



In 2017, the cruise ship sector had a turnover of €1.481 million and directly employed 31,233 people

Cruise ship tourism continues to be on the up: 4.4 million passengers in the first half of the year

- The Canary Islands ports were the most visited ports and those with the largest growth.

10-08-2018 (Ministry of Public Works). Cruise ship tourism has become a regular form of traffic in Spanish ports. **More than 4.4 million cruise ship passengers climbed aboard at one of the State's 46 ports of general interest over the first 6 months of the year**, which represents a 23.5% increase compared to the 2017 data.

According to the **data provided by the Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA)**, this sector made a direct contribution of **1.481 million Euros to the Spanish economy last year**, 12% more than in 2015 and directly employing 31,233 people.

The President of Puertos del Estado, Ornella Chacón, emphasised the work done by the Port Authorities and other agents in the sector to maintain and boost the cruise ship market. "Cruise ship passengers also generate indirect employment opportunities and drive the local economy, which improves quality of life for thousands of families", she explained.

Spain holds **2nd place in Europe for the amount of cruise ship passengers received**, and it is the **4th largest sending country** with more than 510 thousand Spanish citizens having boarded ships in 2017. The Port of **Barcelona is cited in this same report as the number one port in Europe**, with more than **2.7 million cruise ship passengers in 2017**, followed by Civitavecchia (2.2 million) and the ports of the **Balearic Island with 2.1 million**.



Press release

The **impressive spike in cruise ship passenger traffic** in Spanish ports has, in particular, been spurred on by the good performance if **the ports of the Canary Islands archipelago, which grew by more than 35.6%**, up from the 960,848 passengers in the first half of 2017, at 1.3 million in 2018.

With 2.76 million passengers, **Mediterranean ports grew by 19.9%**, while those of the mainland Atlantic grew by 14.8% with 404,278.

For the Autonomous Communities, **Catalonia**, with the ports of Barcelona and Tarragona, receives the **second largest number of cruise ship passengers** after the Canary Islands. With 1.29 million passengers, it underwent a **22.9% increase**.

Port Authority	CRUISE SHIP PASSENGER TRAFFIC JANUARY-JUNE		
	Accumulated since January		
	2017	2018	Var. (%)
A CORUÑA	74,762	54,814	-26.68
ALICANTE	38,789	42,201	8.80
ALMERÍA	13,506	10,066	-25.47
AVILÉS	0	1,986	
BAY OF CÁDIZ	137,879	188,071	36.40
BALEARIC ISLANDS	755,509	965,404	27.78
BARCELONA	1,042,437	1,256,143	20.50
BILBAO	37,729	42,488	12.61
CARTAGENA	91,835	86,537	-5.77
CASTELON	411	0	-100.00
CEUTA	2,510	1,228	-51.08
FERROL-SAN CIBRAO	6,504	8,297	27.57
GIJON	6,789	11,770	73.37
HUELVA	2,281	5,984	162.34
LAS PALMAS	562,627	747,576	32.87
MALAGA	201,884	209,524	3.78
MOTRIL	1,679	2,442	45.44
PASALA	230	389	69.13
SANTA CRUZ DE TENERIFE	398,221	556,001	39.62
SANTANDER	8,216	5,387	-34.43
SEVILLE	9,946	7,932	-20.25
TARRAGONA	10,483	37,539	258.09
VALENCIA	150,225	156,845	4.41
VIGO	67,758	76,658	13.13
VILAGARCÍA	92	502	445.65
Total	3,622,302	4,475,784	23.56



Press release

The Balearic Islands ports have accumulated a total of 965,404 cruise ship passengers with a 27.8% increase.

Cruise ship passengers passing through the Andalusian ports added up to 424, 019, representing an 15.5% increase on 2017.

In the Community of Valencia, the ports of Alicante, Castellón and Valencia received more than 199 thousand passengers, 5% more than last year.

As for the five Galician ports, they hit 140,271 passengers, thus suffering a drop of 5.9%.

More than 86,536 cruise ship passengers arrived to the Community of Murcia, the port of Cartagena.

In the Basque Country, the ports of Bilbao and Pasaia received more than 42,875 passengers, an increase of 13%.

In Asturias, the ports of Avilés and Gijón reached 13,756 passengers.

To close this report, the ports of Santander and Ceuta, with 5,387 and 1,228 passengers, respectively.