

# Mallorca Tramuntana Traverse

Explore the rugged terrain of Mallorca's spectacular Tramuntana Mountain Range from Port de Soller to the 18th century town of Port de Pollenca, including the Victoria Peninsula. Walk along coastal pathways and historic merchant routes to traditional villages and beautiful lakes, to be rewarded with panoramic views of the coast and surrounding mountains. Experience staying in a remote 13th century monastery in Lluc.

# Trip highlights

- ★ Serra De Tramuntana Walks through stunning Alpine-like scenery with valleys, ravines and rushing rivers
- 🛨 Deia Picturesque village with orange and olive groves on steep cliffs overlooking the Mediterranean
- ★ Monestir de Lluc Stay in a 13th century sanctuary nestled in a remote and serene valley
- ★ Pollenca Opportunity to visit this atmospheric traditional Mallorcan town with ancient narrow streets and an impressive plaza

### **ACCOMMODATION GRADE:**

#### Standard

Our standard, mid-range accommodation offers a good level of service, often with other amenities such as a restaurant, bar, garden or swimming pool. Generally rooms will be comfortable with en suite facilities.

### **WALKING GRADE:**

#### Moderate

For those who are fit and active, these moderate walks are normally on good paths and tracks at low altitude. Days may include some fairly demanding ascents and descents, so previous experience is preferable but not essential.

#### **GROUP SIZE:**

10-16

Maximum group size ranges from between 6 to 20 people, depending on the type of trip, the transport and accommodation used and activities included. We rarely have groups that are smaller than five or six people and the average is 12 people plus an Explore leader.

# **Itinerary**

Itineraries on some departure dates may differ, please select the itinerary that you wish to explore.

# DAY 1-Trip starts in Port de Soller

Trip starts in Port de Soller, a pretty harbour town surrounded by the Tramuntana Mountains and our base for the next three nights.



Accommodation: Hotel Eden Nord (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: None

## DAY 2 - Coastal walk from Deia to Port de Soller

Early this morning we take a public bus the short distance to Deia, a beautiful village and once the home of poet Robert Graves. We wander through Deia with its stone houses stacked one above the other, and continue through the stone-built terraces of olive trees, to the tiny Cala de Deia, a rocky fishing cove. We follow this dramatic coastline north, through Llucalcari village and back to Port de Soller.

Todays 11km walk is expected to take around 5hrs with 300m ascent and 540m descent.



Accommodation: Hotel Eden Nord (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

# DAY 3 - Bus to Valldemossa to begin the circular walk known as the Archduke's Trail

After breakfast we travel by taxis or minibus to the attractive rural town of Valldemossa. From here we take a circular walk along the stone path known as the Archduke's Trail, part of which was laid by Archduke Ludwig Salvador of Austria who owned the local estate in the 19th century. The path offers some insight into rural life, including lime kilns and charcoal stoves, as well as stunning coastal views. We return to Port de Soller from Valldemossa by taxi or minibus.

Todays 11km walk is expected to take around 3.5hrs with 540m descent.



Accommodation: Hotel Eden Nord (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

# DAY 4 - Take the tram to Soller to start the walk. Hike to Cuber Lake. Bus to Lluc Monastery

This morning we take the historic tram out to the town of Soller, just inland. Here we start our walk to Cuber Lake in the heart of the Tramuntana Range, an area rich with bird life. We walk via the village of Biniaraitx and cross the Coll d'Ofre pass (890m) en route to the lake, which lies in the shadow of the highest peak on the island, Puig Major (1443m). We then travel by minibus or taxi to the remote valley where Lluc Monastery has quietly existed since the 13th century, and where we will spent the night. The 'Monestir de Nostra Senyora de Lluc' is an historic sanctuary and place of pilgrimage, and still takes in visitors. We can eat in the atmospheric wooden-beamed hall, formerly the monks' dining room. The impressive Basilica is well worth visiting, and the peaceful and beautiful setting is best appreciated by a short walk to the Mysteries of the Rosary which will take you up to the crucifix at the peak of a nearby hill. Look out for granite stations, some of which were worked on by Gaudi himself but never completed due to his sudden and unexplained departure from the island.

Todays 12km walk is expected to take around 4.5hrs with 850m ascent and 150m descent. To note that todays walk is point to point and there is not the option to be picked up along the way.



Accommodation: Lluc Monastery (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

# DAY 5 - Descend from the Monastery along a pilgrims trail to Port de Pollenca

Following one of the oldest pilgrimage trails on the island, we start our walk from Lluc passing through shady woodland, with the imposing north face of Tomir looming over us. As the path starts to descend, we get our first stunning view of Pollenca, built a few kilometres from the sea to protect against pirate attacks, and the port beyond. Entering denser woodland, the steep, scree covered slopes of Tomir tower even nearer as we continue our descent. Finally we join a small lane going past pretty cottages and fields of almond and orange trees, a serene farming landscape with the mountain range rising majestically behind. As we approach the main road into Pollenca we meet our minibus and continue to Port de Pollenca by bus. For those wishing to explore the ancient narrow streets and impressive plaza of Pollenca there is the option to be dropped off en route, making their own way to Port de Pollenca.

Todays 12.5km walk is expected to take around 4.5hrs with 200m ascent and 600m descent.



Accommodation: Hotel Eolo (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

# DAY 6 - Free day. Opportunity to take a boat trip, walk to Cala Boque or visit **Palma**

Today is free to relax, swim, walk or take one of a number of excursions in and around the Peninsula de Formentor. For those who wish to explore on foot a little more, it is possible to walk to Cala Boquer. The route affords superb views into the bays and winds among the palms and pine trees. The peninsula is also popular amongst ornithologists due to its resident birdlife and in April to October it's location on the migratory routes. The largest marshland in the Mediterranean is located at the Natural Park of S'Albufera, just south of Port d'Alcudia and is criss-crossed by paths linking bridges and hides from which to view the varied birdlife. Alternatively you may choose to visit Mallorca's capital Palma. Palma dates back to pre-Roman times, the architecture shaped by the ebb and flow of trade. For many people the highlight is the warren of narrow streets, reminders of its prosperity before Spanish trade shifted to the New World.



Accommodation: Hotel Eolo (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

# DAY 7 - Taxi to Victoria Peninsula, hike a circular walk via Penya Roja viewpoint. Bus to Port de Pollenca

This morning we travel by taxi to the Victoria Peninsula, on the north coast of the island. Starting from Chapel Ermita de la Victoria we walk to Talaia peak (451m), with an optional detour to Penya Roja viewpoint before descending to S'Illot beach. The route takes us along a wide forested road and single trails. There will be time for a swim and rest before making our way back to Port de Pollenca by public bus. On the return journy there will be an opportunity to be dropped off at Alcudia, a medieval town with a popular market, and make your own way back to the hotel by public bus (approx. 11kms).

Todays 13km walk is expected to take around 5hrs with 360m ascent and 400m descent. The optional walk to the viewpoint is not suitable for vertigo sufferers.



Accommodation: Hotel Eolo (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

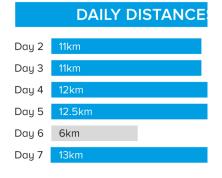
# DAY 8 - Trip ends in Port de Pollenca

Trip ends in Port de Pollenca.



Meals Provided: Breakfast

# Walking and Trekking information



Walking grade

Moderate

#### Trek details

Walks on 5 days for between 3.5 to 5 hours, with an additional optional walk on day 6. Follow forested roads, unmade roads and dry stone paths along the Archduke's



# What's included?



Included meals

Breakfast: 7



Transport

Bus **Public Bus** Taxi



Trip staff

**Explore Tour Leader** Driver(s)



Accommodation

7 nights standard hotel

# **Trip information**

# **Country information**

## Mallorca

# **Spain**

## Climate

Overall, spring, early summer and autumn are ideal times for a Spanish trip - though the weather varies enormously from region to region. The high central plains suffer from fierce extremes, stiflingly hot in summer, bitterly cold and swept by freezing winds in winter. The Atlantic coast, in contrast, has a tendency to damp and mist, and a relatively brief, humid summer. The Mediterranean south is warm virtually all year round. Spain's Islands the Canaries and Balaerics experience very mild winters and warm summersmaking them ideal year round destinations.

## Time difference to GMT

+1

### Plugs

2 Pin Round

Religion

#### Language

Castilian Spanish, Catalan, Galician, Basque

## **Budgeting and packing**

# **Optional activities**

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations. Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

Soller - Tram from Soller to Port €5 per person

Lluc museum €4 per person

Port De Pollenca - Bus to Alcudia €3 per person; Bus to Palma €5 per person; Boat Trip €55 per person (upto 12 people)

# **Clothing**

As in other mountainous areas the weather in the Serra de Tramuntana can change suddenly. It is therefore essential that you bring waterproofs and a fleece. We also recommend a hat and gloves early and late in the season when the weather may be variable.

## **Footwear**

We recommend you bring walking boots with ankle support- leather or fabric are both fine. Make sure that your boots are worn-in and comfortable before the start of the trip. Also trainers or sandals for relaxing and general wear. We suggest that on international flights you either carry your walking boots in your hand luggage or wear them - should your luggage be lost or delayed, your own boots are the one thing that will be irreplaceable.

# Luggage

20kg

# Luggage: On tour

One main piece of luggage and a daypack. Remember you are expected to carry your own baggage as we travel using public transport between hotels so don't overload yourself.

# **Equipment**

We recommend you bring a water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen, sunglasses and trekking poles for steep descents, full waterproofs (Autumn departures). Please note that the walk on day 3 is mostly downhill.

# **Tipping**

#### Explore leader

 $At your \ discretion \ you \ might also \ consider \ tipping \ your \ Tour \ Leader \ in \ appreciation \ of \ the \ efficiency \ and \ service \ you \ receive.$ 

#### Local crew

Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognized part of life in this region of the world. Some local staff will look to members of the group for personal recognition of particular services provided. In order to make things easier for you, the Tour Leaders may organise a group's tips kitty and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the tour.

Accordingly, you should allow at least €5 for tipping.

## **Country Information**

## Mallorca

## Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

## Foreign Exchange

# **Spain**

## Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

#### Lunch price

£8.00 - 12.00

#### Dinner price

£16.00 - 20.00

#### Beer price

£1.50 - 2.50 (depending on the region/area in Spain)

#### Water price

£1.4

## Foreign Exchange

#### Local currency

**Furos** 

#### Recommended Currency For Exchange

We recommend you take the majority of your spending money in Euros cash.

## Where To Exchange

We recommend that you change any currency into Euros prior to arrival. Bureau de Change are generally only found in major cities and large airports.

### **ATM Availability**

In cities and most major towns.

#### **Credit Card Acceptance**

Visa and Mastercard are generally accepted in larger restaurants and some shops.

#### **Travellers Cheques**

Not recommended.

# Transport, Accommodation & Meals

# **Transport Information**

Bus, Public Bus, Taxi

# Essential Information

## **FCO Advice**

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice click here.

For more information from Explore about travel advice, click here

#### Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

## **Price Guarantee**

Once your booking has been confirmed we guarantee the price will not increase, whatever the circumstances. Before booking please ensure you have read our important tour pricing information. Booking Conditions

# **Visa and Passport Information**

Spain: Visas are not required by UK, Australian, New Zealand, US and Canadian citizens. Other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may consider applying through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See www.travcour.com to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on 0208 5431846.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in possession of a full passport, with the correct validity for your chosen destination.

# **Booking conditions**

Before booking your Explore trip, please ensure that you read both our Essential Information and Booking Conditions.

## **Transfers**

Find out more about Trip Transfer Terms and Conditions before you book.

### Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found below in the dates and prices information.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer.

#### Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Polar, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer click here

### Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. The cost of many of our Polar Voyages will exceed the capped amount covered by standard insurance premiums and you will be required to pay an additional premium to cover the full value of your trip. Please ensure that you are covered for the full amount of your holiday cost, as insufficient cover could invalidate a claim under the policy. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

Read more information about what travel insurance is required.

# Flight information

Explore offers a wide range of flexible flying options to make joining and leaving our trips easy. Read more about them here.

## Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

## Mallorca

## **Spain**

## Vaccinations

Nothing compulsory but Tetanus is usually recommended as a precaution. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at Explore Travel Health and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before travelling.