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## **In November, Catalonia stood as the second most preferred rural tourism destination in the Spanish state**

**Catalonian rural tourism establishments registered more than 204,000 visitors between January and November 2005, 8.6% higher than in the same period of 2004, according to a report elaborated by the *Observatori de Turisme de Catalunya***

Monday, 2 January 2006.— Catalonia became the second most preferred rural tourism destination in the Spanish state during the month of November. According to figures published by the *Observatori de Turisme de Catalunya* (Catalonia's Tourist Observatory), rural tourism establishments registered more than 204,000 visitors between January and November 2005, a figure implying an 8.6% rise with respect to that of the same period in 2004. This volume of visitors made a total of 641,100 night stays (representing an inter-annual increase of 4.6%).

Catalonia consolidates itself as the second most favoured rural tourism destination, after Castile and Leon. During the month of November it hosted 13% of all visitors to Spain and it registered 11% of all of its night stays. Similarly, Catalanian rural tourism establishments registered 17,300 visitors throughout last November – a figure involving a 10.9% growth with respect to November 2004.

As for night stays, during last November 35,500 night stays were registered in rural tourism lodgings of Catalonia (an inter-annual rise of 7.8%), with an average stay of 2.1 nights per traveller. As for occupancy, Catalonia's had a room occupancy of 14.8% of the rooms, a 0.5% more than those of last year in the same dates.