



Cruise ships, sports/recreational sailing and lighthouses complete the range of services offered by general interest ports

Spanish ports increase their range of tourist services

22-01-2020 (Ministry of Transportation, Mobility and Urban Agenda).

The Spanish port system, consisting of 46 general interest ports managed by 28 Port Authorities and coordinated by Puertos del Estado, will be present at the FITUR tourism fair, presenting a broad range of services and facilities for cruise tourists, sports/recreational sailing and the accommodation services offered by “Faros de España”.

Cruise tourism continues on the rise year after year, and is one of the main attractions of general interest ports; along with the Local Administration, Regions and private sector initiatives, Spain is now positioned as one of the world’s countries receiving the most cruise ship travelers. Thus, the record achieved in 2018, with more than 10.1 million cruise ship travelers and 4,360 cruise ships, is highly likely to be surpassed in 2019, given that data at the end of November indicated a 4.5% increase, i.e. **exceeding 10.5 million cruise ship travelers in 2019.**

It is worth noting here that Spain, specifically the port of **Málaga**, will be **hosting** Europe’s cruise travel sector event, **Seatrade Cruise Med 2020**, to be held between 15-17 September, which will gather the world’s leading operators in the sector as well as the main destination points worldwide, shipbuilders, equipment and technology, engineering, travel agencies, product suppliers...



Cruise ship traveler traffic in 2019

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Port Authority	Aggregate January-November		
	2018	2019	Var. (%)
A CORUÑA	175,963	160,256	-8.93
ALICANTE	93,238	63,088	-32.34
ALMERÍA	28,803	7,177	-75.08
AVILÉS	1,986	4,544	128.80
BAHÍA DE CÁDIZ	399,958	452,205	13.06
BALEARIC ISLANDS	2,380,668	2,593,027	8.92
BARCELONA	2,952,336	3,058,083	3.58
BILBAO	86,457	55,448	-35.87
CARTAGENA	217,649	240,775	10.63
CASTELLÓN	568	5,462	861.62
CEUTA	15,861	9,374	-40.90
FERROL-SAN CIBRAO	17,534	14,928	-14.86
GIJÓN	28,717	15,388	-46.42
HUELVA	11,533	1,357	-88.23
LAS PALMAS	1,114,309	1,225,041	9.94
MÁLAGA	458,744	460,972	0.49
MELILLA	368	631	71.47
MOTRIL	5,313	9,415	77.21
PASAIA	1,371	207	-84.90
SANTA CRUZ DE TENERIFE	866,325	874,128	0.90
SANTANDER	12,305	30,087	144.51
SEVILLE	15,291	19,415	26.97
TARRAGONA	98,141	127,435	29.85
VALENCIA	404,089	413,255	2.27
VIGO	154,550	139,760	-9.57
VILAGARCÍA	1,158	890	-23.14
Total	9,543,235	9,982,348	4.60

With respect to **sports/recreational sailing**, it should be recalled that Spain's 28 Port Authorities offer nearly **30,000 slips**, 1/3 of all those existing in Spain. Furthermore, general interest ports concentrate half of the 27 facilities in the so-called "megayacht" sector, i.e. long recreational sailboats. This sector has become very important for Spain's tourism, given that it contributed approximately 0.7% of its GDP and more than 110,000 jobs; based on the data submitted by the



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Spanish Association of Nautical Enterprises, registration of this type of boat has grown more than 9.6% in 2019, resulting in 6,080 licensed boats this past year.

Finally, the “**Faros de España**” project, an initiative that seeks to enhance and give accommodation use to the lighthouse network along the Spanish coast (187 lighthouses) allows visitors to stay at accessible facilities. At present, there are already **two lighthouses refurbished for accommodation purposes** (**Punta Cumplida** in the island of La Palma and **Isla Pancha** in Ribadeo); **Faro de Corrubedo** in Ribeira is currently **undergoing renovation works**; and **Faro de Punta Insúa**, located at this point, in between the Corcubión and Muros-Noya estuaries, is **currently completing the necessary administrative steps** for its use as a hotel.