

A Life in

MAGAZINE • PORTAL • WEBTV

SPAIN

.COM

Lifestyle magazine and property portal

ISSUE 82
SEPT 2023

FREE

inside...

**South
Town**

Fortuna

**North
Town**

Benissa

Top 12

Tourist Attractions

**Wine
Article**

Let's Talk Wine



FIND YOUR DREAM PROPERTY AT
WWW.ALIFEINSPAIN.COM

 **VNBenny**
PAGE 22

insureSpain
PAGE 48

The Spa Superstore

by Piscinas Escribano

Wellis®

Wellness
at home

40
YEARS
experience

from
4.995€



965 711 136 · Avda. Cortes Valencianas, 11 · TORREVIEJA · wellis-spain.com

NOW is the perfect time to start to enjoy the benefits that we offer you through Hydrotherapy, recommended not just for fun but also for improving flexibility, arthritis, diabetes, sport injuries, blood pressure and much more. We at "The Spa Superstore" are here to guide you with your new health investment, finding the Spa which is right for you with the best warranties given from the largest Spa and Wellness manufacturer in Europe—WELLIS. As the official distributor for them—we offer **Wellness at Home** throughout Spain with next day delivery on models in stock. At our Showroom with easy access and parking open from 09.30hrs—18.30hrs Monday—Friday and 10.00hrs—13.30hrs Saturdays or by appointment, you can see and try the wide selection of the latest models available or we can come and give you a free home inspection without obligation. We also offer Part Exchange and Technical Service.



my MYLINE



We also offer Made to Measure Thermal Covers for your Spa, Free Maintenance Steps, Hand Rails, Cover Lifters, Spa Trays, Towel Rails, Spa Parasols, Cartridge Filters, Spa Sanitizers, Spare Parts and Technical Service on ALL SPAS.

Before you buy—give us a try! info@wellisonline.com

Wellis®



**TUNE IN
LOCALLY TO:
106.3 fm
spectrum**
ON AIR - ONLINE



**MORE LOCAL NEWS, MORE LOCAL EVENTS
AND MORE OF THE MUSIC YOU LOVE**

LET US PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS 



To advertise at surprisingly affordable prices
Tel: **634 051 595** Email: **guy@spectrumfm.net**

www.spectrumfm.net

A Life in Spain.com

#Edition 82 • September 2023

Contents...

Places To
Visit In A
Day

CORVERA

6



Top 10 Tourist
Attractions



23-26

Wine Article:

Let's
Talk
Wine
28 & 29



Architect's Angle

18 & 19



Let's Learn Spanish



8

Spanish Recipes:

Ajo colorao'



38

EMERGENCY TEL. NUMBERS

ALL EMERGENCIES	112
GUARDIA CIVIL	062
POLICIA NACIONAL	091
POLICIA LOCAL	092
FIRE BRIGADE	080
MEDICAL EMERGENCY	061
POLICE (IN ENGLISH)	902 102 112
COASTGUARD	900 202 202
RED CROSS	902 222 292

contact ^{A Life in} SPAIN :
enquiries@alifeinspain.com
peter.clarke@alifeinspain.com

TEL: 660 170 355

deposito legal: MU 1390-2016

A Life in SPAIN

Welcome to the September edition of ALIS.

Did you know that we also have a Facebook group which is dedicated to people buying and selling houses.

The group now has over 60,000 members making it a super group as far as Facebook is concerned

You can post your house for sale, or what sort of house you want to buy on this group. We offer this as a completely free service.

So what's in this edition....

We have some great new series of articles continuing this month. Including
Page 16 - Events Calendar
Page 18 - City of Caltillo
Page 21- Spanish facts
Page 46 - Moving to Spain

There's even more new articles next month as we crack the whip and get our team of researchers working their magic to bring you interesting facts and articles about Spain.

Enjoy!

Remember – all of our articles and over 10,000 properties for sale and rent are available online at:

www.alifeinspain.com

ALIS is not responsible for the accuracy or content of any articles published in the magazine or online and professional advice is recommended. ALIS does not endorse any company advert or article herein. We try to make sure the content is accurate but cannot be held responsible for inaccuracy.

ESTATE AGENTS!! FOR ONLY
€50
PER MONTH
List unlimited properties on
www.alifeinspain.com
Contact ask@alifeinspain.com

**A Life in
SPAIN 05**

Places to visit in a day:

CORVERA



Corvera is one of the largest districts in the Municipality of Murcia and was, for centuries even larger and more important when it included the localities of Lobosillo and Valladolides. It is now re-establishing it's prominence in the area due to the opening of Corvera airport, and the Amazon distribution hub.

There is a lack of a focal water source though in the region so the first real sign of habitation evidence can be found dating back to the late Iberian and later Roman epochs, the latter totally dominant following the invasion of Cartagena in 209BC. By 50BC Iberian culture had all but disappeared but even roman settlements were sparse. (Nobody had told them that an airport was coming).

After the decline of the Romans, the area was occupied by the Visigoths and then by the Moors who invaded Spain in the early 8th century. For the next 500 years the Moors farmed the land until 1243 when Alfonso X of Castile gained Murcia as part of his kingdom. Although Moorish settlers were allowed to remain, they rebelled in 1266 and were largely expelled leaving empty territories which were distributed amongst noble families.

It was a difficult task to repopulate the area with Christians in the 13th 14th and 15th centuries and as an area on the

frontier close to the last Moorish kingdom, Granada, it was far from safe. It was subject to constant attacks from the Moors and from the Berber pirates of North Africa. After the Moorish kingdom fell, Corvera continued to flourish.

The main Fiesta in Corvera is in honour of the Virgen del Rosario on the 7th October. It lasts nearly two weeks and follows the patterns of many other local fiestas which include the election of a Fiesta queen and her maids of honour with sporting events, special days for children, ladies and gentlemen, musical events and religious processions etc. Timetables are available at the local town hall.

There is a nice small market on Sunday mornings and a stroll around the town will reveal lots of good bars and restaurants and the church is well worth a visit. Parking is no problem. Just watch Corvera expand over the coming years!

Do you need health insurance?

- Accepted for residencia
- No co payments
- No limits
- Policy in English
- Paperwork in English

insureSpain

Get a quote TODAY...

tel: 660 170 355

info@insurespain.com



Liberty
Seguros.

CAR - HOME - LIFE
INSURANCE



I'm an expat Broker
for **Liberty Seguros**.
I understand your needs
and I'm here to help **YOU**.
Let's talk!

#1
preferred
expat
insurer



200+ Dedicated expat Brokers & Agents
who speak your language, face to face or remotely



150,000+ International clients
throughout Spain

Until
27th
NOVEMBER
2023

€50

CASHBACK

And now, for every new **car**, **home**
or **life** policy you take out, you'll get
€50 cashback!

Visit quote.libertyexpatriates.es and ask for a quote

Cashback promotion valid for policies issued and in force between 29th of August and 27th of November 2023 inclusive. Policies must be paid by direct debit. Applies to new car, home and life policies only. Not for renewals or replacements. Conditions and minimum premiums will be applied in all cases. Visit our website or ask your Broker/Agent for full details. Liberty Seguros, Compañía de Seguros y Reaseguros, S.A. (with VAT number A48037642 and registered offices in Paseo de las Doce Estrellas, 4, 28042, Madrid, Spain) is responsible for this offer.

A Life in
SPAIN 07

Let's Learn Spanish

Sports

Phrases

Do you show sport on TV here?	¿Aquí se puede ver el deporte en la tele?	Ackkeysaypweeday ver el dayportay en la tay lay
I like team sports	Me gustan los deportes en equipo	Meh goostan los dayportays en eekeypo
I prefer individual sports	Prefiero los deportes individuales	Pref eeyerroh los day portays in dee vid you al les
Is there a sports centre near here?	¿Hay un polideportivo cerca de aquí?	Eyeeon poly day por teavohther ka day ack key
Where can I hire a tennis court?	¿Dónde puedo alquilar una pista de tenis?	Don day pwehdohal key lahoonah pea star day tenniss
Where can I play indoor football?	¿Dónde puedo jugar a fútbol sala?	Don day pwehdoh who gararefootbolsahlah
Do I need to wear a hat in the pool?	¿Necesito llevar uno gorro de baño en la piscina?	Nay cessa see toe yeah varoo no gohro day banyohen la pea see nah
How much is an adult swim?	¿Cuánto cuesta nadar un adulto?	Kwan toe kwestahnadaroon add ult toe

Vocab

Go jogging	Hacer footing	Athairfoot ting
Go running	Ir a correr	Ear are korrare
Go for a walk	Dar un paseo	Daroon pass ehyoh
Go cycling	Hacer ciclismo	Athair see klismo
Go mountain-biking	Ir en bicicleta de montaña	Earen bee seeklet tar day mon tan yah
Go for a ride	Montar en bici	Montar en beesee
Go hiking	Hacer senderismo	Athairsend dare ismo
Go climbing	Ir a escalar	Ear are ess car lar
Go canoeing	Hacer el piragüismo	Athairrel pearagüismo
Go sailing	Ir a navegar	Ear are nav eh gar
Go swimming	Hacer natación	Athairnattatheeyon
Go for a swim	Ir a nadar	Ear are nahdar



Now try our wordsearch:

P C I C L I S M O R A G E V A N
A O W N A B S E N D E R I S M O
S J J Z E O X S W F W I X W R I
E Q K U H W R C N O T R N C O C
O F F K K I E A S O P U H D M A
X V L E K C R L G T A F E G R T
D P B E L I R A A I W S Z Y F A
L W H K W B O R K N N X M K Z N
E Q Q A E H C G C G H H H D D F
X V L K O M S I U G A R I P D N

Footing
Paseo
Navegar
Bici
Natacion
Piragüismo
Senderismo
Escarlar
Correr
Ciclismo



Fuente Alamo.ref. 2041. 3bed 2bath detached villa, 170m2 build, 820m2 plot, parking, space for pool. **275,000€**

A Life in SPAIN

idealista.com



kyero.com

A Place in Sun

Office: +34 868 580 320
 Mobile: +34 666 819 697
 Mobile: +34 646 692 471

info@primepropertymurcia.com
 www.primerepropertymurcia.com



Please visit our website to find 360° virtual walkthrough tours with interactive floorplans for most of our properties



Leiva.ref. 2042. 2042. 4 bed, 2 bath detached villa, 313m2 build, 11,000 m2 plot, large garage and games room, ample parking. **375,000€**



Bolnuevo. ref. 2037. 1 bed, 1 bath luxury 1st floor 50m2 apartment with lift, store room and private parking. 50m from beach. **99,950€**



Mazarron Country Club. ref. 2038. 3bed, 2 bath detached villa, 115m2 build, 500m2 plot, private pool, covered parking. **249,000€**



Mazarron Country Club. ref. 2033. Immaculate 3 bed, 1 bath detached villa, 64m2 build, 316m2 plot, private pool, parking. **169,000€**

Fully legal & registered in Spain

MB Services

Michael Bowins

Air conditioning install & service

615 356 289
 bowinsmichael@gmail.com

Villa Care & Rentals / Long & short term Rentals
Holiday Rentals / Pool cleaning



**WE REQUIRE ALL TYPES OF
PROPERIES FOR LONG OR SHORT
TERM RENTALS**

HOLIDAY RENTALS REQUIRED

- Property management
 - Key Holding
 - Pool Cleaning
 - Holiday Rentals
- Long short term rentals
 - Short term rentals



CONTACT US AT

Website: www.mazarronproperty.com

Call **0034 682912097**

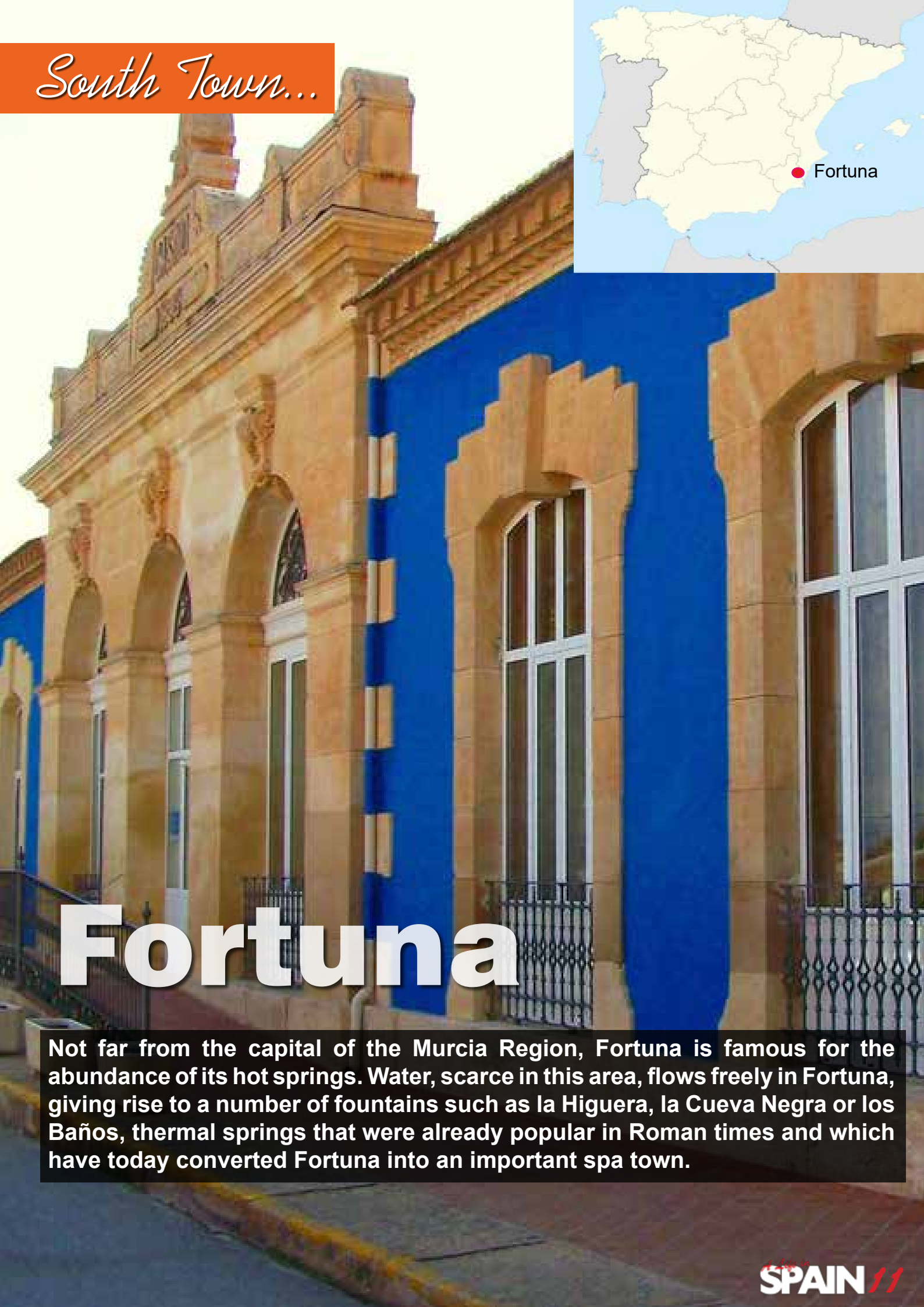
Email: info@mazarronproperty.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/mazarron-property>



For more info
Scan here!

South Town...



Fortuna

Not far from the capital of the Murcia Region, Fortuna is famous for the abundance of its hot springs. Water, scarce in this area, flows freely in Fortuna, giving rise to a number of fountains such as la Higuera, la Cueva Negra or los Baños, thermal springs that were already popular in Roman times and which have today converted Fortuna into an important spa town.

FORTUNA

The history of the town goes back to Iberian settlements, the remains of which can still be seen in outlying districts such as Caprés, Castillejo or Cortao de las Peñas. The Arab domination is still visible in the Castillico de los Moros (Moors' Castle). The town's cultural heritage is enriched with the Baroque-style Parish Church of La Purísima, the Convent and the Town Hall (which conserves some beautiful panneaux), all constructed in an aesthetic modernist style.

The surrounding countryside (at times desert-like) is covered with the water that flows from its thermal springs. Visitors can admire the Cortao de las Peñas (two mountains split apart by the movement of the earth), or the Humedal del Ajauque and Rambla Salada, protected wetland areas of great beauty.

CARESS OF LEANA

The Balneario de Leana (Leana Spa Resort) in Fortuna is one of the oldest spa resorts in Spain. It was reconstructed on Roman Therms. It became the most important healing centre in the Region along with the santuario de la Cueva Negra (Black Cave sanctuary), popular for its Tituluspictus (Roman inscriptions in objects). The healing nature of these waters was known among ancient cultures, such as Iberian and Greek. It's sure that its effects are great if people continue coming here to charge their batteries.

REMAINS OF THE PAST

This region keeps many historical treasures that you'll discover in your visit to the Iberian and Arabian settlements and the santuario romano de la Cueva Negra (Roman Black Cave sanctuary). The last one was a place of worship and superstition where magic and sorcery rituals were performed. And, then, drop in to the ancient Roman thermal springs where, in former times, water was really abundant.

Currently, it's still a tourist attraction. Fortuna is the ideal place to go for a walk. In the town centre, you'll find the iglesia parroquial de la Purísima (the Parish Church of La Purísima), from the 18th century, which has images from Salzillo school and a monstrance made by the Neapolitan goldsmith Carlos Zayadatt.

The Casa Consistorial (the Council House) is only a few feet away and its hall is home to a rich collection of pictures that are Assets of Cultural Interest. There's also the Casa Convento (Convent House), the most emblematic Modernist building in the municipality. It's characterised by its façade, its courtyard decorated with arabesques and an old library that keeps the household furnishing that belonged to its former owners. Another interesting building to visit is the oldest hermitage in Fortuna, the St. Roque hermitage, from the 17th century

'Source: murciaturistica.es'



Do you need health insurance?

- Accepted for residencia
- No co payments
- No limits
- Policy in English
- Paperwork in English

insureSpain

Get a quote TODAY...

tel: 660 170 355

info@insurespain.com



La Romana Self Storage

UNITS 11m³ to 44m³ **FROM €25** PER MONTH

SELF STORAGE UNITS

Contact
Colin Crabb
Tel: +34 965 075 122
+34 633 125 889

Find us on: **facebook.**

Email: colin@laromanaselfstorage.com
 Web: www.laromanaselfstorage.com

CYCLOGICAL

Calle Los Arcos 7, QUESADA 03170
 Cycle Sales, Repairs, Hires, Accessories & Clothing

e-bike centre

LARGE SELECTION OF E-BIKES IN STOCK
OVER 250 CYCLES IN STOCK
NEW AND USED

The Costa Blanca's No.1 Pinarello Road Bike Hire Centre
www.roadbikehirespain.com

COMPLETE RANGE NOW AVAILABLE

PINARELLO
ROAD BIKES

Opening Hours:
 Monday to Friday 09.30 - 17.30 - Saturday 10.00 - 14.00

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
GARY OR LYNN ON : 637 487 377

FIND US ON **FACEBOOK** WWW.CYCLOGICALCOSTABLANCA.COM

Mosa & Altaona golf and Baños y Mendigo

Agents towns

Mosa & Altaona golf is an urbanisation just outside Murcia. According to official old maps the resort was built on a hamlet known as San Esteban de Mendigo.

According to ancient chronicles, Murcia and the surrounding area was founded by the Caliph of Cordoba, Abderraman II, in 825. A village called Baños was used by Abderraman's armies and his Arabian successors who used the Muslim-built Arabian Baths from 825 until 22 December 1248, when they were destroyed by the Christians who considered such baths to be decadent.

The name Baños was later changed to Los Baños according to maps from the Middle Ages. The nearby hamlet of San Esteban de Mendigo was part of the district of Baños y Mendigo. According to legend a pilgrim arrived in the hamlet and lived in a cave, surviving on alms he received from the local people, mostly in the form of food (the literal translation of Mendigo is a beggar...). The pilgrim totally dedicated himself to the saint (San Esteban) and the area became known as San Esteban y Mendigo and apparently that is still the official name.

According to legend, around the 17th or 18th century the owner of the land built a family residence here, plus smaller houses and buildings for the workers and horses and cattle, thus creating a community that cultivated and farmed the land.

One year, in the 19th century, snow fell on the penultimate Friday of September - which was unusual weather for this part of Spain - so the owner of San Esteban de Mendigo built a chapel and named its statue of the Virgin Mary as "Virgin of the Snow".

To commemorate this event, every year there is a celebration with a religious pilgrimage where local people come to attend Mass at the chapel and the villagers of Baños y Mendigo bring their statue "Virgin of Rosario" in celebration. The only main difference is that this event (known as the Romeria) now takes place on the penultimate Saturday of September.





TERRA NATURA
Murcia



Ayuntamiento
de Murcia

**A FULL DAY OF FUN,
FOR ALL THE FAMILY...**

Megarsa

- ES/FR 602 10 39 80
- EN/ES 643 27 47 35
- Email megarsapiscinas@gmail.com
- Fb [Megarsa swimming pool specialists](#)
- Web megarsapools.com



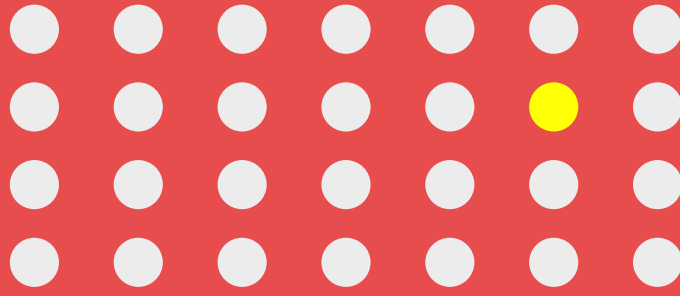
Megarsa Specialists is a business with over 30 years experience in pool construction. Gradually through the years we have done bathrooms, kitchens, outdoor bbqs etc. Making us a fully qualified and legal company to do all your jobs!




FREE
no obligation
QUOTE

Location
Calle Jara 23, Comercial Center
Sector B, Camposol.

Spain's Events Calendar



In October, Spain hosts several festivals and celebrations that showcase its rich cultural heritage. Here are some notable events that take place during this month:

Fiesta Nacional de España (National Day of Spain) - October 12th is a public holiday in Spain, commemorating the arrival of Christopher Columbus in the Americas. It is a day of national pride and celebration, with various events, parades, and military displays taking place across the country.

Feria de Sevilla (Seville Fair) - This famous fair usually takes place in April, but occasionally it extends into the first week of October. It is one of the largest and most vibrant celebrations in Spain, attracting visitors from all over the world. The fair features traditional flamenco music and dance, colourful costumes, delicious food, and amusement rides. The fairgrounds are filled with rows of beautifully decorated casetas (tents), where people gather to eat, drink, and dance Sevillanas.

Fiesta de la Hispanidad (Hispanic Day) - Celebrated on October 12th, this festival pays tribute to the Hispanic culture and heritage shared by Spain and many Latin American countries. Cultural events, parades, and exhibitions are held to promote unity and celebrate the common history and traditions of Spanish-speaking nations.

Festival Internacional de Teatro (International Theatre Festival) - This renowned theatre festival takes place annually in October in the city of Valladolid. It brings together theatre companies from around the world to showcase their productions, including plays, dance performances, and other artistic events.

Festival de Otoño a Primavera (Autumn to Spring Festival) - Organized by the Community of Madrid, this festival runs from October to May and features a diverse program of performing arts, including theatre, dance, music, and circus performances. Many renowned national and international artists participate in this festival, which takes place at various venues

across Madrid.

Dia de la Hispanidad en Barcelona (Hispanic Day in Barcelona) - Barcelona celebrates Hispanic Day on October 12th with a range of activities, including parades, concerts, and cultural events. The celebration usually takes place along Avenida Maria Cristina, and it showcases the rich diversity of Spanish culture through music, dance, and traditional costumes. These are just a few examples of the festivals and celebrations that take place in Spain during the month of October. It's worth noting that specific events may vary from year to year, so it's always a good idea to check the local event calendars for the most up-to-date information.



MARKS OFF
CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

Small family business offering quality of service to all our property owners

Window cleaning

Terrace and apartment cleaning

Key holding

General Property Maintenance

Flat pack assembly

Baby/toddler equipment to hire at affordable rates



Based in **Condado de Alhama**
Tel/whatsapp **655 160 098**

Facebook **MarksOff cleaning & Property Maintenance**
Email **MarksOff@aol.com**

UK:
(0044) 7709 557109



Murcia Camposol:
(0034) 608 061 872

SPECIALISTS IN UK AND SPANISH REMOVALS & STORAGE
Removals at affordable prices with over 20 years combined experience.

**YOU WON'T FIND A BETTER PRICE OFFERING
THE SAME COVER AND INCLUSIONS**

From single items to full loads,
delivered throughout Europe and the UK
Full and part packaging service available.
Storage facilities including free storage period
Goods in transit insurance included in all deliveries



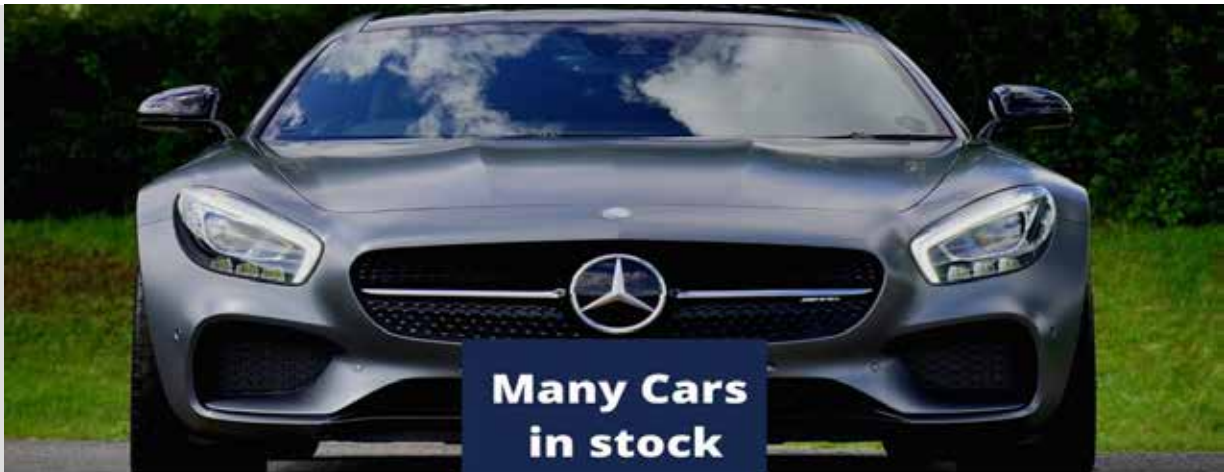
LET US TAKE THE STRESS OUT OF YOUR MOVE.
The price we quote is the price you pay.
CONTACT US FOR NO OBLIGATION QUOTE

lordsremovals@hotmail.com

www.lordsremovals.com

Ask about special UK-Spain discounts.

Trips to and from Spain every week.



AUTOHOUSE LA MANGA



New & Used car sales, we can also source a car to your requirements

Visit our showroom just off the RM12 Exit 7 - Los Belones

Call (+34) 654 013 833

www.autohouselamanga.com

City of Murcia

BY José Sanchez



The city of Murcia boasts modernity, but also an exciting history from its foundation in 825 by Abderramán II to the present day. It has a great cultural legacy and a very diverse heritage. From Arab times we find the remains of the wall that surrounded the entire city, the museum of Santa Clara where the archeological finds of this stage are exposed, the vestiges of a mosque and Muslim baths. But without a doubt, the period of splendour is the Baroque, birthplace of his teacher Francisco Salzillo, with his Easter steps and his collection of nativity scene pieces in the museum that bears his name.

We must also take into account the facade or *Imafronte* of the Cathedral of Santa María, the church of San Juan de Dios and the sanctuary of Fuensanta among others. Of the most recent period is the expansion building of the City Hall, made by Rafael Moneo in front of the Cathedral, the walkway of the Malecón or Manterola walkway over the Segura River, by engineer Javier Manterola and the Víctor Villegas Auditorium and Congress Centre with two auditoriums and ten rooms, capable of gathering more than 2,000 attendees.

Murcia is an open, cheerful and cosy city, ideal for group and professional trips, It has very high quality services and perfect facilities suitable for meetings, congresses and all kinds of events. To this is added a rich cultural heritage, hotel quality, exquisite gastronomy and extensive leisure activities.

In addition to the Congress Centre, it has unique spaces, some of them located in the historic centre such as the Real Casino de Murcia declared a national monument in the middle of the garden, such as the *pu* Palace of La Seda of the seventeenth century and the Finca Buenavista where the restaurant La Cabaña is located, with two Michelin stars.

To help groups, associations and companies in the organisation of meetings and incentive trips, the city has the Murcia Congress Office, putting itself at its disposal in order to achieve the greatest success.

Undoubtedly, one more attraction that adds to the many Murcia has, is its local nature. Both the orchard and the Valle-Carrascoy Regional Park a few miles from the city and well connected by public transport, invite you to walks by foot or bike. In the Regional Park, in addition to hiking and climbing, you can visit the hermitage of San Antonio el Pobre, the Arboretum, the Wildlife Recovery Centre and the visitor centres of La Luz and the Valley, all these attractions very close to each other.

To emphasise the rich tangible and intangible cultural heritage of the municipality and make it easier for visitors and tourists to enjoy it, we have the brand "Murcia Eterna", with which the City Council of Murcia programs an agenda of free guided tours: "Camino de las Acequias", "Siguiendo la Muralla", "Route of Museums" "San Esteban y el Arrabal de la Arrixaca" and "El Rey Lobo and Alfonso X" You can find all the information about these visits at www.murciaeterna.com,

Murcia also has a wide range of products for all tastes and tourist profiles: heritage tourism. ethnographic, cultural, and active tourism. nature tourism, family tourism and gastronomic tourism are some of them.

Its festivals of international tourist interest: *Enfierno de la Sardina*, *Bando de la Huerta* and *Semana Santa -Easter-*, its rich gastronomy, and the contrast of the garden as a hallmark with the modernity of its university, equipment and infrastructure, making it a city where you can hold all kinds of congresses and events, and enjoy a wide range of activities and experiences.



Car Registrations Spain

Need to import your UK registered vehicle into Spain?

We are specialists in all aspects of vehicle importation and can provide you with a low cost, professional and quick service

Free Quotation Available

Spain: 711 001 721

info@car-registrations-spain.com

We'll provide you with:

- Spanish Registration Document
- ITV card (similar to UK MOT cert)
- ITV Window Sticker
- Receipt for Import Tax
- Receipt for Road Tax
- New Spanish Registration Plates

UK: 02380 200 706

www.car-registrations-spain.com

A6 FLYERS

500 - 28,99€

2.500 - 41,99€

5.000 - 52,99€

BUSINESS CARDS

250 - 21,99€

1.000 - 29,99€

2.500 - 39,99€

*IVA not included

sales@calidaprint.com
www.calidaprint.com
687 422 305





Find your perfect home

Multilingual property experts with
25 years on the Costa Blanca



Know someone who wants to sell?
Refer them to us and earn 50€
Scan the Qr code to make a referral



+34 711 010 552
+34 965 020 204

www.welcome-estates.com
info@welcome-estates.com

Tapas

Tapas are a cherished culinary tradition in Spain. They are small, flavourful dishes that are typically enjoyed with drinks at bars and restaurants. Tapas are an essential part of Spanish culture, as they provide an opportunity to socialize, share food, and enjoy a leisurely dining experience.

The word “tapas” originally referred to a slice of bread or meat placed on top of a drink to protect it from flies. Over time, this evolved into a custom of serving small bites alongside beverages. Today, tapas have become a distinct style of cuisine, featuring a wide variety of ingredients, flavours, and cooking techniques.

Tapas can be hot or cold and encompass a vast range of dishes. Some popular examples include:

Patatas Bravas: Fried potatoes served with a spicy tomato sauce and alioli.

Tortilla Española: A thick omelet made with eggs, potatoes, and sometimes onions.

Gambas al Ajillo: Sautéed shrimp cooked with garlic, olive oil, and chili flakes.

Albóndigas: Spanish meatballs typically made with beef or pork, served in a rich tomato sauce.

Pimientos de Padrón: Small green peppers fried and sprinkled with sea salt.

Jamón Ibérico: Thinly sliced cured ham, often considered a delicacy in Spain.

Croquetas: Creamy, breadcrumb-coated croquettes filled with various ingredients like ham, cheese, or mushrooms.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of tapas is the concept of “tapeo.” Rather than ordering a single dish, it is common to order several tapas to share with friends or family. This allows for a more social and interactive dining experience.

Tapas are typically served in bars, where they are displayed on the bar counter, allowing customers to choose what they want. Alternatively, some restaurants offer “raciones,” which are larger portions of tapas suitable for sharing among a group.

In Spain, the time for tapas varies depending on the region. In some areas, such as Andalusia, it is common to have tapas before lunch or dinner as a pre-meal snack. In other regions, like the Basque Country, pintxos (similar to tapas) are often enjoyed in the evening as a dinner substitute.

Overall, tapas are a delightful way to experience the rich and diverse flavours of Spanish cuisine. They showcase the country’s culinary creativity and are an excellent representation of the convivial and social nature of Spanish dining culture.





VNBenny.com

**WEB & VIDEO
DESIGN**

**GRAPHIC
DESIGN**

**ONLINE
MARKETING**

info@vnbenny.com



MICRO BLOCK THE ANTI SKID FLOOR TREATMENT

System by
MICROGRES[®]
info@microblockfloor.com

0034 625 88 18 89
www.microblockfloor.com



X TREAT

authorised
applicator

We provide non-slip treatment
services for floors with
professional application

Safety is not just a slogan

- Anti slip treatment for bathrooms, patios, swimming pools.
- For ceramic floors - interior and exterior.
- Heavy duty surfaces.
- Anti mould treatment.
- Marble polishing.
- Terrace and roof impermeabilization with resins.
- Nice and simple.

Top 10 Tourist Attractions

Spain is a surprise to those who have the image of having to fight for towel space at one of its crowded beaches or sipping sangria while watching a bull fight or flamenco. From the ancient monuments left by the Romans and Moors, the medieval castles of the interior, the white villages in inland Andalucía or the vibrant cities of Barcelona and Madrid, there is a great mixture of cultural attractions in Spain.

The landscape varies just as widely. The evergreen estuaries of Galicia could hardly be more different from the deserts of Almería or the rugged mountains of the Sierra Nevada. And then there are the countless glittering beaches that dot the Spanish coast. Although busy in summer even along the coast of the big tourist Costas some enjoyable beaches can easily be found. Here's a look at the top tourist attractions in Spain.

1. The Palacio Real (Royal Palace) of Madrid

The Palacio Real is the official residence of the King of Spain although it is only used for state ceremonies.

The Royal Palace was built between 1738 to 1755 and King Carlos III took up residence in the palace in 1764.

2. Pamplona, running of the bulls

Pamplona, Navarra, famous for its San Fermín festival held each year from July 6th – 14th.

At the heart of the festival is El Encierro, the Running of the Bulls, an activity that involves running in front of a dozen bulls that have been let loose, on a course of the town's streets.





3. The Aqueduct of Segovia

The Aqueduct of Segovia is one of the best-preserved monuments left by the Romans in Spain.

The ancient aqueduct carries water 16 km (10 miles) from the Frío River to Segovia and was built of some 24,000 massive granite blocks without the use of mortar. Probably constructed around 50 AD it still provided water to the city in the 20th century.



4. Cuenca

Situated between Madrid and Valencia, Cuenca is a marvelous example of a medieval city, built on the steep sides of a mountain.

The many “hanging houses” are built right up to the cliff edge, making Cuenca one of the most striking towns in Spain, a gem in the province of Castilla La Mancha.

5. The Sagrada Familia

The Sagrada Familia is a large Roman Catholic church in Barcelona, and one of Spain’s most visited tourist attractions.

It’s a design by Antoni Gaudí, a Catalan architect who worked on this project for almost 40 years until his death in 1926. The construction of the basilica began in 1882 and still as yet not finished.



6. El Escorial

Nestled in the foothills of the Sierra de Guadarrama, El Escorial was the political center of the Spanish empire under King Philip II.

Philip appointed Juan Bautista de Toledo as the architect in 1559 and together they designed El Escorial as a monument to Spain's role as a centre of the Christian world. Today it functions as a monastery, royal palace, museum, and school.



7. The Mezquita (Spanish for “Mosque”) of Cordoba

The Mezquita is a fascinating building famous for the forest of pillars and arches inside the main hall.

The site was originally a Roman temple, then a Visigothic church, before the Umayyad Moors built the Mezquita. After the Spanish Reconquista a cathedral was built into the centre of the large Moorish building.



11. Alhambra

Part fortress, part palace and part garden the Alhambra is situated on a plateau overlooking the city of Granada in southern Spain.

The palace was constructed in the 14th century by the Nasrid sultans. The Alhambra is now one of Spain's major tourist attractions and many visitors come to Granada just to see the Alhambra.

12. La Concha

Protected from strong winds by steep cliffs and islands, La Concha in San Sebastian is said by many to be one of the best city beaches in Europe, let alone Spain.

Here you can go surfing, walk along the promenade in search of good restaurants and enjoy the beautiful views of the beach.



Cotswold Carriers

Cotswold Carriers is a family run business with over 40 years' experience in domestic and commercial removals – both in the UK and Europe.



Moving to or from Spain? Contact the experts.

For a **FREE** no obligation quotation call **+44 1608 730500**
or email **enquiries@cotswold-carriers.co.uk** and quote **ALIS**

Wine Regions - Murcia Wine

Murcia is one of Spain's smaller, lesser-known regions. Tucked away in the country's far southeastern corner, it is bordered by Andalucía to the west, Castilla-La Mancha to the north, Valencia to the east and the Mediterranean Sea to the south. This small administrative region consists of just one province and one administrative centre, both of which are also named Murcia. The classic Murcian wine is a robust, fruit-driven red made from Monastrell.

Murcia city was founded in the 9th Century by the Emir of Cordoba, Abd ar-Rahman II, with the Arabic name Mursiya. The exact meaning of the name is the subject of speculation, with suggestions that it is a corruption of either Myrtea or Murtae, two Latin words meaning 'myrtle' and 'mulberry' respectively. Both of these plants flourish throughout the region.

The Murcian landscape consists primarily of low-lying mountains and dry coastal plains. The obvious exception to this is the Mar Menor ("minor sea"), a large salty lagoon in the southeastern corner of the province, next to the Mediterranean Sea. The Segura River provides much-needed water to the inland areas. Many agricultural products are grown along the river; tomatoes and citrus fruit are popular.

In terms of wine, Murcia is home to three DO appellations – Bullas, Jumilla and Yecla. Vines are said to have been introduced to the region by the Phoenicians in ancient times. Murcia's winemaking reputation has fluctuated down through the centuries. During Roman rule, demand and esteem were high. The region came into prominence again in the latter half of the 19th Century, when the vineyards of neighbouring France were destroyed by the phylloxera louse and the growers there turned to other European producers to fill the gap for their robust red wines. Murcia was one of the natural choices – the conditions there suit the production of the Monastrell grape, which yields wines with high tannins and deep colour, suitable for barrel maturation.

Unfortunately, wine quality slipped after this period, as quantity became the key focus. There are some notable modern-day exceptions, however, mainly from producers who have experimented with winemaking techniques and grape varieties and have prioritized quality over bulk-produced quantity. This has catalyzed into a general movement toward modernization and a new focus on producing wines of complexity and structure.



Wine

Apart from the southern edge of Bullas, Murcia's winegrowing zones here are all located some way inland. They still enjoy the temperature-moderating effects of a Mediterranean climate, however, although significantly less than areas located right on the coast.

The climate here is divided between coastal influences of the nearby sea and the continental influences of Spain's hot, arid interior. In the lower-lying areas of Bullas region (much of which is cooled by increased altitude), summer daytime temperatures of 113°F (45°C) are not uncommon. All these factors contribute in shaping the styles and types of wines produced in a region which, unsurprisingly, is heavily favoured towards robust reds.

Apart from Monastrell, other notable grape varieties grown in Murcia include Tempranillo, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Syrah for reds and Macabeo, Airen and Merseguera for whites.



LA DILIGENTE
Compañía de Vinos

TRUST US!
WE ARE WINE EXPERTS

Irene WSET 3 in 2019
Andrés WSET 3 in 2014

www.ladiligente.es



Insurance **4** expat



For all your insurance needs

Explore our diverse array of insurance options, designed to cater to your specific requirements, ranging from home and auto to life and health. Rest assured, our friendly team is available 7 days a week, ready to assist you at any time, providing the protection and support you can rely on



Call **0034 686 58 47 01** or
email info@insurance4expat.com
for a free no obligation quote

North Town...



BENISSA



Benissa is located towards the northern end of the Costa Blanca, just off the A-7 Motorway; the trip to and from Alicante airport takes just over one hour. The town is small, but enchanting with its medieval architecture and charming plazas.

BENISSA

Although only 5 kilometres distance from the sea – as the crow flies, the nearest beaches by road are approximately 11 kilometres away and the seaside towns of Calpe (to the south) and Moraira (to the north east) are approximately 12 kilometres distance. The views of the Mediterranean, the weather, wild nature, the quality of the light, the towns architecture, Benissa will seduce you.

History

The historical part of Benissa is very well preserved and has maintained its medieval character with white walls, window grids, heraldic shields and flowers hanging on the balconies. Calle Desamparados is a very good example of the medieval character of the historic neighbourhood.

When visiting Benissa, you must take some time out to visit the lovely “Catedral de la Marina” (Marina Cathedral). Built in the neo-gothic style, the cathedral was only finished in the 20th Century.

Excursions

Places to visit include the picturesque town of Denia and the beachside towns of Javea, Moraira and Calpe. Terra Mitica is less than 30 minutes away, and is a fantastic day out for all the family.

For the independently minded there are many miles of country road to explore inland, dotted with charming villages and historic towns.

Golf

There are many fine challenging golf courses in the area. Try the Seve Ballesteros designed championship course at Oliva, or sample the delights of the course at Javea. There is lots of choice all within one hours drive of Benissa.

Cuisine

The local cuisine is dominated by the bounties of the sea. Excellent rice dishes abound. However, in recent years many international establishments have opened up, offering more familiar fare for all international tastes.

Beaches

The stretch of coastline between Calpe and Moraira is home to a number of quiet relaxing bays. The scenery is magnificent; spectacular rocks contrasting with the high mountain backdrop. From many points the emblematic Peñon de Ifach can be seen. Playa La Fustera is a quiet blue flag beach with fine sand.

During the high season there is a Red Cross post, plus rental of sun loungers and children’s activities to keep the little ones happy. The little beach of Cala Els Pinets is south-facing and made up of small pebbles. You can take part on an excursion from there (on foot) to a magic place called “Mar Morta i Roques Negres”, which means Dead Sea and black stones.

Cala Llobela is the smallest and most savage bay of them all; the pine trees reach right down to the sea and little pebbles form the beach. It’s an ideal place to practice water-sports, as well as simply basking in the sun.

The most important characteristic of the Cala Advocat beach is the breakwater, where you can moor your sailing boat. There is a small jetty used to anchor sailing boats along the beach. Fishing from the breakwater is very popular.

Climate

July and August are quite hot in Benissa, with the rest of the year being enjoyable mild. The area is ideal for holidays all year round.

Learn Spanish



What we offer:

- Fun and interactive online group classes
- Individual help and support
- Courses from beginner to intermediate
- Free first lesson to try
- Powerpoints and recordings of every lesson



Fb Sobey’s school of Spanish
Tel 07815673921



**SELLING FEES 2.5%
WITH A MINIMUM FEE**

**MORE PROPERTIES
NEEDED URGENTLY**

Our sales success means we urgently
need more properties in & around
Camposol to sell

**Struggling to sell your property?
contact us today!**

Calle Jara,
Camposol B,
30875 Mazarrón
Tel: 968 979 876

Opening Hours:
Mon-Fri: 9am till 6pm
Sat: 9am till 2pm
Sun: Closed

www.2let2sell2buy.com



CAB1309

Well maintained Semi-detached Fiesta style villa. 2 Beds, 1 bath Walking distance to amenities and the golf club, gated entrances, pellet burner, garden shed, electric towel rail, ceiling fans, large driveway, low maintenance garden, dual aircon, insect screens, rejas, walking, uninterrupted views of the golf course. Being sold part furnished.



CAC1391

Well-presented semi-detached extended Rebecca style villa, 2 beds, 1.5 bath, fully glazed terrace, pellet burner, dual AC, ceiling fans, upgraded kitchen, rear terrace, rooftop solarium, amazing views. Being sold white goods only.



CAD1501

A beautifully presented Saladillo Golf Style Villa, 2 bed, 2 bath, 134m2 plot, gated entrances, upgraded kitchen, off-road parking, communal pool, ceiling fans, vented dual A.C, roof-top solarium, fantastic views. Being sold part furnished.

Lex Drew

INTERPRETER

For all your appointments -
Medical, Business, Personal or Legal
Documentation Matters

+34 685 041 628

facebook.com/LexicoAB

lexicoalex@gmail.com



MURCIA PROPERTY SERVICES since 2008

A Place in the Sun

rightmove

ZOOPLA

kyero



Ref OASIS **80,000€**

Hacienda Del Alamo
2 Bed 2 Bath Apartment



Ref JA34 **59,000€**

La Torre Golf Resort
2 Bed 1 Bath Apartment



Ref 168 **94,950€**

Sucina
2 Bed 1 Bath Property



Ref JAQ4 **224,950€**

Sucina
3 Bed 2 Bath Detached Villa

We have clients waiting to buy, Contact us to get your property listed.

+34 658 31 84 38

andyh.mps@gmail.com
www.murciapropertyservices.es

Plaza Arteaga No. 6
Sucina
Murcia 30590



Bank of Spain
registration
No. 6716

Sending money to or from Spain?

If you need to send money overseas, using a reputable currency provider is a must.

With Currencies Direct, you'll benefit from award-winning service, excellent exchange rates, and a range of tools to help you make the most of your transfers.

We have over 20 local branches spread across Spain. Pop in for a chat or find out more at currenciesdirect.com.

- ✓ Authorised by the Bank of Spain
- ✓ Excellent exchange rates
- ✓ Award-winning service
- ✓ 24/7 payments online or by app
- ✓ 20+ local branches in Spain



No receiving charges
in any Spanish bank



Let's talk currency

Mazarrón

Avenida los Covachos
Camposol B, Mazarrón,
Murcia, 30875, Spain
+34 968 976 383
murcia@currenciesdirect.com



Scan here for your
customised quote



© Currencies Direct Ltd, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5AA, United Kingdom. Registered in England & Wales, No.: 03041197. Currencies Direct Ltd is authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority as an Electronic Money Institution under the Electronic Money Regulations 2011. Our FCA Firm Reference number is 900669.

Our EU services are provided by Currencies Direct Spain.

© Currencies Direct Spain, E.D.E., S.L., Avenida del Mediterráneo, 341, 04638 Mojácar, Almería, Spain. Registered in the Commercial Registry of Almería under the Spanish tax ID number B04897930. Currencies Direct Spain, E.D.E., S.L. is authorised by the Bank of Spain as an Electronic Money Institution under Law 21/2011 of 26 July and Royal Decree 778/2012 of 4 May. Our registration number with the Bank of Spain is 6716.



SPAIN **35**

Spanish Regional Capitals

Almeria



There are 44 regions in Spain. Here we highlight 12 of the regional capitals

Almería is a city and municipality located in the province of Almería, in the autonomous community of Andalusia, Spain. It is situated on the southeastern coast of the Iberian Peninsula, overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. Almería is the capital of the province and has a population of approximately 200,000 people.

The city of Almería has a rich history that dates back to ancient times. It was founded by the Caliph of Cordoba, Abd ar-Rahman III, in the 10th century and served as an important port and trading centre during the Moorish period. The city was later conquered by the Catholic Monarchs during the Reconquista in the 15th century.

One of the most prominent landmarks in Almería is the Alcazaba, a fortified complex that was built by the Moors in the 10th century. It is the second-largest Moorish fortress in Spain and offers stunning views of the city and the surrounding area. Another notable attraction is the Cathedral of Almería, a fortress-like structure that was constructed in the 16th century and features a unique blend of Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque architectural styles.



ANGELS

Andalucian Nursing Care SL

Nursing & Homecare from 1 hr daily

Tailor made Care Packages

Respite/Live - in Care

Rehabilitation/Palliative Care

Hospital Support

Free initial assesment

www.angelsnursingcare.com

info@angelsnursingcare.com

0034 711 08 04 62

0034 711 06 79 59

0034 850 99 38 49

Available
24hrs
a day



Almería is also famous for its beautiful beaches and coastal landscapes. The city boasts a long stretch of coastline known as the Costa de Almería, which is characterized by pristine beaches, crystal-clear waters, and impressive cliffs. The area attracts tourists from around the world who come to relax, sunbathe, and enjoy various water activities such as swimming, snorkeling, and sailing.

In addition to its natural beauty, Almería is known for its agricultural industry, particularly the production of fruits and vegetables. The region's warm climate and fertile soil make it ideal for cultivating crops, and Almería has become a major exporter of fruits and vegetables to European markets. The area is famous for its greenhouse farming, with vast fields of plastic greenhouses dominating the landscape.

Culturally, Almería hosts various festivals and events throughout the year, including the Almería International Film Festival, which attracts filmmakers and celebrities from around the world. The city also has a vibrant gastronomic scene, offering a wide range of traditional Andalusian dishes as well as international cuisine.

Overall, Almería is a captivating destination that combines history, natural beauty, and a thriving agricultural industry. Whether you're interested in exploring ancient fortresses, lounging on pristine beaches, or experiencing the region's culinary delights, Almería has something to offer for everyone.

Spanish Recipes

Spain has some of the most varied cuisine in Europe. We are going to try to guide you through some recipes for you to try at home.

Good luck and enjoy.

Ajo colorao'



Ingredients:

Ingredients for 4 people:

- 1 kg of potatoes.
- 3 dried red peppers
- 2 ripe tomatoes.
- 1/2 kg of ray.
- 6 cloves of garlic.
- 2 spoonfuls of sweet pepper.
- 3-4 strands of saffron.
- 1 dl of olive oil.
- 1/2 teaspoon of cumin.
- Salt.

Method:

Preparation

Boil the potatoes with the dried peppers and the tomatoes.

When they are about half cooked, add the pieces of ray and allow to boil for a further 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, grind the cumin, saffron, garlic, cooked red peppers and tomatoes.

Mash the potatoes and add the above.

Then check the salt and add the oil, paprika, a little of the stock, and the de-boned fish meat.

Mix together with a wooden spoon.

Presentation

Serve accompanied by fried cornflour balls and several strips of baked peppers.



your partner to sell or buy
your villa
in Pinoso Yecla,
the Hondon Valley,
Abanilla & Fortuna



Nous parlons votre langue et nous vous assistons dans la recherche de votre villa de rêve

Wij spreken uw taal en staan u dan ook voor 100% bij in het vinden van uw droomvilla

Wir sprechen Ihre Sprache und helfen Ihnen Ihre Traumvilla zu finden

We speak your language and can assist you to find your dream villa in Spain

0034 685297802, e-mail: info.countryvillaspain@gmail.com (ask for Brigitte)
www.countryvillaspain.com



country villa
spain



THE GOOD TIMES
SOUND
LIKE
THIS



Costa Calida Radio

90.00 - 100.00 fm

Listen all day.....every day

on line www.costacalidaradio.com

Taquilla Tickets

By Taquilla Tickets

History of Spain Part 3

Once again, it is a great big HELLO from all of us at Taquilla Tickets. We sincerely hope you are enjoying your summer, and now that the temperatures are dropping a little, you are coping with the heat!! These "History of Spain" articles seem to be going down well. Please let us know what you think! Before moving on with "Part 3", we must inform you of our very own BIG, SIX CITY TOUR IN JANUARY 2024. This will be our most extensive tour so far, and we are taking lots of bookings! So, if you would like to know more then check our Website, Facebook, call, or pop into our office to get all the details.

Part 2 of our "History of Spain" ended with the beginning of the reconquest of Spain from the Muslims, Hungarians, and the Slavic peoples. The reconquest eventually led to the last military victory of Granada in 1492. The reconquest also included the ambition for religious, ethnic, and cultural uniformity. The Jews refused to convert to Catholicism, and they were expelled from Spain. The Moorish converts who refused to convert were also expelled. The Jews found themselves in a difficult position. However, this was not confined only to Spain. Until 1492 the Christian territories in Spain had been a sort of melting pot of Jewish, Muslim, and Christian cultures. This eventually gave rise to the so-called "Disputas" or debates between scholars of the three cultures who were united by King Alfonso X, and was known as the "Toledo Translation School". (Toledo, WOW!! What a place to visit. Have we been there? Yes, we have. Keep your eyes open!!)

The work produced by this school enriched European culture with the science of the Greeks and the achievements of the Arabs. This knowledge created a frontier economy within the huge amounts of space that Spain had. Since the 13th century, the Hispanic kingdoms were based on rapidly growing societies, the dynamics of which were very clearly reflected in the economic and political expansion of the kingdom of Aragon. The conquest of Sardinia, Sicily, and Naples in the Mediterranean helped. Because of economic interests, Castile was able to occupy the vanguard position in the quest for commercial routes with the East. The Castilians however, had an equally active competitor in the Iberian state of Portugal. Such was the rivalry between the two kingdoms for control of the maritime routes, the "Treaty of Alcaçovas" was signed in 1479. This agreement enabled Castile to maintain the Canary Islands in return for renouncing all of the Eastern voyages around the African Coast. This was assigned to Portugal. This was such an unfair division and perhaps highlighted an age-old issue of the Iberian states, and that was the unity of the peninsula.

Although the incorporation of Navarre in 1512 improved peninsular unity, the whole cycle of unification was really completed with the capture of Granada (One of Taquilla Tickets favourite places) in 1492. In that very same year, Nebrija published the very first grammar of a popular language - Castilian - and a Spanish fleet reached the coasts of America. Amazing! Ferdinand and Isabella, the Catholic Monarchs, invested all of their efforts in reinforcing the state apparatus and the authority of the Crown, looking for support in legal and administrative institutions and creating new ones. And this was often inspired by those of other European countries. In 1478 (much later than other countries) The Tribunal of the Inquisition was introduced. This court served religious purposes as well as an instrument used by monarchs to reinforce the authority of the state.

In 1492 the Spanish monarchy represented one of the earliest modern states in Renaissance Europe. The outward expansion across the Atlantic (the Americas and Flanders) and the Mediterranean (Italy), was based precisely on this. At the same time, Spain's foreign policy was orchestrated by the creation of a permanent state which was staffed by civil servants and diplomats. By 1492 Spain could boast powerful war machinery, a solid economy, and scientific and technical expertise: mathematicians, geographers, astronomers, and shipbuilders. And this in the melting pot of three cultures !!

And so, by the mid-16th century, Spain had established a viceroy in both Mexico and Peru. That was some achievement !! Magellan initiated the first circumnavigation of the world. On the 6th of September 1522, Juan Sebastian Elcano returned to the peninsula as a survivor of Magellan's epic voyage. This provided Spain with a route to the East. Spain was "all-powerful" now, with fleets in Havana and Veracruz, in the Atlantic and Acapulco, in the Philippines and the Pacific together with control of the Western Mediterranean, under the continuous threat from the Turks. These routes became the vital arteries of the Spanish Empire's overseas territories. Convoys of Spanish Galleons kept these routes open despite the regular attacks from both English and Dutch ships. The decisive battle of Trafalgar in 1805 sorted this problem out.

The conquest of America was, in some ways, similar to the peninsular expansion. In both cases, confrontations were very much a last resort. The Spanish sought allies in the tribes that they subjugated. Indeed, they distributed the new lands among Spanish colonists, and they reorganised the indigenous settlements. In Italy, the Spanish monarchy adopted the tradition of engaging in confrontation with France and alliances with England. The Battle of Pavia in 1521 resulted in the capture of King Francis I of France by Spanish infantry regiments and consolidated Spain's superiority until the mid-17th century. In their quest to further Spain's diplomatic and commercial relations with the Netherlands, Ferdinand and Isabella joined the Spanish Crown to the Duchy of Burgundy. This union was to condition Spanish and European politics until the 18th century. This huge legacy was to establish an all-encompassing and flexible monarchy, consisting of a huge constellation of kingdoms and domains which were united in a massive confederation around a single Crown, Spain!!

The first consequence of this "conglomerate" was the complete absence of any attempt to create a single organisation that was common to the whole empire. The second consequence was that no attempt was made to secure any type of political or economic cooperation between the territories. This would have helped to consolidate the empire to make it a very powerful force. However, they retained control over their huge territories that were spread around the world. In the 16th and 17th centuries, no other state was faced with such an enormous administrative problem. Spain had a lot to do to colonise and govern a very new world !!

We do hope that you enjoy reading these articles about our adopted country. Spain is a massive country and, at Taquilla Tickets, we are slowly working our way around various parts of this beautiful place. DON'T FORGET OUR VERY FIRST BIG CITIES TRIP IN JANUARY 2024. Contact us for further information. By the time this article is in print, we will have been able to see some of the biggest names in the music industry, as well as the Chinese Terracotta Warriors. Our three-day trip to Granada will have passed as well as "Mojacar in Candlelight". Benidorm and Tabarca Island will have been visited too!! You can contact us in the usual ways:

DON'T FORGET, JANUARY 2024 IS OUR "BIG TRIP".

As usual, you can contact us as follows from 1st July - 31st August: Al Kazar office is open 7 days a week from 09.30 - 14.30 AND in the evening from 17.00 - 21.00 also 7 days a week !!!

We are pretty sure that you know how to get in touch with us BUT, just in case:

You can contact Sally: 0034 657 346 445

You can contact Nigel : 0034 642 501 568

Taquilla



Your one stop ticket shop

www.taquillaticketscondado.com

Discount Waterpark Tickets * Quad Biking * Boat trips

Concert Tickets * Coach Trips * Private Hire Transfers

.... and More

**Visit our Offices on Condado De Alhama or
Camposol**

Contact us

Call 657346445 or 605180894

Available on WhatsApp

Email taquillaticketscondado@gmail.com

visit www.taquillaticketscondado.com

Follow us on Facebook

Fully Legal, Reliable, Honest Family run business.



OUTDOOR FURNITURE

Oceans

Leaders in Rattan & Aluminium Furniture



Up to 50% OFF

Locations of all of our stores are on our website

oceansoutdoor.es

The logo for MG Management Services is centered in a large red circle. It features the letters 'MG' in a large, bold, white sans-serif font. Below 'MG', the words 'Management' and 'Services' are stacked in a smaller, white sans-serif font. The background of the logo is a solid red square.

MG Management Services

MG might look like a small business in a little office recently opened on Camposol but how appearances can be deceiving.

MG was originally established a number of years ago working behind the scenes with various larger companies in the cities and surrounding areas, and to this day we at MG continue to collaborate and assist these companies giving us a wide range of services with that guaranteed personal touch. With a team of specialist's native in multiple languages we at MG can take care of all your Legal, Tax, Accountancy, Residence / Visa, All Insurances, Conveyancing, Rental, Key-Holding and Cleaning, Car Hire and much more all under one roof.

MG can also save you money on your electric bill by comparing companies and providing the full change over FREE OF CHARGE.

We understand that some client`s like to complete certain steps of their procedures themselves and therefore we make it easy to guide them in the right direction without it costing huge amounts for the full procedure. You can use MG for everything or simply translations of documents, apostilles, or even a doctor`s phone call. We are here to support our clients in their own language.

Call into the MG office with this article and receive the free emergency app on your phone to assist you in Spain, don`t forget to bring your electric bill so we can SAVE YOU MONEY with no obligation, or write to MG at MG2023mservices@gmail.com to enter our prize draw! There is never a problem only a Solution that MG is here to provide.



Free things to do in and around Alicante *part 3*

Alicante is a beautiful region that's full of mountains, towns, and cultural events that all seem to be catered toward creating the perfect holiday for everyone. Not only does the region offer something for the whole family as well as solo travellers, but it does so at the most affordable price of all: 100% free.

16 of 30 - Torrevieja's Park of Nations – Dedicated to the nations of Europe, it has a scale reproduction of the map of the European Continent.

One of the most outstanding features inside is a lake covering six thousand square metres, with six thousand cubic metres of water unfit for drinking, making good use of the special tertiary treatment at Torrevieja's water purifying plant. In it there are geese, ducks, ganders and three thousand coloured carp. The local Mediterranean vegetation is abundant.

There is also a children's playground here and lots of chickens, peacocks, ducks, and other birds to view, but PLEASE don't feed them bread as it seriously damages their wings.

17 of 30 - Torrevieja Salt Flats – Though there aren't any paths to walk around here due to them all being fenced off by the salt corporations, there are two pull-ins along the road on the right hand side (when coming down from Alicante) that are good places for birdwatching, especially for flamingos. One pull-in is a proper slip road near the remaining fort with an information board and the other is a bit further south on a patch of dirt and gravel. Binoculars, chairs, and sunscreen are advised.

Whilst there visit the Torrevieja Pink Lake - With an equal salt density to the Dead Sea, one doesn't have to travel far from Alicante to experience what it's like to float on water. Barely more than knee deep, the pink lake in Torrevieja makes for a great day out even for those who've never learned how to swim.

18 of 30 - CIMAR Aquarium – CIMAR aquarium has free entry and was built to honour and educate people about the fishing history of Aguilas – a dedication that can be easily deciphered by the 19

metre trawler docked outside/on top of this building. The fish species here are those that can be found both in tropical waters and the western half of the Mediterranean sea. In addition to all of this, CIMAR contains one of Europe's largest privately-owned seashell collections.

19 of 30 - Four Coves - Another wonderful and free thing to do near Águilas (besides visiting the free CIMAR aquarium) is to go swimming at one (or all) of the bays that make up Four Coves. One recommendation would be to snorkel Cala Cerrada not just for the abundance of marine life lurking right off the beach, but also for the colorful maze of boulders on the right hand side

Águilas has great shops, beaches and restaurants to complete your day.

19 of 30 - Cartagena's Walled Inner City – A classic stroll across the historic cobblestones of Cartagena as you marvel at the place's architecture and bright colours of old. You can either do this walk on your own or book one of the tours with Free Tour Cartagena to hear all about the historical legends of this place.

Cartagena is steeped in history having been ruled by the Christians, Muslims and the Romans at some point. Amphitheatres, and historic ruins are in abundance. Combine this with the naval museums and your day will be full.

Torrevieja



20 of 30 - Bolnuevo's Rock Erosions - This free attraction in Bolnuevo is also known as the "enchanted landscape" - a nickname that doesn't require any explanation once you see it for yourself.

Carved over millions of years, these unique rock structures almost look as if they were sculpted by an artist creating a landscape for a sci-fi world. A clear path to the top is accessed around the back of Bolnuevo's erosions (although it doesn't feel very stable at every point so take care). And afterwards, why not take a quick dip into the sea two hundred metres from these unique rock formations?

21 of 30 - Estrecho de la Arboleja - One of the very few hikes in Spain that can actually be attempted in the hot summer months without having a heat stroke. Estrecho de la Arboleja is a fairly deep canyon that offers a cool shelter from the blistering heat of the sun, both for humans and plants alike. The cool

dampness it contains makes it an ideal habitat for green plants, moss, and frogs. The main section is fairly short and a bit wet even in the dry season of July and August. Though the hike itself is not very long, one could easily spend hours at Estrecho de la Arboleja climbing up sketchy rock ladders, squeezing through old irrigation tunnels, crossing very narrow bridges (made for water, not humans), and of course just marvelling at the awesome structure of the canyon. Just remember to explore safely.

For those that wish for a longer hike, you can continue to head south down the rest of the canyon. It's about a ten kilometre loop, with the way back following a road. Though there is an continued amount of shade through here, it's still smoking hot so bring a lot of water with you. One more note: the best wild camping spots are within about 600 metres from the start of Estrecho de la Arboleja.



Why Spain! BY

“My contribution to A Life In Spain aims to share my personal experiences in deciding, planning, moving and now living in Spain. My hope is that someone finds it useful, helpful, insightful or helps anyone considering moving to Spain (or another country), the courage to follow that dream.”



Moving Day – A Pet Owners Perspective

It's 2.00am on Wednesday February 22 2023. My alarm goes off though I've barely slept. Move day has arrived! Vex (my Cyprus hunting dog) and I have to check-in at Larnaca International Airport by 03:30am for our flight to Madrid, via Athens.

I am trying to minimise my anxiety so it doesn't arouse his. He is already wondering why the hell we're up at this ridiculous time. He has never flown before. I have never flown with a dog before. He is already confused about the packing and leaving the only home he's ever known. He's already out of sorts.

We'll reach our final destination in Pozo Alcon, Jaen,

around eight or nine o'clock tonight. It's a long day of new and uncomfortable experiences for Vex and no rest for either of us until we arrive at our accommodation. A farm stay outside Pozo.

I feel so bad I am putting him through this move, disrupting his happy life in Cyprus and the impending transitional period while we establish our lives in Spain. I wish he understood it's short term pain for long term gain. That would make me feel better anyway.

Number one priority. I need to keep my nervous system calm. I do not need to have any panic attacks today. No coffee, no food but lots of water and breathing exercises. I know my fears about him travelling are irrational. That makes it worse in a way. He will be okay. Some Remedy

Seashore Footprints

Handmade Jewellery and Gifts from natural Seashells

Sourced from the beautiful beaches of the Mar Menor

Creating Memories of the beach, wherever you are!

katrinas_seashells
@SeashoreFootprints
@Katrinashells
etsy.com/uk/shop/SeashoreFootprints

PLANE PARKING SL P 24hr

LONG AND SHORT TERM PARKING ALICANTE & MURCIA AIRPORT

Our family-run business open for over 15 years is a professional and secure 24hr Airport Parking company based at Alicante & Murcia Airports, catering for both Short & Long Term clients.

SHORT TERM PARKING & CONTRACTS 1 - 12 MONTHS INCLUDE:

- Meet & Greet service at the airport
- Complimentary external clean on return
- Vehicle is parked in our very secure & insured compound only 2 minutes away from either Alicante or Murcia airport with Full CCTV & Alarm system
- Vehicle can be transferred between sites (small fee applies unless you have a Dual Contract)
- For your peace of mind, on arrival, the damage and kilometres are recorded
- To and from the airport and between sites your vehicle is only driven by insured, experienced and legally contracted Plane Parking drivers

CONTRACTS 1 - 12 MONTHS ALSO INCLUDE:

- Unlimited Pick-ups and Drop-offs
- Dual airport contracts include unlimited transfers between sites (Alicante & Murcia) at no extra cost. Park your car at Alicante and then next fly into Murcia, or vice versa, as many times as you like.

We also provide a complete Car Care Service as we work with a wide range of qualified engineers and mechanics. Services include ITVs, mechanical & body work, valets, tyres and lots more.

12 MONTH MURCIA AIRPORT CONTRACT.....	335€
12 MONTH ALICANTE AIRPORT CONTRACT.....	355€
12 MONTH DUAL AIRPORT CONTRACT.....	455€

Reservations/Enquiries: (0034) 966 840 289
www.planeparking.com info@planeparking.es



Rescue, naturally derived from the bach flower, takes the edge off for both of us. Check-in goes smoothly. Vex is so well behaved and cute with the lady checking us in. I am beyond relieved there are 4 other dogs flying in the hold with him. To Athens anyway. This will give him some comfort and that gives me comfort too. It's a eight hour and five minute trip, the quickest route possible.

Vex and I head back outside the terminal to walk around for as long as possible before taking him through pet security. Everything is checked again by the authorities. Once he cleared pet security, I had to leave him there to go clear security and immigration myself. This is the first and so far the only time Vex has ever howled. He howled and cried constantly for about twenty minutes. My heart was breaking for him. I wish he understood what was going on.

As I was boarding my Larnaca to Athens flight I could see him and the other dog crates being loaded into the plane. Check. Happy about that. They were all being handled with great care. Thanks Aegean Airlines! I was exhausted and slept most of the way to Athens. Boarded the plane to Madrid shortly there after. One of the lovely stewards confirmed Vex was on board before we took off for Madrid.

As we got closer to Madrid my excitement seem to consume all my anxiety. Thank god. On arrival in Madrid I could see the guys getting the dog crates out of the hold, with great care again, I saw Vex's crate. I bolted to be there when he arrived. I grabbed a trolley, picked up his 23kg large suit case, my rucksack and went to collect him. He was fine of course. Got him out and leashed, gave him a good drink of water, including the rest of my water, and badly restacked the trolley with his large crate, suitcase and my rucksack. It was a sight to behold.

Perhaps the most frustrating thing about airport trolleys when travelling solo with a 17kg dog and too much luggage is having to hold the trolley bar down (or up, which ever) so the bloody thing moves. All the while also holding your unstable luggage stack on the trolley, the

dog on leash and navigating new and busy terrain. The obvious thing to re-stack the trolley didnt occur to me at the time. I was already too anxious about Ana continually moving her car. This went on for close to two hours, until we finally found her.

Unfortunately, Ana kept moving her car between arrivals and departures. We had a total communication breakdown. I am moving to Spain but do not speak Spanish yet. As soon as we finally reached Ana's car, my legs just collapsed from under me out of pure exhaustion. I was so desperate for water and now super hungry to boot. It was such a relief to be in Ana's car and on our way. Finally. Can relax now. Very soon into our trip Ana and I discovered we could communicate with each other in Swiss-German and German, all the basic stuff anyway. I was so grateful Ana stopped at her favorite restaurant. Vex and I were starving and we needed more water, desperately. I took Vex for a walk and the restaurant allowed him to dine by our side. It was a relaxing break to have some 12 hours into our 16 hour journey.

After lunch, I got in the back of the car with Vex. We cuddled up and slept most of the way to Pozo Alcon, Jaen, arriving around 20:30. OMG, this place is stunning and perfect for Vex. Best surprise, exactly what we needed for a couple of days to chill out and be in nature. There were a few cabins spread across the fully fenced property, it had lovely gardens, three gorgeous little local doggies, moonlit mountain silhouettes and wow, oh so many stars in the sky.

We are the only guests for the next few nights. Vex and I were in heaven. Finally back in nature again. Happy dog happy me. Our cabin is rustically awesome. That first night was so blissful, looking out to the stary sky from bed and listening to the many different sounds of nature. Dogs, goats, geese and donkeys to name but a few. I am struggling to sleep again. Too excited about tomorrow mornings sunrise hike and then meeting Donna to complete my purchase of Vera (a classic 1989 Volkswagen T-25 Reimo Camper van).

insureSpain

CAR

ACCIDENT

BUSINESS

TRAVEL

HOUSE

MEDICAL

DENTAL

LIFE



Part of the group:

EXPAT INSURANCE S.L.

**Service centres
now open in:**

Condado de Alhama

Camposol

Murcia

Fuente Álamo

Mallorca

Call for details

**Special health insurance for
residencia now available**

Get a quote TODAY...

tel: 660 170 355

info@insurespain.com