



# Press release

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10 Tourism

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Supplementary accommodation in the 4th quarter and in year 2017

## In 2017, supplementary accommodation recorded growth in overnight stays of close to 7%

Neuchâtel, 18 June 2018 (FSO) – In 2017, supplementary accommodation posted a total of 15.9 million overnight stays, i.e. an increase of 6.9% compared with 2016. With 10.8 million units, Swiss visitors represented more than two-thirds of demand (68.3%), i.e. a rise of 7.0%. Foreign visitors registered a 6.6% increase with 5.0 million units. Among this clientele, European visitors generated the most overnight stays with a total of 4.2 million (+8.4%). These are the findings of the supplementary accommodation statistics from the Federal Statistical Office (FSO).

When added to the hotel statistics, these findings provide results for the entire tourist accommodation in Switzerland. In 2017, a total of 53.3 million overnight stays were posted in Switzerland, i.e. a total increase of 5.7% compared with 2016. Domestic visitors registered 27.8 million overnight stays (+5.3%). Foreign visitors generated 25.5 million units, which was an increase of 6.2%.

### Overnight stays in holiday homes rose above the 7 million mark

In 2017, commercially-run holiday homes accounted for the majority of overnight stays in supplementary accommodation (46.1%) with a total of 7.3 million overnight stays. This represents a rise of 7.5% compared with 2016. Domestic demand totalled 4.4 million overnight stays (+6.2% compared with the previous year) whereas foreign demand reached a total of 2.9 million (+9.6%) units. More than 80% of overnight stays by foreign visitors were by visitors from Europe (2.4 million / +9.2%). In 2017, the average length of stay in holiday homes used for commercial purposes was 6.8 nights. Among the major regions, the Lake Geneva region saw the strongest demand with a total of 3.2 million overnight stays, followed by Eastern Switzerland (2.1 million).

### **Positive results in collective accommodation visits**

Collective accommodation recorded 5.4 million overnight stays in 2017, i.e. growth of 2.4% compared with the previous year; 4.3 million units were by Swiss clientele (+2.3%). Foreign visitors generated 1.1 million overnight stays, an increase of 2.9%. Visitors from the European continent represented the greatest number of foreign overnight stays with a total of 828 000 units (+12.8%). The average length of stay in collective accommodation was 2.6 nights. At major region level, the Lake Geneva region and Espace Mittelland recorded the greatest number of overnight stays with 1.4 million units each. This was followed by Eastern Switzerland (1.2 million).

### **Large increase in visits to campsites**

In 2017, campsites registered 3.2 million overnight stays, representing a rise of 13.9% compared with the previous year. Swiss guests generated 2.1 million overnight stays, i.e. a growth of 20.1%. Foreign visitors, for their part, posted 1.0 million overnight stays, which corresponds to an increase of 2.8%. Foreign demand came essentially from Europe (96.6%). This continent's clientele posted 990 000 overnight stays, i.e. a rise of 3.2%. In 2017, the average duration of stay was 2.9 nights. With 838 000 overnight stays, the Lake Geneva region was the major region that recorded the greatest number of overnight stays at campsites. It was followed by Ticino (749 000).

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### Survey methods

The survey of commercially-run holiday homes was started in 2016 and is a sample survey conducted at national level. The 2017 sample was comprised of 12 059 holiday homes surveyed on a quarterly basis. The response rate was 88%.

Also started in 2016, the survey of collective accommodation is a sample survey conducted at national level. The 2017 sample was comprised of 11 999 collective accommodation units surveyed on a quarterly basis. The response rate was 89%.

The survey of campsites is a comprehensive survey and was reintroduced in 2005. It was conducted at national level in 2017 among 406 establishments. The response rate was 99%.

The hotel accommodation survey (HESTA) is a monthly comprehensive survey and was reintroduced in 2005. It was conducted at among 4878 hotels in 2017. The response rate was 97%.

Detailed tables showing the different coefficients of variation for supplementary accommodation are available on our website.

<https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/en/home/statistics/tourism/tourist-accommodation/supplementary-accommodation.html>

### Methodological note concerning arrivals in collective accommodation

The response rate for arrivals in collective accommodation is lower than that for overnight stays. The imputation model used to compensate for this lack of response may influence the reliability of results in terms of arrivals in this type of accommodation.

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The Swiss Tourism Federation (STF), Switzerland Tourism (ST) the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and Parahotellerie Suisse received this press release 24 hours prior to publication to fulfil their missions.