

# gazette

FREE COPY AUGUST 2022

LIFE

LANZAROTE

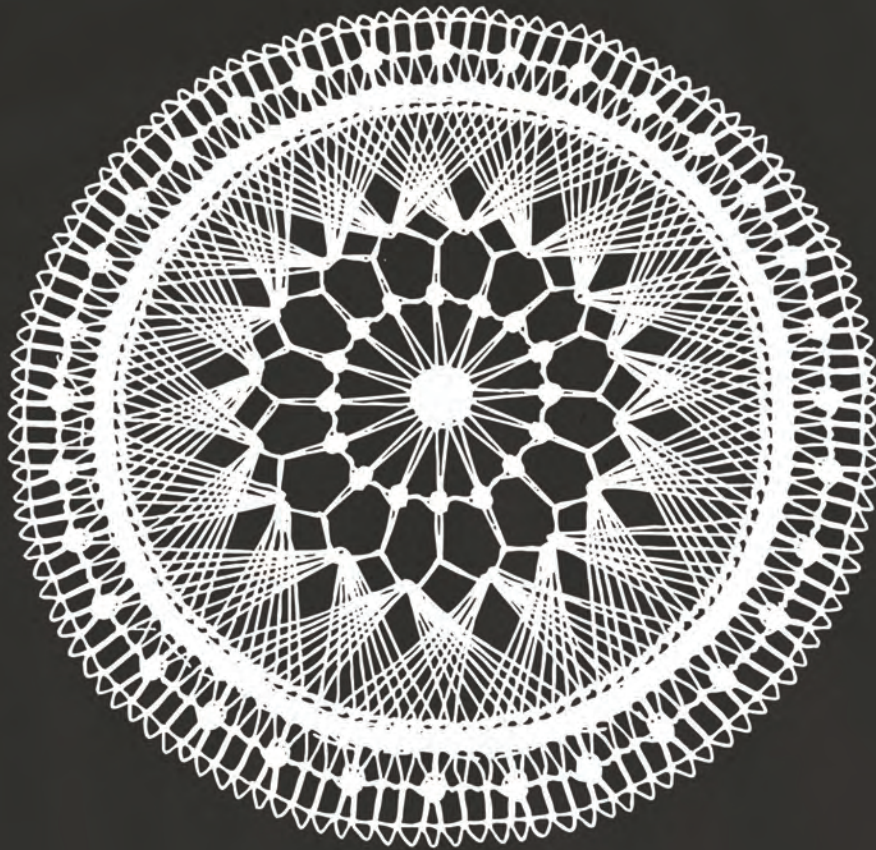




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# Artesanía de verano

IN PUERTO DEL CARMEN



August 25th to 28th, 2022, from 6pm to 10 pm  
at the Plaza del Varadero





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August 2022

GAZETTE LIFE

INTENSE PLEASURE

## Ed's letter

Summer fiestas are in full swing on Lanzarote now, and I'd urge anyone to get along to these unforgettable events. This month there's the joyous maritime parade in the harbour of Puerto del Carmen, when fishing boats toot their whistles and set off fireworks; there'll be lots of activity and big concerts in Arrecife and, my favourite of all, the pilgrimage to the beautiful, lonely church of The Virgen de las Nieves in Teguise, on the clifftop of Famara.

There's always a great atmosphere at fiestas, with people of all ages gathering to celebrate, food, drink and fun galore, but in high summer I also love to spend time in the resorts, where thousands of holiday makers will be wandering around and enjoying themselves, all determined to squeeze every last drop of enjoyment out of their time on Lanzarote.

This will be the first August for three years when Lanzarote gets back into high gear, a well-oiled machine designed to make tourists happy and

send them home sun-kissed and relaxed, with memories that will last a lifetime. Most of those fiestas are also taking place for the first time in ages, adding another reason for celebration.

It's a spooky sensation to look back at those strange photos from the last two years, when the resorts were virtually empty, shutters were down everywhere and sunbeds were stacked unused. Last year I once walked the whole length of the airport departures zone alone, my footsteps the only sound in a place that is now packed from morning to night.

Those days are now gone, and hopefully for good. If anything, they've allowed us to appreciate what we've got all the more and not take our good fortune for granted.

So have a great August, lift your glasses, jump into the sea, dance and sing your heart out and enjoy the intense pleasures of high summer on Lanzarote to the maximum.

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### EMAIL CONTACTS

EDITORIAL: [editorial@gazettelife.com](mailto:editorial@gazettelife.com)  
ADVERTISING: [advertising@gazettelife.com](mailto:advertising@gazettelife.com)  
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# TOURISM REMAINS RESILIENT



Yaiza Castilla



**THE UNITED KINGDOM REMAINS LANZAROTE'S MOST IMPORTANT TOURIST MARKET BY FAR, ACCOUNTING FOR MORE THAN HALF OF ALL FOREIGN VISITORS TO THE ISLAND THIS YEAR SO FAR.**

One of every two foreign visitors to Lanzarote is British, according to official Cabildo statistics. Of the 928,537 foreign tourists to the islands by the end of May this year, 471,900 came from the UK. That figure is certain to have increased in the two months since.

The figures also show that Lanzarote and the Canaries have now exceeded equivalent figures for 2019 – the last year before the Covid pandemic – for the first time. The Canaries was the first Spanish tourist destination to “get back to normal” in this respect.

Nevertheless, although things appear to be rapidly returning to normal, the figures have failed to reflect earlier high hopes for

a bumper year that followed the removal of travel restrictions, and it is uncertain whether the increase of 16% in flights to Lanzarote for the summer season will be filled. The main reasons for the cooling of expectations are the increase in fuel prices and the cost of living throughout Europe as a result of inflation and the war in Ukraine.

Canarian Tourist Minister Yaiza Castilla recently highlighted that the cutting off of Russian gas supplies to Germany could have a serious effect on the Canaries' second-most important market. As a result of these threats, the Canarian Government has launched campaigns to attract longer-term tourists, such as remote workers and the “silver” market of retired holiday makers.

Lanzarote and the Canaries now also face the resurgence of competing destinations such as Greece, Turkey and Portugal, which now appear to be in a much stronger positions than they were pre-Covid, and which have been aggressively seeking new tourists.

Nevertheless, all the current indicators support the opinion that Canarian tourism has shown a surprising resilience, not least among its most faithful and numerous visitors.

**"FIGURES ARE NOW BETTER THAN BEFORE COVID."**

## LANZAROTE PREMIUM • • • •

The island's authorities have been working towards updating the Lanzarote brand for some time, and a meeting of the Society for Foreign Promotion of Lanzarote last month helped to clarify the focus of the Lanzarote Premium brand, launched last year.



María Dolores Corujo, President of the island's Cabildo, said that the “Lanzarote Premium brand would promote values such as sustainability and quality in tourism, with the figure of César Manrique as the standard bearer for the island.”

Lanzarote Premium is a project that aims to attract tourists with greater spending capacity, and to extend the potential tourist markets for the island. Last month, for example, Corujo welcomed a delegation of Japanese travel agents to the island.



# LOCAL NEWS

## TRIBUTE TO THE FISHERMAN

Playa Blanca has paid tribute to its roots as a fishing village by erecting a new statue in the centre of town on the roundabout which previously hosted a ship's anchor. The new statue depicts a fisherman standing in a boat.

President of the Playa Blanca Fishermen's Association, Cristo Caraballo, expressed his happiness, stating "Sailors and their families will see this tribute as deserved recognition for their work. Thanks to the Ayuntamiento for this sculpture that everyone who visits Playa Blanca will be able to see and appreciate".



The sculpture is located just a short distance from Playa Blanca's beach and the sea.

Yaiza Mayor Óscar Noda thanked the artist Cinta Machín for her work and councillor Rubén Arca for his efforts to make it happen.

## MORE DRIVERS AND CARS THAN EVER

There are more drivers and motor vehicles on Lanzarote than at any other time in history, it has been revealed.

Recent statistics released by Lanzarote Cabildo's Department of Information show that 86,200 islanders currently have a driving licence, meaning that roughly seven out of ten of the adult population are qualified to drive. This is the highest number of drivers ever recorded on the island.

The figures also show that approximately 100 people pass their driving tests and are added to the total every month.

The figures coincide with the highest number of vehicles the island has ever seen on its roads. There are currently 90,152 cars and 30,761 vans and lorries registered on the island.



## ISLOTE TO OPEN

The Cabildo has reached an agreement for the management and operation of the Islote de la Fermina in Arrecife.

The Islote de la Fermina lies off the coast just by the Gran Hotel and has been closed to the public for several years, despite being the site of a spectacular swimming pool complex designed by César Manrique. Renovations to the Islote were completed early last year, but there has been widespread criticism that the complex has only been used

for private or invitation-only events since then, effectively remaining closed to the public who paid for it.

The CACT (Centres of Arts, Culture and Tourism) will be responsible for the management of the Islote, which will be used for leisure activities and have a cafeteria, as well as being the headquarters for the Lanzarote Coastal Observatory.

Nevertheless, no fixed date for opening has yet been announced.

## PLANE PROBLEMS

Two planes were forced to return to Lanzarote Airport last month.

In the first case, a Tenerife-bound flight doubled back after take-off when a child passenger fell unconscious. The pilot declared an emergency and landed once again at Lanzarote, where emergency medical services were waiting.

In the second instance, a Hamburg-bound plane returned to the airport after one of its engines caught fire shortly after take-off. The cause of the fire has not been confirmed, but the calmness of the flight crew has been praised.

## LANZAROTE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Find us in Tías - Camino la Vega 13

'REJOICE IN THE LORD'

We are so looking forward to our re-opening on Sunday 11th Sept at 11am. We would love to have your company on this our special occasion. You will be assured of a very warm welcome.



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**Rev. Adrian Hallett on 609 542 206**  
or visit our website:  
[www.lanzarotechristianfellowship.com](http://www.lanzarotechristianfellowship.com)  
or on facebook: Lanzarote Christian Fellowship



## TRAGIC DEATH AT LA SANTA

A tragic incident in La Santa has resulted in a homicide investigation.

Last month, emergency services were alerted to an accident that had occurred on Montaña Picacho just outside of La Santa. Two people were trapped inside the car, which had left the road and fallen down a steep incline. Later it was confirmed that an 81-year-old man had died in the accident. A 75-year-old woman was taken by rescue helicopter to the Doctor Negrín hospital in Gran Canaria.

It was later announced that the woman was under investigation for homicide, after it emerged that she had sent WhatsApp messages to relatives announcing her intention to crash the car. Reports indicate that the man suffered from a medical condition that affected his ability to make decisions.

## ARSON ACTION

Lanzarote's Security Committee met last month to tackle the spate of arson attacks on rubbish containers in recent weeks.

The meeting was arranged by the island's Government Delegation and attended by the island's seven mayors, its seven local police chiefs, representatives from the Guardia Civil, the National Police and the Consortium of Security and Emergencies (fire brigade), and the Cabildo's waste disposal councillor.

"This is a serious problem that affects the whole island," said Arrecife's Mayor Astrid Pérez, "The best way to address it is that all the island's public corporations take part and work together to wipe it out."

## ZARA TO RETURN TO ARRECIFE

Spanish clothing shop Zara has confirmed that it will be opening in Arrecife's new Open Mall, scheduled to open in autumn.

The Canarian official bulletin reported last month that Zara España S.A. had applied for a licence to open a large shop within the shopping centre.

This will mean the return of one of Spain's most popular fashion outlets to Arrecife, after the branch on Calle Real in the city centre was closed in May last year. Zara has one other store on the island, in the Biosfera Centre at Puerto del Carmen.



## NO RESPECT

Four French tourists were kicked out of the Jameos del Agua last month after they decided to take a dip in the natural lake at the tourist attraction.

The lake is home to an extremely rare population of blind white cave crabs, and is the only location in the world where these creatures can be seen by tourists. Some years

ago, authorities were forced to put up signs telling people not to throw coins in the lake, as they could cause chemical changes to the habitat of the crabs.

Bathing in the lake is, of course, completely forbidden. Benjamin Perdomo, head of the Tourist Centres, said he was "shocked and extremely angered" by the actions of the tourists, while staff at the Jameos have requested a stricter protocol in cases such as this.



## MADEIRA DIRECT

Lanzarote welcomed the first direct flight to arrive on the island from Funchal, Madeira, last month.

Although Canarian airline Binter had been flying to its fellow Atlantic Island from other islands since 2005, this is the first direct connection with Lanzarote. The route operates weekly on Saturdays.

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Calle La Peña nº10, (above Foto Event)  
35580, Playa Blanca - Yaiza - Lanzarote

#### By appointment only

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Calle San Carlos 1, Nº. 26 Local 2 - Pto. del Carmen  
(Opp. Lidl beside Hiperdino Express and Tias Land Registry Office)



# ISLAND INFO

## NEW PRESIDENT FOR AGE IN SPAIN

John Rafferty has been appointed the new President of Age In Spain, the organisation dedicated to supporting older English -language speakers living in Spain or thinking of moving there.

John is a Scot living in Santiago de Compostela and started as a volunteer with Age In Spain's Residency Helpline. He later became a trustee and convened a campaign group which has delivered awareness raising campaigns on dementia and on what is involved in

moving to or living in Spain.

Commenting on his election as President, John said 'I am delighted to accept this role and I very much look forward to contributing to the magnificent work carried out by the many volunteers who are at the heart of Age in Spain. The organisation has been serving English speakers in Spain for 30 years and has provided many vital services to those needing support and information, particularly the most vulnerable.'

## ANGLICAN CHURCH SERVICES

Anglican Church Services will be as usual in August. Holy Communion will take place on Sunday the 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th of August, at Puerto del Carmen at 12.30pm and Playa Blanca at 5 pm.

**Special Note:** At 12.30 pm on Sunday 4th September in Puerto del Carmen, there will be a combined service with Holy Communion and a service to bid farewell to Father Stan and Rosemary.

## TEGUISE ON TOP

All the best to the Palmera Concept Store, a brand new boutique in the central square of Teguiase that offers unique clothes, accessories, soaps and candles.

We'd also like to announce that the

popular Hespérides Restaurant on C/ León y Castillo in Teguiase's town centre has also changed ownership, and wish the very best to Yeus and his team.

Both businesses opened in time for last month's hugely successful Noche Blanca – the "White Night" that attracted thousands to the pretty old town.

## FULL CIRCLE FOR IRIS!

Well done to Iris Heath, who completed her virtual walking circuit of Lanzarote in just over two months.

Iris set out on her 123-mile walk, equivalent to the circumference of the island, from her Bristol home in mid-April and finally returned full circle to virtual Playa Blanca on 18th June, just a few days before her 87th birthday.

As if that weren't enough of an achievement, Iris also raised £844 for Parkinson's Research, in memory of her late husband John, with



whom she spent many happy times on Lanzarote.

## STEVE SHAW – TO THE STARS

Sue Almond remembers her partner, long-time Lanzarote resident Steve Shaw, who died this June:

Steve was a sportsman: a glider pilot (flying solo by the age of 14) a climber, a squash player, a scuba diver, a skier, and a qualified boat handler, but he first came to Lanzarote for the windsurfing.

His father was in the RAF, and even as a child, all Steve wanted to do was fly. He joined the RAF as soon as he left school, and later saw active service in the Falklands War.



But England couldn't hold Steve for long. He went to Zimbabwe and, later, Oman, where he served in the Omani Air Force and still held an Omani passport when we met in 2004.

My years in Lanzarote were the happiest years of my life and most of them were spent with Steve. We made friends for life, and had a great social life; quiz nights, themed events, and fund raisers at our 'local', Cohoba. The owners, Jeff and Kirstie, became great friends and visited Steve from London, where they now live, when he was in hospital. So did Kevin, who flew in specially to see him, and several other friends from our time in Lanzarote. Other Lanzarote friends have visited on our canal boat 'Manrique', named for the artist we both admired.

Leaving Lanzarote was hard but the right decision. We both wanted one more adventure, so we decided we would live on a canal boat and explore England by water. We bought a sail away, a sixty-foot by ten-foot tin bath with nothing but an engine on board. Inside Steve built a comfortable and attractive 'apartment'. It was a labour of love, every piece of wood, every wire, every pipe, every tile the work of one pair of hands. Sadly, he did not quite get to finish it, a source of grievous frustration to him when he became ill, but the final details will be completed. That is my promise to him.

Steve was diagnosed, out of the blue, with cancer on his brain on 5 April 2022 and admitted to hospital the same day. It was very hard for Steve and harrowing to witness, but that is over now. He died on 17 June 2022 in Bolton Hospice.

Steve was an adventurer. I do not think he would have changed much in his life and surely that is what we would all like to be able to say at the end of our journey. He always thought of himself as military and the motto of the Royal Air force is Per Ardua Ad Astra – through adversity to the stars.



## PACMA BACK ADEMAL

PACMA, the Spanish Animal Rights Party, has appealed to the Canarian Commission for Transparency following Haría Ayuntamiento's failure to respond to almost 20 complaints of animal cruelty.

The announcement comes after PACMA's official request for information on the status of the complaints, which were originally placed by Lanzarote's animal rights association Ademal, was met with silence.

Ademal have been highly critical of the attitude of Haría councillor Evelia García, in relation to the complaints.

Yolandas Morales of PACMA said "We guess that the Ayuntamiento is trying to treat our request in the same way that it does with those of other citizens who have demanded explanations: give us the runaround or just ignore us. That's why we've had to take a further step and refer the situation to a higher authority."

## CONGRATULATIONS, SMILE VET!

Congratulations to Smile Vet in Puerto del Carmen, who celebrate their 8th anniversary this month. That's eight years providing the best possible care for the island's pets and peace of mind for their owners. Here's to many more anniversaries!

## DOG AND CAT OF THE MONTH

Airon is a sweet, but lonely, older French bulldog. At just over nine-years-old this lovely Grandpa is on SARA's PAP scheme (which means that the shelter will pay for his medical costs). He has some mobility issues but loves the company of people and just wants a home of his own for his golden years. Find out more about him at [www.saraprotectora.org](http://www.saraprotectora.org) or book an appointment on 928 173 417 (English spoken). Dog walkers welcome from 10.30 13.00 Monday-Saturday (Saturday by appointment only). If it is your first visit, please bring ID.

Pegui is a friendly, two-year-old female cat. This distinctive-looking girl is a little shy at first but has recently grown in confidence and is ready for adoption in a new home. Could you be the perfect match for Pegui? She is available now from SARA.



Find out how to meet her and about adoptions at [www.saraprotectora.org](http://www.saraprotectora.org).

*There are also limited places for people to help with socialising cats.  
Email [info@sara-lanzarote.eu](mailto:info@sara-lanzarote.eu).*



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# THE SCARS OF TAJOGAITE



Last year's volcanic eruption on La Palma not only changed the face of the island; it has left lasting scars on local residents.

The naming of the volcano is just part of the long process of coming to terms with the disaster.

The volcano that erupted last September in La Palma will officially be called the Volcán de Tajogaite after an online poll in which 35% of voters chose this name, while another 24% chose the close variant Tagojaite. This name was clear favourite in the areas most affected by the volcano – Los Llanos de Aridane, El Paso and Tazocorte.

Tajogaite was first proposed by researchers from Involcan, the Canarian volcano institute, during the eruption last year. The word means “split mountain” in the original Guanche language of the islands, reflecting the location of the eruption and its subsequent appearance.

Another name, Volcán de la Desgracia (Volcano of Misfortune) was rejected, but the fact that it was proposed in the first place shows the deep scars that the eruption has left on the island known as 'la isla bonita.’’

More than six months after the volcano ceased erupting, around 280 La Palma residents are still living in hotel accommodation, unable to return to their homes because of the continued risk of toxic gases.

Meanwhile, health professionals on La Palma have warned of continuing mental health and post-traumatic symptoms among the residents of the zone. Months of thunderous rumbling and permanent anxiety during the eruption have clearly left their mark on locals. Psychologist Aurora Soria, who works with children in the affected zones says that “Any loud noise can make people fear a further eruption.”

## TOURISM&RECONCILIATION

During the eruption some tensions arose between islanders and visitors who came to the island to see the spectacle of the first land-based eruption on the Canaries for fifty years. There were complaints that tourist companies were exploiting the misery of the islanders.

However, tourism remains an important industry on La Palma, and 240 people each day are taken on the newest route in Europe, a walking route that takes them through still smoking ashfields to within 500 metres of the volcano. The route is popular with tourists to the island, but also with locals. Guide Romeo Weber told ABC “Many locals want nothing to do with the “wretched volcano”, but many others want to come and look at it face to face, to get closure, to come to terms with the monster that ruined their lives.”



# Investment Trends and Diversification

The world is constantly evolving and we as human beings are continuing to change with it. Financial markets are no exception and along with legislation, investment trends also change over time.

An investment trend is a shift of emphasis from investors to a particular stock, sector or market which they expect to grow substantially in the future. The majority of clients will, however, have little knowledge about underlying funds and so this highlights one of the major benefits of engaging with a financial adviser.

Whilst some trends can be short-lived events, such as a switch to commodities when markets are volatile, others have a more indefinite timescale. If you can time an investment right into this type of trend, you could achieve some excellent returns over time.

A good example of this was in 2020 when we saw Covid-19 starting to cause a real problem worldwide. We sat down here at Logic to discuss our thoughts on how Covid would most likely affect markets. We identified not only potential issues at the time, but also investment opportunities for clients moving forward. One of the conclusions we drew was how important technology would be during the period of remote working and restricted mobility. We recommended that our clients increased their exposure within the technology sector and those that did, benefitted significantly.

Another increasingly popular way of managing money is by engaging with Discretionary Fund Manager (third-party investment specialist) whose sole responsibility is to manage money in accordance with your attitude to risk. This is another "trend" we are seeing within the industry, but one which we manage money in accordance with your attitude to risk. This is another "trend" we are seeing within the industry, but one which we can only see getting bigger, as more and more IFA's see the benefits of engaging with investment specialists during these volatile times.



Above all, diversification and regular servicing of your investments remain key. It is of no use having money invested in assets which were exceptional 10 years ago but are no longer keeping pace with the changes in life and investment trends. The importance of reviewing portfolios on a regular basis should never be underestimated and we believe that as part of the ongoing servicing of your investments, your financial adviser should be in regular contact with you keeping you informed.

Holding a diversified portfolio of proven funds will go a long way to protecting your investment in the event of a downturn in markets, at the same time as providing you with a solid portfolio capable of delivering positive and consistent returns over the medium-to-long term.

If you would like to talk to us about your existing portfolio, or you are looking at creating a new investment, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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# MARKET CHANGES

Every Sunday morning, the quiet town of Teguise becomes one of the busiest places in Spain, as thousands of tourists arrive for the weekly market. It's the biggest of its kind on the Canaries, and has turned the ancient capital of Lanzarote into a tourist attraction for decades.



*The market was moved to the square during the pandemic.*

But there have been big changes at the market recently. In the pretty back streets of the town, a thriving Sunday scene where visitors would happily jostle shoulder-to-shoulder to browse the stalls and listen to live music has disappeared, and business owners whose livelihoods depend on market-goers are losing out.

The change started with the pandemic, which led to the closure of the market for several months. When it re-opened, it was under a strict security plan that limited the amount of people who could enter. Stalls in the streets of old town were removed and everything took place in an easily-contained area in the large square of La Mareta.

Now that restrictions are over, it has been decided to keep the market restricted to this large area, and prevent the return of stalls to

the streets and squares of the old town where the market commenced.

Markets Councillor Eugenio Robayna explains that this decision was taken after consulting with local residents. Robayna says that the changes now mean that the old town of Teguise is now easier to enjoy, a quiet place where visitors can still wander, popping into the shops, cafes and museums that are found there. However, some business owners in the historical streets of Teguise are upset by the change, which they claim has drastically reduced footfall and, thus, takings.

Natalia, the owner of El Recoveco bar, says "Previously, the stalls here would attract people all morning. We'd be working from 10am onwards. Now we don't start until 12." Luca Mattiello, who runs the neighbouring shop Property Of, says that business has fallen

by at least 60% since the decision.

Petra Bogle, who has been selling handmade jewellery made from lava and olivina from her Isla del Tesoro shop for 13 years says "Nowadays I make more money in the week than I do on Sundays. This street, Calle de El Rayo, used to be known as the "street of crafts". Now there are no stalls on Sunday, and nothing to attract people."

But it's not just business opportunities that are feared lost. Natalia says "The whole point of this market was that it was a street market - it took place in the streets of Teguise. Now that it's all up on the Plaza it just looks like any other market."

Luca agrees, saying "It's lost its charm but, more than that, it's lost its essence." He points out that the street stalls and live music naturally led visitors around the old town. "People are attracted by activity," he says. "Lose the activity and you lose the people."

Paul and Laura at the Hand Art Studio are also losing out. They only open on Sundays, and say "people need a reason to come to this part of town, but with no stalls and no music, there's much less life in the street."

Indigo Bucher, who owns the Emporium shop in Teguise's beautiful old cinema





*Stalls like this are no longer permitted in the town's historical old streets*



building, understands why stalls were removed from the streets, but also believes that the effect on local businesses is damaging “If they returned half of the stalls to the streets in a more organised way, that would guarantee more footfall in the street, and I'd probably double my takings on Sundays,” he told us.

On the other hand, Sonja Genovesi, who owns the Lunacaracol children's clothing shop just off Tegui's central square, welcomes the changes. “The square is now much less cluttered, and people can see the shops,” she says. “Previously, everything closed down at 2pm because sellers were dismantling their stores, but now they stay until 4 or 5 o'clock.”

Eugenio Robayna says that the council is

preparing a document that will “integrate and dynamise the market, and local businesses will be a part of the process.” He says “What we want is that, at 3 o'clock on Sunday afternoon, everyone leaves the market happy: the taxi drivers, the bus drivers, the parking attendants, the shopkeepers and restaurant owners and, of course, the thousands of visitors.”

As Lanzarote regains its tourism, we'll soon find out its verdict on the changes at the market, but it's fair to say that not all shopkeepers and restaurant owners are closing their doors on Sunday with a smile on their face.

*You can read much more about the unique attractions of Tegui in our special feature on pages 26 to 33.*

## CASTLE TO OPEN SOON

According to Tegui's Public Works councillor Eugenio Robayna, the Castillo de Santa Bárbara that overlooks Tegui and is home to the Pirate Museum should be open “in autumn”. Robayna told us that the council expects the works to be completed by the end of September, after which the castle can re-open.



Other projects that Tegui are currently undertaking include a civic centre and sports stadium in Costa Tegui, extensive lighting works and improvement of the public gardens in the resort; a civic centre at Las Caletas; new parks and sports courts in Tahiche.

However, Robayna says there is no indication from the Cabildo that the Saborea Lanzarote Food Fair will return to the town this year. “It takes a lot of time to prepare for this event, and nothing has been done yet,” he told us, “So we can only assume it's not going ahead.”

“We'll also be celebrating Costa Tegui's 50th anniversary from October,” says Robayna, “And there'll be several events.”

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# CAMEL FARES RISE!

The price of a camel ride at the Fire Mountains of Timanfaya almost doubled last month, with the fee for each place on a two-seat camel increasing from €6 to €11.



Camel transport has been a bit of a bargain for years. It's been 14 years since the last price rise, which took place during the financial crash of 2008. Since then, consumer prices have risen by almost 20% on the Canaries.

More to the point, the price rise may help maintain the camel industry in Uga. The president of the Camel Owners Association in Lanzarote, Francisco Mesa, recently pointed out that the total of camels on the island had more than halved in recent years, due to people leaving the trade.

There have been few complaints about the price increase, which most tourists still seem to think is a reasonable price for such a unique experience.

Lanzarote camels were brought to the island from Africa shortly after the conquest of the islands and soon became one of the most important animals on the island – vital for the transport of goods and water, as well as farmyard tasks such as harrowing, threshing, or grinding gofio. Camels were also a stately means of transport, used mainly by wealthy islanders or visitors.

The arrival of motor vehicles and roads brought an end to this reliance, although in 1940 there were still 3,000 camels on the island – about ten times as many as today.

Yaiza Ayuntamiento has recently announced the building of a €500,000 camel centre in Uga, which will also pay tribute to the role of the camel and camel farmers in the island's history.



## WINE FESTIVAL

Camels can be seen at their traditional labours at the Bodega La Gería on the 15th of this month.

Each year on this date, the bodega opens its doors to visitors who can watch workers in traditional dress picking and bringing crates of grapes in by camel. The grapes are placed in a stone vat where visitors get a chance to tread them barefoot.

The celebrations later move to the little church, the Ermita de Caridad, which was buried by ash during the eruptions of 1730-1736.



# Inheritance tax in the Canary Islands.

## How does it affect your family? *By Paul Montague, Partner, Blevins Franks*

If you are living in Lanzarote you need to be prepared for how Spain's version of inheritance tax could affect you and your family.

### Spanish succession and gift tax is due if:

1. The beneficiary of an inheritance or recipient of a lifetime gift is resident in Spain; and/or
2. The asset being inherited or gifted is a Spanish asset.

### Key facts

This tax is governed by both state and regional autonomous community rules; each community has the right to amend the state rules.

- Tax is paid by each recipient.
- Spouses are not exempt.

Beneficiaries are divided into categories. Children and grandchildren under 21 are Group I. Spouses, older descendants, ascendants are Group II. Group III comprises siblings, cousins, nieces/nephews, aunts/uncles. Most other people fall into Group IV including unmarried couples (even when registered as pareja de hecho).

### The state allowances and rates

- Allowances are just €15,956 for spouses, descendants and ascendants (children under 21 get an extra €3,990 a year); €7,993 for Group III beneficiaries and nil for Group IV. Disabled beneficiaries receive extra allowances.
- There is a 95% reduction against the value of the main home (maximum €122,606 per inheritor) when inherited by a spouse or descendant and they keep it for 10 years.
- Tax is applied at progressive rates from 7.65% to 34%. Multipliers, depending on the recipient, can take the tax higher.

### Canary Islands regional rules

- Children under 21 receive a 99.9% relief on inheritances and gifts.
- Group II and III beneficiaries receive a relief on inheritances which starts at 99.9% for inheritances up to €55,000, then tapers down over nine bands to 10% for inheritances between €275,000 and €305,000.

The allowances for inheritances for Group II and III beneficiaries are higher than the state ones. For example, spouses & pareja de hecho registered couples have a €40,000 allowance; children over 21 get €23,125; other descendants and ascendants €18,500 and group III beneficiaries €9,300.

The main home deduction increases to 99% (maximum €200,000) and the property only needs to be kept for five years.

It's important to understand the various succession tax rules – not to mention UK inheritance tax – and how they apply to your family. Take specialist cross-border advice on the intricacies of the two tax regimes, the interaction between them, and how to lower tax liabilities for your family and heirs.

*Summarised tax information is based upon our understanding of current laws and practices which may change. Individuals should seek personalised advice.*

*Keep up to date on the financial issues that may affect you on the Blevins Franks news page at [www.blevinsfranks.com](http://www.blevinsfranks.com).*

## Buying property. Selling property. Downsizing. Keeping UK property. What tax will you pay?

Whether the property is in Spain or the UK, whether it's your home or an investment, there are many tax implications to consider.

Besides capital gains tax and income tax on rentals, we also need to consider Spain's annual wealth tax and plan ahead for Spanish succession tax. And when moving country, are you better off selling as a Spain or UK tax resident?

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# LANZAROTE'S DEEP PAST



Shadows of clouds rush swiftly across the desert region of El Jable, driven by the same winds that have swept sand across the island to the southern beaches for thousands of years. With the cliffs of Famara in the distance, it's a beautiful but desolate place.

**B**ut this region is also home to some of the oldest human settlements on the Canaries, and the Fiquinino settlement is one of the most important.

A few ridges and rocky outcrops break the monotony of the sandy plain. One of them is called the Peña de las Cucharas (Spoon Rock), not because it is shaped like a spoon, but because it is surrounded by thousands of the empty limpet shells which were used as spoons in ancient times.

A closer look at this jumble of rocks reveals man-made walls and chambers in various states of preservation, and it's here where the people who used those shells lived. This settlement was first discovered and referred to professional archeologists by Juan Brito, during his tireless explorations of the island in the 1970s.

Archeologists believe the settlement was originally a Casa Honda (deep house) occupied by the Maho



▲ *The Fiquinino settlement.*

◀ *Aerial view of the ruins in the El Jable desert region.*

natives of the island in the centuries before the Spanish conquest. These dwellings were built around caves or depressions in the ground, providing shelter from the wind and sun. The earliest relic on the site is a hole-punch made from the bone of a goat which dates from the year

1290, and there are also tools made of chalcedony stone which are believed to date from the pre-Conquest era.

Following the conquest, the site gradually changed its use, and the population of local natives gave way to slaves from North Africa - at one point most of the inhabitants of the island were slaves, or descendants of slaves. One census of the area in 1735 gives the population of the





Fiquineo settlement as 5 vecinos (residents). A vecino was a landowner and would usually have a number of slaves who were never listed in official records. In reality, those 5 residents mean a population of around 25 people.

This was a lower number of people than had been usual. Towards the end of the 17th century, pirate raids forced many islanders to move away from the coasts to the centre of the island. But the remains at the site make it plain that there was a thriving community here before that time.

Archeologists have discovered grains of barley, pottery shards, a bone dagger handle, fragments of a sword, Portuguese coins and ornamental items made of gold, silver, jet, and turquoise. There may be many more discoveries to come.

## THE SECRETS OF ZONZAMAS

Directly opposite the entrance to Lanzarote's rubbish dump – a volcanic crater that has been gradually filled with the rubbish of generations of islanders – lies the ancient site of Zonzamas, the most important archeological site on the island.

Zonzamas was the home of the last King of Lanzarote, Guadarfia, and despite the dump, the ancient settlement is still an impressive part of the island, overlooking the strange, sandy-coloured mountain of Ubigüe to the north, which now lies north of the 500-metre-

wide river of black lava that flowed past Tahiche in the 18th century.

This area is rich in ancient heritage, and signs of archeological excavations are everywhere. Close to the old village is a striking concrete structure that is as modern as its surroundings are ancient. This is the abandoned project for a proposed museum of archeological heritage.

Whether the museum will ever be opened is still unconfirmed, but there is certainly a new impetus to the exploration of Zonzamas. A large marquee has recently been erected to protect excavations from the rain.



## THE PAST ONLINE

Last month, Ariagona González, the Heritage Minister of Lanzarote's Cabildo launched a website that aims to catalogue every archeological discovery on Lanzarote.

The website [www.fondoarqueologicolanzarote.com](http://www.fondoarqueologicolanzarote.com) already contains over 2,500 entries, ranging from strange carved idols to a human scalp. Each entry is presented with full information about its size, place of discovery and composition.

There remain at least 8,000 entries to be added to the database, and more are likely to emerge as digs continue in the most important archeological sites of the island.



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# DAVID'S DETOURS A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

From Finca la Florida into Volcano Country



*A natural lava path.*

**Tour guide David Penney leads a group through wine country and across a river of volcanic lava, in the gorgeous rural centre of the island.**

Our party was formed of nine people from six different nationalities accompanied by two wee doggies, Coco, and Neo. We parked at the lower carpark next to the vineyards behind the rural hotel at Finca La Florida – just off the LZ30 road through La Geria. At this time of year, we had arranged to set off early at 9 am to ensure we finished before the fierce midday heat.

We left the hotel car park, walked to the junction in front of the hotel and then turned right along the side road called Calle Sobaco, which is signposted to Bodega Los Bermejos. The mustard-coloured building here will serve as a useful landmark later in the walk.

Continue along this road past Bodega Los Bermejos and follow the road round a couple of bends to the end, when it becomes a track. This track takes you across the smooth lava flow of pahoe-hoe lava. Pahoe-hoe is a word from Hawaii meaning “coiled rope”, and there are several good examples along the track where you can see these distinctive swirling patterns in the lava flow.

*A jameo beneath a crust of lava.*



Pahoe-hoe lava is often contrasted with the rough, sharp AA lava, but this type of lava had a much lower temperature than the AA lava and cooled down more gradually, forming a smooth crust rather than the rough jagged surface of AA lava. This makes it a lot easier to walk across.

On either side of the track you will see that the landscape is peppered with tiny jameos, where lava bubbles broke through the crust of the lava. This allows you to get a glimpse beneath the crust.

We carry on to the end of the lava field, passing the rural white house which is

set back just off the road. This house is guarded by a large dog on a chain but keep to the track and you will be OK.

As we join the LZ 58 road we turn right and walk along the road up over the small hill, continuing past an old, abandoned property with metal gates. Continue along the road for about half a kilometre until you see a farmer's track branching off to the right. We're now skirting around Morro de Chibusque, so we leave the road and continue past a finca set back on the left, walk past this to the end of the track, which is a T junction, turn right here and start the return section of our route.

## WALK INFO

**Distance:** 8 kms

**Time:** 2 – 2.5 hours

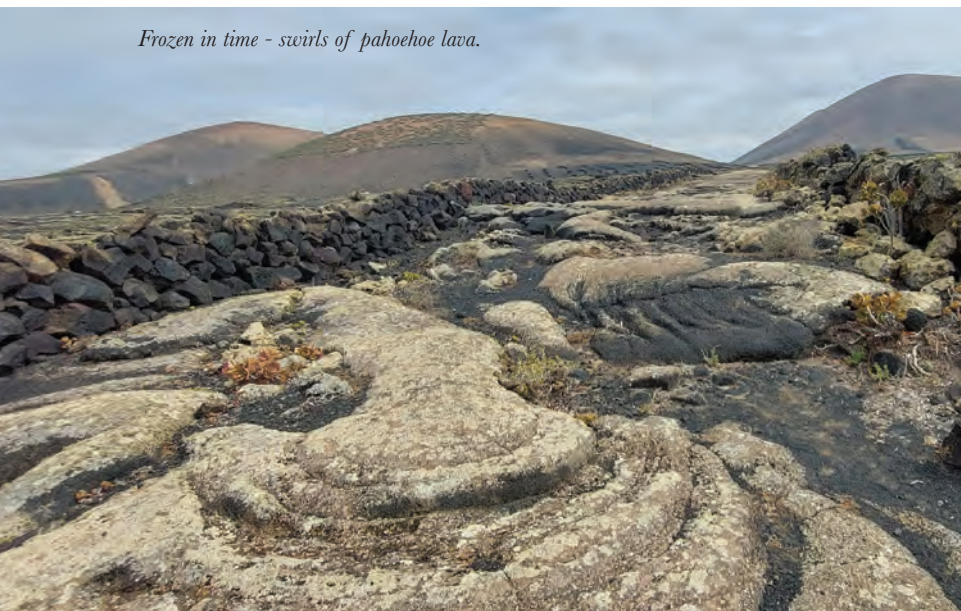
**Walk type:** Circular

**Terrain:** Easy, non-challenging terrain (sandals not advised)

**Public transport:** Bus route 32.



*Frozen in time - swirls of pahoehoe lava.*



Now we walk past an old finca on our left which has just recently been occupied by a guy from Colombia who keeps two big dogs on a chain. He has put three big wooden crosses at the side of a fig tree by the entrance to the old finca, which don't give the impression he welcomes visitors.

Keep on the track, passing another old, abandoned, unfinished finca on the left and head towards the other building which is almost on the track. This is easily identified as it has a new sign on the gable end saying, "NO hunting". As we walk past the building, we will see the track comes to an end, and there are some signposts directing you to an area for parking vehicles on the picon area on the left.

At this point it may be difficult at first to spot the path across the pahoehoe lava, but you should find it within a couple

of minutes as it is an established route across the lava field.

The path is a little more rugged than the first path across the lava field and takes you over similar terrain as before. If you look ahead of you in the distance you will see the mustard-coloured finca which we passed as we joined the track earlier.

As the track over the lava field comes to an end you will see some large fig trees which are set behind the zoco walls. We were in luck as the figs were just starting to ripen ready to eat.

We turn left at the yellowy-orange finca, as this is the start of our way back to Finca la Florida where we started from and, once we returned, we all enjoyed well-deserved coffee and cake while sitting in the shade on the terrace.



For further information about walks around Lanzarote please contact, DAVID Penney via **email** [lanza888@yahoo.com](mailto:lanza888@yahoo.com)  
OR via **WhatsApp message** 0034 649389888

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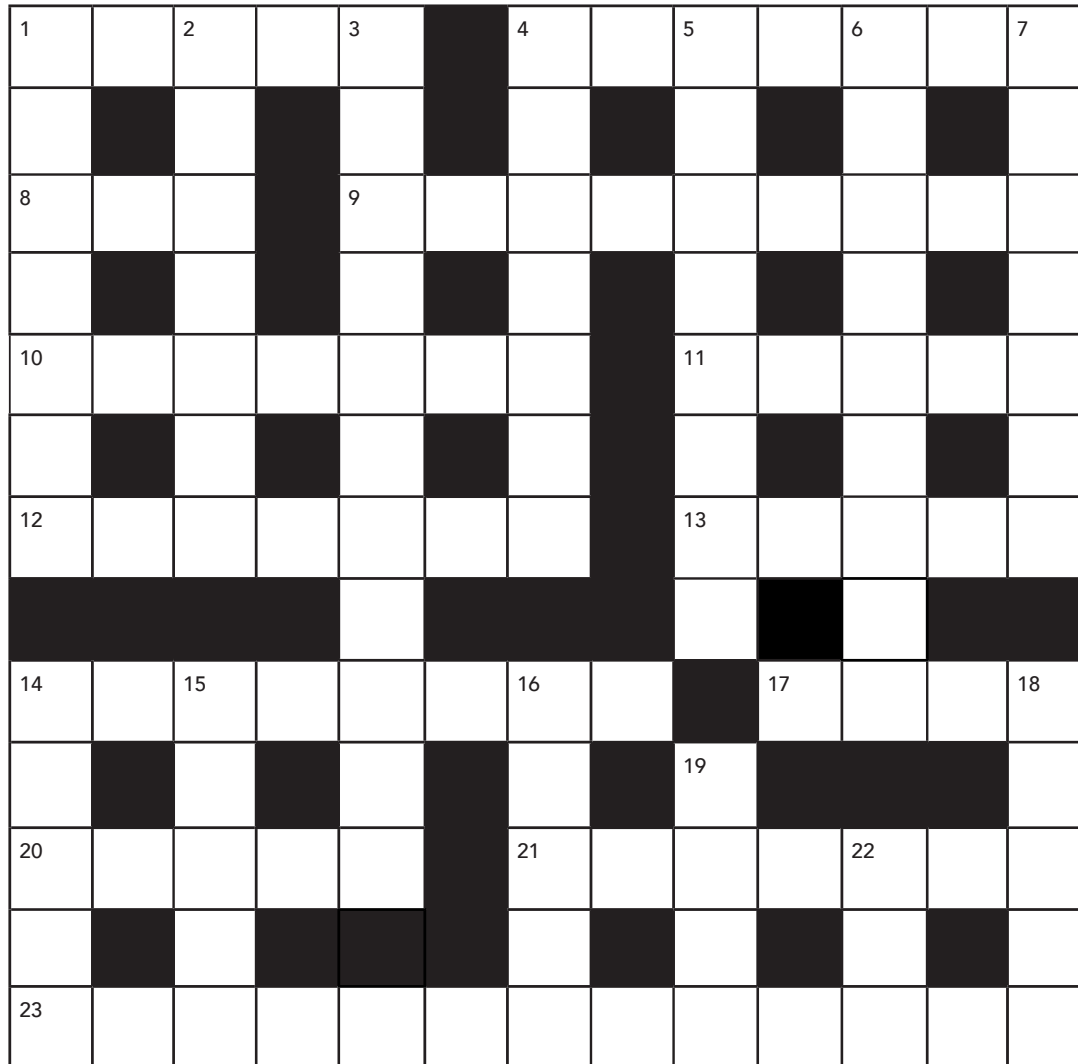
**Mobility aids** can be ready and in place in your hotel room, villa or apartment prior to arrival.



# Prize Crossword



LANZAROTE  
DENOMINACIÓN DE ORIGEN



## ACROSS

1. Pirates may make you walk it (5)
4. Sir Walter .....English explorer/pirate who raided Arrecife in 1617 (7)
8. Precious or semi-precious stone (3)
9. Edward Kennedy....., jazz pianist and composer known as "Duke"
10. Zeppelin or dirigible (7)
11. Game involving stacking wooden blocks (5)
12. Hairy (7)
13. Hirsute (5)
14. A person from Spain (8)
17. Ancient story or legend (4)
20. Cake decoration made of sugar (5)
21. Large ape (7)
23. What a pirate buries his doubloons in (7,5)

**Last month's answers Across:** 1. Bodega 4. Warmed 9. Apple 10. Womanly 11. Decanter 12. Chic 15. Record Player 18. Leakage 20. Copas 22. Theft 23. Monster 24. Sherry 25. Yellow. **Down:** 1. Brandy 2. Depeche 3. Green 5. Army 6. Monthly 7. Dry 8. Sweet Dreams 13. Corkscrew 14. Alicante 16. On A Star 17. Flutes 19. Adele 21. Petal.

Sharpen your pencils, engage your thinking gear and get cracking on this month's prize crossword. Send your completed entries to us at [editorial@gazettelife.com](mailto:editorial@gazettelife.com), Whatsapp a photo to 628628083 or just deliver it to our office. One winner will claim a bottle of Lanzarote wine from the La Geria bodega, and another wins a €10 voucher for Hankey Pankys in CC Montana Tropical, Puerto del Carmen.

Last month's winners were Bill Haley from Playa Honda, who takes home a bottle of wine from the La Geria bodega, and Kevin Manns, who wins a €10 Hankey Pankys voucher. Well done, you two!

## DOWN

1. Cartoon British pirate captain who sailed in the Black Pig (7)
2. Worshipper,
3. Pirate punishment involving dragging someone under the hull of the ship (11)
4. To fall into illness again (7)
5. .... Silver, pirate from Stevenson's Treasure Island (4,4)
6. Make stronger or more powerful (9)
7. Eastern European country, capital Budapest (7)
14. Broke, without money (slang) (5)
15. Not dead (5)
16. Jolly pirate flag (5)
18. Organ that pumps blood (5)
19. Clapton, Idle or Cantona (4)
22. Kung Fu pioneer Bruce (3)



## SUDOKU

						6		
			8	4	6	5	7	2
7		4						9
			2	3	4		8	
	7						6	
	4		6	7	1			
5						2		7
3	2	7	9	8	5			
		6						

## WORD SEARCH

O J X H S Q M U N I T Y Y G N Q T P  
 R L O S C A L L Y W A G B W G K I A  
 O L A L X Y I E F B P F L S A T V R  
 B V E N L R J V L U Y V A H L R U R  
 L S E C D Y E M O C U Z C I L E M O  
 I P C R A L R C I C D S K P E A A T  
 T D H U B N U O B A Y E B W O S N H  
 F B N Y R O N B G N Z A E R N U O F  
 Q B R B G V A O B E C D A E V R W O  
 C H U U H D Y R N E R O R C K E A E  
 D O U B L O O N D R R G D K N M R H  
 O C U T L A S S C R E W M A T E S D

### PIRATE WORDSEARCH

CANNON	SEADOG	SCALLYWAG
DOUBLOON	LANDLUBBER	MAN-O-WAR
TREASURE	PARROT	CUTLASS
SHIPWRECK	JOLLY ROGER	BLACKBEARD
SCURVY	OVERBOARD	GALLEON
BUCCANEER	CREWMATES	MUNITY

## FIND 8 DIFFERENCES



# SOAK UP THE CULTURE ON MARKET DAY!



I love to visit the Farmer Markets (Mercados de Agricultores) here on the island, my favourite being the one on Saturday mornings in Arrecife. Unlike a supermarket or commercial venue, markets have the ability to support and grow the local economy.

Aside from fruits and vegetables, you'll find local cheeses, wine, bread and cakes and lots more – but for me, it's all about soaking up the great atmosphere and the chance to natter in Spanish with the stall-holders - vendedores - or sit back with a coffee and watch the locals with their animated conversations!

If you are a 'Beginner' or 'Intermediate' Spanish student, it's a perfect way to put your learning into practice, with everyday chit-chat as well as picking up some wonderful local products.

## GREETINGS FIRST

Greet the stall holders - with some pleasantries for starters;

**Hi, how are you today?** – Hola, ¿cómo estás hoy? (*hola COM-oh ess-TASS oy*)

**What a lovely day!** - Qué bonito el día (*kay bon-EE-toe el DEE-ah*)

**Have you been busy today?** - ¿Has estado ocupado hoy? (*as es-TAD-oh occ-oo-PADO oy*)

## TIME TO BUY

Remember that foods are measured in kilos, with half a kilo being just over a 1lb. So you could ask:

**How much is half a kilo of...?** - ¿Cuánto cuesta medio kilo de...? (*coo-AN-toe coo-WEST-ah medio kilo de...*)

**What is the price of the...?** - ¿Qué precio tiene...? (*kay PRE-thee-oh tee-EN-ay...*)

**Are these organic?** - ¿Estos son orgánicos?

**I need half a kilo of...** - Necesito medio kilo de... (*ne-the-SEAT-oh medio kilo de...*)

**Do you have herbs?** - ¿Tienes hierbas? (*tee-EN-ez ee-AIR-bas*)

**I would like 5 bananas .....** - Quisiera cinco plátanos (*kiss-ee-AIR-ah THINK-oh PLAT-ah-nos*)

**Is this cheese smoked?** - ¿Este queso es ahumado? (*ES-tay KAY-so es ah-ooo-MAD-oh*)

**Can I try a little?** - ¿Puedo probar un poco? (*PWED-oh pro-BAR un PO-co*)

## TOP TIP

That's quite a list to master, I know. For this type of bulk learning, I'm a big fan of FLASHCARDS.

These are business-card size pieces of card on which you write the Spanish word/phrase on one side and the English translation on the back. These fit easily into a pocket or bag and it's good to have them on hand when you have a moment to practice or your memory escapes you!



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# Slipping away



## LANZAROTE VET JANE BURKE DESCRIBES A LONG, LONG NIGHT OF GRIEF AND SADNESS – AN EXPERIENCE THAT'S ALL TOO NORMAL FOR AN OUT-OF-HOURS VET.

Last night, I get a call at two minutes after midnight. Old friends arrive 20 minutes later with their adored old Siamese in dreadful distress, clawing frantically at one of her few remaining teeth. We'd already discussed desperately-needed dental treatment but, at 20 years of age with serious health issues, anesthesia was an extreme risk. Now she is in terrible pain and it is unavoidable.

Sadly she slipped away in their arms as premedication took hold, allowing only a few blessed pain-free moments in which she managed to raise a gentle purr and reach out to pat the tears running down her mum's face.

At 5 am a client calls to tell me that their healthy young dog is having a fit. After ensuring that the lights are low and they have cleared space so he cannot hurt himself, I keep them talking for the 12 minutes it takes for the fitting to subside, insisting they must try to be calm and speak quietly as all sensory input increases the duration and violence of a fit. I advise they withhold water and food until he can stand and has stopped panting. They phone back at 6 pm to say he is sleeping normally, and I suggest a vet who will run basic tests for epilepsy.

I see the little dog that I had passed on in the night first thing the next morning and

I am deeply concerned. Anti-spasmodics and emergency drugs for pain relief (thank you, Eva), had given no relief and clearly she is in real pain. I pack them off immediately for emergency X-rays. (thank you, Tías vets).

Today, still sad for my grieving friends, another friend arrives with her thin, dehydrated cat of 17. She stopped moving several days ago, her blind eyes are both sore and weeping and she is painfully dehydrated. Now she won't eat, drink or move. We reminisce about how beautiful she was and how our cats have filled our lives and homes with love and laughter. We agree that the only important question on this dreadful visit is her quality of life. And sadly, we agree that there is none.

She slips away in a moment, leaving us to mourn for ever. I think she had only kept on breathing to give her human family time to adjust and let go.

Another weeping friend leaves and a distraught man arrives with a dog crate containing a distressed wild cat. She is abdominally breathing, her flanks violently contracting to try and pull some oxygen into her chest. He tells me he has fed her for over 9 years and she is presently being cared for

by visitors who had reported her distress. We discuss the possible causes, but there are no good reasons for abdominal breathing.

We both know there is no way to investigate her troubles without sedation, and that even light sedation is likely to kill her. We discuss the practical impossibilities of treatment for this fierce, terrified little soul. He helps me apply pressure to the mass of bedding I fill the cage with so that I can inject a little anesthetic into her flank. I manage to administer a fraction of the dose and in moments she is still. I administer the rest of the euthatal, and her terrible fight to breathe is over. I am sad for his sorrow, a big gentle man with a genuine caring heart, experienced and bravely kind enough to give such creatures a get-out-of-jail-free card.

Make sure your pets water bowls are clean and full and raise a toast to the furry friends that make our life complete. Ensure you know how to contact your vet of hours, and if they don't provide that service, establish contact numbers for those locally that do, familiarise yourself with the directions to their premises, and keep basic records to hand of your pets' clinical history.

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# IT'S IN THE BLOOD

Sooner or later you're likely be referred for a blood test, either as part of a general check-up or to monitor a specific condition. We spoke to Dr. Sergio Correa Bellido of the Canarian Health Service about the importance of this procedure.

## What are blood tests, Sergio?

Blood tests are a common procedure in medicine which are useful in clinical diagnosis and the monitoring of patients. Keeping things extremely simple, our blood contains red blood cells to transport oxygen, white blood cells that act like "cops", and are a vital element of our immune systems and also blood platelets for coagulation and wound repair. A blood test will monitor these elements, as well as the chemicals in our blood.

## What about fats in the blood?

As is well known, we can monitor blood cholesterol levels, which should always be below 200. There are also more specific types of cholesterol and fats, such as Hdl, LDL or tryglicerides, that we can monitor. Depending on these levels, doctors can adjust diet and prescribe treatment to decrease these levels. That's important, because keeping the levels manageable is fundamental in the prevention of cardiovascular diseases and arteriosclerosis.



## Are blood sugar levels important?

As doctors we always take the possibility of diabetes mellitus into account, and, that's why we check glucose levels in blood so often. We can check glucose directly or a specific compound called glycosilatehemoglobin, which tells us how glucose levels have been over recent months.

## Do tests vary for men and women?

Yes. Although many elements are common, we also watch out for and monitor different things in both sexes. For women, for example, we can monitor specific hormones throughout life and diagnose particular problems. Examples include prolactin, follicle stimulation hormone or LH levels

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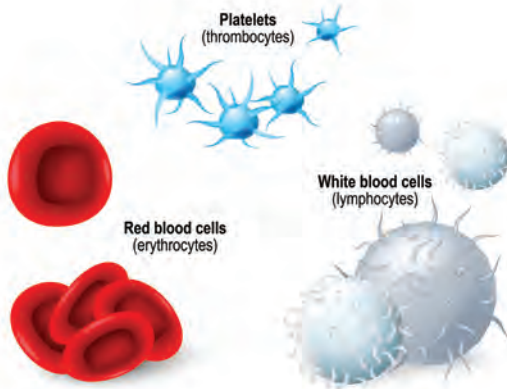
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## BLOOD CELLS



with menstruation problems, polycystic ovaries or even menopause.

It is very common for us to monitor anemia and iron deficiency in women. The most common cause of anemia in women is menstrual bleeding.

In men one of the main procedures is to monitor for PSA from the age of 50 onwards. This gives us a good idea of the state of the prostate gland and is a reliable way to diagnose benign prostatic hyperplasia (shown by an increase in cell production in the prostate). PSA levels are normally between 4 – 10, and it is highly important to study PSA above 20, which we usually see on particular prostate cancers.

### Is there any advice you'd like to give about blood tests?

First, it's important to know what blood tests are so that we can keep the health system efficient and sustainable. When we ask our doctor for a blood test, we usually want "all possible tests" to be carried out, but this is a waste of medical time and resources. Your doctor will decide which tests are appropriate and useful for each patient.

A second common error is asking your GP about tumor markers. These are never diagnostic, and will only be used by doctors to monitor treatments in already-diagnosed cancer.

### GETTING A BLOOD TEST

The first move is to request a general check-up from your doctor. Depending on your age, history and general health, your doctor may then refer you for further tests. The most common of these is a blood test (*análisis de sangre*). The procedure is likely to be slightly different in private clinics, but here is how it works in the Canarian Health Service.

You'll be given an appointment for an extraction, either at your local health centre or the central hospital in Arrecife, and all you need to do is turn up ahead of time with your ID (if you've been asked to provide urine or stool samples, the doctor will have given you containers and instructions, and these should be brought along, too).

Extractions take place first thing in the morning, because patients are advised not to eat or drink anything before the blood is extracted. Try not to have a heavy meal the night before and save your morning coffee for afterwards. The extraction itself involves a tourniquet, and a quick jab in the forearm while you close your fist.

Results are usually ready a few days afterwards and your GP will usually take you through them, with a copy available for you if you wish. Doctors will be looking at various indicators, but especially those that are marked with an asterisk, which indicates that they are outside of normal levels.

This does not necessarily mean you're ill, any more than being slightly overweight does, but it will probably cause your doctor to make recommendations and, perhaps order further tests.

### USEFUL VOCABULARY

- **Appointment:** Cita previa
- **Blood test:** Análisis de sangre
- **Extraction:** Extracción de sangre
- **To fast:** Estar en ayunas
- **Make a fist:** Cierre el puño



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# The Town TEGUISE



Locals still call TeguiSe “La Villa”. The pretty white town on the hill may have stopped being the capital of Lanzarote in 1847, but it has never stopped being “The Town”.

TeguiSe was the main centre of population on Lanzarote long before the French and Spanish conquistadores arrived and remained so until the 19th century.

And La Villa de TeguiSe is still important. It’s one of the cultural centres of the island, home to ancient traditions, famous for its music and more recently a small but thriving artistic community.

And, of course, it’s a magnet for the

whole island every Sunday, when the town receives thousands of visitors to the famous market.

It’s one of those places where it pays off just to wander, get lost and enjoy the atmosphere. At every corner you’ll find gorgeous views of distant fields and volcanoes, framed by white walls and explosions of greenery.

And in those timeless little streets, with their green and blue doors and shutters, you’ll also find some wonderful little shops, cafes, bars, and restaurants.

For centuries, Lanzarote islanders have looked forward to “going up to La Villa”. And millions of tourists have followed in their footsteps. Over the next pages we’ll be looking at the traditions, history, and attractions of this unique place in the heart of Lanzarote.

## WHAT’S IN A NAME?

TeguiSe takes its name from the daughter of Zonzamas, the last native king of Lanzarote. Princess TeguiSe was delivered to the conquistador Maciot de Bethancort, who married her and named the town in her honour.

Before the conquest, the town was originally known as Acatife – a native Maho word that means “large settlement”. This word is still used by folk groups and local businesses.

The full name of the town is La Real Villa de TeguiSe (the Royal Town of TeguiSe), but it is usually known as TeguiSe, or “La Villa” by locals.



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# Lose yourself **IN TEGUISE**



Teguisse is not only the oldest town on Lanzarote, it's also one of the prettiest, proudly bearing its recent award as one of the most beautiful towns in Spain on the signpost as you enter.

And it's a claim that is borne out when you lose yourself in the pretty whitewashed, cobblestoned backstreets of the town, where charm lies around every corner.

More than any other town on Lanzarote, the doors and windows of Teguisse are an attraction in their own right – green, blue, deep teak wooden fittings that range from brand new to beautifully faded. Set against the contrast of those white walls, which often display irregular patterns of exposed stonework, they're the perfect photo opportunity.

A wander around the old town will reveal beautiful streets such as the

Calle de los Árboles, where locals used to hold fiestas in the shade of the eucalyptus trees, or the Callejón de la Sangre – which once ran red with blood of pirate victims, but is now as peaceful and pristine as the rest of the town.

But there's much more than scenery to enchant you in the old town. Over the years, Teguisse has also become an important centre for arts, crafts, food, drink and other funky little establishments.

Take the Plaza Maciot de Bethencourt, for example. Just a couple of minutes away from the central square, this is space where you can find fantastic T-shirts and clothing at Property Of. Directly opposite is the Hand Art Studio where you can have your own hand cast in plaster and painted, for an absolutely unique, personal souvenir. Or just pop into El Recoveco – a restaurant and cafe in an ancient local house, with an impressive interior patio.

It's always worth entering shops, restaurants and public buildings in

Teguisse, as you'll often find amazing traditional architecture and features. Most places are open on market days on Sunday, which is probably the best day to discover the town.

But don't miss the old town on your trip to market. Teguisse, overlooked by the volcano and castle on the east side, and with its broad sweeping views over to Timanfaya to the west, is worth losing yourself in.

*The water carrier statue in the Plaza Maciot de Bethencourt. ►*





PLAZA MACIOT DE BETHENCOURT

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# Traditions IN TEGUISE



*Los Diabletes  
de Tegui* ►



◀ *La Virgen  
de Las Nieves*

Lanzarote's oldest town boasts colourful traditions and strange, beautiful celebrations.

## LOS DIABLETES

An ancient tradition that is most visible during carnival time in early spring, Los Diabletes de Tegui are an all-male group whose simple mission is to frighten people.

To achieve this, they spend hours creating terrifying horned masks in their workshop, dress up in a pyjama-like costumes designed by César Manrique, which are decked with straps and bells, then head out to the streets.

In Tegui, local children play a thrilling game of cat-and-mouse with the Diabletes, provoking them with the call of “Elegua!” before they are chased down. At carnival parades, the Diabletes simply shamle along in full costume, approaching the crowd,

lifting the mask to their face, and issuing a loud, startling bellow.

In recent years the Diabletes have invited equally frightening groups from other towns, islands, and mainland Spain to join them in their antics.

## EL MERCADILLO

If tourists know about Tegui, then it's almost certainly because of the market that has taken place in the town on Sundays for the last 40 years.

Originally a craft market held in the central square of the town, with 16 stalls selling pottery, basketry, and other crafts, it rapidly became a tourist favourite and expanded.

Recently, the market has been moved out of the streets of the town where it began and occupies the Parque de Mareas, where stalls selling local

crafts and farm produce jostle with cheap souvenirs and leather goods that have nothing to do with the island. It has lost some charm as a result, but visitors should still take the time to wander around the lovely streets of the old town, where dozens of shops, bars and cafes can be found.

## THE FOOD FAIR

The Festival Enogastrónica Saborea Lanzarote, to give it its full name, celebrated nine hugely successful editions before Covid brought it to a halt in 2020.

A fascinating celebration of Lanzarote's produce, cuisine and thriving catering sector, the fair attracts several thousand visitors, all of whom want to sample the delicious food and drink on offer, attend cooking displays, take part in competitions, and see celebrity guests.





◀ Saborea Lanzarote Food Fair.

Currently, there is no confirmation of whether it will take place this November, or whether it will take place in Teguise if it does – but we'll keep you posted.

## FIESTAS

The 3rd of May is the Day of the Cross, when Teguise believers display crosses that have been carefully decorated with flowers.

Last month saw the Fiesta de Carmen, Teguise's patron, which is celebrated with local music, sports food, and processions, but it's August the 5th that brings the town's most picturesque fiesta.

On that day, locals make their way northwards for eight kilometres, up the long ridge to the lonely Ermita de Las Nieves. Some wear traditional dress and ride on donkeys, others scramble up the cliff itself from Famara. The image of



◀ Market

the Virgin is removed from the church and paraded, her white and gold robes glinting in the August sunshine. Then the party begins.

Christmas also brings an unforgettable spectacle – the Misa de Gallo (Cockerel Mass) on Christmas Eve. Locals prepare a living tableau of the nativity scene, and a traditional performance is given by the Rancho de Pascua, a folk group who dance and play ancient instruments such as swords and drums.



◀ Saborea Lanzarote Food Fair.

## NOCHE BLANCA

The "White Night" is relatively recent initiative in Teguise. Starting in 2011, this is purely an initiative to help local businesses. It does that by opening the town for business, with food, drink music and plenty of activity.

Those who attend are requested to wear white for the evening, although this is by no means compulsory. This year's Noche Blanca returned on 22nd July, but it's certain to be back next year.





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# TEGUISE



## Landmarks



As Lanzarote's ancient capital and first ever town, it's not surprising you'll find more heritage here than anywhere else. Tegui's sleepy, whitewashed streets hide a turbulent history of grandeur and poverty.

### PALACIO SPÍNOLA

The long, flat white building opposite the brass lions in Tegui's central square is one of the island's architectural treasures – the Spínola Palace.

Built between 1730 and 1750, this was the home of several of the island's military commanders before becoming the seat of the Spínola family in the early 20th century.

Renovated and restored, it's a genuine treasure – full of colonial detail, with a beautiful patio.

It's also been the home of the Timple Museum since 2011, reflecting Tegui's importance in the making and playing of this iconic Canarian instrument.

### CASTILLO DE SANTA BÁRBARA

The Castillo de Santa Bárbara is the oldest military fortress on the island, built in the late 16th century on the site of a tower originally constructed in the 14th century by Lancelotto Malocello – the Italian sailor for whom Lanzarote is named. The castle overlooks Tegui from the top of the Guanapay volcano, whose crater lies alongside the castle.

This fortress was built as a lookout point

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to warn of pirate raids and a refuge for when those pirates reached the capital.

Sadly, the castle is currently closed for renovation, as is the Pirate Museum within, but it's still an atmospheric place with the amazing views you'd expect of a watchtower.

## MUSEO MARA-MAO

José García, known as Pillimpo to his neighbours, was a quiet farm worker who slowly turned his home on the edge of Teguiuse into a bizarre artistic paradise guided by his own unique vision.

Although he had no artistic training at all, he tirelessly created plaster statues of human beings, horses, cactuses, lions, and angels; displaying them in his garden and surrounding them with carefully arranged dolls, toys and any bric-a-brac that caught his eye. It wasn't always popular – some called his house “the rubbish tip of Teguiuse”, but that didn't deter Don José.

Every now and then he would paint all the statues a different colour – over the years they have been green, pink, and silver.

García died in 2019, but his mystical, spiritual vision of Mara-Mao still attracts fascinated onlookers and is treasured by admirers of “outsider art”.

## CHURCHES OF TEGUIUSE

The Church of Our Lady of Guadalupe is the main church in Teguiuse, and one of the most beautiful on the island, with its white facade and brick-red belltower. Inside you'll find some of the most important religious artefacts on the island.

La Ermita del Santísimo Cristo de la Vera Cruz is another church in the backstreets of Teguiuse, famous for its statue of Christ, which is paraded during Easter week.

A few streets away, near the Town Hall, is the Convento Santo Domingo, an impressive 17th century church that is now an exhibition hall, and further up the hill is the Convento de San Francisco – the church the only remaining part of this important monastery of Franciscan monks, overlooks a bronze statue of a Diabete giving passers-by a fright.

## WINDMILLS

The wooden windmill that overlooks the market area is a popular meeting point for people heading down the hill for a bit of Sunday shopping.

The larger stone windmill closer to the sports centre was just a stone tower until recently. Now the mill has been renovated.

## THE WATER CAPITAL

People have always made their way to Teguiuse. Today, it's the busiest place on the island every Sunday as coachloads of tourists head to market; but for hundreds of years the whole island made their way to the capital for one vital commodity – water.

The current marketplace is built on the site of the Gran Mareta – a stone reservoir of fresh water that existed before the island was conquered in 1402.

At its largest, this was a circular, covered water tank measuring 46 metres across, with a depth of 9 to 12 metres. Its capacity was more than half a million litres, making it by far the largest of the maretas on the island.

For 400 years islanders came from all over to collect water here, 200 camels arriving each week. All islanders were expected to come to the Mareta in the high summer months to help with cleaning and rebuilding the reservoir. In 1734, villagers from Femés refused to do so, saying that those who lived closer were getting unfair advantages.

The mareta became less important as Arrecife became the island's capital and built its huge reservoir in 1902. Shipments of water by sea also reduced demand. The Mareta was finally closed in 1963, the year before the first desalination plant opened and mains water came to Lanzarote. It has long been built over. Only the name remains.

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# STUFFED BAKED Sweet Potatoes



## Ingredients:

- 4 large sweet potatoes, washed
- 1 jar of chickpeas, drained
- A handful of spinach
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- A small pot of plain yoghurt
- A handful of coriander
- Olive oil
- ½ teaspoon cumin
- ½ teaspoon turmeric
- Salt and pepper

Teguisse is one of the main producers of sweet potatoes on the island. However, the unique vegetable shouldn't be confused with regular potatoes – they're delicious in their own right. This veggie recipe is a great way to enjoy *batatas*.

## Method

**1.** Preheat oven to 180C and pierce the potatoes all over with a fork. Place on the tray and put into the oven until you can run a knife through it easily.

**2.** In another oven tray, take your chickpeas and spread them out. Generously season with your cumin, turmeric, salt, pepper and a light drizzle of olive oil. Roast for approximately 10 minutes.

**3.** In a frying pan on medium heat, add a splash of olive oil, garlic and the spinach. Keep stirring until the spinach has wilted. Add salt and pepper then set aside.

**4.** Take your baked potatoes, cut them open down the middle and fluff the insides with a fork. Spoon in the wilted spinach first, then add your roasted chickpeas. Finish with a dollop of plain yoghurt on top as well as a few sprigs of coriander. Serve.





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# For the Love of food



Ramesh & Saraswati.



**THE POPULAR INDIAN DELIGHTS RESTAURANT SITTING IN THE HEART OF PLAYA BLANCA CELEBRATES ITS SECOND BIRTHDAY THIS AUGUST AND IF LAST YEAR'S CELEBRATIONS ARE ANYTHING TO GO BY THEN THEY'RE GOING TO CELEBRATE IN STYLE.**

It's unbelievable how quickly the months fly by, and we can't quite believe that Indian Delights are about to celebrate their second birthday. It seems like only yesterday that we spoke to Ramesh and Saraswati about their first year in business!



In its first year the restaurant was a hit with tourists and locals despite the knockbacks of the pandemic. Since opening two years ago, Ramesh, Saraswati and the team at Indian Delights have accrued a number of loyal customers.

“EVERYTHING THAT WE DO IS DONE FOR THE LOVE OF FOOD, THERE IS NO BETTER FEELING THAN RECEIVING FULL MARKS FROM OUR CUSTOMERS.”

“The current situation is a new challenge different to Covid”, Ramesh says, “the rising costs have affected every business owner on Lanzarote.” Ramesh explained that the price of even the most basic restaurant supplies have nearly doubled in some cases.

However, the Indian Delights team are facing the challenges head-on and look forward to a busy summer. “The support from our customers has been amazing and we cannot thank them enough. We often see the same faces multiple times a week!”.

“Our customers not only have their favourite dishes but also their favourite tables in the restaurants, the tables closest to the sea views are the most popular by far.”

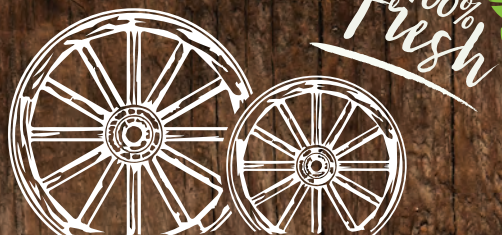
The restaurant received high praise from day one and has kept that reputation, even breaking into the Spanish market converting the locals to the delightful flavours of Indian cuisine.

The situation is starting to look up as businesses prepare for a busy summer ahead. “We're ready and waiting!”, says Ramesh, who regularly features specials, tempting lunch menus and traditional events.

For their first birthday they celebrated in style. The restaurant was decorated head-to-toe with warm fairy lights, candles, incense, and tropical lights. Ramesh had even organised the arrival of a traditional Bollywood style dancer.

Ramesh and Saraswati have a few ideas in mind for their upcoming second birthday celebrations but aren't giving away details just yet. Keep your eyes peeled on their Facebook for the upcoming announcement – “Indian Delights Lanzarote”.





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### PLAYA BLANCA



#### Pizza & Pasta

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# High season



You may think you've tasted a melon, a tomato, or a banana, but until you've sampled the flavours of Lanzarote's high summer season, you haven't lived.

In Lanzarote's food calendar, August means intense, sun-strengthened flavours and perfect ripeness. This is the time when many fruits taste at their most perfect.

The month begins with the availability of sweet locally grown muscatel table grapes. These aren't always easy to find – you'll usually have more luck looking in smaller fruterías rather than the big supermarkets – but they're so worth it – the sweetest, most fragrant grapes you'll ever taste.



Melons are a Lanzarote speciality. The local sandias (watermelons) are in huge demand in August – their green dappled skin and coral-coloured flesh is a symbol of summertime, and they're better now than at any other time of year. Be sure not to miss the local piel de sapo (toadskin) melons, though, which can also be absolutely spectacular.

Figs come in two waves – brevas are larger figs that started to grow last year and arrive in late spring or early summer. They've already gone, but the smaller, sweeter, velvety *higos de leche* should arrive in August and are spectacularly good.

Soft fruits such as peaches, nectarines and plums also reach an unparalleled level of ripeness and flavour in late summer.

Then, of course, there are tomatoes. Lanzarote and Fuerteventura produce incredible tomatoes with a tang and zest that is entirely absent from greenhouse-grown northern toms. They're cheap enough to make plenty of healthy, cooling gazpacho, but they're also perfect on their own, sliced and served with a little good oil and salt.



- Breakfasts and salad bowls with fresh fruits and vegetables - sandwiches - croissants - fruit salads - crepes - gofres - cakes.
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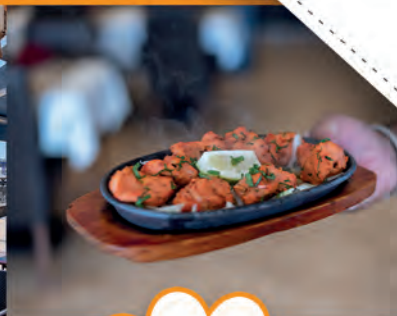
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Some just ask us to drop it off and leave, but we watch them through the windows and see them hungrily devour our creations. We have even married a few of our customers off; weddings from 50 to 60 guests. We love to see everybody here, because this is our

social life. We never leave our restaurant night or day, we cut and chop and boil and bake, stir and shake just for you, our dear guests, because we want you back with your friends even dragging them in by force if you have to - we will be gentle with them. If you throw a party, call us. We'll cater it and it will be the talk of the town for quite a while. Food has always been a passionate subject for us.

**We love it here** - Lanzarote is really our home away from home - but most of all we love you, our dear guests. So enjoy, and if there is anything we can do to make your experience more pleasurable, do not hesitate to ask.

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# What's On...

## FIESTAS

### FAMARA CLIFFS

**5th August**

Nuestra Señora de Las Nieves  
*A pilgrimage to the cliff-top church*

### NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL CARMEN

**14th August**

Puerto del Carmen's maritime parade of the Virgin of Carmen  
*Puerto del Carmen, Old Town*

### NUESTRA SEÑORA DE LA CARIDAD

**15th August**

Wine festival  
*Bodegas La Geria*

### SAN GINÉS

**25th August**

Several events take place in the weeks leading up to this fiesta, usually around the Charco (lagoon).  
*Arrecife*

During August, fiestas also take place in Mozaga, Nazaret, Órzola, San Bartolomé.

## MUSIC

### A PIES Y MANOS

**19th August, 8.00pm**

A Pies y Manos is a concert that combines timple, guitars and dance from performers Benito Cabrera, Tomas Farina and Jep Meléndez.  
*Jameos del Agua. Tickets €25 at [www.cactlanzarote.com](http://www.cactlanzarote.com)*



## SPORT

### YAIZA EXTREMO SUR 2022

**6th – 7th August**

Yaiza Extremo Sur will see athletes take on running and cycling races through the village of Yaiza.

Yaiza, info: [www.yaizaextremosur.com](http://www.yaizaextremosur.com)



### CARRERA POPULAR BARRANCO DEL QUIQUERE

**13th August, 10.00am**

A 5km and 10km race along the coast of Puerto del Carmen.

Puerto del Carmen, for more information email: [carrerapopularbarrancodelquiquere@hotmail.com](mailto:carrerapopularbarrancodelquiquere@hotmail.com)

### FAMARA TOTAL 2022

**18th – 20th August**

The seventh edition of the Famara Total race sees athletes take on various races through Famara's stunning landscape.

Famara, info: [www.famaratotal.com](http://www.famaratotal.com)



## MARKETS & FLEA MARKETS

**JULY 13TH**

**SARA car boot sale**  
at SARA animal shelter starts  
10am ends 12pm.

**EVERY TUESDAY & FRIDAY:**

**Puerto Calero Market**  
(starts 9am ends 1pm).

**EVERY SATURDAY**

**Haría Artesanal**  
(crafts and food), Plaza de Haría.  
10am to 2.30pm.

**Arrecife market,**

Plaza de San Ginés  
(farmers market). Morning.

**EVERY SUNDAY**

**Teguise Market**  
(everything) 9am to 2pm.

**Original PALS car boot sale**

Lanzarote A Caballo.  
9am to 12pm.

**Mancha Blanca**

(food) Mornings.

**WEDNESDAY AND**

**SATURDAYS Marina**

**Rubicon Market**

(Souvenirs and gifts)  
Playa Blanca. 10am to 2pm.

**PLAYA HONDA MARKET**

Third Saturday of the month  
Calle Mayor. 10am to 2pm

## EXHIBITIONS

### DE UN MUNDO RARO

**5th - 27th August, 7.30pm**

Fernando Larraz will present his new catalog titled De un mundo raro (Of a strange world). The catalog includes a gallery of more than eight portraits of artists, actresses, actors and singers.

*Casa de la Cultura Agustín de la Hoz, Arrecife. Free entry.*

### TAYÓ

**19th August until 5th November**

After a 25 year absence, the Tayó exhibition will be returning to the El Almacén. Created by Lana Corujo and David Machado, the exhibition examines a path between the feelings, characters, nature and landscapes.

*El Almacén, Arrecife.*



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# Music, Maestro!



## Julie's Live Music Guide

There is so much excellent musical entertainment on this wonderful island, and there's always a new band, singer or live act to discover! You might even find a style of music you've never heard before.

This guide is divided by area and day. It's growing all the time, so it is a starting point rather than a definitive list. Gigs are subject to change, so please double-check the Facebook page of the bar or artist/group.

To include your event in the next edition (in print and online), please contact Julie Helliwell via Facebook.

## — REGULAR GIGS —

### Monday

#### COSTA TEGUISE

**7.30pm:** Julie H Music, The Shamrock  
**8.30pm:** John Alan Pick, Four Seasons Rock Cafe  
**9.30pm:** Carl White, The Shamrock  
Band of Gypsies, Decades  
**10pm:** Darren Morgan, The Lighthouse

#### PUERTO DEL CARMEN

**6pm:** Concrete Jungle, Cafe La Ola  
**7pm:** Collie and Deanne, Lava Bar  
**8.30pm:** Live music, The Dubliner  
**8.45pm:** Dave Bandanna, Rocas Blancas  
**9pm:** Andy King, Marco's Bar, Los Pocillos  
Graham Jacques, Stars Cafe  
**10pm:** Collie Farrell, Mulligans Bar, Old Town  
Mick Bennett & Connor Sloane, Craic n Ceol

#### PLAYA BLANCA

**5pm:** Alexander Lammers van Toorenburg, Paulo Bar, Las Coloradas  
**9.30pm:** Don Parker, Portobello

### Tuesday

#### COSTA TEGUISE

**9.30pm:** The Ska Duo, The Venue  
Gerie B, The Shamrock  
Brian John, Abbey Road  
John Alan Pick, Tekkers Bar & Restaurant

#### PUERTO DEL CARMEN

**6pm:** Concrete Jungle, Cafe La Ola  
**6.30pm:** The Ska Duo, RockOla Bar  
**8.30pm:** Live music, The Dubliner  
**9pm:** Pete Worthy, Spoons  
**10pm:** Raggle Taggle Gypsies, Bar 67  
Connor Sloane & Jordan Kenneally, Craic n Ceol

#### PLAYA BLANCA

**10pm:** Don Parker, The Flagship Bar

### Wednesday

#### COSTA TEGUISE

**4pm:** Adrian Bambrough, The Boatyard  
**9.30pm:** John Alan Pick, Cactus Jacks  
Tara C, The Shamrock  
Raggle Taggle Gypsies, Irelands Eye

#### PUERTO DEL CARMEN

**6pm:** Concrete Jungle, Cafe La Ola  
**8.30pm:** Live music, The Dubliner  
**9pm:** Graham Jacques, Stars Cafe  
**9.30pm:** Gary Mac, The Pub  
**10pm:** Collie Farrell, Mulligans Bar, Old Town  
Cabaret & Comedy Drag Show, Betty Boop's  
Mick Bennett & Jordan Kenneally, Craic n Ceol

#### PLAYA BLANCA

**2pm:** Johnny Black, Treat Bar, Punto Limones  
**8pm:** Pete Worthy, Berrugo Tapas Bar  
**9.30pm:** Don Parker, Portobello  
The Millsy Brothers, The Harp Bar

### Thursday

#### COSTA TEGUISE

**5pm:** The Ska Duo, Decades Bar  
**9pm:** John Alan Pick, The Boatyard  
**9.30pm:** Gerie B, The Cavern  
**10pm:** Darren Morgan, The Lighthouse

#### PUERTO DEL CARMEN

**6pm:** Concrete Jungle, Cafe La Ola

**8.30pm:** Live music, The Dubliner  
**8.45pm:** Dave Bandanna, Rocas Blancas  
**9.30pm:** Gary Mac, Brian Boru  
**10pm:** Collie Farrell, The Irish Viking  
Andy King & The Gas Tank Dogs, Tequila Bar  
Alan Murphy & Jordan Kenneally, Craic n Ceol

### Friday

#### COSTA TEGUISE

**4pm:** Adrian Bambrough, Abbey Road  
**9.30pm:** The Ska Duo, The Venue  
John Alan Pick, Cactus Jacks

#### PUERTO DEL CARMEN

**9pm:** Graham Jacques, Stars Cafe  
**10pm:** Collie and Deanne, Mulligans, Old Town

#### PLAYA BLANCA

**8pm:** Pete Worthy, Berrugo Tapas Bar  
**9.30pm:** Andy King, The Old Mill  
Gary Mac, Portobello

### Saturday

#### COSTA TEGUISE

**9.30pm:** Brian John, The Cavern  
The Ska Duo, Decades Bar

#### HARIA

**8pm:** La Noche en Mala, Don Quijote

#### PUERTO DEL CARMEN

**3pm:** The Ska Duo, Hankey Panky's (Alternate Saturdays)  
**9pm:** Graham Jacques, Stars Cafe  
Gerie B, The Good Old Days

### Sunday

#### COSTA TEGUISE

**8.30pm:** Darren Morgan, Four Seasons Rock Cafe  
**9.30pm:** Anthony on Sax, Decades Bar  
Brian John, The Venue

#### PUERTO DEL CARMEN

**1pm:** Sax on the Roof with Anthony, Biosfera  
**4pm:** Intrinsic, Cafe La Ola  
**8.30pm:** Live music, The Dubliner  
**8.45pm:** Dave Bandanna, Rocas Blancas  
**9pm:** Graham Jacques, La Avenida Restaurante  
**9.30pm:** Gary Mac, Scotch Corner  
**10pm:** Collie Farrell, The Irish Viking  
Comedy Drag & Cabaret Show, Betty Boops  
Mick Bennett & Connor Sloane, Craic n Ceol

#### PUERTO CALERO

**4.30pm:** Adrian Bambrough, The Pelicano Restaurant

#### PLAYA BLANCA

**9.30pm:** Andy King, The Old Mill  
The Jam Brothers, Portobello

All information was correct when printed but is subject to change. Please check the Facebook page of the artist or venue to verify. To stand out from the crowd, please contact the sales department: [advertising@gazettelife.com](mailto:advertising@gazettelife.com)



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Semíramis González, Julieta Hanono, Jenny  
Jaramillo, Enrique Ježik, Ximena Labra, Isidro  
López Aparicio, Ars Magna, Teresa Margolles,  
Carlos Martiel, Mónica Mayer, Eugenio Merino,  
Marco Montiel-Soto, Miguel G. Morales, Sami  
Nair, Lotty Rosenfeld, Martha Rosler, Avelino  
Sala, Doris Salcedo, Marius Ionut Scarlat,  
Santiago Sierra, Emilio Silva, Marina Vargas**

**Check out the programm:**

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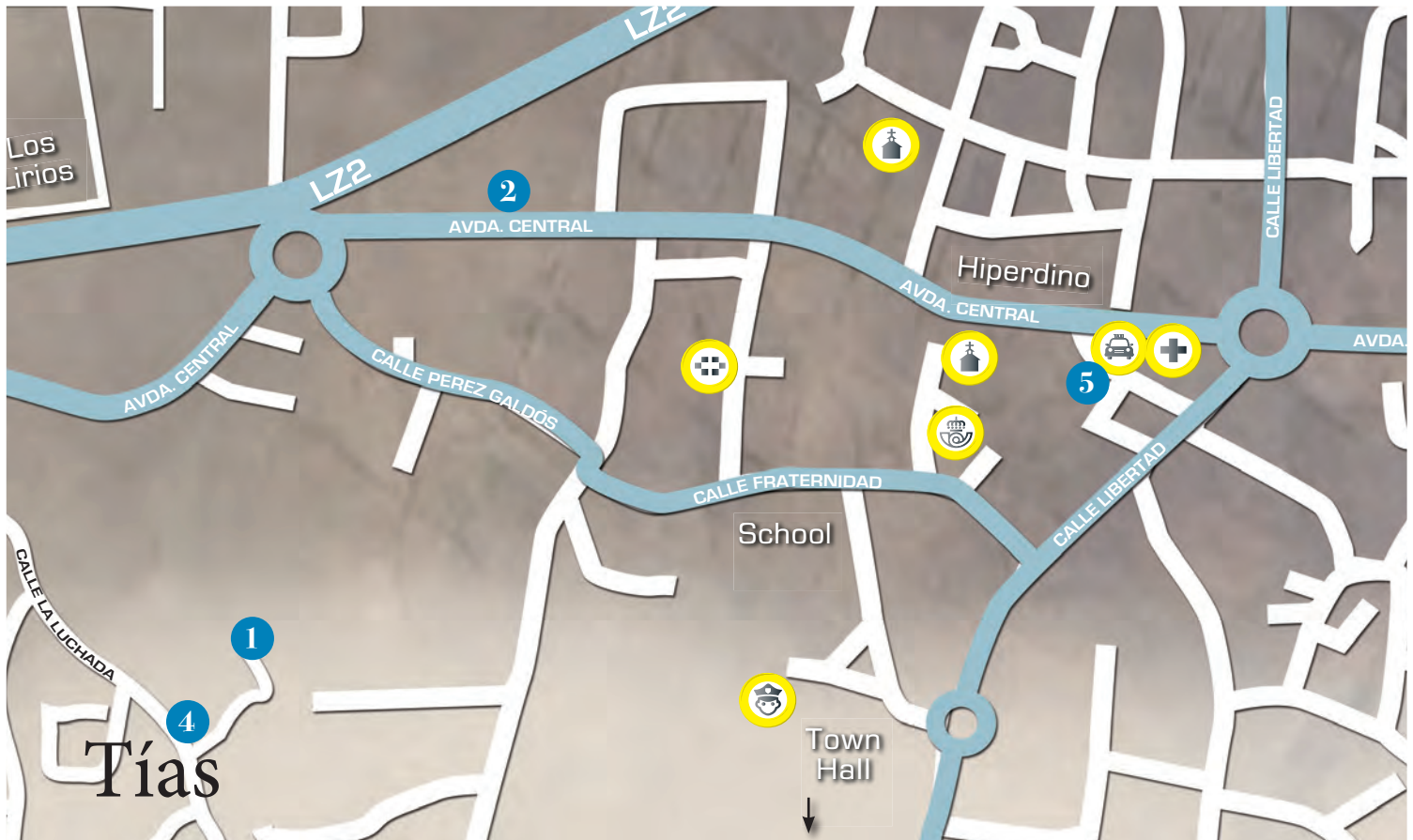
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Lanzarote property-owner Brian Knibb writes about the struggle of “swallows” to get a fair deal following a Brexit agreement that has limited the rights of every British citizen.

*Brian Knibb and his wife.*

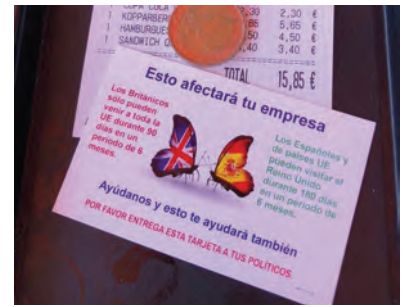


My wife and I love Lanzarote and have owned a house in Puerto Calero for nearly five years, instigated by the desire to spend a substantial part of the winter here coupled with other occasional visits during the rest of the year to Lanzarote and other countries within the EU.

We were aware, of course, that Brexit might make travel more complicated but had the reasonable expectation that the UK government would look after its citizens' interests as far as possible within the constraints of an international treaty.

Not so, it turned out. We are now stuck with a 90 in 180 days restriction. And the 90 days applies across the whole Schengen area, so any time spent in Italy or France now reduces our allowed time in Spain.

Meanwhile, the UK government saw fit to allow Spanish visitors 180-day visa-free access to Britain. When challenged on this inequality, the UK's general response can be summed up



as ‘Well that’s the way it is - shut up and get on with it’.

So where can thousands of British property owners and other long-stay visitors to Spain and its islands go from here?

For Spain, the economic cost of denying reasonable freedom of access to ‘swallows’ such as us, or other long-stay visitors must be considerable. It can be argued that this cohort actually helps to keep local economies alive during the winter period. This was recognised in a recent interview with Yaiza Castilla, Tourism Minister for the Canaries, when she said: “(Long-stay) visitors are highly beneficial as they reduce reliance on air connectivity, consume resources more sustainably and generate higher and more equally distributed billing.”

Brits aren’t the only tourists who support the economy, but they remain the most important market on the Canaries by a long way.

I am a member of the Facebook group 180 Days in Spain, which has around 5,000 members. We are campaigning for Brits to get visa-free access to Spain, similar to the arrangements granted to Spanish visitors to the UK. This can be done – a number of other third-country nationals already enjoy the privilege. Regional authorities and politicians seem to be in favour, recognising the economic and societal benefits that it brings. However, they must convince the powers that be in Madrid to take action.

We also need to make sure that local businesses support the campaign. They are the ones locally that have most to gain. To assist this, one of our members has organised a supply of business card-sized message cards to leave at bars restaurants and shops etc (see pic). From experience, its notable how few businesses are aware of the restrictions and their possible impact.





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# MR BROWN AND MR GREEN

Erardo Ferrer of Lanzarote Abogados tells us about two real case histories that show that it still makes sense to review any mortgage taken out between 2000 and 2018. Names have been changed to preserve client confidentiality.



Mr. Brown had no notion that making a claim against the bank could have good results. However, one day after reading Gazette Life, he decided to call us to review his mortgage, which he signed in September 2004 with the Banco Popular (today Banco Santander).

As it turned out, we discovered that a floor

clause had been included in his mortgage that made it impossible for him to benefit from lower interest rates, while at the same time penalising him if interest rates rose.

We also discovered that Banco Popular was applying a different interest rate to the one that had been sold to him. After going to court

against the bank, we managed to win a repayment for Mr Brown of more than €20,000 euros and his monthly mortgage payments were reduced considerably.

Mr. Green also did not believe that it was possible to make a claim against his bank, because his mortgage had been signed with Banco Sabadell in 2007 and he had sold his house in 2018. Fortunately, after reading our ad in the Gazette Life, he decided to call us to review his case.

Once again, we discovered that the bank had been applying a floor clause to him during all the years of his loan. At first, Mr. Green tried to come to an amicable arrangement with the bank, but they told him that he could never get a refund because the house was not his only property and he had once rented his property out as a holiday home.

However, we took his case on and obtained a refund for him of a very considerable amount, greater than €10,000 euros.

Nobody likes throwing money away, and nobody likes being taken advantage of by bank clauses that have been ruled as abusive at the highest level. It makes perfect sense to fight for what is rightfully yours, especially against institutions that have been repeatedly ruled to be operating abusive clauses. If you had, or still have, a mortgage signed between 2000 and 2018, we are almost sure that you can claim.



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# IMPOSSIBLE *Dreams*

Lanzarote has always inspired creative thinking. Over the years many projects have been dreamed up to transform the island, but only a handful have ever become reality. Here are some of the big ideas that never came true, or remain to be realised.

## A Bridge to Fuerteventura

The idea of a bridge across the Bocaina Strait connecting Lanzarote to Fuerteventura has surfaced every now and again, and Fuerteventura's Cabildo even commissioned a feasibility study into such a project a few years ago.

Behind the concept is the idea that a road link between the two Eastern islands would create a new "Eastern Axis", unifying business and tourism on the two islands.

The bridge would also be a hugely attractive prospect for local construction firms, which hold a lot of sway on Fuerteventura. However, Lanzarote has shown virtually no interest in the idea, rejecting it on the grounds of visual and environmental impact.

Fuerteventura has also considered a tunnel between the two islands, estimating that the cost of the drilling would be just over a billion Euros. Once again, Lanzarote's response has been far from enthusiastic.

## "City of Seagulls"

One of César Manrique's most amazing projects, which he dreamed up with his architect friend Fernando Higuera, was the City of Seagulls.

The houses were described as "Like colonies of mussels embedded in the cliffs of Famara, which are accessed by interior galleries without a sea-view, containing lifts that descend from the gardens that will be sunk into the lava of the clifftops."

In their sketches for the project, Manrique is careful to indicate that La Graciosa "stays as it is". This reflects plans by the Spanish government, which was considering developing the eighth island for tourism, with plans for 25,000 beds and an airport.

Like several other fascinating ideas that Higuera and Manrique dreamed up, the City of Seagulls never got further than sketchbooks, but the Mirador del Río reflects Manrique's vision of a human building that



*The closest thing Lanzarote has seen to a real train.*

blends into nature.

## Lanza Railway

There have been several proposals to build railways on Lanzarote, almost always on the south-east coast of the island. One proposal involved linking the airport with Arrecife, while more ambitious projects have envisioned a link between Puerto del Carmen and Costa Teguise, taking in the airport, Playa Honda and Arrecife. None that we know of have ever considered extending a line further south to Playa Blanca and, more relevantly, none have ever got anywhere near becoming reality.

The history of other railway projects on Tenerife and Gran Canaria suggests that Lanzarote is likely to wait a long time for any such project. Despite grand ambitions and approved plans, all

projects appear to be paralysed and the Canaries has no trains.

## The Timanfaya Reservoir

In 2017, the Podemos political party announced that engineer Carlos Soler had discovered a massive aquifer beneath the Timanfaya National Park. A later report in 2020 suggested that the aquifer was not only resupplied by rainfall every year, but also contained enough water to fulfil all of the island's water needs.

Soler points to at least 912 natural springs in the area to support his theory that the volcanic eruptions of 1730-36 have formed an impermeable cap over the water deposits.

Since 2020, however, there has



*The Isle of Lobos*





been no further news of any plans to research the aquifer further or attempt to exploit it.

#### Disneylobos

Some rumours have been so crazy that they have survived long in local memories. Among them are the supposed plans for the uninhabited Isle of Lobos, which lies between Lanzarote and Fuerteventura.

As tourism increased in the late 60s and 70s, the island,

which was property of the German entrepreneur Gustavo Winter, was marked out for development. The rumours included the possibility that Frank Sinatra wanted to acquire the island and build an international casino on it, or that a Disneyworld would be built there, with its own airport.

In the end, a few buildings were started for a botanical garden of desert plants, but this project was quickly abandoned. The island became a protected natural area in 1982.








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# Bathroom Reshape



As trends change and our liking for certain things fade, we often want to totally change the design or orientation of a room in our house. One of the rooms we frequent most is the bathroom – using it to get ready every morning and to carry out our skincare routines before bed.



You may view your bathroom as just a functional room, used for getting ready for work, going to the toilet and for brushing your teeth, but it's much more than that. It's the first room that many of us walk into after waking up and it's one of the last rooms we see before going to bed.

As it is one of the first rooms you'll step into after waking up, it's important to get the lighting right. It's time to unscrew those bright-white bulbs and swap them for warmer lighting that's more forgiving on our sleepy eyes.

Then there are factors such as clutter and unnecessary furniture items, you shouldn't have to fight with bottles and tubes on top of your sink just to reach the toothbrush every morning. Try to look for a thin wall cabinet to store your perfumes, deodorants, and moisturisers.

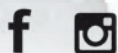
Walk-in showers are great for those that have them but covering it with a curtain can make the room look smaller. Look out for glass shower doors in furniture or hardware shops as a gleaming pane of glass can reflect the light making the room brighter and appear bigger.

With enough tweaks and a few colour changes you'll have the bathroom of your dreams. And you can stand back and look at your work with pride.





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# Cooking

# Utilities



Be honest, how long have you been using the same set of cooking pots, kitchen cutlery and dishes? For many of us the answer is longer than we should have. It's time to retire them and look for something better.

## POTS, PANS, AND WOKS

Quality pots and pans are essential to stress-free cooking. You may think that any old pan will do, as they all do the same thing, but you couldn't be any further from the truth.

Higher quality pots and pans use better heat conductors and more durable materials - the better the heat conduction, the more evenly and precisely your food will be cooked.

Talk to your local home shop about the topic and they'll walk you through the process of selecting your new set.

## KNIVES

Blunt knives are no fun, they're frustrating, cumbersome, and dangerous. You're at more risk of cutting yourself with a blunt knife than with a newly sharpened one. That's because it's more like to glide across the surface and slip rather than cutting.

A brand-new set of high-quality knives will cut down on preparation time and make cooking a dream. It will also allow you to perform finer cuts for more precise cooking.

## PLATES

Now that you're equipped with the proper tools to work your magic in the kitchen there are no limitations, however, you'll want a stunning set of plates to serve your showstopping dishes on.

Although white plates work well for most dishes, a striking black plate or grey slate can take your dish to another level.

The lockdowns of 2020 and 2021 saw many of us take to the kitchen to refine and learn new skills. As a result, there are more home cooks than ever, and every budding chef needs the proper utilities to prepare delicious dishes with ease.



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# Oh no, my pool is green!



It's common for frequently used swimming pools to accumulate algae if you don't take proper care of the chemicals and general regular maintenance. It's important to know about the different types of algae and how to treat them, especially if you have a holiday villa in Lanzarote.

The last thing your guests will want to see when they arrive at your villa is an uninviting, green, and swamp-like pool. The algae can quickly get out of hand if it's not addressed in time, so it's important to know how to maintain your pool and tackle the algae effectively.

## GREEN ALGAE

The most common algae. Green Algae is the first thing we usually picture in our minds when we think of an uncared-for pool. The slimy green substance can find itself on all surfaces of the pool and usually starts in small patches.

It's important to remove it as soon as you spot even the smallest patch of green algae, as it can soon take over the entire pool.

## MUSTARD ALGAE

Although Mustard Algae isn't uncommon, it may be some time before you come across it. The algae is a yellowish-



brown colour that spreads slower than green algae, however, it can be harder to remove.

It grows similarly to its green counterpart, and is treated in the same way, it requires more persistence and monitoring to be sure that it is totally removed.

## BLACK ALGAE

Black Algae is one for the professionals. It can be harmful to swimmers in some circumstances and will may require the pool to be drained to properly remove it.

The walls, floors and steps will need to be disinfected and scrubbed thoroughly.

If you are ever unsure about a pool problem you may have, it's always best to call the professionals.



Lanzarote Pool & Spa Shop in Playa Blanca have recently received a new shipment of award-winning Superior Wellness spas. This month, we chatted with manager Steven Mottershaw about the new arrivals.



Lanzarote Pool & Spa Shop's reputation is built on impeccable service and high-quality products. "We test every product on our own pools and spas before selling to our clients. If it isn't a quality product, then we won't sell it", says manager Steven.

Steven took us on a tour through the shop and warehouse to show us some of their Superior Wellness spas, heaters and pool covers manufacturing.

## AWARD WINNING SPAS

"The spas are built for Lanzarote in every aspect, we work with Superior Wellness to adjust the spas to the island's needs", explains Steven.

Their hot tubs are designed and engineered for 13 AMPs – to account for the low amperage supplied to most Lanzarote properties. It of course also reduces running costs!

The spas are built with comfort and ease-of-use



in mind. Every model is fitted with simple topside controls to activate jets, lights and even speakers on the higher-end models.

For holiday villa owners, the Holiday Spa model is built to resolve many problems that are usually associated with residential hot tubs in rental villas. The spa has no breakable or removable components, simple topside guest controls with the advanced controls and in-line bromine feeder behind a locked service hatch, it also features a large drain to empty the hot tub in as little as 10 minutes.

The spas can be installed within an hour of delivery. A set of starter chemicals will be included with the purchase along with a booklet and in person explanation on how to maintain your new spa. Free over-the-phone consultations are offered to clients for any questions they may have.

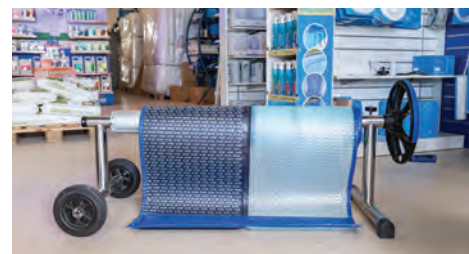
While other spa suppliers may require you to wait some months for replacement parts, Lanzarote Pool & Spa Shop have spare parts in the shop ready to be installed if necessary.

## POOL COVERS

Their passion and commitment to quality shone when they told us about the process of how they make their pool covers. "All of our covers

are manufactured in our Lanzarote warehouse. Once we have the client's pool measurements, we weld the pool cover material together and bring it to the pool to cut it perfectly to shape.

The cover will be dried and sewn with UV protected material and UV protected stitching. Finally, the pool cover will be secured to the roller with UV protected webbing."



## POOL HEATERS

Gecko Pool Heaters are the latest generation of pool heat pumps that are now more efficient than ever before. Steven explains that "standard pool heaters ramp up when the pool is cold and then turn off, which isn't efficient."

"Our heaters detect when the temperature is low and work at 100% to quickly heat the water. Then the smart computer adjusts the output performance to continually run at a lower percentage to maintain heat and reduce consumption/noise". If necessary spare parts are available for Gecko heaters.



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# Summer Secure



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Lanzarote's busiest holiday months are approaching, and the Spanish National Police have recently reminded holiday rental owners of the basic safety measures that we should all follow to keep ourselves and our valuables safe while in Lanzarote.

In 2022 you would expect most, if not all, rental villas and apartments to come equipped with durable locks and alarm systems. However, that isn't the case. As a holiday rental owner, to save yourself from headaches and lengthy phone calls from distressed villa guests you should make sure that your property is up to scratch.

## LOCKS

Holiday rentals are often targeted by criminals as a lot of tourists eat out, leaving the villa empty. Therefore, it's imperative that you check every window, door and sliding door lock, noting any that need replacing.

Most owners will hand the villa keys to their guests or give them a code to a key safe near the front door. Alternatively, you could opt for a smart door lock activated by a code that you give to your guests.

It's worth including a document in your holiday rental reminding tourists to double check all openings before leaving the villa.

## SAFE

All rental villas should come equipped with a small safe to store valuables and travel necessities such as passports and boarding passes. You can find small safes in most hardware shops, and they often come with fittings on the back or underneath where you can fix it in place.

## ALARMS

Brand new locks are a good step towards having a secure rental villa. However, installing an alarm system is the extra step that your guests will appreciate.

It is another deterrent that makes your villa more secure and less appealing to a would-be criminal.





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# PLAYA BLANCA'S EXPANSION



The sunny southern town of Playa Blanca has undergone some major construction projects in the past couple of years, from new sports facilities to the huge task of extending the town port. Puertos Canarios announced that the port will be operational in time for the summer.

The monumental task of planning and constructing the extension has been no easy feat and completion dates have been pushed back due to the scale of the works.

Playa Blanca's port extension was brought forward as a way to boost Yaiza's economy and open the door for "economic diversification" according to the Mayor of Yaiza, Óscar Noda, in January of this year.

In January, Noda explained that the extension improves the resorts'

commercial and tourist appeal, providing Playa Blanca with a "first-rate port infrastructure". The extension will also allow for larger ships to arrive at the port, however, Noda added that they do not intend to compete with Arrecife for cruise tourism.

In addition to its main purpose of allowing larger ships, the new port will have two car parks with enough space to accommodate 275 vehicles as well as 155 spots for boats within its expanded dock.

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Take a drive through any rural village on Lanzarote and you'll recognise that every traditional abandoned house has one thing in common – wooden windows and doors. While the wooden look can be charming, it is a material of the past for our home fittings.

Nowadays, materials used in modern home fittings are ever improving with more durable materials that are built to last. Modern materials such as uPVC and aluminium are extremely resistant which is particularly important for an island like Lanzarote for many reasons:

First, brand new, professionally fitted windows and doors offer control. You can open them to allow the sun and fresh air into your home, or you can shut them tight when the wind gets up or the occasional showers start. Every detail down to the seal used to secure the fitting ensures that nothing gets in or out without

your say so.

Secondly, strong fittings offer security and peace of mind. When leaving your home, you want to feel that it's safe and that your windows and doors aren't easily pried open. New fittings come with strong, durable locks. An alarm system is equally important, too, but first and foremost you want potential burglars to see your home as too secure to bother trying.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, windows offer privacy. External shutters and pull-down blinds keep prying eyes out and allows for more privacy.

Remember to always choose reliable, toughened glass. The sudden gusts of wind that occur on Lanzarote can slam open windows shut and damage them if the proper materials aren't used. If you have kids living in or visiting your property, a safe and toughened glass is paramount.

In this climate, our windows and doors need careful consideration. The choice of material used can be a costly oversight if all factors aren't considered.



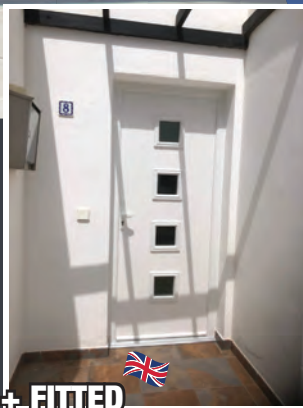
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Summer is here and that means we'll all be spending more time outdoors in our gardens and swimming pools but before we go out to soak up the sun, we must put sun cream on to protect ourselves from the heat. However, you may not have realised that, just like us, our villas also need protection from the sun.



The temperatures that Lanzarote experiences from August onwards are brilliant for holidaymakers and kids on school break, however, they're not so great for our villas. Every roof on Lanzarote needs protection from the sun – they're exposed to the sun every day.

It isn't just the heat that can damage your villa roof but the intense UV that comes with Lanzarote summers. Without proper protection they can damage your roof and cause costly problems when the winter rains come.

What may start as small cracks in your roof's paint can soon turn into possible leaks in the winter months when the island experiences showers. To save yourself placing buckets in your living room to catch water droplets it's best to have your roof sealed now before the height-of-summer temperatures arrive.

You may think you're a DIY whizz, but chances are you've a lot to learn about the demands placed on Lanzarote homes. And you're likely to discover your mistakes when it's already too late.

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# Paradise in Haría

The centre of the town of Haría is home to one of the most important gardens on Lanzarote – a plot that David Riebold has dedicated to the native plant life of the island. It's a fascinating, inspiring place that we had the immense pleasure of visiting last month.

**"A SANCTUARY FOR LANZAROTE'S NATIVE PLANTS."**



Canarian flora, urged David to focus on local plants, and the results can be seen throughout his garden, where there's always something in bloom, and where maintenance is kept to an absolute minimum.

On our way to Haría we've already seen several of the gorgeous, pink flower clusters of the *Aeonium lancerottense* – Lanzarote's own native succulent, but David also shows us another local speciality, the *Aeonium balsiferum* – a yellow-flowering aeonium with a fragrant scent that is scarce in the wild owing to its popularity with goats.

David's plot is a long stretch of land running parallel to the main barranco that runs through Haría, channelling rainwater from the surrounding hills. When he bought the land 33 years ago, he originally planned to focus on drought-resistant trees, but the

garden has since become a haven for the native plants of Lanzarote.

An increasing awareness of local species, helped by the work of David Bramwell – the Liverpool-born botanist who specialised in

"Gardeners always say the same thing," smiles David, "And that's 'You should have been here last month'." If we had, he insists we would have seen the delicate trumpet-shaped flowers of the *Corregüela de Famara*, a species of *convolvulus* that is native to

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*Caralluma burchardii*

the cliffs of Famara – an incredibly rich and biodiverse area which has more native species per square kilometre than anywhere else in Europe.

David is enthusiastic to show us the *Caralluma burchardii*, a strange little succulent plant that is native to the Eastern Canaries. “When I started, the Cabildo used to give away free specimens of local plants at the experimental farm in Tahiche,” says David. “But I suspect the garden centres started complaining and that stopped. Now it’s a lot harder to get hold of them,” he says.

One of the most enchanting elements of the garden is revealed early, as we find a small pond full of waterlilies. Little tree frogs are everywhere to be seen and David tells us that later in the year they’ll climb up the palm trees, from where their croaking can be easily heard.



*Aeonium lancerottense*

Another surprise comes a little later as David offers us a sweet mulberry from a bush that is producing large, ripe fruit that stains our hands and mouths.

On a tree we see the head of a lizard impaled on one of the tree’s twigs. This is the work of a shrike, or “butcher bird”, one of many local bird visitors that come to the garden.

There are a couple of Canarian pines which thrive on the waste washing machine water, but David’s not keen on extending them - “The needles make the soil so acid that nothing else can grow,” says David, and he has ample experience of tree-growing here.

Around the garden there are various species of asparagus shrubs, pistachio trees and azabuches, or wild olive trees, some of which are protected by *Tamarix canariensis* – the “Tarajal”, which provides one of the most

effective local windbreaks for gardeners.

### A WORK IN PROGRESS

David insists that if he’d planned the garden completely from the start, it would have turned out as a “dog’s dinner”. Instead, over the three decades he had developed it, he has learned from mistakes and experience, and that educational process is still continuing.

“I’ve also learned what not to grow,” says David, citing acacia trees and araucaria (monkey puzzles) as examples. On our visit we barely scratch the surface of this magical place - here’s a tabaiba, there’s a drago plant, and everywhere there’s that strangely subtle sense of delicate beauty that Lanzarote’s plant life offers. It’s often understated, but is deeply appealing - a blend of resilience and gentleness that encapsulates an island.



You can find out more about David’s garden at [www.harialanzarote.com](http://www.harialanzarote.com), and if you’re really interested in finding out more, he’s happy to receive visitors, too.



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# Keyhole Garden

Keyhole gardens originated in Lesotho, a dry African country with few resources, widespread malnutrition, and the second-highest HIV rate in the world. If you think that's irrelevant to garden design, read on.



A keyhole garden is a raised garden built within a circular stone wall. Soil lies on top of a bed of wood, cardboard, and other organic matter, and at the centre of the circle is a large basket made of metal or plastic. To get to this basket, a 'notch' is built into the circle, making it look like a keyhole from above.

Plants are grown in the soil around the basket, and organic waste, household grey water and any other composting materials are regularly tipped into the basket, providing nutrients for the plants.

AIDS sufferers are often too weak to do much work, but the keyhole garden is designed to make things as easy as possible for them. Everything is at waist height or a little higher, and the notch means there's little bending or stretching required.

The keyhole garden not only makes gardening easy for the sick and elderly, but it also provides a rich source of nutritious greens that are more challenging to grow in hot, dry conditions.

It's an idea that could easily adapt to Lanzarote, where stone



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walls and raised gardens in the form of terraces aren't exactly a new idea.

## AEONIUM WALL

Alpine rockeries aren't particularly practical in Canarian climate, but the islands offer their own version of a rocky habitat.



Get out to the wild, rocky mountainous areas of any of the Canary Islands and, sooner or later, you'll spot an aeonium – the fleshy, green, or reddish, succulent rosette-shaped plants that are native to these islands.

There are hundreds of varieties of aeonium available, and they're a fixture in most local garden centres – one of the most



popular expressions of Canarian gardening style.

See them in the wild, however, and you'll notice exactly how good they are at clinging to steep or vertical rocky surfaces. You'll see them tightly wedged into cracks in cliffsides or the gaps in a dry-stone wall, getting their nutrition from the thinnest of soils and the moisture that gathers in the rock.

An aeonium rockery is a distinct possibility in any Lanzarote garden, but a vertical frame is an even more exciting challenge – all you have to do is find an adequate planter, which could be anything from an old wooden tray to a pallet, and create a well-packed display. Then hang the planter vertically.

## UNGARDENING

Also known as re-wilding, ungardening is probably a more accurate term for a process that

is not to be mistaken for low-maintenance neglect.

Lanzarote has few enough green spaces as it is, so creating a wild corner in your garden is doing a favour to an island where life has usually been tough for plants and wildlife.

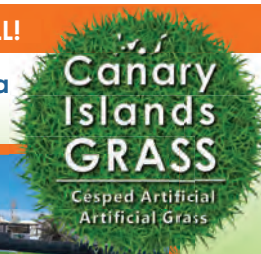
The "ungardening" bit involves carefully returning a space to a wild state, but this is harder than it seems. Just leaving it alone will encourage dominant weeds and do nothing for the biodiversity of your garden.

Instead, a bit of planning is needed. You'll need shelter, in the form of rocks and wood; organic material and, most importantly, a source of moisture.

The real advantage of this style of gardening is that it forces you to get out and about into your local habitat, where you'll learn so much more about the wild plants and, eventually, animals that surround us.

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# Strapped in tight

Driving with children on Lanzarote? Here's what you need to know.

Spain's roads are getting safer all the time, but it's still a shocking fact that the most common cause of death for children under 14 is a road accident. In 40% of those accidents, no child protection measures were used.

If you're travelling with children, you'll want to know that they're as safe as possible and, fortunately, Spanish law is of the same opinion. Here are rules regarding child safety equipment:

## Rear-facing seats

Rear-facing baby seats are compulsory for children aged up to 18 months or weighing less than 13 kilos. The child must be strapped correctly into the seat, which in turn must be safely secured by the seatbelts.

These seats can be used in the front or back seat of the car. However, if in the front seat, the airbag must be deactivated

## Front-facing seats

These are for children from 18-months to four years old, and weighing between 9 to 18 kilos.

These seats **MUST** be located in the back seat of the vehicle, and never in the middle – i.e., they should be behind the driver or passenger seat.

## Booster seats

Children from 3 to 12 Years and between 15 – 36 kg must use booster or riser seats which raise the child to a position where the seatbelt fits correctly over the child's



collarbone. Group 2 seats are for younger children and feature supporting back and head rests, while group 3 seats are simply booster cushions which should only be used once the child reaches 22 kilos.

Child seats should meet minimum standards of safety, and this can be checked by looking for the EU-approved sticker – usually an orange sticker on the back of the chair.

Fitting child seats isn't always as easy or straightforward as you'd expect. Make absolutely sure you've got it right, and if you have any doubts at all, ask an expert. If the car you're using is hired, you'll usually be provided with adequate child seating

but you can still be responsible for not using it correctly.

## The Baby On Board sign



An urban legend claims that "Baby On Board" stickers were originally intended for emergency services, advising them to search for children in the case of a serious accident. However this is untrue – the signs were developed in the US in the 1980s to remind other drivers to take care.

They have long fallen out of fashion in the US, but remain popular in the UK, Spain and Lanzarote, where you may even see Canarian variants such as "Chinijo A Bordo".

## MAIN ROAD WARNING

Every year over 100 people are killed when crossing main roads and motorways in Spain, prompting the Traffic Department to launch a campaign to raise consciousness.

Deaths of pedestrians on main roads are certainly not unknown on Lanzarote, where fatal accidents have taken place on the road from Arrecife to San Bartolomé, and other near misses have occurred on main roads elsewhere.

The DGT's campaign uses actors Eduardo Fernández and Amaia Romero to highlight the risks of not wearing reflective clothing, crossing in areas that are forbidden, dangerous driving and safety near roadworks.



## NO NEWS ON UK LICENCES

There's still no firm date for when UK residents in Spain can use their UK-issued licences. According to Her Majesty's Ambassador Hugh Elliott, agreement has been reached, but formalities have to be undergone before the law can be amended.

Although we can't say for certain,



it seems as though the new agreement is simply likely to provide another time period in which UK licences can be transferred for Spanish ones, rather than permanent provision for UK licence use.

## SPEEDING ON THE SEAFRONT

Calls to monitor speed limits on the seafront road of Arrecife have increased after a 57-year-old woman was knocked down and injured near the Gran Hotel.

Locals complain that many cars fail to observe the speed limit that applies on the stretch of the Avenida between the Gran Hotel and C/Manuel Miranda,

and also that cars now ignore the fact that this is a one-way road, with access in the other direction limited to residents, public transport and emergency vehicles.

In fact, most of the time the Avenida looks like a two-way street, with the same amount of vehicles travelling in both directions.



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# ED'S POSTBAG



Readers are reminded that views and comments expressed within the Ed's Postbag page are those of the contributors and may not necessarily reflect the opinions or standpoint of our staff. It should also be noted that we are an independent publication free from political persuasion or governmental censorship.

## CHANGE FOR THE GOOD?

*Hi Ed,*

I'm wondering what people think about the new shopping centre. If it offers more than Deiland won't it take away from Deiland? And what about the shopping streets in Arrecife?

I wonder if the road adjacent to the new mall will be just as crazy as the one near Deiland.

Thanks,

*Jim R.*

*Ed: There are mixed opinions on the new mall. Some believe it is a good addition whereas others believe it will take business away from the shopping streets in Arrecife which are already suffering*

## EV CHARGING

*Dear Ed,*

The pictured EV Car charging point in Puerto del Carmen, near to Lidl has been like this for more than a year now. Recently we were given a hybrid rental car at the airport, but without any charging cables!

I have only seen one charge point in our travels, in IKEA's underground garage. So it appears there is a less than good attitude to going carbon free on the island?

Thanks,

*John Parker - Apartment Owner*

*Ed: I've seldom seen the charging ports being used on the island. More*



*charging ports will be included as part of the most recent development on the port in Playa Blanca which would presumably be used by the hire car companies, however, the cost of an electric car and the lack of charging ports don't make a convincing case.*

## THE RESORT THAT TIME FORGOT

*Dear Editor,*

I'm sure that I and many other residents of Costa Tegúise would agree that the resort is in need of numerous improvement.

Take one look at Costa Tegúise and the first word that comes to mind is tired! The abandoned "skeleton" hotels, as they're called, need addressing urgently. It sends the wrong message. The busiest period of the year is approaching and CT will earn itself an unfavourable reputation if this isn't solved.

The issue of the eyesores still need solving despite investments in other projects by the Cabildo in Costa. This beautiful town has so much to offer.

Regards,

*David Lewis*

*Ed: Currently, action is being taken on select skeleton hotels in Costa Tegúise after the Canarian Supreme Court ordered the Tegúise Ayuntamiento to present a plan of action for the hotel on plot 242-B.*

*Political figures on Lanzarote have been asking about the state of Costa Tegúise and its "skeleton" hotels recently with Marcos Bergáz, of the Socialist opposition in Tegúise, demanding an explanation as to why the hotel on plot 210 has been "left standing for more than ten years".*

## PUERTO DEL CARMEN PARKS

*Hola Gazette Life,*

I've just come back from Playa Blanca and the resort is looking superb. The new park near the ferry terminal is one of the best looking parks I've seen. Playa Blanca now has two decent parks.

Will Puerto Del Carmen get something similar?

The strip of land next to the airport runway would be ideal. Not many parks in the world are next to a runway. I think PDC is lagging

behind PB when it comes to parks.

Cheers,

*Marc*

*Ed: Playa Blanca has been one of the busiest resorts recently as far as construction goes. Projects such as the new sports centre, port extension, new parks and roadworks.*

*There are parks in Puerto del Carmen, however, they appear few and far between due to the size of the resort. The road that the runs along the airport is popular and accompanied by a long stretching beach so I wouldn't imagine that a park is planned there.*

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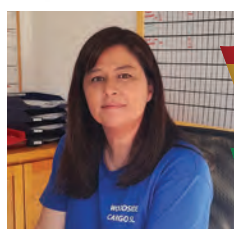


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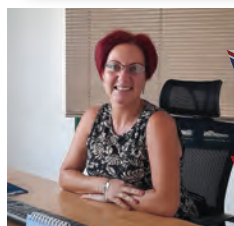
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	L: 10:10	0.6		L: 11:41	0.7
	H: 16:21	2.6		H: 17:53	2.4
	L: 22:40	0.5			
2	H: 04:43	2.4	18	L: 00:12	0.8
	L: 10:46	0.7		H: 06:20	2.2
	H: 16:58	2.6		L: 12:29	0.9
	L: 23:17	0.6		H: 18:42	2.2
3	H: 05:22	2.3	19 0	L: 01:01	1.0
	L: 11:26	0.7		H: 07:14	2.1
	H: 17:39	2.5		L: 13:29	1.1
				H: 19:43	2.0
4	L: 00:00	0.7	20	L: 02:04	1.2
	H: 06:07	2.2		H: 08:24	2.0
	L: 12:14	0.8		L: 14:49	1.2
	H: 18:27	2.3		H: 21:06	1.9
5 0	L: 00:51	0.8	21	L: 03:23	1.3
	H: 07:02	2.2		H: 09:47	1.9
	L: 13:13	0.9		L: 16:18	1.2
	H: 19:28	2.2		H: 22:32	1.9
6	L: 01:53	0.9	22	L: 04:42	1.2
	H: 08:11	2.1		H: 11:00	2.1
	L: 14:28	1.0		L: 17:28	1.1
	H: 20:45	2.1		H: 23:38	2.0
7	L: 03:08	1.0	23	L: 05:42	1.1
	H: 09:29	2.2		H: 11:55	2.2
	L: 15:53	0.9		L: 18:18	0.9
	H: 22:08	2.2			
8	L: 04:26	0.9	24	H: 00:25	2.1
	H: 10:45	2.3		L: 06:27	1.0
	L: 17:10	0.8		H: 12:37	2.4
	H: 23:23	2.3		L: 18:57	0.8
9	L: 05:35	0.8	25	H: 01:02	2.3
	H: 11:50	2.5		L: 07:04	0.8
	L: 18:14	0.6		H: 13:13	2.5
				L: 19:32	0.6
10	H: 00:25	2.4	26	H: 01:36	2.4
	L: 06:32	0.6		L: 07:38	0.7
	H: 12:46	2.7		H: 13:47	2.7
	L: 19:09	0.4		L: 20:04	0.5
11	H: 01:18	2.6	27 0	H: 02:07	2.5
	L: 07:23	0.4		L: 08:10	0.5
	H: 13:35	2.9		H: 14:18	2.8
	L: 19:57	0.2		L: 20:34	0.4
12 ●	H: 02:05	2.7	28	H: 02:37	2.6
	L: 08:10	0.3		L: 08:41	0.5
	H: 14:21	3.0		H: 14:49	2.8
	L: 20:42	0.1		L: 21:05	0.4
13	H: 02:49	2.8	29	H: 03:08	2.7
	L: 08:53	0.3		L: 09:12	0.4
	H: 15:04	3.1		H: 15:21	2.9
	L: 21:25	0.1		L: 21:36	0.4
14	H: 03:31	2.8	30	H: 03:39	2.7
	L: 09:35	0.3		L: 09:44	0.5
	H: 15:46	3.0		H: 15:53	2.8
	L: 22:07	0.2		L: 22:09	0.4
15	H: 04:12	2.7	31	H: 04:13	2.6
	L: 10:16	0.4		L: 10:19	0.5
	H: 16:28	2.9		H: 16:29	2.7
	L: 22:48	0.4		L: 22:44	0.5
16	H: 04:53	2.6	<div><div><div>○ New Moon</div><div>● Full Moon</div></div><div><div>○ First Quarter Moon</div><div>○ Last Quarter Moon</div></div></div>		
	L: 10:57	0.5			
	H: 17:09	2.7			
	L: 23:29	0.6			
H=High Tide L=Low Tide					

H=High Tide L=Low Tide



August 2022

## Weather Watch

### Amazing August

August is the high point of Lanzarote's summer and one of its busiest months. Look forward to scorching hot beach days and warm nights on the terrace.

Along with high temperatures also comes very high UV levels, so make sure to slap on the sun cream before heading to one of the islands numerous beaches.

It's a glorious season, and it's also the season when the very best and sweetest fruits find their way into the local supermarkets. You'll never eat a better melon than the ones that you can buy right now, and the grapes are much sweeter than the ones available in July.

Get out there and enjoy it.

### What to Expect in August



Day Time Temps  
24°C to 30°C



Night Time Temps  
Average 20-23°C



Sunshine Hours  
13 hours daylight. 9 hrs full sun



Sea Temp  
22°C



Rain  
Not a chance.



Wind  
15-20 kph.

# Telephone Numbers



## AIRPORT

Iberia General Info .....	901 111500
Aena General Info .....	928 846000
Flight Information .....	928 846001

## AYUNTAMIENTOS

Arrecife .....	928 812750
Haria .....	928 835251
San Bartolome.....	928 520657
Teguise .....	928 845001
Tias .....	928 833619
Tinajo .....	928 840021
Yaiza .....	928 836220
Lanzarote Cabildo .....	928 810100

## BRITISH SCHOOLS

British School of Lanzarote .....	928 810085
Colegio Europeo Daos .....	928 515818
Colegio Hispano Británico.....	928 173066
Colegio Arenas .....	928 590835

## CHEMIST

Puerto del Carmen .....	928 513207
Puerto del Carmen (Old Town) .....	928 512282
Playa Blanca.....	928 518942
Costa Teguise (CC Jablillo).....	928 826628
Costa Teguise (Islas Canarias) .....	928 590423

## CHURCHES

Anglican Chaplain.....	928 514241
Family Church .....	618 186755
Christian Worship Centre .....	620 309684
Sunday Worship.....	630 175810
Pastor Norwegian Church .....	616 407693

## CONSULATES

Britain .....	928 262508
Ireland.....	928 815262
Germany .....	928 491880

## CREDIT CARDS - LOST OR STOLEN?

4B .....	902 114400
AMEX.....	900 814500
Visa International.....	900 991124

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police, Fire, Ambulances .....	112
Spanish Emergency Services.....	061
Red Cross (Ambulance).....	928 812222

## FERRIES

Naviera Armas .....	902 220225
Fred Olsen .....	928 517266
Líneas Romero .....	928 842055

## FUNERAL SERVICES

Atlantic (Alianza Canaria) 24h..	928 800013
----------------------------------	------------

## GAZETTE LIFE OFFICES

Reception.....	928 093823
Mobile.....	621 274473
Website .....	www.gazettelife.com

## MEDICAL AND HEALTH

British Surgery Lanzarote .....	928 514274
OR FREEPHONE .....	900 811555
Hospital Arrecife .....	928 595000
Alcoholics Anonymous.....	653 840440
Dr. Mager Clinic.....	928 512611
Hospiten Lanzarote .....	928 596100
Overeaters Anonymous .....	662 116415

## POLICE

Arrecife .....	928 811317
Haria .....	928 835252
San Bartolome.....	928 520712
Teguise .....	928 845252
Tias .....	928 834101
Yaiza .....	928 830107

## POST OFFICES

Costa Teguise .....	928 827268
Playa Blanca.....	928 518389
Puerto del Carmen .....	928 510381

## TAXI RANKS

Airport.....	928 520176
Arrecife .....	928 800806
Haria .....	620 315350
Teguise/Costa Teguise .....	928 524223
Puerto del Carmen/Tias.....	928 524220
San Bartolomé.....	928 520176
Tinajo .....	928 840049
Yaiza/Playa Blanca .....	928 524222

## TELEPHONE (MOVISTAR)

Faults.....	1002
Directory Enquiries .....	11811
International Directories .....	11825

## TOURIST INFORMATION - LANZAROTE

Arrecife .....	928 813174
Costa Teguise.....	928 592542
Puerto del Carmen .....	928 513351
Playa Blanca.....	928 518150

## TOURIST INFORMATION - 7 ISLANDS

Lanzarote .....	928 820704
El Hierro .....	922 550302
Fuerteventura .....	928 860604
Gran Canaria .....	928 771550
La Gomera.....	922 870281
La Palma.....	922 423340
Tenerife .....	928 635192

## TRANSPORT

ITV Station (MOT) .....	928 582555
Intercity Bus .....	928 811522

## UTILITIES

Endesa (Electricity) .....	800 760909
Canal Gestión (Water).....	928 814400
Iberdrola .....	900 225235

## VETS

Jane Burke.....	928 513895 or 649 910784
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# Need to Know



## BUS GUIDE

For new residents or tourists, it can be a little confusing to navigate the island's bus system, with many not in the know about the best sources of information and mobile apps. Here's your guide to Lanzarote's buses.

## YOUR BUS BIBLE

Not only is it the official website for the island's buses, but it also tells you everything you need to know. Arrecifebus.com should be the first place you visit when you're unsure of which buses to get and at what time they arrive/depart.

It lists the many lines and timetables, shows a map of the lines, has downloadable travel brochures and an FAQ section for all your questions.

## INTERCITYBUS LANZAROTE

The IntercityBus app is another brilliant addition to the roster and acts as an all-in-one place to access your bus card balance, next stops, bus routes, and lines and time tables. The app itself can show you your remaining balance on your bus card, and will open the appropriate webpages or apps when you are trying to find out information on lines, timetables and routes.

## BUS TRAVEL CARDS

If you use the buses often then you may want to think about applying for a bus card from the main bus station in Arrecife (next to the UD Lanzarote football ground).

There are a couple of different cards, which allow you to utilise a 10%, 20%, 30% or 50% discount on bus fares. The cards are contactless and are scanned on the bus when stating which stop you wish to travel to. The percentage discount cards can be recharged on the buses themselves, however, the Bono Residente Canario card must be recharged at the main station in Arrecife.

You can learn more about the different cards on the website: [www.arrecifebus.com](http://www.arrecifebus.com).



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# Horoscopes

BY CLAIRVOYANT SHONA LANGHOLM



## Aries

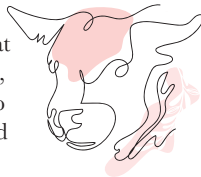
(21 MAR - 19 APR)

Hardly a relaxing summer season for you, Aries, but that's fine. You're never happier than when you're getting stuff done. You'll be busy all month, but if you think family or romantic relationships will bring relief, dream on – they're going to be hectic, too.

## Taurus

(20 APRIL – 20 MAY)

You're still getting your head round an experience that happened earlier this summer, Taurus. It shocked you, but it also inspired you, and this month you'll start to find a way to apply what you've learned to your life and perhaps change your life forever.



## Gemini

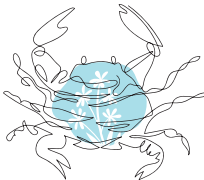
(21 MAY TO 20 JUNE)

Money is now something you're really going to have to address, Gemini. Budgeting, saving and hard work will pour cold water on your recent wild times, but keep your good friends close and those you love even closer, and you'll get through this.

## Cancer

(21 JUNE TO 22 JULY)

Going uphill is hard work, Cancer, but the view when you get to the top makes it worth while. You've been through tough times, but now you know exactly where you are and where you need to get to. And it's all downhill from now on...



## Virgo

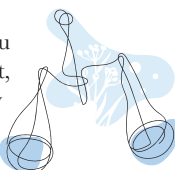
(23 AUG TO 22 SEPT)

Don't disappoint your colleagues this month, Virgo. You may sometimes forget quite how much they rely on you to keep things going – well, it's time to remember how important you are. Keep 'em sweet and enjoy the consequences.

## Libra

(23 SEPT TO 22 OCT)

Give yourself a treat, Libra. It's not been that easy for you recently, but you've kept at it and come through triumphant, inspiring and assisting others on the way. Rewards may not be immediate, but they'll come. Meanwhile you deserve to do something special for yourself.



## Leo

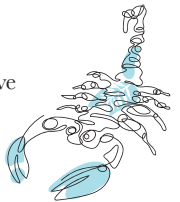
(23 JULY TO 22 AUG)

Take your time, this month, Leo. Stay quiet, make them wait and hold back until the time is right. Then, when you roar that glorious Leo roar, they'll all sit up and take notice. It's time to remind them what magnificent means – go for it.

## Scorpio

(23 OCT TO 21 NOV)

Time to face up to a few home truths, Scorpio. You may have to give up on a failing project, or at least seek an alternative to it. But you've already known this for a while, haven't you? Now's the time to work hard to buy yourself a little freedom.



## Sagittarius

(22 NOV TO 21 DEC)

Health issues require attention this month, Sagittarius. You're in OK shape, but you could look and feel so much better if you just tried a little harder to make the most of what you've got. Give yourself a workout plan and a makeover to stay in great shape.

## Capricorn

(22 DEC TO 19 JAN)

Let your fantasies run free, Capricorn. You'll be feeling richly imaginative this month, so just relax and let your mind fly loose. The results may inspire you to write, paint or create something. They'll certainly rejuvenate you and give you hope.



## Aquarius

(20 JAN - 18 FEB)

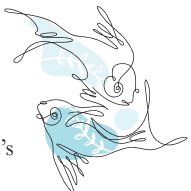
Sometimes, Aquarius you're like the gymnast at the top of the human pyramid who thinks they made it there on his own. Never forget those who support you at every level so you can get where you are, and now's the time to thank them, too.



## Pisces

(19 FEB - 20 MAR)

Something's going to change, Pisces. Maybe it's your job, maybe it's your status – but you'll soon find that you're not the same person you were last month. There's nothing you can do, so don't fight it. Just be prepared and stay calm – it's going to work out.





# Instagram

of the month



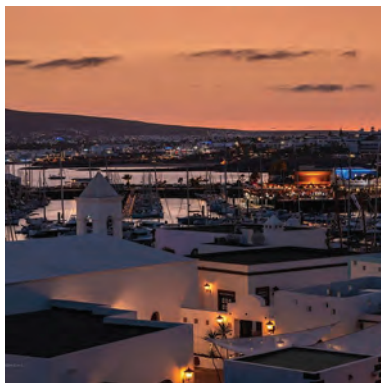
@j.mendez.fotografia



@ipedrakos



@roberto\_villar\_fotografia



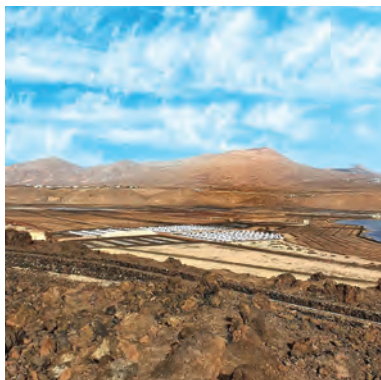
@antoninialessa



@fincaara



@dog\_walking\_vegan\_lanzarote



@cetidleon



@angelina\_64



@eomat7007

@gazettelife

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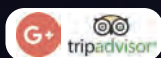
"Our meal was amazing, great  
service, very friendly & could not  
have asked for anything better.  
Thankyou so much - we look  
forward to seeing you again!"



## ★ Customer Reviews ★

"A totally amazing evening for our  
daughters 11th Birthday, she was  
treated so special with balloons,  
fireworks, ice cream, poppers, the  
food was 100% spot on - definitely  
the best in Playa Blanca. If that  
wasn't enough the view was out  
of this world - stunning  
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