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Total outbound tourists for the third quarter in 2015 were estimated at 142,228, an increase of 9.8 per cent when compared to the same quarter in 2014.

## Outbound Tourism: Q3/2015

### July-September 2015

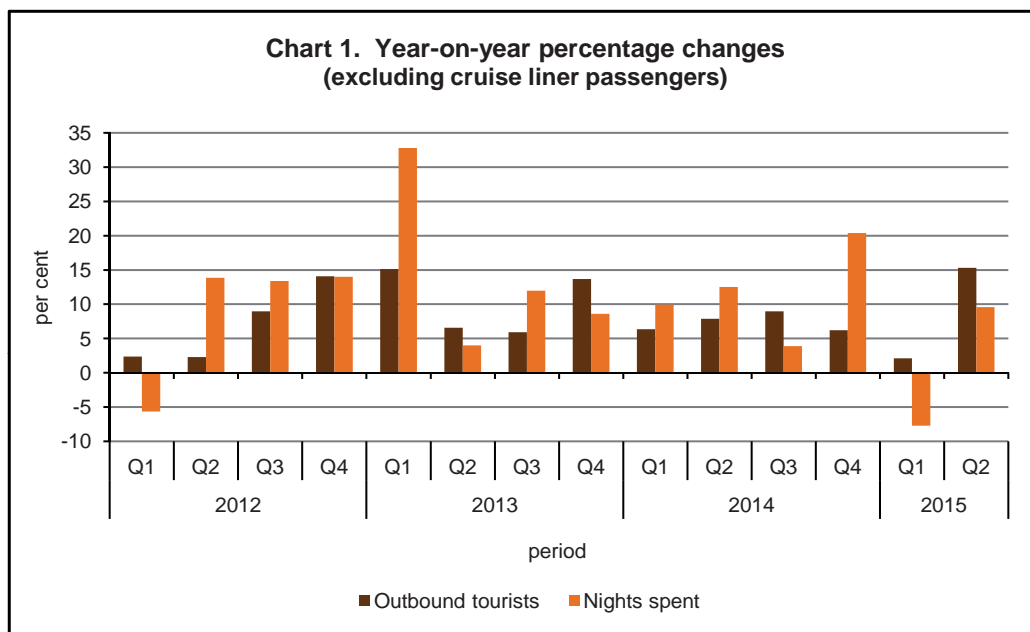
During the third quarter of 2015, the number of outbound tourist trips towards EU countries during this period stood at 126,709, an increase of 7.7 per cent over the same quarter in 2014 (Table 1). Italy and the United Kingdom remained the most popular destinations, with a share of 47.4 per cent of total tourist trips (Table 4).

Total nights spent by outbound tourists increased by 5.0 per cent, reaching 1,120,466 nights. In absolute terms, the majority of guest nights were spent in collective accommodation establishments (Table 3).

Total estimated outlay by resident tourists between July and September increased by 10.4 per cent over the same quarter of last year, and stood at €155.7 million, equivalent to an average €1,095 per trip (Tables 5 and 6).

### January-September 2015

Total outbound tourist trips between January and September 2015 numbered 317,109, an increase of 9.3 per cent over 2014 (Table 7). Total nights spent by outbound tourists went up by 3.1 per cent, reaching 2.4 million nights (Table 9). In addition, total estimated outlay by resident tourists stood at €316.2 million, 9.5 per cent higher than that recorded for the same period in 2014 (Table 11) ■



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Table 1. Profile of outbound tourists by period of departure

Characteristics	July-September (Q3)			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
<b>Outbound tourists</b>	<b>118,836</b>	<b>129,495</b>	<b>142,228</b>	<b>12,733</b>	<b>9.8</b>
<b>Mode of travel:</b>					
Air	111,180	120,277	132,907	12,631	10.5
Sea (see note 2)	7,655	9,218	9,321	102	1.1
<b>Sex:</b>					
Males	64,605	68,522	76,701	8,179	11.9
Females	54,231	60,973	65,527	4,554	7.5
<b>Age group:</b>					
0-24	24,922	29,234	29,858	624	-
25-44	43,745	51,629	57,282	5,653	10.9
45-64	37,275	36,243	41,623	5,380	14.8
65 or more	12,893	12,389	13,464	1,075	-
<b>Destination:</b>					
EU	105,539	117,643	126,709	9,067	7.7
<i>of which:</i> Euro area	72,758	82,680	91,681	9,001	10.9
Non-EU	13,296	11,852	15,519	3,666	30.9
<b>Purpose of visit:</b>					
Holiday	83,071	89,476	92,424	2,948	3.3
Visiting relatives and friends	14,951	17,601	22,940	5,339	30.3
Business and professional	12,542	13,851	14,688	837	-
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	8,271	8,567	12,176	3,609	42.1
<b>Organisation of stay:</b>					
Package	43,403	45,437	44,320	-1,117	-
Non-package	75,433	84,058	97,908	13,850	16.5
<b>Duration of visit:</b>					
1-3 nights	16,830	23,411	28,459	5,048	21.6
4-6 nights	31,198	34,332	36,362	2,030	5.9
7 nights or more	70,808	71,752	77,407	5,655	7.9
<b>Average length of stay (nights)</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-</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. Outbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation**

Type of accommodation	July-September (Q3)			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Private accommodation	34,965	41,886	48,494	6,608	15.8
Collective accommodation*	83,871	87,609	93,734	6,125	7.0
<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>118,836</b>	<b>129,495</b>	<b>142,228</b>	<b>12,733</b>	<b>9.8</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 outbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation**

Type of accommodation	July-September (Q3)			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Private accommodation	455,095	493,039	541,968	48,929	9.9
Collective accommodation*	572,214	574,174	578,497	4,324	0.8
<b>Total nights</b>	<b>1,027,309</b>	<b>1,067,213</b>	<b>1,120,466</b>	<b>53,253</b>	<b>5.0</b>

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

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Table 4. Outbound tourists and nights spent by period of departure and destination**

Destination		July-September (Q3)			Change	Percentage change
		2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Tourists	<b>EU</b>	<b>105,539</b>	<b>117,643</b>	<b>126,709</b>	<b>9,067</b>	<b>7.7</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	7,297	10,195	9,381	-814	-
	Germany	6,879	6,751	7,367	616	-
	Italy	34,892	41,045	46,232	5,186	12.6
	United Kingdom	21,842	23,223	21,181	-2,042	-8.8
	<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>13,296</b>	<b>11,852</b>	<b>15,519</b>	<b>3,666</b>	<b>30.9</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>118,836</b>	<b>129,495</b>	<b>142,228</b>	<b>12,733</b>	<b>9.8</b>
Nights	<b>EU</b>	<b>824,370</b>	<b>891,951</b>	<b>890,233</b>	<b>-1,718</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	48,987	75,314	63,244	-12,071	-
	Germany	64,460	49,895	56,012	6,117	-
	Italy	223,392	233,554	273,580	40,026	17.1
	United Kingdom	212,491	223,531	178,046	-45,485	-20.3
	<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>202,938</b>	<b>175,261</b>	<b>230,233</b>	<b>54,971</b>	<b>31.4</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,027,309</b>	<b>1,067,213</b>	<b>1,120,466</b>	<b>53,253</b>	<b>5.0</b>

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Table 5. Total expenditure by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category**

€000

Expenditure category	July-September (Q3)			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Package	33,687	34,514	36,717	2,202	6.4
Non-package	35,272	38,909	42,607	3,698	9.5
Air/sea fares	18,673	20,098	22,007	1,908	9.5
Accommodation	16,599	18,811	20,601	1,790	9.5
Other expenditure	66,029	67,611	76,348	8,738	12.9
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>134,987</b>	<b>141,034</b>	<b>155,672</b>	<b>14,638</b>	<b>10.4</b>

Notes:

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

**Table 6. Average expenditure per capita per night by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category**

€

Expenditure category	July-September (Q3)					
	per trip			per night		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
Package	776	760	828	110	109	116
Non-package	468	463	435	49	52	53
Air/sea fares	248	239	225	26	27	27
Accommodation	302	314	304	39	43	48
Other expenditure	556	522	537	64	63	68
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,136</b>	<b>1,089</b>	<b>1,095</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>139</b>

**Table 7. Profile of outbound tourists by period of departure**

Characteristics	January-September			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
<b>Outbound tourists</b>	<b>268,684</b>	<b>290,026</b>	<b>317,109</b>	<b>27,083</b>	<b>9.3</b>
<b>Mode of travel:</b>					
Air	250,310	270,344	296,667	26,323	9.7
Sea (see note 2)	18,374	19,682	20,442	760	3.9
<b>Sex:</b>					
Males	152,527	162,319	178,308	15,989	9.9
Females	116,157	127,707	138,801	11,094	8.7
<b>Age group:</b>					
0-24	51,872	59,617	62,237	2,620	4.4
25-44	106,705	121,553	137,192	15,639	12.9
45-64	84,798	83,945	91,254	7,309	8.7
65 or more	25,310	24,910	26,426	1,516	6.1
<b>Destination:</b>					
EU	235,361	256,862	282,683	25,821	10.1
<i>of which:</i> Euro area	154,243	170,536	193,323	22,786	13.4
Non-EU	33,323	33,164	34,426	1,262	-
<b>Purpose of visit:</b>					
Holiday	158,257	169,129	176,242	7,113	4.2
Visiting relatives and friends	45,321	51,865	63,312	11,447	22.1
Business and professional	45,236	48,529	51,097	2,568	5.3
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	19,870	20,502	26,458	5,955	29.0
<b>Organisation of stay:</b>					
Package	70,300	72,080	68,459	-3,621	-5.0
Non-package	198,384	217,946	248,650	30,704	14.1
<b>Duration of visit:</b>					
1-3 nights	63,183	73,058	82,963	9,906	13.6
4-6 nights	78,022	83,090	93,315	10,224	12.3
7 nights or more	127,479	133,878	140,831	6,953	5.2
<b>Average length of stay (nights)</b>	8.1	8.1	7.6	-0.5	-

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 8. Outbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation**

Type of accommodation	January-September			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Private accommodation	87,118	100,275	114,129	13,854	13.8
Collective accommodation*	181,565	189,751	202,980	13,230	7.0
<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>268,684</b>	<b>290,026</b>	<b>317,109</b>	<b>27,083</b>	<b>9.3</b>

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

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Table 9. Total nights spent by outbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation**

Type of accommodation	January-September			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Private accommodation	1,028,098	1,200,247	1,266,659	66,412	5.5
Collective accommodation*	1,142,001	1,138,916	1,144,201	5,285	0.5
<b>Total nights</b>	<b>2,170,100</b>	<b>2,339,163</b>	<b>2,410,860</b>	<b>71,697</b>	<b>3.1</b>

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

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Table 10. Outbound tourists and nights spent by destination**

Destination	January-September			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>268,684</b>	<b>290,026</b>	<b>317,109</b>	<b>27,083</b>	<b>9.3</b>
Austria	3,568	3,629	5,099	1,470	-
Belgium	6,579	7,085	7,833	748	-
France	13,902	16,487	16,581	94	-
Germany	13,271	16,225	16,497	272	-
Ireland	2,711	2,035	3,759	1,724	84.7
Italy	81,512	92,504	102,331	9,827	10.6
Libya	6,093	3,757	838 <sup>u</sup>	-2,919	-77.7
Netherlands	5,769	8,008	10,522	2,514	31.4
Russia	1,696	1,580	1,535	-45	-
Scandinavia*	7,193	5,897	7,546	1,648	27.9
Spain	16,228	13,681	14,569	888	-
Switzerland	4,765	3,700	6,191	2,492	67.4
United Kingdom	62,352	64,442	64,104	-338	-
USA	2,540	3,113	3,180	67	-
Other	40,506	47,882	56,523	8,641	18.0
<b>Total nights</b>	<b>2,170,100</b>	<b>2,339,163</b>	<b>2,410,860</b>	<b>71,697</b>	<b>3.1</b>
Austria	24,410	25,195	35,828	10,633	-
Belgium	33,531	39,783	40,274	491	-
France	92,530	111,303	104,246	-7,057	-
Germany	106,808	123,904	118,075	-5,829	-
Ireland	22,252	23,519	26,622	3,103	13.2
Italy	457,041	513,639	558,394	44,755	8.7
Libya	83,135	46,978	12,302 <sup>u</sup>	-34,676	-73.8
Netherlands	45,450	58,721	69,750	11,029	18.8
Russia	21,115	26,124	22,116	-4,008	-
Scandinavia*	65,984	61,592	84,179	22,588	36.7
Spain	115,333	101,316	103,561	2,245	-
Switzerland	51,543	24,605	45,724	21,118	85.8
United Kingdom	512,869	532,083	492,980	-39,104	-
USA	51,736	52,529	52,544	14	-
Other	486,363	597,871	644,265	46,395	7.8

\* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

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

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.



**Table 11. Total expenditure by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category**

€000

Expenditure category	January-September			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Package	48,266	48,955	50,606	1,651	3.4
Non-package	85,062	92,215	101,220	9,006	9.8
Air/sea fares	45,231	49,425	52,917	3,492	7.1
Accommodation	39,831	42,790	48,304	5,513	12.9
Other expenditure	144,635	147,720	164,421	16,701	11.3
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>277,964</b>	<b>288,889</b>	<b>316,247</b>	<b>27,358</b>	<b>9.5</b>

Notes:

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

**Table 12. Average expenditure per capita per night by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category**

€

Expenditure category	January-September					
	per trip			per night		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
Package	687	679	739	103	106	112
Non-package	429	423	407	50	49	52
Air/sea fares	228	227	213	27	26	27
Accommodation	288	288	289	41	44	47
Other expenditure	538	509	519	67	63	68
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,035</b>	<b>996</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>131</b>

## 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. 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.
3. This release focuses on Outbound Tourism, which comprises the activities of residents of Malta travelling to, and staying in places outside Malta and therefore outside their usual environment.
4. The Tourstat survey measures the number of tourist trips carried out during a particular reference month. These differ from the number of tourists as the same person can embark on 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 discretion when analysing figures that involve estimates below 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 others 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. Expenditure data in this release represent the budgeted expenditure of outbound tourists prior to their departure.
8. Administrative data on sea passengers are provided on a monthly basis by ferry operators. Due to unforeseen circumstances these data were not available for February and 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.
9. **Definitions:**
  - **Traveller:** Someone 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. 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 exclude 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:** Visitors who stay at least one night in a collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
  - **Same-day visitor:** Visitors who do not spend the night in a collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
10. 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=39>  
Statistical Database: <http://nso.gov.mt/statdb/start>