

28 February 2019 | 1100 hrs | 032/2019

Total guests in collective accommodation establishments during the fourth quarter of 2018 increased by 3.8 per cent when compared to the corresponding quarter in 2017, while total nights spent remained at par with the previous year.

Collective Accommodation Establishments: Q4/2018

Cut-off date:
22 February 2019

In the fourth quarter, total guests in collective accommodation establishments numbered 449,749, while total nights spent amounted to almost 2.2 million. The largest share of guest nights was reported in 4-star hotels, accounting for nearly 1.1 million nights, or 49.6 per cent of the total (Tables 1 and 2).

The average length of stay in collective accommodation establishments went down to 4.8 nights in the fourth quarter of 2018 from the average of 5.0 nights registered during the same quarter of 2017. The net use of bed-places stood at 57.1 per cent, down by 1.1 percentage points when compared to the corresponding quarter of the previous year (Table 3).

During December 2018, there were 191 active collective accommodation establishments with a net capacity of 18,043 bedrooms and 40,966 bed-places on a national level (Table 4).

Regional breakdown

On a regional level, total guests in Malta numbered 429,478, up by 4.4 per cent over the fourth quarter of 2017. Additionally, an increase of 0.3 per cent was recorded in the number of nights spent. Total guests and nights spent in Gozo and Comino decreased by 6.3 per cent and 7.5 per cent, to 20,271 and 66,669 respectively (Tables 1 and 2).

In Malta, the average length of stay stood at 4.9 nights, down by 0.2 of a night when compared with the same quarter of the previous year and that in Gozo and Comino stood at 3.3 nights at par with the previous year. The net occupancy rate in Malta decreased by 0.9 percentage points, reaching 58.0 per cent, and that in Gozo and Comino decreased by 3.4 percentage points to 39.3 per cent over the same quarter of 2017 (Table 3).

January-December 2018

In 2018, total guests reached almost 2.0 million, an increase of 8.4 per cent over the same period in 2017 (Table 1). Total nights spent went up by 5.6 per cent, surpassing 10.1 million (Table 2). The net use of bed-places advanced by 2.0 percentage points to 67.6 per cent (Table 3) ■

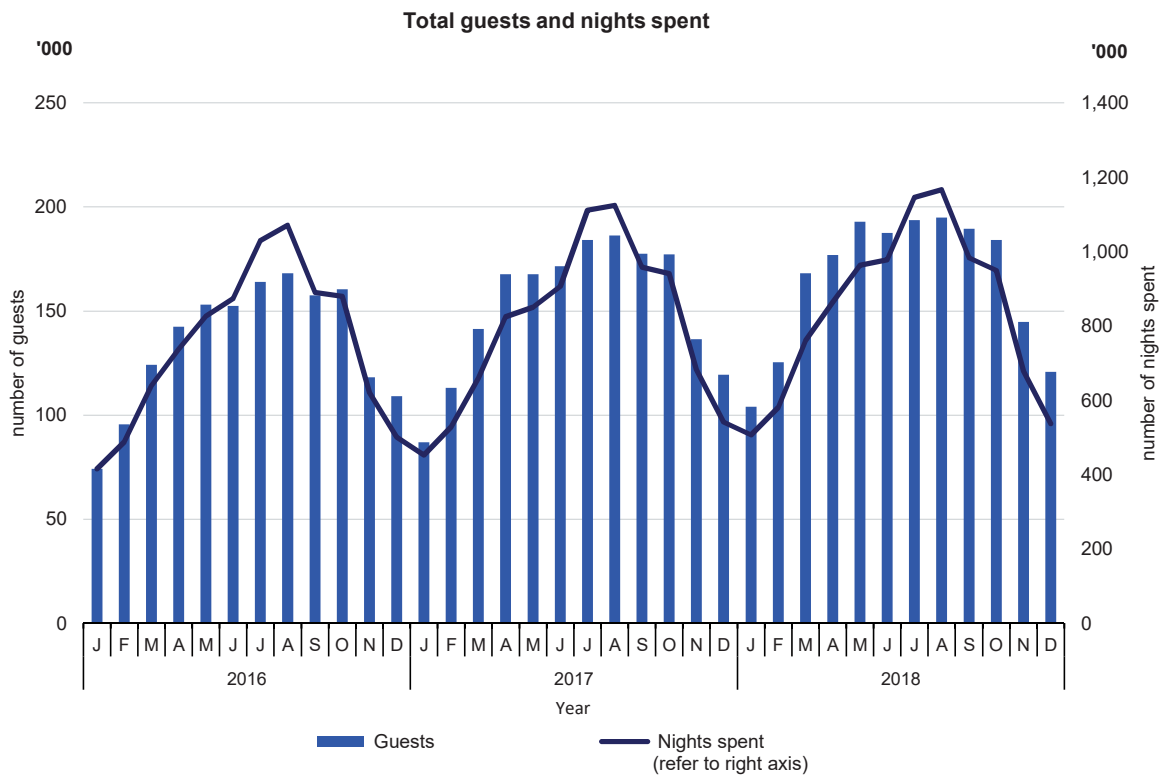


Table 1. Total guests (residents and non-residents) by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q3/2018*	October-December (Q4)		January-December	
		2017	2018	2017	2018
MALTA					
Hotel	540,315	414,313	424,443	1,745,437	1,867,434
5 Star	125,375	97,084	94,252	421,514	416,972
4 Star	239,863	196,182	210,385	789,711	870,525
3 Star	157,512	109,973	107,612	480,502	525,218
2 Star	17,565	11,073	12,194	53,710	54,719
Other collective accommodation ¹	37,646	18,769	25,306	84,030	115,035
Total	577,961	433,082	449,749	1,829,468	1,982,469
Malta					
Hotel	509,249	394,796	406,057	1,658,429	1,778,268
of which:					
5 Star	117,603	91,301	89,176	398,683	393,326
4 Star	230,025	188,452	203,754	757,609	839,290
3 Star	145,808	104,973	102,022	454,653	495,815
Other collective accommodation ¹	33,829	16,642	23,421	73,258	104,432
Total	543,078	411,439	429,478	1,731,686	1,882,700
Gozo and Comino					
Hotel	31,066	19,517	18,386	87,009	89,166
of which:					
5 Star	7,772	5,783	5,076	22,831	23,646
4 Star	9,838	7,730	6,631	32,102	31,235
3 Star	11,704	5,000	5,590	25,850	29,403
Other collective accommodation ¹	3,817	2,127	1,885	10,773	10,603
Total	34,883	21,643	20,271	97,781	99,769

* Revised

⁽¹⁾ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Notes:

1. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

2. Monthly tables available on the excel version of this news release:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C3/Tourism_Statistics/Pages/Collective-Accommodation-Establishments.aspx

Table 2. Total nights spent (residents and non-residents) by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q3/2018*	October-December (Q4)		January-December	
		2017	2018	2017	2018
MALTA					
Hotel	3,079,429	2,046,856	2,021,905	9,048,322	9,459,673
5 Star	578,934	399,906	358,435	1,727,733	1,678,518
4 Star	1,518,951	1,050,328	1,074,046	4,569,987	4,829,360
3 Star	888,018	533,448	522,531	2,461,314	2,651,808
2 Star	93,526	63,175	66,893	289,287	299,987
Other collective accommodation ¹	215,998	117,895	142,803	532,007	654,125
Total	3,295,427	2,164,751	2,164,708	9,580,329	10,113,798
Malta					
Hotel	2,953,464	1,980,335	1,960,249	8,731,932	9,141,145
<i>of which:</i>					
5 Star	549,017	382,131	343,060	1,647,701	1,599,962
4 Star	1,466,696	1,019,917	1,047,467	4,432,910	4,691,426
3 Star	848,857	517,304	505,031	2,377,148	2,560,703
Other collective accommodation ¹	203,116	112,362	137,790	500,454	624,015
Total	3,156,580	2,092,697	2,098,039	9,232,386	9,765,160
Gozo and Comino					
Hotel	125,965	66,521	61,656	316,390	318,528
<i>of which:</i>					
5 Star	29,917	17,775	15,375	80,032	78,556
4 Star	52,255	30,411	26,579	137,077	137,934
3 Star	39,161	16,144	17,500	84,166	91,105
Other collective accommodation ¹	12,882	5,533	5,013	31,552	30,110
Total	138,847	72,054	66,669	347,943	348,638

* Revised

⁽¹⁾ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

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

Type of accommodation	Q3/2018*	October-December (Q4)		January-December	
		2017	2018	2017	2018
MALTA					
Hotel	86.1	59.6	58.4	67.4	69.1
5 Star	88.3	62.4	61.0	68.8	68.9
4 Star	87.4	63.0	61.9	71.4	71.8
3 Star	84.4	52.7	51.7	61.3	65.9
2 Star	70.7	55.3	51.1	57.6	60.4
Other collective accommodation ¹	63.1	41.1	43.8	45.7	51.0
Total	84.0	58.2	57.1	65.6	67.6
Malta					
Hotel	86.6	60.2	59.1	68.0	69.8
of which:					
5 Star	89.6	63.9	63.0	70.1	70.3
4 Star	87.6	63.6	62.7	72.0	72.4
3 Star	84.9	52.6	51.7	61.3	66.1
Other collective accommodation ¹	64.3	42.7	45.1	47.1	52.5
Total	84.7	58.9	58.0	66.4	68.4
Gozo and Comino					
Hotel	75.6	46.0	41.4	53.0	54.0
of which:					
5 Star	69.5	41.3	35.7	50.4	49.4
4 Star	82.6	48.1	42.0	55.2	55.0
3 Star	74.8	54.0	49.7	60.8	60.4
Other collective accommodation ¹	48.8	23.0	24.0	30.7	31.5
Total	71.9	42.7	39.3	49.8	50.8

* Revised

⁽¹⁾ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Notes:

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Type of accommodation	December					
	Establishments		Bedrooms		Bed-places	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
MALTA						
Hotel	115	124	16,227	16,765	35,889	37,394
5 Star	15	13	3,512	3,169	6,878	6,192
4 Star	39	43	7,636	8,290	17,325	19,000
3 Star	49	51	4,558	4,660	10,535	10,776
2 Star	12	17	521	646	1,151	1,426
Other collective accommodation ¹	59	67	1,158	1,278	3,159	3,572
Total	174	191	17,385	18,043	39,048	40,966
Malta						
Hotel	104	110	15,571	16,057	34,483	35,862
of which:						
5 Star	13	11	3,292	2,949	6,410	5,724
4 Star	35	39	7,320	7,974	16,641	18,312
3 Star	46	46	4,460	4,523	10,339	10,486
Other collective accommodation ¹	50	58	1,046	1,167	2,911	3,333
Total	154	168	16,617	17,224	37,394	39,195
Gozo and Comino						
Hotel	11	14	656	708	1,406	1,532
of which:						
5 Star	2	2	220	220	468	468
4 Star	4	4	316	316	684	688
3 Star	3	5	98	137	196	290
Other collective accommodation ¹	9	9	112	111	248	239
Total	20	23	768	819	1,654	1,771

⁽¹⁾ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Table 5. Non-resident guests by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q3/2018*	October-December (Q4)	
		2017	2018
MALTA			
Hotel	500,650	366,936	374,805
5 Star	110,452	82,573	80,257
4 Star	226,245	173,457	185,964
3 Star	147,490	100,742	97,642
2 Star	16,463	10,164	10,942
Other collective accommodation ¹	35,761	17,199	23,061
Total	536,411	384,135	397,866
Malta			
Hotel	482,568	356,782	365,815
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	106,461	80,148	78,119
4 Star	219,346	168,836	182,252
3 Star	141,032	97,971	94,722
Other collective accommodation ¹	32,732	15,924	21,980
Total	515,300	372,706	387,795
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	18,082	10,154	8,990
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	3,991	2,425	2,138
4 Star	6,899	4,621	3,712
3 Star	6,458	2,772	2,920
Other collective accommodation ¹	3,029	1,275	1,081
Total	21,111	11,429	10,071

* Revised

⁽¹⁾ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 6. Resident guests by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q3/2018*	October-December (Q4)	
		2017	2018
MALTA			
Hotel	39,665	47,376	49,638
5 Star	14,923	14,511	13,995
4 Star	13,618	22,726	24,421
3 Star	10,022	9,231	9,970
2 Star	1,102	909	1,252
Other collective accommodation ¹	1,885	1,570	2,245
Total	41,550	48,946	51,883
Malta			
Hotel	26,681	38,014	40,242
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	11,142	11,153	11,057
4 Star	10,679	19,617	21,502
3 Star	4,776	7,003	7,300
Other collective accommodation ¹	1,097	718	1,441
Total	27,778	38,732	41,683
Gozo and Comino			
Hotel	12,984	9,363	9,396
<i>of which:</i>			
5 Star	3,781	3,358	2,938
4 Star	2,939	3,109	2,919
3 Star	5,246	2,228	2,670
Other collective accommodation ¹	788	852	804
Total	13,772	10,214	10,200

* Revised

⁽¹⁾ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 7. Non-resident nights spent by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q3/2018*	October-December (Q4)	
		2017	2018
		MALTA	
Hotel	2,972,215	1,941,558	1,912,339
5 Star	531,975	366,249	325,076
4 Star	1,483,880	1,001,280	1,021,251
3 Star	865,052	512,385	501,573
2 Star	91,308	61,644	64,439
Other collective accommodation ¹	209,452	114,641	136,707
Total	3,181,667	2,056,199	2,049,046
		Malta	
Hotel	2,876,831	1,894,053	1,870,233
of which:			
5 Star	512,234	355,586	316,283
4 Star	1,439,948	977,374	1,001,273
3 Star	836,018	500,464	488,928
Other collective accommodation ¹	198,193	110,644	133,066
Total	3,075,024	2,004,698	2,003,299
		Gozo and Comino	
Hotel	95,384	47,505	42,106
of which:			
5 Star	19,741	10,663	8,793
4 Star	43,932	23,906	19,978
3 Star	29,034	11,921	12,645
Other collective accommodation ¹	11,259	3,997	3,641
Total	106,643	51,501	45,747

* Revised

⁽¹⁾ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 8. Resident nights spent by period, region and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	Q3/2018*	October-December (Q4)	
		2017	2018
		MALTA	
Hotel	107,214	105,299	109,566
5 Star	46,959	33,657	33,359
4 Star	35,071	49,048	52,795
3 Star	22,966	21,063	20,958
2 Star	2,218	1,531	2,454
Other collective accommodation ¹	6,546	3,254	6,096
Total	113,760	108,552	115,662
		Malta	
Hotel	76,633	86,282	90,016
of which:			
5 Star	36,783	26,545	26,777
4 Star	26,748	42,543	46,194
3 Star	12,839	16,839	16,103
Other collective accommodation ¹	4,923	1,718	4,724
Total	81,556	88,000	94,740
		Gozo and Comino	
Hotel	30,581	19,016	19,550
of which:			
5 Star	10,176	7,112	6,582
4 Star	8,323	6,505	6,601
3 Star	10,127	4,223	4,855
Other collective accommodation ¹	1,623	1,536	1,372
Total	32,204	20,553	20,922

* Revised

⁽¹⁾ Comprises guesthouses, hostels and tourist villages

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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 rates:

October 2017	88.9%	October 2018	92.4%
November 2017	89.3%	November 2018	88.1%
December 2017	90.0%	December 2018	91.0%

4. In this release, figures for Quarter 3 2018 should be considered as a second estimate while those relating to Quarter 4 2018 are still considered as a first estimate and therefore subject to revision in the ensuing release.

5. The Malta Tourism Authority (MTA) licensing department reclassified all collective accommodation establishments registered as apart-hotels 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:** total beds found 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 with the intention of settling 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:** total number of residents and non-residents.
- **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 using the following formula:
$$\frac{\text{total number of nights}}{\text{total number of guests}}$$
- **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:

Sources and Methods: https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_C3/Tourism_Statistics/Pages/Collective-Accommodation-Establishments.aspx

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. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.

10. A detailed news release calendar is available on

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx