

CLASSIC TRAVELLING



MALLORCA TOUR

prepared exclusively for

MR & MRS SMITH

WHY COME ON A CLASSIC TRAVELLING TOUR?

Classic Travelling takes away the hassle and guesswork from a touring holiday. Your free time is precious and so you want to know that you will be driving the best roads in the area, staying at charming hotels, and that your car will have suitable parking each night. You want to know what there is to do, see and visit on each day of your trip, without having to do hours of research, or missing anything of interest.

The tour is organised, but you are not. This is no regimental exercise and you are free to spend your days as you wish, at your own pace, doing exactly what you want. All we ask is that you arrive at the accommodation we have booked on your behalf each evening.

We provide you with this tour book to help you make the most of your trip. This book contains your route directions and maps, accommodation information, and describes everything we think may be of interest to you, that you will be passing by each day. The tour book also gives you a little bit of history to the area and may include some little anecdotes or stories about the places you are passing through. The idea of the book is to help you have all the information you need in just one place, and not be cluttered with various guide-books, leaflets and maps.



Hassle-free, enjoyable driving

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HOW TO USE THIS CLASSIC TRAVELLING TOUR BOOK

Directions & Distances:

- Each day has a detailed, written route plan to follow, accompanied by maps. There is an overview map to show each day's journey followed by more detailed maps, where necessary. It is best to use these maps in the tour book in conjunction with the road map you have been given. The routes Classic Travelling has recommended are purely optional and obviously you are free to alter your route as you wish, for example to make more time to see some of the sights.
- The total distances are also given in the right hand box, so if you set your trip odometer each day these are the approximate distances. They are NOT the distance from the last place, but an accumulative distance.
- All the distances given are approximate and taken from mapping software and having driven the route. Distances will not necessarily be as accurate for those with professional rally systems in their cars.
- All places in the directions highlighted in **bold** are places you will pass through. Places in **BOLD CAPITALS** are described in more detail in the 'Visit' section.
- Assume timings for each day of travelling at around 30mph. Therefore a 90 mile route will take about 3 hours without stops.

Handy Hints:

- To make the most of each day we recommend that you read about each day in advance, say the night before. This will help you to pick and choose the sights that appeal to you, and help you plan your day.
- Everyone has a different method, but it may help to plot our recommended route on the road atlas as well as relying on our directions. This way you know in advance where you're heading for, and will also help you see if there is anything you want to deviate from our route for.
- It is best to use the written directions in conjunction with the maps and atlas, rather than solely relying on one method or the other. We have tried to make the written directions as accurate as possible, but sometimes the maps will be better at helping you with directions.

DID WE MISS SOMETHING?

If you notice something in this book that needs to be fixed or think we ought to add something in future editions, please drop us a note. We love to hear from our tour participants (and are particularly fond of funny postcards!) Please address comments or suggestions to: Classic Travelling, School House, Monxton, Hampshire, SP11 8AH, UK or email info@classictravelling.com

CLASSIC TRAVELLING RECOMMENDED ACCOMMODATION:

We have handpicked each hotel for its charm, ambience, uniqueness, facilities and parking. The hotels vary in style from quaint to ultra-modern.

CLASSIC TRAVELLING RECOMMENDED RESTAURANTS:

Classic Travelling has recommended places for coffees, lunches and dinners each day.

CLASSIC TRAVELLING RECOMMENDED VISITS:

This section of the tour book details historical and cultural notes on the places you will visit and travel through as well as most of the things there are to do, see and visit on each day of your trip. However, these are just suggestions. It is recommended that you read this thoroughly at least a day before, in order for you to plan your day according to your taste. On some days there may be too much to be able to do in the day, so choose what appeals to you most.

Please Note: *Classic Travelling has tried to make the information for this tour book as accurate as possible, but it is provided 'as is' and Classic Travelling accepts no responsibility for any loss, injury or inconvenience sustained by anyone resulting from this information. You should verify critical information like visas, health and safety, customs, and transportation with the relevant authorities before you travel.*

Information in the tour book is from the Rough Guide series, AA guides, as well as personal experience from having driven this tour, and visited many of the areas, and also from many other books, leaflets and websites.

SOCIAL MEDIA

If you use any social media to post photos during or after the tour please 'tag' Classic Travelling. Please also 'follow' Classic Travelling for updates and photos.

 @classictravelling

 @classictravelling #classictravelling #classiccartours

 @classiccartours

IMPORTANT ITEMS FOR EUROPEAN DRIVING

When driving in Europe the following documents should be carried:

- Full, valid driving licence
- Proof of Insurance (third party or above)
- Proof of ID (passport)
- Proof of ownership (V5C certificate)

While driving in Europe you are required by law to carry the following items. Hefty on-the-spot fines can be issued for failing to carry specific items:

- Headlamp beam deflectors (Depending on your car, you will either need deflector stickers or have to adjust the beam manually)
- A first-aid kit & fire extinguisher is compulsory aboard all motor vehicles
- Warning triangle – compulsory in every vehicle with more than 4 wheels
- It is compulsory to carry spare bulbs for the vehicle.
- Reflective Jacket (for use when walking on the road at night or daytime) for each occupant of the car. These **MUST** be kept in the cabin of the car, as you must be able to access this without exiting the car. Although not mandatory to carry, you could be fined for walking on the road or hard shoulder if not wearing one.
- GB Sticker or Euro plates

CLASSIC TRAVELLING PACKING LISTS

We have some advice on what and how to pack for a road trip, including a packing check list.

What to Pack: <https://classictravelling.com/packing-lists/>

How to Pack: <https://classictravelling.com/how-to-pack-for-a-road-trip/>

Tools & Spares for your car: <https://ctrav.uk/tools-spares-list>

OVERVIEW ITINERARY

DAY	HOTEL	ADDRESS	ITINERARY
Day 1	Balearia Ferries	Avinguda Moll de Barcelona (Terminal F1 Drassanes) 08039 Barcelona Tel: +34 865 608 423 www.balearia.com	Depart from Barcelona with Balearia Ferries on an overnight sailing to Palma, Mallorca
Day 2	Hotel Name	Hotel Address Tel: +xx xxx xxx xxx www.website.es	Arrive in Palma, Mallorca. Enjoy breakfast in Palma and then wander around the town. Drive up into the hills and the hotel for two nights.
Day 3			Spend the day exploring the incredible west coast of Mallorca.
Day 4			Discover the south eastern part of Mallorca
Day 5	Hotel Name	Hotel address Tel: +34 xxx xxx xxx www.website.com	Head up to the far north of Mallorca at Cap Formentor and then along the north coast to Canyamel for two nights.
Day 6			A circular drive along the east coast and inland to see a variety of sights
Day 7	Hotel Name	Hotel Address Tel: +xx xxx xxx xxx www.website.com	Take the ferry from Mallorca to Barcelona and stay overnight.



MALLORCA

Mallorca (Catalan/Spanish), or **Majorca** (English), is the largest island in the Balearic Islands, which are part of Spain and located in the Mediterranean. The native language, as on the rest of the Balearic Islands, is Catalan, which is co-official with Spanish.

The capital of the island, Palma, is also the capital of the autonomous community of the Balearic Islands. The Balearic Islands have been an autonomous region of Spain since 1983. There are two small islands off the coast of Mallorca: Cabrera (southeast of Palma) and Dragonera (west of Palma). The anthem of Mallorca is "La Balanguera".

Like the other Balearic Islands of Menorca, Ibiza and Formentera, the island is an extremely popular holiday destination, particularly for tourists from Germany and the United Kingdom. The international airport, Palma de Mallorca Airport, is one of the busiest in Spain; it was used by 28.0 million passengers in 2017, increasing every year since 2012.

The name derives from Classical Latin *insula maior*, "larger island". Later, in Medieval Latin, this became *Maiorica*, "the larger one", in comparison to *Menorca*, "the smaller one".

Few Mediterranean holiday spots are as often and as unfairly maligned as Mallorca.

The island is commonly perceived as little more than sun, sex, booze



and high-rise. It's an image spawned by the helter-skelter development of the 1960s, yet it takes no account of Mallorca's beguiling diversity. In fact, the spread of development, even after fifty years, is essentially confined to the Badia de Palma (Bay of Palma), a thirty-kilometre strip flanking the island capital, and a handful of mega-resorts notching the east coast.

Elsewhere, things are very different. **Palma** itself, the Balearics' one real city, is a bustling, historic place whose grand mansions and magnificent Gothic cathedral defy the expectations of many visitors. And so does the northwest coast, where visitors delight in the rearing peaks of the rugged **Serra de Tramuntana**, beautiful cove beaches, monasteries at Valldemossa and Lluc, and a string of delightful old towns and villages – such as Deià, Sóller and Pollença. There's a startling variety and physical beauty to the land, which has drawn tourists to visit and well-heeled expatriates to settle here since the nineteenth century, including artists and writers of many descriptions, from Robert Graves to Roger McGough.

MALLORCA'S HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The Phoenicians, a seafaring people from the Levant, arrived around the eighth century BC and established numerous colonies. The island eventually came under the control of Carthage in North Africa, which had become the principal Phoenician city. After the Second Punic War, Carthage lost all of its overseas possessions and the Romans took over.

The island was occupied by the Romans in 123 BC under Quintus Caecilius Metellus Balearicus. It flourished under Roman rule, during which time the towns of Pollentia (Alcúdia), and Palmaria (Palma) were founded. In addition, the northern town of Bocchoris, dating back to pre-Roman times, was a federated city to Rome. The local economy was largely driven by olive cultivation, viticulture, and salt mining. Mallorcan soldiers were valued within the Roman legions for their skill with the sling.

In 427, Gunderic and the Vandals captured the island. Geiseric, son of Gunderic, governed Mallorca and used it as his base to loot and plunder settlements around the Mediterranean, until Roman rule was restored in 465.

In 534, Mallorca was recaptured by the Eastern Roman Empire, led by Apollinarius. Under Roman rule, Christianity thrived and numerous churches were built. From 707, the island was increasingly attacked by Muslim

raiders from North Africa. Recurrent invasions led the islanders to ask Charlemagne for help.

In 902, Issam al-Khawlani (Arabic: عصام الخولاني) conquered the Balearic Islands, ushering in a new period of prosperity under the Emirate of Córdoba. The town of Palma was reshaped, expanded, and became known as Medina Mayurqa. Later on, with the Caliphate of Córdoba at its height, the Moors improved agriculture with irrigation and developed local industries.

The caliphate was dismembered in 1015. Mallorca came under rule by the Taifa of Dénia, and from 1087 to 1114, was an independent Taifa. During that period, the island was visited by Ibn Hazm. However, an expedition of Pisans and Catalans in 1114–15, led by Ramon Berenguer III, Count of Barcelona, overran the island, laying siege to Palma for eight months. After the city fell, the invaders retreated due to problems in their own lands. They were replaced by the Almoravides from North Africa, who ruled until 1176. The Almoravides were replaced by the Almohad dynasty until 1229. Abú Yahya was the last Moorish leader of Mallorca.

In the ensuing confusion and unrest, King James I of Aragon, also known as James the Conqueror, launched an invasion which landed at Santa Ponça, Mallorca, on 8–9 September 1229 with 15,000 men and 1,500 horses. His forces entered the city of Medina Mayurqa on 31 December 1229. In 1230 he

annexed the island to his Crown of Aragon under the name *Regnum Maioricae*.

From 1479, the Crown of Aragon was in dynastic union with that of Castile. The Barbary corsairs of North Africa often attacked the Balearic Islands, and in response, the people built coastal watchtowers and fortified churches. In 1570, King Philip II of Spain and his advisors were considering complete evacuation of the Balearic islands.

In the early 18th century, the War of the Spanish Succession resulted in the replacement of that dynastic union with a unified Spanish monarchy under the rule of the new Bourbon Dynasty. The last episode of the War of Spanish Succession was the conquest of the island of Mallorca. It took place on 2 July 1715 when the island capitulated to the arrival of a Bourbon fleet. In 1716, the Nueva Planta decrees made Mallorca part of the Spanish province of Baleares, roughly the same to present-day Illes Balears province and autonomous community.

A Nationalist stronghold at the start of the Spanish Civil War, Mallorca was subjected to an amphibious landing, on 16 August 1936, aimed at driving the Nationalists from Mallorca and reclaiming the island for the Republic. Although the Republicans heavily outnumbered their opponents and managed to push 12 km (7.5 mi) inland, superior Nationalist air power, provided mainly by Fascist Italy as part of the Italian occupation of Majorca, forced the Republicans to retreat

and to leave the island completely by 12 September. Those events became known as the Battle of Majorca.

Since the 1950s, the advent of mass tourism has transformed the island into a destination for foreign visitors and attracted many service workers from mainland Spain. The boom in tourism caused Palma to grow significantly. In the 21st century, urban redevelopment, under the so-called *Pla Mirall* (English "Mirror Plan"), attracted groups of immigrant workers from outside the European Union, especially from Africa and South America.

Regions

Mallorca is the largest island of Spain by area and second most populated (after Tenerife in the Canary Islands). Mallorca has two mountainous regions, the Serra de Tramuntana and Serres de Llevant. Each are about 70 km (43 mi) in length and occupy the northwestern and eastern parts of the island respectively.

The highest peak on Mallorca is Puig Major at 1,445 m (4,741 ft) in the Serra de Tramuntana. As this is a military zone, the neighbouring peak at Puig de Massanella is the highest accessible peak at 1,364 m (4,475 ft). The northeast coast comprises two bays: the Badia de Pollença and the larger Badia d'Alcúdia.

The northern coast is rugged and has many cliffs. The central zone, extending from Palma, is a generally flat, fertile plain known as

Es Pla. The island has a variety of caves both above and below sea – two of the caves, the above sea level Coves dels Hams and the Coves del Drach, also contain underground lakes and are open to tours. Both are located near the eastern coastal town of Porto Cristo. Small uninhabited islands lie off the southern and western coasts; the Cabrera Archipelago is administratively grouped with Mallorca (in the municipality of Palma), while Dragonara is administratively included in the municipality of Andratx. Other notable areas include the Alfabia Mountains, Es Cornadors and Cap de Formentor. The Cultural Landscape of the Serra de Tramuntana was registered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2011.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Police/Fire/Ambulance – 112

National Police – 091

Fire Dept, Palma – 080

Ambulance - 061 – *Sevicios de Urgencia*

<https://www.mallorca.org/en/emergency-numbers.html>

DRIVING

Drive on the right in Mallorca. It is obligatory for every passenger in the car, not only the driver to wear seat belts. Please ensure that you always have your license and insurance with you.

Speed Limits:

- Small Villages (40 kph)
- Motorways (120 kph)
- Main Roads (100 kph)
- Minor Roads (90 kph)
- City Roads (60 kph)

When driving in Majorca through built up areas please be aware of pedestrian crossings. Car parking is allowed right up to the crossing and this often restricts the driver's view of people wanting to cross. You will also find pedestrian crossings within a few meters past roundabout exits and also when leaving main roads onto side streets. So be prepared to stop. In many small towns and villages the local residents will often park on the pedestrian crossings while they do their business. So don't be surprised when you see this.

RULES OF THE ROAD (SPAIN):

Overtaking and passing

Vehicles and combinations of vehicles exceeding 10m in length and vehicles exceeding 3.5 tonnes must keep a distance of at least 50m with the vehicle in front except in built-up areas, on roads where overtaking is prohibited and when there are several lanes in the same direction or when the traffic is so heavy that it is not possible to overtake another vehicle.

Priority

- As a general rule, drivers approaching an intersection must give way to all vehicles coming from the right.
- At a roundabout, drivers already engaged in the roundabout have priority over drivers approaching the roundabout.
- Drivers on secondary roads must give way to vehicles coming from either direction when entering a main road.
- Vehicles on rails and emergency vehicles have priority over other road users.

Warning of approach

- Unnecessary use of audible warning devices (horns) is prohibited.
- Warning signals must be brief in built-up areas, and local authorities may prohibit the use of such signals completely.
- Signs indicate this prohibition. In urban areas it is prohibited to sound the horn at any time, except in an emergency. In

places where audible warning is prohibited, drivers must flash their lights.

Speed limits:

- In built-up areas, speed is limited to 50 km/h, except when signs indicate a lower limit. Vehicles carrying dangerous goods are limited to 40 km/h. On motorways and dual-carriageways in built-up areas, speed is limited to 80 km/h except where indicated by signs.
- In residential zones, which are indicated as such, the maximum speed limit is 20 km/h.
- Outside built-up areas, the following limits (in km/h) apply, except when signs indicate a lower limit.
- Drivers of cars and motorcycles may exceed the limits shown by 20km/h in order to overtake a slower vehicle outside built-up areas, on roads with one lane in each direction.
- The use of radar indicators and detectors is still allowed in Spain, but the ownership, transport or use of a radar jammer is strictly prohibited.
- Motorways and dual carriageways may not be used by vehicles which cannot reach a minimum speed of 60km/h.

Penalties:

On-the-spot fines

Police can impose fines on the spot. Fines may be reduced by 50% if the motorist pays within 20 days (not applicable for major

offences). A fine can be contested within 15 days.

Visiting motorists must pay their fines immediately (with this reduction) unless they give the name of a person or corporation in Spain willing to guarantee payment of the fine. Otherwise the vehicle will be confiscated until the fine is paid. They can then contest the fine through the legal system.

Criminal offences

Some motoring offences are considered criminal offences and lead to much higher fines, as well as vehicle confiscation and possible prison sentences.

Immobilisation of vehicles

A vehicle can be immobilised because of mechanical defects, excess noise or pollution, lack of insurance or because the driver refuses to pay a fine, or is under the influence of alcohol.

Parking

Parking regulations

Parking is prohibited within five metres of a bend or intersection.

The blue parking zone ("zona azul" ou "zona O.R.A.") is indicated by signs. The maximum parking period is usually two hours during the day; there is no parking limit between 20:00 and 08:00 hours, depending on local dispositions.

Vehicles parked during the night on inadequately lit streets must have their side lights illuminated.

Vehicles must be parked on the right-hand side of the carriageway except in one-way streets where parking may be allowed on both sides.

Paid parking

Road signs indicate the areas where parking is restricted and must be paid for, either at parking meters or automatic machines which issue tickets indicating the length of parking time which has been paid for.

Enforcement of parking regulations

Illegally parked vehicles may be towed away. This applies to temporarily imported vehicles as well as to those registered in Spain.

A driver whose vehicle has been taken away must go to the nearest police station. In order to get his car back, he must pay the fine for the parking offence, plus the costs of towing together with a parking fee for the time during which the vehicle was impounded.

The wheel clamp ("cepo") is used in some towns when an illegally parked vehicle is not causing an obstruction.

Disabled parking access

Each municipality issues permits for disabled drivers in their zone. These are valid for one year and can be renewed annually.

The permit, which must be displayed on the inside of the windscreen, allows the vehicle to be parked, with no time limit in zones which are for loading and unloading, and with a time limit in pedestrian zones, and at some places where parking is usually prohibited by

signs, if permission has been granted by a traffic warden.

Road signs

Road signs conform in general with those laid down by the Protocol on Road Signs and Signals (Geneva, 1949) and the Convention on Road Signs and Signals (Vienna, 1968).

Some signs which are different are the following:

- a blue square with a curved white arrow and a distance in metres indicates where a U-turn is permitted
- a blue square with a white figure indicates the maximum speed advisable
- a blue rectangle with the symbol of a camera indicates the viewpoint for a beauty spot
- The stop sign is a red octagon bearing the word STOP in white.

Road markings

Lines and markings are white except:

- yellow zigzag = parking prohibition
- yellow line along the kerb = parking prohibition or restriction
- yellow criss-cross pattern at an intersection = don't enter unless exit clear
- blue lines = limited parking

BUS-VAO lanes

When driving into Barcelona (on the C-58) or Madrid (on the A-6), particularly during the rush hour, drivers may find that some lanes are marked with pannels reading "BUS-VAO".

VAO stands for "Vehículos de Alta

Ocupación" ("High Occupancy Vehicles").

This means that those lanes are reserved for buses, for motorcycles and for cars with at least two persons on board - three in the case of the C-58 in Barcelona.

Drink/drug driving:

Legal blood alcohol content limit

The general limit for drivers of private vehicles and cyclists is 0.05%

After a traffic accident, all road users have to undergo a breath test.

Alcohol

A driver (or cyclist) suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or who has committed a traffic offence must undergo a breath test for alcohol or a saliva test for drugs. If he/she refuses, the vehicle may be immobilised by the police, a one- to four-year suspension of the driving permit may be imposed, and he/she may receive a prison sentence of six months to one year.

Tolls

Cash and credit cards may be used for the payment of tolls.

Fuel

- Unleaded petrol, diesel and LPG are available in Spain.
- In Spanish, unleaded petrol is *gasolina sin plomo*, diesel is *gasóleo A*, and LPG is *Autogas*.
- The fuel SP95-E10, which contains up to 10% of ethanol and 90% of unleaded 95 petrol, is available. This fuel can be used

in 60% of petrol-driven cars, especially in recent models.

- Credit cards are generally accepted at petrol stations.

MONEY & SHOPPING

(Spain's currency is the **Euro €**)

By far the easiest way to get money is to use your bank debit card to withdraw cash from an ATM, found in villages, towns and cities all over Spain, as well as on arrival at the airports and major train stations. Instructions are offered in English once you insert your card. Make sure you have a personal identification number (PIN) that's designed to work overseas, and take a note of your bank's emergency contact number in case the machine swallows your card. Some European debit cards can also be used directly in shops to pay for purchases; you'll need to check first with your bank.

All major credit cards are accepted in hotels, restaurants and shops, and for tours, tickets and transport, though don't count on being able to use them in every small *pensión* or village café. You can also use your credit card in an ATM to withdraw cash, though remember that these advances will be treated as loans, with interest accruing daily from the date of withdrawal. If you use a foreign credit card in some shops, you may also be asked for photo ID, so be prepared to show a driving licence or passport. Make sure you make a note of the number for reporting

lost or stolen cards to your credit card company.

Spanish *bancos* (banks) and *cajas de ahorros* (savings banks) have branches in all but the smallest villages. Banking hours are usually Monday to Friday 8.30am to 2pm, with some city branches open Saturday 8.30am to 1pm (except June–Sept when all banks close on Sat), although times can vary from bank to bank. Outside these times, it's usually possible to change cash at larger hotels (generally with bad rates and low commission) or with travel agents – useful for small amounts in a hurry.

In tourist areas, you'll also find specialist **casas de cambio**, with more convenient hours (though rates vary), while some major tourist offices, larger train stations and most branches of El Corte Inglés department store have exchange facilities open throughout business hours.

Opening hours

Almost everything in Spain – shops, museums, churches, tourist offices – closes for a siesta of at least two hours in the middle part of the day. There's a lot of variation (and the siesta tends to be longer in the south), but you'll get far less aggravated if you accept that the early afternoon is best spent asleep, or in a bar, or both.

Basic working hours are Monday to Friday 9.30am to 2pm and 5 to 8pm. Many shops open slightly later on a Saturday (at

10am) and close for the day at 2pm, though you'll still find plenty of places open in cities, and there are regional variations. Moreover, department and chain stores and shopping malls tend to open a straight Monday to Saturday 10am to 9 or 10pm.

Museums and galleries, with very few exceptions, also have a break between 1 or 2pm and 4pm. On Sundays, most open mornings only, and on Mondays many close all day (museums are also usually closed Jan 1 & 6, May 1, Dec 24, 25 & 31). Opening hours vary from year to year, though often not by more than half an hour or so. Some are also seasonal, and usually in Spain, "summer" means from Easter until September, and "winter" from October until Easter.

The most important cathedrals, churches and monasteries operate in the same way as museums, with regular visiting

hours and admission charges. Other churches, though, are kept locked, generally opening only for worship in the early morning and/or the evening.

Public holidays

Alongside the Spanish national public holidays there are scores of regional holidays and local fiestas (often marking the local saint's day), any of which will mean that everything except hotels, bars and restaurants locks its doors.

Taxes

Local sales tax, IVA (pronounced "eeba"), is 8% in hotels & restaurants, & 18% in shops. It's usually included in the price though not always, though quoted prices should always make it clear whether or not tax is included.

LANGUAGES AND DICTIONARY

The main language spoken on the island is Catalan. The two official languages of Mallorca are Catalan & Spanish. The local dialect of Catalan spoken in the island is *mallorquín*, with slightly different variants in most villages.

English	Spanish	English	Spanish
Hello	Hola	Goodbye	Adios
Yes/No /OK	si, no, vale	Please	Por favour
Go away!	vayase!	Thank you	Gracias
I don't understand	no comprendo	I don't speak Spanish	No hablo espanol
Do you speak English?	Habla ingles?	Please speak more slowly –	por favour, hable mas despacio
Where is...?	Donde esta...?	How do I get to...	Por donde se va a...
Go straight ahead	Todo recto	Left/right	izquierda, derecha
Where are the toilets?	Donde estan los servicios?	toilets –	aseo/servicios/lavabos
Men	caballeros	women's toilets	senoras
When	Cuando	What	Que
How much?	Cuanto?	I don't know	No se
Open/closed	Abierto/cerrado	exit	salida
This, that	Esto, eso	Good, bad	Buen(o), mal(o)
With, without	Con, sin	Hot, cold	Caliente, frio
Good morning	Buenos dias	Good night	Buenos noches
I want...	Quiero...	Can I have...?	Me da...?
I'd like...	Quisiera...	What would you like (to drink)?	Que quiere (beber/tomar)?
street	calle	road	carretera
motorway	autopistas	Car park	Aparcamiento
unleaded	sin plomo	Petrol	la gasoline
oil	aceite	engine	el motor
car	el coche	brake	el freno
garage (repairs)	un taller	breakdown	una averia
exhaust	el tubo de escape	gears	las marchas
headlights	las luces de cruce	spare parts	los repuestos
tyre	el neumatico	wheel	la rueda
windscreen	el parabrisas	give way	ceda el paso
danger	peligro	pedestrians	peatones
city/town centre	centro ciudad/urbano	no parking	prohibido aparcar
traffic lights	el semaforo	beer	beer – una cerveza
bottle	la botella	wine	el vino
glass	el vaso	water	el agua
bill	la cuenta	menu	la carta

DAY ONE:

Drive to Barcelona and spend the day exploring the city before your overnight sailing to Mallorca. The ferry departs at 23.00. Check in closes at least 60 minutes prior to departure.

These directions have not been driven so are outline only.

DIRECTIONS

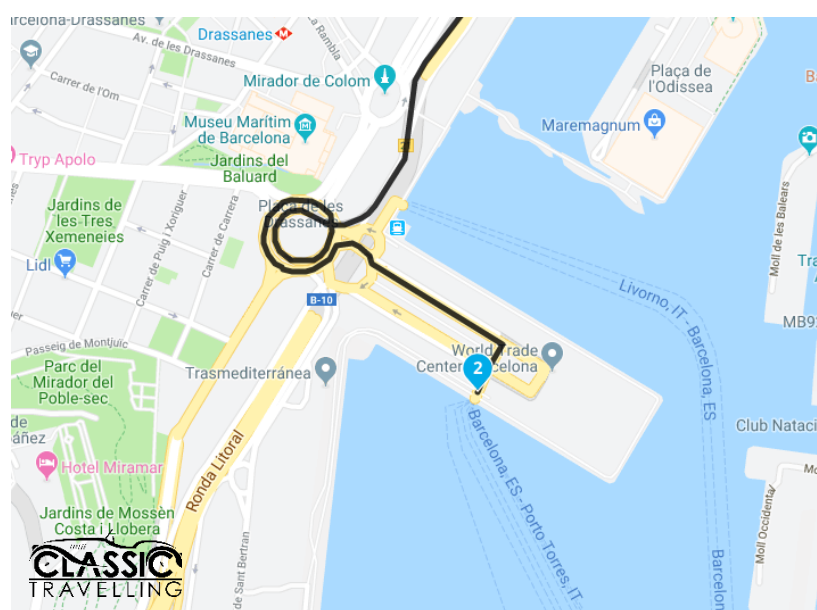
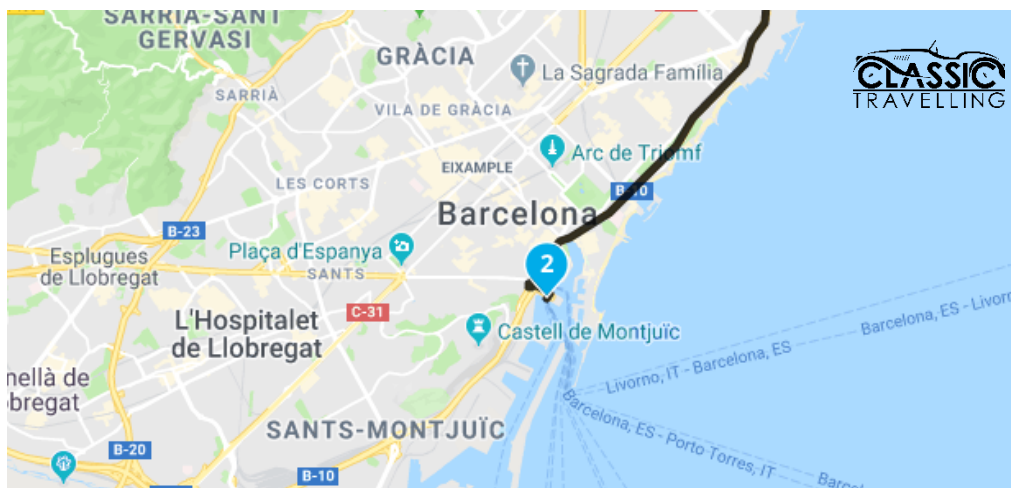
Places you pass through are in **bold**, and places in **CAPITALS** are detailed in the 'Visit' section

Approach Barcelona from B-10 to the north of the city, along the coast. Exit the tunnel at junction 21, signed Port Vell. The road spirals out of the tunnel. It seems like going around the roundabout twice but exit signed Terminal Balears Fast Ferry on Pl. Drassanes.

Check in closes at least 60 minutes before departure.

Port Address: Drassanes Terminal, unnumbered (Exit 21 from the Ronda Litoral), Barcelona

GPS Location: 41.348207, 2.172495 **What3Words:** ///novelist.kingpin.stump



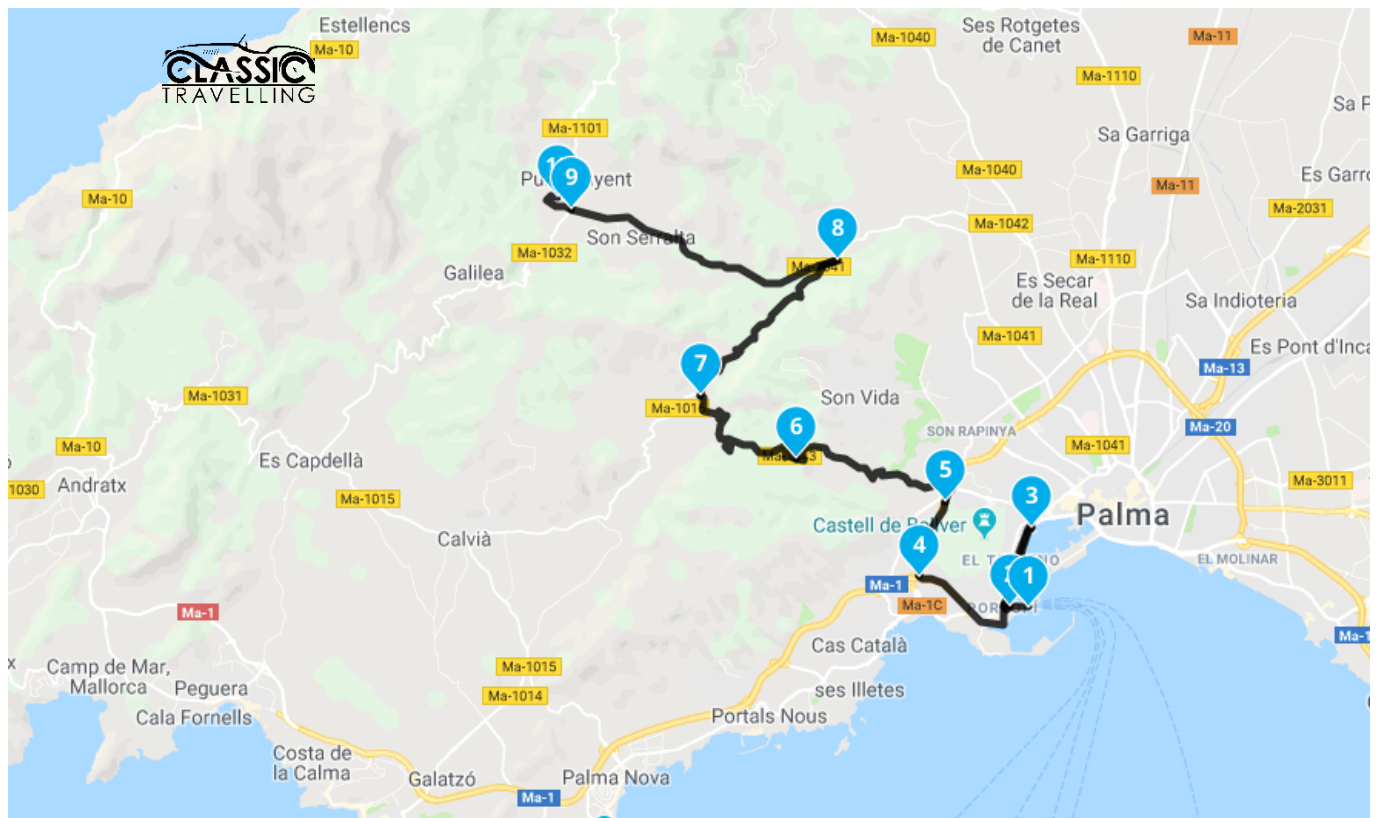
Barcelona Ferry Port

DAY TWO:

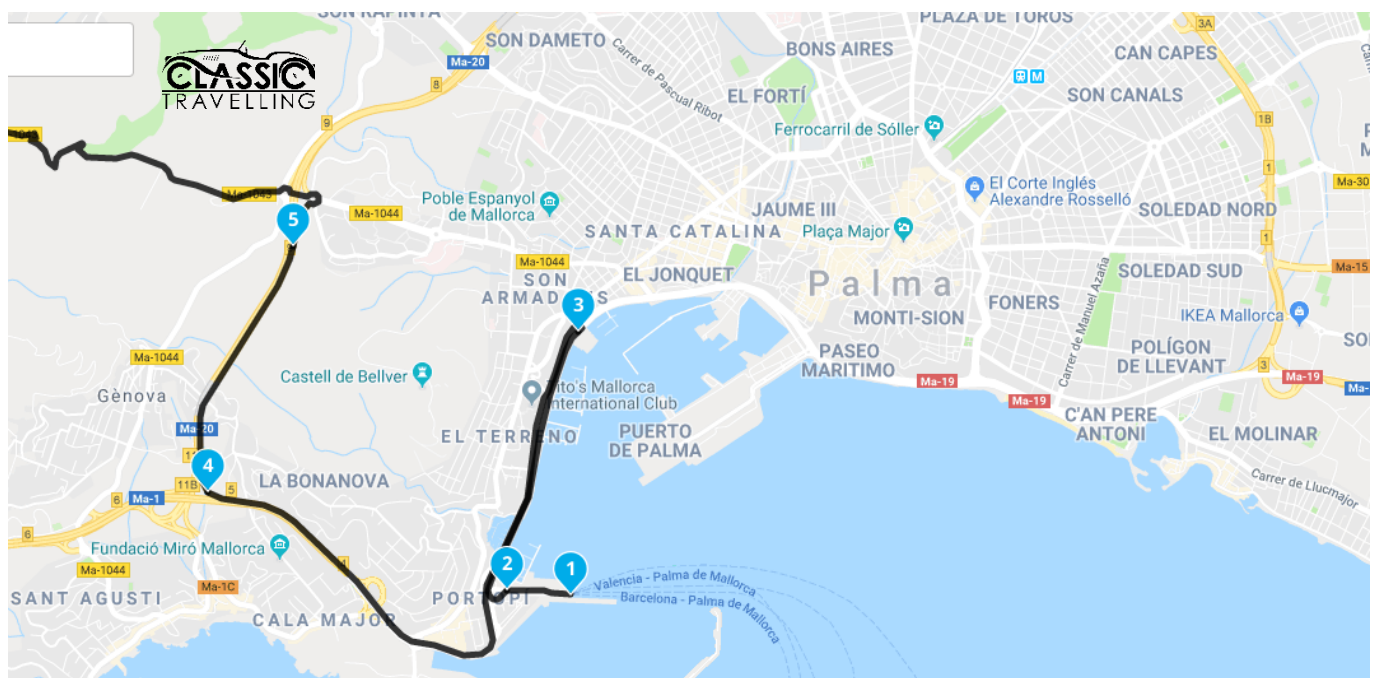
Arrive in Palma early in time for breakfast. Then spend the morning and lunch time exploring this charming city, before making your way into the hills to Hotel Son Net for three nights.

DIRECTIONS	ACCUMULATED DISTANCE
Places you pass through are in bold , and places in CAPITALS are detailed in the 'Visit' section	
Exit the port (1) and turn left (2) before the bridge to the junction opposite Porto Pi Shopping. Turn/bear right, signed Palma & Centro Ciudad.	400 metres
Follow the road east alongside the yacht harbour for 1.4km, going straight on at the roundabout. Then turn right <u>immediately</u> after the Parking Publico sign & Ancasta Boat Sales & through the barrier. The Boathouse (3) is a great place for breakfast by the harbour & a good place to park whilst visiting PALMA .	1.3 miles
Leave the Boathouse and turn right. Then, waiting for a gap in the traffic, immediately turn left by the VAP sign, crossing three lanes of traffic. (If you miss this then continue for 300m, get in the left lane at the traffic lights, and turn left. Go uphill to the traffic lights and turn left, signed Armadams, opposite Hotel AC Cuitat de Palma. Turn right at the traffic lights, signed Son Dureta & Genova Ma-1044. Follow this road to the second roundabout at the junction with the Ma-20 motorway and join the route marked # below.)	1.4 miles
Head west, past Master Yachts & continue straight on, signed Ma-1 Andraxt, for 0.7 miles. Exit right at junction 5, signed Ma-20 Genove & Airport (4).	3.8 miles
Drive 0.9 miles, through the tunnel and exit right at junction 9, signed centre & Son Dureta (5).	4.8 miles
At the roundabout# turn left (5 th exit), signed Ma-20 Andraxt crossing the bridge. At the next roundabout go straight on (2 nd exit), signed Base Militar Baumell.	5 miles
Drive 5.3 miles on a narrow and twisty Ma-1043 road over COL DE SA CREU , past ancient olive trees, to the Stop sign.	10.3 miles
At the Stop sign turn right, signed Ma-1016 Palma. Drive 2.6 miles to the next Stop sign.	13 miles
Turn hard left, signed Puigpunyent on Ma-1041. Continue for 3.5 miles into Serra de Tramuntana World Heritage Site, and into PUIGPUNYENT . See Hotel Son Net (pink/terracotta building) ahead on the hill to the right.	16.5 miles
At the crossroads go straight on & climb the hill for 600m to the Hotel Son Net .	16.9 miles

Distance: 16.9 miles



Palma to Puigpunyent



Ferry to The Boathouse & Palma

CLASSIC TRAVELLING RECOMMENDED CAFÉS & RESTAURANTS

Breakfast:

The Boat House, Avinguda de Gabriel Roca, Palma

Casual dockside dining and a local favourite with a relaxed modern menu of casual classics using local produce.

Dinner:

Oleum Restaurant, Hotel Son Net

A stunning room that was once an olive press, serving excellent food

The Rose Bistro, Calle Travesia, Puigpunyent

Excellent service with delicious food

Restaurant Can Jordi, Calle Travesia, Puigpunyent

A simple bar/café serving excellent tapas

CLASSIC TRAVELLING RECOMMENDED ACCOMMODATION:



Hotel Name, Hotel Address

Tel: +34 000 111 222

www.website.com

This magnificent old country house has been lovingly restored to create a stunning 5-star hotel with luxurious modern accommodation, contrasting beautifully with the historic building with its original features. Great care has been taken to preserve the building's historic charm while at the same time

adding stylish modern accommodation and facilities.

The 30m outdoor swimming pool is surrounded by individual cabins for private relaxation and the gourmet restaurant adds an extra touch of luxury. The hotel also enjoys a superb setting, surrounded by citrus orchards and lush gardens, overlooking the village and the mountains.

Restaurant: Past the courtyard

Bar: Drinks are served on the terrace, by the pool, or in the courtyard

Parking: There is parking at the front entrance or to the side of the hotel

Facilities: Outdoor pool, terrace, garden

CLASSIC TRAVELLING RECOMMENDED VISITS:

The capital of Mallorca, **Palma**, was founded as a Roman camp called Palmaria upon the remains of a Talaiotic settlement. The turbulent history of the city tells of several Vandal sackings during the fall of the Western Roman Empire. It was later reconquered by the Byzantines, established by the Moors (who called it Medina Mayurqa), and finally occupied by James I of Aragon. In 1983, Palma became the capital of the autonomous region of the Balearic Islands.

Palma is a stunner. Rising in honey-coloured stone from the broad waters of the Badia de Palma, this enduring city dates back to the 13th-century Christian re-conquest of the island, and to the Moors, Romans and Talayotic people before that. A richly-studded diadem of historical sites, Palma also shelters a seemingly endless array of galleries, restaurants, craft studios and bars – it's without doubt Mallorca's greatest treasure. Wander in any direction from the awe-inspiring Gothic Cathedral at its geographic and historical heart and you'll find bent medieval streets lined with aristocratic townhouses, looming baroque churches, teeming public squares, vibrant bohemian neighbourhoods and markets overflowing with all the bounty of the island. You could spend weeks in this city alone, and still uncover fresh joys every day.

Palma is home to more than half of Mallorca's population and encompasses the vibrant city centre of the Borne known as the

'golden mile' and the main shopping street of Jaime III, the historic area of Casco Antiguo or the old-town as it's known, the popular tourist zone La Lonja, the trendy area of Santa Catalina, the sea front lively strip along Paseo Marítimo, the fisherman's barrio of Portixol and Playa de Palma, and the exclusive hillside golf area of Son Vida.

Palma is appealing year round with an explosion of new trendy restaurants, luxury boutique hotels, fashionable bars, people watching cafe terraces, international shopping boutiques and popular nightclubs not to mention it's dynamic yachting industry, urban beaches, waterfront promenade, and extensive cultural scene including top quality museums and art galleries, traditional local festivals and live music concerts.

To orientate yourself use the Cathedral as your compass. The heart of the Old Town (the districts of Sa Portella and Sa Calatrava) has always been centred on its main place of worship, and the one-time seat of secular power opposite it (the Palau de l'Almudaina). Many of Palma's sights are jammed into this warren of tight, twisting lanes and sunny squares, where massive churches jostle noble houses. The bright Mediterranean light and glittering sea are never far away.

To the north lies Plaça Major, a typically Spanish public square lined with arcades, shops and cafes. Lively by day, it falls eerily silent at night. To the east, Carrer del Sindicat

spokes out towards the avenues that mark the limits of historic Palma, following the zigzag pattern of its now-demolished walls. It crosses a district known as Sa Gerreria – for decades run-down and despised, it's now enjoying a revival and boasts some of Palma's more edgy nightlife. Off Plaça Major, the shopping boulevard, Carrer de Sant Miquel, leads north towards the vast Plaça d'Espanya, the city's major transport hub. Plaça Major and Carrer de Sant Miquel are on high ground that falls away to the west, down to tree lined Passeig de la Rambla boulevard.

West of the cathedral is Passeig d'es Born, a classic boulevard for strollers and window shoppers, and one of Palma's major arteries. It borders the historic quarter of Es Puig de Sant Pere, buttressed by the fortress-turned gallery Es Baluard to the west, and the shop-lined Avinguda de Jaume II to the north. Crossing the Sa Riera river brings you to the former sailors' district Santa Catalina, with its long, grid-pattern streets and traditional low-slung one- and two-storey houses. As early as the 17th century, windmills were raised in the area still known as Es Jonquet, just south of Carrer de Sant Magí, the oldest street in the *barri* (district). In recent years gentrification has transformed Santa Catalina into an artsy, bohemian quarter, filled with one-of-a-kind boutiques, galleries, bars and restaurants. Follow the seafront Passeig Marítim further west still and you reach the ferry port and Western Palma's major sight: Castell de Bellver.

To the east, a 1km walk from the city-centre end of the Platja de Can Pere Antoni brings you to Es Portixol. The 'little port', once a fishing town beyond Palma and now a delightful dining destination, has a quiet abundance of pleasure craft and is closed off inland by the motorway (at a discreet distance). From central Palma it's an easy walk, cycle or rollerblade here along the Passeig Marítim. From Portixol, walking around the next point brings you to Es Molinar, a simple, waterfront 'suburban' district of simple fishing folks' houses. Over the bridge is Ciutat Jardí, another low-key residential area with a broad, sandy beach.



Palma's vast cathedral **Catedral de Mallorca** ('La Seu' in Catalan) is the city's major architectural landmark. Aside from its sheer scale and undoubted beauty, its stunning interior features, designed by Antoni Gaudí and renowned contemporary artist Miquel Barceló, make this unlike any cathedral elsewhere in the world. The awesome structure is predominantly Gothic, apart from

the main facade, which is startling, quite beautiful and completely mongrel.

The Cathedral occupies the site of what was the central mosque of Medina Mayurka, capital of Muslim Mallorca for three centuries. Although Jaime I and his marauding men forced their way into the city in 1229, work on the Cathedral – one of Europe's largest – did not begin until 1300. Rather, the mosque was used in the interim as a church and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Work wasn't completed until 1601.

The original was a Renaissance cherry on the Gothic cake, but an earthquake in 1851 (which caused considerable panic but no loss of life) severely damaged it. Rather than mend the original, it was decided to add some neo-Gothic flavour. With its interlaced flying buttresses on each flank and soaring pinnacles, it's a masterful example of the style. The result is a hybrid of the Renaissance original (in particular the main doorway) and an inevitably artificial-feeling, 19th-century pseudo-Gothic monumentalism. Mass times vary, but one always takes place at 9am. Open 10am-6.15pm Mon-Fri Jun-Sep, to 5.15pm Apr, May & Oct, to 3.15pm Nov-Mar, 10am-2.15pm Sat, year-round. Entry fee payable.

<https://www.catedraldemallorca.org>



Palau March is palatial by any definition and was one of several residences of the phenomenally wealthy March family. Sculptures by 20th-century greats including Henry Moore, Auguste Rodin, Barbara Hepworth and Eduardo Chillida grace the outdoor terrace. Within lie many more artistic treasures from such luminaries of Spanish art as Salvador Dalí and Barcelona's Josep Maria Sert and Xavier Corberó. Not to be missed are the meticulously crafted figures of an 18th-century Neapolitan *belén* (nativity scene).

Entry is through an outdoor terrace display of modern sculptural works, of which centre stage is taken by Corberó's enormous *Orgue del Mar* (1973), or perhaps Rodin's *Torse de l'Homme qui Tombe* (1882).

Inside, more than 20 paintings by Dalí around the themes 'Alchemy & Eternity' catch the eye, as does the *belén*'s 1000-plus detailed figures, from angels to kings, shepherds, farm animals and market scenes, making up a unique representation of Christ's birth.

Upstairs, the artist Josep Maria Sert (1874–1945) painted the main vault and music room ceiling. The vault is divided into four parts, the

first three representing three virtues (audacity, reason and inspiration) and the last the embodiment of those qualities in the form of Sert's patron, Juan March (1917–98). One of the rooms hosts an intriguing display of maps of the Mediterranean, produced by Mallorcan cartographers in medieval and early modern times.

Open: 10am–6.30pm Mon–Fri Apr–Oct, to 5pm Nov–Mar, to 2pm Sat year-round. Entry fee payable. <http://www.fundacionbmarch.es/>



Palau de l'Almudaina was originally an Islamic fort, and this mighty construction opposite the cathedral was converted into a residence for the Mallorcan monarchs at the end of the 13th century. The King of Spain resides here still, at least symbolically. The royal family is rarely in residence, except for the occasional ceremony, as they prefer to spend summer in the Palau Marivent (in Cala Major). At other times you can wander through a series of cavernous stone-walled rooms that have been lavishly decorated.

The Romans are said to have built a *castrum* (fort) here, possibly on the site of a

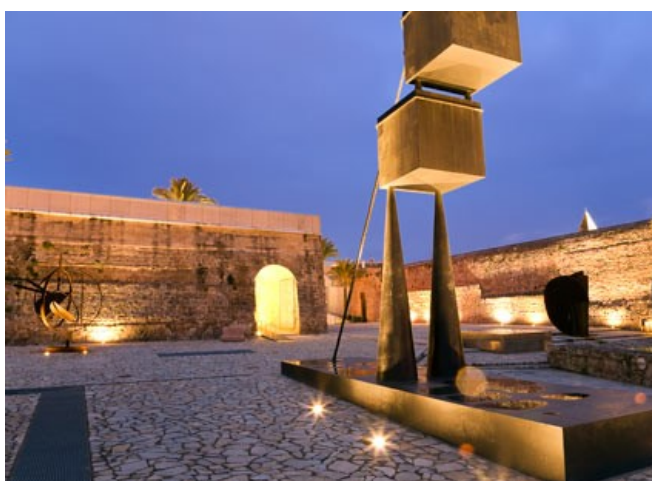
prehistoric settlement. The Wālis (Governors) of Muslim Mallorca altered and expanded the Roman original to build their own *alcázar* (fort), before Jaume I and his successors modified it to such an extent that little of the Muslim version remains.

The first narrow room you enter has a black-and-white ceiling, symbolising the extremes of night and day, darkness and light. You then enter a series of three grand rooms. Notice the bricked-in Gothic arches cut off in the middle. Originally these three rooms were double their present height and formed one single great hall added to the original Arab fort and known as the Saló del Tinell (from an Italian word, *tinello*, meaning 'place where one eats'): this was once a giant banqueting and ceremonial hall. The rooms are graced by period furniture, tapestries and other curios. The following six bare rooms and terrace belonged to the original Arab citadel.

In the main courtyard, Patio de Armas, troops would line up for inspection & parade before heading out into the city. The lion fountain in its centre is one of the palace's rare Arab remnants. Up the grand Royal Staircase are the royal apartments, a succession of lavishly appointed rooms (look up to the beautiful, coffered timber *artesonado* ceilings), whose centrepiece is the Saló Gòtic, the upper half of the former Saló del Tinell; here you can see where those Gothic arches wind up. Next door to the apartments is the royal Capella de Sant'Anna, a Gothic chapel

whose entrance is a very rare Mallorcan example of late Romanesque in rose and white marble. After the death of Jaume III in 1349, no king lived here permanently again.

In the shadow of the Almudaina's walls, along Avinguda d'Antoni Maura, is S'Hort del Rei (the King's Garden). Hours 10am-8pm Tue-Sun Apr-Sep, to 6pm Tue-Sun Oct-Mar
<https://entradas.patrimonionacional.es/en-GB/informacion-recinto/13/palacio-almudaina>



Es Baluard was built with flair and innovation into the shell of the Renaissance-era seaward walls, this contemporary art gallery is one of the finest on the island. Its temporary exhibitions are worth viewing, but the permanent collection – works by Miró, Barceló and Picasso – gives the gallery its cachet. Entry on Friday is by donation, and anyone turning up on a bike, on any day, is charged just €2.

The 21st-century concrete complex is cleverly built among the fortifications, including the partly restored remains of an 11th-century Muslim-era tower (on your right

as you arrive from Carrer de Sant Pere). Inside, the ground floor houses the core of the permanent exhibition, starting with a section on Mallorcan landscapes by local artists and others from abroad; the big names here include Valencia's Joaquín Sorolla, Mallorca's own Miquel Barceló and the Catalan Modernista artist Santiago Rusiñol.

Also on the ground floor and part of the permanent collection is a room devoted to the works of Joan Miró, while on the top floor is an intriguing collection of ceramics by Pablo Picasso; after viewing the latter, step out onto the ramparts for fine views. In sum, it's an impressive rather than extraordinary collection that's well worth a few hours of your time. Open: 10am-8pm Tue-Sat, to 3pm Sun. Entry fee payable. <http://www.esbaluard.org/>



The 17th-century Can Gallard del Canya, a 17th-century mansion overlaid with minor Modernist touches, now houses a small but significant collection of painting and sculpture as the **Museu Fundació Juan March**. The permanent exhibits – some 80 pieces held by the Fundación Juan March – constitute a

veritable who's who of contemporary Spanish art, including Miró, Picasso, fellow cubist Juan Gris, Dalí, and the sculptors Eduardo Chillida and Julio González.

After starting with the big names, the collection skips through various movements in Spanish art, such as that inspired in Barcelona by the Dau al Set review (1948–53) and led by Antoni Tàpies. Meanwhile, in Valencia, Eusebio Sempere and Andreu Alfaro were leading the way down abstract paths. Sempere's *Las Cuatro Estaciones* (1980) reflects the four seasons in subtle changes of colour in a series of four panels with interlocking shapes made of fine lines. Other names to watch for are Manuel Millares, Fernando Zóbel and Miquel Barceló, who is represented by works including his large-format *La Flaque* (The Pond; 1989).

Open: 10am-6.30pm Mon-Fri, 10.30am-2pm Sat. <https://www.march.es/>



Straddling a wooded hillside, the **Castell de Bellver** is a 14th-century circular castle (with a unique round tower), the only one of its kind in

Spain. Jaume II ordered it built atop a hill known as Puig de Sa Mesquida in 1300 and it was largely completed within 10 years. Perhaps the highlight of any visit is the spectacular views over the woods to Palma, the Badia de Palma and out to sea.

The castle was conceived above all as a royal residence but seems to have been a white elephant, as only King Sanç (in 1314) and Aragón's Joan I (in 1395) moved in for any amount of time. In 1717 it became a military prison and was subsequently used in both the Napoleonic and Spanish Civil Wars. Climb to the roof and check out the prisoners' graffiti, etched into the stonework.

The ground-floor **Museu d'Història de la Ciutat** (City History Museum) traces the development of the city from the prehistoric Talayotic civilisation to the present day. As well as Roman and Arabian ceramics there are explanatory panels, the classical statues of the Despuig Collection and other artefacts. Upstairs you can visit a series of largely empty chambers, including the one-time kitchen.

About the nearest you can get to the castle by bus (3, 46 or 50) is Plaça de Gomila, from where you'll have to hoof it about 15 minutes (1km) up a steep hill. Instead, combine it with the Palma City Sightseeing open-top bus, which climbs to the castle as part of its circuit of the city.

Open: 10am-7pm Tue-Sat Apr-Sep, to 6pm Tue-Sat Oct-Mar, to 3pm Sun. Entry fee payable. <https://castelldebellver.palma.cat/>



One of Palma's oldest churches, the Franciscan **Basílica de Sant Francesc** was begun in 1281 in Gothic style, while the baroque facade, with its carved portal and rose window, was completed in 1700. In the splendid Gothic cloister – a two-tiered, trapezoid affair – the elegant columns indicate it was some time in the making. Inside, the high vaulted roof is classic Gothic, while the glittering high altar is a baroque lollipop, albeit in need of a polish.

In the first chapel (dedicated to Nostra Senyora de la Consolació) on the left in the apse is the church's pride and joy, the tomb of the 13th-century scholar and mystic Ramon Llull. Also a fervid evangelist and the inventor of literary Catalan, Llull lays fair claim to the title of Mallorca's favourite son (apart perhaps from tennis genius Rafael Nadal). His alabaster tomb is high up on the right – drop a few coins in the slot for the campaign to have him canonised (he has only made it to beatification). Check out the Capilla de los Santos Mártires Gorkomienses, on the right side of the apse. In 1572, 19 Catholics, 11 of them Franciscans, were martyred in Holland.

In this much-faded portrayal of the event, you can see them being hanged, disembowelled, having their noses cut off and more. Open: 10am-4pm Mon-Sat Nov-Mar to 5pm Mon-Sat Apr-Oct. Entry fee payable



The 3000 cars, planes, dolls, robots and other toys on display at the **Museu de sa Jugueta** represent the tip of a collection of more than 7000 pieces, acquired steadily by a passionate collector from Barcelona. Adjoining is a smart little bar-restaurant (three courses for €13) that not only caters to kids but turns into a creative play space between 5pm and 8pm in the evening; 9.30am-5pm Tue & Wed, to 12.30pm Thu-Sat. Entry fee payable. <http://www.museudesajugueta.es/>

Shopping

Start browsing the chic boutiques around Passeig d'es Born. The Passeig itself is equal parts high street and highbrow, with chain stores like Massimo Dutti and Zara alongside elitist boutiques. In the maze of pedestrian streets west of the Passeig, you'll find some of Palma's most tempting (and expensive)

stores. Another good shopping street is pedestrianised Carrer de Sant Miquel.

Market Watch

Flea markets, speciality markets and artisan markets abound in Palma. For handicrafts, head to the Plaça Major Artisan Market or Plaça des Meravelles Artisan Market. A sprawling flea market takes over the *avingudes* east of the city centre (Avinguda de Gabriel Alomar and Avinguda de Villalonga) each Saturday. The Christmas market takes over the Plaça Major from 16 December to 5 January.

Eating

Palma's dining scene, starting from the already-strong base you'd expect in a major Spanish city, just keeps improving. As well as bold experiments with traditional Mallorcan dishes by innovative young chefs, you'll find excellent tapas and traditional Spanish food and, increasingly, very good renditions of many different world cuisines.

Most Mallorcans and just about every Spanish visitor to the island has one culinary favourite above all others – the humble *ensaimada*, a delicate, feather-light croissant-like pastry dusted with icing sugar, and sometimes filled with cream. Getting them to agree on where to buy the best is surprisingly simple. Having extensively researched the most highly regarded bakers, the best you'll find in Palma, and possibly the entire island are

at Horno San Antonio, Ca'n Joan de S'Aigo, Forn des Teatre or Forn del Santo Cristo

Nosing around the colourful stalls of Palma's produce markets is a great way to take the flavour of the city. There's all you need to assemble your own picnic, from cheeses and cold meats to fruit and veg. The largest and best is the central Mercat de l'Olivar, where you'll find everything from plump olives to never-heard-of legumes, melons as big as footballs, strings of *sobrassada* (paprika-flavoured cured pork sausage), hunks of Serrano ham and enough fish to fill a small ocean. Make a morning of it and linger for lunch at the deli stalls for tapas or oyster shucking. Equally busy but with fewer tourists are the Mercat de Santa Catalina and Mercat de Pere Garau.

HEADING OUT OF PALMA

To the north east of the **Coll de sa Creu** (Pass of the Cross) lies a small hill range overlooking Palma, stretching 4 or 5 kms towards the village of Establiments, culminating at 500 meters at the Puig de Gats. The range is very close to town, can be easily reached in much less than an hour, and is an ideal - and popular- escape from the city. A number of old paved roads and fire tracks run along the hills ridges and slopes and are a great way to enjoy beautiful views on the city and mountains from a pretty much unspoilt natural vantage point.



Puigpunyent sits on the slopes of the Tramuntana Mountains just 15 minutes from Palma. The picturesque surroundings are covered with a mixture of pine and oak woodland, as well as smaller groves of almond and carob trees. The town is predominantly residential, but the idyllic setting and convenient location make it a great base for tourists looking for a more relaxing area to stay.

Its unusual name is believed to have originated from the Latin phrase 'podinum pungentem', which literally translates as 'sharp mountain'. When you visit Puigpunyent it is easy to understand how the name came to be, as several imposing mountains provide the backdrop to this small residential town.

The valley where Puigpunyent is located is believed to have been one of the first inhabited areas on the island. This is apparent with the amount of historical sites in the area, including several talaiots and the necropolis of Casat Nou.

Despite being briefly inhabited by the Romans, it was during the Moorish era it really grew in size. The introduction of irrigation, including several water mills and channels for

torrents, provided a boost to the local agriculture.

The main attraction of Puigpunyent is the unrelenting beauty and tranquility offered by the surroundings, which combined with the close proximity to Palma, make Puigpunyent the ideal destination for those looking to combine a rural escape with easily accessible city life.

Despite being small, Puigpunyent's high volume of visitors means there are plenty of culinary options. Lunch can be enjoyed at one of the local cafes, where a mixture of traditional cuisine and tapas is readily available. You will also find a choice of more northern European dishes on offer.

The Rose Restaurant is small and unpretentious. It offers guests a fabulous choice well-prepared European cuisine in a good atmosphere. It has become a firm favourite with many guests of the Gran Hotel Son Net who fancy a change from the hotel's own superb restaurant.

DAY THREE:

After a leisurely breakfast enjoy a beautiful circular drive around the south-west of the island. It's a lovely drive on undulating roads through stunning mountain and forest scenery down to Port d'Andratx. The port enjoys a picturesque setting and many consider it to be the loveliest harbour in the Mediterranean. It is a working fishing port and has a good yacht club, which also means there are many bars and cafes from which to watch the bustle of maritime life.

The route then winds through the magnificent Serra de Tramuntana mountain range. This 90km long range is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and forms the backbone of Mallorca and stretches from Andratx in the southwest to the Cap de Formentor in the far north of the island. The rural landscape is dominated by ancient dry stone terracing and walls, and nature's own sculptures – gnarled centuries-old olive trees – but there are also towns and villages, such as Estellencs, Deia & Sóller, worth visiting for their cultural and historical interest.

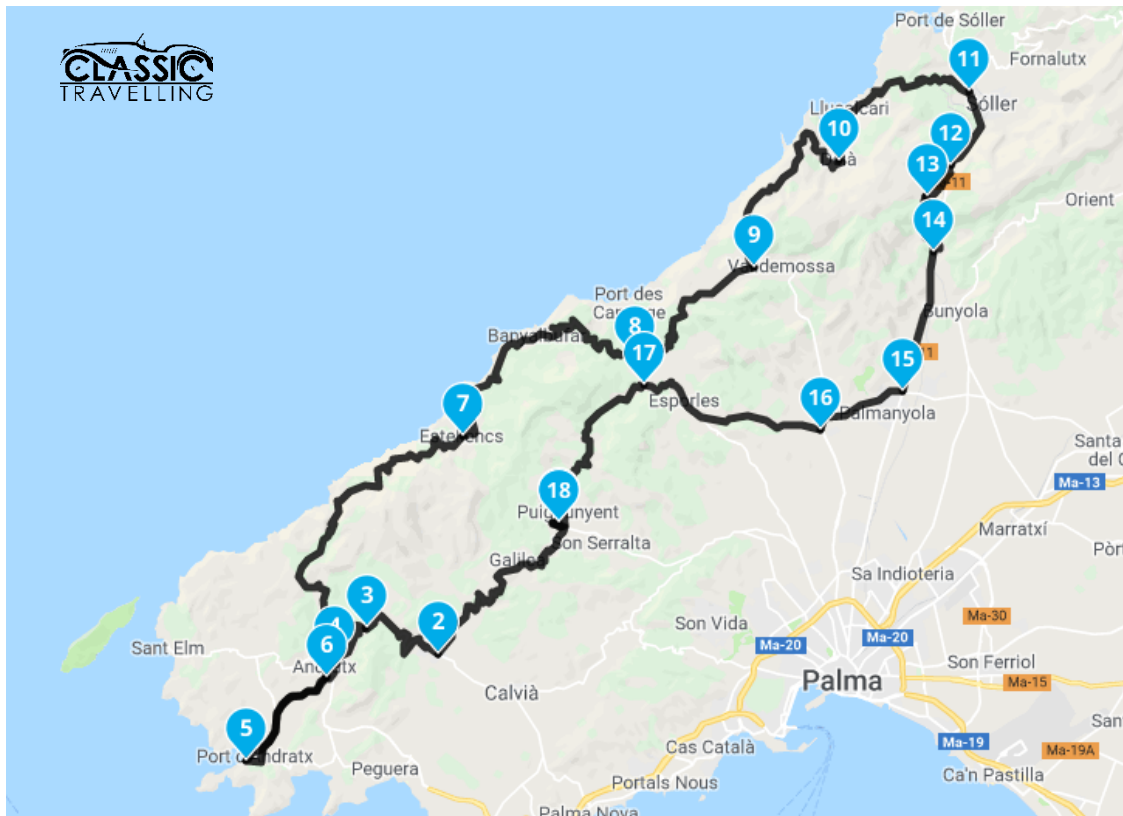
DIRECTIONS	ACCUMULATED DISTANCE
Places you pass through are in bold , and places in CAPITALS are detailed in the 'Visit' section	
Leave the hotel and descend to the crossroads. Turn right, signed Ma-1032 Es Capdella.	0.4 miles
Drive 7 miles to ES CAPDELLA . In the village turn right at the junction signed Andratx. Continue to the Stop sign and go straight on, signed Andratx.	7.5 miles
Drive 5 miles on the narrow and twisty Ma-1031 road to the roundabout in ANDRATX .	12.6 miles
At the roundabout turn left (3 rd exit), signed Port Andratx. At the junction turn right, again signed Port Andratx. At the next roundabout turn left (2 nd exit), signed Ma-10 Port Andratx. (Beware at roundabouts as local drivers are not so careful) Go straight on following signs for Port on Ma-1. Drive 1 mile to the roundabout and continue to PORT ANDRATX . It's one-way through town and keep left for La Mola. To leave the town follow signs for Andratx.	16.5 miles
Head back to Andratx . Drive through Andratx following signs for Estellencs and Sóller. At the roundabout turn left (3 rd exit), signed Ma-10 Estellencs.	20.3 miles
This is a great road. Drive 10 miles passing through tunnels to Estellencs (7). It's worth stopping at Restaurant Es Grau (just after the 98km marker on the left) right on the cliff to take in the views. Parking is on either side. Continue to ESTELLENCES .	30.7 miles

From Estellencs continue on Ma-10 for 9 miles, along wonderful roads. Then turn left, signed Ma-10 Deia, Valdemossa & Sóller .	39.5 miles
Drive 4.8 miles and turn left, signed Deia & Sóller . Option: go straight on for 0.4 miles to visit VALDEMOSSA.	44.7 miles
Having turned onto Ma-10 pass a BP fuel station of the right and continue 5.5 miles to DEIA .	50.4 miles
Leave Deia and drive 5.8 miles to SÓLLER and the roundabout.	56.2 miles
Option: To visit the port turn left (2 nd exit) at the roundabout, signed Pt Sóller . Continue to the port, keeping left, signed Centre. Go through the tunnel and at the roundabout turn left (3 rd exit), signed Port. Park and walk in. Alternatively take a tram from Sóller to PORT DE SÓLLER . On leaving Port Sóller follow signs for Palma and Sóller on Ma-11. Return to the roundabout with Ma-10, by Kuhn & Partners on right, and go straight on, signed Ma-11 Palma.	3 mile detour
Drive 2 miles following signs for Palma, past Repsol fuel and then keep left, signed Ma-11a (do NOT go through the tunnel) to take the winding road over the top of the mountain, COLL DE SÓLLER .	58.3 miles
There are fabulous hairpins and a restaurant/coffee stop at the top. Descend to the roundabout and go straight on, signed Palma	64.9 miles
Drive 3.3 miles to the next roundabout. Turn right, signed Valldemossa Ma-1140. Drive 2 miles across a wide valley with almond trees to the roundabout. Turn left (2 nd exit), signed Palma. Continue 0.3 miles to the next roundabout and turn right, signed Esporles Ma-1120.	70.7 miles
Drive 2.9 miles, passing through ESPORLES , past Repsol fuel. Continue another 2.1 miles and turn left, signed Puigpunyent on Ma-1101.	75.7 miles
Follow this little road through a small valley. The road is twisty on descent and drive into Puigpunyent . In the village follow signs for centre and at the Stop sign turn right, signed Es Capdella. Drive 100 metres and turn right at the crossroads to Hotel Son Net .	82.3 miles

Distance: 82.3 miles

Accommodation:

Hotel Son Net – as before



Entire route



Puigpunyent (1/18) to Estellencs (7)



Estellencs (7) to Sóller (11) and back to Puigpunyent (18 - just off map)

CLASSIC TRAVELLING RECOMMENDED CAFÉS & RESTAURANTS

Coffee:

Es Grau, Ruta de Andratx, (after 98km marker, before Estellencs)

Incredible views and a great place for drink or coffee

Hotel Continental Valdemossa – between Valdemossa and Deia

The terrace and gardens have a fantastic lookout to sea

Lunch:

Troya Restaurant, Plaza Miranda de Lladoners, Valdemossa

Located down a small lane opposite Cappuccino – quiet with wonderful views & superb food

Cappuccino, Plaça Ramon Llull, 5, Valdemossa

Charming café with lovely décor, serving good lunches, although on the more expensive side

Ca'n Topa, Coll de Sóller, Carretera Palma Sóller 22.1km, Bunyola

Cosy little café with lovely food and excellent tapas, cakes and other snacks

Restaurant Dalt de's Coll, Coll de Sóller, Carretera Palma Sóller 22km, Bunyola

Breathtaking views and fabulous food – a true gem

CLASSIC TRAVELLING RECOMMENDED VISITS:



Es Capdellà is a picturesque mountain village nestled in the Tramuntana mountain range on the Puig de sa crane. The drive to es Capdellà is almost worth the trouble of a making a trip to this beautiful location, with undulating roads and stunning mountain and forest scenery. Stone-faced village houses, rustic fincas and architect-designed villas are home to a lively international community, which keeps this village buzzing all-year-round. Travelling around this area you are likely to find traces from the Arab and Roman occupations.

Also of interest is the restored castle hotel of Castell Son Claret which dates back to the mid-1800s. For such a small village, es Capdellà has quite a few excellent restaurants to choose from, some of which have an excellent reputation including the Michelin-starred restaurant, Zaranda and Olivera Restaurant located at the Castell Son Claret boutique hotel.



Andratx is an ancient Mallorcan town nestled in the valleys of the Tramuntana Mountain range and is home to one of Mallorca's most interesting modern art galleries. Its quaint, narrow streets and rustic heritage make it a truly authentic place to visit – with a warm welcome for international visitors.

The stunning location of Andratx on the south-west tip of Mallorca has inspired artists and writers and attracted a number of famous residents. It consists of a tightly packed town-centre of rambling streets with reminders of the past on every corner. The sprawling outlying farmlands include a combination of luxury homes and working farms which grow a feast of fresh local products.

Many new visitors are confused because of the nearby port with the same name which is on the coast. Andratx Town is not the same place and is set further inland. Andratx town was established before the invasion of the Romans in the 2nd century BC who called it Andrachium. Coins, pottery and other artefacts have been found which date to this period.

Andratx was built inland due to frequent attacks from Barbary Pirates which eventually led to the construction of 14 watch towers in the 16th century – 12 of which still remain. Until the 20th century's influx of overseas residents, Andratx was largely a quiet rural community – it now has a lively international mix of residents. The area is well-known for production of local crops such as oranges, almonds, olives and grapes.

Andratx was made famous in the series of amusing books written by Peter Kerr, whose family used to own an orange farm in the countryside outside Andratx. British TV presenter Selina Scott also wrote her book *A Long Walk in the High Hills* based on her experiences of the area and John Noakes, of the BBC children's magazine programme *Blue Peter*, lived here.

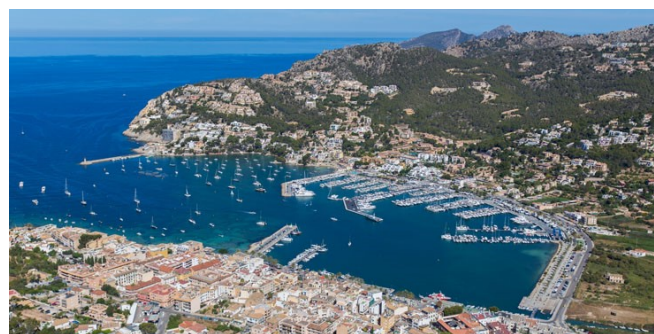
History buffs might also enjoy the nearby churches of Santa Maria de Andratx, Church of s'Arracó, the Castell de Son Mas (now the City Hall) or the ruins of a former Trappist monastery La Trappa.

A lively local market takes place on Wednesday mornings. On Sunday mornings there is a fun and informal wine tasting event in Bodegas Santa Catarina and if you are looking for something more romantic and relaxing we recommend the picnic in the vineyard – a very special experience.

The nearby **CCA Andratx** cultural centre is a superb location to see some of the island's best contemporary art, with several exhibition spaces, a good café, tasteful gift shop and impressive grounds behind the building itself.

The Centro Cultural Andratx (CCA) for contemporary art was founded in 2001 by Jacob and Patricia Asbaek. The 4,000 m² building is one of the largest centres of contemporary art in the Balearic Islands and, indeed, Europe.

Visitors, collectors and artists are invited to spend a day exploring art and nature (visitors can enjoy walking in the glorious grounds behind the building), and indulging in a drink, snack or delicious lunch in their airy and attractive café, with its al fresco terrace – which offers spectacular views of the mountains.



Port **Andratx** or Port d'Andratx enjoys a picturesque setting located around 5km from Andratx town. Many consider it the loveliest harbour in the Mediterranean – it's a stylish port, with a well-maintained and equipped yacht club offering more than 450 berths.

Although it has many restaurants to suit the yachting set, Port d'Andratx is still a working

fishing port where you can sit outside one of the many cafés and bars watching the bustle of daily maritime life.

Not to be confused with the ancient Andratx Town, the resort of Port Andratx was mostly built from the mid-20th century around the existing fishing port. It now consists largely of an international mix of residents, holiday home owners and a few locals. Port Andratx has its own special character with a bohemian mix of celebrities, media-types, visitors and working fisherman. There is a main strip of shopping along the beach front and a huddle of back-street shops in the steeply rising hills that surround the town.

The major attraction of Port Andratx is its beautiful beach and mountain setting and the clusters of eclectic shopping available. Port Andratx seems to have a little of everything from designer clothes and jewellery shops, to quirky gift stores and little back-street shops which seem to sell everything imaginable.

The 110 km **west coast road** runs from Andratx in the south to Pollensa in the north and is arguably the most spectacular on Mallorca. This route climbs 2,520 metres taking you over Coll de Femenia, Puig Major (the highest point on Mallorca), Can Costa, Cap des Bosquet, es Grau, Coll de sa Gramola. Puig Major, the highest road on Mallorca, is 13.7 km with an 818-metre elevation and an average gradient of 6%.

Pass through some of the most beautiful mountain villages along the way including the orange valley of Sóller, the famously scenic village of Deià, the monastery town of Valldemossa, the coastal villages of Banyalbufar and Estellencs (both highly recommended for a coffee break with traditional almond cake).



Estellencs is situated on the rocky coastline of the Tramuntana Mountains, far removed from mass tourism and is an oasis of peace, tranquillity and tradition. The road leading here is characterised by hairpin bends promising an adventurous journey through the mountains on which you will be rewarded with far-reaching views of the sea and the rugged mountain landscape. Agriculture is the main source of business here, other than the small number of facilities catering for tourists, such as the local bodega. Estellencs has various timeworn buildings: the 17th century Saint Juan Baptista parish church, the preserved defence and bell tower, the 16th century Tem Alemany tower, as well as a former laundry square which was built under Arab rule.



The town of **Valldemossa** is perched on a hilltop, surrounded by terraced terrain, and named after the area's original Moorish landowner, Muza. With its car-free cobbled alleys and rich cultural heritage, the town is a treat to visit.

The highest town in Mallorca is probably best-known as the place where the Polish composer Frédéric Chopin and his lover, the French writer George Sand, spent the winter of 1838/9, staying in rented rooms in the monastery. And, as a result, it's probably Mallorca's most visited town.

In fact, Chopin and Sand didn't have the best of stays and Sand's book about their experiences didn't pull any punches. Nevertheless, the book 'A Winter in Majorca' is a bestseller and is on sale in almost every shop in Valldemossa, in a variety of languages.

For the Mallorcans, Valldemossa has a more important claim to fame: it was the birthplace of the island's only saint: Santa Catalina Thomas. Leave the busier part of the town, and head for the church of Sant Bartomeu; in the peaceful C/Rectoría behind it, you can visit her tiny birthplace and shrine.

Visit Valldemossa's Real Cartuja (Royal Carthusian Monastery), including the church, cloisters, and old pharmacy. Part of the monastery is King Sancho's palace – later gifted to Carthusian monks, who converted it and other buildings into the monastery. It probably has more visitors than any other building in Mallorca, apart from Palma's cathedral, La Seu. A ticket for the Real Cartuja includes a short Chopin piano recital.

Cell number four of the monastery is home to the Chopin museum, the exact spot George Sand and the famous composer stayed during the winter from 1838 to 1839, and containing his original piano and other artefacts.

Learn all about the history of Valldemossa, including the Archduke Lluís Salvador's adventures here, at cultural centre Costa Nord – a contemporary cultural centre, established by Hollywood actor Michael Douglas, whose home S'Estaca is off the Valldemossa to Sóller coast road, near Deià. In addition to a short documentary narrated by founder Michael Douglas himself and compelling visual effects, visitors have the chance to taste local Mallorcan products and watch traditional Mallorcan dance displays.

Stroll Valldemossa's enigmatic cobbled streets. Lined with shops, boutiques, and plenty of places to eat and drink, pretty much every tourist's shopping needs can be met somewhere in the town. Cocas de Potatas,

Valldemossa's famous biscuits, are found in every bakery.

Valldemossa's street market takes place every Sunday morning. Full of colour, it is a great place to source quality local produce, including fruit and vegetables, cheeses and Spanish ham. Also try going direct to the producer. The agricultural estate of Son Moragues, on the outskirts of the town, dates back 700 years. Olive oil production is still going strong here, playing a vital part in the ecological preservation of the Serra. Its organic jams – available to buy in the estate shop – are delicious, and its olive oil is the only 100% Mallorquin variety in the world.



Son Marroig is a traditional Mallorcan country estate (or *posesió*) that was the former residence of the Archduke Ludwig Salvator of Austria, who fell in love with the region's stunning natural landscape. Few are unaffected by the scenery and the landmark attracts streams of visitors throughout the year. Many pass by to feast their eyes on the breathtaking views from the vantage point, but there is also a restaurant and bar for those wanting to prolong the pleasure.

Son Marroig has been converted into a museum, which pays tribute to the adventurous Archduke. The country estate dates as far back as the early 17th century, and first belonged to Gabriel Masroig de la Foradada. The name 'Foradada' derives from the Catalan word 'forat', meaning 'hole'. It refers to the striking rock formation jutting out of the sea below the property.

In 1863 Archduke Ludwig Salvator of Austria purchased the land for a sum which was considered exorbitant. The Archduke felt the price was worth it for the rocky enclave alone. He used it as a natural marina for his yacht, Nixe. His other reason for purchasing was due to his desire to restore the territory which was once so important to the 13th century theologian and philosopher, Ramon Llull. The first site the Archduke bought was the neighbouring, Miramar Monastery.

The Archduke originally came to Mallorca to study beetles, though his interests spanned many subjects. His book 'The Balearics' is one of the most important works about the island. As a result, Son Marroig is now a shrine to the highly cultured Austrian; who was happy to labour in peasant clothes in his orchard, yet entertained guests as illustrious as Empress Sisi.

The spectacular views are the number one draw of this landmark. Savour the panorama from the veranda windows, as you wander through the living room and dining room at Son Marroig. It will be hard to resist taking a photo of the Cararra marble pavilion too,

which enjoys a privileged backdrop of mountain and sea. Hikers also love to descend to the rocky cliffs of Sa Foradada below.

Son Marroig is open to the public for an entrance fee. Explore the bedroom, living room, dining salon and pretty garden. The living room is full of objects related to the Archduke's studies. There are old notebooks, maps and drawings. On the walls are numerous paintings, including works by the Mallorcan landscape artist, Antoni Ribas Oliver. Unfortunately, there aren't many labels explaining what exactly is on show.

Situated beside Son Marroig, and also a stone's throw away from the car park, is Sa Foradada Restaurant. Mediterranean cuisine is the focus of their menu; which includes fresh fish, rice-based dishes, salads and pasta. Their balcony takes full advantage of the captivating views.



The small coastal village of **Deià**, on the northwest coast of Mallorca, is one of the prettiest villages on the island. Perched in a ravine at the foot of the Teix mountain, with views out to the Mediterranean below, Deià has long been a magnet for famous artists, writers and other creative people – most notably the writer Robert Graves.

As one of the highest populated zones of the Serra de Tramuntana, Deià is part of a landscape awarded World Heritage Site status for the way in which nature, culture and traditions triumphantly merge. The steep valley in which Deià lies has been populated since prehistoric times, when early settlers lived in caves in the hillsides, hunted game, and drank from the plentiful natural springs. In the eighth century, Arab rule established a sophisticated drainage and irrigation system – still used today – and gave the village its name, stemming from 'ad daia', meaning hamlet.

After the crusades, three Roman-Catholic monasteries were constructed in and around Deià in the early 1200s: Ca l'Abat, Son Rul.lan, and Miramar. The symbols of the former are seen today on Deià's shield, and Miramar was

the location of a missionary school founded by famous philosopher Ramón Llull, aimed at converting North African Muslims to Christianity.

In 1867, a member of Austrian nobility, Archduke Lluís Salvador, arrived in Mallorca, with the intention of producing an encyclopedia on the Balearic Islands. Finding astounding peace and beauty in the area of Deià and Valldemossa, he bought up much property and land here, banning tree felling and hunting within his grounds in an attempt at conservation.

While living at Miramar, Archduke Salvador created many paths and lookout areas, making for wonderful walking and hiking. The marks of both he and Ramón Llull can be found today in the remains of the philosopher's chapel at Miramar, and the palace of Son Marroig, which was restored by the duke.

English poet and novelist Robert Graves first moved to Deià in the 1930s, seeking respite after the nerve-shattering effects of the Great War, and finding love with American poet Laura Riding. A formidable literary pair, they left for England at the start of the Spanish Civil War; Robert returning after World War II, having a family home here until he died in 1985. Famous visitors who came to stay included Sir Alec Guinness, Peter Ustinov and Hollywood actress Ava Gardner. Robert Graves' home, Can Alluny, is now an interesting museum.

Walk up to the church graveyard and you'll find the simple headstone marking Robert Graves' final resting place, appropriately set in the village he loved. To explore the interesting, unconventional life of the emblematic English war poet, take a trip to [La Casa de Robert Graves], the museum and former home which preserves his memory.

Olive cultivation was key to Deià's prosperity during periods of Islamic and Roman occupation, in addition to the cultivation of citrus fruits, fishing and farming. Now, the village and its inhabitants have added art, crafts and a relaxed style of tourism to the agricultural economy, with great success.

Much of the Deià's appeal lies in its laid-back vibe and blissful surroundings, amidst some very impressive views of the blue sea and stunning mountains. Visitors tend to opt for pleasurable eating and drinking experiences, with some enjoyable walks or hikes, and trips to Deià's small but very pretty cala.

The road through Deià is the main coast road and can be very busy, and parking in the village can be difficult during the summer, when the small public car park is often full. To the right of this road, on the Sóller side of the village, the Belmond Hotel Residencia is a haven of peace (with its own gated car park). Formerly owned by Sir Richard Branson, over the years it has attracted many famous guests: Princess Diana holidayed here, and

singer Robbie Williams and his wife enjoyed a pre-wedding stay in the hotel's tranquil setting.

There are a few interesting small boutiques, galleries and shops in the village, and plenty of places to eat and drink – including the Michelin-starred Es Racó d'Es Teix. It's worth taking time to stroll around, admiring the sympathetically restored old stone houses nestling in narrow alleys. Foodies will love the village's little central grocery store Es Forn, crammed to the rafters with local produce and gourmet treats.

Upon first glance, you'd be forgiven for thinking Deià is a characteristically quiet, unhappening place, given the permeating sense of peace. However, the village does have its moments, most notably at the eternally popular Café Sa Fonda. Located a few doors away from the pharmacy, up a flight of stone steps, this simple bar is the place to go for impromptu live music action, and a is favourite haunt of locals and visiting bohemian types.



The authentic town of **Sóller** sits in the heart of the 'valley of oranges' or 'valley of gold' as it is sometimes known. The town became wealthy because of the valley's abundant citrus groves. In the 19th century, when the area was isolated from the rest of Mallorca by mountains, the oranges were shipped to France from the nearby west coast Port de Sóller (or Puerto de Sóller). Many locals went to work in France and returned – their fortunes duly made – to build some of the handsome Modernista properties that grace this town today.

Since the 1990s the Sóller road tunnel has provided an easier route to Palma and the rest of Mallorca, avoiding the snaking mountain pass. The old narrow-gauge wooden train, linking Sóller with Palma's Plaza de España, opened in 1912 to transport fruit to Palma. The 28 km railway journey, through 13 tunnels and breath-taking scenery, has become one of the island's best-loved tourist experiences.

The main square, Plaza de la Constitución, is Sóller's beating heart, lined with numerous bars and cafés, and dominated by the distinctive valley landmark, Sant Bartomeu

church. The tram linking town and port clunks its way regularly through this splendid square.

In Sóller, the sympathetically restored Art Nouveau building, **Can Prunera**, houses a fine permanent collection of art (including Kandinsky, Picasso, Warhol, local artists Miquel Barceló and Francesca Martí), and temporary exhibitions. **The Balearic Museum of Natural Sciences** (Museu Balear de Ciències Naturals) and the **Jardí Botànic**, a garden featuring many Balearic plant varieties, are a short walk from the centre, on the road towards the port.

The market in Sóller is on Saturdays, when shoppers and traders create a real buzz. The town isn't really a notable shopping centre, but there are a few gems, such as the square's Plaza 13 Couture, a unique space selling designer fashions, local art and decorative items, including hand-painted furniture.



The remote **Port de Sóller** is a picturesque, small coastal village which has become well-known and popular particularly due to its historic tram, large bay with protected harbour and scenic surroundings. As an old fishing harbour, it is also a great place to eat fish and seafood and the well-equipped marina is the perfect starting point for yacht

and sailing trips to neighbouring bays such as Sa Calobra, famous from the Hollywood film *Cloud Atlas*.

The location of this small coastal village has often played a decisive role in its history. Separated from the rest of Mallorca by the Tramuntana mountain range, past generations had to take to the water to make trade possible. With its isolated setting it is, therefore, hardly surprising that Port de Sóller is so closely associated with seafaring and the Mediterranean.

Fleets of Turkish and Algerian pirates landed on Sóller's beach in 1561. Armed with only wooden swords and small stone catapults, the town's inhabitants courageously defended their homes from the attack, causing defeat and earning them a place in Mallorca's hero history book. This attack is still re-enacted and the victory over the invaders celebrated in the big annual folk festival Es Firó.

The San Francisco-style tram shuttling between the town and Port de Sóller – its tracks passing citrus-filled gardens – was originally used to transport oranges but is now a pleasant way to travel to the attractive horseshoe-shaped port.

As well as a working harbour, this is a seaside resort, with plenty of facilities, hotels, restaurants, bars and shops all geared to the needs of holidaymakers. The **Torre Picada** (Catalan *torre de vigilància*) watch tower in the north east of Port de Sóller was only built half a century after the great pirate attack of

1561 and became part of the island-wide defence system against (pirate) attacks. A short hike leads to the tower which is rewarded with far-reaching and stunning views – the tower was, after all, not built on the cliff without good reason. Unfortunately, though, it is currently not possible to visit this as it is now privately owned.

Housed in a former monastery (Santa Caterina d'Alexandria) with a long and colourful history, the port's **Museu de la Mar** tells the story of its peoples' fascinating maritime past. The building itself, constructed in the late thirteenth century, was destroyed and rebuilt several times through the centuries, once experiencing an incarnation as a leper colony and hospital. <http://www.a-Sóller.es/museudelamar/>

In 1997 the Sóller Tunnel was opened and almost all motorised traffic takes this route to avoid the winding roads over the mountain. This leaves the old road a cyclist's paradise. **Coll de Sóller** is a decent climb from both sides but more challenging travelling southbound.



Esporles is a pretty village that retains much of its original charm with typical stone-faced houses and winding streets. Esporles is also close to the only university in the Balearics and the *Silicon Valley of Mallorca* known as Parc Bit where Microsoft has an innovation centre. There is a large gothic church in Esporles and a stream which runs through the village with various small bridges.

The most well-known attraction around Esporles is the historic mansion and museum of **La Granja** which is open to visitors and dates back to Roman times when it was valued for its natural spring waters. The estate was the home of Cistercian monks until the mid-15th century, then became a private house. It's open to the public for visits and is a great place to see traditional rural crafts in action, taste local products, and enjoy demonstrations of Mallorcan music and dance. Visit the gardens, the house – with its attractive breezy loggia – workrooms, cellars, and the rather creepy torture chamber! There are places to eat – or take a picnic to enjoy in the extensive grounds.

<https://www.lagranja.net/>

~ THE END ~

*"Travel as much as you can,
as far as you can,
as long as you can.*

Life's not meant to be lived in one place."

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