Press release: 14 161-080/26

Current winter tourism season with a 3.6% increase in nights spent

March 2026 saw a 4,9% year-on-year decline

Vienna, 2026-04-28 – According to provisional results from Statistics Austria, a total of 66.4 million nights spent were recorded in Austrian accommodation establishments during the winter season to date. This represents an increase of 3.6% compared with the previous year and the highest level ever recorded for the period from November to March. For March 2026, 12.1 million overnight stays were reported, 4.9% fewer than in March 2025.

“Despite a decline in March, tourism in Austria remains on a growth trajectory. With one month to go until the end of the 2025/26 winter tourist season, 66.4 million nights spent have already been recorded in Austrian hotels, guesthouses and holiday apartments. This means that the number of nights spent for the period from November to March has once again reached its highest level since electronic records began in 1973/74, and is 3.6% higher than in the same period a year ago. However, changes in holiday dates dampened tourism in March: with a total of 12.05 million nights spent, a decline of 4.9% was recorded compared with March of the previous year,” says Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics of Statistics Austria.

66.37 million nights spent so far this winter season

The **2025/26 winter season to date (November 2025 to March 2026**) recorded 66.37 million nights spent, an increase of 3.6% compared to the same period of last year. Despite a decline in March, the reporting period from November to March reached its highest level since electronic records began in 1973/74. Both nights spent by resident guests (+1.6%) and by non-resident guests (+4.1%) showed increases. A total of 18.62 million arrivals were recorded (+4.8%).

Germany, the most important source market, accounted for 23.88 million nights spent (+3.7% compared to the same period last year). The second-most important source market was the Netherlands, with 6.77 million nights spent (+1.7%).

A total of 72.4 million overnight stays were reported throughout the previous winter season (November 2024 to April 2025), the second-highest figure ever recorded after the 2018/19 winter season (72.9 million overnight stays).

March 2026: Fewer nights spent by non-resident guests, more by resident guests

In **March 2026**, a total of 12.05 million nights spent were recorded, representing a 4.9% decline compared to March of the previous year (12.68 million nights spent). More than three-quarters of the nights spent were accounted for by non-resident guests. At 9.22 million, this figure was 8.3% below the level recorded in the previous year. Resident demand, by contrast, developed positively, as – unlike in 2025 – parts of the Holy Week fell in March in 2026. Thus, resident guests accounted for 2.84 million nights spent, representing an increase of 7.8% compared to March 2025.

A look at the countries of origin shows that nights spent by guests from the most important source market, Germany, declined by 7.4% to 4,63 million, reflecting shifts in vacation schedules in Bavaria. Nights spent

by guests from the Netherlands fell by more than a quarter (–27.2%), after a particularly high figure in the previous year due to the winter holidays being moved from February to March 2025. Nights spent by Belgian guests fell by 63.7% because the Belgian spring half-term holidays in 2026 had already taken place in February.

For detailed results and further information please refer to our website.

Information on methodology, definitions: Within the scope of the monthly overnight statistics, the arrivals and nights spent are provided by rented tourist accommodation establishments in communities with more than 1 000 nights spent per year. Thus, of the 2 092 Austrian communities, 1 594 reporting communities transmit data to Statistics Austria monthly. The survey units are commercial and private tourist accommodation establishments, which transmit their data to the relevant reporting community. The preliminary data includes all reports received by Statistics Austria by the 15th day after the end of the reporting month. Any late reports and corrections are taken into account for the final data by the 30th day after the end of the reporting month. For comparisons with the previous year, the current monthly data are used with the values for the corresponding reference reporting communities in the same month of the previous year.

For further information related to methodology see standard documentation on accommodation statistics (available in German only).

Statistics Austria is the central organisation for official data and statistics on society, the economy, the state and the environment. As a national statistical institute, it is committed to the statutory principles of independence, impartiality and objectivity. Statistics Austria is headed by Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics, and Franz Haslauer, Director General Finance.

Further enquiries:
For information on results and methodology, please contact:
Samara Chalendi-Zofka, phone: +43 1 711 28-7305, e-mail: samara.chalendi-zofka@statistik.gv.at
Julia Polland, phone: +43 1 711 28-7740, e-mail: julia.polland@statistik.gv.at
For interview requests, please contact the press office: presse@statistik.gv.at

Media owner, producer and publisher:
STATISTICS AUSTRIA | Federal Institution under Public Law | Guglgasse 13 | 1110 Vienna | www.statistik.at
Press: phone: +43 1 711 28-7777 | e-mail: presse@statistik.gv.at

© STATISTICS AUSTRIA
All rights are reserved by Statistics Austria. Use is permitted, provided the source is quoted and the content is reproduced accurately.