

1 February 2016 | 1100 hrs | 017/2016

Total inbound visitors for December were estimated at 72,568, an increase of 8.9 per cent when compared to the corresponding month of 2014.

## Inbound Tourism: December 2015

A total of 60,728 inbound tourist trips were carried out for holiday purposes, while a further 6,818 were undertaken for business purposes. Inbound tourists from EU Member States went up by 10.5 per cent to 61,346 when compared to the corresponding month of 2014. The largest proportion of inbound tourists was aged between 25 and 44, followed by those within the 45-64 age bracket (Table 1).

Total nights spent went up by 4.5 per cent when compared to December 2014, amounting to 611,353 nights. The largest share of guest nights (55.4 per cent) was spent in collective accommodation establishments (Table 3).

Total tourist expenditure was estimated at €53.7 million, an increase of 4.0 per cent over the corresponding month of 2014 (Table 4).

### January-December 2015

Inbound tourist trips from January to December amounted to 1,791,422, an increase of 6.0 per cent over the same period in 2014 (Table 6). Total nights spent by inbound tourists went up by 5.1 per cent, surpassing 14.2 million nights (Table 8).

Total tourism expenditure was estimated at €1,643.9 million, 7.5 per cent higher than that recorded for 2014 (Table 9). Total expenditure per capita stood at €918, an increase of 1.4 per cent when compared to 2014 (Table 11) ■

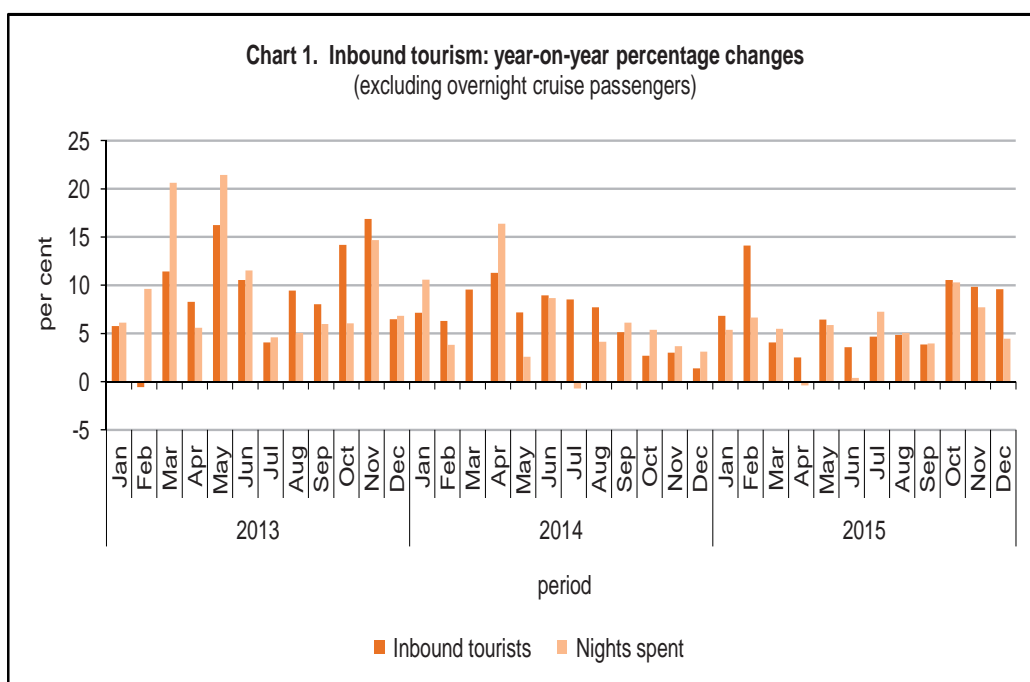
Compiled by:

**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



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Issued by: **Dissemination 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	December			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
<b>Total inbound visitors</b>	<b>65,671</b>	<b>66,619</b>	<b>72,568</b>	<b>5,950</b>	<b>8.9</b>
Overnight cruise passengers	326	387	-	-	-
<b>Inbound tourists</b>	<b>65,345</b>	<b>66,232</b>	<b>72,568</b>	<b>6,337</b>	<b>9.6</b>
<b>Mode of travel</b>					
Air	61,255	62,083	68,277	6,195	10.0
Sea (see note 1)	4,090	4,149	4,291	142	3.4
<b>Sex</b>					
Males	37,569	37,592	39,656	2,064	5.5
Females	27,777	28,639	32,912	4,273	14.9
<b>Age group</b>					
0-24	10,436	9,053	9,360	307	-
25-44	24,133	20,960	25,354	4,394	21.0
45-64	20,574	22,831	24,353	1,522	6.7
65 or more	10,203	13,388	13,501	113	-
<b>Markets</b>					
EU	51,531	55,512	61,346	5,835	10.5
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	28,767	30,360	33,676	3,316	10.9
Non-EU	13,814	10,720	11,222	502	-
<b>Purpose of visit</b>					
Holiday	52,986	53,136	60,728	7,592	14.3
Business and professional	8,315	8,176	6,818	-1,358	-
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	4,044	4,919	5,022	103	-
<b>Organisation of stay</b>					
Package	24,836	28,126	27,763	-364	-
Non-package	40,509	38,105	44,806	6,701	17.6
<b>Frequency</b>					
First-time tourists	36,597	39,599	43,952	4,352	11.0
Repeat tourists	28,748	26,632	28,616	1,984	7.5
once a year or less	14,281	14,989	16,112	1,123	-
more than once a year	14,467	11,643	12,505	862	-
<b>Duration of visit</b>					
1-3 nights	16,104	15,400	18,164	2,764	17.9
4-6 nights	15,913	15,578	18,893	3,315	21.3
7 nights or more	33,328	35,253	35,511	257	-
<b>Average length of stay (nights)</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-</b>

Notes:

1. Data on sea passengers is provisional.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

Type of accommodation	December			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015		
Private accommodation	17,775	17,512	20,876	3,363	19.2
Collective accommodation*	47,570	48,719	51,693	2,973	6.1
<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>65,345</b>	<b>66,232</b>	<b>72,568</b>	<b>6,337</b>	<b>9.6</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	December			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015		
Private accommodation	251,266	234,079	272,378	38,299	16.4
Collective accommodation*	316,287	351,186	338,975	-12,211	-3.5
<b>Total nights</b>	<b>567,553</b>	<b>585,264</b>	<b>611,353</b>	<b>26,089</b>	<b>4.5</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	December			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015		
Package	13,062	15,453	14,632	-822	-5.3
Non-package	15,259	15,644	16,985	1,341	8.6
Air/sea fares	9,309	7,825	8,683	859	11.0
Accommodation	5,950	7,819	8,302	483	6.2
Other expenditure	21,145	20,560	22,119	1,559	7.6
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>49,466</b>	<b>51,657</b>	<b>53,736</b>	<b>2,079</b>	<b>4.0</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		December			Change	Percentage change
		2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Tourists	<b>EU</b>	<b>51,531</b>	<b>55,512</b>	<b>61,346</b>	<b>5,835</b>	<b>10.5</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	3,830	2,990	3,768	778	-
	Germany	5,463	7,447	6,667	-780	-
	Italy	13,143	13,079	13,730	650	-
	United Kingdom	19,053	19,613	21,393	1,780	9.1
	<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>13,814</b>	<b>10,720</b>	<b>11,222</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>65,345</b>	<b>66,232</b>	<b>72,568</b>	<b>6,337</b>	<b>9.6</b>
Nights	<b>EU</b>	<b>406,306</b>	<b>479,553</b>	<b>494,402</b>	<b>14,849</b>	<b>3.1</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	29,622	26,783	39,360	12,577	-
	Germany	47,403	74,345	66,407	-7,938	-
	Italy	64,783	97,459	97,757	298	-
	United Kingdom	175,049	172,720	168,809	-3,911	-2.3
	<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>161,248</b>	<b>105,711</b>	<b>116,951</b>	<b>11,240</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>567,553</b>	<b>585,264</b>	<b>611,353</b>	<b>26,089</b>	<b>4.5</b>
Expenditure (€000)	<b>EU</b>	<b>34,876</b>	<b>39,533</b>	<b>42,827</b>	<b>3,293</b>	<b>8.3</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	3,126	2,301	3,179	878	-
	Germany	5,168	6,599	6,165	-433	-
	Italy	6,079	6,949	6,952	3	-
	United Kingdom	13,042	13,780	14,853	1,073	7.8
	<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>14,590</b>	<b>12,124</b>	<b>10,909</b>	<b>-1,215</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>49,466</b>	<b>51,657</b>	<b>53,736</b>	<b>2,079</b>	<b>4.0</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-December			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
<b>Total inbound visitors</b>	<b>1,590,991</b>	<b>1,714,533</b>	<b>1,807,269</b>	<b>92,735</b>	<b>5.4</b>
Overnight cruise passengers	8,838	24,724	15,847	-8,877	-35.9
<b>Inbound tourists</b>	<b>1,582,153</b>	<b>1,689,809</b>	<b>1,791,422</b>	<b>101,612</b>	<b>6.0</b>
<b>Mode of travel</b>					
Air	1,538,628	1,641,344	1,737,753	96,408	5.9
Sea (see note 1)	43,525	48,465	53,669	5,204	10.7
<b>Sex</b>					
Males	825,709	884,292	924,042	39,750	4.5
Females	756,444	805,517	867,380	61,862	7.7
<b>Age group</b>					
0-24	322,257	335,467	345,037	9,570	2.9
25-44	504,461	570,271	603,636	33,365	5.9
45-64	528,943	553,400	590,380	36,980	6.7
65 or more	226,492	230,672	252,369	21,697	9.4
<b>Markets</b>					
EU	1,316,781	1,417,237	1,533,920	116,683	8.2
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	709,597	752,676	815,276	62,600	8.3
Non-EU	265,372	272,572	257,502	-15,071	-5.5
<b>Purpose of visit</b>					
Holiday	1,341,044	1,435,055	1,518,857	83,802	5.8
Business and professional	118,049	130,173	127,938	-2,235	-1.7
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	123,060	124,582	144,627	20,045	16.1
<b>Organisation of stay</b>					
Package	737,000	776,192	783,732	7,540	1.0
Non-package	845,153	913,618	1,007,690	94,072	10.3
<b>Frequency</b>					
First-time tourists	1,085,403	1,158,649	1,246,052	87,403	7.5
Repeat tourists	496,750	531,161	545,370	14,210	2.7
once a year or less	350,136	374,728	392,251	17,523	4.7
more than once a year	146,615	156,432	153,119	-3,313	-2.1
<b>Duration of visit</b>					
1-3 nights	244,912	276,335	275,742	-593	-
4-6 nights	337,807	385,090	431,132	46,041	12.0
7 nights or more	999,435	1,028,384	1,084,548	56,164	5.5
<b>Average length of stay (nights)</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-</b>

Notes:

1. Data on sea passengers is provisional.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

Type of accommodation	January-December			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Private accommodation	392,605	428,305	506,284	77,979	18.2
Collective accommodation*	1,189,548	1,261,504	1,285,138	23,633	1.9
<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>1,582,153</b>	<b>1,689,809</b>	<b>1,791,422</b>	<b>101,612</b>	<b>6.0</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-December			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014	
Private accommodation	4,263,220	4,655,208	5,390,289	735,081	15.8
Collective accommodation*	8,627,048	8,866,904	8,826,870	-40,034	-0.5
<b>Total nights</b>	<b>12,890,268</b>	<b>13,522,112</b>	<b>14,217,158</b>	<b>695,047</b>	<b>5.1</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-December			Change	Percentage change	
	2013	2014	2015	2015/2014		
Tourists	Austria	25,739	27,567	30,277	2,710	9.8
	Belgium	28,948	31,399	35,968	4,569	14.6
	France	116,533	125,511	128,014	2,503	2.0
	Germany	147,110	143,053	142,010	-1,043	-
	Ireland	30,224	30,722	35,382	4,660	15.2
	Italy	233,777	262,631	289,019	26,388	10.0
	Libya	34,621	30,770	6,682	-24,088	-78.3
	Netherlands	41,486	44,697	45,055	358	-
	Russia	40,048	34,220	21,615	-12,605	-36.8
	Scandinavia*	105,068	108,647	117,450	8,802	8.1
	Spain	53,278	42,285	47,483	5,199	12.3
	Switzerland	28,702	31,797	35,293	3,497	11.0
	United Kingdom	454,659	487,714	526,089	38,375	7.9
	USA	19,502	22,402	26,073	3,671	16.4
	Other	222,457	266,395	305,012	38,617	14.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,582,153</b>	<b>1,689,809</b>	<b>1,791,422</b>	<b>101,612</b>	<b>6.0</b>	
Nights	Austria	200,768	200,997	225,540	24,543	12.2
	Belgium	224,399	230,309	270,377	40,069	17.4
	France	890,573	982,021	1,032,413	50,392	5.1
	Germany	1,255,420	1,210,790	1,214,516	3,726	-
	Ireland	241,849	248,036	274,811	26,775	10.8
	Italy	1,375,812	1,596,151	1,890,830	294,679	18.5
	Libya	204,958	215,905	58,364	-157,541	-73.0
	Netherlands	339,891	348,194	348,539	345	-
	Russia	490,753	427,504	256,472	-171,032	-40.0
	Scandinavia*	818,007	817,693	860,955	43,262	5.3
	Spain	409,160	321,464	361,198	39,733	12.4
	Switzerland	258,647	262,365	265,885	3,520	1.3
	United Kingdom	4,043,639	4,122,976	4,368,978	246,003	6.0
	USA	158,890	178,434	208,041	29,607	16.6
	Other	1,977,502	2,359,273	2,580,239	220,966	9.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,890,268</b>	<b>13,522,112</b>	<b>14,217,158</b>	<b>695,047</b>	<b>5.1</b>	
Expenditure (€000)	Austria	25,562	26,117	28,533	2,416	9.3
	Belgium	27,902	31,333	34,751	3,419	10.9
	France	106,502	113,593	117,867	4,274	3.8
	Germany	141,095	138,939	136,533	-2,406	-
	Ireland	27,743	27,024	33,301	6,277	23.2
	Italy	145,299	163,204	182,383	19,179	11.8
	Libya	35,997	32,606	9,220	-23,386	-71.7
	Netherlands	38,258	39,457	40,600	1,143	-
	Russia	63,519	53,019	30,326	-22,693	-42.8
	Scandinavia*	100,443	102,838	111,250	8,412	8.2
	Spain	42,893	35,751	40,063	4,313	12.1
	Switzerland	36,277	38,996	40,443	1,447	3.7
	United Kingdom	386,196	422,453	495,890	73,436	17.4
	USA	25,873	28,560	33,417	4,858	17.0
	Other	236,820	274,876	309,366	34,490	12.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,440,379</b>	<b>1,528,765</b>	<b>1,643,945</b>	<b>115,179</b>	<b>7.5</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		
	January-December 2015				
Austria	13,394	2,659	2,930	9,549	28,533
Belgium	15,383	3,850	4,371	11,148	34,751
France	48,697	13,162	17,217	38,792	117,867
Germany	66,807	12,910	16,150	40,666	136,533
Ireland	7,841	4,767	6,267	14,426	33,301
Italy	47,548	22,491	33,880	78,464	182,383
Libya	352	2,597	2,477	3,794	9,220
Netherlands	14,264	4,837	5,572	15,928	40,600
Russia	6,973	5,227	4,884	13,242	30,326
Scandinavia*	34,369	15,960	16,960	43,960	111,250
Spain	11,816	4,925	6,624	16,698	40,063
Switzerland	13,012	6,075	6,762	14,594	40,443
United Kingdom	188,610	66,865	61,097	179,317	495,890
USA	4,170	10,983	6,416	11,849	33,417
Other	68,505	63,425	49,961	127,474	309,366
<b>Total</b>	<b>541,741</b>	<b>240,732</b>	<b>241,568</b>	<b>619,903</b>	<b>1,643,944</b>
	<b>January-December 2014</b>				
Austria	11,403	2,749	2,896	9,068	26,117
Belgium	13,822	3,290	3,694	10,526	31,333
France	50,282	12,405	14,529	36,377	113,593
Germany	69,466	12,461	14,279	42,732	138,939
Ireland	6,934	3,861	4,252	11,977	27,024
Italy	43,962	21,564	28,680	68,998	163,204
Libya	2,413	8,452	6,134	15,606	32,606
Netherlands	14,753	4,668	4,568	15,468	39,457
Russia	16,661	6,750	6,507	23,100	53,019
Scandinavia*	32,255	14,612	15,219	40,751	102,838
Spain	10,608	4,403	5,739	15,000	35,751
Switzerland	16,294	4,679	4,945	13,078	38,996
United Kingdom	159,477	54,110	48,777	160,089	422,453
USA	4,474	8,702	5,689	9,695	28,560
Other	63,534	54,546	42,305	114,492	274,876
<b>Total</b>	<b>516,339</b>	<b>217,255</b>	<b>208,216</b>	<b>586,956</b>	<b>1,528,765</b>
	<b>January-December 2013</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>Total</b>	<b>486,168</b>	<b>211,058</b>	<b>185,982</b>	<b>557,172</b>	<b>1,440,379</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 expenditure per capita
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
<b>January-December 2015</b>					
Austria	683	249	335	315	<b>942</b>
Belgium	846	216	344	310	<b>966</b>
France	718	219	341	303	<b>921</b>
Germany	740	249	387	286	<b>961</b>
Ireland	600	214	328	408	<b>941</b>
Italy	493	117	225	271	<b>631</b>
Libya	467	438	509	568	<b>1,380</b>
Netherlands	669	204	294	354	<b>901</b>
Russia	1,051	349	399	613	<b>1,403</b>
Scandinavia*	650	247	316	374	<b>947</b>
Spain	628	172	300	352	<b>844</b>
Switzerland	863	301	392	414	<b>1,146</b>
United Kingdom	734	249	347	341	<b>943</b>
USA	1,194	486	372	454	<b>1,282</b>
Other	671	313	313	418	<b>1,014</b>
<b>Total expenditure per capita</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>918</b>
<b>January-December 2014</b>					
Austria	663	265	342	329	<b>947</b>
Belgium	796	234	344	335	<b>998</b>
France	731	219	304	290	<b>905</b>
Germany	730	260	378	299	<b>971</b>
Ireland	552	213	296	390	<b>880</b>
Italy	464	128	213	263	<b>621</b>
Libya	572	318	262	507	<b>1,060</b>
Netherlands	653	211	269	346	<b>883</b>
Russia	1,076	360	402	675	<b>1,549</b>
Scandinavia*	665	243	306	375	<b>947</b>
Spain	606	178	271	355	<b>845</b>
Switzerland	944	322	416	411	<b>1,226</b>
United Kingdom	660	220	312	328	<b>866</b>
USA	880	502	432	433	<b>1,275</b>
Other	647	324	321	430	<b>1,032</b>
<b>Total expenditure per capita</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>905</b>
<b>January-December 2013</b>					
Austria	723	300	379	306	<b>993</b>
Belgium	776	261	301	308	<b>964</b>
France	736	226	286	298	<b>914</b>
Germany	738	275	333	289	<b>959</b>
Ireland	565	213	307	412	<b>918</b>
Italy	467	128	207	261	<b>622</b>
Libya	559	332	233	494	<b>1,040</b>
Netherlands	644	224	279	356	<b>922</b>
Russia	1,010	400	417	703	<b>1,586</b>
Scandinavia*	642	249	311	388	<b>956</b>
Spain	569	152	246	363	<b>805</b>
Switzerland	906	358	381	464	<b>1,264</b>
United Kingdom	638	223	300	329	<b>849</b>
USA	897	595	389	441	<b>1,327</b>
Other	652	365	303	441	<b>1,065</b>
<b>Total expenditure per capita</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>910</b>

\* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

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

Characteristics	December		
	2013	2014	2015
<b>Total overnight cruise passengers</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Sex</b>			
Males	131	165	-
Females	195	222	-
<b>Age group</b>			
0-19	-	-	-
20-39	5	8	-
40-59	6	16	-
60-79	210	231	-
80 or more	105	132	-
<b>Markets</b>			
EU	324	384	-
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	5	7	-
Non-EU	2	3	-

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

Characteristics	January-December			Change	Percentage change
	2013	2014	2015		
<b>Total overnight cruise passengers</b>	<b>8,838</b>	<b>24,724</b>	<b>15,847</b>	<b>-8,877</b>	<b>-35.9</b>
<b>Sex</b>					
Males	3,978	11,852	7,447	-4,405	-37.2
Females	4,860	12,872	8,400	-4,472	-34.7
<b>Age group</b>					
0-19	336	1,434	613	-821	-57.3
20-39	955	3,568	1,073	-2,495	-69.9
40-59	1,949	8,559	3,538	-5,021	-58.7
60-79	4,834	9,584	9,255	-329	-3.4
80 or more	764	1,579	1,368	-211	-13.4
<b>Markets</b>					
EU	5,947	22,344	7,223	-15,121	-67.7
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	3,823	18,976	4,747	-14,229	-75.0
Non-EU	2,891	2,380	8,624	6,244	262.4

## Methodological Notes

1. 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) purposes.
2. The results in this release are based on the ongoing frontier survey known as Tourstat. Data for tourist air departures is collected by means of personal interviews through a continuous survey at the departure lounge of the Malta International Airport (MIA). A two-stage sampling design is used to survey air passengers. In the first stage alternate days are selected, whereby a sample of passengers is selected systematically within each shift.
3. Tourstat 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.
4. 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 fixed quotas. Survey data is supplemented by administrative data provided by ferry operators.
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 is 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, there may be minor differences in these statistics and statistics published in tourism supply due to the fact that hotels report time-share accommodation under 'Collective Accommodation'.
11. Prior to comparing and interpreting differences between demand-side (based on Tourstat) and supply-side (based on Accomstat) tourism statistics, users are strongly advised to consult concept 8.3 of the NSO's metadata file (<http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=37>).
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>