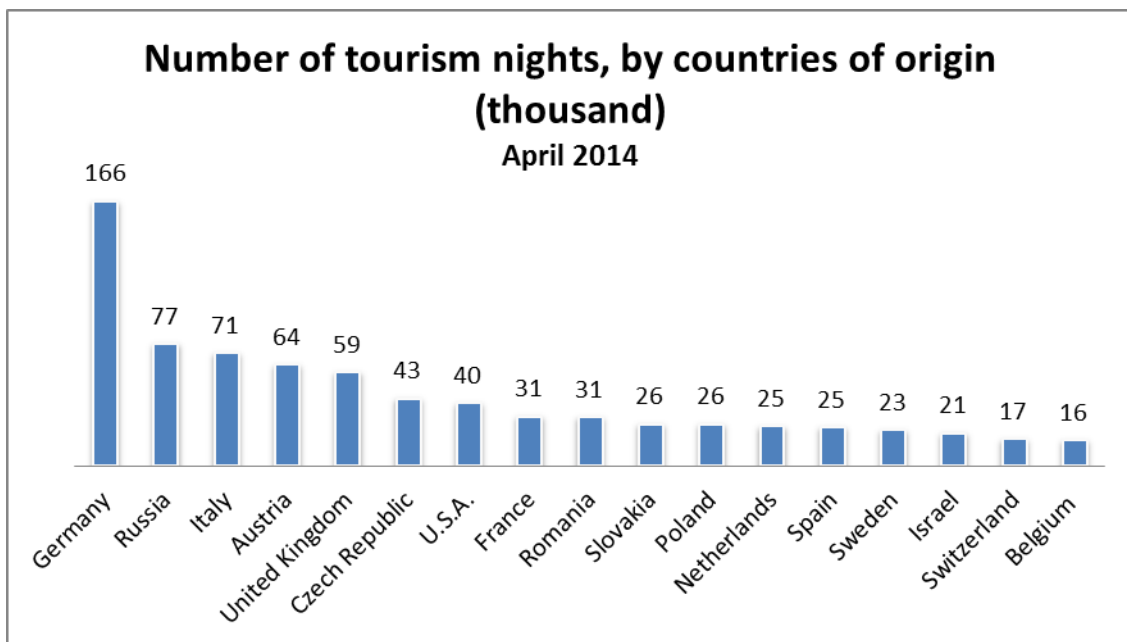




Tourism traffic up by 14 percent in Hungary

According to the flash report of the Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH) published on 10 June, in April 2014 the number of tourism nights by domestic and foreign guests was up by 22 percent and 9.4 percent, respectively, compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. Gross revenues at accommodation establishments – at current prices – soared by 12 percent. As a whole, tourism traffic was 14 percent higher year-on-year.

In April, the number of foreign guests and respective tourism nights was 567 thousand and 981 thousand, respectively, at accommodation establishments, which corresponds to increases of 7.2 percent and 9.4 percent, respectively. German guests spent the highest number of tourism nights in Hungary, followed by Russians and Italians. Tourism traffic from Germany, Russia and Austria was up by 9.3 percent, 19 percent and 17 percent, respectively, while that of Italians was down by 10 percent.



Source: Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH)

Marked growth was observed in the domestic tourism sector: guests spent 727 thousand tourism nights at accommodation establishments, while the number of guests and respective tourism nights jumped by 19 percent and 22 percent, respectively, in comparison to April 2013. In the



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observed period, revenues received from this group surged by 25.6 percent. Domestic tourism traffic was higher in every region: in Northern Hungary, at Lake Tisza, in the Southern Great Plain and Central Transdanubia regions growth exceeded 30 percent. The number of tourism nights increased by 22 percent at hotels, which receive 76 percent of domestic guests.

The average room occupancy ratio at hotels was 50 percent, up by 3.4 percent compared to last year. However, the occupancy ratio of five-star hotels was remarkably good with 67 percent, while four-star and spa hotels utilized 59 percent of their capacities.

Total revenues at current prices increased year-on-year by 12 percent at accommodation establishments, generating gross income of altogether HUF 25bn. The change is marked even compared to last year's low basis, but current data are well above also the outstandingly high tourism traffic figure recorded two years ago.