

4 January 2017 | 1100 hrs | 003/2017

Total inbound visitors for November were estimated at 142,711 an increase of 24.0 per cent when compared to the corresponding month in 2015.

Inbound Tourism: November 2016

November 2016

A total of 117,938 inbound tourist trips were carried out for holiday purposes, while a further 14,609 were undertaken for business purposes. Inbound tourists from EU Member States went up by 28.1 per cent to 122,740 when compared to the corresponding month in 2015. The majority of inbound tourists were aged between 25 and 44, followed by those within the 45-64 age bracket (Table 1).

Total nights spent went up by 14.2 per cent when compared to November 2015, amounting to 958,342 nights. The largest share of guest nights (63.8 per cent) was spent in collective accommodation establishments (Table 3). However, nights spent in private accommodation increased by 25.8 per cent when compared to November 2015.

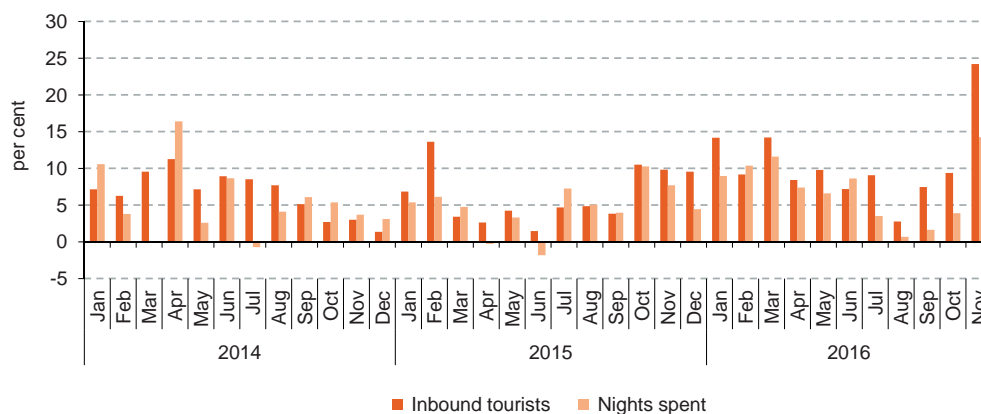
Total tourist expenditure was estimated at €101.7 million, an increase of 12.9 per cent over the corresponding month in 2015 (Table 4).

January-November 2016

Inbound tourist trips from January to November 2016 reached nearly 1.9 million, an increase of 9.4 per cent over the same period in 2015 (Table 6). Total nights spent by inbound tourists went up by 5.5 per cent, surpassing 14.2 million nights (Table 8).

Total tourism expenditure was estimated at €1.65 billion, 3.9 per cent higher than that recorded in 2015 (Table 9). Total expenditure per capita stood at €880, a decrease of 5.1 per cent when compared to 2015 (Table 11) ■

Inbound tourism: year-on-year percentage changes
(excluding overnight cruise passengers)



Compiled by:

**Unit C3: Tourism,
Education and Information
Society 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

Issued by: **Dissemination Unit, National Statistics Office, Lascaris, Valletta VLT 2000, Malta.**

T. +356 2599 7219 F. +356 2599 7205 E. nso@gov.mt

<https://twitter.com/NSOMALTA/> | <https://www.facebook.com/nsomalta/>

Table 1. Profile of inbound tourists by month of departure

Characteristics	November			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Total inbound visitors	103,435	115,105	142,711	27,606	24.0
Overnight cruise passengers	495	2,063	2,307	244	11.8
Inbound tourists	102,940	113,042	140,404	27,362	24.2
Mode of travel					
Air	100,416	110,414	137,816	27,402	24.8
Sea	2,524	2,628	2,588	-40	-1.5
Sex					
Males	57,556	58,500	73,057	14,557	24.9
Females	45,385	54,542	67,347	12,805	23.5
Age group					
0-24	10,815	12,923	17,395	4,472	34.6
25-44	34,343	35,946	51,471	15,525	43.2
45-64	38,167	41,511	48,030	6,519	15.7
65 or more	19,616	22,662	23,508	846	-
Markets					
EU	87,544	95,835	122,740	26,906	28.1
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	45,431	49,276	70,680	21,404	43.4
Non-EU	15,396	17,208	17,664	456	-
Purpose of visit					
Holiday	85,789	91,188	117,938	26,750	29.3
Business and professional	10,682	13,025	14,609	1,584	12.2
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	6,469	8,829	7,857	-972	-
Organisation of stay					
Package	47,529	47,839	48,479	640	-
Non-package	55,412	65,203	91,926	26,722	41.0
Frequency					
First-time tourists	67,327	71,406	93,254	21,848	30.6
Repeat tourists	35,614	41,636	47,150	5,514	13.2
once a year or less	22,558	27,603	29,615	2,012	7.3
more than once a year	13,055	14,033	17,535	3,502	25.0
Duration of visit					
1-3 nights	19,485	24,352	34,771	10,420	42.8
4-6 nights	25,886	28,201	39,258	11,057	39.2
7 nights or more	57,569	60,490	66,375	5,885	9.7
Average length of stay (nights)	7.6	7.4	6.8	-0.6	-

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

Type of accommodation	November			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Private accommodation	23,974	27,833	39,022	11,190	40.2
Collective accommodation*	78,966	85,210	101,382	16,172	19.0
Total tourists	102,940	113,042	140,404	27,362	24.2

* 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	November			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Private accommodation	240,669	275,683	346,921	71,238	25.8
Collective accommodation*	538,275	563,301	611,422	48,121	8.5
Total nights	778,944	838,984	958,342	119,359	14.2

* 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	November			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Package	26,623	27,898	27,028	-870	-3.1
Non-package	22,436	27,124	33,046	5,923	21.8
Air/sea fares	11,569	14,257	15,930	1,673	11.7
Accommodation	10,867	12,867	17,116	4,250	33.0
Other expenditure	31,295	35,100	41,657	6,558	18.7
Total expenditure	80,354	90,121	101,732	11,610	12.9

€ 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		November			Change	Percentage change
		2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Tourists	EU	87,544	95,835	122,740	26,906	28.1
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	6,276	5,582	8,745	3,163	56.7
	Germany	11,574	12,239	15,621	3,382	27.6
	Italy	15,565	15,585	21,300	5,716	36.7
	United Kingdom	32,482	34,617	36,777	2,159	6.2
	Non-EU	15,396	17,208	17,664	456	-
	Total	102,940	113,042	140,404	27,362	24.2
Nights	EU	645,925	696,152	814,363	118,211	17.0
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	43,268	39,593	49,872	10,279	26.0
	Germany	90,322	96,423	113,904	17,481	18.1
	Italy	87,401	79,365	101,827	22,462	28.3
	United Kingdom	258,652	279,377	287,319	7,942	2.8
	Non-EU	133,019	142,832	143,980	1,148	-
	Total	778,944	838,984	958,342	119,359	14.2
Expenditure (€000)	EU	63,395	70,250	81,473	11,223	16.0
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	4,405	4,029	5,521	1,492	37.0
	Germany	9,928	9,890	11,925	2,035	20.6
	Italy	8,547	7,380	10,095	2,715	36.8
	United Kingdom	23,766	27,444	26,141	-1,302	-4.7
	Non-EU	16,959	19,871	20,258	387	-
	Total	80,354	90,121	101,732	11,610	12.9

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-November			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Total inbound visitors	1,647,915	1,726,644	1,892,052	165,408	9.6
Overnight cruise passengers	24,337	15,847	21,090	5,243	33.1
Inbound tourists	1,623,578	1,710,797	1,870,962	160,165	9.4
Mode of travel					
Air	1,579,262	1,669,475	1,826,644	157,169	9.4
Sea	44,316	41,322	44,318	2,996	7.3
Sex					
Males	846,700	879,632	950,803	71,170	8.1
Females	776,878	831,165	920,160	88,995	10.7
Age group					
0-24	326,414	334,442	368,664	34,221	10.2
25-44	549,311	575,010	654,345	79,335	13.8
45-64	530,569	563,373	595,921	32,548	5.8
65 or more	217,284	237,972	252,033	14,061	5.9
Markets					
EU	1,361,725	1,465,567	1,608,537	142,970	9.8
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	722,316	774,779	856,234	81,455	10.5
Non-EU	261,853	245,230	262,426	17,195	7.0
Purpose of visit					
Holiday	1,381,919	1,451,709	1,610,750	159,041	11.0
Business and professional	121,996	120,040	127,967	7,928	6.6
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	119,662	139,049	132,245	-6,804	-4.9
Organisation of stay					
Package	748,065	753,963	726,404	-27,559	-3.7
Non-package	875,512	956,834	1,144,558	187,724	19.6
Frequency					
First-time tourists	1,119,049	1,197,038	1,311,559	114,521	9.6
Repeat tourists	504,528	513,760	559,403	45,644	8.9
once a year or less	359,740	374,103	402,841	28,738	7.7
more than once a year	144,789	139,657	156,563	16,905	12.1
Duration of visit					
1-3 nights	260,935	253,843	321,646	67,803	26.7
4-6 nights	369,512	410,294	470,191	59,897	14.6
7 nights or more	993,131	1,046,661	1,079,126	32,465	3.1
Average length of stay (nights)	8.0	7.9	7.6	-0.3	-

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

Type of accommodation	January-November			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Private accommodation	410,793	482,229	583,824	101,595	21.1
Collective accommodation*	1,212,785	1,228,568	1,287,138	58,570	4.8
Total tourists	1,623,578	1,710,797	1,870,962	160,165	9.4

* 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-November			Change	Percentage change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015	
Private accommodation	4,421,129	5,078,094	5,776,031	697,937	13.7
Collective accommodation*	8,515,718	8,462,153	8,510,814	48,661	0.6
Total nights	12,936,847	13,540,246	14,286,844	746,598	5.5

* 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-November			Change	Percentage change	
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015		
Tourists	Austria	26,871	29,713	23,717	-5,996	-20.2
	Belgium	30,445	34,877	38,223	3,346	9.6
	France	122,521	124,185	138,138	13,953	11.2
	Germany	135,606	135,189	149,800	14,611	10.8
	Ireland	29,879	34,228	31,490	-2,738	-8.0
	Italy	249,551	269,085	296,948	27,863	10.4
	Libya	30,213	6,498	2,977	-3,521	-54.2
	Netherlands	43,111	43,425	50,678	7,253	16.7
	Russia	33,445	21,185	16,068	-5,117	-24.2
	Scandinavia*	105,982	114,062	120,216	6,155	5.4
	Spain	40,851	44,253	51,269	7,016	15.9
	Switzerland	31,068	34,000	39,344	5,345	15.7
	United Kingdom	468,102	504,604	533,191	28,588	5.7
	USA	21,575	24,644	25,093	449	-
	Other	254,359	290,850	353,811	62,960	21.6
Total	1,623,578	1,710,797	1,870,962	160,165	9.4	
Nights	Austria	194,030	221,520	164,746	-56,773	-25.6
	Belgium	225,540	263,588	249,983	-13,605	-5.2
	France	955,237	991,479	1,069,248	77,769	7.8
	Germany	1,136,445	1,146,165	1,200,430	54,265	4.7
	Ireland	242,007	265,098	241,076	-24,021	-9.1
	Italy	1,498,692	1,742,484	1,824,359	81,874	4.7
	Libya	210,548	52,708	23,861	-28,848	-54.7
	Netherlands	333,021	339,425	379,658	40,233	11.9
	Russia	415,337	253,830	176,773	-77,056	-30.4
	Scandinavia*	790,813	830,007	862,713	32,706	3.9
	Spain	306,416	338,140	369,367	31,227	9.2
	Switzerland	254,124	258,576	300,413	41,837	16.2
	United Kingdom	3,950,256	4,197,855	4,308,681	110,826	2.6
	USA	171,961	199,710	191,350	-8,361	-
	Other	2,252,422	2,439,662	2,924,185	484,523	19.9
Total	12,936,847	13,540,246	14,286,844	746,598	5.5	
Expenditure (€000)	Austria	25,496	28,088	21,202	-6,886	-24.5
	Belgium	30,576	34,001	34,167	166	0.5
	France	111,292	114,530	120,532	6,003	5.2
	Germany	132,332	130,275	133,145	2,870	2.2
	Ireland	26,521	32,482	29,750	-2,732	-8.4
	Italy	156,232	171,914	184,820	12,906	7.5
	Libya	31,650	8,924	4,010	-4,914	-55.1
	Netherlands	38,241	39,588	43,527	3,939	9.9
	Russia	51,671	30,033	21,341	-8,692	-28.9
	Scandinavia*	100,145	108,094	114,251	6,157	5.7
	Spain	34,551	37,725	41,330	3,606	9.6
	Switzerland	38,194	39,582	46,226	6,644	16.8
	United Kingdom	408,622	480,929	468,586	-12,342	-2.6
	USA	27,678	32,184	30,236	-1,948	-
	Other	263,713	296,985	353,490	56,505	19.0
Total	1,476,915	1,585,331	1,646,614	61,282	3.9	

* 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-November 2016				
Austria	9,157	2,281	2,593	7,171	21,202
Belgium	14,110	3,961	4,774	11,323	34,167
France	45,334	14,213	20,051	40,934	120,532
Germany	56,021	15,095	19,719	42,310	133,145
Ireland	6,817	4,365	5,946	12,622	29,750
Italy	44,913	22,985	36,319	80,603	184,820
Libya	276	1,068	942	1,724	4,010
Netherlands	14,790	4,913	6,090	17,733	43,527
Russia	4,503	3,593	3,590	9,655	21,341
Scandinavia*	39,358	14,841	17,039	43,013	114,251
Spain	9,671	5,648	8,401	17,610	41,330
Switzerland	13,979	6,521	8,425	17,300	46,226
United Kingdom	160,704	61,920	67,954	178,007	468,586
USA	2,173	10,553	6,091	11,419	30,236
Other	68,926	72,690	62,446	149,428	353,490
Total	490,734	244,647	270,381	640,851	1,646,614
	January-November 2015				
Austria	13,166	2,620	2,914	9,388	28,087
Belgium	15,234	3,659	4,324	10,784	34,001
France	47,996	12,787	16,383	37,365	114,530
Germany	63,456	12,439	15,618	38,762	130,275
Ireland	7,693	4,643	6,089	14,057	32,482
Italy	45,928	21,215	31,578	73,193	171,914
Libya	352	2,559	2,369	3,644	8,924
Netherlands	14,068	4,592	5,452	15,476	39,588
Russia	6,927	5,159	4,831	13,117	30,033
Scandinavia*	33,650	15,395	16,473	42,576	108,094
Spain	11,337	4,552	6,163	15,673	37,725
Switzerland	12,795	5,914	6,623	14,250	39,582
United Kingdom	183,257	64,885	59,541	173,246	480,929
USA	4,023	10,555	6,184	11,422	32,184
Other	66,453	60,568	47,731	122,233	296,985
Total	526,334	231,540	232,272	595,186	1,585,331
	January-November 2014				
Austria	11,185	2,698	2,827	8,786	25,496
Belgium	13,632	3,139	3,583	10,223	30,576
France	49,738	12,096	13,971	35,487	111,292
Germany	65,753	12,026	13,902	40,652	132,332
Ireland	6,789	3,790	4,178	11,765	26,521
Italy	42,848	20,470	27,218	65,695	156,232
Libya	2,351	8,197	5,890	15,211	31,650
Netherlands	14,539	4,456	4,352	14,894	38,241
Russia	16,433	6,523	6,273	22,441	51,671
Scandinavia*	31,748	14,130	14,635	39,632	100,145
Spain	10,322	4,255	5,545	14,428	34,551
Switzerland	16,196	4,555	4,630	12,813	38,194
United Kingdom	154,190	52,242	47,342	154,848	408,622
USA	4,452	8,425	5,452	9,348	27,678
Other	60,709	52,427	40,404	110,174	263,713
Total	500,885	209,430	200,204	566,396	1,476,915

* 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		
January-November 2016					
Austria	665	229	320	302	894
Belgium	774	198	291	296	894
France	725	188	305	296	873
Germany	730	207	321	282	889
Ireland	620	213	355	401	945
Italy	509	110	221	271	622
Libya	726	411	444	579	1,347
Netherlands	636	179	282	350	859
Russia	936	319	379	601	1,328
Scandinavia*	690	235	323	358	950
Spain	617	159	281	343	806
Switzerland	931	268	389	440	1,175
United Kingdom	679	209	331	334	879
USA	846	468	338	455	1,205
Other	687	287	307	422	999
Total expenditure per capita	676	214	301	343	880
January-November 2015					
Austria	686	249	335	316	945
Belgium	852	215	347	309	975
France	724	221	334	301	922
Germany	740	251	392	287	964
Ireland	608	215	327	411	949
Italy	500	120	226	272	639
Libya	467	445	499	561	1,373
Netherlands	676	203	298	356	912
Russia	1,055	353	404	619	1,418
Scandinavia*	654	246	316	373	948
Spain	637	172	302	354	852
Switzerland	877	305	395	419	1,164
United Kingdom	742	252	352	343	953
USA	1,253	492	378	463	1,306
Other	676	315	315	420	1,021
Total expenditure per capita	698	242	318	348	927
January-November 2014					
Austria	667	267	336	327	949
Belgium	799	235	347	336	1,004
France	736	220	302	290	908
Germany	735	260	378	300	976
Ireland	560	214	298	394	888
Italy	467	130	213	263	626
Libya	572	314	255	503	1,048
Netherlands	655	213	269	345	887
Russia	1,081	358	397	671	1,545
Scandinavia*	667	242	303	374	945
Spain	608	178	271	353	846
Switzerland	949	325	402	412	1,229
United Kingdom	666	221	314	331	873
USA	887	509	435	433	1,283
Other	650	326	322	433	1,037
Total expenditure per capita	670	239	300	349	910

* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

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

Characteristics	November			Change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015
Total overnight cruise passengers	495	2,063	2,307	244
Sex:				
Males	218	984	1,105	121
Females	277	1,079	1,202	123
Age group:				
0-19	2	7	3	-4
20-39	19	53	63	10
40-59	88	190	168	-22
60-79	328	1,522	1,804	282
80 or more	58	291	269	-22
Markets:				
EU	251	371	481	110
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	248	68	355	287
Non-EU	244	1,692	1,826	134

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

Characteristics	January-November			Change
	2014	2015	2016	2016/2015
Total overnight cruise passengers	24,337	15,847	21,090	5,243
Sex:				
Males	11,687	7,447	9,864	2,417
Females	12,650	8,400	11,226	2,826
Age group:				
0-19	1,434	613	1,122	509
20-39	3,560	1,073	1,876	803
40-59	8,543	3,538	5,099	1,561
60-79	9,353	9,255	11,581	2,326
80 or more	1,447	1,368	1,412	44
Markets:				
EU	21,960	7,223	9,656	2,433
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	18,969	4,747	5,829	1,082
Non-EU	2,377	8,624	11,434	2,810

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>