

31 March 2017

Statistics of Tourist Movement on Borders (FRONTUR)
 February 2017. *Provisional data*

Spain receives 4.1 million international tourists in February, an increase of 11.9% compared with the same month in 2016

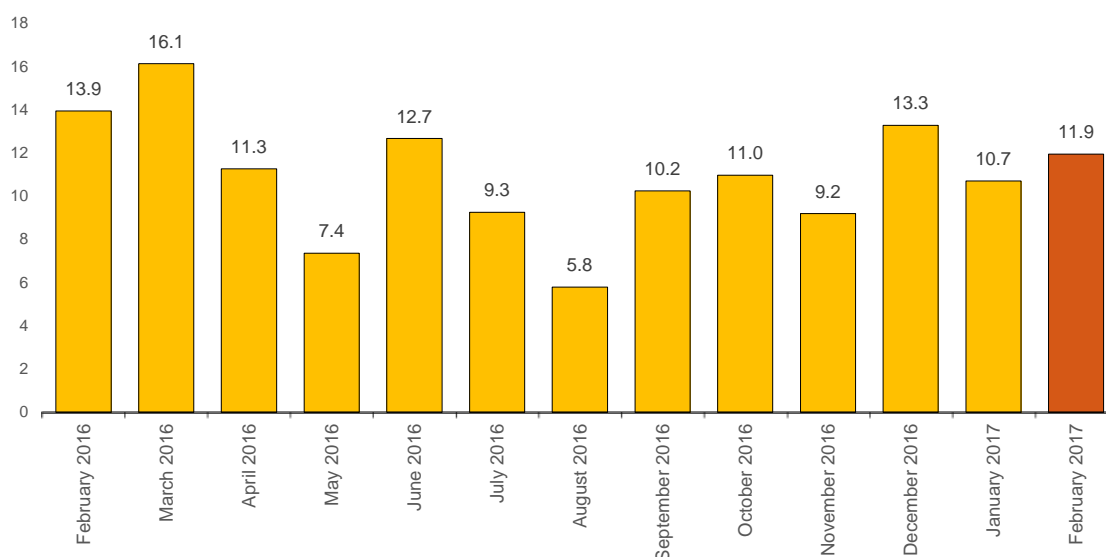
Spain in February received 4.1 million international tourists, 11.9% more than the same month in 2016.

The United Kingdom was the main issuing country with 920,870 tourists, accounting for 22.4% of the total and an increase of 14.3% as compared to February last year.

France and Germany are the following most important countries of residence of the tourists visiting Spain in February. From France we receive 599,329 tourists (12.8% more in the annual rate) and from Germany we receive 516,723 tourists (6.8% more).

Of the other countries of residence, the annual growth is particularly noteworthy in tourists coming from Sweden (53.6%), Russia (27.0%) and United States (26.5%).

International tourist arrivals. Monthly data, annual variation



In the first two months of 2017 the number of tourists visiting Spain exceeded eight million with an increase of 11.3%.

The main issuing countries so far this year were the United Kingdom (with more than 1.7 million tourists and an increase of 14.6% as compared to the first two months of 2016), France (with nearly 1.1 million tourists and an increase of 6.5%) and Germany (with more than 1.0 million tourists and an increase of 5.2%).

International tourist arrivals ⁽¹⁾ by country of residence

February 2017	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,118,208	11.9	8,022,511	11.3
Germany	516,723	6.8	1,002,169	5.2
Belgium	113,447	-2.5	224,165	-0.9
France	599,329	12.8	1,069,113	6.5
Ireland	77,177	11.7	162,548	17.5
Italy	210,231	-4.1	463,341	4.1
Netherlands	169,563	14.1	316,730	15.9
Portugal	122,383	17.2	222,096	10.7
United Kingdom	920,870	14.3	1,717,051	14.6
Switzerland	115,263	53.6	211,856	38.0
Russia	43,748	27.0	107,327	14.2
Nordic Countries	411,859	3.3	789,624	-0.1
Rest of Europe	299,488	22.1	585,702	16.0
United States	99,893	26.5	198,446	30.6
Rest of America	167,627	42.0	408,837	48.1
Rest of the world	250,605	0.3	543,506	9.5

(1) Not including travellers in transit or visitors staying only one night (excursionists).

Main destination by Autonomous Communities

Canarias was the main destination for the tourists in February, with 28.7% of the total. It was followed by Cataluña (23.9%) and Andalucía (14.2%).

Nearly 1.2 million tourists came to Canarias, 6.2% more than in February last year. The main countries of residence of those visiting this community are United Kingdom (33.6% of the total) and the Nordic countries (22.0%).

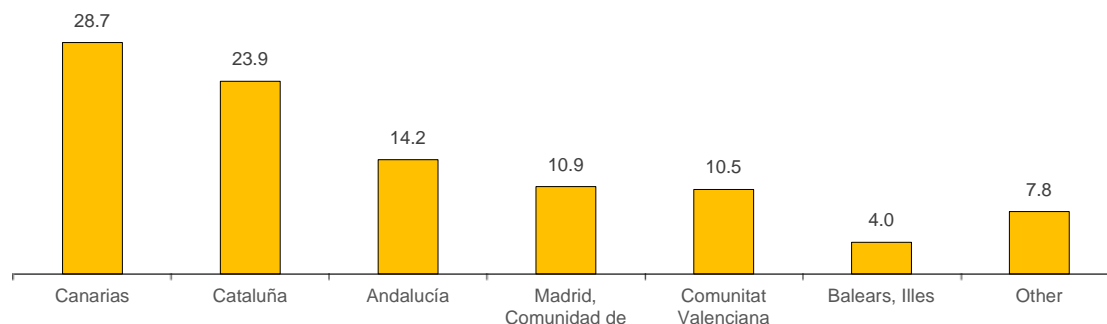
The number of tourists visiting Cataluña increased by 6.0% and stood at 986,117. 27.5% of these tourists came from France and 11.7% from the United Kingdom.

The third main Autonomous Community destination by number of tourists is Andalucía, with 585,291 tourists and an annual growth of 18.7%. United Kingdom is the main country of origin (with 25.8% of the total), followed by France (13.1%).

In the remaining communities the number of tourists increased by 34.4% in Comunidad de Madrid and 24.0% in Comunitat Valenciana. While in Illes Balears decreased by 1.2%.

In the accumulated first two months of 2017 the communities that received more tourists were Canarias (with almost 2.4 million and an increase of 6.9% as compared to the same period of 2016), Cataluña (with 1.8 million and an increase of 2.2%) and Andalucía (with 1.1 million and an increase of 16.9%).

International tourist arrivals by main autonomous region of destination. Percentage of the total



International tourist arrivals by main autonomous community region of destination. Monthly and cumulative data

February 2017	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,118,208	11.9	8,022,511	11.3
Andalucía	585,291	18.7	1,106,407	16.9
Balears, Illes	162,751	-1.2	269,838	1.0
Canarias	1,183,960	6.2	2,377,379	6.9
Cataluña	986,117	6.0	1,836,574	2.2
Comunitat Valenciana	433,365	24.0	834,772	25.0
Madrid, Comunidad de	447,293	34.4	933,456	27.8
Other	319,431	8.9	664,085	15.7

International tourist arrivals by main autonomous community of destination. Main country of residence

February 2017	First outbound country	% tourists	Second outbound country	% tourists
TOTAL	United Kingdom	22.4	France	14.6
Andalucía	United Kingdom	25.8	France	13.1
Balears, Illes	Germany	57.4	United Kingdom	15.9
Canarias	United Kingdom	33.6	Nordic countries	22.0
Cataluña	France	27.5	United Kingdom	11.7
Comunitat Valenciana	United Kingdom	34.0	France	14.4
Madrid, Comunidad de	Rest of America	15.1	Rest of the world	15.1

Forms of access and principal accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in February came by air, with a number close to 3.5 million, which represented an annual increase of 14.3%.

Road entries accounted for 0.3% more tourists than February 2016, and port arrivals had an increase of 9.8%. In turn, railway access registered a 10.0% decrease.

International tourist arrivals according to form of access to Spain

February 2017	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,118,208	11.9	8,022,511	11.3
Air transport	3,465,612	14.3	6,763,109	14.2
Motor vehicle	566,848	0.3	1,034,933	-4.4
Train	16,934	-10.0	36,223	-2.2
Waterway	68,814	9.8	188,245	16.2

In February, the number of tourists choosing market accommodation as the main accommodation type increased by 11.8% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation grew by 5.9%, and rented properties did so by 49.4%.

On the other hand Non-market accommodation increased by 12.3%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes increased by 15.4% and those staying in their own properties by 12.6%.

International tourist arrivals by means of accommodation

February 2017	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,118,208	11.9	8,022,511	11.3
Rented accommodation ⁽²⁾	3,098,084	11.8	5,884,495	12.1
-Hotel accommodation	2,456,931	5.9	4,733,178	7.2
-Rental housing	491,570	49.4	824,885	38.7
-Rest rented accommodation	149,583	22.1	326,432	37.6
Non-rented accommodation	1,020,125	12.3	2,138,016	9.3
-Vacation home ownership	278,445	12.6	555,954	8.6
-Home of family or friends	642,889	15.4	1,391,674	16.4
-Rest non rented accommodation	98,791	-4.9	190,388	-23.4

(2) Two principal groups of accommodation are distinguished, depending on whether there has been a monetary transaction: market (paid accommodation; hotels, rented accommodation, camp sites, country houses and other market accommodation) and non-market (own home, relatives or friends' home or other non-market accommodation).

Main reason, duration of the stay and organisation of the trip

Leisure, recreation and holidays are the main reasons for the trip to Spain for almost 3.4 million tourists in February, which represented an annual increase of 20.3%.

344,891 tourists arrive for *business and professional purposes* (21.8% less in annual rate) and 386,565 arrive for *other purposes* (8.7% less).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

February 2017	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,118,208	11.9	8,022,511	11.3
Leisure, vacations	3,386,751	20.3	6,528,796	19.0
Business and personal purposes	344,891	-21.8	667,447	-15.4
Other purposes	386,565	-8.7	826,268	-11.2

A stay of four to seven nights is the main length in February, with almost two million tourists and an annual increase of 6.1%.

The number of visitors decreased by 3.4% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and increased 16.2% among the ones with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

International visitor arrivals by length of stay

February 2017	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	6,605,752	5.6	12,815,952	3.5
no night ⁽³⁾	2,487,544	-3.4	4,793,441	-7.5
1 night	196,381	27.7	396,896	21.3
2 - 3 nights	957,010	35.8	1,677,943	27.3
4 - 7 nights	1,975,665	6.1	3,657,685	5.7
8 - 15 nights	667,678	-2.0	1,565,301	6.9
More than 15 nights	321,475	16.2	724,687	14.0

(3) Excursionists.

In February more than 3 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, which is a year-to-year increase of 13.2%. More than 1.1 million came with a tourist package, with an increase of 8.5%.

International tourist arrivals by purchase a tourist package

February 2017	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,118,208	11.9	8,022,511	11.3
No Tourist Package	3,015,311	13.2	5,884,945	13.0
Tourist Package	1,102,898	8.5	2,137,566	7.0

Methodological note

The main objective of the Survey of Tourist Movements at Borders (FRONTUR) is to monthly estimate the number of non-resident visitors in Spain that arrive to our country, whether tourists (with overnight stay) or excursionist (visitors without overnight stay), distinguishing between the different forms of access (road , airport, port and rail), as well as to know the main features of the trips made by those visitors (country of residence, main destination, type of accommodation and duration of the stay). FRONTUR follow international definitions and recommendations made by the WTO and EUROSTAT on this matter.

Different administrative sources managed by different bodies and institutions are used as population frame.

Directorate General of Traffic (DGT) provides information on the number and type of vehicles that cross the border by road. These DGT registers are complemented by a sample operation of Capacity, that allows to estimate the occupation of vehicles, according to the type and the car number plate nationality.

AENA facilitates the register of international flights operated in Spain, including the origin and destination airports, as well as the number of passengers.

State Ports provides information on the number of passengers boarded and landed in each Spanish port coming from a foreign port.

Finally, RENFE provides the complete list of trains that cross the border along with the number of passengers on the different international railway lines.

In the sample design, a series of stratum grouping border points, airports, ports or railway lines, respectively have been designed for each form of entry. In road and airport sample allocation, the day of the week in which the survey has been carried out is distinguished, discriminating between working days, weekends and holiday days. Furthermore, in airports 11 air relations are defined (origin Spanish airport-country of the destination airport) which determine as well the sample design in this form of access. The annual theoretical sample size of FRONTUR overcomes the 450,000 surveys, during the year, taking into account the seasonality of travel flows. Information is collected by direct interviews when the traveller leaves Spain, with an electronic multilingual questionnaire.

It has to be taken into account that estimates of FRONTUR are used as population to which data of the Survey on Touristic Expenditure (EGATUR), carried out by the INE too, is raised and that is compiled as subsample methodologically included in FRONTUR.

A press note is published monthly presenting the main results, along with a series of charts that include variation rates comparing the same month of the previous year.

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