



## Govern de les Illes Balears

Vicepresidència i Conselleria  
d'Innovació, Recerca i Turisme

On March 22, the Balearic Parliament has approved the Sustainable Tourism Tax. As written down in the law, the tax will be levied from **July 1st** 2016 on all overnight stays in tourist accommodations, as there are hotels, holiday homes or cruise ships.

The purpose of the Tax for Sustainable Tourism is the compensation of the so called carbon footprint caused by the tourism activity on the islands. By paying the new tax, both foreign visitors and locals who stay in a tourist accommodation of the Balearics will contribute to the preservation of the islands.

Thanks to this contribution, we will be able to make major investments to compensate the territorial and environmental impact of tourism on the Balearics Islands. The revenue raised by the tax will therefore allow us to reclaim our historic and patrimonial heritage, to change towards a model of sustainable tourism, to extend the season and improve innovation and training in tourism.

**The revenue of this tax will be invested entirely in specific purposes defined by the law** approved yesterday. These are:

1. Protection, preservation and recovery of the natural, rural and marine environment
2. Extending the season, development of specific tourism products for low season, and promotion of sustainable tourism in low season
3. Restoration of cultural heritage
4. Improvement of training in tourism

The final decision about which of the project proposals will be accepted, will be taken by the so called **Commission for the Promotion of Sustainable Tourism**. To ensure a maximum social consensus, this Commission will be composed by representatives of the different local administrations of the four islands, but also employers' associations, trade unionists, environmental protection movements and other representatives of civil society.

To ensure maximum clarity, we are also developing a specific **website** on the Tax for Sustainable Tourism. The website will, among others, provide visitors, touroperators and locals, a detailed monitoring of the purpose of the funds raised and of the different projects and initiatives that will be developed thanks to this contribution of the tourists who visit us.

The amount of the tax depends on the category of the hotels (see table below). **In off season (November 1st - April 30rd), there will be a 50 % discount. Children under age of 16 are exempt from the tax, longterm holiday makers will have a 50% discount on the tax from the ninth day of their stay.**



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<i>Types of establishments, homes or ships</i>	<i>Euros/day of stay* High Season (1/05-31/10)</i>
5-star, 5-star luxury and 4-star superior	2
4-star and 3-star superior hotels	1.5
1-star, 2-star and 3-star hotels	1
4-key and 4-key superior tourist apartments	2
3-key superior tourist apartments	1.5
1-, 2- and 3-key tourist apartments	1
Holiday rentals (fincas, apartments, houses)	1
Rural hotels, agrotourism accommodation and inland tourism accommodation	1
Hostels, lodgings, guest houses, boarding houses and tourist camps or campsites	0.5
Shelters and refuges	0.5
Tourist cruise ships	1

**\*price plus 10% VAT**

### **Example:**

A family of four with two children under 16 years staying in high season for eight days in a four star hotel will have to pay 23,10 Euros for all of them, if they prefer a three star hotel, the tax for their stay will be 15,40 Euros. This represents a maximum surcharge of no more than 1.4 per cent of the respective holiday budget.