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Tourism 2021: Almost one fifth fewer nights spent than in 2020, 48% fewer than in 2019

Vienna, 2022-01-26 – According to preliminary results from Statistics Austria, 79.57 million **nights spent** were registered in Austrian accommodation establishments in 2021. This means that the number of nights spent fell by 18.29 million or 18.7% compared to 2020 (97.87 million) and fell back to the level of 1970 (79.52 million). The number of **arrivals** decreased by 2.88 million or 11.5% to 22.15 million in 2021 compared to 2020 (non-resident guests: -15.6% to 12.73 million; resident guests: -5.3% to 9.42 million).

"Corona-related tourist accommodation closures and international travel restrictions continued to have a strong impact on tourism in Austria in 2021: At just under 80 million, the number of nights spent was 18.7% below the value of the first pandemic year 2020 and 48% or 73 million nights spent below the pre-crisis year 2019," says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

The overall decline is largely due to the months of closures (January to May and November 2021), with 85.6% fewer nights spent during these periods. In the remaining period – without closures (June to October and December) – the decline was 16.8%.

Overall, the number of nights spent by non-resident guests fell by 24.6% to 49.97 million. Nights spent by guests from Germany, the most important market, fell by 16.6% to 32.10 million in 2021. Guests from the Netherlands spent 41.4% less nights in Austria, those from Switzerland and Liechtenstein 36.6% less.

Nights spent by resident guests fell by 6.3% to 29.60 million, which is 1.99 million below the 2020 value.

Number of nights spent developed differently from region to region year-on-year

The decline compared to 2020 was very different in the individual federal states. While in federal states such as Burgenland (+9.7%), Lower Austria (+9.4%), the capital Vienna (+8.9%) and Upper Austria (+5.2%) each recorded increases in nights spent, Salzburg (-31.1%), Tyrol (-28.9%), Vorarlberg (-28.3%), Styria (-10.6%) and Carinthia (-7.8%) recorded decreases compared to 2020.

More than two-thirds fewer nights spent in Vienna than in 2019, one-fifth fewer in Burgenland

Nights spent in Vienna were 71.6% below the pre-pandemic year 2019 level; also in Salzburg (-53.4%), Tyrol (-50.2%) and Vorarlberg (-50.2%) the declines were higher than the overall Austrian decrease (-47.9%). The lowest losses were registered in Burgenland (-20.3%) and in Carinthia (-23.5%).

Overall, nights spent in 2021 were 73.1 million below the 2019 level, whereas the highest absolute losses were observed in Tyrol (-26.3 million), Salzburg (-16.0 million) and Vienna (-12.6 million).

The decline in nights spent among resident guests was around a quarter (-25.9%) compared to 2019, with the highest decrease in Vienna (-54.2%) and the lowest in Carinthia (-1.7%). Non-resident guests' nights spent fell by more than half compared to 2019 (-55.7%), above average in Vienna (-75.3%), below average in Burgenland (-34.3%). In 2021, German guests spent almost half (-43.4%) or 24.6 million fewer nights in Austria than in 2019.

Significant increase in nights spent in December 2021 compared to the previous year

In **December 2021**, the second month of the winter tourist season, 6.12 million overnight stays in Austrian hotels, guesthouses and holiday apartments were recorded. This corresponds to an increase in nights spent of more than eight times or 5.37 million compared to the same month last year (747 500), in which all tourist accommodation was closed due to the lockdown. Nights spent by foreign guests reached 4.76 million (2020: 223 000), those by domestic guests 1.36 million (2020: 524 500).

The number of arrivals has increased accordingly, from 148 000 in December 2020 to 1.47 million in December 2021.

Winter season so far above last year, but well below 2019

In the current **winter season 2021/22** (November and December 2021), with 9.39 million nights spent significantly more were registered than in the same period of the previous year. The number of guests also increased almost sevenfold to 2.49 million.

Compared to the first third of the 2019/20 winter season (November and December 2019), nights spent were almost half (-46.2%) lower.

For more detailed results and further information please refer to our [website](#).

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