

GET TO KNOW PALMA DE MALLORCA

HISTORY

The city of Palma was **founded by the Romans**, out of the remains of a Talaiotic village from the bronze age. After the Roman period, the city was first ruled under the Byzantines and then later under the Moors. In 1229, the city was conquered by James I of Aragon.

It was then that the city was named Palma, becoming the **capital of the Kingdom of Mallorca**. During the reign of the son of Aragon, **James II of Mallorca**, construction was completed of the Bellver Castle, the churches of San Francisco and Santo Domingo and the reform of the Palace of La Almudaina. This King is also credited with **beginning construction of La Seu**, which is the cathedral of Palma and the most emblematic place in the city today.

In **1714**, after the fall of Barcelona, the War of Succession ended, and with it the Crown of Aragon. It was then that the city was **separated from the government of the island** and officially recognized as Palma.

In **1833**, Palma was named as the **capital city of the new province** known as the Balearic Islands. In the 19th century, the city experienced significant economic growth thanks to the expansion of transport companies and the growth of the population.

With the mass tourism in the **1950s** came drastic changes. Mallorca became **one of the most popular tourist destinations in Spain**. This tourist boom brought with it **great economic growth and more employment opportunities** on the island.

In 1983, the Balearic Islands became one of the autonomous communities of Spain, with its capital as Palma. **Millions of tourists** visit the city of Palma every year, as it is **considered one of the most beautiful cities in Europe**.

In 2015, the British publication "The Sunday Times" chose Palma as **the best place in the world to live**.



PATRON SAINT CELEBRATIONS

Sant Antoni

On **January 17th**, Palma celebrates Sant Antoni, the **patron saint of animals**, where they receive the blessing on a long walkway on Sant Miquel street and also in La Seu.

For centuries, Mallorcans have lit **fires in the streets and burned effigies of the demon** that tempted the Egyptian monk Sant Antoni in the desert. The festival is celebrated in every town of Mallorca. The Mallorcans gather in the street and light bonfires, commonly known as “torrades,” where they cook and roast sausages from the island and other types of meats.

Sa Rua and Sa Rueta

In February, Palma enthusiastically celebrates **carnival**, in Mallorca called **Sa Rua**. Children have their own parade, **Sa Rueta**, in the morning.

In the afternoon, the rest of the city enjoys the colorful procession and concerts organized in the streets.

San Juan (Nit del Foc)

The night of San Juan (Nit del Foc) is **June 23rd**. With the impressive Palma Cathedral in the background, drums, demons and fireworks accelerate the pulse of attendees.

On the beaches of Palma, people burn their own bonfires and the party lasts until late in the morning.

Sant Sebastià

The day of Sant Sebastià, **patron saint of Palma, is on January 20th**, though the patron saint celebrations are held throughout the middle of January with different activities and events.

On the night of January 19th, one of the biggest festivals in the city is celebrated, taking place between Paseo del Borne and Avenida Jaime III. At dusk, **the flames of a dragon show the way to the traditional demons, who wield tridents and are accompanied by fireworks**. The impressive fireworks follow the rhythm of the drums.

Balearic Islands Day

March 1st is Balearic Islands Day. At Es Baluard, a craft market is set up showcasing the best of Mallorca, while food **stalls** attract a crowd of people around Sa Feixina Park.

There are shows including horses, popular dances and drums to celebrate this very special day.

The Virgin of Health

The Virgin of Health is the patron saint of Palma and is celebrated on **September 8**, with a mass in the church of Sant Miquel.

On its eve, there are **processions, floral offerings and leisure activities in the streets**.

WHAT TO SEE IN PALMA DE MALLORCA



Construction of **THE MALLORCA CATHEDRAL** began in the 13th century and it belongs to the Mediterranean Gothic tradition, but the cultural forms of modern and contemporary times have been incorporated.

VISITS: Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:15 PM.



ROSETÓN. The Festival of Light is a unique and fleeting event. Every February 2nd and November 11th, the sunlight that enters through the largest rose window of the Seu — one of the largest rose windows of the European Gothic cathedrals, also known as the eye of the Gothic — is projected just below the rose window of the inner façade of the larger portal.



THE ALMUDAINA ROYAL PALACE, dating from the 14th century, is the Official Residence of Their Majesties the King and Queen of Spain during their stays in Mallorca, where they celebrate the Annual Reception of the representatives of Balearic society.

VISITS: Hours: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM (Entry until 5:00 PM).
Weekly closing: Mondays all year long
Free access: Wednesdays and Sundays from 3:00 to 6:00 PM (last entry at 5:00 PM).



S'HORT DEL REI means Gardens of the King. This garden is located at the Almudaina Palace. In the 14th century, this area was under restricted access, and was full of fruit trees, plants, vegetables and colorful flowers.

VISITS: Free admission.



The **CASTILLO DE BELLVER** of Mallorca was built between the years 1300 and 1311 under the orders of Jaime II to become a palace-fortress that would function as a royal residence and unwavering refuge.

VISITS: From April to September, Tuesday to Saturday, from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Sundays and holidays from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Closed Mondays.



LA LONJA. Designed as a stock exchange and meeting place for merchants to make their deals, due to the great trade activity in the ports.

VISITS: Free admission. Hours from 4/1 to 10/30: Tuesday - Sunday 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM and 5:30 PM - 11:00 PM. Closed Mondays.

WHAT TO SEE IN PALMA DE MALLORCA



OLD TOWN AND JEWISH QUARTER. Palma was an important medieval city. As such, it had its own Jewish quarter. In fact, the Jewish quarter of Palma, known as “Call Maior,” was somewhat of an independent city, walled and with its own entrances to its interior.

PALMA'S WATERFRONT PROMENADE

extends more than five kilometers, passing by emblematic buildings of the city on one side, and spectacular yachts on the other. It is a privileged space where you can get exercise, walk or enjoy a pleasant meal by the sea.



THE ARAB BATHS are located in the historic center of Palma de Mallorca and are the best preserved construction from the Islamic period. A faithful reflection of the city's past, they offer the possibility of learning about an aspect of the culture that would become Mallorca's history.

VISITS: From April to November: from 9:30 AM to 8:00 PM. Entry €2.



PLAZA CORT houses the historic town hall of Palma. The building was built in the mid-17th century and its ornate façade exudes inspiration and history. On New Year's Eve, the people of Palma gather in this plaza to welcome the new year.



PALMA PORT. This is the largest of the five managed by the Balearic Port Authority and it is located in the center of the city, right in front of the labyrinthine old town.



PLAZA MAYOR is a huge plaza that is located in the old location of the convent of San Felipe Nerí, in Palma. Plaza Mayor was the seat of the Spanish Inquisition until 1838, when the regime fell into gradual decline.



GASTRONOMY



Ensaïmada



Sobrasada

The Ensaïmada of Mallorca is part of the cultural and historical heritage of Mallorca, a point of reference in the desserts unique to the island.

Mallorca sobrasada is a raw cured pork sausage seasoned with salt, black pepper and paprika. It is a typical and traditional food of the Balearic Islands.



Mallorca Wine



Almonds

Local grape varieties include Manto Negro, Callet and Premsal Blanc. Increasingly, Mallorcan wines are being exported and awarded with prizes for fine wines.

It is the main ingredient in the delicious and traditional “gató d'ametlles.” The pink and white flowering of the subtly perfumed almond tree is a tourist addition.



Extra Virgin Olive Oil



Mallorca Oranges

The extra virgin olive oil of Mallorca is recognized with a Denomination of Origin and is made from arbequina or picual varieties.

Orange production is important for the island economy, especially in the “Golden Valley” of Sóller.

CRAFT PRODUCTS



Woven Baskets

A strong basket of locally produced straw, woven with the leaves of the native Balearic palm. The region of Capdepera and Artà is known for its basket weavers.



Pearls of Mallorca

High quality imitation pearls were what gave Mallorca its great international fame. For more than a century, they have been handcrafted from organic, marine and natural elements.



Blown Glass

The craft process used to make glass objects in Mallorca, or at least the most widespread, is blowing, the origins of which date back to the 2nd century BC.



Ceramics of Mallorca

Craft ceramics have a long history in the Balearic Islands and involve a unique artistic process, as the piece is nothing more than liquid clay until the motifs that transform it into a unique object are applied.



Xeremia

This cornamuse is basically composed of a leather container (currently other types of materials are used) called the sack or bag, where the air is accumulated, and it has three orifices.



'Tongue' Fabrics: Mediterranean Ikat

The ikat technique makes drawings on fabrics with the reserve dyeing system: part of the threads are covered during the dyeing process, so that they do not pick up any color.

WHAT TO DO IN PALMA DE MALLORCA



The Drach Caves



THE DRACH CAVES were already known during the Middle Ages and were explored in 1880 by M.F. Will and in 1896 by E.A. Martel, who discovered the cave where the lake that bears his name is located.

Hours: 10:30 AM, 12:00 PM, 2:00 PM, 3:30 PM

The Sóller Railway



THE SOLLER RAILWAY is a narrow track railway, with a track width of 914 mm (English yard), uncommon today, and has a very varied old mobile material, very detailed, requiring hand maintenance.

PALMA DE MALLORCA RESTAURANTS

RESTAURANTS WITH MICHELIN STARS AND OTHER AWARDS

DINS: chef Santi Taura. One Michelin Star and two Repsol Sols
www.dinssantitaura.com
 Plaça de Llorenç Villalonga, 4, Palma (El Llorenç boutique hotel Parc de la Mar).

Adrian Quetglas:
 2016 best cook of the year in Russia
<http://adrianquetglas.es/>
 Paseo Mallorca, 20. Palma.

Marc Fosh Palma:
 One Michelin Star
<http://www.marcfosh.com/>
 Carrer de la Missió, 7A,
 Palma de Mallorca.

Es Fum:
 One Michelin Star
<https://www.restaurant-esfum.com/es/contact-location>
 Carretera Palma-Andratx, 19, Costa d'en Blanes.
 (5-star St Regis Mardavall Mallorca Resort Hotel).

BEACHFRONT RESTAURANTS

The Boat House
www.theboathouse.es
 Av. Gabriel Roca 33, Palma.

Arrels by Marga Coll
<https://www.restaurantearrels.com>
 Paseo de las Illetas, 7,
 Palma de Mallorca.

La Sal del Port de Sóller
<https://la-sal.com/>
 C/ Marina 36, Port de Sóller.

Succulent, in Port de Sóller
<https://sulentaportdesoller.com/>
 C/ de la Marina, 62, Port Sóller.

Latitude 39
<https://www.restaurantlatitud39.com/>
 Av. Admiral Riera Alemany, 21, Port d'Andratx.

RESTAURANTS WITH EXCELLENT TERRACES

The Merchants
<https://merchantspalma.com/>
 Carrer dels Apuntadors, 15, Palma.

Mar de Nudos
www.mardenudos.com
 C/ Pier 6, Local 1, Moll Vell, Palma.

Ikatza
<https://www.melia.com/es/hoteles/espaa/mallorca/victoria-gran-melia/restaurante-ikatza.htm>
 Hotel Gran Meliá Victoria - Av. Joan Miro 21,
 Palma.

Pesquero:
<https://www.restaurantpesquero.com/es>
 Pier de la Lonja, s/n,
 07012 Palma.

De Tokio a Lima
<https://www.canalomarhotel.com/es/de-tokio-a-lima/>
 Calle Sant Feliu, 1 Palma de Mallorca.

PALMA DE MALLORCA RESTAURANTS

LA LONJA NEIGHBORHOOD RESTAURANTS

La Paloma:

www.lapaloma.es

C/ Scorers 16, La Lonja. Palma.

La Caña:

www.lacanapalma.com

Passeig de Sagrera, 3, Palma.

Beatnik

<https://www.purohotel.com/es/boutique-hotel-palma/restaurante/>

C/ Montenegro 12, Puro Hotel
Palma de Mallorca.

La Tapería

<http://www.la-taperia.es>

C/ Montenegro, 10. Palma.

Sadrassana Restaurant & Coctelería

<https://www.thefork.es/restaurante/sadrassana-r442591>

15 Plaça Drassanes, Palma.

RESTAURANTS IN SANTA CATALINA

El Txoko de Martín

<https://www.eltxokodemartin.com/>

Plaza del Pont, Palma.

Isaan Thai Cuisine

www.isaanthaicuisine.com

Carrer de la Pursiana, 14, Palma.

Duke Restaurant

www.dukepalma.com

Calle Soler, 36. Santa Catalina, Palma.

TAPAS

Cor, Barra i Taula

www.corbarraitaula.com

Comptat de Rosselló, S/N.
Edificio ORISBA, Local F.
07002 Palma de Mallorca.

Tast Club

<https://tast.com/es/restaurant/tast-club/>

Carrer de Sant Jaume, 6,
07012 Palma, Balearic Islands.

Raw&Grill The Brasserie

www.hotelcort.com

Plaça de Cort 11, Palma.

MARKETS

Mercat 1930

<https://www.mercat1930.net/>

Av. de Gabriel Roca, 33,
07014 Palma, Illes.

El mercado de Santa Catalina

<http://www.mercatdesantacatalina.com/>

Plaça de la Navegació, s/n,
07013 Palma, Balearic Islands.

El mercado del Olivar

<https://www.mercatolivar.com/es/inicio/>

Plaça de l'Olivar, 4
07002 Palma, Balearic Islands.

PALMA DE MALLORCA NIGHTLIFE

BRASS CLUB

Passeig Mallorca 34 (Palma de Mallorca).

<https://brassclub.com/>

ABACO COCKTAIL BAR PALMA

C/ San Juan, 1, Palma de Mallorca.

www.bar-abaco.es

HOTEL ALMUDAINA (SKYBAR)

Avd. Jaime III, 9

<https://www.hotelalmudaina.com/sky-area>

RESTAURANT & COCKTAIL BAR NICOLAS

Plaça Mercat, 19, Palma de Mallorca.

<https://barnicolas.com/>

GIBSON BAR

Plaça del Mercat, 18, 07001 Palma, Balearic Islands.

<https://gibsonbar.es/>

HOTEL HOSTAL CUBA (SKYBAR)

Calle San Magín número 1. Palma.

<https://www.hotelhostalcuba.com/es/skybar.html>

LA VERMUTERÍA ROSA

Carrer Rosa, 5.

<http://www.larosavermuteria.com/es/restaurante/la-rosa-vermuteria>

GINBO

Paseo Mallorca 14A Bajos.

https://www.tripadvisor.es/Restaurant_Review-g187463-d3511704-Reviews-Ginbo-Palma_de_Mallorca_Majorca_Balearic_Islands.html

CHAPEAU 1987

Paseo Mallorca 24.

<https://es-es.facebook.com/Chapeau1987/>