



Lanzarote

2928 / POP 142,000

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ El Navarro (p104)
- ➔ Lilium (p101)
- ➔ La Cabaña (p117)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Hotelito del Golf (p225)
- ➔ Finca de Arrieta (p224)
- ➔ Caserío de Mozaga (p225)

Why Go?

A Unesco biosphere reserve, Lanzarote is an intriguing island with an extraordinary geology of 300 volcanic cones, at the same time ticking all the right good-time boxes. There are great beaches, interesting sights and plenty of restaurants and hotels. The landscape has a stark and otherworldly appearance, with the occasional bucolic, palm-filled valley juxtaposed with surreal, crinkly black lava fields.

Long associated with package tourists and pie-and-chips resorts, times are finally changing and there has been a marked increase in the number of independent travellers to the island. In response, the government has undertaken an island-wide initiative to signpost walking trails, and rural accommodation options have increased.

The island's major sights have been aesthetically developed by the late César Manrique, a Lanzarote native and artist. He still has a considerable impact on the island via a cultural foundation that promotes Lanzarote's conservation, culture and architectural integrity.

When to Go

- ➔ The island's annual Carnaval in February or March pales slightly compared to Tenerife or Gran Canaria, but is still celebrated with great gusto. Processions, music and general merriment abound.
- ➔ Peak periods are Easter, July, August and December.
- ➔ Cheaper airfares from other European destinations are normally most plentiful during the autumn and spring (aside from Easter holidays).
- ➔ Día de San Ginés takes place on 25 August. The festivities happen across the island.

0 10 km
0 5 miles



Lanzarote Highlights

- Get snap-happy in the magnificent **Parque Nacional de Timanfaya** (p114), with its other-worldly lavascape and lunar-like scenery
- Enjoy heady sweeping views from mountaintop **Mirador del Río** (p110)
- Imagine yourself at a 1970s celebrity party at Omar

Sharif's one-time home, **Lagomar** in Nazaret (p106)

- Experience an oasis of green at lush, palm-filled **Haría** (p110)
- Spend the night on **Isla Graciosa** (p109), with its empty beaches and gentle hikes

6 Enjoy **Arrecife's** (p99) chilled wining, dining and dancing scene at the Marina Lanzarote

- Kick back on the golden sandy beaches of **Punta del Papagayo** (p119), on the wild south coast