

International tourism in May 2026

Last May, Italy's tourism balance of payments recorded a surplus of €2.7 billion, slightly up compared with the same month in 2025. Both spending by foreign travellers in Italy (€5.4 billion) and spending by Italian travellers abroad (€2.7 billion) increased compared with May 2025, by 4.3 per cent and 2.2 per cent, respectively.

For the three-month period ending in May 2026, inbound tourism expenditure increased by 2.3 per cent compared with the same period of the previous year, while outbound expenditure remained broadly stable (Figure 1). The increase in spending by foreign travellers in Italy was significantly stronger among visitors from EU countries than among those from outside the EU (4.1 per cent and 0.4 per cent, respectively; Figure 2, left-hand panel). Spending by Italian travellers abroad increased for trips to EU destinations (3.0 per cent) while it declined for non-EU destinations (-2.7 per cent; Figure 2, right-hand panel).

Figure 1

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

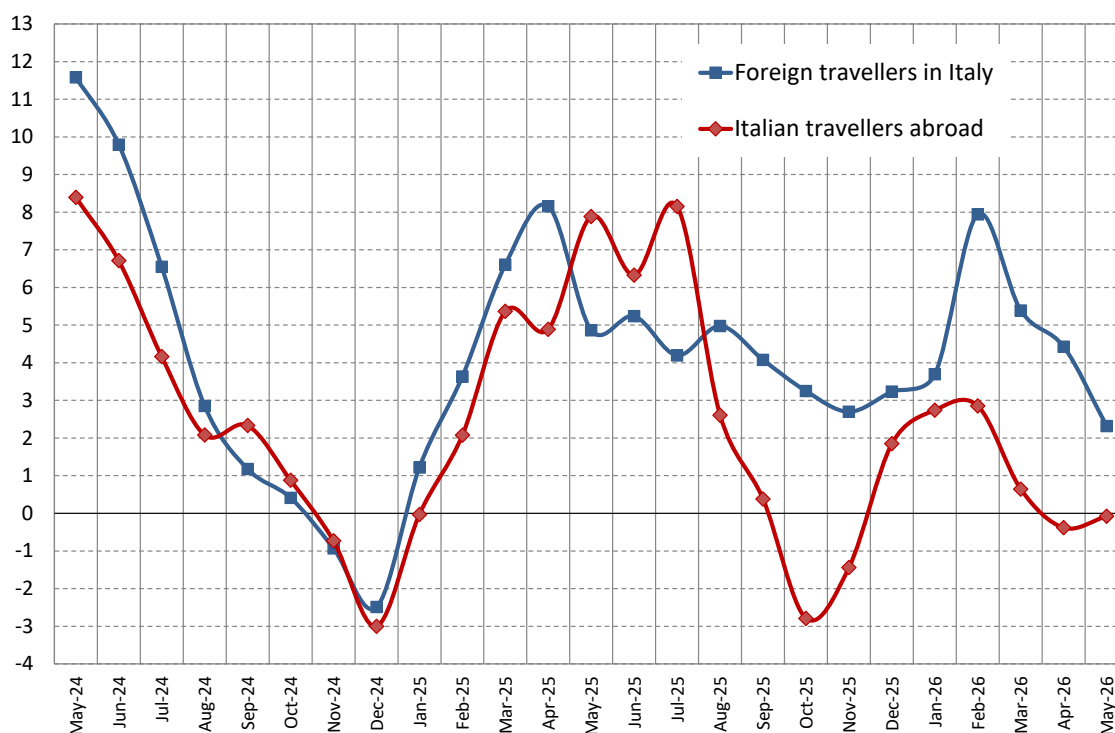


Figure 2

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

