

Total inbound tourists for April 2021 were estimated at 10,184, while total nights spent amounted to 175,606.

Inbound Tourism: April 2021

During the month under review, a total of 6,577 inbound tourists visited Malta for holiday purposes, followed by 2,526 tourists for business purposes. The largest share of inbound tourists were aged between 25 and 44 years (50.5 per cent), followed by those within the 45-64 age bracket (24.0 per cent) (Table 1). Italian residents comprised 40.7 per cent of total inbound tourists (Table 5).

The average length of stay stood at 17.2 nights (Table 1). The largest share of guest nights (53.8 per cent) was spent in rented accommodation establishments, with 30.7% of the nights spent in other rented accommodation and 23.1% in collective accommodation (Table 3).

Total tourist expenditure was estimated at €8.8 million (Table 4), of which €3.9 million were in non-package expenditure and €4.0 million were spent in other expenditure.

January-April 2021

Inbound tourists for the first four months of 2021 amounted to 43,433, a decrease of 88.3 per cent over the same period in 2020 (Table 6). Total nights spent by inbound tourists decreased by 71.7 per cent, totalling 633,428 nights (Table 8).

Total tourism expenditure was estimated at €39.3 million, a decrease of 82.5 per cent when compared to the same period in the previous year (Table 9). Total expenditure per capita stood at €904, increasing from €607 in the same period in 2020, mainly as a result of longer length of stays (Table 11) ■



Statistics in this News Release should be interpreted in the context of the COVID-19 situation.

During the COVID-19 situation, the following tourism-related sequence of events took place in 2020:

28-Feb	Passengers flying in from Italy, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan, Iran and South Korea, from 26 February onwards were requested to stay in quarantine for 14 days upon arrival.
8-Mar	Flights from/to Milan were suspended.
10-Mar	Flights from/to Italy were suspended.
10-Mar	Last cruise liner call.
11-Mar	Flights from/to France, Switzerland, Germany, Spain, were suspended.
11-Mar	Passengers flying in from France, Switzerland, Germany, Spain, were requested to stay in quarantine for 14 days upon arrival.
13-Mar	All passengers flying in from all destinations were requested to stay in quarantine for 14 days upon arrival.
18-Mar	Last Virtu' Ferries service for passengers between Malta and Sicily was operated.
21-Mar	All flights from/to all destinations were suspended.
1-Jul	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.
15-Jul	Restrictions on all other flight destinations were lifted.
21-Aug	First cruise liner call since March 2020.

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

Table 1. Profile of inbound tourists by month of departure

Characteristics	April		
	2019	2020 ¹	2021
Total inbound visitors	244,372	0	11,294
Overnight cruise passengers	2,359	0	1,110
Inbound tourists	242,013	0	10,184
Mode of travel			
Air	237,160	0	8,654
Sea	4,853	0	1,530
Sex			
Males	113,538	0	6,570
Females	128,476	0	3,614
Age group			
0-24	47,364	0	2,087
25-44	90,076	0	5,139
45-64	77,712	0	2,441
65 or more	26,862	0	518 ^u
Markets²			
EU	210,579	0	8,903
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	126,129	0	7,864
Non-EU	31,435	0	1,281
Purpose of visit			
Holiday	216,636	0	6,577
Business and professional	14,833	0	2,526
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	10,544	0	1,082
Organisation of stay			
Package	75,278	0	799 ^u
Non-package	166,735	0	9,386
Frequency			
First-time tourists	187,920	0	5,283
Repeat tourists	54,093	0	4,902
once a year or less	38,475	0	2,576
more than once a year	15,618	0	2,326
Duration of visit			
1-3 nights	55,178	0	2,158
4-6 nights	82,022	0	1,880
7 nights or more	104,813	0	6,146
Average length of stay (nights)	6.2	-	17.2

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

¹ In view of the COVID-19 situation, all passenger flights were suspended from 21 March to 30 June 2020. Refer to methodological note 6 for further information.

² Refer to methodological note 8.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

Type of accommodation	April		
	2019	2020 ¹	2021
Rented accommodation	215,562	0	6,319
Collective	157,311	0	3,979
Other rented	58,251	0	2,340
Non-rented accommodation	26,451	0	3,865
Total tourists	242,013	0	10,184

¹ In view of the COVID-19 situation, all passenger flights were suspended from 21 March to 30 June 2020. Refer to methodological note 6 for further information.

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	April		
	2019	2020 ¹	2021
Rented accommodation	1,300,285	0	94,560
Collective	876,677	0	40,578
Other rented	423,608	0	53,982
Non-rented accommodation	210,785	0	81,046
Total nights	1,511,071	0	175,606

¹ In view of the COVID-19 situation, all passenger flights were suspended from 21 March to 30 June 2020. Refer to methodological note 6 for further information.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

Expenditure category	April		
	2019	2020 ¹	2021
Package	42,566	0	860^u
Non-package	67,516	0	3,910
Air/sea fares	34,525	0	1,823
Accommodation	32,991	0	2,087
Other expenditure	62,079	0	4,049
Total expenditure	172,161	0	8,820

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

¹ In view of the COVID-19 situation, all passenger flights were suspended from 21 March to 30 June 2020. Refer to methodological note 6 for further information.

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		April		
		2019	2020 ¹	2021
Tourists	EU	210,579	0	8,903
	<i>of which:</i>			
	France	25,559	0	1,691
	Germany	20,307	0	534 ^u
	Italy	33,899	0	4,149
	Poland	8,538	0	:
	Spain	9,040	0	:
	United Kingdom	56,990	n/a	n/a
	Non-EU	31,435	0	1,281
	<i>of which:</i>			
United Kingdom	n/a	0	:	
Total	242,013	0	10,184	
Nights	EU	1,277,185	0	151,125
	<i>of which:</i>			
	France	161,730	0	28,385
	Germany	132,175	0	7,686 ^u
	Italy	183,146	0	73,400
	Poland	49,203	0	:
	Spain	48,752	0	:
	United Kingdom	365,910	n/a	n/a
	Non-EU	233,885	0	24,481
	<i>of which:</i>			
United Kingdom	n/a	0	:	
Total	1,511,071	0	175,606	
Expenditure (€000)	EU	139,297	0	6,795
	<i>of which:</i>			
	France	18,315	0	1,625
	Germany	15,494	0	433 ^u
	Italy	17,643	0	2,506
	Poland	4,922	0	:
	Spain	5,200	0	:
	United Kingdom	38,308	n/a	n/a
	Non-EU	32,865	0	2,025
	<i>of which:</i>			
United Kingdom	n/a	0	:	
Total	172,161	0	8,820	

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

¹ Refer to methodological note 6.

² Refer to methodological note 8.

Notes:

1. n/a: not applicable.
2. Expenditure estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand Euro.
3. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 6. Profile of inbound tourists by period of departure

Characteristics	January-April			Change	Percentage change
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2021/2020	
Total inbound visitors	670,264	371,109	44,543	-326,566	-88.0
Overnight cruise passengers	2,359	893	1,110	217	24.3
Inbound tourists	667,905	370,216	43,433	-326,783	-88.3
Mode of travel					
Air	654,513	363,343	36,254	-327,089	-90.0
Sea	13,392	6,873	7,179	-	-
Sex					
Males	328,411	194,089	28,059	-166,030	-85.5
Females	339,494	176,127	15,374	-160,753	-91.3
Age group					
0-24	115,806	63,415	8,422	-54,993	-86.7
25-44	259,956	143,399	21,660	-121,739	-84.9
45-64	216,028	125,780	11,201	-114,579	-91.1
65 or more	76,115	37,622	2,150	-35,472	-94.3
Markets²					
EU	570,485	222,489	36,391	-186,098	-83.6
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	333,078	174,523	32,332	-142,191	-81.5
Non-EU	97,420	147,727	7,042	-140,685	-95.2
Purpose of visit					
Holiday	580,656	320,897	30,215	-290,682	-90.6
Business and professional	55,819	34,275	9,065	-25,210	-73.6
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	31,430	15,043	4,153	-10,890	-72.4
Organisation of stay					
Package	214,970	108,985	4,610	-104,375	-95.8
Non-package	452,934	261,231	38,824	-222,408	-85.1
Frequency					
First-time tourists	493,487	269,022	22,551	-246,471	-91.6
Repeat tourists	174,418	101,194	20,882	-80,312	-79.4
once a year or less	119,983	69,689	10,462	-59,227	-85.0
more than once a year	54,435	31,505	10,420	-21,085	-66.9
Duration of visit					
1-3 nights	185,036	121,427	9,992	-111,435	-91.8
4-6 nights	217,419	121,082	7,211	-113,871	-94.0
7 nights or more	265,450	127,707	26,230	-101,478	-79.5
Average length of stay (nights)	6.5	6.0	14.6	8.5	-

¹ Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7.

² Refer to methodological note 8.

Notes:

1. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
2. Changes denoted by the dash symbol (-) should be treated with caution. For more information, please refer to methodological note 5.

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

Type of accommodation	January-April			Change	Percentage change
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2021/2020	
Rented accommodation	588,706	324,582	27,461	-297,120	-91.5
Collective	452,949	251,231	18,458	-232,772	-92.7
Other rented	135,758	73,351	9,003	-64,348	-87.7
Non-rented accommodation	79,199	45,634	15,972	-29,662	-65.0
Total tourists	667,905	370,216	43,433	-326,783	-88.3

¹ Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7.

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-April			Change	Percentage change
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2021/2020	
Rented accommodation	3,602,659	1,831,284	325,975	-1,505,309	-82.2
Collective	2,462,826	1,281,560	141,106	-1,140,454	-89.0
Other rented	1,139,833	549,724	184,869	-364,855	-66.4
Non-rented accommodation	706,694	407,942	307,453	-100,489	-24.6
Total nights	4,309,353	2,239,226	633,428	-1,605,798	-71.7

¹ Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7.

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-April			Change	Percentage change	
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2021/2020		
Tourists	Australia	5,504	2,433 ^u	187 ^u	-	-
	Austria	9,421	3,295 ^u	:	-	-
	Belgium	21,218	11,553	1,239	-10,315	-89.3
	France	55,820	28,266	8,130	-20,137	-71.2
	Germany	58,539	26,610	3,182	-23,427	-88.0
	Hungary	7,679	4,454	:	-	-
	Ireland	11,473	7,741	:	-	-
	Italy	99,595	44,049	14,963	-29,087	-66.0
	Netherlands	12,115	8,943	740 ^u	-	-
	Poland	29,448	19,627	1,375	-18,252	-93.0
	Scandinavia ²	27,920	13,728	1,238 ^u	-	-
	Spain	26,933	16,671	1,353	-15,318	-91.9
	Switzerland	10,198	4,699	845 ^u	-	-
	United Kingdom	158,468	88,094	1,519	-86,575	-98.3
	USA	12,383	7,439	539 ^u	-	-
	Other	121,190	82,613	7,219	-75,395	-91.3
Total	667,905	370,216	43,433	-326,783	-88.3	
Nights	Australia	52,353	20,572 ^u	2,667 ^u	-	-
	Austria	52,501	20,088 ^u	:	-	-
	Belgium	132,399	57,407	19,418	-37,989	-66.2
	France	350,284	168,423	98,039	-70,385	-41.8
	Germany	386,728	174,626	41,638	-132,988	-76.2
	Hungary	38,180	20,479	:	-	-
	Ireland	74,276	46,739	:	-	-
	Italy	570,711	258,722	223,845	-34,877	-13.5
	Netherlands	89,809	45,102	15,381 ^u	-	-
	Poland	175,741	110,006	15,600	-94,406	-85.8
	Scandinavia ²	187,519	87,610	16,642 ^u	-	-
	Spain	133,339	81,324	19,306	-62,018	-76.3
	Switzerland	69,937	23,751	9,847 ^u	-	-
	United Kingdom	1,008,676	546,013	37,556	-508,458	-93.1
	USA	67,227	45,280	6,476 ^u	-	-
	Other	919,671	533,082	112,669	-420,413	-78.9
Total	4,309,353	2,239,226	633,428	-1,605,798	-71.7	
Expenditure (€000)	Australia	7,949	2,757 ^u	177 ^u	-	-
	Austria	7,150	2,438 ^u	:	-	-
	Belgium	13,093	5,861	1,243	-4,618	-78.8
	France	36,082	16,964	7,746	-9,218	-54.3
	Germany	41,015	17,424	3,276	-14,147	-81.2
	Hungary	3,678	2,011	:	-	-
	Ireland	8,193	5,052	:	-	-
	Italy	48,126	20,739	9,562	-11,176	-53.9
	Netherlands	7,718	4,783	782 ^u	-	-
	Poland	15,783	9,371	996	-8,375	-89.4
	Scandinavia ²	21,574	9,858	1,400 ^u	-	-
	Spain	12,628	7,766	1,240	-6,525	-84.0
	Switzerland	9,295	3,466	944 ^u	-	-
	United Kingdom	99,957	51,259	1,513	-49,746	-97.0
	USA	12,206	7,596	717 ^u	-	-
	Other	100,086	57,241	8,609	-48,631	-85.0
Total	444,532	224,582	39,279	-185,303	-82.5	

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

¹ Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7.

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-April 2021					
Australia	:	15 ^u	68 ^u	94 ^u	177 ^u
Austria	:	:	:	:	:
Belgium	:	273 ^u	359 ^u	606	1,243
France	975 ^u	1,532	1,851	3,388	7,746
Germany	:	752	691	1,480	3,276
Hungary	:	:	:	:	:
Ireland	:	:	:	:	:
Italy	739	1,823	1,516	5,485	9,562
Netherlands	:	177 ^u	166 ^u	439 ^u	782 ^u
Poland	:	176	253 ^u	522	996
Scandinavia ²	:	294 ^u	273 ^u	821 ^u	1,400 ^u
Spain	:	311	177 ^u	659	1,240
Switzerland	:	182 ^u	196 ^u	473 ^u	944 ^u
United Kingdom	:	323	:	921	1,513
USA	:	237 ^u	169 ^u	294 ^u	717 ^u
Other	1,067 ^u	2,353	1,846	3,343	8,609
Total	3,494	8,681	8,062	19,043	39,279
January-April 2020¹					
Australia	:	1,134 ^u	430 ^u	933 ^u	2,757 ^u
Austria	1,121 ^u	293 ^u	:	720 ^u	2,438 ^u
Belgium	955 ^u	1,153	1,243	2,511	5,861
France	4,752	2,819	3,187	6,207	16,964
Germany	6,121	2,509	2,905	5,888	17,424
Hungary	:	482	464 ^u	888	2,011
Ireland	837 ^u	899	1,083	2,232	5,052
Italy	3,166	3,696	4,029	9,848	20,739
Netherlands	786 ^u	1,019	867	2,110	4,783
Poland	2,003	1,871	2,060	3,437	9,371
Scandinavia ²	2,073	2,235	1,712	3,837	9,858
Spain	845 ^u	1,682	1,816	3,423	7,766
Switzerland	913 ^u	688	599 ^u	1,266	3,466
United Kingdom	16,706	7,246	7,390	19,916	51,259
USA	:	3,228	1,748	2,009	7,596
Other	8,963	14,914	10,356	23,007	57,241
Total	50,288	45,869	40,192	88,233	224,582
January-April 2019					
Australia	:	3,118	1,068	2,608	7,949
Austria	2,405	1,029	1,249	2,467	7,150
Belgium	3,457	1,995	2,894	4,746	13,093
France	11,459	5,507	6,789	12,326	36,082
Germany	15,999	5,174	6,532	13,310	41,015
Hungary	:	802	879	1,496	3,678
Ireland	1,660	1,294	1,632	3,607	8,193
Italy	8,434	7,982	10,225	21,485	48,126
Netherlands	1,546 ^u	1,503	1,667	3,001	7,718
Poland	3,993	2,339	2,766	6,685	15,783
Scandinavia ²	5,818	3,623	3,399	8,733	21,574
Spain	2,187	2,097	2,730	5,613	12,628
Switzerland	2,158 ^u	1,496	2,301	3,340	9,295
United Kingdom	32,297	12,107	16,038	39,515	99,957
USA	1,393 ^u	4,426	2,670	3,718	12,206
Other	20,031	23,952	19,546	36,556	100,086
Total	114,493	78,445	82,387	169,207	444,532

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

¹ Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7.

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

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Country of residence	Package expenditure	Non-package expenditure		Other expenditure	Total expenditure per capita
		Air/sea fares	Accommodation		
January-April 2021					
Australia	:	82 ^u	361 ^u	500 ^u	943 ^u
Austria	:	:	:	:	:
Belgium	:	223 ^u	540 ^u	489	1,003
France	850 ^u	218	339	417	953
Germany	:	254	341	465	1,029
Hungary	:	:	:	:	:
Ireland	:	:	:	:	:
Italy	399	139	247	367	639
Netherlands	:	240 ^u	366 ^u	593 ^u	1,057 ^u
Poland	:	137	290 ^u	380	725
Scandinavia ²	:	245 ^u	450 ^u	663 ^u	1,131 ^u
Spain	:	250	268 ^u	487	916
Switzerland	:	222 ^u	315 ^u	560 ^u	1,117 ^u
United Kingdom	:	221	:	607	996
USA	:	464 ^u	414 ^u	545 ^u	1,330 ^u
Other	:	375	426	463	1,193
Total expenditure per capita	370	223	346	438	904
January-April 2020¹					
Australia	:	537 ^u	261 ^u	384 ^u	1,133 ^u
Austria	631 ^u	193 ^u	:	218 ^u	740 ^u
Belgium	373 ^u	128	161	217	507
France	453	158	193	220	600
Germany	544	163	211	221	655
Hungary	:	127	130 ^u	199	451
Ireland	490 ^u	149	196	288	653
Italy	409	102	153	224	471
Netherlands	310 ^u	159	152	236	535
Poland	353	133	156	175	477
Scandinavia ²	511	231	211	279	718
Spain	324 ^u	120	147	205	466
Switzerland	616 ^u	214	222 ^u	269	737
United Kingdom	422	149	198	226	582
USA	:	465	281	270	1,021
Other	562	223	189	278	693
Total expenditure per capita	461	175	185	238	607
January-April 2019					
Australia	:	656	277	474	1,444
Austria	633	178	227	262	759
Belgium	563	131	207	224	617
France	529	161	212	221	646
Germany	565	171	246	227	701
Hungary	:	128	164	195	479
Ireland	452	166	232	314	714
Italy	399	101	169	216	483
Netherlands	495 ^u	166	225	248	637
Poland	409	118	156	227	536
Scandinavia ²	542	211	247	313	773
Spain	361	100	147	208	469
Switzerland	686 ^u	212	370	327	911
United Kingdom	497	129	225	249	631
USA	863 ^u	411	286	300	986
Other	701	256	248	302	826
Total expenditure per capita	533	172	218	253	666

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

¹ Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7.

² Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

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

Characteristics	April		
	2019	2020 ¹	2021
Total overnight cruise passengers	2,359	0	1,110
Sex			
Males	1,071	0	528
Females	1,288	0	582
Age group			
0-19	433	0	236
20-39	318	0	358
40-59	853	0	385
60-79	664	0	125
80 or more	91	0	6
Markets²			
EU	2,020	0	1,018
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	1,996	0	1,010
Non-EU	339	0	92

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

² Refer to methodological note 8.

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

Characteristics	January-April		
	2019	2020 ¹	2021
Total overnight cruise passengers	2,359	893	1,110
Sex			
Males	1,071	426	528
Females	1,288	467	582
Age group			
0-19	433	1	236
20-39	318	19	358
40-59	853	31	385
60-79	664	446	125
80 or more	91	396	6
Markets²			
EU	2,020	14	1,018
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	1,996	11	1,010
Non-EU	339	879	92

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

² Refer to methodological note 8.

Methodological Notes

1. This release focuses on Inbound Tourism, which comprises of 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 April 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 are collected through a regular survey, conducted during three separate months every year at the Valletta Cruise Port. A quota sample is used to conduct sea passenger departures in which survey interviewers are guided to select people according to fixed quotas. Survey data is supplemented by administrative data provided by ferry operators.
5. Absolute and percentage changes between one survey estimate and another based on less than 1,500 tourists should be treated with caution and are represented in this news release by means of the dash symbol (-).
6. In view of the COVID-19 situation, 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.
7. Malta International Airport reopened on 1 July 2020. 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. Restrictions on all other flight destinations were lifted on 15 July 2020.
8. Owing to the UK's exit from the European Union (with effect from 1st February 2020), UK data is statistically classified as Non-EU from February 2020 in the tables relating to the specific month (Tables 1 - 6). Comparability between monthly and cumulative tables and also between comparative periods should be treated with caution.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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'.
12. 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#>).
13. 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	10,184	948	10,184 ± 948
Total nights	175,606	14,458	175,606 ± 14,458
Total expenditure (€ 000)	8,820	662	8,820 ± 662

14. 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 complex, 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.

15. 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>

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

17. A detailed news release calendar is available on:

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