

International tourism in January 2026

Last January, Italy's tourism balance of payments recorded a surplus of €0.4 billion, a slight increase compared with the same month of 2025. Inbound tourism expenditure (€3.0 billion) rose by 3.8 per cent, while outbound tourism expenditures (€2.6 billion) increased by 1.2 per cent.

Also for the three-month period ending in January 2026, the increase in tourism receipts (3.7 per cent) was larger than that in expenditures (2.3 per cent) compared with the quarter ending in January 2025 (Fig. 1). The increase in spending by foreign travellers was essentially similar for those coming from EU countries (3.8 per cent) and from non-EU countries (3.6 per cent; Fig. 2, left panel). Spending by Italian travellers abroad, on the other hand, grew more in EU countries than in non-EU destinations (4.3 per cent versus 1.7 per cent, respectively; Fig. 2, right panel).

With the March 31 update of balance of payments statistics, monthly and quarterly international travel data for 2025 were revised. The adjustments were minor, on the order of 0.1 per cent; the tourism balance surplus was slightly revised downward, amounting to €22.7 billion (1.0 per cent of GDP) for the year as a whole. The related microdata will be released on April 17. The updated edition of "Survey on International Tourism" will follow shortly.

Figure 1

Italy's inbound and outbound tourism expenditure
 (3-month moving averages; year-on-year percentage changes)

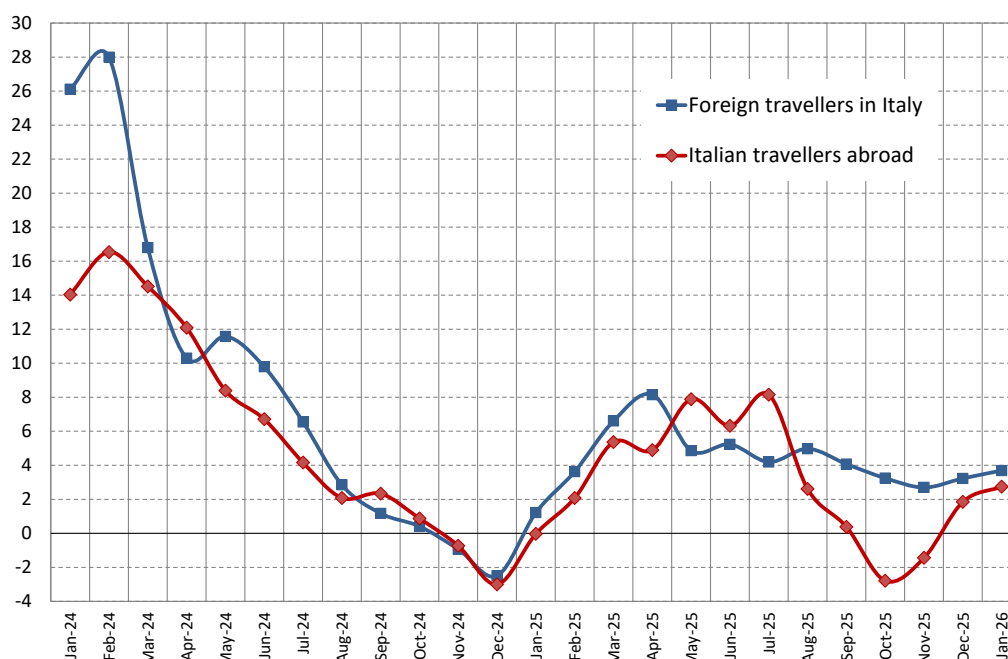


Figure 2

Italy's inbound and outbound tourism expenditure by geographical area
(3-month moving averages; year-on-year percentage changes)

