

# Daydreaming in Benidorm







## Daydreaming in Benidorm



# Benidorm

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## Benidorm: an introduction to the city

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Is there anyone who hasn't heard about Benidorm? A small, manageable town with numerous attractions and long white sandy beaches. It's a place where leisure time is all about having fun and that's basically what Benidorm is: somewhere where it's impossible for tourists to be bored.

It's a spacious town that's grown upwards, encouraging an optimistic view of life that's vital when it comes to holidays. Someone once called the town one big theme

reaches a maximum height of 965 metres on the Collado de Llam. The coastline stretches for 12.3 kilometres and there are long beaches, all well equipped and cleaned daily and small coves hidden away from the hustle and bustle.

Benidorm is only 41 kilometres from Alicante. National and international flights land at El Altet airport, only 60 kilometres from Benidorm. The excellent road connections include the N-332 main road and the



Poniente beach

park. It's not a bad description when you think about how privileged it is, with everything the town has to offer its visitors: theme parks, beaches in the centre of town, myriad accommodation options, food and drink for all tastes and, above all, the fantastic, ever-changing show you can enjoy - the people and the streets of the town themselves.

Benidorm is in the northeast of Alicante Province, in the Marina Baja region. The town stretches as far as the Sierra Cortina in the west and the Sierra Helada in the east. It has a surface area of 3,788 hectares and

AP-7 motorway, with direct exits to Benidorm. A narrow-gauge railway runs up and down the coast with daily trains and there are comprehensive coach services joining Benidorm with many Spanish and European cities.

The latest town census gave a figure of 67,627 inhabitants (National Statistics Institute 2006), of whom almost 18,000 are foreigners. The population has grown incredibly, especially when you think that there were just over 6,000 inhabitants when tourism first started in Benidorm in 1961.

Benidorm dates back to 1325, when the town charter was signed by Sr. Bernat de Sarriá in the shadow of Polop Castle. In the Kingdom of Valencia, town charters were granted to colonise the area with Christians and the system was used until the Moors were finally expelled in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century.

The history of the town in later years was marked by its relationship with the sea and with agriculture. However the links with the sea aren't based on the "Benidorm, the

opportunity for Benidorm's outstanding offer for nautical activities. The city is more than ready to offer accommodation and enjoyment for all lovers of sailing, as it welcomes over 6 million tourists from different countries and different walks of life every year. These visitors love Benidorm and most of them swear they'll be back for another holiday in this town designed for leisure.



Levante beach

little fishing village" cliché, as its sailors not only fished in local waters but ventured far out into distant oceans. They not only worked as trap-netters in Andalusia but also crewed Basque vessels which sailed round the world.

Benidorm walks the tightrope between this maritime tradition dating back four hundred years and the dizzying script of a tourist movie which really began a hundred years ago but "mass tourism" wasn't invented. The hosting of the 32<sup>nd</sup> America's Cup in the Region of Valencia marks an unbeatable



## Benidorm: an introduction to the city

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The two main beaches are called **Levante** and **Poniente** and they are the main assets of the tourism which grew up alongside them. There are other, smaller beaches, such as **Mal Pas**, which nestles between the two giants and provides the backdrop for the famous **Balcony of the Mediterranean**, a viewpoint shaped like the prow of a boat which dominates the whole coastline of Benidorm and has been photographed countless times.

**El Castillo** is the area before the Balcony and has panoramic views of the town. Unfortunately, no trace remains of the fortress that once existed here and, before you get there, you mustn't miss the Old Town, the birthplace of Benidorm, with narrow streets lined with picturesque little houses.

These ancient streets lead to the 18<sup>th</sup> century **iglesia de San Jaime**, a church with the typical Mediterranean blue dome. You shouldn't miss the **carrer dels Gats**, a street whose cobbles depict scenes which bring to mind the fishing village of bygone days.

The theme parks are another option and in Benidorm there are no less than four! **Terra Mítica** is Benidorm's n° 1 theme park, dedicated to Mediterranean civilisations, its thrilling rides and attractions are based on ancient times. **Aqualandia**, on the slopes of the Sierra Helada, was one of Spain's first water parks. **Mundomar**, lying nearby on the same mountain range, is a small nature park where you can see dolphins, sea lions and many different species of bird. Last but not least, there's **Terra Natura**, with animals and plants from three continents.

If you just want to relax, you can just sunbathe on the beaches with guaranteed sunshine

or go on organised trips. As well as the theme parks already mentioned, there's La Isla de Benidorm, better known as **L'illa**, a triangular island which is an outlier of the Sierra Helada surrounded by sea. A regular boat service takes visitors to the island, where you can walk up a signposted track to the summit. The islet is a protected area, so you mustn't stray from the marked paths.

From Benidorm, you can go on excursions to nearby towns such as Altea, La Vila Joiosa, Xàbia and Dénia. Inland, you can discover natural springs in La Nucia (La Favara), Polop de la Marina (with a square where dozens of water spouts represent different towns in the province) and the waterfalls and natural pools of Las Fuentes de El Algar in Callosa d'En Sarrià. A bit further away, lie the capital city of Alicante and Elx, with the largest palm grove in Europe, declared to be a Mankind Heritage Site. We mustn't forget the trails which lead from Benidorm into the Sierra Helada range, or those running through the mountains of Aitana and Bèrnia.

For those of you who want to do something more active, there is an endless list of sports on offer, ranging from swimming to horse riding, not to mention skateboarding and bicycle hire. But water sports take centre stage here, with a complete range on offer which includes a sailing school, jet ski hire, motorboats and parasailing (a parachute pulled along by a motorboat), yacht hire, cable-ski, scuba diving and many other activities.

Having fun is another strong point, as Benidorm celebrates more fiestas than most towns – almost 40 if we count the small neigh-



## Benidorm facts and figures

- Population: 67.627 inhabitants (INE 2006)
- Surface area: 38.5 km<sup>2</sup>
- 38,149 hotel beds (hotels and guesthouses)
- 343 restaurants
- 255 cafés
- 4 leisure and theme parks
- 176 disco-pubs
- 25 discos and nightclubs



Poniente beach

bourhood fiestas. Benidorm is unique because it is home to people from other parts of Spain and Europe, all of whom want to show off their roots in the different celebrations.

The patron saint fiestas in honour of La Virgen del Sufragio are held on the second weekend in November. Other important dates on the fiesta calendar are Las Fallas, Las Hogueras de San Juan, the Fiestas del Carmen and the Moors and Christians, as well as the days of Castile-La Mancha, Asturias and the San Fermín.

But the biggest and best fiesta in this tourist town starts at nightfall, with the continuously changing, multicoloured show offered on the seafront promenade of Levante beach which stretches to Calle Mallorca, the street area where British visitors spend their nights. The many discos and shows combine with the almost 1,300 bars and pubs to ensure that the open-air nightlife is the best show in the city the whole year round.



## The history of Benidorm

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**B**enidorm also has a history. It was forged from both land and sea, from its town charter and by its sailors. However, the first traces of man in the area appear in El Tossal de La Cala, a small hill on Poniente beach. Remains of an Iberian settlement with its nearby burial ground dating back to between 4 and 1 B.C. were uncovered here. The remains of nets discovered show that the settlement depended on fishing even then. A beautiful terracotta bust of the Punic goddess

tre grew up on the rocky promontory known nowadays as El Castillo.

However, the 15<sup>th</sup> Century was troubled by pirate raids which left the town almost without inhabitants. Soon after, the castle was refurbished and enlarged and the defences were improved. In the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, the town was owned by the Barony of Polop, and the Rec Major de l'Alfàs i Benidorm was built in 1666 - a milestone for population growth, as water was brought to



Mediterranean lookout point

Tanith was also unearthed here. The Romans left their mark as well and there are remains of a Roman villa in La Partida del Moralet, as well as remains of Punic and Roman vessels shipwrecked in the bay.

The history of present-day Benidorm begins in the 13<sup>th</sup> Century with King Jaime I and the Christian repopulation of the area to combat Muslim power. The conquered lands were divided up and most of the Marina Baixa area was given to Admiral Bernat de Sarrià who granted the Town Charter which led to the birth of Benidorm in 1325. The town cen-

the town along channels from inland areas of the province.

Population growth brought with it increased use of trap netting, using nets to catch the tuna fish as they migrated. This method had been used in the town for several centuries, but it was in the 18<sup>th</sup> century that the skill of the fishermen of Benidorm became famous all over the Mediterranean.

Apart from fishing and agriculture, maritime trade was the cornerstone of the economy in those far-off years, but improved communications would radically change this

situation. The Silla-Alicante road was built in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and the railway reached Alicante from Madrid, leading to the arrival of the first tourists from Alcoy and Madrid. Meanwhile, the brilliant star of the merchant seaman gradually waned, influenced by the loss of the overseas colonies of Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Philippines in 1898 and tourism began its slow march to prominence.

It was after the Civil War that the present social and economic activity of Benidorm

Nowadays, according to the 2004 data from the National Statistics Office, Benidorm has a population of 64,956, although this rises to over 300,000 in the high season.



Benidorm Island

began to grow steadily. The fifties saw the closure of La Almadraba del Racó de l'Oix (better-known as Rincón de Loix). Many families had earned a living from it but a new activity took its place - tourism. At the same time the conditions were created to allow the village to become a spacious town. Town plans were approved to create spacious avenues parallel to Levante beach and hotels were built to welcome not only visitors from Alcoy and Madrid but also new tourists from other parts of Spain and abroad. The population grew rapidly, rising from 2,726 in 1950 to 12,003 in 1970.



## Discovering the town

### The beaches

The best-known features of Benidorm are undoubtedly its beaches. **Levante beach** is 2,084 metres long and is the most cosmopolitan. Here you find people of all nationalities and countless restaurants beneath the skyscrapers which surround the inlet. Levante beach isn't regarded as one of the best city beaches in the world for nothing. **Poniente beach** is 3,100 metres long and quieter, being especially popular with Spanish tourists.

They are both city beaches, with full safety and life-saving equipment, medical care centres, life-savers and sea borne safety patrols. This sensation of safety is reinforced by significant numbers of Local Police, equipped with jet skis, zodiacs and *quads*, who ensure that tourists have a relaxing time.

To all this we must add the scrupulous cleanliness of the beaches. This has been carried out daily for years using machines and workers who care for the fine sand of the beaches. Indeed, both these beaches and **Mal Pas**, a small cove separating them, have been awarded European Blue Flags for their quality since 1987.

We could go on forever talking about the advantages of these beaches, but perhaps we could just mention the other services which make up an all-embracing offer that leaves all our visitors more than satisfied. These include the beach libraries - quiet, roofed areas where you can leaf through Spanish and foreign newspapers - the children's play areas, the



Poniente beach



Mal Pas cove



Rincón de Loix area

recreational-sports areas and another service which is vital to ensure that nobody is denied a good swim – the accessible points where those with reduced mobility can have a good dip sitting on amphibious chairs and helped by specialised staff. The ecological foot washers and toilets put the final touches to the painstaking attention paid to the beautiful and pampered beaches of Benidorm.

**Ti Ximo** and **Almadraba** are two coves which are also popular with tourists who prefer to escape from the crowds. These two small rocky coves with fine sand lie at the foot of the Sierra Helada but are still watched over by lifeguards.

## Walks around town

In the streets around el **Racó de L'Oix** (or Rincón de Loix) there are many hotels and apartments whose clients are normally visitors from Britain. This has led to the creation of a town within a town, with numerous British-style pubs offering typical British food and drink. There are even supermarkets where the British can buy their favourite products.

La **Calle Mallorca** is a street which acts as the nerve centre of the British area, with many pubs offering entertainment for all tastes. The nights are long in these streets, where our British visitors enjoy themselves as if they were at home and English is the language you hear most.

Another lively area is the **Levante beach seafront promenade**. Here the restaurants are open all day long and by night the pubs attract their customers with different kinds of music. Families avoiding the nightlife walk along a promenade where there are so many different types of people that the crowded streets themselves become the best show in town.

The **Poniente beach** seafront promenade is almost 3 kilometres long and offers a quieter alternative for a stroll. You could start from the **Port**, a small anchorage for yachts presided over by a modern Yacht Club. A few metres away find **Parque Elche**, so named because the park was planted with palm trees from Elche. The promenade begins properly once you have crossed the park, offering a walk of almost 3 kilometres if you include the Avenida Vicente Llorca Alós in La Cala. At the end you come to the **Paseo de los Tamarindos** where fishermen come at night to try their luck – it's a pleasant spot where you can relax to the sound of the waves breaking on the rocks. The **Gran Hotel Bali** is just a few short minutes away. It's the highest hotel in Europe, with 50 floors. You can take the lift up to the top floor to see fantastic views over the town. Why not take a few once in a lifetime photos too?

If you carry on towards Alicante, the first turn-off takes you to another beach - **La Cala de Finestrat** in Finestrat. This is a smallish beach with all the necessary facili-



## Discovering the town

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ties. It's also famous for the many restaurants specialising in fish and rice dishes – the perfect place to enjoy a good meal while you spend the day on the beach.

Back in the centre, you shouldn't miss the **Old Town**. The walk starts at the beginning of Levante beach and climbs el *carrer dels Gats*. This is a narrow street with steps and designs made out of cobbles on the floor, crowned by small archways holding pots with colourful blooms. At the end of the alley we come to la **iglesia de San Jaime**. This 18th Century Neoclassical church contains the chapel of La Virgen del Sufragio, the patron saint of Benidorm.

A small tunnel leads to the famous **Castillo**, unfortunately with nothing remaining of the castle which existed here in ancient times. In its place there is an open area which is at its most attractive at night. Here is where artists meet to paint portraits and draw caricatures of their customers in the cool night air.

A few steps bring you to the antechamber of the viewpoint. You have to go down a fair number of steps before you reach the **Balcony of the Mediterranean**, from where you can see the whole coastline of Benidorm. Its black and white tiled floor and the white balustrades provide one of the town's best-known images. This is a privileged spot, where you can watch the great *geyser* as it sends water spouting 60 metres into the air.

You retrace your steps to the Castle and then follow the railing to another square – La

**Señoría**. On summer nights it hums with the activity of a crafts market, where vendors sell handmade items from the stalls on the quadrangular square with its monument to those lost at sea.

Yet more steps lead you around Mal Pas beach and down to the Port.

## Benidorm Island and La Llosa

Closing off the bay there's a triangular-shaped island called both **L'Illa** and La Isla de los Periodistas (Journalists' Island), which never fails to draw the attention of visitors. Old stories say that the giant Roldán created it. Legend has it that Roldán fell in love with a beautiful lady who fell ill and only the sun's rays seemed to keep her alive. In desperation Roldán smashed open **Puig Campana** mountain to create the famous gap which can still be seen today. The rock he gouged out ended up in the sea and created L'Illa island. In this way he delayed sunset for a few minutes more. Later the inevitable happened and the fearsome giant carried the body of his lover to lay her to rest on the island and drowned there while still holding her hand.

It's a lovely story, but the island is really part of the promontory leading under the sea from the Sierra Helada. Small boats aptly named "Golondrinas" (swifts) travel back and forth to L'Illa all year round, taking about twenty minutes to get there. On the island there's a protected walk which leads to the summit. You can also take a trip on one of the



Benidorm island



Seabed



San Jaime church

glass-bottomed boats and see fish, squid and even moray eels lurking in the rocks. Back on shore, you can have lunch in the little restaurant – you can even bring your own food to eat upstairs.

About 300 metres south of the island is **La Llosa**, only 6 metres above sea level at its highest point, while beneath the surface its walls fall over 30 metres to the sea floor. La Isla de Benidorm and La Llosa are both protected marine reserves, with a great variety of habitats that make them ideal for scuba diving. The area is home to predators such as the Yellowtail, the European Barracuda and the Red Snapper, as well as providing shelter for other species such as moray eels, octopus, sargos, etc. Different types of seaweeds provide the predominant vegetation. There are many seabirds on the islands, especially important being two protected species: the Storm Petrel and Audouin's Gull.

## Walks in the Sierra Helada

Some of the most interesting walking routes run through the **Sierra Helada** (Frozen Mountains), so called because of their microclimate which is a little cooler than the rest of the town. The range stretches for 6 kilometres from Punta del Pinet to Punta Bombarda (or El Albir) in the neighbouring town of L'Alfàs del Pi.

The first route leaves from the street Calle Hamburgo in Racó de L'Oix. We climb up the road and reach a crossroads where we can turn off to visit the **Punta Llisera** viewpoint with



Sierra Helada

the remains of an Iberian-Roman settlement. Steep steps bring us up to the **Cueva del Barbero** (Barber's Cave). The other road takes us to **Punta de la Escaleta**, with views over the cliffs from a 17<sup>th</sup> Century watchtower.

Another route goes to La Cruz. Once more, we start from the Calle Alcalde Manuel Catalán Chana, turning left off this street at the first crossroads. After 5 kilometres we reach the Cross, which is illuminated at night.



Benidorm viewed from the Rincón de Loix



El Pico del Moro





View of Benidorm



## Places of interest

### Leisure options

#### Aqualandia

Aqualandia offers a world of fun with water and there's something for everyone – from thrilling attractions to gentle lagoons and streams which let you drift through the seawater pools of the theme park. It was the first park of its type to open in Europe and its size and rides mean that it's still the n° 1 of its type. The company aims to add a new attraction every year. Speed lovers will enjoy the two kamikaze runs, including the black hole with its free-fall into blackness. Other areas reproduce such paradises as the Niagara Falls, with its beach lapped by calm waters, or mountain caves and waterfalls.

You can drift gently down the Amazon or frolic in Atlantic Surf, an artificial beach with waves included. Dozens of lifeguards watch over the park to ensure that there are no problems in or out of the water.

If you fancy a bite to eat, then there are many alternatives inside the park. From pizzas and hamburgers to restaurants specialising in barbecues and rice dishes.

Partida Sierra Helada, s/n

Rincón de Loix

Tel. 965 86 01 00

[www.aqualandia.net](http://www.aqualandia.net)

Open from May to October

Check prices and opening times

#### Mundomar

Mundomar is one leisure centre you definitely shouldn't miss. It was one of Spain's first water parks and has many mammals and exotic birds.

Apart from the dolphin, sea lion and bird shows, there are other special activities, including dolphin therapy to stimulate the reactions of special needs children.

Partida Sierra Helada, s/n

Rincón de Loix

Tel. 965 86 91 01

[www.mundomar.es](http://www.mundomar.es)

Open all year from 10:00 a.m., except December 25<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>

Check prices and opening times

#### Terra Natura

Terra Natura is a place of contrasts, where flora, fauna and world cultures take centre stage. Terra Natura combines history, culture, nature, leisure and entertainment. The great volcano that overlooks Pangea marks the beginning of a journey that begins in the centre of the Earth and then visits Asia, America and Europe. Mediterranean pine forests, green lagoons, dunes and rivers are the spectacular home for over 1,500 animals from 200 different species, 54 of them in danger of extinction.

Foia del Verdader, 1

Tel. 902 52 23 33

[www.terranatura.com](http://www.terranatura.com)

The park opens at 10 a.m. Closing time depends on the season. Closed on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Check opening times, rates and special offers



Terra Mítica



Terra Natura

## Terra Mítica

Terra Mítica is Benidorm's n° 1 theme park, a leisure centre which recreates Mediterranean civilisations and combines them with the latest attractions. The park is at the foot of the Sierra Cortina mountains, only a few kilometres from town. Frequent buses take visitors to the park where they find fun for all tastes and all ages. Dizzying attractions include the Flight of the Phoenix (free-fall) and the Tizona (an inverted roller-coaster), which travels 665 metres in 35 seconds, not forgetting the exciting big dipper and other water-based attractions such as the Rapids of Argos and the Cataracts of the Nile.

Don't miss the many other, more relaxing attractions such as the Labyrinth of the Minotaur, the Pyramid of Cheops, designed to let you get to know the symbols of Mediterranean cultures included in the park: Greece, Rome, The Islands, Egypt and Iberia.

All the cultures have special shows in the Roman Amphitheatre, as well as a variety of excellent restaurants for all tastes and pockets.

Carretera Benidorm-Finestrat

Partida Moralet, s/n

Tel. 902 02 02 20

[www.terramiticapark.com](http://www.terramiticapark.com)

In Summer, the park is open from June 1<sup>st</sup> to September 11<sup>th</sup>

Check opening dates for the rest of the year.

Check prices and opening times.



## Places of interest

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### Monuments and places of interest

#### The town hall

At the entrance to the Parque de l'Aigüera a very different monument greets visitors – the new Town Hall. The unique structure has aroused the interest of architects and many people come to visit it. The building is like a bridge which acts as a doorway to the green L'Aigüera park. It juts out over the road and you can walk underneath it. This “horizontal skyscraper” is supported by four pillars and the potential problem of heat caused by the glass facade was resolved by covering it with thick slats with the names and surnames of the over 60,000 inhabitants engraved on them.

Pl. SS.MM. los Reyes de España, s/n  
Tel. 965 85 55 00  
Fax 965 85 59 39  
[www.benidorm.org](http://www.benidorm.org)

#### The Municipal Library

The Municipal Library is near the Town Hall. This comfortable, airy building is equipped with cutting-edge technology and here you can consult information, surf the Net or simply spend a few pleasant hours reading. The town has two more libraries, on in the neighbourhoods of Rincón de Loix (where foreign readers play a leading role) and Foietes.

Pl. SS.MM. los Reyes de España, 3  
Tel. 965 85 50 98

Open Monday to Friday  
From 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Saturday, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

#### The maritime cultural centre

Entrance is free to this small house containing an exhibition of model ships and other nautical exhibits, such as fishing boats, anchors and knots.

Paseo de Colón, s/n  
Tel. 965 85 13 11

Open Monday to Friday  
Check opening times

#### Iglesia de San Jaime and Santa Ana

The Iglesia de San Jaime is a church dedicated to the patron saint of the town, set at the very top of the Old Town on a hill called Canfali. It is a Neoclassical building, built in the 17th Century with the typical blue Mediterranean dome. Inside you'll find a statue of the Virgen del Sufragio, the well-loved patron saint of Benidorm. The Virgen has her own small chapel containing the little sculpture which, as the story goes, was found on a boat adrift on the high seas.

Pl. de Sant Jaume, 1  
Tel. 965 85 40 24



L'Aiguera park



The town hall

## The Parque de l'Aigüera

L'Aigüera is somewhere else not to be missed. This park was designed by the architect Ricardo Bofill and is a long green park in the neoclassical style, separating the old quarter from the newer buildings. The two amphitheatres are used for shows and cultural events throughout the summer. The park ends at the bullring and a fairground site where attractions are set up for the many fiestas. The park takes full advantage of the course of the old ravine and beneath lies a large drainage pipe which takes storm water safely away.

Av. de l'Aigüera  
Pl. SS.MM. los Reyes de España



## Places of interest

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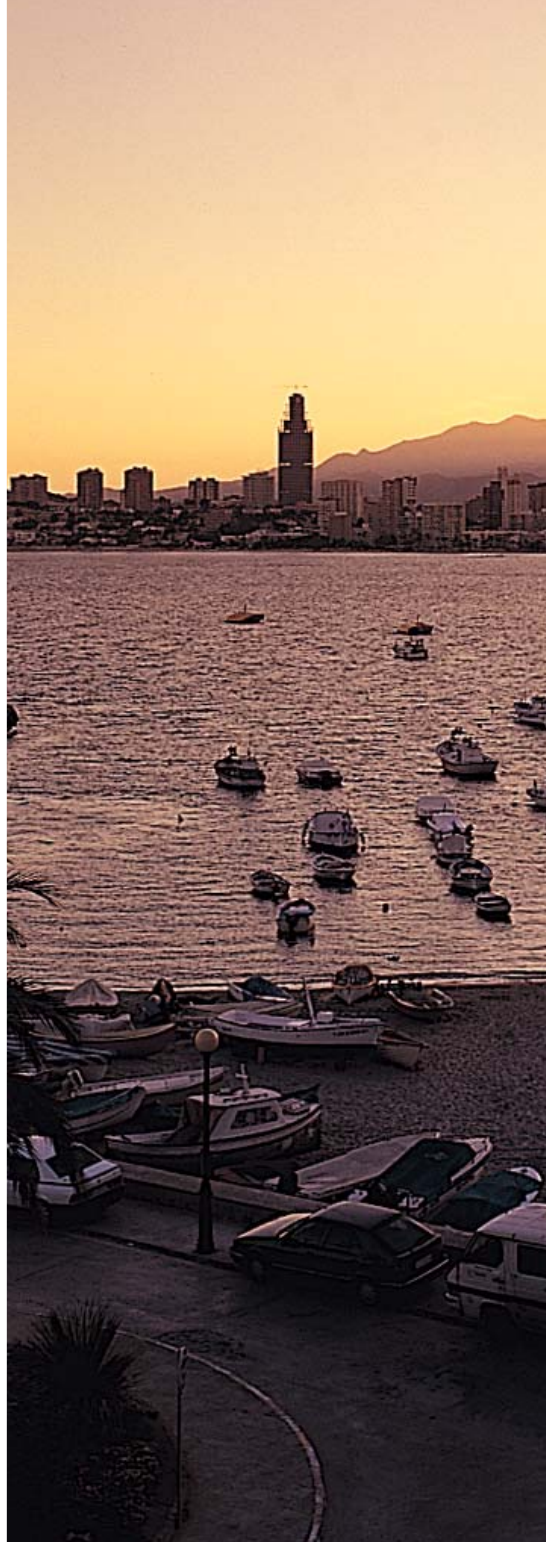
### The iberian settlement of El Tossal

At the very end of Poniente beach, you can find the Iberian settlement of El Tossal de La Cala. The hill at the end of Benidorm bay was settled in the late Iberian period (3rd to 1st Century B.C.). You can get to the restored area by going to the end of Poniente beach and following the signs from the La Cala junction.

### Two watchtowers: Torre Morales or Escaletes. Punta del Cavall or Seguró

Other remains from bygone times that have been declared as Cultural Assets include the Torre Morales (or Escaletes), an 18th Century watchtower used by sentries who scanned the horizon to give early warning of the frequent pirate raids. The Punta del Cavall (or Seguró) watchtower served the same purpose. You can find both watchtowers in the Sierra Helada mountains.

Rincón de Loix  
Sierra Helada, s/n



The port at sunset



ESCUELA DE REM



## Calendar of fiestas and events

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**T**he exceptional leisure options of Benidorm - a town designed for visitors to have a good time - are complemented by many varied and colourful official fiestas. This variety is part of the city itself, part of how it grew up with people from all parts of Spain and many foreign countries. This multi-cultural identity has led to one of the unique features of modern-day Benidorm: the existence of more than 45 fiestas which reinforce the inter-cultural nature of the town and those

who have chosen to live here, something that has clearly enriched the character of its inhabitants over time.

There has also been considerable interest in recovering ancient fiestas that had almost been lost and which have now re-emerged stronger than ever to delight visitors with their traditional charm.



Fallas celebrations

### Carnivals

**The weekend before Ash Wednesday.**

Over these days the town is inundated with revellers, both young and old, who take part in processions, masked balls and the traditional "burial of the sardine".

### The Fallas de San José

**From march 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>.**

The Fallas originated in the province of Valencia and were imported to Benidorm by groups of Valencians who founded the first Fallas Commission over 30 years ago. The

Fallas are held around March 19<sup>th</sup>. The first part of the fiesta is the *plantà* (or setting up of the papier-mâché monuments) and floral offerings. The fiestas have their Falleras Mayores (ladies of honour) and the love of gunpowder is reflected in the *despertàs* (early morning parades which wake everyone up with music and fireworks) and *masclètàs* (very noisy fireworks barrages).

The fiestas welcome the spring and finish with the inevitable *cremà* (burning) of the monuments. The six monuments, three for



adults and three for children, are burnt at different times so that all those who want to attend the different acts can do so. Three Commissions represent the Centre, Els Tolls and the Rincón de Loix and are responsible for organising the fiesta.

## Holy week

### Varying dates.

Holy Week in Benidorm, like most of the fiestas and leisure events in the town, has its

## Festa de la Creu (or Fiestas of the Cross)

### May 1<sup>st</sup>.

This popular and traditional fiesta has its roots in the original celebrations of bygone Benidorm, when it was a small village, as yet unaware of how much it was to grow in the future. It's a simple fiesta where the Commission meets to offer fresh flowers to decorate the cross from which the square takes its name. It indicate the limit of the city.



Moors and Christians parades

roots in many regions. The first and oldest group celebrating Holy Week is made up of local people from Benidorm, but the others come from a wide range of backgrounds. Especially important are the Brotherhoods from Andalusia and Castile, each offering their own special way of experiencing and interpreting Holy Week.

It's strange how Holy Week in Benidorm coincides with the arrival of the first tourists of the year, when the quiet devotion of some contrasts with the lively nightlife of the bars, nightclubs and leisure centres.

## Romería del Corpus

### June.

This is a very Andalusian fiesta, and the Andalusians who arrived in droves to work in the tourist industry are the driving force behind it. There are more people from Andalusia in Benidorm than from any other Spanish region.

They pay homage to the Virgen del Rocío on the Mercasa site, where they hold the attractive June Fair, the warm nights resounding to the sound of Sevillanas and the clink of sherry glasses. Apart from the Fair, a mass is



## Calendar of fiestas and events

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held in honour of the Virgin, as well as musical concerts and the “bajá” (descent) of the Virgin.

### The Hogueras de San Juan Fogueres de Sant Joan

**June 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> (approx.).**

This fiesta is also linked to fire, but this is more in the Alicante style. Although tradition demands the burning of old items in these fiestas, the nearness of the capital has led to the appearance of other, more refined customs. As in March, monuments are built and exhibited, later to be burnt to the ground – a symbolism that defines the fiesta as destroying old feelings and experiences to make way for new hopes and desires.

The *belleas* - the Queens of these Alicante fiestas - parade happily through the streets accompanied by floats and music. The bonfires in El Mercado, La Cala, El Campo and the Bali-Entrecalas bring the fiesta right in to the different neighbourhoods.

We should highlight a spontaneous event which has led to a parallel celebration in recent years. The night before the official bonfires are burnt on the night of the 24th, thousands of people flock to the Levante and Poniente beaches to celebrate the Night of Saint John (the Summer Solstice) with charms and symbols relating to the fiesta, where they jump into the sea to welcome the eagerly-awaited summer.

### Fiestas del Carmen

**July 16<sup>th</sup>.**

It's inevitable that Benidorm would have fiestas directly linked to the work on the sea, a vital part of the history of the town. There has been a sea borne procession ever since 1941, when a local family paid for a sculpture to replace that of the Virgen del Carmen which had been destroyed in the Civil War. The main seafaring families took part in the parade until an accident led to their suspension for several years.

However, the tradition was recovered a few years ago by the children and grandchildren of the founders of the fiesta. The fiestas honouring the Virgen del Carmen are held on or about July 16<sup>th</sup>, with concerts, firework displays, open-air dances and a fair. But the most solemn act is the sea borne parade led by old fishermen in the “golondrinas”, who sail along the Bay past Poniente beach to La Isla de Benidorm escorted by a multitude of vessels in this moving and colourful parade.

### Moors and Christians

**September/October.**

One of the most spectacular and extravagant fiestas takes place in early October – the Moors and Christians. This fiesta is a recent one and is similar to many held in surrounding towns, based on the victory of the Spanish Christians over the Arabs. The fiesta in Benidorm has a more modern air, and more importance is placed on the cordial agreements between Moors and Christians than on the battles.



Fireworks



Moors and Christians festivals

Highpoints include the meeting in El Castillo and the parade of the Moorish and Christian *filaes*. Immigrants from Alcoy and its surroundings play an important role in this fiesta, something that shouldn't come as a surprise when we realise that the Moors and Christians fiestas of Alcoy are of International Tourist Interest.

## The Patron Saint Fiestas

### Second Week in November.

The town fiestas begin on the second Saturday in November and are undoubtedly the most important. Many years ago the fiestas were linked to the discovery of a statue of the Virgen del Sufragio, the patron saint of the town, adrift on the high seas. But the date wasn't at all convenient for the sailors and trap-netters. So the fiestas were moved to a more convenient date, so they had time to prepare and enjoy the fiesta at the end of the trap-netting season, together with the families from whom they had been separated for so long.

The fiesta is in honour of La Virgen del Sufragio and San Jaime, the patron saints of the town. Fifty years ago, when Benidorm was taking its first steps as a tourist resort, the fiestas were shorter – although fireworks displays and religious events played an important part even then. The *estampetes* are important in the latter, as they are fireworks with an image of the Virgin which are set off in her honour at the end of the processions.

These simple fiestas have evolved over the years to become some of the most important to be held in the Marina Baixa



## Calendar of fiestas and events

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region. New events have been added, such as the crowning of the Queen, the comedy parade and the parade of floats. But the most important factor has been the creation of the peñas - the carnival supporters' clubs.

These peñas provide all the fun and hurly burly that was missing from the town fiestas. They are the stars of the comedy parade, a very important part of the fiesta in recent years, where they describe current affairs with irony, sarcasm and original costumes. Dozens of tireless groups bring life to the streets and the number of cultural and children's activities grow every year. There are also sports competitions, but the main attraction is provided by the fireworks displays – especially the final display which puts an end to five days of fiestas.

These autumn fiestas have become a tourist attraction over the years. They're so popular that many British visitors book their holidays specially to coincide with the town fiestas, because they know what they're like and have had such a good time in previous years. All this makes November a welcome break before winter, a time of the year that is still almost high season in Benidorm.

### Fiestas of La Carxofa

#### Third Weekend in November.

Held at about the same time as the town fiestas, these celebrations are linked to the artichoke harvest, on sale in the markets during this month. It's a small, local fiesta which takes place in the square La Plaza de la Constitución, where the market used to be held. Visitors can taste local products and

the high point comes on Sunday night with the *cremà* of the *carxofa* (burning of the artichoke), which is made of cardboard and has been hanging in the centre of the square since the beginning of the fiesta, where lively open-air dances are held to say farewell to the summer.

### Christmas festivities

#### Late December and First Week of January.

The Christmas festivities are not only the last of the year's celebrations, they have also been adapted to modern times. If the midnight mass on Christmas Eve used to be the spiritual heart of the season, nowadays the cultural and festive programme offers entertainment for different age groups over several family-focused weeks. You should also see the exhibition of nativity scenes organised by the Amics del Betlem association. There are scenes in several streets - in La Calle Pal, in La Casa del Fester on La Biga and another life-size scene in the Plaza Triangular. The Asociación Recreativo Cultural La Barqueta also sets up their nativity scene in their headquarters at Calle Tomás Ortuño, 62.

### The Benidorm song festival

The Benidorm Song Festival has long been the best-known event held in the town. It was first held in 1959 and has gone through several stages since then, finally being redesigned as the up-to-date contest reflecting modern tastes that it is today.

The Festival is held in June in the Julio Iglesias auditorium in the park of L'Aigüera. The event attracts wannabees and famous



Levante beach promenade



Julio Iglesias auditorium



Opposite San Jaime church

singers who compete and promote the name of Benidorm all over the world for 2 days. El Dúo Dinámico, Julio Iglesias, Dyango, Emilio José and other internationally famous artists got their feet on the first rung of the ladder of success by winning the Festival.

We should also remember that Benidorm has started holding major concerts in recent years. In a few short years, we've seen Plácido Domingo, the Rolling Stones, Sting, Elton John and Supertramp performing in the town. Opera, pop and rock stars who you would never have seen in the town just a few years ago. But now Benidorm is on the world concert circuit, meaning that top international stars come to perform at the bullring or the municipal football stadium.

## The Benidorm international marathon

The Marathon is the n° 1 sporting event and you can see how international it is by glancing at the dozens of entrants from different countries, especially runners from Britain and Spain. The Benidorm Marathon and Half Marathon take place on the last Sunday of November and were held for the 22<sup>nd</sup> time in 2004. The route goes along the main avenues and seafront promenades of the town, both promoting the town and showing its commitment to supporting sport.



## Calendar of fiestas and events

### Calendar of Fiestas

January

5<sup>th</sup>

Three Kings  
cavalcade

A parade through the main streets of town. The route normally runs from the Port to Plaza de la Hispanidad square.

January

17<sup>th</sup>

Fiestas of  
San Antonio  
Abad

Held on the 17<sup>th</sup> in the hermitage of Sanz in the countryside outside the city, with blessing of animals.

February

Carnival

On Carnival Friday there is a children's parade, with the adults parading on Saturday. To finish everything off the "Burial of the Sardine" takes place the following Tuesday.

March

16<sup>th</sup>

Virgen del  
Sufragio

A play is staged on Poniente beach with locals playing 18th century characters.

March

16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>

Fallas de San José

With three commissions and six monuments.

April

Holy week

Date varies and several brotherhoods take part: they take their routes through their corresponding neighbourhoods.

May

1<sup>th</sup>

Fiesta  
de La Cruz

Procession and floral offering in Plaza de la Cruz square. The estival committee meets to offer flowers to La Cruz.

May

8<sup>th</sup>

Commemoration  
of the town  
charter

Different events take place to commemorate the birth of Benidorm. The main event is a play with amateur actors.

June

Romería del Corpus

The Andalusians celebrate their most important fiesta. Dates vary.

June

Mid-year peña celebrations

The peñas or fiesta clubs are the life and soul of the Patron Saint Fiestas and celebrate the half-way point between the town fiestas. Competitions and a night-long open-air dance are organised and all are welcome.

June

21<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>  
Fogueres de Sant Joan

The Hogueras remind us of this tradition so typical of Alicante.

July

6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>  
San Fermín · San Cristóbal

Those born in Pamplona also hold their fiesta in the town and celebrate it on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> with the chupinazo, dances and typical food and drink from Navarre.

July

16<sup>th</sup> Fiestas del Carmen

The descendants of sailors pay homage to their patron saint in the week of July 16<sup>th</sup>, with religious ceremonies, open-air dances, fireworks and a sea borne parade.

July

25<sup>th</sup> The Patron Saint Fiestas of San Jaime

Is a very special day, when San Jaime is honoured with a procession, mass, fireworks and an open-air dance.

September

4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>  
Fiesta de Asturias Virgen de Covadonga

Anyone is welcome to go to the L'Aigüera park to enjoy Asturian food, drink and traditional dances and music.

September

The Grape Harvest festival

The Grape Harvest festival is organised by the Casa de Castilla-La Mancha and also offers traditional dances, music, food and drink.

October

Moors and Christians

The main events are military parades, reveilles, floral offerings, embassies, the parliament and the reconquest. The fiesta takes place the first weekend of October.

October

7<sup>th</sup> Virgen del Roser

Popular celebrations in the Hermitage of Sanz.



## Calendar of fiestas and events

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**October**

**7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**Fiesta del Roser**

Popular fiestas taking place in the Hermitage of Sanz, once an agricultural area.

**October**

**Imalsa II**

Held during the first week-end of October. They are the fiestas of the area of the same name, with paellas, *playback* competitions, e.t.c

**November**

**Fiesta de la Carxofa**

The artichoke fiesta is always held on the weekend after the patron saint fiestas.

**November**

**Patron Saint Fiestas  
in honour of the Virgen  
del Sufragio and  
San Jaime Apóstol**

The most important Fiestas in Benidorm, which include the Hallazgo, the offering, parades, fireworks and the ambience of the peñas.

**December**

**25<sup>th</sup>**  
**Christmas**

Exhibitions of nativity scenes and Christmas-themed cultural activities.





Mediterranean lookout point



## Food and drink

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You'll be amazed when we tell you about the immense variety of food and drink that you can enjoy in Benidorm. Most nations have their typical food and drink in the enormous marketplace that is Benidorm. In Rincón de Loix, La Calle Mallorca, Lepanto and neighbouring streets there are many bars and restaurants serving typical British food. Nearby and in other parts of town there are Belgian and Swedish establishments which offer their somewhat lesser known dishes.

However, oriental food such as that offered by the dozens of Chinese restaurants is popular with both Spanish and British. There are also Indian, Thai, Turkish and Mexican restaurants, all with their different spices and aromas. The many Italian restaurants are very popular and the meat prepared in the Argentinean establishments is deservedly famous.

As regards Spanish cuisine, there are "ambassadors" from many regions. These include restaurants run by families from Asturias and Andalusia, and of course we mustn't forget Mediterranean gastronomy. Many restaurants offer rice dishes, but some specialise in both traditional and innovative dishes made with this very traditional local ingredient.

Special mention should be made of the "tapas", and there is a special tapas route in the old town. The streets of Santo Domingo and Martínez Oriola around the Plaza de la Constitución square welcome hundreds of visitors who stroll from bar to bar enjoying the "tapas" and "pinchos". Most of the bars are run by Basques who offer their traditional

dishes, but pay special care to cook their typical, quickly prepared pinchos. This is one of the town's most popular meeting-points and is very busy both in summer and in winter.

To sum up then, in Benidorm you can find food ranging from the simple and ubiquitous hamburger, paellas, buffets, cheap menus and more painstakingly prepared dishes. These are adapted to modern times and more demanding palates with dishes based on Mediterranean products and treated in a modern way to create dishes with pure, clean flavours which delight diners. You can even taste the delicious offerings of some restaurants that appear in the prestigious Michelin Guide.

Turning to traditional cuisine, we should highlight the traditional Benidorm stews offered in some restaurants. Here agricultural products are blended with products from the inshore seas. The town's most typical dishes include arroz caldoso de salmonetes y calabaza (rice soup with red mullet and pumpkin); arroz con habichuelas y nabos (rice with baby broad beans and turnip); and arroz de boquerones con espinacas (rice with anchovies and spinach). Sweets include the typical Bollo de San Blas, a delicious Arab tart specially made from almonds and sugar for this fiesta in early February.

The countless beachfront restaurants with their terraces are perfect should you wish to have lunch without leaving the beach. They're all different - international dishes, fast food, British food and complete meals, offering a welcome break to regain strength to carry on enjoying your day on the beach.



Benidorm island viewed from San Jaime church

As well as the wide range of food and drink available in Benidorm itself, other nearby places have their own attractions. La Vila Joiosa is famous for its rice and fish stews and variations on local dishes. In recent years the town has managed to make a name for itself at Tourist Fairs with its fish, rice and its famous chocolate. The latter has only become very famous in recent years, even though chocolate has been made in La Vila for hundreds of years. The gastronomy competitions have given a further boost to this close neighbour of Benidorm.

Another village just along the coast is Altea, where, apart from the excellent Mediterranean cuisine offered by a number of restaurants, – a unique feature is delivered in the form of its extremely relaxed setting. The white houses of the old town are home to dozens of establishments, especially pizzerias, French restaurants and other international establishments. They are simple but very authentic restaurants. One of the local specialities with its own denomination of origin is the loquat from Callosa d'En Sarrià.



## Business tourism

**B**enidorm is also becoming increasingly more attractive for business tourism. The number of hotel beds increased by 4,721 between 1996 and 2004 and the establishments have adapted to changing market demands. For example, today's hotels have spacious open facilities for holding congresses and conventions. This type of tourism is more popular with each passing year, as Benidorm offers a pleasant stay and guaranteed good weather.

Convention tourists attend meetings in the hotel but have several hours a day to get to know the town and surrounding areas and that's exactly what they do after the convention. Guided tours and visits, both to neighbouring places of interest and to local leisure centres are always very popular. Business tourists take maximum advantage of their free time and like to use it by visiting new places and doing interesting things.

Benidorm offers many of these programmes for the 2 or 3 days the meetings last and after which visitors look for relaxation or local gastronomy – another of the favourite activities of those attending conferences and conventions.



Night view

For more information  
please contact

Turismo de Benidorm  
Benidorm Convention Bureau  
Pl. de SS.MM. los Reyes  
de España, s/n  
Tel. 966 81 54 63  
[www.benidorm.org](http://www.benidorm.org)





## Shopping

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Over 2,000 shops in Benidorm offer all kinds of goods and are distributed in well-defined areas. In the town centre, there are a lot of clothes and gift shops in the streets around the old town. You can find them along one of the central streets - La Calle Alameda, where the local fiestas have always been held, as well as down La Calle Mayor and neighbouring streets.

However, most shops selling a wide range of goods are to be found on the avenue of La Avenida de la Carretera, and the streets called La Calle Gambo and Martínez Alejos. Here, you can find most of the shops selling the latest designs by the best known Spanish and international brands.

A stroll from Gambo towards Rincón de Loix brings you to the la avenida del Mediterráneo. This avenue offers you over 2 kilometres of unadulterated shopping temptation. Every square inch at the foot of the tall buildings has been used to display their wares on the pavement ready for potential customers. Hundreds of shops selling clothes, shoes and articles for the beach line this great street which was built to symbolise modern-day Benidorm. When the 1966 Town Plan designed this four-lane avenue with broad pavements, many people thought it would be too big for the town.

Tourists also love the street markets, and there are certainly a lot of them in the Marina Baixa area, so many that you could go to a different town every day in search of products. The municipal market is held in the Foietes area of Benidorm every Wednesday. A spacious open-air site with hundreds of

stalls separated into areas specialising in food, mainly vegetable and fruit, and clothing. It's a sunny, pleasant spot to spend a winter's morning and, while you're there, buy that special bargain you've always longed for. On Sunday you can go shopping for food and clothes in the Mercadillo Pueblo, near Rincón de Loix.

Markets are held in Callosa d'En Sarrià and La Nucia on Monday; next to the sports centre in Altea on Tuesday; in Polop de la Marina on Wednesday; next to the Centro beach in La Vila Joiosa on Thursday; next to the Casa de Cultura in L'Alfàs del Pi and Finestrat on Friday; and the La Nucia flea market is held on Sunday. The latter was started by a group of foreign residents interested in crafts and antiques and is visited by many people looking for old furniture to restore.

Craft products are readily available in the area, a good example being the Benidorm crafts market held in the square La Plaza de la Señoría. The craftsmen stay in the square all summer selling their handmade products. A little further up the street, there are artists who use paint and charcoal to draw caricatures and cartoons of the passers-by, giving the area a truly bohemian atmosphere in the cool night air under the enormous summer moon.

From June to September, there's a fascinating crafts fair in the La Plaza de la Iglesia square in Altea. It's been going for many years and is especially interesting for the handmade products you can buy – very different from the usual factory-made goods.



Benidorm viewed from the Mediterranean lookout point



## Nightlife

Night-time is party time and indeed, if Benidorm is already one big party during the day, by night this is doubly true. Over 150 disco-pubs, a score of discos and nightclubs and over 86 arcades mean that there's something for everyone. The town sparkles at night with fiestas and the multi-coloured atmosphere. There's a lot on offer and there are always a lot of revellers, but the town is not over noisy and tourists who prefer spending the day with their families co-exist quite happily with the night owls.

First stop on our nocturnal tour is Levante beach, with a whole range of disco-pubs all offering different music, from the latest hits to relaxed spots that play rock and blues for the more mature visitors. They are all very different and cater for different age groups although youngsters obviously predominate. On the other hand, the cafés offer shows ranging from small musical groups to others that encourage the mainly older members of the audience to take part in the show.

La Calle Esperanto, is a street with another, more relaxed atmosphere for young people, where the pubs play modern Spanish music and classic rock. Later at night, people move on to the discos lining the main road on the way to Altea but still in Benidorm. This is the "disco zone", with something for all tastes, where they open after midnight and close hours after sunrise.

Calle Mallorca and Calle Lepanto are two streets where British visitors enjoy themselves in much the same way as they do at home by partying in the pubs. You'd find it hard to believe you weren't back home in Britain if it weren't so late and so warm!

In this shop-window for different trends, we must include another kind of visitor - the gay tourist. Although the experts can't agree when it comes to defining this demand exactly, it is obvious that gays like Benidorm. This means that special hotels, as well as bars, discos, restaurants and places of leisure have been opened for the gay market in recent months.



Benidorm balcony and geyser







## Sports

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**W**ater sports are traditional in Benidorm, thanks to the fantastic climate that endows the bay with favourable winds and a sea that tempts you to set sail, meaning that you can take part in many different activities, including cable-ski, a sailing school, windsurfing and catamaran and yacht hire, not to mention the scuba-diving clubs for lovers of this exciting sport.

There are more boat trips than ever before, and you can enjoy several excursions

organised walks and there are 4x4 routes which pass through typical villages along forest tracks in the local mountains and the rest of the Costa Blanca.

The municipal sports centre has an indoor sports hall and outside facilities for athletics, tennis, five-a-side football, basketball, volleyball, climbing, pelota and petanque. There's also an Olympic-sized open-air swimming pool. All facilities can be booked in advance. The Illa de Benidorm



Mal Pas cove

which leave Benidorm port, including the one going to the island, La Isla de Benidorm. One cruise takes you all the way up the coast to Calpe, well known for the rocky outcrop of the famous Peñón de Ifach. You can also take shorter excursions to La Vila Joiosa and Altea. The latter allows you to spend a few hours in their respective flea markets before returning to Benidorm. Some of the cruises moor the boats offshore and you can use the goggles provided to skin dive and marvel at the beautiful seabed.

You have just as many options in the mountains. Groups of 4 to 12 can go on

Sports Center has modern facilities for practise many sports, between them Pilota Valenciana.

The town also has many private facilities and others that can be used by members of the public. For a small fee you can swim or play tennis, basketball, football, pelota and other sports which include bowling alleys, pool halls and bicycle hire.

## Sports facilities

### Benidorm Yacht Club

Paseo Colón, 2  
Tel. 965 85 30 67

### Municipal sports Centre

Partida Foyetes, s/n  
Tel. 966 80 48 14

### Sport Centre L'Illa de Benidorm

Partida Salto del Agua, s/n  
Tel. 966 83 10 50

## Activities and services

### Beniquads

Rancho Sierra Helada, s/n  
Tel. 650 74 44 41

### Cable Ski Benidorm

Playa de Levante  
Rincón de Loix  
Tel. 639 61 27 13

A company specialising in water-skiing, especially cable-ski, as well as skippered motor yachts.

### Club de Buceo Poseidón

C/ Santander, s/n  
Edificio Silvia  
Tel. 965 85 32 27

Scuba diving courses and dives in La Llosa and La Isla de Benidorm.

### Costa Blanca Sea Chárter

C/ Tomás Ortuño, 17, 6º izda.  
Tel. 965 85 65 62 · 619 92 09 68

Boat charter, with and without skipper, based in Dénia Marina, Greenwich Marina in Altea, La Vila Joiosa Yacht Club and the Alicante Marina.

### Chárter Náutica Benidorm

Benidorm Port  
Tel. 965 85 06 33 · 608 07 61 24

Daily 3-hour excursions along the coast leaving from Benidorm.

Passenger vessels with toilets and fishing. Night cruises as well.

### Real de Faula Club de Golf

Av. Alcalde Eduardo Zaplana Hernández Soro, s/n  
Tel. 966 81 30 13  
[www.realdefaula.com](http://www.realdefaula.com)

### Las Rejas Golf Pitch and Putt

Av. Alcalde Vicente Pérez Devesa  
Tel. 620 269 061

### Benidorm Sea Cruises

Benidorm Port  
Tel. 965 85 00 52

Daily service from 10 a.m. to dusk. Trips to La Isla de Benidorm on the "golondrinas". Underwater tours around the island.

### Horse Riding

Rancho Sierra Helada, s/n  
Tel. 678 98 31 19  
Horse-riding with guide

### Marco Polo Expediciones

Av. Europa, 5  
Tel. 608 46 30 01 · 965 86 33 99  
[www.marcopolo-exp.es](http://www.marcopolo-exp.es)

Leisure and free-time activities on both land and sea. Catamaran cruises around La Isla de Benidorm continuing up the coast to the Peñón de Ifach in Calpe.

### Scuba Diving Benidorm

C/ Otto de Habsburgo, 10  
Tel. 655 23 99 26

Scuba diving courses, dives and intensive courses for beginners.



## Excursions from Benidorm

**B**enidorm is the leisure centre for the whole Marina Baixa area, providing accommodation for thousands but, as well as its countless leisure options the surrounding area has many other attractions which mean your stay in the town is sure to be both pleasant and full of different experiences.

### **Route 1:**

L'Alfàs del Pi • Altea • Peñón de Ifach • Calpe Benissa • Teulada/Moraira • Xàbia • Dénia • El Montgó

### **Route 2:**

La Vila Joiosa • El Campello • Alicante • Elx • Isla de Tabarca

### **Route 3:**

La Nucia • Polop • Callosa d'En Sarrià • El Castell de Guadalest • Bolulla • Tàrbena

### **Route 4:**

Finestrat • El Puig Campana • Relleu • Sella



L'Alfàs del Pi beach

## An excursion to the Peñón de Ifach and Montgó

(70.6 kilometres)

**L'Alfàs del Pi**, just next to Benidorm, is known in the area as a “multinational centre” because residents from 54 different nationalities live there. There is an interesting route along the local part of the Sierra Helada, ending up at the lighthouse El Faro del Albir. Leave El Albir and climb the street La Calle Antiguo Camino de la Cantera and then take two left turns down Sirio and Neptuno to

reach the recreational area. It's only small, with wooden tables and chairs which fit in perfectly with the old fence made of tree trunks which lines the whole 2.5 kilometre route. Then, you go through a tunnel to see the cliffs on the other side: the route is lined with fragrant plants and borders the mountains as they fall into the sea. Down on your left, you can see the old Roman and Phoeni-

cian ochre mines, while on the right there is the enormous cave known as the “Boca de la Ballena” (Whale’s Mouth). The route ends at El Faro del Albir, but just before you get there those of you who don’t have a fear of heights can walk along a steep mountain track to a viewpoint with spectacular views of the cliffs and seagulls soaring just below your feet. The famous L’Alfàs del Pi Film Festival is held in June and has been commemorated with the Paseo de las Estrellas

buzzes with an atmosphere blending culture and leisure. During the summer, artists and stallholders display their handmade creations. The crafts blend in seamlessly with the many restaurants and bars where drink, conversation and music combine to offer you a more relaxed way of life. A few years ago, La Plaza was complemented with the Altea Auditorium, a modern building which holds the latest plays and concerts, avant-garde exhibitions, etc. all in all it’s an outlet



The Peñón de Ifach



Altea's coastline

(Avenue of the Stars), a small seaside avenue bordering the beach.

Near L’Alfàs, there is another town famous for its serene and simple beauty: this is **Altea**, the white town. White houses climb the hillside towards the Parish Church at the top. You can start your walk up to the blue-domed church from the La Plaza del Convento, climbing steep streets up from the square to La Plaza. In the convent square, you will find all kinds of artists, something typical of the town, which has been home to many creators. La Plaza

for cultural aspirations which also has a place for local groups that flourish in the Fine Arts Faculty. Altea also has sun and quiet pebbly beaches with clear water and a tranquil atmosphere making them popular with less boisterous holidaymakers.

On the way from Altea to Valencia, you’ll soon see one of the Costa Blanca’s most famous sights - the **Peñón de Ifach in Calpe**. This geological symbol on the coast soars to 332 metres and you can go on guided visits to the summit of this enormous rock, which has been a Nature Park since



## Excursions from Benidorm

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1987. Calpe also has an interesting old town including the tower of El Torreó de la Peça and the city walls. Or why not take a stroll along the seafront promenade to watch the fishing boats returning to port in the afternoon to sell their catch at the fish auction in La Lonja.

The Nacional 332 main road takes us to **Benissa**, identified by its white church, known as the Cathedral of the Marina Alta and beautifully illuminated at night. Start

and all the facilities you could wish for, or La Cala Pinets and L'Advocat, where sand and rocks combine.

Next to Benissa, we find **Teulada** and its tourist resort of **Moraira**. Here, there are many holiday home developments but some agriculture remains, especially the vineyards producing Muscatel wine. These wines have won major awards and you can buy a bottle or two at the local wineries. There are several monuments, including a



Audouin's gull on the Peñón de Ifach



Xàbia

from the Town Hall and take a stroll, admiring the magnificent farmland surrounding the town and the starting point of the road used by the old “ribereros” (workers who emigrated from Benissa for the rice harvest near Valencia). The nearby streets are perfect for a relaxing walk - narrow and quiet, the houses have cast iron balconies overflowing with flowers. You can also visit the Ethnographic Museum, housed in the oldest building in Benissa - La Lonja de Contratación. The town has 4 kilometres of secluded beaches, like La Fustera, with its fine sand

defence tower known as Moraira Castle which dominates La Ampolla beach. Teulada is an inland, agricultural town with a small fishing industry and Moraira is famous for tourism and its yacht marina. Nearby there are tiny coves, such as L'Andrago, Punta Estrella, Cap Blanc and La Cala.

Further north, we come to **Xàbia**, nestling between two capes - San Antonio and La Nao. Pirate raids made the original inhabitants move 2 kilometres inland to protect themselves behind the walls of today's old town. Within the old town you should

visit the Town Hall, the Market, the Cultural centre, the Archaeological and Ethnological Museum and the Chapel of Santa Ana. Two kilometres from the old town we find the port area of Xàbia, known as Las Aduanas del Mar, with the unusual church of Nuestra Señora de Loreto, shaped like a ship's keel. Take the coast road to visit the Arenal area, with the only Parador de Turismo (Luxury State Hotel) on the Costa Blanca overlooking La Playa del Arenal beach.

ing passengers to the Balearic Islands. Another of the landmarks of Dénia is the **Sierra del Montgó**. This Nature Park is especially striking for being so high and so close to the sea. Take a walk on the mountain and submerge yourself in the scent of herbs that blends with the salty tang of the Mediterranean.



Xàbia has 20 kilometres of coastline, with small coves combining sea and mountains, some of which are nudist beaches.

The next stop is **Dénia**, capital of the Marina Alta. It too has a long 20 kilometre coastline with beaches such as Les Marines, Les Bovetes, Les Devesses and L'Almadrava. Les Rotes lies to the south and is a very rocky beach with beautiful scenery. The town has always had very strong links to the sea, and is known for the red prawn and the facilities of its yachting marina. It is also a very important ferry port, with vessels tak-



## Excursions from Benidorm

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### An excursion along the south coast and across to Tabarca island (81.5 kilometres from Benidorm)

Heading south from Benidorm, the first town we come to is **La Vila Joiosa**, the historical and administrative capital of the Marina Baixa for many years. The town has always lived from the sea and trade. This trade led to an early knowledge of chocolate, with companies which have grown from humble beginnings to become large factories famous throughout Spain. The sea also lies behind the origin of the multi-coloured houses along the coast and beside the dry bed of the River Amadorio - they were painted in different colours so sailors could recognise their houses from afar. The old town of La Vila Joiosa is somewhere you must visit, it's very big and drops down from the town centre to the sea. Part of the town walls are preserved in the La Calle Costera de la Mar, the street that takes us to Centro beach, where the Moors and Christians fiesta (recently declared to be of International Tourist Interest) is held. La Vila has several beaches, both sandy and pebbly, where you can scuba-dive in coves with crystal-clear water such as El Bon Nou and La Caleta. Some of the coves are set aside for nudists.

**El Campello** borders on La Vila Joiosa and it is well-known for its tower. This watch-tower was built in 1554 to protect the coast from the raids of the Berber pirates and became the symbol of the town. The town itself lies further inland on a small hill. The old fishing quarter huddles around El Carrer del Mar or Paseo Marítimo (seafront promenade)

and is now the centre of tourist activity. The coastline stretches for 23 kilometres and has all kinds of beaches, from the very busy Muchavista beach next to San Juan Playa to the rocky coves of Coveta Fumá.

**Alicante** became the provincial capital in 1883, a few years after the demolition of its mediaeval walls. One of the most famous sights of the city are the red, black and cream tiles which pave La Explanada, a promenade running parallel to the seafront. The beach La Playa del Postiguet and the park El Parque de Canalejas are also important parts of an urban landscape that are completed with La Lonja de Pescado, the old fishmarket which is now a major exhibition centre. To get a really good view of the town you need to climb up the streets of the old town to the castle - El Castillo de Santa Bárbara. Nearby you have the neighbourhood of Santa Cruz with its brightly coloured houses. The MARQ is the provincial archaeological museum, outstanding both for its significant archaeological exhibits and for its avant-garde display techniques.

Not far away, you can visit the town of **Elx** set in the interesting Bajo Vinalopó countryside. Here you'll find the largest palm grove in Europe, with over 300,000 palm trees. The Palmeral was declared a Mankind Heritage Site by UNESCO, as was the Misteri d'Elx passion play held in the town. Elx is set in the Palmeral d'Elx, an area which includes hills, farmland and several towns and villages.





The island of Tabarca



Huerto del Cura park. Elx



Colourful houses at La Vila Joiosa

It's not just one massive forest of palm trees, but a group of small farms adorned with palm trees. The most popular place for a visit is El Huerto del Cura, a palm grove right in the town itself. It's worth visiting Elx just to see the date palms and the beautiful effect they create. Nearby, you can visit El Fondo and El Clot de Galvany, two areas of great ecological interest.

You can't come to the Costa Blanca without visiting at least one of the islands, and there are organised trips to **La Isla de Tabarca**. The island is 11 kilometres from Alicante and 4 from Santa Pola. It's a long, narrow islet, the most westerly outcropping of the Betic Cordillera. One hundred houses huddle inside the village walls, built on a grid pattern according to the plans drawn up by the military engineers of King Charles III. There are a couple of interesting buildings outside the village, a tower called La Torre de San José and an old lighthouse rising almost 28 metres above sea level which was repaired and improved in 1894. Apart from the sandy beaches, the island also has hotels and restaurants.



## Excursions from Benidorm

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### An excursion through the mountains of Alicante

(23.8 kilometres from Benidorm)

We take La Avenida Beniardà to leave Benidorm and it's not long before we get to **La Nucia**. The area has many holiday home estates, inhabited not only by foreigners but also by Spaniards who work in Benidorm but live in La Nucia. A short walk through the spotlessly clean white town centre brings us to El Lavadero. La Nucia's pop-

ing lion" silhouette. Gabriel Miró was Polop's most famous summer visitor and his house backs on to the famous Font dels Xorrets, with 221 spouts each named after a town in Alicante. Other illustrious visitors include Oscar Esplá and Benjamín Palencia, whose workshop can still be visited.



Fuentes del Algar. Callosa d'En Sarrià

ular flea market is held in a wide avenue nearby and the town comes to life on Sundays, with the arrival of visitors from all around who come in search of bargains. It's also worth taking a pleasant stroll around the park of La Favara, recently enlarged and with the famous fountain from which it takes its name at the far end.

From the flea market, you can see the unmistakable silhouette of **Polop**, on the slopes of the Sierra Aitana, with its houses climbing the hill towards the cemetery.

The 1,181 metre El Ponoch towers over the port with its instantly recognisable "sleep-

Back on the local road, we head for **Callosa d'En Sarrià**, famous for loquat production and for the springs and waterfalls of Fuentes del Algar. This is one of the most beautiful spots in the area, where water plays the leading role. Las Fuentes are a series of waterfalls with pools where you can swim, a kind of natural water park with natural swimming pools (tolls) filled with cool, crystal-clear water. After paying the entrance fee, you can also visit the Arboretum and the Environmental Museum. There is also a campsite, picnic area and a Water Museum.

Callosa d'En Sarrià is best known for Fuentes del Algar, but there are many other attractive places on the so-called “cultural route” which passes through El Portal, a gateway which used to be part of the 14th century walled area of town. The 18<sup>th</sup> Century hermitage - La Ermita de Santa Bárbara, the 16<sup>th</sup>

and the reservoir which gathers the waters of the River Guadalest running down the valley.

You'll find the bell tower, dungeon, Castle of San José, the modern cemetery, the mansions of the Orduñas, the Parish Church and the Moorish fortress of Alcozaiba at the very top of the town. Before going up, stroll



El Castell de Guadalest

Century church - La Iglesia de San Juan Bautista, and the Ethnological Museum are just some of the interesting cultural sights in the town.

From Callosa, we cross a low mountain pass to reach **El Castell de Guadalest**. This is one of the most picturesque villages in the area, indeed on the whole Costa Blanca, with a tall bell tower you can see from afar and a tunnel bored through solid rock which leads you to the old town clinging to the steep granite crag. It's a natural monument, a geological fortress with amazing views of the mountains

through the Arrabal, with its crafts shops, museums and restaurants. There are several museums and they're certainly the most unusual in the province.

From Callosa, you can also visit **Bolulla** and its Moorish castle, or **Tàrbena**, perched high over the rocky countryside with its many ravines and springs. Remains from its past include the castle El Castillo de los Moros, while emigrants from Majorca who settled here in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century have left their mark on the local dialect and delicious dishes such as the spicy spread, *sobrasada*.



## Excursions from Benidorm

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### At the foot of the Puig Campana (33,2 kilometres from Benidorm)

**Finestrat** is another mountain town, although it also has a beach at La Cala, bordering on Benidorm's Poniente beach. However, in recent years the town has concentrated on making itself worthy of its environmental award, by paying special attention to the **Puig Campana**. The mountain is

**Relleu**, set in rough terrain. At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the town grew up around a castle built by the Moors. Later, the population began to fall before starting to rise again with the arrival of tourism, especially rural tourism, with an increasing number of houses of this type available for rent in the area.



Sierra Aitana

1,410 metres high and its famous gash dominates the whole of the Marina Baixa area. The mountain is perfect for hikers, who can walk to the summit, as well as for the climbers who come to conquer its walls. The base of the mountain is at La Font del Molí, a spring with pure drinking water that filters down from above. There is a recreational area nearby, with tables and barbecue facilities where visitors can relax after their walks.

If we leave Finestrat towards the left, we climb a mountain pass that takes us to

We descend the pass of Relleu and then climb towards **Sella**. The village clings to a ridge and its main attraction is the setting, lying between the unquestionably beautiful ravines of l'Arc and Tagarina, both popular with mountaineers.

Sella lies on the slopes of the Sierra Aitana, a very interesting spot for nature lovers and those who enjoy active tourism. Places of interest in the village include the hermitage of Santa Bárbara and the old castle of the lord of the manor.



Puig Campana



## Accommodation

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**T**alking about accommodation in Benidorm is to talk about an infinite variety of establishments which is increased and complemented, if such a thing is possible, by the accommodation offered by other towns further inland with other attractive and dynamic tourist options.

There are about 40,000 hotel beds in Benidorm, to which we have to add 500 in boarding houses and 400 in guesthouses. We must also include the incredible number of self-catering tourist apartments, officially with almost 20,000 beds, not forgetting the 11 campsites where Spanish visitors share their summers and Easters with foreigners who spend longer periods here throughout the year enjoying the open-air life.

### Hotels

#### **Hotel Westin Real de Faula Golf Resort & Spa \*\*\*\*\***

Av. Alcalde E. Zaplana Hernández-Soro, 7  
Tel. 966 80 38 52  
Fax 966 83 12 07  
realdefaula@westin.com  
www.realdefaula.com

#### **Hotel Agir \*\*\*\***

Av. Mediterráneo, 11  
Tel. 965 85 51 62  
Fax 965 85 89 50  
info@hotelagir.com  
www.hotelagir.com

#### **Hotel Avenida \*\*\*\***

C/ Gambo, 2  
Tel. 966 80 58 88  
Fax 966 80 55 82  
info@onadol.es  
www.onadol.es

#### **Hotel Belroy \*\*\*\***

Av. Mediterráneo, 13  
Tel. 965 85 02 03  
Fax 965 86 37 32  
info@belroy.es  
www.belroy.es

#### **Hotel Benidorm Centre \*\*\*\***

C/ Gerona, 4  
Tel. 966 80 84 84  
Fax 965 85 87 09  
comercial@grupobali.com  
www.benidormcentre.com

#### **Hotel Benidorm Plaza \*\*\*\***

Vía Emilio Ortuño, 18  
Tel. 902 20 15 49  
Fax 965 85 22 36  
reservas@benidormplaza.com  
www.benidormplaza.com



Levante beach



An overall view of Benidorm

### **Hotel Best Western Hotel Victoria \*\*\*\***

Vía Emilio Ortuño, 20  
Tel. 965 85 39 00  
Fax 965 85 35 08  
hotel@victoria-benidorm.com  
www.victoria-benidorm.com

### **Hotel Castilla \*\*\*\***

C/ Jaén, 3  
Tel. 965 85 15 14  
Fax 965 85 17 01  
castilla@servigroup.es  
www.servigroup.es

### **Hotel Cimbel \*\*\*\***

Av. Europa, 1  
Tel. 965 85 21 00  
Fax 965 86 06 61  
cimbel@hotelcimbel.com  
www.hotelcimbel.com

### **Hotel Corona del Mar \*\*\*\***

Av. Jaime I, 3  
Tel. 965 85 03 12  
Fax 965 85 32 32  
central@hotelesrh.com  
www.hotelesrh.com

### **Hotel Los Dálmatas \*\*\*\***

C/ Estocolmo, 4  
Tel. 965 85 22 00  
Fax 965 85 22 17  
info@onasol.es  
www.onasol.es

### **Hotel Deloix \*\*\*\***

C/ Dr. Severo Ochoa (esq. C/ Rumanía), 34  
Tel. 965 86 90 70  
Fax 966 80 69 45  
info@hoteldeloix.com  
www.hoteldeloix.com



## Accommodation

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### Hotel Diplomatic \*\*\*\*

C/ Gerona, 9 - 11  
Tel. 965 85 44 50  
Fax 965 85 22 09  
diplomatic@servigroup.es  
www.servigroup.es

### Hotel Don Pancho \*\*\*\*

Av. Mediterráneo, 39  
Tel. 965 85 29 50  
Fax 965 86 77 79  
hotel@don-pancho.com  
www.don-pancho.com

### Hotel Dynastic \*\*\*\*

Av. Ametla de Mar, 15  
Tel. 965 85 36 00  
Fax 965 85 89 33  
info@hoteldynastic.com  
www.hoteldynastic.com

### Hotel Flamingo Oasis \*\*\*\*

Av. Dr. Severo Ochoa, 3  
Tel. 966 81 35 30  
Fax 966 81 35 31  
flamingo@medplaya.com  
www.flamingooasis.com

### Gran Hotel Bali \*\*\*\*

Av. Montbenidorm, 1  
Tel. 966 81 52 00  
Fax 966 81 35 78  
comercial@grupobali.com  
www.granhotelbali.com

### Gran Hotel Delfín \*\*\*\*

Av. Montbenidorm, 13  
Tel. 965 85 34 00  
Fax 965 85 71 54  
info@granhoteldelfin.com  
www.granhoteldelfin.com

### Hotel Levante Club \*\*\*\*

Av. Dr. Severo Ochoa, 3B  
Tel. 966 83 00 00  
Fax 966 83 00 86  
hlevante@hotellevanteclub.com  
www.hotellevanteclub.com

### Hotel Madeira Centro \*\*\*\*

C/ Esperanto, 1  
Tel. 965 85 49 50  
Fax 965 85 73 26  
hotel@madeiracentro.com  
www.madeiracentro.com

### Hotel Marina \*\*\*\*

Av. Cuenca, 6  
Tel. 965 85 37 62  
Fax 965 85 15 12  
central@hotelmariabenidorm.com  
www.la-marina.net

### Hotel Mediterráneo Benidorm \*\*\*\*

Av. Dr. Severo Ochoa, 16  
Tel. 966 88 93 53  
Fax 966 88 93 51  
reservas@mavitelhotels.com  
www.hotelmediterraneobenidorm.com

### Hotel Meliá Benidorm \*\*\*\*

Av. Dr. Severo Ochoa (esquina C/ Zamora), 1  
Tel. 966 81 37 10  
Fax 966 80 21 69  
melia.benidorm@solmelia.com  
www.solmelia.com

### Hotel Palm Beach \*\*\*\*

C/ Viena, 2  
Tel. 965 85 04 00  
Fax 965 86 53 80  
reservas@palm-beach-hotel.com  
www.palm-beach-hotel.com



**Hotel Princesa \*\*\*\***

C/ Mirador, 3  
Tel. 965 85 08 22  
Fax 965 85 07 94  
repcionprincesa@hotelesrh.com  
www.hotelesrh.com

**Hotel Sol Costa Blanca \*\*\*\***

Av. Alcoy, s/n  
Tel. 965 85 54 50  
Fax 965 85 09 09  
sol.costablanca@solmelia.com  
www.solmelia.com

**Hotel Agua Azul \*\*\***

Vía Emilio Ortuño, 7  
Tel. 965 85 24 12  
Fax 965 85 24 08  
hoteles@sun-confort.com  
www.sun-confort.com

**Hotel Alameda \*\*\***

C/ Alameda, 34  
Tel. 965 85 56 50  
Fax 965 85 56 54

**Hotel Los Álamos \*\*\***

C/ Gerona, 7  
Tel. 965 85 02 12  
Fax 965 86 91 35  
info@alamoshotel.com  
www.alamoshotel.com

**Hotel Ambassador Playa I \*\*\***

C/ Gerona, 39  
Tel. 965 85 14 18  
Fax 965 85 18 31  
ambassador@hotelesbenidorm.com  
www.hotelesbenidorm.com

**Hotel Ambassador Playa II \*\*\***

C/ Gerona, 41  
Tel. 965 85 15 10  
Fax 965 85 16 23  
ambassador@hotelesbenidorm.com  
www.hotelesbenidorm.com

**Hotel Atenea \*\*\***

C/ Montera, 10  
Tel. 965 85 04 20  
Fax 965 85 25 00  
info@hotelatenea.com  
www.medinahoteles.com

**Hotel Benikactus \*\*\***

C/ Alcalde Manuel Catalán Chana, 12  
Tel. 965 85 43 00  
Fax 966 80 36 80  
benikactus@kactusgrup.com  
www.kactusgrup.com

**Hotel Benilux Park \*\*\***

C/ Panamá, 5  
Tel. 965 85 28 50  
Fax 965 85 71 18  
hotelbenilux@ctv.es

**Hotel Bilbaino \*\*\***

C/ Virgen del Sufragio, 1  
Tel. 965 85 08 04  
Fax 965 85 75 48  
info@hotelbilbaino.com  
www.hotelbilbaino.com

**Hotel Brisa \*\*\***

Av. Madrid, 31  
Tel. 965 85 54 00  
Fax 965 85 54 00  
reservas@hotelbrisa.net  
www.hotelbrisa.net



## Accommodation

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### Hotel Bristol Park \*\*\*

Pl. Dr. Fleming, 2  
Tel. 965 85 14 48  
Fax 965 85 11 16  
info@onasol.es  
www.onasol.es

### Hotel Cabana \*\*\*

C/ Perú, 33  
Tel. 965 85 25 50  
Fax 965 85 52 33  
comercial@grupobali.com  
www.hotelcabana.es

### Hotel Calas Marina \*\*\*

C/ Asturias, 1  
Tel. 965 85 02 16  
Fax 965 86 39 90  
calasmarina@la-marina.net  
www.la-marina.net

### Hotel Calypso \*\*\*

Av. Derramador, 4  
Tel. 965 85 43 50  
Fax 965 85 22 15  
calypso@servigroup.es  
www.servigroup.es

### Hotel Carlos I \*\*\*

C/ Arnedo, 7  
Tel. 965 85 71 90  
Fax 965 85 46 45  
reservas@hotelcarlos1.es  
www.hotelcarlos1.es

### Hotel Condal \*\*\*

C/ La Garita, 19  
Tel. 965 85 86 86  
Fax 965 85 85 19  
info@onasol.es  
www.onasol.es

### Hotel Cristal Park \*\*\*

C/ Ruzafa, 4  
Tel. 965 85 18 11  
Fax 965 86 84 48  
reservas@hoteles-costablanca.com  
www.hoteles-costablanca.com

### Hotel Les Dunes Comodoro \*\*\*

Av. Médico Miguel Martorell, 1  
Tel. 902 32 01 60  
Fax 966 80 16 12  
hotel@lesdunes.es  
www.lesdunes.es

### Hotel Fenicia \*\*\*

C/ Mercado, 9  
Tel. 965 85 11 46  
Fax 965 86 61 91  
reservasfenicia@hoteles-costablanca.com  
www.hoteles-costablanca.com

### Hotel Fiesta-Park \*\*\*

C/ Arnedo, 5  
Tel. 965 85 17 66  
Fax 965 85 43 44  
reservas@fiestapark.com  
www.fiestapark.com

### Hotel Gala Placidia \*\*\*

C/ Roma, 4  
Tel. 965 85 32 08  
Fax 965 85 33 12  
dynastic@gmail.com

### Hotel Helios \*\*\*

Av. Filipinas, 12  
Tel. 965 85 58 50  
Fax 965 85 73 83  
reservas@heliosbenidorm.com  
www.heliosbenidorm.com

**Hotel Jaime I \*\*\***

Av. Jaime I, 11  
Tel. 965 85 07 19  
Fax 966 83 09 99  
hotel@hoteljaimebenidorm.com  
www.hoteljaimebenidorm.com

**Hotel Lido \*\*\***

C/ Alcalde Manuel Catalán Chana, 16  
Tel. 966 80 56 01  
Fax 966 80 56 51  
lido@medsur-hoteles.com  
www.medsur-hoteles.com

**Hotel Magic Rock Gardens \*\*\***

C/ Bonn, 6  
Tel. 965 85 11 75  
Fax 965 86 33 86  
reservas@hoteles-costablanca.com  
www.hoteles-costablanca.com

**Hotel Marconi \*\*\***

C/ San Pedro, 28  
Tel. 965 85 41 00  
Fax 965 85 41 04  
reservas@hotelmарconi.es  
www.hotelmарconi.es

**Hotel Milord's Suites \*\*\***

Paseo de la Carretera, 52  
Tel. 966 83 16 00  
Fax 965 86 79 90  
info@milords.es  
www.milords.es

**Hotel Mónaco \*\*\***

Av. Escritor y Periodista E. Romero, 11  
Tel. 965 85 52 00  
Fax 965 85 11 27  
book.monaco@marconfort.com  
www.marconfort.com

**Hotel Montemar \*\*\***

C/ San Pedro, 16  
Tel. 965 85 06 00  
Fax 965 85 04 11  
info@hmontemar.com  
www.hmontemar.com

**Hotel Mont Park \*\*\***

C/ Manila, 5  
Tel. 965 85 18 46  
Fax 965 85 23 00

**Hotel Nadal \*\*\***

Av. Madrid, 41  
Tel./ Fax 965 85 19 41  
buzon@hotelnadalbenidorm.com  
www.hotelnadalbenidorm.com

**Hotel Nereo \*\*\***

Av. Ametlla de Mar, 12  
Tel. 965 85 07 07  
Fax 965 85 40 58  
nereo@servigroup.es  
www.servigroup.es

**Hotel Oasis Plaza \*\*\***

Pl. de España, 7  
Tel. 966 80 77 05  
Fax 966 80 82 04  
reservas@hotelosisplaza.es  
www.hotelosisplaza.es

**Hotel Olympus \*\*\***

C/ Acacias, 11  
Tel. 966 80 02 71  
Fax 966 81 25 44  
pilarmedina@hotelolympus.com  
www.medinahoteles.com

**Hotel Orange \*\*\***

C/ Mallorca, 11  
Tel. 965 85 17 20  
Fax 965 85 21 11  
orange@servigroup.es  
www.servigroup.es



## Accommodation

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### Hotel El Palmeral \*\*\*

C/ Altea, 2  
Tel. 965 85 01 76  
Fax 965 85 97 77  
hotelelpalmeral@palmeral.net  
www.hotelpalmeral.com

### Hotel Poseidón \*\*\*

C/ Esperanto, 9  
Tel. 965 85 02 00  
Fax 965 85 23 55  
poseidon@hotelesposeidon.com  
www.hotelesposeidon.com

### Hotel Poseidón Palace \*\*\*

Vía Emilio Ortuño, 26  
Tel. 965 85 02 00  
Fax 965 85 23 55  
poseidon@hotelesposeidon.com  
www.hotelesposeidon.com

### Hotel Poseidón Playa \*\*\*

Av. Armada Española, s/n  
Tel. 965 85 48 50  
Fax 966 80 42 47  
poseidon@hotelesposeidon.com  
www.hotelesposeidon.com

### Hotel Presidente \*\*\*

Av. Filipinas, 10  
Tel. 965 85 39 50  
Fax 965 85 23 82  
presidente@hotelesbenidorm.com  
www.hotelesbenidorm.com

### Hotel Prince Park \*\*\*

C/ Primavera, 3  
Tel. 965 85 03 65  
Fax 965 85 15 94  
reservas@princepark.com  
www.princepark.com

### Hotel Pueblo Benidorm \*\*\*

C/ Ibiza, 17  
Tel. 965 85 31 50  
Fax 965 86 62 87  
pueblobenidorm@servigroup.es  
www.servigroup.es

### Hotel Residencia Venus I \*\*\*

Av. Filipinas, 13  
Tel. 965 85 24 66  
Fax 965 85 24 62  
venus@servigroup.es  
www.servigroup.es



A Terrace in Benidorm



Poniente promenade

**Hotel Rialto \*\*\***

C/ Amsterdam, 7  
Tel. 965 85 34 50  
Fax 965 85 34 58  
rialto@servigroup.es  
www.servigroup.es

**Hotel Riudor \*\*\***

Av. Mediterráneo, 45  
Tel. 965 85 26 08  
Fax 965 85 50 43  
riudor@medplaya.com  
www.medplaya.com

**Hotel Rosaire \*\*\***

Av. Derramador, 2  
Tel. 966 80 62 07  
Fax 966 80 59 27  
reservas@hotelrosaire.com  
www.hotelrosaire.com

**Hotel Rosamar \*\*\***

Av. Derramador, 6  
Tel. 965 85 05 02  
Fax 965 85 38 26  
reservas@hotelrosamar.com  
www.hotelrosamar.com

**Hotel Royal \*\*\***

Vía Emilio Ortuño, 7  
Tel. 965 85 35 00  
Fax 965 85 35 08  
hotel@royal-benidorm.com  
www.royal-benidorm.com

**Hotel Sol \*\*\***

C/ Pintor Lozano, 5  
Tel. 965 85 06 11  
Fax 965 85 05 61  
sol@hotelesrh.es  
www.hotelesrh.com

**Hotel Sol Ocas \*\*\***

C/ Gerona, 45-47  
Tel. 965 85 23 50  
Fax 965 85 21 39  
sol.pelicanos.ocas@solmelia.com  
www.solmelia.com

**Hotel Sol Pelicanos \*\*\***

C/ Gerona, 45  
Tel. 965 85 23 50  
Fax 965 85 21 39  
sol.pelicanos.ocas@solmelia.com  
www.solmelia.com



Benidorm with the Puig Campana in the background



## Accommodation

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### Hotel Sol y Sombra \*\*\*

C/ Florida, 3  
Tel. 965 85 11 47  
Fax 965 85 25 00  
centralreservas@.medinahoteles.com  
www.medinahoteles.com

### Hotel Tánit \*\*\*

Av. Almendros, 1  
Tel. 965 85 36 12  
Fax 966 83 00 75  
info@hoteltanit.com  
www.hoteltanit.com

### Hotel Torre Dorada \*\*\*

C/ Avilés, 2  
Tel. 965 85 42 50  
Fax 965 85 42 62  
torredorada@servigroup.es  
www.servigroup.es

### Hotel Venus \*\*\*

Av. Filipinas, 13  
Tel. 965 85 24 66  
Fax 965 85 24 62  
venus@servigroup.es  
www.servigroup.es

### Hotel Villa de Benidorm \*\*\*

C/ Gerona, 44  
Tel. 965 85 16 45  
Fax 965 86 42 13  
reservas@hoteles-costablanca.com  
www.hoteles-costablanca.com

### Hotel Villa del Mar \*\*\*

Av. Armada Española, 1  
Tel. 965 85 45 50  
Fax 965 85 45 54  
reservas@hoteles-costablanca.com  
www.hoteles-costablanca.com

### Hotel Vista Blanca \*\*\*

Av. Derramador, 8  
Tel. 965 85 43 62  
Fax 966 80 46 50  
reservasvistablanca@hmask.com

### Hotel Voramar \*\*\*

Av. de los Almendros, 6  
Tel. 965 85 51 50  
Fax 965 85 07 32  
info@hotelvoramar.net  
www.hotelvoramar.net

### Hotel Acapulco \*\*

C/ Ricardo Bayona, 7  
Tel. 965 85 15 48  
Fax 965 85 02 11

### Hotel Andalucía \*\*

C/ Florida, 2  
Tel. 965 85 03 38  
Fax 966 80 11 12  
reservas@hotel-andalucia.com  
www.hotel-andalucia.com

### Hotel Los Ángeles \*\*

C/ Los Angeles, 3  
Tel. 966 80 74 33  
Fax 965 85 31 39  
hotel-losangeles@hotmail.com

### Hotel Bermudas \*\*

C/ Estocolmo, 17  
Tel. 965 86 59 24  
Fax 965 85 39 11  
bermudas@ctv.es  
www.ha-bermudas.com

### Hotel Brasil \*\*

C/ Apolo XI, 27  
Tel. 965 85 48 00  
Fax 965 85 45 08  
info@onasol.es  
www.onasol.es

### Hotel Caballo de Oro \*\*

C/ Kennedy, s/n  
Tel. 965 85 28 62  
Fax 966 80 69 02  
caballodeoro@ctv.es  
www.caballodeoro.com

**Hotel Camposol \*\***

C/ Apolo XI, 17  
Tel. 965 85 18 90  
Fax 965 85 18 91  
lopiva@teleline.es

**Hotel Canfali \*\***

Pl. San Jaime, 5  
Tel. 965 85 08 18  
Fax 965 85 00 66  
canfalirh@hotelesrh.com  
www.hotelesrh.com

**Hotel Centro Playa \*\***

C/ Mayor, 16  
Tel. 965 85 43 43  
Fax 965 85 42 41  
hcentroplaya@terra.es  
www.alsanchhoteles.com

**Hotel Colón \*\***

Paseo Colón, 3  
Tel. 965 85 04 12  
Fax 965 85 43 81  
info@hotelcolon.net  
www.hotelcolon.net

**Hotel Don José \*\***

Ctra. del Alt, 2  
Tel. 965 85 50 50  
Fax 965 85 50 54

**Hotel Fleming \*\***

C/ Maravall (esquina Puig Campana), s/n  
Tel. 965 85 32 62  
Fax 965 85 56 71  
info@onasol.es  
www.onasol.es

**Hotel Golden \*\***

Av. Jaime I, 10  
Tel. 965 85 48 12  
Fax 965 86 70 32  
info@hotelgolden.net  
www.hotelgolden.net

**Hotel Internacional \*\***

Paseo de la Carretera, 40  
Tel. 965 85 02 71  
Fax 965 85 06 11  
internacional@hotelesrh.com  
www.hotelesrh.com

**Hotel Jamaica \*\***

C/ La Garita, 17  
Tel. 965 85 13 40  
Fax 965 85 62 97  
info@hoteljamaica-benidorm.com  
www.hoteljamaica-benidorm.com

**Hotel Joya \*\***

Av. Andalucía, 2  
Tel. 965 85 15 25  
Fax 965 86 25 36  
reservas@hoteljoya.com  
www.hoteljoya.com

**Hotel Lope de Vega \*\***

Av. Dr. Severo Ochoa, 9  
Tel. 965 85 41 54  
Fax 965 86 79 43  
cvlopedevega@ctv.es  
www.lopedevega.es

**Hotel Mar Blau \*\***

C/ San Pedro, 18  
Tel. 965 85 16 46  
Fax 965 85 16 46  
info@onasol.es  
www.onasol.es

**Hotel Mayna \*\***

C/ Ruzafa, 25  
Tel. 965 85 44 12  
Fax 965 85 44 16

**Hotel Melina \*\***

Pl. de España, 2  
Tel. 965 85 43 12  
Fax 965 85 43 16  
info@hotelmelina.com  
www.hotelmelina.com



## Accommodation

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### Hotel Paca \*\*

Av. Los Almendros, 19  
Tel. 965 85 03 02  
Fax 965 85 62 97  
hotelpaca@terra.es  
www.hotelpaca-benidorm.com

### Hotel Primavera \*\*

C/ Gardenias, 12  
Tel. 966 80 91 11  
Fax 966 80 91 11  
hotelprimavera@wanadoo.es

### Hotel Rambla \*\*

C/ Atocha, 10  
Tel. 965 85 23 37  
Fax 965 86 29 70  
hotel\_rambla@hotmail.com

### Hotel Regente \*\*

C/ Mónaco, 5  
Tel. 965 85 54 12  
Fax 965 85 54 08  
regente@medplaya.com  
www.medplaya.com

### Hotel Residencia Esmeralda \*\*

C/ San Pedro, 14  
Tel./Fax 965 85 13 41  
info@hotel-esmeralda.es  
www.hotel-esmeralda.es

### Residencial Hotel Club Europeo \*\*

Foia Manera, s/n  
Tel. 966 80 02 70  
Fax 966 80 02 74  
clubeuropeo@gmail.com  
www.hotelclubeuropeo.com

### Hotel Residencia Perla \*\*

C/ Lepanto, 18  
Tel. 965 85 23 05  
Fax 966 80 11 05  
www.hotelperlabenidorm.com

### Hotel Residencia Santa Faz \*\*

C/ Santa Faz, 18  
Tel. 965 85 40 63  
Fax 966 81 22 48

### Hotel Río Park \*\*

C/ Murcia, 16  
Tel. 965 85 56 12  
Fax 965 85 52 01  
riopark@medplaya.com  
www.medplaya.com

### Hotel Teremar \*\*

C/ La Garita, 20  
Tel. 965 85 35 12  
Fax 966 80 17 64  
info@hotelteremar.es  
www.hotelteremar.es

### Hotel Las Vegas \*\*

C/ Tomás Ortuño, 13  
Tel. 965 85 40 04  
Fax 966 80 63 11  
lasvegas@benidorm.net

### Hotel Vista Oro \*\*

C/ Ruzafa, 39  
Tel. 965 85 45 00  
Fax 965 85 45 04  
info@onasol.es  
www.onasol.es

### Hotel Iris \*

C/ La Palma, 47  
Tel. 965 85 31 29  
Fax 965 85 07 94

### Hotel Marbella \*

C/ Apolo XI, 34  
Tel. 965 85 49 58  
Fax 965 85 49 58  
hotel@marbella.com





Benidorm port



Poniente beach

**Hotel Molí \***

C/ del Molí, 5

Tel. 965 85 23 96

**Hotel Palm Court \***

C/ Mallorca, 16

Tel. 966 83 06 43

Fax 966 83 02 49

**Hotel Residencia Bristol \***

C/ Martínez Alejos, 1

Tel. 966 80 93 99

Fax 966 80 33 00

info@onasol.es

www.onasol.es

**Hotel Residencia Celymar \***

C/ Apolo XI, 19

Tel. 965 86 20 01

**Hotel Residencia Condestable \***

C/ Condestable Zaragoza, 40

Tel. 965 85 40 48

Fax 965 85 40 48

**Hotel Rocamar \***

C/ Cuatro Esquinas, 18

Tel. 965 85 05 52

Fax 965 85 28 17

administracion@amsteleria.e.telefonica.net

**Hotel Rosabel \***

C/ Tulipanes, 4

Tel. 965 85 13 45

**Hostal Asturias \***

C/ Garita, 8

Tel. 965 85 14 56

Fax 965 85 14 56



## Accommodation

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### Hostal La Jirafa \*

C/ Oviedo, 30  
Tel. 965 85 04 59  
Fax 965 85 04 59  
jirafa@wanadoo.es  
www.hostal-lajirafa.com

### Hostal El Primo \*

C/ Antonio Ramos Carratalá, 1  
Tel. 965 85 03 02  
Fax 965 85 62 97  
info@hostalelprimo.com  
www.hostalelprimo.com

### Hostal Queen's \*

Pl. Constitución, 5  
Tel. 966 81 29 96  
Fax 966 81 29 96  
info@queensbenidorm.com  
www.queensbenidorm.com

### Pensión Babylon

C/ Alicante, 28  
Tel. 966 88 95 60  
Fax 966 88 95 61  
babylonHotel@aol.com  
www.thebabylonhotel.com

### Pensión Don Juan

C/ Santa Faz, 28  
Tel. 966 80 91 65  
Fax 966 80 48 86  
donjuan@arrakis.es

### Pensión Dora

C/ Tomás Ortuño, 84 Ed. Ema I, 2º-A  
Tel. 965 85 00 09

### Pensión La Estrella

C/ Maravall, Ed. Aranjuez II, 1º-D, 11  
Tel. 965 85 70 24

### Pensión Jardín

C/ Tomás Ortuño, 8  
Tel. 965 85 06 20

### Pensión del Mar

C/ Pintor Lozano, 5  
Tel. 965 85 82 69

### Pensión La Orozca

C/ Ruzafa, 37  
Tel. 965 85 05 25

### Pensión Pardo

C/ Limones, 14  
Tel. 965 86 29 83

### Pensión Roca

Av. Beniardà, 3  
Tel. 965 85 24 57

### Pensión Rosa

C/ Venus, Ed. Algar Esc 2 1º-F, 1  
Tel. 965 85 00 02  
pensionrosa@terra.es  
www.hostalrosa.com

### Pensión Tabarca

C/ Ruzafa, 9  
Tel. 965 85 77 08

## Campings

### Camping Excálibur

1ª Categoría  
Camino Viejo del Albir, s/n  
Tel. 966 86 71 39  
Fax 966 86 69 28  
rexcalibur@hoteles-costablanca.com  
www.complejoexcalibur.com

### Camping Villasol

1ª Categoría  
Av. Bernat de Sarrià, s/n  
Tel. 965 85 04 22  
Fax 966 80 64 20  
info@camping-villasol.com  
www.camping-villasol.com

### Camping Arena Blanca

2ª Categoría  
Av. Dr. Severo Ochoa, 44  
Tel. 965 86 18 89  
Fax 965 86 11 07  
info@camping-arenablanca.es  
www.camping-arenablanca.es

### Camping Armanello

2ª Categoría  
Ctra. N-332, km. 123 - Partida Armanello  
Tel. 965 85 31 90  
Fax 965 85 31 00  
armanello@camping-arenablanca.es  
www.camping-arenablanca.es

### Camping Benidorm

2ª Categoría  
Av. Dr. Severo Ochoa, s/n  
Tel. 965 86 00 11

### Camping Benisol

2ª Categoría  
Av. Comunidad Valenciana, s/n  
Tel. 965 85 16 73  
Fax 965 86 08 95

### Camping El Racó

2ª Categoría  
Av. Dr. Severo Ochoa, 9  
Tel. 965 86 85 52  
Fax 965 86 85 44  
info@campingraco.com  
www.campingraco.com

### Camping Titus

2ª Categoría  
Av. Comunidad Valenciana, 124  
Tel. 966 80 67 50

### Camping La Torreta

2ª Categoría  
Av. Dr. Severo Ochoa, s/n  
Tel. 965 85 46 68  
Fax 966 80 26 53

### Camping Villamar

2ª Categoría  
Ctra. del Albir, km. 0'300  
Tel. 966 81 12 55  
Fax 966 81 35 40  
camping@camping-villamar.com  
www.campingvillamar.com



## Accommodation

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### Touristic Apartment blocks

#### Apartamentos Roybel

1ª Categoría  
Av. Europa, 5  
Tel. 965 85 02 03  
Fax 965 86 37 32  
direccion@belroy.es  
www.belroy.es

#### Apartamentos Les Dunes Suites

1ª Categoría  
Av. Madrid, 8  
Tel. 966 80 41 10  
Fax 966 80 51 06  
info@lesdunessuites.com  
www.lesdunessuites.com

#### Apartamentos Flamingo Benidorm

1ª Categoría  
C/ Marbella, 2  
Tel. 965 86 53 53  
Fax 965 86 34 07  
book.flamingobenidorm@marconfort.com  
www.marconfort.com

#### Apartamentos Levante Club IV

1ª Categoría  
C/ Estocolomo, s/n  
Tel. 965 86 27 83  
Fax 965 85 68 68  
reservas@hlc.grupo-centauro.com  
www.apartamentosturisticoslevante.com

#### Apartamentos Terralta

1ª Categoría  
Av. Nicaragua, 44  
Tel. 966 81 35 16  
Fax 966 81 16 60  
repcion@apartamentos-terralta.com  
www.apartamentos-terralta.com

#### Apartamentos Alpha

2ª Categoría  
C/ Kennedy, 8  
Tel. / Fax 966 80 49 66  
info@apartamentsbenidorm.com  
www.apartamentsbenidorm.com

#### Apartamentos Atlántida

2ª Categoría  
C/ San Pedro, 22  
Tel. 965 85 24 50

#### Apartamentos Bahía

2ª Categoría  
C/ Gijón, 1  
Tel. 965 85 30 94

#### Apartamentos La Barca

2ª Categoría  
C/ Condestable Zaragoza, 6  
Tel. 966 80 36 32

#### Apartamentos Benimar

2ª Categoría  
C/ Emilio Ortuño, 29  
Tel. / Fax 965 86 81 07

#### Apartamentos Cala Marina

2ª Categoría  
C/ Oviedo, 6  
Tel. 965 85 69 65

#### Apartamentos Don César

2ª Categoría  
Pl. del Torreón, 1  
Tel. / Fax 965 85 05 12  
aptosdoncesar@telefonica.net

#### Apartamentos La Era-Park

2ª Categoría  
C/ Verano, 8  
Tel. 966 80 66 51  
Fax 966 80 66 52  
erapark@erapark.com  
www.erapark.com



Benidorm island viewed from the beach

### **Apartamentos Flamingo Arena**

2ª Categoría

C/ Esperanto, 30

Tel. 965 86 53 52

Fax 966 80 21 24

[book.flamingoarena@marconfort.com](mailto:book.flamingoarena@marconfort.com)

[www.marconfort.com](http://www.marconfort.com)

### **Apartamentos Flamingo-Playa**

2ª Categoría

C/ Esperanto, 32

Tel. 965 85 53 52

Fax. 966 80 21 24

[flamingoplaya@marconfort.com](mailto:flamingoplaya@marconfort.com)

[www.marconfort.com](http://www.marconfort.com)

### **Apartamentos Halley**

2ª Categoría

C/ Londres, s/n

Tel. 965 86 40 56

Fax 965 86 52 91

[halley@apts.e.telefonica.net](mailto:halley@apts.e.telefonica.net)

### **Apartamentos Levante Beach**

2ª Categoría

C/ Estocolmo, 11

Tel. 966 80 23 02

Fax 965 85 68 68

[reservas@hlc.grupo-centauro.com](mailto:reservas@hlc.grupo-centauro.com)

[www.apartamentosturisticoslevante.com](http://www.apartamentosturisticoslevante.com)

### **Apartamentos Levante Club I**

2ª Categoría

C/ Bruselas, 8

Tel. 965 86 27 83

Fax 965 85 68 68

[reservas@hlc.grupo-centauro.com](mailto:reservas@hlc.grupo-centauro.com)

[www.apartamentosturisticoslevante.com](http://www.apartamentosturisticoslevante.com)

### **Apartamentos Levante Club II**

2ª Categoría

C/ Estocolmo, 8

Tel. 965 86 27 83

Fax 965 85 68 68

[reservas@hlc.grupo-centauro.com](mailto:reservas@hlc.grupo-centauro.com)



## Accommodation

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### **Apartamentos Levante Club III**

2ª Categoría  
C/ Estocolmo, 8  
el. 965 86 27 83  
Fax 965 85 68 68  
reservas@hlc.grupo-centauro.com  
www.apartamentosturisticoslevante.com

### **Apartamentos Levante Lux**

2ª Categoría  
C/ Estocolmo, 44  
Tel. 966 80 91 00  
Fax 966 80 92 02  
reservas@hlc.grupo-centauro.com  
www.apartamentosturisticoslevante.com

### **Apartamentos María Victoria**

2ª Categoría  
C/ Ibiza, 2  
Tel. 965 85 07 22

### **Apartamentos Michel Angelo**

2ª Categoría  
C/ Primavera, 6  
Tel. 965 85 71 50

### **Apartamentos Niza**

2ª Categoría  
C/ Cuenca, 7  
Tel. 966 80 52 19

### **Apartamentos Picasso**

2ª Categoría  
C/ Bruselas, 4  
Tel. / Fax 965 85 73 11

### **Apartamentos Primavera Dos**

2ª Categoría  
Av. Derramador, 9  
Tel. 966 81 23 84

### **Apartamentos Primavera Park**

2ª Categoría  
C/ Primera, 4  
Tel. 965 86 04 20  
Fax 965 86 94 68  
primavera@primavera.e.telefonica.net

### **Apartamentos Residencial Josefina**

2ª Categoría  
C/ Parcela, 6 de la U.A. 1  
Tel. 965 86 01 56



Terrace overlooking the Mediterranean

### **Apartamentos Sunsea II**

2ª Categoría

C/ Murcia, esquina C/ Lepanto s/n

Tel. 965 85 27 91

### **Apartamentos Sunsea III**

2ª Categoría

C/ Hamburgo, 15

Tel. 966 80 81 25

### **Apartamentos Viña del Mar**

2ª Categoría

Av. Mediterráneo, 47

Tel. 965 85 06 52





## Preparing your trip



### On the Internet

#### [www.comunitatvalenciana.com](http://www.comunitatvalenciana.com)

The Region of Valencia's tourist gateway contains detailed information to help you prepare your trip, as well as real-time pictures from three web cams in Benidorm. If you select Benidorm in the section devoted to the different towns, you'll find information on accommodation, tourist information offices, restaurants, beaches, water sports, leisure parks, local cinemas, cultural calendar, fiestas, monuments, museums, etc. The real-time weather information and the 5-day forecast are especially useful.

#### [www.benidorm.org](http://www.benidorm.org)

Benidorm Town Hall's official website offers comprehensive information and services for both residents and visitors alike. There is a full tourist guide with information on leisure activities, transport, routes, facilities, etc. There is also a link to the [www.laplazadebenidorm.com](http://www.laplazadebenidorm.com) website specialising in leisure activities.



### Climate

The climate is one of the main attractions of Benidorm. It is sited on a bay that is divided into two and protected by mountains, giving it a mild climate which is quite unique in the area. The average temperature is 23.7° in spring, 31.7° in summer, 19.2° in autumn and 18.7° in winter.

Its location means that the town is protected from the Levante winds, as the area is bordered by the Sierra Cortina to the west and

the Sierra Helada to the east. And to ensure that the cold north winds can't get past, blocking the way there's the Puig Campana, a mountain 1,410 metres high and famous for the silhouette of the gash known as El Tajo de Roldán



### Language

Spanish and Valencian are the two official languages, the latter being the local language of the Region of Valencia.



### Opening times

Most shops open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. (some in the centre close for a time at mid-day).

Banks: 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Government offices: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Lunch is usually served in restaurants from 12 a.m. to 3 p.m. and dinner from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Late-night bars: 11 p.m. to 3:30 a.m. and discos open from 6 p.m. to 7:30 a.m.



### Public holidays

January 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. New Year's Day and Epiphany.

March 19<sup>th</sup>. San José.

Good Friday and Easter Monday

May 1<sup>st</sup>. Labour Day.

August 15<sup>th</sup>. The Assumption of the Virgin.

October 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Day of the Region of Valencia and Day of the Hispanic World.

November 1<sup>st</sup>. All Saint's Day.





Poniente beach seafront promenade

Monday and Tuesday of the third week in November. Patron Saint Fiestas.

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Day of the Spanish Constitution, The Immaculate Virgin, Christmas Day.

*These dates depend on the official calendar approved every year.*



## Communications

The city is connected by road through the N332 main road and the AP-7 motorway, the FGV (Ferrocarril de la Generalitat Valenciana) railway connects Alicante and Dénia; there are regular bus services to the rest of Spain and Europe, and the El Altet airport (Elx) is 60 kilometres away.

### Estación de Autobuses (Bus station)

Av. de la Comunidad Europea, s/n  
Tel. 965 851 311



### Local buses

#### Llorente Bus

C/ Castellón, 4  
Polígono Industrial de Finestrat, 25

The bus company routes cover the whole town and some towns in the neighbouring area such as La Playa del Albir, L'Alfàs del Pi, Altea, Cala de Finestrat, Finestrat and Guadalest. The main bus stops are in La Plaza de la Hispanidad, Rincón de Loix and the Parque de Elche. The locals call the service “la gua-gua”.



### Coach services

#### Alsa

#### Estación de Autobuses (Bus station)

Av. de la Comunidad Europea, s/n  
Tel. 965 851 311



## Preparing your trip

Passenger coach service covering the Alicante-Valencia route, stopping at towns in between, as well as others that go non-stop along the AP-7. They also offer daily services to Barcelona, a service covering the local area that visits La Nucia, Polop de la Marina, Callosa d'En Sarrià and Guadalest and a transport service Airport-Benidorm-Airport.

### **Bilmanbús** **Estación de Autobuses (Bus station)**

Av. de la Comunidad Europea, s/n  
Tel. 965 851 311

A regular bus service to the Basque Country. There are two routes: Benidorm-Logroño-Vitoria-Bilbao and Benidorm-Pamplona-Tolosa-San Sebastián-Irún.

### **International coach services**

#### **Alsa** **Estación de Autobuses (Bus station)**

Av. de la Comunidad Europea, s/n  
Tel. 965 851 311

Buses travelling to and from different parts of Europe.

### **Iberbús-Linebús** C/ Portugal, s/n · Alicante Tel. 965 22 93 36 · 965 22 95 04

An international company linking Benidorm to such European countries as Belgium, Holland and Italy. Their main offices are in Alicante but you can get tickets from different travel agents in Benidorm.



The old town



Poniente seafront promenade



## Trains

**Ferrocarriles de la  
Generalitat Valenciana (FGV)**  
C/ Estación  
Tel. 965 85 18 95

You can travel along the Costa Blanca on the narrow-gauge railway. Benidorm is halfway along the route and from here you can go on some interesting excursions. The Alicante-Dénia line has a special late-night service in the summer that makes it easy to visit the discos and nightclubs along the way. The train is known as the “trensochador” – the overnighter.

## Renfe

Av. Salamanca, s/n · Alicante  
Tel. 902 24 02 02

You can take the train from Alicante to all parts of Spain.



## By air

**El Altet Airport**  
L'Altet (Elx) · Tel. 966 91 94 00  
[www.aena.es](http://www.aena.es)  
Spanish and international flights.



## Taxis

**Radio Taxi**  
Tel. 965 86 18 18 · 965 86 26 26

A 24-hour service. There are taxi ranks at strategic points throughout the town.



## Tourist information

**Contact Center Comunitat Valenciana**  
Tel. 902 12 32 12  
[info@comunitatvalenciana.com](mailto:info@comunitatvalenciana.com)

**Tourist Info Benidorm Centro**  
C/ Martínez Alejos, 16  
Tel. 965 85 32 24 · 965 85 13 11  
[benidorm@touristinfo.net](mailto:benidorm@touristinfo.net)

**Tourist Info Benidorm Europa**  
Avda. Europa, s/n  
Tel. 965 86 00 95  
[benidormeuropa@touristinfo.net](mailto:benidormeuropa@touristinfo.net)

**Tourist Info Benidorm Rincón de Loix**  
Av. Derramador, s/n (confluencia C/ Gerona)  
Tel. 966 80 59 14  
[benidormrincon@touristinfo.net](mailto:benidormrincon@touristinfo.net)



## Preparing your trip

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### Consulates

#### Dutch Consulate

Ctra. Finestrat, 7  
Urbanización El Planet  
Edificio SERVITUR  
Tel. 965 85 70 12

#### Finnish Consulate

C/ Almendros, 37-2º-izda  
Tel. 965 86 69 42

#### Icelandic Consulate

Av. del Mediterráneo, 37  
Edif. Casa de las Flores  
Tel. 965 85 16 67 · 965 85 08 63  
965 85 65 04

#### Norwegian Consulate

C/ Pal. Edif. Aurea-6º A y B, 1  
Tel. 965 85 21 66

#### Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic

C/ Ibiza, 15  
Apartamentos Triomar  
Tel. 965 85 32 83



### Useful telephone Numbers and addresses

#### Emergencies

112

#### Emergency Services

**Fire Service** 085  
**Local Police** 092  
**National Police** 091

#### Benidorm Town Hall

**Switchboard** 965 85 55 00

#### Health Services

**County Hospital** 966 85 98 00  
**24-hour Health Service** 900 16 11 61  
**Hospital Clínica**  
**Benidorm** 965 85 38 50  
**Hospital de Levante** 966 87 87 87



Benidorm island viewed from the lookout point



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*\*Tourist resources in this guide and on the town map*



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