

Tourist Movement on Borders Survey (FRONTUR)
February 2019. *Provisional data*

Spain received 4.4 million international tourists in February, 3.8% more than in the same month of 2018

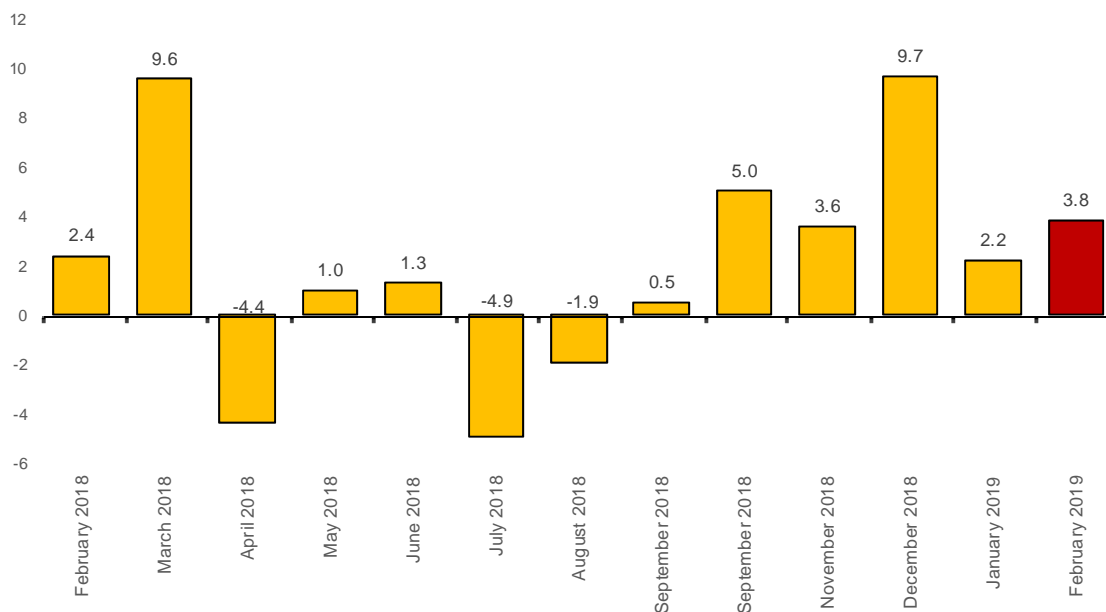
Spain received in February the visit of 4.4 million international tourists, 3.8% more than in the same month of 2018.

The United Kingdom was the main country of residence, with 883,757 tourists, accounting for 20.2% of the total and an increase of 2.3% as compared to February last year.

France and Germany were the following countries with the most tourists visiting Spain. From France we receive 562,186 tourists (3.1% more in the annual rate) and from Germany 549,011 tourists (2.4% more in the annual rate).

Among the other countries of residence, the annual growth was particularly noteworthy in tourists coming from United States (21.5%), Italy (12.6%) and Ireland (6.2%).

International tourist arrivals. Monthly data, annual variation



In the first two months of 2019 the number of tourists visiting Spain increased by 3.0% and reached 8.6 million.

The main sending countries so far this year were the United Kingdom (with nearly 1.7 million tourists and an increase of 1.7% as compared to the first two months of 2018), Germany (with almost 1.1 million, and an increase of 2.6%) and France (with more than 1 million tourists, 2.5% less).

International tourist arrivals (*) by country of residence

February 2019	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,380,126	3.8	8,577,065	3.0
Germany	549,011	2.4	1,065,001	2.6
Belgium	123,101	-0.5	244,167	-4.3
France	562,186	3.1	1,008,493	-2.5
Ireland	91,055	6.2	180,144	8.4
Italy	262,482	12.6	508,750	3.3
Netherlands	168,617	-2.3	321,167	-3.6
Portugal	145,138	1.3	286,678	10.5
United Kingdom	883,757	2.3	1,691,104	1.7
Switzerland	89,530	4.2	167,664	-5.9
Russia	50,384	5.1	117,595	1.4
Nordic Countries	393,571	-6.4	774,422	-8.5
Rest of Europe	395,942	20.2	764,411	15.4
United States	135,153	21.5	284,196	23.5
Rest of America	206,935	0.6	462,110	3.4
Rest of the world	323,264	2.9	701,164	16.4

(*): does not include transit travellers or same-day visitors.

Main destination Autonomous Communities

Canarias was the main tourist destination in February, with 26.9% of the total. It was followed by Cataluña (23.5%) and Andalucía (14.3%).

Almost 1.2 million tourists came to Canarias, 1.1% less than in February last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were the United Kingdom (32.3% of the total) and Germany (19.4%).

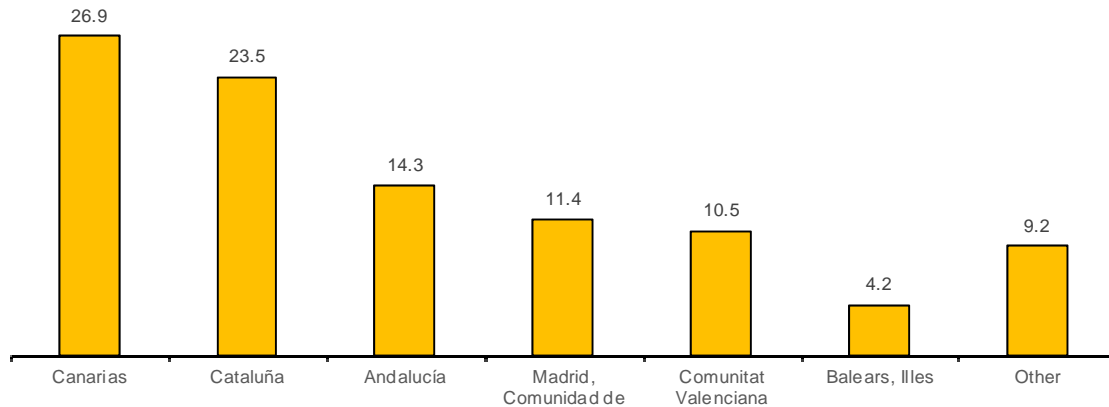
The number of tourists visiting Cataluña increased by 1.4% and stood above 1 million. 21.7% of these tourists came from France and 15.5% from Rest of Europe.

The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Andalucía, with 626,424 tourists and an annual increase of 8.0%. The United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 24.2% of the total), followed by France (11.4%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities the number of tourists increased, by 17.9% in Illes Balears, and by 2.8% in Comunidad de Madrid and by 2.2% in Comunitat Valenciana.

In the accumulated first two months of 2019, the Autonomous Communities that received the most tourists were Canarias (with over 2.3 million and a decrease of 1.6% as compared with the same period in 2018), Cataluña (with over 1.9 million and an increase of 3.2%) and Andalucía (with nearly 1.2 million, and 7.3% more).

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



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

February 2019	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,380,126	3.8	8,577,065	3.0
Andalucía	626,424	8.0	1,199,920	7.3
Balears, Illes	184,355	17.9	326,277	18.3
Canarias	1,179,660	-1.1	2,338,435	-1.6
Cataluña	1,029,808	1.4	1,940,586	3.2
Comunitat Valenciana	459,456	2.2	874,233	-2.9
Madrid, Comunidad de	499,175	2.8	1,083,562	6.0
Other	401,248	18.7	814,052	8.3

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

February 2019	First	% tourists	Second	% tourists
	outbound country		outbound country	
TOTAL	United Kingdom	20.2	France	12.8
Andalucía	United Kingdom	24.2	France	11.4
Balears, Illes	Germany	60.4	United Kingdom	11.3
Canarias	United Kingdom	32.3	Germany	19.4
Cataluña	France	21.7	Rest of Europe	15.5
Comunitat Valenciana	United Kingdom	28.9	France	14.6
Madrid, Comunidad de	Rest of the world	16.9	Italy	15.8

Forms of access and main means of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in February came by air, with nearly 3.7 million, representing an annual increase of 3.8%.

Road entries accounted for 6.7% more tourists and port arrivals had a decrease of 22.5%. Railway access registered a 3.2% decrease.

International tourist arrivals by main means of access to Spain

February 2019	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,380,126	3.8	8,577,065	3.0
Air transport	3,656,596	3.8	7,206,676	3.0
Motor vehicle	662,946	6.7	1,203,258	3.8
Train	16,052	-3.2	29,900	6.2
Waterway	44,531	-22.5	137,232	-2.7

In February, the number of tourists choosing market accommodation as the main type of accommodation increased by 2.3% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation grew by 3.5%, while rented dwellings fell by 4.9%.

On the other hand, non-market accommodation increased by 9.6%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes increased by 12.1% and that of those staying in their own dwelling did so by 4.6%.

International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

February 2019	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,380,126	3.8	8,577,065	3.0
Rented accommodation ^(*)	3,391,583	2.3	6,399,137	3.3
-Hotel accommodation	2,728,040	3.5	5,169,637	4.1
-Rental housing	422,523	-4.9	800,990	-1.6
-Rest rented accommodation	241,019	2.1	428,510	3.0
Non-rented accommodation	988,543	9.6	2,177,928	2.2
-Vacation home ownership	284,551	4.6	597,930	-0.4
-Home of family or friends	613,801	12.1	1,435,062	4.2
-Rest non rented accommodation	90,190	9.7	144,935	-5.2

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

Main reason, length of stay and organisation of the trip

In February, *Leisure, recreation, and holidays* were the main reasons for travelling to Spain for almost 3.6 million tourists, representing an annual increase of 2.7%.

A total of 426.154 tourists arrived for *Business and professional reasons* (2.1% less) and 403.587 arrived for *Other purposes* (24.4% more).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

February 2019	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,380,126	3.8	8,577,065	3.0
Leisure, vacations	3,550,385	2.7	6,991,201	1.0
Business and professional purposes	426,154	-2.1	767,093	8.8
Other purposes	403,587	24.4	818,771	17.2

A stay of four to seven nights was the main length among tourists in February, with more than 2.1 million tourists and an annual increase of 5.4%.

The number of visitors increased by 8.1% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and decreased by 10.2% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

International visitor arrivals by length of stay

February 2019	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	6,972,244	5.4	13,754,812	5.0
no night ^(*)	2,592,118	8.1	5,177,747	8.3
1 night	278,213	7.7	494,177	5.5
2 - 3 nights	990,196	7.8	1,831,020	12.8
4 - 7 nights	2,112,840	5.4	3,911,318	4.2
8 - 15 nights	693,687	-0.4	1,622,041	-4.7
More than 15 nights	305,191	-10.2	718,509	-7.4

(*):Excursionists.

In February, more than 3.3 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual increase of 9.5%. Almost 1.1 million tourists travelled with a tourist package, 10.2% less.

International tourist arrivals by type of organization

February 2019	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,380,126	3.8	8,577,065	3.0
No Tourist Package	3,300,153	9.5	6,535,852	8.0
Tourist Package	1,079,972	-10.2	2,041,213	-10.1

Revision and updating of data

Coinciding with today's publication, INE has updated the data corresponding to the month of February 2018. The results are available at INEBase.

Methodological note

The main objective of the Tourist Movement on Borders Survey (FRONTUR) is to estimate the number of non-residents visiting Spain on a monthly basis, as well as to know the main characteristics of the trips made by these visitors.

For the preparation of FRONTUR the international definitions and recommendations of the UNWTO and EUROSTAT in this field are followed.

Type of operation: continuous monthly statistics.

Population scope: this refers to non-residents in Spain who enter our country, whether or not they have stayed overnight, as well as those who pass through our country in transit.

Geographical scope: the entire national territory. The sample is collected at the main access points for non-resident travellers, both by road, airport, port and rail.

Reference period of the results: the month.

Sample size: the annual theoretical sample size of FRONTUR exceeds 450,000 surveys, which are distributed throughout the year, taking into account the seasonality of passenger flows.

Type of sampling: the sample design, a series of strata have been defined for each form of entry that group together border points, airports, ports or railway lines, respectively. In the road and airport sample allocation, the day of the week in which the survey has been carried out is also identified, differentiating between working days, weekends and holidays. Furthermore, in airports 21 air relations are defined (Spanish airport of origin-country of destination airport) which also determine the sample design in this form of access.

Collection method: information is collected by direct interview when the traveller leaves Spain, using a multilingual electronic questionnaire.

A more complete tabulation plan with the main series of aggregates, as well as the microdata file for the reference month, is available on the INE website. For more information you can access the methodology at:

http://www.ine.es/daco/daco42/frontur/frontur_egatur_metodologia.pdf

And the standardized methodological report at:

<http://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/es/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=16028>

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