



Mallorca, Menorca & Ibiza

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Best Places to Eat

- » Cas Ferrer de Sa Font (p640)
- » Mesón El Gallo (p637)
- » Simply Fosh (p601)
- » Restaurant Es Mirador (p617)
- » Comidas Bar San Juan (p617)

Best Places to Stay

- » Es Petit Hotel (p605)
- » Hotel Casal d'Artà (p612)
- » Casa Alberti (p633)
- » Fornalutx Petit Hotel (p607)
- » Hotel Born (p600)

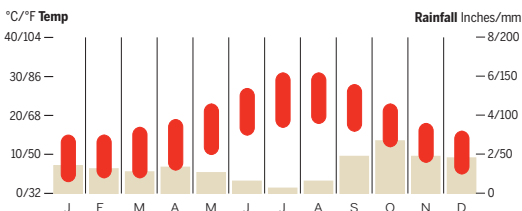
Why Go?

'Come to savour the splendid walking and cycling of the Tramontana and my northern coast', Mallorca will exhort. Menorca will cite her profusion of prehistoric sites and the forts her conquerors built and left behind. Unless she's still sleeping off her latest excess, in-your-face Ibiza will brag of her megaclubs, boutiques and oh-so-cool vibes. Tiny Formentera, for her part, will pipe up to remind you of her traffic-light country roads and white sands.

All four will protest vigorously and rightfully that they suffer from a bad press. 'Yes,' the two big sisters will ruefully confess, 'patches have their share of mass tourism at its worst.' 'But,' all four will chorus, 'you must meet us half-way.' So, take advantage of the islands' good public transport system or hire a car to seek out an infinity of small coves, fishing villages, sandy beaches, endless olive and almond groves and citrus orchards.

When to Go

Palma de Mallorca



March & April
Spring flowers brush your boots as you walk Mallorca's Serra de Tramuntana

June–September
Beach by day, clubbing through the night, raving round the Ibiza clock

July & August
Torchlit re-enactments at Maó's two historical forts on Menorca

8 Getting There & Around

AIR

In summer, masses of charter and regular flights converge on Palma de Mallorca and Ibiza from all over Europe. Major operators from the Spanish mainland include **Iberia** (www.iberia.es), **Air Europa** (www.aireuropa.com), **Spanair** (www.spanair.com), **Air Berlin** (www.airberlin.com) and **Vueling** (www.vueling.com).

Tariffs for inter-island flights, with a flying time of less than 30 minutes, vary hugely. A trip from Palma de Mallorca to Maó or Ibiza costs anything from €30 to €170.

BOAT

Compare prices and look for deals at **Direct Ferries** (www.directferries.es).

The following serve the Balearic Islands:

Acciona Trasmediterránea (% 902 454645; www.trasmediterranea.es)

Baleària (% 902 160180; www.balearia.com)

Cala Ratjada Tours (% 902 100444; www.calaratjadatours.es, in Spanish)

Iscomar (% 902 119128; www.iscomar.com)

Ferry routes to the mainland:

Ibiza (Ibiza City) To/from Barcelona (Acciona Trasmediterránea, Baleària), Valencia (Acciona Trasmediterránea).

Ibiza (Sant Antoni) To/from Denia and Barcelona (Baleària), Valencia (Acciona Trasmediterránea, Baleària).

Mallorca (Palma de Mallorca) To/from Barcelona and Valencia (Acciona Trasmediterránea, Baleària), Denia (Baleària).

Menorca (Maó) To/from Barcelona and Valencia (Acciona Trasmediterránea, Baleària).

Inter-island ferry routes:

Ibiza (Ibiza City) To/from Palma de Mallorca (Acciona Trasmediterránea, Baleària).



Mallorca, Menorca & Ibiza Highlights

1 Admire the Gothic splendour of the cathedral in **Palma de Mallorca** (p638)

2 Take a hike in Mallorca's **Serra de Tramuntana** (p604)

3 Join the party that sets the Mediterranean on fire in the amazing clubs of **Ibiza** (p621)

4 Chill out at Formentera's sunset parties at the Blue Bar on **Platja de Migjorn** (p629)

5 Enjoy scented strolls in villages like **Fornalutx** (p607) in Mallorca's northwest

6 Gasp at the turquoise hues of the sea around the promontory of **Cap de Formentor** (p609)

7 Peer into prehistory at Naveta des Tudons and the other ancient monuments around **Ciutadella** (p636)

8 Slip into Menorca's limpid waters at **Cala Macarelleta** and **Cala en Turqueta** (p642)

9 Say three Hail Marys before winding along the spectacular 12km route to **Sa Calobra** (p608)