

04 May 2018

Tourist expenditure survey
 March 2018. *Provisional data*

Total expenditure by international tourists visiting Spain in March increases by 12.1%¹ as compared with the same month of 2017

Average expenditure stands at 142 euros, 1.3% more than in March 2017

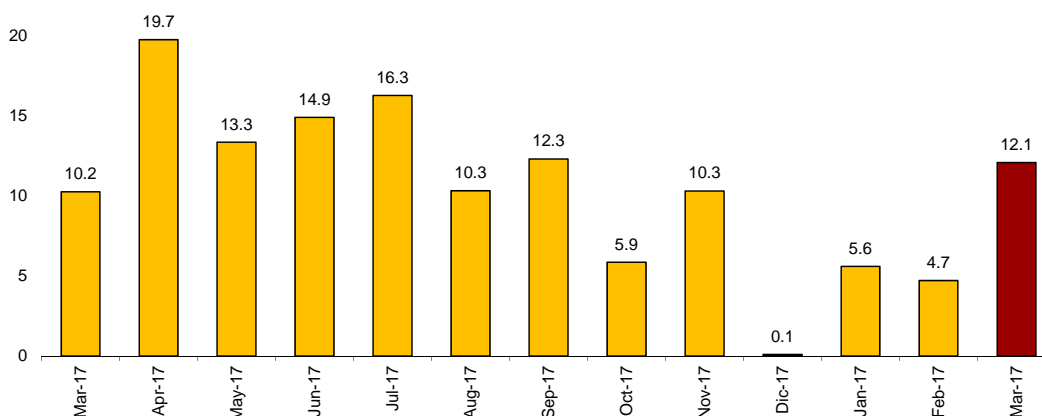
Total expenditure incurred by international tourists that visited Spain in March reached 5,727 million euros, representing an increase of 12.1% compared with the same month of 2017.

The average expenditure per tourist stood at 1,064 euros, with an annual increase of 2.3%. On the other hand, the daily average expenditure increased by 1.3% up to 142 euros.

The average stay by international tourists was 7.5 days, indicating an increase of 0.1 days compared to the average registered in March 2017.

During the first three months of 2018, the total expenditure increased by 7.7%, as compared with the same period of the previous year, reaching 14,735 million euros.

Total annual expenditure rate from international tourist in %



¹Given that in 2018 Holy Week is celebrated between March and April, while in 2017 it was held in April, it is convenient to wait for the results of this survey next month to analyse both months together.

Sending countries

The main sending countries in terms of levels of expenditure in March were the UK (accounting for 19.0% of the total), Germany (14.9%) and the Nordic Countries—Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden—(11.1%).

Expenditure by tourists resident in the United Kingdom increased by 4.0% in the annual rate. On the other hand, expenditure by tourists from Germany increased by 21.6% and that of tourists from the Nordic Countries by 6.1%.

International tourist expenditure by country of residence

	March 2018							
	Total expenditure (millions of €)	Annual variation	Average expenditure by tourist (€)	Annual variation	Daily average expenditure (€)	Annual variation	Average duration of the trips	Annual variation
TOTAL	5,727	12.1	1,064	2.3	142	1.3	7.5	1.0
Germany	855	21.6	1,043	6.6	126	0.9	8.3	5.7
France	391	7.4	601	1.6	87	0.3	6.9	1.2
Italy	204	16.2	727	9.8	109	-0.6	6.7	10.5
Nordic Countries	633	6.1	1,255	-4.1	138	4.1	9.1	-7.9
United Kingdom	1,088	4.0	917	-1.5	118	-1.7	7.8	0.2
Rest of the world	2,555	14.9	1,315	2.7	192	1.4	6.8	1.2

During the first three months of 2018, the United Kingdom was the country with the largest cumulative expenditure (17.9% of total). It was followed by Germany (13.1%) and the Nordic Countries (11.4%).

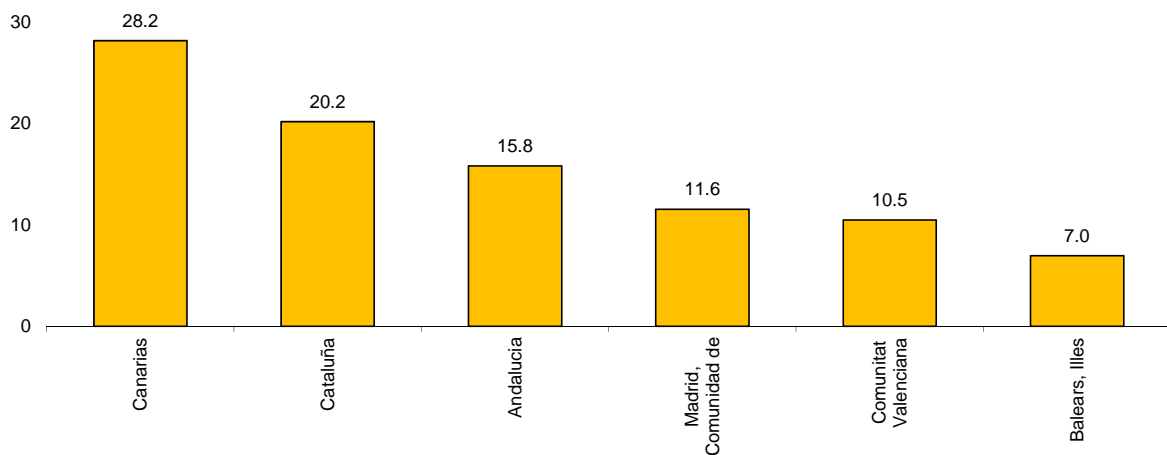
International tourist cumulated expenditure by country of residence

	Cumulative data		
	Total expenditure (millions of €)	Percentage	Annual variation
TOTAL	14,735	100.0	7.7
Germany	1,935	13.1	10.0
France	1,005	6.8	1.8
Italy	556	3.8	9.3
Nordic Countries	1,685	11.4	7.4
United Kingdom	2,634	17.9	0.8
Rest of the world	6,921	47.0	10.9

Main destination Autonomous Communities

The main destination Autonomous Communities with the largest percentage of total tourist expenditure in March were Canarias (with 28.2% of the total), Cataluña (20.2%) and Andalucía (15.8%).

Total expenditure by Autonomous Community main destination in %



Total tourist expenditure rose by 6.8% in annual rate in Canarias, 9.3% in Cataluña and 11.3% in Andalucía.

The remaining main destination Autonomous Communities of tourists also presented positive variation annual rates.

International tourist expenditure by Autonomous Community main destination

	March 2018							
	Total expenditure (millions of €)	Annual variation	Average expenditure by tourist (€)	Annual variation	Daily average expenditure (€)	Annual variation	Average duration of the trips	Annual variation
TOTAL	5,727	12.1	1,064	2.3	142	1.3	7.5	1.0
Andalucía	906	11.3	1,155	2.2	109	4.0	10.6	-1.8
Balears, Illes	400	34.4	995	9.0	144	4.2	6.9	4.6
Canarias	1,614	6.8	1,198	1.8	139	-1.5	8.6	3.3
Cataluña	1,156	9.3	953	4.0	205	4.5	4.7	-0.4
Comunitat Valenciana	601	16.4	972	-0.9	101	-1.1	9.7	0.3
Madrid, Comunidad de	662	19.7	1,183	2.3	258	7.9	4.6	-5.2
Rest of ACs	388	7.8	846	-0.3	118	-5.2	7.2	5.2

During the first three months of 2018, the main destination Autonomous Communities with more cumulative expenditure were Canarias (with 30.4% of the total), Cataluña (21.0%) and Andalucía (14.7%).

International tourist cumulated expenditure by Autonomous Community main destination

	Cumulative data		
	Total expenditure (millions of €)	Percentage	Annual variation
TOTAL	14,735	100.0	7.7
Andalucía	2,171	14.7	9.8
Balears, Illes	663	4.5	21.2
Canarias	4,480	30.4	3.6
Cataluña	3,098	21.0	10.4
Comunitat Valenciana	1,469	10.0	10.1
Madrid, Comunidad de	1,865	12.7	8.0
Rest of ACs	990	6.7	3.1

Items of expenditure

Expenditure on international transport (not included in the tourist package) was the main item, with 20.8% of the total. This expenditure increased by 9.0% as compared with March 2017.

The following items were *expenditure on tourist packages* and *expenditure on activities*, accounting for 19.8% and 18.4% of the total, respectively. The former rose 9.7% in annual rate and the latter 17.9%.

International tourist expenditure by expenditure categories

	March 2018		
	Total (millions of euros)	Percentage	Annual variation
TOTAL	5,727	100.0	12.1
Expenditure on tourist package	1,134	19.8	9.7
Expenditure excluded on tourist package	4,592	80.2	12.7
- Expenditure on international transport	1,193	20.8	9.0
- Expenditure on accommodation	808	14.1	16.4
- Expenditure on food and drinks	926	16.2	13.2
- Expenditure on activities	1,051	18.4	17.9
- Other expenditure	614	10.7	6.5

Main type of accommodation, method of organisation and main reason for the trip

In March, 60.8% of the total tourist expenditure was made by tourists staying at hotels, with an annual increase of 8.2%. In turn, expenditure of those that stayed at non-market accommodation increased by 23.9%.

Expenditure by tourists not travelling on package trips (accounting for 70.3% of the total) rose by 13.1% in annual rate. On the other hand, expenditure by tourists on package trips increased by 9.8%.

International tourist expenditure by main type of accommodation, type of organization and main purpose of the trip

	March 2018							
	Total expenditure (millions of €)	Annual variation	Average expenditure by tourist (€)	Annual variation	Daily average expenditure (€)	Annual variation	Average duration of the trips	Annual variation
TOTAL (*)	5,727	12.1	1,064	2.3	142	1.3	7.5	1.0
Rented accommodation	4,685	11.8	1,104	0.2	169	-0.6	6.5	0.8
- Hotel accommodation	3,481	8.2	1,031	-0.6	202	3.4	5.1	-3.9
- Rest rented accommodation	1,204	23.9	1,386	0.1	115	-3.4	12.1	3.6
Non rented accommodation	1,042	13.3	914	10.5	83	6.1	11.0	4.1
TOTAL	5,727	12.1	1,064	2.3	142	1.3	7.5	1.0
Without tourist package	4,026	13.1	1,039	1.4	134	1.0	7.8	0.4
With tourist package	1,700	9.8	1,126	4.7	168	2.7	6.7	2.0
TOTAL	5,727	12.1	1,064	2.3	142	1.3	7.5	1.0
Leisure	4,637	10.9	1,070	2.3	142	2.7	7.5	-0.4
Work	597	18.4	1,018	-10.3	209	-2.5	4.9	-8.0
Other motives	492	15.7	1,061	18.4	103	-6.9	10.3	27.2

(*): It is distinguished two main groups of accommodation, depending on whether there was a monetary transaction or not: rented accommodation (payment accommodation; hotels, renting accommodation, camping site, rural accommodation and other rented accommodation) or non rented accommodation (own dwelling, family or friends dwellings and other non rented accommodation)

In terms of the reasons for travel, tourists visiting Spain for leisure in March generated 81.0% of total expenditure (spending 10.9% more than in March 2017).

Stopovers on trips and overnight stays by Autonomous Communities

Stopovers² on trips by international tourists in March registered an increase of 6.1% as compared to the same month of the previous year. A total of 22.9% of these stopovers occurred in Canarias (with an increase of 5.5%).

On the other hand, the total number of overnight stays by international tourists in all types of accommodation (hotels, holiday dwellings, own homes, homes of relatives or friends, rented dwelling...) exceeded 40.2 million, representing an increase of 10.6%.

Canarias was the Autonomous Community with the greatest number of overnight stays (11.5 million, 8.2% more than that registered in the same month of the previous year). It was followed by Andalucía (with 8.4 million overnight stays and an increase of 6.6%) and Comunitat Valenciana (with 6.0 million, 16.0% more).

Stages and overnight stays by Autonomous Community of destination

	March 2018					
	Number of stages	Percentage	Annual variation	Number of overnight stays	Percentage	Annual variation
TOTAL	6,157,155	100.0	6.1	40,204,685	100.0	10.6
Andalucía	1,048,190	17.0	0.4	8,476,508	21.1	6.6
Balears, Illes	442,164	7.2	28.1	2,755,488	6.9	27.3
Canarias	1,409,086	22.9	5.5	11,568,839	28.8	8.2
Cataluña	1,351,482	21.9	4.2	5,707,454	14.2	6.7
Comunitat Valenciana	695,019	11.3	6.5	6,020,195	15.0	16.0
Madrid, Comunidad de	614,634	10.0	14.2	2,371,502	5.9	9.5
Rest of ACs	596,580	9.7	1.1	3,304,700	8.2	17.0

² A stopover refers to each overnight stay made during the trip. A trip may have as many stopovers as intermediate destinations where the traveller has stayed at least one night.

Methodological note

The main objective of the Survey on Tourist Spending (EGATUR) is to obtain monthly information on the spending of tourists made by non-resident visitors in Spain in their trips to our country.

The connection between EGATUR and FRONTUR is very close since the main estimates of the latter are used as the target population in EGATUR. Also, a sample integration of both operations has been carried out, in such a way that the EGATUR sample is a subsample of that of FRONTUR.

For the creation of EGATUR, the international definitions and recommendations of the UNWTO and EUROSTAT are followed in this matter.

The sample design is defined for each access route in an independent manner, establishing a sub-sample fraction based on the FRONTUR sample.

Therefore, on roads, it is calculated according to the bordering country of the point of the survey, the type of visitor (tourist and hiker) and their country of residence.

At airports, the same strata are taken into account as in FRONTUR, and the sub-sample fraction is established according to the size of the cell (with fractions that start at 100%, in cells of less than 100 records, to 20% in cells with more than 350).

At ports, the sub-sample fraction is approximately 30%, while that of railways is 14%.

The annual theoretic sample size for EGATUR exceeds 127,000 surveys, which are shared throughout the year, taking into account the aforementioned design and the seasonal nature of the flow of travellers.

Information is collected by direct interviews when the traveller leaves Spain, with an electronic multilingual questionnaire.

On the INE website a more complete tabulation plan, with the main aggregate series, as well as the microdata file of the reference month is available to users.

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All press releases at: www.ine.es/en/prensa/prensa_en.htm

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