

Estadística de Movimientos Turísticos en Fronteras (FRONTUR)
March 2019. *Provisional data*

Spain received 5.6 million international tourists in March, 4.7% more than in the same month of 2018¹

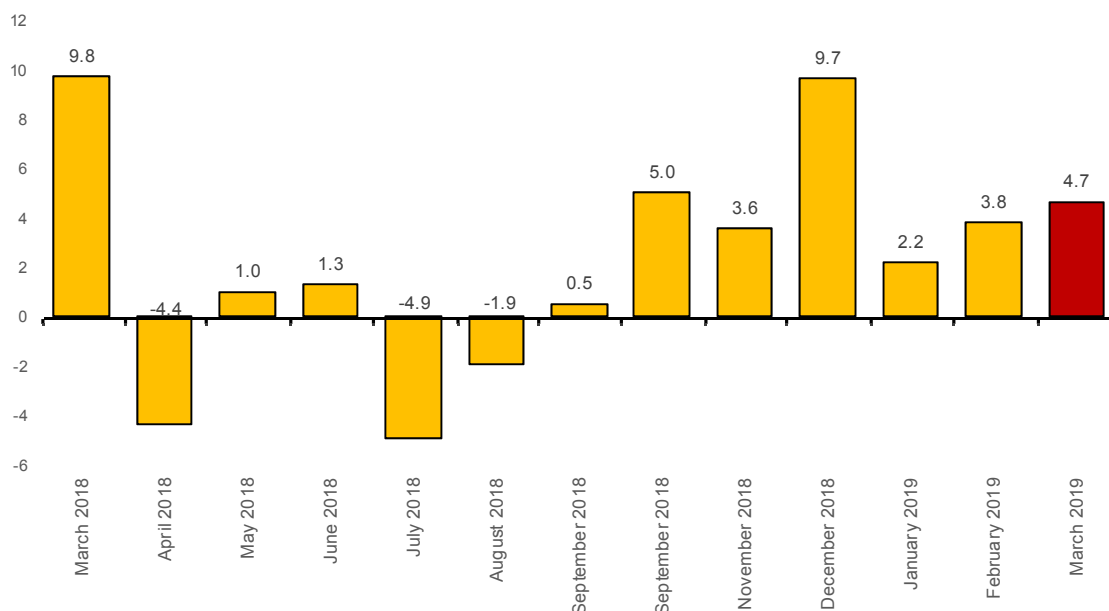
Spain received in March the visit of 5.6 million international tourists, 4.7% more than in the same month of 2018.

The United Kingdom was the main country of residence, with over 1.1 million tourist, accounting for 19.7% of the total and a decrease of 6.2% as compared to March last year.

Germany and France were the following countries with the most tourists visiting Spain. From Germany we received 812,433 tourists (1.3% less in the annual rate) and from France 677,518 tourists (4.6% more in the annual rate).

Among the other countries of residence, the annual growth was particularly noteworthy in tourists coming from Russia (27.2%), Portugal (23.6%) and the United States (18.4%).

International tourist arrivals. Monthly data, annual variation



In the first three months of 2019 the number of tourists visiting Spain increased by 3.7% and exceed 14.2 million.

¹ Given that in 2019 Holy Week was celebrated in April, while in 2018 it was mainly held in March, it is convenient to analyse both months together

The main sending countries so far this year were the United Kingdom (more than 2.8 million tourists and a decrease of 1.6% as compared to the first three months of 2018), Germany (with almost 1.9 million, and an increase of 0.9%) and France (with almost 1.7 million tourists, 0.3% more).

International tourist arrivals (*) by country of residence

March 2019	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	5,645,747	4.7	14,222,812	3.7
Germany	812,433	-1.3	1,877,433	0.9
Belgium	178,966	14.6	423,133	2.9
France	677,518	4.6	1,686,010	0.3
Ireland	124,389	5.1	304,533	7.0
Italy	321,399	13.5	830,149	7.0
Netherlands	221,746	-2.3	542,913	-3.1
Portugal	185,790	23.6	472,468	15.3
United Kingdom	1,110,455	-6.2	2,801,559	-1.6
Switzerland	113,832	4.5	281,496	-1.9
Russia	71,143	27.2	188,738	9.8
Nordic Countries	492,124	-2.4	1,266,546	-6.3
Rest of Europe	425,126	15.0	1,189,537	15.2
United States	244,831	18.4	529,027	21.1
Rest of America	265,307	15.9	727,417	7.6
Rest of the world	400,689	22.0	1,101,853	18.4

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

Main destination Autonomous Communities

Canarias was the main tourist destination in March, with 23.7% of the total. It was followed by Cataluña (22.6%) and Andalucía (15.1%).

Over 1.3 million tourists came to Canarias, 0.5% less than in March last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were the United Kingdom (31.6% of the total) and Germany (20.0%).

The number of tourists visiting Cataluña increased by 4.9% and stood nearly 1.3 million. 20.9% of these tourists came from France and 16.1% from Rest of the world.

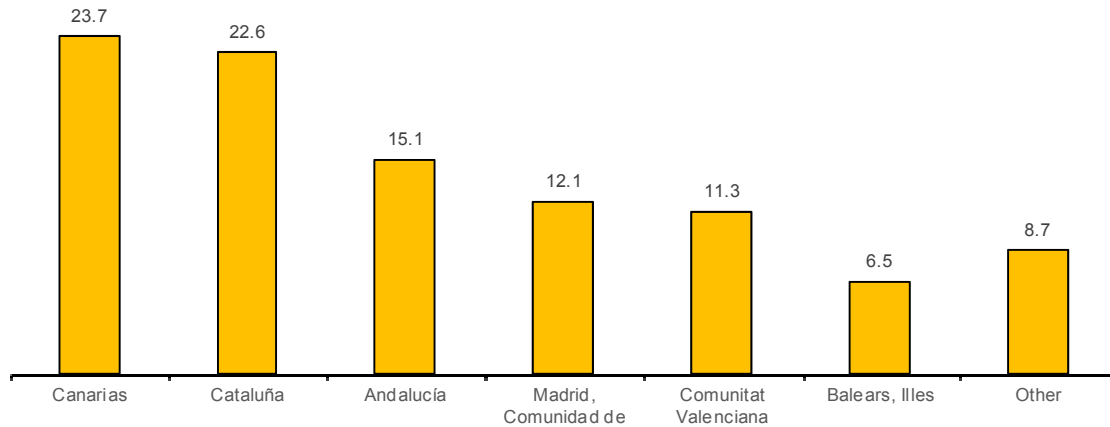
The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Andalucía, with 850,475 tourists and an annual increase of 8.0%. The United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 27.4% of the total), followed by Germany (10.8%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities the number of tourists increased, by 21.9% in Comunidad de Madrid, and by 2.4% in Comunitat Valenciana. In turn, it fell by 8.8% in Illes Balears.

In the accumulated first three months of 2019, the Autonomous Communities that received the most tourists were Canarias (with nearly 3.7 million and a decrease of 1.2% as compared with

the same period in 2018), Cataluña (with over 3.2 million and an increase of 3.9%) and Andalucía (with nearly 2.1 million, and 7.6% 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

March 2019	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	5,645,747	4.7	14,222,812	3.7
Andalucía	850,475	8.0	2,050,394	7.6
Balears, Illes	365,838	-8.8	692,115	2.2
Canarias	1,340,619	-0.5	3,679,054	-1.2
Cataluña	1,276,644	4.9	3,217,230	3.9
Comunitat Valenciana	640,678	2.4	1,514,912	-0.7
Madrid, Comunidad de	682,976	21.9	1,766,538	11.7
Other	488,517	7.7	1,302,569	8.1

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

March 2019	First	% tourists	Second	% tourists
	outbound country		outbound country	
TOTAL	United Kingdom	19.7	Germany	14.4
Andalucía	United Kingdom	27.4	Germany	10.8
Balears, Illes	Germany	59.6	United Kingdom	11.9
Canarias	United Kingdom	31.6	Germany	20.0
Cataluña	France	20.9	Rest of the world	16.1
Comunitat Valenciana	United Kingdom	29.6	France	17.4
Madrid, Comunidad de	Rest of America	17.7	United States	12.6

Forms of access and main means of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in March came by air, with more than 4.7 million, representing an annual increase of 4.7%. Road entries accounted for 1.7% more tourists, 1.9% more by rail and 40.9% more by port.

International tourist arrivals by main means of access to Spain

March 2019	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	5,645,747	4.7	14,222,812	3.7
Air transport	4,730,374	4.7	11,937,049	3.7
Motor vehicle	807,442	1.7	2,010,700	3.0
Train	19,849	1.9	49,748	4.5
Waterway	88,083	40.9	225,315	10.7

In March, the number of tourists choosing market accommodation as the main type of accommodation increased by 3.9% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation grew by 4.4%, while rented dwellings grew by 2.4%.

On the other hand, non-market accommodation increased by 7.8%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes increased by 11.6% and that of those staying in their own dwelling did so by 5.9%.

International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

March 2019	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	5,645,747	4.7	14,222,812	3.7
Rented accommodation ^(*)	4,418,730	3.9	10,817,867	3.5
-Hotel accommodation	3,530,361	4.4	8,699,998	4.3
-Rental housing	610,290	2.4	1,411,281	0.1
-Rest rented accommodation	278,078	-0.3	706,588	1.7
Non-rented accommodation	1,227,017	7.8	3,404,945	4.2
-Vacation home ownership	377,128	5.9	975,058	2.0
-Home of family or friends	751,554	11.6	2,186,616	6.6
-Rest non rented accommodation	98,336	-10.0	243,271	-7.2

(*): 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 March, *Leisure, recreation, and holidays* were the main reasons for travelling to Spain for almost 4.7 million tourists, representing an annual increase of 7.8%.

A total of 486.792 tourists arrived for *Business and professional reasons* (17.0% less) and 476.695 arrived for *Other purposes* (2.6% more).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

March 2019	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	5,645,747	4.7	14,222,812	3.7
Leisure, vacations	4,682,261	7.8	11,673,462	3.7
Business and professional purposes	486,792	-17.0	1,253,885	-3.0
Other purposes	476,695	2.6	1,295,465	11.3

A stay of four to seven nights was the main length among tourists in March, with more than 2.7 million tourists and an annual increase of 0.9%.

The number of visitors increased by 1.6% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and decreased by 10.5% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

International visitor arrivals by length of stay

March 2019	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	8,626,912	3.6	22,381,724	4.4
no night ^(*)	2,981,165	1.6	8,158,912	5.8
1 night	311,545	9.6	805,722	7.0
2 - 3 nights	1,294,574	21.5	3,125,594	16.2
4 - 7 nights	2,739,362	0.9	6,650,681	2.8
8 - 15 nights	932,562	1.6	2,554,603	-2.5
More than 15 nights	367,703	-10.5	1,086,212	-8.4

(*):Excursionists.

In March, almost 4.3 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual increase of 10.9%. Over 1.3 million tourists travelled with a tourist package, 11.2% less.

International tourist arrivals by type of organization

March 2019	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	5,645,747	4.7	14,222,812	3.7
No Tourist Package	4,298,408	10.9	10,834,261	9.1
Tourist Package	1,347,339	-11.2	3,388,551	-10.6

Revision and updating of data

Coinciding with today's publication, INE has updated the data corresponding to the month of March 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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