

**Summary:**

# Foreign Visitor Survey 2002

## Summer season 2002

Table A presents the volume and distribution of foreign tourist arrivals and guest-nights in Norway in the summer season (May–September) 2002.

*Table A: Foreign business and holiday travel in Norway, summer season (May–September) 2002 (in thousands). Border registration when departing Norway.*

|                                  | Total  | By road | By ferry | By air | By rail |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------|----------|--------|---------|
| <b>Arrivals in total</b>         | 3 428  | 1 313   | 541      | 607    | 53      |
| - Day trips                      | 623    | 480     | 101      | 37     | 5       |
| - Cruise passengers (day visits) | 914    |         |          |        |         |
| - Overnight stays                | 1 891  | 833     | 440      | 570    | 48      |
| -- arrivals, business trips      | 352    | 76      | 36       | 235    | 5       |
| -- arrivals, holiday trips       | 1 538  | 757     | 404      | 335    | 43      |
| <b>Guest-nights in total</b>     | 14 338 | 4 755   | 5 059    | 4 211  | 313     |
| - Guest-nights, business trips   | 1 853  | 328     | 312      | 1 179  | 34      |
| - Guest-nights, holiday trips    | 12 485 | 4 427   | 4 747    | 3 032  | 279     |

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A total of 3.4 million foreigners visited Norway during the 2002 summer season. These visitors spent 14.3 million guest-nights in the country. About 1.9 million visitors stayed overnight in Norway, while 620,000 arrived on a day trip and 900,000 as cruise passengers (on day visits).

Some 81 per cent of the overnight visitors from abroad were holidaymakers, and 19 per cent were business travellers. Holiday visitors spent 12.5 million guest-nights in Norway, and the number of foreign business guest-nights amounted to nearly 1.9 million.

About 1.3 million foreign visitors travelled by road, 600,000 by air, 540,000 by ferry and 50,000 by rail. The holidaymakers from abroad utilised road and ferry connections most frequently, whereas foreign business travellers mainly travelled by air.

Compared with the summer season in the previous year the total number of arrivals of day visitors from abroad increased by six per cent, while the total number of arrivals among visitors who stayed overnight increased by one per cent. Moreover, the total number of foreign guest-nights turned out to be one per cent higher than the 2001-figure.

Day visitors crossed the border most frequently by road. The majority of such visitors were Swedes.

Table B: Foreign guest-nights in Norway, summer season (May–September) 2002, by country of residence and transport mode at the point of departure from Norway. Figures are in thousands except average length of stay, which is in number of nights per person.

|                 | Total   | Length of stay | By road | By ferry | By air | By rail |
|-----------------|---------|----------------|---------|----------|--------|---------|
| Total           | 14, 338 | 7.6            | 4, 755  | 5, 059   | 4, 211 | 313     |
| Sweden          | 1, 824  | 4.3            | 1, 308  | 217      | 205    | 94      |
| Denmark         | 1, 644  | 7.0            | 465     | 951      | 211    | 17      |
| Finland         | 633     | 3.7            | 572     | 0        | 56     | 5       |
| United Kingdom  | 1, 065  | 7.9            | 39      | 252      | 755    | 19      |
| The Netherlands | 888     | 9.9            | 370     | 344      | 165    | 9       |
| Belgium         | 143     | 7.9            | 49      | 48       | 45     | 1       |
| France          | 681     | 10.6           | 135     | 182      | 360    | 4       |
| Germany         | 4, 338  | 10.8           | 1, 205  | 2, 830   | 273    | 30      |
| Italy           | 306     | 8.5            | 88      | 21       | 189    | 8       |
| Switzerland     | 219     | 8.8            | 57      | 29       | 118    | 15      |
| Austria         | 165     | 8.7            | 114     | 13       | 31     | 7       |
| Spain           | 236     | 9.1            | 40      | 3        | 189    | 4       |
| Other Europe    | 642     | 8.6            | 299     | 99       | 237    | 7       |
| USA             | 811     | 8.9            | 0       | 70       | 701    | 40      |
| Other nations   | 743     | 9.0            | 14      | 0        | 676    | 53      |

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Among those who stayed overnight in Norway, the average stay was between seven and eight nights (Table B). Germany was by far the largest single foreign market in terms of number of guest-nights. However, countries like Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, the UK and the USA were also important markets for the Norwegian tourism industry.

Persons living in Sweden constituted the largest proportion of arrivals associated with *business trips*. There was also substantial business travel from the UK, Denmark, the USA and Germany.

In the summer season of 2002, 1.54 million foreign *holiday travellers* stayed overnight in Norway, with an average stay of eight nights. During the summer season, German holidaymakers made up the largest proportion of arrivals (24 per cent) and guest-nights (33 per cent). Sweden and Denmark were also important foreign markets, and together with the Netherlands, the USA, the UK, Finland and France these countries represented the bulk of summer holiday travel from abroad.

*Holiday tours by private motor vehicles and coaches* constituted about 75 per cent of all foreign holiday guest-nights in Norway. Visitors from the neighbouring Nordic countries, Germany, and the Netherlands dominated the arrivals by road and ferry. In the summer seasons over the past five years, such holiday travel decreased in terms of both number of arrivals and guest-nights, although it showed a minor increase in 2002.

Table C: Percentage of foreign guest-nights for all guests departing Norway by own vehicle, bus, rail or air, by type of accommodation. N = Number of guest-nights in summer season (May–September) 2000–2002 (thousands).

|                          | 2000            | 2001            | 2002            |                |                |              |                |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
|                          | Total           | Total           | Total           | By car         | By coach       | By rail      | By air         |
| Total (N)                | 100<br>(14,658) | 100<br>(14,076) | 100<br>(14,338) | 100<br>(8,679) | 100<br>(1,135) | 100<br>(313) | 100<br>(4,211) |
| Hotel, pension, etc.     | 31              | 31              | 29              | 16             | 83             | 35           | 41             |
| Camping at campsite      | 18              | 17              | 18              | 27             | 4              | 9            | 4              |
| Camping outside campsite | 6               | 6               | 5               | 8              | 0              | 0            | 0              |
| Rented cabin             | 15              | 15              | 17              | 27             | 5              | 2            | 2              |
| Own/ borrowed cabin      | 4               | 6               | 5               | 6              | 0              | 3            | 4              |
| Friends, relatives       | 19              | 18              | 17              | 11             | 0              | 35           | 32             |
| Other                    | 7               | 7               | 9               | 5              | 8              | 16           | 18             |

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Business and holiday travellers spent a total of 14.3 million guest-nights in Norway during the summer period (Table C). These visitors mainly used three different types of commercial accommodation: hotel (29 per cent), camping at campsite (18 per cent) and rented cabin (17 per cent). In addition, overnight stays with friends and relatives (17 per cent), own/borrowed cabin and camping outside campsite were used.

Among the foreign motorists, camping and cabin were the most frequently used types of accommodation. The coach tourists mostly stayed in hotels, and visitors going by air or rail mainly spent the nights in hotels or private homes.

Half of the business travellers from abroad stayed in hotels, whereas foreign holiday visitors were relatively equally distributed among the four accommodation sectors hotel, cabin, camping and friends/relatives.

## Year 2002

During the year 2002 a total of 5.3 million foreigners visited Norway. Some 3.1 million guests stayed overnight in the country while 1.3 million were on a day trip. In addition, 900,000 arrived on day visits as cruise passengers.

There were 800,000 foreign business visitors who stayed overnight in Norway, while the country was visited by 2.3 million holidaymakers from abroad. The total number of foreign guest-nights amounted to 20.6 million, of which holidaymakers constituted 83 per cent.

The main part of incoming tourism is related to the summer season (May–September), which constitutes 60 per cent of the arrivals of foreign overnight visitors.

Visitors from Sweden, Denmark, the UK, the USA and Germany make up the bulk of *business trips* to Norway. Two out of three foreign business travellers arrive by air, and about half of the business-related guest-nights are spent in hotels or similar accommodation. There have been only minor changes in foreign business travel over the past four-year period.

In 2002, the number of foreign *holiday travellers* increased by one per cent in terms of both arrivals and guest-nights. Germany, Sweden and Denmark are the most important foreign source markets for holiday travel to Norway, but also visitors from Finland, the UK, the Netherlands and the USA represent significant tourism volumes. The foreign holidaymakers are equally distributed among the four main types of accommodation: hotel, camping, cabin, and friends and relatives.

Half of the 34,000 foreign motor homes in Norway in 2002 were of German origin. The number of motor homes from abroad has remained relatively stable during the last years, while there has been a decline in the arrivals of motor vehicles with caravans. The number of vehicles with caravan is estimated to about 23,500 in 2002. The number of foreign-registered coaches visiting Norway dropped from approximately 15,000 in the year 2000 to 14,000 in 2002.