

Outbound Tourism: Q3/2023

NR 202/2023 Release Date: 14 November 2023

Total outbound tourists for the third quarter in 2023 were estimated at 248,094, an increase of 28.3 per cent over the corresponding quarter of 2022. Total nights spent amounted to 1,817,893.



July-September 2023

During the quarter under review, a total of 173,848 outbound tourist trips were undertaken for holiday purposes, followed by 41,342 trips for visiting friends and relatives. Most outbound tourists were aged between 25 and 44 years (44.2 per cent), followed by those within the 45-64 age bracket (27.6 per cent) (Table 1).

Outbound tourists towards EU and non-EU countries increased by 26.5 and 35.1 per cent respectively, when compared to the same quarter of 2022 (Table 1). Italy remained the most popular destination, with a share of 38.9 per cent of total tourist trips (Table 6).

Total nights spent by outbound tourists increased by 30.5 per cent, amounting to more than 1.8 million nights. The largest share of guest nights (57.7 per cent) was spent in rented accommodation establishments (Table 3). The average length of stay of total outbound tourists stood at 7.3 nights (Table 1).

Total estimated expenditure by outbound tourists between July and September increased by 37.1 per cent over the same quarter in 2022, and stood at €241.4 million, equivalent to an average €973 per capita (Tables 4 and 5).

January-September 2023

Total outbound tourist trips for the first three quarters of 2023 numbered 595,717 (Table 7), an increase of 41.3 per cent over the same period in 2022 (Table 7). Total nights spent by outbound tourists went up by 38.3 per cent, surpassing 4.1 million nights (Table 9). In addition, total estimated outlay by resident tourists stood at €538.7 million, 50.1 per cent higher than that recorded for the same period of 2022 (Table 10).

Chart 1. Total outbound tourists by period

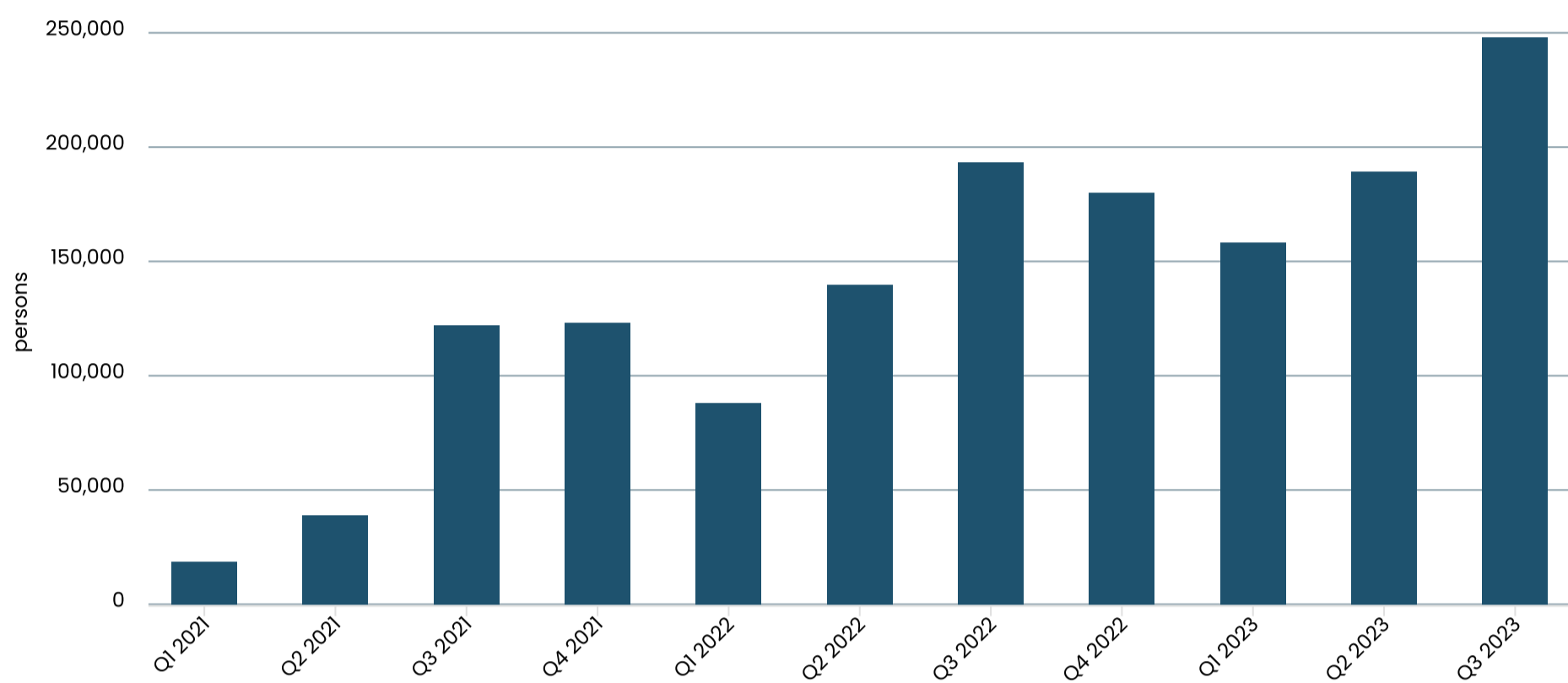


Chart 2. Average length of stay by year and type of accommodation

July-September

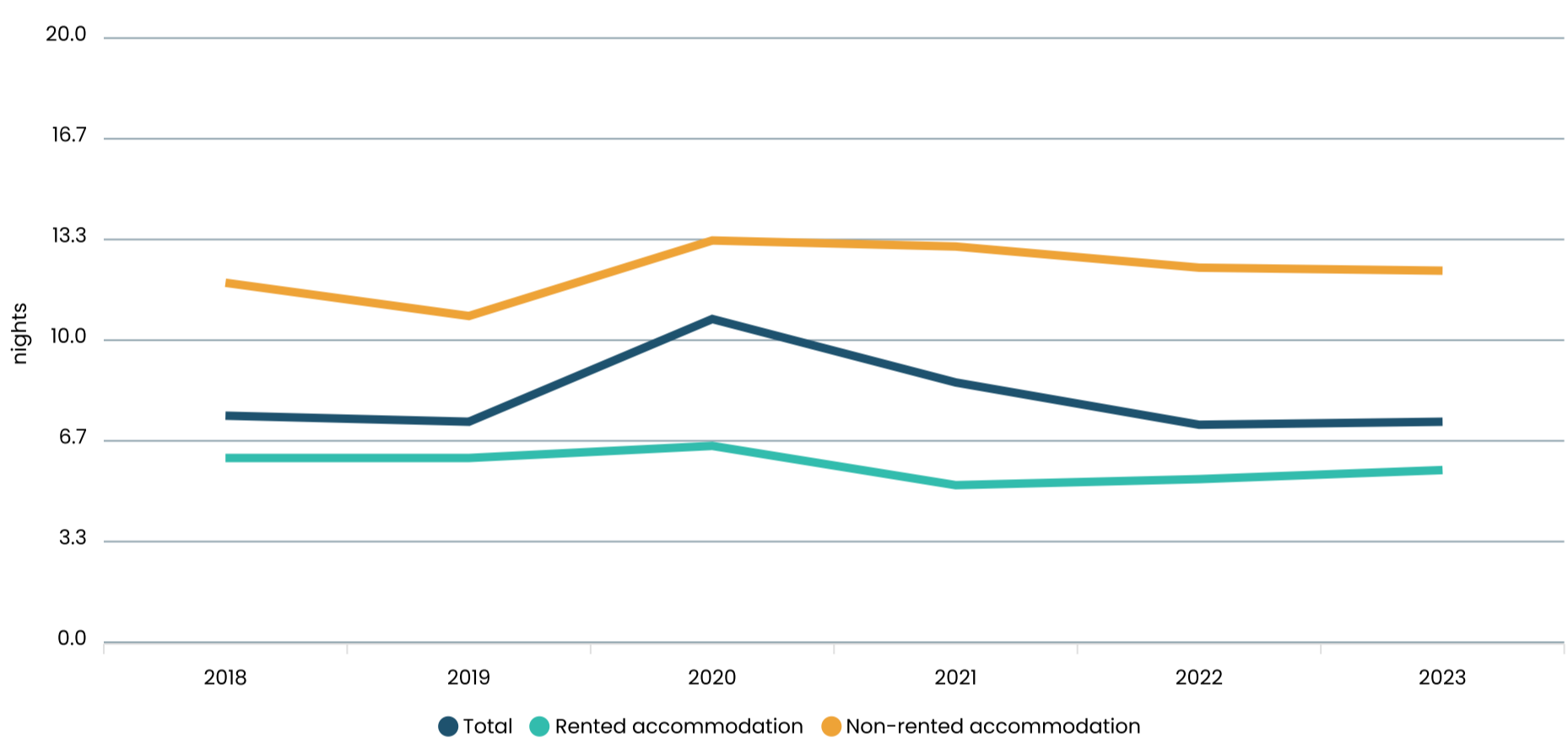


Chart 3a. Total expenditure per capita by outbound tourists by year

July-September

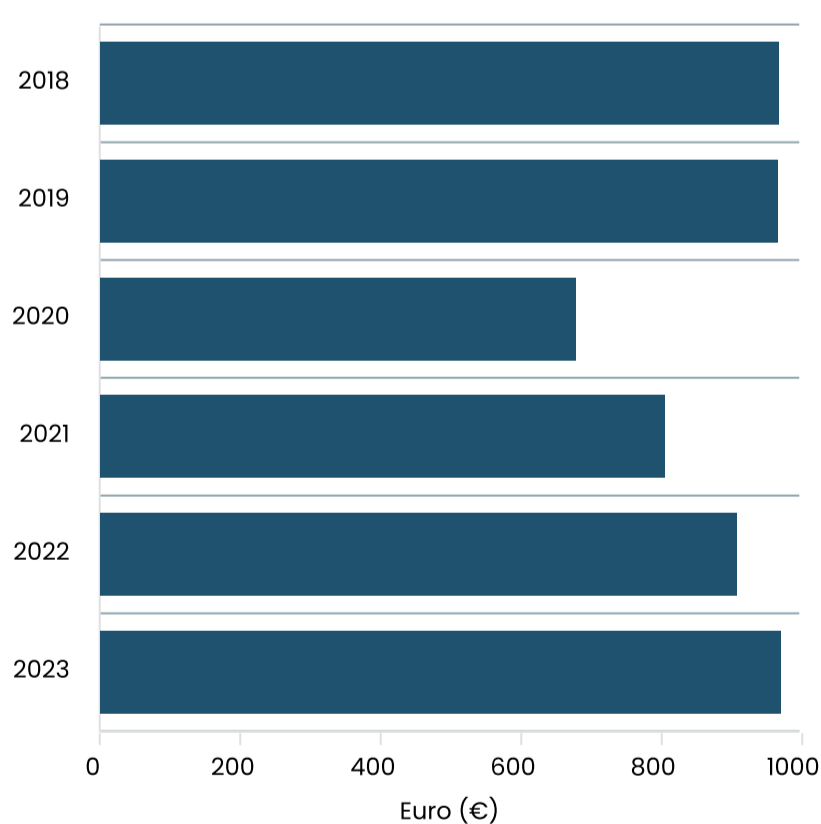


Chart 3b. Total expenditure per night by outbound tourists by year

July-September

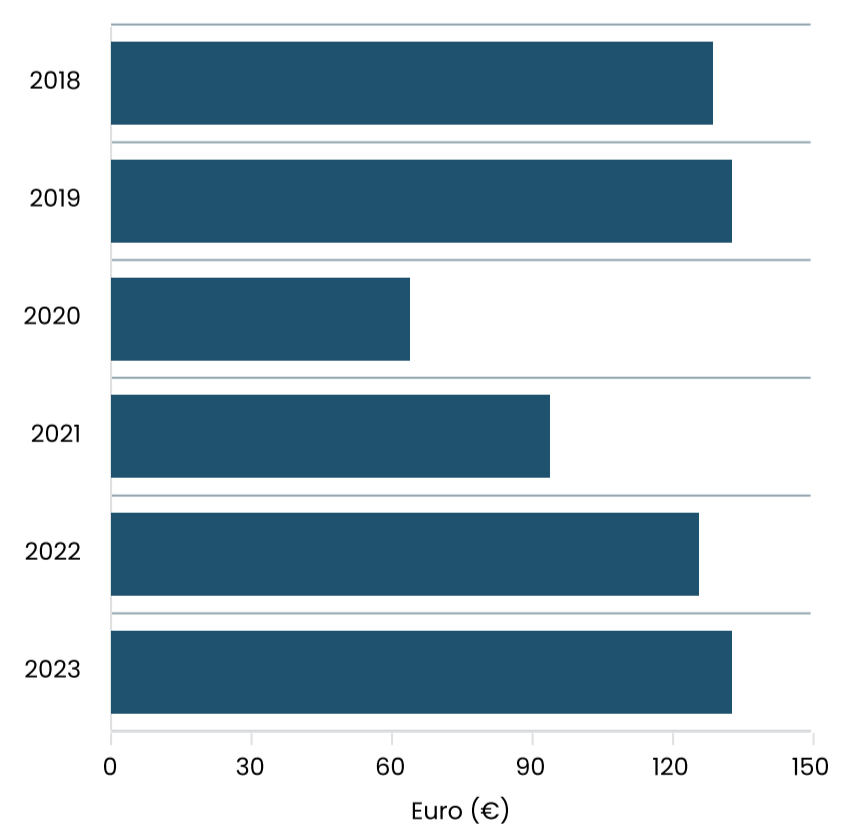


Chart 4. Average expenditure per capita by final destination of outbound tourists

July-September

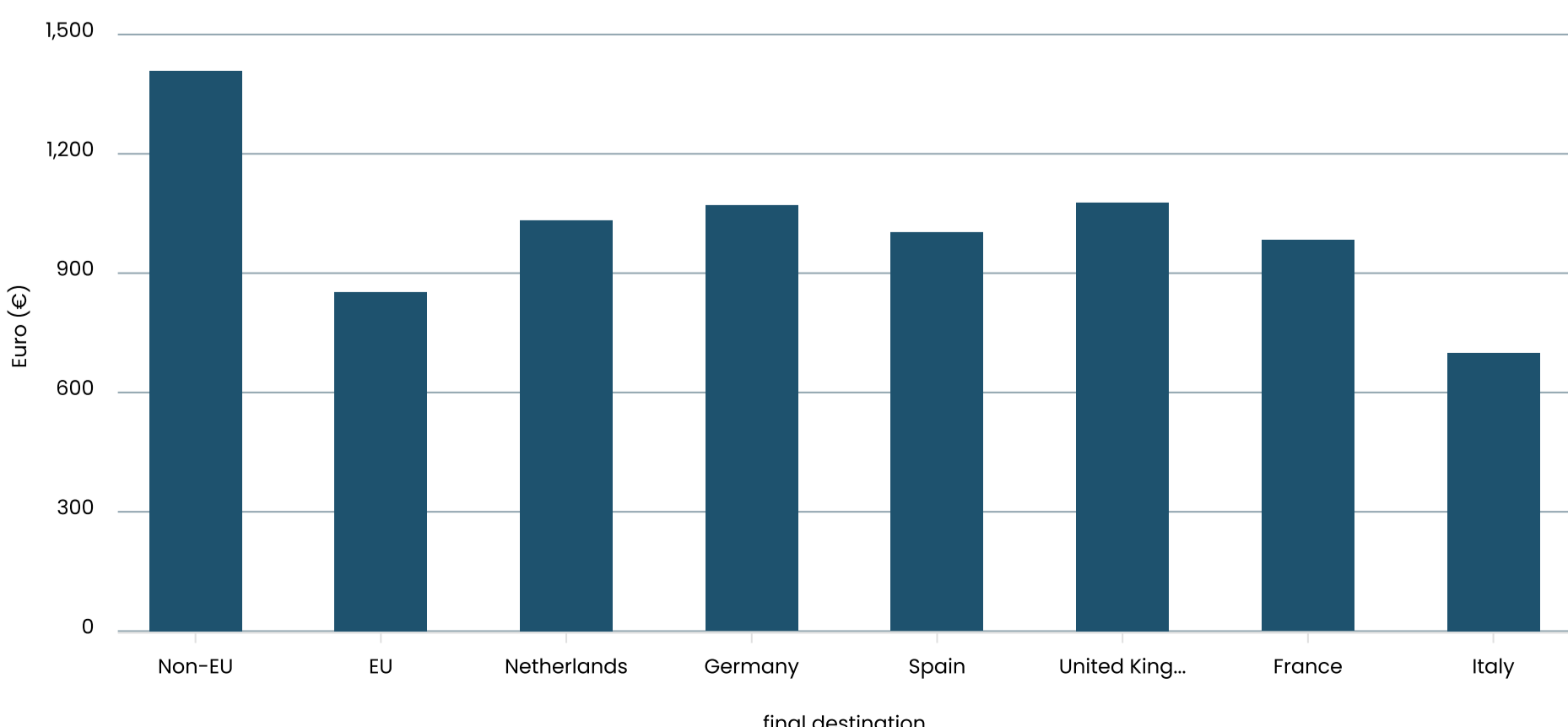


Table 1. Profile of outbound tourists by period of departure

| Characteristics | July-September | | | Change | Percentage change |
|---|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2023/2022 | |
| Outbound tourists | 122,163 | 193,377 | 248,094 | 54,717 | 28.3 |
| Mode and type of travel | | | | | |
| Air | 109,940 | 168,366 | 222,603 | 54,237 | 32.2 |
| Low-cost airlines | 68,158 | 88,045 | 128,117 | 40,072 | 45.5 |
| Other airlines | 41,782 | 80,321 | 94,486 | 14,165 | 17.6 |
| Sea | 12,223 | 25,010^R | 25,491 | - | - |
| Sex | | | | | |
| Males | 66,636 | 100,776 | 128,338 | 27,562 | 27.3 |
| Females | 55,527 | 92,600 | 119,756 | 27,156 | 29.3 |
| Age group | | | | | |
| 0-24 | 21,988 | 37,418 | 47,588 | 10,170 | 27.2 |
| 25-44 | 61,207 | 85,188 | 109,542 | 24,354 | 28.6 |
| 45-64 | 32,493 | 52,914 | 68,507 | 15,593 | 29.5 |
| 65 or more | 6,475 | 17,856 | 22,456 | 4,600 | 25.8 |
| Final destination | | | | | |
| EU | 98,104 | 153,599 | 194,343 | 40,744 | 26.5 |
| <i>of which: Euro area</i> | 86,551 | 140,700 | 176,753 | 36,053 | 25.6 |
| Non-EU | 24,059 | 39,777 | 53,751 | 13,974 | 35.1 |
| Purpose of visit | | | | | |
| Holiday | 61,936 | 131,997 | 173,848 | 41,851 | 31.7 |
| Visiting relatives and friends | 41,986 | 36,229 | 41,342 | 5,112 | 14.1 |
| Business and professional | 9,120 | 12,680 | 15,955 | 3,275 | 25.8 |
| Other (including educational, religious and health tourism) | 9,121 | 12,470 | 16,949 | 4,479 | 35.9 |
| Organisation of stay | | | | | |
| Package | 8,174 ^u | 33,706 | 44,725 | 11,019 | 32.7 |
| Non-package | 113,988 | 159,670 | 203,369 | 43,698 | 27.4 |
| Duration of visit | | | | | |
| 1-3 nights | 31,840 | 49,799 | 60,451 | 10,653 | 21.4 |
| 4-6 nights | 35,669 | 67,090 | 86,093 | 19,003 | 28.3 |
| 7 nights or more | 54,654 | 76,488 | 101,550 | 25,062 | 32.8 |
| Average length of stay (nights) | 8.6 | 7.2 | 7.3 | 0.1 | - |

^R Revised: refer to methodological note 6.

¹ Refer to methodological note 7.

Notes:

1. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

2. 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 | July-September | | | Change | Percentage change |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2023/2022 | |
| Rented accommodation | 70,788 | 144,124 | 185,357 | 41,233 | 28.6 |
| Collective | 55,688 | 113,932 | 137,941 | 24,009 | 21.1 |
| Other rented | 15,100 | 30,192 | 47,416 | 17,223 | 57.0 |
| Non-rented accommodation | 51,375 | 49,252 | 62,737 | 13,485 | 27.4 |
| Total tourists | 122,163 | 193,377 | 248,094 | 54,717 | 28.3 |

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 | July-September | | | Change | Percentage change |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2023/2022 | |
| Rented accommodation | 369,597 | 783,359 | 1,049,125 | 265,765 | 33.9 |
| Collective | 270,231 | 589,831 | 737,754 | 147,923 | 25.1 |
| Other rented | 99,366 | 193,528 | 311,371 | 117,842 | 60.9 |
| Non-rented accommodation | 675,461 | 610,110 | 768,768 | 158,658 | 26.0 |
| Total nights | 1,045,058 | 1,393,469 | 1,817,893 | 424,424 | 30.5 |

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

€000

| Expenditure category | July-September | | | Change | Percentage change |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2023/2022 | |
| Package | 5,758 | 26,215 | 42,517 | 16,302 | 62.2 |
| Non-package | 34,055 | 63,765 | 87,534 | 23,770 | 37.3 |
| Air/sea fares | 17,370 | 32,034 | 44,173 | 12,138 | 37.9 |
| Accommodation | 16,685 | 31,730 | 43,362 | 11,631 | 36.7 |
| Other expenditure | 58,743 | 86,058 | 111,343 | 25,286 | 29.4 |
| Total expenditure | 98,556 | 176,038 | 241,395 | 65,357 | 37.1 |

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 | July-September | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | per capita | | | per night | | |
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Package | 704 | 778 | 951 | 141 | 135 | 153 |
| Non-package | 298 | 398 | 429 | 34 | 53 | 57 |
| Air/sea fares | 152 | 200 | 217 | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Accommodation | 264 | 277 | 308 | 50 | 49 | 56 |
| Other expenditure | 481 | 445 | 449 | 56 | 62 | 61 |
| Total | 807 | 910 | 973 | 94 | 126 | 133 |

Note: n/a: not applicable

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

| Final destination ¹ | July-September | | | Change | Percentage change |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2023/2022 | |
| Tourists | | | | | |
| EU | 98,104 | 153,599 | 194,343 | 40,744 | 26.5 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | |
| France | 3,951 | 13,250 | 14,725 | - | - |
| Germany | 4,446 | 6,661 | 9,593 | 2,932 | 44.0 |
| Italy | 51,157 | 79,704 | 96,630 | 16,926 | 21.2 |
| Netherlands | 2,207 ^u | 2,887 | 4,206 | - | - |
| Spain | 8,230 | 9,606 | 14,905 | 5,299 | 55.2 |
| Non-EU | 24,059 | 39,777 | 53,751 | 13,974 | 35.1 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 10,316 | 16,503 | 23,337 | 6,835 | 41.4 |
| Total | 122,163 | 193,377 | 248,094 | 54,717 | 28.3 |
| Nights | | | | | |
| EU | 708,073 | 924,862 | 1,203,085 | 278,223 | 30.1 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | |
| France | 30,511 | 79,536 | 90,503 | - | - |
| Germany | 36,943 | 52,829 | 76,372 | 23,543 | 44.6 |
| Italy | 290,875 | 393,482 | 475,875 | 82,393 | 20.9 |
| Netherlands | 21,629 ^u | 20,418 | 27,457 | - | - |
| Spain | 59,822 | 68,788 | 110,859 | 42,071 | 61.2 |
| Non-EU | 336,985 | 468,607 | 614,807 | 146,201 | 31.2 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 103,699 | 147,140 | 180,794 | 33,655 | 22.9 |
| Total | 1,045,058 | 1,393,469 | 1,817,893 | 424,424 | 30.5 |
| Total Expenditure (€000) | | | | | |
| EU | 72,687 | 123,663 | 165,708 | 42,044 | 34.0 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | |
| France | 3,156 | 12,617 | 14,481 | - | - |
| Germany | 3,512 | 7,110 | 10,267 | 3,156 | 44.4 |
| Italy | 32,556 | 53,636 | 67,504 | 13,868 | 25.9 |
| Netherlands | 2,247 ^u | 2,977 | 4,342 | - | - |
| Spain | 6,672 | 9,164 | 14,927 | 5,763 | 62.9 |
| Non-EU | 25,868 | 52,375 | 75,688 | 23,313 | 44.5 |
| <i>of which:</i> | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 8,717 | 17,020 | 25,150 | 8,130 | 47.8 |
| Total | 98,556 | 176,038 | 241,395 | 65,357 | 37.1 |

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

¹ Refer to methodological note 8.

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.

Table 7. Profile of outbound tourists by period of departure

| Characteristics | January-September | | | Change | Percentage change |
|---|-------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2023/2022 | |
| Outbound tourists | 179,847 | 421,486 | 595,717 | 174,232 | 41.3 |
| Mode and type of travel | | | | | |
| Air | 162,913 | 381,867 | 554,073 | 172,207 | 45.1 |
| Low-cost airlines | 86,104 | 219,013 | 322,895 | 103,882 | 47.4 |
| Other airlines | 76,809 | 162,854 | 231,178 | 68,324 | 42.0 |
| Sea | 16,933 | 39,619^R | 41,644 | 2,025 | 5.1 |
| Sex | | | | | |
| Males | 103,776 | 227,697 | 318,230 | 90,533 | 39.8 |
| Females | 76,071 | 193,789 | 277,487 | 83,699 | 43.2 |
| Age group | | | | | |
| 0-24 | 30,146 | 73,089 | 98,063 | 24,974 | 34.2 |
| 25-44 | 94,447 | 203,637 | 282,097 | 78,460 | 38.5 |
| 45-64 | 45,984 | 112,262 | 167,959 | 55,697 | 49.6 |
| 65 or more | 9,270 | 32,498 | 47,599 | 15,101 | 46.5 |
| Final destination | | | | | |
| EU | 140,050 | 326,449 | 455,388 | 128,939 | 39.5 |
| <i>of which: Euro area¹</i> | 122,028 | 294,364 | 412,278 | 117,914 | 40.1 |
| Non-EU | 39,797 | 95,037 | 140,330 | 45,293 | 47.7 |
| Purpose of visit | | | | | |
| Holiday | 74,099 | 250,108 | 379,547 | 129,439 | 51.8 |
| Visiting relatives and friends | 72,801 | 104,164 | 131,978 | 27,814 | 26.7 |
| Business and professional | 17,061 | 39,475 | 50,921 | 11,446 | 29.0 |
| Other (including educational, religious and health tourism) | 15,885 | 27,738 | 33,271 | 5,532 | 19.9 |
| Organisation of stay | | | | | |
| Package | 10,131 | 48,116 | 80,400 | 32,284 | 67.1 |
| Non-package | 169,715 | 373,370 | 515,318 | 141,947 | 38.0 |
| Duration of visit | | | | | |
| 1-3 nights | 44,104 | 129,149 | 180,540 | 51,391 | 39.8 |
| 4-6 nights | 44,690 | 142,521 | 210,375 | 67,854 | 47.6 |
| 7 nights or more | 91,052 | 149,816 | 204,803 | 54,987 | 36.7 |
| Average length of stay (nights) | 10.4 | 7.1 | 7.0 | -0.2 | - |

^R Revised: refer to methodological note 6.

¹ Refer to methodological note 7.

Notes:

1. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
2. 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-September | | | Change | Percentage change |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2023/2022 | |
| Rented accommodation | 91,055 | 287,529 | 422,102 | 134,573 | 46.8 |
| Collective | 70,853 | 228,476 | 324,486 | 96,010 | 42.0 |
| Other rented | 20,203 | 59,053 | 97,616 | 38,563 | 65.3 |
| Non-rented accommodation | 88,791 | 133,957 | 173,615 | 39,658 | 29.6 |
| Total tourists | 179,847 | 421,486 | 595,717 | 174,232 | 41.3 |

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-September | | | Change | Percentage change |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2023/2022 | |
| Rented accommodation | 523,129 | 1,457,313 | 2,157,012 | 699,699 | 48.0 |
| Collective | 364,307 | 1,083,315 | 1,578,296 | 494,982 | 45.7 |
| Other rented | 158,821 | 373,998 | 578,716 | 204,717 | 54.7 |
| Non-rented accommodation | 1,353,048 | 1,544,638 | 1,995,305 | 450,667 | 29.2 |
| Total nights | 1,876,177 | 3,001,951 | 4,152,317 | 1,150,366 | 38.3 |

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-September | | | Change | Percentage change |
|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2023/2022 | |
| Package | 7,592 | 38,232 | 72,071 | 33,840 | 88.5 |
| Non-package | 53,185 | 130,816 | 203,010 | 72,195 | 55.2 |
| Air/sea fares | 30,550 | 66,943 | 104,440 | 37,497 | 56.0 |
| Accommodation | 22,635 | 63,872 | 98,570 | 34,698 | 54.3 |
| Other expenditure | 90,407 | 189,742 | 263,583 | 73,841 | 38.9 |
| Total expenditure | 151,183 | 358,789 | 538,665 | 179,875 | 50.1 |

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-September | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | per capita | | | per night | | |
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Package | 749 | 795 | 896 | 131 | 138 | 155 |
| Non-package | 313 | 349 | 393 | 29 | 48 | 55 |
| Air/sea fares | 180 | 179 | 202 | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Accommodation | 277 | 260 | 282 | 48 | 50 | 55 |
| Other expenditure | 503 | 450 | 442 | 48 | 63 | 63 |
| Total | 841 | 851 | 904 | 81 | 120 | 130 |

Note: n/a: not applicable

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

| Final destination ¹ | January-September | | | Change | Percentage change | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------|
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2023/2022 ² | | |
| Tourists | Austria | 2,317 | 6,859 | 10,026 | 3,167 | 46.2 |
| | Belgium | 2,888 | 6,561 | 8,927 | 2,366 | 36.1 |
| | Bulgaria | 4,537 | 6,231 | 5,389 | - | - |
| | France | 6,125 | 24,540 | 32,464 | 7,925 | 32.3 |
| | Germany | 6,409 | 13,313 | 23,349 | 10,036 | 75.4 |
| | Greece | 7,226 | 12,812 | 20,406 | 7,595 | 59.3 |
| | Hungary | 3,075 | 8,000 | 9,711 | 1,711 | 21.4 |
| | Ireland | 1,462 ^u | 4,045 | 5,128 | - | - |
| | Italy | 72,850 | 167,636 | 228,216 | 60,580 | 36.1 |
| | Netherlands | 3,457 | 7,786 | 11,129 | 3,343 | 42.9 |
| | Poland | 3,871 | 6,846 | 11,138 | 4,292 | 62.7 |
| | Scandinavia* | 4,056 | 6,513 | 8,700 | 2,187 | 33.6 |
| | Romania | 1,627 ^u | 3,195 | 5,483 | 2,289 | 71.6 |
| | Spain | 11,715 | 25,387 | 37,589 | 12,202 | 48.1 |
| | Switzerland | 1,301 ^u | 4,444 | 7,065 | 2,621 | 59.0 |
| | Turkey | 7,453 | 11,945 | 10,814 | - | - |
| | United Kingdom | 13,171 | 42,851 | 64,411 | 21,561 | 50.3 |
| | USA | : | 2,627 | 3,211 | - | - |
| Other | 25,844 | 59,895 | 92,560 | 32,666 | 54.5 | |
| Total | 179,847 | 421,486 | 595,717 | 174,232 | 41.3 | |
| Nights | Austria | 20,113 | 38,910 | 59,622 | 20,712 | 53.2 |
| | Belgium | 38,475 | 40,513 | 46,286 | 5,773 | 14.3 |
| | Bulgaria | 67,183 | 58,211 | 48,578 | - | - |
| | France | 65,307 | 144,223 | 192,555 | 48,333 | 33.5 |
| | Germany | 61,985 | 100,635 | 160,265 | 59,630 | 59.3 |
| | Greece | 61,867 | 85,212 | 137,404 | 52,192 | 61.2 |
| | Hungary | 31,632 | 51,840 | 61,295 | 9,455 | 18.2 |
| | Ireland | 15,354 ^u | 30,000 | 38,014 | - | - |
| | Italy | 467,620 | 792,232 | 1,050,370 | 258,138 | 32.6 |
| | Netherlands | 38,013 | 51,108 | 75,686 | 24,578 | 48.1 |
| | Poland | 42,172 | 51,580 | 89,518 | 37,939 | 73.6 |
| | Scandinavia* | 57,574 | 64,800 | 80,698 | 15,897 | 24.5 |
| | Romania | 22,591 ^u | 37,234 | 51,189 | 13,955 | 37.5 |
| | Spain | 96,704 | 158,487 | 252,484 | 93,997 | 59.3 |
| | Switzerland | 21,284 ^u | 28,854 | 45,673 | 16,819 | 58.3 |
| | Turkey | 73,948 | 104,389 | 106,551 | - | - |
| | United Kingdom | 174,198 | 355,550 | 441,718 | 86,168 | 24.2 |
| | USA | : | 33,433 | 56,587 | - | - |
| Other | 509,230 | 774,742 | 1,157,824 | 383,082 | 49.4 | |
| Total | 1,876,177 | 3,001,951 | 4,152,317 | 1,150,366 | 38.3 | |
| Expenditure (€000) | Austria | 1,784 | 5,272 | 8,649 | 3,377 | 64.1 |
| | Belgium | 2,601 | 4,988 | 6,802 | 1,814 | 36.4 |
| | Bulgaria | 3,678 | 3,824 | 4,622 | - | - |
| | France | 5,082 | 21,695 | 29,146 | 7,451 | 34.3 |
| | Germany | 4,911 | 13,406 | 22,694 | 9,288 | 69.3 |
| | Greece | 6,626 | 10,388 | 17,704 | 7,316 | 70.4 |
| | Hungary | 2,179 | 5,740 | 6,952 | - | - |
| | Ireland | 1,395 ^u | 4,013 | 5,259 | 1,246 | 31.0 |
| | Italy | 44,636 | 105,547 | 146,083 | 40,536 | 38.4 |
| | Netherlands | 3,412 | 6,894 | 11,911 | 5,017 | 72.8 |
| | Poland | 2,999 | 4,613 | 9,070 | 4,457 | 96.6 |
| | Scandinavia* | 3,698 | 6,534 | 10,154 | 3,621 | 55.4 |
| | Romania | 1,795 ^u | 2,528 | 5,253 | 2,725 | 107.8 |
| | Spain | 9,255 | 21,211 | 34,104 | 12,894 | 60.8 |
| | Switzerland | 1,260 ^u | 5,321 | 6,708 | 1,387 | 26.1 |
| | Turkey | 8,950 | 18,050 | 16,099 | - | - |
| | United Kingdom | 12,075 | 39,720 | 61,151 | 21,431 | 54.0 |
| | USA | : | 6,200 | 8,537 | - | - |
| Other | 33,779 | 72,845 | 127,765 | 54,920 | 75.4 | |
| Total | 151,183 | 358,789 | 538,665 | 179,875 | 50.1 | |

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

* Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden

¹ Refer to methodological note 6.

² Refer to methodological note 5.

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 Maltese residents 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 air passenger is counted and respondents are selected using a pre-defined interval of 1:20.
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 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. Sea tourist data for the period June-October 2022 has been revised since it was previously an estimation resulting from delayed data communication from the source. This revision is reflected in all the 2022 figures in this release.
7. Owing to Croatia's entry into the Eurozone (with effect from 1 January 2023), Croatian data is statistically classified as being in the Euro area from January 2023. Comparability between comparative periods should be treated with caution.
8. Expenditure data in this release represent the budgeted expenditure of outbound tourists prior to their departure.
9. Data included in this release are based on sample data and are therefore subject to sampling error. Sampling error is measured by a quantity known as the margin of error, which in turn, expresses the variability between the true population parameters and their corresponding sample estimates. In the table below, the margin of error is used to construct a set of 95 per cent confidence intervals for the main indicators, which gives an indication of where the true population parameters lie.

Sampling variability of outbound tourism figures

| | Estimate | Margin of error | 95% confidence interval |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Outbound tourists | 248,094 | 1,174 | 248,094 ± 1,174 |
| Total nights | 1,817,893 | 55,366 | 1,817,893 ± 55,366 |
| Total expenditure (€ 000) | 241,395 | 5,449 | 241,395 ± 5,449 |

10. 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 12 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 rented or non-rented accommodation in the place/country visited.
- **Total nights spent:** nights which a guest actually spends or is registered to spend in a rented accommodation or in a non-rented accommodation.
- **Average length of stay:** the number of nights spent divided by the number of tourists during a specified reference period.
- **Rented accommodation:** consists of the following two sub-categories:
 - a. **Collective accommodation:** comprises hotels, guesthouses, hostels, tourist villages, holiday complexes, Bed & Breakfast establishments 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 categories:
 - a. **Package expenditure:** 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:** the amount of money spent on transport and accommodation reported separately;
 - c. **Other expenditure:** the amount spent on shopping, souvenirs, tickets for concerts or sport events, entrance to museums or zoos 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.

11. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Sources and methods

Statistical concepts

Metadata

12. Statistics in this news release should be interpreted in the context of the COVID-19 situation. The Tourstat survey was suspended between 12 March and 30 June 2020.
13. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
14. For further assistance send your request through our [online request form](#).
15. A detailed news release calendar is available [online](#).