

Total guests and nights spent in collective accommodation establishments during January 2017 advanced by 17.1 and 9.0 per cent respectively when compared to the corresponding month in 2016.

Collective Accommodation Establishments: January 2017

In January, total guests in collective accommodation establishments numbered 86,854, while total nights spent amounted to 452,373. 5-star and 2-star hotels were the only collective accommodation categories registering decreases in total nights spent. The largest share of guest nights was reported in 4-star hotels, accounting for 218,360 nights, or 48.3 per cent of the total (Tables 1 and 2).

The average length of stay in collective accommodation establishments went down to 5.2 nights in January 2017 from 5.6 nights in the same month of 2016. The net use of bed-places stood at 40.9 per cent, up by 2.4 percentage points when compared to the corresponding month last year (Table 3).

On a national level, there were 156 active collective accommodation establishments during January 2017, with a net capacity of 16,303 bedrooms and 36,546 bed-places (Table 4).

Regional breakdown

Total guests in Malta numbered 83,621, up by 17.9 per cent over January 2016. Additionally, an increase of 9.1 per cent was recorded in the number of nights spent. In Gozo and Comino total guests decreased slightly to 3,233, while total nights spent went up by 2.6 per cent to 8,727 when compared to the comparative month last year (Tables 1 and 2).

In Malta, the average length of stay edged down by 0.4 of a night to 5.3, while that in Gozo and Comino edged up by 0.1 of a night to 2.7, when compared with the same month last year. The net occupancy rate in Malta advanced by 2.5 percentage points, reaching 41.8 per cent, and that in Gozo and Comino rose by 0.4 percentage points to 19.4 per cent over the same month of 2016 (Table 3) ■

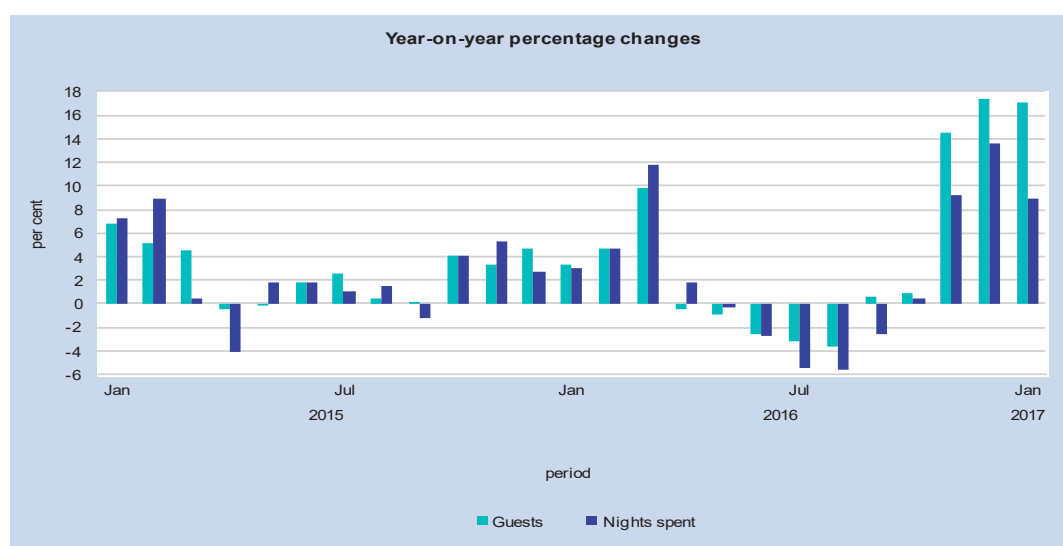


Table 1. Total guests (residents and non-residents) by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	December*	January	
	2016	2016	2017
	MALTA		
Hotel	105,615	71,785	83,586
5 Star	29,087	20,775	21,953
4 Star	45,206	32,540	36,897
3 Star	28,435	16,068	22,183
2 Star	2,886	2,402	2,553
Other collective accommodation ¹	3,524	2,404	3,269
Total	109,139	74,188	86,854
		Malta	
Hotel	100,578	68,595	80,826
of which:			
5 Star	27,457	20,617	21,319
4 Star	43,052	30,594	35,694
3 Star	27,572	15,339	21,610
Other collective accommodation ¹	3,356	2,350	2,796
Total	103,934	70,944	83,621
		Gozo and Comino	
Hotel	5,037	3,190	2,760
of which:			
5 Star	1,630	158	634
4 Star	2,154	1,946	1,203
3 Star	863	729	573
Other collective accommodation ¹	168	54	473
Total	5,205	3,244	3,233

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 2. Total nights spent by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	December*	January	
	2016	2016	2017
	MALTA		
Hotel	473,470	390,451	425,043
5 Star	97,711	79,798	78,711
4 Star	231,050	204,786	218,360
3 Star	129,063	88,961	112,640
2 Star	15,646	16,906	15,332
Other collective accommodation ¹	26,771	24,701	27,330
Total	500,241	415,152	452,373
		Malta	
Hotel	460,144	382,058	417,168
of which:			
5 Star	93,478	78,891	76,529
4 Star	224,509	199,457	214,254
3 Star	127,255	87,715	111,619
Other collective accommodation ¹	26,376	24,591	26,478
Total	486,520	406,649	443,646
		Gozo and Comino	
Hotel	13,326	8,393	7,875
of which:			
5 Star	4,233	907	2,182
4 Star	6,541	5,329	4,106
3 Star	1,808	1,246	1,021
Other collective accommodation ¹	395	110	852
Total	13,721	8,503	8,727

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 3. Net use of bed-places by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	December*	January	
	2016	2016	2017
	MALTA		
Hotel	45.5	39.3	41.9
5 Star	47.6	40.4	40.0
4 Star	48.0	44.5	46.2
3 Star	41.6	30.6	37.2
2 Star	35.2	39.2	36.6
Other collective accommodation ¹	29.7	28.5	29.6
Total	44.2	38.5	40.9
		Malta	
Hotel	46.3	40.2	42.8
of which:			
5 Star	48.9	41.8	40.2
4 Star	48.8	45.4	47.4
3 Star	41.9	30.7	37.5
Other collective accommodation ¹	31.1	29.6	31.0
Total	45.1	39.3	41.8
		Gozo and Comino	
Hotel	28.0	20.4	20.7
of which:			
5 Star	29.8	10.0	36.2
4 Star	30.9	25.0	19.3
3 Star	28.6	21.8	20.9
Other collective accommodation ¹	7.4	3.0	12.6
Total	25.9	19.0	19.4

* Revised

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Table 4. Establishments with net number of bedrooms and bed-places by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January					
	Establishments		Bedrooms		Bed-places	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	MALTA					
Hotel	109	111	14,928	15,251	32,651	33,516
5 Star	14	14	3,341	3,371	6,529	6,606
4 Star	39	38	6,840	6,960	15,238	15,603
3 Star	43	45	4,126	4,310	9,492	9,954
2 Star	13	14	621	610	1,392	1,353
Other collective accommodation ¹	37	45	1,122	1,052	2,826	3,030
Total	146	156	16,050	16,303	35,477	36,546
	Malta					
Hotel	98	99	14,244	14,569	31,170	31,996
of which:						
5 Star	12	12	3,126	3,156	6,082	6,148
4 Star	35	34	6,518	6,638	14,550	14,915
3 Star	40	42	4,039	4,223	9,308	9,770
Other collective accommodation ¹	33	37	1,069	949	2,708	2,806
Total	131	136	15,313	15,518	33,878	34,802
	Gozo and Comino					
Hotel	11	12	684	682	1,481	1,520
of which:						
5 Star	2	2	215	215	447	458
4 Star	4	4	322	322	688	688
3 Star	3	3	87	87	184	184
Other collective accommodation ¹	4	8	53	103	118	224
Total	15	20	737	785	1,599	1,744

¹ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Methodological Notes

1. The objective of the Survey on Collective Accommodation Establishments is to estimate the utilisation rate of bed-places of all active collective accommodation establishments in Malta and Gozo. The variables collected from the survey include:
 - Number of residents;
 - Number of non-residents;
 - Nights spent by residents;
 - Nights spent by non-residents;
 - Number of room nights sold to foreign residents;
 - Number of room nights sold to Maltese residents;
 - Number of bedrooms;
 - Number of bed-places;
 - Number of days the establishment was closed during the month under review.

The collection of the above variables and the calculation of occupancy levels are in line with Regulation (EU) No. 692/2011.

2. The survey is distributed monthly to all collective accommodation establishments, namely hotels, guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages.

3. Response Rate:

January 2016	89.5%
December 2016	89.2%
January 2017	88.9%

4. In this release figures for December 2016 should be considered as a second estimate while those relating to January 2017 are a first estimate, therefore subject to revision in the ensuing release.
5. The Malta Tourism Authority (MTA) licensing department reclassified all collective accommodation establishments registered as aparthotels to hotels (refer to Legal Notice 351 of 2012).

6. 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=35>).

7. **Definitions:**

- **Bedroom:** a unit formed by one room or group of rooms constituting an indivisible rental whole in an accommodation establishment or dwelling.
- **Bed-place:** in an establishment, this is determined by the number of persons who can stay overnight in the establishment, not taking into account any extra beds that may be provided to clients on request.
- **Residents:** Maltese/Gozitan residents who check into/out of a collective accommodation establishment. A person is considered to be a Maltese/Gozitan resident if:
 - (a) S/he has lived for most of the past 12 months in Malta/Gozo;
 - (b) S/he has lived in Malta/Gozo for less than 12 months but intends to return within a year to settle here.
- **Non-residents:** foreigners who do not necessarily follow the definition of a tourist and check into/out of a collective accommodation establishment.
- **Total guests:** the number of residents and non-residents altogether.
- **Total nights spent:** nights which a guest actually spends or is registered to spend in a collective accommodation establishment.
- **Net use of bed-places:** the net occupancy rate calculated for all active accommodation establishments, net of seasonal closures and other temporary closures. The occupancy of bed-places is calculated by dividing the total nights during the reference period by the number of bed-places and the number of days when the bed-places are actually available for use during the reference period. The result is then multiplied by 100 to express the occupancy rate as a percentage.
- **Average length of stay:** this is calculated as follows:
 - (a)
$$\frac{\text{total number of nights}}{\text{total number of guests}}$$
- **Tourist:** A visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.

8. 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=35>
Statistical Database: <http://nso.gov.mt/statdb/start>

$$\frac{\text{total number of nights}}{\text{total number of guests}}$$

9. Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.

10. The advanced news release calendar may be accessed at www.nso.gov.mt