

Total inbound tourists for August 2022 were estimated at 305,624, while total nights spent amounted to 2,498,251.

Inbound Tourism: August 2022

During the month under review, a total of 288,627 inbound tourists visited Malta for holiday purposes, and 6,925 tourists came for business purposes. The largest share of inbound tourists were aged between 0-24 (39.0 per cent), followed by the 25-44 age bracket (38.6 per cent) (Table 1). Italian, French and German residents made up 42.5 per cent of total inbound tourists (Table 5).

The largest share of guest nights (83.0 per cent) was spent in rented accommodation establishments (Table 3). The average length of stay of total inbound tourists stood at 8.2 nights (Table 1).

Total tourist expenditure surpassed €316.6 million (Table 4). The average expenditure per night was estimated at €126.7.

January-August 2022

Inbound tourists during the first eight months of 2022 amounted to 1,474,365, while the total nights spent nearly reached 10.8 million nights (Tables 6 and 8).

Total tourist expenditure was estimated at €1.3 billion (Table 9). Total expenditure per capita stood at €873, decreasing from €975 in 2021 (Table 11).

COVID-19 recovery

Inbound tourism recovery from the pandemic can be quantified by comparing 2019 and 2022 August data. The year 2019 will be used here as the reference year for the pre-COVID-19 situation.

Total inbound tourists for the month under review have reached 90.8 per cent of those registered pre-COVID-19 (Table 1), and the associated nights spent made up 86.7 per cent of the respective figure (Table 3). The highest recovery can be seen in the 0-24 age bracket (106.3 per cent) and the lowest recovery can be associated with the 65+ age bracket (76.7 per cent) (Table 1). The segment of inbound tourists visiting Malta for holiday purposes experienced a better recovery (92.1 per cent) than that of tourists visiting Malta for business (71.7 per cent) and other (75.3 per cent) purposes (Table 1).

Total tourist expenditure has reached 96.1 per cent of its respective pre-COVID-19 value (Table 4) ■

Chart 1. Inbound tourists

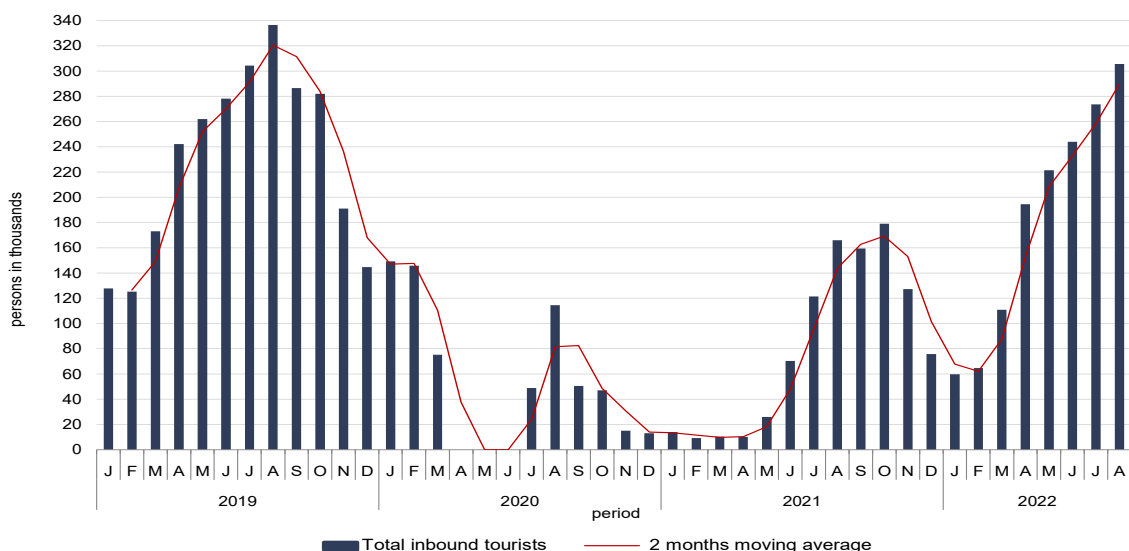


Table 1. Profile of inbound tourists by month of departure

Characteristics	August			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Total inbound visitors	338,758	114,458	167,671	311,588
Overnight cruise passengers	2,211	0	1,739	5,964
Inbound tourists	336,547	114,458	165,932	305,624
Mode of travel				
Air	330,023	112,051	164,290	302,578
Sea	6,524	2,407	1,642	3,046 ^P
Sex				
Males	168,600	60,084	83,785	151,289
Females	167,947	54,374	82,147	154,335
Age group				
0-24	112,223	41,630	49,021	119,285
25-44	136,518	48,776	69,321	118,088
45-64	75,847	20,740	39,726	59,076
65 or more	11,958	3,311	7,865	9,175
Markets²				
EU	285,247	85,552	110,917	218,750
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	177,066	70,213	93,053	181,656
Non-EU	51,300	28,906	55,015	86,874
Purpose of visit				
Holiday	313,506	107,908	157,593	288,627
Business and professional	9,656	2,318	3,621	6,925
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	13,385	4,232	4,717	10,073
Organisation of stay				
Package	94,426	22,211	41,104	72,053
Non-package	242,121	92,247	124,828	233,571
Frequency				
First-time tourists	264,677	82,992	127,054	239,174
Repeat tourists	71,870	31,466	38,878	66,450
once a year or less	59,479	21,603	30,883	55,852
more than once a year	12,391	9,863	7,995	10,598
Duration of visit				
1-3 nights	31,703	10,203	17,145	30,923
4-6 nights	85,705	28,152	41,533	87,137
7 nights or more	219,139	76,103	107,254	187,564
Average length of stay (nights)	8.6	9.4	8.6	8.2

^P Data for August 2022 is provisional since it is an estimation due to delayed data communication from the source.

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

² Refer to methodological note 6.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 2. Inbound tourists by month of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	August			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Rented accommodation	298,198	94,153	146,073	270,820
Collective	187,165	62,015	105,703	173,027
Other rented	111,033	32,138	40,370	97,793
Non-rented accommodation	38,349	20,305	19,859	34,804
Total tourists	336,547	114,458	165,932	305,624

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 3. Total nights spent by inbound tourists by month of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	August			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Rented accommodation	2,412,129	787,045	1,163,823	2,074,519
Collective	1,317,321	435,436	765,272	1,201,400
Other rented	1,094,808	351,610	398,551	873,119
Non-rented accommodation	467,938	288,778	268,562	423,732
Total nights	2,880,066	1,075,823	1,432,385	2,498,251

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 4. Total expenditure by inbound tourists by month of departure and expenditure category

€ 000

Expenditure category	August			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Package	81,621	16,731	37,928	66,023
Non-package	131,092	37,298	63,142	130,315
Air/sea fares	55,740	13,172	21,330	48,992
Accommodation	75,352	24,126	41,813	81,322
Other expenditure	116,878	40,603	68,320	120,239
Total expenditure	329,591	94,632	169,391	316,576

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 5. Inbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by month of departure and country of residence

Country of residence ²		August			
		2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Tourists	EU	285,247	85,552	110,917	218,750
	<i>of which:</i>				
	France	38,129	15,963	30,213	41,181
	Germany	19,598	13,144	15,856	19,525
	Italy	62,537	20,041	19,313	69,244
	Poland	10,943	8,356	10,586	13,484
	Spain	15,375	5,052	4,335	13,106
	United Kingdom	74,186	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Non-EU	51,300	28,906	55,015	86,874
<i>of which:</i>					
United Kingdom	n/a	24,794	46,856	54,769	
Total	336,547	114,458	165,932	305,624	
Nights	EU	2,372,955	774,402	938,813	1,670,027
	<i>of which:</i>				
	France	402,299	128,961	271,396	346,863
	Germany	177,076	122,385	121,843	160,285
	Italy	486,003	227,760	178,717	461,255
	Poland	93,047	62,562	82,293	96,737
	Spain	112,873	34,404	34,058	120,984
	United Kingdom	600,873	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Non-EU	507,111	301,421	493,572	828,225
<i>of which:</i>					
United Kingdom	n/a	248,839	393,206	448,178	
Total	2,880,066	1,075,823	1,432,385	2,498,251	
Expenditure (€ 000)	EU	261,501	68,713	103,898	211,686
	<i>of which:</i>				
	France	40,768	13,789	32,460	46,795
	Germany	19,564	12,576	17,543	22,818
	Italy	49,648	14,213	13,668	56,665
	Poland	9,669	5,924	8,322	11,275
	Spain	12,836	3,321	3,814	12,363
	United Kingdom	71,103	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Non-EU	68,090	25,920	65,493	104,890
<i>of which:</i>					
United Kingdom	n/a	21,117	53,775	59,531	
Total	329,591	94,632	169,391	316,576	

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

² Refer to methodological note 6.

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 6. Profile of inbound tourists by period of departure

Characteristics	January-August			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Total inbound visitors	1,860,833	534,310	430,769	1,507,276
Overnight cruise passengers	11,898	893	3,839	32,911
Inbound tourists	1,848,935	533,417	426,930	1,474,365
Mode of travel				
Air	1,814,208	520,573	411,445	1,451,745
Sea	34,727	12,844	15,485	22,620 ^P
Sex				
Males	912,236	280,676	226,252	727,324
Females	936,698	252,741	200,678	747,041
Age group				
0-24	413,744	120,055	120,163	398,758
25-44	742,464	212,601	182,618	591,641
45-64	527,053	157,979	103,227	379,070
65 or more	165,673	42,782	20,921	104,896
Markets²				
EU	1,549,045	349,719	324,531	1,046,484
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	910,660	276,857	263,936	829,597
Non-EU	299,890	183,698	102,399	427,881
Purpose of visit				
Holiday	1,654,716	473,362	373,494	1,329,114
Business and professional	111,533	39,558	28,516	80,852
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	82,685	20,497	24,920	64,399
Organisation of stay				
Package	556,415	138,995	87,733	339,579
Non-package	1,292,520	394,422	339,197	1,134,787
Frequency				
First-time tourists	1,399,725	383,438	308,169	1,124,962
Repeat tourists	449,210	149,979	118,761	349,404
once a year or less	333,855	102,541	82,880	257,757
more than once a year	115,355	47,439	35,880	91,647
Duration of visit				
1-3 nights	389,378	140,999	59,178	308,528
4-6 nights	551,304	162,041	102,452	474,820
7 nights or more	908,252	230,377	265,300	691,018
Average length of stay (nights)	7.1	7.3	9.6	7.3

^P Data for May-August 2022 is provisional since it is an estimation due to delayed data communication from the source.

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

² Refer to methodological note 6.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 7. Inbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January-August			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Rented accommodation	1,627,515	455,943	354,085	1,305,411
Collective	1,154,810	339,434	256,992	929,716
Other rented	472,705	116,509	97,094	375,696
Non-rented accommodation	221,419	77,474	72,845	168,954
Total tourists	1,848,935	533,417	426,930	1,474,365

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 8. Total nights spent by inbound tourists by period of departure and type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	January-August			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Rented accommodation	11,056,969	2,932,730	3,042,202	9,012,984
Collective	6,860,195	1,886,529	1,831,576	5,624,875
Other rented	4,196,774	1,046,201	1,210,626	3,388,109
Non-rented accommodation	2,104,824	978,458	1,066,017	1,742,314
Total nights	13,161,794	3,911,188	4,108,220	10,755,299

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 9. Inbound tourists, nights spent and total expenditure by period of departure and country of residence

Country of residence		January-August			
		2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Tourists	Australia	33,271	2,602	468	11,751
	Austria	23,200	7,408	7,406	25,164
	Belgium	47,647	14,782	11,812	36,837
	France	167,744	49,451	77,083	178,474
	Germany	137,202	46,441	43,826	106,979
	Hungary	25,067	9,196	5,476	24,235
	Ireland	34,879	11,103	3,691	23,640
	Italy	278,787	76,557	67,402	260,190
	Netherlands	39,608	12,759	7,861	39,466
	Poland	70,399	32,694	30,702	91,674
	Scandinavia ²	82,319	16,219	11,560	49,899
	Spain	80,871	23,670	15,916	58,498
	Switzerland	33,408	8,950	9,305	24,863
	United Kingdom	428,471	117,090	72,785	275,877
	USA	33,359	7,748	5,051	23,862
	Other	332,702	96,748	56,585	242,956
Total	1,848,935	533,417	426,930	1,474,365	
Nights	Australia	317,628	25,160	4,258	137,172
	Austria	142,909	54,981	57,462	173,296
	Belgium	325,397	93,867	109,950	254,918
	France	1,300,541	335,348	724,378	1,354,392
	Germany	991,116	354,149	370,366	805,919
	Hungary	136,897	49,974	40,331	140,512
	Ireland	234,774	70,348	29,428	154,428
	Italy	1,786,831	727,691	786,382	1,674,264
	Netherlands	295,846	83,120	72,520	338,195
	Poland	481,819	207,313	237,036	564,055
	Scandinavia ²	583,933	126,371	109,782	405,360
	Spain	521,018	131,449	161,602	466,956
	Switzerland	234,186	65,563	102,797	188,858
	United Kingdom	2,937,873	832,201	653,506	1,947,207
	USA	201,290	47,744	40,385	177,234
	Other	2,669,734	705,908	608,038	1,972,533
Total	13,161,794	3,911,188	4,108,220	10,755,299	
Expenditure (€ 000)	Australia	49,062	2,884	389	20,786
	Austria	19,769	5,911	6,821	21,277
	Belgium	35,071	8,771	11,719	31,299
	France	138,397	34,506	76,117	156,034
	Germany	113,365	35,051	46,831	106,012
	Hungary	14,081	4,488	3,912	13,958
	Ireland	30,766	8,199	3,943	24,243
	Italy	171,424	42,083	47,931	166,723
	Netherlands	31,203	8,096	8,647	37,664
	Poland	47,683	17,997	23,886	62,417
	Scandinavia ²	74,363	12,519	12,437	58,452
	Spain	54,344	12,090	13,285	45,663
	Switzerland	34,327	8,673	14,211	32,815
	United Kingdom	338,038	75,540	82,172	267,301
	USA	37,933	7,811	8,369	32,696
	Other	308,221	68,405	55,606	210,125
Total	1,498,045	353,022	416,276	1,287,466	

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

¹ Refer to methodological note 5.

² Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 10. Total expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence

€ 000

Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
January-August 2022					
Australia	:	5,203	4,672	9,877	20,786
Austria	4,149	2,981	5,801	8,345	21,277
Belgium	4,803	5,600	8,516	12,380	31,299
France	31,717	23,922	38,887	61,507	156,034
Germany	31,630	15,671	22,680	36,032	106,012
Hungary	1,431 ^u	2,297	4,024	6,206	13,958
Ireland	3,595	4,336	6,137	10,174	24,243
Italy	22,232	22,161	44,438	77,892	166,723
Netherlands	6,668	6,070	9,225	15,702	37,664
Poland	12,280	8,572	15,812	25,753	62,417
Scandinavia ²	15,121	10,277	11,240	21,814	58,452
Spain	7,857	6,599	11,831	19,376	45,663
Switzerland	8,443	4,747	7,920	11,706	32,815
United Kingdom	81,128	36,717	55,429	94,027	267,301
USA	1,807 ^u	12,432	8,132	10,326	32,696
Other	24,840	39,694	56,922	88,669	210,125
Total	258,736	207,278	311,666	509,786	1,287,466
January-August 2021					
Australia	:	43	145	201	389
Austria	1,405 ^u	967	1,845	2,604	6,821
Belgium	1,504 ^u	2,102	3,273	4,839	11,719
France	12,837	11,948	19,309	32,024	76,117
Germany	12,175	7,009	10,558	17,089	46,831
Hungary	:	562	949	1,627	3,912
Ireland	:	495	1,174	1,890	3,943
Italy	7,638	6,284	10,065	23,944	47,931
Netherlands	1,284 ^u	1,385	1,994	3,984	8,647
Poland	4,519	3,611	6,203	9,553	23,886
Scandinavia ²	2,193	2,138	2,476	5,629	12,437
Spain	1,510	1,664	3,252	6,859	13,285
Switzerland	3,116 ^u	1,700	3,852	5,544	14,211
United Kingdom	21,907	8,882	19,037	32,346	82,172
USA	2,682 ^u	1,814	1,711	2,162	8,369
Other	5,925	10,753	14,688	24,240	55,606
Total	79,853	61,357	100,530	174,536	416,276
January-August 2020¹					
Australia	:	1,151	458	1,015	2,884
Austria	1,832 ^u	784	1,141	2,155	5,911
Belgium	1,569 ^u	1,499	2,070	3,633	8,771
France	8,695	5,230	7,382	13,199	34,506
Germany	10,402	4,879	6,575	13,196	35,051
Hungary	:	917	1,139	2,076	4,488
Ireland	1,113 ^u	1,337	2,112	3,638	8,199
Italy	5,556	6,507	9,365	20,654	42,083
Netherlands	1,121 ^u	1,572	1,604	3,798	8,096
Poland	3,611	3,198	4,108	7,079	17,997
Scandinavia ²	2,590	2,611	2,321	4,996	12,519
Spain	1,272	2,369	2,949	5,501	12,090
Switzerland	1,837	1,176	2,002	3,658	8,673
United Kingdom	20,588	11,093	13,454	30,404	75,540
USA	:	3,262	1,798	2,125	7,811
Other	10,347	16,658	13,236	28,163	68,405
Total	71,775	64,243	71,714	145,291	353,022
January-August 2019					
Australia	4,573	17,561	9,364	17,563	49,062
Austria	7,346	2,319	3,718	6,385	19,769
Belgium	9,385	5,176	7,809	12,701	35,071
France	39,301	21,254	30,594	47,248	138,397
Germany	43,763	14,263	20,024	35,314	113,365
Hungary	1,763 ^u	2,972	3,844	5,502	14,081
Ireland	5,603	5,223	7,261	12,678	30,766
Italy	30,751	27,442	39,044	74,187	171,424
Netherlands	7,642	5,158	6,668	11,735	31,203
Poland	11,664	7,172	10,689	18,158	47,683
Scandinavia ²	20,807	11,948	14,181	27,427	74,363
Spain	12,391	8,793	12,305	20,854	54,344
Switzerland	9,014	5,471	7,701	12,141	34,327
United Kingdom	109,496	44,578	60,543	123,421	338,038
USA	4,312	14,238	8,751	10,632	37,933
Other	60,796	71,174	64,320	111,931	308,221
Total	378,609	264,743	306,815	547,878	1,498,045

: Unreliable, less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.¹ Refer to methodological note 5.² Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

Notes:

1. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.

2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 11. Per capita expenditure of inbound tourists by expenditure category, period of departure and country of residence

€

Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total expenditure per capita
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
January-August 2022					
Australia	:	487	542	841	1,769
Austria	690	155	333	332	846
Belgium	770	183	312	336	850
France	736	176	307	345	874
Germany	874	220	359	337	991
Hungary	540 ^u	105	212	256	576
Ireland	754	229	371	430	1,026
Italy	605	99	237	299	641
Netherlands	713	200	345	398	954
Poland	532	125	243	281	681
Scandinavia ²	813	327	451	437	1,171
Spain	696	139	286	331	781
Switzerland	1,252	257	460	471	1,320
United Kingdom	784	212	412	341	969
USA	839 ^u	570	439	433	1,370
Other	884	184	314	365	865
Total expenditure per capita	762	182	319	346	873
January-August 2021					
Australia	:	91	322	430	831
Austria	778 ^u	173	390	352	921
Belgium	959 ^u	204	392	410	992
France	984	186	338	415	987
Germany	926	226	405	390	1,069
Hungary	:	125	267	297	714
Ireland	:	154	417	512	1,068
Italy	816	108	278	355	711
Netherlands	756 ^u	225	432	507	1,100
Poland	686	150	292	311	778
Scandinavia ²	694	255	429	487	1,076
Spain	697	119	302	431	835
Switzerland	1,668 ^u	228	584	596	1,527
United Kingdom	914	180	500	444	1,129
USA	2,193 ^u	464	574	428	1,657
Other	889	214	362	428	983
Total expenditure per capita	910	180	372	409	975
January-August 2020¹					
Australia	:	505	257	390	1,109
Austria	668 ^u	168	272	291	798
Belgium	524 ^u	127	206	246	593
France	553	154	236	267	698
Germany	625	163	255	284	755
Hungary	:	111	158	226	488
Ireland	517 ^u	148	258	328	738
Italy	445	102	205	270	550
Netherlands	362 ^u	163	201	298	635
Poland	443	130	181	217	550
Scandinavia ²	566	224	241	308	772
Spain	397	116	166	232	511
Switzerland	702	186	362	409	969
United Kingdom	456	154	252	260	645
USA	:	452	278	274	1,008
Other	588	210	205	291	707
Total expenditure per capita	516	163	223	272	662
January-August 2019					
Australia	1,076	597	383	528	1,475
Austria	748	169	298	275	852
Belgium	723	148	255	267	736
France	696	190	297	282	825
Germany	705	188	306	257	826
Hungary	455 ^u	140	214	219	562
Ireland	616	203	323	363	882
Italy	534	124	221	266	615
Netherlands	637	186	284	296	788
Poland	545	146	240	258	677
Scandinavia ²	704	226	326	333	903
Spain	555	149	231	258	672
Switzerland	850	238	378	363	1,028
United Kingdom	658	170	303	288	789
USA	1,002	489	346	319	1,137
Other	826	273	294	336	926
Total expenditure per capita	680	204	284	296	810

: Unreliable, less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.¹ Refer to methodological note 5.² Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

Table 12. Profile of overnight cruise passengers by month of departure

Characteristics	August			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Total overnight cruise passengers	2,211	-	1,739	5,964
Sex				
Males	1,044	-	771	2,755
Females	1,167	-	968	3,209
Age group				
0-19	202	-	11	1,084
20-39	210	-	53	1,332
40-59	558	-	224	2,295
60-79	1,104	-	1,329	1,185
80 or more	137	-	122	68
Markets²				
EU	626	-	26	3,119
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	335	-	25	3,095
Non-EU	1,585	-	1,713	2,845

¹ In view of the COVID-19 situation, the last cruise liner call was on 10 March 2020.

² Refer to methodological note 6.

Table 13. Profile of overnight cruise passengers by period of departure

Characteristics	January-August			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Total overnight cruise passengers	11,898	893	3,839	32,911
Sex				
Males	5,501	426	1,747	15,348
Females	6,397	467	2,092	17,563
Age group				
0-19	866	1	253	3,670
20-39	1,081	19	453	4,896
40-59	3,117	31	794	11,600
60-79	5,943	446	2,150	12,047
80 or more	891	396	189	698
Markets²				
EU	7,033	14	1,069	13,024
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	6,131	11	1,050	12,822
Non-EU	4,865	879	2,770	19,887

¹ In view of the COVID-19 situation, the last cruise liner call was on 10 March 2020.

² Refer to methodological note 6.

Methodological Notes

1. This release focuses on Inbound Tourism, which comprises activities of non-resident visitors travelling to Malta (i.e. outside their usual environment) and staying for not more than 12 consecutive months for leisure, business or other (corresponding) purposes.
2. Inbound tourism data are collected from an ongoing frontier national survey known as Tourstat. Tourist air departures are collected through a continuous survey carried out at the departure lounge of the Malta International Airport. A two-stage sampling design is used to collect data on air passengers. In the first stage, alternate days and nights are selected. In the second stage, within each shift, a sample of air passengers is selected systematically. Every crossing air passenger is counted and respondents are selected using a pre-defined interval of 1:20, with the exception of July 2020 and the period October 2020 to June 2021, where the pre-defined interval was 1:10.
3. Tourstat measures the number of tourist trips carried out during a particular reference month. These differ from the number of tourists in that the same person can make more than one trip during the same period.
4. Tourist sea departures is supplemented by administrative data provided by ferry operators.
5. Statistics in this News Release should be interpreted in the context of the COVID-19 situation. In view of the pandemic, the Tourstat survey was suspended between 12 March and 30 June 2020. Statistical methods were applied to cover the period from 13 March to 20 March 2020, when scheduled passenger flights were still in operation.

The following is the related chronology of events which happened during 2020 in Malta:

28th February	People flying in from Italy, China (including Hong Kong), Singapore, Japan, Iran and South Korea from 26th February onwards needed to stay in quarantine for 14 days upon arrival.
8th March	Flights from/to Milan were suspended.
10th March	Flights from/to Italy were suspended.
10th March	The last cruise liner call.
11th March	Flights from/to France, Switzerland, Germany and Spain, were suspended.
11th March	People flying in from France, Switzerland, Germany and Spain, needed to stay in quarantine for 14 days upon arrival.
13th March	All people flying in from all destinations needed to stay in quarantine for 14 days upon arrival.
18th March	The last Virtu' Ferries service for passengers between Malta and Sicily.
21st March	All flights from/to all destinations were suspended.
1st July	Re-opening of Malta International Airport. The first group of destinations that reopened for travel comprised: Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Spain, Poland, Cyprus, Switzerland, Iceland, Slovakia, Norway, Denmark, Hungary, Finland, Ireland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Luxembourg, Czech Republic, Greece and Croatia.
15th July	Restrictions on all other flight destinations were lifted.
21st August	First cruise liner call since March 2020.

Sources: Malta Tourism Authority, Virtu' Ferries, Transport Malta and Valletta Cruise Port.

6. Owing to the UK's exit from the European Union (with effect from 1 February 2020), UK data is statistically classified as Non-EU from February 2020. Comparability between cumulative tables and also between comparative periods should be treated with caution.
7. The monthly passenger departures data published by the Malta International Airport cannot be equated to the number of inbound tourists, because the former is inclusive of departing Maltese and transit passengers.
8. Data on cruise passengers who spent at least one night berthed on board their cruise ship in Malta ('Overnight Cruise Passengers') is compiled on the basis of administrative records supplied by Transport Malta.
9. Arrivals and nights spent in time-share accommodation are being categorised in 'Non-rented Accommodation' instead of 'Collective Accommodation' as per Eurostat recommendation. In this regard, there may be minor differences in these statistics and statistics published in tourism supply due to the fact that hotels report time-share accommodation under 'Collective Accommodation'.
10. Prior to comparing and interpreting differences between demand-side (based on Tourstat) and supply-side (based on Accomstat) tourism statistics, users are strongly advised to consult concept 15.4 of the NSO's metadata file: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/reports.aspx?id=37#>
11. Data included in this release are based on sample data and are therefore subject to sampling error. Sampling error is measured by a quantity known as the margin of error, which in turn, expresses the variability between the true population parameters and their corresponding sample estimates. In the table below, the margin of error is used to construct a set of 95 per cent confidence intervals for the main indicators, which gives an indication of where the true population parameters lie.

Sampling variability of inbound tourism figures

	Estimate	Margin of error	95% confidence interval
Inbound tourists	305,624	2,543	305,624 ± 2,543
Total nights	2,498,251	103,657	2,498,251 ± 103,657
Total expenditure (€ 000)	316,576	7,507	316,576 ± 7,507

12. Definitions:

- **Usual environment:** The geographical area, though not necessarily a contiguous one, within which an individual conducts his regular life routines and shall be determined on the basis of the following criteria: the crossing of administrative borders or the distance from the place of usual residence, the duration of visit, the frequency of visit, the purpose of visit.
- **Resident:** A person is considered to be a resident of Malta/Gozo if:
 - a. S/he has lived for most of the past 12 months in Malta/Gozo;
 - b. S/he has lived in Malta/Gozo for less than 12 months but intends to return within a year to settle here.
- **Traveller:** A person who moves between different geographic locations, for any purpose and any duration.
- **Visitor:** The three fundamental criteria used to distinguish visitors from travellers are:
 - a. **The trip should be to a place other than that of the usual environment**, which would exclude short-distance local transport and commuting, i.e. more or less regular trips between the place of work/study and the place of residence;
 - b. **The stay in the place visited should not last more than twelve consecutive months**, beyond which the visitor would become a resident of that place (from the statistical standpoint);
 - c. **The main purpose of the visit should be other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited**, which would exclude migratory movements for work purposes.
- **Tourist:** A visitor who stays at least one night in a rented and non-rented accommodation in the place/country visited.
- **Inbound tourism:** Comprises the activities of non-resident visitors travelling to Malta (i.e. outside their usual environment) and staying for not more than 12 consecutive months for personal, business or other purposes.
- **Total nights spent:** Nights which a guest actually spends or is registered to spend in a rented accommodation establishment or in a non-rented accommodation.
- **Average length of stay:** The number of nights spent divided by the number of trips during a specified reference period.
- **Rented accommodation:** Consists of the following two sub-categories:
 - a. **Collective accommodation:** comprises hotels, guesthouses, hostels, tourist villages, holiday complexes, Bed & Breakfast and campsites.
 - b. **Other rented accommodation:** comprises holiday furnished premises (farmhouses, flats and villas), host families, marinas, paid-convents, rented yachts and student dormitories.
- **Non-rented accommodation:** Comprises own private residence (owned dwellings, owned caravans and yachts), staying with friends or relatives (even if charged - includes also friends' private apartments) and other private accommodation (oil rig, free-convents or timeshare, etc.).
- **Total expenditure:** Refers to the amount that is going to be paid for the acquisition of consumption goods and services, as well as valuables during tourism trips. It includes expenditures by visitors themselves, as well as expenses that are paid for or reimbursed by others. The total expenditure is broken down by the following expenditure items:
 - a. **Package expenditure:** refers to the whole amount of money spent on transport, accommodation and other services such as rental of a car, activities or outings during the trip.
 - b. **Non-package expenditure:** is the amount of money spent on transport and accommodation reported separately.
 - c. **Other expenditure:** is the amount spent on shopping, souvenirs, tickets for concerts or sports events, entrance to museums or zoos and day excursions during a tourism trip. It also includes durables and valuable goods, that is, the amount spent on cars, computers, paintings, jewellery and works of art.

13. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Sources and methods: https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_C3/Tourism_Statistics/Pages/TOURSTAT-Survey.aspx

Statistical concepts: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/concepts.aspx>

Metadata: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/reports.aspx?id=37>

Statistical database: <https://statdb.nso.gov.mt/start>

14. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.

For further assistance send a request from: <https://workflow.gov.mt/Runtime/Runtime/Form/01+NSO+Request+for+Statistical+Information/?language>

15. A detailed news release calendar is available on:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx