

4 October 2021

Tourist Movements at Borders (FRONTUR)

August 2021. *Provisional data*

**Spain received 5.2 million international tourists in August,
compared to 2.4 million in the same month of 2020**

**France was the main country of residence with almost 1.3 million
tourists, accounting for 24.9% of the total**

Spain received in August the visit of 5.2 million international tourists, 112.8% more than in the same month of 2020.

France was the main country of residence, with almost 1.3 million tourists, accounting for 24.9% of the total and an increase of 49.1% as compared to August last year.

The United Kingdom and Germany were the following countries with the most tourists visiting Spain. From The United Kingdom we received 714,668 tourists (181.1% more in the annual rate) and from Germany 677,599 tourists (128.6% more in the annual rate).

In the first eight months of 2021 the number of tourists visiting Spain decreased by 4.2% and exceed 15.0 million. 15.7 millions of international tourists came in the same period last year.

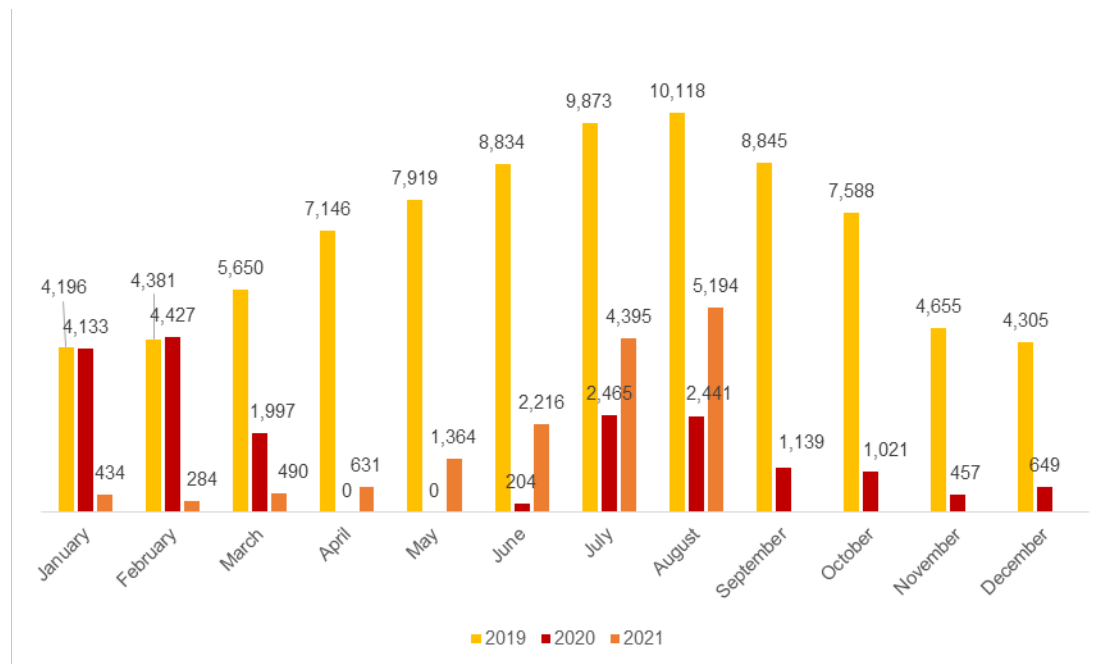
The main sending countries so far this year were France (with nearly 3.4 million tourists and an increase of 16.0% as compared to the first eight months of 2020), Germany (with almost 2.6 million, and an increase of 24.0%) and Rest of Europe (with almost 1.6 million tourists, 17.4% more).

International tourist arrivals (*) by country of residence

August 2021	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	5,194,212	112.8	15,008,338	-4.2
Germany	677,599	128.6	2,554,587	24.0
Belgium	238,775	102.3	734,807	22.8
France	1,291,048	49.1	3,352,862	16.0
Ireland	111,332	335.4	218,744	-21.0
Italy	309,297	126.1	838,756	4.3
Netherlands	413,922	173.7	996,975	23.1
Portugal	253,249	128.1	663,832	12.7
United Kingdom	714,668	181.1	1,543,184	-41.7
Switzerland	143,851	204.2	511,649	53.3
Russia	14,862	374.9	63,022	-55.3
Nordic Countries	175,483	267.0	707,800	-32.6
Rest of Europe	464,750	97.5	1,570,392	17.4
United States	113,527	797.0	317,473	-15.5
Rest of America	117,412	107.1	441,926	-44.0
Rest of the world	154,435	95.6	492,330	-49.0

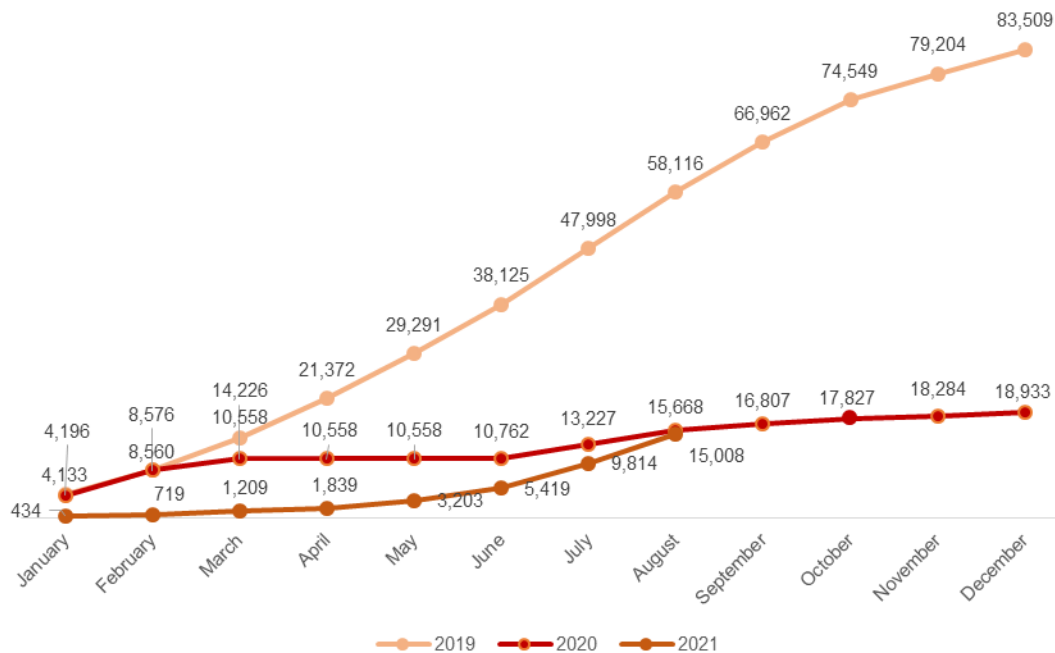
(*): Does not include transit travellers or same-day visitors

International tourist arrivals. Comparative 2019-2020-2021* Thousands



(*): Provisional data from January 2021

Accumulated international tourist arrivals. Comparative 2019-2020-2021* Thousands



(*): Provisional data from January 2021

Main destination Autonomous Communities

Illes Balears was the main tourist destination in August, with 25.2% of the total. It was followed by Cataluña (20.7%) and Comunitat Valenciana (14.5%).

Over 1.3 million tourists came to Illes Balears, 188.2% more than in August last year. The main countries of residence of tourists visiting this Autonomous Community were Germany (with 319,149 of the total) and the United Kingdom (with 261,663).

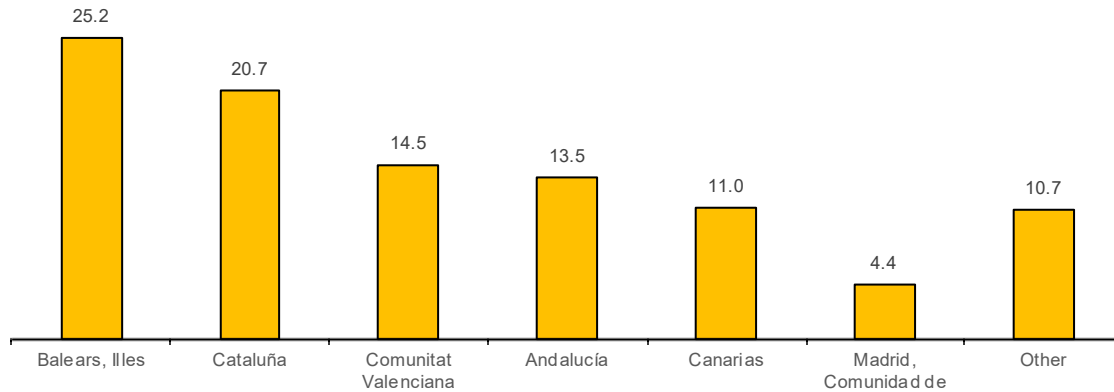
The number of tourists visiting Cataluña increased by 134.7% and stood nearly 1.1 million. 411,058 came from France and 122,975 from Rest of Europe.

The third main destination Autonomous Community by number of tourists was Comunitat Valenciana, with 753,864 tourists and an annual increase of 75.4%. France was the main country of origin (with 285,780), followed by the United Kingdom (with 105,013).

In the remaining Autonomous Communities the number of tourists increased, by 280.2% in Comunidad de Madrid, by 136.5% in Canarias and by 92.1% in Andalucía.

In the accumulated of first eight months of 2021, the Autonomous Communities that received the most tourists were Illes Balears (with nearly 3.9 million and an increase of 163.2% as compared with the same period in 2020), Cataluña (with nearly 2.9 million and a decrease of 10.7%) and Comunitat Valenciana (with nearly 2.0 million, and 4.1% less).

International tourist arrivals by main autonomous region of destination.
Percentage of the total



International tourist arrivals by main Autonomous Community of destination. Monthly and cumulative data

August 2021	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	5,194,212	112.8	15,008,338	-4.2
Andalucía	698,992	92.1	1,929,213	-14.9
Balears, Illes	1,307,422	188.2	3,883,179	163.2
Canarias	569,207	136.5	1,737,038	-45.5
Cataluña	1,075,887	134.7	2,865,213	-10.7
Comunitat Valenciana	753,864	75.4	1,970,637	-4.1
Madrid, Comunidad de	231,052	280.2	887,762	-42.3
Other	557,788	28.6	1,735,296	-10.3

International tourist arrivals by main Autonomous Community of destination. Main country of residence

August 2021	First outbound country	Tourists	Second outbound country	Tourists
	TOTAL	France	1,291,048	United Kingdom
Andalucía	France	117,834	United Kingdom	116,116
Balears, Illes	Germany	319,149	United Kingdom	261,663
Canarias	United Kingdom	137,175	Germany	124,166
Cataluña	France	411,058	Rest of Europe	122,975
Comunitat Valenciana	France	285,780	United Kingdom	105,013
Madrid, Comunidad de	Rest of America	51,568	United States	35,820

Forms of access and main means of accommodation

Most tourists visiting Spain in August came by air, with nearly 3.9 million, representing an annual increase of 178.3%.

Port arrivals had an increase of 165.6%, railway access accounted for 108.8% more tourists and road entries for 24.7%.

International tourist arrivals by main means of access to Spain

August 2021	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	5,194,212	112.8	15,008,338	-4.2
Air transport	3,861,614	178.3	11,177,369	-5.4
Motor vehicle	1,290,926	24.7	3,681,194	2.6
Train	23,025	108.8	90,482	43.3
Waterway	18,647	165.6	59,293	-70.7

In August, the number of tourists choosing market accommodation as the main type of accommodation increased by 147.0% in the annual rate. Within this type, hotel accommodation grew by 176.0%, while rented dwellings grew by 67.1%.

On the other hand, non-market accommodation increased by 32.1%. The number of tourists staying in relatives or friends' homes increased by 41.8% and that of those staying in their own dwelling did so by 30.3%.

International tourist arrivals by main type of accommodation

August 2021	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	5,194,212	112.8	15,008,338	-4.2
Rented accommodation ^(*)	4,234,772	147.0	11,728,976	-0.4
-Hotel accommodation	3,349,772	176.0	9,461,207	3.8
-Rental housing	558,442	67.1	1,506,047	-19.4
-Rest rented accommodation	326,557	95.7	761,722	-4.7
Non-rented accommodation	959,440	32.1	3,279,362	-15.6
-Vacation home ownership	332,686	30.3	1,301,793	6.1
-Home of family or friends	594,516	41.8	1,820,788	-23.5
-Rest non rented accommodation	32,238	-37.5	156,781	-43.8

(*): Two principal groups of accommodation are distinguished, depending on whether there has been a monetary transaction: market accommodation (paid accommodation; hotels, rented accommodation, camp sites, country houses and other market accommodation) and non-market accommodation (own home, relatives or friends' homes and other non-market accommodation).

Main reason, length of stay and organization of the trip

In August, *Leisure, recreation, and holidays* were the main reasons for travelling to Spain for almost 4.8 million tourists, representing an annual increase of 119.2%.

A total of 110,416 tourists arrived for *Business and professional reasons* (141.1% more) and 328,256 arrived for *Other reasons* (45.4% more).

International tourist arrivals by main purpose of the trip

August 2021	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	5,194,212	112.8	15,008,338	-4.2
Leisure, vacations	4,755,539	119.2	12,503,377	-4.9
Business and professional purposes	110,416	141.1	1,048,327	3.1
Other purposes	328,256	45.4	1,456,634	-3.0

A stay of four to seven nights was the main length among tourists in August, with almost 2.2 million tourists and an annual increase of 136.1%.

The number of visitors increased by 16.3% among those without overnight stays (excursionists) and increased by 69.0% among tourists with longer duration (more than 15 nights).

International visitor arrivals by length of stay

August 2021	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	8,582,466	60.3	26,727,477	-5.0
no night ^(*)	3,388,254	16.3	11,719,139	-6.0
1 night	218,182	38.3	804,019	-12.1
2 - 3 nights	500,722	107.2	1,925,575	-29.6
4 - 7 nights	2,188,474	136.1	6,409,516	-9.3
8 - 15 nights	1,697,985	121.6	4,249,746	23.1
More than 15 nights	588,849	69.0	1,619,482	7.9

(*): Excursionists

In August, almost 4.3 million tourists travelled without a tourist package, indicating an annual increase of 110.7%. 937,009 tourists travelled with a tourist package, 122.9% more.

International tourist arrivals by type of organization

August 2021	Monthly data		Accumulated data	
	Absolute value	Annual change	Absolute value	Annual change
TOTAL	5,194,212	112.8	15,008,338	-4.2
No Tourist Package	4,257,203	110.7	12,514,192	3.4
Tourist Package	937,009	122.9	2,494,146	-29.9

Revision and updating of data

The data published today are provisional and will be revised in the third quarter of next year. The results are available at INEBase.

Methodological note

The main objective of the Tourist Movement on Borders Survey (FRONTUR) is to estimate the number of non-residents visiting Spain on a monthly basis, as well as to know the main characteristics of the trips made by these visitors.

For the preparation of FRONTUR the international definitions and recommendations of the UNWTO and EUROSTAT in this field are followed.

Type of operation: continuous monthly statistics.

Population scope: this refers to non-residents in Spain who enter our country, whether or not they have stayed overnight, as well as those who pass through our country in transit.

Geographical scope: the entire national territory. The sample is collected at the main access points for non-resident travellers, both by road, airport, port and rail.

Reference period of the results: the month.

Sample size: the annual theoretical sample size of FRONTUR exceeds 450,000 surveys, which are distributed throughout the year, taking into account the seasonality of passenger flows.

Type of sampling: the sample design, a series of strata have been defined for each form of entry that group together border points, airports, ports or railway lines, respectively. In the road and airport sample allocation, the day of the week in which the survey has been carried out is also identified, differentiating between working days, weekends and holidays. Furthermore, in airports 20 air relations are defined (Spanish airport of origin-country of destination airport) which also determine the sample design in this form of access.

Collection method: information is collected by direct interview when the traveller leaves Spain, using a multilingual electronic questionnaire.

A more complete tabulation plan with the main series of aggregates, as well as the microdata file for the reference month, is available on the INE website. For more information you can access the methodology at:

http://www.ine.es/daco/daco42/frontur/frontur_egatur_metodologia.pdf

And the standardized methodological report at:

<http://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/es/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=16028>

Statistics from INE are prepared in accordance with the European Statistics Code of Practice, which is the basis of the Institution's quality policy and strategy. For more information, consult the section [Quality in the INE and Code of Practice](#) on the INE website.

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