

Total inbound tourist trips for February were estimated at 65,299, an increase of 6.3 per cent when compared to the corresponding month in 2013.

Inbound Tourism: February 2014

A total of 51,216 inbound visits were carried out for holiday purposes, while a further 7,695 were undertaken for business purposes. Most inbound tourists came from EU Member States, while tourists from Non-EU countries advanced by 22.5 per cent. The largest proportion of inbound tourists were aged between 45 and 64, followed by those within the 25-44 age bracket.

Total nights spent went up by 3.8 per cent, to 496,350. In absolute terms, the majority of guest nights were spent in collective accommodation establishments. In percentage terms, an increase was noted in the number of tourists residing in private accommodation.

During the reference month, total tourist expenditure was estimated at €47.0 million, an increase of 4.6 per cent over the corresponding month last year.

January-February 2014

Inbound tourism in January and February amounted to 134,824, an increase of 6.7 per cent over 2013. Total nights spent by inbound tourists went up by 7.3 per cent, reaching 1,068,095.

During the period under review, total tourism expenditure was estimated at €103.2 million, 7.1 per cent higher than that recorded for the corresponding period last year. Total per capita expenditure stood at €765, a slight increase over the previous year ■

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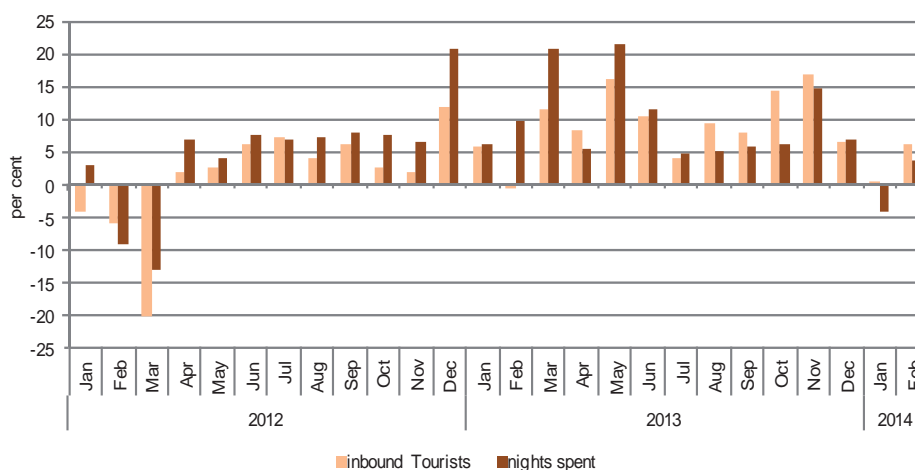
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Chart 1. Year-on-year percentage changes



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Table 1. Profile of inbound tourists

	February			Change	Percentage change
	2012	2013	2014	2014/2013	2014/2013
	61,788	61,442	65,299	3,857	6.3
Total Inbound Tourists					
Mode of travel:					
Air	60,378	59,516	63,035	3,519	5.9
Sea	1,410	1,926	2,264	338	17.5
Sex:					
Males	35,120	34,526	36,327	1,801	5.2
Females	26,669	26,916	28,972	2,056	7.6
Age group:					
0-24	7,449	6,689	9,342	2,653	39.7
25-44	20,373	16,929	22,004	5,075	30.0
45-64	23,394	22,844	23,729	885	-
65+	10,572	14,980	10,224	-4,756	-31.7
Markets:					
EU	51,249	50,958	52,457	1,499	-
of which: Euro area	25,530	26,135	25,048	-1,087	-
Non-EU	10,540	10,485	12,842	2,358	22.5
Purpose of visit:					
Holiday	48,162	49,894	51,216	1,322	-
Business and professional	11,030	7,263	7,695	432	-
Other	2,597	4,285	6,388	2,103	49.1
Organisation of stay:					
Package	28,025	30,101	28,205	-1,896	-6.3
Non-package	33,763	31,341	37,094	5,753	18.4
Frequency:					
First-time tourists	38,576	37,922	40,860	2,938	7.7
Repeat tourists	23,212	23,520	24,439	919	-
less than or equal to once a year	15,116	15,108	14,905	-203	-
more than twice a year	8,097	8,412	9,534	1,122	-
Duration of visit:					
1-3 nights	14,800	13,613	18,357	4,744	34.9
4-6 nights	17,144	15,106	16,318	1,212	-
7+ nights	29,844	32,724	30,624	-2,099	-6.4
Average length of stay (nights)	7.1	7.8	7.6	-0.2	-2.6

Table 2. Inbound tourists, by type of accommodation

	persons				
	February			Change	Percentage change
	2012	2013	2014	2014/2013	2014/2013
Total	61,788	61,442	65,299	3,857	6.3
Private accommodation	10,329	12,730	13,366	636	-
Collective accommodation*	51,460	48,713	51,933	3,221	6.6

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

	nights				
	February			Change	Percentage change
	2012	2013	2014	2014/2013	2014/2013
Total	436,132	478,149	496,350	18,200	3.8
Private accommodation	85,913	135,268	148,302	13,033	-
Collective accommodation*	350,219	342,881	348,048	5,167	1.5

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

Table 4. Total expenditure by inbound tourists, by expenditure categories

	€000s				
	February			Change	Percentage change
	2012	2013	2014	2014/2013	2014/2013
Total	43,480	44,912	46,967	2,055	4.6
Package	12,316	15,423	13,078	-2,344	-15.2
Non-package	14,328	11,286	14,511	3,224	28.6
Air/sea fares	7,987	6,422	7,324	901	-
Accommodation	6,341	4,864	7,187	2,323	47.8
Other expenditure	16,836	18,203	19,379	1,175	-

Estimates for expenditure are rounded to the nearest thousand

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

	February			Change	Percentage change
	2012	2013	2014	2014/2013	2014/2013
Total tourists	61,788	61,442	65,299	3,857	6.3
EU	51,249	50,958	52,457	1,499	-
<i>of which:</i>					
France	3,413	2,559	3,444	886	-
Germany	7,093	7,719	4,636	-3,082	-39.9
Italy	6,948	9,929	9,869	-59	-
United Kingdom	22,370	21,882	23,738	1,856	8.5
Non-EU	10,540	10,485	12,842	2,358	22.5
Total nights	436,132	478,149	496,350	18,200	3.8
EU	364,534	392,110	366,209	-25,901	-
<i>of which:</i>					
France	18,354	17,198	18,614	1,416	-
Germany	51,561	56,540	30,471	-26,069	-46.1
Italy	26,726	46,524	42,315	-4,209	-
United Kingdom	197,546	205,728	197,195	-8,533	-4.1
Non-EU	71,598	86,040	130,141	44,101	51.3
Total expenditure (€000s)	43,480	44,912	46,967	2,055	4.6
EU	32,072	33,014	33,646	632	-
<i>of which:</i>					
France	2,388	1,609	2,195	586	-
Germany	5,513	6,030	3,513	-2,517	-41.7
Italy	2,862	4,499	4,056	-443	-
United Kingdom	13,948	14,444	16,023	1,580	10.9
Non-EU	11,408	11,899	13,321	1,423	12.0

Estimates for expenditure are rounded to the nearest thousand

Table 6. Profile of inbound tourists

	January-February			Change	Percentage change
	2012	2013	2014	2014/2013	2014/2013
Total Inbound Tourists	123,142	126,330	134,824	8,494	6.7
Mode of travel:					
Air	120,120	123,103	131,281	8,178	6.6
Sea	3,022	3,227	3,543	316	9.8
Sex:					
Males	67,265	70,046	76,916	6,870	9.8
Females	55,876	56,284	57,908	1,624	2.9
Age group:					
0-24	14,706	15,262	18,486	3,224	21.1
25-44	41,357	35,698	46,817	11,120	31.1
45-64	48,135	48,364	48,752	388	-
65+	18,944	27,006	20,769	-6,237	-23.1
Markets:					
EU	101,466	104,269	105,201	932	-
of which: Euro area	54,530	57,047	53,515	-3,532	-6.2
Non-EU	21,676	22,061	29,623	7,562	34.3
Purpose of visit:					
Holiday	100,031	106,014	106,656	643	-
Business and professional	18,053	12,806	17,470	4,664	36.4
Other	5,057	7,510	10,698	3,188	42.4
Organisation of stay:					
Package	57,558	60,696	54,875	-5,821	-9.6
Non-package	65,584	65,634	79,949	14,315	21.8
Frequency:					
First-time tourists	77,558	74,861	80,696	5,835	7.8
Repeat tourists	45,584	51,469	54,128	2,659	5.2
less than or equal to once a year	30,476	33,312	32,028	-1,283	-
more than twice a year	15,108	18,157	22,100	3,943	21.7
Duration of visit:					
1-3 nights	26,833	26,710	34,227	7,517	28.1
4-6 nights	35,160	31,263	33,529	2,266	7.2
7+ nights	61,149	68,357	67,068	-1,289	-
Average length of stay (nights)	7.5	7.9	7.9	0.0	0.0

Table 7. Inbound tourists, by type of accommodation

				persons	
	January-February			Change	Percentage change
	2012	2013	2014	2014/2013	2014/2013
Total	123,142	126,330	134,824	8,494	6.7
Private accommodation	23,334	27,240	29,955	2,714	10.0
Collective accommodation*	99,808	99,090	104,869	5,780	5.8

Table 8. Total nights spent by inbound tourists, by type of accommodation

				nights	
	January-February			Change	Percentage change
	2012	2013	2014	2014/2013	2014/2013
Total	923,443	995,253	1,068,095	72,842	7.3
Private accommodation	235,211	292,890	370,398	77,509	26.5
Collective accommodation*	688,231	702,363	697,696	-4,667	-0.7

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

Table 9. Inbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure, by country of residence

	January-February			Change	Percentage change
	2012	2013	2014	2014/2013	2014/2013
	Total tourists	123,142	126,330	134,824	8,494
Austria	1,419 ^u	1,490 ^u	2,074	585	-
Belgium	2,734	2,396	2,329	-67	-
France	6,453	6,268	7,005	737	-
Germany	13,666	15,659	10,194	-5,464	-34.9
Ireland	2,591	3,075	3,041	-34	-
Italy	18,502	22,050	21,159	-892	-
Libya	2,099	3,959	8,867	4,908	124.0
Netherlands	2,381	2,523	3,065	542	-
Russia	1,319 ^u	2,182	3,759	1,576	72.2
Scandinavia*	5,040	3,653	4,524	872	-
Spain	4,192	1,642	2,060	418	-
Switzerland	1,836	1,448 ^u	2,338	890	-
United Kingdom	39,042	40,174	43,451	3,277	8.2
USA	1,832	1,286 ^u	2,467	1,181	-
Other	20,035	18,525	18,491	-33	-
Total nights	923,443	995,253	1,068,095	72,842	7.3
Austria	7,826 ^u	11,088 ^u	15,202	4,114	-
Belgium	19,016	16,822	19,382	2,560	-
France	39,063	40,482	41,219	737	-
Germany	106,818	121,760	79,981	-41,779	-34.3
Ireland	18,352	21,975	28,680	6,705	-
Italy	84,231	99,642	96,528	-3,115	-
Libya	16,363	18,853	67,826	48,972	259.8
Netherlands	16,626	16,496	18,886	2,390	-
Russia	10,252 ^u	24,237	50,661	26,424	109.0
Scandinavia*	37,903	34,675	36,499	1,824	-
Spain	25,320	11,601	11,574	-27	-
Switzerland	14,332	16,262 ^u	13,963	-2,300	-
United Kingdom	370,400	397,940	402,337	4,397	1.1
USA	11,043	10,294 ^u	19,546	9,252	-
Other	145,898	153,125	165,813	12,688	-
Total expenditure (€ '000s)	91,921	96,319	103,191	6,871	7.1
Austria	1,088 ^u	1,168 ^u	1,613	445	-
Belgium	1,981	1,824	1,871	47	-
France	4,583	4,397	4,869	472	-
Germany	10,905	12,522	8,324	-4,199	-33.5
Ireland	1,729	2,155	2,475	319	-
Italy	9,511	10,594	10,064	-530	-
Libya	2,549	3,989	9,023	5,034	126.2
Netherlands	1,665	1,803	1,956	153	-
Russia	1,328 ^u	3,117	4,484	1,367	43.9
Scandinavia*	3,763	3,258	4,242	984	-
Spain	2,471	1,151	1,308	156	-
Switzerland	2,126	1,564 ^u	2,307	743	-
United Kingdom	26,508	28,636	30,923	2,287	8.0
USA	1,964	1,875 ^u	2,819	945	-
Other	19,748	18,264	16,912	-1,352	-

* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

^u under-represented due to small sample size. Please note that these data must be interpreted with caution.

Estimates for expenditure are rounded to the nearest thousand

Table 10. Total expenditure by inbound tourists

€000s

	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
		January-February 2014			
Total	27,566	17,580	14,085	43,960	103,191
Austria	642	199	150	622	1,613
Belgium	606	265	172	828	1,871
France	1,685	732	747	1,705	4,869
Germany	3,378	880	975	3,091	8,324
Ireland	612	354	391	1,118	2,475
Italy	1,719	1,844	1,830	4,671	10,064
Libya	547	2,155	1,428	4,893	9,023
Netherlands	401	413	324	818	1,956
Russia	993	789	633	2,070	4,484
Scandinavia*	1,161	816	506	1,760	4,242
Spain	176	269	276	586	1,308
Switzerland	809	426	251	820	2,307
United Kingdom	11,242	3,510	3,184	12,987	30,923
USA	185	853	751	1,030	2,819
Other	3,409	4,076	2,466	6,962	16,912
January-February 2013					
Total	31,152	13,996	10,449	40,722	96,319
Austria	587	80	112	389	1,168
Belgium	602	310	116	796	1,824
France	1,398	708	688	1,603	4,397
Germany	7,295	687	703	3,838	12,522
Ireland	485	279	254	1,137	2,155
Italy	3,160	1,356	1,595	4,483	10,594
Libya	116	835	651	2,387	3,989
Netherlands	610	312	269	612	1,803
Russia	1,117	370	325	1,305	3,117
Scandinavia*	998	532	266	1,462	3,258
Spain	6	265	242	639	1,151
Switzerland	379	248	239	698	1,564
United Kingdom	10,602	3,603	2,516	11,915	28,636
USA	0	847	328	700	1,875
Other	3,797	3,566	2,143	8,758	18,264
January-February 2012					
Total	27,729	15,878	12,254	36,060	91,921
Austria	482	112	124	370	1,088
Belgium	673	376	257	675	1,981
France	1,367	784	703	1,729	4,583
Germany	4,567	1,394	1,032	3,912	10,905
Ireland	467	311	225	726	1,729
Italy	2,537	1,356	1,655	3,964	9,511
Libya	144	706	505	1,195	2,549
Netherlands	326	368	304	668	1,665
Russia	390	216	204	519	1,328
Scandinavia*	1,393	447	421	1,502	3,763
Spain	275	359	613	1,224	2,471
Switzerland	647	298	216	965	2,126
United Kingdom	9,709	3,209	3,072	10,519	26,508
USA	298	555	351	761	1,964
Other	4,453	5,387	2,573	7,334	19,748

* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Estimates for expenditure are rounded to the nearest thousand

Table 11. Per capita expenditure by inbound tourists

€

	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other Expenditure	Total
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
		January-February 2014			
Total	502	220	228	326	765
Austria	510	244	214	300	778
Belgium	585	205	224	356	803
France	532	191	221	243	695
Germany	544	221	284	303	817
Ireland	468	204	268	368	814
Italy	287	122	146	221	476
Libya	499	277	213	552	1,018
Netherlands	471	187	176	267	638
Russia	668	347	344	551	1,193
Scandinavia*	686	288	246	389	938
Spain	367	171	203	284	635
Switzerland	732	345	301	351	987
United Kingdom	504	166	227	299	712
USA	489	409	413	418	1,143
Other	523	340	269	377	915
January-February 2013					
Total	513	213	215	322	762
Austria	521	220	308	261	784
Belgium	467	280	285	332	761
France	566	186	220	256	701
Germany	586	214	265	245	800
Ireland	330	174	221	370	701
Italy	356	103	149	203	480
Libya	317	232	191	603	1,008
Netherlands	647	198	189	242	715
Russia	1,312	278	290	598	1,428
Scandinavia*	599	268	249	400	892
Spain	87	168	188	389	701
Switzerland	579	312	431	482	1,080
United Kingdom	502	189	212	297	713
USA	0	658	324	544	1,458
Other	518	318	256	473	986
January-February 2012					
Total	482	242	205	293	746
Austria	522	227	251	261	767
Belgium	525	259	208	247	725
France	537	201	183	268	710
Germany	524	282	224	286	798
Ireland	512	185	146	280	667
Italy	384	114	148	214	514
Libya	393	407	304	569	1,214
Netherlands	386	239	198	280	699
Russia	589	329	310	393	1,007
Scandinavia*	520	189	189	298	747
Spain	302	109	208	292	589
Switzerland	728	315	228	525	1,158
United Kingdom	486	168	190	269	679
USA	743	388	245	415	1,072
Other	452	529	275	366	986

* 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 mainly 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. 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	
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. **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.
10. Cruise passenger data in this release are included in the total inbound tourists figure and are compiled on the basis of administrative records held by Transport Malta.
11. 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'.