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PRESS RELEASE

No. 25 of February 3, 2015

For the accurate interpretation of results, kindly see the methodological note on page 5 of the press release

Tourism – December and the year 2014

Compared to the previous year, both the arrivals and the overnight stays in the establishments of tourists' reception with functions of tourists' accommodation increased by 6.6 % and by 4.8 %, respectively, in 2014.

Compared to the corresponding month of the previous year, the arrivals and the overnight stays in the establishments of tourists' reception with functions of tourists' accommodation increased by 10.1 % and by 4.5 %, respectively, in December 2014.

Compared to December 2013, in December 2014, customs registered an increase in both the arrivals of foreign visitors of 18.9 % and in the departures abroad of the Romanian visitors of 8.5 %.

December 2014 compared to December 2013

	Arrivals ^{*)}			Overnight Stays ^{*)}		
	December 2013 -thousands-	December 2014 - thousands -	December 2014 compared to December 2013 -%-	December 2013 - thousands -	December 2014 -thousands-	December 2014 compared to December 2013 -%-
Total	498.1	548.5	110.1	1097.2	1146.1	104.5
Romanian tourists	407.3	438.2	107.6	916.4	926.6	101.1
Foreign tourists ^{**) out of which:}	90.8	110.3	121.5	180.8	219.5	121.4
- Europe	72.2	83.9	116.2	141.7	163.1	115.1
- The European Union	61.1	69.1	113.1	121.0	134.8	111.4
- Asia	10.7	14.9	139.3	23.2	30.7	132.3
- North America	4.7	6.0	127.7	8.9	9.9	111.2
- South America	0.7	0.8	114.3	1.5	1.6	106.7
- Africa	1.1	1.0	90.9	3.0	7.4	246.7

^{*)} Registered in the establishments of tourists' reception

^{**) By country of residence}

In December 2014, **the arrivals** in the establishments of tourists' reception amounted to 548.5 thousand, 10.1% more compared to December 2013.

In December 2014, the arrivals of the Romanian tourists in the establishments of tourists' reception with functions of tourists' accommodation were 79.9% of the total arrivals, while the foreign tourists were 20.1%, weights close to those of December 2013.

As to the arrivals of the foreign tourists in the establishments of tourists' reception, the highest weight had those coming from Europe (76.1% of the total of foreign tourists) and 82.4% of them came from European Union Member States.

In December 2014, the arrivals in hotels had a weight of 72.1% of the total arrivals in the establishments of tourists' reception with functions of tourists' accommodation. Compared to December 2013, the arrivals in hotels increased by 10.4% in December 2014.

In December 2014, **the overnight stays** in the establishments of tourists' reception amounted to 1146.1 thousand, 4.5% more compared to December 2013.

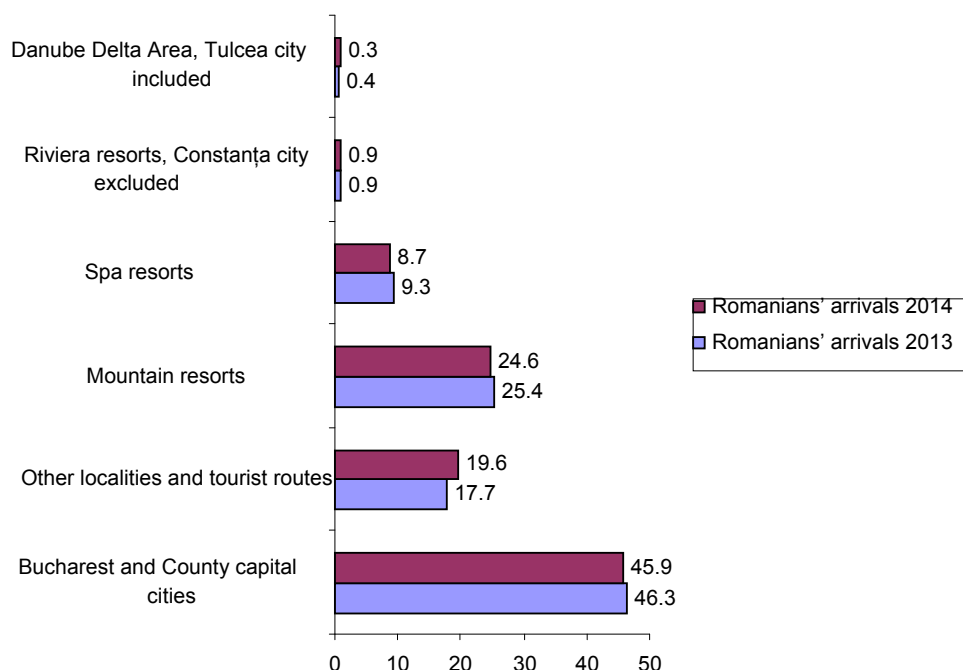
In December 2014, the Romanian tourists' overnight stays in the establishments of tourists' reception with functions of tourists' accommodation were 80.8% of the total overnight stays, while the foreign tourists' overnight stays were 19.2%. As to the overnight stays in the establishments of tourists' reception, the highest weight had those coming from Europe (74.3% of the total of foreign tourists) and 82.6% of them came from European Union Member States.

In December 2014, **the average time of stay** was 2.1 days for Romanian tourists, while for the foreign tourists it was 2.0 days.

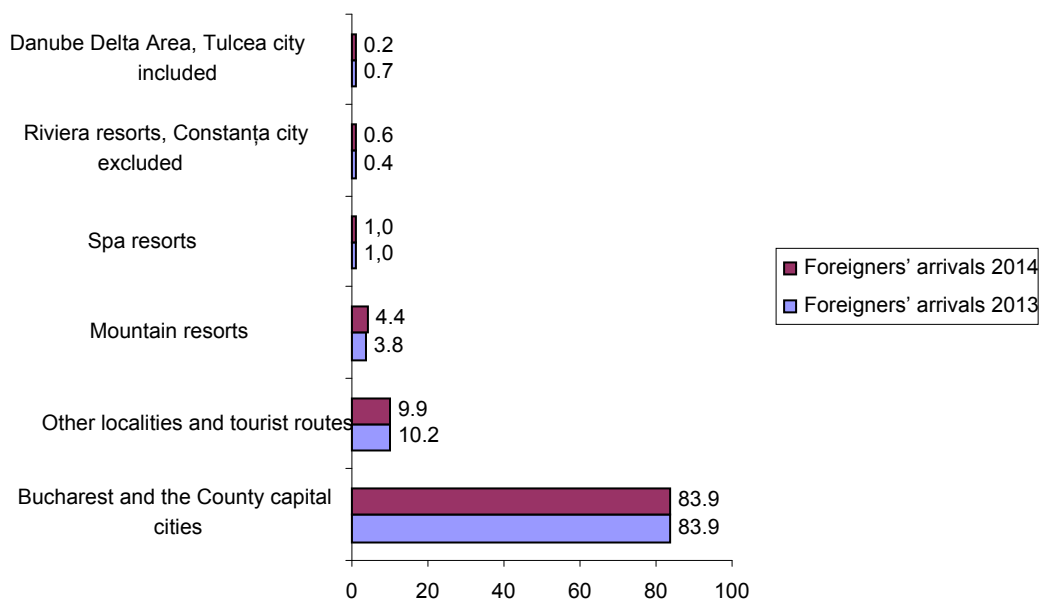
In December 2014, **the net use index** of accommodation places was 19.8% on total tourists' accommodation, 1.0 pp more compared to December 2013.

In December 2014, higher indices of accommodation places were registered by hotels (23.4%), tourist villas (17.0%), tourist boarding-houses (15.2%) and hostels and tourist chalets (13.4%, each).

The distribution of arrivals of Romanian tourists in the establishments of tourists' reception, by tourism area, in December 2014 compared to December 2013
%



The distribution of arrivals of foreign tourists in the establishments of tourists' reception, by tourism area, in December 2014 compared to December 2013
%



In December 2014, **the arrivals of foreign visitors to Romania**, according to customs, amounted to 606.1 thousand, 18.9% more compared to December 2013. Most of the foreign visitors came from European countries (93.8%). 60.8% of the total arrivals of the foreign visitors to Romania were from European Union Member States, out of which the most arrivals were from Hungary (33.0%), Bulgaria (24.3%), Germany (9.7%), Italy (8.1%), Austria (4.6%) and Poland (4.1%).

In December 2014, **the departures of Romanian visitors abroad**, according to customs, amounted to 809.2 thousand, 8.5% more compared to December 2013. The Romanian visitors abroad mostly used the means of road transport, 76.8% of the total departures.

Year 2014 compared to year 2013

	Arrivals ^{*)}			Overnight Stays ^{i *)}		
	Year 2013 - thousands -	Year 2014 - thousands -	Year 2014 compared to year 2013 -%-	Year 2013 - thousands -	Year 2014 -thousands-	Year 2014 compared to year 2013 -%-
Total	7918.5	8444.0	106.6	19301.8	20230.2	104.8
Romanian tourists	6204.0	6532.2	105.3	15830.6	16467.8	104.0
Foreign tourists ^{**) out of which:}	1714.5	1911.8	111.5	3471.2	3762.4	108.4
- Europe	1381.0	1475.4	106.8	2793.3	2848.0	102.0
- The European Union	1184.1	1261.2	106.5	2364.3	2404.1	101.7
- Asia	166.4	225.4	135.5	360.0	488.5	135.7
- North America	105.6	131.6	124.6	194.9	238.4	122.3
- South America	12.0	15.6	130.0	25.9	31.0	119.7
- Africa	13.8	18.5	134.1	32.5	76.4	235.1

^{*)} Registered in the establishments of tourists' reception

^{**) By country of residence}

In 2014, **the arrivals** in the establishments of tourists' reception amounted to 8444.0 thousand, 6.6% more compared to 2013.

In 2014, the arrivals of the Romanian tourists in the establishments of tourists' reception with functions of tourists' accommodation were 77.4% of the total arrivals, while the foreign tourists were 22.6%, weights close to those of 2013. As to the arrivals of the foreign tourists in the establishments of tourists' reception, the highest weight had those coming from Europe (77.2% of the total of foreign tourists) and 85.5% of them came from European Union Member States.

In 2014, the arrivals in hotels had a weight of 74.9% of the total arrivals in the establishments of tourists' reception with functions of tourists' accommodation. Compared to 2013, the arrivals in hotels increased by 6.9% in 2014.

In 2014, **the overnight stays** in the establishments of tourists' reception amounted to 20230.2 thousand, 4.8% more compared to 2013.

In 2014, the Romanian tourists' overnight stays in the establishments of tourists' reception with functions of tourists' accommodation were 81.4% of the total overnight stays, while the foreign tourists' overnight stays were 18.6%. As to the overnight stays in the establishments of tourists' reception, the highest weight had those coming from Europe (75.7% of the total of foreign tourists) and 84.4% of them came from European Union Member States.

In 2014, **the average time of stay** was 2.5 days for Romanian tourists, while for the foreign tourists it was 2.0 days.

In 2014, **the net use index** of accommodation places was 26.2% on total tourists' accommodation, 1.0 pp more compared to 2013.

In 2014, higher indices of accommodation places were registered by hotels (32.9%), tourist villas (20.2%) and houselet-type units (19.0%).

The most arrivals of foreign tourists by country of origin and by tourism area, in 2014, are as follows:

	Total	Bucharest and County capital cities, Tulcea city excluded	Other localities and tourist routes	Mountain resorts	Spa resorts	Riviera resorts, Constanța city excluded	Danube Delta Area, Tulcea city included
Total foreign tourists	1911817	1485908	215526	132014	33562	31325	13482
Germany	234451	183387	26112	13015	2778	5155	4004
Italy	184514	150641	23815	6835	978	1442	803
Israel	139425	108072	6090	21939	2283	895	146
France	123779	101874	12130	5640	774	2516	845
USA	113420	96007	8656	3839	482	4229	207
Great Britain	110601	94401	8484	5579	497	1265	375
Hungary	106481	58774	33287	4817	8820	541	242
Spain	79091	58035	11712	8040	243	438	623
Poland	71479	47414	11787	8500	624	2180	974
Austria	60907	48672	6886	3640	541	580	588
Netherlands	50924	40694	6099	2923	347	657	204
Bulgaria	47442	34031	3872	8544	203	443	349
Turkey	42266	33271	6636	1368	172	720	99
Republic of Moldova	41512	20052	3689	6662	10282	723	104
Greece	40748	36913	2062	1303	87	264	119
Belgium	29651	23495	3302	1557	217	912	168
Russian Federation	27967	22420	1620	2216	439	1244	28
Ukraine	22515	15965	3374	2379	414	274	109
Czech Republic	22132	18026	2231	1308	181	315	71
China	19008	15127	1373	1387	518	430	173
Switzerland	18577	15034	1678	1029	190	395	251
Japan	18221	15010	1395	1601	33	59	123
Canada	18143	14562	2042	826	239	399	75
Sweden	15959	13233	1445	749	134	357	41
Serbia	14916	12771	1063	535	327	84	136
Norway	13686	8800	1894	385	77	573	1957
Other countries	244002	199227	22792	15398	1682	4235	668

In 2014, **the arrivals of foreign visitors to Romania**, according to customs, amounted to 8441.6 thousand, 5.3% more compared to 2013. Most of the foreign visitors came from European countries (92.6%). 59.2% of the total arrivals of the foreign visitors to Romania were from European Union Member States, out of which the most arrivals were from Hungary (29.9%), Bulgaria (24.2%), Germany (9.4%), Italy (7.1%), Poland (6.2%) and Austria (4.0%).

In 2014, **the departures of Romanian visitors abroad**, according to customs, amounted to 12299.0 thousand, 8.2% more compared to 2013. The Romanian visitors abroad mostly used the means of road transport, 76.1% of the total departures.

METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

1. The data source consists of the monthly statistical survey concerning the "Occupancy of the establishments of tourists' reception with functions of tourists' accommodation" (TOURISM 1 A) for the arrivals and overnight stays in the establishments of tourists' reception with functions of tourists' accommodation, according to Regulation (EU) No. 692 of the European Parliament and Council, dated July 6, 2011, concerning the European statistics on tourism and the repeal of the Council Directive 95/57/EC.

The data regarding the arrivals of the foreign visitors to Romania and the departures of the Romanian visitors abroad, according to customs, are collected monthly from administrative sources monthly – The General Inspectorate of the Border Police within The Ministry of Domestic Affairs.

2. Definitions

The arrival of a tourist in an establishment of tourists' reception with functions of tourists' accommodation is registered when a person signs in the register of the respective establishment for one night or several nights' accommodation. In each establishment of tourists' reception with functions of tourists' accommodation, no matter the number of overnight stays, the continuous stay of a tourist counts as one arrival.

The overnight stay means the 24-hour interval, starting with the admission hour of the respective establishment, for which a person signs in the register of the establishment and benefits of accommodation according to the price paid, even if the actual stay lasts less than the mentioned interval. The overnight stays related to the additional beds (paid by tourists) are also taken into account.

Statistically speaking, "**international visitor**" means any person who travels to a country, other than that in which he usually resides, for a period that does not exceed 12 months, the main purpose of the visit being other than the paid employment in the visited country.

"Arrivals" is the measuring unit for the foreign visitors registered by the Customs when entering the country; "Departures" is the measuring unit for the Romanian visitors that travel abroad registered by the Customs when leaving the country.

The number of arrivals or departures of visitors differ from the number of persons entering the country and leaving the country, respectively. The same foreign person can travel several times to the country in the respective period, every time being registered as a new arrival. The same is valid for the Romanian visitors going abroad.

The following categories of travellers are **excluded** from the arrivals and departures of international visitors:

- immigrants and emigrants;
- diplomats, representatives of the consulates and of the army when they travel to / from the place of their mission towards another country;
- refugees and nomads.

The country of origin of the international visitor is determined based on the citizenship written in the visitor's passport.

3. Since 2010, the statistical survey regarding the "Occupancy of the establishments of tourists' reception with functions of tourists' accommodation" applies to all the establishments of tourists' reception having a minimum of 10 bed places that operate in the month of reference – about 4000 economic operators.

4. Data are provisional and can be revised periodically based on retroactive corrections made by the economic operators.

For more information, see the Monthly Statistical Bulletin, date of issue February 19, 2015.

The next issue of the press release will be on Tuesday, March 3, 2015.