



Tour Information



Flowers and Wildlife of the Balearics Mallorca and Menorca





Travel

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

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, Fax: 020 7581 7888.

Open Mon-Fri 0915-1400 (except Spanish National holidays).



Tickets

Included with this documentation is an e-ticket, which shows the **two airline locators** for your flights. EasyJet have now replaced 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 extra cost.

Online check-in is available any time prior to travel using the two airline locators provided. Please see the enclosed e-ticket for more information or 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 that you stick to the baggage allowances advised. If your luggage is found to be heavier than the airlines specified baggage allowance the charges at the airport will be hefty.

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).

For more information please visit:

[www.easyjet.com](#)

Transfers

On arrival in Mallorca, transfer by coach to your hotel in Puerto Pollensa (1 hour).

On day 4 transfer by boat from Alcudia in Mallorca to Ciutadella in Menorca (90 minutes).

Departure transfer from Port Ciutadella Hotel to Mahon Airport is 1 hour.

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

Hoposa Uyal Hotel

Hotel Hoposa Uyal is a 4 star emblematic hotel inhabiting a charming Mallorcan-style building located in a beautiful setting on the seafront of Puerto Pollensa.

It features an outdoor pool and rooms with free Wi-Fi, flat-screen TVs and views of the mountains or sea.

For more information, please visit the hotel's website:

[Hotel Hoposa Uyal | Puerto Pollensa, Mallorca](#)

Port Ciutadella Hotel

The Port Ciutadella Hotel is located close to the seafront and only a 15-minute walk from Ciutadella's attractive historic quarter, where shops, tapas restaurants and bars can be found. This stylish hotel features an outdoor pool, an onsite spa with indoor pool, steam bath and sauna, a buffet restaurant and a lobby bar. Rooms at the hotel are bright and spacious and include en-suite bathrooms, telephone, air conditioning, TV, mini bar, rental safety deposit box and Wi-Fi. All rooms have balconies.

For more information, please visit the hotel's website: <https://www.sethotels.com/>

Although dinner is not included in your stay at either hotel, you do have the option to dine at the buffet restaurant at either hotel for an extra charge. Please speak to reception at each hotel for more information.



Food

Eating out in Spain can often be reasonable, and meals substantial rather than gourmet.

The food in the Balearic Islands reflects its history as a strategic point on ancient trade routes with different occupying forces leaving their mark, from Arabs and Catalans to the French and British. Its island nature means that seafood predominates with wonderful local produce including lobster often accompanied by the traditional Menorcan, creamy garlic sauce and traditional fishermen's stew or fish pie. Pastries and desserts also feature

extensively. Some restaurants will offer a set meal at a fixed – *menú del día* – at lunchtime, generally good value for money. Usually, a discretionary service charge is added to your bill in restaurants and bars, but it is customary to leave small change if good service is provided.

Generally speaking, mealtimes in Spain are much later than in the UK. Lunch is normally taken between 1400 and 1600; dinner is very often eaten any time after 2100 or even 2200.

Siestas are still adhered to, so many places close in the mid-afternoon and reopen in the evening.



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 producing town *Jerez*, from which the wine was first shipped to England. Today, Britain buys about 75% of all sherry exports. 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). Local wines are available such as the omnipresent Binifadet that produces syrah and merlot varieties. There are only a handful of producers on this small island, so its output is augmented by imports from Majorca and the mainland and beyond. 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*. Well-known Spanish beers (*cerveza*) include *San Miguel*, *Damm*, *Estrella Galicia* and *Cruzcampo*.

Meals included in the price of your holiday are:

Breakfast – daily

Lunch – 1 picnic lunch

Dinner – 1 dinner on the first evening in a local restaurant



Destination

Mallorca & Menorca

Separated from each other and the rest of the continent for centuries, the nature on these islands has taken its own path and provides an immeasurable wealth with ecosystems and habitats of salt meadows and wetlands, mountains and gorges, where many animal and plant species can be found including many endemics.

Although much of Mallorca's land has been developed for tourism, you may be surprised at how much of the island's natural beauty has been preserved. It is rich with nature reserves: Mondrago, Sa Dragonera, Cabrera, S'Albufereta, Llevant Peninsula. S'Albufera, which we will visit, is the largest wetland in the Balearics formed out of an ancient lagoon separated from the sea by sand dunes. The park is key for many migrating birds; Peregrines, hoopoes, herons, avocets, Eleanora's falcons, black vultures, egrets, osprey, and kingfisher. But you don't have to be an expert in birds to appreciate the scenery and sense of peace here.

Mediterranean flora dominates Mallorca. Scrub forests of pine, buckthorn, rosemary, wild olive, lentiscus and dwarf fan palms have been the island's main vegetation over the centuries. Holm oaks thrive in the mountains. Around 1500 flowering plants have been recorded here. The high Sierra de Tramuntana mountains provide a picturesque 'backbone' to the island.

The lovely island of Menorca, rich in culture, history and nature, very much maintains a sense of authenticity, evident in many of its small towns and villages and certainly in Ciutadella, where the tour is based. Picturesque Ciutadella with its pretty port enjoys a very beautiful and evocative historic old quarter, its narrow pedestrianised streets, lined with honey-coloured houses and grand historic buildings, a joy for wandering undisturbed.

The Menorcan habitat is unique with the island rich in wildflowers, over 1400 species of plants have been recorded. Like Mallorca, many bird species can be seen here too, with a good number

of passage migrants resting on the island as they travel on their way to more temperate climes.

For more information on Menorca the following article is recommended:

<https://www.cntraveller.com/article/menorca-the-unsung-spanish-island-waiting-to-be-discovered>

Our tour is designed with the focus on the wonderful spring nature of these islands but, at the same time, offers some insight into the historical highlights too.

Grading

This tour has been graded as **Moderate**: Walking between sites, lots of standing for viewing. See below for useful information regarding what to bring with you.

Tour Guide

Your guide for this tour, Javier Mendez, is a professional ornithologist and naturalist. Javier is a co-founder of Menorca Ornithologist Society and a member of Menorca Research Institute. He was born and bred in Menorca and knows the island intimately. He has been a keen birdwatcher and nature lover all his life and he has done many studies about the Menorcan bird population and its wildlife. Javier speaks good English and has a natural and infectious enthusiasm for birds and the unique wildlife of both Menorca and Mallorca. He has been guiding groups of birdwatchers, walkers and nature enthusiasts since 2001. Javier also has an excellent knowledge of the Menorcan wildflowers having also led many botanical tours.

Tour Manager

Your guide will be assisted by a tour manager, who will be on hand throughout the tour to ensure that everything operates according to plan. If you have any problems or questions, please see him/her immediately as it is much better to resolve complaints or problems on the spot and ensure you enjoy your holiday.

Useful information for packing

As the days of this tour are spent in nature where the ground can be uneven at times, we highly recommend bringing walking poles, which are very useful for maintaining balance on uneven ground. It is also important to have good shoes suitable for rough ground. As this tour focuses on both birds and flowers, we highly recommend bringing binoculars.

Please note, apart from the included picnic in Menorca, there may be the odd day, when there is no alternative for a lunch stop, when you will be asked to bring some food for lunch. The guide will advise where you can purchase this.

On most days, lunch breaks will be in local towns where you can find restaurants and cafes offering tapas, bocadillos (local sandwiches) and other food.

It is essential that you carry water with you when you are out on the day trips. You can buy bottled water locally or you can bring a water bottle that you can fill up daily.

A small day sack that you carry on your back is the most useful bag to have with you to carry whatever you need on the days out.



The Basics

Climate – The weather in the Balearic Islands 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. Layers are always useful as it can be warm when the sun is shining but cool if there is cloud or shadow. A hat for sunny days is highly advisable.

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

Language – Spanish.

Religion – Roman Catholic.

National holidays – New Year's Day (01 Jan); Epiphany (06 Jan); Good Friday; Easter Monday; Labour Day (01 May); Assumption of Mary (15 Aug); Spanish National holiday (12 Oct); All Saints' day (01 Nov); Spanish Constitution Day (06 Dec); Immaculate Conception (08 Dec); Christmas day (25 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 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 at a very reasonable price.

Shops and museums – Shops are open Mon-Sat 0900-1400 and 1700-2000. Supermarkets and department stores tend to open 0930-2100/2200 and may open on Sundays in larger towns.

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.

Telephones/mobiles – 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. We would like to reiterate that tipping is an entirely optional 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, as can sunny days in spring, so ensure you take sun protection and a sun hat. Sunglasses are also advisable. Also ensure you carry water with you every day.

Inoculations

No compulsory vaccinations are required for travel in Spain.



Insurance

To be covered under your Travel Insurance Policy, if you become ill, it is essential that you contact a local doctor and 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 (Mon-Fri 0900-1700)

Outside the above hours please telephone our emergency staff on:

00 44 7952 237156 or 00 44 7841 023807

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 Madrid

Torre Espacio

Paseo de la Castellana 259D

28046 Madrid, Spain

Spain.consulate@fco.gov.uk

Telephone enquiries: 902 109 356 (in Spain), +34 917 146 300 (if outside Spain).

Consular phone lines are open 0900-1700.

Travel Editions

3 Youngs Buildings, London, EC1V 9DB

Tel: 020 7251 0045

Email: tours@traveleditions.co.uk www.traveleditions.co.uk

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