



# Press release

PB03-56  
24 March 2003  
9:30 AM

www.cbs.nl

## ***Moderate growth for tourism***

After a fall in 2001, more visitors spent more nights in various types of accommodation in the Netherlands in 2002. The number of visitors rose by 0.6 percent to 25.3 million, while the number of nights they stayed in the Netherlands rose by 3.0 percent to 82.9 million. Figures from Statistics Netherlands also show that the growth rates were curbed slightly by a remarkable fall in the number of visitors and the number of overnight stays in the fourth quarter of 2002.

### ***More Germans, fewer Brits***

The number of Dutch people spending the night in the various forms of overnight accommodation remained at the same level in 2002 as in 2001. They did stay longer though, in line with the overall picture of an increase in the number of nights spent in the Netherlands. There is a remarkable difference between visitors from Germany and those from the United Kingdom. The number of German tourists rose by 4.0 percent, after a period in which their number had decreased. In contrast, 4.3 percent fewer visitors came from the United Kingdom. The 8.5 percent fall in the number of Americans staying in the Netherlands was partly the result of the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001.

### ***Hotels versus other forms of accommodation***

The diverging trends between Germans and British tourists was only observed in the hotel sector. For holiday accommodations (camp sites, holiday parks and group accommodation) both the number of Germans and Brits increased. More people from the Eurozone, but fewer from other countries in Europe stayed in Dutch hotels. Overall, 0.2 percent more visitors stayed in Dutch hotels (including youth hostels). For other forms of accommodation, the increase was 1.1 percent.

### ***Remarkable fall in fourth quarter***

Following the growth in the first three quarters of 2002, the numbers of visitors staying in the Netherlands was 3.4 percent lower in the fourth quarter of 2002 than in the same quarter of 2001. The numbers of Dutch and German visitors fell by 3.4 and 4.0 percent respectively. The fall in the number of British tourists was much more substantial: 15.2 percent. In contrast with German

For further information please contact the press office.

Tel. +31 70 337 58 16

Fax +31 70 337 59 71

E-mail: [persdienst@cbs.nl](mailto:persdienst@cbs.nl)

visitors, though, the number of people from the United Kingdom was already lower than in the previous year in the second quarter.