



Tour Information



Art Nouveau in Alicante





Passports

You may need to renew your British Passport if you are travelling to an EU country. **Please ensure your passport is less than 10 years old (even if it has 3 months or more left on it) and has at least 3 months validity remaining from the date of travel.**

For more information, please visit: [passport checker](#)

Visas

If you're a tourist, you do not need a visa for short trips to Spain.

For all other passport holders please check the visa requirements with the appropriate embassy.

For further information, please check here: [travel to the EU](#)

Spanish consulate: 20 Draycott Place, London SW3 2RZ; Tel: 020 7589 8989 / 020 7594 4904; Fax: 020 7581 7888; Email: cog.londres@maec.es
Open Mon-Fri 09:15-14:00 (except Spanish National holidays).



Tickets

You will be sent an e-ticket, which shows your flight reference number, with your final departure documents. EasyJet have now replaced all of their airport check-in desks with EasyJet Baggage Drop desks. **Therefore you must check-in online and print out your boarding passes before travelling.** Checking in online also provides the opportunity for you to pre-book seats, if you wish, at an additional cost.

Online check-in is available any time prior to travel using the reference number provided.

For more information, please visit:

www.easyjet.com

Please check that the details on your documentation are accurate and that all names are spelt correctly and match the names on your passport. Your flight ticket is non-transferable and non-refundable. No refund can be given for non-used portions.



Baggage allowance

We advise you to check the baggage allowances carefully as you are likely to be charged the excess if you exceed the weight limit. Maximum weights for single bags apply.

Your EasyJet ticket includes one hold bag of up to 23kg plus **one cabin bag that can fit under the seat in front of you**, (maximum size 45 x 36 x 20cm, including any handles or wheels). If you book an upfront or extra legroom seat you can also take an additional large cabin bag on board.

<http://www.easyjet.com/en/planning/baggage>

Transfers

On arrival in Alicante, coach transfer (approx. 20 minutes) directly to hotel.

Special Requests

If you haven't already, please notify Travel Editions of any special requests as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements.

Border Control

At border control, you may need to show a return or onward ticket, show you have enough money for your stay, use separate lanes from EU, EEA and Swiss citizens when queuing.

Taking food and drink into EU countries

You are not able to take meat, milk or products containing them into EU countries.



Accommodation

Hotel Eurostars Centrum, Alicante

This contemporary four-star hotel is located a few metres from the train station and the city's marina. The hotel has a wide variety of services including relaxing and therapeutic massages, a hammam, sauna, gastronomic restaurant and sun terrace.

Featuring modern décor, all rooms at the Eurostars Centrum Alicante have air conditioning, free WiFi and a flat-screen TV. Some also have a hydromassage shower or bath. The Eurostars Centrum Alicante serves a buffet breakfast on the terrace, while the Centrum restaurant offers Mediterranean cuisine. A bar-café in the lobby shows sports events on a large-screen TV.

For more information, please visit the hotel's website: <https://www.eurostarshotels.co.uk/eurostars-centrum-alicante.html>



Food

Spain's eating and drinking culture is one of its greatest attractions, and a very sociable one too, with people rubbing shoulders in tapas bars and cafés. The Spaniards take their food seriously – be it diner-style *menús del día* (menus of the day) or elaborate, nouvelle cuisine in gourmet restaurants. Food is generally dictated by the seasons and fresh, whichever corner of Spain you go to. An excellent way to understand different facets of Spanish cuisine is to sample tapas: small snacks served with drinks in local bars across the country. They can range from gourmet canapés to simple plates of olives, cheeses and cured meats, and may be charged or given free.

Spanish drinks have also brewed up quite a storm worldwide – from the thirst-quenching sangria to bubbly Cava to the sophisticated Rioja wine.

Specialities:

Paella: A Valencian rice dish loaded with seafood and chicken or rabbit, saffron and vegetables.

Croquetas: Fried bread-crumbed fritters with a creamy, potato interior.

Cocido: A fragrant and rich chickpea and meat stew popular in Madrid.

Tortilla Espanola: A rich, chunky potato omelette – a staple throughout Spain.

Gazpacho: A chilled tomato-based, tangy vegetable soup from Andalucía.

Jamón: One of many cured Spanish meats, Jamón is a type of finely sliced cured ham.

Pulpo á feira: Tender, boiled lobster seasoned with paprika and salt and drizzled in olive oil.

Chorizo: A dried and coarse pork sausage seasoned with smoked paprika.

Bacalao al pil: A Basque Country dish of salt cod with a velvety white olive-oil emulsion.

Sherry: A fortified wine available in several styles: Fino and Manzanilla (pale and dry), amontillado (dry, richer in body and darker in colour), Oloroso (medium, full-bodied, fragrant and golden) and sweet sherries such as Pedro Ximénez.

Rioja: Spain's flagship red wine, made from Tempranillo and Garnacha grapes.

Cava: A sparkling wine from Catalonia made using the same method used to produce Champagne.

Albondigas: Fried Spanish-style meatballs, usually smothered in tomato sauce.

Most restaurants serve a *menú del día* at lunchtime, this is a three-course meal including drinks that generally costs from €10 to €20 and can be very good value.



Drink

Spain is essentially a wine-drinking country, with sherry being one of the principal export products. Its English name is the anglicised version of the sherry producing town *Jerez*, from which the wine was first shipped to England. There are four main types: *fino* (very pale and dry), *amontillado* (dry, richer and darker), *oloroso* (medium, full-bodied, fragrant and golden), and *dulce* (sweet).

Well-known Spanish beers (*cerveza*) include *San Miguel*, *Damm*, *Estrella Galicia* and *Cruzcampo*. Spanish brandy is as different from French as Scotch whisky is from Irish. It is relatively cheap, pleasant, although some brandy drinkers may find it a little sweet. Brands include *Carlos I*, *Osbourne* and *Fundador*.

Meals included in the price of your holiday are:

Breakfast – daily

Dinner – with wine included on two evenings



Destination

Alicante is a port city on Spain's southeastern Costa Blanca and the capital of the Alicante province. Its old town, Barrio de la Santa Cruz, has narrow streets, coloured houses and a nightlife scene. From here, an elevator or a steep climb leads to medieval Castillo de Santa Bárbara, set on a hilltop with sweeping views of the Mediterranean coast.

Alicante Old Town is justifiably famous for its great architecture and walking onto Placa De La Muntanyeta reveals some of the city's finest buildings. Admire the Art Nouveau architecture in the heart of the city's historic centre, as well as day trips to the town of Alcoy on the European Modernist Rout and nearby Novelda with its unique Sanctuary of St Mary Magdalene and its Catalan Modernist interior.

Details of places of interest included in the tour:

Central Market

Alicante's Central Market is an eclectic building with decorative features characteristic of early twentieth century Valencian Modernism. It is situated in one of the busiest avenues of Alicante city Avenida Alfonso X El Sabio.

The building was designed in 1915 by the architect Francisco Fajardo Guardiola and completed by Juan Vidal Ramos in 1922. It is rectangular-shaped and occupies the irregular block in which it is situated. Its main brick facade has a big wide staircase. The rear façade gives onto 25 de Mayo Square, that has flower stalls and market bars.

For more information about the Central Market building, please visit:

<https://alicanteturismo.com/en/the-central-market/>

Museo de Bellas Artes Gravina

Gravina Museum of Fine Arts is located in the Palacio del Conde de Lumières, a four floor building constructed between 1748 and 1808 and declared a historical monument.

The museum is devoted to painting and sculpture of Alicante from the sixteenth century to the early decades of the twentieth century. In the museum there are nearly 500 works from funds of the provincial council, including a sculpture by Francisco Salzillo, and a portrait of Ferdinand VII by Valencian painter Vicente López Portaña. The museum also has several works of the most important regional painters

of the nineteenth century: Antonio Gisbert, Joaquín Agrasot, Lorenzo Casanova, and Fernando Cabrera Cantó. These works reflect the major trends of the nineteenth century: historicism, customs, portraits, landscapes.

For more information about MUBAG Museum of Fine Arts, please visit:

<https://alicanteturismo.com/en/gravina-fine-arts-museum-mubag/>

Castillo de Santa Barbara

The Castle of Santa Bárbara is perched on top of Mount Benacantil at a height of 166 metres and stands as one of Spain's largest mediaeval fortresses, providing great views of Alicante's perfect bay. It has three different enclosures from three distinct periods: The upper enclosure, "La Torreña", is where the most ancient remains of the fortress can be found, mostly dating from the 14th century.

The mid-level enclosure is home to the most important buildings which were built in the 16th century. These include the Salón Felipe II hall, the Cuerpo de Guardia guard house, the Patio de Armas parade ground and the Baluarte de la Reina bastion.

The lower enclosure dates back to the 18th century and is home to the Revellín del Bon Repós ravelin.

For more information about the Santa Barbara Castle, please visit:

<https://castillodesantabarbara.com/>

Novelda

Hidden away from the regular tourist trail, Novelda is around a 30-minute drive west of Alicante city on the A-31. While you might not imagine that a small town a little way inland would hold all that much intrigue, there is actually a surprising variety of things to see including salt ponds in nearby valleys and the architectural marvels of the Museum of Modernism, the Monastery of Santa María Magdalena and La Mola Castle, highlighted by its most memorable architectural aspect – a triangular tower.

Casa Museo Modernista

Built in 1903, the museum presents three faces clad in marble and Bateig stone with large windows. The sumptuous interior is dominated by noble woods and polychromatic stuccoes and the colonnaded court, salón de baile, dining room with its large paintings of nymphs and the central transom made in exotic wood, (which illuminates the interior and rich furniture), make it a jewel of Modernism.

For more information about the the Modernist House Museum, please visit:

<https://www.comunitatvalenciana.com/en/alicant-alicante/novelda/museums/casa-museo-modernista>

Santuario Maria Magdalena

This striking place of worship will take your breath away with its beautiful Catalan Modernist style and truly unique architecture. The main façade has two side towers, both 25m high, that are capped with crosses carved from stone. The exterior decoration is inspired by Medieval and Baroque elements, in addition to the local countryside.

As soon as you step inside, you will notice its shape: that of a jug, replicating the one Mary Magdalene used to carry balsam to Jesus Christ. Truly one-of-a-kind. At the back of the sanctuary, in the apse, you can see a space dedicated to Mary Magdalene.

Beyond its dramatic architecture, Santuario de Santa María Magdalena is special because of all the history it holds between its walls. This place of worship is much loved by locals and well worth a visit during your time in the town.

For more information about the Sanctuary of Mary Magdalene, please visit:

<https://www.comunitatvalenciana.com/en/alicant-alicante/novelda/monuments/santuario-de-santa-maria-magdalena>

Your lecturer / Guide

Prof. Anne Anderson author, broadcaster and Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, was a senior lecturer at Southampton Solent University for 14 years, specialising in the Arts and Crafts, Art Nouveau and Modernism. Anne's career as an international speaker has taken her all over the world and her TV credits include the BBC's Flog It!. Anne has received a rapturous response from or customers at the many Travel Editions UK lectures and tours as well as a host of tours overseas and her knowledge, wit and enthusiasm bring her beloved subjects to life in whatever location she finds them.

Anne will deliver two lectures during the tour:

“Modernista architecture: an introduction”

Alcoy

Alcoy is a Mediterranean city in an attractive natural setting flanked by two nature reserves, the Serra de Mariola and Font Roja. It also has an outstanding medieval and Modernist heritage.

Plaza de España square is the heart of the city. Places to visit in the mediaeval quarter include the old town hall, the Archaeology Museum, and the Museum of the Moors and Christians festival. Going up along Calle San Nicolás in the opposite direction brings you to the Modernist city. The town's appearance today directly recalls the pioneering city of the Spanish Industrial Revolution whose artistic heritage has been included on the European Modernist Route. Buildings like the Casa del Pavo, the Círculo Industrial, the old fire station and the Conservatory of Music and Dance – as well as examples of industrial architecture including the old Papeleras Reunidas and Ferrándiz y Carbonell buildings – are all well worth a visit.

“Modernisme: from Fortuny to Picasso”

Tour manager

Your tour manager will be on hand throughout the tour to ensure that everything operated according to plan. If you have any problems or questions please see him or her immediately – it is often possible to resolve complaints or problems very quickly on the spot, and do everything to help you enjoy your holiday.

Grading

This tour has been graded as **Demanding**: On your feet all day, uneven terrain (e.g. cobbles).



The Basics

Climate – The weather in Alicante at this time of year is likely to be pleasant, but there is the chance of the odd shower. Our best advice is to come prepared.

Time – GMT +2 hours (Summertime Apr-Oct); GMT + 1 (Standard time Nov-Mar).

Language – Spanish and Catalan

Religion – Roman Catholic

National holidays – New Year's day (01 Jan); Epiphany (06 Jan); Good Friday; Easter Monday; St George's Day (23 Apr); Labour day (01 May); Whit Monday; St John the Baptist Day (24 Jun); Assumption of Mary (15 Aug); Catalonia Day (11 Sep); Spanish National holiday (12 Oct); All Saints' day (01 Nov); Spanish Constitution Day (06 Dec); Immaculate Conception (08 Dec); Christmas day (25 Dec); St Stephen's Day (26 Dec).

Currency – Euro. €1 = 100 cents. Notes are in denominations of €500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10 and 5. Coins are in denominations of €2 and 1, and 50, 20, 10, 5, 2 and 1 cents.

Banks – Cashpoints compatible with international banking networks are located in all towns and cities, as well as airports, major train stations and other spots. They usually offer an attractive exchange rate. Those banks that still exchange foreign currencies into local money will always charge a transaction fee, so withdrawing money from an ATM usually represents the most logical means of obtaining euros.

Credit cards – American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa are widely accepted across the country. If you're eating at a restaurant, check prior to the meal that your card will be an acceptable form of payment. Even in cities, it's advisable to carry a supply of cash with you at all times. Varying amounts of commission can be charged.

Electricity – 220 volt, two-pin continental plug.

Drinking water – Tap water is safe to drink, although some complain it has a strange taste, so it is generally

recommended to drink bottled water, readily available in supermarkets and shops.

Shops and Museums – Shops are open Mon-Sat 10:00-14:00 and 17:00-20:00. Supermarkets and department stores tend to open 09:30-21:00/22:00, and may open on Sundays in large cities.

Please note that some museums close on Mondays.

Clothes & Shoes – You may like to bring a warm sweater for cool evenings. Light rain wear for the occasional storm and good grip/flat walking shoes are recommended.

Camera – bring plenty of memory cards/film and any spare camera batteries as these are not always available. Please check with your guide before photographing people.

Bath plugs – The hotel has plugs for basins, but it is useful to carry a 'universal' one with you.

Telephone/Mobile

The guarantee of free mobile phone roaming throughout the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway has ended. Check with your phone operator to find out about any roaming charges you might get from 1 January 2021. A new law means that you're protected from getting mobile data charges above £45 without you knowing. Once you reach £45, you need to opt in to spend more so that you can continue using the internet while you're abroad. Your phone operator will tell how you can do this.

Tipping –To keep our tours affordable, we do not increase the tour price by adding in tips. However, in the tourism industry, there is a certain level of expectation that when receiving a good service, one does award with a tip. Tour Managers, Representatives, Guides and Drivers appreciate a tip at the end of their involvement with the tour, but this is entirely at your discretion. We believe in allowing you to tip according to your level of satisfaction with their services, but for your guidance about £2-3 per person per day for the tour manager is the norm. We would like to reiterate that tipping is an entirely optional payment and this information is given purely to answer any questions you may have about it.



Health

Doctor/Dentist/Chemist

Please talk to your tour manager if you are feeling unwell and they will organise for you to see a doctor.

Keep receipts for insurance claims.



Hospital

Your tour manager/hotel reception will arrange hospital transport.

Keep receipts for insurance claims.

General Health Advice

We suggest you take a good supply of your own individual medicines with you and always keep some in your hand luggage in case you get delayed or your luggage goes astray. General-purpose supplies for bites, stings, or scratches, and your usual medication for headaches, or stomach upsets are always recommended. Oral re-hydration sachets are excellent for topping up salt and glucose levels.

Visit the NHS Fit For Travel website for more generally information specific to the country you are visiting – www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk

Sun Protection

Spanish summers can be hot and sunny, so always ensure you take sufficient sun protection and moisturiser. A sun hat and sunglasses are also advisable.

Inoculations

You should check with your own doctor and take their advice as to which inoculations are required for the country you are visiting, as only they know your medical history and recommendations are liable to change at short notice.



Insurance

To be covered under your Travel Insurance Policy, if you become ill, it is essential that you contact a local doctor and also telephone the emergency number of your insurance company. You will **NOT** be covered for any claim unless this procedure is carried out. Your insurance company will then decide on the best course of medical attention.

Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC)

Before you travel, make sure you've got a valid UK Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) or travel insurance with health cover.

You may not have access to free emergency medical treatment and could be charged for your healthcare if you do not have an EHIC or GHIC when visiting an EU country, or travel insurance with full healthcare cover when visiting Switzerland, Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein. If you have an EHIC it will still be valid while it remains in date. Your European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) or Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) will be valid if you're travelling to an EU country.

We strongly recommend that you take out an appropriate travel insurance policy when you travel abroad.

For further information about the GHIC please visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>



Emergencies

Should an emergency arise, please call our offices on:

00 44 20 7251 0045

Outside office hours (Mon-Fri 09:00-17:00), telephone our emergency staff on:

00 44 7841 023807 or 00 44 7441 343850

PLEASE USE THESE NUMBERS ONLY IN THE EVENT OF A GENUINE EMERGENCY.

If you find that you are in need of consular assistance during your holiday:

British Consulate General Alicante

Edificio Espacio

Rambla Méndez Núñez 28-32

6ª planta

03002 Alicante

Spain

Spain.consulate@fco.gov.uk

Fax: +34 965 14 05 28

Telephone enquiries: +34 965 21 60 22.

Consular phone lines are open 08:00-16:00.

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