

31 October 2017

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

Spain receives 8.8 million international tourists in September, an increase of 11.4% as compared to the same month of 2016

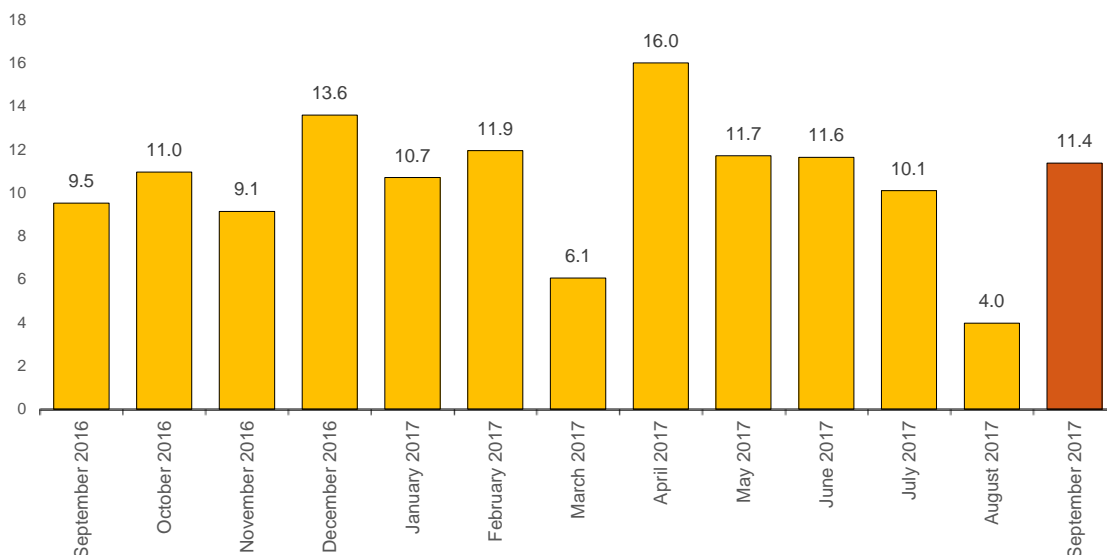
In September, Spain received 8.8 million international tourists, 11.4% more than in the same month of 2016.

The United Kingdom was the main country of residence, with 2,158,423 tourists, representing 24.4% of the total and an increase of 8.2% as compared with September last year.

Germany and France were the following most important countries of residence of the tourists visiting Spain in September. Germany contributed 1,411,770 tourists (9.3% more in the annual rate) and France 971,624 (0.5% more).

Among the other countries of residence, the annual growth was particularly noteworthy in tourists coming from the United States (41.5%), Belgium (27.9%) and Nordic countries (23.7%).

International tourist arrivals. Monthly data, annual variation.



In the first nine months of 2017 the number of tourists visiting Spain increased by 10.1% and exceeded 66.1 million.

The main issuing countries so far this year were the United Kingdom (with nearly 15.4 million tourists and an increase of 7.8% as compared to the first four months of 2016), Germany (with more than 9.6 million tourists and an increase of 7.5%) and France (with more than 9.3 million tourists and an increase of 1.5%).

International tourist arrivals ⁽¹⁾ by country of residence

September 2017	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	8,835,228	11.4	66,137,798	10.1
Germany	1,411,770	9.3	9,592,873	7.5
Belgium	277,266	27.9	2,021,105	6.4
France	971,624	-0.5	9,322,960	1.5
Ireland	221,662	0.7	1,688,955	16.2
Italy	386,157	11.8	3,404,071	7.1
Netherlands	377,790	17.6	3,013,849	9.0
Portugal	211,329	0.7	1,699,985	7.5
United Kingdom	2,158,423	8.2	15,390,060	7.8
Switzerland	201,478	18.9	1,614,732	24.1
Russia	149,302	15.6	961,977	14.5
Nordic Countries	506,868	23.7	4,437,172	16.0
Rest of Europe	653,728	10.0	4,460,749	13.2
United States	323,533	41.5	2,119,824	34.1
Rest of America	391,343	31.4	2,522,687	28.3
Rest of the world	592,954	12.7	3,886,801	15.1

Note: does not include transit travellers or same-day visitors.

(1) Not including travellers in transit or visitors staying only one day without overnight stay (excursionists).

Main destination by Autonomous Communities

Illes Balears was the main destination for the tourists in September, with 22.7% of the total. It was followed by Cataluña (22.5%) and Andalucía (14.8%).

More than two million tourists visited Illes Balears, 7.9% more than in September last year. The main countries of residence of those visiting this Autonomous Community were Germany (33.4% of the total) and the United Kingdom (30.0%).

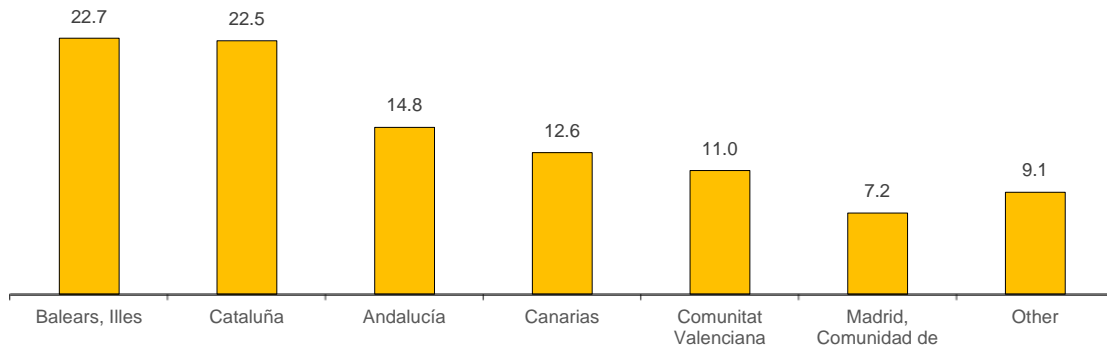
The number of tourists visiting Cataluña increased by 6.1% and stood at around two million. 17.5% of these tourists came from France and 12.5% from the United Kingdom.

The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Andalucía, with more than 1.3 million and an annual growth of 17.3%. The United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 25.1% of the total), followed by Rest of the world (13.9%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities the number of tourists increased by 24.9% in Comunitat Valenciana, 11.8% in Canarias and 9.8% in Comunidad de Madrid.

In the accumulated first nine months of 2017, the Autonomous Communities that received the most tourists were Cataluña (with almost 15.7 million and an increase of 7.8% as compared with the same period 2016), Illes Balears (with nearly 12.3 million and an increase of 6.6%) and Canarias (with more than 10.4 million and a growth of 8.7%).

International tourist arrivals by main Autonomous Community of destination. Percentage of the total



International tourist arrivals by main Autonomous Community of destination. Monthly and cumulative data.

September 2017	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	8,835,228	11.4	66,137,798	10.1
Andalucía	1,310,843	17.3	9,329,120	10.4
Balears, Illes	2,009,168	7.9	12,258,077	6.6
Canarias	1,111,362	11.8	10,407,828	8.7
Cataluña	1,990,995	6.1	15,746,711	7.8
Comunitat Valenciana	972,855	24.9	7,254,924	16.5
Madrid, Comunidad de	637,787	9.8	5,058,294	17.3
Other	802,216	11.1	6,082,843	12.4

Note: does not include transit travellers or same-day visitors.

International tourist arrivals by main Autonomous Community of destination. Main country of residence

September 2017	First outbound country	% tourists	Second outbound country	% tourists
TOTAL	United Kingdom	24.4	Germany	16.0
Andalucía	United Kingdom	25.1	Rest of the world	13.9
Balears, Illes	Germany	33.4	United Kingdom	30.0
Canarias	United Kingdom	44.3	Germany	21.2
Cataluña	France	17.5	United Kingdom	12.5
Comunitat Valenciana	United Kingdom	32.5	France	15.6
Madrid, Comunidad de	Rest of America	23.3	Rest of the world	16.4

Note: does not include transit travellers or same-day visitors.

Means of access and main type of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in September came by air, with more than 7.3 million, representing an annual increase of 13.7%.

The number of tourists that came by road decreased by 5.5% as compared with September 2016. In turn, 35.0 more tourists came by port and 14.3 more by rail.

International tourist arrivals by main means of access to Spain

September 2017	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	8,835,228	11.4	66,137,798	10.1
Air transport	7,309,833	13.7	53,687,317	12.2
Motor vehicle	1,158,624	-5.5	10,645,630	0.2
Train	34,683	14.3	310,587	6.2
Waterway	332,088	35.0	1,494,263	13.3

Note: does not include transit travellers or same-day visitors.

In September, the number of tourists that chose market accommodation as the main accommodation type increased by 11.9% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation increased by 10.7%, and rented properties did so by 16.1%.

In turn, non-market accommodation increased by 9.0%. The number of tourists staying with friends or family increased by 16.3% and those staying in their own properties decreased by 7.2%.

International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

September 2017	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	8,835,228	11.4	66,137,798	10.1
Rented accommodation ⁽²⁾	7,390,497	11.9	52,716,505	10.0
-Hotel accommodation	5,979,723	10.7	41,305,748	6.9
-Rental housing	986,085	16.1	8,041,185	23.6
-Rest rented accommodation	424,689	18.5	3,369,572	20.8
Non-rented accommodation	1,444,731	9.0	13,421,293	10.4
-Vacation home ownership	406,351	-7.2	3,907,976	2.0
-Home of family or friends	905,793	16.3	8,306,747	15.9
-Rest non rented accommodation	132,587	21.8	1,206,570	4.4

(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 were the main reasons for travelling to Spain for more than 7.9 million tourists in September, representing an annual increase of 12.1%.

514,297 tourists arrived for Business and professional reasons (29.7% more) and 406,676 arrived for Other reasons (15.0% less).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

September 2017	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	8,835,228	11.4	66,137,798	10.1
Leisure, vacations	7,914,254	12.1	57,801,379	11.5
Business and personal purposes	514,297	29.7	3,497,008	3.5
Other purposes	406,676	-15.0	4,839,411	-0.5

In September, the main length of stay for tourists was from four to seven nights, with more than 4.1 million tourists and an annual increase of 15.0%.

The number of visitors increased by 2.8% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and decreased by 4.5% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

International visitor arrivals by length of stay

September 2017	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	12,330,298	8.8	97,300,539	6.0
no night ⁽³⁾	3,495,071	2.8	31,162,741	-1.8
1 night	432,073	18.8	3,241,283	18.7
2 - 3 nights	1,413,642	17.7	11,040,735	21.1
4 - 7 nights	4,141,509	15.0	30,736,627	10.1
8 - 15 nights	2,348,335	4.7	16,522,088	2.7
More than 15 nights	499,668	-4.5	4,597,065	8.0

Note: does not include transit travellers or same-day visitors.

(3) Excursionists.

In September, more than six million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual increase of 12.3%. More than 2.8 million came with a tourist package, with an increase of 9.5%.

International tourist arrivals by type of organization

September 2017	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	8,835,228	11.4	66,137,798	10.1
Without Tourist Package	6,010,274	12.3	46,763,349	12.7
With Tourist Package	2,824,954	9.5	19,374,448	4.1

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

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

The 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 sub sample 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 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.