

## Organized tourism in 2023

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## Travel agencies recorded the second best yearsince the turn of the millennium, interest in exotics also increased significantly

Travel agencies improved their balance sheet from previous years. The number of clients equalled the year before the pandemic, compared to the best year of 2018, only 3% of clients were missing. Foreign and domestic organized tourism progressed significantly, among foreign destinations, interest in more exotic countries considerably increased. However, travel agencies still lacked foreign guests, compared to 2019 their number decreased by 40%.

More than 1.1 million people used services of the Slovak travel agencies (TA) and tour operators in 2023. Compared to the previous year, they recorded a 66% increase in the number of clients and thus equalled the values of the years before the pandemic. The Statistical Office of the SR has currently published data on organized tourism for the year 2023, which summarizes the performance of travel agencies and tour operators.

Last year, Slovak travel agencies and tour operators finally overcame the three-year period of slumps caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which extremely hit the tourism sector. In the first two years of the pandemic (years 2020 - 2021), TA lost approximately 80% to 90% of clients, less than 230,000 people travelled annually. In the following year 2022, although the number of clients increased sharply, it still reached only slightly above the values of the best years 2018-2019.



## Number of clients of travel agencies and a (thousands of people)





