

Mallorca

By Norwegian

Move over, Ibiza. Its sister island – home to Rafa Nadal’s new tennis academy, a grown-ups-only water park and a secret Scandi design influx – is our top pick for a late-summer break

Words by Lucille Howe



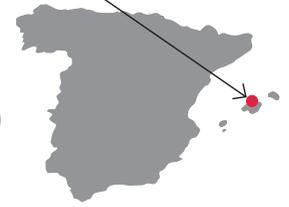
The souvenir / IKAT SWAG

This famous print is known as *tela de llengües* or the “cloth of tongues”. A type of ikat – tie-dyed textile patterns that originated from the Far East – it came to Mallorca along the Silk Route in the 18th century. Although ikats were once found across Europe, they are now produced at just three companies on the island. Blue is the most popular colour. Made using natural indigo dye on cotton-linen fabric, it’s used for everything from bags to espadrilles or scatter cushions.

naturaselection.com



Mallorca



The basics

- Mallorca is the largest of the Balearic islands; Palma de Mallorca is its capital
- About 900,000 people live here, making it the second most populous island of Spain (after Tenerife)
- Sea temperatures in August are a balmy 26°C
- Norwegian flies to Mallorca from 11 destinations

The key areas /

Palma

As you enter the city from the airport, you can't miss La Seu, the island's impressive cathedral. The city is also home to Bellver Castle (*right*), the Es Baluard Museum of Modern Art and various food markets full of bijou eateries. Arume Sushi at Santa Catalina market is a tasty example.

mercatdesantacatalina.com



Valldemossa

Roam the cobbled streets of this pretty hill village and you'll be treading in Chopin's footsteps. Also those of Michael Douglas, who founded the Costa Nord cultural centre, and narrates an interesting documentary on the island's history you can watch there.

valldemossa.es



Magaluf

The island's main resort area is home to seven superclubs, including BCM Planet Dance, where Avicii, Calvin Harris, Tinie Tempah and Boy George all play. Shake off a hangover by swimming to Isla de sa Porrassa (Black Lizard Island) – a popular challenge.

bcmplanetdance.com



Andratx

This gorgeous fishing village is also Mallorca's classiest resort. Eat out at Asian-Italian fusion hotspot Trespais (book a table in the courtyard garden) and make a beeline for Son Mas Town Hall on 15 or 29 August – it's fiesta time.

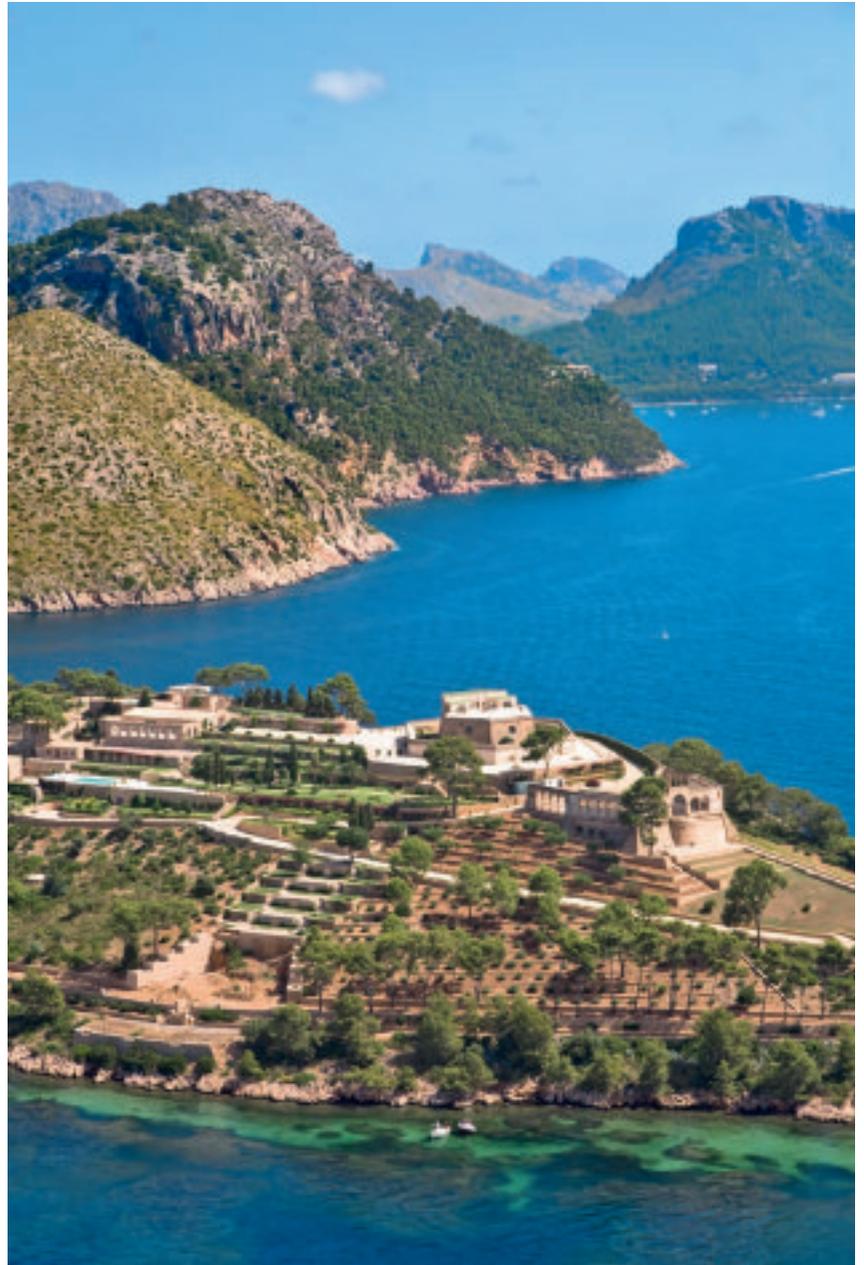
trespais-mallorca.com



Porto Cristo

This port town has the longest natural harbour on the east coast of the island, and is a jump-off for diving trips. Unpretentious and more rustic than starchy Andratx, it's also home to the Drach caves, site of one of the largest underground lakes in the world.

cuevasdeldrach.com



The postcard / LA FORTALEZA ESTATE, BAY OF POLLENSA

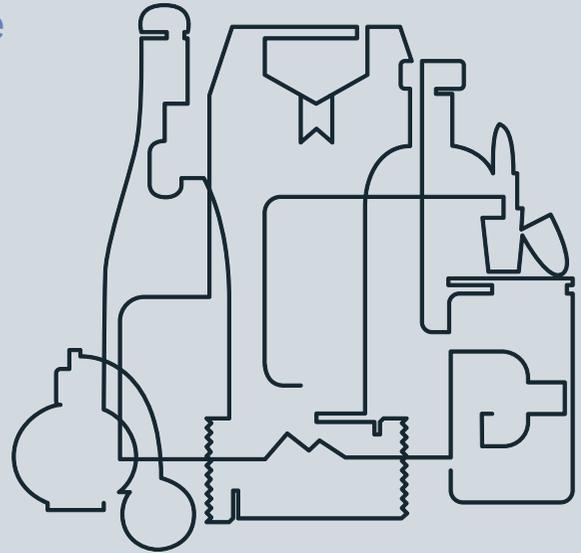
When this 17th-century fortress was bought in 2011 for €40 million (NOK373.6m), it was the most expensive property in Spain. Earlier this year, it found a different kind of fame as a location in *The Night Manager*, the BBC drama that's already inspired 15 per cent more UK visitors to the island. It's not open to the public, sadly, so rein in any dreams about bumping into Tom Hiddleston on the terrace.

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www.dutyfree.is



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MARBELLA PROPERTY: AN INFORMED CHOICE



Swedish-owned firm WASA Real Estate, established in 1982, specialises in both new and re-sale properties in the Nueva Andalucia, Puerto Banús, Marbella and San Pedro area. The company offers a professional, personal service in numerous languages to help clients make a well-informed choice of property. Wasa Real Estate also provides a helpful after-sales service. The large number of client referrals the company receives, even years down the line, is testament to great advice and a professional service. Welcome!



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Become a tennis pro?



Mallorcan native Rafa Nadal opened his own tennis-coaching academy this spring in his home town of Manacor, so now you can perfect your stroke and your tan at the same time. All-inclusive packages include language classes, nutritional advice, physio and lodging as well as tennis for €56,000 a year, or €1,830 (NOK17,100) a week. If that sounds pricey, remember there are 18 courts to choose from and Rafa's dad to train you. Wimbledon, here we come! [rafanadalacademy.com](https://www.rafanadalacademy.com)



SERRA DE TRAMUNTANA

Tourists first came to Mallorca 100 years ago for this mountain range in the north-west. Now a designated UNESCO heritage site, it still leaves you breathless.

[serradetramuntana.net](https://www.serradetramuntana.net)



FESTIVAL DE POLLENÇA

The pretty village of Pollença hosts a month-long classical music festival each August, with plenty of concerts and fiestas.

[festivalpollenca.com](https://www.festivalpollenca.com)



FÀBRICA RAMIS

Originally built in 1920 as a textile factory, this building in Inca is now a hip cultural hub with its own project and events.

[fabricaramis.com](https://www.fabricaramis.com)

The face / NEKANE ARAMBURU

Since Nekane Aramburu took over the post of director at the Es Baluard Museum of Modern Art in 2013, visitor numbers have soared. Last year, more than 615,000 people attended its gallery space in Palma, a 14 per cent increase in a year. Its growing popularity is attributed to her ability to make local art accessible to a wide audience, both practically – Friday entry is “Tu decideixes” (“you decide”, voluntary donation) – and in terms of the art on show. By emphasising local work in the context of other international movements, she says she hopes to make Es Baluard a “crossroads of cultures in the epicentre of the Mediterranean”. Despite this not-small ambition, she was happy to take time out to recommend three other cultural must-dos on the island. [esbaluard.org](https://www.esbaluard.org)