

Total guests and nights spent in collective accommodation establishments during February 2017 advanced by 18.2 and 8.3 per cent respectively when compared to the corresponding month in 2016.

Collective Accommodation Establishments: February 2017

In February, total guests in collective accommodation establishments numbered 112,880, while total nights spent amounted to 528,466. All collective accommodation categories registered increases in total nights spent. The largest share of guest nights was reported in 4-star hotels, accounting for 265,830 nights, or 50.3 per cent of the total (Tables 1 and 2).

The average length of stay in collective accommodation establishments went down to 4.7 nights in February 2017 from 5.1 nights in the same month of 2016. The net use of bed-places stood at 52.4 per cent, up by 5.7 percentage points when compared to the corresponding month last year (Table 3).

On a national level, there were 158 active collective accommodation establishments during February 2017, with a net capacity of 16,179 bedrooms and 36,260 bed-places (Table 4).

Regional breakdown

Total guests in Malta numbered 107,624, up by 18.5 per cent over February 2016. Additionally, an increase of 8.3 per cent was recorded in the number of nights spent. Total guests and nights spent in Gozo and Comino increased by 11.0 per cent and 8.8 per cent when compared to the comparative month last year, to 5,256 and 12,280 respectively (Tables 1 and 2).

In Malta, the average length of stay went down by 0.5 of a night to 4.8, and that in Gozo and Comino edged down by 0.1 of a night to 2.3, when compared with the same month last year. The net occupancy rate in Malta advanced by 6.1 percentage points, reaching 53.7 per cent, while that in Gozo and Comino declined by 0.5 percentage points to 26.0 per cent over the same month of 2016 (Table 3).

January-February

Total guests in the first two months of 2017 amounted to 199,746, an increase of 17.7 per cent over the same period in 2016 (Table 1). Total nights spent went up by 8.6 per cent, reaching 980,890 (Table 2). The net use of bed-places advanced by 3.9 percentage points to 46.4 per cent (Table 3) ■

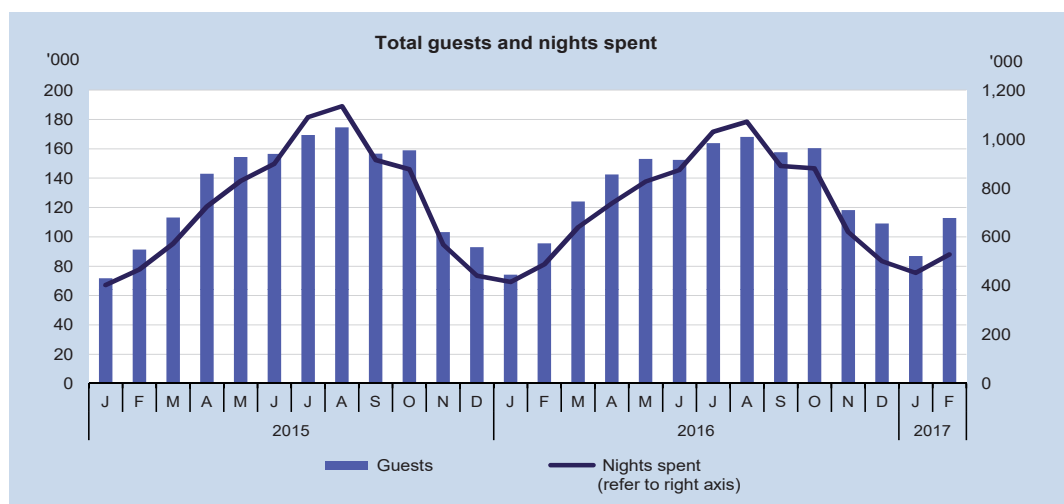


Table 1. Total guests (residents and non-residents) by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January*	February		January-February	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	MALTA				
Hotel	83,603	92,813	108,824	164,598	192,426
5 Star	21,953	23,378	28,446	44,153	50,399
4 Star	36,897	45,827	50,123	78,367	87,020
3 Star	22,200	21,364	27,467	37,432	49,667
2 Star	2,553	2,244	2,787	4,645	5,340
Other collective accommodation ¹	3,264	2,705	4,056	5,109	7,320
Total	86,866	95,519	112,880	169,707	199,746
	Malta				
Hotel	80,843	88,175	104,106	156,770	184,948
of which:					
5 Star	21,319	22,108	26,898	42,725	48,217
4 Star	35,694	43,520	48,123	74,114	83,817
3 Star	21,627	20,609	26,746	35,948	48,373
Other collective accommodation ¹	2,791	2,608	3,518	4,958	6,309
Total	83,633	90,784	107,624	161,728	191,257
	Gozo and Comino				
Hotel	2,760	4,638	4,718	7,828	7,478
of which:					
5 Star	634	1,270	1,548	1,428	2,182
4 Star	1,203	2,307	2,000	4,253	3,203
3 Star	573	755	721	1,484	1,294
Other collective accommodation ¹	473	97	538	151	1,011
Total	3,233	4,735	5,256	7,979	8,489

* 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	January*	February		January-February	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	MALTA				
Hotel	425,110	460,605	498,151	851,056	923,261
5 Star	78,711	78,550	88,487	158,348	167,198
4 Star	218,360	254,977	265,830	459,763	484,190
3 Star	112,707	111,443	127,601	200,403	240,308
2 Star	15,332	15,636	16,233	32,542	31,566
Other collective accommodation ¹	27,314	27,371	30,314	52,072	57,629
Total	452,424	487,976	528,466	903,128	980,890
	Malta				
Hotel	417,235	449,560	486,818	831,618	904,053
of which:					
5 Star	76,529	75,752	84,907	154,643	161,436
4 Star	214,254	249,048	260,300	448,505	474,554
3 Star	111,686	109,897	126,262	197,611	237,948
Other collective accommodation ¹	26,462	27,126	29,367	51,717	55,830
Total	443,697	476,686	516,186	883,335	959,883
	Gozo and Comino				
Hotel	7,875	11,045	11,333	19,438	19,208
of which:					
5 Star	2,182	2,798	3,580	3,705	5,762
4 Star	4,106	5,929	5,530	11,258	9,636
3 Star	1,021	1,546	1,339	2,792	2,360
Other collective accommodation ¹	852	245	947	355	1,799
Total	8,727	11,290	12,280	19,793	21,007

* 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	January*	February		January-February		
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	
	MALTA					
Hotel	41.9	47.8	53.9	43.5	47.6	
5 Star	40.0	47.2	48.2	43.5	44.0	
4 Star	46.2	54.9	60.4	49.7	53.0	
3 Star	37.3	38.1	48.4	34.3	42.5	
2 Star	36.6	39.6	42.9	39.4	39.5	
Other collective accommodation ¹	29.6	33.7	36.4	31.0	32.9	
Total	40.9	46.7	52.4	42.5	46.4	
Type of accommodation	Malta					
	Hotel	42.8	48.7	55.1	44.4	48.6
	<i>of which:</i>					
5 Star	40.2	48.3	49.3	44.8	44.5	
4 Star	47.4	56.0	61.9	50.7	54.4	
3 Star	37.5	38.3	48.9	34.5	42.8	
Other collective accommodation ¹	31.0	34.8	38.2	32.1	34.4	
Total	41.8	47.6	53.7	43.4	47.5	
Type of accommodation	Gozo and Comino					
	Hotel	20.7	28.0	27.6	24.1	24.3
	<i>of which:</i>					
5 Star	36.2	28.7	31.8	19.7	33.3	
4 Star	19.3	29.7	28.7	27.3	23.7	
3 Star	20.9	29.0	26.0	25.3	23.5	
Other collective accommodation ¹	12.6	7.8	15.0	5.2	13.7	
Total	19.4	26.5	26.0	22.7	22.8	

* 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	February						
	Establishments		Bedrooms		Bed-places		
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	
MALTA							
Hotel	111	111	15,760	15,113	34,657	33,218	
5 Star	14	14	3,341	3,371	6,537	6,606	
4 Star	41	39	7,375	6,994	16,317	15,715	
3 Star	43	44	4,425	4,138	10,443	9,544	
2 Star	13	14	619	610	1,360	1,353	
Other collective accommodation ¹	36	47	1,124	1,066	2,840	3,042	
Total	147	158	16,884	16,179	37,497	36,260	
Type of accommodation	Malta						
	Hotel	100	99	15,077	14,431	33,176	31,698
	<i>of which:</i>						
5 Star	12	12	3,126	3,156	6,082	6,148	
4 Star	37	35	7,053	6,672	15,629	15,027	
3 Star	40	41	4,338	4,051	10,259	9,360	
Other collective accommodation ¹	32	37	1,071	948	2,722	2,786	
Total	132	136	16,148	15,379	35,898	34,484	
Type of accommodation	Gozo and Comino						
	Hotel	11	12	683	682	1,481	1,520
	<i>of which:</i>						
5 Star	2	2	215	215	455	458	
4 Star	4	4	322	322	688	688	
3 Star	3	3	87	87	184	184	
Other collective accommodation ¹	4	10	53	118	118	256	
Total	15	22	736	800	1,599	1,776	

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:

February 2016	88.8%
January 2017	89.7%
February 2017	88.3%
4. In this release figures for January 2017 should be considered as a second estimate while those relating to February 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:
$$\frac{\text{total number of nights}}{\text{total number of guests}}$$
 - **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>
9. Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.
10. The advanced news release calendar may be accessed at www.nso.gov.mt