

2.12

TOURISM



In 2010, according to the World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO), the global number of tourists rose by 6.7%. This improved upon the sector's performance in 2009, when there were 4.2% fewer arrivals and revenue decreased by 5.7%. While recovery was significant in Asian countries and in the Middle East, it was more moderate in America and Africa.

Europe recorded the lowest growth (3.2%), but still remains the world leader in terms of number of tourists, receiving almost twice as many as the rest of the world. Tourism in southern Europe grew by even less, only expanding by 2%. In its report, the UNWTO contrasts the boom in tourism in emerging economies against its more gradual increase in advanced nations. This two-speed recovery reflects the situation in the global economy and is likely to continue for the next few years.

In terms of Europe's position within global tourism, it is worth noting the estimate in the first Commission Communication (after the Treaty of Lisbon) entitled "Europe, the world's No 1 tourist destination – a new political framework for tourism in Europe" [COM (2010) 352 final]. Presented in Santiago de Compostela during the Spanish Presidency of the EU, it called for implementation of 21 action plans (eight of



INDICATOR	GOAL	TREND
Number of foreign tourists per inhabitant	Monitor the number of tourists and their relationship with the host population	Despite the increase in tourist numbers, the number of foreign tourists per inhabitant remained the same as in 2009 (1.1) due to the continued rise in population
Number of foreign tourists per kilometre of coast	Monitor the presence of foreign tourists on the coast to minimise their impact	The number of foreign tourists per kilometre of coast stood at 5,860, up from 5,764 the year before
Tourist Population Equivalent (TPE) in the areas with the highest number of overnight stays	Monitor the trend in the 10 well-established tourist destinations selected	The ten destinations selected by number of overnight hotel stays show an increase well above the national growth rate in both 2010 (6.8%) and since 2001 (8.4%)
Number of visitors to National Parks	Safeguard National Parks against excessive tourist pressure	In 2010, the overall number of visitors decreased by 3.9%, although some Parks, like Tablas de Daimiel (206.8%), saw significant increases
Rural tourism: accommodation, capacity, tourists and overnight stays	Monitor trends in rural tourism infrastructure and services against the principles of sustainable rural development	In 2010, the number of establishments offering rural accommodation rose by 12.37%, as did capacity (14.36%), while the number of tourists only increased by 1.64%
Trends in the main variables affecting tourism in Spain	Achieve sustainable tourism and decouple its economic growth from the pressure it exerts on the environment, particularly the coast	After the slump in 2009, the number of international tourists is starting to recover as regards number of arrivals, overnight stays and revenue, though internal tourism is decreasing

which were assigned priority status) to build a sustainable and high-quality tourism industry.

KEY DATA ON WORLDWIDE INBOUND TOURISM (2009 and 2010)

Tourist destination	No of tourists 2009 (million)	No of tourists 2010 (million)	Increase 2010/2009
Europe	456.9	471.5	3.2
Asia and the Pacific	181.0	203.8	12.6
The Americas (North and South)	140.5	151.2	7.7
Middle East	52.7	53	13.9
Africa	45.8	48.7	6.4
World total	877	935	6.7

Source: UNWTO, World Tourism Barometer, January 2011.

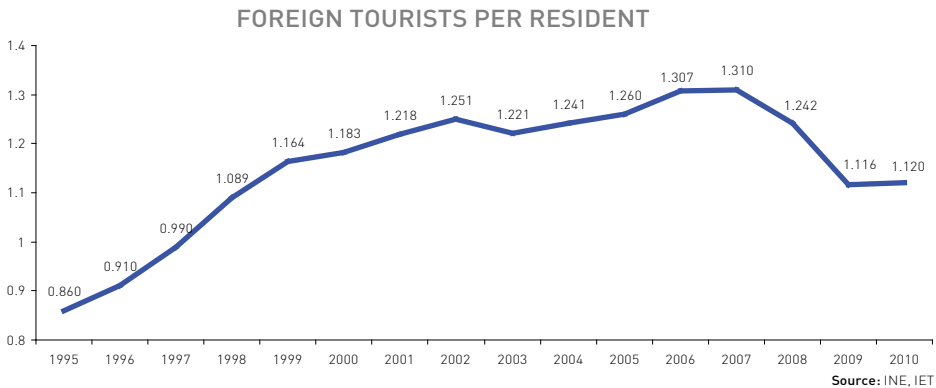
In this context of recovery, in 2010 Spain received 52.7 million tourists, just over 1% more than the previous year. This figure is close to the average (53.7 million) for 2000–2010, which was the decade that saw the most significant rises. In terms of modes of transport used to travel to Spain, the most widely used is still air transport, which accounts for 77% of the total, followed by road transport (20%). Although the number of tourists arriving in Spain by rail is low (177,942), the figure rose significantly in percentage terms on the previous year (27.7%).

The decrease in the number of tourists from Germany and the United Kingdom (the main countries of origin) was compensated for by the increase in Italian, Russian and Dutch tourists. Overall tourist spending totalled €49.14 billion, an increase of 2.5%. Thus, recovery was generally in line with the UNWTO's estimate for Mediterranean countries.

By autonomous community, the most popular destinations among international tourists were Catalonia, the Balearic Islands, the Canary Islands, Andalusia, Valencia and Madrid. These six autonomous communities received a total of 48 million tourists, 91.2% of all arrivals. Compared with the previous year, the autonomous communities that saw the greatest increase in tourist numbers were the Basque Country (12.6%), Asturias (6%), the Canary Islands (4.9%), Catalonia (3.7%), the Balearic Islands (1.7%) and Castile-Leon (1.4%). It is worth noting that the autonomous communities bordering France and Portugal also received over 41 million day-trippers (tourists who do not stay overnight).

Number of foreign tourists per inhabitant

In 2010, the slight increase in inbound tourism (1%) and the rise in population (0.6%) kept the number of foreign tourists per inhabitant at last year's level (1.12)



Despite the downturns in 2008 and 2009, the graph shows an overall upward trend for the period analysed. In 2010, the number of tourists rose again, as did the population in Spain. As a result, the rate remained the same as in 2009 (1.12 tourists per inhabitant). In 2010, Spain received 52.7 million foreign tourists, 1% more than the previous year. Meanwhile, the country's population reached 47 million inhabitants, an increase of 0.6%.

As in previous years, only three autonomous communities exceeded the national average, while the rest were well below it. In 2010, the Balearic Islands received 8.3 foreign tourists per inhabitant, while the Canary Islands received 4.6 and Catalonia 1.7. The autonomous communities that recorded the lowest number of foreign tourists per inhabitant were Castile-La Mancha, Asturias, Rioja and Extremadura.

To reach Spain, tourists still preferred to travel by air, followed by road, sea, and lastly, rail. In contrary to the previous season, when there were notable decreases, all of the transport modes registered rises in 2010. Over the period 2000–2010, air traffic increased by 18%, while sea and rail traffic fell significantly, the latter plummeting by 60%. Road traffic remained constant throughout the period.

NUMBER OF NON-RESIDENT TOURISTS BY MODE OF ENTRY (2000–2010)

	2000	2009	2010	Variation 2010–2009 (%)	Variation 2010–2000 (%)
Air	34,379,930	40,232,663	40,558,917	0.8	18
Road	10,669,405	10,407,355	10,516,269	1.0	-1.4
Sea	2,403,175	1,398,278	1,424,058	1.8	-40.7
Rail	445,405	139,343	177,942	27.7	-60
TOTAL	47,897,915	52,177,640	52,677,187	1.0	10

Source: IET, 2010 (provisional data for the final year)

NOTES

- The indicator measures the relationship between the number of foreign tourists and the resident population. Its value lies in its capacity to show the burden borne by tourist destinations, as in order to ensure the sector's sustainability it is desirable to maintain an appropriate ratio between the number of visitors and the resident population. Nationally, the rate is lower than in neighbouring countries, such as France and Italy, but it rises significantly on the Mediterranean coast, and particularly in the three autonomous communities mentioned above.
- Tourist: any person travelling to a place other than his/her usual place of residence, who stays at least one night for a purpose other than the exercise of paid activity.
- Carrying capacity of an area: concept used to assess tourism's sustainability. According to the UNEP, this is the maximum number of tourists that can visit a tourist destination at the same time, without this causing economic, socio-cultural or environmental damage and without a decrease in the visitors' satisfaction. Carrying capacity is established for a destination in accordance with a desirable quality of life.
- According to the UNEP, sustainable tourism will play a vital role in developing a green economy: "While the growth in tourism has been accompanied by significant challenges – for instance, in terms of GHG emissions, water consumption, discharge of untreated water, waste generation, damage to local terrestrial and marine biodiversity, and threats to the survival of local cultures and traditions – tourists are driving the greening of the sector, as seen by the 20% annual growth rate enjoyed by ecotourism; about six times the industry-wide rate of growth." UNEP, 2011. *Towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication*.

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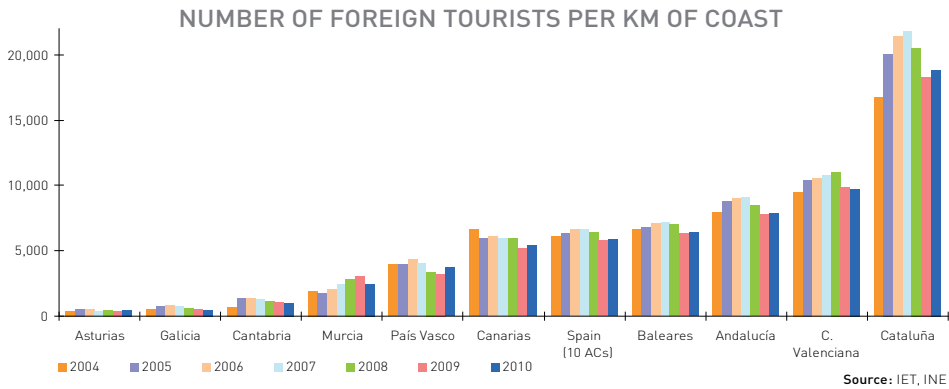
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FURTHER INFORMATION

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Number of foreign tourists per kilometre of coast

In 2010, the number of foreign tourists per kilometre of coast increased slightly by 1.7%, to 5,860 tourists per kilometre



In 2010, a total of 46.2 million foreign tourists visited the Spanish coast, accounting for 87.6% of inbound tourism. These figures produced an average of 5,860 tourists per kilometre of coast (as opposed to 5,759 the previous year), an increase of 1.7% in relation to 2009.

In absolute terms, Catalonia was the most popular destination with 18,851 tourists per kilometre of coast (triple the national average), followed by Valencia, Andalusia, the Balearic Islands and the Canary Islands. In Spain's coastal autonomous communities, the number of tourists increased year on year in the Basque Country (12.6%), Asturias (5.9%), the Canary Islands (4.9%), Catalonia (3.7%) and the Balearic Islands. The others recorded decreases, with Murcia and Cantabria registering the most significant drops.

The Cantabrian and Galician coasts received over two million foreign tourists, while 35.5 million travelled to the Andalusian and Mediterranean coasts (including the Balearic Islands). This is a rate of 843 tourists per kilometre on Spain's northern coast and 9,185 on the south-east coast.

Over the period 2004–2010, the number of foreign tourists visiting Spain's coasts fell by 4.2%. This was due to significant decreases in five autonomous communities (the

Canary Islands, Galicia, the Basque Country, the Balearic Islands and Andalusia), as the rest recorded increases ranging from 43.9% in Cantabria to 2.5% in Valencia.

NUMBER OF FOREIGN TOURISTS PER KILOMETRE OF COAST

Autonomous Community	2004	2010	Variation 2010/2004 (%)
Asturias	370	446	20.5
Galicia	507	460	-9.3
Cantabria	672	967	43.9
Murcia	1,893	2,470	30.5
Basque Country	3,924	3,682	-6.2
Canary Islands	6,627	5,439	-17.9
Balearic Islands	6,673	6,427	-3.7
Andalusia	7,920	7,870	-0.6
Valencia	9,465	9,699	2.5
Catalonia	16,715	18,851	12.8
Spain (10 ACs)	6,118	5,860	-4.2

Source: UNWTO. World Tourism Barometer. January 2011.

NOTES

- This indicator establishes the ratio between the number of foreign tourists who visit the Spanish coast and the length of coastline. Once again, when broken down by autonomous community, it is clear that there is a great imbalance between tourist destinations in northern Spain and those on the Mediterranean. However, it should be remembered that the figures are not calculated solely on the basis of number of tourists, but also in terms of length of coastline, which, in three autonomous communities (Galicia, the Balearic Islands and the Canary Islands) totals over 4,500 kilometres.
- The data on length of coastline used to calculate the indicator was provided by the INE (length of the Spanish coast by provinces) and are based on 2008 figures provided by the IGN. The total length of the coastline of the provinces included stands at 7,876 km (excluding islands and islets belonging to provinces on the peninsula).
- The same authority also provides data on the following sections of coastline: Bay of Biscay (1,086 km); Atlantic coast (1,728 km); Mediterranean coast (2,058 km); Balearic Islands (1,428 km); Canary Islands (1,583 km); Ceuta, Melilla, Chafarinas Islands and islets (32 km). Total: 7,915 km.

SOURCES

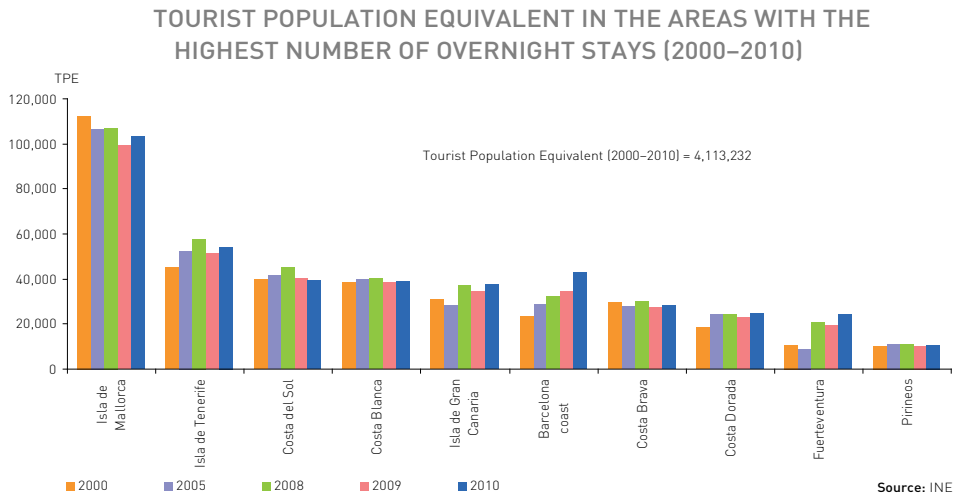
- IET. Spanish Border Survey of Inbound Tourism (FRONTUR), 2010 (provisional figures).
- INE. Physical variables. Length of coasts and borders. Length of the Spanish coast by provinces, 2010 (data from the IGN for 2008)

FURTHER INFORMATION

- <http://www.marm.es>
- <http://www.iet.tourspain.es>

Tourist Population Equivalent (TPE) in the areas with the highest number of overnight stays

In 2010, those destinations with the highest number of overnight hotel stays recorded a 6.8% increase on 2009



The Hotel Occupancy Survey conducted by the INE collects data on overnight stays in 38 tourist destinations, of which number the 10 shown in the graph above have been selected to calculate this indicator. The number of overnight stays in the 10 areas selected represents 55.2% of all overnight hotel stays between 2000 and 2010. In absolute figures, there were more than 1.5 billion overnight stays which, when translated into Tourist Population Equivalent (TPE), works out as 4,113,232 people permanently residing in these areas. Except for the destinations in the Pyrenees, all the areas included in the survey are coastal.

**TOURIST POPULATION EQUIVALENT (TPE)
IN THE 10 AREAS WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF OVERNIGHT HOTEL STAYS (2001–2010)**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	TOTAL TPE
TPE	349,060	350,611	333,589	355,210	353,884	369,773	408,297	405,509	405,322	378,274	404,085	4,113,232
Index	100.0	100.4	95.6	101.8	101.4	105.9	117.0	116.2	116.0	108.4	115.8	

Between 2000 and 2010, trends in the areas chosen for this indicator varied widely. For instance, there were large increases between 2000 and 2010 on the island of

Fuerteventura (120.3%), the Barcelona coast (85.2%), the Costa Daurada (35.4%) and the islands of Gran Canaria (22.6%) and Tenerife (19.3%); smaller rises were recorded in the Pyrenees (5.6%) and on the Costa Blanca (1.2%); and there were decreases on the island of Majorca (8.3%) and on the Costa Brava (4.8%).

The 10 tourist destinations monitored recorded an overall increase in the number of overnight stays and, therefore, in the TPE, which in 2010 was 15.8% above the base year figure (2000). These figures show that despite seasonal fluctuations and the global economic crisis, which had a major impact in 2009, tourist numbers remained high.

Comparing the figures for 2010 and 2009 reveals that most of the areas selected performed very well. Particularly noteworthy were the strong increases on the Barcelona coast (25.2%) and the island of Fuerteventura (25.9%), while the rest recorded more moderate rises (between 2.6% and 7.5%). Only the Costa del Sol recorded a decrease in the number of overnight stays and, therefore, in TPE (2.1%).

Overall, in 2010 there was a 6.8% year-on-year increase in the areas monitored, which indicated a return to the positive figures last seen in 2008 and exceeded the average for the 2000–2010 period.

As in previous years, the island of Majorca registered the highest number of overnight stays (37.7 million), a figure slightly below the average for the period studied. This is a TPE of 103,245 people living on the island throughout the year. Notably, the Palma-Calvià area accounted for almost half (44.2%) of overnight hotel stays in Majorca.

NOTES

- The Tourist Population Equivalent (TPE) provides a clear view of the pressure exerted by the sector by converting the number of overnight stays into the equivalent number of people living in that location all year round. From an environmental point of view, the indicator's value lies in its ability to a) highlight the areas whose hotels receive the greatest numbers of tourists (both residents and non-residents), and b) monitor trends in these areas over time. The indicator is calculated by dividing the number of overnight stays by 365 days. The Tourist Population Equivalent index (2000=100) peaked in 2006 (117.0). It dropped sharply in 2009 before rising again in 2010 to 115.8, bringing it close once more to the 2006 level.
- Spain's principal tourist destinations are generally well-established and include the 10 areas selected for this indicator. These areas require special treatment from stakeholders if they are to be steered towards sustainability. Sustainable tourism has been encouraged by the Spanish Government through the MITyC's FuturE Plan (approved in July 2009), which promotes sustainability and eco-efficiency in the tourism sector. Its aims are to consolidate Spain's leading position in the sector and to position it at the forefront as regards rational energy use, renewable energy use, water footprint reduction and waste management.
- Other noteworthy initiatives to improve Spain's tourism offering and its sustainability include: A) the "Q" for Tourist Quality standard, awarded by the ICTE, under which establishments are audited to confirm they provide a high-quality service (at present, 2,204 establishments have been awarded this status); B) The EUROPARC Federation's European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas (ECST), which aims to promote the development of sustainable tourism in Europe's protected areas. Commitment and adherence to the ECST is voluntary. It is aimed at managers of protected areas and related businesses and is intended to provide a partnership framework within which to define strategy; C) Spain's Plan for the International Promotion of Cultural Tourism 2010–2012, developed by three ministries. Its goal is to raise the international profile of Spain's cultural offering and to encourage more tourists to visit the country for cultural reasons. The aim is to diversify the tourism offering by promoting tourist destinations other than the traditional 'sun-and-sea' venues; D) The Spanish tourism portal (<http://www.spain.info/es/>), which publishes listings of cultural events taking place throughout Spain.

SOURCES

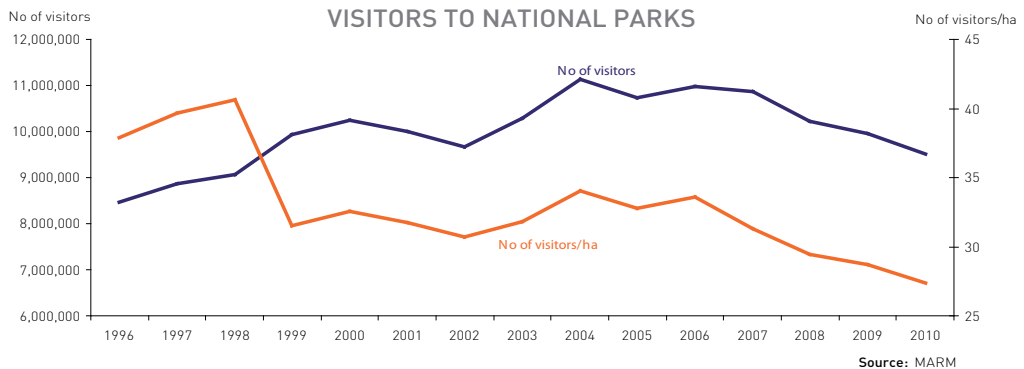
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FURTHER INFORMATION

- <http://www.ine.es>

Number of visitors to National Parks

In 2010, the number of visitors to National Parks fell by 5.6% on the previous year to 9.5 million



In 2010, Spain's National Parks received 9,514,829 visitors, 5.6% fewer than the year before. This decrease was particularly sharp in the Teide National Park (21.1%), while seven other parks recorded less pronounced falls. All the other National Parks registered increases. Most of these were modest, though the number of visitors to the Tablas de Daimiel National Park almost quadrupled, rising from 105,957 in 2009 to 398,742 in 2010, a 276.3% increase. This leap in the number of visitors is closely related to re-establishment of the park's water system.

The average number of visitors to the country's National Parks between the base year (1996) and 2010 stands at 10.0 million. This figure increases to 10.3 million for the 2000–2010 period, proving that there is stable demand for what could be called nature tourism. In this regard, the Teide (3.3 million visitors on average), Picos de Europa (1.8 million) and Timanfaya (1.7 million) National Parks received the highest numbers of visitors throughout the period analysed.

In respect of the number of visitors per hectare, this variable peaked in 1998 (40.6 visitors/ha) before decreasing in successive years to stand at an average of 27.4 visitors/ha in 2010. This trend was partly due to an increase in land area following the creation of several new parks, and partly to the decrease in tourism in recent years.

The Canary Islands' Timanfaya, Garajonay, Teide and Caldera de Taburiente National Parks continued to receive the highest number of visitors per hectare. Following restoration of its water system, the number of visitors to the Tablas de Daimiel National

Park rocketed up from 55.0 per hectare in 2009 to 206.8 per hectare in 2010, making it one of Spain's most visited Parks. As in previous years, in 2010 the Canary Islands accounted for over half (51.8%) the total number of visits to National Parks. However, these figures vary widely within the islands — while the Teide National Park saw a 21.1% decrease in visitor numbers, the Garajonay National Park's visitor figure increased by 25.3%.

VISITORS TO NATIONAL PARKS (2009–2010)

NATIONAL PARK	Area(ha)	2009		2010	
		Visitors	Visitors/ha	Visitors	Visitors/ha
Aigüestortes i Estany de S. Maurici	14,119	329,227	23.3	294,547	20.9
Cabrera Archipelago	10,020	60,662	6.1	64,688	6.5
Cabañeros	40,856	90,001	2.2	92,578	2.3
Caldera de Taburiente	4,699	377,349	80.3	387,805	82.5
Doñana	54,251	380,155	7.0	341,961	6.3
Garajonay	3,986	625,801	157.0	610,248	153.2
Atlantic Islands of Galicia	8,480	274,716	32.4	292,374	34.5
Monfragüe	18,118	306,041	16.9	297,976	16.4
Ordesa and Monte Perdido	15,608	617,500	39.6	614,059	39.3
Picos de Europa	64,660	1,818,671	28.1	1,610,341	24.9
Sierra Nevada	86,208	673,302	7.8	667,319	7.7
Tablas de Daimiel	1,928	105,957	55.0	398,742	206.8
Teide	18,990	3,052,830	160.8	2,407,480	126.8
Timanfaya	5,107	1,371,349	268.5	1,434,705	280.9
TOTAL	347,306	10,083,561	29.1	9,514,829	27.4

Source: OAPN. MARM, 2011

Notes: Size of Atlantic Islands National Park: 7,282.2 marine ha and 1,194.8 terrestrial ha. Size of Cabrera National Park: 8,703 marine ha and 1,318 terrestrial ha. 2010 data for the Sierra Nevada National Park: provisional estimate

NOTES

- The indicator shows the number of visitors to National Parks and the number of visitors per hectare. While the first variable reveals an upward trend until 2008, the latter declined as a result of the increase in the area of Spain's National Parks, which now cover 347,306 ha (INE, 2011). Moreover, the protected environment around National Parks now stands at 265,856 ha.
- The decreases observed in the graph (1999, 2003 and 2007) correspond to expansion of the National Parks Network to include the Sierra Nevada, Atlantic Islands of Galicia and Monfragüe National Parks, respectively. The latter was incorporated by Law 1/2007, of 2 March, declaring creation of a National Park (BOE no 54, of 3 March 2007), and increased the size of the National Parks Network by 5.22%.
- As regards recovery of the hydrological balance in the Tablas de Daimiel Natural Park, it is worth noting that in 2010 the OAPN acquired the water rights to over 83 ha (16 irrigated farms) in continuance of the policy started in 2000. This policy has resulted in the purchase of 1,560.50 ha for the sum of €24,788,754, obtaining water rights equivalent to a volume of 4,026,458 m³ (4 hm³).
- The area within National Parks may be publicly or privately owned. In two cases (the Cabrera Archipelago and Garajonay) the entire National Park is publicly owned. In five other cases (Aigüestortes, Ordesa, Tablas de Daimiel, Teide and Timanfaya) over 90% of the area is publicly owned. The Caldera de Taburiente (86%), Monfragüe (69.58%), Atlantic Islands (27%), Sierra Nevada (23.72%) and Doñana (15.6%) National Parks contain the largest area of privately owned land.

SOURCES

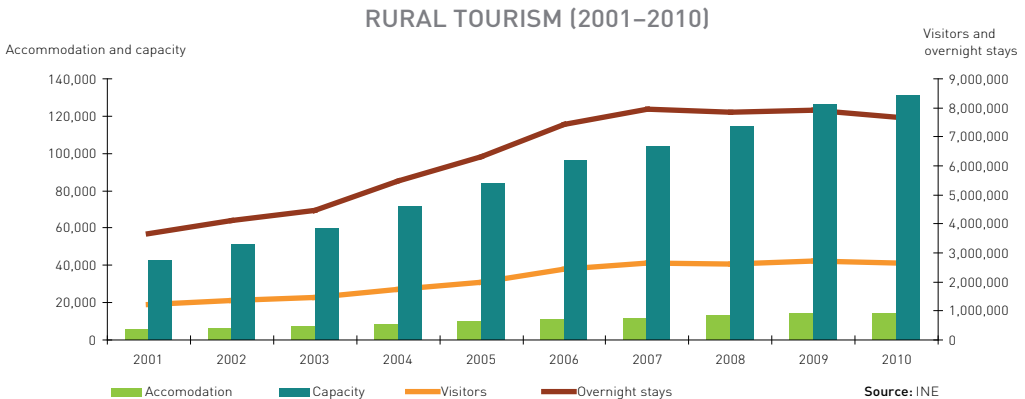
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FURTHER INFORMATION

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Rural tourism: accommodation, capacity, tourists and overnight stays

In 2010, rural tourism accommodation increased (by 3.5%), as did capacity (4%), while the number of visitors and overnight stays fell (by 1.76% and 3.11% respectively)



In 2010, the rural tourism sector continued the trend of the two previous years — available accommodation and capacity rose, but the number of tourists and overnight stays fell. The number of establishments offering rural accommodation in Spain climbed to 14,377, an increase of 3.5%. Meanwhile, capacity grew to 126,222 beds, almost 4% more than the previous year. In 2010, the number of visitors dropped to 2,666,449 (1.76% fewer than in 2009), while the number of overnight stays declined to 7,674,431, a 3.11% decrease.

Overall, the rural tourism industry remained stable in 2010, despite the adverse conditions, particularly for internal tourism. However, there does seem to be an imbalance between the growing supply (accommodation and beds) and the dwindling demand (travellers and overnight stays).

By autonomous community, Castile-Leon had the greatest rural tourism infrastructure (3,066 establishments), followed a long way behind by Catalonia (1,616), Asturias (1,339), Castile-La Mancha (1,232) and Aragon (1,038). Overall, these five autonomous communities account for 9,615 establishments, 67.1% of the total.

By number of tourists received, Castile-Leon once again led the ranking with over half a million (596,843), followed by Catalonia (298,878), Galicia (193,119), Cantabria (188,894) and Asturias (181,489). At the other extreme were the Canary Islands

(49,772), Murcia (32,277) and Rioja (24,407).

In terms of average stay, the Canary Islands had the highest ratio, with 5.9 overnight stays per traveller, followed by the Balearic Islands (4.7) and Asturias (3.7). It is worth pointing out that the sector's customers are predominantly Spanish residents (89.2%) who book into the establishments for weekends and short holidays. Tourists travelling from outside of Spain (10.8%) tended to stay in the Balearic Islands, Castile-Leon, the Canary Islands, Catalonia, Galicia and Andalusia.

Between 2001 and 2010, rural tourism developed significantly and there was a strong increase in the number of establishments (161.5%) and available capacity (205.8%). In the same way, the number of travellers and overnight stays also rose notably, by 120.7% and 109.6% respectively during the period studied. This development was a result of both private initiative and promotion by regional government.

In 2001, the sector provided employment for 7,973 people. This figure increased steadily over the period to reach 21,881 in 2010, with the figure for this latter year rising by 4.1% on 2009. In other words, it created 1.5 jobs per establishment offering rural accommodation. These figures show that the sector is not only important to sustainable rural development, but also to creating green jobs, as stipulated in Spain's Sustainable Economy Law.

NOTES

- Rural tourism accommodation refers to establishments or houses that charge for tourist accommodation (with or without other complementary services) and that are listed in the Tourist Accommodation Register maintained in each autonomous community. These establishments tend to share several common features, such as being located in buildings typical of the local architectural style or on working farms (agro-tourism).
- Law 45/2007, of 13 December, on sustainable development of the rural environment, promotes rural tourism by managing supply and encouraging demand. Particular attention is paid to sustainable tourism in priority rural areas and to agro-tourism. The Sustainable Rural Development Programme (PDRS) for 2010–2014 is now being implemented and is putting into practice the principles of Law 45/2007.

SOURCES

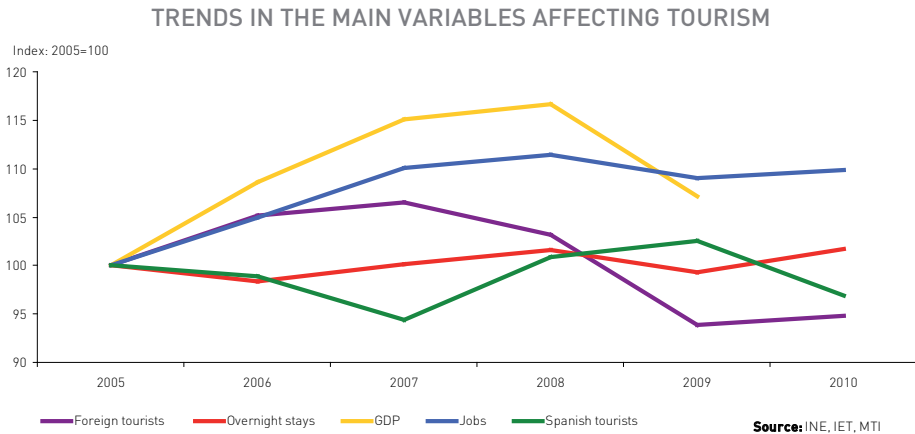
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FURTHER INFORMATION

- <http://www.marm.es>
- <http://www.ine.es>

Trends in the main variables affecting tourism in Spain

In 2010, the tourism sector started to restabilise after the downturn in 2008 and 2009



After a sustained rise in the sector, the global economic situation caused a strong downturn that brought the number of foreign tourists travelling to Spain in 2009 down to the level recorded in 2002. Nevertheless, in 2010 the situation seemed to be restabilising and there was even a slight increase in the number of foreign tourists and overnight stays. In terms of the revenue produced, the MITyC estimates that this increased by 2.5%, representing average expenditure per tourist of €930.

Tourism's gross domestic product at current prices (2000 base year) grew significantly until 2008, but then decreased sharply in 2009, falling by 8.5% on the previous year (the last year for which data is provided by the INE). In absolute terms, it decreased from €114.74 billion in 2008 to €105.39 billion in 2009.

For its part, employment in the sector rose significantly until 2008 before showing a moderate downturn in 2009, after which it increased again in 2010 by almost one percentage point (0.8%). According to data provided by the Ministry of Labour and Immigration, in 2010 the number of sector employees making social security contributions stood at 1,932,224, compared to 1,917,405 the year before.

NOTES

- The GDP figures (absolute values) for 2008 are provisional, while those for 2009 are an advance estimate.
- The travel figures for Spanish nationals (2010) are taken from the monthly reports up to October published as part of the FAMILITUR survey carried out by the IET. The statistics for November and December are estimates based on the previous year's data (as figures for these months were not available at the time of going to press) and take into account the 6.2% reduction recorded up to October.
- Travel by Spanish nationals includes destinations within Spain and in other countries. In 2009, Spanish nationals made a total of 12.8 million journeys abroad (5.5% more than in 2008), of which 9.8 million were to other European countries. In 2010 (pending the definitive figures), it is estimated that the number of journeys made by Spanish nationals decreased.

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- INE. Inbound tourism (number of foreign tourists).
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- IET. FAMILITUR (journeys by Spanish nationals up to October 2010, and estimates for November and December)

FURTHER INFORMATION

- <http://www.iet.tourspain.es>
- <http://www.ine.es>

