

Press Information

Travel to Germany, January to November 2011

Strong autumn growth for Destination Germany

Frankfurt am Main, 31 January 2012 – Destination Germany continues to post excellent results for the final months of 2011, reporting growth from its key source markets. Despite the tense global economic situation, and with only December's figures to come, the German travel industry is on course to finish the year on a high. In November, the German Federal Statistical Office recorded a 6 per cent year-on-year increase in the volume of overnight stays made by international guests. October was similarly successful and between January and November 2011, there were almost 59.5 million overnight stays by visitors to Germany, an increase of 5.5 per cent compared with the same period of the previous year. "There are clear indications that we will achieve our growth forecast for the full year. The results for November continue the trend for the year as a whole, in which we have continually exceeded the figures from the record year of 2010", said Petra Hedorfer, Chief Executive Officer of the German National Tourist Board (GNTB).

Strong numbers from Germany's European neighbours

The Dutch traditionally take more holidays in Germany than any other European visitors. Between January and November 2011, this market generated almost ten million overnight stays, a rise of 2.1 per cent compared to the first eleven months of the previous year. Switzerland was up by 13.7 per cent and is now the second-largest source market for Destination Germany – ahead of the USA and behind the Netherlands. The German Federal Statistical Office recorded more than 4.4 million overnight stays by Swiss visitors. Also encouraging was the rise in overnight stays from Austria and France of 6.1 per cent and 6.6 per cent respectively. The increases for Poland (19.6 per cent) and Russia (22 per cent) were particularly high.

Further double-digit growth in overnight stays from Brazil, China and India

The German Federal Statistical Office reported another round of growth from numerous overseas markets between January and November. Brazil, China and India produced particularly high increases. The highest was Brazil with a rise of 22.2 per cent, followed by the People's Republic of China with a gain of 21.2 per cent and India with 20.1 per cent.

About the GNTB

The German National Tourist Board (GNTB) is based in Frankfurt am Main. It works on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology from which it receives its funding under a resolution passed by the German parliament. The GNTB develops and communicates strategies and products to enhance the positive image of German travel destinations abroad and to promote tourism to Germany. To fulfil its remit, the GNTB operates 30 foreign representative offices around the world. Further information is available from our online press centre at www.germany.travel/presse.