

02 October 2018

**Statistics on Tourist Movement on Borders (FRONTUR)**  
August 2018. *Provisional data*

**Spain received 10.2 million international tourists in August, 1.9% less than in the same month of 2017**

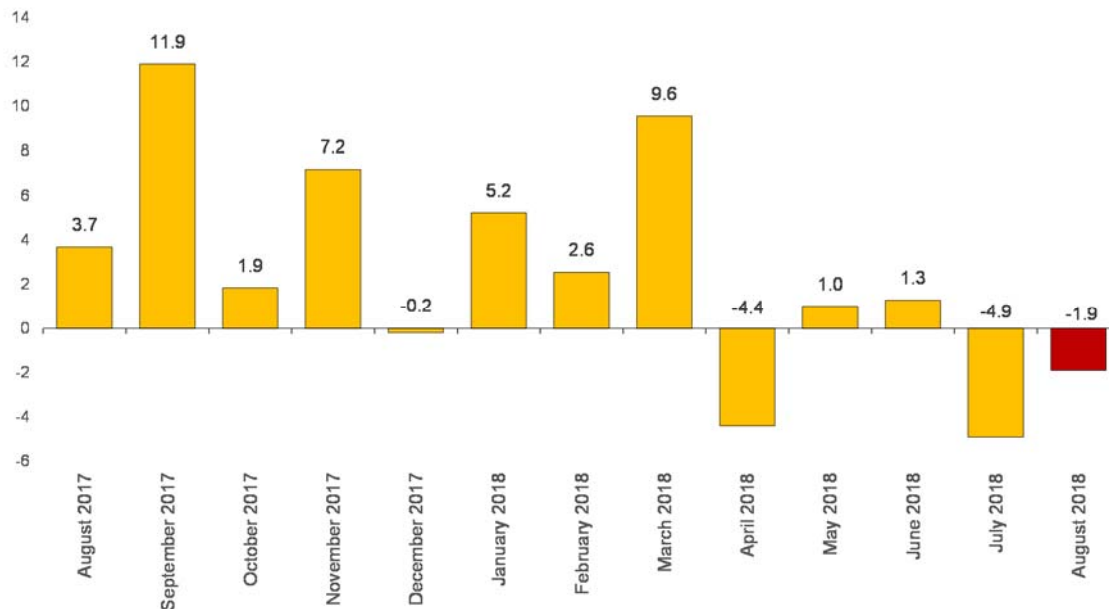
Spain received in August the visit of 10.2 million international tourists, 1.9% less than in the same month of 2017.

The United Kingdom was the main country of residence, with over 2.2 million tourists, accounting for 21.9% of the total and a decrease of 3.7% as compared to August last year.

France and Germany were the following countries with the most tourists visiting Spain. From France we receive 2.1 million tourists (5.2% more in the annual rate) and from Germany almost 1.3 million tourists (5.8% less in the annual rate).

Among the other countries of residence, the annual growth was particularly noteworthy in tourists coming from Portugal (8.4%) and the United States (8.1%).

**International tourist arrivals. Monthly data, annual variation**



In the first eight months of 2018 the number of tourists visiting Spain decreased by 0.1% and reached 57.3 million.

The main sending countries so far this year were the United Kingdom (with nearly 12.9 million tourists and a decrease of 2.9% as compared to the first eight months of 2017), France (with more than 8.3 million tourists, practically the same as last year) and Germany (with more than 7.7 million tourists, 5.8% less).

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

August 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
<b>TOTAL</b>	10,201,456	-1.9	57,296,084	-0.1
Germany	1,264,501	-5.8	7,719,598	-5.8
Belgium	300,759	-0.3	1,793,147	3.0
France	2,146,405	5.2	8,349,989	0.0
Ireland	221,465	-4.6	1,435,164	-2.1
Italy	637,751	-1.8	2,999,293	-0.6
Netherlands	507,447	-4.1	2,776,194	4.3
Portugal	374,619	8.4	1,612,253	7.7
United Kingdom	2,236,927	-3.7	12,862,512	-2.9
Switzerland	178,528	-18.4	1,270,264	-9.6
Russia	173,215	0.8	854,564	4.9
Nordic Countries	402,254	-6.7	3,973,544	1.6
Rest of Europe	632,091	-2.7	4,035,208	5.6
United States	251,664	8.1	1,985,676	11.0
Rest of America	302,606	0.1	2,282,825	7.5
Rest of the world	571,223	-8.9	3,345,855	1.4

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

**Main destination Autonomous Communities**

Cataluña was the main tourist destination in August, with 23.9% of the total. It was followed by Illes Balears (22.6%) and Andalucía (14.1%).

Over 2.4 million tourists came to Cataluña, 5.0% less than in August last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were France (31.0% of the total) and the United Kingdom (11.4%).

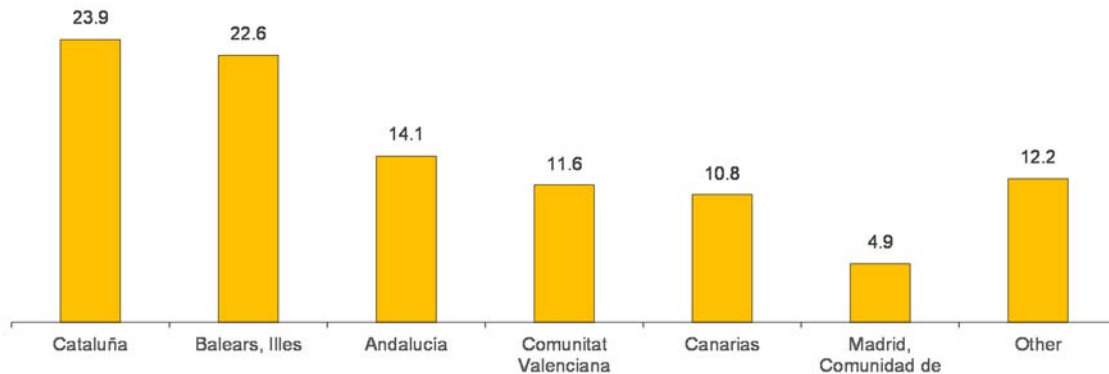
The number of tourists visiting Illes Balears decreased by 2.0% and stood above 2.3 million. 29.5% of these tourists came from the United Kingdom and 27.4% from Germany.

The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Andalucía, with more than 1.4 million tourists and an annual increase of 1.1%. The United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 23.8% of the total), followed by France (18.6%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities the number of tourists increased, by 1.9% in Comunitat Valenciana. In turn, it fell by 5.7% in Comunidad de Madrid and by 5.8% in Canarias.

In the accumulated first eight months of 2018, the Autonomous Communities that received the most tourists were Cataluña (with over 13.4 million and a decrease of 2.7% as compared with the same period in 2017), Illes Balears (with nearly 10.2 million and a decrease of 0.8%) and Canarias (with more than 9.0 million and 3.0% less).

**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**

August 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
<b>TOTAL</b>	10,201,456	-1.9	57,296,084	-0.1
Andalucía	1,437,617	1.1	8,079,223	1.1
Balears, Illes	2,304,445	-2.0	10,168,986	-0.8
Canarias	1,098,395	-5.8	9,014,208	-3.0
Cataluña	2,438,984	-5.0	13,444,414	-2.7
Comunitat Valenciana	1,180,982	1.9	6,416,689	2.2
Madrid, Comunidad de	500,149	-5.7	4,585,938	3.7
Other	1,240,884	3.4	5,586,627	5.6

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

August 2018	First outbound country	% tourists	Second outbound country	% tourists
	<b>TOTAL</b>	United Kingdom	21.9	France
Andalucía	United Kingdom	23.8	France	18.6
Balears, Illes	United Kingdom	29.5	Germany	27.4
Canarias	United Kingdom	40.2	Germany	18.7
Cataluña	France	31.0	United Kingdom	11.4
Comunitat Valenciana	France	30.9	United Kingdom	26.4
Madrid, Comunidad de	Rest of America	23.8	Rest of the world	19.3

## Forms of access and main means of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in August came by air, with more than 7.4 million, representing an annual decrease of 3.0%.

Road entries accounted for 1.3% more tourists and port arrivals had an increase of 1.6%. In turn, railway access registered a 6.0% decrease.

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

August 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	10,201,456	-1.9	57,296,084	-0.1
Air transport	7,428,748	-3.0	46,346,466	-0.1
Motor vehicle	2,358,182	1.3	9,510,833	0.2
Train	55,605	-6.0	242,740	-12.1
Waterway	358,922	1.6	1,196,045	-0.5

In August, the number of tourists choosing market accommodation as the main type of accommodation increased by 0.4% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation grew by 2.9%, while rented dwellings fell by 6.5%.

On the other hand, non-market accommodation decreased by 10.9%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes decreased by 16.6% and that of those staying in their own dwelling did so by 4.5%.

### International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

August 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	10,201,456	-1.9	57,296,084	-0.1
Rented accommodation <sup>(*)</sup>	8,348,822	0.4	45,989,345	1.1
-Hotel accommodation	6,313,472	2.9	36,102,443	1.7
-Rental housing	1,368,194	-6.5	6,849,595	-2.4
-Rest rented accommodation	667,157	-6.9	3,037,306	2.3
Non-rented accommodation	1,852,634	-10.9	11,306,739	-4.7
-Vacation home ownership	503,640	-4.5	3,396,564	-2.2
-Home of family or friends	1,123,110	-16.6	6,951,234	-5.2
-Rest non rented accommodation	225,884	10.5	958,942	-9.7

(\*): 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 August, *Leisure, recreation, and holidays* were the main reasons for travelling to Spain for more than 9.4 million tourists, representing an annual decrease of 2.2%.

A total of 164,454 tourists arrived for *Business and professional reasons* (1.7% less) and 656,323 arrived for *Other reasons* (3.5% more).

## International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

August 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
<b>TOTAL</b>	10,201,456	-1.9	57,296,084	-0.1
Leisure, vacations	9,380,680	-2.2	50,082,850	0.3
Business and personal purposes	164,454	-1.7	3,226,772	7.7
Other purposes	656,323	3.5	3,986,462	-10.2

A stay of four to seven nights was the main length among tourists in August, with more than 4.2 million tourists and an annual increase of 4.4%.

The number of visitors increased by 9.4% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and decreased by 15.4% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

## International visitor arrivals by length of stay

August 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
<b>TOTAL</b>	16,152,612	2.0	85,695,125	0.9
no night <sup>(*)</sup>	5,951,155	9.4	28,399,041	3.1
1 night	584,722	0.0	3,046,789	8.6
2 - 3 nights	1,115,963	-6.6	9,622,368	-0.4
4 - 7 nights	4,238,263	4.4	26,896,257	1.0
8 - 15 nights	3,405,568	-3.9	13,868,380	-2.1
More than 15 nights	856,940	-15.4	3,862,290	-5.8

(\*):Excursionists.

In August, almost 7.4 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual decrease of 2.6%. Over 2.8 million tourists travelled with a tourist package, with no change compared to the same month of the previous year.

## International tourist arrivals by type of organization

August 2018	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
<b>TOTAL</b>	10,201,456	-1.9	57,296,084	-0.1
No Tourist Package	7,396,096	-2.6	40,585,741	-0.3
Tourist Package	2,805,360	0.0	16,710,344	0.5

## 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.

**Geographic 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:** in 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/en/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=16028>

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