

Total outbound tourists for the second quarter in 2017 were estimated at 125,454, an increase of 20.2 per cent over the corresponding quarter of 2016.

Outbound Tourism: Q2/2017

April-June

During the second quarter of 2017, increases were recorded in the number of outbound tourist trips towards both EU and non-EU destinations, reaching 112,591 and 12,863 respectively (Table 1). Italy and the United Kingdom remained the most popular EU destinations, with a share of 49.5 per cent of total tourist trips (Table 4).

Total nights spent by outbound tourists increased by 23.4 per cent, reaching 913,707 nights. In absolute terms, most of the guest nights were spent in private accommodation establishments (Table 3).

Total estimated outlay by resident outbound tourists between April and June increased by 22.9 per cent over the same quarter of 2016, and stood at €108.4 million, equivalent to an average €864 per trip (Tables 5 and 6).

January-June

Total outbound tourist trips between January and June 2017 numbered 240,673, an increase of 15.8 per cent over 2016 (Table 7). Outbound tourism nights went up by 15.5 per cent, reaching 1.6 million (Table 9). In addition, the total outlay by resident outbound tourists was estimated at €201.2 million, 11.8 per cent higher than that recorded for the same period in 2016 (Table 11) ■

Year-on-year percentage changes

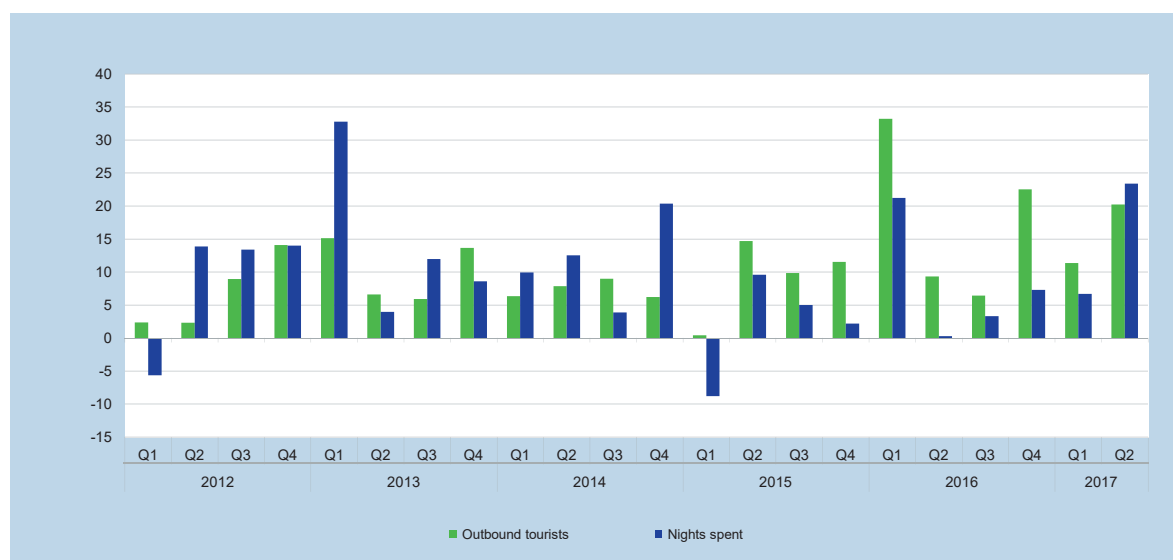


Table 1. Profile of outbound tourists by period of departure

Characteristics	April-June (Q2)			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017	2017/2016	
Outbound tourists	95,430	104,331	125,454	21,123	20.2
Mode of travel:					
Air	89,678	98,798	119,216	20,418	20.7
Sea	5,752	5,533	6,238	705	12.7
Sex:					
Males	55,334	60,214	71,173	10,959	18.2
Females	40,096	44,118	54,281	10,163	23.0
Age group:					
0-24	16,490	16,241	19,555	3,314	20.4
25-44	44,118	50,378	64,126	13,747	27.3
45-64	26,190	28,290	32,027	3,737	13.2
65 or more	8,632	9,422	9,746	324	-
Destination:					
EU	86,130	93,863	112,591	18,729	20.0
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	58,785	65,634	78,130	12,496	19.0
Non-EU	9,300	10,469	12,863	2,394	22.9
Purpose of visit:					
Holiday	45,697	52,375	62,067	9,692	18.5
Visiting relatives and friends	22,067	23,946	33,020	9,074	37.9
Business and professional	18,606	17,477	19,620	2,142	12.3
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	9,060	10,532	10,748	215	-
Organisation of stay:					
Package	12,991	11,430	14,760	3,330	29.1
Non-package	82,439	92,901	110,694	17,793	19.2
Duration of visit:					
1-3 nights	29,442	35,329	36,121	792	-
4-6 nights	31,231	33,846	44,408	10,563	31.2
7 nights or more	34,757	35,157	44,925	9,768	27.8
Average length of stay (nights)	7.7	7.1	7.3	0.2	-

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 2. Outbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	April-June (Q2)			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017	2017/2016	
Private accommodation	36,202	41,808	51,655	9,848	23.6
Collective accommodation	59,228	62,524	73,799	11,275	18.0
Total tourists	95,430	104,331	125,454	21,123	20.2

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 3. Total nights spent by outbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	April-June (Q2)			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017	2017/2016	
Private accommodation	437,731	426,958	539,479	112,521	26.4
Collective accommodation	300,654	313,512	374,228	60,716	19.4
Total nights	738,385	740,470	913,707	173,237	23.4

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 4. Outbound tourists and nights spent by period of departure and destination

Destination	April-June (Q2)			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017	2017/2016	
Tourists					
EU	86,130	93,863	112,591	18,729	20.0
of which:					
France	4,074	3,915	4,150	234	-
Germany	5,669	6,038	7,702	1,664	27.6
Italy	31,442	36,533	40,863	4,330	11.9
United Kingdom	20,013	19,812	21,293	1,480	-
Non-EU	9,300	10,469	12,863	2,394	22.9
Total	95,430	104,331	125,454	21,123	20.2
Nights					
EU	592,364	580,031	687,650	107,619	18.6
of which:					
France	23,420	22,832	27,158	4,326	-
Germany	37,420	38,874	46,187	7,313	18.8
Italy	169,177	163,474	195,028	31,554	19.3
United Kingdom	160,262	146,699	138,795	-7,904	-
Non-EU	146,021	160,439	226,057	65,618	40.9
Total	738,385	740,470	913,707	173,237	23.4

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 5. Total expenditure by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category

€000

Expenditure category	April-June (Q2)			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017	2017/2016	
Package	8,319	6,953	9,083	2,130	30.6
Non-package	33,202	32,435	39,190	6,756	20.8
Air/sea fares	16,995	15,963	20,275	4,312	27.0
Accommodation	16,208	16,472	18,915	2,443	14.8
Other expenditure	47,827	48,760	60,101	11,341	23.3
Total expenditure	89,348	88,147	108,374	20,227	22.9

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 6. Average expenditure per capita per night by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category

€

Expenditure category	April-June (Q2)					
	per trip			per night		
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
Package	640	608	615	112	104	114
Non-package	403	349	354	50	48	47
Air/sea fares	206	172	183	26	24	24
Accommodation	299	266	268	51	48	50
Other expenditure	501	467	479	65	66	66
Total	936	845	864	121	119	119

Table 7. Profile of outbound tourists by period of departure

Characteristics	January-June			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017	2017/2016	
Outbound tourists	173,092	207,795	240,673	32,878	15.8
Mode of travel:					
Air	163,760	196,197	229,003	32,806	16.7
Sea	9,333	11,598	11,670	72	0.6
Sex:					
Males	100,760	119,393	137,622	18,229	15.3
Females	72,333	88,402	103,051	14,649	16.6
Age group:					
0-24	30,890	35,703	38,475	2,771	7.8
25-44	80,148	97,911	121,065	23,154	23.6
45-64	48,964	58,267	63,189	4,922	8.4
65 or more	13,090	15,913	17,944	2,031	12.8
Destination:					
EU	154,185	185,435	217,937	32,502	17.5
<i>of which:</i> Euro area	99,853	126,371	147,731	21,360	16.9
Non-EU	18,907	22,360	22,736	376	-
Purpose of visit:					
Holiday	81,983	107,543	123,184	15,641	14.5
Visiting relatives and friends	39,451	46,957	57,546	10,589	22.5
Business and professional	36,545	35,703	41,181	5,478	15.3
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	15,113	17,591	18,762	1,170	-
Organisation of stay:					
Package	24,442	23,837	25,054	1,218	-
Non-package	148,650	183,958	215,618	31,660	17.2
Duration of visit:					
1-3 nights	53,148	69,657	77,774	8,117	11.7
4-6 nights	56,507	67,757	84,922	17,165	25.3
7 nights or more	63,438	70,381	77,977	7,596	10.8
Average length of stay (nights)	7.4	6.7	6.7	0.0	-

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 8. Outbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January-June			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017	2017/2016	
Private accommodation	64,130	79,813	95,485	15,672	19.6
Collective accommodation	108,963	127,982	145,188	17,206	13.4
Total tourists	173,092	207,795	240,673	32,878	15.8

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 9. Total nights spent by outbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January-June			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017	2017/2016	
Private accommodation	719,967	751,852	917,277	165,425	22.0
Collective accommodation	564,190	650,180	702,275	52,095	8.0
Total nights	1,284,157	1,402,031	1,619,552	217,520	15.5

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 10. Outbound tourists and nights spent by destination

Destination	January-June			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017	2017/2016	
Total tourists	173,092	207,795	240,673	32,878	15.8
Austria	3,064	3,763	3,342	-421	-
Belgium	5,013	4,406	9,752	5,346	121.3
France	7,200	6,977	8,019	1,041	-
Germany	9,130	12,047	16,022	3,974	33.0
Ireland	2,237	2,950	2,771	-179	-
Italy	54,311	72,708	78,746	6,038	8.3
Libya	517 ^u	574 ^u	340 ^u	-234	-
Netherlands	6,299	7,845	7,159	-686	-
Russia	682 ^u	811 ^u	1,040 ^u	229	-
Scandinavia*	3,874	2,970	4,324	1,353	-
Spain	6,989	9,024	13,326	4,302	47.7
Switzerland	2,389	3,135	2,328	-807	-
United Kingdom	42,923	43,533	48,542	5,009	11.5
USA	1,773	2,097	2,199	101	-
Other	26,692	34,952	42,764	7,812	22.3
Total nights	1,284,157	1,402,031	1,619,552	217,520	15.5
Austria	19,204	23,626	21,135	-2,491	-
Belgium	24,280	16,855	45,397	28,543	169.3
France	41,003	41,481	48,772	7,291	-
Germany	62,064	74,083	97,289	23,206	31.3
Ireland	15,154	21,796	18,383	-3,413	-
Italy	278,577	320,470	351,541	31,071	9.7
Libya	7,209 ^u	9,938 ^u	7,791 ^u	-2,148	-
Netherlands	36,945	47,359	47,856	497	-
Russia	9,496 ^u	10,483 ^u	14,513 ^u	4,030	-
Scandinavia*	46,727	23,882	42,345	18,462	-
Spain	48,418	57,894	84,273	26,380	45.6
Switzerland	16,725	19,767	12,890	-6,876	-
United Kingdom	314,934	299,514	287,965	-11,549	-3.9
USA	29,413	32,267	41,083	8,816	-
Other	334,009	402,617	498,318	95,701	23.8

* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

^u under-represented due to small sample size. Please note that these data must be interpreted with caution.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 11. Total expenditure by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category

€000

Expenditure category	January-June			Change	Percentage change
	2015	2016	2017	2017/2016	
Package	14,107	14,076	13,918	-158	-1.1
Non-package	58,543	64,412	73,556	9,144	14.2
Air/sea fares	30,825	32,113	37,632	5,519	17.2
Accommodation	27,718	32,299	35,924	3,626	11.2
Other expenditure	87,544	101,548	113,717	12,169	12.0
Total expenditure	160,193	180,036	201,191	21,155	11.8

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 12. Average expenditure per capita per night by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category

€

Expenditure category	January-June					
	per trip			per night		
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
Package	577	591	556	103	107	107
Non-package	394	350	341	51	51	49
Air/sea fares	207	175	175	27	25	25
Accommodation	281	252	251	47	44	49
Other expenditure	506	489	472	68	72	70
Total	925	866	836	125	128	124

Methodological Notes

1. This release focuses on outbound tourism, which comprises the activities of residents of Malta travelling to, and staying in places outside Malta and therefore outside their usual environment.
2. Outbound 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. 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 some fixed quota. Survey data is supplemented by administrative data provided by ferry operators.
4. 'Tourist trips' differs from the 'number of tourists' such that the same person can undertake more than one trip during a reference period.
5. Absolute changes between one survey estimate and another must be treated with caution since minor changes (i.e. less than 1,500 trips) might be the result of sampling error. Percentage changes for tourists based on counts of less than 1,500 are not presented due to sampling errors.
6. Expenditure data in this release represent the budgeted expenditure of outbound tourists prior to their departure.
7. **Definitions:**
 - **Resident:** A person is considered to be a resident of Malta/Gozo 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.
 - **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.
 - **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).
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=39>
Statistical Database: <http://nso.gov.mt/statdb/start>
9. Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.
10. The advanced new release calendar may be accessed at www.nso.gov.mt.