



5 de Enero de 2006

## Cheek by towel: Spain's beaches feel the squeeze

Giles Tremlett in Madrid  
Thursday January 5, 2006  
[The Guardian](#)

The battle for summer space on Spanish beaches has never been hotter, according to a new report that shows there is barely room for each tourist to spread a towel in some resorts.

Two-thirds of Spanish beach resorts studied by the country's Exceltur hoteliers' organisation were no longer able to provide more than the EU-recommended minimum of six square metres per sunbather, El País newspaper reported yesterday. That means summer sunbathers who stretch their arms out wide may find themselves holding hands with the person next to them.