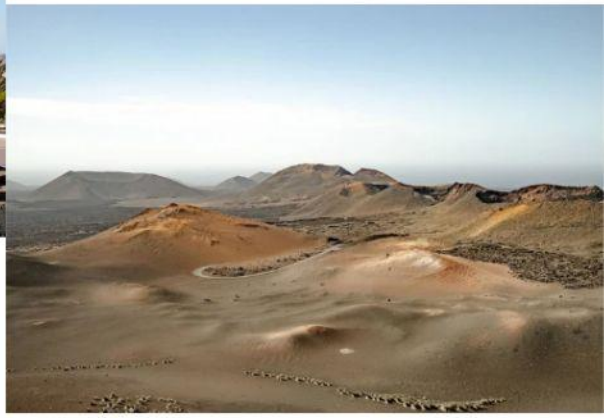


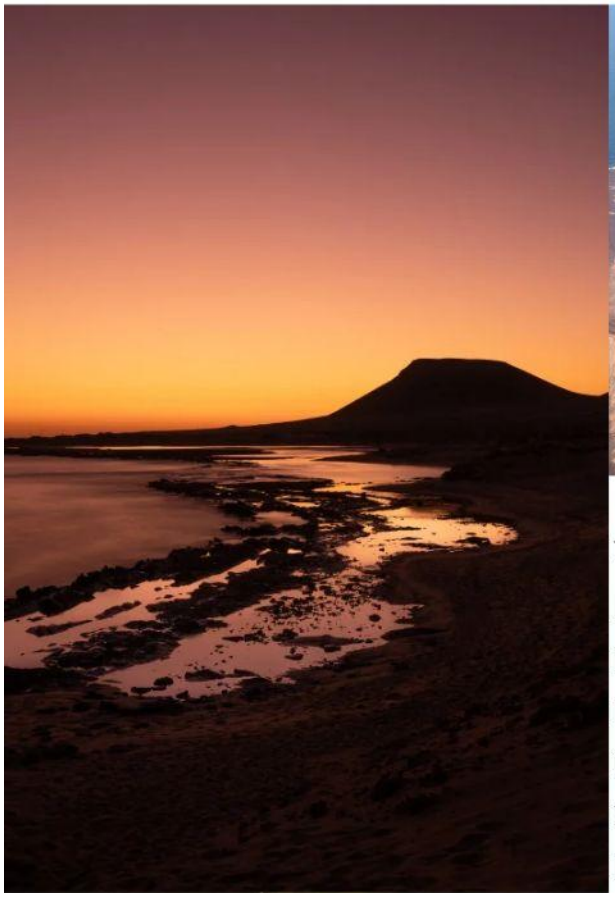
BY VINCENT.VOYAGE



ALMOST 150 PAGES OF INFORMATION FOR TRAVELLING TO LANZAROTE

LANZAROTE

YOUR MUST-HAVE GUIDE V2





TIMANFAYA
LA GRACIOSA
VIEWPOINTS
TEGUISE
CESAR MANRIQUE
PAPAGAYO

TOP SIGHTS
ITINERARIES
BEACH RESORTS
BEST ACTIVITIES
CAR-FREE TRAVEL
WHERE TO STAY
INTERACTIVE MAPS



Welcome to this guide to discovering Lanzarote: its most beautiful spots, its activities and all the practical info so your trip goes smoothly.

It's a guide that keeps evolving. The first version came out in 2025, and what you have here is the 2027 update: new places to stay, ratings and prices checked again, and new sections.

I decided to make this guide completely free, available to everyone. No need to pay, no subscription, no email address.

If you'd like to help keep the content completely free and encourage me in this work, there are several ways to do it. Because no, *the Vincent Voyage blog* isn't a job at all and I can't make a living from it. Your contributions let me spend more time on it.

- Use the *Booking* and *Getyourguide* links in this guide. I get a small percentage and it doesn't cost you anything extra
- If you're planning your holidays, even if it's not in Lanzarote, use these links (always the official links, of course). Inside them there's my little ID, which tells *Booking*, *Getyourguide* or *Discover Cars* that I'm the one sending you.
    - *Book your accommodation on Booking.com*
    - *Book your activities on Getyourguide*
    - *Find your rental car with Discover Cars*

Feel free to bookmark these links! A big thank you! 😊

And if you want to follow what comes next, the photos and the upcoming guides, see you on the *blog's Facebook page*!



LANZAROTE

LINKS AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION

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THE MAP OF LANZAROTE

Find out more in this article on how it works

MAP OF LANZAROTE

I love maps, it's so easy to find your way around when they're done well.

So I've built you a map of Lanzarote, on Google Maps, where you'll find:

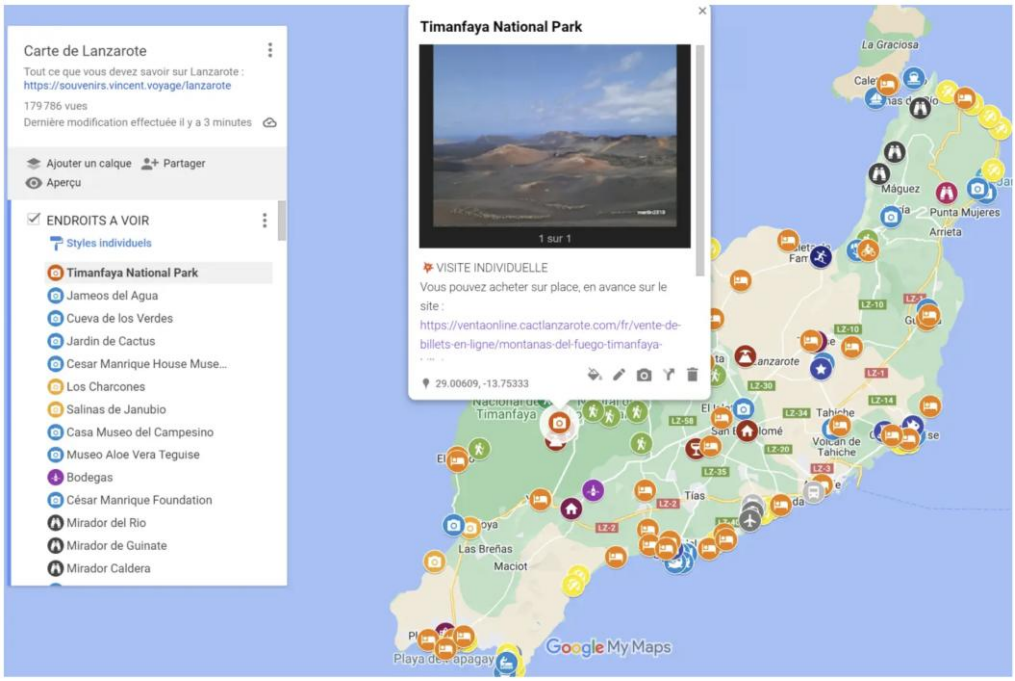
- The most beautiful spots
- The hikes
- Things to do
- Restaurants
- Places to stay
- And every piece of useful information for your trip, basically!

The map works in layers. Each layer covers one theme. You only want to see the most beautiful spots or the waterfalls? Then untick the other layers to remove the activities or the places to stay, for example.

The other way round, if you want to see the hotels, untick the rest.

It really is dead simple to use!

⭐ ***Click here to open the map!*** ⭐



THE MOST BEAUTIFUL SPOTS IN LANZAROTE

Here's a small sample of the most beautiful spots in Lanzarote.
You can find more of them in this article

PARQUE NACIONAL DE TIMANFAYA

A quick introduction

Picture a landscape straight out of another world. Fields of black lava, red craters, flows frozen in time… Welcome to the national park of Timanfaya, the volcanic heart of Lanzarote. Not a tree here, not a bird. Just rock, wind, and the odd feeling of standing on Mars. Except you're very much in the Canaries.

This incredible scenery is the result of some pretty violent eruptions between 1730 and 1736. More than six years of fire, ash and villages swallowed whole. Today you can see all of it from a bus (the road is closed to cars), or on camelback if you like your thrills… exotic.

The tour of Timanfaya is done on a bus with blue-tinted windows (really handy for photos), and it's included in the ticket price. You drive into the park, queue for the bus, grab a seat next to the window to make the most of it. You can do the loop several times, nobody checks.



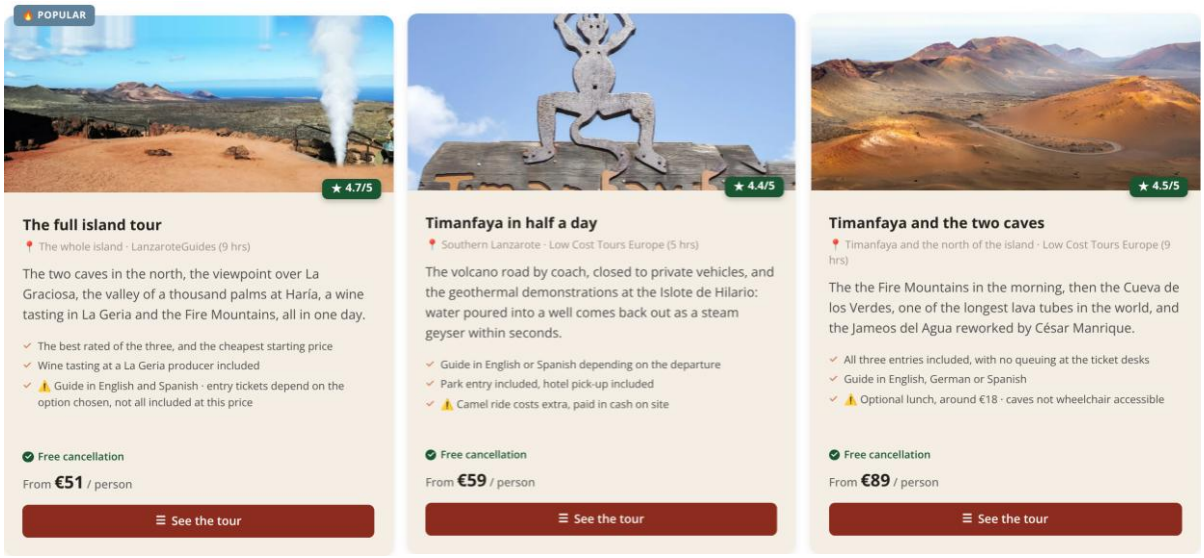


Practical info

- **Opening hours:** 9:30am – 5pm
- **Price:** €30 (yes yes the price hike here has been huuuuge)
- **Ticket booking** for a self-guided visit: on *the official ticket site*
- **Getting there by bus:** not possible. Car or tour operator. That's it. And walking in is forbidden.
- **Visiting with a tour operator:** for a *half-day in the park*
- *Check out my article on Timanfaya*

Going with a tour operator

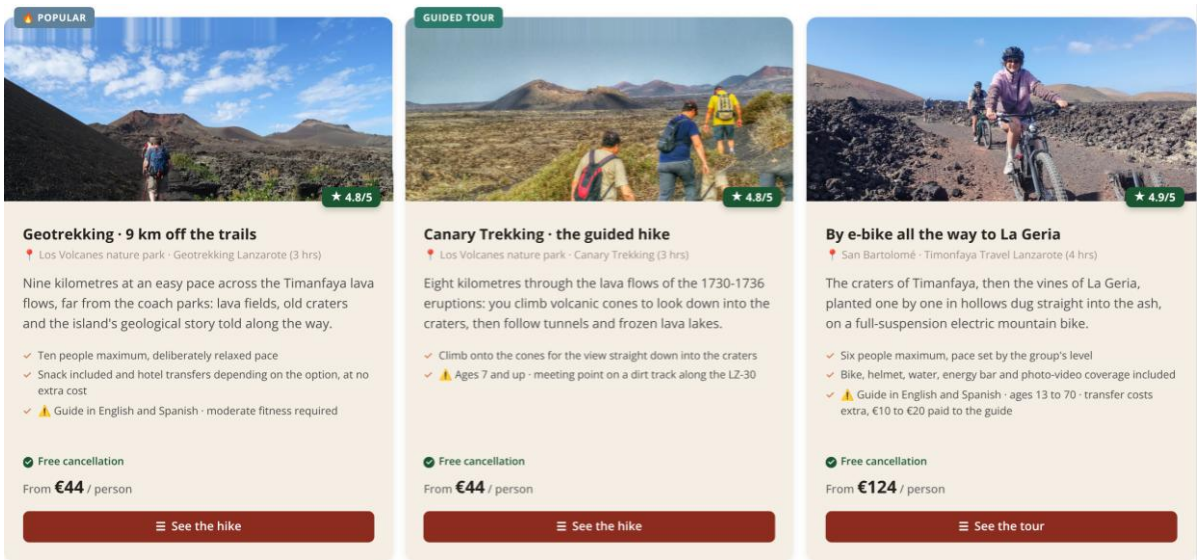
Luckily, since plenty of people visit Lanzarote without a car (cruise passengers, but not only them), you can still see the best-known spots like Timanfaya with a tour operator that picks you up at your accommodation.



Hiking the volcanoes of Timanfaya

Here's the good bit: even though the park is tightly regulated and you can't walk in on your own, some outfits do run hikes inside it.

But others also offer a ride on an electric bike, which is pretty good too! You can click straight on the cards for more details



JAMEOS DEL AGUA

A quick introduction

When lava meets art. Picture a collapsed lava tunnel, carved out by a volcano 4,000 years ago, turned into a magical place by the artist César Manrique. That's Jameos del Agua. The entrance alone sets the tone: a volcanic cave that pulls you into another world. And inside? A crystal-clear underground lake (home to tiny blind albino crabs found nowhere else), exotic gardens, an auditorium hollowed out of the rock, and even a café beside a turquoise pool.

What makes this place unique is that fusion of raw nature and artistic architecture. Manrique added nothing, he simply revealed the beauty that was already there. You wander between cool shade and dazzling light, between mineral silence and poetic echoes. It's peaceful, inspiring… almost unreal.

Why go? Because you won't see this anywhere else. Because it's a true Lanzarote signature. And because this place, halfway between volcanic cave and work of art, makes you realise how alive, mysterious and staggeringly beautiful the island is.





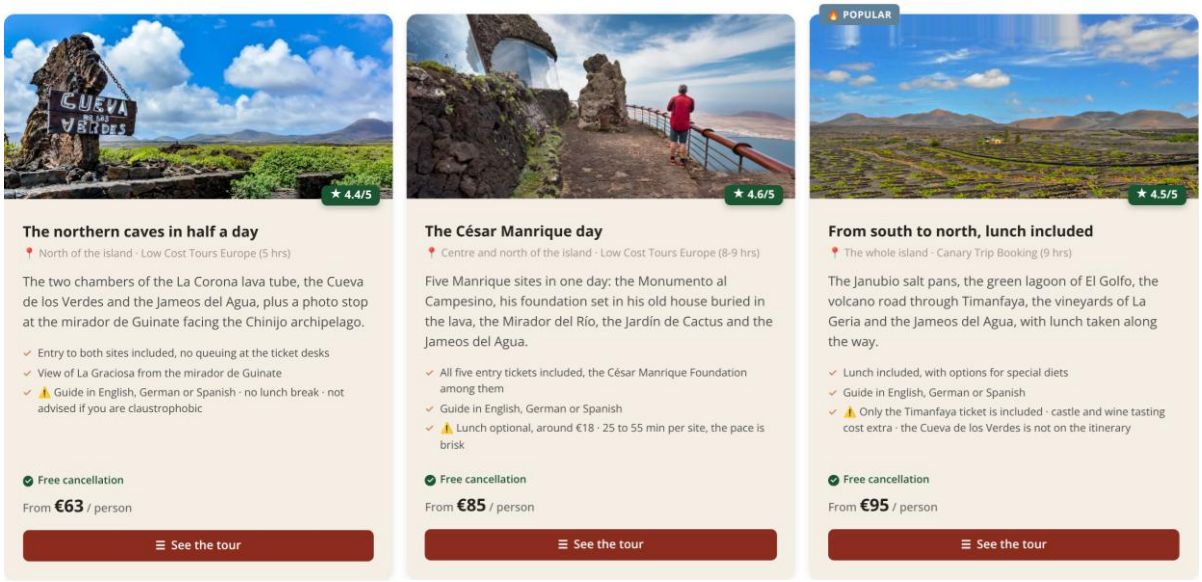
Practical info

- **Opening hours:** 10am – 6pm
- **Price:** €22.40
- **Ticket booking:** on site or *on their website*
- **Getting there by bus:** yes, it's on line 9 from Arrecife, but there are only 5 buses a day

Going with a tour operator

Jameos del Agua is one of the island's great classics, so you'll have loads of choice for visiting the site. And paired with others, that's where it gets interesting. Do you want to see the best-known sites, the ones in the north, every César Manrique site? There's bound to be an option for you, and we're going through all of them!

You've already got the two options that pair it with Timanfaya that I mentioned just above. Here are 3 more that are well worth a look and more specialised.



CUEVA DE LOS VERDES

A quick introduction

A cave… but done like a film set! You step into a lava tunnel that's 4,000 years old. It's dark, mysterious, sometimes very low (mind your head!), with perfectly orchestrated lighting. And the guided tour, honestly well done, has a surprise at the end... which I won't spoil here (the guide asked us not to say a word!)

What makes it unique is that it's one of the longest volcanic tunnels in the world, but also one of the best staged. And it isn't a "cave with stalactites", mind. This is frozen lava, raw and impressive.

Why go: to walk literally through the guts of a volcano. To have an experience out of time. And for that famous surprise at the end.

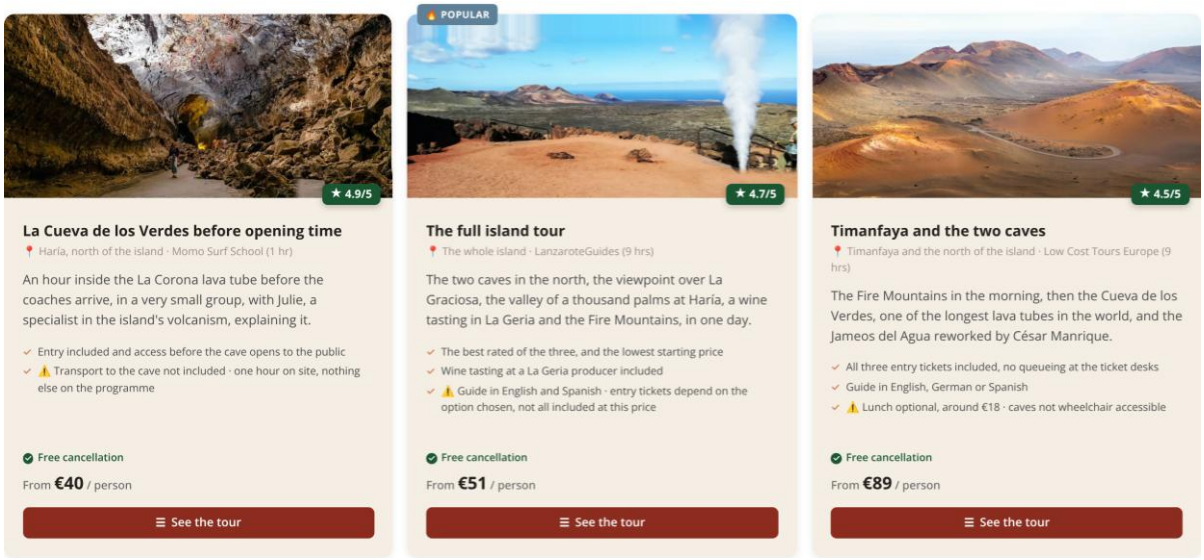




Practical info

- **Opening hours:** 9:30am – 4:45pm
- **Price:** €17
- **Ticket booking:** online, and you absolutely must book ahead *on their website* !
- **Getting there by bus:** yes, it's on line 9 from Arrecife, but there are only 5 buses a day

Going with a tour operator



DISCOVER THE BEST THINGS TO DO IN LANZAROTE!



MIRADOR DEL RIO

A quick introduction

A breathtaking view… literally. 475 metres above the ocean, the Mirador del Río gives you a panoramic view over the island of La Graciosa and the archipelago of Chinijo. But careful, this is no ordinary viewpoint. Here again, César Manrique went all out: a half-buried building sunk into the cliff, with giant picture windows, sculpted staircases and perched terraces.

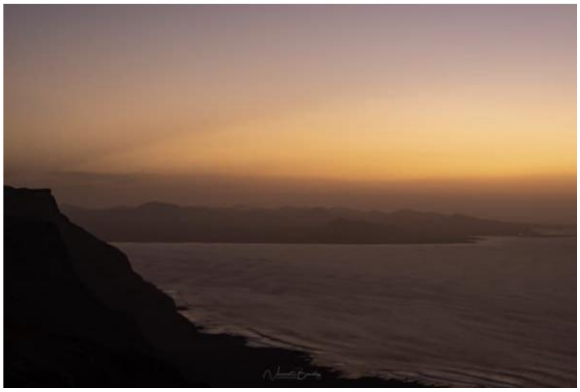
What makes it unique: you feel like you're floating in mid-air. The architecture is invisible from outside, and yet inside, everything is designed to show off the landscape. Even the café has an insane view.

Why go: Because this is the one place where the island's geography finally makes sense. Because you'll say "wow" out loud at least three times. And because seeing La Graciosa from up there is a simple feeling, but one you don't forget.

Only the indoor part costs money. Outside, the view, that's free. And you can go after closing time, thankfully, for the sunset 😊

Another very good mirador not far away is the one at Guinate, with pretty much the same view.



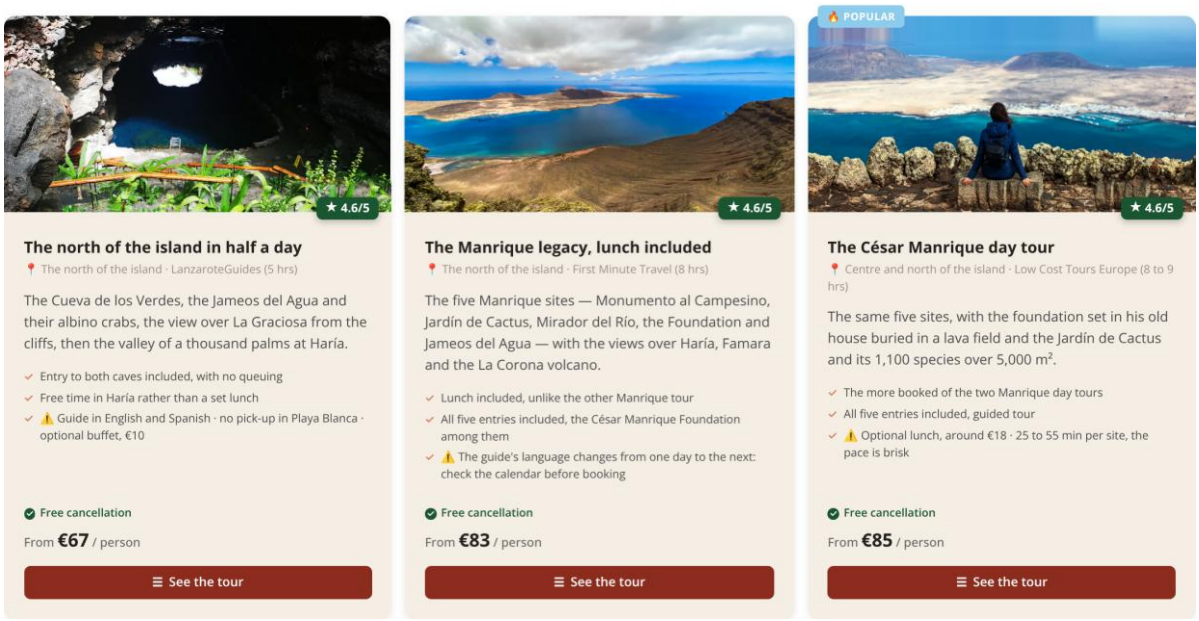


Practical info

- **Opening hours:** 10am – 5pm
- **Price:** €9
- **Ticket booking:** on site or *on their website* !
- **Getting there by bus:** not possible…

Going with a tour operator

Because the site is out on a limb, tours don't always include it. Which is a real shame, as it's lovely and the view is insane. Still, here are some good tours that do take you there, so you don't miss out.





JARDIN DE CACTUS

A quick introduction

A garden unlike any other (and a bit prickly). Thousands of cacti from all over the world, gathered in an old crater turned into a plant amphitheatre. Another brilliant idea signed Manrique. All of it with black stone paths, a white windmill up above, and a restaurant with a view.

What makes it unique: the balance between geometric rigour and natural exuberance. And honestly, seeing cacti 3 metres tall, or others shaped like a mother-in-law's cushion, is worth the detour.

Why go: because it's beautiful, calm, funny and seriously photogenic. And because you don't expect to fall in love… with a cactus garden!





Practical info

- **Opening hours:** 10am – 5pm
- **Price:** €9
- **Ticket booking:** on site or on *their website*
- **Getting there by bus:** line 9 from Arrecife, but few buses a day

Going with a tour operator

Here are the various guided tours that take you round several places, including the Jardin de Cactus. And there really aren't many, I don't know why, because it's a thoroughly nice site!





THE BEACHES OF PAPAGAYO

A quick introduction

The perfect postcard, but for real. Golden sand coves, turquoise water, ochre cliffs, volcanoes as a backdrop. It looks like the Caribbean, but it's in the south of Lanzarote, in the natural park of Los Ajaches. Papagayo, that's a cluster of small wild beaches, reachable on foot or by 4x4, far from the concrete.

What makes them unique. How raw the place still is. No sunloungers, no music, just nature, the wind and the ocean. And that gradient of blues... hypnotic.

Why go:
To swim in see-through water. To picnic with your feet in the sand. And to get a wild little break a stone's throw from Playa Blanca.

Right, I've never had any luck: every single time I've been it was cloudy! But it looks far better in real life 😊



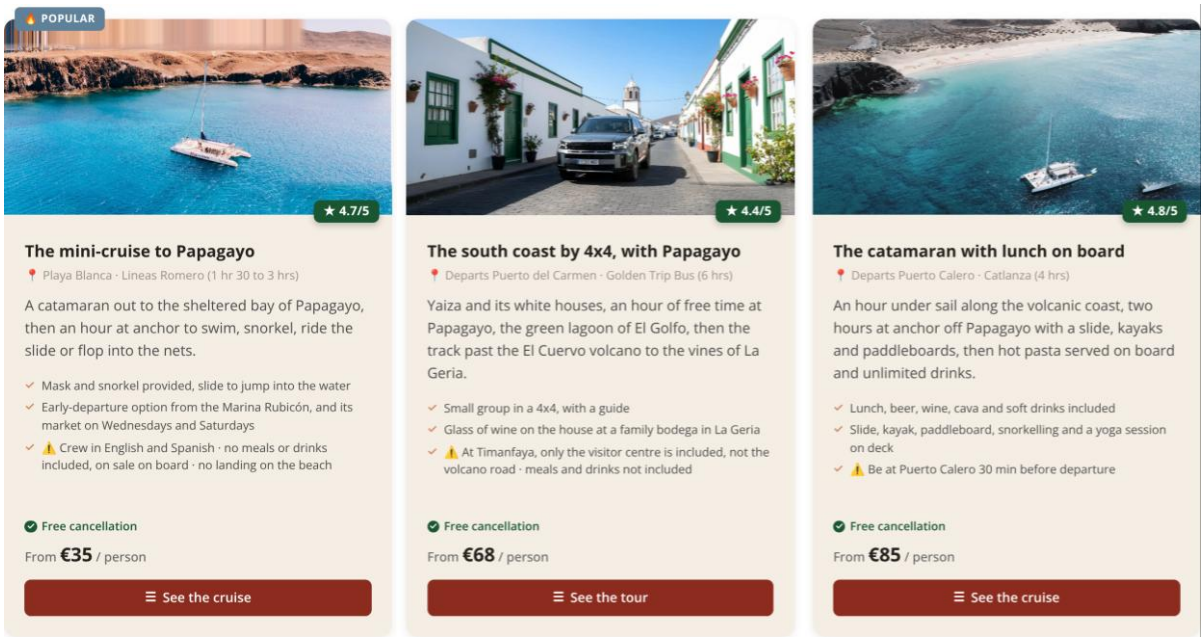


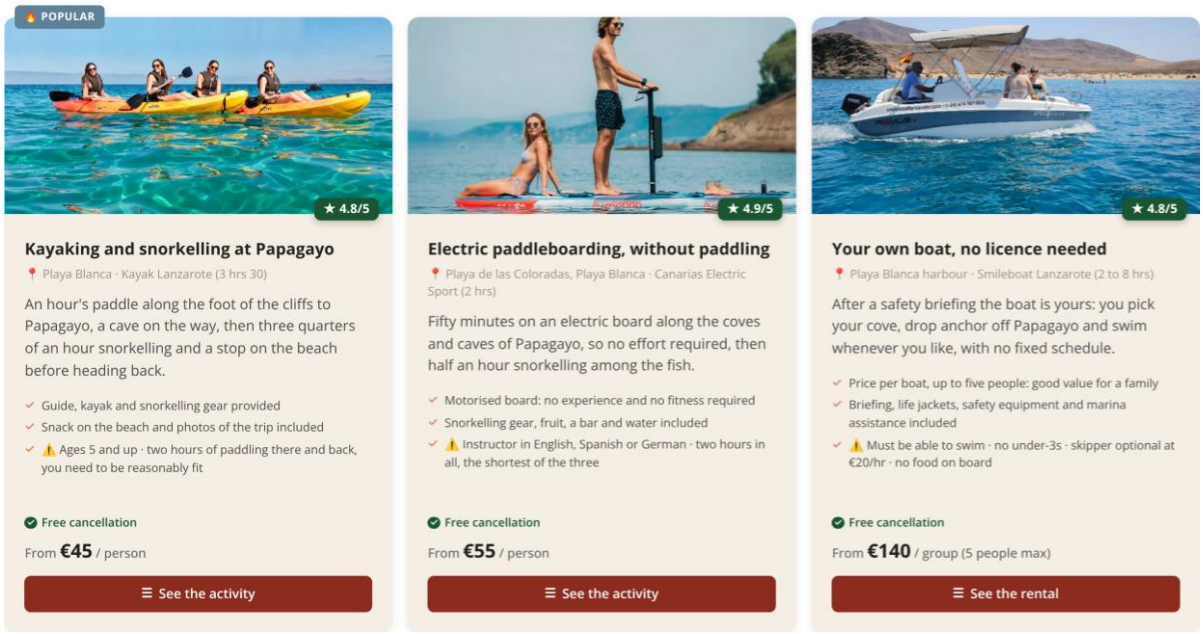
Practical info

- **Opening hours:** 24 hours a day
- **Price:** €3 entry fee per car
- **Ticket booking:** not possible, you pay when you arrive. First come, first served
- **How to get there:** there's no bus that goes to Papagayo. It stops at the eastern end of Playa Blanca. You can walk from there. Otherwise it's by car, along 5 km of unsurfaced track.

Discovering the beaches of Papagayo

You can come to sunbathe, but above all to enjoy the water!





THE SALINAS DE JANUBIO

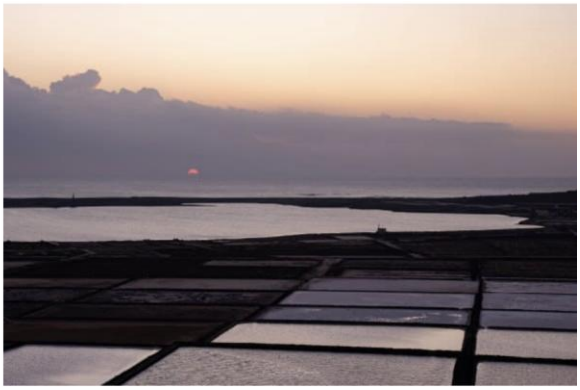
A quick introduction

Where salt turns into poetry. Geometric basins, shades of pink, ochre or white depending on the hour and the light, mountains of salt glittering in the sun. The salt pans of Janubio are still working today, the old-fashioned way. And the contrast with the black volcanic sea is striking.

What makes them unique: It's a hand-worked landscape, and a living one. Not just pretty, but rooted in the history of Lanzarote. And it changes with the light through the day.

Why go: Because it's ridiculously photogenic. Because you can buy real local salt. And because a sunset there is pure happiness. The colours of the sky, but also (and above all) of the salt pans!





Practical info

- **Opening hours:** 4 tours a day: 10am, 12pm, 2pm, 4pm
- **Price:** €22
- **Ticket booking:** not compulsory, but you never know, and you do need to turn up before the tour starts. In high season it can be better to *book ahead*
- **Getting there by bus:** not possible



THE OTHER CÉSAR MANRIQUE SITES

He really left his mark on Lanzarote. If the island is this pleasant, and this well preserved, it's thanks to him!

The César Manrique Foundation

His house. His world. His genius.
Built on a lava flow, this house fuses art, nature and architecture. Underground rooms carved out of volcanic bubbles, 1970s design, modern artworks everywhere.

Why go?
To get inside Manrique's head. To see a house that is completely crazy and yet perfectly harmonious. And because you come out of it inspired, definitely.

Practical info:

- in Tahiche
- Opening hours: 10am to 5:30pm
- Price: €10
- Visiting with a tour operator:
    - *Tour of the César Manrique Foundation, the beaches of Famara and the Teguise market*
    - *Tour of several sites created by César Manrique in the north of Lanzarote*



Monumento al Campesino

A tribute to the island's farmers.
A giant sculpture made from old boat water tanks + a museum of traditional crafts + a lovely white courtyard with arches and a palm tree. It's nice, it's more of a market than anything else, but the setting is pretty!

Why go?
To understand where Lanzarote comes from. For how quiet the place is. And to buy local products that aren't clichéd (well, a bit).

Practical info:

- in San Bartolomé
- Opening hours: 10am to 6pm
- Price: free
- Visiting with a tour operator:
    - *Discover all the finest César Manrique sites, including the Mirador del Rio, the Jardin de Cactus and the Museo al Campesino on one tour!*
    - *A really big tour of the most beautiful places in Lanzarote, including Timanfaya, a mirador… and the Monumento itself!*



THE MIRADORES

On the north-west side of the island, which sits high up, Lanzarote has several magical viewpoints over the west and the south, with the highlight being the island of La Graciosa. These miradores are just perfect for sunset!

Mirador del Rio

A view that knocks the wind out of you… literally. 475 metres above the ocean, the Mirador del Río gives you a panoramic view over the island of La Graciosa and the archipelago of Chinijo. But careful, this is no ordinary viewpoint. Here again, César Manrique went all out: a half-buried building sunk into the cliff, with giant picture windows, sculpted staircases and perched terraces.

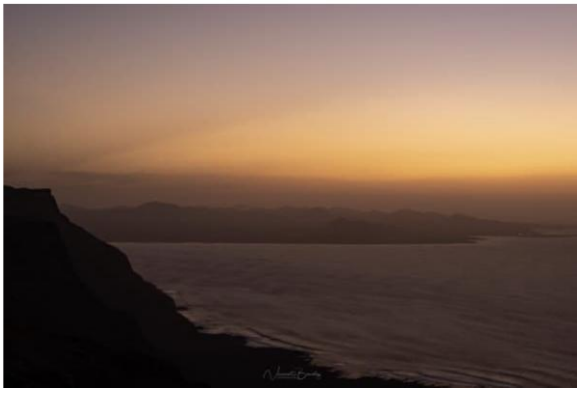
What makes it unique: you feel like you're floating in mid-air. The architecture is invisible from outside, and yet inside, everything is designed to show off the landscape. Even the café has an insane view.

Why go: Because this is the one place where the island's geography finally makes sense. Because you'll say "wow" out loud at least three times. And because seeing La Graciosa from up there is a simple feeling, but one you don't forget. And for sunset, blimey!

Practical info

- **Opening hours:** 10am – 5pm
- **Price:** €9
- **Ticket booking:** on site or *on their website* !
- **Getting there by bus:** not possible…
- **Going** with a tour operator:
    - *Discover all the finest César Manrique sites, including the Mirador del Rio, the Jardin de Cactus and the Museo al Campesino on one tour!*
    - *A combined tour with Jameos del Agua and Cueva de los Verdes*
    - *A tour of the island of La Graciosa with the Mirador del Rio as well, not bad!*
    - *A full guided tour of César Manrique's work, taking in the finest sites!*





Mirador de Guinate

The secret mirador (or almost)
A few minutes south of the famous Mirador del Río, Guinate gives you a **stunning view over La Graciosa and the archipelago of Chinijo**… but without the crowds, without the entrance ticket, and without the designer café. Here it's just you, the wind, the cliffs and the ocean as far as you can see.

The mirador sits on the heights of an old farming village. It's a perfect spot to **watch the sun go down** behind the islands, in complete quiet. And if you listen carefully, you might hear the cry of the falcons nesting in the cliffs.

Why go?
Because it's wild, free, and still not all that well known. Because the view is just as beautiful as at the Mirador del Río, with nobody around. And because a sunset there is a small, simple luxury to savour. I'd just say the view is maybe a touch more restricted to the south than at the Mirador del Rio.

Practical info

- **Opening hours:** 24/7
- **Price:** free
- **Getting there by bus:** not possible
- **Going** with a tour operator:
    - *The most beautiful places on the island, like Timanfaya, with a stop at the Mirador de Guinate*



Mirador Rincon de Haria

A discreet balcony over the valley of palm trees
Tucked between two bends of the LZ-10 as you drop down towards Haría, this little mirador looks like nothing much… but it gives you a **sublime view over the "valley of the 1,000 palm trees"**, with the rounded mountains, the terraced fields and the typical white houses as a backdrop. Here, **no bar, no crowds, no shop**. Just a low stone wall, a bench, and a calming view over the green heart of Lanzarote.

Why go?
Because it's **one of the most peaceful corners of the island**, perfect for a contemplative pause. Because you can stop off easily by car (or by bike if you're brave), take a big lungful of clean air… and leave recharged. And also because **the light there is magnificent** late in the day. And don't do what I did, don't get lost on the way!

Practical info

- **Opening hours:** 24/7
- **Price:** free
- **Getting there by bus:** not possible
- **Going** with a tour operator: there don't seem to be any





Is this guide useful?



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Or you can buy me a virtual coffee, that always makes my day :)

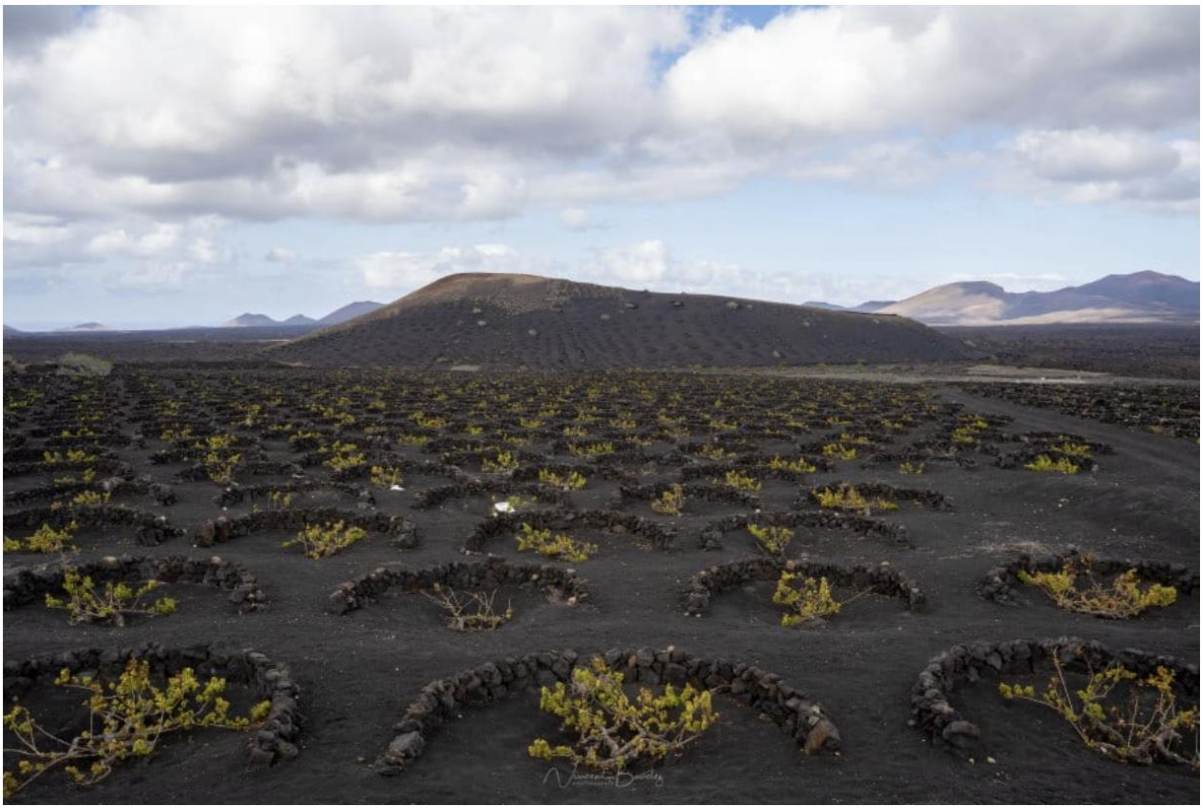
Activities · Hotels · Car hire · Buy me a coffee (€5)

THE BODEGAS AND WINE PRODUCERS

Because yes, they make wine on Lanzarote, and good wine at that! On a desert island lost in the middle of the ocean, wine. Perfectly normal, you'll say, I'm sure!

The locals have come up with a really special way of growing vines thanks to the volcanic stone, in a place with barely a drop of water. Each vine is pampered individually. First it is covered with volcanic ash, which captures what little moisture there is while preventing evaporation. And to stop that ash blowing away (remember it blows pretty hard here), they have built little nests of sorts to protect every vine!

On top of being really clever, it's seriously photogenic!



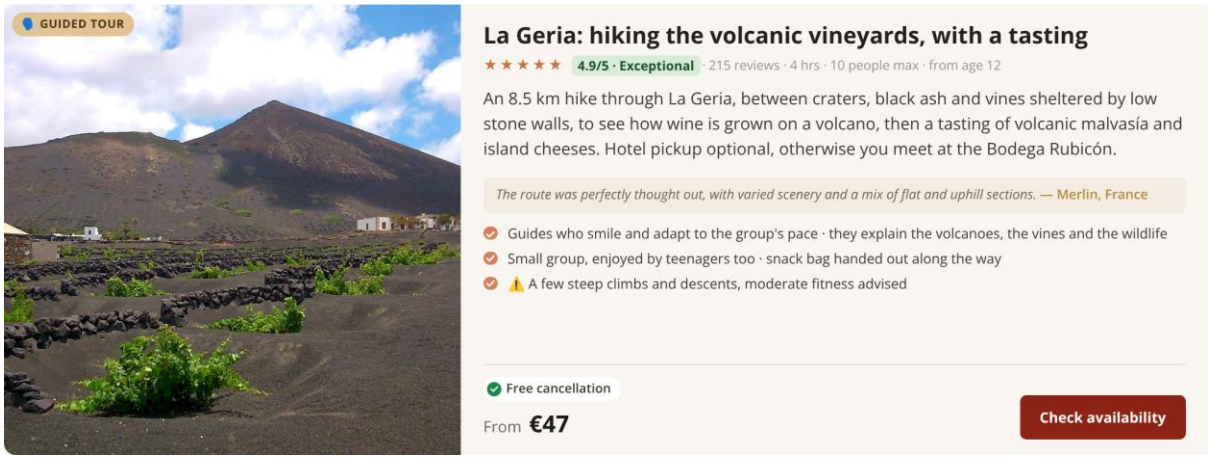


Bodega La Geria

The most iconic bodega in Lanzarote's volcanic wine country

Set in the heart of the volcanic valley it takes its name from, this historic 19th-century winery is the most famous and the busiest on Lanzarote. Surrounded on every side by a spectacular lunar landscape, its big traditional whitewashed building houses a shop, a small museum and a huge terrace that travellers love.

- **Why go:** for its exceptional view over the rows of vines and its lively atmosphere. It's the unmissable (and very touristy) stop for a tasting by the glass after a day out.
- **The star wine:** its Malvasía Volcánica Seco, a very mineral dry white, fresh and fruity. Perfect on a terrace with local goat's cheese or grilled fish. And I can confirm that it is





Bodega el Grifo

Founded in 1775, it's the oldest bodega in the archipelago and one of the most respected in Spain. In San Bartolomé, this family estate has century-old vines, an artistic garden influenced by César Manrique and a superb wine museum set in the old historic cellar.

- **Why go:** for the real historical interest of its museum and its marked walking trails through vineyards unlike any others in the world.
- **The star wine:** its whites from the Malvasía Volcánica grape, regular award winners, but also its experimental cuvées such as its orange wines or its limited sparkling bottlings.
- *Book your visit*



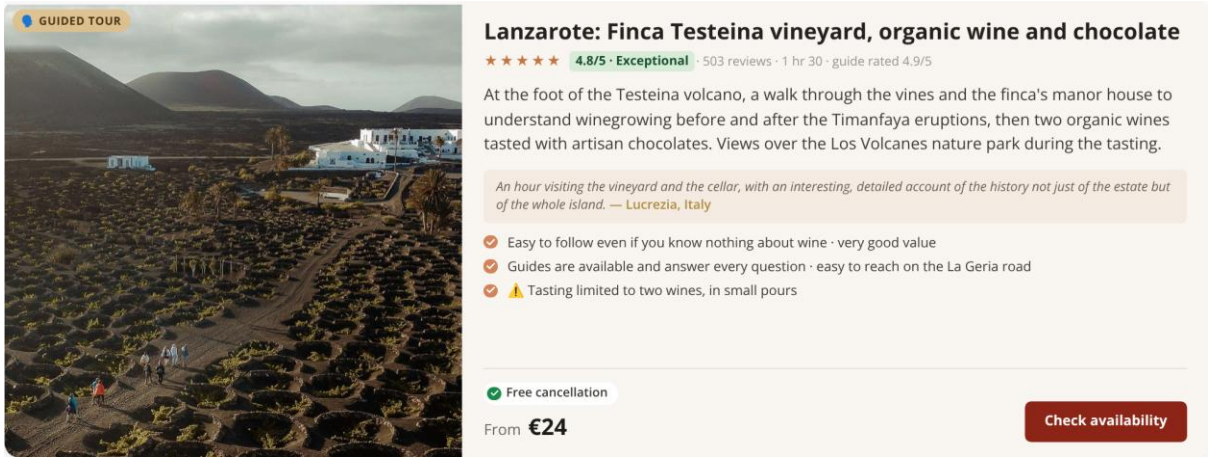


Finca Testeina – Bodegas Vega de Yuco (Masdache)

This grand 16th-century manor house, ideally set in the nature park of Los Volcanes, offers one of the best and most immersive wine-tourism experiences on Lanzarote. Run by the modern Vega de Yuco winery, visits here are private or in small groups.

- **Why go:** for the spectacular setting on the sunset visits. The estate runs guided tours around the history of water on the island and its old 19th-century wine press, plus an original tasting pairing the house wines with local artisan chocolates.

- **The star wine:** the famous Yaiza white (in its signature blue bottle) or, for special occasions, the top-end Princesa Fayna sparkling wine.
- *Book your visit*



The other bodegas on Lanzarote

Bodega Vulcano (Tías)

- **Description:** a small urban bodega, organic and family-run, known for its 3-wine tours and its respectful philosophy
- **Why visit:** perfect if you want an intimate moment, with organic wines and a simple but authentic setting.

Los Bermejos (Mozaga/La Geria)

- **Description:** a craft bodega with a 40-min tour (vines + cellar), an explanation of the process and a tasting of 13 wines
- **Why visit:** a big range of wines (reds, whites, sweet) in a friendly, well-organised set-up.

Olivina (Teguise / north)

- **Description:** a smaller bodega in the north, with a walk through the vines and a tasting
- **Why visit:** a quiet, less touristy alternative for a friendly moment.

Other bodegas worth knowing

- **La Florida** (San Bartolomé): tradition + local produce, historic buildings + a century-old tree of life
- **Rubicón**, **Guiguan**, **Reymar** are also in the D.O., with tastings and tours depending on local opening hours
- **Bodeguita Vega Volcán**, **El Tablero** are family micro-bodegas, "charming and friendly" according to visitors-

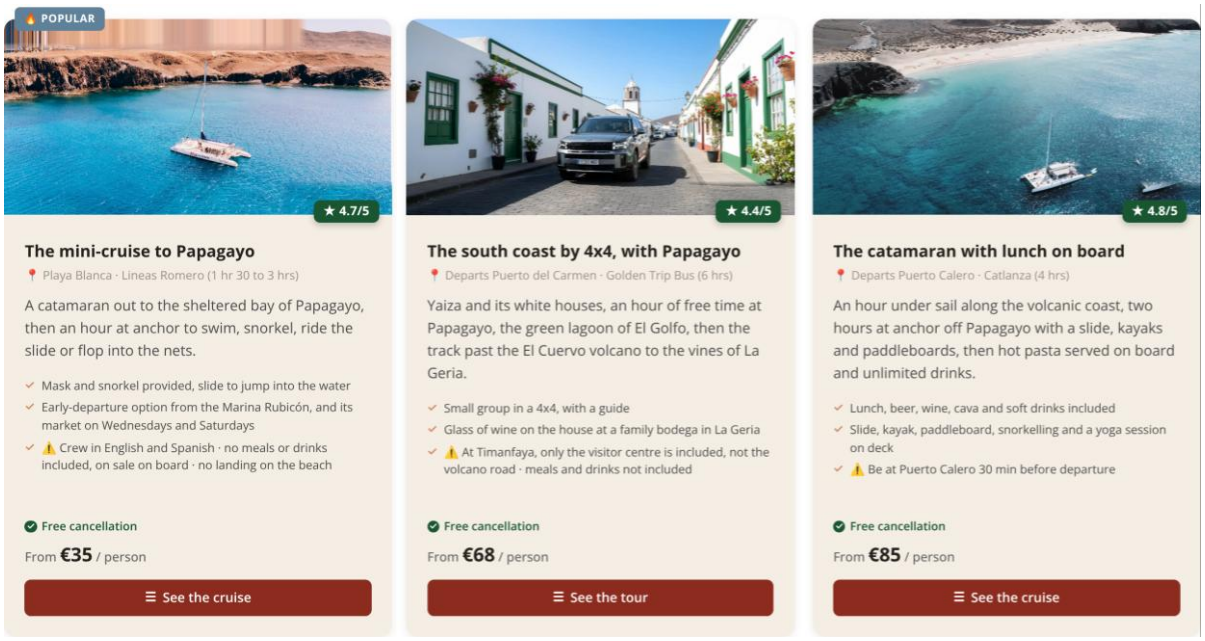
THE BEACHES OF LANZAROTE

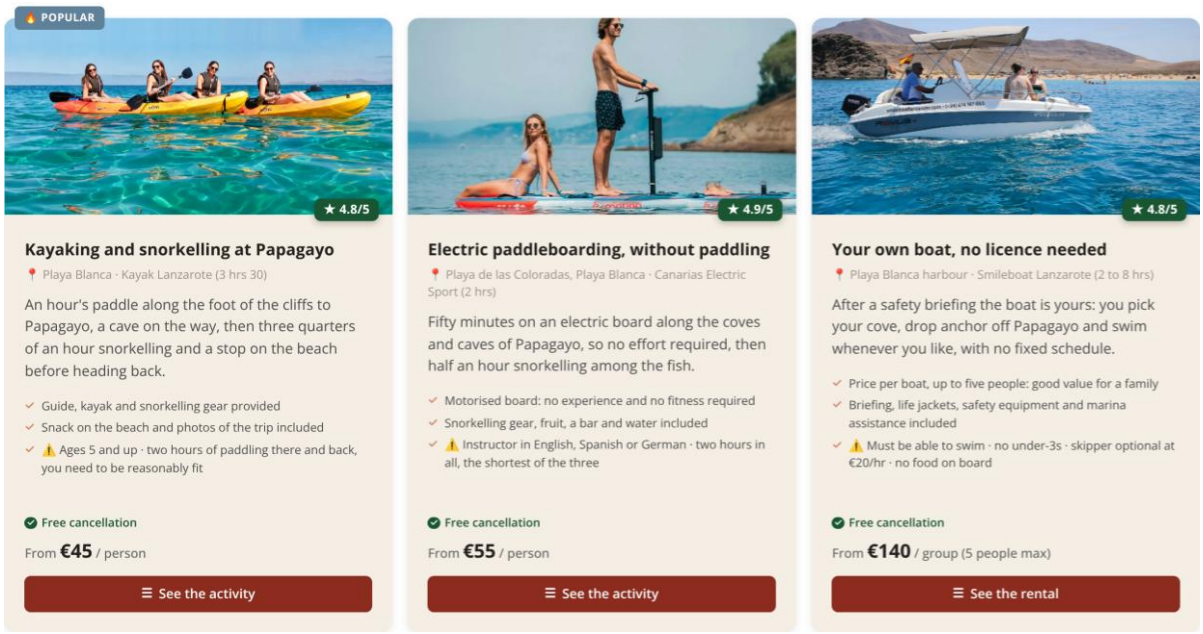
Right, I'm guessing this is part of why you're here. Lanzarote isn't the best of the Canary Islands for beaches, but it does pretty well all the same. There are some really lovely ones with pale sand on the south and east coasts, and more volcanic ones on the west coast, where swimming is harder because of strong currents that can be dangerous. That's one big reason why all the resorts set up on the east side and not on the west coast!

Southern beaches (Papagayo, Playa Blanca)

🏖️ **Playa de Papagayo**

- 📍 *South, next to Playa Blanca*
- 💛 The perfect postcard: turquoise cove, golden sand, ochre cliffs.
- ✔️ **Why go:** the water is crystal clear and sheltered from the wind. Perfect for snorkelling, photos, or just feeling like you're alone in the world.
- 💡 **Upsides:** wild natural setting, few people if you come early.
- 🚙 Access by dirt track (€3 charge) or on foot from Playa Blanca.





🏖️ Playa Mujeres / Playa del Pozo / Playa del Congrio

- 📍 *In the nature reserve of Los Ajaches*
- 💛 The cousins of Papagayo, wilder and bigger
- ✔️ **Why go:** quiet atmosphere, raw nature, perfect spots to put your towel down and not move again.
- 💡 **Upsides:** often fewer people than Papagayo.
- 🚙 Same access as Papagayo, by dirt track.

🏖️ Playa Flamingo

- 📍 *Playa Blanca*
- 💛 A small family beach protected by breakwaters.
- ✔️ **Why go:** ideal with kids. Calm water, soft sand, a restaurant two steps away.
- 💡 **Upsides:** a resort beach, but a relaxed feel.
- 👣 Two steps from the hotels in Playa Blanca.





West coast (El Golfo, volcanoes and waves)

🏖️ Playa del Janubio

- 📍 *Near the salt pans of Janubio*
- 💛 Intense black sand, dramatic mood with the powerful waves.
- ✔️ **Why go:** for the scenery. Less so for swimming (dangerous currents).
- 💡 **Upsides:** superb at sunset.
- 📸 Perfect for photos.

🏖️ Playa de Montaña Bermeja

- 📍 *El Golfo*
- 💛 A volcanic beach with black sand and red pebbles.
- ✔️ **Why go:** you'd think you were on another planet.
- 💡 **Upsides:** great photo spot. But the sea is dangerous here too.
- 👣 Easy access from the road.





North-west (surf and wide-open space)

🏖️ Playa de Famara

- 📍 *Caleta de Famara*
- 💛 A huge beach at the foot of the cliffs, a legendary surf spot.
- ✔️ **Why go:** the vibe is roots, the sunsets are magical, and there's surf.
- 💡 **Upsides:** XXL space, no concrete, very photogenic.
- 🚰 That said, it's often windy.

🏖️ Playa de San Juan

- 📍 *Next to Famara*
- 💛 A quieter corner for experienced surfers.
- ✔️ **Why go:** for the surf without the crowds.
- 💡 **Upsides:** a very local feel. Little known.
- 👣 Access on foot or by dirt track.



East coast (calm water and easy access)

🏖️ Playa de Las Cucharas

- 📍 *Costa Teguise*
- 💛 The main beach in Costa Teguise. Pale sand, calm sea.
- ✔️ **Why go:** water sports (windsurfing especially), a family beach.
- 💡 **Upsides:** lively, with facilities.
- 👣 Perfect if you're staying in Costa Teguise.

🏖️ Playa del Reducto

- 📍 *Arrecife*
- 💛 A city beach, easy to reach, with white sand and a protective breakwater.
- ✔️ **Why go:** a quiet swim in town.
- 💡 **Upsides:** well equipped, very handy.
- 👣 Right opposite the town centre.



In the north of the island (quiet and wild)

🏖️ Playa de La Garita (Arrieta)

- 📍 *Arrieta, north-east*
- 💛 Golden sand, relaxed feel in a small fishing village.
- ✔️ **Why go:** to escape the crowds. Pleasant swimming.
- 💡 **Upsides:** a nice restaurant on the beach, ideal with family.
- 🍽️ The *Chiringuito* on the beachfront is great.

🏖️ Caletón Blanco

- 📍 *Near Orzola*
- 💛 Natural pools between black lava and white sand.
- ✔️ **Why go:** quiet lagoons, perfect for kids or snorkelling.
- 💡 **Upsides:** very photogenic, unique on Lanzarote.
- 👣 A perfect spot to end a road trip in the north.





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Activities · Hotels · Car hire · Buy me a coffee (€5)

THE OTHER PLACES TO SEE

The Aloe Vera Museum

When the miracle plant becomes a star

Yes, in Lanzarote it's not all volcanoes and beaches… there's also aloe vera! This green plant with its gel-filled leaves is a genuine celebrity here. And for good reason: it loves the island's dry climate and grows almost everywhere. The Aloe Vera Museum, which you'll find in several places on the island (Yaiza, Teguise, Arrieta…), takes you into the world of this plant and its thousand uses.

No dusty rooms here, no long indigestible panels. It's clear, well put together, with explanations on growing it, harvesting it, extracting the gel, and above all… what you can do with it. Spoiler: pretty much everything. Cosmetics, food, treating sunburn (and in Lanzarote, that can come in handy…).

Why go?

- Because it's free, nice, and informative without being boring. It's different from the other outings in Lanzarote
- Because you'll pick up some pretty useful things, especially if you have no idea what all those creams in the souvenir shops are actually for.
- Because it's local, genuine, and often run by people who are really into it.

Worth knowing: several Aloe Vera Museum centres are run by the Aloe Plus Lanzarote brand, which you'll also find in Arrecife, Teguise or Punta Mujeres. The most visited is the one in Yaiza, easy to reach and a natural stop on a trip out to Timanfaya or El Golfo.



The Lagomar Museum

The (almost) James Bond house

Perched up in Nazaret, **Lagomar** is a completely bonkers place, somewhere between the work of a brilliant architect and a film set. Carved into the side of the volcanic rock, with staircases winding off everywhere, natural caves, turquoise pools and insane views… you feel like you've landed in a 007 villain's hideout.

The place is said to have belonged (briefly) to **Omar Sharif**, before he lost it in a game of bridge – legend or not, it sets the mood. Today it's all at once a **house-museum**, a **bar**, a **design restaurant**, and sometimes even a venue for exhibitions or gigs.

Why go?

- For **the incredible architecture**, halfway between Gaudí, César Manrique and a psychedelic trip
- For **the photos:** every corner is photogenic, and every one is different.
- For the offbeat history, the retro 70s charm and the ultra zen atmosphere.
- For **the cocktail bar:** sipping a mojito in a crater turned into a bar, that's really not an everyday thing.

Is it really worth it?

Yes… if you like architecture, unusual and slightly bonkers places, and you're already in the area.
No… if you're racing the clock, if you prefer natural landscapes, or if the budget **is tight** (paid entry, €10 to *pay in advance* or on the spot).

It's not an absolute must like Timanfaya or the cactus garden, but it's a nice **extra** for a quiet day in the middle of the island, especially if you pair it with Teguise or the Manrique foundation.



THE BEST THINGS TO DO IN LANZAROTE

SEEING DOLPHINS IN LANZAROTE

General information

Yes yes, seeing dolphins (and sometimes whales!) in Lanzarote is possible, and actually pretty common

Can you see dolphins in Lanzarote?

Yes, and fairly easily! Several species live in or migrate through the waters around the island. These are not captive dolphins: they're wild animals, completely free out in the Atlantic. The boat trips mostly leave from the south-west of the island, where the ocean is deepest.

Can you see them all year round?

Technically, yes. But the best window runs from **May to October**, with a peak in sightings between **June and September**, when the sea is calmer and the cetaceans are more active. That said, there are sightings in winter too, especially of some resident species.

Which dolphin species can you see in Lanzarote?

- **Bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus):** the most common and the most playful.
- **Atlantic spotted dolphin:** smaller, very curious.
- **Common dolphin:** very sociable, sometimes in big groups.

And for the whales

- **Sperm whale** (Physeter macrocephalus): mainly seen between April and August.
- **Bryde's whale:** a tropical whale, sometimes spotted offshore.
- **Pilot whale (globicephala):** really a large dolphin, very common around the Canary Islands (a dolphin with no nose, super cute).

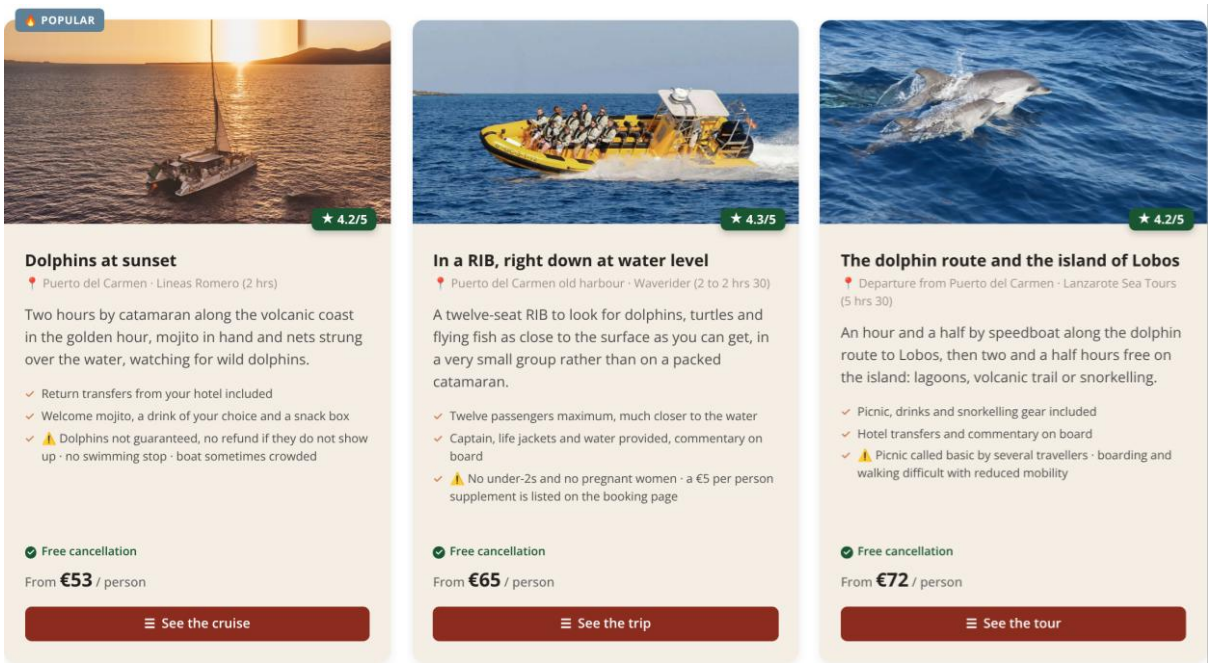


Which kind of boat trip for seeing cetaceans

- There's the *nice catamaran* which keeps the numbers on board down.
- Or to get closer to the animals and have a proper adrenaline hit, there are the RIB boats, the *fast boats*
- They usually leave from Puerto del Carmen, but most tours can pick you up in your own town

Practical tips

- **Remember to book ahead** in high season (July-August).
- **Morning = calmer sea**, better visibility.
- Take a **windbreaker or waterproof** (even if it's hot).
- If you get seasick, think about taking a **travel sickness tablet**.



WATER SPORTS

Surfing on the beach at Famara

Surfing at Famara, that's easily one of the best things you can do in Lanzarote, beginner or seasoned surfer alike.

A postcard beach

Famara, it's a huge wild 6 km beach backed by spectacular volcanic cliffs. The setting is mad: mountains in the background (the ones the paragliders launch from), golden sand, wind in your hair… You feel tiny next to all that nature, and it's a thrill!

Waves for every level

Famara is a **versatile spot** for a few reasons:

- There's always a wave somewhere, even on "quiet" days.
- The whitewater near the shore is perfect for learning without any pressure.
- Further out, you'll find properly good waves for the more experienced

And you don't need to be a machine: it's **the no.1 spot for beginners** in Lanzarote! Every school comes here to get you started.

The vibe is super laid-back

No showing off here, no competing. You'll come across chilled surfers, travellers, kind instructors… and even barefoot families enjoying the sunset. You come as much for the waves as for the bohemian, easy-going feel of the village of Caleta de Famara.



There are loads of surf schools

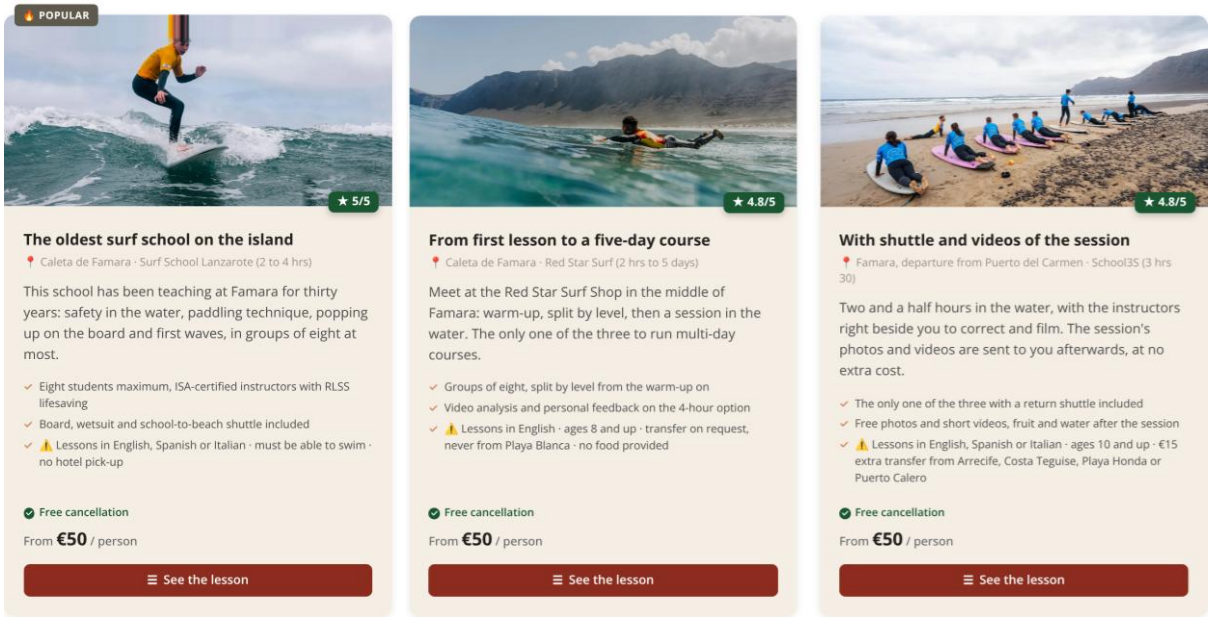
Want to try surfing for the first time? It's the **best place on the island to learn**. There are lessons every day, kit provided, nice groups and pro coaches. There are half-day courses or courses over several days, your choice! For example

- *2-hour surf lesson for all levels*
- *Courses from 3 to 10 days*









Taking a cruise along the Lanzarote coast

Lanzarote is one of a kind, for its landscape, for its volcanoes. And seeing the island from the sea is something special, a completely different experience! Especially when it also means fresh air and a swim. All in all, an outing that looks pretty essential!

Sailing trip to Papagayo

Set off from Puerto Caldero on a superb catamaran to the beaches of Papagayo on a lovely 4-hour cruise, where you can dive in.

- Duration: 4 hours
- Price: €75
- *Info and booking*



Cruise to the island of La Graciosa

Go and discover the island of La Graciosa on a lovely catamaran cruise. You'll see the most beautiful landscapes in Lanzarote!

- Duration: 6 hours
- Price: €75
- *Info and booking*



Sunset dolphin-watching cruise

Seeing dolphins in Lanzarote is an ordinary enough thing to do. But on a nice boat, at sunset, it adds a lil something extra. So out of all the options on offer, I think this one is among the most interesting!

- Duration: 2 hours
- Price: €50
- *Info and booking*





Kayaking at Papagayo

With water as clear as it is in Lanzarote, it would be a shame not to make the most of it. At Papagayo you get the chance to do a really nice kayak outing. You don't need any experience, beginners are welcome because there's an introduction and a run-through of the basic rules. So why not give it a go?

- Duration: 3 hours
- Price: €50
- *Info and booking*



Trying scuba diving for the first time

Fancy going to see what's a bit further down? This introductory scuba dive is made for you! The big plus with this one is that you're in a small group, 4 people maximum. And they can come and pick you up if you don't have a car. Not bad!

- Duration: 2.5 hours
- Price: €74
- *Info and booking*



Renting a jet ski for a proper adrenaline rush

I'll admit I'm not a big big fan of jet skis, because I usually see them ridden by headless chickens. But it does give you a serious rush! And all of it along the gorgeous Lanzarote coast, that must add up to something rather good!

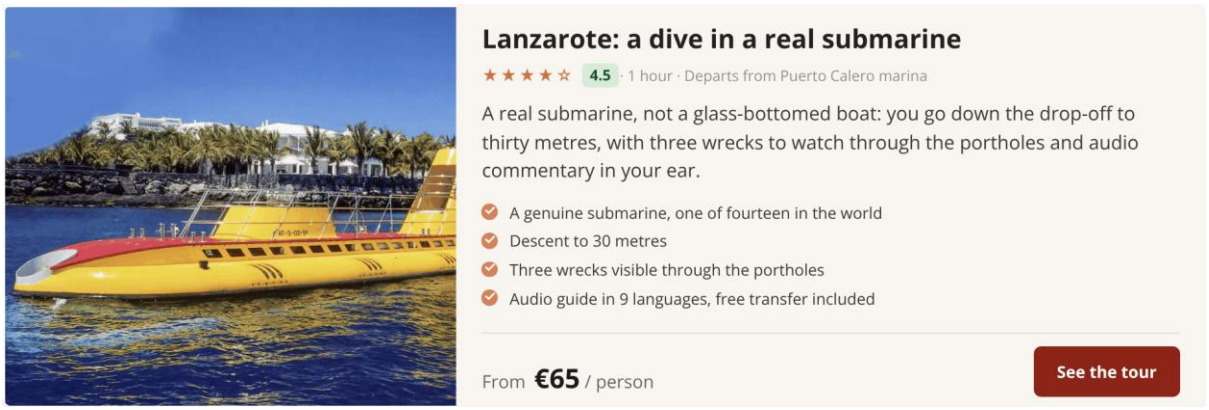
- Duration: from 20 min to 3 hours
- Price: from €60
- *Info and booking*



Taking a trip in a submarine

And to think I didn't know this existed when I went! I regret it. Because it's exactly the kind of experience that's fun, surprising, different. You board a little submarine and go off to explore the seabed, shipwrecks included. Not bad!

- Duration: 1 hour
- Price: €65
- *Info and booking*



Going parasailing

Something I did a really long time ago and phew, you don't forget it 😄 Parasailing is all about getting some height… and getting an eyeful. Towed by a boat, you rise above the ocean with a 360° view over the beaches, the volcanoes and even Fuerteventura when it's clear. Zero effort, zero vertigo, just a moment suspended between sky and sea. Magic.

- Duration: 15 min
- Price: €55
- *Info and booking*



Going fishing by boat with the pros!

I haven't done it myself, but it looks good, especially as the waters around Lanzarote are full of fish. It's a chance to get out on the water and pair it with an activity that isn't all that easy!

- Duration: 4 hours
- Price: €80
- *Info and booking*



ADVENTURE SPORTS

Going paragliding

Right, I'll admit I don't have the nerve to do it myself, but when I watch them take off, it looks great! Especially as the setting is mad, you launch from the cliffs above the beach at Famara. There are worse places! You can jump tandem if it's your first time, or solo.

- Duration: 30 min
- Price: €120
- *Info and booking*



Hiking the volcanoes of Timanfaya

I mentioned it earlier: since the volcanoes of Timanfaya are the most beautiful landscapes on the island, it would be a shame not to hike there. But watch out, the park is regulated, as you saw earlier, so you have to go through a tour operator to get out on those superb trails!

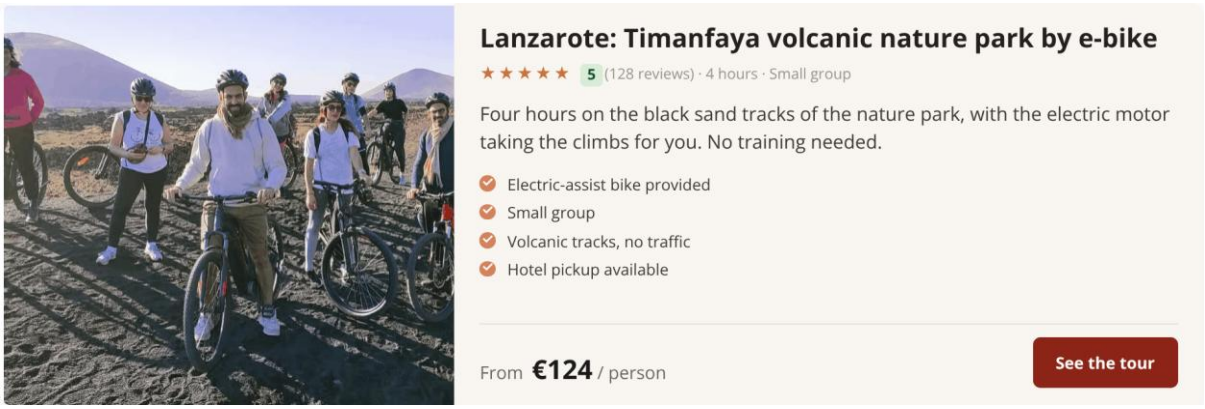
- Duration: 3 hours
- Price: €40
- *Info and booking*



Seeing the most beautiful spots on the island by electric bike

This too is a really lovely way to discover Lanzarote! Get out on the trails with your electric bike and follow the guide, who will take you into the volcanoes of Timanfaya and have you pedalling through the surprising vineyards!

- Duration: 4 hours
- Price: €120
- *Info and booking*



Discover Lanzarote by buggy!

A bit more pace, a bit more of a thrill: behind the wheel of your buggy you get to see the main spots in the north of Lanzarote, with some pretty insane viewpoints!

- Duration: 3 hours
- Price: €130
- *Info and booking*



THE DIFFERENT HIKES

I told you about the hikes in the park at Timanfaya, but there are loads of others! Mostly hikes where a guide isn't essential, ones you can do on your own without any risk.

Caldera Blanca

- **Starting point:** Car park at *La Caldereta* (near Mancha Blanca)
- **Highlight:** The top of the Caldera Blanca crater (360° over the lava fields and Timanfaya)
- **Difficulty:** Easy to moderate (no big elevation gain, but it does climb a little at the end)
- **Duration:** 2.5 to 3 hours there and back
- **Why go:** To walk along the rim of a huge volcano, with a view like something off another planet.





Los Gracioseros (Montaña Corona – Famara)

- **Starting point:** The village of **Yé**, in the north of Lanzarote
- **Highlight:** An unbeatable view over the island of La Graciosa from the *Risco de Famara*
- **Difficulty:** Moderate (a slightly steep descent down to the viewpoint, uphill on the way back)
- **Duration:** 3 hours there and back
- **Why go:** For one of the finest views on the whole island, with the turquoise sea down below.





Montaña Roja (Playa Blanca)

- **Starting point:** The *Montaña Baja* district in Playa Blanca
- **Highlight:** The summit of the volcano, with views over Playa Blanca, Fuerteventura and the volcanoes of the south
- **Difficulty:** Easy
- **Duration:** 1 to 1.5 hours there and back
- **Why go:** Ideal for sunrise or sunset. Small effort, big reward.

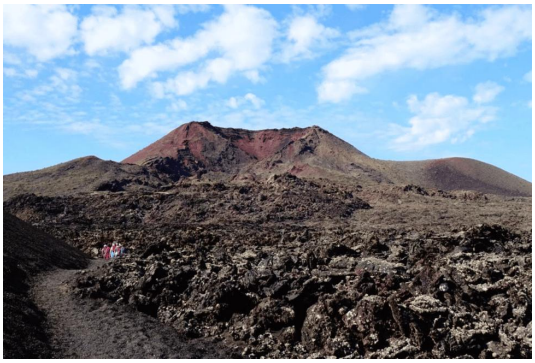




Ruta del Tremesana (in the Timanfaya National Park – with a guide)

- **Starting point:** The El Golfo visitor centre (access only with an approved guide)
- **Highlight:** Right in the heart of the national park's volcanic landscape, closed to cars
- **Difficulty:** Easy
- **Duration:** 2 hours
- **Why go:** It's the only way to hike **inside the park at Timanfaya**. Booking is compulsory, but the experience is one of a kind
    - ***Info and booking***





La Graciosa – Playa de las Conchas

- **Starting point:** Caleta de Sebo (La Graciosa), after the ferry crossing from Órzola
- **Highlight:** An incredible wild beach, facing the island of Montaña Clara
- **Difficulty:** Easy
- **Duration:** 2 hours there and back (6 km round trip)
- **Why go:** Postcard scenery, unspoilt nature, end-of-the-world feel.




Barranco del Quíquere

- **Starting point:** Puerto Calero
- **Highlight:** A desert gorge dropping down to the sea, with strange rock formations
- **Difficulty:** Easy to moderate
- **Duration:** 1 to 1.5 hours
- **Why go:** Off the beaten track, perfect for a quiet stroll near the coast.




Risco de Famara – Las Nieves

- **Starting point:** Ermita de las Nieves (above Haría)
- **Highlight:** A dizzying panorama over the cliff at Famara and the beaches down below
- **Difficulty:** Easy
- **Duration:** 1 to 2 hours depending on the route
- **Why go:** An incredible spot for photographers and anyone who loves jaw-dropping scenery.



Is this guide useful?



It is *free* and it will stay that way. If you want to help keep it going, use the links in this guide or in the articles: it costs you nothing more. Or you can buy me a virtual coffee, that always makes my day :)

Activities · Hotels · Car hire · Buy me a coffee (€5)

THE OTHER ACTIVITIES AND THEME PARKS

For a bit of fun, a change of scene, or to make the kids happy, you'll find other things to do in Lanzarote, theme parks in particular

Rancho Texas Lanzarote Park

- in Puerto del Carmen
- A mix of zoo, water park and animal shows. You can see dolphins, sea lions, exotic birds, and even take a ride in an Indian canoe or go for a swim in the water area with its slides.
- **Why go?** Because it's *THE* family park in Lanzarote. Well kept, varied, not too big. Ideal for a full day with kids.
- Price: €45
    - ***Info and booking***



Lanzarote: entry tickets for Rancho Texas park

★★★★★ 4.7 · Puerto del Carmen · Entry ticket

A wildlife park with dolphin and sea lion shows, plus a small water park: the day that keeps the children busy when the wind blows too hard on the beaches.

- Dolphin and sea lion shows
- White tigers and exotic animals
- Aqua Rancho water park and Indian village

From **€45** / person

See the tickets

Lanzarote Aquarium

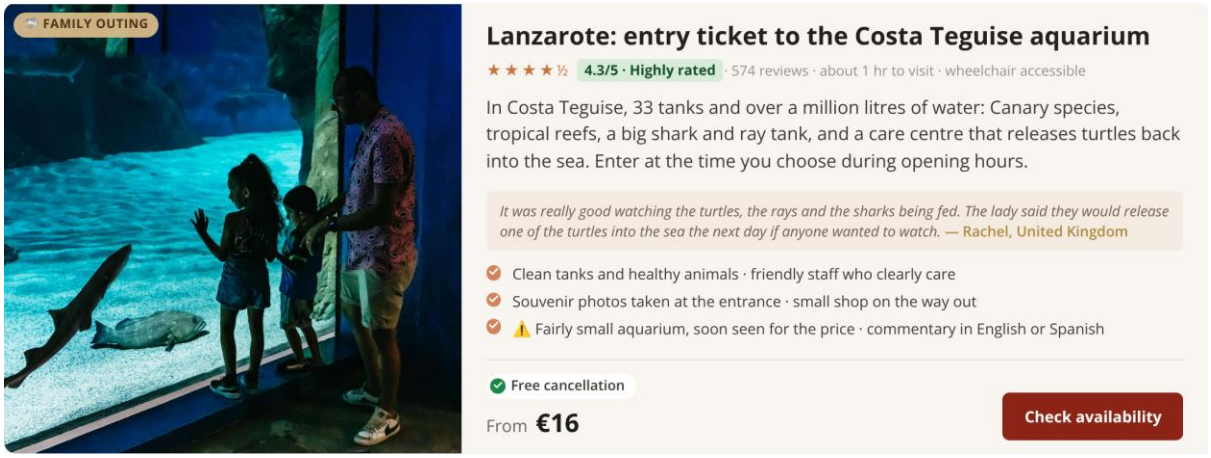
In Costa Teguise.

An aquarium **on a human scale**, with more than 30 tanks, an underwater tunnel and a touch pool. It focuses on local Canarian species, but there are also a few more exotic tropical fish. Be warned, it's much smaller than the Poema del Mar in Gran Canaria for example.

What you'll find there:

- **Sharks**, moray eels, clownfish, seahorses, scorpionfish, pufferfish, etc.
- **Underwater tunnel** to see the sharks up close
- **Touch pool** to stroke starfish, sea cucumbers…
- **Rescued species tank:** animals injured or rescued from plastic waste
- **Educational displays** (panels translated into several languages)
- **Price: €16**
    - ***Info and booking***





Aquapark

In Costa Teguise

Why go?

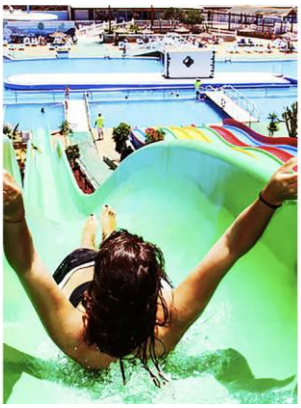
Because it's **the biggest** water park on the island, with quite a few different slides and all sorts of fun extras. Ideal for teenagers, groups or families who want a full-on fun day. But **less modern** and **not heated**, so best saved for the height of summer.

What you'll find there:

- **Giant slides** (Kamikaze, Turbolancha, Spiral, Black Hole… for anyone who likes speed!)
- **Areas for little ones:** mini slides, paddling pool, water games
- **Wave pool**
- **Climbing wall**, **paintball course**, **10D cinema** and **virtual reality** (optional, extra charge)
- **Snack/bar area** and shaded sun loungers

Practical info:

- **Prices:** €28 adult / €19 child (up to 12 years)
- **Open** from April to the end of October (closed in winter)
- **Be warned:** no heated water, so nicer in summer or on a really sunny day
- **Tickets** – *info and booking*



LA GRACIOSA

What you'll find in this article



LA GRACIOSA – A SMALL ISLAND BUT A BIG FAVOURITE

Honestly, I hadn't planned on it at all. It was looking across at the island from the Mirador del Río that turned it all around. An insane view over golden beaches, red volcanoes and a turquoise sea… So: instant change of plan. And you know what? No regrets.

La Graciosa, it's the Canary island that's still wild: no tarmac roads, no traffic jams, no stress (and not a scrap of shade anywhere). Here you cycle between two deserted coves, you climb a crater at sunset, and you breathe. Properly breathe.



WHY VISIT LA GRACIOSA

Because it's a little slice of paradise that's still (almost) a secret. Just 25 minutes by ferry from the north of Lanzarote, and you land in another world. No cars, hardly any tourists, just jaw-dropping landscapes and a feeling of being outside time. La Graciosa, it's my real favourite in the whole Canaries!

Looking for raw nature, beaches with no sunloungers, bike rides with the wind in your hair? Want to see the Canaries the way few people know them? This is where it happens!

It's really easy to get to, the landscapes are mad, the beaches are better than the ones in Lanzarote. So you've got no excuse not to come!



HOW TO GET AROUND ON THE ISLAND OF LA GRACIOSA

You can't drive. The island of La Graciosa has no tarmac roads. Only locals are allowed to own a car, usually a 4x4, like the taxis. But once you're there, driving a car yourself is not possible. So that leaves you a few options.

Renting a bike

It's *THE* way to get around here. As soon as you step off the ferry, you find several rental places in Caleta de Sebo. No need to book ahead, unless you want an electric mountain bike.

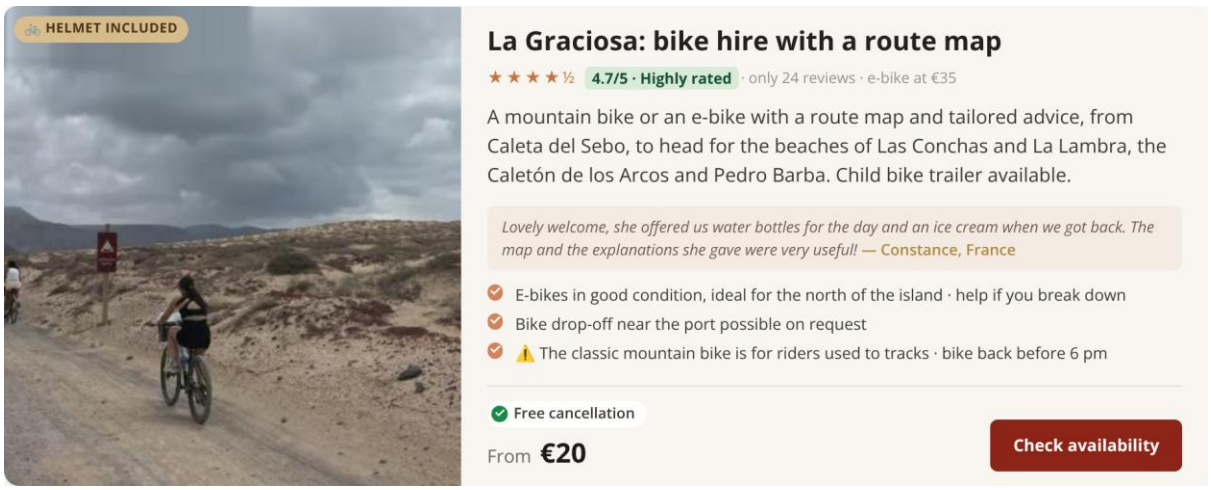
The bike, I'd say it's essential if you want to explore at your own pace, nice and easy (but not too much of it, because it's a bumpy ride). Just be warned, there isn't a single patch of shade!

Some of the routes are sandy. You'll need good calf muscles… or an electric bike!

When you rent a mountain bike, really do check the saddle and how comfortable it is (my backside was properly sore after 2 days of cycling!), and that the bike is recent and well looked after.

You can book your bikes on the spot or in advance:

- *Book your bike on La Graciosa*
- *Book your electric bike*



Taking a boat trip

You're coming to La Graciosa by boat anyway. But what you can do is take a cruise dedicated to the island rather than landing on it, in case you'd rather not go round by bike or by 4x4. Given that the most beautiful beaches and the most beautiful water in Lanzarote are on La Graciosa, you're in for an eyeful! Swimming, snorkelling, all of it included!

- *Book your cruise around La Graciosa*

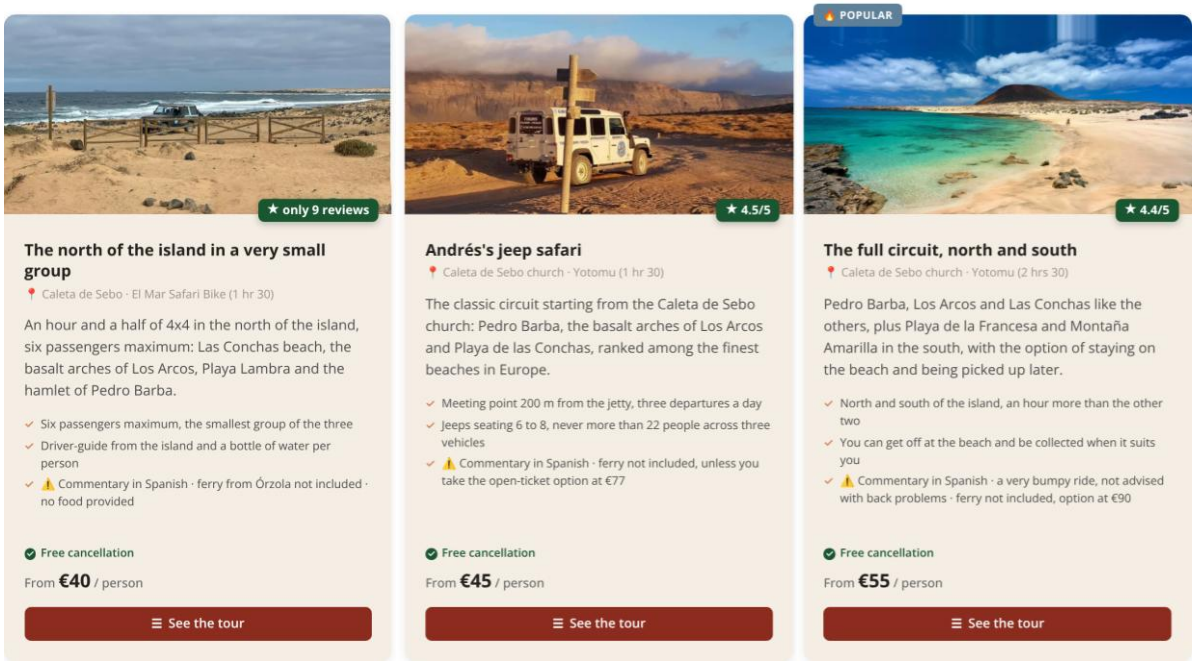


Taking a 4x4 (with a driver)

As I was saying, renting a car is not possible. But among the locals who do have a vehicle (a 4x4, obviously, given the state of the tracks), some turn themselves into taxi drivers. Taxi either to drop you wherever you want (and you agree a time for the way back), or to take you round the island's circuit.

It's up to you to see once you're there; it's something that's growing pretty fast on the island.

- *Book your driver in advance on La Graciosa*



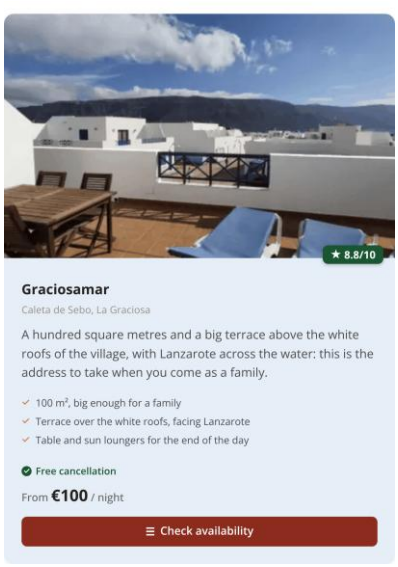


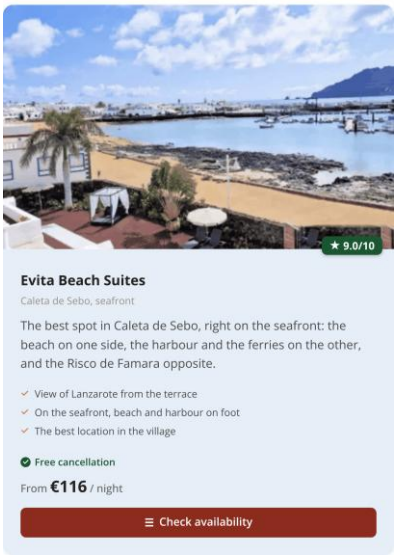
WHERE TO STAY ON LA GRACIOSA

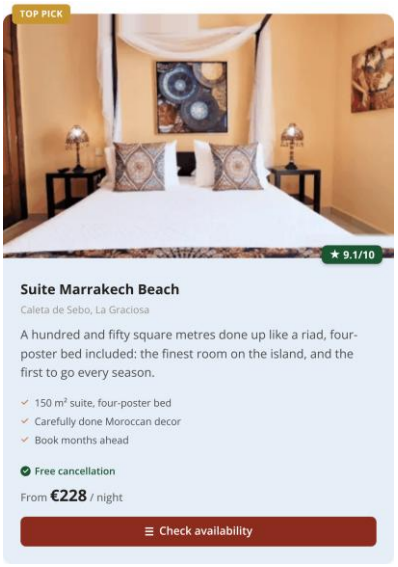
Right, given that it's small and that there's only one town, well, village, let's say the choice is fairly limited. You'll be sleeping in Caleta de Sebo, no two ways about it. Mind you, that's no bad thing! the village is cute, the seafront is really pleasant and you eat well there. All the houses are white, and it's lovely!

And at night it's really quiet, all the more reason to stay here!

Mind you, it's developing more and more, but the places to stay vary enormously on the island. Here are a few really nice little apartments.







FIND YOUR PLACE TO STAY ON LA GRACIOSA





PRACTICAL INFO

What are the most beautiful beaches on La Graciosa

La Graciosa, it's a little paradise if you love wild beaches. No sunloungers, no concrete, just golden sand, volcanoes as a backdrop and a turquoise sea. Here are the **most beautiful beaches on La Graciosa**, the ones not to miss:

Playa de las Conchas – *The spectacular one*

- On the north-west of the island.
- Brilliant golden sand, incredible view over the islet of Montaña Clara.
- Powerful waves, swimming is dangerous, but it's a mad photo spot.
- 5 km by bike from Caleta de Sebo (sandy dirt track).



Playa Francesa – *The easiest to reach and the best one for a swim*

- On the south of the island, barely 2 km from the harbour.
- Fine sand, calm turquoise water, perfect for a swim.
- Lovely view over Lanzarote and the Risco cliffs.
- You can get there on foot, by bike or on a boat trip.





3. Playa de la Cocina – *A little gem tucked under a volcano*

- Just past Playa Francesa, at the foot of Montaña Amarilla.
- A calm cove, clear sea, hardly anyone around.
- On foot only (about 45 min from the harbour).
- The perfect spot for a picnic in a lunar setting.



Playa del Ámbar (or Lambra) – *The wildest one*

- Right at the northern tip of the island.
- Golden sand, end-of-the-world feel, often deserted.
- Swimming isn't advised because of the currents, but the panorama is exceptional.
- Less visited, reachable by mountain bike or 4x4 from Caleta.





5. Playa del Salado – *The quiet town beach*

- Just outside Caleta de Sebo, to the south.
- A long sandy beach, calm sea, ideal with the family.
- There's a campsite right behind it, the only one on the island.
- Great if you want a really pretty beach close by. That's where I came for my sunsets, and it's brilliant.





How long should you stay on La Graciosa for?

One day: that's what most people do. You come on the morning ferry, you see the island during the day and you leave at the end of the afternoon.

- The upside: you have time to see the essentials.
- The downside: you miss the sunset, and the island once the waves of tourists have gone.

One night (or two), that's the ideal if you really want to switch off. Watching the sunset from a crater, having dinner in Caleta de Sebo, and sleeping somewhere quieter than you've ever known. I stayed 2 nights, I took the time to see the island properly by bike, and to catch some superb colours. Honestly, I do recommend it!



How to get to La Graciosa

This one's really simple. I've already mentioned the *catamaran cruises* around the island. But to come straight over, there's a ferry that runs from Lanzarote to La Graciosa leaving from Orzola right up in the north.

The crossing takes 25 minutes and it's really nice, because the views are magnificent, over Lanzarote as much as over La Graciosa.

There's roughly a boat every 30 minutes (because 2 companies run alternating crossings)

The return trip costs €29. Bear in mind that you can take your return or just your outward leg, and then the way back later if you want to come back another day.

The first boat over to La Graciosa leaves at 8am, the last at 7:30pm.

If you have a car, there's free parking next to the jetty.

If you don't have a car, you can get picked up at your hotel



BOOK YOUR TICKET TO LA GRACIOSA!

GOING TO THE OTHER ISLANDS

FUERTEVENTURA BY FERRY IS THE SIMPLEST

Right, Lanzarote is small. A week and you've covered the essentials. So a lot of people wonder whether they can push on to another island, and the answer is yes, very easily. Fuerteventura is 25 minutes away by boat. Twenty-five minutes. That's shorter than the Arrecife – Playa Blanca drive.

Everything leaves from Playa Blanca and everything arrives in Corralejo, in the north of Fuerteventura. Three companies share the strait of La Bocaina, with around twenty crossings a day in total. So you don't really need to book weeks ahead.

Fred Olsen is the fastest and the most frequent: 25 minutes by catamaran, 35 on the standard ferry, 12 to 13 departures a day. Reckon on €40 to €70 return as a foot passenger. The downside: it's also the most expensive of the three, and they ask you to be there an hour before departure, which eats up the time you save.

Líneas Romero is the cheapest, around €34 to €41 return. On the other hand they have fewer departures (4 to 7 a day depending on the season) and above all they don't take cars. Their fleet is 100% passengers, so if you were hoping to load your hire car on board, give it a miss.

Baleària Canarias, it's the ex-Naviera Armas: the group took over the Canary operations in June 2026 and now runs under this brand. 35-minute crossing, 7 crossings a day, €33 to €62 return. They take cars, and they're also the ones who do Arrecife – Las Palmas if you're aiming for Gran Canaria.

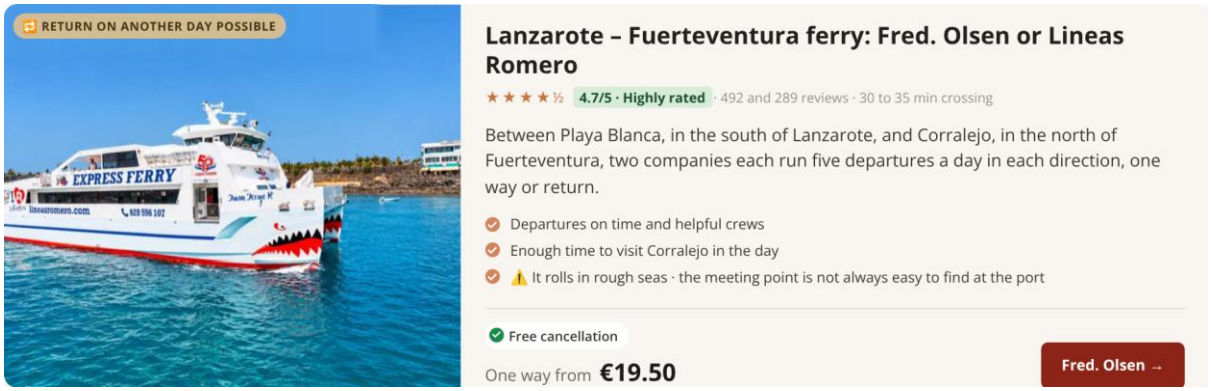
Either way: ID card or passport compulsory at boarding. It isn't a border, but it is a maritime identity check, and they really do carry it out.



Taking the fast foot-passenger ferry between Lanzarote and Fuerteventura

If you don't have a car, there's no need to take the big ferry that carries cars. There are the fast boats, little catamarans that let you make the most of the crossing. It's about €20, it takes about 30 min, and there are 5 crossings a day.

Two operators run it: *Fred Olsen* and *Lineas Romero*, and both offer exactly the same thing.



TAKING YOUR HIRE CAR OVER: A WARNING

So yes, technically Fred Olsen and Baleària take cars without any trouble, for around thirty euros each way. The problem isn't the boat, it's the rental company.

Most rental contracts forbid leaving the island, and above all the insurance stops running the moment the car goes up on the ferry. One scrape in Fuerteventura without written permission, and you pay for everything.

Topcar allows it, it's written in black and white in their terms, on request and possibly with a surcharge and a deposit. Cicar accepts it too, but by direct agreement, to be asked for by email before you go. As for Autoreisen, no public clause says anything about it: ask them before you book.

Worth doing the sums though: around €70 return for the car, plus the rental company's surcharge, for a single day. Renting a car directly in Corralejo almost always works out cheaper, and you avoid all the paperwork.



SEEING FUERTEVENTURA IN A DAY

It's perfectly doable, and it even makes a really nice day out. First departure from Playa Blanca around 7am, last return from Corralejo between 8pm and 9pm: so you've got 10 to 11 hours there. Plenty to cover the north of the island.

The plan that works best without a car: the Corralejo dunes, 15 minutes by road or a 1.5-hour walk along the beach, served by bus 6 every 30 to 60 minutes. Then the island of Lobos, 15 minutes by boat from the port. It's a lunar landscape sitting on turquoise water, and honestly it's what draws me most around here.

With a car, add El Cotillo (21 km, 22 minutes) and its old fishing village. Betancuria, the old capital, is 61 km and 55 minutes away: it's doable, but that's almost 2.5 hours of driving there and back in one day. Save that one for people who like driving.

Visiting the island of Lobos from Lanzarote and Fuerteventura

Here's the important thing people tend to forget: getting to Lobos requires a **free but compulsory permit**, to be requested at lobospass.com. Without it, you don't get on the boat.

The quota is 400 visitors a day, in two slots of 200 people, 10am – 2pm or 2pm – 6pm. So you get exactly 4 hours on the island, not one more. And above all: bookings only open 5 days before the date. Going direct any earlier is not possible, which is frankly annoying when you're planning a trip three months ahead.

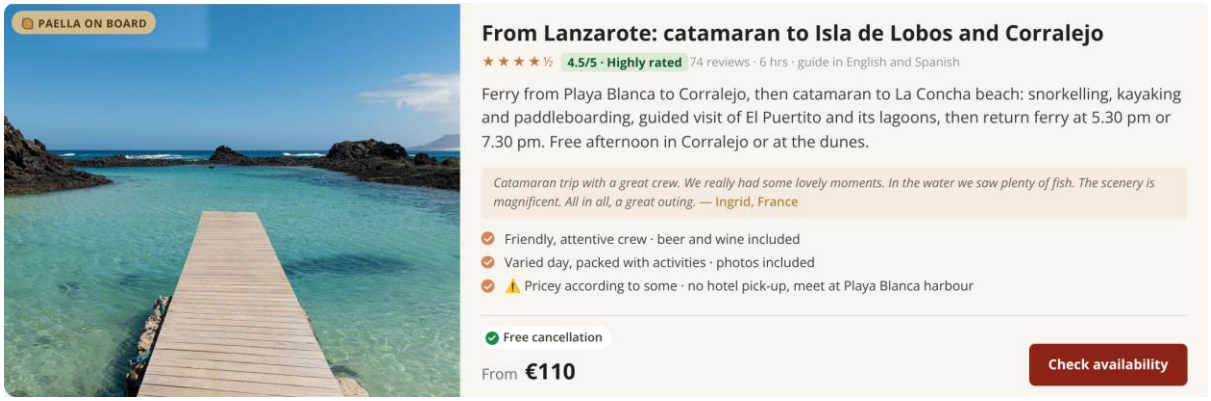
So the real shortcut: go through an excursion or an approved operator. The operator handles the permit for you and your place is guaranteed. It's the only way to lock in Lobos more than 5 days ahead.



Visiting Fuerteventura on an organised trip from Lanzarote, without a car

If you don't want to deal with ferries, buses and permits, the tour operators do the lot, hotel transfer included. Here are the ones that hold up.





Fuerteventura in a day, honestly, is worth it. The Corralejo dunes and Lobos on their own justify the crossing, and 25 minutes by boat is nothing. Two things to keep in mind though: request your Lobos permit or go through an excursion, and don't put your hire car on the ferry without written approval from the rental company. The rest you sort out the same morning at the ticket desk.

THE OTHER ISLANDS MEAN FLYING

For Gran Canaria and Tenerife, two local airlines run the shuttle: Binter and Canaryfly. They fly from Lanzarote to Las Palmas and Tenerife North, with a lot of departures — more than 120 flights a week just on the hop to Gran Canaria.

Prices start at around €25 each way. Watch out though: the price caps on the subsidised routes went up on 1 August 2026, by +8% on Gran Canaria – Lanzarote, and non-residents take the whole of that increase. Also remember not to select the "resident" fare when you book, it doesn't apply to tourists.

Gran Canaria is also reachable by ferry with Baleària, but leaving from Arrecife and not from Playa Blanca, and it takes a lot longer. Only worth it if you want to keep your car.

In the next article I go through *all the ferry routes between the Canary Islands*.

YOUR PLACE TO STAY ON THE OTHER ISLANDS

Is this guide useful?



It is *free* and it will stay that way. If you want to help keep it going, use the links in this guide or in the articles: it costs you nothing more. Or you can buy me a virtual coffee, that always makes my day :)

Activities · Hotels · Car hire · Buy me a coffee (€5)

THE TOWNS AND VILLAGES OF LANZAROTE

TEGUISE

A quick introduction

Teguise, the authentic soul of Lanzarote

Welcome to **Teguise**, the old capital of Lanzarote, perched up in the island's highlands. No resorts here, no big hotels. Instead? Cobbled lanes, white houses with green shutters, a lively main square and a little whiff of history on every corner. This is THE typical village, the one that wins over even the most jaded.

Why visit Teguise

Because it's **the historic heart of the island** and **the most beautiful town in Lanzarote**. Teguise was the capital for more than 400 years, and you can feel it: churches, convents, old Canarian buildings, everything has stayed charming and well kept. But above all, there's a peaceful feel to the place, a little out of time. The kind of spot where you take your time wandering, sitting on a terrace, chatting with the locals.
And then there's the **Sunday market**, unmissable! The whole island (and the tourists) pile in to hunt for souvenirs, listen to street musicians and eat empanadas. Yes it's touristy, but it's still really enjoyable.



What to do in Teguise

- Wander the lanes in the centre: really, take your time, it's a village made for hanging about.
- Visit the church of Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe on the main square, it's very pretty.
- The castle of Santa Bárbara, perched on an old volcano: a lovely view over the whole area, and a little pirate museum.
- Settle on a terrace for a coffee or a local craft beer.
- Do the Sunday market: it's big, lively, buzzing… and the food is good!
- Spend an evening at the Santo Bar: a small cocktail bar in an old house, cool music, relaxed atmosphere. One of my favourites on the island.



Why choose Teguise

If you're after **something other than a beach-and-hotel holiday**, Teguise is perfect. The feel is quiet, much more local, and the places to stay often have real character: restored old Canarian houses, small casas rurales, cosy B&Bs.
And since it sits right in the middle of the island, it's **an excellent base** for exploring Lanzarote without too much driving.

So, if you want to wake up with the roosters, pass more cats than tourists, and live Lanzarote in a slightly more authentic way… this is where you drop your bags.

Practical info

- **Access:** easy by car, 20 min from Costa Teguise or 25 min from Arrecife.
- **Best bike rental around:** ***Papagayo Bike***, in Costa Teguise (yes it's not in Teguise itself, but they deliver the bikes on request).
- **Where to eat?**
  - ***Ikarus*** does local cooking with a twist, great value for money.
  - ***El Patio del Vino*** is a wine cellar with tapas, perfect for a classy pre-dinner drink.
- **Avoid:** driving in Teguise on a Sunday between 10am and 2pm. Guaranteed traffic jams because of the market



Where to stay in Teguise



Apartamentos Anjomacar

📍 Tahiche · Teguise municipality, Costa Teguise 3 km away

The cheapest option around Teguise: a small complex in Tahiche with a salt-water pool, large areas to relax in and a giant chessboard in the middle of the courtyard.

- Spacious, well-kept flats, the point that comes up most
- Key box for late arrivals, two washing machines
- Unheated pool and few restaurants within walking distance: a car is advisable

From **€84** / night

Check availability



Casa el Patio

📍 Teseguite · the next village along from Teguise

A guesthouse in Teseguite built around its covered patio, with a shared pool, gym and barbecue. Teguise and its hiking trails are a few minutes away.

- The pool, pleasant in the evening, the point mentioned most
- Hosts easy to reach, who share their own good addresses
- Only 43 reviews so far: still a thin sample

From **€98** / night

Check availability



La Finca Mimosa

📍 Teguise · in the heart of the old village

A self-contained 65 m² place in a finca in old Teguise, with a cactus and palm garden by the door. The village centre is a two-minute walk away.

- Full kitchen, seasonings provided, enough to really cook
- Responsive, available host, praised in almost every review
- Only 15 reviews, and children accepted from 12

From **€100** / night

Check availability



Eslanzarote Eco Country House

📍 Teguise · deep in the countryside, away from the village

An eco-lodge standing on its own in open countryside, volcanoes on one side and the ocean in the distance. The silence and the view make the stay; the rest of what is on offer follows less closely.

- Open view over the volcanoes and the ocean, the point that keeps coming up
- Bedding called some of the best of the trip, excellent wifi
- Hard to reach at night: a faint track in the middle of the stones

From **€95** / night

Check availability



Casa Siempreviva

📍 Teguise · on the edge of the old village

A spacious village house on the edge of Teguise, with a garden and private parking right outside the door. The centre and its Sunday market are an easy walk away.

- Cleanliness and a big bathroom, noted in almost every review
- Completely quiet once night falls, restaurants a couple of minutes away
- Children are not allowed at the property

From **€104** / night

Check availability



El Rincón de los Aljibes

📍 Tahiche · out of the way, near Teguise

A cave house dug into the lava, bare vaults overhead and decor inspired by César Manrique. You sleep in the rock, between high walls that cut the wind.

- Finish and decor, mentioned in almost every review
- Kitchen separate from the main building and very well equipped
- Children not allowed, and only 30 reviews so far

From **€120** / night

Check availability

EL GOLFO

A quick introduction

El Golfo, the village at the end of the world (or nearly)

Perched on the western edge of Lanzarote, **El Golfo** is a tiny fishing village… but with serious character. Between the raging ocean, the volcanic cliffs and a sunset worthy of a film, this corner has a raw, wild, almost mystical charm.
No white sand beach here, no big hotels. Just the sea, the wind, and the clatter of pans in the fish restaurants.

Just before you reach the village, stop off at the Lago Verde, a lake that really is green and really is surprising!





Is it really worth visiting El Golfo

Yes! Because it's **one of the most spectacular spots on the island**. Just outside the village there's the famous **green lake (Charco de los Clicos)**, an acid lagoon sitting in a collapsed crater, an unbelievable fluorescent green. The contrast with the black sand and the white Atlantic waves is striking. A proper science-fiction set… and it's no accident that Almodóvar shot a film here.

And, along with the Mirador del Rio, this is where you get the finest sunset on the island. E**ating grilled fish facing the ocean**, that's the perfect way to end a good day!

Right, I'll be honest, El Golfo is tiny. One seafront, and that's about it, but it's really pleasant.

What to do in El Golfo

As I said, it's small and quiet. So there isn't a huge amount to do on the spot.

- **See the green lake (Charco de los Clicos)**, obviously. Reachable on foot from the car park.
- **Walk the coastal path towards Los Hervideros** (if you like walking and the wind doesn't scare you).
- **Have a drink at sunset** on a restaurant terrace with a view: magic.
- **Eat fresh fish** in one of the little places on the seafront.
- **Watch the changing colours of the sky and the cliffs** at sunrise or sunset. It's almost meditative.
- **Take a detour via Los Hervideros and the Salinas de Janubio**, both very close.

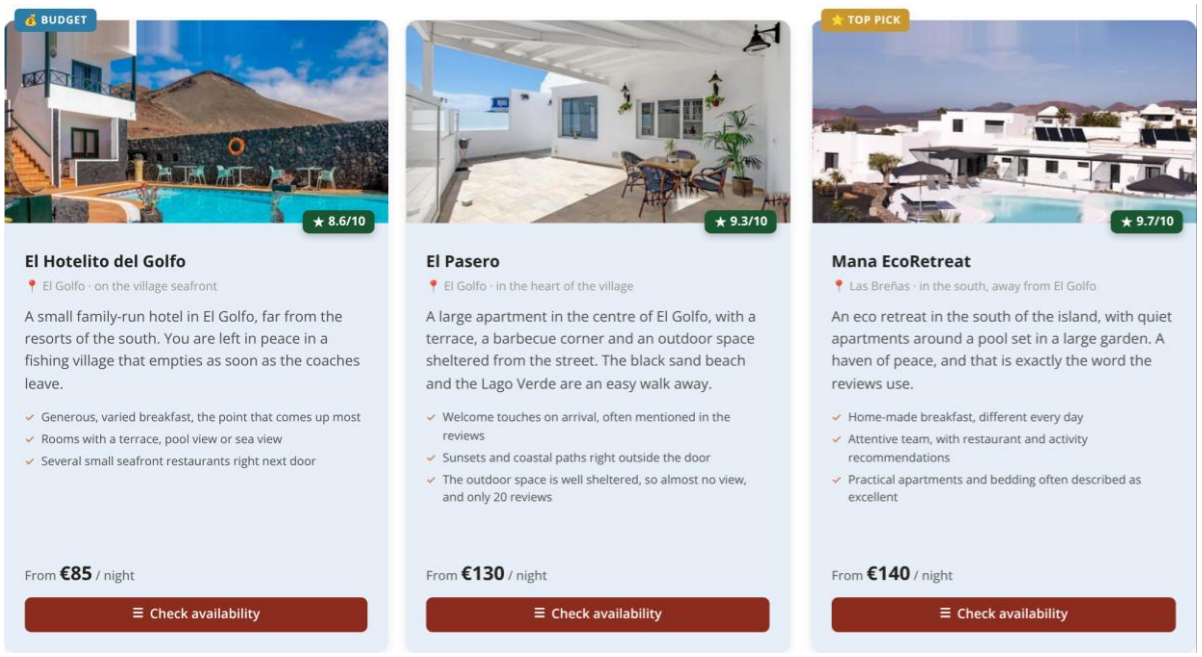
Why stay in El Golfo

Do you want to **cut yourself off from the world?** And wake up to the sound of the waves, have a coffee facing the volcanoes, and stop watching the clock? Perfect! This is the place.

El Golfo is **ultra peaceful**, especially in the evening when the tourists head off. Perfect for a night or two away from everything. And the places to stay here often have an insane view over the ocean or the lava fields.

It's not the most central spot, but to switch off or take a break in the middle of the road trip, it's great.

Where to stay in El Golfo



PLAYA BLANCA

A quick introduction

The quiet, chic resort

At the very south of Lanzarote, **Playa Blanca** is a resort that has managed to keep a certain charm despite how much it has grown. A quieter feel than its sisters in the north, clean beaches, a pleasant port, and a few wild corners right next door. This is somewhere between **a relaxing holiday** and **the perfect base for exploring the south** of the island.

✅ **Upsides:**

- **Ideal climate** and less wind than in the north.
- **Direct access to the beaches of Papagayo**.
- Great atmosphere by the sea, especially at the **Marina Rubicón**.
- Very **clean, quiet, chic**.
- Perfect for a holiday in **relaxed or romantic mode**.
- Ideal for families, with all the upsides of a quiet resort

❌ **Downsides:**

- A bit **far from the north of the island** (Mirador del Río, Jameos…).
- Less nightlife.
- Often needs a car.

👉 **Who is it** for?

Couples, families with young children, travellers after quiet and superb landscapes.



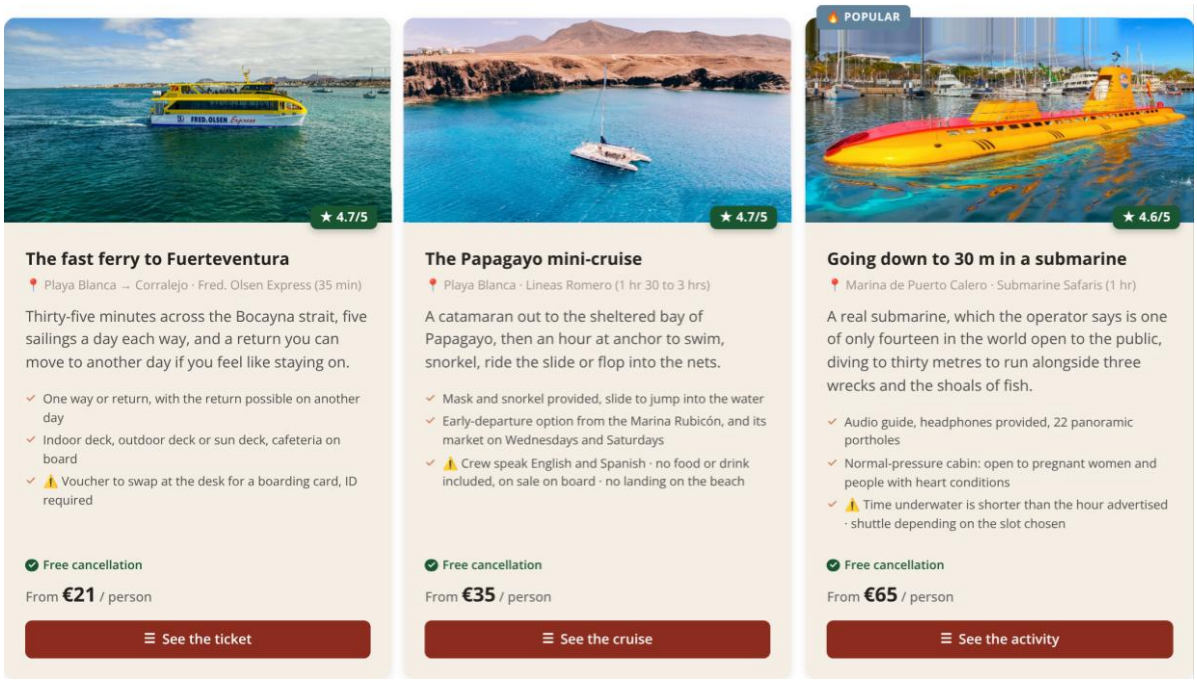


Why visit Playa Blanca

- To **enjoy the beaches** (Playa Dorada, Flamingo, Papagayo right next door).
- To **walk along the seafront promenade:** 7 km between the port and the lighthouse, with a view of Fuerteventura.
- To **discover the beaches of Papagayo** which are so easy to get to.
- To **take the ferry over to Fuerteventura** for the day.

What to do in Playa Blanca

- Lazing about on **Playa Dorada or Flamingo**.
- Explore the **coves of Papagayo** (unmissable).
- **Go out in the evening at the Marina Rubicón**, a chic area with nice bars and restaurants.
- Grab a bike and ride out to the **Faro de Pechiguera** at sunset.
- Head out on a boat trip, or a buggy tour in the volcanoes of the south.



Why stay in Playa Blanca

If you want **quiet, comfort, a different kind of place to stay and beaches within flip-flop range**, this is it. Lots of villas with a pool, family resorts too, and a more laid-back feel than elsewhere. Ideal with family or as a couple.

You really don't need to have a car to stay here, there are loads of excursions leaving from Playa Blanca and the beaches are walkable.



Where to stay in Playa Blanca

You'll find absolutely everything, hotels, apartments and all-inclusives. Good ones! Here are a few really interesting options (hotels, houses, flats). For a lot more detail and a wider range of places to stay, head over to the section *where to stay in Lanzarote* 😊



Ona Las Casitas

📍 Playa Blanca · near the beach and the ferry

Small individual houses in a complex built to a human scale, each with its own private terrace and kitchen. Supermarkets, restaurants and the ferry to Fuerteventura are all within walking distance of the site.

- Spotlessly kept complex, the point that comes up most
- Casitas fully equipped: kitchen, washing machine, dishwasher, air conditioning
- Bar-restaurant on site and a pool heated all year round

From **€90** / night

☰ Check availability



Apartamentos Casa Cipri

📍 Playa Blanca · dead centre, 200 m from the beach

Apartments right in the centre of Playa Blanca, with a roof terrace that comes up in nearly every review. The harbour, the restaurants and the promenade are all within walking distance.

- Cleanliness noted by almost every guest
- Very responsive host, who passes on his restaurant addresses
- Large balcony over the pedestrian street, quiet once night falls

From **€126** / night

☰ Check availability



Hipotels Natura Palace

📍 Playa Blanca · on the seafront, facing Fuerteventura

An adults-only four-star, set right on the seafront at Playa Blanca. The coastal promenade starts at the hotel and runs for kilometres in both directions.

- Views of the ocean and of Fuerteventura from the rooms
- Heated pools and landscaped garden, often mentioned in the reviews
- Half board praised, low-key evening entertainment

From **€135** / night

☰ Check availability



Casa Paca

📍 Playa Blanca · seafront residence, near the marina

A house in a quiet, gated seafront residence, with two terraces and private parking right outside the door. The supermarket is next door.

- Full kitchen: washing machine, dishwasher and even an air fryer
- Careful decor and plenty of storage, often mentioned
- Ten minutes' walk to the shore along the promenade

From **€97** / night

☰ Check availability



Hotel Cordial Marina Blanca

📍 Playa Blanca · a short walk from the Marina Rubicón

An aparthotel in the centre of Playa Blanca, a short walk from the Marina Rubicón. Spacious, practical rooms, and a large pool at the heart of the place.

- Very varied breakfast, picked out by many travellers
- Friendly, attentive staff, a real consensus in the reviews
- Gym, and shops five minutes' walk away

From **€117** / night

☰ Check availability



Grand Hyatt Playa Dorada

📍 Playa Blanca · facing Playa Dorada beach

A five-star right on the water at Playa Dorada, taken over by Hyatt and refurbished. Guests remember the view from the rooms and the club pool, set apart and with no music.

- Loungers always available, very friendly staff
- Spa, buffets and cocktails on the all-inclusive package
- Kids' club and children's pool, evening entertainment

From **€261** / night

☰ Check availability

PUERTO DEL CARMEN

A quick introduction

Sun, fiesta, beaches and buzz

It's the oldest resort on Lanzarote… and **the liveliest** too! Puerto del Carmen is a mix of long beaches, bars that close late, seafront restaurants and a very "all-inclusive holiday" feel, but without tipping into cliché. It's lively, a bit noisy at times, but really handy and well placed.

✅ **Upsides:**

- **Central**, close to everything (volcanoes, beaches, airport).
- A huge **variety of places to stay**.
- **Lively atmosphere**, perfect if you want to go out.
- **Plenty of things to do on foot:** restaurants, bars, shops, beaches.

❌ **Downsides:**

- **Full-on touristy**, a bit noisy at times.
- Can be short on Canarian charm (it's not Teguise).
- Parking is a pain in high season.

👉 **Who's it for?**

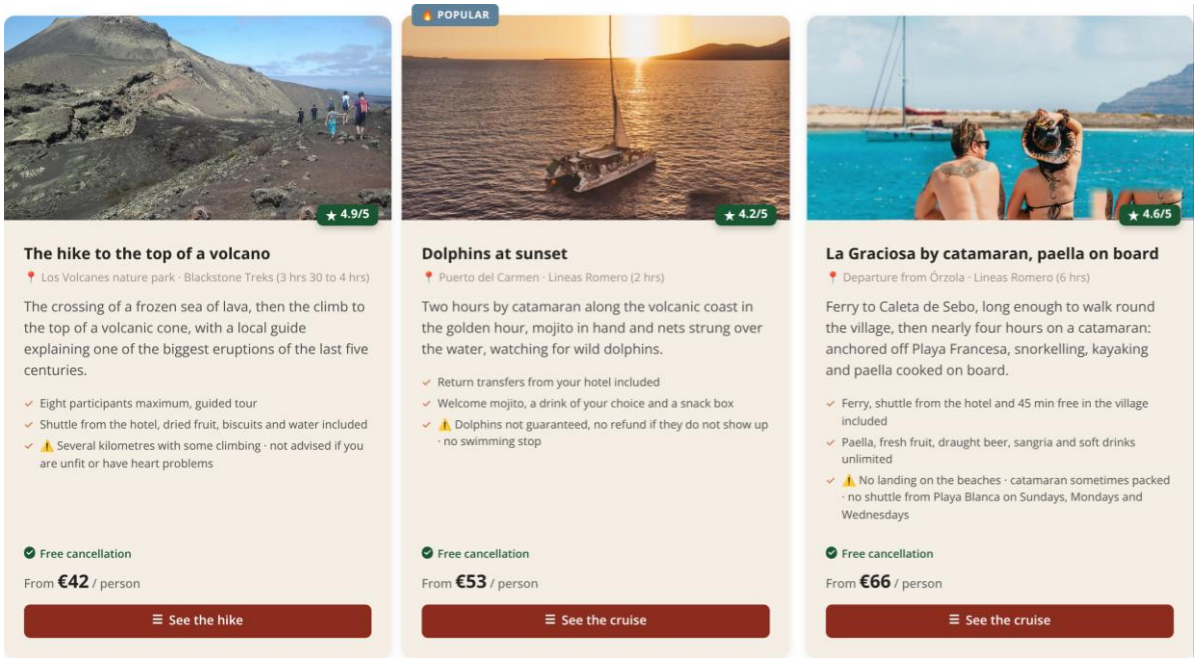
Travellers who like to **move around, go out, and have everything within reach**. Ideal for a first time on Lanzarote, or a stay without a car.





What to do in Puerto del Carmen

- Swim at **Playa Grande** or **Playa Chica**.
- Go **snorkelling** or **diving** (great centre: Safari Diving).
- **Go out along the "Avenida":** restaurants, bars, guaranteed party atmosphere.
- **Go shopping** at Biosfera Plaza.
- Head out on a boat trip (dolphins, catamaran...).



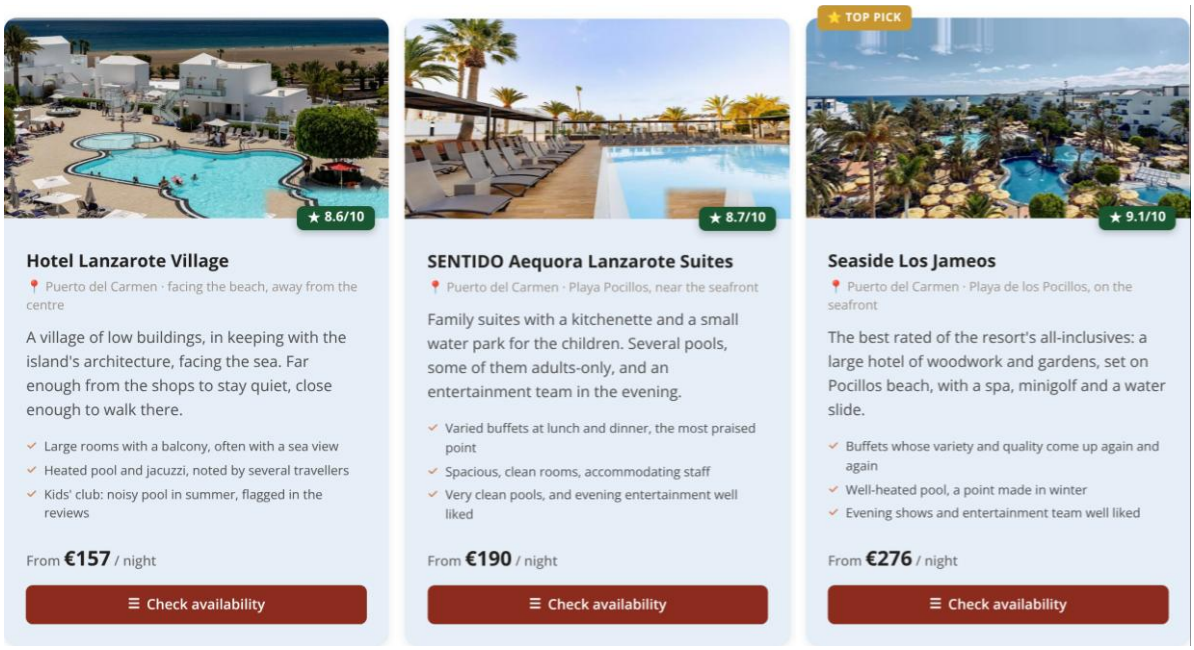
Why stay in Puerto del Carmen

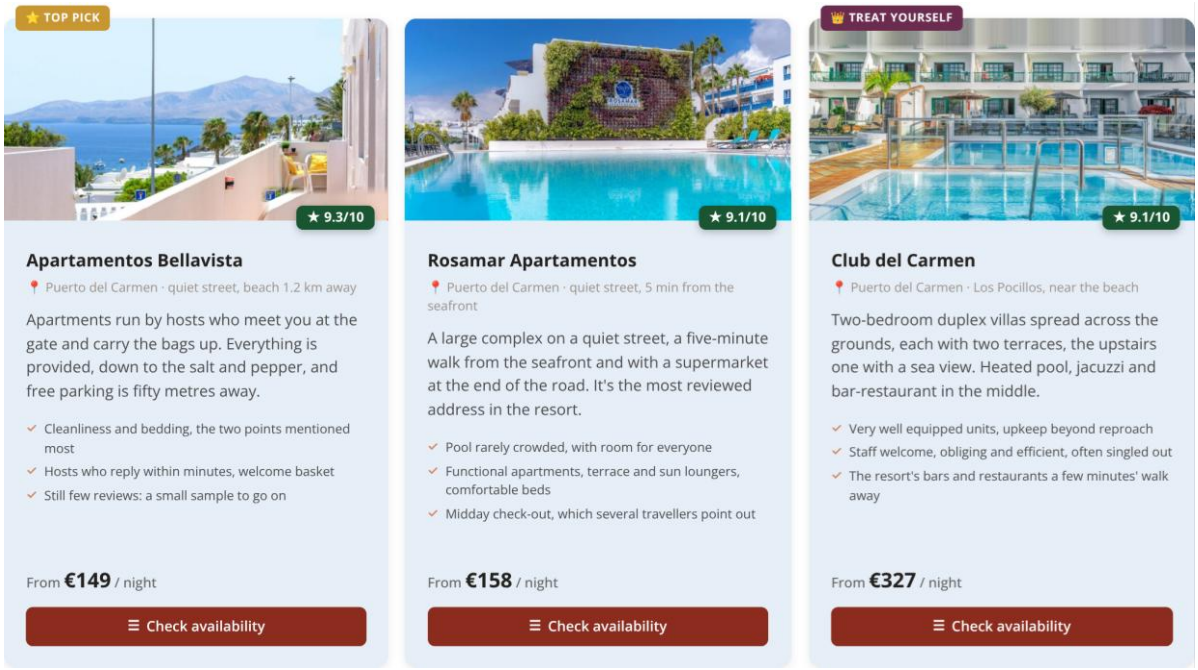
You want to **swim in the morning, shop in the afternoon, and go out in the evening** without taking the car. Puerto del Carmen is the ideal place to alternate between lazing about, day trips and sunset drinks.

- 10 min from the airport.
- A range of **places to stay for every budget**, from a nice guesthouse to a resort with a pool.
- Loads of **beaches within walking distance**.
- A great base for exploring Timanfaya, La Geria or the south of the island.

Where to stay in Puerto del Carmen

Here are a few really good options (hotels and flats). For a lot more detail and a wider range of places to stay, head to the section called *where to stay on Lanzarote* 😊





THE BEST PLACES TO STAY IN PUERTO DEL CARMEN

ARRECIFE

A quick introduction

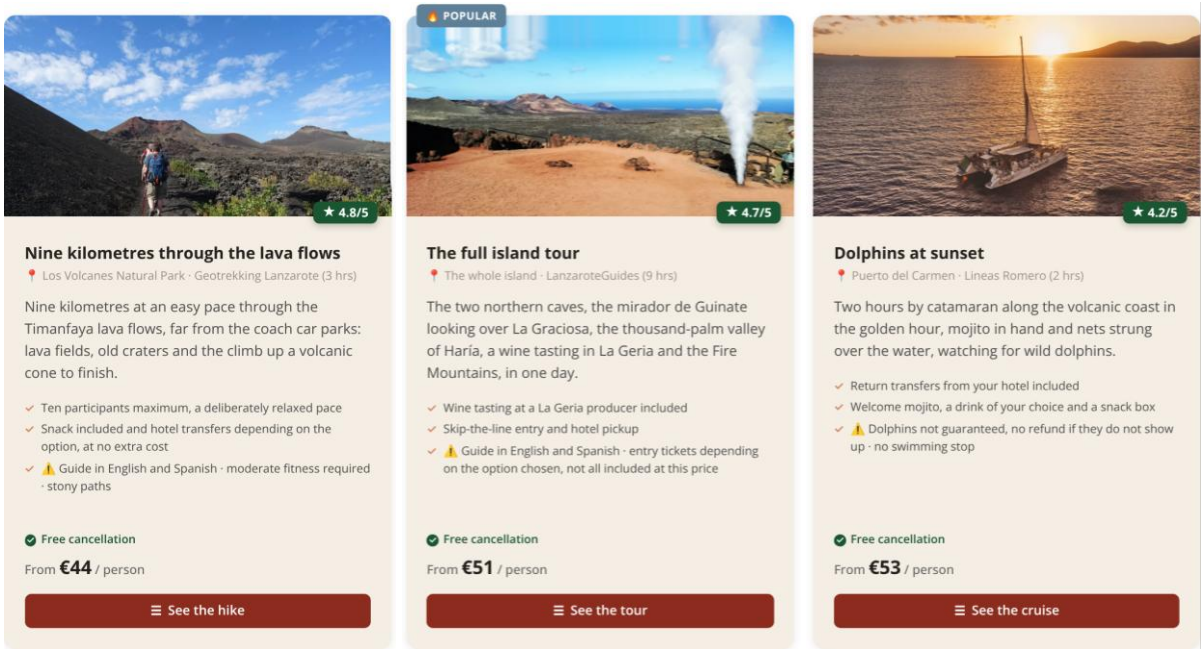
The real Lanzarote (local life, the real thing)

Often snubbed by tourists, **Arrecife**, the island's capital, is well worth a detour. This is where most of the islanders live. Not a museum town, not a resort, but **a real, living Canarian town**, with its markets, its back streets, its little harbour and even a decent city beach.

Is Arrecife worth visiting and what to do there

Let's say Arrecife is the non-touristy Lanzarote, the real one the locals live in. Because it's **authentic**, not sanitised. To **get a break from the too-perfect white villages**, see local life, mix with the Lanzaroteños, do your shopping at the market, or have a coffee looking out over the fishing boats. And for **shopping**, this is where it happens. So it isn't necessarily the prettiest place on the island, but it's interesting to see what goes on there, with far fewer tourists.

- Stroll along the **Calle Real**, the pedestrianised shopping street.
- Admire the **Charco de San Ginés**, a very photogenic little inner harbour.
- Visit the **Castillo de San Gabriel** and its little museum.
- Chill out on the beach at **Reducto**, with a view of the palm trees.
- Have an evening drink on a terrace around the Charco.



Why stay in Arrecife

Want a local feel, central and cheap? Arrecife is **an excellent choice**. You're 10 min from the airport, close to Costa Teguise, and the beach (Playa del Reducto) is just round the corner. It's perfect if you want to use it as a base for exploring the island, or if you're staying a few nights without a car. Because parking there is a tiny bit of a pain.

Where to stay in Arrecife



★ 8.1/10

Checkin Diamar

📍 Arrecife · Facing the sea, bus station

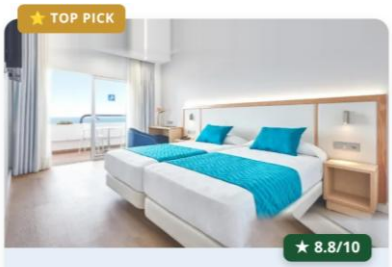
A seafront hotel steps from the bus station, handy for seeing the island without a car, with rooms on the ocean side.

- Upper-floor rooms with ocean views
- Bus station right next door
- Staff praised when a flight is delayed or cancelled

Free cancellation

From **€82** / night

☰ Check availability



★ TOP PICK

★ 8.8/10

Hotel Lancelot

📍 Arrecife · Seafront, rooftop pool

The safe bet in Arrecife with more than three thousand reviews: seafront, rooftop pool and a quiet beach right opposite.

- Rooftop pool, quiet beach opposite
- Central base for seeing the island by bus
- Cleanliness and staff availability rated highly

Free cancellation

From **€138** / night

☰ Check availability



★ 8.6/10

Arrecife Gran Hotel & Spa

📍 Arrecife · Seafront tower, spa

The seafront tower in Arrecife, the capital's only genuine four-star, with a spa and an open view over the ocean.

- Ocean views from the upper floors
- Spa and a welcome drink on arrival
- Half board with a different menu every evening

Free cancellation

From **€194** / night

☰ Check availability



★ 9.3/10

Vita Home Lanzarote Deluxe Apartments

📍 Arrecife · Quiet street, beach on foot

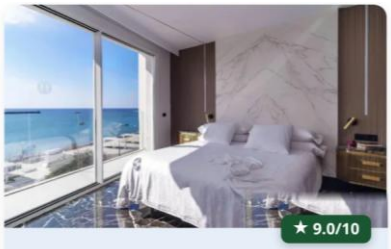
Well-kept apartments on a quiet street in the centre, with the beach within walking distance and parking in the surrounding streets.

- Quiet street, centre of Arrecife on foot
- Beach within walking distance at high tide
- Hosts easy to reach, very well-equipped flats

Free cancellation

From **€97** / night

☰ Check availability



★ 9.0/10

Blue Marina Suites Boutique Apartments

📍 Arrecife · Design suites with a view

Suites with a carefully worked design, whose architecture and view come up in almost every review left.

- Design and decor named as the strong point
- Remarkable view from the upper suites
- Fully equipped, comfort highly rated

Free cancellation

From **€107** / night

☰ Check availability



★ 9.1/10

Apartamentos Islamar Arrecife

📍 Arrecife · Terraces with sea views

Well-soundproofed apartments with a terrace over the sea, praised by more than thirteen hundred travellers for the welcome.

- Terrace with sea view, soundproofed flats
- Rated 9.1/10 across more than 1,300 reviews
- Staff described as kind by every single guest

Free cancellation

From **€109** / night

☰ Check availability

COSTA TEGUISE

A quick introduction

Families welcome, sport on tap

Over on the north-east of the island sits **Costa Teguise**, the **family resort par excellence**. Calm beaches, places to stay for every taste, activities galore, and always that mild Lanzarote climate. Not the most authentic, but clearly **easy to live with**.

✅ **Upsides:**

- **Great for families:** beaches with no waves, hotels that are kid-friendly.
- **Loads of sports on offer** (windsurfing, paddleboarding, cycling).
- Well placed for exploring the north (César Manrique, Cueva de los Verdes…).
- An atmosphere that's **local + touristy**, more laid-back than Puerto.

❌ **Downsides:**

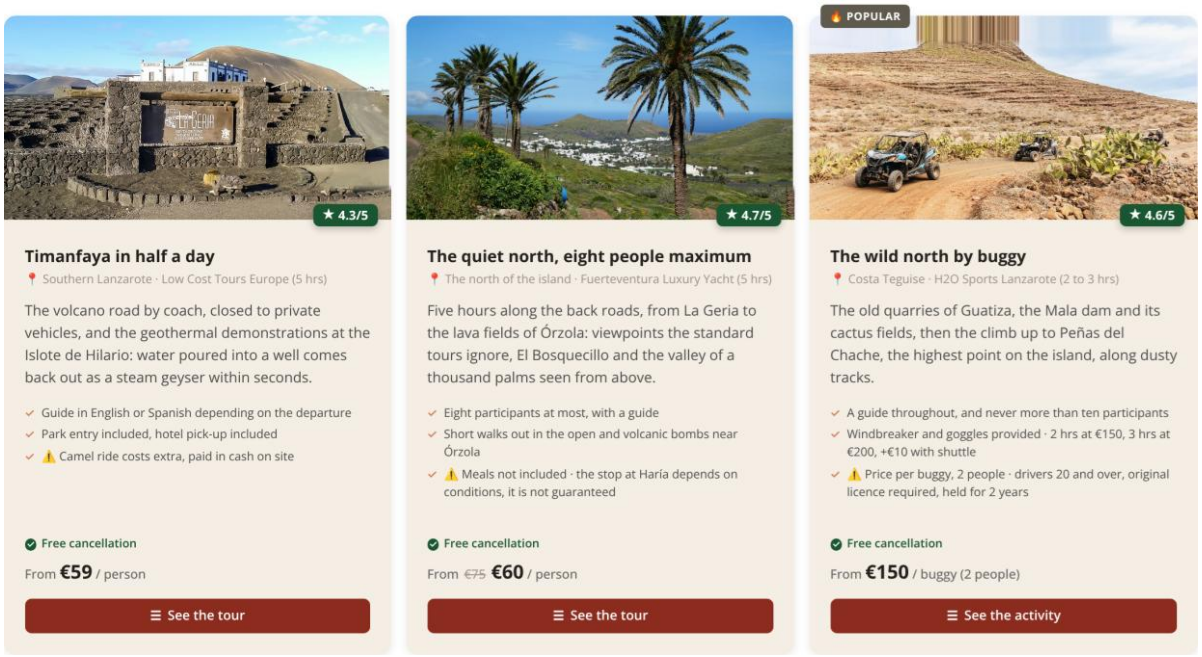
- A bit **less charming** or authentic.
- **Fewer "wow" beaches** compared with the other two.
- Can be **windier** (especially in summer).

👉 **Who's it for?**

Families, sporty types, or anyone who wants a practical base without chasing nightlife or luxury.

What to do in Costa Teguise

- Swim at **Playa Bastián** or **Playa del Jablillo**.
- Try **windsurfing** or paddleboarding at **Las Cucharas**.
- **Go to the Aquapark** with the kids (ok, it's not Disney, but they love it).
- Wander around the **Pueblo Marinero** in the evening, a pedestrian area with restaurants and music.
- Rent a bike to explore the coast or ride all the way to Arrecife.



Why stay in Costa Teguise

Because you're after **beaches for kids**, **sports activities** (windsurfing, paddleboarding, diving…), some **evening entertainment**, but without it being non-stop partying. It's clean, practical, really central, especially if you're travelling with kids or you want to get around without any hassle.

- It's central (20-25 min from almost everything).
- The choice of hotels is huge (from a small flat to a big resort).
- **Loads of flats with a kitchen**, handy for families.
- Everything is doable on foot or by bike.

Where to stay in Costa Teguise



★ 8.9/10

Oasis Lanz Beach Mate

📍 Costa Teguise · near Jablillo beach

A quiet hotel with two heated pools, rooms travellers describe as spacious and very well-kept grounds. Parking is easy right next door.

- Themed evening buffets and breakfasts, widely praised
- The welcome from the staff, the first thing reviews mention
- Home-made snacks at the pool bar

From **€160** / night

☰ Check availability



★ 8.6/10

Barceló Teguise Beach

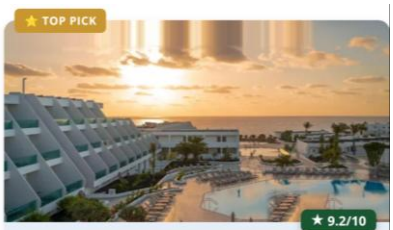
📍 Costa Teguise · on the seafront, Las Cucharas 400 m away

Adults only, on the seafront, with a clean modern design that comes up in almost every review. Three pools, one of them indoors and one an infinity pool.

- Heated pools, the outdoor ones included, noted in winter
- Staff on hand at all hours, according to several travellers
- Some rooms have their own spa bath on the terrace

From **€165** / night

☰ Check availability



⭐ TOP PICK

★ 9.2/10

Radisson Blu Resort Adults Only

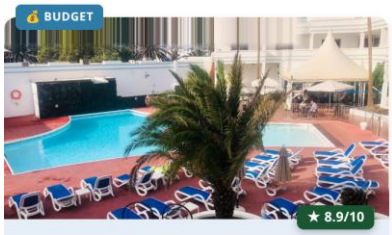
📍 Costa Teguise · on the seafront, at the south end of the resort

The best score in Costa Teguise: an adults-only resort, big enough that you never feel on top of each other, with four pools and plenty of loungers.

- Discreet, attentive staff, the point raised most often
- Four pools, one an infinity pool with a view
- Wellness area, spa and hammam on site

From **€231** / night

☰ Check availability



💰 BUDGET

★ 8.9/10

Apartamentos Oceano

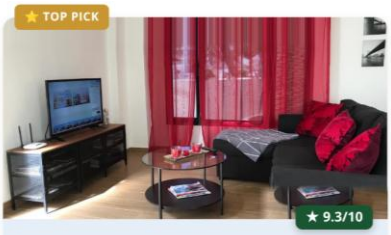
📍 Costa Teguise · centre, near the beaches and the restaurants

Adults-only apartments, right in the centre and a short walk from the beaches. The best location score of the three, at the lowest price in the resort.

- Cleanliness noted in almost every review
- Fitted kitchen, balcony and pool, comfortable beds
- Reception books the hire car and gives advice on arrival

From **€91** / night

☰ Check availability



⭐ TOP PICK

★ 9.3/10

Bungalow Nueva York

📍 Costa Teguise · Playa Roca residence, near the sea

A single-storey place with its own terrace, in a gated residence with parking and a pool complex. It feels more like a small house than an apartment.

- Beds and space, coming up in nearly every review
- Pool and supermarket a few steps away, quiet area
- Detailed arrival instructions, but a thin sample of reviews

From **€118** / night

☰ Check availability



★ 9.2/10

The Birds House

📍 Costa Teguise · seafront, Los Charcos 600 m away

A whole 64 m² apartment looking onto the garden, with terrace, patio and private parking. The host stays in touch throughout the stay, and that comes up in every review.

- Cleanliness, the point most cited in the reviews
- Welcome with wine, water and crisps, late check-out often granted
- Three nights minimum, and children charged the adult rate from age three

From **€120** / night

☰ Check availability

THE BEST PLACES TO STAY IN COSTA TEGUISE

WHERE TO STAY IN LANZAROTE

What you'll find in this article

WHICH TOWN TO CHOOSE IN LANZAROTE

Very good question! First off, do you want to settle into a resort or be somewhere quiet in the middle of the island?

- **Towards Yaiza** – tiny villages, these are places to stay for people who have a car, who want nature, who want to be close to the volcanoes and avoid the crowds
    - *Find your place to stay in central Lanzarote*





- In **Teguise** – for those who want a small authentic town with no big hotel blocks, a nice market, well placed, central, quiet in the evening
    - *Find your place to stay in Teguise*



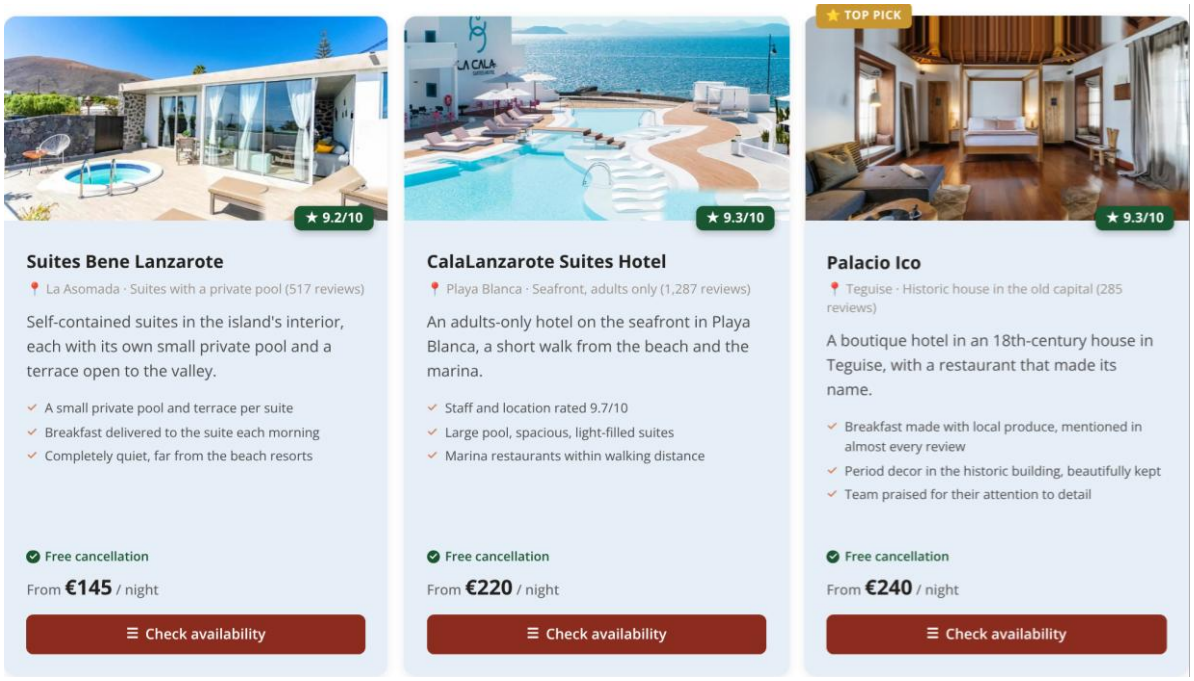


- In **Playa Blanca** – for couples, families with young children, travellers after peace and quiet and sublime landscapes. Two steps from the beaches of Papagayo and the volcanoes
    - *Find your place to stay in Playa Blanca*

- In **Puerto del Carmen** – for travellers who like to be on the move, to go out, and to have everything within reach. Ideal for a first time in Lanzarote or a trip without a car.
    - *Find your place to stay in Puerto del Carmen*

- In **Arrecife** – for those who want to be central, to have the beach, the real Lanzarote life, the markets
    - *Find your place to stay in Arrecife*

- In **Costa Teguise** – a resort for families, sporty types, or anyone who wants a practical base without looking for nightlife or luxury. Far quieter than Puerto del Carmen, more practical than Playa Blanca for sightseeing
    - *Find your place to stay in Costa Teguise*



THE BEST ALL-INCLUSIVE HOTELS

Coming to Lanzarote and staying all-inclusive isn't a bad idea at all, and it means you don't have to worry about a thing. As a reminder, an all-inclusive is usually a big hotel complex with pools, often beach access, but above all every meal included. Handy!

The downside of all-inclusive: there are quite a lot of people in these hotels. So if you want peace and quiet, you need to choose carefully. Watch out, prices vary enormously depending on the package and the season.



Hotel Lanzarote Village

📍 Puerto del Carmen · facing Los Pocillos beach

A village-style hotel of low buildings facing Los Pocillos beach. Volcanoes on one side, sea on the other, and a fair compromise between the resort and quiet.

- ✓ Heated pool and jacuzzi at thirty-three degrees
- ✓ Fridge, kettle and a bottle of water a day in the room
- ✓ Pool noisy in summer because of the children, flagged in the reviews

From **€155** / night

☰ Check availability



Hipotels La Geria

📍 Puerto del Carmen · tropical gardens, Los Pocillos 500 m away

The best rated of the resort's all-inclusives, carried by its staff. A hotel on a human scale in tropical gardens, with direct beach access and the airport ten minutes away.

- ✓ Varied morning and evening buffets, and a little welcome gift on arrival
- ✓ Staff who book the tours for you, and speak five languages
- ✓ Pool closed for maintenance from 15 January to 19 February 2027

From **€190** / night

☰ Check availability



SENTIDO Aequora Lanzarote Suites

📍 Puerto del Carmen · a 5-min walk from the beach

Suites of 32 to 42 m² and two separate buffets: one for families, the other for over-thirteens only. Several pools, some of them kept for adults.

- ✓ Spacious, clean rooms, something the reviews agree on
- ✓ Entertainment team and theme nights, including the white party
- ✓ Nautilus bar and a pool reserved for over-eighteens

From **€200** / night

☰ Check availability



Grand Hyatt Playa Dorada

📍 Playa Blanca · 200 m from Playa Dorada beach

A five-star two hundred metres from Playa Dorada, with seven pools and six restaurants on the grounds. The view over the harbour and the sea comes up in almost every review.

- ✓ Sunloungers always available, with no need to reserve them
- ✓ Optional Grand Club area: separate pool, no music
- ✓ Trousers required at the restaurant, spa off limits to under-sixteens

From **€190** / night

☰ Check availability



H10 Rubicón Horizons Collection

📍 Playa Blanca · above La Mulata beach

Whitewashed buildings around a lagoon-shaped pool, above La Mulata beach. Ten restaurants and bars, and a spa with an indoor pool and Turkish baths.

- ✓ Free minibar and adults-only rooms, the quiet is praised
- ✓ Kids' club with a pirate ship and water games
- ✓ À la carte restaurants: four nights minimum and booking required

From **€190** / night

☰ Check availability



Barceló Playa Blanca

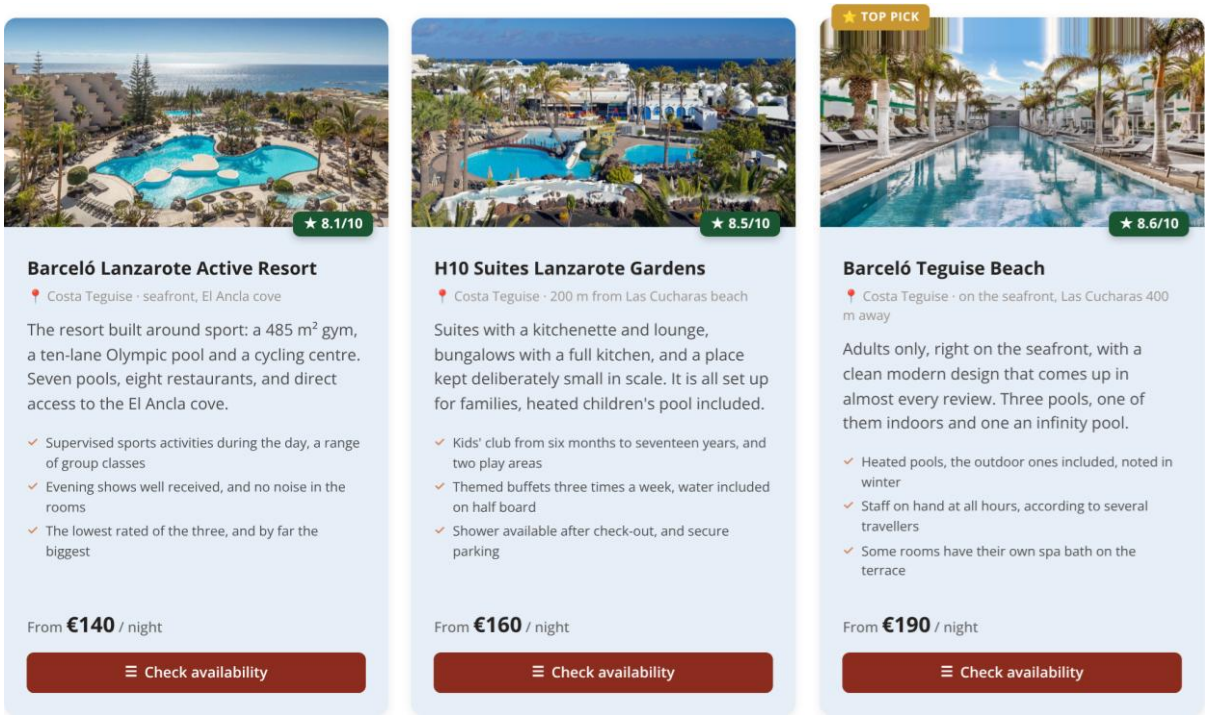
📍 Playa Blanca · 800 m from Playa Dorada beach

The best rating of the resort's all-inclusives: a big family resort a few steps from a fine beach, with heated adult and children's pools, slides, a spa and a gym.

- ✓ Main buffet very varied, the most praised point
- ✓ Swim-up rooms and an adults-only pool access
- ✓ Two à la carte restaurants at extra cost, and a compulsory wristband

From **€200** / night

☰ Check availability



THE BEST ALL-INCLUSIVE RESORTS IN LANZAROTE

STAYING IN PLAYA BLANCA

3 top hotels in Playa Blanca



Hipotels Natura Palace

📍 Playa Blanca · on the seafront, facing Fuerteventura

An adults-only four-star right on the seafront at Playa Blanca. The coastal promenade starts at the hotel and runs for kilometres either way.

- Ocean and Fuerteventura views from the rooms
- Heated pools and landscaped garden, often mentioned in the reviews
- Half board well rated, low-key evening entertainment

From **€135** / night

☰ Check availability



MYND Yaiza

📍 Playa Blanca · steps from the landscaped beach

By far the most reviewed place in the resort: a large garden hotel with several pools, some of them in noticeably quieter corners than the rest.

- Varied buffets morning and evening, everyone agrees on that
- Well-kept gardens and easy parking
- Virtual wallet on site, handy for leaving your card behind

From **€148** / night

☰ Check availability



Hotel Cordial Marina Blanca

📍 Playa Blanca · steps from the Marina Rubicón

An aparthotel in the centre of Playa Blanca, steps from the Marina Rubicón. Spacious, practical rooms and a big pool that takes up the heart of the place.

- Very varied breakfast, picked out by a lot of guests
- Friendly, attentive staff, a real consensus in the reviews
- Fitness room, and shops five minutes away on foot

From **€213** / night

☰ Check availability

3 all-inclusives



Grand Hyatt Playa Dorada

📍 Playa Blanca · 200 m from Playa Dorada beach

A five-star two hundred metres from Playa Dorada, with seven pools and six restaurants on site. The view over the port and the sea comes up in almost every review.

- Sunloungers always free, no need to reserve them
- Grand Club area optional: separate pool, no music
- Trousers required in the restaurant, spa off limits to under-sixteens

From **€190** / night

☰ Check availability



H10 Rubicón Horizons Collection

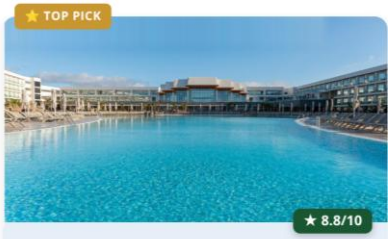
📍 Playa Blanca · above La Mulata beach

Whitewashed buildings around a lagoon-shaped pool, above La Mulata beach. Ten restaurants and bars, and a spa with an indoor pool and Turkish baths.

- Free minibar and adults-only rooms, the quiet much appreciated
- Kids' club with a pirate ship and water games
- À la carte restaurants: four nights minimum and booking required

From **€190** / night

☰ Check availability



Barceló Playa Blanca

📍 Playa Blanca · 800 m from Playa Dorada beach

The best-rated all-inclusive in the resort: a big family resort steps from a fine beach, with heated adult and children's pools, slides, a spa and a gym.

- Main buffet very varied, the most praised point
- Swim-up rooms and a pool area reserved for adults
- Two à la carte restaurants cost extra, and wristbands are compulsory

From **€200** / night

☰ Check availability

3 quality apartments



Ona Las Casitas

📍 Playa Blanca · close to the beach and the ferry

Small individual houses in a human-scale complex, each with its own terrace and kitchen. Supermarkets, restaurants and the ferry to Fuerteventura are all within walking distance.

- Immaculately kept complex, the point that comes up most
- Casitas with kitchen, washing machine, dishwasher and air conditioning
- Bar-restaurant on site and a pool heated all year round

From **€90** / night

☰ Check availability



Casa Paca

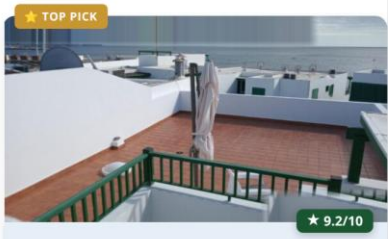
📍 Playa Blanca · seafront residence, near the marina

A house in a quiet, secure seafront residence, with two terraces and private parking right outside the door. The supermarket is next door.

- Full kitchen: washing machine, dishwasher and even an air fryer
- Careful decor and plenty of storage, often mentioned
- Still few reviews for the property: a small sample to go on

From **€97** / night

☰ Check availability



Apartamentos Casa Cipri

📍 Playa Blanca · right in the centre, 200 m from the beach

Apartments right in the centre of Playa Blanca, whose roof terrace comes up in almost every review. The harbour, the restaurants and the promenade are all an easy walk away.

- Cleanliness noted by very nearly every traveller
- Very responsive host, who shares his own restaurant addresses
- Large balcony over the pedestrian street, quiet once night falls

From **€126** / night

☰ Check availability

3 budget places to stay



Canaryislandshost I Room

📍 Playa Blanca · quiet, a couple of minutes from the beach

The lowest price in the resort, but it is a room in a shared house, with a shared kitchen. The trade-off: a location that almost every review praises.

- Spacious, air-conditioned rooms, good quality bedding
- Free street parking, easy to find
- Small fridge in the room, clothes airer, recently fitted bathroom

From **€81** / night

☰ Check availability



Casa Lorenzo in the center

📍 Playa Blanca · away from the crowds, a couple of minutes from the harbour

An apartment set back a little from the tourist flow but a couple of minutes from the harbour, and equipped down to the last detail: several travellers even mention the sun cream left out for them.

- Attention to detail in the equipment, which comes up in every review
- Responsive hosts, self check-in with clear instructions
- Still few reviews for the property: a small sample to go on

From **€119** / night

☰ Check availability



Palmeras Garden

📍 Playa Blanca · at the foot of Montaña Roja

Canarian-style bungalows spread through gardens, at the foot of Montaña Roja. A patio for drying the washing, a terrace with a sea view and free parking inside the complex.

- Decor and style of the complex, often picked out
- Gardens, pool and grounds well kept
- Check-in possible from one o'clock according to guests

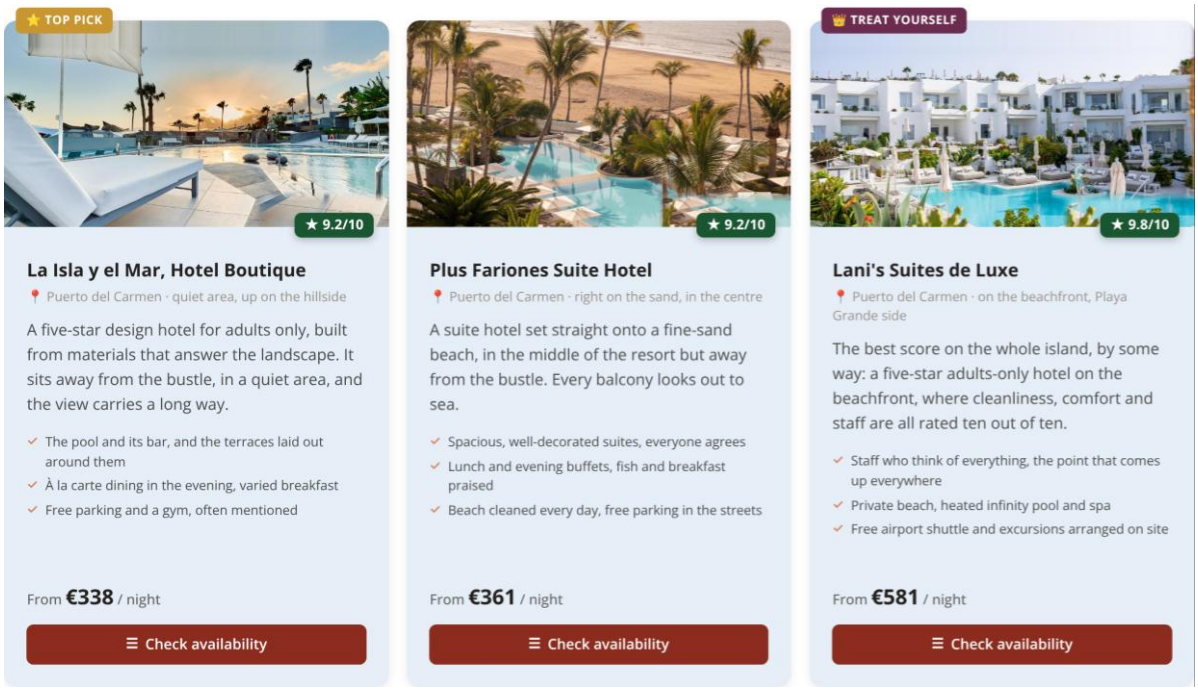
From **€120** / night

☰ Check availability

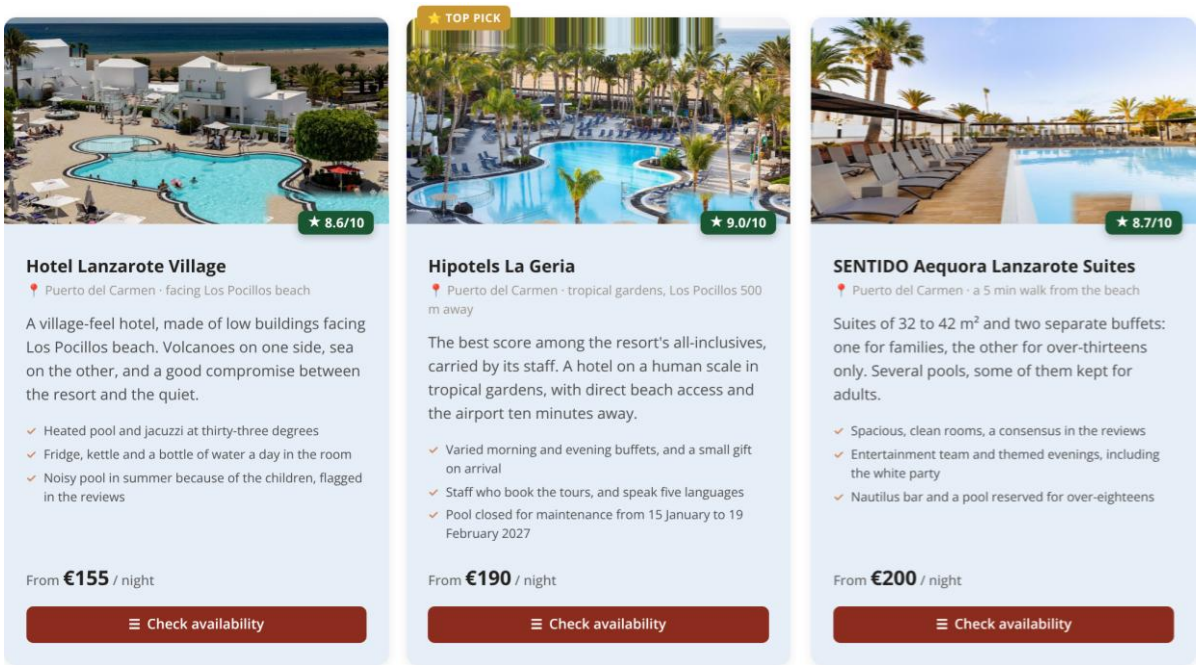
THE BEST PLACES TO STAY IN PLAYA BLANCA

STAYING IN PUERTO DEL CARMEN

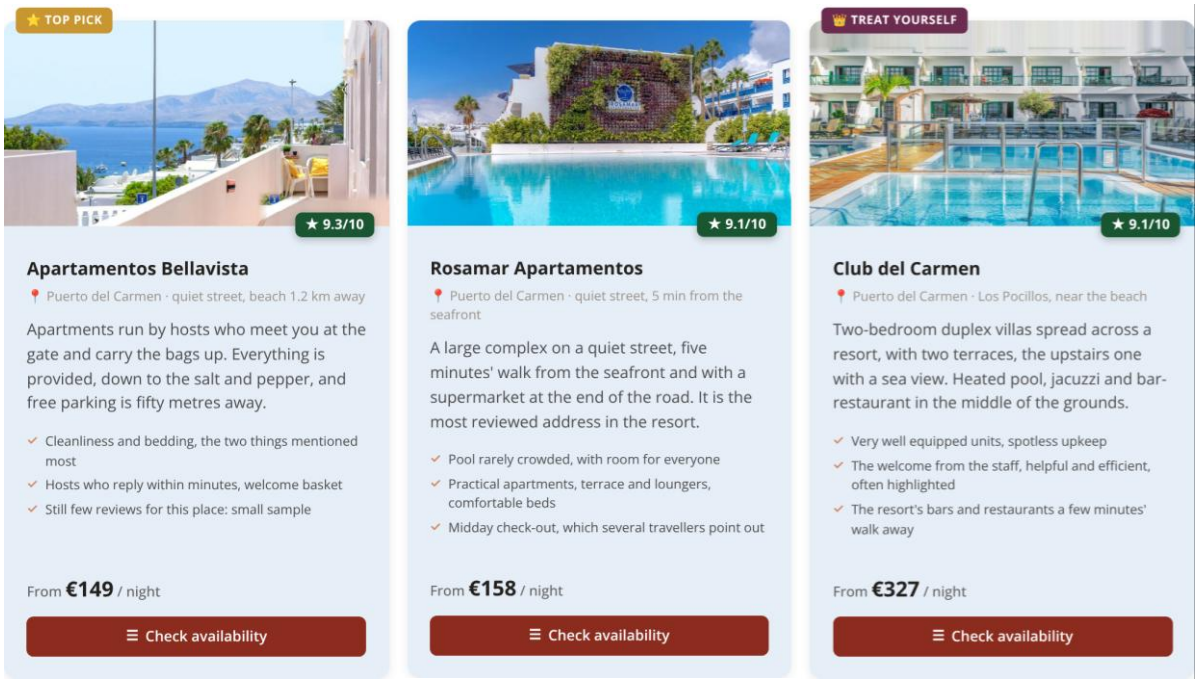
3 top hotels in Puerto del Carmen



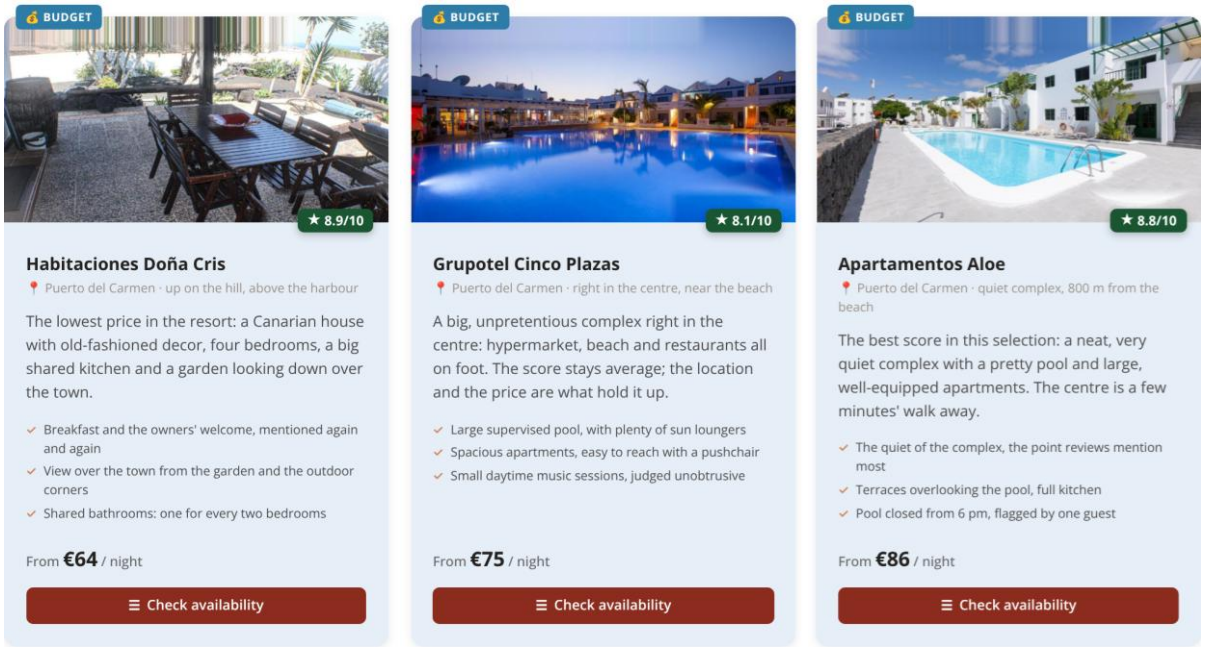
3 all-inclusives



3 quality apartments

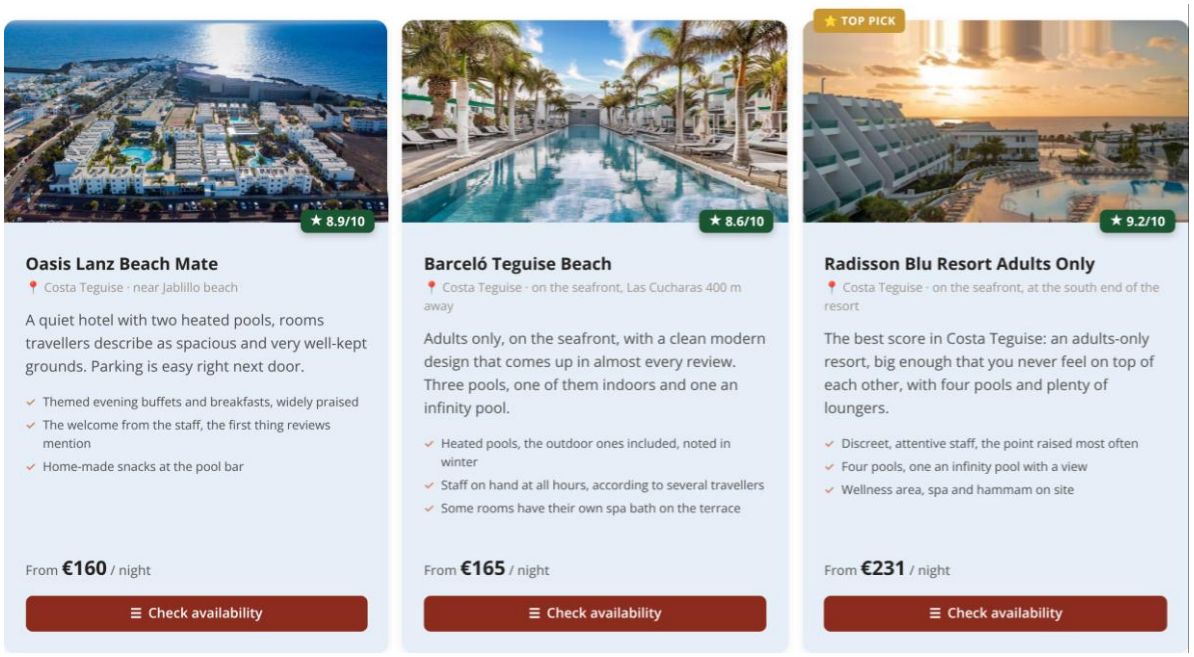


3 budget places to stay

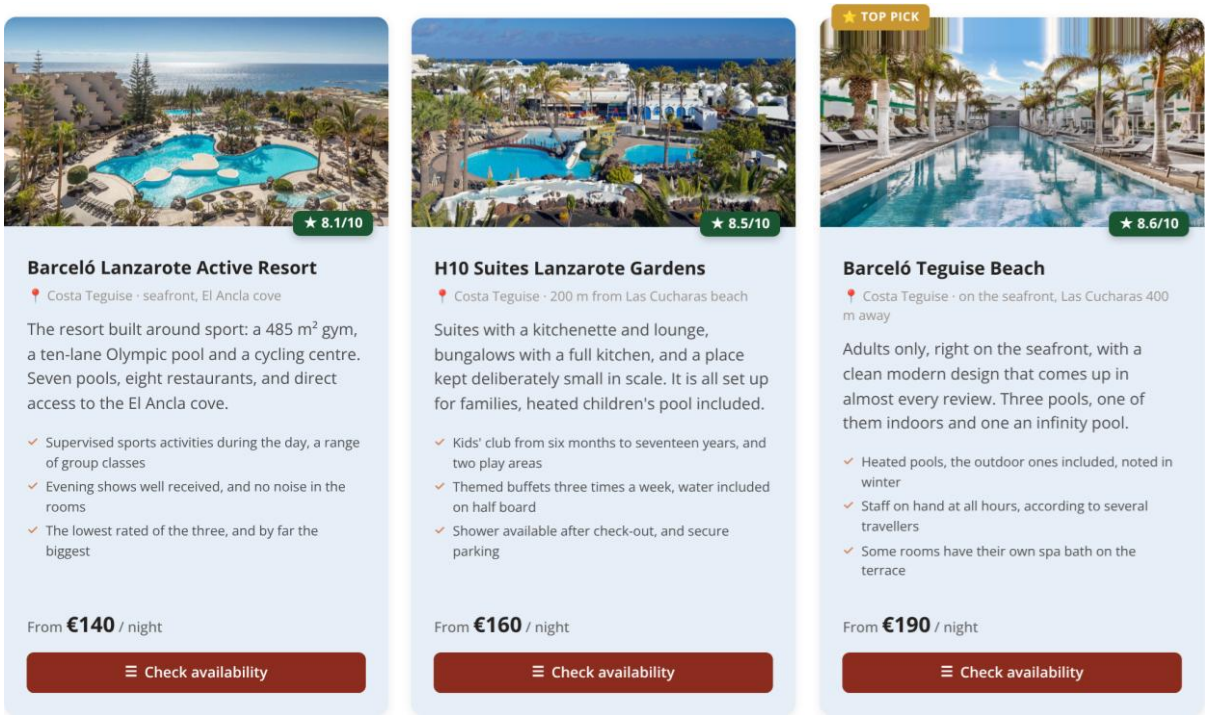


STAYING IN COSTA TEGUISE

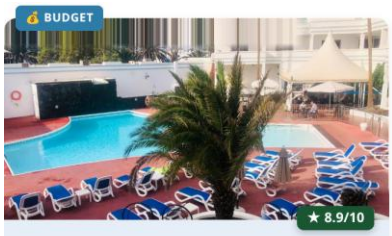
3 top hotels in Puerto del Carmen



3 all-inclusives



3 quality apartments



Apartamentos Oceano

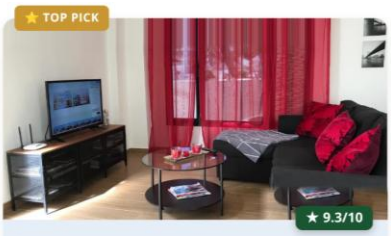
📍 Costa Teguise · centre, near the beaches and the restaurants

Adults-only apartments, right in the centre and a short walk from the beaches. The best location score of the three, at the lowest price in the resort.

- Cleanliness noted in almost every review
- Fitted kitchen, balcony and pool, comfortable beds
- Reception books the hire car and gives advice on arrival

From **€91** / night

☰ Check availability



Bungalow Nueva York

📍 Costa Teguise · Playa Roca residence, near the sea

A single-storey place with its own terrace, in a gated residence with parking and a pool complex. It feels more like a small house than an apartment.

- Beds and space, coming up in nearly every review
- Pool and supermarket a few steps away, quiet area
- Detailed arrival instructions, but a thin sample of reviews

From **€118** / night

☰ Check availability



The Birds House

📍 Costa Teguise · seafront, Los Charcos 600 m away

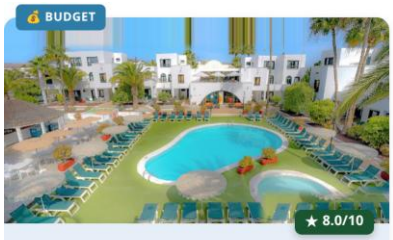
A whole 64 m² apartment looking onto the garden, with terrace, patio and private parking. The host stays in touch throughout the stay, and that comes up in every review.

- Cleanliness, the point most cited in the reviews
- Welcome with wine, water and crisps, late check-out often granted
- Three nights minimum, and children charged the adult rate from age three

From **€120** / night

☰ Check availability

3 budget places to stay



Nazaret Sol

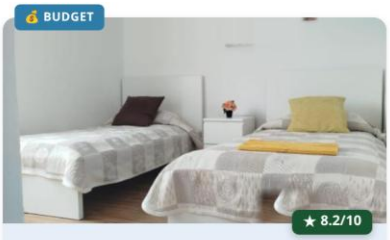
📍 Costa Teguise · near the shops and the beach

The lowest price in the resort: a small, unpretentious complex, deliberately plain, where the regulars come back year after year. Shops, beach and restaurants all on foot.

- Sheets and towels changed every two days
- Enough sunloungers for everyone, temperate pool
- A third bed possible on top of the sofa, appreciated by threes

From **€93** / night

☰ Check availability



Casa Gara

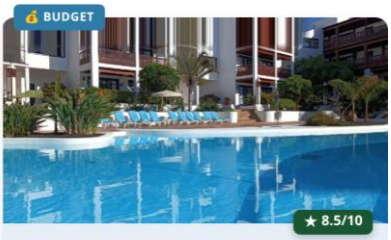
📍 Costa Teguise · by the beach, quiet area

A bright, recently furnished flat in a quiet area but close to the supermarkets and restaurants. Cyclists make it a handy base for all the loops around the island.

- South- or west-facing view and aspect, sun all day long
- Large fridge-freezer and plenty of sockets
- Poorly signposted address, hard to find on arrival

From **€95** / night

☰ Check availability



Nazaret Mansion

📍 Costa Teguise · right by the shops and the beach

The best rating in this widget: a human-scale hotel, ideally placed for getting around the island, with a restaurant whose buffet comes up in almost every review.

- Varied, well-rated buffet, morning and evening
- Smiling, attentive staff, everyone agrees
- Pool rarely crowded, even with a large group

From **€103** / night

☰ Check availability

FIND YOUR DREAM PLACE TO STAY IN COSTA TEGUISE

STAYING IN CENTRAL LANZAROTE



★ 9.4/10

Casa Rural Vega de Timanfaya

📍 Uga · among the vines, facing Timanfaya

An 18th-century house on its own among the vines, in a walled estate facing Timanfaya. Bread oven, barbecue and sun loungers by the door, and silence for a neighbour.

- ✓ 360° views over the park and the vines, the point mentioned most
- ✓ Full kitchen and comfortable beds, the host's welcome praised
- ✓ A car is essential, weak wifi, children from six years old

From **€120** / night

☰ Check availability



★ TOP PICK

★ 9.6/10

Finca de La Geria

📍 Yaiza · in the heart of the La Geria vineyards

Several separate houses set in the La Geria vineyards, a couple of bodegas away. Each bedroom has its own bathroom, and the kitchen is stocked down to everyday basics.

- ✓ Comfort and cleanliness, the two points that come up most
- ✓ Cool inside at the height of summer, sun loungers and bikes on site
- ✓ Four-night minimum, and children charged adult rates from three

From **€138** / night

☰ Check availability



★ 9.0/10

Hotel Rural Finca de La Florida

📍 San Bartolomé · in the vines, in the centre of the island

A rural hotel set in the vines in the middle of the island, decorated in the spirit of César Manrique. Two pools, a sauna, a mini-golf course and a restaurant serving its own wine.

- ✓ The staff welcome, the first point reviews mention
- ✓ Restaurant and breakfast praised, sunset over the vines
- ✓ Extra bed at twenty euros a night from thirteen years old

From **€150** / night

☰ Check availability



★ 8.5/10

La Casona de Yaiza

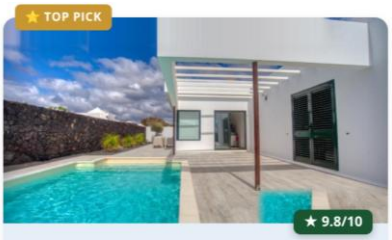
📍 Yaiza · in the village, Timanfaya close by

A landmark hotel set in an old Yaiza house, with large gardens, a saltwater pool and a hot tub. Its restaurant serves Canarian cooking with a twist.

- ✓ Charming decor and quiet gardens, often picked out
- ✓ Restaurant praised for its Mediterranean and Canarian dishes
- ✓ Rooms judged basic, no fridge and little storage

From **€124** / night

☰ Check availability



★ TOP PICK

★ 9.8/10

Lava Dreams

📍 Yaiza · on the edge of the Timanfaya park

The highest score in this whole selection: a three-bedroom villa with its own big heated saltwater pool, set quietly on the edge of the Timanfaya park.

- ✓ Heated pool and full equipment, mentioned in every review
- ✓ House found better-looking than in the photos, and heating that works in the evening
- ✓ Owners quick to answer, wine and condiments left for you

From **€170** / night

☰ Check availability



★ 9.1/10

Ecofinca Aulaga

📍 Masdache · in the centre of the island, surrounded by vines

A former 162 m² wine cellar turned into a villa, standing alone among the vines of Masdache. Everything runs on solar power, and the view reaches the sea.

- ✓ Decor and cleanliness, the two points mentioned most
- ✓ Gas back-up water heater for days without sun
- ✓ Difficult access track: first gear, an SUV is advised

From **€250** / night

☰ Check availability



Eco-Finca Curbelo

📍 Uga · outside the village, between Yaiza and La Geria

An old building turned into an adults-only finca, set apart from Uga. Its heated salt-water infinity pool looks over the gardens and comes up in almost every review.

- ✓ Gardens and upkeep, consistently praised by guests
- ✓ Attentive staff, and access adapted for reduced mobility
- ✓ Soundproofing between the units could be better, several say so

From **€140** / night

☰ Check availability



Suites Bene Lanzarote

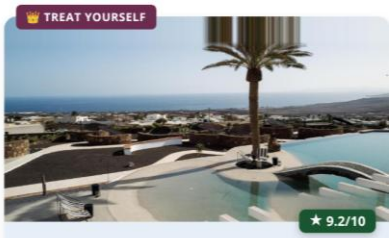
📍 La Asomada · up on the heights, in the centre of the island

Self-contained units with their own private pool, up above La Asomada. Breakfast is delivered to the door every morning, and the view reaches the coast.

- ✓ Quiet and open views, the two points that come up most
- ✓ Very well-kept terraces and gardens, open-air tub
- ✓ No air conditioning, hard going in a spell of real heat

From **€155** / night

☰ Check availability



César Lanzarote Boutique Hotel

📍 La Asomada · in the centre of the island, up high

The most expensive five-star in this selection, adults-only and perched in the centre of the island, facing the volcanoes. Heated infinity pool, spa, airport shuttle and soundproofed rooms.

- ✓ Elegant design and the view, the first two points mentioned
- ✓ Attentive staff and a varied breakfast, a consensus
- ✓ Dinner menu judged short on variety by several guests

From **€533** / night

☰ Check availability



B&B Hotelito el Campo

📍 Yaiza · at the edge of the village, Timanfaya 7 km away

Ten rooms above the El Campo restaurant, at the edge of Yaiza, a village voted the best-kept in the Canaries several times over. By far the lowest price in this selection.

- ✓ Thirty-square-metre rooms, terrace with a view, fridge and kettle
- ✓ Coffee, tea, water and cake on arrival
- ✓ Stairs only, no children, linen costs extra

From **€80** / night

☰ Check availability



La Casita del Volcán

📍 Ye · at the far north, Mirador del Río 4 km away

A 45 m² cottage set at the far north of the island, the volcano behind and the ocean in front. At night, a starry sky that nearly every review describes.

- ✓ Isolation and silence, exactly what every traveller comes for
- ✓ Very responsive hosts, clean and well-equipped place
- ✓ Cash only, bank transfer before arrival, no children

From **€90** / night

☰ Check availability



Casa El Morro

📍 Uga · in the gardens, Yaiza 1.5 km away

Whitewashed 18th-century cottages and a Mongolian yurt, set in gardens around a heated pool. Massages and yoga classes twice a week.

- ✓ Decor and the charm of the place, mentioned in almost every review
- ✓ Complete quiet and the pool area, described as an oasis
- ✓ No breakfast served, and yoga and massages both cost extra

From **€135** / night

☰ Check availability



Is this guide useful?

It is *free* and it will stay that way. If you want to help keep it going, use the links in this guide or in the articles: it costs you nothing more. Or you can buy me a virtual coffee, that always makes my day :)

Activities · Hotels · Car hire · Buy me a coffee (€5)

SAMPLE ITINERARIES

ONE WEEK TO DISCOVER LANZAROTE

With a hire car

A week in Lanzarote, with a car, lets you see the most beautiful spots on the island but also laze about a bit and do a few nice activities. This itinerary is here to let you enjoy the island without stress and without doing too much, which is exactly why the car matters.

Car hire:

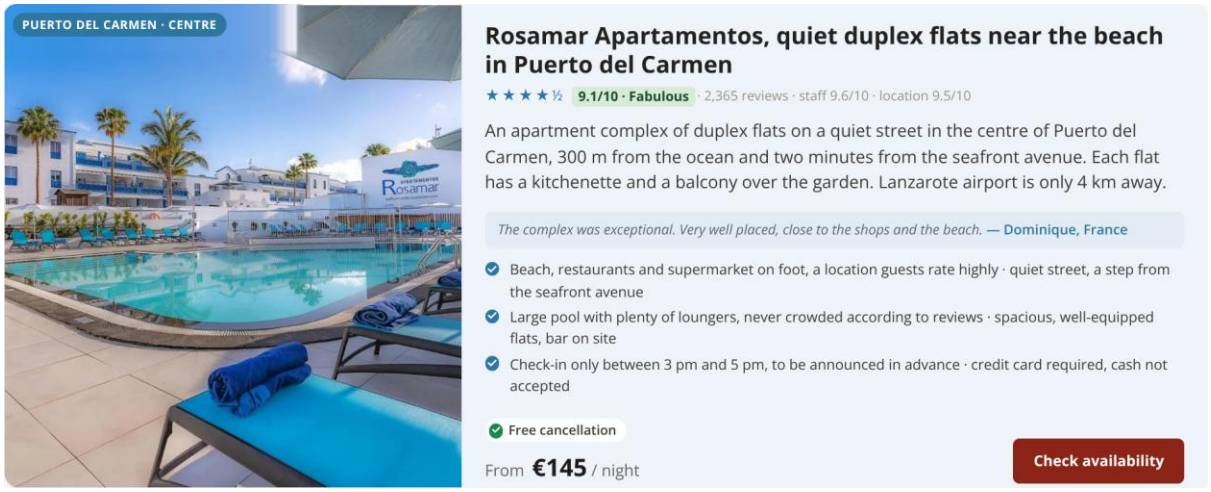
- Rent a car at Arrecife airport for the whole stay
- Given what the rental costs (between €6 and €15 a day), there's not much financial risk
- No need for a big car or a lot of comfort, it's just that in summer it can get hot, so air con is worth having
- The good local rental companies are CIcar, Autoreisen, Topcar
- But you ABSOLUTELY have to compare the companies against each other using the comparison sites
- Compare using *Discover Cars* and/or *Rental Cars*, two companies you can trust



Where to stay:

- You'll have seen the possible options in the previous sections. If you want a quiet resort, then Playa Blanca, with hotels like the *Hotel Cordial Marina Blanca* or a *nice house right by the sea*.
- If you want a nice village, then Teguise, which is really central, pretty and quiet. If you want to treat yourself, there's *the Hôtel Boutique Palacio Ico*. For something more standard, *this nice 50m² house*, really handy!





DAY 1 – ARRIVAL IN LANZAROTE

- *Pick up the car* at Lanzarote airport
- Arrival at your *accommodation*
- Take your time getting to know the town you're in, do the food shopping
- And take the chance to go and laze about on the beach

DAY 2 – A DAY IN THE VOLCANOES

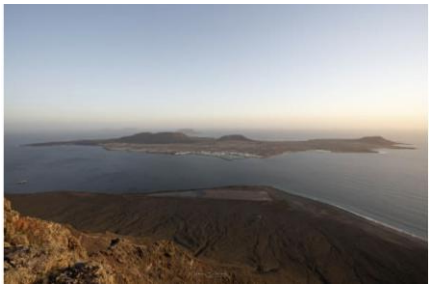
- Set off early to visit **the volcanoes of Timanfaya**. Watch out, it's the most touristy (and the most beautiful) place on the island, and booking is not possible, first come, first served. So if you turn up late, you'll be waiting a long time
- Finally, take on the brilliant walk up **Caldera Blanca**, one of the finest hikes on the island. Watch out, you need good shoes because you walk across lava fields. And keep an eye on the time, because the sun goes down really fast!




DAY 3 – EXPLORING THE SITES IN THE NORTH

- Start the morning with **the Jardin de Cactus**, really nice, but it doesn't need much time
- Then head off to **Jameos del Agua**, it's quite something
- Right after that, you go across to the other side of the road, to the **Cueva de los Verdes**, a really nice lava tunnel to visit*
- Since time goes by very fast and the sun sets early, you need to go and watch the **sunset at the Mirador del Rio**. You can visit the site, which is pleasant, but it isn't compulsory. You can just make do with the insane view.
    - If you'd rather have somewhere less touristy, there's the **mirador de Guinate** which has pretty much the same view





DAY 4 – BEACH AND SHORT WALKS

- Now a bit of lazing about, head to the **beach at Papagayo!** Loads of really nice little beaches, and watch out, driving in costs money (€3) but it's well worth it.
    - If you want to see Papagayo differently, you can see them *from a boat* ! The views over the beaches and the volcanic island are magnificent
    - Otherwise you can also go *kayaking* in the crystal-clear water
- In the afternoon, go **for a walk up a volcano!** It isn't marked on the maps, but climb this one (*google maps location*) near del Golfo. The view is insane.
- Then, to round off the day, go and watch **the sunset at El Golfo** and you can take the chance to have dinner there in one of the many fish and seafood restaurants







DAY 5 – BEACHES AND WINE

- Because you're also here to laze about, in the morning **enjoy the beach** next to your accommodation. Whatever town you're in, you're bound to have one right there.

- In the afternoon, head for the LZ-30, which is **the wine route**. You'll see all the vines, which are magnificent, and obviously take the chance to do some tastings! You've got the famous bodega La Geria, but also *El Grifo* which you can visit.

- And on this route you've also got **plenty of craters**, and you can walk around them, like El Cuervo.







DAY 6 – HIKING AND TEGUISE

- This morning, for anyone who fancies a feast for the eyes and a workout for the calves, *a hike in the park at Timanfaya*.
- Head to **Teguise** for lunch and to visit the pretty little town in the afternoon, it's really lovely.



DAY 7 – VISITING THE ISLAND OF LA GRACIOSA

- You've got several options for visiting it.
  - *Either you take the ferry* from Orzola, you explore by renting a bike and you come back at the end of the day
  - Or you discover La Graciosa on a really nice catamaran cruise around the island







The ferry, under your own steam

📍 Órzola → Caleta de Sebo · Lineas Romero (30 min)

A thirty-minute crossing from Órzola, then the island all to yourself, on foot or by bike, with a return at the time of your choosing during the day.

- Flexible return all day, with no fixed time
- Free parking at the Órzola terminal and wifi on board
- ⚠ Crossing only: no guide, no meal, no hotel transfer

Free cancellation

From **€29** / person

≡ See the ferry



The jeep safari on the island

📍 Caleta de Sebo church · Yotomu (1 hr 30)

Once ashore, a jeep tour of the island: Pedro Barba, the basalt arches of Los Arcos and Playa de las Conchas, ranked among the finest beaches in Europe.

- Meeting point 200 m from the jetty, three departures a day
- Jeeps seating 6 to 8, to combine with the ferry on the first card
- ⚠ Commentary in Spanish · ferry not included, unless you take the open-ticket option at €77

Free cancellation

From **€45** / person

≡ See the tour



The catamaran and its paella

📍 Departure from Órzola · Lineas Romero (6 hrs)

Ferry to Caleta de Sebo, time enough to walk round the village, then nearly four hours of catamaran: anchoring at Playa Francesa, snorkelling, kayaking and paella cooked on board.

- Ferry, hotel shuttle and 45 min free in the village included
- Paella, fresh fruit, draught beer, sangria and soft drinks unlimited
- ⚠ No landing on the beaches · catamaran sometimes crowded · no shuttle from Playa Blanca on Sundays, Mondays and Wednesdays

Free cancellation

From **€66** / person

≡ See the cruise

THE BEST THINGS TO DO ON LA GRACIOSA

Seeing Lanzarote without a car

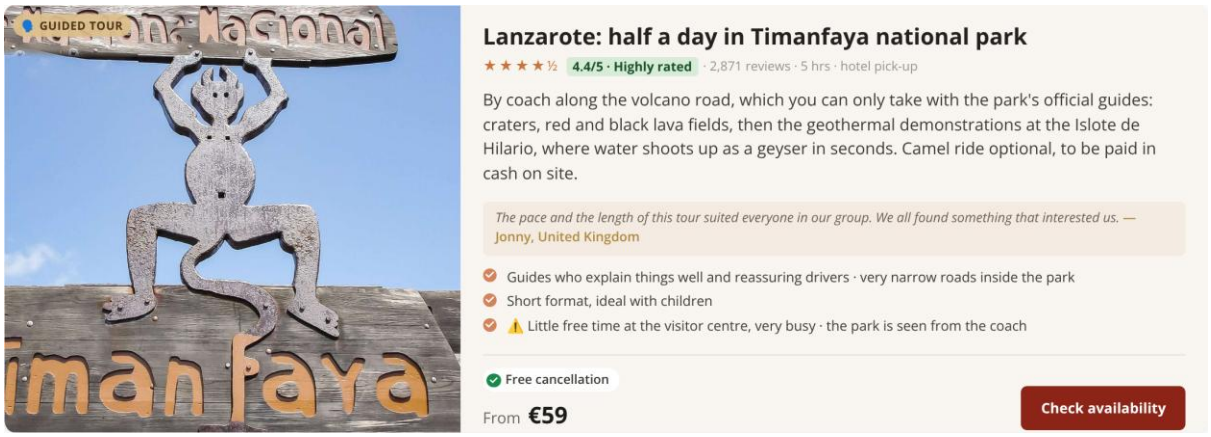
If you don't have a car, don't panic, you can obviously still see the main spots on the island. As we saw earlier, the bus network is very good for linking the towns to each other, but not the tourist sites, not even the major ones.

So you'll have to go through the tour operators, the taxis (watch out for the scams) and the bike rentals.

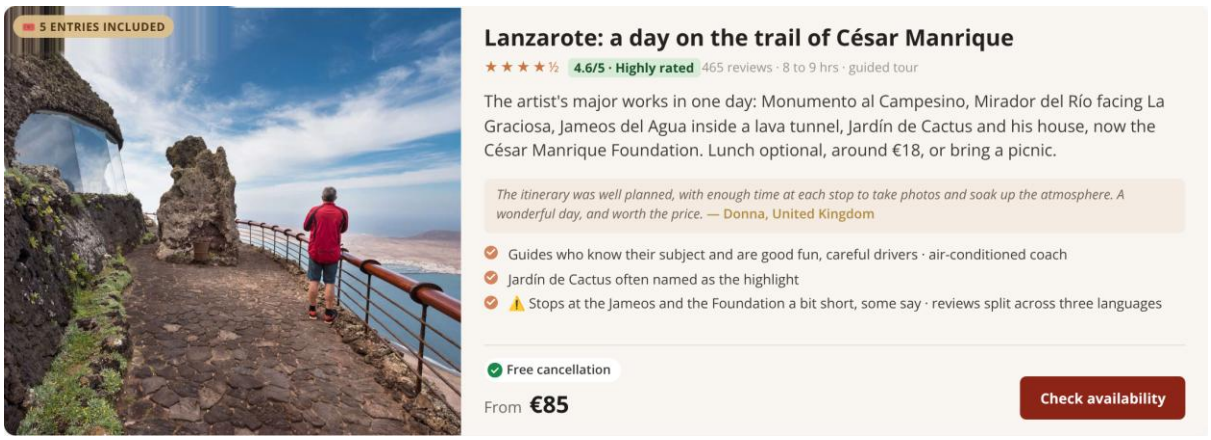
But in practical terms, if you don't have a car, I imagine it's mainly because you want to rest and enjoy the beaches and the comforts of the hotel. And you're quite right!

So, for a week without a car, here are the main visits I'd recommend:

- Visiting **Timanfaya**, it's a half-day tour that picks you up at your accommodation and includes the transport and the bus at the very least
    - *Info & booking*



- The **César Manrique sites** in a day (Mirador del Rio, Jardin de Cactus, Jameos del Agua…)
    - *Info and booking*

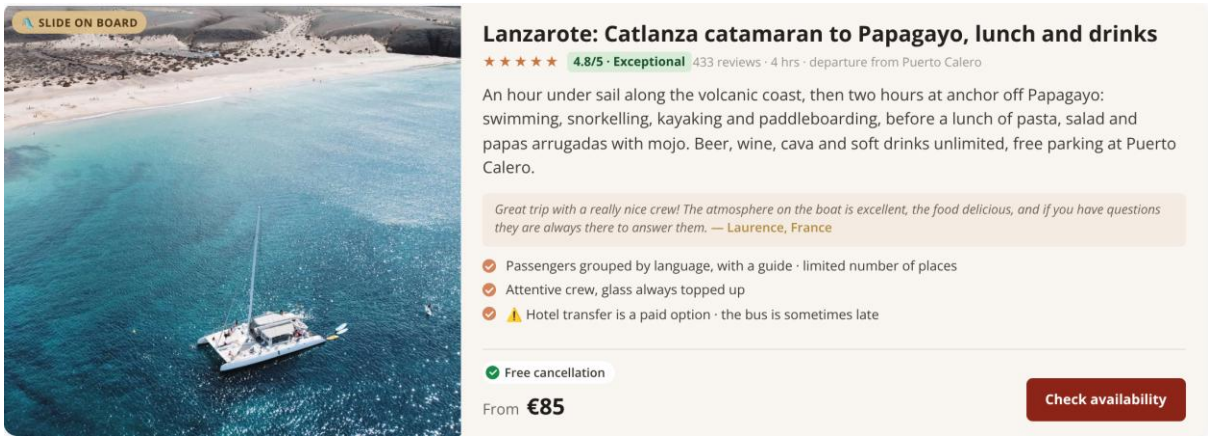


- But **if you want to be efficient**, then you can see **all the major sites** in a day! Timanfaya, Jameos del Agua, Mirador de Guinate, Cueva de los Verdes…
    - *Info and booking*

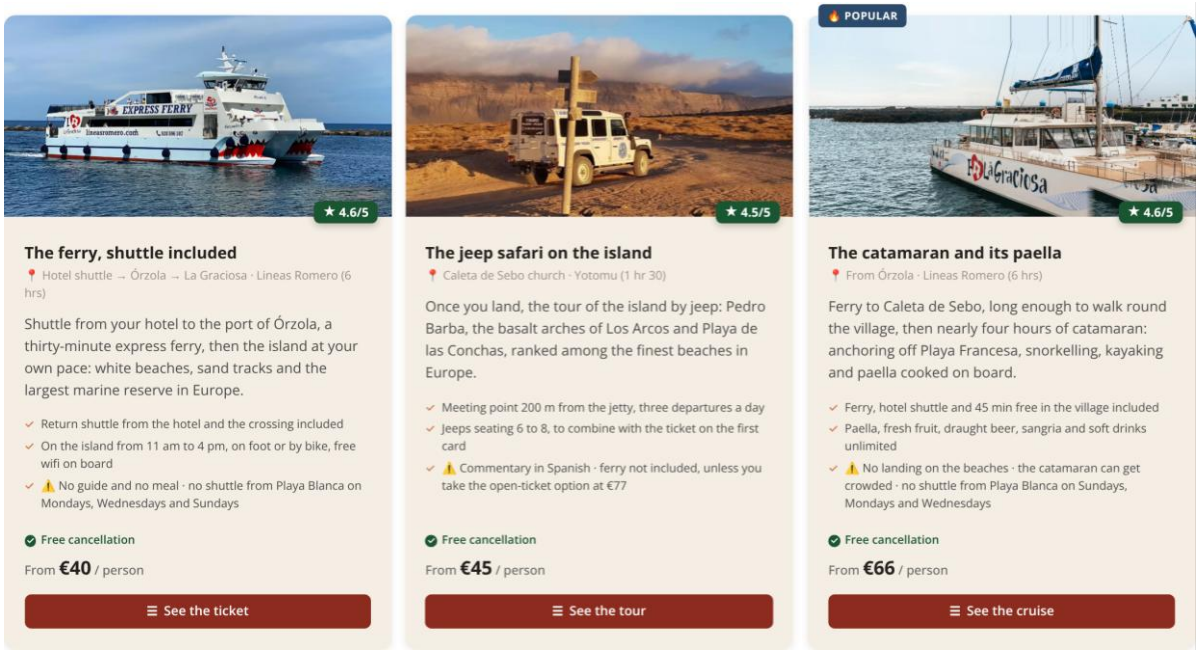


- You can hop on a bus to **Teguise** and do a guided tour
    - *Discover the free tour of Teguise*

- A boat trip to the beaches of **Papagayo**
    - *Discover the boat trips to Papagayo*



- And possibly a trip over to La Graciosa, not having a car is no handicap with the following tour operators



GETTING AROUND LANZAROTE

DO YOU REALLY NEED TO RENT A CAR

Getting around Lanzarote is simple, but not that simple in fact.

As we'll see, there's **a good bus network**. That said, the buses link the towns to each other, at a decent frequency. But when it comes to the **tourist sites**, right away **it gets more complicated**.

We saw it in the descriptions of the sites, almost **none of them are served by the buses**. No mirador, no Timanfaya, no Papagayo (unless you're staying next door). So it's complicated.

So, without a car it's complicated if you want to do the full round of the tourist sites.

If you only want to see a few of them and mostly enjoy the beach and doing nothing, then a car isn't essential, because the tour operators are there for you.

Upsides of renting a car

- It really doesn't cost much, as we're about to see
- It gives you all the flexibility to visit the tourist sites you want
- It works out cheaper than the tour operators
- You can see the island faster than by bus, especially for the tourist sites in the north
- Lets you get to little spots that are adorable like Tenesar

Downsides of not having a car (but every downside has a backup solution)

- It's more complicated to reach the tourist sites
- You depend on the buses
- And above all on the tour operators to see the island

In conclusion: renting a car turns out to be really useful, and cheap. But if you don't have a licence, if you'd rather not rent one, that is absolutely no obstacle to visiting Lanzarote! It takes a bit of organising, that's all.

Because the tour operators are there for you, a few buses too, and worst case, there's loads of beaches right next to your hotel 😊



RENTING A CAR IN LANZAROTE

Lanzarote is one of those places, like all the Canary Islands in fact, where renting a car is super simple and cheap. In the next article, I explain in much more depth *how to rent a car in Lanzarote*.

How much does renting a car in Lanzarote cost

- It doesn't cost much!
- In low season, from €5/6
- In high season, around €15 a day
- And petrol is very cheap in the Canaries too

So renting a car really won't blow your budget, and that's a nice feeling!

Which rental company to book with

In Lanzarote you have all the international rental companies and several very good local ones, which is what I recommend because I've used them on every trip and it all went really well:

- CICar
- Topcar
- Autoreisen

But the most important thing is to compare! Prices can vary a lot from one day to the next, from one company to another. Some companies offer prices that are very (too) low, so you have to check how credible they are.

Use the comparison sites! They let you see the reviews of the companies, compare prices between companies and between car types. It's essential. I mostly use:

- *Discover Cars*
- *Rental Cars*





Which type of car to rent

Quite honestly, any car will do the job. The drives are never long, I'd just advise having air conditioning because it can get hot. But an SUV isn't needed at all because the roads are in excellent condition, just think about having enough room for the number of people in the car.

Can you travel to the other islands with the rental car

No problem at all, with the various ferries that link the islands!



GETTING AROUND WITHOUT A CAR

If you don't have a car, you'll be able to get around Lanzarote without any trouble, by bus, by taxi or even by electric bike! Let's have a look. If you want even more info, in the next article I give you *the maps, the timetables and the lines for seeing Lanzarote by bus*

Using the buses to get around Lanzarote

The bus network is excellent in Lanzarote. As you can see on the network map below, all the towns and villages are connected to each other.

But you can also see that the centre is left out, there's no bus going through the volcano area, past Timanfaya. Same for the Mirador del Rio.

And there are only a few buses going up north: 8 a day to Máguez on line 7, 5 to Órzola on the 9, 4 to Yé on the 8. So you need to watch out for that.

The **bus lines website** for Lanzarote is *Arrecifebus*. Handy, it's got the maps for every line as well as the timetables.

The app to use is **InterCityBus**, with loads of information. But don't use the planner Moovit, it's VERY bad and unreadable.

As a bus planner, just use Google Maps. Works really well.



The other ways of getting around

Taxis and ride-hailing

To keep it simple, **there is no ride-hailing**, no Uber, in Lanzarote.

So you have to use the taxis. Except that taxi prices are a bit opaque, do absolutely check that it's an official taxi. Taxis are run by the municipalities, which is why it's hard to find the prices in advance, apart from the airport prices, although those vary enormously from one year to the next (they go up fast).

Check that they start the meter at the beginning of the ride. You see quite a few accounts of people being had.

Getting around by bike

Now this is really handy. In every town you have bike rentals. Normal bikes or electric ones for more comfort. Even though the island is relatively flat, it does climb towards the volcanoes.

Bike prices start at €15 a day, and more like €30 for an electric bike.

It's a normal way of getting around in Lanzarote, you can come across (it happened to me) cycling teams coming over to train. Since the roads are good and the driving safe, it isn't a dangerous thing to do. Especially as in more and more places (above all in the north) you'll find cycle lanes.





Using tour operators to discover the island

Otherwise I talk about them quite a bit in the guide, but if you want to discover the island with someone showing you round, if you don't drive, the best thing is to go through the tour operators. There are plenty of them on the island, and they really do provide a lot of activities.

As we've seen, they'll take you to all the tourist spots on the island, following different programmes. Some are packed solid, others run over half a day. That one is really up to you, depending on your pace. But what's certain is that there's bound to be a tour that suits you.

In the presentation of the tourist sites, I've put in the various matching tours and the ones that caught my eye, bearing in mind that the most important thing is value for money and customer feedback. And the transfer from your hotel too, obviously!



Is this guide useful?

It is *free* and it will stay that way. If you want to help keep it going, use the links in this guide or in the articles: it costs you nothing more. Or you can buy me a virtual coffee, that always makes my day :)

Activities · Hotels · Car hire · Buy me a coffee (€5)

GENERAL INFORMATION

What you'll find in this article

WHEN TO VISIT LANZAROTE
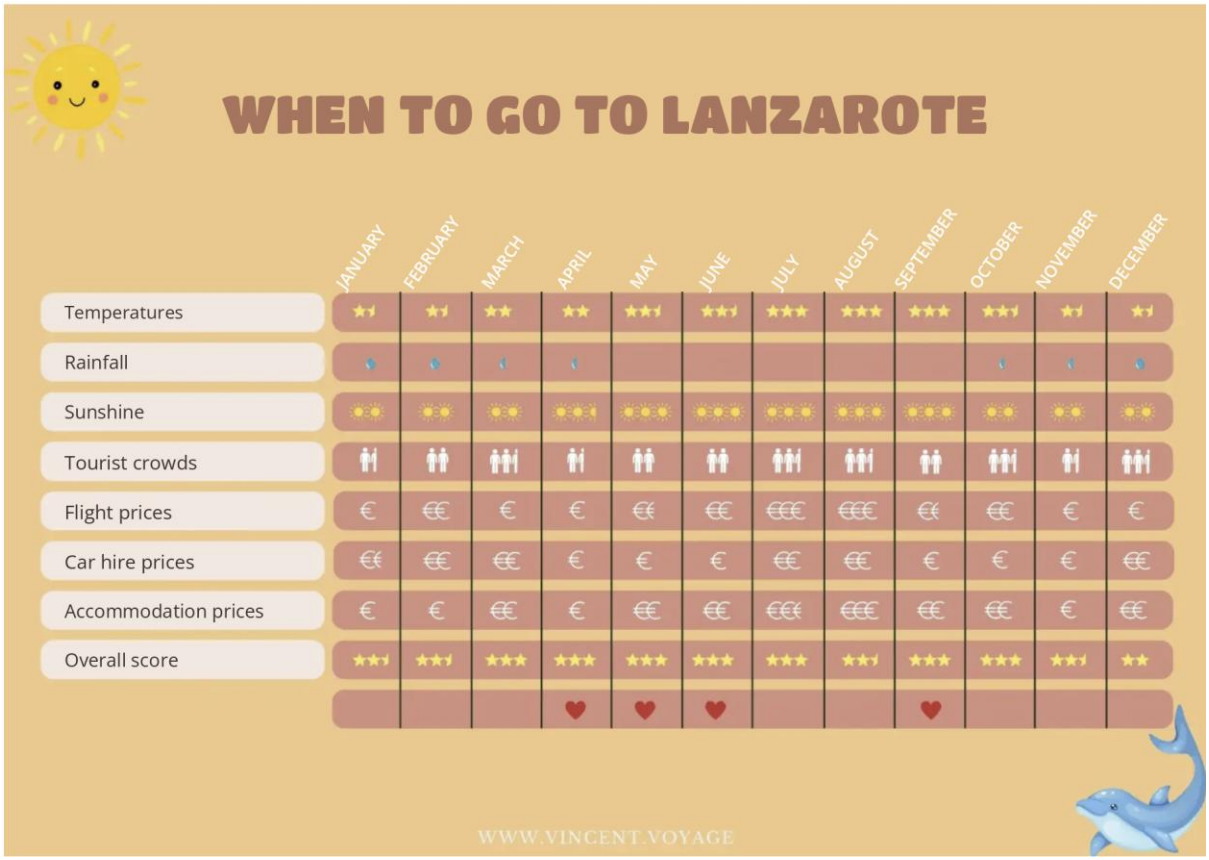
To make your life easier (and mine too, while we're at it), I've put together a summary table of activities, prices and info, month by month.

It lets you work out the right time to come when you want to do one thing or another.

With the little line of my favourite months, in spring and September, fewer people, less heat (even if it's never really hot), lower prices.

Anyway, here's the summary table below, and above all in the next article I really set out *the upsides and downsides of Lanzarote month by month*.

‘



When is the best time to visit Lanzarote?

Honestly? **All year round!**

It's mild, dry, sunny. No cold, no heatwave, no rain (or almost none).
👉 If you want to avoid the crowds and the prices climbing: **May, June, September**, those are ideal.
👉 If you want to escape the winter back home: **from December to February**, Lanzarote is a little corner of paradise at 22°C.

Is the weather good all year round?

Yes, and it's not a myth. The island's nickname? *"The island of eternal spring"*.
🌞 Temperatures between 19 and 29°C depending on the month.
🌧️ Rain? Almost never.
🌤️ The result: you can turn up in a t-shirt in January without looking like a lunatic. Right, one thing though — in the evening get the jumper out, it's a touch chilly in winter.

Lanzarote doesn't really have a rainy season. It can rain a little between November and January, but light rain, drizzle, nothing nasty. That's what I got when I came in January. It absolutely doesn't stop you visiting and enjoying yourself!
👉 The "wettest" month is **January**. But wet as in "3 days of micro-rain in the month".

When can you swim in Lanzarote?

From **May to November**, the water is good (20 to 23°C). But it's still the Atlantic, so it's hard to warm up.
In winter, it's a bit cooler (18-19°C) but very doable for those who don't feel the cold and for the Bretons.

👉 Plenty of people swim all year round. Otherwise, a little **wetsuit**, and that's sorted. The surfers do just that

What is the water temperature month by month?

- **January to April:** 18–19°C (cool but doable)
- **May to July:** 20–21°C
- **August to October:** 22–23°C (the best)
- **November/December:** 20–21°C

👉 One extra bonus: the water is **very clear**, so perfect for snorkelling!

Is Lanzarote pleasant in winter?

Completely. It's even **the best time** if you want to escape the grey skies and the puffer jackets in Europe.

- 21–23°C during the day
- Little wind
- Fewer people (outside the Christmas holidays)
- And you can eat out on a terrace while everyone else scrapes their windscreen 😏

Is it windy in Lanzarote? Which period should you avoid?

Yes, there is wind. It's the **trade winds**, and they blow mostly **in summer** (June to August).

- Upside: it cools things down
- Less good: on some beaches it gives your towel a bit of a shake.

👉 If you want to **avoid the wind**, that means—**October to May**.
👉 Otherwise, aim for the **sheltered beaches in the south** (Papagayo, Flamingo, Mujeres).

HOW TO GET TO LANZAROTE

Getting there by plane from the UK

Good news: from the UK, Lanzarote is served all year round, and the choice gets really wide between October and April, when all the winter sun flights pile in. Count roughly 4 hours 15 in the air. The fares below are returns for one adult, found for a week in January, so take them as a floor, not a promise.

- **London** flights:
  - Ryanair, around twice a day from Stansted, all year round, from £60 return
  - Jet2, several flights a week from Stansted and Gatwick, from £75 return
  - easyJet and British Airways also fly from Gatwick and Luton, with 15 flights a week from Gatwick alone

- **Manchester** flights:
  - Ryanair, several flights a week, from £77 return
  - Jet2, several flights a week, from £79 return
  - easyJet also flies the route, 13 flights a week in total

- **Birmingham** flights:
  - Ryanair, several flights a week, from £68 return
  - Jet2, several flights a week, from £137 return
  - easyJet also flies the route, 11 flights a week in total



Getting there by plane from the other islands

The Canary Islands are all really close to each other, so it's dead easy to fly in from Tenerife, Gran Canaria…

There are two airlines doing the inter-island routes:

- Binter and Canaryfly, the two local airlines running loads of short hops between the islands
- From Lanzarote, they serve Gran Canaria and Tenerife North

The flights are short and not too expensive, without being a steal. Watch out when you look it up, don't pick the "local" price, but roughly it works out, starting from:

- Lanzarote – Gran Canaria, €60
- Lanzarote – Tenerife, €50

Getting there by boat from the other Canary Islands

Now this one's really handy, there's a good ferry network between the islands. It means you can travel nice and easy (I love taking the boat) and see some great scenery.

Among other things, the boat crossings are pretty quick and cheap, and above all they let you bring the car if you want to keep it while you travel to the other islands. One catch though – you have to return it to the same place or it'll cost you an arm and a leg.

There are 3 companies leaving from Lanzarote (from Playa Blanca, and from Arrecife for Gran Canaria), prices are almost identical, and so is the service:

- **Fred Olsen** crossings:
  - Lanzarote – Fuerteventura, €70 for a car and 2 passengers
  - 12 to 13 crossings a day, 25 minutes on the fast catamaran, 35 on the standard ferry

- **Baleària Canarias (ex-Naviera Armas) crossings:**
  - Lanzarote – Fuerteventura, €67 for a car and 2 passengers

- **Líneas Romero crossings:**
  - Doesn't take cars!

Make sure you select the non-resident prices! Locals pay a lot less, so it doesn't apply to tourists

There are several boats a day, every day. So do compare to work out which boat to take, with something like *Direct Ferries*.



How to get from Lanzarote airport to your accommodation

Here it's really simple if you haven't got a car. There are 3 options: buses, taxis and private drivers. Each has its upsides and downsides, but it stays very simple as you'll see.

- **By bus**,you either pay cash on the bus, or you get the bono, the card you top up (and it gets you 10% off). It's the cheapest option, fares run from €1.40 to €4 depending on the distance. Don't forget that the best journey planner app is Google Maps, or their site arrecifebus. Their own app is really bad:
    - **Puerto del Carmen –** bus 161, 20 minutes from the airport
    - **Costa Teguise – bus 22 to the Intercambiador in Arrecife, then bus 1, about 45 minutes from the airport, two tickets to pay**
    - **Teguise – bus 22 (23 at the weekend) to the Intercambiador in Arrecife, then bus 7, 8 or 9, about 50 minutes from the airport, two tickets to pay**
    - **Playa Blanca –** bus 161, 55 minutes from the airport, €3.30
    - Playa Blanca and Puerto del Carmen are connected to the airport by buses 61, 161, 162, 162D and 22D, but with very different timetables

- By **private driver** – it's really handy because someone is waiting for you at the airport and, above all, you know the price in advance, which is far from the case with taxis, where little surprises are always waiting for you. There are also shuttles that are really not expensive. Prices from (and to) the airport are:
    - **Airport – Arrecife**
        - Shared shuttle: €6 per person
        - Private vehicle: €32 per vehicle
        - 9-seater vehicle: €40 per vehicle
    - **Airport – Puerto del Carmen**
        - Shared shuttle: €6.50 per person
        - Private vehicle: €35 per vehicle
        - 9-seater vehicle: €53 per vehicle
    - **Airport – Playa Blanca**
        - Shared shuttle: €10.50 per person
        - Private vehicle: €73 per vehicle
        - 9-seater vehicle: €100 per vehicle
    - **Airport – Costa Teguise**
        - Shared shuttle: €8 per person
        - Private vehicle: €40 per vehicle
        - 9-seater vehicle: €60 per vehicle
    - *Book your driver at the airport*

HOW LONG TO STAY IN LANZAROTE

Honestly, I stayed **8 days**, two of those on La Graciosa, and I thought that was just right. The island is small, you can get to everything easily, there are loads of places to see, some really nice hikes, but also huge scope for lazing about on the beach. So there's a bit of everything. In a week you really won't get bored, and you won't be rushing, and that's cool.

Otherwise I'd say the absolute bare minimum, if you're planning on visiting several islands, is **3 full days**, before heading off by ferry to Fuerteventura. That's enough to take the island's pulse and it'll leave you wanting to come back. But I find that a bit of a shame.



Is this guide useful?

It is *free* and it will stay that way. If you want to help keep it going, use the links in this guide or in the articles: it costs you nothing more. Or you can buy me a virtual coffee, that always makes my day :)

Activities · Hotels · Car hire · Buy me a coffee (€5)

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

What languages do people speak in Lanzarote

Obviously, everybody speaks **Spanish**. But since it's very touristy, a lot of people in tourism and in the shops in the resorts speak **English**. You do come across German here and there, but it stays relatively marginal outside the hotels (it's much more widely spoken on the other islands).

Local currency and payment - How to pay there

The currency is the euro.

Card payment has become really widespread these last few years, you can pay just about everywhere and there's no minimum amount (and that's cool).

The euro means no fees. Yes but…

You don't pay any fees when you pay by card (assuming your main account is in euros). However, **cash machines in the Canary Islands charge a fee on every withdrawal!** Watch out for that one.

That's why I stick to paying by card, no nasty surprises.



Do you need a visa to come to Lanzarote

It depends where your passport is from. But it's in Spain, it's in the European Union and in the Schengen Area, so no European country needs a visa.

60 other countries are visa-exempt, like Canada, the United States, Australia, the United Kingdom…

But watch out, from the 2nd half of 2025 (so it seems), those exempt countries will need an ETIAS, the equivalent of the ESTA but for the Schengen Area.

Safety in Lanzarote

Honestly, you feel really good there! I'm not saying everything is lovely, that it's like Norway. Let's say it's a bit like the climate: generally very pleasant, with a few nuances worth knowing.

Lanzarote is considered **one of the safest islands in Spain** (and therefore in Europe). The crime rate is low, and most travellers have a trip there without a single problem.

It's **really not a risky destination** – no major social tensions, no areas to avoid, no problem with safety at night.

That said, there is a growing number of pickpockets. As everywhere, tourist spots sometimes attract opportunist thieves:

- in the markets, like the Teguise one on Sundays
- in very busy areas like Puerto del Carmen or the beaches at Papagayo
- in hire cars, especially parked near isolated natural spots

A few basic but effective tips:

- Don't leave anything on view in your car.
- Keep an eye on your things in crowded places.
- No need to be paranoid, just alert.

But very honestly, it's fine!

WHO AM I

Well then, I'm Vincent, from the blog Vincent Voyage (super original, isn't it!)
I've been in love with Norway, Iceland and the Nordic countries for many years, and I now spend several months up there enjoying the quiet of the region and its fantastic landscapes, all under the northern lights of course.

Being particularly drawn to volcanic landscapes, the Canary Islands are inevitably somewhere I feel good, so I go there as often as I can. Hence this guide on Lanzarote, and others will follow on the other islands!

I'm also a travel blogger, so specialising in Norway, the northern lights but not only that! I love two others just as much—Iceland and the Loire Valley castles. I have a passion for Burma and Peru and I dream of going back to New Zealand.

This blog is mainly here to show that it's simple. Travelling is simple and I try to answer every question I asked myself. Because whatever questions you're asking, you're not the first, so I'll try to make travel simpler for you 😊

If you want shortcuts to my blog articles, here's what I can offer you, on the Canary Islands and plenty more:

LANZAROTE

- ***Discovering Lanzarote***
- *Where to stay in Lanzarote*
- *Lanzarote without a car*
- *When to go to Lanzarote*
- *Lanzarote with the family*
- *Renting a car in Lanzarote*
- *Taking the ferry between the different Canary Islands*
- *Visiting Lanzarote without a car*
- *Discovering the island of La Graciosa*
- *Visiting the park of Timanfaya*

GRAN CANARIA

- ***What to do in Gran Canaria***
- *Where to stay in Gran Canaria*
- *Renting a car in Gran Canaria*
- *The map of Gran Canaria*

NORWAY

- ***Discovering Norway***
- *Tromso*
- *Senja*
- *Lofoten Islands*
- *Bergen*
- *Oslo*
- *The Norwegian fjords*

ICELAND

- ***Discovering Iceland***
- *What to do in Reykjavik*
- *Where to stay in Reykjavik*
- *Discovering Iceland on the Ring Road*
- *The most beautiful spots on the South Coast*
- *The North Coast towards Myvatn*
- *When to go to Iceland*

FINNISH LAPLAND

- **Discovering Finnish Lapland**
- *Why go to Rovaniemi*
- *Where to stay in Rovaniemi*
- *Dog sledding in Rovaniemi*
- *What are the best places to go in Finnish Lapland*

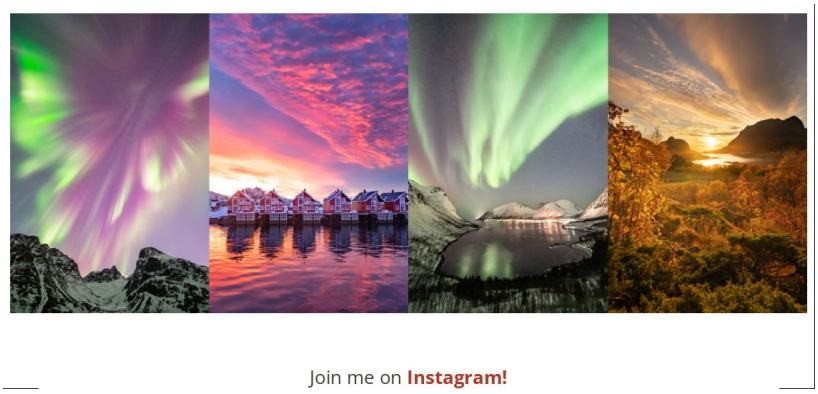
NORTHERN LIGHTS

- ***Everything you need to know about the northern lights***
- *How to be a good northern lights hunter*
- *What steps to follow to see the northern lights*
- *What are the best places to see the northern lights*
- *How to photograph the northern lights*

SOCIAL MEDIA

You can find me on several social networks:

- ***Instagram:*** photos and videos mainly about Norway and the northern lights. Account: Vincentvoyage



- **My page on Facebook** : photos and videos but not only that! I show my work, other people's work, and it's an easy place to chat with the community. It's really simple for sharing and I often ask people what they think about different topics.
  Account: Vincentvoyage.



You can contact me at contact@vincent.voyage

And if you're interested in Norway, you can join us on the Norway Facebook group too!

HOW TO SUPPORT THE BLOG AND THE FREE CONTENT

Despite what some people might think, **the blog and photography are not my job**. It's **a passion I pursue in my free time**, like writing the guides. The upside is that I don't want it to become a job, precisely so I don't lose that freedom and that passion (and besides, I love my "real" job, which I have no intention of giving up).

I try to make the blog bring in a bit of money while being as transparent as I can with readers.

I don't work with tourist boards, I don't advertise for them, and everything you see here in this guide, if I tested it, it's because I paid for it and I liked it. So you won't have any problem with how truthful my opinions are 😊

If I haven't tested something, it's because I checked that the reviews were good and that the quality really was there.

On the monetisation side of the blog and the guide, there are sometimes **affiliate links**. Which means, and this is completely transparent for you, that if you use some of my links to book with *Booking* or *Getyourguide* for example, you won't pay more and I get a small percentage. **I want to stress that you will not pay more**.

I refuse to work with certain partners who inflate prices in exchange for a bigger commission. So EVERYTHING I offer you here has been checked to find the lowest price for you with a partner I trust. Generally I make sure you get free cancellation so you don't end up stuck.

So, to support the blog and help it pay for itself, you can use the links in the guide.

But you can also, if you're travelling elsewhere, use these generic links (next page) when you plan your trips, *and even bookmark these links for later*, it still won't cost you more and I'll get that small commission. Many thanks in advance! 😊

If you enjoyed this free guide, you can also leave a little something on *Buy Me a Coffee*, a site for supporting creators



THE OTHER FREE GUIDES

This guide on Iceland isn't the first one! before this one on Lanzarote, I had already finished three guides:

- One on *Norway*
- Another on *the Loire Valley castles*
- A third on *Iceland*

And they are available in English. You just have to click on them to download them!

More are coming. A Spanish translation already, but also guides dedicated to the following destinations are in the works:

- Finnish Lapland
- Rome
- Budapest
- Cusco and the Sacred Valley

You can find all the guides here

