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## Málaga sidesteps the tourism crisis

Jul 15, 2009



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National tourism has covered for a fall in foreign visitors

Málaga has emerged as one of only a few destinations in Spain which has not seen a reduction in the number of tourists this summer.

The latest report from the Spanish Tourist Board, Exceltur, says the worst of the crisis for the industry is over.

Tourist numbers for the second quarter of the year were up over the same period last year only in Barcelona, Vitoria, Bilbao and Málaga, with national tourism key to the recovery.

However the study shows no recovery in foreign tourist numbers nationally with an 11.5% fall in hotel stays between March and May compared to last year. There were 1.5 million fewer German tourists in the country over the time, and a million fewer Britons.

Across the country it is estimated that 71,000 fewer people are employed in the tourist industry this year, with Murcia and Aragón the regions most affected by the fall in visitor numbers.