



# Spain's Balearic Islands: Menorca & Mallorca

# 10 days | 12 days with Valencia extension

When it comes to island vacations in Europe, Greece gets a whole lot of attention—and for good reason. But for travelers who want to experience island life off the beaten path, Spain's Balearic Islands are the answer. On this guided tour, get a taste of Spain's own unique brand of island living, and find out why sleepy Menorca and bustling Mallorca perfectly complement each other. Along the way, take in the islands' sunny beaches, coastal villages, succulent seafood, and laid-back way of life.



#### Your tour package includes

8 nights in handpicked hotels
8 breakfasts
4 dinners with beer or wine
1 food tasting
6 sightseeing tours
Expert Tour Director & local guides
Private deluxe motor coach
1 on-tour flight
1 train ride
1 ferry transfer

#### Included highlights

Sagrada Família Talayot de Trepuco Mahon sandal workshop visit Ciutadella Cuevas del Drach boat ride Sóller tramway ride Carthusian Monastery of Valldemossa Palma de Mallorca

#### Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for about two hours daily across uneven terrain, including unpaved trails, cobblestone streets and slippery walkways, with some steep hills.

#### Group size

15–28

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# $\textbf{Overnight Flight} \rightarrow 1 \text{ night}$

#### Day 1: Overnight flight

Board your overnight flight to Barcelona.

# $\textbf{Barcelona} \rightarrow 2 \text{ nights}$

#### Day 2: Arrival in Barcelona

Included meals: dinner

Welcome to Spain! Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at a welcome dinner tonight.

#### Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Barcelona

Included meals: breakfast

Discover why the Catalan capital is touted for its unparalleled architectural landmarks, many of which are UNESCO World Heritage sites.

- Stop at Montjuïc, site of the 1992 Olympic Games, and take in the panoramic views at Mirador de l'Alcalde Park.
- Pass Plaça d'Espanya, where many of Barcelona's main roads intersect.
- Step inside La Sagrada Família, Gaudí's famous masterwork-in-progress.
- Drive along Passeig de Gràcia, passing Gaudí's iconic Casa Batlló, or House of Bones.

Spend a free afternoon in Barcelona or add an excursion.

+ Park Güell & La Pedrera

# $\textbf{Menorca} \rightarrow 2 \text{ nights}$

#### Day 4: Flight to Menorca, sightseeing tour of Mahn & Megalithic sites

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Fly to Menorca, the most laid-back of Spain's Balearic Islands, which is known for its variety of unspoiled beaches and pine-fringed coastlines.

- Visit Trepucó, one on Menorca's largest Talayotic sites.
- Walk among the remains of the prehistoric culture featuring burial mounds, walls, and monuments.

Afterward, set out on a walking tour of Menorca's capital city, Mahón, which is situated atop a bluff overlooking one of the Mediterranean's deepest harbors.

- Stroll through the city's historic center and take in its colorful architecture.
- View the Santa Maria Cathedral, Teatro Principal, and local food market brimming with fresh fish and local produce.
- Enter a Menorcan sandal shop and learn more about the island's iconic avarcas.
- Learn about the craftsmanship that goes into the handmade shoes—and pick up a pair for yourself, if you'd like.

Sit down for an included dinner this evening.

#### Day 5: Free day on Menorca

Included meals: breakfast Spend a free day on Menorca or add excursions. + Menorcan Cheese Farm, Coastal Lunch & Nature Walk

+ Sunset Cruise Along Menorca's Coast

# Northeast Mallorca $\rightarrow$ 2 nights

## Day 6: Ciutadella, ferry to Northeast Mallorca & Cuevas del Drach

Included meals: breakfast, dinner Before departing for Mallorca, spend the morning in the port city of Ciutadella, passing Menorca Cathedral, Bord Square, and the Castle of St. Nicholas, a defensive tower built from sandstone.

Then, board a ferry to Mallorca, the largest and most urban of the Balearic Islands, where ancient history, modern, urban living, and jaw-dropping coastal landscapes meet. *Please note: The walking tour of Ciutadella is dependent on ferry schedule.* 

- Upon arrival on Mallorca, travel to Cuevas del Drach, an enormous network of underground caves.
- Descend into the network of limestone caverns, which feature jagged stalactites and stalagmites that have formed over the course of many centuries.
- Take a boat ride across majestic Lake Martel, a massive, underground lake considered to be one of the largest of its kind.
- Admire the otherworldly sight while enjoying a live, classical music concert.

This evening, enjoy an included dinner.

#### Day 7: Free day in northeastern Mallorca

Included meals: breakfast

Enjoy a free day in northeastern Mallorca or add excursions.

- + Mallorca Olive Oil Tasting & Farmhouse Wine Dinner
- + Mallorca Coastal Cruise, Snorkeling & Lunch

#### Palma de Mallorca $\rightarrow$ 2 nights

#### Day 8: Palma de Mallorca via Sóller & Valldemossa

Included meals: breakfast

Make your way into the Serra de Tramuntana Range to discover Mallorca's scenic mountain villages.

- Visit the lush town of Sóller, nicknamed Valley of Oranges for its abundant citrus groves.
- Enjoy free time to explore what is regarded as one of Spain's most beautiful towns.
- Climb aboard the town's historic tram and descend down the mountains to the Port of Sóller.

Later, make your way through the Serra de Tramuntana Range to Valldemossa, a village brimming with old-world charm. On the way, make a photo stop in Deià, a picturesque village where some of the world's biggest stars have gone to seek refuge from prying paparazzi.

- Upon arrival in Valldemossa, enjoy free time for lunch and on-your-own exploring.
- After lunch, join your group for a guided tour of the Carthusian Monastery of Valldemossa.
- Learn about the monastery's history, including its construction in the 14th century for the King of Mallorca's son.
- Find out why Polish composer Frédéric Chopin temporarily called the monastery home.
- Listen to a piano concert featuring music composed by Chopin.

Continue on to Palma, the island's capital city, and enjoy a free evening.

#### Day 9: Sightseeing tour of Palma

Included meals: breakfast, tasting, farewell dinner

Join a local guide for a walking tour of Palma—Mallorca's capital and cultural hub and

the Balearic Islands' largest city. Now a popular resort destination thanks to its location along an azure bay, Palma has been home to Roman, Moorish, and Catholic communities, whose cultural influences—and architectural treasures—remain present.

- Enter Bellver Castle, one of Europe's few circular castles.
- Walk through Palma's old town and pass Plaza Mayor, Passeig del Born, and the Royal Palace of La Almudaina.
- Stop by a local bakery to taste the island's famous ensaimada pastry.
- Head inside the spectacular and sprawling Cathedral of Mallorca, whose construction began in the 13th century and was completed in the 1630s.

This evening, celebrate your trip at a farewell dinner with your fellow travelers.

# **Flight Home**

#### Day 10: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home or extend your stay and visit Valencia.

### + Valencia extension

Known for being the birthplace of paella, Valencia is often overlooked in favor of bigger Spanish cities like Madrid and Barcelona. That means travelers who venture to this city on Spain's east coast can enjoy its wide beaches, eclectic mix of architectural styles, sprawling green spaces, and many paella, seafood, and tapas spots free from stifling crowds.

# $\textbf{Valencia} \rightarrow 2 \text{ nights}$

#### Day 10: Flight to Valencia

Included meals: breakfast Fly to the mainland city of Valencia this morning. Spend the rest of the day enjoying free time or add an excursion. + Valencia Cooking Class & Dinner

#### Day 11: Sightseeing tour of Valencia

Included meals: breakfast, tasting Discover Valencia on a guided sightseeing tour.

- Make a photo stop at The City of Arts and Sciences, a symbol of Spain's modernist architecture.
- See the Torres de Serranos, the Mercado de Colón, the National Museum of Ceramics, and the charming El Carmen neighborhood.
- Admire the UNESCO-listed Llotja de la Seda as you walk through the Old Town to Plaza de la Virgen.
- Admire the unique architecture of Valencia Cathedral, which was built on an ancient Roman temple in the 13th century.
- Stop to taste horchata, a creamy drink typically made from a strained mixture of soaked and ground tiger nuts, water, and sugar.

This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members.

# Flight Home

#### Day 12: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures) Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

# Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.\* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: **goaheadtours.ca/SPI | 1-800-754-5066** 

#### Day 3: Park Güell & La Pedrera

\$149CAD/\$159CAD\* (4 hours, departure time varies) On today's excursion, discover the magnificent works of Antoni Gaudí, the famed Spanish architect known for his bold, distinct designs. Casa Milà is the first stop. Take a guided tour of this building, popularly known as "La Pedrera," which was built by Gaudí between 1905 and 1910. Everything about the building is visually unique, from its wave-like stone structure to the grandly designed roof. Next, you'll head to Park Güell, also designed by Gaudí. Your guide will lead you through the park, which contains stunning buildings, intricate stonework, and colorful mosaics. At the top of the park, marvel at the brilliant views of Barcelona.

# Day 5: Menorcan Cheese Farm, Coastal Lunch & Nature Walk

\$159CAD/\$169CAD\* (8 hours, departs in the morning)

Spend the day exploring the island of Menorca, taking in some of the island's best sights and flavors along the way. Start the day with a visit to a cheese farm, where you'll meet the animals and learn about the production of their cheeses on a guided tour. End the tour on the farm's terrace, where you'll sample house-made Mahón-Menorca cheese. Then, make your way to the coast for a leisurely walk around Cape Cavalleria Lighthouse and take in beautiful views of the coast. Sit down for a hearty fisherman's lunch in the seaside town of Fornells before entering S'Albufera Natural Park. Enjoy a walk along paths and wooden promenades in this UNESCO World Heritage-listed biosphere reserve.

#### Day 5: Sunset Cruise Along Menorca's Coast

\$125CAD/\$135CAD\* (3 hours, departs in the evening) Take to the water this evening for a relaxing cruise along Menorca's stunning coast—and sip a drink or two as the sun dips below the horizon. Please note: This excursion is weather dependent.

#### Day 7: Mallorca Olive Oil Tasting & Farmhouse Wine Dinner

\$159CAD/\$169CAD\* (3 hours, departs in the evening, includes dinner)

Visit the cellar and vineyards of a local masia, or traditional family house, to learn how olive oil and wine are produced. There, you'll enjoy an olive oil tasting paired with homemade bread, as well as a traditional, light dinner of shrimp, sobrassada (Mallorcan sausages), olives, cheese, and more locally sourced bites paired with five wines.

#### Day 7: Mallorca Coastal Cruise, Snorkeling & Lunch

\$185CAD/\$195CAD\* (6 hours, departs in the morning)

Board a catamaran in Mallorca's port and set sail along the island's coast. Along the way, stop to swim and snorkel in the Balearic Sea's turquoise waters, and enjoy a barbecue lunch buffet aboard your vessel. Please note: This excursion is weather dependent. Snorkeling equipment is available aboard the boat.

#### **Extension excursion options**

#### Day 10: Valencia Cooking Class & Dinner

\$159CAD (4 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Travel into Valencia's city center and join an expert chef for a cooking class to make one of the region's culinary staples: paella. This dish is typical in Valencia—it was invented here, after all—and since the region relies heavily on farming and is bounded on three sides by mountains, the original paella Valenciana you'll make features meat and vegetables, instead of seafood. Begin the night by sipping some sangria and munching on traditional Spanish appetizers. Then, work as a team to craft an authentic paella Valenciana. You'll hear about the fresh ingredients and cooking techniques needed to make the dish. After, sit down to taste your team's hard work, paired with sangria and followed by a tasty dessert. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

\*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at goaheadtours.ca/terms