

The visits of foreigners to Bulgaria are mainly seasonal. This is mainly due to the favourable conditions for tourism, rest and recreation in our country. During the period of June - September 1991 the number of foreigners entering Bulgaria is 4134 thousand or 60,7% from total number for the year. Compared to the same period of the previous year this number decreases by 0,5 points. The share of visits in August and September increases while that for June and July decreases. The share of visits during the first four months of the reported period as compared to the period of January-April 1990, increases to a different extent. At the same time there is a decrease in the share of visits during the last three months of the year.

In 1991 the number of Bulgarians, visiting other countries has reached the figure of 2045 thousand and this is 14,6% less than the previous year. There is a certain increase in the number of Bulgarians visiting Turkey - more than 4,5 times, while to the other countries their number decreases like to: Iraq - 96,4%, USSR - 84,3%, Germany FR - 76,6%, CSSR - 76,4%, Yugoslavia - 73,7%, Canada - 73,4% The share of the Bulgarian visits to Turkey is the largest - 59,5%, Greece - 12,4, Yugoslavia - 10,5%, Romania - 7,8%.

The Bulgarian people have visited foreign countries on private visit and their number is 1954 thousand and this is 9,0 % less than in 1990. The number of Bulgarian visits to Turkey has increased more than 4 times and to Spain - 4,6%, while to the other countries the number varies. Private visits to Iraq decrease by 96,3%, to the USSR - 78,5%, to Yugoslavia - 76,1%, to CSFR - 74,1%, to Germany FR - 72,4%, to Canada - 70,2%.

During the reported year the number of Bulgarian business trips abroad is 91 thousand which is 63,2% less as compared to 1990. The number of Bulgarian business trips has increased to Greece - 25,9% and to Yugoslavia - 17,0%. A decrease in Bulgarian business trips to Iraq, Italy, Germany FR, Hungary, CSFR and the USSR is noted.

In 1991 the following accommodation establishments were used: 511 hotels with 99,9 thousand beds, 67 camping sites with 9,6 thousand beds, 69 accommodation agencies with 54,4 thousand beds and 430 mountain chalets with 26,4 thousand beds or the total bed capacity reached the number of 190,4 thousand beds. Due to decrease the number of accommodation establishments as compared to that of the previous year changes as follows: in accommodation agencies - 63,4%, in camping sites - 26,3%, in hotels - 12,5% and in mountain chalets - 5,3%.

During the reported year the main bed capacity of hotels (77,7%) was in seaside and mountain resorts in regions of Sofia-city, Varna, Bourgas, Sofia and Plovdiv, of camping sites (83,5%) in the regions of Sofia, Varna and Bourgas, of accommodation agencies (67,7%) in regions of Plovdiv, Varna and Mihailovgrad and in mountain chalets (69,3%) - in regions of Sofia, Plovdiv and Lovech.

There were 45097 thousand available accommodation nights (35,8% less than 1990) of which 11004 thousand or 24,4% were used and this is with 19,1 points less than the previous year. The greatest decrease in using bed capacity is characteristic for camping sites - 67,9 points and hotels - 24,8 points. During the reported year the available bed capacity was used as follows: 37,8% in hotels, 25,8% in camping sites, 10,5% in mountain chalets and 7,5% in accommodation agencies.

In 1991 foreign visitors have spent 4664 thousand nights in accommodation facilities or 63,5% less than compared to 1990. An exception in this number is that of tourists from Turkey - it has increased about 3 times, from Denmark - 15,3% increase and from United Kingdom - 11,7% increase.

During the reported year the foreign tourists have stayed mainly in hotels - about 94,0% from total number of nights spent. The share of nights spent by tourists from countries with