

Total inbound visitors for September 2021 were estimated at 159,304, while total nights spent amounted to 1,255,908.

## Inbound Tourism: September 2021

During the month under review, a total of 149,760 inbound tourists visited Malta for holiday purposes, followed by 6,307 tourists for business purposes. The largest share of inbound tourists were aged between 25-44 (44.2 per cent), closely followed by the age bracket 45-64 (27.8 per cent) (Table 1). French and Italian residents comprised 19.6 per cent of total inbound tourists (Table 5).

The largest share of guest nights (80.3 per cent) was spent in rented accommodation establishments (Table 3). The average length of stay of total inbound tourists stood at 7.9 nights (Table 1).

Total tourist expenditure surpassed €150.4 million. The average expenditure per night was estimated at €119.8 (Table 4).

### January-September 2021

Inbound tourists for the first nine months of 2021 amounted to 586,234, an increase of 0.4 per cent over the same period in 2020 (Table 6). Total nights spent by inbound tourists increased by 22.4 per cent, and reached nearly 5.4 million nights (Table 8).

Total tourism expenditure was estimated at €566.7 million, an increase of 44.3 per cent when compared to the same period in the previous year (Table 9). Total expenditure per capita stood at €967, increasing from €673 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	September			Change	Percentage change
	2019	2020 <sup>1</sup>	2021	2021/2020	
<b>Total inbound visitors</b>	<b>287,461</b>	<b>50,359</b>	<b>159,304</b>	<b>108,944</b>	<b>216.3</b>
Overnight cruise passengers <sup>2</sup>	970	0	0 <sup>p</sup>	-	-
<b>Inbound tourists</b>	<b>286,491</b>	<b>50,359</b>	<b>159,304</b>	<b>108,944</b>	<b>216.3</b>
<b>Mode of travel</b>					
Air	281,212	49,169	157,146	107,977	219.6
Sea	5,279	1,190	2,158	-	-
<b>Sex</b>					
Males	141,599	27,667	79,428	51,761	187.1
Females	144,892	22,693	79,876	57,183	252.0
<b>Age group</b>					
0-24	50,089	11,173	30,749	19,576	175.2
25-44	117,413	24,582	70,479	45,898	186.7
45-64	86,103	12,339	44,302	31,963	259.0
65 or more	32,885	2,265	13,774	11,508	508.0
<b>Markets<sup>3</sup></b>					
<b>EU</b>	<b>236,954</b>	<b>39,676</b>	<b>98,323</b>	<b>58,646</b>	<b>147.8</b>
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	135,833	34,972	78,332	43,360	124.0
<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>49,537</b>	<b>10,683</b>	<b>60,981</b>	<b>50,298</b>	<b>470.8</b>
<b>Purpose of visit</b>					
Holiday	261,696	46,966	149,760	102,795	218.9
Business and professional	16,750	2,074	6,307	4,233	204.0
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	8,045	1,319 <sup>u</sup>	3,236	1,917	145.3
<b>Organisation of stay</b>					
Package	80,545	9,715	41,457	31,742	326.7
Non-package	205,946	40,644	117,847	77,203	189.9
<b>Frequency</b>					
<b>First-time tourists</b>	<b>213,426</b>	<b>34,795</b>	<b>116,072</b>	<b>81,277</b>	<b>233.6</b>
<b>Repeat tourists</b>	<b>73,065</b>	<b>15,564</b>	<b>43,231</b>	<b>27,667</b>	<b>177.8</b>
once a year or less	55,763	10,093	33,927	23,833	236.1
more than once a year	17,302	5,471	9,305	3,834	70.1
<b>Duration of visit</b>					
1-3 nights	48,007	7,014	21,744	14,730	210.0
4-6 nights	84,917	11,915	42,052	30,137	252.9
7 nights or more	153,567	31,431	95,508	64,078	203.9
<b>Average length of stay (nights)</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>-</b>

<sup>p</sup> Provisional

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

<sup>1</sup> In view of the COVID-19 situation, all passenger flights were suspended from 21 March to 30 June 2020. Malta International Airport reopened on 1 July 2020. Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7 for further information.

<sup>2</sup> Data for September 2021 is to be considered provisional as a result of delays in data provision from source.

<sup>3</sup> 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 2. Inbound tourists by month of departure and type of accommodation**

Type of accommodation	September			Change	Percentage change
	2019	2020 <sup>1</sup>	2021		
<b>Rented accommodation</b>	<b>252,743</b>	<b>41,016</b>	<b>140,497</b>	<b>99,480</b>	<b>242.5</b>
Collective	167,300	29,092	105,934	76,842	264.1
Other rented	85,443	11,924	34,563	22,638	189.9
<b>Non-rented accommodation</b>	<b>33,748</b>	<b>9,343</b>	<b>18,807</b>	<b>9,464</b>	<b>101.3</b>
<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>286,491</b>	<b>50,359</b>	<b>159,304</b>	<b>108,944</b>	<b>216.3</b>

<sup>1</sup> In view of the COVID-19 situation, all passenger flights were suspended from 21 March to 30 June 2020. Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7 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	September			Change	Percentage change
	2019	2020 <sup>1</sup>	2021		
<b>Rented accommodation</b>	<b>1,704,159</b>	<b>309,488</b>	<b>1,008,394</b>	<b>698,905</b>	<b>225.8</b>
Collective	1,029,151	193,816	704,376	510,560	263.4
Other rented	675,008	115,672	304,017	188,345	162.8
<b>Non-rented accommodation</b>	<b>375,769</b>	<b>161,244</b>	<b>247,515</b>	<b>86,271</b>	<b>53.5</b>
<b>Total nights</b>	<b>2,079,928</b>	<b>470,732</b>	<b>1,255,908</b>	<b>785,176</b>	<b>166.8</b>

<sup>1</sup> In view of the COVID-19 situation, all passenger flights were suspended from 21 March to 30 June 2020. Malta International Airport reopened on 1 July 2020. Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7 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	September			Change	Percentage change
	2019	2020 <sup>1</sup>	2021		
<b>Package</b>	<b>64,867</b>	<b>6,152</b>	<b>35,584</b>	<b>29,432</b>	<b>478.4</b>
<b>Non-package</b>	<b>100,339</b>	<b>14,066</b>	<b>53,690</b>	<b>39,623</b>	<b>281.7</b>
Air/sea fares	46,520	5,367	19,394	14,026	261.3
Accommodation	53,819	8,699	34,296	25,597	294.3
<b>Other expenditure</b>	<b>91,798</b>	<b>19,595</b>	<b>61,171</b>	<b>41,577</b>	<b>212.2</b>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>257,005</b>	<b>39,813</b>	<b>150,446</b>	<b>110,632</b>	<b>277.9</b>

€ 000

<sup>1</sup> In view of the COVID-19 situation, all passenger flights were suspended from 21 March to 30 June 2020. Malta International Airport reopened on 1 July 2020. Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7 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 <sup>2</sup>		September			Change	Percentage change
		2019	2020 <sup>1</sup>	2021	2021/2020	
Tourists	<b>EU</b>	<b>236,954</b>	<b>39,676</b>	<b>98,323</b>	<b>58,646</b>	<b>147.8</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	23,025	8,251	16,068	7,817	94.7
	Germany	21,864	10,949	14,743	3,794	34.7
	Italy	39,413	5,888	15,162	9,274	157.5
	Poland	9,810	3,018	9,962	6,944	230.1
	Spain	10,796	1,877 <sup>u</sup>	6,212	4,336	231.0
	United Kingdom	69,896	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>49,537</b>	<b>10,683</b>	<b>60,981</b>	<b>50,298</b>	<b>470.8</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
United Kingdom	n/a	9,375	51,763	n/a	n/a	
<b>Total</b>	<b>286,491</b>	<b>50,359</b>	<b>159,304</b>	<b>108,944</b>	<b>216.3</b>	
Nights	<b>EU</b>	<b>1,633,854</b>	<b>353,532</b>	<b>763,668</b>	<b>410,137</b>	<b>116.0</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	165,195	64,044	121,742	57,698	90.1
	Germany	150,824	88,823	121,215	32,392	36.5
	Italy	262,632	89,032	155,589	66,557	74.8
	Poland	65,086	25,682	64,138	38,457	149.7
	Spain	70,331	19,032 <sup>u</sup>	52,970	33,938	178.3
	United Kingdom	514,586	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>446,073</b>	<b>117,201</b>	<b>492,240</b>	<b>375,039</b>	<b>320.0</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
United Kingdom	n/a	93,002	417,982	n/a	n/a	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,079,928</b>	<b>470,732</b>	<b>1,255,908</b>	<b>785,176</b>	<b>166.8</b>	
Expenditure (€ 000)	<b>EU</b>	<b>195,344</b>	<b>28,481</b>	<b>81,612</b>	<b>53,131</b>	<b>186.6</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
	France	20,814	6,400	13,974	7,574	118.3
	Germany	18,721	8,988	15,450	6,462	71.9
	Italy	24,693	3,033	9,300	6,266	206.6
	Poland	7,235	1,897	6,649	4,752	250.5
	Spain	8,089	888 <sup>u</sup>	4,841	3,954	445.4
	United Kingdom	64,923	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>61,660</b>	<b>11,333</b>	<b>68,834</b>	<b>57,501</b>	<b>507.4</b>
	<i>of which:</i>					
United Kingdom	n/a	9,009	58,640	n/a	n/a	
<b>Total</b>	<b>257,005</b>	<b>39,813</b>	<b>150,446</b>	<b>110,632</b>	<b>277.9</b>	

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

<sup>1</sup> In view of the COVID-19 situation, all passenger flights were suspended from 21 March to 30 June 2020. Malta International Airport reopened on 1 July 2020. Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7 for further information.

<sup>2</sup> 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-September			Change	Percentage change
	2019	2020 <sup>1</sup>	2021	2021/2020	
<b>Total inbound visitors</b>	<b>2,148,293</b>	<b>584,669</b>	<b>587,344</b>	<b>2,674</b>	<b>0.5</b>
Overnight cruise passengers <sup>2</sup>	12,868	893	1,110 <sup>P</sup>	217	24.3
<b>Inbound tourists</b>	<b>2,135,425</b>	<b>583,776</b>	<b>586,234</b>	<b>2,457</b>	<b>0.4</b>
<b>Mode of travel</b>					
Air	2,095,420	569,742	568,591	-	-
Sea	40,006	14,034	17,642	3,608	25.7
<b>Sex</b>					
Males	1,053,835	308,343	305,679	-2,664	-0.9
Females	1,081,590	275,433	280,554	5,121	1.9
<b>Age group</b>					
0-24	463,833	131,229	150,913	19,684	15.0
25-44	859,877	237,182	253,098	15,915	6.7
45-64	613,157	170,318	147,528	-22,789	-13.4
65 or more	198,558	45,047	34,695	-10,352	-23.0
<b>Markets<sup>3</sup></b>					
<b>EU</b>	<b>1,785,999</b>	<b>389,396</b>	<b>422,854</b>	<b>33,458</b>	<b>8.6</b>
<i>of which: Euro area</i>	1,046,493	311,829	342,268	30,439	9.8
<b>Non-EU</b>	<b>349,427</b>	<b>194,381</b>	<b>163,380</b>	<b>-31,001</b>	<b>-15.9</b>
<b>Purpose of visit</b>					
Holiday	1,916,412	520,327	523,254	2,927	0.6
Business and professional	128,283	41,632	34,824	-6,809	-16.4
Other (including educational, religious and health tourism)	90,730	21,817	28,156	6,339	29.1
<b>Organisation of stay</b>					
Package	636,960	148,710	129,190	-19,520	-13.1
Non-package	1,498,465	435,066	457,044	21,978	5.1
<b>Frequency</b>					
<b>First-time tourists</b>	<b>1,613,150</b>	<b>418,233</b>	<b>424,242</b>	<b>6,009</b>	<b>1.4</b>
<b>Repeat tourists</b>	<b>522,275</b>	<b>165,543</b>	<b>161,992</b>	<b>-3,551</b>	<b>-2.1</b>
once a year or less	389,618	112,634	116,807	4,173	3.7
more than once a year	132,657	52,909	45,185	-7,725	-14.6
<b>Duration of visit</b>					
1-3 nights	437,385	148,013	80,922	-67,091	-45.3
4-6 nights	636,221	173,956	144,504	-29,452	-16.9
7 nights or more	1,061,819	261,808	360,808	99,001	37.8
<b>Average length of stay (nights)</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>-</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

<sup>1</sup> Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7.

<sup>2</sup> Data refers to January-June 2021 as a result of delays in data provision from source for July-September 2021.

<sup>3</sup> 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-September			Change	Percentage change
	2019	2020 <sup>1</sup>	2021		
<b>Rented accommodation</b>	<b>1,880,258</b>	<b>496,959</b>	<b>494,582</b>	<b>-2,377</b>	<b>-0.5</b>
Collective	1,322,110	368,526	362,926	-5,601	-1.5
Other rented	558,149	128,433	131,656	3,223	2.5
<b>Non-rented accommodation</b>	<b>255,167</b>	<b>86,817</b>	<b>91,652</b>	<b>4,835</b>	<b>5.6</b>
<b>Total tourists</b>	<b>2,135,425</b>	<b>583,776</b>	<b>586,234</b>	<b>2,457</b>	<b>0.4</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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-September			Change	Percentage change
	2019	2020 <sup>1</sup>	2021		
<b>Rented accommodation</b>	<b>12,761,128</b>	<b>3,242,218</b>	<b>4,050,596</b>	<b>808,377</b>	<b>24.9</b>
Collective	7,889,346	2,080,345	2,535,953	455,608	21.9
Other rented	4,871,782	1,161,873	1,514,643	352,769	30.4
<b>Non-rented accommodation</b>	<b>2,480,593</b>	<b>1,139,702</b>	<b>1,313,532</b>	<b>173,830</b>	<b>15.3</b>
<b>Total nights</b>	<b>15,241,721</b>	<b>4,381,920</b>	<b>5,364,128</b>	<b>982,208</b>	<b>22.4</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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-September			Change	Percentage change	
	2019	2020 <sup>1</sup>	2021	2021/2020		
Tourists	Australia	40,181	2,629	580	-2,049	-77.9
	Austria	26,987	9,327	9,814	-	-
	Belgium	56,041	16,620	18,672	2,052	12.3
	France	190,769	57,703	93,152	35,449	61.4
	Germany	159,066	57,389	58,569	-	-
	Hungary	29,673	9,438	6,531	-2,907	-30.8
	Ireland	41,414	12,230	6,917	-5,313	-43.4
	Italy	318,200	82,445	82,564	-	-
	Netherlands	45,393	13,271	11,284	-1,987	-15.0
	Poland	80,209	35,711	40,664	4,953	13.9
	Scandinavia <sup>2</sup>	93,728	16,310	14,996	-	-
	Spain	91,667	25,547	22,128	-3,419	-13.4
	Switzerland	38,012	9,280	12,268	2,988	32.2
	United Kingdom	498,367	126,464	124,548	-1,916	-1.5
	USA	38,536	7,991	8,128	-	-
	Other	387,182	101,421	75,419	-26,002	-25.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,135,425</b>	<b>583,776</b>	<b>586,234</b>	<b>2,457</b>	<b>0.4</b>	
Nights	Australia	395,900	25,270	4,830	-20,440	-80.9
	Austria	164,655	67,215	79,946	-	-
	Belgium	380,338	107,448	155,577	48,129	44.8
	France	1,465,736	399,392	846,120	446,728	111.9
	Germany	1,141,940	442,972	491,581	-	-
	Hungary	163,799	51,473	45,214	-6,260	-12.2
	Ireland	279,435	79,032	50,588	-28,444	-36.0
	Italy	2,049,463	816,723	941,970	-	-
	Netherlands	333,287	87,233	98,423	11,190	12.8
	Poland	546,905	232,994	301,175	68,180	29.3
	Scandinavia <sup>2</sup>	666,758	127,027	134,309	-	-
	Spain	591,349	150,481	214,572	64,091	42.6
	Switzerland	260,892	72,884	121,674	48,790	66.9
	United Kingdom	3,452,459	925,203	1,071,487	146,284	15.8
	USA	233,881	52,946	55,199	-	-
	Other	3,114,925	743,627	751,465	7,838	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,241,721</b>	<b>4,381,920</b>	<b>5,364,128</b>	<b>982,208</b>	<b>22.4</b>	
Expenditure (€ 000)	Australia	61,004	2,902	573	-2,329	-80.3
	Austria	23,042	7,372	8,944	-	-
	Belgium	41,744	10,256	17,862	7,605	74.1
	France	159,212	40,906	90,091	49,185	120.2
	Germany	132,085	44,039	62,281	-	-
	Hungary	16,945	4,648	4,496	-152	-3.3
	Ireland	37,277	9,339	7,490	-1,849	-19.8
	Italy	196,117	45,116	57,231	-	-
	Netherlands	36,113	8,353	12,371	4,018	48.1
	Poland	54,918	19,894	30,535	10,641	53.5
	Scandinavia <sup>2</sup>	85,615	12,596	15,747	-	-
	Spain	62,433	12,978	18,127	5,149	39.7
	Switzerland	39,167	9,491	17,150	7,658	80.7
	United Kingdom	402,960	84,549	140,812	56,263	66.5
	USA	43,501	8,181	11,430	-	-
	Other	362,915	72,217	71,584	-633	-0.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,755,050</b>	<b>392,835</b>	<b>566,722</b>	<b>173,886</b>	<b>44.3</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7.

<sup>2</sup> 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.
3. Changes denoted by the dash symbol (-) should be treated with caution. For more information, please refer to methodological note 5.

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		
<b>January-September 2021</b>					
Australia	:	58	264	250	<b>573</b>
Austria	2,099 <sup>u</sup>	1,181	2,306	3,359	<b>8,944</b>
Belgium	2,596	3,100	4,944	7,222	<b>17,862</b>
France	15,534	13,944	22,657	37,956	<b>90,091</b>
Germany	16,535	9,090	13,986	22,670	<b>62,281</b>
Hungary	:	669	1,161	1,893	<b>4,496</b>
Ireland	:	987	2,178	3,417	<b>7,490</b>
Italy	8,242	7,393	12,130	29,466	<b>57,231</b>
Netherlands	2,031	1,844	2,814	5,681	<b>12,371</b>
Poland	5,748	4,621	7,966	12,200	<b>30,535</b>
Scandinavia <sup>2</sup>	3,091	2,643	3,091	6,921	<b>15,747</b>
Spain	2,077	2,141	4,405	9,504	<b>18,127</b>
Switzerland	3,519 <sup>u</sup>	2,232	4,747	6,651	<b>17,150</b>
United Kingdom	39,502	15,134	31,923	54,251	<b>140,812</b>
USA	3,762	2,467	2,194	3,007	<b>11,430</b>
Other	9,020	13,244	18,059	31,260	<b>71,584</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>115,437</b>	<b>80,751</b>	<b>134,826</b>	<b>235,708</b>	<b>566,722</b>
<b>January-September 2020<sup>1</sup></b>					
Australia	:	1,153	464	1,025	<b>2,902</b>
Austria	2,092	969	1,452	2,859	<b>7,372</b>
Belgium	1,802	1,691	2,401	4,363	<b>10,256</b>
France	10,223	5,956	8,617	16,110	<b>40,906</b>
Germany	12,505	6,031	8,661	16,841	<b>44,039</b>
Hungary	:	940	1,201	2,151	<b>4,648</b>
Ireland	1,190 <sup>u</sup>	1,463	2,459	4,227	<b>9,339</b>
Italy	5,663	7,022	10,042	22,390	<b>45,116</b>
Netherlands	1,139 <sup>u</sup>	1,626	1,659	3,929	<b>8,353</b>
Poland	3,847	3,456	4,645	7,946	<b>19,894</b>
Scandinavia <sup>2</sup>	2,590	2,626	2,343	5,036	<b>12,596</b>
Spain	1,282	2,538	3,141	6,017	<b>12,978</b>
Switzerland	1,837 <sup>u</sup>	1,219	2,052	4,382	<b>9,491</b>
United Kingdom	21,587	12,276	15,350	35,337	<b>84,549</b>
USA	:	3,413	1,864	2,276	<b>8,181</b>
Other	10,926	17,233	14,062	29,997	<b>72,217</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>77,927</b>	<b>69,610</b>	<b>80,413</b>	<b>164,886</b>	<b>392,835</b>
<b>January-September 2019</b>					
Australia	5,877	21,650	11,552	21,926	<b>61,004</b>
Austria	8,293	2,870	4,529	7,350	<b>23,042</b>
Belgium	10,523	6,266	9,820	15,135	<b>41,744</b>
France	45,431	24,403	35,318	54,059	<b>159,212</b>
Germany	50,012	17,118	23,918	41,038	<b>132,085</b>
Hungary	2,141	3,524	4,625	6,656	<b>16,945</b>
Ireland	7,533	6,001	8,618	15,126	<b>37,277</b>
Italy	34,274	31,625	44,864	85,354	<b>196,117</b>
Netherlands	9,279	5,831	7,450	13,554	<b>36,113</b>
Poland	12,809	8,468	12,503	21,138	<b>54,918</b>
Scandinavia <sup>2</sup>	24,118	13,673	16,436	31,388	<b>85,615</b>
Spain	14,403	10,131	14,194	23,705	<b>62,433</b>
Switzerland	10,698	6,295	8,566	13,608	<b>39,167</b>
United Kingdom	132,001	52,240	72,788	145,931	<b>402,960</b>
USA	4,540	16,479	10,077	12,405	<b>43,501</b>
Other	71,545	84,691	75,375	131,304	<b>362,915</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>443,476</b>	<b>311,264</b>	<b>360,634</b>	<b>639,676</b>	<b>1,755,050</b>

: Unreliable, less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

<sup>1</sup> Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7.

<sup>2</sup> 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		
<b>January-September 2021</b>					
Australia	:	101	470	432	<b>988</b>
Austria	794 <sup>u</sup>	165	382	342	<b>911</b>
Belgium	912	195	362	387	<b>957</b>
France	942	181	331	407	<b>967</b>
Germany	929	221	396	387	<b>1,063</b>
Hungary	:	121	251	290	<b>688</b>
Ireland	:	170	428	494	<b>1,083</b>
Italy	775	103	271	357	<b>693</b>
Netherlands	746	215	420	503	<b>1,096</b>
Poland	680	143	280	300	<b>751</b>
Scandinavia <sup>2</sup>	708	248	400	462	<b>1,050</b>
Spain	760	109	287	430	<b>819</b>
Switzerland	1,486 <sup>u</sup>	225	539	542	<b>1,398</b>
United Kingdom	913	185	488	436	<b>1,131</b>
USA	1,216	482	526	370	<b>1,406</b>
Other	936	200	330	414	<b>949</b>
<b>Total expenditure per capita</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>967</b>
<b>January-September 2020<sup>1</sup></b>					
Australia	:	500	256	390	<b>1,104</b>
Austria	623	162	265	307	<b>790</b>
Belgium	554	126	209	262	<b>617</b>
France	559	150	237	279	<b>709</b>
Germany	649	158	261	293	<b>767</b>
Hungary	:	111	161	228	<b>493</b>
Ireland	532 <sup>u</sup>	145	270	346	<b>764</b>
Italy	443	101	209	272	<b>547</b>
Netherlands	361 <sup>u</sup>	161	200	296	<b>629</b>
Poland	445	127	184	223	<b>557</b>
Scandinavia <sup>2</sup>	566	224	242	309	<b>772</b>
Spain	391	114	164	236	<b>508</b>
Switzerland	702 <sup>u</sup>	183	359	472	<b>1,023</b>
United Kingdom	461	154	261	279	<b>669</b>
USA	:	457	285	285	<b>1,024</b>
Other	590	207	207	296	<b>712</b>
<b>Total expenditure per capita</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>673</b>
<b>January-September 2019</b>					
Australia	1,106	611	395	546	<b>1,518</b>
Austria	743	177	307	272	<b>854</b>
Belgium	729	150	264	270	<b>745</b>
France	716	191	300	283	<b>835</b>
Germany	711	192	311	258	<b>830</b>
Hungary	468	140	218	224	<b>571</b>
Ireland	638	203	333	365	<b>900</b>
Italy	527	125	222	268	<b>616</b>
Netherlands	647	187	282	299	<b>796</b>
Poland	553	148	240	264	<b>685</b>
Scandinavia <sup>2</sup>	723	226	329	335	<b>913</b>
Spain	583	150	233	259	<b>681</b>
Switzerland	878	242	373	358	<b>1,030</b>
United Kingdom	678	172	313	293	<b>809</b>
USA	971	486	346	322	<b>1,129</b>
Other	855	277	294	339	<b>937</b>
<b>Total expenditure per capita</b>	<b>696</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>822</b>

: Unreliable, less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

<sup>1</sup> Refer to methodological notes 6 and 7.

<sup>2</sup> Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

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

Characteristics	September		
	2019	2020 <sup>1</sup>	2021 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Total overnight cruise passengers</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Sex</b>			
Males	461	0	0
Females	509	0	0
<b>Age group</b>			
0-19	1	0	0
20-39	23	0	0
40-59	167	0	0
60-79	694	0	0
80 or more	85	0	0
<b>Markets<sup>2</sup></b>			
EU	226	0	0
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	51	0	0
Non-EU	744	0	0

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

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

<sup>2</sup> Refer to methodological note 8.

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

Characteristics	January-September		
	2019	2020 <sup>1</sup>	2021 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Total overnight cruise passengers</b>	<b>12,868</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>1,110</b>
<b>Sex</b>			
Males	5,962	426	528
Females	6,906	467	582
<b>Age group</b>			
0-19	867	1	236
20-39	1,104	19	358
40-59	3,284	31	385
60-79	6,637	446	125
80 or more	976	396	6
<b>Markets<sup>2</sup></b>			
EU	7,259	14	1,018
<i>of which</i> : Euro area	6,182	11	1,010
Non-EU	5,609	879	92

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

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

<sup>2</sup> Refer to methodological note 8.

## 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 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 1 February 2020), UK data is statistically classified as Non-EU from February 2020 in the tables relating to the specific month (Tables 1 and 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	159,304	4,504	159,304 ± 4,504
Total nights	1,255,908	44,336	1,255,908 ± 44,336
Total expenditure (€ 000)	150,446	3,630	150,446 ± 3,630

#### 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 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.

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