

## Tourism trips

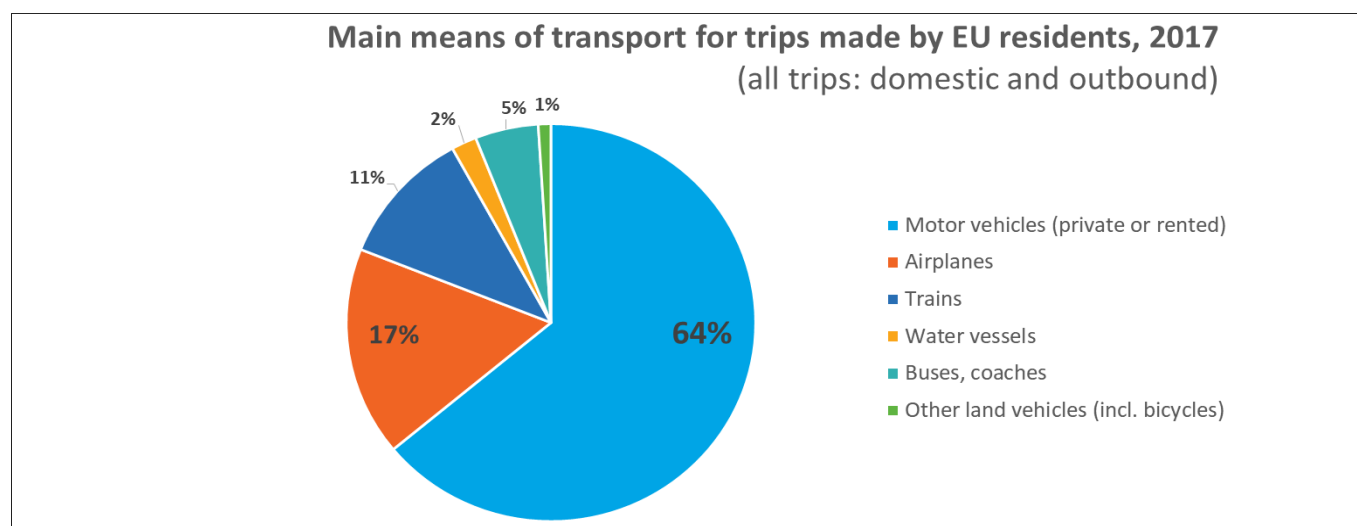
# Three quarters of all trips by EU residents are within their own country

Majority of the trips are made by car

In 2017, EU residents made 1.3 billion trips with overnight stays that amounted to almost 6.4 billion nights. The average trip length was 5.1 nights. Compared with 2016, the number of tourism trips by EU residents increased by 4%. Three quarters (73%) of all trips were spent within the country of residence (domestic trips), while one quarter (27%) were abroad (outbound trips), of which 21% to other EU countries and 6% to destinations outside the EU.

The most common means of transport for trips was private or rented motor vehicles (predominantly cars) (64%), followed by airplanes (17%), trains (11%), buses (6%) and water vessels (2%). Airplanes served as the main means of transport for over half of outbound trips (56%), while for domestic trips EU residents travelled mainly by motor vehicles (76%), followed by rail (13%).

Most of the travel by air was for personal reasons (82%), while the remaining 18% of air trips were for professional purposes.



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Almost half of all trips (49%) were for holidays and leisure, 35% for visits to relatives and friends, 12% for business and 4% for other reasons..

Over half of all 6.4 billion overnight stays during tourism trips of EU residents in 2017 were spent in rented accommodation (55%). Hotels or similar accommodation providing services such as daily cleaning and bed-making came on top with 32%, while 6% were spent at campsites and the remaining 17% in other types of rented accommodation (e.g. rented holiday dwelling, apartment, youth hostel, mountain hut).

These figures come from Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union.

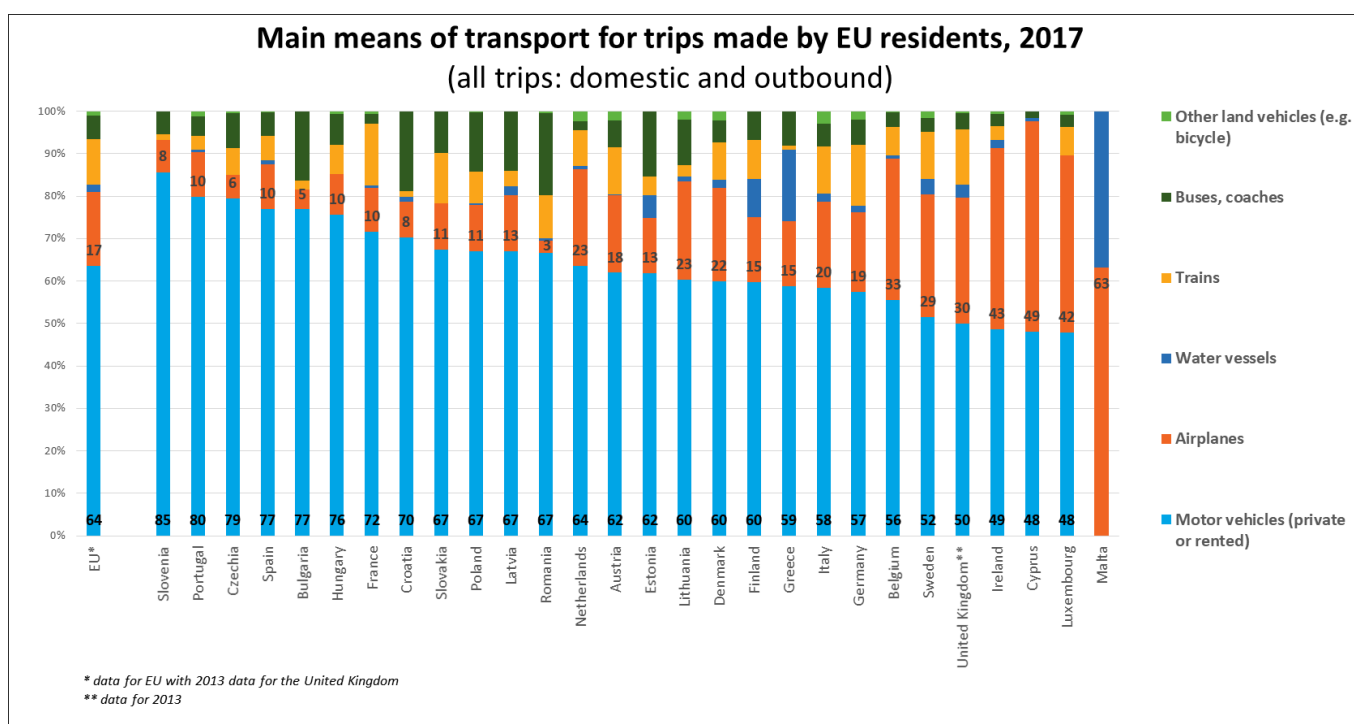
## 1 in 7 French and German tourists travel by train

Motor vehicles (private or rented cars) were the main means of transport for more two-thirds of all trips made in twelve countries, with the highest share for the residents of **Slovenia** (85% of trips), **Portugal** (80%), **Czechia** (79%), **Spain** and **Bulgaria** (both 77%). Cars were used for less than half of all trips in **Luxembourg** and **Cyprus** (both 48%) and **Ireland** (49%).

Airplanes were the main means of travel for tourists from **Malta** (63%), far ahead of **Cyprus** (49%), **Ireland** (43%) and **Luxembourg** (42%), while in six countries - **Romania** (3%), **Bulgaria** (5%), **Czechia** (6%), **Croatia** and **Slovenia** (both 8%) the shares for air transport were less than 10%.

The highest use of trains for tourism trips was observed in **France** (15%) and **Germany** (14%). At the other end of the scale were **Greece** and **Slovenia** (both 1%), **Bulgaria** and **Croatia** (both 2%).

Waterways were the main means of transport for 37% of trips made by residents of **Malta** and 17% of trips by residents of **Greece**, while in **Romania** and **Croatia** (both 19%), **Bulgaria** (16%) and **Estonia** (15%) residents took buses for 15% and more of their trips.



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## Highest share of domestic trips for residents of Romania, Spain, Portugal and Greece

The highest shares of trips of EU residents within their country (domestic trips) were observed in **Romania** (94%), **Spain** (91%), **Portugal** (89%), **Greece** (88%), **France** (87%) and **Bulgaria** (86%). On the other hand, the largest proportions of trips abroad (outbound trips) were registered for residents of **Luxembourg** (98%), **Belgium** (80%), **Malta** (68%) and **Slovenia** (62%).

The average length of stay during a trip varied from ten nights for residents of **Greece** (9.9 nights), followed by residents of **Luxembourg** (7.1), **Belgium** and the **Netherlands** (both 6.5), to less than four nights for residents of **Latvia** and **Estonia** (both 3.3), **Finland** (3.4), **Hungary** (3.6), **Denmark** (3.8) and **Romania** (3.9).

## Geographical information

The **European Union** (EU) includes Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

## For more information

Eurostat [website section](#) dedicated to tourism statistics

Eurostat [database](#) on tourism

Eurostat [news article](#) on air transport

Eurostat [Statistics Explained article](#) on characteristics of tourism trips

Eurostat [themes in the spotlight](#)

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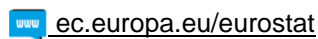
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## Trips (business and holiday) made by EU residents, 2017

	Total trips (thousand)	Domestic trips, %	Outbound trips, %	Ave. length of trips (nights)
<b>EU28*</b>	<b>1 255 347</b>	<b>73.3</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>5.1</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	15 202	20.1	79.9	6.5
<b>Bulgaria</b>	5 464	86.1	13.9	4.1
<b>Czechia</b>	35 815	81.1	18.9	4.1
<b>Denmark</b>	26 516	71.2	28.8	3.8
<b>Germany</b>	243 577	62.1	37.9	5.5
<b>Estonia</b>	4 556	71.9	28.1	3.3
<b>Ireland</b>	14 556	52.0	48.0	4.6
<b>Greece</b>	6 210	88.4	11.6	9.9
<b>Spain</b>	152 708	90.6	9.4	4.1
<b>France</b>	220 775	87.1	12.9	5.1
<b>Croatia</b>	4 900	60.7	39.3	6.4
<b>Italy</b>	56 421	79.8	20.2	5.6
<b>Cyprus</b>	2 799	49.8	50.2	6.4
<b>Latvia</b>	4 208	69.9	30.1	3.3
<b>Lithuania</b>	4 560	55.4	44.6	4.4
<b>Luxembourg</b>	1 834	1.7	98.3	7.1
<b>Hungary</b>	18 608	65.1	34.9	3.6
<b>Malta</b>	807	32.3	67.7	4.9
<b>Netherlands</b>	45 070	53.9	46.1	6.5
<b>Austria</b>	23 085	50.2	49.8	4.9
<b>Poland</b>	57 910	79.4	20.6	5.8
<b>Portugal</b>	17 474	89.0	11.0	4.0
<b>Romania</b>	17 902	94.0	6.0	3.9
<b>Slovenia</b>	4 825	37.6	62.4	4.3
<b>Slovakia</b>	10 970	64.7	35.3	4.0
<b>Finland</b>	39 534	76.3	23.7	3.4
<b>Sweden</b>	59 648	64.4	35.6	5.2
<b>United Kingdom</b>	159 414	67.2	32.8	5.5
<b>Norway</b>	23 268	64.9	35.1	4.9
<b>Switzerland</b>	22 113	30.7	69.3	6.7

: Data not available

\* estimated data calculated using 2013 data for the United Kingdom

\*\* data from 2013 for the United Kingdom

The source dataset can be found [here](#).

## Trips made by EU residents by main means of transport, 2017

	Total (thousand)	Share by type of transport (% of total transport)			Share by type of land transport (% of total transport)			
		Land	Air	Waterway	Motor vehicles (private or rented)	Train	Bus or coach	Other (e.g. bicycle)
<b>EU*</b>	1 255 347	80.9	17.4	1.7	63.5	10.8	5.5	1.0
<b>Belgium</b>	15 202	65.9	33.3	0.8	55.6	6.6	3.4	0.3
<b>Bulgaria</b>	5 464	95.3	4.7	:	76.8	2.2	16.2	:
<b>Czechia</b>	35 815	94.3	5.6	:	79.4	6.3	8.2	0.4
<b>Denmark</b>	26 516	76.1	21.9	1.9	60.0	8.8	5.2	2.1
<b>Germany</b>	243 577	79.7	18.9	1.4	57.4	14.4	5.9	2.0
<b>Estonia</b>	4 556	81.8	13.0	5.2	61.6	4.5	15.2	:
<b>Ireland</b>	14 556	55.4	42.6	2.0	48.7	3.3	2.9	0.6
<b>Greece</b>	6 210	67.9	15.3	16.8	58.7	1.1	8.0	:
<b>Spain</b>	152 708	88.6	10.4	1.0	77.0	5.7	5.6	0.2
<b>France</b>	220 775	89.2	10.2	0.5	71.7	14.6	2.4	0.6
<b>Croatia</b>	4 900	90.6	8.4	1.0	70.0	1.5	18.7	:
<b>Italy</b>	56 421	77.7	20.3	2.1	58.4	11.0	5.4	2.9
<b>Cyprus</b>	2 799	49.8	49.4	0.8	48.0	:	1.6	:
<b>Latvia</b>	4 208	84.8	13.0	2.1	66.9	3.7	14.0	:
<b>Lithuania</b>	4 560	75.7	23.1	1.1	60.3	2.8	10.7	2.0
<b>Luxembourg</b>	1 834	58.2	41.8	:	47.8	6.7	2.9	0.9
<b>Hungary</b>	18 608	90.5	9.5	:	75.7	6.9	7.4	0.6
<b>Malta</b>	807	:	63.2	36.8	:	:	:	:
<b>Netherlands</b>	45 070	76.4	22.7	0.9	63.5	8.4	2.2	2.3
<b>Austria</b>	23 085	81.5	18.3	0.2	62.0	11.2	6.3	2.1
<b>Poland</b>	57 910	88.6	11.0	0.4	67.0	7.4	14.0	0.3
<b>Portugal</b>	17 474	89.0	10.5	0.5	79.9	3.3	4.6	1.1
<b>Romania</b>	17 902	96.5	2.8	0.7	66.7	10.1	19.2	0.5
<b>Slovenia</b>	4 825	92.0	7.8	:	85.1	1.3	5.3	:
<b>Slovakia</b>	10 970	89.3	10.7	:	67.4	11.9	9.8	:
<b>Finland</b>	39 534	75.7	15.4	8.9	59.7	9.2	6.7	:
<b>Sweden</b>	59 648	67.5	28.9	3.6	51.5	11.1	3.2	1.6
<b>United Kingdom**</b>	159 414	67.3	29.6	3.1	50.0	13.0	3.8	0.4
<b>Norway</b>	23 268	56.3	40.8	3.0	47.0	5.1	2.7	1.4
<b>Switzerland</b>	22 113	68.9	30.6	0.5	50.0		2.9	:

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