

Total inbound tourists for July 2022 were estimated at 273,646, while total nights spent amounted to 2,274,414.

Inbound Tourism: July 2022

During the month under review, a total of 247,029 inbound tourists visited Malta for holiday purposes, and 11,092 tourists came for business purposes. The largest share of inbound tourists were aged between 0 and 24 (36.7 per cent), followed by the 25-44 age bracket (36.2 per cent) (Table 1). Italian, French and German residents made up 37.3 per cent of total inbound tourists (Table 5).

The largest share of guest nights (83.6 per cent) was spent in rented accommodation establishments (Table 3). The average length of stay of total inbound tourists stood at 8.3 nights (Table 1).

Total tourist expenditure reached €275.0 million. The average expenditure per night was estimated at €120.9 (Table 4).

January-July 2022

During the first seven months of 2022, inbound tourists amounted to 1,168,741, while the total nights spent nearly reached 8.3 million nights (Tables 6, 7 and 8).

Total tourist expenditure was estimated at €970.9 million (Table 9). Total expenditure per capita stood at €831, decreasing from €946 in 2021 (Table 11).

COVID-19 recovery

Comparison can be made between 2019 and 2022 July data to quantify the recovery of inbound tourism from the effects of the pandemic. 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 89.9 per cent of those registered pre-COVID-19 (Table 1), and the associated nights spent made up 94.3 per cent of the respective figure (Table 3). The highest recovery can be seen in the 0-24 age bracket (106.9 per cent) and the lowest recovery is associated with the 65+ age bracket (75.7 per cent) (Table 1). The segment of inbound tourists visiting Malta for other purposes experienced a better recovery (95.0 per cent) than that of tourists visiting Malta for business (90.1 per cent) and holiday (89.6 per cent) purposes (Table 1).

Total tourist expenditure has reached 96.5 per cent of its respective pre-COVID-19 value (Table 4) ■

Chart 1. Inbound tourists

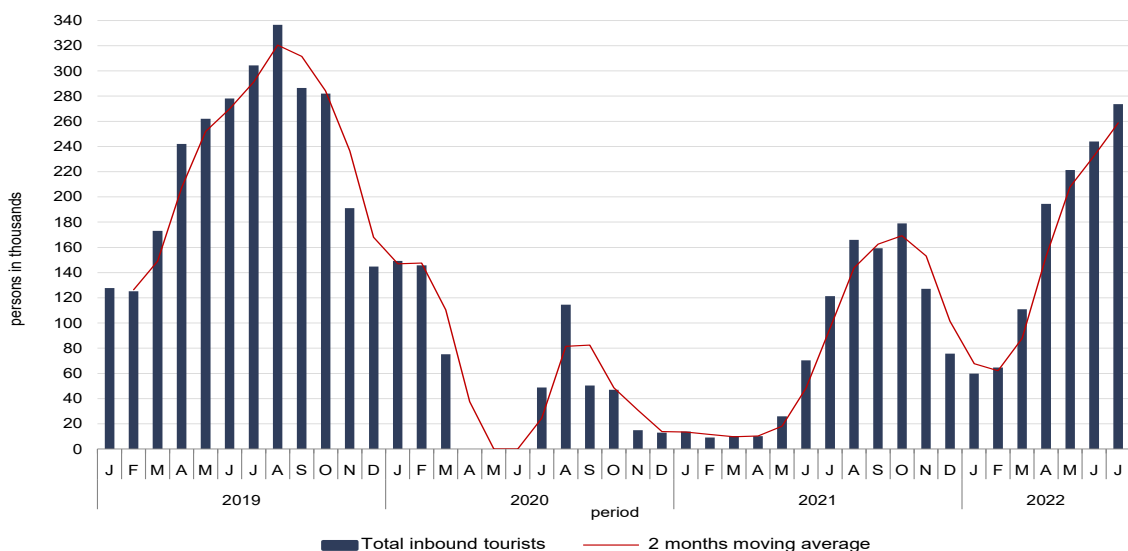


Table 1. Profile of inbound tourists by month of departure

Characteristics	July			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Total inbound visitors	305,588	48,743	122,301	277,788
Overnight cruise passengers	1,268	-	990	4,142
Inbound tourists	304,320	48,743	121,311	273,646
Mode of travel				
Air	299,358	45,179	119,364	270,612
Sea	4,962	3,564	1,948	3,033 ^P
Sex				
Males	153,104	26,504	61,767	128,957
Females	151,216	22,239	59,544	144,689
Age group				
0-24	93,894	15,010	41,798	100,381
25-44	116,720	20,426	45,585	99,067
45-64	76,609	11,458	28,250	61,248
65 or more	17,097	1,849	5,678	12,950
Markets²				
EU	244,641	41,679	92,542	191,063
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	141,855	32,121	71,125	151,500
Non-EU	59,679	7,064	28,769	82,583
Purpose of visit				
Holiday	275,667	44,557	105,942	247,029
Business and professional	12,309	2,965	5,099	11,092
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	16,343	1,222	10,271	15,525
Organisation of stay				
Package	86,621	7,800	26,974	60,699
Non-package	217,698	40,943	94,337	212,947
Frequency				
First-time tourists	232,024	31,424	91,268	215,440
Repeat tourists	72,296	17,319	30,044	58,205
once a year or less	55,082	11,249	22,881	45,290
more than once a year	17,215	6,070	7,163	12,916
Duration of visit				
1-3 nights	44,302	9,370	12,815	36,233
4-6 nights	77,414	12,807	29,785	77,396
7 nights or more	182,604	26,566	78,711	160,017
Average length of stay (nights)	7.9	12.2	9.2	8.3

^P Data for July 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	July			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Rented accommodation	264,125	37,208	104,356	242,126
Collective	175,434	26,188	75,314	157,990
Other rented	88,691	11,020	29,042	84,136
Non-rented accommodation	40,195	11,535	16,955	31,519
Total tourists	304,320	48,743	121,311	273,646

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	July			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Rented accommodation	2,000,140	314,400	915,421	1,901,681
Collective	1,160,941	169,533	562,351	1,097,119
Other rented	839,199	144,868	353,071	804,562
Non-rented accommodation	410,723	281,738	203,449	372,733
Total nights	2,410,862	596,139	1,118,871	2,274,414

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	July			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Package	73,061	4,755	27,588	56,568
Non-package	111,186	12,597	48,875	114,408
Air/sea fares	48,777	5,201	17,571	44,845
Accommodation	62,409	7,396	31,304	69,563
Other expenditure	100,706	16,455	49,984	104,033
Total expenditure	284,953	33,807	126,447	275,008

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		July			
		2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Tourists	EU	244,641	41,679	92,542	191,063
	<i>of which:</i>				
	France	23,773	5,222	19,713	30,705
	Germany	18,018	6,687	11,875	18,062
	Italy	45,604	12,467	15,967	53,323
	Poland	10,677	4,711 ^u	10,409	14,042
	Spain	15,122	1,948 ^u	5,567	11,491
	United Kingdom	65,491	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Non-EU	59,679	7,064	28,769	82,583
	<i>of which:</i>				
United Kingdom	n/a	4,202	20,397	44,031	
Total	304,320	48,743	121,311	273,646	
Nights	EU	1,887,701	499,060	833,837	1,521,933
	<i>of which:</i>				
	France	231,520	37,963	202,800	313,136
	Germany	144,768	57,138	103,461	146,804
	Italy	333,241	241,209	159,094	367,491
	Poland	92,394	34,745 ^u	80,474	107,669
	Spain	122,365	15,721 ^u	58,851	98,606
	United Kingdom	474,582	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Non-EU	523,161	97,078	285,034	752,481
	<i>of which:</i>				
United Kingdom	n/a	37,349	172,783	331,585	
Total	2,410,862	596,139	1,118,871	2,274,414	
Expenditure (€ 000)	EU	212,712	27,458	87,889	176,817
	<i>of which:</i>				
	France	22,861	3,752	21,134	32,528
	Germany	17,969	5,052	13,328	18,549
	Italy	32,638	7,131	12,851	38,579
	Poland	8,982	2,702 ^u	9,182	12,641
	Spain	13,121	1,003 ^u	4,635	10,505
	United Kingdom	56,953	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Non-EU	72,241	6,349	38,558	98,191
	<i>of which:</i>				
United Kingdom	n/a	3,164	23,109	47,569	
Total	284,953	33,807	126,447	275,008	

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

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-July			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Total inbound visitors	1,522,075	419,852	263,098	1,195,688
Overnight cruise passengers	9,687	893	2,100	26,947
Inbound tourists	1,512,388	418,959	260,998	1,168,741
Mode of travel				
Air	1,484,185	408,522	247,155	1,149,167
Sea	28,203	10,437	13,843	19,574 ^P
Sex				
Males	743,636	220,592	142,466	576,035
Females	768,752	198,367	118,532	592,706
Age group				
0-24	301,521	78,425	71,142	279,473
25-44	605,946	163,825	113,298	473,553
45-64	451,206	137,239	63,501	319,995
65 or more	153,715	39,471	13,057	95,720
Markets²				
EU	1,263,798	264,168	213,614	827,734
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	733,594	206,644	170,883	647,940
Non-EU	248,589	154,792	47,384	341,007
Purpose of visit				
Holiday	1,341,210	365,454	215,901	1,040,488
Business and professional	101,877	37,240	24,895	73,927
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	69,301	16,265	20,202	54,326
Organisation of stay				
Package	461,989	116,785	46,629	267,526
Non-package	1,050,399	302,175	214,369	901,215
Frequency				
First-time tourists	1,135,048	300,446	181,115	885,788
Repeat tourists	377,340	118,513	79,883	282,953
once a year or less	274,376	80,938	51,998	201,904
more than once a year	102,964	37,576	27,885	81,049
Duration of visit				
1-3 nights	357,676	130,797	42,033	277,604
4-6 nights	465,599	133,889	60,919	387,683
7 nights or more	689,112	154,274	158,045	503,454
Average length of stay (nights)	6.8	6.8	10.3	7.1

^P Data for May-July 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-July			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Rented accommodation	1,329,318	361,790	208,012	1,034,592
Collective	967,645	277,419	151,289	756,689
Other rented	361,673	84,370	56,724	277,903
Non-rented accommodation	183,070	57,170	52,986	134,150
Total tourists	1,512,388	418,959	260,998	1,168,741

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-July			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Rented accommodation	8,644,840	2,145,685	1,878,379	6,938,465
Collective	5,542,874	1,451,093	1,066,304	4,423,475
Other rented	3,101,966	694,592	812,075	2,514,990
Non-rented accommodation	1,636,887	689,680	797,455	1,318,582
Total nights	10,281,727	2,835,365	2,675,834	8,257,047

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-July			
		2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Tourists	Australia	25,998	2,546 ^u	359 ^u	7,618
	Austria	19,981	4,650 ^u	3,930	20,130
	Belgium	41,047	12,376	8,234	30,727
	France	129,615	33,488	46,870	137,294
	Germany	117,604	33,296	27,971	87,454
	Hungary	20,305	6,290	3,371	19,084
	Ireland	28,985	8,587	1,330 ^u	19,811
	Italy	216,250	56,516	48,090	190,945
	Netherlands	31,499	9,707	4,204	30,829
	Poland	59,456	24,338	20,117	78,190
	Scandinavia ²	68,704	14,825	9,722	41,921
	Spain	65,496	18,619	11,581	45,392
	Switzerland	28,195	6,319	6,223	19,201
	United Kingdom	354,285	92,296	25,930	221,108
	USA	29,062	7,554	2,848	20,111
	Other	275,903	87,552	40,220	198,927
Total	1,512,388	418,959	260,998	1,168,741	
Nights	Australia	244,318	24,939 ^u	3,532 ^u	77,936
	Austria	117,669	34,533 ^u	27,577	132,386
	Belgium	266,995	67,687	76,984	207,694
	France	898,242	206,387	452,982	1,007,529
	Germany	814,040	231,764	248,523	645,633
	Hungary	108,164	32,972	24,944	105,916
	Ireland	192,197	53,189	14,648 ^u	126,666
	Italy	1,300,828	499,932	607,665	1,213,009
	Netherlands	213,843	50,165	44,462	271,319
	Poland	388,772	144,751	154,743	467,318
	Scandinavia ²	480,014	103,638	92,244	334,354
	Spain	408,145	97,045	127,543	345,972
	Switzerland	191,268	35,242	74,082	132,698
	United Kingdom	2,337,001	583,362	260,299	1,499,029
	USA	164,943	45,806	27,065	154,221
	Other	2,155,289	623,952	438,542	1,535,368
Total	10,281,727	2,835,365	2,675,834	8,257,047	
Expenditure (€ 000)	Australia	37,050	2,848 ^u	280 ^u	14,133
	Austria	16,999	3,568 ^u	3,269	15,986
	Belgium	29,138	6,503	7,906	24,404
	France	97,629	20,716	43,657	109,239
	Germany	93,801	22,475	29,288	83,194
	Hungary	11,027	3,063	2,348	10,221
	Ireland	24,384	5,801	1,561 ^u	19,168
	Italy	121,776	27,870	34,262	110,058
	Netherlands	23,202	5,427	4,488	28,403
	Poland	38,014	12,072	15,564	51,142
	Scandinavia ²	61,562	11,082	10,776	48,572
	Spain	41,508	8,769	9,472	33,300
	Switzerland	27,802	5,149	10,098	22,979
	United Kingdom	266,934	54,423	28,397	207,769
	USA	32,953	7,663	4,674	28,462
	Other	244,675	60,961	40,844	163,859
Total	1,168,454	258,390	246,885	970,890	

^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-July 2022					
Australia	:	4,001	2,808	6,698	14,133
Austria	3,399	2,057	4,373	6,157	15,986
Belgium	3,610	4,395	6,605	9,794	24,404
France	22,427	16,185	26,320	44,307	109,239
Germany	23,555	12,898	18,106	28,635	83,194
Hungary	934 ^u	1,687	2,799	4,801	10,221
Ireland	2,636	3,508	4,780	8,244	19,168
Italy	14,338	14,163	28,751	52,806	110,058
Netherlands	5,210	4,365	6,757	12,071	28,403
Poland	11,006	6,831	11,999	21,306	51,142
Scandinavia ²	12,513	8,487	9,027	18,545	48,572
Spain	5,352	4,909	8,602	14,438	33,300
Switzerland	4,929	3,526	5,968	8,557	22,979
United Kingdom	62,840	27,650	42,505	74,774	207,769
USA	1,592 ^u	11,481	6,661	8,728	28,462
Other	17,745	32,144	44,284	69,686	163,859
Total	192,713	158,286	230,343	389,547	970,890
January-July 2021					
Australia	:	31 ^u	99 ^u	149 ^u	280 ^u
Austria	:	576	882 ^u	1,405	3,269
Belgium	1,036	1,407	2,127	3,336	7,906
France	7,759	6,861	10,722	18,316	43,657
Germany	6,659	4,843	6,686	11,100	29,288
Hungary	:	328	549	1,072	2,348 ^u
Ireland	:	198 ^u	476 ^u	790 ^u	1,561 ^u
Italy	6,177	4,655	6,321	17,109	34,262
Netherlands	:	805	1,120	2,108	4,488
Poland	2,820	2,426	3,962	6,356	15,564
Scandinavia ²	1,951	1,875	2,107 ^u	4,843	10,776
Spain	1,087 ^u	1,240	2,487	4,658	9,472
Switzerland	2,860 ^u	1,152	2,285	3,801	10,098
United Kingdom	4,658	3,965	7,439	12,335	28,397
USA	:	1,299	1,126	1,603	4,674
Other	4,915	8,366	10,329	17,234	40,844
Total	41,924	40,028	58,717	106,216	246,885
January-July 2020¹					
Australia	:	1,147 ^u	447 ^u	995 ^u	2,848 ^u
Austria	1,501 ^u	393 ^u	530	1,143 ^u	3,568 ^u
Belgium	1,052 ^u	1,254	1,434	2,762	6,503
France	5,447	3,445	4,082	7,743	20,716
Germany	7,140	3,367	4,005	7,963	22,475
Hungary	:	695	697	1,397	3,063
Ireland	889 ^u	991	1,328	2,593	5,801
Italy	3,791	4,647	5,391	14,041	27,870
Netherlands	803 ^u	1,161	1,041	2,422	5,427
Poland	2,273	2,283	2,731	4,786	12,072
Scandinavia ²	2,268	2,409	2,022	4,382	11,082
Spain	1,010 ^u	1,846	2,020	3,894	8,769
Switzerland	1,277 ^u	891	924 ^u	2,056	5,149
United Kingdom	17,333	7,744	7,940	21,406	54,423
USA	:	3,238	1,762	2,043	7,663
Other	9,104	15,560	11,236	25,061	60,961
Total	55,044	51,070	47,588	104,687	258,390
January-July 2019					
Australia	4,000 ^u	13,487	6,714	12,848	37,050
Austria	6,342	1,993	3,027	5,637	16,999
Belgium	7,705	4,328	6,583	10,522	29,138
France	28,961	14,917	20,408	33,344	97,629
Germany	36,067	11,822	16,461	29,451	93,801
Hungary	1,417 ^u	2,343	2,906	4,362	11,027
Ireland	4,373	4,288	5,573	10,150	24,384
Italy	22,853	19,655	26,111	53,157	121,776
Netherlands	5,883	3,891	4,712	8,716	23,202
Poland	9,277	5,809	8,127	14,802	38,014
Scandinavia ²	17,380	9,856	11,302	23,024	61,562
Spain	10,249	6,617	8,552	16,090	41,508
Switzerland	7,525	4,354	5,955	9,969	27,802
United Kingdom	85,462	34,846	46,668	99,958	266,934
USA	3,627 ^u	12,479	7,808	9,040	32,953
Other	45,869	58,319	50,558	89,929	244,675
Total	296,988	209,003	231,463	431,000	1,168,454

: 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-July 2022					
Australia	:	594	521	879	1,855
Austria	674	135	309	306	794
Belgium	720	171	289	319	794
France	651	157	275	323	796
Germany	867	212	334	327	951
Hungary	462 ^u	98	188	252	536
Ireland	692	218	345	416	968
Italy	573	85	212	277	576
Netherlands	693	185	325	392	921
Poland	528	119	218	272	654
Scandinavia ²	446	110	193	264	600
Spain	641	132	268	318	734
Switzerland	972	246	445	446	1,197
United Kingdom	760	198	392	338	940
USA	857 ^u	626	431	434	1,415
Other	822	180	294	350	824
Total expenditure per capita	720	175	298	333	831
January-July 2021					
Australia	:	87 ^u	292 ^u	417 ^u	781 ^u
Austria	:	177	348	358	832
Belgium	889 ^u	197	368	405	960
France	968	176	325	391	931
Germany	886	236	395	397	1,047
Hungary	:	122	260	318	697
Ireland	:	168 ^u	517 ^u	594 ^u	1,174 ^u
Italy	876	113	269	356	712
Netherlands	:	229	428	502	1,068
Poland	667	152	282	316	774
Scandinavia ²	728	266	436	498	1,108
Spain	708 ^u	121	317	402	818
Switzerland	1,779 ^u	249	561	611	1,623
United Kingdom	885	190	492	476	1,095
USA	:	508	584	563	1,641
Other	979	236	368	428	1,016
Total expenditure per capita	899	186	359	407	946
January-July 2020¹					
Australia	:	515 ^u	259 ^u	391 ^u	1,118 ^u
Austria	669 ^u	163 ^u	260	246 ^u	767 ^u
Belgium	393 ^u	129	173	223	525
France	470	157	202	231	619
Germany	559	163	227	239	675
Hungary	:	126	145	222	487
Ireland	506 ^u	145	213	302	676
Italy	401	99	165	248	493
Netherlands	313 ^u	163	168	250	559
Poland	363	126	163	197	496
Scandinavia ²	531	228	230	296	748
Spain	343 ^u	118	148	209	471
Switzerland	691 ^u	199	247 ^u	325	815
United Kingdom	428	149	202	232	590
USA	:	460	280	270	1,014
Other	562	217	194	286	696
Total expenditure per capita	471	169	193	250	617
January-July 2019					
Australia	1,084 ^u	594	356	494	1,425
Austria	727	172	279	282	851
Belgium	694	144	244	256	710
France	636	176	264	257	753
Germany	664	186	296	250	798
Hungary	431 ^u	138	204	215	543
Ireland	587	199	299	350	841
Italy	512	114	195	246	563
Netherlands	615	177	257	277	737
Poland	499	142	219	249	639
Scandinavia ²	686	227	315	335	896
Spain	540	142	206	246	634
Switzerland	831	226	350	354	986
United Kingdom	619	161	282	282	753
USA	977 ^u	491	345	311	1,134
Other	764	268	277	326	887
Total expenditure per capita	643	198	264	285	773

: 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	July			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Total overnight cruise passengers	1,268	-	990	4,142
Sex				
Males	656	-	448	2,004
Females	612	-	542	2,138
Age group				
0-19	49	-	6	633
20-39	132	-	42	752
40-59	270	-	185	1,505
60-79	718	-	696	1,182
80 or more	99	-	61	70
Markets²				
EU	532	-	25	2,970
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	198	-	15	2,920
Non-EU	736	-	965	1,172

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-July			
	2019	2020 ¹	2021	2022
Total overnight cruise passengers	9,687	893	2,100	26,947
Sex				
Males	4,457	426	976	12,593
Females	5,230	467	1,124	14,354
Age group				
0-19	664	1	242	2,586
20-39	871	19	400	3,564
40-59	2,559	31	570	9,305
60-79	4,839	446	821	10,862
80 or more	754	396	67	630
Markets²				
EU	6,407	14	1,043	9,905
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	5,796	11	1,025	9,727
Non-EU	3,280	879	1,057	17,042

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	273,646	2,558	273,646 ± 2,558
Total nights	2,274,414	103,365	2,274,414 ± 103,365
Total expenditure (€ 000)	275,008	7,546	275,008 ± 7,546

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