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Recharge in Palma

Well known for its crystalline beaches and postcard-worthy weather, the Mallorcan capital is also the perfect place for a peaceful winter mini-break



We may think of Mallorca as a summer destination – a place filled with resorts, oversized sun hats and sharp-elbowed all-inclusive travellers. But the island's capital

Palma – less explored by tourists – is actually the ideal getaway to escape to this winter.

With beautiful tree-lined squares, amazing art galleries and rooftop bars with views to die for (not to mention average temperatures that hover around 16°C), there are a host of activities in Palma to be enjoyed during the winter months. Whether you're after a clifftop walk, an afternoon spent in a spa, or a picnic in a hidden-away garden, Palma is the ideal spot to kick back and relax.

"FROM CLIFFTOP WALKS TO SPAS, PALMA IS THE IDEAL CITY TO KICK BACK AND RELAX"

And with British Airways' new direct route from London Gatwick starting at just £25 per person* (based on a return booking), getting there is easy. We asked five locals to reveal their must-see spots in Palma.

Book your Palma getaway at ba.com/gatwick



PHOTO OPS AWAIT AT BELLVER CASTLE



SHEELA LEVY, CO-OWNER OF FERA RESTAURANT

"Palma has changed so much in the eight years since I discovered this stylish city. Walk the streets of Calatrava in the evening when the shutters of the houses open up to let in the evening breeze – you'll see glimpses of lovely plant-filled courtyards. Palma is a classical music-lover's dream, as it has an amazing orchestra that holds concerts in exquisite locations, from the majestic and grand La Seu Cathedral to the historic Bellver Castle. I never enjoyed classical music until I came to Palma. Now I love it."



NICE WHEELS, COURTESY OF WORKSHOP CAFE + CYCLES



CHLOE MORRIS, SMALL BUSINESS OWNER AT PINK FLAMINGO

"My favourite way to relax in Palma is to hire a bike from Workshop Cafe + Cycles and ride along the seafront to Ciudad Jardin, then through Es Carnatge nature reserve where the airport runway meets the sea. It's great to ride with the wind in my hair and watch the waves crashing on the shore. I also immerse myself in nature with trail runs at Barefoot Mallorca – trainer Rebecca Lewis runs brilliant outdoor coaching sessions in the Tramuntana Mountains which are only a 20-minute drive from Palma, giving you the best of both worlds in Mallorca."

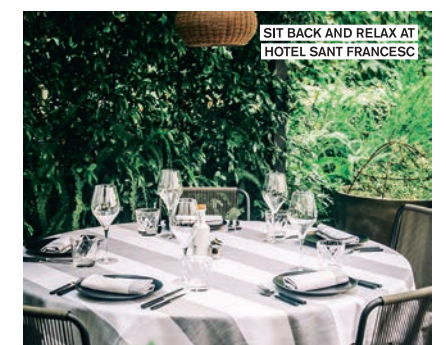


TAKE A STROLL ALONG PASSEIG DES BORN



IZASHUN FRANCO ARACIL, SPA MANAGER AT ZAFIRO PALMANOVA

"As the sun sets, stroll along the Passeig des Born boulevard and see La Seu Cathedral in its glory. By day, you can enjoy a tour of the beautiful 13th-century cathedral. As a foodie, I'd recommend the Mallorcan specialities at the Mercado Gastronómico San Juan, Palma's first gourmet food market, before walking the nine-mile stretch of promenade along the Palmanova beach. Then stop for lunch at El Chiringuito Beach House, which serves up delicious local food and sangria."



SIT BACK AND RELAX AT HOTEL SAINT FRANCESC



JOANNA CYBULSKI, CREATIVE CONCIERGE

"People don't associate Palma with art, but we have lots of stunning gallery spaces in the Old Town. Start with a coffee at Rialto Living, a design shop that holds treasures for everyone. Then, just up the street on Carrer de Sant Feliu, in an ornate 12th-century building is one of my favourite art galleries, Kewenig. Rooftop drinks are popular in Palma – most evenings you'll find me in Hotel Saint Francesc. You don't need to be a guest to enjoy their roof terrace as you watch the sun set, illuminating the city's beautiful sandstone buildings."



SAMPLE PLANT-BASED DELIGHTS AT COCOS DELI



CAMILLE KNOWLES, HEALTH AND WELLNESS ENTREPRENEUR

"Palma is packed with hidden gems when it comes to healthy and vegan foods (one of my favourites is Cocos Deli in Portals Nous). I also love Ziva vegan cafes which are located across Palma and use local, organic produce (you have to try their raw sprouted sandwich). For pampering, I head to the spa at the Nixe Palace Hotel, which overlooks Palma's beach. You can enjoy views of the sea while relaxing in the jacuzzi and hydromassage circuit, or watch the world go by in its chill-out area."

Win a three-night stay for two in Palma

For your chance to win return flights from London Gatwick plus a three-night hotel stay at AC Hotel Las Ciutat de Palma courtesy of British Airways, enter online at stylist.link/bapalma

* LIMITED AVAILABILITY. PRICES ARE AVAILABLE EACH WAY BASED ON A RETURN "BASIC" EURO TRAVELLER FARE FROM LONDON GATWICK ONLY, AND INCLUDES TAXES, FEES AND CHARGES. CORRECT AS OF 1 OCTOBER 2018 BUT SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME. DEPARTING FROM LONDON GATWICK TO PALMA (MALLORCA) ON SELECT DATES BETWEEN 12 NOVEMBER 2018 AND 2 DECEMBER 2018, AND BETWEEN 7 JANUARY 2019 AND 20 JANUARY 2019. FOR DETAILS, SEE BA.COM/GATWICK

