

Total inbound tourist trips for April 2015 were estimated at 153,566, an increase of 2.4 per cent when compared to the corresponding month of 2014. Excluding the passengers who stayed overnight on board their berthed cruise ship, total inbound tourist trips amounted to 151,924.

## Inbound Tourism: April 2015

A total of 125,704 inbound visits were carried out for holiday purposes, while a further 11,805 were undertaken for business purposes. Inbound tourists from EU Member States went up by 6.4 per cent to 134,845 when compared to April 2014. The largest proportion of inbound tourists were aged between 25 and 44, followed by those within the 45-64 age bracket (Table 1).

Total nights spent went slightly down by 0.4 per cent, reaching 1,018,812 nights. The largest share of guest nights (68.8 per cent) was spent in collective accommodation establishments (Table 3).

Total tourist expenditure was estimated at €119.1 million, an increase of 3.8 per cent over the corresponding month of 2014 (Table 4).

### January-April 2015

Inbound tourism from January to April amounted to 402,490, excluding cruise passengers, an increase of 5.7 per cent over the same period in 2014 (Table 6). Total nights spent by inbound tourists went up by 3.5 per cent, reaching almost 2.9 million nights (Table 8).

Total tourism expenditure was estimated at €311.2 million, 6.8 per cent higher than that recorded for the same period in 2014 (Table 9). Total per capita expenditure stood at €773, an increase of 1.0 per cent when compared to 2014 (Table 11) ■

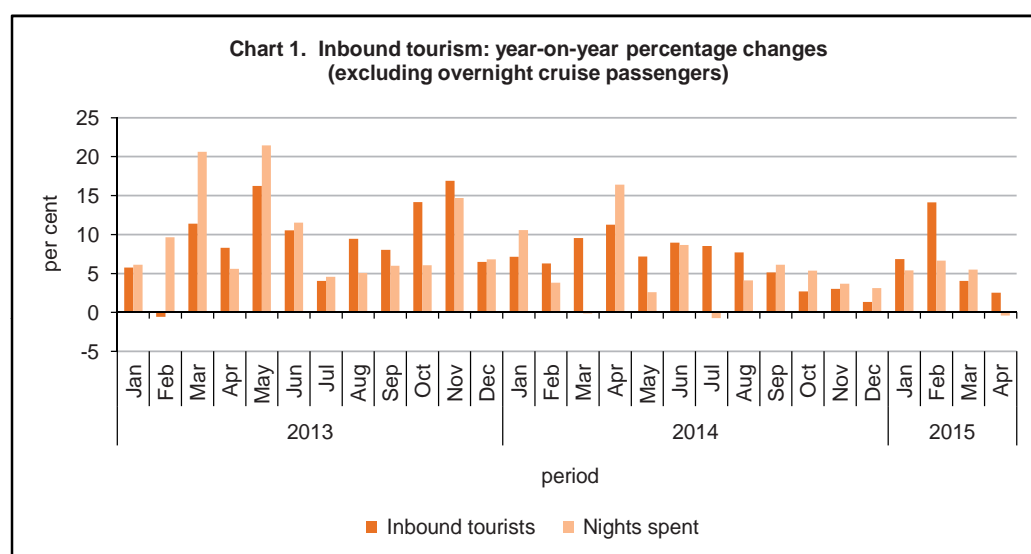
Compiled by:

**Unit C3: Population and  
Tourism Statistics**

**Directorate C: Social  
Statistics**

Further information on data:

**Mr Matthew ZERAFA**  
T. +356 2599 7630  
E. matthew.zerafa@gov.mt



Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.  
The advance release calendar may be consulted at [www.nso.gov.mt](http://www.nso.gov.mt)

Issued by: **External Cooperation and Communication Unit, National Statistics Office, Lascaris, Valletta VLT 2000, Malta.**  
T. +356 2599 7219 F. +356 2599 7205 E. [nso@gov.mt](mailto:nso@gov.mt)

**Table 1. Profile of inbound tourists by month of departure**

Characteristics	April			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
<b>Total inbound visitors</b>	<b>133,771</b>	<b>150,030</b>	<b>153,566</b>	<b>3,537</b>	<b>2.4</b>
Overnight cruise passengers	598	1,842	1,642	-200	-10.9
<b>Inbound tourists</b>	<b>133,173</b>	<b>148,188</b>	<b>151,924</b>	<b>3,737</b>	<b>2.5</b>
<b>Mode of travel:</b>					
Air	128,812	142,991	146,422	3,432	2.4
Sea (see note 3)	4,361	5,197	5,502	305	5.9
<b>Sex:</b>					
Males	68,076	74,632	80,069	5,437	7.3
Females	65,097	73,556	71,855	-1,701	-2.3
<b>Age group:</b>					
0-24	24,408	31,796	31,057	-738	-
25-44	39,212	45,825	49,761	3,936	8.6
45-64	46,880	50,598	47,536	-3,061	-6.0
65 or more	22,673	19,970	23,569	3,600	18.0
<b>Markets:</b>					
EU	117,733	126,682	134,845	8,163	6.4
<i>of which: euro area</i>	65,800	68,620	74,336	5,716	8.3
Non-EU	15,441	21,506	17,080	-4,426	-20.6
<b>Purpose of visit:</b>					
Holiday	108,359	122,129	125,704	3,575	2.9
Business and professional	12,226	11,103	11,805	701	-
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	12,588	14,956	14,416	-540	-
<b>Organisation of stay:</b>					
Package	59,385	70,469	66,749	-3,720	-5.3
Non-package	73,788	77,719	85,176	7,457	9.6
<b>Frequency:</b>					
First-time tourists	92,857	102,502	106,363	3,861	3.8
Repeat tourists	40,316	45,686	45,562	-124	-
less than or equal to once a year	27,528	32,248	30,223	-2,025	-6.3
twice a year or more	12,788	13,437	15,338	1,901	14.1
<b>Duration of visit:</b>					
1-3 nights	27,611	28,498	29,762	1,264	-
4-6 nights	36,364	43,101	47,103	4,001	9.3
7 nights or more	69,198	76,588	75,059	-1,529	-2.0
<b>Average length of stay (nights)</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-2.9</b>

Notes:

1. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
2. Data on sea passengers is provisional. For more information refer to the methodological notes.

**Table 2. Inbound tourists by month of departure and type of accommodation**

Type of accommodation	April			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015		
Private accommodation	31,400	33,526	38,164	4,638	13.8
Collective accommodation*	101,774	114,662	113,760	-902	-
<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>133,173</b>	<b>148,188</b>	<b>151,924</b>	<b>3,737</b>	<b>2.5</b>

\* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Table 3. Total nights spent by inbound tourists by month of departure and type of accommodation**

Type of accommodation	April			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015		
Private accommodation	251,516	282,160	317,428	35,268	12.5
Collective accommodation*	627,443	740,875	701,384	-39,491	-
<b>Total nights</b>	<b>878,959</b>	<b>1,023,035</b>	<b>1,018,812</b>	<b>-4,223</b>	<b>-0.4</b>

\* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Table 4. Total expenditure by inbound tourists by month of departure and expenditure category**

Expenditure category	April			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015		
Package	33,900	41,062	40,552	-510	-1.2
Non-package	30,882	31,200	33,931	2,731	8.8
Air/sea fares	18,001	17,110	18,015	905	5.3
Accommodation	12,881	14,090	15,916	1,826	13.0
Other expenditure	36,784	42,481	44,656	2,176	5.1
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>101,566</b>	<b>114,742</b>	<b>119,140</b>	<b>4,397</b>	<b>3.8</b>

€000

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

Country of residence		April			Change	Percentage change
		2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Tourists	<b>EU</b>	<b>117,733</b>	<b>126,682</b>	<b>134,845</b>	<b>8,163</b>	<b>6.4</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	11,230	11,875	11,944	69	-
	Germany	13,084	13,532	14,921	1,388	-
	Italy	20,955	24,687	23,755	-931	-
	United Kingdom	39,134	43,861	44,619	758	-
	<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>15,441</b>	<b>21,506</b>	<b>17,080</b>	<b>-4,426</b>	<b>-20.6</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>133,173</b>	<b>148,188</b>	<b>151,924</b>	<b>3,737</b>	<b>2.5</b>
Nights	<b>EU</b>	<b>774,719</b>	<b>873,911</b>	<b>900,140</b>	<b>26,230</b>	<b>3.0</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	66,105	76,578	74,404	-2,174	-
	Germany	97,899	113,032	114,475	1,443	-
	Italy	83,464	117,315	125,654	8,339	-
	United Kingdom	311,177	346,979	333,403	-13,576	-
	<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>104,240</b>	<b>149,124</b>	<b>118,671</b>	<b>-30,453</b>	<b>-20.4</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>878,959</b>	<b>1,023,035</b>	<b>1,018,812</b>	<b>-4,223</b>	<b>-0.4</b>
Expenditure (€000)	<b>EU</b>	<b>85,095</b>	<b>92,856</b>	<b>100,922</b>	<b>8,066</b>	<b>8.7</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	9,042	9,372	9,103	-269	-
	Germany	11,569	12,376	13,415	1,039	-
	Italy	10,290	13,348	12,305	-1,043	-
	United Kingdom	27,541	33,142	36,615	3,473	-
	<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>16,471</b>	<b>21,886</b>	<b>18,218</b>	<b>-3,668</b>	<b>-16.8</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>101,566</b>	<b>114,742</b>	<b>119,140</b>	<b>4,397</b>	<b>3.8</b>

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Table 6. Profile of inbound tourists by period of departure**

Characteristics	January-April			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
<b>Total inbound visitors</b>	<b>351,272</b>	<b>382,654</b>	<b>404,132</b>	<b>21,478</b>	<b>5.6</b>
Overnight cruise passengers	2,484	1,842	1,642	-200	-10.9
<b>Inbound tourists</b>	<b>348,788</b>	<b>380,812</b>	<b>402,490</b>	<b>21,678</b>	<b>5.7</b>
<b>Mode of travel:</b>					
Air	338,240	369,022	390,327	21,305	5.8
Sea (see note 2)	10,548	11,790	12,163	373	3.2
<b>Sex:</b>					
Males	183,976	203,490	214,703	11,213	5.5
Females	164,812	177,322	187,786	10,465	5.9
<b>Age group:</b>					
0-24	54,657	65,413	66,639	1,226	-
25-44	97,908	119,943	125,143	5,200	4.3
45-64	126,867	135,584	138,592	3,009	2.2
65 or more	69,357	59,872	72,115	12,243	20.4
<b>Markets:</b>					
EU	298,140	313,039	347,576	34,537	11.0
<i>of which: euro area</i>	164,758	167,900	191,130	23,230	13.8
Non-EU	50,649	67,773	54,914	-12,859	-19.0
<b>Purpose of visit:</b>					
Holiday	280,920	303,230	322,136	18,906	6.2
Business and professional	34,222	41,098	40,281	-817	-
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	33,647	36,484	40,073	3,589	9.8
<b>Organisation of stay:</b>					
Package	167,842	173,610	187,163	13,553	7.8
Non-package	180,947	207,202	215,327	8,125	3.9
<b>Frequency:</b>					
First-time tourists	224,047	248,158	271,779	23,621	9.5
Repeat tourists	124,741	132,654	130,711	-1,943	-1.5
less than or equal to once a year	82,047	85,557	87,254	1,697	2.0
twice a year or more	42,694	47,097	43,457	-3,641	-7.7
<b>Duration of visit:</b>					
1-3 nights	71,680	85,073	82,981	-2,092	-2.5
4-6 nights	91,521	103,821	117,229	13,408	12.9
7 nights or more	185,588	191,918	202,280	10,362	5.4
<b>Average length of stay (nights)</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-2.7</b>

Notes:

1. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
2. Data on sea passengers is provisional. For more information refer to the methodological notes.

**Table 7. Inbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation**

Type of accommodation	January-April			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Private accommodation	77,768	83,245	91,217	7,973	9.6
Collective accommodation*	271,020	297,567	311,272	13,705	4.6
<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>348,788</b>	<b>380,812</b>	<b>402,490</b>	<b>21,678</b>	<b>5.7</b>

\* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Table 8. Total nights spent by inbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation**

Type of accommodation	January-April			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Private accommodation	723,930	832,055	886,556	54,502	6.6
Collective accommodation*	1,837,859	1,945,632	1,988,328	42,696	2.2
<b>Total nights</b>	<b>2,561,790</b>	<b>2,777,687</b>	<b>2,874,884</b>	<b>97,198</b>	<b>3.5</b>

\* Comprises hotels, guesthouses, tourist villages, hostels, B&Bs and campsites

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

Country of residence	January-April			Change	Percentage change	
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014		
<b>Tourists</b>	Austria	6,291	6,400	7,782	1,382	-
	Belgium	8,116	7,962	8,589	627	-
	France	23,763	25,535	28,909	3,374	13.2
	Germany	40,885	36,201	39,533	3,333	9.2
	Ireland	7,753	7,210	8,466	1,256	-
	Italy	55,519	62,252	70,489	8,237	13.2
	Libya	7,852	16,356	2,606	-13,749	-84.1
	Netherlands	7,525	7,675	7,553	-121	-
	Russia	4,247	6,902	2,998	-3,904	-56.6
	Scandinavia*	16,331	18,403	18,350	-53	-
	Spain	7,933	6,635	8,395	1,760	26.5
	Switzerland	5,395	7,175	7,198	23	-
	United Kingdom	109,002	116,790	122,036	5,246	4.5
	USA	4,060	5,506	4,913	-594	-
	Other	44,117	49,811	64,672	14,861	29.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>348,788</b>	<b>380,812</b>	<b>402,490</b>	<b>21,678</b>	<b>5.7</b>	
<b>Nights</b>	Austria	47,203	44,732	52,476	7,744	-
	Belgium	54,226	54,635	56,381	1,746	-
	France	147,230	163,089	185,988	22,899	14.0
	Germany	316,967	286,121	312,783	26,662	9.3
	Ireland	58,669	59,056	59,064	8	-
	Italy	253,442	303,000	395,351	92,351	30.5
	Libya	39,569	110,248	18,795	-91,454	-83.0
	Netherlands	48,716	49,152	47,387	-1,765	-
	Russia	43,825	79,512	26,019	-53,494	-67.3
	Scandinavia*	123,012	135,596	135,313	-282	-
	Spain	43,702	40,898	50,785	9,887	24.2
	Switzerland	43,314	46,397	44,942	-1,455	-
	United Kingdom	968,644	983,869	984,683	814	0.1
	USA	28,740	37,599	34,165	-3,434	-
	Other	344,531	383,784	470,753	86,969	22.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,561,790</b>	<b>2,777,687</b>	<b>2,874,884</b>	<b>97,198</b>	<b>3.5</b>	
<b>Expenditure (€000)</b>	Austria	5,635	5,487	6,256	769	-
	Belgium	6,092	6,932	6,600	-332	-
	France	18,010	18,760	21,695	2,934	15.6
	Germany	34,273	31,328	34,442	3,113	9.9
	Ireland	6,132	5,533	6,180	646	-
	Italy	28,060	32,050	37,981	5,931	18.5
	Libya	8,003	15,986	2,748	-13,238	-82.8
	Netherlands	6,180	5,375	5,619	244	-
	Russia	5,768	8,360	3,208	-5,151	-61.6
	Scandinavia*	13,406	15,642	15,256	-386	-
	Spain	4,666	4,416	5,794	1,378	31.2
	Switzerland	5,641	7,483	7,327	-156	-
	United Kingdom	75,581	83,994	94,623	10,628	12.7
	USA	4,566	5,630	6,229	598	-
	Other	43,390	44,378	57,252	12,874	29.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>265,401</b>	<b>291,355</b>	<b>311,208</b>	<b>19,853</b>	<b>6.8</b>	

\* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Table 10. Total expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence**

€000

Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
<b>January-April 2015</b>					
Austria	3,054	674	460	2,067	<b>6,256</b>
Belgium	2,657	1,061	694	2,188	<b>6,600</b>
France	10,025	2,468	2,532	6,670	<b>21,695</b>
Germany	16,660	3,286	3,847	10,649	<b>34,442</b>
Ireland	1,473	875	993	2,839	<b>6,180</b>
Italy	12,053	4,602	5,941	15,386	<b>37,981</b>
Libya	166	894	522	1,166	<b>2,748</b>
Netherlands	1,861	854	735	2,170	<b>5,619</b>
Russia	546	788	531	1,343	<b>3,208</b>
Scandinavia*	4,029	2,685	2,293	6,250	<b>15,256</b>
Spain	1,352	910	981	2,551	<b>5,794</b>
Switzerland	2,689	1,240	745	2,652	<b>7,327</b>
United Kingdom	35,483	12,404	10,980	35,756	<b>94,623</b>
USA	1,116	2,035	1,073	2,004	<b>6,229</b>
Other	13,475	12,610	8,081	23,086	<b>57,252</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>106,639</b>	<b>47,384</b>	<b>40,407</b>	<b>116,778</b>	<b>311,208</b>
<b>January-April 2014</b>					
Austria	2,606	575	411	1,894	<b>5,487</b>
Belgium	2,763	966	889	2,315	<b>6,932</b>
France	7,789	2,697	2,286	5,988	<b>18,760</b>
Germany	16,107	2,702	2,880	9,639	<b>31,328</b>
Ireland	1,288	841	991	2,413	<b>5,533</b>
Italy	9,023	4,584	4,919	13,525	<b>32,050</b>
Libya	1,088	4,050	2,634	8,213	<b>15,986</b>
Netherlands	1,492	978	805	2,100	<b>5,375</b>
Russia	1,698	1,448	1,313	3,901	<b>8,360</b>
Scandinavia*	4,902	2,535	2,153	6,051	<b>15,642</b>
Spain	746	849	879	1,941	<b>4,416</b>
Switzerland	3,111	1,060	770	2,541	<b>7,483</b>
United Kingdom	31,673	10,687	8,775	32,858	<b>83,994</b>
USA	616	1,937	1,195	1,881	<b>5,630</b>
Other	10,469	9,384	6,883	17,642	<b>44,378</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>95,374</b>	<b>45,294</b>	<b>37,783</b>	<b>112,904</b>	<b>291,355</b>
<b>January-April 2013</b>					
Austria	2,681	618	536	1,800	<b>5,635</b>
Belgium	2,448	906	538	2,200	<b>6,092</b>
France	7,561	2,393	2,082	5,974	<b>18,010</b>
Germany	18,922	2,889	2,658	9,804	<b>34,273</b>
Ireland	1,453	840	848	2,990	<b>6,132</b>
Italy	8,775	3,748	4,299	11,238	<b>28,060</b>
Libya	697	1,673	1,402	4,232	<b>8,003</b>
Netherlands	2,040	953	772	2,416	<b>6,180</b>
Russia	1,912	676	639	2,541	<b>5,768</b>
Scandinavia*	4,228	2,108	1,573	5,495	<b>13,406</b>
Spain	848	868	701	2,249	<b>4,666</b>
Switzerland	2,097	922	597	2,025	<b>5,641</b>
United Kingdom	28,376	10,263	7,553	29,389	<b>75,581</b>
USA	215	1,923	873	1,555	<b>4,566</b>
Other	9,640	9,594	5,865	18,291	<b>43,390</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>91,893</b>	<b>40,375</b>	<b>30,936</b>	<b>102,198</b>	<b>265,401</b>

\* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.



**Table 11. Per capita expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence**

€

Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
<b>January-April 2015</b>					
Austria	578	270	263	266	<b>804</b>
Belgium	706	220	230	255	<b>768</b>
France	580	212	257	231	<b>750</b>
Germany	631	250	360	269	<b>871</b>
Ireland	429	174	234	335	<b>730</b>
Italy	434	108	183	218	<b>539</b>
Libya	476	396	277	448	<b>1,055</b>
Netherlands	554	204	225	287	<b>744</b>
Russia	830	337	278	448	<b>1,070</b>
Scandinavia*	531	250	276	341	<b>831</b>
Spain	456	168	249	304	<b>690</b>
Switzerland	779	331	249	368	<b>1,018</b>
United Kingdom	584	202	263	293	<b>775</b>
USA	1,444	492	323	408	<b>1,268</b>
Other	578	305	244	357	<b>885</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>773</b>
<b>January-April 2014</b>					
Austria	613	268	240	296	<b>857</b>
Belgium	665	254	311	291	<b>871</b>
France	606	213	224	234	<b>735</b>
Germany	648	238	314	266	<b>865</b>
Ireland	466	189	260	335	<b>767</b>
Italy	362	123	166	217	<b>515</b>
Libya	464	289	218	502	<b>977</b>
Netherlands	515	205	219	274	<b>700</b>
Russia	692	326	347	565	<b>1,211</b>
Scandinavia*	607	245	253	329	<b>850</b>
Spain	420	175	210	293	<b>666</b>
Switzerland	814	316	316	354	<b>1,043</b>
United Kingdom	535	185	234	281	<b>719</b>
USA	576	437	326	342	<b>1,023</b>
Other	575	297	273	354	<b>891</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>765</b>
<b>January-April 2013</b>					
Austria	625	309	292	286	<b>896</b>
Belgium	562	241	219	271	<b>751</b>
France	608	211	214	251	<b>758</b>
Germany	647	248	293	240	<b>838</b>
Ireland	426	194	264	386	<b>791</b>
Italy	384	115	160	202	<b>505</b>
Libya	454	265	241	539	<b>1,019</b>
Netherlands	586	236	238	321	<b>821</b>
Russia	957	301	313	598	<b>1,358</b>
Scandinavia*	587	231	232	336	<b>821</b>
Spain	363	155	155	284	<b>588</b>
Switzerland	743	358	339	375	<b>1,046</b>
United Kingdom	522	188	232	270	<b>693</b>
USA	630	517	295	383	<b>1,125</b>
Other	560	357	276	415	<b>984</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>761</b>

\* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

Note: Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand.

Table 12. Profile of overnight cruise passengers by month of departure

Characteristics	April			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
<b>Total Overnight Cruise Passengers</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>1,842</b>	<b>1,642</b>	-200	-
<b>Sex:</b>					
Males	267	861	764	-97	-
Females	331	981	878	-103	-
<b>Age group:</b>					
0-19	5	104	30	-74	-
20-39	13	97	59	-38	-
40-59	121	390	181	-209	-
60-79	417	1,107	1,101	-6	-
80 or more	42	144	271	127	-
<b>Markets:</b>					
EU	423	1,753	1,136	-617	-
<i>of which</i> : euro area	367	1,719	1,094	-625	-
Non-EU	175	89	506	417	-

Table 13. Profile of overnight cruise passengers by period of departure

Characteristics	January-April			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
<b>Total Overnight Cruise Passengers</b>	<b>2,484</b>	<b>1,842</b>	<b>1,642</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Sex:</b>					
Males	1,119	861	764	-97	-
Females	1,365	981	878	-103	-
<b>Age group:</b>					
0-19	15	104	30	-74	-
20-39	65	97	59	-38	-
40-59	315	390	181	-209	-
60-79	1,774	1,107	1,101	-6	-
80 or more	315	144	271	127	-
<b>Markets:</b>					
EU	1,773	1,753	1,136	-617	-
<i>of which</i> : euro area	1,081	1,719	1,094	-625	-
Non-EU	711	89	506	417	-

## Methodological Notes

1. The results in this release are based on the ongoing frontier survey known as Tourstat. Tourist air departures are collected through a continuous survey carried out at the departure lounge of Malta International Airport (MIA). Personal interviews are carried out. A two-stage sampling design is used to survey air passengers. In the first stage alternate days are selected. Then within each shift a sample of passengers is selected systematically.
2. This release focuses on Inbound Tourism, which comprises the activities of non-resident visitors travelling to Malta (i.e. outside their usual environment), and staying for not more than 12 consecutive months for leisure, business or other (corresponding) purpose.
3. Tourist sea departures are collected through a regular survey, conducted during three separate months every year at the Valletta Cruise Port. A quota sample is used to conduct sea passenger departures in which survey interviewers are guided to select people according to some fixed quota. Survey data is supplemented by administrative data provided by ferry operators.
4. The Tourstat survey measures the number of tourist trips carried out during a particular reference month. These differ from the number of tourists in that the same person can make more than one trip during the same period.
5. Under-represented figures are indicated where applicable for each table and should be treated with caution. Users should also exercise caution when analysing figures that involve estimates relating to less than 1,500 tourists. Such estimates may be subject to variations attributable to low frequency in the sample (sampling errors). Other limitations may involve non-sampling errors, namely those linked to respondents' willingness to provide proper information and those related to language barriers.
6. Percentage changes for tourists based on counts of less than 1,500 are not presented due to sampling errors.
7. The expenditure data in this release should not be equated to national tourism earnings.
8. The monthly passenger departures data published by the Malta International Airport cannot be equated to the number of inbound tourists because the former is inclusive of departing Maltese and transit passengers.
9. Data on cruise passengers who spent at least one night berthed on board their cruiseship are compiled on the basis of administrative records held by Transport Malta.
10. 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'.
11. Administrative data on sea passengers are provided on a monthly basis by ferry operators. Due to unforeseen circumstances these data were not available for March 2015. In view of this, sea passenger data have been estimated using a first-order autoregression time series model with a seasonal difference of order one. These data should thus be treated as provisional and are subject to revision in forthcoming news releases.
12. **Definitions:**
  - **Traveller:** A person who moves between different geographic locations, for any purpose and any duration.
  - **Visitor:** The three fundamental criteria used to distinguish visitors from travellers are:
    - a. **The trip should be to a place other than that of the usual environment**, which would exclude short-distance local transport and commuting, i.e. more or less regular trips between the place of work/study and the place of residence;
    - b. **The stay in the place visited should not last more than twelve consecutive months**, beyond which the visitor would become a resident of that place (from the statistical standpoint);
    - c. **The main purpose of the visit should be other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited**, which would exclude migratory movements for work purposes.

Visitors (domestic/international) comprise tourists and same-day visitors.

  - **Tourist:** A visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
  - **Same-day visitor:** A visitor who does not spend the night in collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
13. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>  
Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=37>  
Statistical Database: <http://nso.gov.mt/statdb/start>