b>EU</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>324</b>
<i>of which:</i>			
UK	130	189	319
Other	1	4	5
<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

**Table 7. Overnight cruise passengers by age group**

December 2013	
Age group	No.
<b>Total</b>	<b>326</b>
0-19	-
20-39	5
40-59	6
60-79	210
80+	105

**Table 8. Profile of departing tourists**

	January-December			absolute change	percentage change
	2011	2012	2013	2013/2012	2013/2012
	<b>Total (including overnight cruise passengers)</b>	<b>1,422,269</b>	<b>1,455,615</b>	<b>1,590,991</b>	<b>135,376</b>
<b>Departing tourists</b>	<b>1,415,018</b>	<b>1,443,414</b>	<b>1,582,153</b>	<b>138,739</b>	<b>9.6</b>
<b>Overnight cruise passengers</b>	<b>7,251</b>	<b>12,201</b>	<b>8,838</b>	<b>-3,363</b>	<b>-27.6</b>
Mode of travel:					
Air	1,375,076	1,401,323	1,538,628	137,305	9.8
Sea	39,942	42,091	43,525	1,434	3.4
Sex:					
Males	752,524	753,538	825,709	72,171	9.6
Females	662,494	689,876	756,444	66,568	9.6
Age group:					
0-24	286,477	287,426	322,257	34,830	12.1
25-44	450,980	451,336	504,461	53,125	11.8
45-64	503,772	504,934	528,943	24,009	4.8
65+	173,790	199,718	226,492	26,774	13.4
Markets:					
EU	1,208,249	1,229,147	1,316,781	87,634	7.1
of which: Euro area	652,780	653,099	707,654	54,555	8.4
Non-EU	206,769	214,267	265,372	51,105	23.9
Purpose of visit:					
Holiday	1,184,841	1,221,008	1,341,044	120,037	9.8
Business and professional	117,708	115,195	118,049	2,854	2.5
Other	112,470	107,212	123,060	15,848	14.8
Organisation of stay:					
Package	671,158	682,505	737,000	54,495	8.0
Non-package	743,860	760,909	845,153	84,244	11.1
Frequency:					
First-time tourists	969,974	992,138	1,085,403	93,265	9.4
Repeat tourists	445,045	451,276	496,750	45,474	10.1
less than or equal to once a year	321,364	329,250	350,136	20,885	6.3
more than twice a year	123,680	122,026	146,615	24,589	20.2
Duration of visit:					
1-3 nights	221,408	216,650	244,912	28,262	13.0
4-6 nights	307,524	304,335	337,807	33,472	11.0
7+ nights	886,087	922,430	999,435	77,005	8.3
Average length of stay (nights)	7.9	8.2	8.1	-0.1	-1.2

**Table 9. Departing tourists, by type of accommodation**

	January-December			persons	
				absolute change	percentage change
	2011	2012	2013	2013/2012	2013/2012
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,415,018</b>	<b>1,443,414</b>	<b>1,582,153</b>	<b>138,739</b>	<b>9.6</b>
Private accommodation	321,211	344,478	392,605	48,126	14.0
Collective accommodation*	1,093,808	1,098,936	1,189,548	90,613	8.2

**Table 10. Total nights spent by departing tourists, by type of accommodation**

	January-December			nights	
				absolute change	percentage change
	2011	2012	2013	2013/2012	2013/2012
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,241,472</b>	<b>11,859,521</b>	<b>12,890,268</b>	<b>1,030,747</b>	<b>8.7</b>
Private accommodation	3,411,391	3,810,125	4,263,220	453,095	11.9
Collective accommodation*	7,830,081	8,049,395	8,627,048	577,652	7.2

\* Comprises hotels, aparthotels, guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

**Table 11. Departing tourists, nights spent and total expenditure, by country of residence**

	January-December			absolute change	percentage change
	2011	2012	2013	2013/2012	2013/2012
<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>1,415,018</b>	<b>1,443,414</b>	<b>1,582,153</b>	<b>138,739</b>	<b>9.6</b>
Austria	19,647	19,827	25,739	5,912	29.8
Belgium	31,742	27,279	28,948	1,669	6.1
France	103,629	107,893	116,533	8,641	8.0
Germany	134,306	137,500	147,110	9,611	7.0
Ireland	26,886	27,731	30,224	2,493	9.0
Italy	201,774	202,200	233,777	31,577	15.6
Libya	6,273	17,217	34,621	17,403	101.1
Netherlands	38,897	39,191	41,486	2,295	5.9
Russia	24,191	31,563	40,048	8,485	26.9
Scandinavia*	93,783	97,363	105,068	7,705	7.9
Spain	63,088	60,223	53,278	-6,945	-11.5
Switzerland	25,046	25,758	28,702	2,944	11.4
United Kingdom	438,783	441,275	454,659	13,384	3.0
USA	16,499	18,027	19,502	1,475	-
Other	190,475	190,368	222,457	32,089	16.9
<b>Total nights</b>	<b>11,241,472</b>	<b>11,859,521</b>	<b>12,890,268</b>	<b>1,030,747</b>	<b>8.7</b>
Austria	145,874	147,309	200,768	53,458	36.3
Belgium	219,733	196,293	224,399	28,106	14.3
France	762,385	813,240	890,573	77,332	9.5
Germany	1,127,521	1,200,873	1,255,420	54,547	4.5
Ireland	207,794	217,901	241,849	23,948	11.0
Italy	1,153,785	1,200,524	1,375,812	175,287	14.6
Libya	42,928	114,715	204,958	90,243	78.7
Netherlands	311,012	321,426	339,891	18,465	5.7
Russia	303,191	445,322	490,753	45,431	10.2
Scandinavia*	718,184	758,235	818,007	59,772	7.9
Spain	509,600	464,737	409,160	-55,576	-12.0
Switzerland	220,905	231,130	258,647	27,517	11.9
United Kingdom	3,868,095	3,891,640	4,043,639	151,999	3.9
USA	119,969	137,719	158,890	21,171	-
Other	1,530,496	1,718,457	1,977,502	259,045	15.1
<b>Total expenditure (€ '000s)</b>	<b>1,221,321</b>	<b>1,326,474</b>	<b>1,440,379</b>	<b>113,904</b>	<b>8.6</b>
Austria	18,598	19,055	25,562	6,507	34.2
Belgium	29,098	25,799	27,902	2,103	8.1
France	89,427	96,771	106,502	9,731	10.1
Germany	126,378	136,130	141,095	4,965	3.6
Ireland	23,500	24,437	27,743	3,306	13.5
Italy	125,424	131,293	145,299	14,006	10.7
Libya	6,895	21,697	35,997	14,299	65.9
Netherlands	35,167	35,517	38,258	2,741	7.7
Russia	38,924	57,019	63,519	6,500	11.4
Scandinavia*	85,863	91,176	100,443	9,268	10.2
Spain	51,769	47,382	42,893	-4,489	-9.5
Switzerland	29,039	32,468	36,277	3,809	11.7
United Kingdom	342,357	369,579	386,196	16,617	4.5
USA	20,902	21,599	25,873	4,274	-
Other	197,979	216,553	236,820	20,267	9.4

\* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Estimates for expenditure are rounded to the nearest thousand



**Table 12. Total expenditure by departing tourists**

€000s

	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
		January-December 2013			
<b>Total</b>	<b>486,168</b>	<b>211,058</b>	<b>185,982</b>	<b>557,172</b>	<b>1,440,379</b>
Austria	11,788	2,831	3,065	7,879	25,562
Belgium	12,892	3,224	2,864	8,922	27,902
France	47,007	11,919	12,848	34,728	106,502
Germany	70,450	14,225	13,924	42,497	141,095
Ireland	6,936	3,829	4,535	12,443	27,743
Italy	38,729	19,254	26,249	61,068	145,299
Libya	4,696	8,718	5,463	17,119	35,997
Netherlands	16,074	3,698	3,723	14,763	38,258
Russia	18,984	8,493	7,869	28,172	63,519
Scandinavia*	30,426	14,329	14,890	40,798	100,443
Spain	12,332	4,814	6,404	19,344	42,893
Switzerland	14,562	4,519	3,865	13,330	36,277
United Kingdom	143,005	51,393	42,398	149,400	386,196
USA	3,208	9,474	4,594	8,597	25,873
Other	55,080	50,337	33,291	98,112	236,820
<b>January-December 2012</b>					
<b>Total</b>	<b>457,154</b>	<b>197,544</b>	<b>160,329</b>	<b>511,446</b>	<b>1,326,474</b>
Austria	8,421	2,167	1,719	6,748	19,055
Belgium	12,783	2,848	2,192	7,977	25,799
France	43,384	10,693	11,455	31,238	96,771
Germany	66,351	14,069	12,691	43,019	136,130
Ireland	4,892	4,292	4,193	11,060	24,437
Italy	38,793	16,375	21,198	54,927	131,293
Libya	1,921	5,604	3,517	10,655	21,697
Netherlands	14,444	3,506	3,400	14,166	35,517
Russia	18,457	6,700	5,941	25,921	57,019
Scandinavia*	29,487	13,071	12,900	35,717	91,176
Spain	10,852	5,805	8,835	21,890	47,382
Switzerland	13,040	4,066	3,180	12,182	32,468
United Kingdom	138,026	50,916	40,652	139,986	369,579
USA	3,960	7,242	3,190	7,207	21,599
Other	52,343	50,188	25,268	88,754	216,553
<b>January-December 2011</b>					
<b>Total</b>	<b>428,098</b>	<b>169,400</b>	<b>147,054</b>	<b>476,768</b>	<b>1,221,321</b>
Austria	8,272	2,021	1,500	6,805	18,598
Belgium	14,216	3,052	2,696	9,135	29,098
France	39,286	9,841	10,751	29,550	89,427
Germany	62,849	11,644	11,323	40,562	126,378
Ireland	4,788	3,494	4,362	10,856	23,500
Italy	34,547	15,132	22,379	53,366	125,424
Libya	586	1,572	981	3,756	6,895
Netherlands	13,662	3,378	3,624	14,502	35,167
Russia	12,299	5,480	3,924	17,221	38,924
Scandinavia*	31,190	10,563	10,356	33,753	85,862
Spain	15,647	5,228	8,291	22,603	51,769
Switzerland	10,431	4,245	3,625	10,738	29,039
United Kingdom	123,511	42,828	37,044	138,975	342,357
USA	3,499	7,041	2,852	7,511	20,902
Other	53,313	43,881	23,347	77,438	197,979

\* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Estimates for expenditure are rounded to the nearest thousand

Table 13. Per capita expenditure by departing tourists

€

	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other Expenditure	Total
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
		January-December 2013			
<b>Total</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>910</b>
Austria	723	300	379	306	993
Belgium	776	261	301	308	964
France	736	226	286	298	914
Germany	738	275	333	289	959
Ireland	565	213	307	412	918
Italy	467	128	207	261	622
Libya	559	332	233	494	1,040
Netherlands	644	224	279	356	922
Russia	1,010	400	417	703	1,586
Scandinavia*	642	249	311	388	956
Spain	569	152	246	363	805
Switzerland	906	358	381	464	1,264
United Kingdom	638	223	300	329	849
USA	897	595	389	441	1,327
Other	652	365	303	441	1,065
<b>January-December 2012</b>					
<b>Total</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>919</b>
Austria	687	286	291	340	961
Belgium	754	276	298	292	946
France	741	217	289	290	897
Germany	744	291	327	313	990
Ireland	562	226	279	399	881
Italy	502	131	208	272	649
Libya	569	405	321	619	1,260
Netherlands	633	214	289	361	906
Russia	1,088	459	507	821	1,807
Scandinavia*	693	238	290	367	936
Spain	540	145	267	363	787
Switzerland	895	364	365	473	1,260
United Kingdom	642	225	292	317	838
USA	1,004	514	324	400	1,198
Other	652	456	311	466	1,138
<b>January-December 2011</b>					
<b>Total</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>863</b>
Austria	658	286	225	346	947
Belgium	706	263	252	288	917
France	692	210	240	285	863
Germany	711	253	278	302	941
Ireland	593	186	253	404	874
Italy	478	117	182	264	622
Libya	460	315	222	599	1,099
Netherlands	647	190	214	373	904
Russia	984	469	356	712	1,609
Scandinavia*	649	231	239	360	916
Spain	618	138	227	358	821
Switzerland	788	360	332	429	1,159
United Kingdom	598	184	203	317	780
USA	974	545	252	455	1,267
Other	656	402	250	407	1,039

\* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

## Methodological Notes

1. The results in this release are based on the ongoing frontier survey known as TOURSTAT. All the detailed distribution is survey-based. Tourist air departures are collected through a continuous survey carried out at the departure lounge of Malta International Airport (MIA). A two-stage sample design is used for this survey. In the first stage alternate days are selected. Then within each shift a sample of passengers is selected systematically. Personal interviews are carried out.
2. Administrative records are used as a supplementary source for the calibration of the survey aggregates. The exercise is in the main a bottom-up approach including a calibrating weight to re-align the survey results to the true population of total passenger departures (net of transits).
3. Tourist sea departures are collected through a regular survey carried out at the Valletta Cruise Port. Survey data is supplemented by administrative data provided by ferry operators.
4. Under-represented figures are indicated for each table and should be treated with caution. NSO advises users to exercise caution when analysing estimates of less than 1,500 tourists since such estimates are subject to variations attributable to low frequency in the sampling frame (sampling errors). There are also limitations related to non-sampling errors, namely those linked to respondents' likelihood and willingness to provide proper information and those related to language barriers.
5. Absolute changes between one survey and another must be treated with caution since minor changes (ie, less than 1,500 persons) might be the result of sampling error. Consequently, the percentage change for minor year-on-year shifts (less than 1,500 persons) are not presented so as not to give a misleading picture of the numbers involved.
6. Some figures may not add up due to rounding.
7. The main variables collected in these surveys include the following:

Nationality	Number of nights stayed
Country of residence	Type of accommodation used
Flight/Sailing	Locality in Malta stayed longest
Final destination	Organisation of trip
Sex and age	Form of transport used
Purpose of visit	Expenditure (package/non-package/other)
Frequency of visit	
8. The expenditure data contained in this release should not be equated to national tourism earnings. Such expenditure includes elements that are earned by enterprises outside the Maltese economic territory.
9. The monthly passenger departures data published by the Malta International Airport cannot be equated to departing tourists because the former is inclusive of departing Maltese and transit passengers.
10. **Definitions:**

**Usual environment** of a person consists of the direct vicinity of his/her home and place of work or study, and other places frequently visited.

**Visitors** comprise tourists and same-day visitors. Visitors are distinguished from other travellers according to the following criteria:

  - the trip should be to a place other than that of the usual environment;
  - the stay in the place visited should not last more than 12 consecutive months;
  - the main purpose of visit should be other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited.

**International tourist** satisfies the criteria mentioned earlier regarding visitors. Additionally, international tourists must stay at least one night in a collective or private accommodation in the country visited.

**International same-day visitor** is an international visitor who does not spend at least one night in collective or private accommodation.
11. Cruise passenger data in this release are compiled on the basis of administrative records held by Transport Malta.
12. Arrivals and nights spent in time-share accommodation are being categorised in 'Private Accommodation' instead of 'Collective Accommodation' as per Eurostat recommendation. In this regard, one should note that there might be minor differences in these statistics and statistics published in tourism supply due to the fact that hotels report time-share under 'Collective Accommodation'.