

**Tourist Movements at Borders (FRONTUR)**  
 March 2022. *Provisional data*

**Spain received 4.0 million international tourists in March, compared to 491,427 of the same month of 2021**

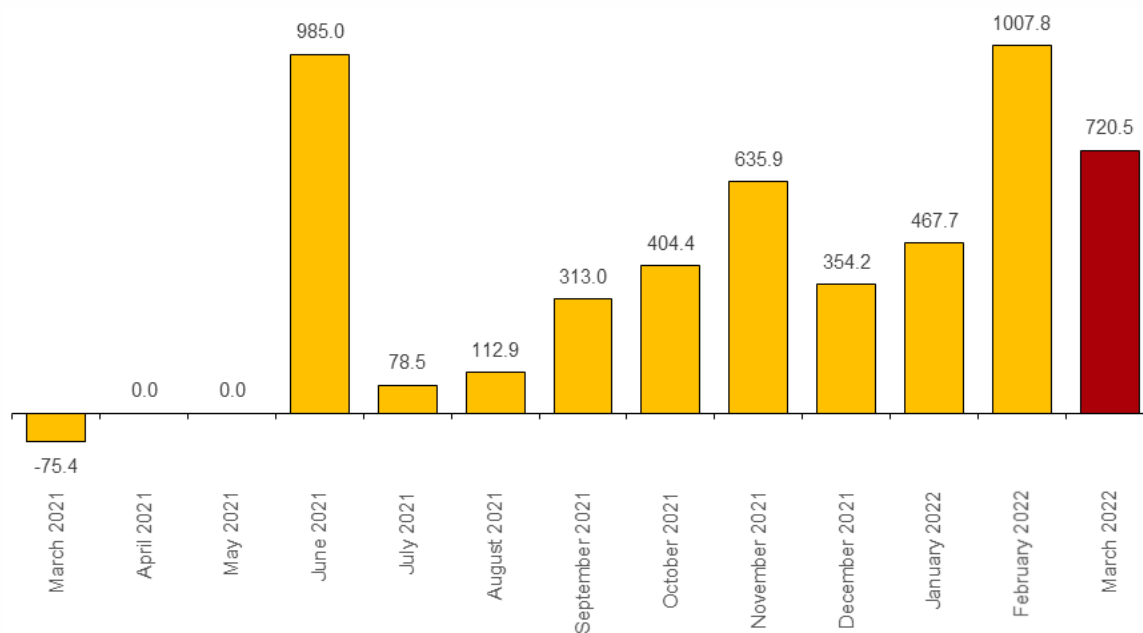
Spain received in March the visit of 4.0 million international tourists, 720.5% more than in the same month of 2021.

United Kingdom was the main country of residence, with 826,399 tourists, accounting for 20.5% of the total and an increase of 4,084.7% as compared to March last year.

Germany and France were the following countries with the most tourists visiting Spain. From Germany we received 608,803 tourists (482.2% more in the annual rate) and from France 456,592 tourists (332.0% more in the annual rate).

Among the other countries of residence, the annual growth was particularly noteworthy in tourists coming from Ireland (2,593.7%), United States (1,976.5%) and Nordic Countries (1,292.8%).

**International tourist arrivals<sup>1</sup>**  
 Monthly data, annual variation



<sup>1</sup> Variation rates of April and May 2021 are not possible to calculate because there was not entry of tourists in April and May 2020 due to the closure of the borders determined by the high alert period

In the first three months of 2022 the number of tourists visiting Spain increased by 696.7% and reached 9.7 million. 1.2 millions of international tourists came in the same period last year.

The main sending countries so far this year were the United Kingdom (with nearly 1.8 million tourists and an increase of 2,981.7% as compared to the first three months of 2021), France (with more than 1.3 million, and an increase of 342.3%) and Germany (with almost 1.3 million tourists, 565.1% more).

## International tourist arrivals (\*) by country of residence

March 2022	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
<b>TOTAL</b>	4,032,127	720.5	9,675,423	696.7
Germany	608,803	482.2	1,280,824	565.1
Belgium	144,054	1051.6	368,332	709.0
France	456,592	332.0	1,319,524	342.3
Ireland	109,391	2593.7	259,523	1501.3
Italy	234,246	665.3	556,852	661.8
Netherlands	222,056	1122.8	575,098	1164.4
Portugal	120,919	430.7	344,088	381.7
United Kingdom	826,399	4084.7	1,768,117	2981.7
Switzerland	82,802	570.4	214,037	520.4
Nordic Countries	296,209	1292.8	753,522	1335.3
Rest of Europe (**)	410,394	447.7	1,058,850	456.7
United States	149,256	1976.5	287,279	1436.9
Rest of America	209,714	717.0	515,775	686.8
Rest of the world	161,293	405.8	373,601	606.5

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

(\*\*) Includes estimate for Russia due to insufficient sample size for that country

## Main destination Autonomous Communities

Canarias was the main tourist destination in March, with 27.9% of the total. It was followed by Cataluña (17.5%) and Andalucía (15.1%).

Over 1.1 million tourists came to Canarias, 1,017.8% more than in March last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were the United Kingdom (35.1% of the total) and Germany (18.2%).

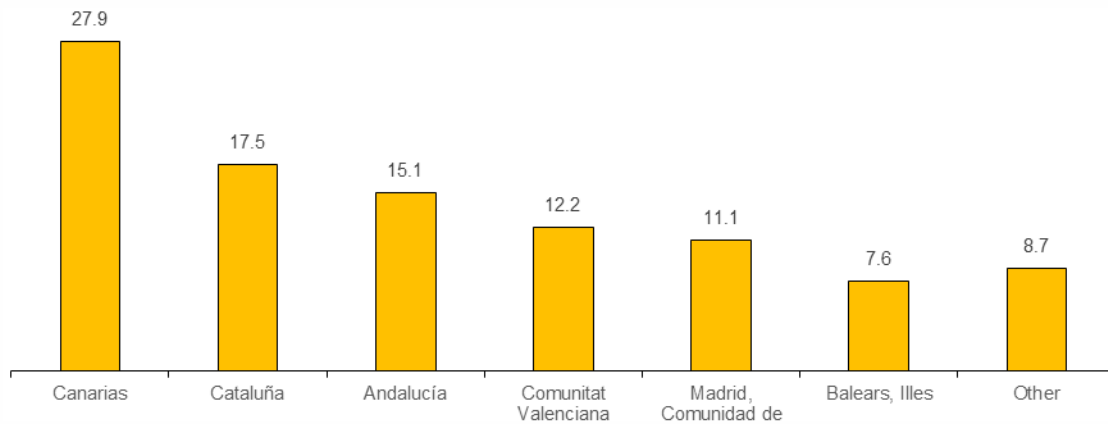
The number of tourists visiting Cataluña increased by 722.0% and stood above 703,849. 20.2% of these tourists came from France and 19.5% from Rest of Europe.

The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Andalucía, with 609,437 and an annual increase of 1,093.8%. United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 24.9% of the total), followed by Germany (10.6%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities the number of tourists increased, by 945.4% in Comunitat Valenciana, and by 543.9% in Comunidad de Madrid and by 367.5% in Illes Balears.

In the accumulated first three months of 2021, the Autonomous Communities that received the most tourists were Canarias (with nearly 2.9 million and an increase of 990.9% as compared with the same period in 2021), Cataluña (with nearly 1.8 million and an increase of 692.7%) and Andalucía (with nearly 1.4 million, 948.7% 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 2022	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
<b>TOTAL</b>	4,032,127	720.5	9,675,423	696.7
Andalucía	609,437	1093.8	1,358,641	948.7
Balears, Illes	306,962	367.5	539,708	474.0
Canarias	1,123,641	1017.8	2,851,411	990.9
Cataluña	703,849	722.0	1,786,900	692.7
Comunitat Valenciana	490,751	945.4	1,165,292	831.7
Madrid, Comunidad de	446,352	543.9	977,047	566.9
Other	351,135	385.7	996,425	328.7

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

March 2022	First	% tourists	Second	% tourists
	outbound country		outbound country	
<b>TOTAL</b>	United Kingdom	20.5	Germany	15.1
Andalucía	United Kingdom	24.9	Germany	10.6
Balears, Illes	Germany	56.1	United Kingdom	13.2
Canarias	United Kingdom	35.1	Germany	18.2
Cataluña	France	20.2	Rest of Europe	19.5
Comunitat Valenciana	United Kingdom	26.0	France	12.9
Madrid, Comunidad de	Rest of America	24.1	Rest of Europe	11.5

### Forms of access and main means of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in March came by air, with more than 3.5 million, representing an annual increase of 961.6%.

Port arrivals registered an 832.6% more, road entries an 214.3% more and railway access accounted an 56.9% more.

### International tourist arrivals by main means of access to Spain

March 2022	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
<b>TOTAL</b>	4,032,127	720.5	9,675,423	696.7
Air transport	3,522,790	961.6	8,130,710	961.8
Motor vehicle	471,463	214.3	1,455,975	245.7
Train	10,436	56.9	26,429	38.4
Waterway	27,438	832.6	62,309	638.0

In March, the number of tourists choosing market accommodation as the main type of accommodation increased by 772.7% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation grew by 754.1%, while rented dwellings grew by 1,369.0%.

On the other hand, non-market accommodation increased by 562.0%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes increased by 783.3% and that of those staying in their own dwelling did so by 386.7%.

### International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

March 2022	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
<b>TOTAL</b>	4,032,127	720.5	9,675,423	696.7
<b>Rented accommodation<sup>(*)</sup></b>	3,225,826	772.7	7,424,901	773.2
-Hotel accommodation	2,682,560	754.1	6,205,915	760.9
-Rental housing	377,400	1369.0	843,572	1271.2
-Rest rented accommodation	165,865	455.7	375,414	453.0
<b>Non-rented accommodation</b>	806,302	562.0	2,250,522	518.1
-Vacation home ownership	282,060	386.7	719,601	453.9
-Home of family or friends	478,463	783.3	1,400,605	598.5
-Rest non rented accommodation	45,779	373.0	130,316	287.2

(\*): 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 organization of the trip

In March, *Leisure, recreation, and holidays* were the main reasons for travelling to Spain for almost 3.4 million tourists, representing an annual increase of 1,152.4%.

A total of 365,940 tourists arrived for *Business and professional reasons* (172.3% more) and 315,328 arrived for *Other reasons* (252.5% more).

### International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

March 2022	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,032,127	720.5	9,675,423	696.7
Leisure, vacations	3,350,860	1152.4	7,990,382	1033.3
Business and professional purposes	365,940	172.3	727,142	179.0
Other purposes	315,328	252.5	957,899	285.3

A stay of four to seven nights was the main length among tourists in March, with 1.9 million tourists and an annual increase of 1,017.9%.

The number of visitors increased by 170.3% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and increased by 328.7% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

### International visitor arrivals by length of stay

March 2022	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	6,050,455	388.7	15,599,223	373.9
no night <sup>(*)</sup>	2,018,328	170.3	5,923,800	185.1
1 night	184,835	191.7	484,924	198.1
2 - 3 nights	811,558	705.2	1,782,639	703.5
4 - 7 nights	1,944,904	1017.9	4,439,547	1025.9
8 - 15 nights	756,158	905.2	1,953,192	767.5
More than 15 nights	334,672	328.7	1,015,120	382.5

(\*): Excursionists

In March, nearly 3.2 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual increase of 621.3%. 868,513 tourists travelled with a tourist package, 1,544.1% more.

### International tourist arrivals by type of organization

March 2022	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	4,032,127	720.5	9,675,423	696.7
No Tourist Package	3,163,615	621.3	7,668,886	611.6
Tourist Package	868,513	1544.1	2,006,537	1367.7

## Revision and updating of data

The data published today are provisional and will be revised in the third quarter of next year. 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 travelers, 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 20 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](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>

Statistics from INE are prepared in accordance with the European Statistics Code of Practice, which is the basis of the Institution's quality policy and strategy. For more information, consult the section [Quality in the INE and Code of Practice](#) on the INE website.

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**Press office**: Telephone numbers: (+34) 91 583 93 63 /94 08 – [gprensa@ine.es](mailto:gprensa@ine.es)

**Information Area**: Telephone number: (+34) 91 583 91 00 – [www.ine.es/infoine/?L=1](http://www.ine.es/infoine/?L=1)

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