

ITALY DIGITAL DESTINATION AWARDS - 2024 REPORT - #IDD2024



# All Italian Data

REPORT 2024



# What is Italy Digital Destination?

The Italy Digital Destination Award is Italy's first and only recognition dedicated to honouring Italian regions that have achieved the highest online performance in the past year.

The award was created by The Data Appeal Company in 2016, and is granted based on an in-depth analysis of billions of online conversations about accommodation, attractions, and dining, combined with industry trends, travel flows, bookings, and hotel and flight prices.

The result is the most comprehensive and detailed analysis of the state of Italy's tourism offering, as experienced and shared by the visitors themselves.

#IDD2024, the latest edition, has been refreshed and expanded to include additional channels and sectors, focusing on current trends in Italian tourism.



# IDD 2024 data



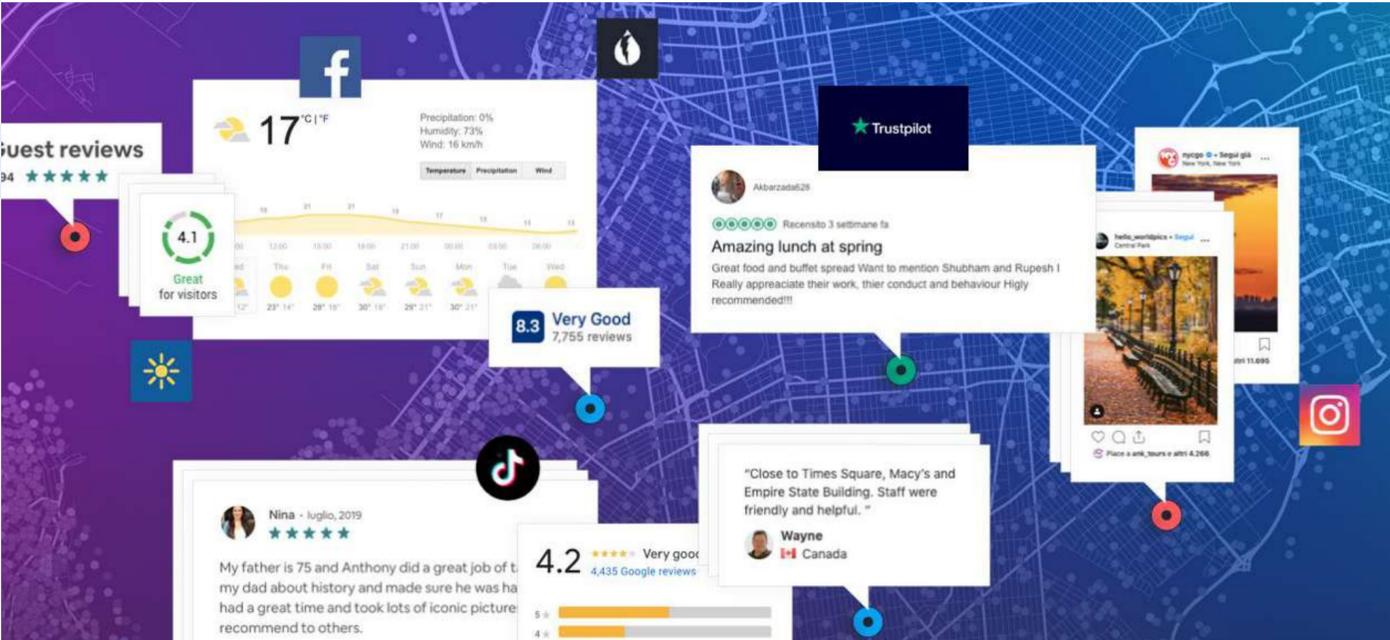
# 797k

POINTS OF INTEREST



# 32MLN

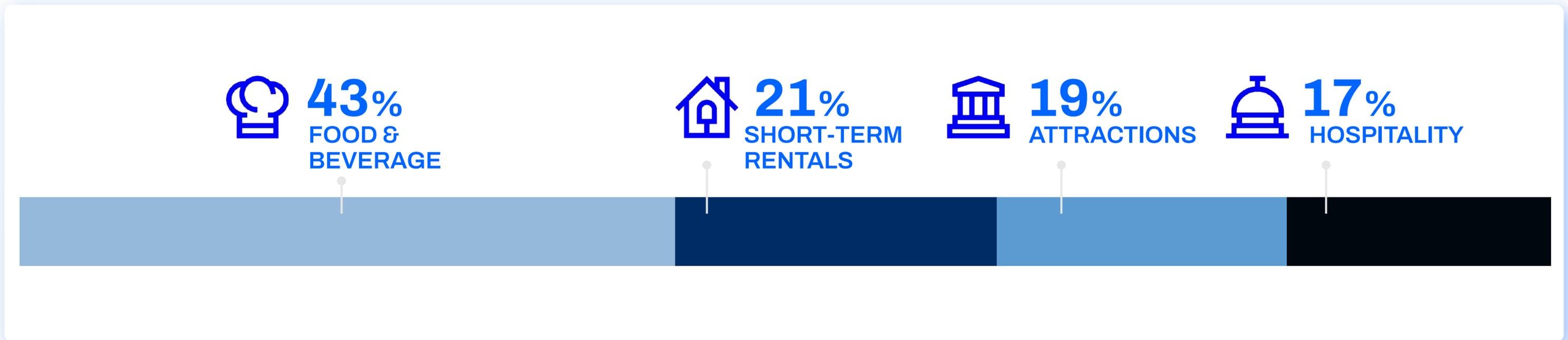
DIGITAL TRACES



SEPT 2023 AUG 2024

# What makes up Italy's tourism offer?

Distribution of points of interest by industry



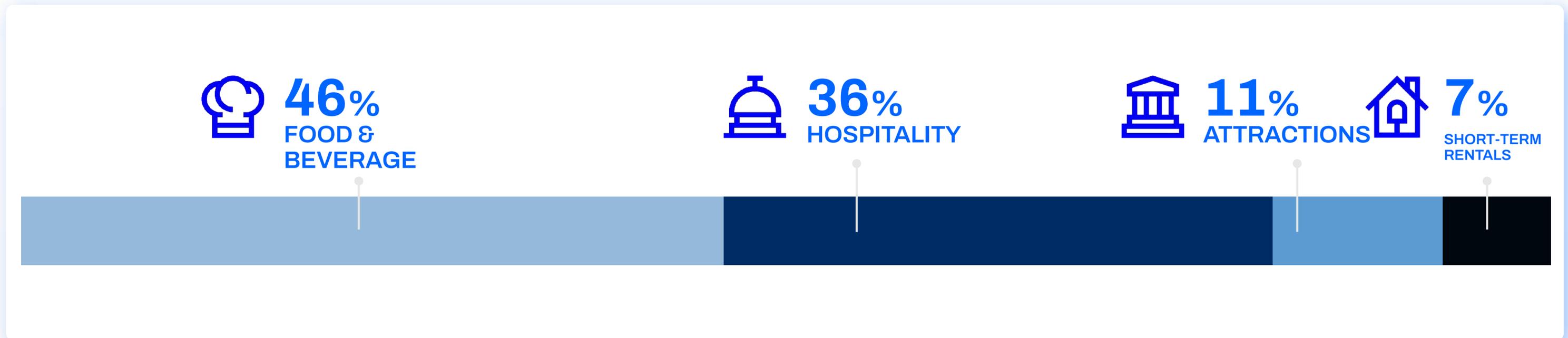
## Main platforms monitored:



SEPT 2023 - AUG 2024

# Online content volume

Distribution of content volume by point of interest type



## Main platforms monitored:



SEPT 2023 - AUG 2024

Italy Digital Destination Awards

2024 Edition

# The impact of events on tourism

Sept 2023 - Jun 2024

# The impact of events on tourism

## Giro D'Italia

4 May - 26 May 2024

### Sports

Events impact	Pred. attendance	Pred. spending
High	2,100,000	153,355,517€

Predicted spending	153,355,517€
Hospitality	42,507,583€
Food and beverage	92,006,952€
Transportation	18,840,981€

## Tour de France - Florence - Rimini

29 June 2024

Events impact	Pred. attendance	Pred. spending
High	730,000	56,137,212€

Predicted spending	56,137,212€
Hospitality	16,559,687€
Food and beverage	30,402,978€
Transportation	9,174,545€

## La Biennale di Venezia

20 Apr - 24 Nov 2024 - Venice

### Expos

Events impact	Pred. attendance	Pred. spending
High	800,000	130,420,817€

Predicted spending	130,420,817€
Hospitality	63,146,078€
Food and beverage	53,750,774€
Transportation	13,523,963€

## Artigiano in Fiera

2 Dic - 10 dic 2023 - Milan

Events impact	Pred. attendance	Pred. spending
High	1,000,000	162,739,677€

Predicted spending	162,739,677€
Hospitality	76,368,852€
Food and beverage	68,086,816€
Transportation	18,284,008€

## Lucca Summer Festival

2 Jun - 26 Jul - Lucca

### Festivals

Events impact	Pred. attendance	Pred. spending
High	523,000	32,402,778€

Predicted spending	32,402,778€
Hospitality	7,175,517€
Food and beverage	17,489,975€
Transportation	7,737,286€

## Umbria Jazz Festival

12 Jul - 21 Jul 2024 - Umbria

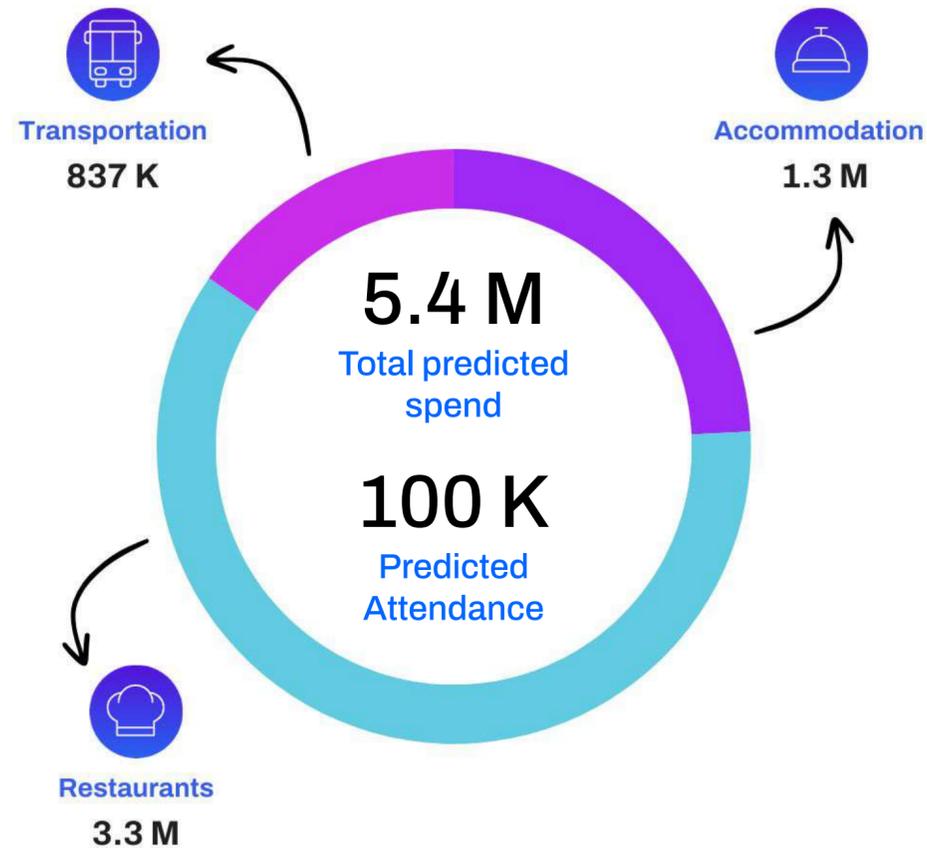
Events impact	Pred. attendance	Pred. spending
High	450,000	28,362,402€

Predicted spending	28,362,402€
Hospitality	5,208,375€
Food and beverage	13,474,406€
Transportation	9,679,621€

# The impact of events on tourism

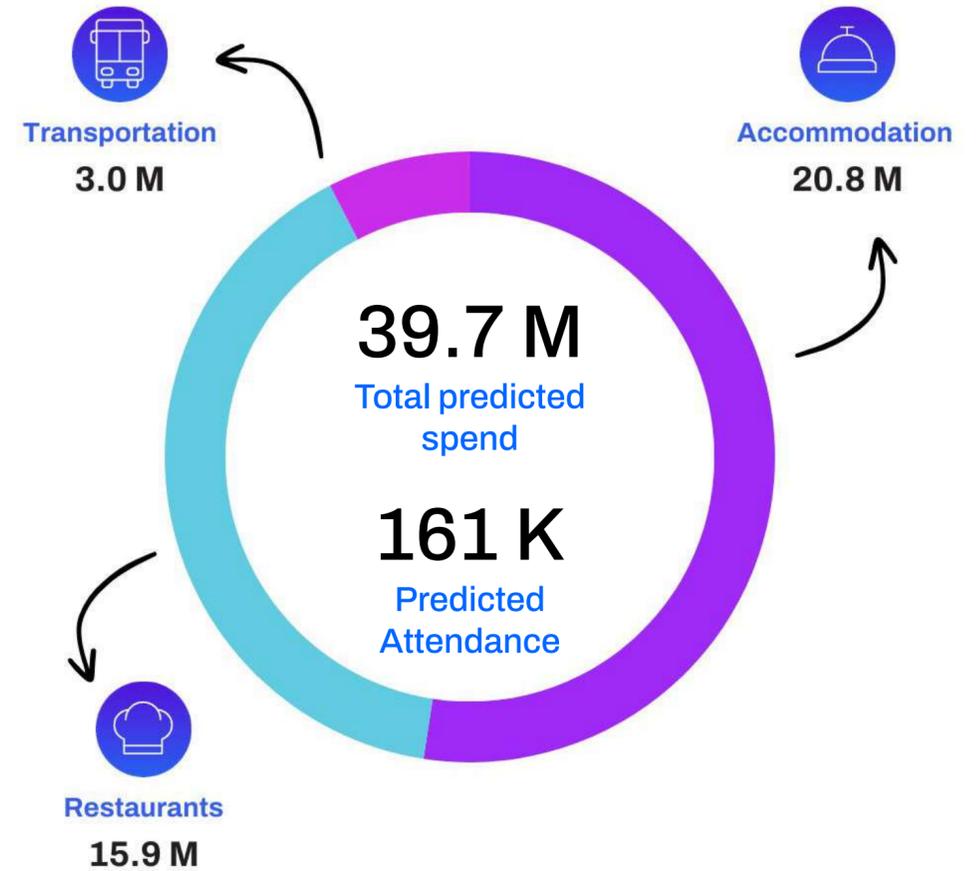
25 Mag

**AC/DC and The Pretty Reckless**



13 / 14 Lug

**Taylor Swift - The Eras Tour**



Italy Digital Destination Awards

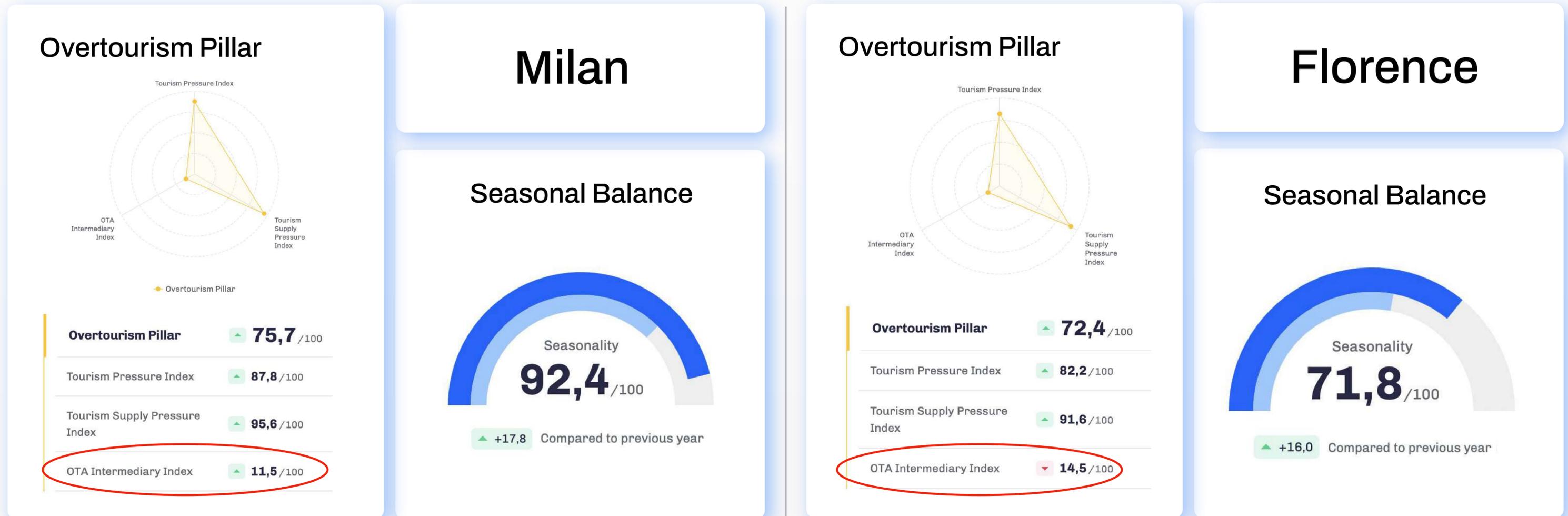
2024 Edition

# Overtourism Focus on Milano, Florence and San Gimignano

Sept 2023 - Aug 2024



# Overtourism: Major cities and tourist-driven municipalities

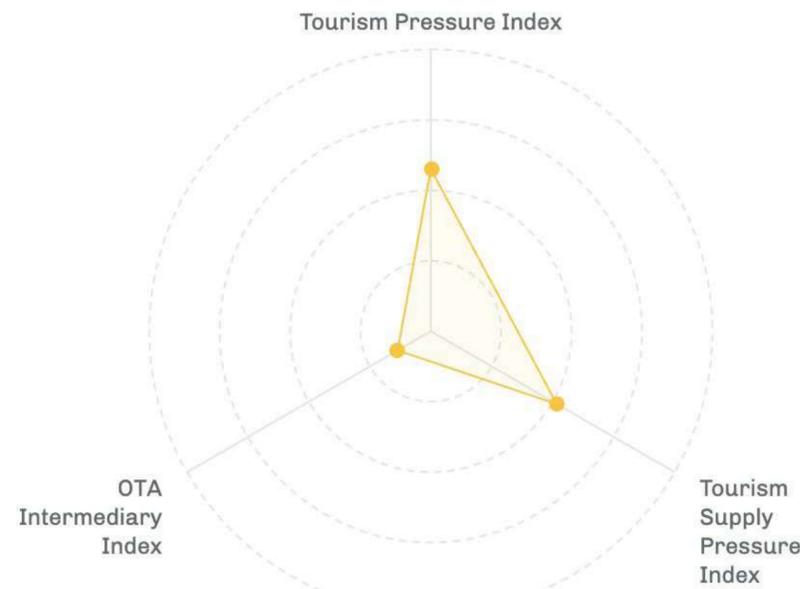


# Overtourism: Major cities and tourist-driven municipalities

## San Gimignano

### OVERTOURISM PILLAR

Questo pillar valuta l'impatto del turismo eccessivo in una destinazione.



Overtourism Pillar ▲ 46,4 /100

Tourism Pressure Index ▲ 57,5 /100

Tourism Supply Pressure Index ▲ 51,6 /100

OTA Intermediary Index ▼ 13,6 /100

### SEASONAL BALANCE ↓

This score measures stability of your destination compared to seasonal fluctuations during the past year. A high score indicated a constant influx of travellers.

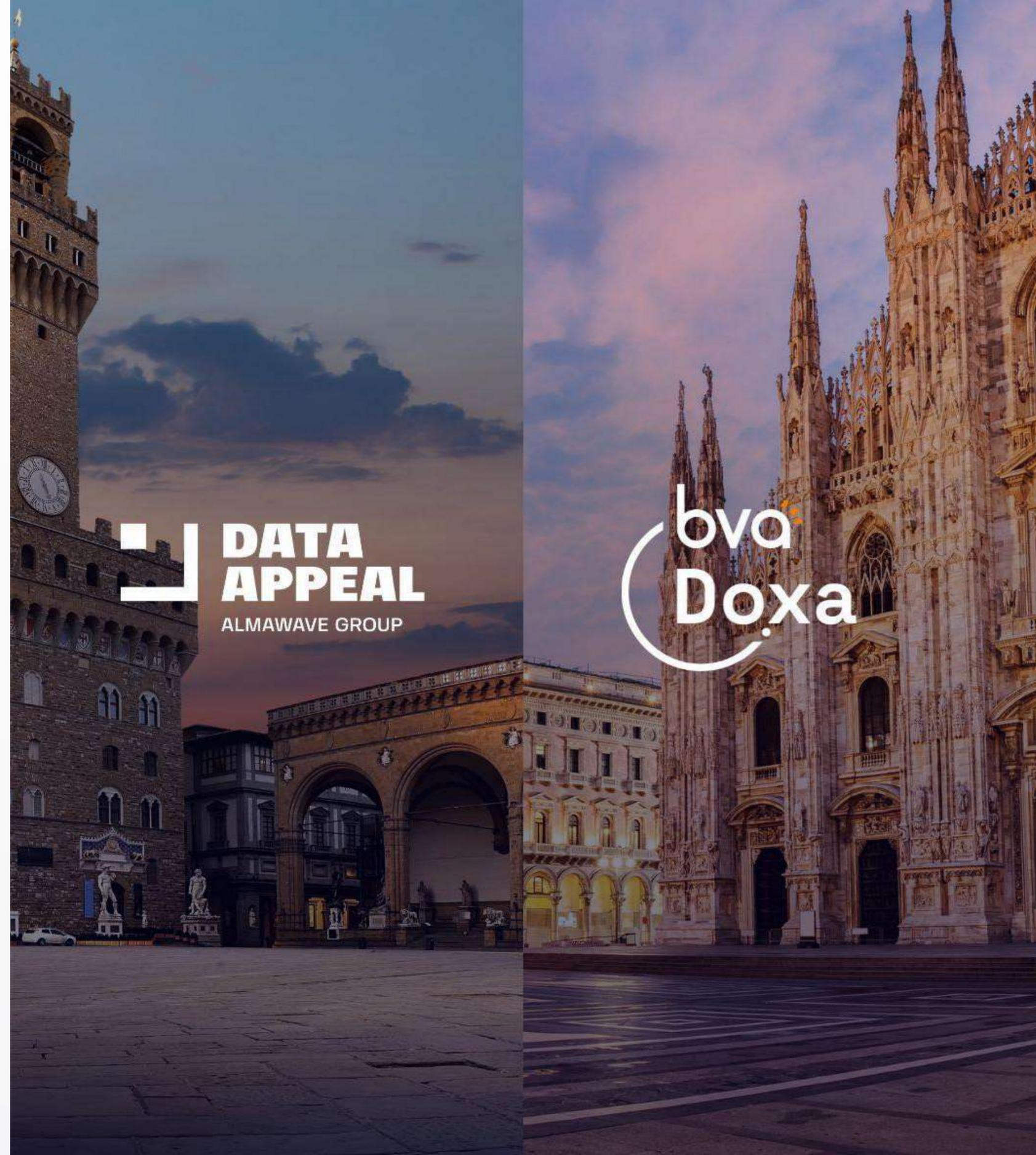


▲ +5,6 Compared to previous year

OVERTOURISM

# Data Appeal and BVA Doxa partner for sustainable tourism

Data Appeal and BVA Doxa have partnered to analyse how the rise in tourist numbers affects destinations and to develop a tourism strategy that prioritizes local residents, leveraging Big Data and Artificial Intelligence.



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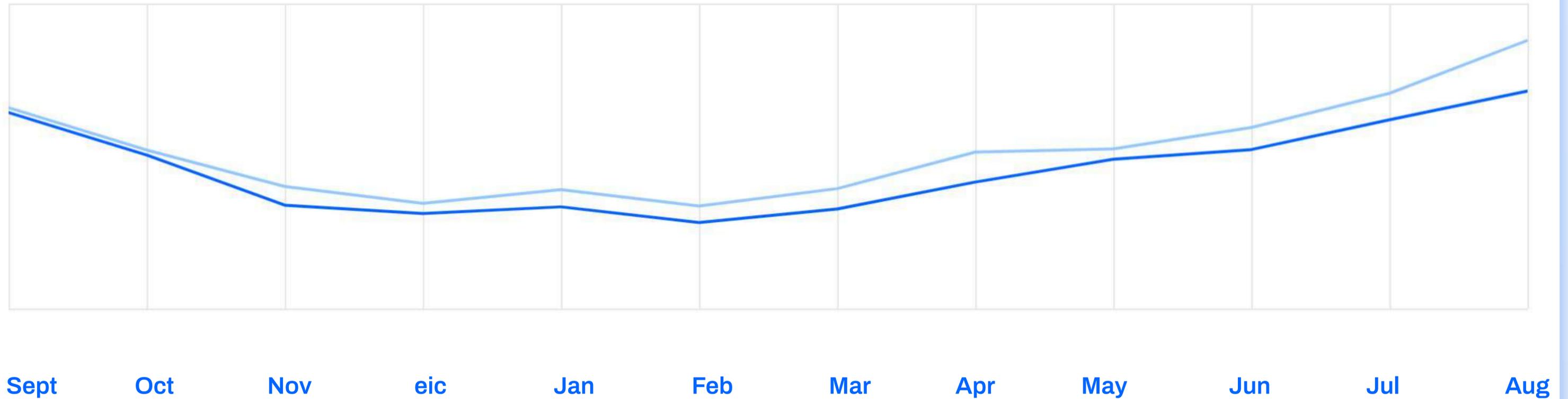
# Trends: 2023 - 2024

# Seasonality

— Set 2022 - Ago 2023

— Set 2023- Ago 2024

Content volume over time

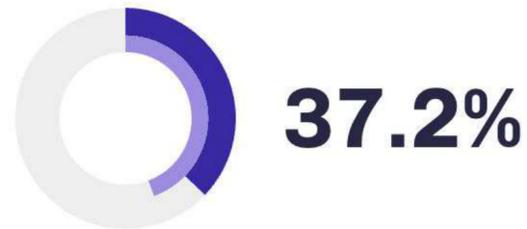


# Average OTA rates and saturation

SEPT 2023- AUG 2024

## OTA SATURATION

Estimation of the current saturation, (occupancy), level in your destination.



-7.2 Compared to previous year

Min. rate **79€** +7.6%  
Avg. rate **131€** +9.0%  
Max. rate **272€** +9.6%

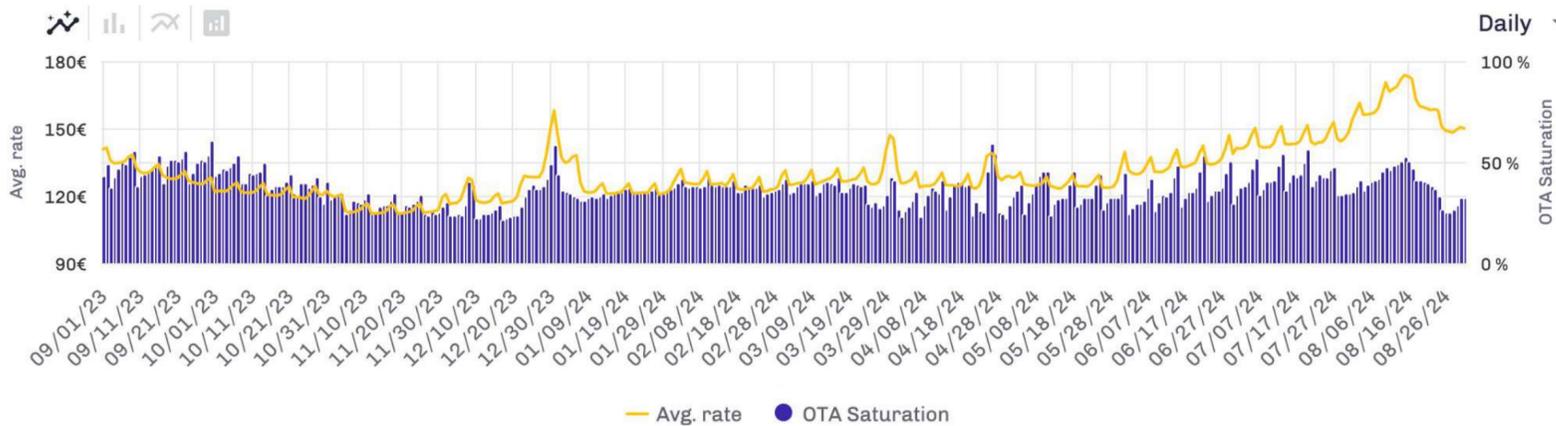


## HOSPITALITY



-6.8 Compared to previous year

Min. rate **80€**  
Avg. rate **135€**  
Max. rate **288€**



## SHORT TERM RENTALS

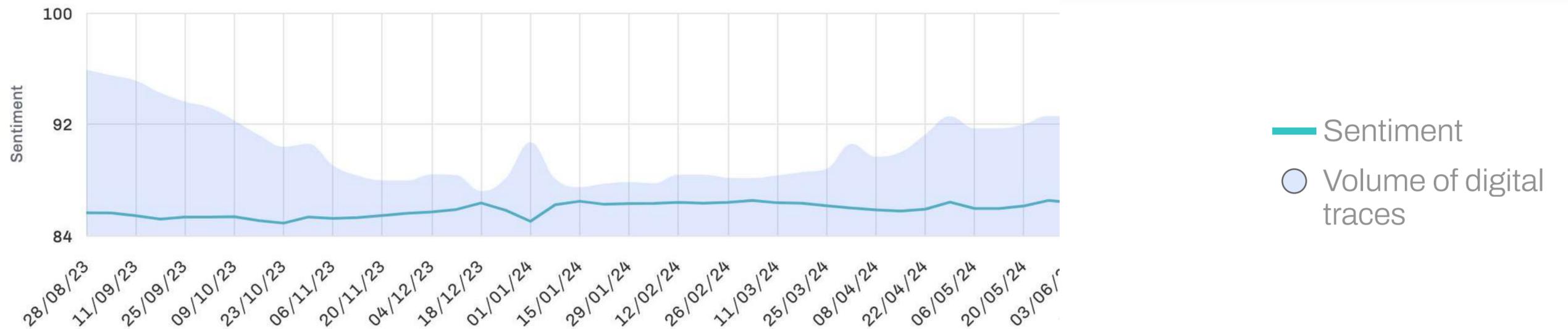
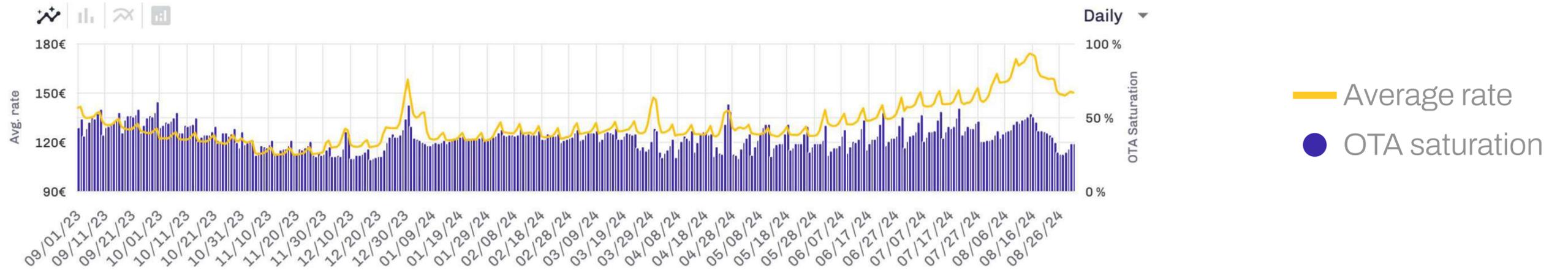


-9.1 Compared to previous year

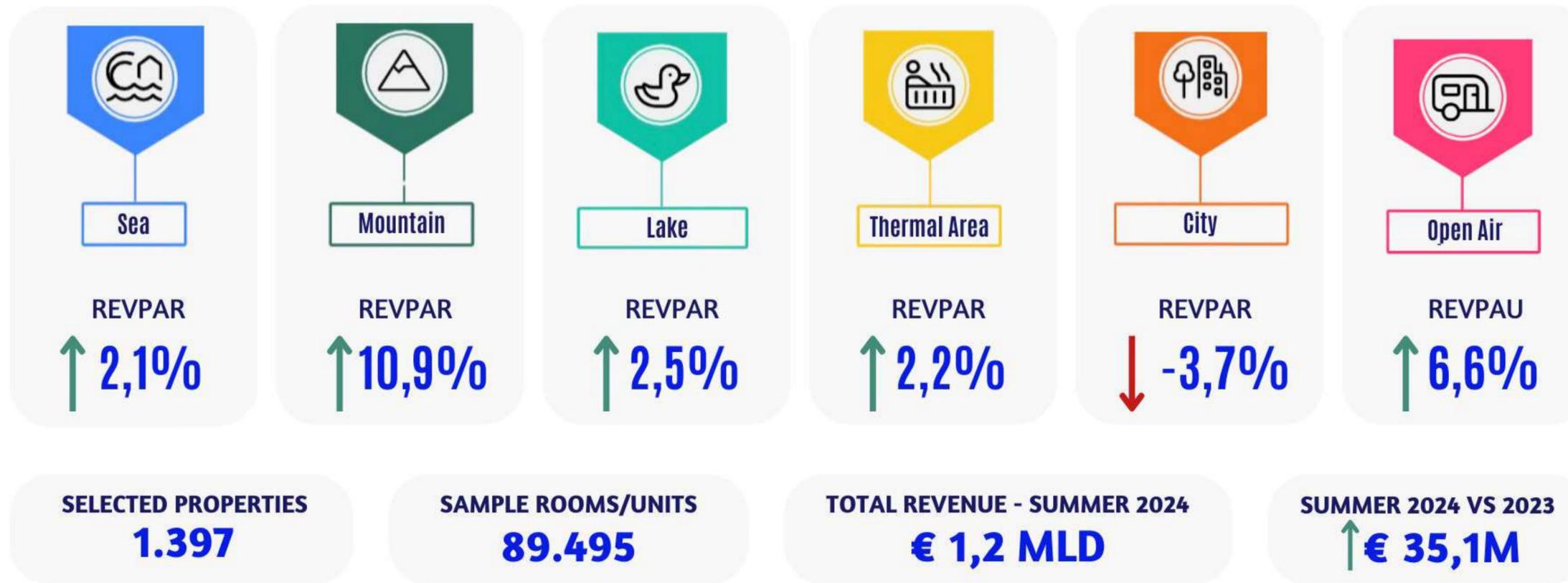
Min. rate **77€**  
Avg. rate **121€**  
Max. rate **220€**

# Average accommodation rates and sentiment

Sept 2023- Aug 2024



## Variation in Revenue per Available Room June - September 2024 vs 2023



SOURCE:



# Visitor origin by country

SEPT 2023- AUG 2024

84/100

FOREIGN VISITOR SENTIMENT



+1.5% compared to the previous year ▲

	Digital traces distribution	↓	Sentiment
 Italy	41.8%		85.3/100
 Germany	8.8%		85.6/100
 France	5.9%		85.1/100
 United Kingdom	3.7%		86.9/100
 Spain	3.3%		83.2/100

#IDD2024

# Visitor types

SEPT 2023- AUG 2024

	Digital traces distribution	↓	Sentiment
 Couples	47.9%		86.3/100
 Families	29%		85.6/100
 Group	12.6%		85.5/100
 Single	10.1%		84.3/100
 Business	0.5%		82.5/100



# The forecast for the next six months

OCT 2024 - MAR 2025

## How are hotel room availability and pricing anticipated to fluctuate in the coming months?

We analyse rates and offerings from key OTAs. The saturation rate is determined based on the ratio of available offers to those that have been sold or are no longer available.

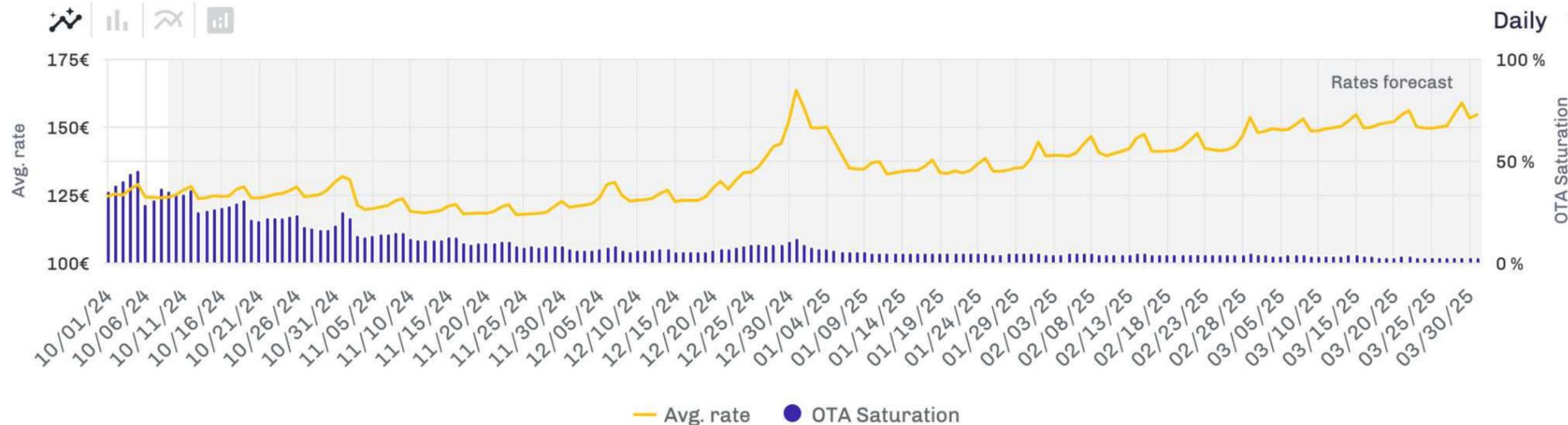
### OTA SATURATION



### OTA RATES

130€

+5,8%



# Incoming passengers over the next six months

SEPT 2024 - MAR 2025

Confirmed passengers



1,2M

▲ 7,4%

Booking window



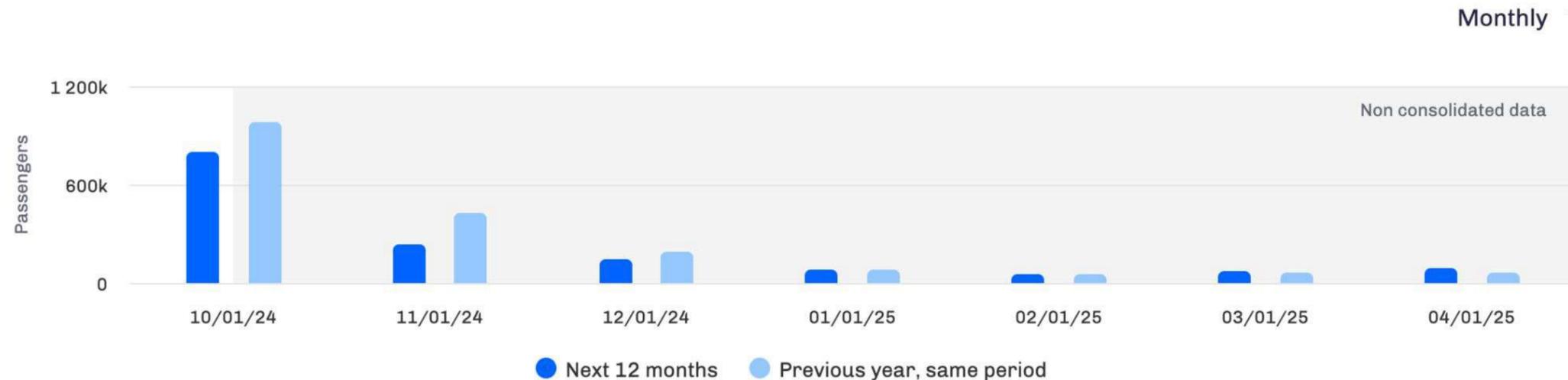
106,0 Days

▲ 5,1%

Length of stay

9,4 Nights

▼ -8,5%



# Incoming passengers over the next six months

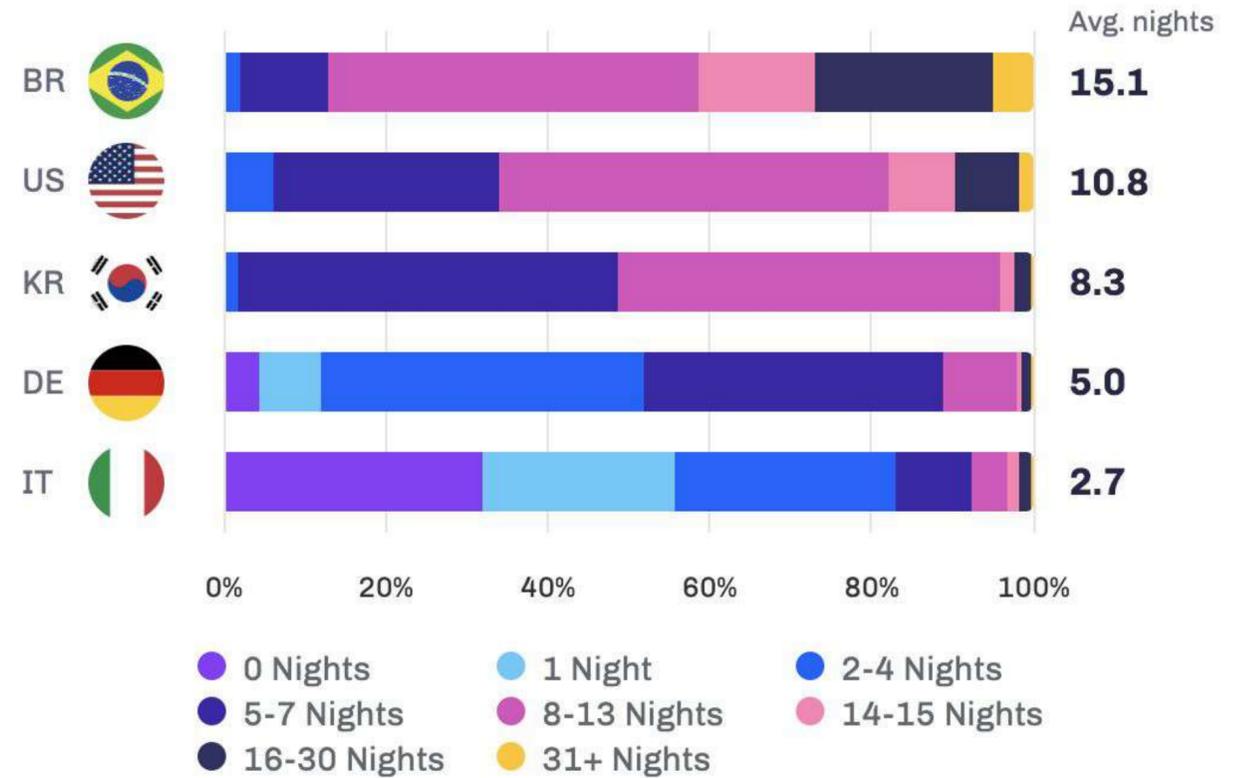
SEPT 2024 - MAR 2025



## LENGTH OF STAY



Length of stay, related to round trips, sorted by departure country.



#IDD2024

# What attractions do visitors appreciate the most in Italy?

Top 10 Italian attractions based on content volume

SEPT 2023- AUG 2024

			CONTENT	SENTIMENT
6°	LEONARDO DA VINCI MUSEUM	Florence	14.7 K	95.5 /100
7°	RIALTO BRIDGE	Venice	13.6 K	93.2 /100
8°	PIAZZA NAVONA	Rome	12.4 K	93.8 /100
9°	SPANISH STEPS	Rome	11.6 K	91.3 /100
10°	THE VERONA ARENA	Verona	10.1 K	92.9 /100



MILAN

4° Milan Cathedral

CONTENT 17.5 K  
SENTIMENT 95



1° Trevi Fountain

CONTENT 31.6 K  
SENTIMENT 93.4



PISA

3° Leaning Tower of Pisa

CONTENT 17.7 K  
SENTIMENT 94.1



ROME

2° Colosseum

CONTENT 23.3 K  
SENTIMENT 94.1



5° Pantheon

CONTENT 15.5 K  
SENTIMENT 93.6

#IDD2024

# Focus: The most appreciated pizzerias in Italy

Pizzerias with the highest Sentiment Score

SEPT 2023 - AUG 2024

Each POI analysed has over 3,000 pieces of content per year



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# Hospitality analysis

Sept 2023 - Aug 2024

# Digital presence



# 135 k

ACCOMMODATION  
OPTIONS IN ITALY

OF WHICH

# 89 %

HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN THE  
PAST 6 MONTHS

Category	Distribution	Content	Sentiment
HOTEL	40%	62.8%	84.6 /100
B&B	34%	26.8%	88.4 /100
FARMHOUSE	13%	3.8%	90.9 /100
CAMPSITE	2%	2.2%	83.4 /100
OTHER	11%	4.4%	87.2 /100

# Macro areas



**86 /100**

AVERAGE SENTIMENT  
IN ITALY

**+0.5 ▲**

COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS  
PERIOD



**NORTHERN ITALY**  
**+0,6** points

**85.6** /100

GUEST SENTIMENT:  
Hospitality



**CENTRAL ITALY**  
**+0,9** points

**84.7** /100

GUEST SENTIMENT:  
Hospitality



**SOUTHERN ITALY**  
**+0,6** points

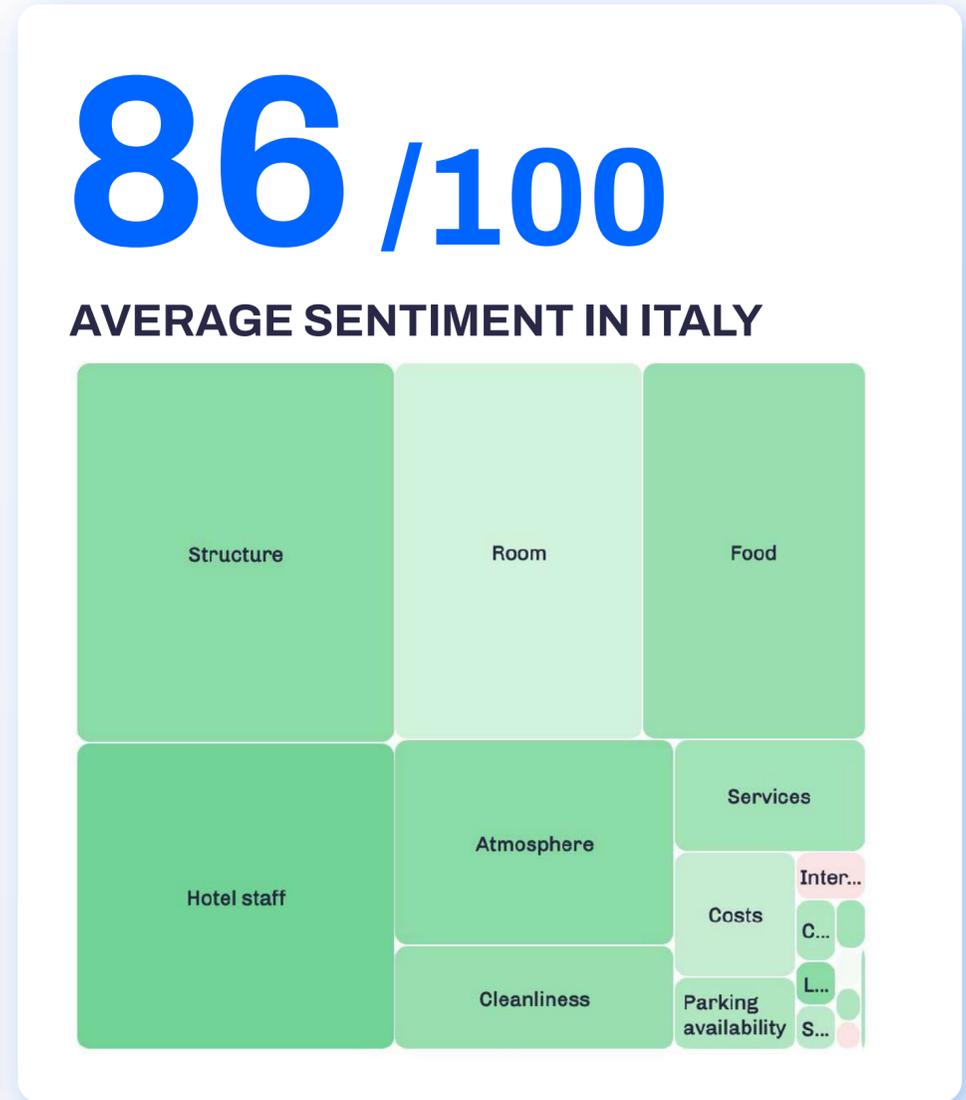
**87.4** /100

GUEST SENTIMENT:  
Hospitality

# Most-discussed topics



	Sentiment	Content
Structure	89,4 /100 ▲	23% ▲
Staff	94,2 /100 ▲	18% ▼
Room	71,8 /100 ▼	18% ▼
Food	87,6 /100 ▲	16% ▼
Atmosphere	90,1/100 ▲	11% ▼
Cleanliness	87,5 /100 ▲	5% ▼
Services	83,7 /100 ▲	4% ▲
Value for money	73,3 /100 ▲	3% ▲
Transfers and parking	81,4 /100 ▲	2% ▲



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# Short-term rentals analysis

Sept 2023 - Aug 2024

# Digital presence



# 166 k

SHORT-TERM RENTALS IN ITALY

OF WHICH

# 86 %

SHORT-TERM RENTALS IN ITALY

Category	Distribution	Content	Sentiment
HOUSE/APARTMENT	61%	51.5%	91.7 /100
GUESTHOUSE	30%	37.4%	88.9 /100
HOLIDAY APARTMENT	9%	11.1%	90.2 /100

# Macro areas



**90.9 /100**

AVERAGE SENTIMENT  
IN ITALY

**+0.4**

COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS  
PERIOD



**NORTHERN ITALY**  
**+0,0** points

**90,1** /100

GUEST SENTIMENT: Short-term  
rentals



**CENTRAL ITALY**  
**+0,3** points

**90,5** /100

GUEST SENTIMENT: Short-term  
rentals



**SOUTHERN ITALY**  
**+0,4** points

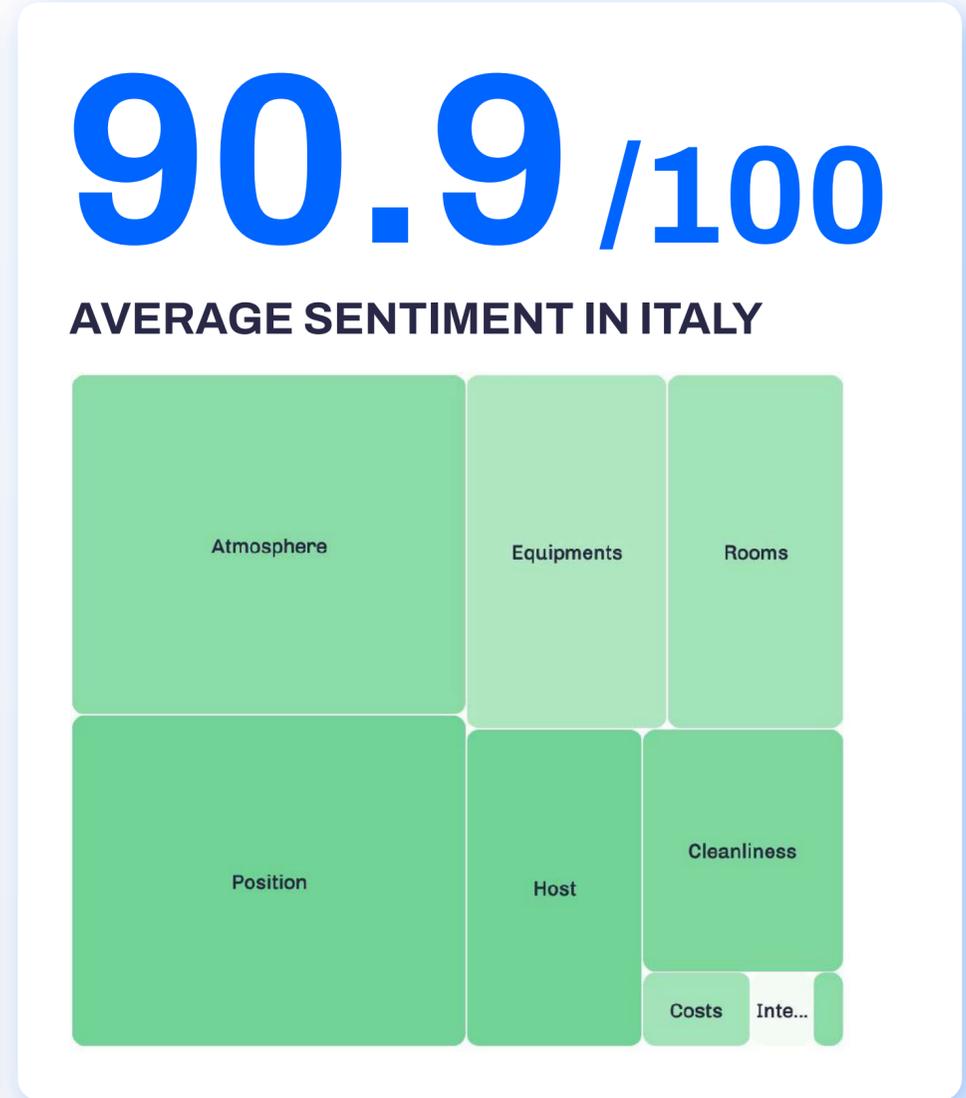
**90,9** /100

GUEST SENTIMENT: Short-term  
rentals

# Most-discussed topics



	Sentiment	Content
Atmosphere	89,8 /100 =	26% =
Position	95,0 /100 =	26% =
Amenities	80,1 /100 ▲	14% =
Room	84,5 /100 ▲	12% ▼
Host	94,8 /100 ▲	11% =
Cleanliness	91,3 /100 ▲	9% ▼
Costs	83,0 /100 ▲	1% ▼
Internet	61,3 /100 ▲	1% ▼



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# Food and Beverage analysis

Sept 2023 - Aug 2024



# Digital presence



**344 k**

**FOOD AND BEVERAGE  
BUSINESSES IN ITALY  
ACTIVE ONLINE**

OF WHICH

**89 %**

**HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN THE  
PAST 6 MONTHS**

Category	Distribution	Content	Sentiment
RESTAURANT	37%	52.9%	87.0/100
BAR	25%	10.2%	85.6 /100
PIZZERIA	12%	15.4%	86.9 /100
GELATERIA	4%	3.4%	89.0 /100
OTHER	22%	18.1%	86.2 /100

# Macro areas



**86.7** /100

AVERAGE SENTIMENT IN ITALY

**+0.3** ▲

COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS PERIOD



**NORTHERN ITALY**

+ 0.3 points

**86.6** /100

CUSTOMER SENTIMENT:  
dining establishments



**CENTRAL ITALY**

+0.5 points

**87.4** /100

CUSTOMER SENTIMENT:  
dining establishments



**SOUTHERN ITALY**

+0.2 points

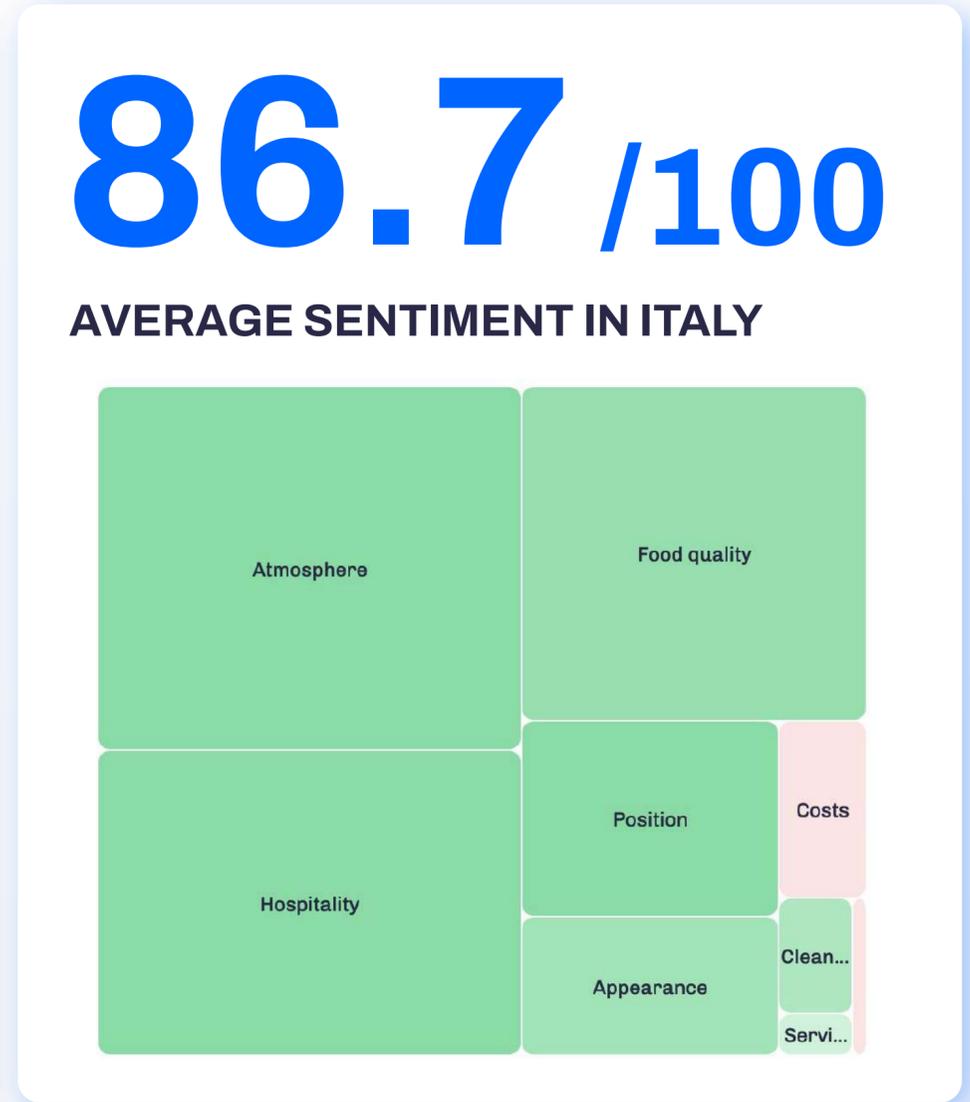
**86.7** /100

CUSTOMER SENTIMENT:  
dining establishments

# Most-discussed topics



	Sentiment	Content
Atmosphere	88,3/100 ▼	30% =
Hospitality	90,1/100 ▼	25% =
Food quality	85,6/100 ▼	23% =
Position	90,7/100 ▼	10% =
Appearance	84,7/100 ▲	7% ▲
Costs	52,2/100 ▲	3% =
Cleanliness	81,2/100 ▼	2% =
Services	71,9/100 ▼	0,6% ▼
Organisation	58,4/100 ▼	0,4% ▲



Italy Digital Destination Awards

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# Attractions analysis

Sept 2023 - Aug 2024

# Digital presence



**152k**

ATTRACTIONS IN ITALY  
ACTIVE ONLINE

OF WHICH

**73%**

HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN THE  
PAST 6 MONTHS

Category	Distribution	Content	Sentiment
ATTRACTION	20%	29.3%	91.4 /100
PARK	14%	8.6%	88.7 /100
MUSEUM	9%	15.6%	92.1 /100
BATHING ESTABLISHMENT	8%	8.0%	85.0 /100
OTHER	49%	20.9%	92.9 /100

*\*Monuments, theaters, libraries, castles, experiences, beaches, etc.*



# Macro areas

**91.1** /100

AVERAGE SENTIMENT IN ITALY

**+0.2** ▲

COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS PERIOD



**NORTHERN ITALY**  
**+0,2** points

**91.2** /100  
VISITOR SENTIMENT:  
Attractions



**CENTRAL ITALY**  
**+0,2** points

**92.0** /100  
VISITOR SENTIMENT:  
Attractions



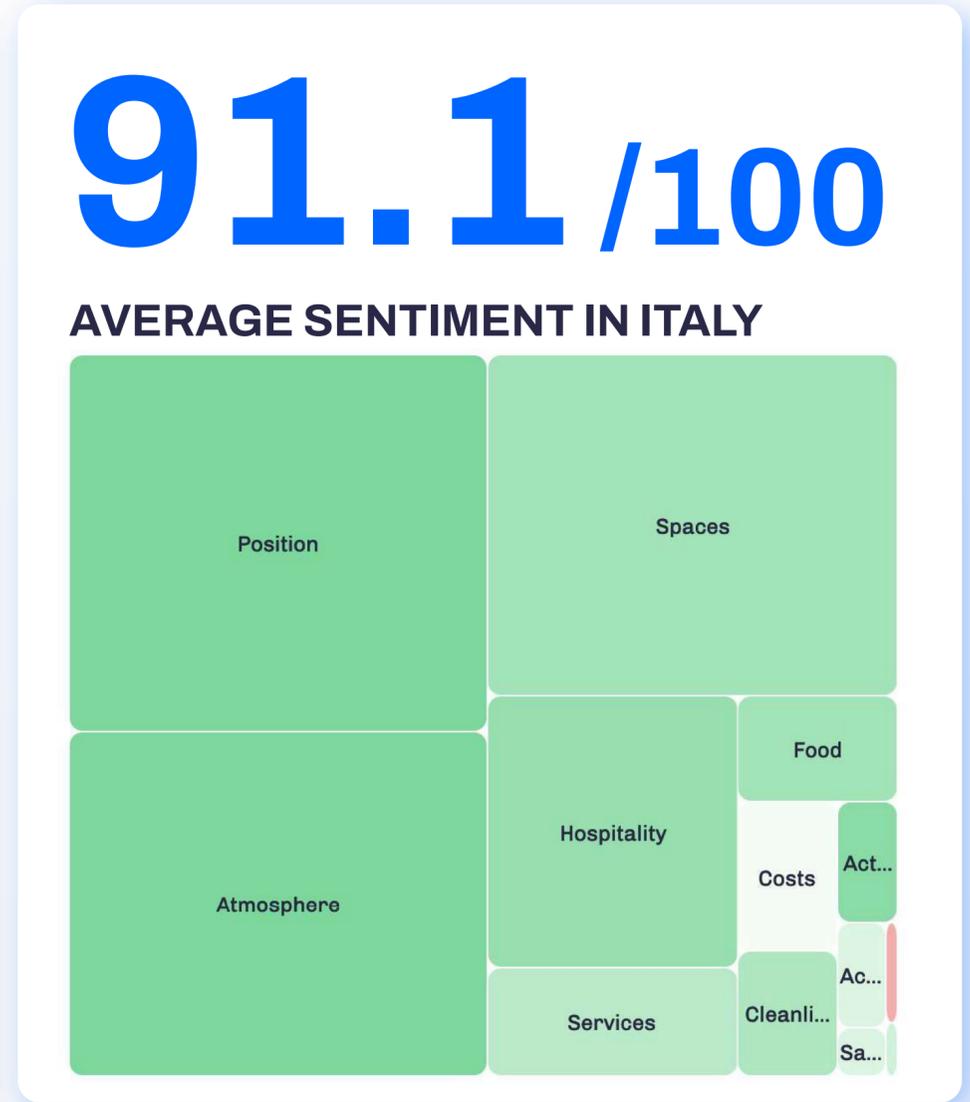
**SOUTHERN ITALY**  
**+0,2** points

**90.2** /100  
VISITOR SENTIMENT:  
Attractions

# Most-discussed topics



	Sentiment	Content
Location	92.7 /100 ▼	28% ▼
Space	84.7 /100 ▼	24% ▼
Atmosphere	90.8 /100 ▼	24% ▲
Hospitality	87.6 /100 ▼	11% ▲
Services	78.7 /100 ▼	5% ▲
Food and dining	83.9 /100 ▼	3% ▼
Cost	61.0 /100 ▲	3% ▲
Activities	89.7 /100 ▼	1% ▲
Accessibility	68.6 /100 ▼	1% ▲



# Key data - "All Italian Data 2024"

- **Decrease in POIs and reviews:** Compared to last year, points of interest have fallen from 876,000 to 797,000, and online reviews from 40 million to 32 million. This trend may reflect the decline in domestic tourism due to reduced economic availability and rising prices, especially in accommodation facilities.
- **Rate increase:** Analyses indicate an average increase of over 9% in hotel and short-term rental rates published on OTAs over the past year. Projections for the period of October to March 2024 indicate an additional increase of 6%, bringing the average rate to approximately 130 euros per night.
- **Domestic vs. international tourism decline:** Data on Italian travellers reveals a drop in both the number of flights and the average duration of stays. However, in the upcoming six months, GDS flights are expected to increase by 7.4% compared to the same period last year. Additionally, there is a rise in visitor numbers from the United States, Germany, France, and South Korea.
- **Foreign visitors account for 58.2% of the total,** marking a 1.5% increase from the previous year. After Italy, the main countries of origin are Germany, France, the United Kingdom, and Spain. Overall satisfaction among foreign visitors is high, with a score of 84 out of 100, reflecting the strong appeal of the Italian tourism experience.
- **Focus on overtourism:** Comparing large cities with small towns that have a strong tourism appeal, such as San Gimignano, the latter appear more vulnerable due to their seasonal focus during the summer months and limited accommodation availability. In all cases, reliance on OTAs highlights the potential to reduce intermediaries, revealing significant room for improvement.
- **Accommodation:** Approximately 135,000 establishments were analysed, achieving a sentiment score of 86 out of 100. The staff received the highest praise (94/100), while the quality of the rooms and value for money remain critical concerns.
- **Short-term rentals:** Holiday homes and apartments account for approximately 166,000 listings online. Traveller sentiment is on the rise, reaching a score of 90.9 out of 100. The location of the accommodations and the hospitality of the hosts are the most appreciated factors.
- **Dining and hospitality:** The restaurant sector has seen the analysis of approximately 344,000 establishments. The average sentiment remains stable at 86.7 out of 100; however, the service and cleanliness have been the most criticised aspects.
- **Cultural attractions:** The analysed attractions, totalling 152,000, maintain the highest sentiment score at 91 out of 100. Visitors particularly appreciate the location and atmosphere, while cost and accessibility continue to be areas for improvement.

# Methodology

# Metodology

The Data Appeal Company is a **provider of alternative data**. Using its proprietary techniques, it collects and monitors the digital presence of **points of interest (POIs) in an area by analysing numerous platforms, websites, OTAs, and social media**, ranging from the most well-known to more specialised ones by sector.

The data retrieval methodology involves a unique identification process through an algorithm designed to **maximise the likelihood that the channels explored are related to the same POI**.

After a complex data quality process, each identified POI is examined for specific characteristics—such as location, type, and services—as well as visitor attributes, including origin, language, and travel type. The contents of the digital human experience (reviews, ratings, comments, scores, etc.) are read and semantically analysed using proprietary natural language artificial intelligence mechanisms in their original form to identify underlying logic and emotional tone.

The main outcome is the Sentiment Score, a synthetic index that expresses the level of satisfaction on a scale of 100, representing the proportion of positive reviews within the total set of analysed content.

To each polarity score for every piece of content, we add the **main topics, aspects, and related opinions**. Over the years, numerous techniques have been developed, including a rates checker for hospitality, which collects daily rates (monitored multiple times a day) published on OTAs. Through sophisticated dedicated Business Intelligence tools and Data Visualisation techniques, the data is presented interactively via the D / AI Destinations platform, allowing all types of users to access the necessary information independently.

The Data Appeal Company SpA (formerly Travel Appeal) was acquired in 2022 by Almaxwave SpA, a company listed on the Euronext Growth Milan market of Borsa Italiana and part of the Almaxviva group.

This report is the result of an analysis of 32 million online content pieces from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 (unless specified otherwise) concerning approximately 797,000 points of interest in Italy across the sectors of accommodation, dining and hospitality, attractions, and short-term rentals. The analysis of OTA rates, flights, and incoming passengers is sourced from the D / AI Destinations platform. Data in the Flights section is provided by the partner Travelport and pertains to the main international GDS. Awards and recognitions are derived from methodologies summarised in the individual descriptions.

For more information: [info@datappeal.io](mailto:info@datappeal.io)



# Award



2024 EDITION

# S



# Cashless Destination Award



Destination with the most extensive use of electronic payments



Cashless  
Destination  
Award

# PIEDMONT

Destination with the most extensive use of electronic payments



Powered by:  THE DATA APPEAL COMPANY

 **Almawave  
Smart Destination  
Award** 

Powered by:  THE DATA APPEAL COMPANY





Almawave  
Smart Destination  
Award



**PUGLIA**

Destination that stands out for its innovative and data-driven  
approach to destination management

Powered by:  THE DATA APPEAL COMPANY





# Italy's Most Beloved Village



Village with the best balance between satisfaction levels and tourist popularity among the Orange Flag villages of the Italian Touring Club



Premio  
Premio Borgo  
più Amato d'Italia

# PECCIOLI, TUSCANY

1° PECCIOLI  
(TUSCANY)

2° RIPATRANSONE  
(MARCHE)

3° PETRALIA  
SOTTANA  
(SICILY)



# Destination Sustainability Index Award

Destination with the highest average score on the  
Sustainability Index



Destination  
Sustainability Index  
Award

TRENTINO

Destination with the highest average score on the  
Sustainability Index

Powered by:  THE DATA APPEAL COMPANY





# Inclusivity Index Award



Destination with the highest average score on the  
Inclusivity Index

Powered by:  THE DATA APPEAL COMPANY





Inclusivity  
Index  
Award



# LOMBARDY

Destination with the highest average score on the  
Inclusivity Index

Powered by:  THE DATA APPEAL COMPANY





# European Destination Most Appreciated by Italian Visitors



European location with the best balance between satisfaction and popularity for Italian travellers



European Destination Most  
Appreciated by  
Italian Visitors

# COMUNIDAD FORAL DE NAVARRA SPAIN

1° COMUNIDAD FORAL  
DE NAVARRA  
(SPAIN)

2° CLARE ISLAND  
(IRELAND)

3° BRAGA  
(PORTUGAL)





# Destination Most Appreciated by Foreign Travellers



The destination with the highest sentiment score in the relevant sectors, based on the average amount of content for active points of interest (POI).

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Destination  
Most Appreciated by  
Foreign Travellers



# MAIELLA NATIONAL PARK ABRUZZO

1° MAIELLA NATIONAL  
PARK (ABRUZZO)

2° PROSECCO HILLS  
(VENETO)

3° LANGHE  
MONFERRATO ROERO  
(PIEDMONT)

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# Destination with the Best Gastronomic Offer



The region that registered the highest sentiment in the relevant categories for the Food / Quality of Food cluster.

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Destination with the Best  
Gastronomic Offer



# RAGUSA, SICILY

1° RAGUSA  
(SICILY)

2° PAGANELLA DOLOMITES  
(TRENTINO)

3° CARNIA  
(FRIULI VENEZIA  
GIULIA)



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# Destination with the Best Reputation



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Destination with the best ratio of satisfaction  
to tourist popularity





Destination with the Best  
Reputation



**VENETO**

1° VENETO

2° BASILICATA

3° TRENTINO

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#IDD2023

# Cosa apprezzano i turisti in Italia?

Top 10 attrazioni italiane ordinate per volume di contenuti

SET 2022 - AGO 2023

			CONTENUTI	SENTIMENT
6°	ARENA DI VERONA	Verona	24.147	93,2 /100
7°	VATICAN MUSEUMS	Roma	23.258	91,8 /100
8°	PONTE DI RIALTO	Venezia	22.810	93,4 /100
9°	PIAZZA SAN MARCO	Venezia	20.333	94,3 /100
10°	PIAZZA DEL DUOMO	Pisa	19.590	95,2 /100



MILANO

4° Duomo di Milano

CONTENUTI 26.8 mila  
SENTIMENT 94.7



ESEMPIO 2023

1° Colosseo

CONTENUTI 58.9 mila  
SENTIMENT 94.4



PISA

2° Torre di Pisa

CONTENUTI 36.4 mila  
SENTIMENT 93.9

ROMA

3° Pantheon

CONTENUTI 32.2 mila  
SENTIMENT 95.1



5° Piazza Navona

CONTENUTI 24.6 mila  
SENTIMENT 95.1



#IDD2023

# Focus: le cantine più apprezzate d'Italia

Le cantine che hanno registrato il Sentiment Score più alto

SET 2022 - AGO 2023

