

Total outbound tourists for the second quarter in 2019 were estimated at 158,161, an increase of 8.2 per cent over the corresponding quarter of 2018.

## Outbound Tourism: Q2/2019

### April-June 2019

During the second quarter of 2019, outbound tourist trips towards EU and non-EU countries registered increases when compared to the same quarter in 2018 (Table 1). Italy and the United Kingdom remained the most popular destinations, with a joint share of 52.0 per cent of total tourist trips (Table 6).

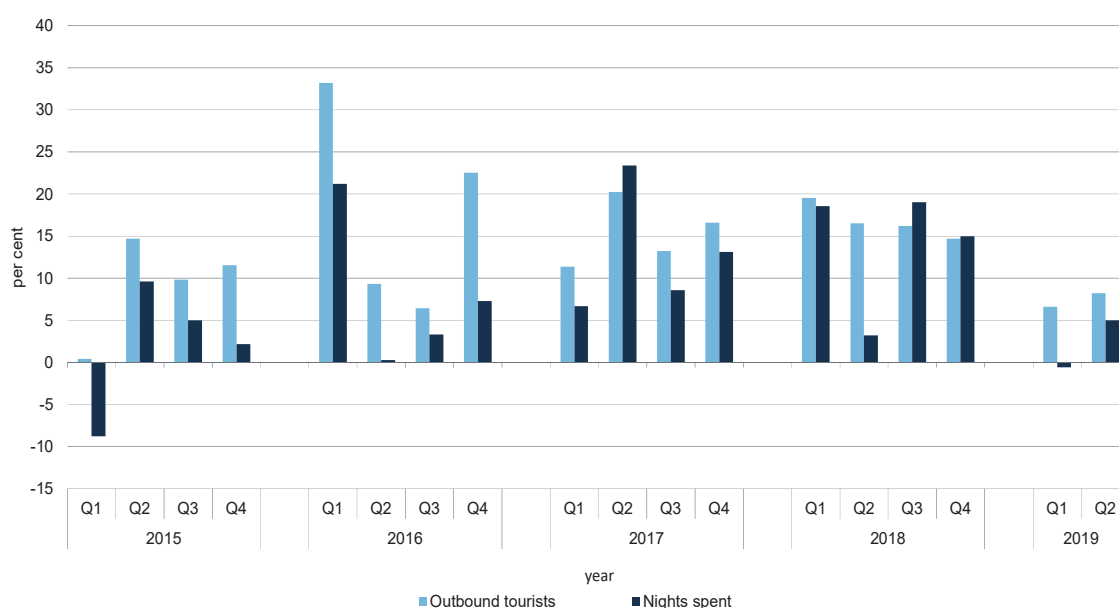
Total nights spent by outbound tourists increased by 5.0 per cent, amounting to 990,045 nights. In absolute terms, the majority of guest nights (55.4 per cent) were spent in rented accommodation establishments (Table 3).

Total estimated outlay by outbound tourists between April and June increased by 11.4 per cent over the same quarter of 2018, and stood at €131.7 million, equivalent to an average €833 per trip (Tables 4 and 5).

### January-June 2019

Total outbound tourist trips between January and June 2019 numbered 305,001, an increase of 7.4 per cent over 2018 (Table 7). Total nights spent by outbound tourists went up by 2.4 per cent, surpassing 1.8 million nights (Table 9). In addition, total estimated outlay by resident tourists stood at €244.6 million, 10.4 per cent higher than that recorded for the same period in 2018 (Table 10) ■

**Chart 1. Year-on-year percentage changes**



**Table 1. Profile of outbound tourists by period of departure**

Characteristics	April-June			Change	Percentage change
	2017	2018	2019	2019/2018	
<b>Outbound tourists</b>	<b>125,454</b>	<b>146,162</b>	<b>158,161</b>	<b>11,999</b>	<b>8.2</b>
<b>Type and mode of travel</b>					
Air	119,216	140,108	151,584	11,476	8.2
Low-cost airlines	62,025	66,099	79,038	12,938	19.6
Other airlines	57,191	74,009	72,546	-	-
Sea	6,238	6,054	6,577	-	-
<b>Sex</b>					
Males	71,173	78,917	87,323	8,406	10.7
Females	54,281	67,245	70,838	3,593	5.3
<b>Age group</b>					
0-24	19,555	19,339	23,812	4,473	23.1
25-44	64,126	75,456	78,555	3,099	4.1
45-64	32,027	40,715	41,885	-	-
65 or more	9,746	10,652	13,909	3,256	30.6
<b>Final destination</b>					
EU	112,591	128,183	138,990	10,806	8.4
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	78,130	90,547	94,817	4,270	4.7
Non-EU	12,863	17,978	19,171	-	-
<b>Purpose of visit</b>					
Holiday	62,067	77,659	88,256	10,597	13.6
Visiting relatives and friends	33,020	34,168	37,250	3,082	9.0
Business and professional	19,620	25,145	23,151	-	-
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	10,748	9,189	9,503	-	-
<b>Organisation of stay</b>					
Package	14,760	16,419	16,468	-	-
Non-package	110,694	129,742	141,693	11,951	9.2
<b>Duration of visit</b>					
1-3 nights	36,121	49,256	52,211	2,955	6.0
4-6 nights	44,408	51,927	52,934	-	-
7 nights or more	44,925	44,978	53,016	8,038	17.9
<b>Average length of stay (nights)</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-3.0</b>

Notes:

1. Data for the distribution of outbound tourism across age groups (fourth section of the table) for May 2018 has been revised. This also affects the corresponding distribution in the year to date in Table 7.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
3. Changes denoted by the dash symbol (-) should be treated with caution. For more information, please refer to methodological note 5.

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

Type of accommodation	April-June			Change	Percentage change
	2017	2018	2019	2019/2018	
Rented accommodation	85,784	102,191	108,769	6,578	6.4
Collective	73,799	84,646	86,166	1,519	1.8
Other rented	11,985	17,545	22,603	5,059	28.8
Non-rented accommodation	39,671	43,971	49,392	5,421	12.3
<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>125,454</b>	<b>146,162</b>	<b>158,161</b>	<b>11,999</b>	<b>8.2</b>

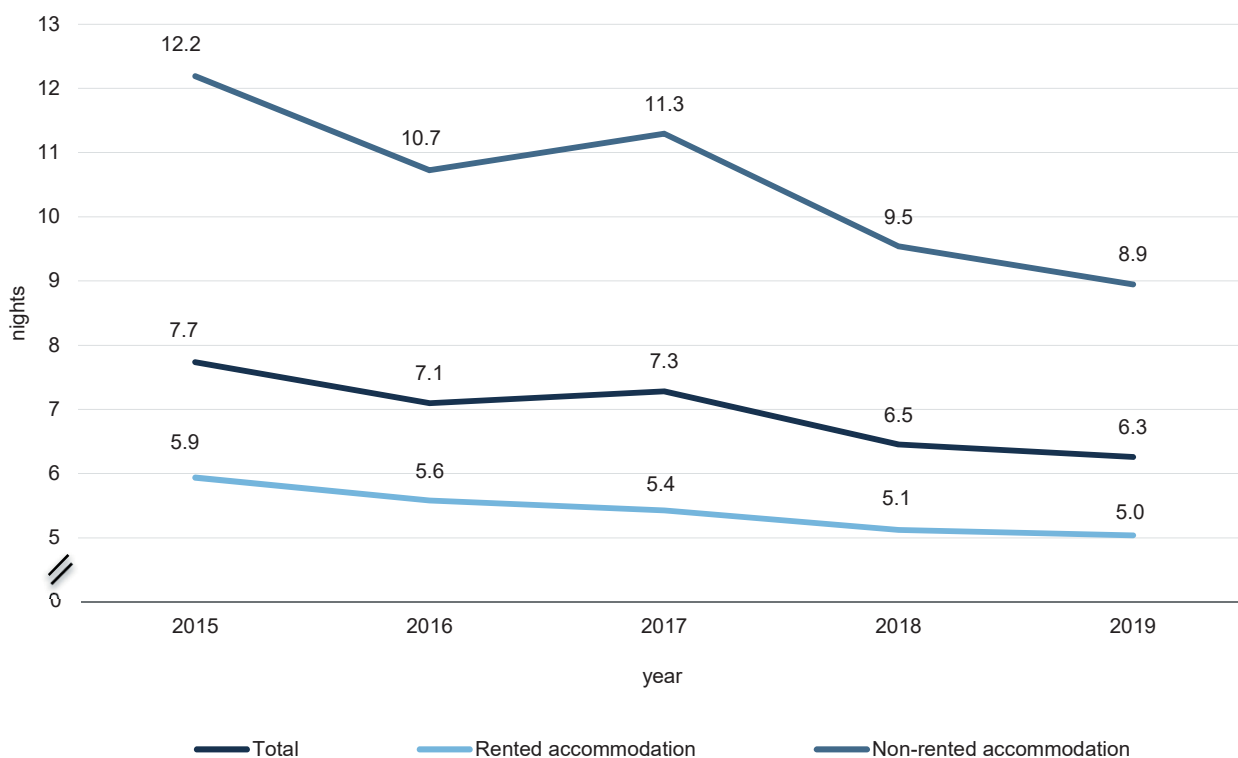
Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

Type of accommodation	April-June			Change	Percentage change
	2017	2018	2019	2019/2018	
Rented accommodation	465,740	523,695	548,075	24,380	4.7
Collective	374,228	416,086	401,109	-14,977	-3.6
Other rented	91,512	107,609	146,965	39,356	36.6
Non-rented accommodation	447,967	419,390	441,970	22,580	5.4
<b>Total nights</b>	<b>913,707</b>	<b>943,085</b>	<b>990,045</b>	<b>46,960</b>	<b>5.0</b>

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Chart 2. Average length of stay by type of accommodation: April-June**



**Table 4. Total expenditure by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category**

€000

Expenditure category	April-June			Change	Percentage change
	2017	2018	2019	2019/2018	
Package	9,083	11,200	12,371	-	-
Non-package	39,190	42,894	52,995	10,101	23.5
Air/sea fares	20,275	21,581	27,392	5,811	26.9
Accommodation	18,915	21,313	25,604	4,290	20.1
Other expenditure	60,101	64,198	66,373	2,175	3.4
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>108,374</b>	<b>118,292</b>	<b>131,738</b>	<b>13,446</b>	<b>11.4</b>

Notes:

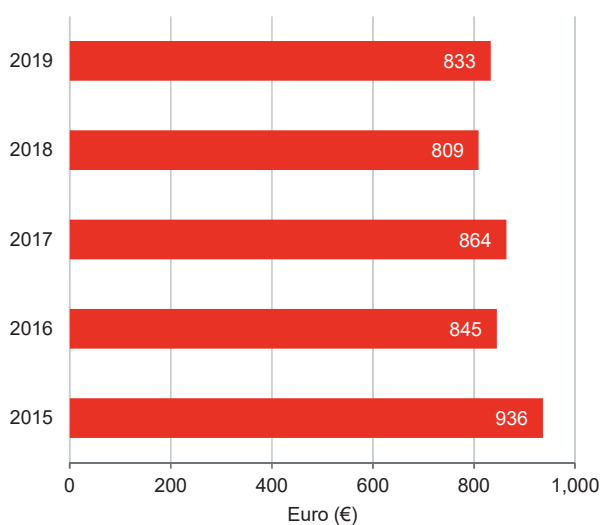
1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Table 5. Average expenditure per capita and per night by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category**

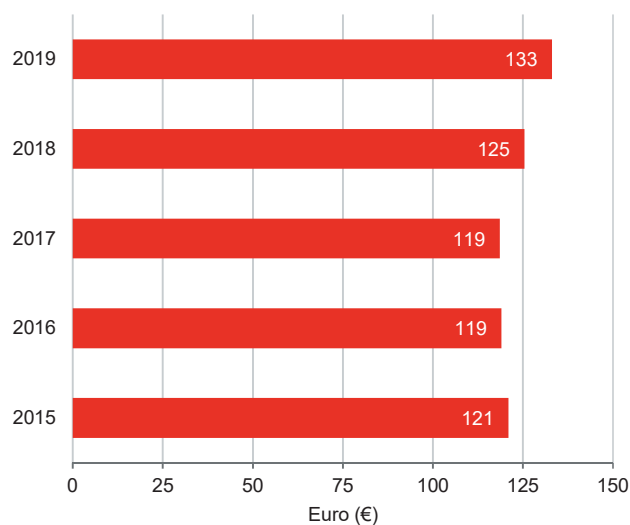
€

Expenditure category	April-June					
	per capita			per night		
	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
Package	615	682	751	114	112	131
Non-package	354	330	373	47	51	59
Air/sea fares	183	166	193	24	26	31
Accommodation	268	245	275	50	49	42
Other expenditure	479	439	420	66	68	67
<b>Total</b>	<b>864</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>133</b>

**Chart 3a. Expenditure per capita: April-June**



**Chart 3b. Expenditure per night: April-June**



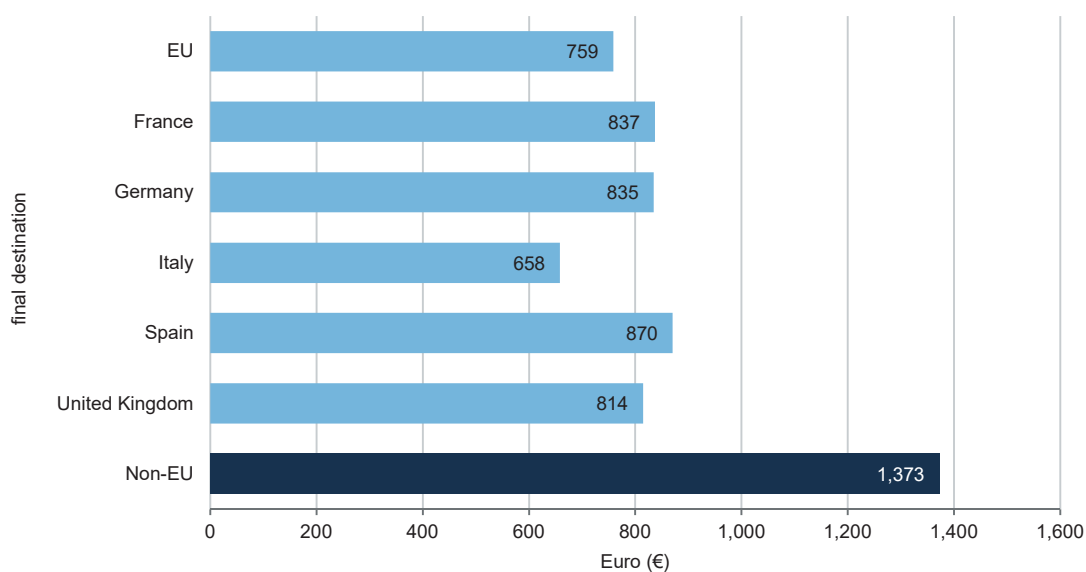
**Table 6. Outbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by period of departure and final destination**

Final destination	April-June			Change	Percentage change
	2017	2018	2019	2019/2018	
<b>Tourists</b>					
<b>EU</b>	<b>112,591</b>	<b>128,183</b>	<b>138,990</b>	<b>10,806</b>	<b>8.4</b>
<i>of which:</i>					
France	4,150	5,863	5,070	-	-
Germany	7,702	7,734	5,903	-1,831	-23.7
Italy	40,863	47,695	51,644	3,948	8.3
Spain	7,589	9,970	11,618	1,648	16.5
United Kingdom	21,293	23,957	30,585	6,628	27.7
<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>12,863</b>	<b>17,978</b>	<b>19,171</b>	<b>1,193</b>	<b>6.6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>125,454</b>	<b>146,162</b>	<b>158,161</b>	<b>11,999</b>	<b>8.2</b>
<b>Nights</b>					
<b>EU</b>	<b>687,650</b>	<b>721,076</b>	<b>790,536</b>	<b>69,461</b>	<b>9.6</b>
<i>of which:</i>					
France	27,158	29,309	29,967	-	-
Germany	46,187	51,123	31,506	-19,617	-38.4
Italy	195,028	220,119	257,200	37,081	16.8
Spain	52,309	56,303	62,379	6,076	10.8
United Kingdom	138,795	162,593	194,222	31,629	19.5
<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>226,057</b>	<b>222,010</b>	<b>199,508</b>	<b>-22,501</b>	<b>-10.1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>913,707</b>	<b>943,085</b>	<b>990,045</b>	<b>46,960</b>	<b>5.0</b>
<b>Total Expenditure (€000)</b>					
<b>EU</b>	<b>87,822</b>	<b>93,070</b>	<b>105,425</b>	<b>12,355</b>	<b>13.3</b>
<i>of which:</i>					
France	3,992	4,613	4,242	-	-
Germany	6,653	6,879	4,926	-1,953	-28.4
Italy	26,791	27,808	33,999	6,191	22.3
Spain	6,215	7,354	10,113	2,759	37.5
United Kingdom	18,345	20,702	24,911	4,209	20.3
<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>20,552</b>	<b>25,222</b>	<b>26,314</b>	<b>1,091</b>	<b>4.3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>108,374</b>	<b>118,292</b>	<b>131,738</b>	<b>13,446</b>	<b>11.4</b>

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
3. Changes denoted by the dash symbol (-) should be treated with caution. For more information, please refer to methodological note 5.

**Chart 4. Average expenditure per capita by final destination: April-June 2019**



**Table 7. Profile of outbound tourists by period of departure**

Characteristics	January-June			Change	Percentage change
	2017	2018	2019	2019/2018	
<b>Outbound tourists</b>	<b>240,673</b>	<b>283,891</b>	<b>305,001</b>	<b>21,110</b>	<b>7.4</b>
<b>Type and mode of travel</b>					
Air	229,003	271,799	293,618	21,819	8.0
Low-cost airlines	123,510	134,238	154,258	20,019	14.9
Other airlines	105,493	137,561	139,360	1,799	1.3
Sea	11,670	12,092	11,383	-	-
<b>Sex</b>					
Males	137,622	155,827	170,351	14,524	9.3
Females	103,051	128,065	134,651	6,586	5.1
<b>Age group</b>					
0-24	38,475	43,510	47,357	3,848	8.8
25-44	121,065	141,564	154,077	12,513	8.8
45-64	63,189	79,771	80,987	-	-
65 or more	17,944	19,047	22,580	3,533	18.5
<b>Final destination</b>					
EU	217,937	251,594	267,926	16,331	6.5
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	147,731	171,632	181,434	9,802	5.7
Non-EU	22,736	32,297	37,076	4,779	14.8
<b>Purpose of visit</b>					
Holiday	123,184	155,252	173,039	17,786	11.5
Visiting relatives and friends	57,546	66,109	67,160	-	-
Business and professional	41,181	46,757	48,165	-	-
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	18,762	15,774	16,638	-	-
<b>Organisation of stay</b>					
Package	25,054	34,235	31,794	-2,442	-7.1
Non-package	215,618	249,656	273,208	23,552	9.4
<b>Duration of visit</b>					
1-3 nights	77,774	97,114	109,698	12,584	13.0
4-6 nights	84,922	100,070	102,195	2,125	2.1
7 nights or more	77,977	86,707	93,109	6,401	7.4
<b>Average length of stay (nights)</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-</b>

Notes:

1. See Note 1 in Table 1.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
3. Changes denoted by the dash symbol (-) should be treated with caution. For more information, please refer to methodological note 5.

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

Type of accommodation	January-June			Change	Percentage change
	2017	2018	2019	2019/2018	
Rented accommodation	169,232	200,420	213,623	13,203	6.6
Collective	145,188	169,807	173,315	3,508	2.1
Other rented	24,044	30,613	40,308	9,695	31.7
Non-rented accommodation	71,441	83,471	91,378	7,907	9.5
<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>240,673</b>	<b>283,891</b>	<b>305,001</b>	<b>21,110</b>	<b>7.4</b>

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
	2017	2018	2019	2019/2018	
Rented accommodation	890,529	1,020,918	1,033,321	12,403	1.2
Collective	702,275	825,101	791,217	-33,884	-4.1
Other rented	188,254	195,817	242,104	46,287	23.6
Non-rented accommodation	729,023	758,980	788,609	29,629	3.9
<b>Total nights</b>	<b>1,619,552</b>	<b>1,779,898</b>	<b>1,821,930</b>	<b>42,032</b>	<b>2.4</b>

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Table 10. Total expenditure by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category**

€000

Expenditure category	January-June			Change	Percentage change
	2017	2018	2019	2019/2018	
Package	13,918	20,499	21,035	-	-
Non-package	73,556	80,956	93,451	12,496	15.4
Air/sea fares	37,632	40,955	47,431	6,475	15.8
Accommodation	35,924	40,001	46,021	6,020	15.0
Other expenditure	113,717	120,092	130,123	10,031	8.4
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>201,191</b>	<b>221,547</b>	<b>244,609</b>	<b>23,062</b>	<b>10.4</b>

Notes:

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

**Table 11. Average expenditure per capita and per night by outbound tourists by period of departure and expenditure category**

€

Expenditure category	January-June					
	per capita			per night		
	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
Package	556	599	662	107	106	124
Non-package	341	324	342	49	51	56
Air/sea fares	175	164	173	25	26	29
Accommodation	251	238	250	49	47	52
Other expenditure	472	423	427	70	67	71
<b>Total</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>134</b>



**Table 12. Outbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by period of departure and final destination**

Final destination	January-June			Change	Percentage change
	2017	2018	2019	2019/2018	
<b>Tourists</b>					
<b>EU</b>	<b>217,937</b>	<b>251,594</b>	<b>267,926</b>	<b>16,331</b>	<b>6.5</b>
<i>of which:</i>					
France	8,019	10,643	10,888	-	-
Germany	16,022	15,616	14,048	-1,568	-10.0
Italy	78,746	92,572	94,487	1,915	2.1
Spain	13,326	15,718	20,904	5,186	33.0
United Kingdom	48,542	56,121	61,030	4,909	8.7
<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>22,736</b>	<b>32,297</b>	<b>37,076</b>	<b>4,779</b>	<b>14.8</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>240,673</b>	<b>283,891</b>	<b>305,001</b>	<b>21,110</b>	<b>7.4</b>
<b>Nights</b>					
<b>EU</b>	<b>1,237,793</b>	<b>1,390,942</b>	<b>1,410,300</b>	<b>19,358</b>	<b>1.4</b>
<i>of which:</i>					
France	48,772	63,073	55,969	-	-
Germany	97,289	97,334	68,547	-28,787	-29.6
Italy	351,541	413,882	440,462	26,580	6.4
Spain	84,273	90,904	106,980	16,076	17.7
United Kingdom	287,965	344,059	350,662	6,603	1.9
<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>381,759</b>	<b>388,957</b>	<b>411,630</b>	<b>22,674</b>	<b>5.8</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,619,552</b>	<b>1,779,898</b>	<b>1,821,930</b>	<b>42,032</b>	<b>2.4</b>
<b>Total Expenditure (€000)</b>					
<b>EU</b>	<b>162,032</b>	<b>175,349</b>	<b>190,559</b>	<b>15,211</b>	<b>8.7</b>
<i>of which:</i>					
France	7,282	8,669	8,516	-	-
Germany	13,726	12,977	10,462	-2,515	-19.4
Italy	48,244	51,926	57,448	5,522	10.6
Spain	10,279	11,371	15,636	4,266	37.5
United Kingdom	39,188	44,455	48,714	4,260	9.6
<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>39,159</b>	<b>46,198</b>	<b>54,049</b>	<b>7,851</b>	<b>17.0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>201,191</b>	<b>221,547</b>	<b>244,609</b>	<b>23,062</b>	<b>10.4</b>

Notes:

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

## 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 (i.e. outside their usual environment), and staying for not more than 12 consecutive months for personal, business or other purposes.
2. Data on 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 data on 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 passengers.
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 and percentage changes between one survey estimate and another, which are based on less than 1,500 tourists should be treated with caution and are represented in this news release by means of the dash symbol (-).
6. Expenditure data in this release represent the budgeted expenditure of outbound tourists prior to their departure.

### 7. 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 and the purpose of visit.
- **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 trips:** trips with at least one overnight stay in either 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.
- **Rented accommodation:** consists of the following two sub-categories:
  - a. **Collective accommodation:** comprises hotels, guesthouses, hostels, tourist villages, holiday complex, Bed & Breakfast and campsites;
  - b. **Other rented accommodation:** comprises holiday furnished premises (farmhouses, flats and villas), host families, marinas, paid-convents, rented yachts and student dormitories.
- **Non-rented accommodation:** comprises 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 or timeshare, etc.).
- **Total expenditure:** refers to the amount that is going to be paid for the acquisition of consumption goods and services, as well as valuables during tourism trips. It includes expenditures by visitors themselves, as well as expenses that are paid for or reimbursed by others. Maltese residents are asked to budget the expenditures which they are about to incur when travelling abroad. The total expenditure is broken down by the following expenditure items:
  - a. **Package expenditure:** refers to the whole amount of money spent on transport, accommodation and other services such as rental of a car, activities or outings during the trip;
  - b. **Non-Package expenditure:** is the amount of money spent on transport and accommodation reported separately;

- c. **Other expenditure:** is the amount spent on shopping, souvenirs, tickets for concerts or a sport event, entrance to a museum or zoo and day excursions during a tourism trip. It also includes durables and valuable goods, that is, the amount spent on cars, computers, paintings, jewellery and works of art.

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/TOURSTAT-Survey.aspx](https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_C3/Tourism_Statistics/Pages/TOURSTAT-Survey.aspx)

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