

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

**Spain received 10.1 million international tourists in August, 0.5% less than in the same month of 2018**

Spain received in August the visit of 10.1 million international tourists, 0.5% less than in the same month of 2018.

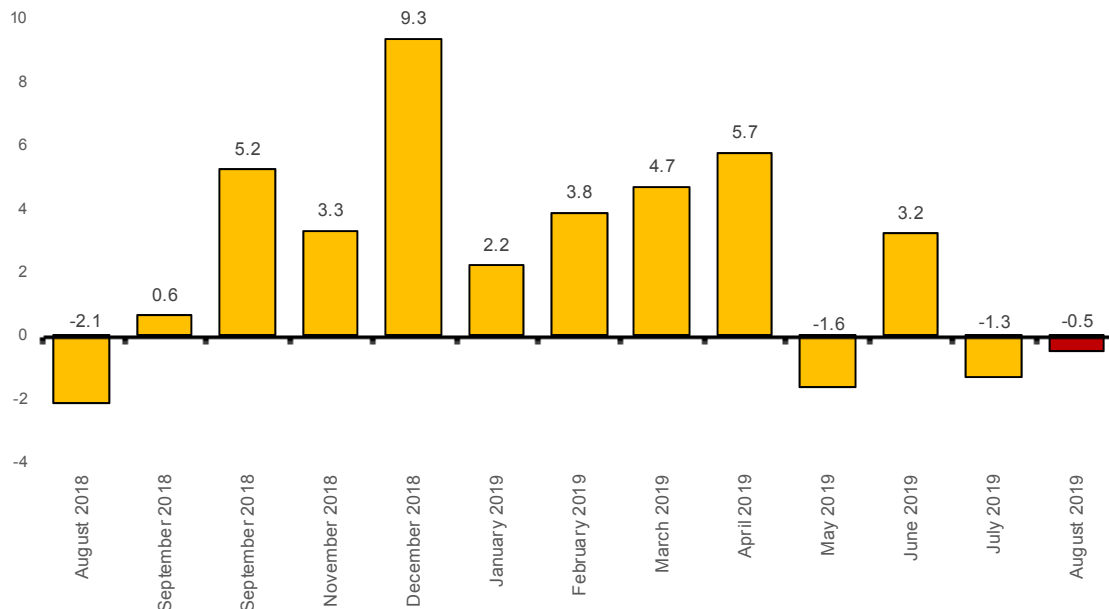
The United Kingdom was the main country of residence, with almost 2.2 million tourist, accounting for 21.5% of the total and a decrease of 3.1% as compared to August last year.

France and Germany were the following countries with the most tourists visiting Spain. From France we receive 2.0 million tourists (4.6% less in the annual rate) and from Germany more than 1.1 million tourists (10.7% less in the annual rate).

Among the other countries of residence, the annual growth was particularly noteworthy in tourists coming from Ireland (21.0%), Switzerland (10.6%) and United States (9.2%).

**International tourist arrivals.**

Monthly data, annual variation



In the first eight months of 2019 the number of tourists visiting Spain increased by 1.5% and reached 58.2 million.

The main sending countries so far this year were the United Kingdom (with nearly 12.7 million tourists and a decrease of 1.8% as compared to the first eight months of 2018), France (with

more than 8.1 million, and a decrease of 2.1%) and Germany (with more than 7.7 million tourists, practically the same value as in the same period of 2018).

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

| August 2019       | Monthly data   |               | Accumulated data |               |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
|                   | Absolute value | Annual change | Absolute value   | Annual change |
| TOTAL             | 10,121,985     | -0.5          | 58,182,807       | 1.5           |
| Germany           | 1,126,823      | -10.7         | 7,713,504        | 0.0           |
| Belgium           | 305,769        | 2.3           | 1,813,939        | 1.0           |
| France            | 2,017,026      | -4.6          | 8,135,813        | -2.1          |
| Ireland           | 269,599        | 21.0          | 1,547,767        | 7.5           |
| Italy             | 671,233        | 5.5           | 3,178,710        | 5.5           |
| Netherlands       | 454,720        | -9.5          | 2,637,032        | -5.0          |
| Portugal          | 386,865        | 3.1           | 1,743,515        | 8.4           |
| United Kingdom    | 2,179,233      | -3.1          | 12,654,422       | -1.8          |
| Switzerland       | 198,350        | 10.6          | 1,230,148        | -3.0          |
| Russia            | 176,752        | 0.4           | 934,959          | 9.0           |
| Nordic Countries  | 394,664        | -1.0          | 3,709,539        | -7.2          |
| Rest of Europe    | 682,941        | 6.5           | 4,402,461        | 8.5           |
| United States     | 275,996        | 9.2           | 2,266,368        | 13.6          |
| Rest of America   | 346,285        | 14.7          | 2,490,663        | 9.2           |
| Rest of the world | 635,729        | 12.5          | 3,723,966        | 11.6          |

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

## Main destination Autonomous Communities

Cataluña was the main tourist destination in August, with 23.3% of the total. It was followed by Illes Balears (22.3%) and Andalucía (13.8%).

Almost 2.4 million tourists came to Cataluña, 3.1% less than in August last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were France (30.1% of the total) and the United Kingdom (11.3%).

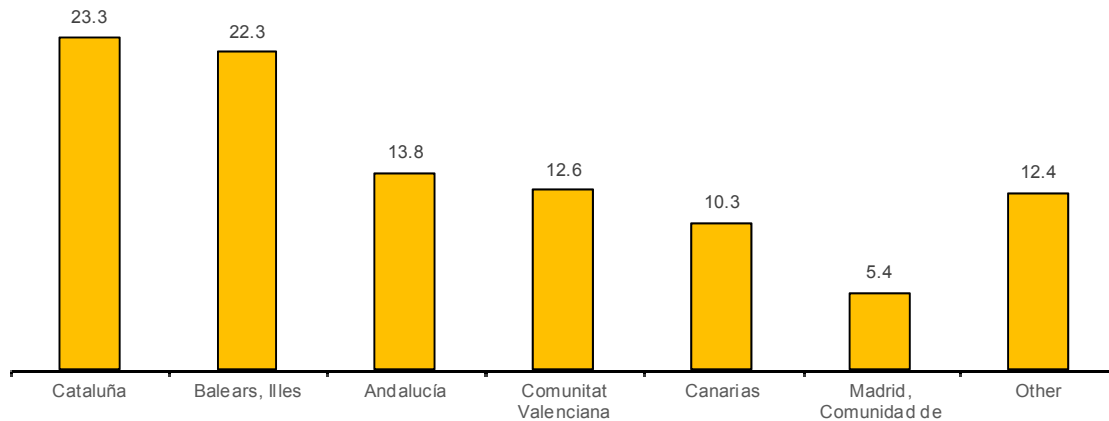
The number of tourists visiting Illes Balears decreased by 1.8% and stood nearly 2.3 million. 28.7% of these tourists came from the United Kingdom and 26.1% from Germany.

The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Andalucía, with almost 1.4 million tourists and an annual decrease of 1.9%. The United Kingdom was the main country of origin (with 23.4% of the total), followed by France (16.7%).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities the number of tourists increased, by 8.1% in Comunitat Valenciana, and by 6.9% in Comunidad de Madrid. In turn, it fell by 5.3% in Canarias.

In the accumulated first eight months of 2019, the Autonomous Communities that received the most tourists were Cataluña (with over 13.6 million and an increase of 0.7% as compared with the same period in 2018), Illes Balears (with over 10.1 million and a decrease of 0.2%) and Canarias (with nearly 8.7 million, and 3.7% less).

**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**

| August 2019          | Monthly data   |               | Accumulated data |               |
|----------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
|                      | Absolute value | Annual change | Absolute value   | Annual change |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         | 10,121,985     | -0.5          | 58,182,807       | 1.5           |
| Andalucía            | 1,396,903      | -1.9          | 8,304,311        | 3.0           |
| Balears, Illes       | 2,257,057      | -1.8          | 10,141,366       | -0.2          |
| Canarias             | 1,040,241      | -5.3          | 8,677,139        | -3.7          |
| Cataluña             | 2,358,838      | -3.1          | 13,612,274       | 0.7           |
| Comunitat Valenciana | 1,271,169      | 8.1           | 6,665,738        | 3.9           |
| Madrid, Comunidad de | 541,890        | 6.9           | 5,023,484        | 9.2           |
| Other                | 1,255,888      | 1.3           | 5,758,494        | 3.7           |

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

| August 2019          | First outbound country |            | Second outbound country |            |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|
|                      |                        | % tourists |                         | % tourists |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         | United Kingdom         | 21.5       | France                  | 19.9       |
| Andalucía            | United Kingdom         | 23.4       | France                  | 16.7       |
| Balears, Illes       | United Kingdom         | 28.7       | Germany                 | 26.1       |
| Canarias             | United Kingdom         | 43.7       | Germany                 | 15.5       |
| Cataluña             | France                 | 30.1       | United Kingdom          | 11.3       |
| Comunitat Valenciana | France                 | 30.1       | United Kingdom          | 25.0       |
| Madrid, Comunidad de | Rest of America        | 27.5       | Rest of the world       | 21.0       |

### Forms of access and main means of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in August came by air, with more than 7.5 million, representing an annual increase of 1.1%.

Railway access registered a 3.9% increase while road entries accounted for 5.4% less tourists and port arrivals had a decrease of 4.1%.

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

| August 2019   | Monthly data   |               | Accumulated data |               |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
|               | Absolute value | Annual change | Absolute value   | Annual change |
| TOTAL         | 10,121,985     | -0.5          | 58,182,807       | 1.5           |
| Air transport | 7,517,411      | 1.1           | 47,506,005       | 2.5           |
| Motor vehicle | 2,224,251      | -5.4          | 9,260,996        | -2.5          |
| Train         | 57,842         | 3.9           | 262,277          | 8.2           |
| Waterway      | 322,481        | -4.1          | 1,153,529        | -7.0          |

In August, the number of tourists choosing market accommodation as the main type of accommodation increased by 0.8% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation grew by 3.6%, while rented dwellings fell by 11.0%.

On the other hand, non-market accommodation decreased by 6.4%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes decreased by 5.1% while that of those staying in their own dwelling did grow by 6.4%.

### International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

| August 2019                         | Monthly data   |               | Accumulated data |               |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
|                                     | Absolute value | Annual change | Absolute value   | Annual change |
| TOTAL                               | 10,121,985     | -0.5          | 58,182,807       | 1.5           |
| Rented accommodation <sup>(*)</sup> | 8,395,883      | 0.8           | 47,329,623       | 2.8           |
| -Hotel accommodation                | 6,520,513      | 3.6           | 37,740,880       | 4.4           |
| -Rental housing                     | 1,217,999      | -11.0         | 6,500,338        | -5.0          |
| -Rest rented accommodation          | 657,371        | -1.8          | 3,088,405        | 1.1           |
| Non-rented accommodation            | 1,726,103      | -6.4          | 10,853,184       | -3.8          |
| -Vacation home ownership            | 537,862        | 6.4           | 3,513,660        | 3.0           |
| -Home of family or friends          | 1,069,522      | -5.1          | 6,635,842        | -4.4          |
| -Rest non rented accommodation      | 118,718        | -44.0         | 703,683          | -24.6         |

(\*): 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 almost 9.5 million tourists, representing an annual increase of 0.9%.

A total of 185,366 tourists arrived for *Business and professional reasons* (12.2% more) and 483,691 arrived for *Other reasons* (24.4% less).

## International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

| August 2019                        | Monthly data   |               | Accumulated data |               |
|------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
|                                    | Absolute value | Annual change | Absolute value   | Annual change |
| TOTAL                              | 10,121,985     | -0.5          | 58,182,807       | 1.5           |
| Leisure, vacations                 | 9,452,928      | 0.9           | 51,095,554       | 1.9           |
| Business and professional purposes | 185,366        | 12.2          | 3,429,171        | 6.4           |
| Other purposes                     | 483,691        | -24.4         | 3,658,082        | -7.8          |

A stay of four to seven nights was the main length among tourists in August, with almost 4.4 million tourists and an annual increase of 3.2%.

The number of visitors decreased by 0.4% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and decreased by 1.1% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

## International visitor arrivals by length of stay

| August 2019             | Monthly data   |               | Accumulated data |               |
|-------------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
|                         | Absolute value | Annual change | Absolute value   | Annual change |
| TOTAL                   | 16,043,994     | -0.5          | 87,263,811       | 1.4           |
| no night <sup>(*)</sup> | 5,922,008      | -0.4          | 29,081,004       | 1.4           |
| 1 night                 | 533,315        | -5.6          | 2,800,736        | -8.3          |
| 2 - 3 nights            | 1,096,187      | -1.1          | 10,413,739       | 8.2           |
| 4 - 7 nights            | 4,365,408      | 3.2           | 27,683,904       | 2.9           |
| 8 - 15 nights           | 3,274,939      | -4.0          | 13,524,768       | -2.6          |
| More than 15 nights     | 852,137        | -1.1          | 3,759,659        | -2.9          |

(\*):Excursionists.

In August, more than 7.5 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual increase of 1.8%. Over 2.6 million tourists travelled with a tourist package, 6.7% less.

## International tourist arrivals by type of organization

| August 2019        | Monthly data   |               | Accumulated data |               |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
|                    | Absolute value | Annual change | Absolute value   | Annual change |
| TOTAL              | 10,121,985     | -0.5          | 58,182,807       | 1.5           |
| No Tourist Package | 7,507,473      | 1.8           | 42,291,589       | 4.4           |
| Tourist Package    | 2,614,513      | -6.7          | 15,891,218       | -5.5          |

## Revision and updating of data

Coinciding with today's publication, INE has updated the Tourist Movement on Borders Survey data corresponding to the August-December 2018 period, which becomes final. 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](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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