

News Release



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Tourism

Departing tourists: March 2006

In March 2006, inbound tourism was estimated at 64,343, a shortfall of 9.7 per cent over the corresponding month last year. Tourists departing by air were estimated at 64,018, down by 9.3 per cent when compared to March 2005.

The German market increased by 8.2 per cent, reaching a share of 15.0 per cent of total air tourists. Other increases were recorded from the US, Norway, Belgium, Libya, Russia, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

Air tourists from the British market went down by 13.5 per cent, when compared to the same month last year, reaching a share of 44.4 per cent of the total. Other drops included those from Italy, Denmark, Sweden, Austria, France and a group of 'other' markets.

Purpose of visit

The number of holiday tourists was estimated at 49,896, a decrease of 14.6 per cent over March 2005, whereas business tourists went up to 8,969.

January-March 2006

In the first quarter of 2006, total tourists reached 162,166, a decrease of 3.9 per cent over the comparable period last year. Tourists departing by air decreased by 3.4 per cent. A decrease of 1.9 per cent was registered in British tourists, these accounting for 46.8 per cent of the total. Other drops were recorded from Sweden, Italy, Denmark, Austria, Russia, Switzerland and a group of 'other' markets.

On the other hand, German tourists increased by 0.8 per cent, accounting for 13.0 per cent of the total. Other increases were recorded from France, the Netherlands, the US, Belgium, Norway and Libya.

Accommodation

In the period under review, the number of nights spent by tourists departing by air was estimated at 1,551,596, a decrease of 9.6 per cent when compared to the same period in 2005. The number of nights spent in hotel accommodation establishments went down by 7.9 per cent and accounted for 74.1 per cent of total nights spent. Tourists opting for a stay in Gozo amounted to 3,769 – 2.3 per cent of the total.

Tourism expenditure

In the first quarter of 2006, expenditure on package travel decreased by Lm4.1 million to an estimated Lm23.4 million, a decline of 15.0 per cent over the corresponding period a year ago. Non-package tourists spent Lm6.7 million on airfares and Lm4.6 million on accommodation thereby increasing total expenditure on non-package travel by approximately Lm0.8 million or 8.0 per cent. Other expenditure from both package and non-package tourists remained in the region of Lm18.4 million.

Overall, in the period under review total tourist expenditure decreased by Lm3.3 million or 5.9 per cent ■

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Table 1. Distribution of tourist departures: March 2004-2006

Country of residence	Air					Sea	
	2004	2005		2006		2005	2006
	Nationality distribution						
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	No.
Austria	1,330	1,775	2.5	1,212	1.9	-	-
Belgium	823	1,316	1.9	1,532	2.4	-	-
Denmark	1,140	1,721	2.4	885	1.4	-	-
France	3,253	3,193	4.5	3,033	4.7	-	-
Germany	10,159	8,875	12.6	9,601	15.0	20	-
Italy	4,312	5,117	7.3	4,117	6.4	552	289
Netherlands	1,361	1,270	1.8	1,343	2.1	-	-
Sweden	586	1,215	1.7	635	1.0	-	-
United Kingdom	31,369	32,859	46.6	28,415	44.4	20	-
Norway	858	1,067	1.5	1,325	2.1	-	-
Switzerland	1,417	1,367	1.9	1,433	2.2	-	-
Russia	577	255	0.4	433	0.7	-	-
Libya	1,099	607	0.9	791	1.2	-	-
USA	971	862	1.2	1,299	2.0	-	36
Other	5,764	9,063	12.8	7,964	12.4	123	-
Total	65,019	70,562	100.0	64,018	100.0	715	325

Table 2. Distribution of tourist departures: January - March 2004-2006

Country of residence	Air					Sea	
	2004	2005		2006		2005	2006
	Nationality distribution						
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	No.
Austria	3,185	3,298	2.0	2,851	1.8	-	-
Belgium	2,252	2,696	1.6	3,049	1.9	-	-
Denmark	2,210	3,144	1.9	2,189	1.4	-	-
France	8,717	7,745	4.6	8,402	5.2	-	-
Germany	21,343	20,832	12.5	21,007	13.0	20	-
Italy	14,476	13,613	8.1	11,958	7.4	1,379	755
Netherlands	3,141	2,653	1.6	3,227	2.0	-	-
Sweden	1,609	2,714	1.6	888	0.6	-	-
United Kingdom	76,583	77,010	46.1	75,573	46.8	67	-
Norway	2,010	1,687	1.0	1,919	1.2	-	-
Switzerland	3,839	2,689	1.6	2,537	1.6	-	-
Russia	1,628	1,485	0.9	1,326	0.8	-	-
Libya	3,194	2,484	1.5	2,510	1.6	-	-
USA	2,582	2,364	1.4	2,843	1.8	-	-
Other	17,970	22,726	13.6	21,096	13.1	188	36
Total	164,739	167,140	100.0	161,375	100.0	1,654	791

Figures below 1,000 should be treated with caution

Table 3. Tourist air departures by country of residence and purpose of visit: March 2005

Country of residence	Holiday		Business		Visiting friends / Family		Other		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Austria	1,370	2.3	152	2.3	51	4.2	202	4.7	1,775	2.5
Belgium	1,164	2.0	101	1.5	51	4.2	-	-	1,316	1.9
Denmark	1,468	2.5	51	0.8	51	4.2	151	3.5	1,721	2.4
France	2,635	4.5	101	1.5	51	4.2	406	9.5	3,193	4.5
Germany	7,252	12.4	709	10.6	101	8.3	813	19.1	8,875	12.6
Italy	3,193	5.5	1,215	18.2	51	4.2	658	15.5	5,117	7.3
Netherlands	966	1.7	203	3.0	51	4.2	50	1.2	1,270	1.8
Sweden	1,013	1.7	152	2.3	-	-	50	1.2	1,215	1.7
United Kingdom	30,022	51.4	1,517	22.7	660	54.1	660	15.5	32,859	46.6
Norway	812	1.4	-	-	-	-	255	6.0	1,067	1.5
Switzerland	911	1.6	153	2.3	-	-	303	7.1	1,367	1.9
Russia	255	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	255	0.4
Libya	304	0.5	253	3.8	-	-	50	1.2	607	0.9
USA	659	1.1	102	1.5	51	4.2	50	1.2	862	1.2
Other	6,390	10.9	1,963	29.4	101	8.3	609	14.3	9,063	12.8
Total	58,414	100.0	6,672	100.0	1,219	100.0	4,257	100.0	70,562	100.0

Table 4. Tourist air departures by country of residence and purpose of visit: March 2006

Country of residence	Holiday		Business		Visiting friends / Family		Other		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Austria	767	1.5	198	2.2	-	-	247	6.8	1,212	1.9
Belgium	1,136	2.3	346	3.9	-	-	50	1.4	1,532	2.4
Denmark	739	1.5	49	0.5	47	3.1	50	1.4	885	1.4
France	2,052	4.1	543	6.1	-	-	438	12.0	3,033	4.7
Germany	7,168	14.4	1,226	13.7	193	12.9	1,014	27.7	9,601	15.0
Italy	2,150	4.3	1,280	14.3	146	9.8	541	14.8	4,117	6.4
Netherlands	953	1.9	343	3.8	47	3.1	-	-	1,343	2.1
Sweden	393	0.8	193	2.2	49	3.3	-	-	635	1.0
United Kingdom	26,136	52.4	1,167	13.0	727	48.6	385	10.5	28,415	44.4
Norway	1,028	2.1	297	3.3	-	-	-	-	1,325	2.1
Switzerland	1,087	2.2	198	2.2	-	-	148	4.0	1,433	2.2
Russia	238	0.5	146	1.6	49	3.3	-	-	433	0.7
Libya	494	1.0	247	2.8	-	-	50	1.4	791	1.2
USA	918	1.8	287	3.2	94	6.3	-	-	1,299	2.0
Other	4,637	9.3	2,449	27.3	144	9.6	734	20.1	7,964	12.4
Total	49,896	100.0	8,969	100.0	1,496	100.0	3,657	100.0	64,018	100.0

Figures below 1,000 should be treated with caution

Table 5. Tourist air departures by country of residence and locality stayed: January-March 2005

Country of residence	Marsascala	Mellieha	St. Julians	St. Paul's Bay	Sliema	Valletta	Gozo	Other	No Primary Location	Total
Austria	55	151	685	671	1,278	103	-	355	-	3,298
Belgium	-	157	575	667	616	368	-	263	50	2,696
Denmark	101	1,865	106	51	759	-	152	110	-	3,144
France	-	314	1,807	1,669	833	1,637	460	1,025	-	7,745
Germany	364	1,354	4,565	5,455	6,510	520	412	1,602	50	20,832
Italy	254	305	6,907	1,612	2,467	478	55	1,281	254	13,613
Netherlands	-	56	1,122	738	572	110	-	-	55	2,653
Sweden	-	304	875	910	519	51	-	55	-	2,714
United Kingdom	2,016	6,990	4,269	37,630	16,635	2,254	1,784	4,723	709	77,010
Norway	162	202	766	102	253	51	-	151	-	1,687
Switzerland	-	152	1,100	253	258	406	363	157	-	2,689
Russia	222	-	306	317	536	-	-	104	-	1,485
Libya	110	-	838	-	1,011	55	-	317	153	2,484
USA	51	56	829	471	313	51	206	277	110	2,364
Other	415	910	9,374	3,534	4,730	621	533	2,302	309	22,726
Total	3,750	12,816	34,124	54,080	37,290	6,705	3,965	12,722	1,690	167,140

Table 6. Tourist air departures by country of residence and locality stayed: January-March 2006

Country of residence	Marsascala	Mellieha	St. Julians	St. Paul's Bay	Sliema	Valletta	Gozo	Other	No Primary Location	Total
Austria	148	199	1,275	148	684	47	104	246	-	2,851
Belgium	-	540	850	401	650	405	52	151	-	3,049
Denmark	52	1,394	-	147	351	97	-	98	50	2,189
France	149	702	3,039	1,310	1,468	694	200	787	53	8,402
Germany	253	3,380	4,300	4,716	4,118	744	582	2,914	-	21,007
Italy	249	302	5,585	1,696	2,264	602	202	1,058	-	11,958
Netherlands	-	289	1,066	549	686	98	196	343	-	3,227
Sweden	-	-	349	49	292	49	-	149	-	888
United Kingdom	1,139	6,856	10,605	32,681	12,603	1,481	1,436	8,169	603	75,573
Norway	51	151	886	49	440	148	-	194	-	1,919
Switzerland	-	300	1,336	250	254	98	-	299	-	2,537
Russia	-	48	487	303	145	-	-	296	47	1,326
Libya	49	149	946	104	952	52	-	258	-	2,510
USA	99	47	928	244	539	203	199	584	-	2,843
Other	514	504	8,460	3,184	4,032	1,100	798	2,504	-	21,096
Total	2,703	14,861	40,112	45,831	29,478	5,818	3,769	18,050	753	161,375

Figures below 1,000 should be treated with caution

Table 7. Tourist air departures by country of residence, type of accommodation and number of nights spent: January-March 2005

Country of residence	Hotels									
	5-star		4-star		3-star		2-star		Unclassified	
	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights
Austria	152	558	1,502	8,367	916	9,591	55	275	-	-
Belgium	787	4,317	976	7,498	359	2,409	106	740	-	-
Denmark	106	466	368	3,234	814	5,700	-	-	-	-
France	1,419	6,426	2,850	20,131	2,288	15,083	51	253	51	860
Germany	3,673	23,168	10,521	83,968	2,945	24,218	513	3,386	-	-
Italy	4,126	35,698	4,816	31,373	2,295	13,539	55	220	-	-
Netherlands	995	10,157	978	6,706	307	2,943	49	346	-	-
Sweden	664	3,517	1,273	10,756	464	4,633	51	714	-	-
United Kingdom	5,613	39,161	37,641	421,795	21,529	240,041	314	2,310	-	-
Norway	665	6,010	507	3,017	152	860	-	-	-	-
Switzerland	820	5,083	884	7,898	519	3,686	-	-	-	-
Russia	368	2,220	473	12,886	268	2,611	56	391	-	-
Libya	254	2,230	740	4,456	792	5,535	165	2,423	-	-
USA	946	10,081	788	4,998	202	1,261	-	-	-	-
Other	7,987	52,426	7,197	55,090	2,841	20,712	55	220	-	-
Total	28,575	201,518	71,514	682,173	36,691	352,822	1,470	11,278	51	860
Country of residence	Own private residence		Apart-Hotel		Furnished premises		Other		Total	
	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights
Austria	51	354	51	354	152	964	419	3,091	3,298	23,554
Belgium	152	1,216	-	-	106	652	210	2,529	2,696	19,361
Denmark	-	-	101	708	203	2,338	1,552	15,804	3,144	28,250
France	51	405	359	2,816	106	5,498	570	16,306	7,745	67,778
Germany	621	6,727	633	4,940	257	2,182	1,669	34,760	20,832	183,349
Italy	160	1,042	155	1,087	424	3,579	1,582	14,484	13,613	101,022
Netherlands	102	509	167	1,722	55	440	-	-	2,653	22,823
Sweden	55	385	-	-	-	-	207	1,362	2,714	21,367
United Kingdom	2,374	27,127	2,507	32,913	1,976	27,100	5,056	61,577	77,010	852,024
Norway	56	2,120	51	357	-	-	256	7,119	1,687	19,483
Switzerland	55	385	-	-	101	1,214	310	3,736	2,689	22,002
Russia	105	1,908	56	391	55	193	104	2,166	1,485	22,766
Libya	106	726	-	-	-	-	427	5,945	2,484	21,315
USA	107	2,361	-	-	-	-	321	3,645	2,364	22,346
Other	871	31,888	429	2,891	572	17,450	2,774	108,053	22,726	288,730
Total	4,866	77,153	4,509	48,179	4,007	61,610	15,457	280,577	167,140	1,716,170

Table 8. Tourist air departures by country of residence, type of accommodation and number of nights spent: January-March 2006

Country of residence	Hotels									
	5-star		4-star		3-star		2-star		Unclassified	
	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights
Austria	489	4,194	897	4,550	720	4,493	96	669	-	-
Belgium	1,298	9,902	991	7,688	250	1,750	-	-	-	-
Denmark	52	364	295	1,771	197	1,379	-	-	-	-
France	3,414	14,788	2,167	14,405	1,540	18,369	292	1,949	-	-
Germany	4,261	24,702	11,449	93,966	2,991	31,574	-	-	-	-
Italy	4,070	14,173	3,901	19,253	1,691	8,216	47	329	-	-
Netherlands	1,165	6,369	866	6,310	543	3,959	94	1,082	-	-
Sweden	96	487	292	2,774	303	1,170	98	585	-	-
United Kingdom	8,495	61,187	36,451	416,154	16,521	201,623	246	1,379	-	-
Norway	1,037	3,841	297	4,275	388	5,925	-	-	-	-
Switzerland	743	7,381	796	5,772	554	3,671	49	679	-	-
Russia	486	2,477	193	2,037	150	1,412	-	-	-	-
Libya	199	595	1,552	12,595	252	1,152	52	312	-	-
USA	1,910	13,770	395	2,815	98	300	52	779	-	-
Other	7,364	36,017	5,785	33,927	3,534	25,849	345	3,079	-	-
Total	35,079	200,247	66,327	628,292	29,732	310,842	1,371	10,842	-	-
Country of residence	Own private residence		Apart-Hotel		Furnished premises		Other		Total	
	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights	No. of tourists	No. of nights
Austria	52	572	101	153	104	727	392	2,886	2,851	18,244
Belgium	104	520	52	364	-	-	354	2,353	3,049	22,577
Denmark	52	364	52	364	-	-	1,541	16,112	2,189	20,354
France	-	-	49	340	147	1,758	793	17,835	8,402	69,444
Germany	151	705	290	3,026	488	18,982	1,377	20,717	21,007	193,672
Italy	198	2,165	49	97	346	801	1,656	12,845	11,958	57,879
Netherlands	101	561	49	346	99	3,562	310	3,295	3,227	25,484
Sweden	-	-	-	-	-	-	99	494	888	5,510
United Kingdom	2,749	31,345	2,921	35,307	2,341	28,377	5,849	68,329	75,573	843,701
Norway	47	7,057	47	1,976	-	-	103	1,446	1,919	24,520
Switzerland	148	988	-	-	49	1,433	198	1,827	2,537	21,751
Russia	-	-	52	312	-	-	445	8,278	1,326	14,516
Libya	52	182	-	-	305	2,567	98	437	2,510	17,840
USA	52	779	-	-	-	-	336	2,314	2,843	20,757
Other	254	4,122	295	3,570	909	19,300	2,610	69,483	21,096	195,347
Total	3,960	49,360	3,957	45,855	4,788	77,507	16,161	228,651	161,375	1,551,596

Table 9. Breakdown of expenditure by package and non-package air tourists

March 2005					
Country of residence	Package Expenditure	Non-package		Other expenditure	Total
		Airfares	Accommodation		
(Lm)					
Austria	382,012	60,413	43,213	139,304	624,942
Belgium	261,265	32,201	20,478	140,974	454,918
Denmark	319,597	39,759	14,132	217,189	590,677
France	695,746	85,015	85,281	328,501	1,194,543
Germany	1,561,185	281,065	310,284	817,995	2,970,529
Italy	820,656	207,918	205,618	396,541	1,630,733
Netherlands	179,455	46,382	45,669	108,893	380,399
Sweden	228,299	19,825	15,808	106,091	370,023
United Kingdom	5,708,301	806,133	630,333	3,905,317	11,050,084
Norway	244,516	28,025	25,736	152,750	451,027
Switzerland	222,092	67,076	48,221	165,733	503,122
Russia	38,355	5,996	8,328	33,673	86,352
Libya	-	52,345	47,130	90,814	190,289
USA	283,519	15,911	9,167	83,887	392,484
Other	1,087,479	665,950	410,112	1,013,431	3,176,972
Total	12,032,477	2,414,014	1,919,510	7,701,093	24,067,094
March 2006					
Austria	212,581	30,113	46,275	116,406	405,375
Belgium	260,062	36,156	26,500	136,099	458,817
Denmark	223,393	19,964	12,771	106,504	362,632
France	392,985	168,320	148,815	281,764	991,884
Germany	1,609,234	263,212	203,494	883,246	2,959,186
Italy	396,991	240,895	170,631	317,866	1,126,383
Netherlands	241,235	42,468	23,769	153,577	461,049
Sweden	45,394	71,032	43,519	48,681	208,626
United Kingdom	4,218,059	822,086	490,653	3,505,944	9,036,742
Norway	271,682	80,825	51,947	141,224	545,678
Switzerland	302,026	52,544	45,059	186,508	586,137
Russia	51,728	61,406	22,189	64,980	200,303
Libya	89,748	73,631	24,536	114,922	302,837
USA	99,689	153,824	80,803	187,323	521,639
Other	822,847	629,927	365,463	918,549	2,736,786
Total	9,237,654	2,746,403	1,756,424	7,163,593	20,904,074

Table 10. Per capita expenditure by package and non-package air tourists

March 2005					
Country of residence	Package Expenditure	Non-package		Other expenditure	Total *
		Airfares	Accommodation		
(Lm)					
Austria	259.9	198.1	170.1	78.5	357.0
Belgium	245.8	127.3	134.7	107.1	356.0
Denmark	217.7	157.2	55.9	126.2	343.2
France	263.9	152.6	168.5	102.9	376.8
Germany	226.3	142.3	161.3	92.2	335.6
Italy	238.1	124.4	126.9	77.5	320.0
Netherlands	207.7	114.2	128.6	85.7	304.7
Sweden	204.9	196.3	156.5	87.3	304.5
United Kingdom	226.5	105.3	113.0	118.9	343.4
Norway	267.5	184.4	169.3	143.2	423.0
Switzerland	243.8	147.1	105.7	121.2	368.0
Russia	188.0	117.6	163.3	132.1	338.6
Libya		86.2	133.1	149.6	369.0
USA	399.3	104.0	89.9	97.3	460.2
Other	204.2	178.1	128.4	111.8	358.2
Total	230.4	131.7	127.5	109.1	347.0
March 2006					
Austria	232.3	101.7	156.3	96.0	334.7
Belgium	202.4	146.4	107.3	88.8	299.5
Denmark	302.3	136.7	87.5	120.3	409.8
France	230.1	127.0	116.7	92.9	329.0
Germany	214.4	125.6	101.9	92.0	309.3
Italy	218.2	104.8	83.1	77.2	278.5
Netherlands	230.4	143.5	96.2	114.4	346.8
Sweden	306.7	145.9	99.4	76.7	336.2
United Kingdom	217.8	90.9	77.6	123.4	325.5
Norway	345.7	150.0	105.6	106.6	415.6
Switzerland	291.0	133.0	130.2	130.2	413.5
Russia	270.8	253.7	91.7	150.1	462.6
Libya	181.7	248.8	99.3	145.3	389.3
USA	521.9	138.8	84.2	144.2	411.2
Other	218.5	150.1	92.5	115.3	346.5
Total	225.3	119.3	91.2	111.9	331.9

* A weighted average of the 'package' and 'non-package' expenditure categories based on the respective number of tourists in each category plus the simple average of the 'other' expenditure category.

Table 11. Breakdown of expenditure by package and non-package air tourists

January-March 2005					
Country of residence	Package Expenditure	Non-package		Other expenditure	Total
		Airfares	Accommodation		
(Lm)					
Austria	603,232	121,066	66,724	265,420	1,056,442
Belgium	436,591	99,713	44,005	350,711	931,020
Denmark	530,888	69,403	21,391	347,743	969,425
France	1,440,234	243,280	168,883	726,669	2,579,066
Germany	3,788,201	632,438	430,999	1,957,214	6,808,852
Italy	1,817,794	753,873	435,507	1,132,081	4,139,255
Netherlands	351,982	131,365	83,196	289,673	856,216
Sweden	414,353	110,377	67,147	224,690	816,567
United Kingdom	14,146,558	1,806,858	1,201,680	9,353,281	26,508,377
Norway	323,284	44,858	26,861	249,756	644,759
Switzerland	378,836	138,033	104,022	301,188	922,079
Russia	235,558	51,571	21,282	194,670	503,081
Libya	20,951	200,418	145,277	277,369	644,015
USA	388,051	190,709	67,886	276,497	923,143
Other	2,629,572	2,005,328	912,962	2,447,797	7,995,659
Total	27,506,085	6,599,290	3,797,822	18,394,759	56,297,956
January-March 2006					
Austria	442,241	78,092	76,066	247,470	843,869
Belgium	450,070	107,435	69,022	258,793	885,320
Denmark	449,285	43,514	23,683	227,489	743,971
France	971,613	541,743	450,500	769,038	2,732,894
Germany	3,234,653	641,118	611,358	1,980,356	6,467,485
Italy	1,171,687	662,649	503,893	950,848	3,289,077
Netherlands	471,230	145,911	83,735	380,030	1,080,906
Sweden	68,721	91,324	56,807	72,718	289,570
United Kingdom	12,414,185	2,045,167	1,163,028	9,464,150	25,086,530
Norway	343,290	151,137	88,720	193,983	777,130
Switzerland	527,715	69,091	67,599	277,441	941,846
Russia	199,393	107,875	78,917	185,070	571,255
Libya	166,118	178,177	140,358	349,759	834,412
USA	243,426	254,597	180,200	404,814	1,083,037
Other	2,234,010	1,559,407	956,894	2,592,885	7,343,196
Total	23,387,637	6,677,237	4,550,780	18,354,844	52,970,498

Table 12. Per capita expenditure by package and non-package air tourists

January-March 2005					
Country of residence	Package Expenditure	Non-package		Other expenditure	Total *
		Airfares	Accommodation		
(Lm)					
Austria	234.3	167.2	99.1	80.5	321.8
Belgium	229.2	126.2	74.8	130.0	351.0
Denmark	201.9	134.8	41.5	110.6	308.3
France	245.0	130.4	93.0	93.8	333.6
Germany	227.5	151.2	114.6	94.0	329.2
Italy	227.2	134.3	79.1	83.2	304.7
Netherlands	211.5	133.0	100.1	109.2	328.8
Sweden	209.1	151.0	116.8	82.8	307.7
United Kingdom	235.4	106.9	94.7	121.5	349.4
Norway	235.6	142.4	129.1	148.0	390.4
Switzerland	235.3	128.0	101.7	112.0	345.1
Russia	221.6	122.5	67.1	131.0	343.5
Libya	133.5	86.1	75.9	111.7	271.9
USA	337.7	156.7	67.5	117.0	396.3
Other	226.0	180.8	91.2	107.7	356.1
Total	232.4	135.3	91.7	110.1	340.8
January-March 2006					
Austria	215.5	97.7	101.8	86.8	297.8
Belgium	209.5	119.2	92.6	84.9	295.1
Denmark	244.0	124.3	95.9	103.9	344.2
France	218.4	137.0	121.8	91.5	329.0
Germany	207.5	118.2	120.5	94.3	309.9
Italy	211.6	103.2	84.3	79.5	278.2
Netherlands	220.4	134.0	84.7	117.8	337.6
Sweden	276.0	142.7	96.1	81.9	331.1
United Kingdom	232.2	92.5	75.4	125.2	338.6
Norway	332.0	170.8	105.9	101.1	407.6
Switzerland	271.5	116.5	124.3	109.4	373.6
Russia	270.9	182.8	133.8	139.6	430.8
Libya	184.0	111.0	93.3	139.4	336.4
USA	274.4	130.1	105.4	142.4	390.1
Other	225.3	139.5	91.4	122.9	351.2
Total	227.3	114.1	92.6	113.7	333.6

* A weighted average of the 'package' and 'non-package' expenditure categories based on the respective number of tourists in each category plus the simple average of the 'other' expenditure category.

Methodological Notes

1. Tourist air departures are collected through a continuous survey carried out at the departure lounge of Malta International Airport. A two-stage sample design is used for this survey. At the first stage alternate days are selected. Then within each shift a sample of passengers is selected systematically. Personal interviews are carried out. Monthly response rates of around 90 per cent are achieved.
2. Tourist sea departures are collected through a regular survey that is carried out at the seaport. Ferry sailings on every alternate day are selected. Departing passengers are interviewed personally. On average a response rate of 93 per cent is recorded for this survey.
3. The variables collected in these surveys include the following:

Nationality	Number of nights stayed
Country of residence	Locality in Malta stayed longest
Flight/Sailing	Organisation of trip
Final destination	Form of transport used
Purpose of visit	Expenditure (package/non-package/other)
Frequency of visit	Age
Gender	
4. The expenditure data contained in this release should not be equated to national tourism earnings. Such expenditure includes elements that are earned by enterprises outside the Maltese economic territory.
5. The surveys carried out at the airport and the seaport are grossed up using the monthly passenger departures data in respect of each port after removing the number of transit passengers from the data sets. The monthly passenger departures data published by the Malta International Airport cannot be equated to tourism statistics because the former is inclusive of departing Maltese and transit passengers. As a result, the monthly tourism statistics published by the NSO are always lower than the combined passenger departures data available from the airport and seaport.
6. Definitions

Usual Environment consists of the direct vicinity of his/her home and place of work and other places frequently visited

Visitors comprise tourists and same-day visitors. Visitors are distinguished from other travellers according to the following criteria:

- The trip should be to a place other than that of the usual environment.
- The stay in the place visited should not last more than 12 consecutive months.
- The main purpose of visit should be other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited.

International tourist satisfies the criteria mentioned earlier regarding visitors. Additionally, international tourists must stay at least one night in a collective or private accommodation in the country visited.

International same-day visitor is an international visitor who does not spend at least one night in collective or private accommodation.

7. The data in this release are not normally subject revision.
8. Further methodological notes are available at www.nso.gov.mt/publications/Tourstat/Tourstat2003.pdf