Alicante, a refreshing change
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An introduction to the city

With more than 300 days of sun a year, an average temperature of 18.5°C, excellent road and rail connections to the centre and north of Spain and an airport with daily direct flights to Europe’s main capitals, Alicante has become one of the most accessible tourist destinations within the Mediterranean. In addition, the fact that the Volvo Ocean Race 2008-2009 means that Alicante’s nautical facilities be increasing their services and activities to support the event, making the city one of the main reference points for nautical tourism. Census information indicates a population of close to 300,000 inhabitants and the last few years has seen an explosion in urban development. The city has not lost its charm however, and you can visit the city on foot discovering romantic places that will take you back in time. The varied and excellent cuisine, a dynamic shopping centre, its Mediterranean character, the nightlife and one of the best city beaches in Spain, mean that Alicante is an attractive tourist destination all year round. It's not surprising then that the famous Valencian author Joan Fuster described Alicante as the most pleasant city in the whole of the Region of Valencia, "the city you would choose to live in if you had to exchange your village for a town". It's an expression that has gained credibility throughout the years, given that people representing 80 different nationalities live together in Alicante in an admirable way.

Alicante – facts and figures

- Province: Alicante
- District: L’Alacantí
- Inhabitants: 322,673 (IVE 2007)
- Area: 200,8 km²
- Restaurants: 732
- Average temperature: 18.5°C
The organisers of the world’s most challenging and extreme yacht race have selected Alicante to host the opening leg of a route that will take crews around the world in nine months. The seven boats that have been confirmed thus far will cover 39,000 miles and visit 11 ports in 10 countries. This, the 10th Volvo Ocean Race, includes new features that are set to make it the most exciting race yet. It is the first time that the competition will depart from the Mediterranean, and the inclusion of new countries such as China, India and Russia a new and as yet unknown route for the crews.

The ’08–’09 race will also see the unveiling of a new boat, the Volvo Open 70 Offshore Sailboat, which is the swiftest and most technological model ever built. During the race, boats and crews can expect to face anything from tornados and icebergs to dead calm as they tackle this hitherto untravelled route.

The Valencian Regional Government, the Generalitat, has created the Alicante 2008–2009 Round the World Sailing logo as an emblem for the departure port of the Volvo Ocean Race 08–09. Construction has already begun on the RACE VILLAGE, a 40,000 square-metre compound within the Port of Alicante that will house offices and the crews’ bases as well as restaurants, shops and areas devoted to leisure, sports and training. The RACE VILLAGE is scheduled to open its doors on 19th September with a huge celebration that will be followed by many other events for all ages and appetites.

Not only is Alicante set to become the undisputed world capital for sailing during the 23 consecutive days that the village will be open, when it will welcome a million visitors, the best crews and the most important national and international media, but the Alicante 2008–2009 emblem will also accompany the Volvo Ocean Race on its round-the-world odyssey to promote the image of the city and of the Region of Valencia.

There is no doubt that Alicante will be the place to be over the next few months not only for sailing fans but for anyone looking to enjoy this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

www.alicante2008.com
Alicante is a city with more than 3,000 years of history, as revealed in the first archaeological materials collected from the Cova del Fum (Cave of Smoke) in the area of Fontcalent, which date back to 3000 B.C. The first inhabited communities were located on the slopes of the monte Benacantil, a famous mountain at the bottom of which the city began to grow and which is topped by the Castillo de Santa Bárbara. The castle is framed by an interesting landscape and, if you look closely, you can see a rocky outcrop that looks like the face of a former inhabitant, possibly from the time when the Muslims colonised the city: "La Cara del Moro" (the Moors' face), as everyone from Alicante affectionately calls it. Historians believe that there was an Iberian settlement on Monte Benacantil.

The closest record to Alicante's shaping as a major city however was found in the nowadays-popular area of Benalúa, where the first city as such was located. This was in the time of the Roman Empire and the city's conquerors baptized the city with the name Lucentum. Archaeological remains from the same era were also found in the areas of Albufereta and the Serra Grossa, which are today residential areas of the city.

In spite of this, the city began to take form as it stands with the arrival of the Muslims and always under the protection of the castle, which centuries later became the fortress of King Alfonso X the Wise, who conquered the city in 1246 for Castile's crown. 50 years later, in 1296, another king, Jaime II, incorporated the city into the Realm of Valencia and in 1490, Fernando the Catholic granted it the title of city. Towards the end of the 16th century, Alicante had become the port of Castile, which converted the city into a strategic location for maritime business. Direct routes to America were not stopped until the middle of the 20th century. These were years of economic and demographic growth for Alicante, which in 1650 led the city to become the third biggest Spanish city in terms of commerce. The wars that followed slowed down this progress however. In 1691, the French Armada bombarded the city continuously for 7 days and almost without time to recover; the War of Spanish Succession began. During the War of Independence, the city became the Kingdom's provisional capital, given that Valencia was occupied by Suchet, the French Marshal, and the fact that Alicante has always been known for its tenacity.

Following the military unrest of the 17th century, Alicante started its recovery a century later, but it was in the 19th century that the city began its definitive development. The railway, which was the first to connect central Spain with the sea, was built in 1858. This was an historic moment, because up until this point, Alicante's relationship with Madrid had been almost secondary.

From the 1970s onwards, the city developed itself as a city of tourism and the services industry with a strong pro-European leaning, which culminated in 1993 when the government named the city the headquarters of the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OAMI). This is the EU's most
important independent agency and the one that employs the most civil servants of all the member states. It is the body that has protected against industrial piracy since 1996, when trademarks began to be registered.

The start of the 21st century has been characterised by a new wave of urban development and a demographic boom, with the creation of new residential areas where citizens from all over Europe live, attracted to Alicante because of its climate, comfort, culture and good services.

Alicante be home to the start of the Volvo Ocean Race in 2008. This round-the-world yacht race leaves Alicante on 11th October 2008. The city will be the world capital for sailing, for the national and international media, and for the best crews on Earth.
Discovering Alicante

Because of its mild climate and the closeness of all its monuments, Alicante is a city to discover on foot. You can choose between a classical cultural visit, discovering churches and museums, a beach holiday or the opportunity to climb a small mountain, the Serra Grossa. The path is not too steep and once there, you are able to take a pleasant walk or enjoy the impressive views of the bay. Alicante also displays some important examples of civil architecture, such as the small palaces that you will find throughout the city. Outside the city centre, you can take trips to the tourist towns and sites along the Costa Blanca.

Civil monuments and buildings and places of interest

If you choose to visit Alicante you won't be disappointed because as you walk through the city's streets you'll find an interesting collection of buildings. In particular, we should highlight the Castillo de Santa Bárbara, but we'd also recommend that you visit the Castillo de San Fernando, which is the city's other castle. Originally designed as a bastion of defence against Napoleon's troops, it became a place for pleasure and relaxation.

There are small, isolated palaces located throughout the city, mixed in with houses that you are not able to visit, but which are worthy of a look because of their facades and structure, such as the so-called Casa Carbonell located in the middle of the Paseo de la Explanada. Next to this avenue and waiting to be deservedly restored is the old Hotel Palas building, which will be the Chamber of Commerce.
Town Hall
The town hall of Alicante is a real gem of Baroque civil architecture. Designed at the end of the 18th century, building work started in 1701 following Lorenzo Chápuli’s designs. The building was finished 9 years later. Two original twin towers flank the 50 metre long facade with a central, tiled dome, each tower supporting porches that link with the rear part of the building. The central facade is worth highlighting, as it has two pairs of Solomonic columns and a smaller back door that leads into the Plaza de la Santísima Faz, which has wonderful stone carvings. On the second floor, the facade is decorated with 12 small balconies with elaborate ironwork. Above the main door, the city’s shield is sculpted in white marble.

At the foot of the main stairway, you’ll find the "zero mark", a point of reference that in its day was used to measure the height above sea level of different Spanish cities. Inside, it is worth highlighting the meeting room and a spectacular triptych by the Alicante painter Gastón Castelló, which depicts the construction of this building. Another room worth a visit is the Salón Azul, which has an outstanding lateral chapel watched over by an image of the Virgin Inmaculada by Lucas Espinós. A white marble tombstone located on the first indoor landing depicts Fernando the Catholic’s royal deed with which he granted Alicante the title of city in 1490. You should also visit the small chapel, which has a baroque altarpiece and ceramic paving by Manises, as well as the Salón Azul, which is decorated in the Elizabethan style. In this room you’ll find the portrait gallery of the city’s mayors. You’ll also find interesting works of art by Padilla, Cabrera and Amorós distributed in different rooms throughout the Town Hall.

**Pl. del Ayuntamiento, 1**
**Tel. 965 149 100**
**Open Monday to Friday.**
**Entrance is free.**
Casa Alberola
You are able to see the Casa Alberola as you walk down the Paseo de la Explanada. It was the first block of flats to be built on the city's sea front in 1894, as part of the project by the architect Guardiola. The building's tower and dome are worth highlighting.

Avda. Ramón y Cajal, 1

Castillo de San Fernando
This castle was built on the side of Monte Tossal at the beginning of the 19th century in order to defend against Napoleon's invasion. It was not used for this purpose however and remained as a place of leisure. The ramparts and an interesting gate remain and the castle has a viewpoint from where you can see the city centre. Next to the castle there is a park with an exhibition room.

Monte Tossal

Castillo de Santa Bárbara
This is one of the largest, medieval-style fortresses in Spain in terms of area. The castle covers the whole of the top of the hill and much of the hillside of Monte Benacantil too. The mountain is a huge rocky mass that rises up next to the sea and has a maximum height of 166 metres. The castle's privileged location, dividing the Alicante bay and the old fertile area of land perfectly, meant that there have been human settlements there since olden times. The castle's origin is Muslim and dates back to the end of the 9th century. It has a very rich history and between the years 1562 and 1580 in the period of Felipe II, important restoration works were carried out by Antonelli and Palearo.

The castle has three very different areas; the highest of these has the oldest remains (11th to 13th century), the "English Fortress", the Nobles' Room and the Governor's House; the middle area contains the most important rooms built in the 16th century: the Felipe II Room, the Guards' Quarters, the Queen's Fortress and the Parade Ground, with the remains of the old Santa Bárbara Chapel. The last of the areas was built in the 18th century and contains the so-called Revellín del Bon Repós and the monument to the famous Alicante soldier Félix Berenguer de Marquina, who was field marshal to the Philippines and viceroy to New Mexico. The castle crowns the summit of Monte Benacantil, where nature has been capricious and sculpted into the rock you can almost make out a person's face. The people of Alicante fondly call this sculpture the "Cara del moro" (the Moor's face) and legend has it that its creator was a Christian princess who had fallen in love with a Muslim prince. Her desire to marry the prince was met with refusal from her father, the King. Devastated, she carved her beloved's face into the rock and from there he sadly looks towards the sea.

Santa Bárbara also houses one of the satellite galleries of the IVAM (Valencian Institute of Modern Art), which holds temporary exhibitions.

The castle can be reached by a rear road that climbs upwards amongst pine trees, crossing the north side of the mountain, by lifts that are dug into the rock and rise 144 metres, or by a 205-metre tunnel that starts behind the Postiguet Beach in the Avenida de Jovellanos. You can reach
el Castillo de Santa Bárbara by car by taking Alfonso X el Sabio avenue at the back of the castle.

Monte Benacantil
Tel. 965 162 128

Open every day.
Entrance is free.

Explanada de España and surroundings

This is the city’s avenue par excellence and where hundreds of people from Alicante meet during the morning on bank holidays. Built on the old harbour front, it was built according to the plan drawn up in 1867 by the architect José Guardiola Picó. Bordered by date palms, the most spectacular part of the esplanade is the floor, which is made up of 6.6 million tiles that make a huge, half a kilometre long mosaic. Marking the esplanade’s limits are an ornamental fountain designed by Carlos Buigas in 1960 and a monument to Canalejas, a work of art by the Alicante artist Vicente Bañuls.

On either side of the esplanade, you’ll find restaurants and cafés with terraces. Running parallel to the esplanade and next to the harbour walls in the area that is open to the city, are the Paseos de Tomás y Valiente and Conde de Vallellano. It is actually one avenue split into two. Both of them connect the port’s two leisure areas and as you walk along them you’ll see the Doctor Pedro Herrero gardens, the Lonja exhibition room and the Plaza del Puerto Viejo, which has a similar tiled floor to that of the esplanade, as well as two neoclassical columns belonging to the old Naval Command.
building. Other interesting places along this avenue include the sundial in the square and the Queen's Stairs (las Escaleras de la Reina). In front of the stairs and floating on water, you'll find the El regreso de Ícaro con su ala de surf sculpture, created by Esperanza d'Ors in 1999.

If we leave the sea front, we can stop at another collection of interesting squares, some of which go unnoticed even by the people of Alicante. We're talking about the Plaza de Gabriel de Miró, another of the city's historic squares, which contains bibliographic references from the 16th century. In its time, the square was called Plaza de las Barcas, literally Boat Square, as it ran adjacent to the sea. The ornamental fountain dating back to 1918 still looks good and is a work of art by the Alicante artist Bañuls. A bust of Bañuls has also stood in this square since 1935 and there are also one hundred-year-old rubber plants worthy of featuring in Spain's botanical history.

Behind the Town Hall, you'll find the Plaza de la Santísima Faz. Unfortunately, the only thing left of its original design is the geometry. Equally traditional is the Plaza de Calvo Sotelo, which is found in the very centre of the city's shopping area. This area was developed in the 16th century and was landscaped in 1874. Ten years later, the bust of Governor Barrejón was erected. He was a hero like Quijano. In the centre, is a monument to Eleuterio Maisonnave, created by Vicente Bañuls in 1895 and built in memory of the famous Alicante politician whose name is given to the city's most commercial avenue and the 6th most commercial avenue in Spain. Maisonnave was the city's Mayor, founder of the first savings bank and pawnshop and State and Government Minister during the 1st Republic.
Also squeezed into the shopping area is the Plaza Nueva. An aquarium has been put in the centre of the square that contains Mediterranean fish species and delights children. Since the appearance of the aquarium, the square has recovered its peak popularity of the past. It was designed at the start of the 19th century.

The Plaza de los Luceros is the prototype of the modern and 'circular' square designed in the period of urban development that took place in 1915. The square is one of the urban epicentres during the Hogueras Fiestas, as it is where the huge firework display takes place at midday. In the centre of the square is the city's largest monumental fountain. Formally, it is called the Levante fountain, but it is popularly known as the Los Caballos fountain. It is the largest fountain by Daniel Bañuls and was inaugurated in 1930.

Another urban symbol is the Glorieta de la Estrella, which is interesting as it contains a mobile structure around which rotates a fountain by Eusebio Sempere. This square is found at the meeting point of the Avenidas de Maisonnave, Aguilera, Salamanca and Óscar Esplá.

La Plaza de Toros
The bullring is open every day, as it houses the Bullfighting Museum and also the School of Bullfighting. It is one of the oldest bullrings in Spain still in use. It dates back to 1849, although it was restored and expanded in 1888 and has retained the same structure ever since.

Teatro Principal
This is one of Alicante’s two main theatres, the other being Arniches Theatre, and is located in the Calle del Teatro. This building stands out for its architectural courage, as it lacks supporting columns. It was opened in 1847 with the showing of the play "Guzmán el Bueno" by Gil de Zárate and has a spectacular neoclassical facade with 6 Doric columns that support a triangular pediment.

Universidad de Alicante
The university campus lies 5 km from the city centre and more than 30,000 students pass through it every year. The University has its own Museum on campus, the MUA, and annexes located in the city centre, on Calle Ramón y Cajal, and university buildings in Orihuela, Benissa, Biar, Cocentaina, Elda, La Nucía and Xixona.

Ciudad de la Luz
The Ciudad de la Luz, developed by the Valencian Regional Government, is an audiovisual complex in Alicante, set to become the reference site as a location for filming major cinema, television and publicity productions.
The Palaces

Almost all of the city's palaces date back to the 18th century, when Alicante experienced its trade boom due to the huge importance of the port as the axis for maritime traffic in the Mediterranean. Bourgeois families settled in the city and other families found luck as a result of the healthy economic climate.

The Casa de la Misericordia (House of Mercy) dates back to 1752 and is located in the San Antón area, behind the Bullring. Bishop Gómez de Terán ordered the house to be built and it was used as the Bishop’s Palace, as well as a hospital for the poor. In 1801 it began to be used as a tobacco factory until the end of the 20th century when this came to an end. The building has a beautiful facade and vaulted cellars.

Almost all of the city’s best-preserved palaces are located in the old quarter. If you walk down Calle Labradores street, which is part of a comprehensive restoration project in the old part of the city, you’ll find the best collection of privately owned palaces of Alicante’s past nobles. The most spectacular are the Berenguer de Marquina, la Casa Llorca and Maisonnave, where the Municipal Archive Office is located. Other palaces worthy of a visit are the popularly titled "Centro 14", an exhibition centre and youth group centre managed by the council, and the Marqués de Lorca palace, which is a building located at number 19 in Calle Labradores, where the Alicante writer Rafael Viravens died.

Without leaving the old quarter, you can visit the Díe palace and winery, located on the corner of the Calle Miguel Soler and San Nicolás. Most importantly of all, we’d like to highlight the Palacio de Marqués del Bosch Palace in the Calle Mayor.

El Palacio de la Diputación Provincial, where the provincial government’s headquarters are housed, also merits a special mention. This is one of the city's best-preserved old buildings (20th century). It was built in the neoclassic and baroque styles and was opened in 1931 under the watchful eye of architect Juan Vidal. Behind this palace is the Jardín de los Alicantinos Ilustres (a garden honouring famous people from Alicante), which is open to the public and is a clear example of a Romantic garden. Also belonging to the provincial government is the 18th-century Palacio Gravina which houses the Museo de Bellas Artes Gravina, the MUBAG, Alicante’s Fine Arts Museum.

More interesting buildings

Other buildings of interest that you can see in the city are those located in the Avenida de la Constitución, an avenue that links the Avenida de Alfonso El Sabio with the Plaza del Teatro Principal. At the end of this avenue, you’ll find the building that was the Cine Ideal cinema in 1926 and the old Military Government in 1927. The building’s facade has been preserved. The Mercado Central also merits a special mention. This market dates back to 1921 and is perfectly preserved, having been restored.

Finally, you’ll find other buildings of interest on the Explanada including the Casa Lamaignere (1918) and the Casa Carbonell. This is perhaps the most majestic block of flats in the city and dates back to 1925. We should also highlight the building that houses the Regional Government of Valencia in Alicante, which is located in the Doctor Gadea Avenue. Popularly known as the Casa de las Brujas, the building was opened in 1931. The building’s facade has various
"Art Nouveau" vegetable ornaments and the building is of the Modernist style. The architect Enrique Sánchez Sedeño designed this building.

**Parks and gardens**

Alicante’s excellent all year round climate, its proximity to the sea and its gentle landscapes mean that it is a perfect city to discover on foot, the best way in any of the world’s cities.

**Parque de Canalejas**

Parque de Canalejas is the oldest park and one of the city’s true lungs. It is open night and day, was designed by the architect González Altés and remains almost as it was originally designed. The park has luscious vegetation with hundred-year-old rubber plants and is perfect for enjoying with children. We should highlight the two sculptured lions at the entrance, a small monument by Daniel Bañuls dedicated to the Alicante writer Carlos Arniches, the fountains, a stone carving depicting a map of Spain and a children’s play area.

**In front of the Club de Regatas (The Regatta Club).**

**Monte Benacantil and La Ereta**

This mountain is the city’s emblem and is topped by the Castillo de Santa Bárbara. There is a large forested area with pine and eucalyptus trees and if you like hiking, you’ll have an unforgettable time here. You can reach the mountain via the continuation of the Avenida de Alfonso El Sabio.

In the mountains and with direct access to the city, you’ll find the city’s last park to be built: La Ereta. This park is located on the hillside and has been developed in an area terraced with local plant species and where
Discovering Alicante

colour plays a predominant role. You'll find plants, trees, shrubs, paved paths, fountains and a pergola.

**Next to the Santa Cruz area.**

**Monte Tossal**

You'll find Monte Tossal Park on the hillside of the Castillo de San Fernando. The park has a themed area of 63,000 square metres and is designed in such a way as to represent a map of the Region of Valencia. The park has facilities for skating, petanque, giant chess, a basketball court and a climbing wall. The park is designed as a huge viewpoint over the sea and the city. At the moment, the park is awaiting renovation, but you can still visit it. There is also an exhibition room.

**Parque de Lo Morant**

This is the city's largest open space, but it is located at the north of the city, far from the centre. There are areas for walking, games, an auditorium and fountains.

**Next to the Virgen del Remedio area.**

**Parque de El Palmeral**

Just a few kilometres from the city and in the direction of the airport, you'll find this park on the Avenida de Elche. The park takes its name from the fact that it was built on the site of an old palm grove. For some, the result is the most beautiful park in Alicante. There are paths, a boat lake, an auditorium, a five-a-side football pitch, areas for children of different ages, a picnic area and excellent views of the bay.

**Avda. de Elche**

**Religious monuments**

Alicante has a rich heritage in religious images that are distributed among the churches of the city's urban area. The most important images are found in the old quarter, which could fictitiously be the second coastal road after the Paseo de la Explanada de España; the esplanade that is the meeting point for everyone from Alicante on Sunday mornings. The following is a guide to the temples worth visiting. Your trip would not be complete without a walk to the Monasterio de Santa Faz, a monastery that lies 8 km from the city.
**Discovering Alicante**

**Concatedral de San Nicolás de Bari**
Once again, we find ourselves on the site of what was an old mosque. It was converted into a Christian church by the then Prince of Castile, Alfonso X the Wise, dedicated to San Nicolás. The outside of the church is simple in design, which puts it somewhere between the renaissance and baroque styles. It was built between 1616 and 1662, based on the project by Agustín Bernardino. The inside is large, with a slender dome that reaches 45 metres in height. We should also highlight the Comunión chapel that is considered to be one of the most beautiful examples of the Spanish baroque style. The facade of the cloisters and the San Nicolás chapel are of the same style. San Nicolás is the city's patron and you can see his image next to the apse, a work of art by Juan de Villanueva. In the lower part of the church you’ll find the reliquary-bust of Santa Felicitas of Alicante and on both sides of the bust, the patrons San Roque and San Francisco Javier. From the art collection we should highlight the Ánimas Altarpiece by Nicolás Borrás, "Cristo de la Buena Muerte" a 17th century work of art by Nicolás Bussi and a marble and jasper altar canopy dating back to the 17th century.

**Plaza del Abad Canónigo Penalba, s/n**
**Tel. 965 21 26 62**

*Open every day.*
*Entrance is free.*
Convento de las Capuchinas
If we leave the old quarter behind us and head into the traditional urban area, we’ll find the Convento de las Capuchinas. Inside this convent’s chapel and to the right, you’ll find a magnificent image of the Virgin of Piedad, a work of art by Francisco Salzillo, maker of religious images. It is known as the Virgen de las Angustias. Inside the convent’s cloister are the preserved remains of the Abbess and founding Mother, Sor Úrsula Micaela Morata Garibaldo (1628-1703).

Iglesia de San Pedro y San Pablo
This church stands on la Isla de Tabarca, a 45-minute boat trip from Alicante Port. The church is built in the baroque style and stands out, as it gives profile to an extremely flat island. The building is currently being restored.

Isla de Tabarca

Basílica de Santa María
This is the city’s oldest church. It was built on the remains of what was the largest mosque in Alicante. It is gothic in style, was completed in the 16th century and is dedicated to the Asunción de la Virgin. In 1484, there was a fire, which destroyed a good section of the temple, but the silver chest containing the communion wafers was saved and is still preserved today. The outside of the church has two impressive towers, which interestingly are not symmetrical. If you look closely, you’ll see that the tower on the right is in the shape of an L and dates back to the 14th century, whereas the other tower is rectangular and was built in 1713. The church’s facade is a beautiful example of baroque architecture and is a group of sculptures by Juan Bautista Borja. Inside, you’ll find a baroque-style, golden main altar from the 18th century, the choir stalls, the 16th century Inmaculada chapel, the room leading to the choir stalls (the antecoro), which has a beautiful baroque, wooden facade, and the christening chapel whose 16th century white marble font by Carrara is of Italian design and is attributed to the school of Michael Ángel. The church houses an important art collection and it is worth highlighting the gothic stone sculpture of Santa Maria and the carving of the Santos Juanes by Rodrigo de Osona.
the temple as it currently stands was built between 1752 and 1766. From the original collection of fortified buildings, a watchtower (1582) remains on the right-hand side of the building. Inside the monastery, which has a beautiful baroque facade with three sections, you’ll find a luxurious, hexagonal lady chapel (1677-1680) behind the high altar, decorated with paintings by Juan Conchillos and where the Santa Faz (The Holy Face) reliquary is kept with the cloth that was brought from the Vatican in the last third of the 15th century. Since 1489, large numbers of processions have taken place at this site of enormous devotion for the people of Alicante and it is where two of the city's famous sons are buried; the composer Oscar Esplá and the painter and sculptor Eusebio Sempere.

Monasterio de Santa Faz

This monastery is located 5 km from the urban area, in the municipal district of the same name. It is a pilgrimage site for the city's Christians and people of other faiths and every year on the second Thursday following Easter Sunday, the city is empty before the celebration popularly known as the Romería de la Peregrina, or Pilgrims’ Procession. The monastery preserves a piece of cloth with which Veronica wiped Christ's brow as he walked to Calvary. The monastery belongs to the cloistered Clarisas nuns and dates back to the beginning of the 16th century, although...
To reach the monastery, take any of the tracks that run parallel with the N-332 (Alicante-Valencia) road, or start from the University in Sant Vicent del Raspeig, taking the new San Vicent del Raspeig-Sant Joan d’Alacant ring road.

**Crta. Alicante–Valencia. Km. 8**  
Tel. 965 264 912

Open every day.  
Entrance is free.

**Nuestra Señora de Gracia**

This building is one of the city's best-preserved and most elegant temples, a prototype of contemporary religious architecture. The architect Antonio Serrano Brú, clearly inspired by the Concatedral de San Nicolás, finished this building in 1951. The church is located in the Plaza de la Montañeta, one of the city's administrative centres and the square where you'll find a spectacular bell tower. Next to the square, you'll find civil buildings, such as the Government Office, the Inland Revenue and the Office for the Ministry of the Environment.

**Pl. de la Montañeta**  
C/ Jerusalén, 11  
Tel. 965 21 04 57 – 965 21 47 61

**Museums and cultural centres**

There are a number of museums located throughout the city, exhibiting archaeological remains as well as collections of art by the most famous artists of all times.
Aula Cultural de la CAM
The Mediterranean Savings Bank, CAM, has a cultural centre in Alicante. Under the name Francisco Oliver Narbona, it hosts interesting cultural activities all year round, such as exhibitions and conference seasons.

Avda. Dr. Gadea, 1
Tel. 965 90 56 39
www.cam.es

Casa de La Asegurada
This museum is housed in the city's oldest civil building. It dates back to 1685 and was originally built as a cereal store, although the building was also used as a business school and it finally ended up as a museum. It is currently being restored and will house the future Alicante Contemporary Art Museum - MACA.

Pl. de Santa María, 3
Tel. 965 14 09 59

Fundación Bancaixa
Bancaixa has a cultural centre containing a library and exhibition room located on the Rambla de Méndez Nuñez. The centre offers a quality cultural programme throughout the year.

Rambla de Méndez Nuñez, 4
Tel. 965 20 06 33

Open every day.
MARQ, Museo Provincial Arqueológico
This archaeological museum was opened in 1932 and was located in the lower levels of the then recently inaugurated Provincial Government buildings in the Avenida de la Estación with objects from the Torremanzanas, El Campello and Alicante archaeological sites. The museum is currently located in the magnificent facilities of the old Hospital de San Juan de Dios and excels for the interactivity and innovation of its contents. There are valuable objects from Palaeolithic times to the Modern Ages and the section on Iberian art is truly impressive with the Dama de Cabezo Lucero, reminiscent of Elche’s similar treasure, various Roman utensils, Islamic trousseaux and a large collection of ceramics from various eras. The museum has a luxuriant garden with a café for you to relax in and where children can play safely.

MUBAG
Museo de Bellas Artes Gravina
This palace belonged to the Earl of Limiares and was the headquarters of the Provincial Archive Office. It currently houses the Provincial Gallery of Fine Arts and exhibits mainly objects belonging to the government, with collections from the 16th to the 20th century. It is also the headquarters for many travelling exhibitions.

Museo de Belenes
This nativity scene museum is housed in a typical house in the city’s old quarter, built in the first half of the 19th century and with the original well still in tact. There is a collection of Christmas dioramas with recreations of scenes from Jesus’ life made by some of Spain’s best figure designers. There is also a full size crib scene and other nativity scenes from different parts of the world.

Museo de Fogueres
This museum, which is located in the building called the Casa de la Festa, is dedicated to the city’s fiestas par excellence, the “Hogueras de Sant Joan” which are celebrated during June. Inside the museum, you can see collections of pardoned ninots, which are figures made of cardboard and cork that are saved from the bonfires, models of bonfires, a video room playing films about the fiestas, clothes, jewellery... and everything else connected with the fiesta.
Discovering Alicante

Beaches

The Province of Alicante is fringed by more than 200 km of coastline, which means that some of its beaches and coves are considered to be amongst the best beaches in Europe. If we concentrate on the beaches within the municipality, there are three main sandy areas that stand out from the rest and which can be enjoyed in both summer and winter, given that Alicante has a wide range of activities on offer.

Acuario Mediterráneo

This Aquarium opened in 1998 and houses examples of typical Mediterranean fauna.

Plaza Nueva, s/n

Museo Taurino

This museum is found in one of the rooms in the city's Bull Ring, located in the Plaza de España. Inside you'll find the heads and also sculptures of some great bulls. Some superb bullfighters have been born in Alicante and the city is a great fan of the art of bullfighting.

Pl. de España, s/n

Tel. 965 14 68 28

Open Tuesday to Sunday.

Entrance is free.

Plaza Nueva, s/n

Beaches

The Playa de Postiguet is located on the city's sea front, and has all the necessary facilities and is an example of an urban beach. It is a quiet beach with a promenade, cafés and direct access to the old quarter of the town. There is also public parking right next to the sand and 5 years ago, the beach was extended towards the north, which allowed the Cocó area to be built in front of the Marina train or narrow-gauge railway station. This is the coastal railway line that links Alicante with Dénia, which is a picturesque journey dotted with stations and stops that are worth visiting.
If you take the tram, the bus, the car or if you simply walk some 2 km (albeit uphill), you’ll reach the Playa de Albufereta coves and beach. This beach is particularly sheltered from the wind and on sunny days you can enjoy the sands in whatever month you have decided to visit Alicante. Next to the beach, there are various coves with calm waters. A bit further on and bordering the Cabo de las Huertas, you’ll find some rocky coves that have become the municipality’s nudist beaches. These are coves such as los Judíos, Palmera, Calita and Cantalares. There is also a nudist beach at the end of the Saladar Beach.

Although these two beaches are good, there is no doubt that Alicante’s beach par excellence and one of the best on the Spanish Mediterranean coast is the Playa de San Juan. This beach has a sandy area of 8 km, shared by the municipalities of Alicante and El Campello. In this municipality, the beach is called Muchavista. The Playa de San Juan is open and combines calm and choppy days, which is something the surfers really enjoy. The beach is well looked after, has a parallel promenade, a sports area and a wide range of restaurants. Some are located on the sand, which make them perfect for families with children. San Juan was a bit of a wild beach until the 70s, when urban development meant that a residential area was built next to the beach, with houses used as both first and second residences. There is an 18-hole golf course surrounded by houses that are lived in all year round. The town has malls, shops, restaurants, schools and all kinds of services. It is an ideal place to live permanently.

The Playa de Almadraba, next to the Playa de Albufereta, and the Playa del Saladar in Urbanova to the extreme south of Alicante and close to the airport, are another two popular beaches. The second of these is particularly popular, as it also saw an urban development process similar to that at the Playa de San Juan, but on a lesser scale due to the closeness of the El Altet airport. This airport takes 8 million passengers a year and is the province’s gateway to tourism.
Discovering Alicante

Walks around Alicante

The city’s different monuments, squares, gardens, museums and churches make up the walks we can take round the city. However, we should make special mention of two areas. One is older – the Barrio de Santa Cruz, while the other is more modern – the area devoted to leisure activities in the Port, beside the yacht marina. Visitors should leave behind the Concatedral de San Nicolás and the Ayuntamiento to start by walking up the streets of San Nicolás and San Agustín. We will pass old multi-coloured houses, many of them renovated. Narrow streets such as San Roque, Diputado Auset and San Rafael carry visitors back to mid-20th century Alicante with scenes that the rest of the city has lost.

Alicante is committed to trade and therefore offers amazing shopping possibilities. From major shopping centres to specialised shops. La Avenida de Maisonnave is the main shopping street, but there are others - Serrano, Gerona, Churruca, etc., where you can satisfy your most extravagant whims. Alicante also has large shopping centres which also offer a wide range of restaurants, cafes and cinemas. In fact, Alicante boasts one of Spain’s highest ratios of cinemas per inhabitant.

No visitor should miss out on a visit to the leisure area in the Port. Previously abandoned quays along the long seafront promenade have been transformed and they are now lined with restaurants of all shapes and sizes. There are two well-defined areas, separated and connected by the long seafront promenade and the ferry that crosses from quay to quay within the Port. The former is more open, while the latter is largely housed in a building with large glass windows. They both have public car parks.
**Isla de Tabarca**

The boat that connects Alicante with Tabarca leaves from the Paseo Tomás y Valiente, opposite the Explanada de España. The island is inhabited and was a fishing island, although today it is a tourist attraction.

New hotels have opened in the last few years and the island is a synonym for relaxation and crystal clear waters. There is an excellent range of restaurants and the typical dish is rice and fish.

The island, which lies 45 minutes by boat from Alicante, is 1,800 metres long and 450 metres wide. In its day, it was a refuge for Berber pirates ravaging the Mediterranean. In 1760, King Carlos III ordered the island to be fortified and it was then repopulated with 600 fishermen from Génova who had been imprisoned on the Tunisian island of Tabarka, an isthmus close to Algeria.

The whole of the walled area, declared a Site of National Historic Interest in 1964, provides a very interesting example of a fortified city in line with the urban criteria of the 18th century. There are the Casa del Gobernador, the Iglesia de San Pedro and San Pablo, which is currently being restored, as well as the Torre de San José, which stands outside the urban area.

**Ciudad Ibero–Romana de Lucentum**

The best way to get to this site is using the tram that leaves from the Plaza del Mar de Alicante and takes you to the Albufereta site in just 10 minutes.

The city remains were declared a National Historic Monument in 1961, but it wasn't until 1995 that the site became popular thanks to a restoration project. The city has an area of 30,000 square metres, of which only 6,500 are excavated, as well as 200 metres of road network.
Research began in the 18th century under the guidance of Antonio Valcárcel Pío de Saboya, Count of Lumiares. Ceramic remains have been found that date back from the late 5th century to the early 4th century B.C. It achieved its major urban splendour in the 1st century of the Christian era. A stroll through the streets reveals the remains of pavements, houses, thermal baths and many other treasures from Roman civilisation.

**Tossal de Manises–Lucentum Archaeological Site**
C/ Zeus, La Albufereta (Alicante)
Bus routes: 9, 21 and 22
Alicante–El Campello tram, Albufereta station

**The outskirts of the city**

Alicante is the capital of the Alacantí region and in the outskirts of the city there are therefore towns to visit such as Mutxamel, which is famous for its vegetable gardens and bread; El Campello, famous for its fish market; San Vicente del Raspeig, which shares the university with Alicante; Busot, which contains the Canelobre Caves and Aigües, which was famous in the 19th century for its ancient baths.

**Benidorm, Terra Mítica and Terra Natura**
(50 km from Alicante)
Take the toll motorway AP-7 or the N-332 road to Benidorm, the Spanish coast's tourist capital par excellence. There are almost 300 hotels, dream beaches and a party feeling all year round, which means that this city, amongst other virtues, puts its visitors in a good mood as soon as they have passed the motorway's toll gates. As well as other tourist options, Benidorm has the Terra Mítica Theme Park - inspired by Mediterranean civilisations and Terra Natura - based on the natural world. Next to Benidorm you'll find Vila Joiosa, birthplace of chocolate.

**La Marina Alta**
(100 km from Alicante)

This area has clean and hidden coves, good food and drink and beautiful countryside. Places of interest include Calpe, Dénia, Teulada-Moraira, Xàbia, Benissa and the entire mainland with legendary caves and a marshland called the Pego-Oliva marsh, which has been declared a Nature Park.

**From Santa Pola to Torrevieja**
(25 km from Alicante)

To the south of Alicante, you'll find the Vinalopó area. Its coast is marked by beaches and by one of Spain's largest coastal marshland areas, where you can see bird species of all colours. Obligatory visits for bird watchers are the Salinas de Santa Pola, Las Lagunas de la Mata y Torrevieja and the El Hondo de Elche Nature Parks. This last park is a lake that both the Elche and Crevillent municipalities share.

Town that you should visit include: Elche, Torrevieja, Santa Pola, Guardamar del Segura and its dunes, the coast of Orihuela and Pilar de la Horadada.
El Castell de Guadalest  
(70 km from Alicante)

Close to Benidorm within the mainland of the Marina Baixa area, this is an obligatory visit for anyone who has time to enjoy the Province of Alicante. The village has a little more than 200 inhabitants and its old quarter receives thousands of visitors a year. The town is more or less built into the rock and is surrounded by dream-like green countryside that is very different from the south. The main attraction is the Casa de los Orduña but the Castell de Guadalest also has 8 museums, the most famous being the Museum of Miniatures. To get there, the best thing to do is to travel from Alicante towards Benidorm on the AP-7 and take the Callosa d’En Sarrià exit. You’ll pass through La Nucía and Polop, which has a single fountain with 221 spouts. In Callosa d’En Sarrià, birthplace of the loquat tree, you should also visit the Fuentes del Algar waterfalls.

The Castle Route  
(a journey of approximately 200 kilometres)

This route will take you through the regions of Vinalopó, la Foia de Castalla and El Comtat. The route involves a series of fortresses, some of which are in excellent condition, lying around the towns that sprang up next to the castles. We should highlight the Castles of Novelda, Petrer, Biar, Sax, Villena, Banyeres de Mariola and Castalla. From the Banyeres de Mariola Castle lookout point, you can see four provinces and it has an unusual pentagonal level and two towers, one of which is semi-circular.
Excursions

The Palmerales de Elx and Orihuela (25 km from Alicante)
To the south of Alicante, you’ll go past Europe's largest palm grove, which has been declared a World Heritage Site. Elx has approximately 200,000 palm trees distributed throughout parks and gardens, the majority of which you can visit. We’d like to highlight the Huerto del Cura, el Hort de Baix and the Parque Municipal. Without leaving Elx, you’ll see the Alcudia archaeological site, where the Dama de Elche, the Altamira Palace, the Calahorra and the Santa María Basilica have been found. This is where the Misteri takes place, which is a sacred-lyrical, medieval drama that has also been declared a Masterpiece and registered on the list of the Intangible Mankind Heritage and the Archaeological and History Museum of Elx (MAHE).

Orihuela is perhaps the most monumental municipality in Alicante and visitors will arrive flanked by the San Antón palms. A visit to the gothic cathedral of El Salvador is a must and it also contains the Diocesan Museum of Sacred Art. You should also visit the Santiago and the Santas Justa y Rufina Churches, as well as the Santo Domingo College, which was the old university headquarters, and the Semana Santa and Archaeological Museums, as well as the House Museum of poet Miguel Hernández from Orihuela.

Alcoy, origin of the Region of Valencia industry (60 kilometres from Alicante)
Surrounded by the Nature Parc the Carrascal de la Font Rotja, Alcoi has overcome the peculiar local terrain furrowed by ravines. Known as the city of bridges, the municipality maintains the legacy of the Region of Valencia first industrialisation and it has beautiful modernist buildings. Between its festive representations, which stand out the Moors and Christians celebrations, declared as being of International Touristic Interest, and the Cavalcade of the Three Kings, the most ancient of Spain.
Calendar of festivals and events

Given the playful, Mediterranean character of the people of Alicante, some kind of fiesta is celebrated throughout the whole year, although the city's true fiestas are the "Hogueras de San Juan", which are celebrated from the 20th June onwards.

**Romería de Santa Faz**  
**The Thursday after Easter**  
This pilgrimage procession takes place on the Thursday following Maundy Thursday and is considered to be the second most important pilgrimage procession in Spain after the Rocio pilgrimage. More than 200,000 people make the 8 km journey from Alicante to the Santa Faz Monastery, where a piece of the cloth that Mary Magdalene used to wipe Christ's brow on the cross is preserved. It is an important day for Alicante. It is a local fiesta that combines religious fervour with fun and after the pilgrimage it is typical to have lunch with the family and spend the day in the monastery's surroundings.

**Cruces de mayo**  
**From the 1st to 3rd of May**  
From the 1st to 3rd May, the people of the Santa Cruz area decorate the streets with beautiful flower crosses, which are entered into competitions. The fiestas end with a dance and children’s games.

**Porrate de San Antón**  
**17th January**  
This festival is celebrated on the 17th January in the San Antón area of the city. It is a traditional display of street stalls selling typical products, such as dried fruits, quinces and nougat-like sweets. The blessing of animals is a famous part of the celebration.

**Carnivals**  
**The weekend before Ash Wednesday**  
The Carnival fiestas have gained importance over the last few years, so that now the whole city catches the party and secular spirit during the day before Ash Wednesday and Lent. The Saturday is also famous and is called "Sabado Ramblero".

**Easter**  
**From Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday**  
From Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday, 27 brotherhoods take part in processions, where a total of 47 religious images are carried, although each year there are more. Some of these images are by famous image-makers such as Salzillo, Bussi, Avalos and Castillo Lastrucci.

We would like to highlight the processions through the Barrio de Santa Cruz, Barrio del Silencio and the meetings between the images of Jesus and the Virgen el Domingo de Resurrección. The Santa Cena image is the largest in Spain and is carried on the shoulders of 208 bearers.

**Fogueres de Sant Joan**  
**Between the 20th and 24th of June**  
These are the city’s main fiestas and they have been declared an event of International Tourist Interest. The ancestral tradition of burning useless objects with the arrival of the summer solstice around the San Juan Bautista Festival, led to festivals featuring colour, gunpowder and fire from 1928 onwards in which the whole city takes part. Streets are closed and the city centre practically comes to a standstill for 5 days as it is taken over by the party spirit. Stalls or racó appear on every corner, where the people of Alicante get together and eat, have din-
ner and chat with friends. More than 200 cardboard statues representing current events from the city and around the world with a great deal of irony are lit up throughout the city as silent witnesses.

The Offering of Flowers to the Virgen del Remedio (22nd June), the International Folk Performance (23rd June) and the firework competition (between the 20th and the 24th June)

There is also a bull fighting exhibition that brings the main figures on the national scene to Alicante. On the night of San Juan, the dawn between 24th and 25th June, and after a huge firework display set off from the Castillo de Santa Bárbara, all the statues are burnt in joy and also in sadness for the people of Alicante, particularly those who have followed the building of the bonfire figures step by step. Another typical event is the banyà, when the fire-fighters, who make sure that the bonfires don’t get out of hand, also cool down the hundreds of people moving from bonfire to bonfire to watch them burn, by giving them a quick shower! The fiestas, on a lesser scale, continue until the day of San Pedro, with a daily evening fireworks competition on the Postiguet Beach that is watched by thousands of people.

**Moors and Christians**

**From March to August**

These are stagings representing the conquering of the province’s lands from the Arabs. They take place in a number of areas in Alicante: Villafranquera (March), San Blas (June), El Rebolledo (July) and in the areas of José Antonio and Altozano in August.
Calendar of festivals and events

**Virgen del Carmen**  
**16th July**  
This is a traditional sea procession that takes place on the 16th July, the day of the Virgen del Carmen, patron of the sea. This is particularly typical on the Isla de Tabarca.

**Virgen del Remedio**  
**5th August**  
This festival is celebrated on the 5th August with the procession of the image of the virgin. Two days earlier, the Alborada choir concert takes place.

**Virgen del Socorro**  
**5th & 8th September**  
Raval Roig, once a thriving fisherman’s area, organises these fiestas between the 5th and the 8th September in honour of the Virgen del Socorro. There are cooking competitions, a procession next to the chapel, games and dances on an impressive balcony with views of the bay and Postiguet Beach.

**San Nicolás**  
**6th December**  
The 6th December is the festival of the city’s Patron. This is a predominately religious festival with the Saint’s procession joined by giants and carnival figures with large heads. The general procession of Moors and Christians takes place in the afternoon and starts in the Avenida de Alfonso El Sabio.
### Calendar of fiestas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Celebration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>17th</td>
<td><strong>Porrate de San Antón</strong>&lt;br&gt;A typical fair with stalls offering traditional local products.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Carnival</strong>&lt;br&gt;They have become so popular in recent years that the whole city is impregnated with the festive, profane atmosphere.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March-April</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>From Palm Sunday to Resurrection Sunday</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Holy Week</strong>&lt;br&gt;27 guilds parade through the city carrying 47 floats, although the number increases from year to year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March-April</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Romería de la Santa Faz</strong>&lt;br&gt;It is regarded as the second most important procession in Spain as regards participants after the Rocio, with over 20,000 people covering the 8 kilometres that separate Alicante and the Monasterio de Santa Faz.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>1st-3rd</td>
<td><strong>Cruces de mayo</strong>&lt;br&gt;Residents from the Barrio de Santa Cruz decorate their streets with delightful floral crosses and take part in a competition trying to win awards for the best-decorated streets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>20th-24th</td>
<td><strong>Hogueras de San Juan</strong>&lt;br&gt;These are Alicante’s official town fiestas and have been declared as of International Tourist Interest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>16th</td>
<td><strong>Virgen del Carmen</strong>&lt;br&gt;A traditional seaborne procession to honour the Virgen del Carmen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td><strong>Virgen del Remedio</strong>&lt;br&gt;A procession where a statue of the Virgin is carried through the streets.</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>5th and 8th</td>
<td><strong>Virgen del Remedio</strong>&lt;br&gt;The fishermen’s quarter of Raval Roig organises these fiestas.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March-August</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Moors and Christians</strong>&lt;br&gt;Recreations of the reconquest of the province from the Arabs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td><strong>San Nicolás</strong>&lt;br&gt;This is the day of the Patron Saint of Alicante.</td>
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</table>
Events

Alicante has an extensive and varied year-round cultural calendar. Something is happening at the Teatro Principal every week and there are frequent festivals, conferences and events held both by the Town Council and cultural associations and by private bodies, such as the CAM, BANCAIXA and the Ateneo Científico y Literario.

Summer festivals

July and August.
Every summer — July and August — the Town Council holds many events on the esplanade of the Plaza Vieja del Puerto, facing the Plaza del Mar. These include plays, dance, jazz, concerts and recitals by leading Spanish and foreign artists. At the beginning of July it is held Alicante Amanece in El Postiguet beach.

Cenas del Castillo

July and August.
Lively evenings with dinner and musical performances organised by the Town Hall in the unbeatable setting of the Castillo de Santa Bárbara.

Alicante a escena

First fortnight in September.
This amateur theatre festival is held in the first two weeks of September. It aims to give amateur companies and writers who are just starting out their first opportunity.

Festival Internacional de Música Contemporánea

Second fortnight of September.
The festival consists of approximately twenty concerts and musical shows spread throughout the city. Every successive edition has consolidated its reputation in the music world.

Muestra de Teatro Español Contemporáneo

Mid November.
For a week in mid-November, Alicante becomes one big stage, with avant-garde plays, seminars, conferences, tributes, workshops and the presentation of new publications.

Festival Internacional de Títeres

December.
A programme focusing on the puppet theatre, organised by Alicante Town Hall.
The programme includes shows and parallel activities, such as workshops and exhibitions.

More information of the cultural programme is available from:

Teatro Principal
Pl. Ruperto Chapi, s/n
Tel. 965 20 23 80

Teatro Arniches
Av. Aguilera, 1
Tel. 965 93 68 38

Lonja del Pescado
Paseo Almirante J. Guillén Tato, s/n
Tel. 965 92 23 06

Centro 14
C/ Labradores, 14
Tel. 965 14 96 66

Sala de Exposiciones CAM
C/ Ramón y Cajal, 5
Tel. 965 90 56 44
Fundación BANCAIXA
Rambla Méndez Núñez, 4
Tel. 965 20 06 33

Casino de Alicante
Explanada de España, 16
Tel. 965 20 56 11

Ateneo Científico, Literario y Artístico
C/ las Navas, 32
Tel. 965 20 82 55

Sociedad de Conciertos
C/ Rafael Altamira, 3
Tel. 965 21 38 09

Centro Municipal de las Artes
Pl. de Quijano, 2
Tel. 965 14 71 60

Casa de la Festa
C/ Bailén, 20
Tel. 965 14 68 28

Universidad de Alicante
Ctra. San Vicente del Raspeig, s/n
Tel. 965 90 34 00
Fish, seafood, rice, vegetables, fruits... Eating in Alicante is a pleasure and the city’s restaurateurs are faithful followers of the Mediterranean diet. Having said that, you can find all kinds of food in the city in the thematic restaurants that have flourished as a result of trends and immigration. Of course you shouldn’t forget the specialities of other regional and creative cuisines.

The most representative dish in Alicante however is rice, of which there are more than 300 different recorded types. Famous rice dishes include, mixed rice with fish and meat, rice in clear soup, dry rice made with fish stock and peppered with pieces of squid, prawn, mero, swordfish etc. Other specialities include rice with pork and vegetables, lobster and up to 300 different types of rice with both fish and meat.

Also made with rice, is the caldero, a clear rice soup that is served after fish dishes, as well as la olleta, a delicious type of stew with vegetables and to which you can also add sausage.

Salted meats and fish are also very typical, such as dried salted tuna, cod roe, bonito tuna, mackerel, tonyina de sorra (a type of tuna) and cocas, a type of cake that is salted with tuna or sardines. As well as this, there are sweet dishes such as la boba, which is a soft sponge cake. Other typical dishes include los montaditos, which are small sandwiches filled with all kinds of products and which are normally eaten as appetisers or an informal supper.

The local sweet is a nougat-type sweet called turrón, which is normally eaten at Christmas time. Ice-cream making is also a master profession in Alicante.

In addition to this choice, Alicante also offers both imaginative and creative cuisine. Within the urban area of the city, you can find various restaurants where you’ll enjoy excellent food.

To accompany your meal, why not try wines with the Alicante Denomination of Origin, such as Fondillón or the Bebidas Espirituosas de Alicante.
View of Alicante from the port
Alicante has a large number of locations for hosting congresses, business meetings and events. Almost all of the city’s hotels have suitable facilities and services. You can find out more information about the organisation of fairs, congresses and conventions at:

**Alicante Convention Bureau**  
Explanada de España, 1  
Tel. 965 14 34 52  
Fax 965 21 56 94  
congresos@alicanteturismo.com  
www.alicanteturismo.com

A body that provides advice and help on the best places to hold your event, depending on the number of participants and type of event.

**Palacio de Congresos de Alicante**  
Avda. de Dénia, 47-A  
03013 Alicante  
Tel. 965 26 10 11/ 965 26 99 62  
Fax 965 26 05 15  
palacio-congresos-alicante@coma.es  
www.palaciodecongresosdealicante.com

The Palacio de Congresos de Alicante is located at the heart of the city and can house events with over 1,500 participants. There is a large auditorium holding 520 and 10 magnificently-equipped rooms with different capacities, as well as three spacious exhibition areas and multi-purpose areas.

The Palacio de Congresos de Alicante has renovated many of its facilities and modernised its services and technical equipment to continue being the best place in Alicante to hold congresses, symposiums, discussions, meetings and conferences.

**Institución Ferial Alicantina**  
N-340 Alicante-Elx, Km. 731  
Apdo. 192  
03280 Elx  
Tel. 966 65 76 00  
Fax 966 65 76 30  
ifa@ifavirtual.com  
www.feria-alicante.com

This is an exhibition arena located next to the El Altet Airport. Trade fairs, congresses and shows are held here. There are two pavilions that have a total area of more than 40,000 square metres and which can be converted into rooms with 2,000 seats, 4 halls totalling 1,400 square metres, an events room for 300 people, conference rooms and a car park holding 5,000 vehicles.

**Universidad de Alicante**  
Ctra. San Vicente del Raspeig, s/n  
03690 San Vicente del Raspeig (Alicante)  
Tel. 965 90 34 00  
Fax 965 90 34 64  
informacio@ua.es  
www.ua.es

The University of Alicante Auditorium is an annexe of the Faculty of Law and can hold 1,000 participants and has a 200 square metre stage. The Campus also has large lecture hall buildings throughout its grounds.
Aula de Cultura de la CAM
C/ Doctor Gadea, 1
03003 Alicante
Tel. 965 90 56 39
Fax 965 90 56 57
jmc6365@red.cam.es
www.cam.es

The CAM has an assembly hall holding 520, a conference hall for 150 and a seminar room for 30.

Auditorio CAM de Alicante
C/ Isabel La Católica, 7
03007 Alicante
Tel. 965 90 64 91
www.cam.es

The CAM Auditorium can accommodate 256 participants and holds all kinds of cultural and professional events.

Colegio de Farmacéuticos
C/ Jorge Juan, 8
03001 Alicante
Tel. 965 20 40 33
Fax 965 20 75 87
cofalicante@cofalicante.com
www.cofalicante.com

The Pharmacists Association has an auditorium holding 250 participants.

More information about the Province of Alicante:
www.costablancaconvention.org
he shopping possibilities in Alicante are immense. You’ll find absolutely everything in the city, as the main European franchises have opened in the city centre and high fashion couturiers and designers from Alicante have also opened shops in the city, such as the famous Hannibal Laguna.

On a more mundane, but interesting note, the Campoamor Street Market is open on Thursdays and Saturdays. This is a huge bazaar where you’ll find more or less everything and where farmers sell their products direct. There is also a permanent street market selling arts and crafts on the Paseo de la Explanada.

So, what can you buy in these places? Canned vegetables from Vega Baja, Montaña olives and olive oil, turrón from Xixona, La Vila Joiosa chocolates, dates from Elche, raisins from Dénia and wine with the "Alicante" guarantee of quality and origin. You can also find aniseed-flavoured sweets from Monforte del Cid, muscatels from Teulada or Xaló and the famous “Fondillón”, a sweet wine that is bottled with the Reserve label, which means it has been aged for at least three years. There are also shoes from Elda, Villena and Elche, textiles from Alcoy and rugs from Crevillent. The Province of Alicante is also the birthplace of Spanish toys. The main factories are in Ibi and Onil. If you are looking for crafts, you’ll find them in Biar, Agost and Gata de Gorgos. Furniture from Almoradi is also famous.
Speaking about the nightlife in Alicante is like talking about an inherent part of the city. The people of Alicante are, by tradition, very keen on enjoying their evenings and many tourists who visit the city come precisely for the attraction of the nightlife which, throughout most of the year, is accompanied by very pleasant weather. There is a wide range of options on offer and there are as many different places as there are tastes and trends.

The following areas in Alicante are where you’ll find the best atmospheres:

**El Barrio**
The indisputable ‘in’ place in Alicante is, as usually happens in many other Spanish cities, the old quarter. “El Barrio”, as the traditional centre is called, contains the greatest number of pubs and bars in the whole city per square metre and accommodates thousands of people every weekend in search of a good time.

**La Ruta de la Madera**
Another of the city’s main nightlife areas is what is known as the Ruta de la Madera which received its name as, coincidently, many of the bars have used wood in their construction. This route is made up of a collection of establishments that lie behind the Central Market and run parallel to the Avenida de Alfonso El Sabio. Some of these bars offer café-theatre or live concerts also.

**El Puerto**
Thanks to the opening up of the city's port, which entailed the conversion of disused piers and sheds into leisure areas, Alicante Port is without doubt the city's main leisure complex and where you will find everything you can imagine. There are restaurants, fast food restaurants, pubs, shops and cinemas. This is a meeting place in both winter and summer. Most of these places usually open very early.

**La Playa de San Juan**
Another leisure area has been created on the San Juan Beach, which lies 5 km from Alicante. This area has become known as the quiet alternative to the city's busier nightlife.
Recreational area at Alicante Marina
It seems obvious that Alicante is the perfect destination for water sports. The good weather means that sailing, swimming, diving, surfing, windsurfing, kite surfing, fishing and water skiing are all possible on any day of the year. There are three yacht clubs and many sailing and diving schools where you’ll be able to do many activities.

In terms of public facilities, these are found in the Monte Tossal sports area and old racecourse. Here you’ll find five-a-side football pitches, an athletics stadium, swimming pools, paddle-tennis courts and frontón and basketball courts.

If it's golf you're after, the 18-hole Alicante Golf Club, designed by Severiano Ballesteros, is located on the San Juan Beach. Golf fans can also visit other excellent golf courses, such as El Plantío in Alicante, Alenda in Monforte del Cid and Bonalba in Mutxamel.

Finally, and without leaving the city, those who enjoy hiking can climb Monte Benacantil and the Serra Grossa mountain range, where you'll get spectacular views of the sea. A walk along the San Juan Beach is also an excellent option.
Alicante Golf
Autovía Alicante-Madrid, km. 15
Monforte del Cid (Alicante)
Tel. 965 62 05 21
Fax 965 62 17 96
www.alendagolf.com

Golf & Spa Bonalba
Partida de Bonalba, s/n
Mutxamel (Alicante)
Tel. 965 95 59 55
Fax 965 95 50 78
www.golfbonalba.com

Club Náutico Alicante Costa Blanca
Av. Condomina, 20 (Edificio Akra)
Playa Albufereta
Tel. 965 15 44 91
Fax 965 26 58 48
cncostablanca@cdromsa.es

Estación Náutica Alicante
El Campello-Santa Pola
Tourist Info Playa de San Juan
Av. Niza, s/n
Tel. 606 01 33 51
info@estacionnautica.com

Alenda Golf
Autovía Alicante-Madrid, km. 15
Monforte del Cid (Alicante)
Tel. 965 62 05 21
Fax 965 62 17 96
www.alendagolf.com

Yatch clubs
Real Club de Regatas de Alicante
Muelle de Poniente, 3
Tel. 965 92 12 50
Fax 965 22 85 42
www.rcra.es

Marina Alicante
Muelle 8, zona de Levante, s/n
Tel. 965 21 36 00
Fax 965 21 36 65
www.marinaalicante.com

Other sports activities
Complejo deportivo Monte Tossal
C/ Monte Tossal
Tel. 965 24 21 62
Accommodation

Alicante has more than 7,000 hotel beds, which will satisfy even the most demanding tastes. The hotels offer a complete range of services, facilities and the most modern equipment, such as spa centres, sports areas, meeting rooms and excellent restaurants.
Establecimientos hoteleros

Hotel Hesperia
Alicante Golf Spa *****
Av. de las Naciones, s/n
Tel. 965 23 50 00
Fax 965 26 82 42
hotel@hesperia-alicante.com
www.hesperia-alicante.es

Hotel Hospes Amérito *****
C/ Rafael Altamira, 7
Tel. 965 14 65 70
Fax 965 14 65 71
hospes.amerigo@hospes.es
www.hospes.es

AC Hotel Alicante *****
Av. de Elche, 3
Tel. 965 120 178
Fax 965 135 360
acalicante@ac-hotels.com
www.ac-hotels.com

Hotel Hesperia Lucentum *****
Av. Alfonso X El Sabio, 11
Tel. 966 590 700
Fax 966 590 710
hotel@hesperia-lucentum.com
www.hesperia-lucentum.com

Hotel Sidi San Juan *****
Partida La Doblada-Cabo de las Huertas, s/n
Tel. 965 16 13 00
Fax 965 16 33 46
direccion@sidisanjuan.com
www.sidisanjuan.com

Hotel Eurostars
Mediterránea Plaza *****
Pl. Ayuntamiento, 6
Tel. 965 21 01 88
Fax 965 20 67 50
info@eurostarsmediterraneaplaza.com
www.eurostarsmediterraneaplaza.com

Hotel Holiday Inn Alicante
Playa de San Juan *****
Av. Cataluña, 20
Tel. 965 15 61 85
Fax 965 15 39 36
hi.alicante@julbal.com
www.holiday-inn.com/alicante-playa

Hotel Meliá Alicante *****
Pl. Puerta del Mar, 3
Tel. 965 20 50 00
Fax 965 20 47 56
melia.alicante@solmelia.com
www.solmelia.com

Hotel NH Alicante *****
C/ Méjico, 18
Tel. 965 10 81 40
Fax 965 11 06 55
nhalicante@nh-hotels.com
www.nh-hotels.com

Hotel Spa Porta Maris
& Suites del Mar *****
Pl. Puerta del Mar, 3
Tel. 965 14 70 21
Fax 965 21 69 45
reservas@hotelspaportamaris.com
www.hotelspaportamaris.com

Hotel Tryp Gran Sol *****
Av. Rambla Méndez Núñez, 3
Tel. 965 20 30 00
Fax 965 21 14 39
tryp.gransol@solmelia.com
www.solmelia.com

Hotel Abba Centrum Alicante ***
C/ Pintor Lorenzo Casanova, 33
Tel. 965 13 04 40
Fax 965 92 83 23
centrumalicante@abbahoteles.com
www.abbacentrumalicante.com
Accommodation

Hotel Albahia ***
C/ Sol Naciente, 6
Tel. 965 15 59 79
Fax 965 15 53 73
hotelalbahia@albahia.com
www.albahia.com

Hotel Almirante ***
Av. Niza, 38 (Playa de San Juan)
Tel. 965 65 01 12
Fax 965 65 71 69
info@hotelalmirante.com
www.hotelalmirante.com

Hotel Campanile ***
Av. Elche, 21
Tel. 965 11 02 82
Fax 965 10 30 13
alicante@campanile.com
www.campanile.com

Hotel Castilla Alicante ***
Av. Países Escandinavos, 7 (Playa de San Juan)
Tel. 965 16 20 33
Fax 965 16 20 61
info@hcastilla.com
www.alicantehotelcastilla.com

Hotel Daniya Alicante ***
Av. de Dénia, 133
Tel. 965 15 43 92
Fax 965 15 05 93
central.info@daniyahotels.es
www.daniyahotels.com

Hotel Kris Alicante ***
C/ Canónico Manuel Penalva, s/n
Tel. 965 26 12 11
Fax 965 26 19 76
krisalicante@krishoteles.com
www.krishoteles.com

Hotel Mío Cid ***
C/ Costa Blanca, 22
Tel. 965 15 27 00
Fax 965 26 52 26
info@hotelmiocid.com
www.hotelmiocid.com

Hotel NH Cristal ***
C/ Lópex Torregrosa, 11
Tel. 965 14 36 59
Fax 965 20 66 96
nhcrystal@nh-hotels.com
www.nh-hoteles.es

Hotel Residencia Express by Holiday Inn Alicante ***
Av. de Elche, 112
Tel. 966 01 10 00
Fax 966 01 10 01
express.alicante@whgeu.com
www.expressbyholidayinn.es

Hotel Residencia Gravina 5 ***
C/ Gravina, 5
Tel. 965 147 317
Fax 902 934 305
info@hotelgravinacinco.es
www.granvinacinco.com

Hotel Residencia Leuka ***
C/ Segura, 23
Tel. 965 20 27 44
Fax 965 14 12 22
info@hotelleuka.com
www.hotelleuka.com

Hotel Residencia
Tryp Ciudad de Alicante ***
C/ Gravina, 9
Tel. 965 21 07 00
Fax 965 21 09 76
tryp.alicante@solmelia.com
www.solmelia.com
Hotel Residencia Bahía **
C/ Gravina, 16
Tel. 965 20 65 22
Fax 965 20 66 02

Hotel Residencia Cervantes **
C/ Pascual Pérez, 19
Tel. 965 20 98 22
Fax 965 20 97 65
info@hotelesrc.com

Hotel Goya de Alicante **
C/ Maestro Bretón, 19
Tel. 965 14 16 59
Fax 965 20 01 30
info@centrotelgoya.com
www.centrotelgoya.com

Hotel Residencia Rambla **
Av. Rambla de Méndez Núñez, 9
Tel. 965 14 45 80
Fax 965 14 46 84
reservas@hotelrambla.com
www.hotelrambla.com

Hotel Residencia El Alamo *
C/ San Fernando, 56
Tel. 965 21 83 55
Fax 965 21 83 55
info@hotelalamo.com
www.hotelalamo.com

Hotel Ibis Agua Amarga *
Av. de Elche, 114
Tel. 965 10 80 40
Fax 965 28 92 50
www.ibishotel.com

Hotel Residencia Marítimo *
C/ Valdés, 13
Tel. 965 14 37 22
Fax 965 92 87 66
www.hmaritimo.com

Hotel Residencia Rialto *
C/ Castaños, 30
Tel. 965 20 64 33
Fax 965 14 13 67

Hotel Residencia San Remo *
C/ de Las Navas, 30
Tel. 965 20 95 00
Fax 965 20 96 68
info@hotelsanremo.net
www.hotelsanremo.net

Hotel Residencia La Trancada *
C/ Motxo, 12 - Isla de Tabarca-
Tel. 965 96 11 85
info@latrancada.com
www.latrancada.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accommodation</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
<th>Email/Website</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hostal Residencia Cataluña **</td>
<td>C/ Gerona, 11</td>
<td>Tel. 965 20 73 66</td>
<td>Fax 965 14 33 57</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hostal Estudiotel Alicante **</td>
<td>C/ Poeta Vila y Blanco, 4</td>
<td>Tel. 965 21 20 11</td>
<td>Fax 965 21 84 14</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hotel-riscal@arrakis.es">hotel-riscal@arrakis.es</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.visual.es/estudiotel">www.visual.es/estudiotel</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hostal Residencia La Lonja **</td>
<td>C/ Capitán Segarra, 10</td>
<td>Tel. 965 20 34 33</td>
<td>Fax 965 20 34 33</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hostal Bahía Blanca *</td>
<td>Urb. Bahías del Rey-Cabo Huertas, s/n</td>
<td>Tel. 965 16 00 37</td>
<td>Fax 965 16 00 37</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hostalbahiablanca.com">www.hostalbahiablanca.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hostal Residencia Campoy *</td>
<td>C/ Capitán Segarra, 25</td>
<td>Tel. 965 20 86 24</td>
<td>Fax 965 20 14 79</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hostal Residencia El Chiqui *</td>
<td>C/ d'En Mig, 8</td>
<td>Tel. 965 97 01 43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hostal Residencia Masin *</td>
<td>C/ d'En Mig, 22</td>
<td>Tel. 965 96 05 09</td>
<td>Fax 965 96 05 09</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hostal Residencia Mayor *</td>
<td>C/ Mayor, 5</td>
<td>Tel. 965 20 13 83</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hostal Residencia Les Monges Palace *</td>
<td>C/ San Agustín, 4</td>
<td>Tel. 965 21 50 46</td>
<td>Fax 965 14 71 89</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@lesmorges.net">info@lesmorges.net</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.lesmorges.net">www.lesmorges.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hostal Mont Royal *</td>
<td>C/ Tridente, 27 (Cabo de las Huertas)</td>
<td>Tel. 965 16 04 11</td>
<td>Fax 965 26 85 35</td>
<td><a href="mailto:correo@complejomontroyal.com">correo@complejomontroyal.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hostal Residencia Noy *
Partida Bacarot, s/n
Tel. 965 28 71 43

Hostal Residencia San Fernando *
C/ San Fernando, 34
Tel. 965 21 36 56

Hostal Residencia Ventura *
C/ San Fernando, 10
Tel. 965 20 83 37
Fax 965 20 83 37
Accommodation

Pensión Alicante-San Nicolás
C/ San Nicolás, 14
Tel./Fax 965 217 039
info@alicantesanicolas.com
www.alicantesanicolas.com

Pensión Guest House
C/ Segura, 20
Tel. 650 71 83 53
roomstourist@hotmail.com
www.guesthousealicante.com

Pensión Ayuntamiento
Pl. Ayuntamiento, 3
Tel. 965 21 62 00

Pensión H3 Alicante
Ctra. Ocaña, 86
Tel. 965 11 45 45
Fax 965 11 42 54

Pensión Alemania
C/ Alemania, 15-Entlo
Tel. 965 92 79 47
pension_belenguer@hotmail.com

Pensión El Mar
C/ Jorge Juan, 23
Tel. 965 21 41 56

Pensión Bel
C/ Pintor Aparicio, 27
Tel. 965 12 42 23

Pensión Mateos
C/ San Vicente, 49
Tel. 965 20 38 22

Pensión Casa Miguel
C/ Poeta Quintana, 4
Tel. 965 21 84 71

Pensión México
C/ Gral. Primo de Rivera, 10
Tel. 965 20 93 07

Pensión Etap Agua Amarga
Av. Elche, 114
Tel. 965 10 90 53
Fax 965 10 90 54

Pensión Metidja
Rambla Méndez Núñez, 26
Tel. 965 14 36 17

Pensión Fajardo
C/ San Fernando, 48
Tel. 965 20 90 94

Pensión La Milagrosa
C/ Villavieja, 8
Tel. 965 21 69 18

Pensión Galicia
C/ Arquitecto Morell, 1
Tel. 965 92 50 93

Pensión Milán
C/ San Fernando, 6
Tel. 965 20 46 15

Pensión Los Granadinos
Mayor, Partida Rebolledo, 32
Tel. 965 18 96 04

Pensión Navizca
C/ Rafael Terol, 22
Tel. 965 20 27 29
Pensión Nuevo Masín
C/ Virgen del Carmen, 19
Tel. 676 97 44 25

Pensión Popeye
C/ Reyes Católicos, 16
Tel. 965 13 00 60

Pensión Portugal
C/ Portugal, 26
Tel. 965 92 92 44

Pensión San Blas
Av. Soto Ameno, 48
Tel. 965 92 89 35

Pensión Santa Lucía
Av. Dr. Gadea, 6
Tel. 965 14 27 98

Pensión Versalles
C/ Villavieja, 3
Tel. 965 21 47 93

Source: Ministry of Tourism. June 2008
Preparing your trip

**On the internet**

**www.comunitatvalenciana.com**
This is the Region of Valencia’s tourist website, which provides detailed information to help you prepare your trip, as well as providing you with live images taken by web cameras located in Alicante. In the section on municipalities, select Alicante and there you’ll find information on accommodation, travel agents, tourist offices, restaurants, beaches, water activities, leisure parks, cinema programmes, cultural events, fiestas, monuments and museums etc. The real time weather information is also interesting, as well as the forecasts for the next 5 days.

**www.alicante-ayto.es**
This is the official website of the Ayuntamiento de Alicante and it provides the inhabitants with all kinds of information and services. Within the tourism section, **www.alicante-turismo.com** presents an exhaustive tourist guide with information on leisure and cultural activities, transport, routes, facilities etc…

**www.costablanca.org**
This is the official website of the Costa Blanca Provincial Tourist Board and it provides lots of information on possible destinations and tourist resources in the province of Alicante, including the capital. There is information on the beaches, municipalities, museums, food and drink, cultural events, fiestas and current tourist news as well as other sections.

**Climate**

With an average temperature of 26.5° C in July and 13° C in January, Alicante is known for its gentle climate with pleasant summers that are not too hot and mild winters. January and February are the coldest months.

**Language**

The two official languages are Spanish and Valencian, this being the Region of Valencia’s own language.

**Opening hours**

In general, businesses open from 10am to 9pm (some central businesses shut at lunchtime)
Banks: from 8am to 2pm
Public Offices: from 8am to 2pm.
Restaurants usually serve food from 12pm to 3pm and from 7pm to 11pm.
Bars: open from 11pm to 3.30am and discos from 6pm to 7.30am.

**Bank Holidays**

1st and 6th January
19th March
Good Friday and Easter Monday
Santa Faz, the second Thursday after Maundy Thursday
Explanada de España
Preparing your trip

1st May
24th June, San Juan
15th August
9th and 12th October
6th, 8th and 25th December

These dates may vary according to the working calendar established each year.

Links

Alicante is circled by the AP-7 motorway, which links with Madrid via the A-31 motorway and with the Region of Valencia’s mainland via the A-7 motorway or the N-340 road. Trains to Valencia, Barcelona and Madrid leave daily from Alicante’s train station and these connect with trains to other Spanish cities and the European network. There is also a narrow-gauge railway that links with the province’s coast up to the city of Dénia. Alicante also has a port that accommodates passengers and an international airport.

Buses

Bus Station
C/ Portugal, 17
Tel. 965 13 07 00

TAM – city buses and trains
Tel. 965 14 09 36

Subus – C6 Line Alicante–Airport
www.subus.es

Trains

The Regional Government of Valencia
Trains (FGV)
Tel. 900 72 04 72

Alicante-Dénia Route.
To get to Dénia, you need to take a tram from Alicante (Plaza del Mar) to El Campello. Once there, you change from the Tram to the train and continue to Dénia.

The Trensnochador night service runs in summer and links the city of Alicante with municipal destinations on the north coast.

The Tren Senderista service combines a train ride with hiking and allows you to discover the charming geography that Alicante has to offer by taking the train from a main station or an unmanned stop.

Train Station (RENFE)
Av. Salamanca, s/n
Tel. 902 24 02 02

From Alicante, you can take the National Train Network, which links the province with the rest of Spain.

Air Services

El Altet International Airport
Tel. 966 91 94 00 · 966 91 91 00
03071 L’Altet (Elx)
www.aena.es
Taxis

Radio Taxi
Tel. 965 91 01 23 · 965 91 04 44

Tele Taxi
Tel. 965 10 16 11

Área Taxi
Tel. 965 91 05 91

Traffic Information Centre
Tel. 900 12 35 05

Sea

Alicante’s Port receives and sends passengers on both tourist cruises and regular routes that link with the Balearic Islands, the north of Africa and Tabarca Island.

Puerto de Alicante
Tel. 965 13 00 95

Transmediterránea
Tel. 902 45 46 45

Alicante–Tabarca (Kontiki)
Tel. 965 21 63 96

Dénia–Baleares (Balearia)
Tel. 902 16 01 80

Iscomar Ferry
Tel. 902 11 91 28

Alicante–Orán (Romeu y Cía)
Tel. 965 14 15 09
Preparing your trip

Tourist Information

Contact Center Comunitat Valenciana
Tel. 902 12 32 12
info@comunitatvalenciana.com

Tourist Info Alicante
Av. Rambla de Méndez Núñez, 23
Tel. 965 20 00 00
alicante@touristinfo.net

Tourist Info Alicante-centro
C/ Portugal, 17 (Bus station)
Tel. 965 92 98 02
alicantecentro@touristinfo.net

Tourist Info Alicante-Postiguet
Paseo de Gómiz, s/n

Tourist Info Alicante-Renfe
Av. Salamanca, s/n
(near the train station)

Tourist Info Alicante-Playa de San Juan
Av. de Niza, s/n

Consulates

Belgian consulate
Explanada de España, 1-5º
Tel. 965 92 91 47
Fax 965 12 62 45

Brazilian consulate
C/ Reyes Católicos, 31
Edif. Rex, 2ºB
Tel. 965 92 88 52
Fax 965 13 27 64

Danish consulate
Pl. Calvo Sotelo, 3-5º B
Tel. 965 20 79 38
Fax 965 20 79 38

Irish consulate
Ctra. de Madrid, km. 4
Mercalicante, pabellón multiusos
Tel. 965 10 74 85
Fax 965 11 35 19

Italian vice-consulate
Av. Benitez Pérez Galdós, 9-11, 1º D
Tel./Fax 965 14 11 33

Luxembourg consulate
C/ Juan Bautista Lafora, 3-4º izq.
Tel. 965 20 53 33
Fax 965 21 75 63

Moroccan consulate
C/ Duque de Zaragoza, 4-5º B
Tel. 965 21 85 20
Fax 965 21 68 59

German consulate
Pl. Calvo Sotelo, 1
Tel. 965 21 70 60
Fax 965 21 52 34

Algerian consulate
C/ Eusebio Sempere, 14
Tel. 965 22 99 44
Fax 965 22 75 63
Mexican consulate
Av. Dr. Gadea, 9-entlo
Tel. 965 22 93 14
Fax 965 12 58 6

Norway consulate
C/ Foglietti, 2, 1ºC
Tel. 965 12 41 93

Dutch consulate
Av. Dr. Ramón y Cajal, 3-3º
Tel. 965 21 21 75
Fax 965 20 55 57

United Kingdom consulate
Pl. Calvo Sotelo, 1
Tel. 965 21 60 22
Fax 965 14 05 28

Dominican Republic consulate
C/ Virgen del Socorro, 50, bajo 3
Tel. 965 15 18 97

French vice-consulate
C/ Alberola, 17
Tel. 965 12 58 13
Fax 965 12 58 22

Guatemalan consulate
C/ Los Alamos. Urb. El Trosiu, 24
Sant Joan d’Alacant
Tel./Fax 965 65 55 94

Useful telephone numbers and addresses

Emergencies
112

Security
National police
091
Local police
092
Fire service
080

Alicante Town Hall
Switchboard
965 14 92 90

Health
Medical emergencies
966 14 40 00
General hospital
965 93 83 00
San Juan hospital
965 93 87 00
24 hour medical care
900 161 161
Puerto de Alicante
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*Tourist resources in this guide and on the street map*