



5.6 million Cruise tourists passed through general interest ports during the first 7 months of the year

Spain is still a preferred destination for cruise tourists

- 66% of all cruise tourists- 3.7 million- stopped over at some Mediterranean port.
- The Spanish cruise sector employs 31,233 people and generates revenues of 1,481 M€.
- The port of Málaga will host the XIV edition of Seatrade Cruise Med, to be held in 2020.
- The state-owned port system will invest approximately 286 M€ in passenger infrastructures and facilities over the period 2019-2022.

09-10-2019 (Ministry of Development). A large representative group of the **Spanish port system, headed by the president of Puertos del Estado, Salvador de la Encina, will be present at Europe's main cruise fair, Seatrade Europe, to be held this year in the German city of Hamburg between 11-13 September.**

Spain's ports have an unbeatable letter of presentation: **5,658,513 cruise tourists travelling in 2,227 ships during the first seven months of the year passed through one of our 46 general interest ports; this has represented a 5.3% increase over the same period the previous year.**

Ports along the Mediterranean are still the main breeding ground for cruises in Spain, given that two out of every three cruise tourists, i.e. 66%, stopped over at one of these Mediterranean ports, covering more than 3.7 million passengers. Not in vain, Barcelona, with 1.6 million, is Europe's main port and, along with the Balearic Islands, represent 82% of all cruise ship traffic along Spain's Mediterranean coasts.



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Furthermore, the above-average increase in island destinations, particularly in the Canary Islands- +10%-, which already attract more than 1.4 million passengers, along with the solid performance of some Atlantic ports in mainland Spain, particularly A Coruña (+12.4%) and Bahía de Cádiz (+13%), foretell that the year 2019 will end, once again, with another historical maximum, which will foreseeably exceed the 10.1 million reached in 2018.

Salvador de la Encina has highlighted that, based on the latest Eurostat data, passengers who began/ended their trip at some Spanish port (considered base ports) totaled 3 million; this makes us Europe's second most popular country, just behind Italy (which 3.7 million) but ahead of Germany (2.9 million) and the United Kingdom (1.9 million).

Likewise, the president of Puertos del Estado has indicated that “although the impact of cruise ship traffic entails a lower contribution to the profit & loss account of the port system, it is gradually becoming more relevant for local and regional economies, given that a large number of indirect jobs are generated, in addition to constituting a huge incentive for tourist-related sectors”. In this regard, of interest is the fact that according to the latest data submitted by the Cruise Line International Association (CLIA), this sector directly contributed to the Spanish economy with 1,481 million Euros in 2017, 12% more than in 2015, directly employing 31,233 people.

– PORTS OF SPAIN LAYS OUT ITS BLUE CARPET

Seatrade Cruise Europe is the setting where the Spanish “Ports of Spain” stand, under the Blue Carpet motto, will lay out it out to welcome all its visitors. Thus, 21 Spanish Port Authorities (A Coruña, Alicante, Almería, Avilés, Bahía de Algeciras, Bahía de Cádiz, Balearic Islands, Barcelona, Cartagena, Castellón, Ceuta, Gijón, Huelva, Málaga, Melilla, Motril, Santander, Seville, Valencia, Vigo and Vilagarcía de Arousa), along with Tour Spain and other sector companies (Bergé and Marmedsa) will exhibit a wide range of



destinations and services for shipping companies. The ports of Bilbao and Tarragona will also be present at the fair, as well as those in the Canary Islands, joining the Cruises Atlantic Islands stand.

January-July cruise passengers

Port Authority	Aggregate since January		
	2018	2019	Var. (%)
A CORUÑA	73,850	83,019	12.42
ALICANTE	45,873	41,023	-10.57
ALMERÍA	14,334	5,417	-62.21
AVILÉS	1,986	2,323	16.97
BAHÍA DE CÁDIZ	213,112	240,754	12.97
BALEARES	1,313,811	1,403,317	6.81
BARCELONA	1,607,570	1,638,528	1.93
BILBAO	45,967	29,301	-36.26
CARTAGENA	100,477	124,316	23.73
CASTELLÓN	0	2,271	
CEUTA	4,389	2,860	-34.84
FERROL-SAN CIBRAO	8,297	7,743	-6.68
GIJÓN	15,143	10,396	-31.35
HUELVA	5,984	156	-97.39
LAS PALMAS	767,426	881,153	14.82
MÁLAGA	237,606	217,064	-8.65
MELILLA	0	631	
MOTRIL	2,442	4,623	89.31
PASAIA	389	80	-79.43
SANTA CRUZ DE TENERIFE	563,468	585,385	3.89
SANTANDER	9,598	23,987	149.92
SEVILLE	8,258	10,802	30.81
TARRAGONA	51,630	64,348	24.63
VALENCIA	187,371	220,676	17.77
VIGO	95,665	58,204	-39.16
VILAGARCÍA	502	136	-72.91
Total	5,375,148	5,658,513	5.27

– MÁLAGA WILL HOST SEATRADE CRUISE MED IN 2020

Salvador de la Encina considers that Málaga's selection as the seat of the next Seatrade Cruise Med competition in 2020 is a huge plus, "constituting another opportunity to highlight Spain's potential and range of tourist services, as the preferred destination of cruise ship tourism". Málaga will be taking over from Lisbon, the city where the previous event in 2018 was held, and will join Santa Cruz de Tenerife (2016) and Barcelona (2014) as the event's organizer.



Furthermore, the president of Puertos del Estado has announced that the state-owned port system is expected to invest approximately 286 M€ in passenger infrastructures and facilities, over the period 2019-2022, of which more than 219 M€ will be strictly assigned to cruise liners, to include extension of the attached wharf in the port of Barcelona (54 M€); various works in the port of Palma de Mallorca (116 M€); the southern harbor wall in the port of Tarragona (25 M€) or extension of the cruise liner wharf in the port of Arrecife (15 M€).

Cruise ships January-July

Port Authority	Aggregate since January		
	2018	2019	Var. (%)
A CORUÑA	44	60	36.36
ALICANTE	25	27	8.00
ALMERÍA	20	17	-15.00
AVILÉS	4	3	-25.00
BAHÍA DE CÁDIZ	173	171	-1.16
BALEARES	463	433	-6.48
BARCELONA	429	420	-2.10
BILBAO	32	29	-9.38
CARTAGENA	67	88	31.34
CASTELLÓN	0	3	
CEUTA	9	4	-55.56
FERROL-SAN CIBRAO	7	8	14.29
GIJÓN	9	11	22.22
HUELVA	11	4	-63.64
LAS PALMAS	336	295	-12.20
MÁLAGA	144	146	1.39
MELILLA	0	1	
MOTRIL	16	17	6.25
PASAIA	1	1	0.00
SANTA CRUZ DE TENERIFE	299	251	-16.05
SANTANDER	5	14	180.00
SEVILLE	39	53	35.90
TARRAGONA	31	32	3.23
VALENCIA	92	105	14.13
VIGO	43	32	-25.58
VILAGARCÍA	4	2	-50.00
Total	2,303	2,227	-3.30