

4 July 2023

Tourist Movements at Borders (FRONTUR) May 2023. Provisional data

Spain received 8.2 million international tourists in May, 17.6% more than in the same month of 2022

Spain received in May the visit of 8.2 million international tourists, 17.6% more than in the same month of 2022. This figure also stood by 3.8% more the number of tourists received same month in 2019.

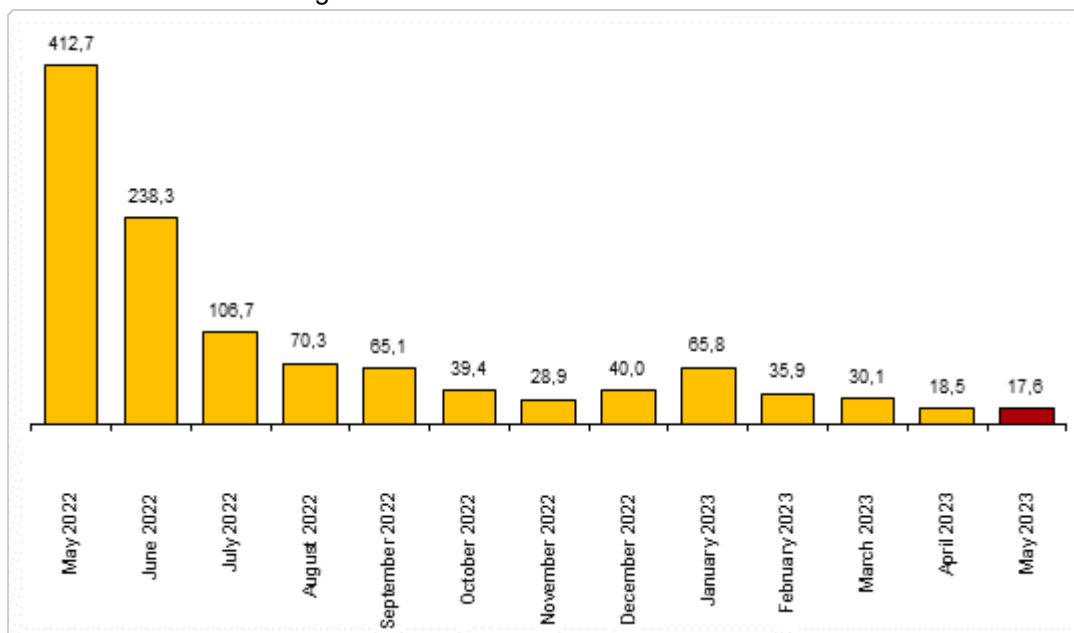
United Kingdom was the main country of residence, with over 1.8 million tourists, accounting for 22.2% of the total and an increase of 10.4% compared to May of 2022.

France and Germany were the following countries with the most tourists visiting Spain. From France we received 1.2 million (24.1% more in the annual rate) and Germany almost 1.1 million (8.7% more).

Among the other countries of residence, the annual growth was particularly noteworthy in tourists coming from United States (38.8%), Portugal (26.2%) and Belgium (19.6%).

International tourists arrivals by month

Annual variation. Percentage



In the first five months of 2023 the number of tourists visiting Spain increased by 27.9% and reached 29.2 million. 22.8 million came same period last year.

The number of tourists came to Spain stood by 0.4% less comparing to the accumulated of five first years of 2019, before the pandemic.

The main sending countries so far this year were United Kingdom (with nearly 5.8 million tourists and an increase of 23.7%, as compared to the first five months of 2022), France (more than 3.9 million and an increase of 28.1%) and Germany (with more than 3.7 million, a 15.0% more).

International tourists arrivals (*) by country of residence¹

May 2023	Datos mensuales		Datos acumulados	
	Valor absoluto	Variación anual (%)	Valor absoluto	Variación anual (%)
TOTAL	8,218,334	17.6	29,178,962	27.9
Germany	1,061,949	8.7	3,733,590	15.0
Belgium	238,206	19.6	899,936	12.7
France	1,153,812	24.1	3,937,997	28.1
Ireland	241,312	15.4	829,715	26.2
Italy	424,203	18.6	1,649,396	35.7
Netherlands	392,950	-6.8	1,371,536	3.2
Portugal	188,177	26.2	936,996	34.1
United Kingdom	1,823,786	10.4	5,773,139	23.7
Switzerland	179,926	14.6	682,704	24.5
Nordic Countries	349,186	1.0	1,852,642	24.7
Rest of Europe (**)	712,190	10.1	2,945,203	27.6
United States	436,905	38.8	1,291,674	61.0
Rest of America	508,685	45.7	1,718,911	46.4
Rest of the world	507,049	81.1	1,555,521	92.5

(*) Does not include transit travellers or same day visitors.

(**) Includes Russia's estimation.

1. Turkey has been included in Rest of Europe aggregate since January 2022.

Main destination Autonomous Communities

Illes Balears was the main tourists destination in May, with 21.9% of the total. It was followed by Cataluña (21.8%) and Andalucía (14.7%).

Almost 1.8 million tourists came to Illes Balears, 10.2% more than in May last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were Germany (31.3% of the total) and United Kingdom (29.0%).

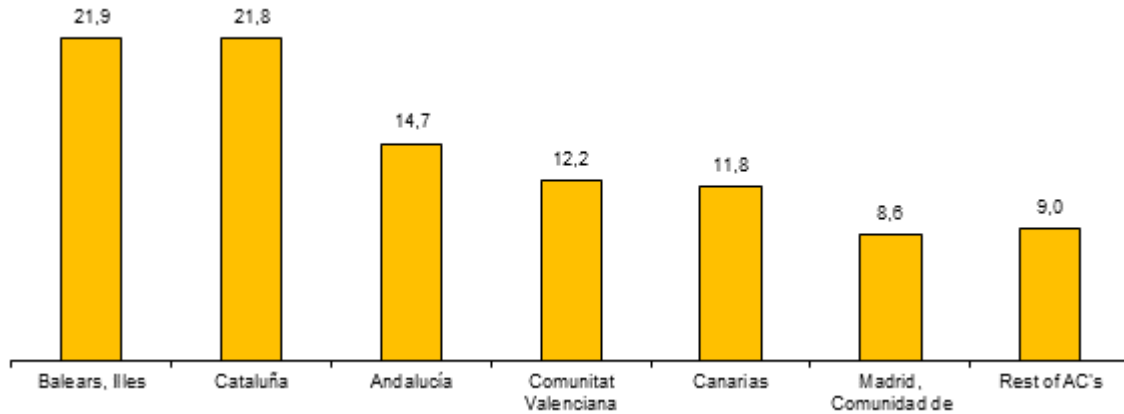
The number of tourists visiting Cataluña increased by 21.7% and stood nearly 1.8 million. 21.9% of these tourists came from France and 11.0% from United States.

The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Andalucía, with more than 1.2 million and an annual increase of 16.5%. United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 25.5% of the total), followed by France (11.4%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities, the number of tourists increased by 26.3% in Comunitat Valenciana, by 23.3% in Comunidad de Madrid and by 9.7% in Canarias.

In the accumulated first five months of 2023 the Autonomous Communities that received the most tourists were Cataluña (with nearly 6.1 million and an increase of 37.5% as compared with the same period of 2022), Canarias (with nearly 5.9 million and an increase of 21.0%) and Andalucía (with nearly 4.4 million, a 31.7% 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

May 2023	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute	Annual	Absolute	Annual
TOTAL	8,218,334	17.6	29,178,962	27.9
Andalucía	1,211,790	16.5	4,354,730	31.7
Balears, Illes	1,797,593	10.2	3,651,434	12.7
Canarias	969,343	9.7	5,861,807	21.0
Cataluña	1,794,417	21.7	6,083,115	37.5
Comunitat Valenciana	1,001,861	26.3	3,496,522	27.4
Madrid, Comunidad de	704,007	23.3	2,945,837	40.6
Rest of AC's	739,323	24.3	2,785,516	29.1

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

May 2023	First outbound country	% tourists	Second outbound country	% tourists
	TOTAL	United Kingdom	22.2	France
Andalucía	United Kingdom	25.5	France	11.4
Balears, Illes	Germany	31.3	United Kingdom	29.0
Canarias	United Kingdom	43.9	Germany	14.8
Cataluña	France	21.9	United States	11.0
Comunitat Valenciana	United Kingdom	26.2	France	19.6
Madrid, Comunidad de	United States	14.7	United Kingdom	5.3

Forms of access and main means of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in May came by air, with more than 6.8 million, representing an annual increase of 12.8%.

Port arrivals accounted for 9.4% more tourists, road entries for 52.8% more and for railway access for 92.7% more.

International tourist arrivals by main means of access to Spain

May 2023	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change (%)	Absolute value	Annual change (%)
TOTAL	8,218,334	17.6	29,178,962	27.9
Air transport	6,823,007	12.8	24,447,736	25.8
Motor vehicle	1,236,306	52.8	4,282,879	39.1
Train	30,627	92.7	94,884	59.2
Waterway	128,395	9.4	353,464	42.5

In May, the number of tourists choosing market accommodation as the main type of accommodation increased by 14.1% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation grew by 11.6%, while rented dwellings grew by 42.3%.

On the other hand, non-market accommodation increased by 39.7%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes increased by 34.6% and that of those staying in their own dwelling did so by 30.6%.

International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

May 2023	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change (%)	Absolute value	Annual change (%)
TOTAL	8,218,334	17.6	29,178,962	27.9
Rented accommodation (*)	6,887,999	14.1	23,117,437	25.8
-Hotel accommodation	5,736,626	11.6	18,754,454	22.3
-Rental housing	881,743	42.3	3,257,928	52.6
-Rest rented accommodation	269,631	-2.9	1,105,055	20.3
Non-rented accommodation	1,330,335	39.7	6,061,525	36.8
-Vacation home ownership	432,928	30.6	1,933,310	28.8
-Home of family or friends	788,146	34.6	3,718,663	36.9
-Rest non rented accommodation	109,262	207.9	409,552	91.2

(*) 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 May, *Leisure, recreation and holidays* were the main reasons for travelling to Spain for almost 7.2 million tourists, representing an increase of 20.9%.

A total of 438.618 tourists arrived for *Business and professional reasons* (19.1% less) and 608.790 arrived for *Other reasons* (18.3% more).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

May 2023	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change (%)	Absolute value	Annual change (%)
TOTAL	8,218,334	17.6	29,178,962	27.9
Leisure, vacations	7,170,926	20.9	24,577,639	28.4
Business and professional purposes	438,618	-19.1	1,954,825	14.9
Other purposes	608,790	18.3	2,646,498	33.8

A stay of four to seven nights was the main length among tourists in May, with more than 4.2 million tourists and an annual increase of 22.8%.

The number of visitors increased by 17.6% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and increased by 17.7% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

International visitor arrivals by length of stay¹

May 2023	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change (%)	Absolute value	Annual change (%)
TOTAL	11,460,763	17.6	42,945,282	26.4
no night (*)	3,242,429	17.6	13,766,320	23.2
1 night	373,916	19.2	1,415,837	31.2
2 - 3 nights	1,859,145	11.0	6,100,779	31.3
4 - 7 nights	4,203,657	22.8	14,173,979	28.6
8 - 15 nights	1,404,406	11.8	5,406,880	24.1
More than 15 nights	377,211	17.7	2,081,487	21.6

(*) Excursionists.

1. It is important take into account that the survey is made to the visitors in their exit from the country. For this reason, some nights could have been expended in a previous period.

In May, more than 6.2 million tourists travelled without a tourists package, indicating an annual increase of 19.2%. Over 2.0 million tourists travelled with a tourists package, 13.0% more.

International tourist arrivals by type of organization

May 2023	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change (%)	Absolute value	Annual change (%)
TOTAL	8,218,334	17.6	29,178,962	27.9
No tourists Package	6,215,645	19.2	22,513,504	26.8
tourists Package	2,002,689	13.0	6,665,459	31.8

Revision and updating of data

The data published today is provisional and will be revised March next year. These 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 traveler 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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Press office: Telephone numbers: (+34) 91 583 93 63 /94 08 – gprensa@ine.es

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