

Total inbound visitors for April were estimated at 202,698 an increase of 21.9 per cent when compared to the corresponding month in 2016.

Inbound Tourism: April 2017

A total of 162,065 inbound tourist trips were carried out for holiday purposes, while a further 20,141 were undertaken for business purposes. A significant increase of 60.5 per cent was registered in the number of business trips when compared to April 2016. Inbound tourists from EU Member States went up by 20.9 per cent to 176,714 when compared to the corresponding month in 2016. 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 15.0 per cent when compared to April 2016, reaching nearly 1.3 million nights. The largest share of guest nights (62.0 per cent) was spent in collective accommodation establishments (Table 3). Tourist nights in private accommodation increased by 21.4 per cent when compared to April 2016.

Total tourist expenditure was estimated at €153.8 million, an increase of 24.9 per cent over the corresponding month in 2016 (Table 4).

January-April 2017

Inbound tourist trips from January to April 2017 reached 548,475, an increase of 22.9 per cent over the same period in 2016 (Table 6). Total nights spent by inbound tourists went up by 12.4 per cent, surpassing 3.5 million nights (Table 8).

Total tourism expenditure reached nearly €391.0 million, 17.6 per cent higher than that recorded for 2016 (Table 9). Total expenditure per capita stood at €713, a decrease of 4.3 per cent when compared to 2016 (Table 11) ■

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

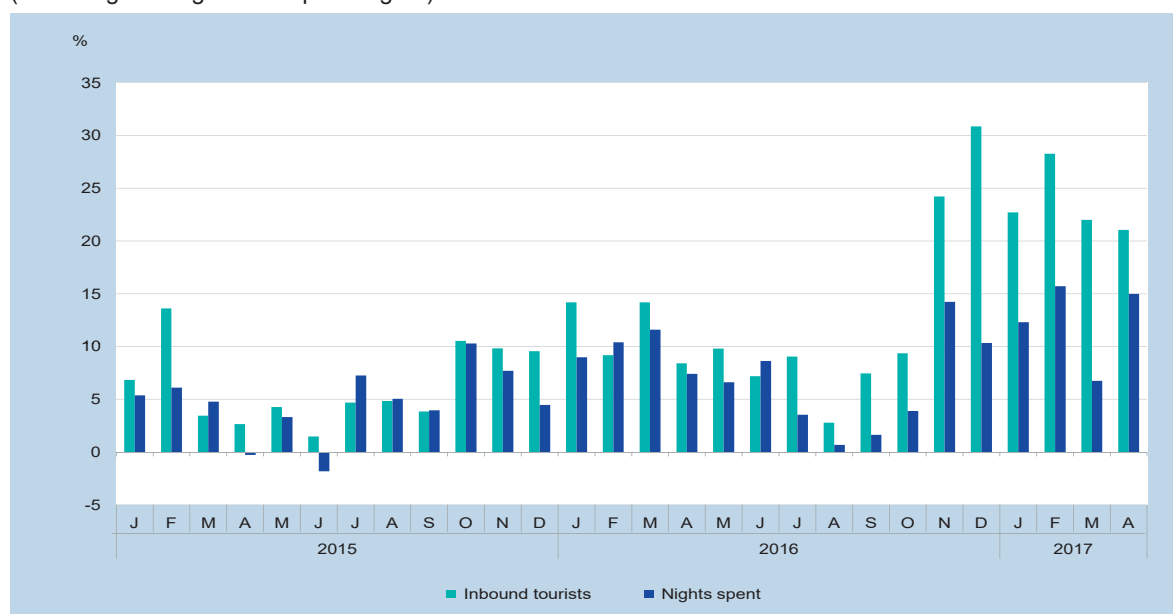


Table 1. Profile of inbound tourists by month of departure

Characteristics	April			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017	2017/2016	
Total inbound visitors	153,743	166,252	202,698	36,446	21.9
Overnight cruise passengers	1,642	1,367	3,112	1,745	127.7
Inbound tourists	152,101	164,885	199,586	34,701	21.0
Mode of travel					
Air	146,422	160,272	194,285	34,013	21.2
Sea	5,679	4,613	5,301	688	14.9
Sex					
Males	80,173	79,866	104,247	24,381	30.5
Females	71,928	85,019	95,339	10,320	12.1
Age group					
0-24	31,085	33,892	38,731	4,840	14.3
25-44	49,833	54,730	72,103	17,372	31.7
45-64	47,595	50,590	65,958	15,368	30.4
65 or more	23,589	25,673	22,794	-2,879	-11.2
Markets					
EU	134,999	146,113	176,714	30,601	20.9
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	74,486	79,000	101,489	22,489	28.5
Non-EU	17,103	18,772	22,872	4,100	21.8
Purpose of visit					
Holiday	125,845	137,061	162,065	25,004	18.2
Business and professional	11,828	12,550	20,141	7,592	60.5
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	14,428	15,274	17,379	2,105	13.8
Organisation of stay					
Package	66,793	66,029	70,271	4,242	6.4
Non-package	85,308	98,856	129,314	30,458	30.8
Frequency					
First-time tourists	106,474	117,705	145,712	28,007	23.8
Repeat tourists	45,628	47,180	53,874	6,694	14.2
once a year or less	30,268	31,602	38,619	7,017	22.2
more than once a year	15,359	15,578	15,255	-323	-
Duration of visit					
1-3 nights	29,844	31,921	46,132	14,211	44.5
4-6 nights	47,146	50,930	63,324	12,394	24.3
7 nights or more	75,112	82,034	90,129	8,095	9.9
Average length of stay (nights)	6.7	6.6	6.3	-0.3	-

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

Type of accommodation	April			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017		
Private accommodation	38,234	48,349	60,779	12,430	25.7
Collective accommodation	113,867	116,536	138,807	22,271	19.1
Total tourists	152,101	164,885	199,586	34,701	21.0

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	April			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017		
Private accommodation	318,303	394,217	478,509	84,292	21.4
Collective accommodation	701,949	701,537	781,414	79,878	11.4
Total nights	1,020,252	1,095,753	1,259,923	164,170	15.0

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 4. Total expenditure by inbound tourists by month of departure and expenditure category

€ 000

Expenditure category	April			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017		
Package	40,569	37,547	41,970	4,423	11.8
Non-package	33,964	37,094	52,753	15,659	42.2
Air/sea fares	18,026	18,673	25,222	6,549	35.1
Accommodation	15,938	18,421	27,531	9,110	49.5
Other expenditure	44,713	48,487	59,031	10,544	21.7
Total expenditure	119,247	123,128	153,753	30,625	24.9

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		April			Change	Percentage change
		2015	2016	2017	2017/2016	
Tourists	EU	134,999	146,113	176,714	30,601	20.9
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	11,945	16,832	17,981	1,150	-
	Germany	14,924	13,381	16,384	3,003	22.4
	Italy	23,891	25,284	33,296	8,011	31.7
	United Kingdom	44,621	47,465	49,148	1,683	3.5
	Non-EU	17,103	18,772	22,872	4,100	21.8
	Total	152,101	164,885	199,586	34,701	21.0
Nights	EU	901,426	959,597	1,091,037	131,440	13.7
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	74,439	109,018	118,037	9,019	-
	Germany	114,518	102,814	121,898	19,084	18.6
	Italy	126,765	133,164	158,860	25,695	19.3
	United Kingdom	333,454	346,342	341,488	-4,853	-1.4
	Non-EU	118,826	136,157	168,887	32,730	24.0
	Total	1,020,252	1,095,753	1,259,923	164,170	15.0
Expenditure (€000)	EU	101,012	104,688	129,456	24,768	23.7
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	9,106	12,978	14,577	1,599	-
	Germany	13,417	11,055	13,901	2,846	25.7
	Italy	12,383	12,905	18,099	5,195	40.3
	United Kingdom	36,617	36,295	37,465	1,171	3.2
	Non-EU	18,235	18,439	24,296	5,857	31.8
	Total	119,247	123,128	153,753	30,625	24.9

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-April			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017	2017/2016	
Total inbound visitors	403,373	448,596	551,931	103,336	23.0
Overnight cruise passengers	1,642	2,370	3,456	1,086	45.8
Inbound tourists	401,731	446,226	548,475	102,250	22.9
Mode of travel					
Air	390,327	432,967	536,447	103,481	23.9
Sea	11,404	13,259	12,028	-1,231	-9.3
Sex					
Males	214,255	230,677	292,327	61,650	26.7
Females	187,475	215,549	256,148	40,600	18.8
Age group					
0-24	66,523	73,281	93,493	20,212	27.6
25-44	124,835	145,582	195,668	50,086	34.4
45-64	138,342	151,278	184,098	32,820	21.7
65 or more	72,031	76,086	75,217	-868	-
Markets					
EU	346,916	386,163	480,790	94,626	24.5
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	190,487	207,131	282,079	74,948	36.2
Non-EU	54,815	60,062	67,686	7,624	12.7
Purpose of visit					
Holiday	321,531	369,370	440,405	71,035	19.2
Business and professional	40,179	41,625	63,584	21,960	52.8
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	40,021	35,231	44,486	9,255	26.3
Organisation of stay					
Package	186,974	188,222	194,971	6,749	3.6
Non-package	214,757	258,004	353,505	95,501	37.0
Frequency					
First-time tourists	271,302	306,210	384,136	77,925	25.4
Repeat tourists	130,429	140,015	164,340	24,325	17.4
once a year or less	87,062	93,827	112,800	18,973	20.2
more than once a year	43,366	46,188	51,539	5,351	11.6
Duration of visit					
1-3 nights	82,629	96,942	146,936	49,994	51.6
4-6 nights	117,046	134,027	167,914	33,888	25.3
7 nights or more	202,056	215,257	233,625	18,368	8.5
Average length of stay (nights)	7.1	7.0	6.4	-0.6	-

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-April			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017		
Private accommodation	90,918	115,162	152,357	37,196	32.3
Collective accommodation	310,813	331,064	396,118	65,054	19.7
Total tourists	401,731	446,226	548,475	102,250	22.9

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-April			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017		
Private accommodation	882,805	1,050,448	1,266,068	215,620	20.5
Collective accommodation	1,985,903	2,085,970	2,260,812	174,842	8.4
Total nights	2,868,708	3,136,419	3,526,880	390,462	12.4

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-April			Change	Percentage change	
	2015	2016	2017	2017/2016		
Tourists	Australia	3,297	3,562	3,903	341	-
	Austria	7,779	6,152	7,343	1,192	-
	Belgium	8,586	8,546	23,854	15,307	179.1
	France	28,903	32,544	40,166	7,622	23.4
	Germany	39,519	40,350	51,709	11,359	28.1
	Hungary	2,662	4,051	4,329	278	-
	Ireland	8,466	8,462	8,635	173	-
	Italy	69,904	76,264	94,483	18,219	23.9
	Netherlands	7,545	8,439	13,500	5,061	60.0
	Poland	9,383	12,468	20,798	8,330	66.8
	Scandinavia*	18,344	24,400	24,024	-376	-
	Spain	8,372	10,764	18,957	8,193	76.1
	Switzerland	7,198	6,231	9,319	3,088	49.6
	United Kingdom	122,027	134,499	140,020	5,522	4.1
	USA	4,944	6,122	8,155	2,032	33.2
	Other	54,802	63,370	79,280	15,910	25.1
	Total	401,731	446,226	548,475	102,250	22.9
Nights	Australia	33,892	35,888	42,612	6,723	-
	Austria	52,447	40,816	47,358	6,541	-
	Belgium	56,363	47,796	125,726	77,929	163.0
	France	185,840	218,554	240,085	21,531	9.9
	Germany	312,600	304,536	353,645	49,109	16.1
	Hungary	17,424	34,192	25,249	-8,943	-
	Ireland	59,064	57,979	55,891	-2,088	-
	Italy	390,585	431,189	476,164	44,975	10.4
	Netherlands	47,349	51,284	85,357	34,073	66.4
	Poland	60,822	81,936	122,638	40,701	49.7
	Scandinavia*	135,232	165,838	158,961	-6,877	-
	Spain	50,697	63,965	94,227	30,262	47.3
	Switzerland	44,942	35,591	60,531	24,940	70.1
	United Kingdom	984,465	1,046,569	1,019,987	-26,582	-2.5
	USA	34,400	41,345	47,127	5,782	14.0
	Other	402,585	478,939	571,324	92,384	19.3
	Total	2,868,708	3,136,419	3,526,880	390,462	12.4
Expenditure (€000)	Australia	3,927	4,410	5,555	1,145	-
	Austria	6,254	4,716	6,607	1,890	-
	Belgium	6,598	6,865	14,932	8,067	117.5
	France	21,680	24,688	28,940	4,251	17.2
	Germany	34,433	33,066	39,358	6,292	19.0
	Hungary	1,567	2,591	2,522	-69	-
	Ireland	6,180	6,497	6,143	-354	-
	Italy	37,650	39,520	48,508	8,988	22.7
	Netherlands	5,612	5,364	9,578	4,215	78.6
	Poland	5,470	7,581	11,838	4,257	56.2
	Scandinavia*	15,248	20,216	20,353	137	-
	Spain	5,783	7,687	11,354	3,666	47.7
	Switzerland	7,327	5,781	9,085	3,304	57.1
	United Kingdom	94,612	96,867	95,749	-1,118	-1.2
	USA	6,254	6,761	8,351	1,590	23.5
	Other	52,153	59,873	72,090	12,217	20.4
	Total	310,749	332,483	390,961	58,478	17.6

* 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-April 2017				
Australia	402	2,049	742	2,361	5,555
Austria	2,395	930	1,195	2,087	6,607
Belgium	3,393	2,602	3,575	5,362	14,932
France	8,971	4,321	5,266	10,381	28,940
Germany	16,055	4,325	5,769	13,210	39,358
Hungary	155	580	667	1,119	2,522
Ireland	947	990	1,277	2,929	6,143
Italy	11,868	6,072	8,688	21,880	48,508
Netherlands	1,938	1,847	1,796	3,997	9,578
Poland	2,158	1,779	2,385	5,515	11,838
Scandinavia*	6,210	3,413	2,914	7,815	20,353
Spain	2,455	1,743	2,165	4,991	11,354
Switzerland	2,494	1,602	1,617	3,372	9,085
United Kingdom	30,081	12,056	14,159	39,453	95,749
USA	1,288	2,660	1,749	2,654	8,351
Other	14,263	15,941	12,429	29,457	72,090
Total	105,072	62,910	66,393	156,585	390,961
	January-April 2016				
Australia	201	1,712	670	1,826	4,410
Austria	2,325	457	381	1,554	4,716
Belgium	2,820	986	845	2,215	6,865
France	10,237	2,916	3,419	8,116	24,688
Germany	15,285	3,321	4,186	10,274	33,066
Hungary	387	388	463	1,352	2,591
Ireland	1,656	842	1,088	2,911	6,497
Italy	9,973	4,972	6,936	17,639	39,520
Netherlands	1,231	937	923	2,273	5,364
Poland	1,639	1,084	1,510	3,348	7,581
Scandinavia*	6,842	2,864	2,978	7,531	20,216
Spain	2,136	1,130	1,221	3,200	7,687
Switzerland	1,616	1,053	999	2,113	5,781
United Kingdom	32,624	12,901	12,397	38,945	96,867
USA	305	2,299	1,782	2,375	6,761
Other	14,349	12,149	9,336	24,038	59,873
Total	103,625	50,013	49,135	129,710	332,483
	January-April 2015				
Australia	152	1,715	504	1,556	3,927
Austria	3,054	674	460	2,066	6,254
Belgium	2,657	1,060	694	2,187	6,598
France	10,025	2,467	2,524	6,663	21,680
Germany	16,660	3,285	3,842	10,646	34,433
Hungary	273	295	238	762	1,567
Ireland	1,473	875	993	2,839	6,180
Italy	11,985	4,570	5,882	15,213	37,650
Netherlands	1,861	851	734	2,167	5,612
Poland	864	1,034	1,200	2,372	5,470
Scandinavia*	4,029	2,684	2,290	6,245	15,248
Spain	1,351	908	979	2,545	5,783
Switzerland	2,689	1,240	745	2,652	7,327
United Kingdom	35,481	12,403	10,978	35,750	94,612
USA	1,115	2,039	1,079	2,022	6,254
Other	12,899	11,235	7,170	20,848	52,153
Total	106,566	47,336	40,314	116,533	310,749

* 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 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-April 2017					
Australia	965	588	316	605	1,423
Austria	653	253	367	284	900
Belgium	520	150	228	225	626
France	558	179	246	259	720
Germany	602	173	271	255	761
Hungary	300	152	195	259	582
Ireland	424	155	251	339	711
Italy	408	93	168	232	513
Netherlands	483	195	238	296	709
Poland	402	115	165	265	569
Scandinavia*	660	233	251	325	847
Spain	460	128	179	263	599
Switzerland	728	272	323	362	975
United Kingdom	504	150	245	282	684
USA	988	388	307	325	1,024
Other	670	275	259	372	909
Total expenditure per capita	539	178	232	286	713
January-April 2016					
Australia	556	535	289	513	1,238
Austria	573	218	226	253	767
Belgium	695	220	245	259	803
France	593	191	251	249	759
Germany	619	212	306	255	819
Hungary	332	135	213	334	640
Ireland	468	171	266	344	768
Italy	409	96	177	231	518
Netherlands	453	164	208	269	636
Poland	437	124	193	269	608
Scandinavia*	550	239	283	309	828
Spain	543	165	239	297	714
Switzerland	680	273	287	339	928
United Kingdom	534	176	239	290	720
USA	719	403	348	388	1,104
Other	653	293	274	379	945
Total expenditure per capita	551	194	242	291	745
January-April 2015					
Australia	460	578	245	472	1,191
Austria	578	270	263	266	804
Belgium	706	220	230	255	768
France	580	212	257	231	750
Germany	631	251	360	269	871
Hungary	353	156	166	286	589
Ireland	429	174	234	335	730
Italy	434	108	183	218	539
Netherlands	554	203	225	287	744
Poland	387	145	182	253	583
Scandinavia*	531	250	276	340	831
Spain	456	168	250	304	691
Switzerland	779	331	249	368	1,018
United Kingdom	584	203	263	293	775
USA	1,447	489	321	409	1,265
Other	615	332	268	380	952
Total expenditure per capita	570	220	249	290	774

* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

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

Characteristics	April		
	2015	2016	2017
Total overnight cruise passengers	1,642	1,367	3,112
Sex:			
Males	764	649	1,513
Females	878	718	1,599
Age group:			
0-19	30	188	16
20-39	59	226	130
40-59	181	567	340
60-79	1,101	369	2,154
80 or more	271	17	472
Markets:			
EU	1,136	1,350	1,623
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	1,094	1,346	866
Non-EU	506	17	1,489

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

Characteristics	January-April		
	2015	2016	2017
Total overnight cruise passengers	1,642	2,370	3,456
Sex:			
Males	764	1,118	1,669
Females	878	1,252	1,787
Age group:			
0-19	30	191	16
20-39	59	262	135
40-59	181	656	374
60-79	1,101	1,161	2,418
80 or more	271	100	513
Markets:			
EU	1,136	1,771	1,963
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	1,094	1,720	1,206
Non-EU	506	599	1,493

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. Inbound tourism trips are collected from an ongoing frontier national survey known as Tourstat. Tourist air departures are collected through a continuous survey carried out at the departure lounge of the Malta International Airport. A two-stage sampling design is used to collect air passengers. In the first stage, alternate days and nights are selected. In the second stage, within each shift, a sample of passengers is selected systematically. Every crossing passenger is counted and respondents are selected using a pre-defined interval of 1:20 for air.
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:**
 - **Usual Environment:** The geographical area, though not necessarily a contiguous one, within which an individual conducts his regular life routines and shall be determined on the basis of the following criteria: the crossing of administrative borders or the distance from the place of usual residence, the duration of visit, the frequency of visit, the purpose of visit.
 - **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.
 - **Tourist:** A visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
 - **Tourist trip:** A visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place/country visited.
 - **Inbound tourism:** 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 personal, business or other purposes.

- **Total nights spent:** nights which a guest actually spends or is registered to spend in a collective accommodation establishment or in a private accommodation.
- **Average length of stay:** the number of nights spent divided by the number of trips during a specified reference period.
- **Collective accommodation:** comprises hotels, guesthouses, hostels, tourist villages, holiday complex, Bed & Breakfast and campsites.
- **Private accommodation:** comprises holiday furnished premises (farmhouses, flats and villas), rented accommodation (host families, marinas, paid-convents, rented yachts, student dormitories), own private residence (owned dwellings, owned caravans and yachts), staying with friends or relatives (even if charged - includes also friends' private apartments) and other private accommodation (oil rig, free-convents, timeshare, dockyards (Palumbo), ship (used for work)).
- **Total expenditure:** comprises the total consumption expenditure made by a visitor or on behalf of a visitor for and during the trip and stay at destination. It is broken down by the following expenditure items: Transport, Accommodation and Other (including shopping, food and drinks and excursions during a tourism trip).

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>

14. Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.

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