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Ed's letter

By the time you read this we'll have moved out of our office in Tias. You can call us teleworkers, remote workers or digital nomads, we don't mind - but that's what we'll be doing from now on, and there's every chance I'll be writing next month's letter in my pyjamas, with a three-day beard and a cat on my lap.

Like many offices, we discovered how easy and practical working from home was during the lockdown of 2020, and ever since we've been half-wondering why we were driving for hours each week when we can do exactly the same job from our homes.

We'll still be out and about in Lanzarote, of course. Distribution will continue normally as before, and if you want magazines or back issues all you have to do is contact us. The information is below.

And while it's very true for us that "work is what you do, not where you are", we'll still miss Tías, the likeable hilltop town where we've been based for the last two and a half years. We'd like to thank all the locals who have become friendly faces here, as well as the local Ayuntamiento.

It's still a huge kick to see how quickly our magazine flies off the shelves every month, and we love hearing from all our readers, so keep on sending us your letters, emails, ideas, news, suggestions, announcements and photos. It's our business, but it's your magazine.

Finally, as you're no doubt aware, Christmas is on its way, and we think it's going to be a bumper one. If you're interested in appearing in our festive December edition, get in touch, and don't forget to keep an eye on our Facebook page for our online Advent Calendar, a daily surprise draw with dozens of fantastic prizes. If you're a business who'd like to join the fun, let us know.

Most of our contact details haven't changed, but here they are:

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Phone: 928 093 823 / 621 274 473.

Editors phone & WhatsApp 628 628 083.

You can also message us via the Gazette Life Facebook and Instagram pages.

Enjoy the magazine!

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Licence Suspended

The continuing saga of UK driving licences.

Sunken Isle

The massive underwater mountain of Concepción.

Vinyl Addicts

Lanzarote record lovers show their favourites.

A New Chance

Podencos find new life and love.

What's On

Sport, dance and music come to Lanzarote in November.

Christmas Planner

The dates, the sights...







Christmas Prep The countdown begins...

> Gift Shopping Where to find the perfect present.

NO GREEN LIGHT YET FOR **UK-LICENCE HOLDERS**



"A BILATERAL **UK/SPAIN AGREEMENT** IS BEING **NEGOTIATED."**

At the time of writing, holders of UK driving licences who are residents in Spain still remain banned from driving on Spanish roads. The situation is causing increasing anger and frustration.

British Ambassador Hugh Elliott

Earlier this summer, British Ambassador Hugh Elliott stated that he hoped British residents would be back on the road by July. However, more than three months later there is no change in the situation. Elliot has assured drivers that there were "a couple of matters left" but that they are "complex", and that he could not commit to a timescale.

The situation has led to speculation as to whether the driving situation is linked to a wider bilateral deal that Spanish diplomats have recently referred to.

Following the visit of Foreign Minister José Manuel Albares to attend the Queen's funeral, Spanish diplomatic sources stated that a bilateral UK/ Spain agreement which will regulate the rights of citizens in both countries was required as soon as possible, as the current measures are "contingent, temporary and unstable".

The sources said "In mobility, we want the same rights for those who already lived here before Brexit. And for those who arrived after, we want the situation to be as similar as possible to that before Brexit, for example, with the recognition of driving licences," they added.

Minister Albares expressed optimism at tackling these, and other issues, with the new British Foreign Minister, James Cleverly. The Hispano-Britanico talks in Oxford in early October were quoted as the first opportunity for preliminary talks, although no arrangements had been confirmed at the time of going to press.

Meanwhile, angry UK licence holders are considering an "invasion" of the British Embassy to put pressure on authorities to resolve the matter. A Facebook page calling for a peaceful delegation to meet Embassy staff has attracted more than 500 members.

THE DRIVING LICENCE BAN

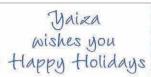
At the end of May, all residents in Spain using UK-issued licences were prohibited from circulation, regardless of their nationality.

The ban followed the expiry of the last of the Spanish government's "grace periods", which permitted the exchange of UK licences for Spanish ones. That is no longer possible, and the only way for UKlicence holding residents to drive on Spanish roads is to pass a Spanish driving test.

The ban does not apply to tourists and temporary visitors, and although the definition of "resident" is uncertain, it would appear to apply to anyone who has been here for more than three months, or is registered on the local padrón.









LOCAL NEWS

RADIOTHERAPY UNIT IN 2023

Iosé Luis Aparicio, the director of the Dr José Molina Orosa Hospital in Arrecife, has said that the radiotherapy unit will finally be functioning "in August or September 2023."

Work on the unit began two years ago, and it was widely expected to be working by now. However, the installation requires the approval of the Nuclear Safety Council, which is expected to take place next year. The installation and calibration of the radiotherapy machine is also required, and will need a team of experts from Gran Canaria to visit regularly.

DROWNINGS INCREASE

46 people have drowned in the Canaries so far this year, seven of them on Lanzarote.

The figures are higher than those in the corresponding period of the last two years. 68% of the victims were foreigners, including three from Germany, two from Poland and one each from Britain and Ireland.

Three quarters of the casualties were male, and 67% were bathers, with the remainder consisting of fishermen, divers and other activities. 95% of bathers had entered the water in "adverse water conditions".



STORMY WEATHER!

In last month's magazine we interviewed photographer Juan Méndez, who told us "I'd really like to photograph lightning storms, but Lanzarote isn't the right place for it as we hardly get any."

As if in answer, the Canarian skies put on a magnificent display of lightning on the night of 15th October, and Juan was ready to capture it with his camera. "Dream fulfilled!" he commented.

Lanzarote's fields and hillsides were already dressed up in green following heavy rainfall in late September. The much-needed soaking may have put the damper on some holidays but was welcomed by farmers and gardeners.

WIND TOY REPAIRS



César Manrique's gleaming sculpture has been removed from the roundabout at Tahiche for repairs.

According to the Cabildo's councillor for Public Works, Alfred Mendoza, one of the bearings on the three-ton "wind toy" was damaged by winds, and the situation was getting worse, causing potential risk.

The sculpture has been removed to the Parque Móvil near the Police Station for repairs, which will take "a few weeks".

The Fobos statue is a stainless steel replica of the original work, which was constructed from galvanised steel and painted grey. The original was removed in 2016 and the replica was not erected until the lockdown of 2020.



PLAYA HONDA ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

A project to improve the road serving the western end of Playa Honda's industrial zone has been put out to tender by San Bartolomé Avuntamiento.

Works will be carried out on the stretch of road from the Playa Honda roundabout to the airport turn-off - widely used by shoppers at the large, renovated HiperDino.

According to San Bartolomé Mayor Isidro Pérez, the project "will not only improve circulation in the area, but will also improve the aesthetics."

The tender closed at the end of October, and once the €525,000 contract is awarded. the winning company will have two weeks to complete the works.

DIMAS BACK BEHIND BARS

Dimas Martín will return to Tahiche prison at the age of 74 after a seven-year sentence for fraud was confirmed by the Supreme Court last month.

Martín's sentences were confirmed along with those of nine other ex-politicians and businessmen who were involved in the web of corruption that led to the Union Case.

The sentence involved Martín's attempts to influence councillors to accept commissions from businessmen in order to be public awarded contracts between 2007 and 2009. Martín was already in prison and banned from public office when the relevant contacts were made.

"This goes beyond the usual concept of corruption," said the prosecutor. "Everything had to go through Tahiche prison, to be overseen by a convict. Nothing in the law of the land contemplates this level of criminality."

Dimas Martín and his PIL party electrified Lanzarote politics in the early 1990s and he went on to become Mayor of Teguise, Cabildo President and represented Lanzarote in Spain's Senate. However, his reputation has been indelibly tarnished by a series of corruption and fraud convictions that culminated in the Union Case of 2009.

FLU JAB AVAILABLE

Canarian residents can now request this winter's flu jab. The Canarian Government has acquired almost 300,000 doses of flu vaccine at a cost of €2.5 million, and will be administering them to anyone in the target groups who requests them.

The target groups are:

- People over the age of 60
- Vulnerable people (those with chronic illnesses)
- Pregnant women
- · Health workers

· Professional carers for the elderly and/or dependent.

Residents over the age of 60 can also request a second booster jab against Covid if more than five months have passed since the last jab. If a patient has suffered a coronavirus infection. the booster will not be given until three months after recovery.

Vaccinations will be given in the local health centre and anyone registered with the Canarian Health service can request an appointment by calling 012 or 928 301 012.

ISLAND'S EYE

95-year-old photographer Javier Reyes will be honoured as a Favoured Son of Haría later this year.

Reyes worked as a photographer in Haría between the years of 1943 and 1972, and the archive of 17,000 negatives that he has donated to the Cabildo is one of the most valuable records of daily life in and around the northern town.

Reyes has said "I never considered myself an artist", and much of his work involved taking photos for ID cards, or wedding parties. However, he took his camera everywhere with him, and his work shows genuine skill at capturing informal moments in the lives of people, many of whom had never been photographed before.



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By appointment only Puerto del Carmen Office Call: 928 815 262 Calle San Carlos 1, Nº. 26 Local 2 - Pto. del Carmen (Opp. Lidl beside Hiperdino Express and Tias Land Registry Office)

ISLAND INFO

MOVING OUT

As mentioned in the Editor's letter, the Gazette will be closing its office in Tías this month. Distribution of the magazine will continue as normal, and if you'd like to pick up copies, back issues, collect prizes or just meet up to talk with us, you can contact us on 928 093 823.

GAZETTE ADVENT CALENDAR

We'll be launching our online Advent Calendar again this year.

This was a huge event last year, with hundreds signing up for the daily draw for the chance to win fantastic prizes. It's open to everyone who follows our Facebook page, and if you're a business who'd like to donate a prize and be the talk of the island, just contact us at digital@gazettelife.com.

KENNEDY CONQUERS ALL!

Lanzarote lass Kennedy Hope Denby continues to break swimming records and win trophies. Kennedy was the outright winner of the Travesía A Nado El Río on Sunday 16th October, finishing the 2.6 kilometre course in just 33 minutes 5 seconds.

Kennedy is the first female winner of the race since Tammy Lewis in 1998. It's been a stunning summer for Kennedy, who was chosen to represent Team GB in this summer's Open Water Championships in Italy.



VOICES ARE BACK!

The Voices Lanzarote choir are pleased to announce that Lanzarote will once again be celebrating the festive season to the sound of Christmas Carols.

There'll be more details next month, but if you'd like to join the choir, call Dena on 686 323 130 or email DenaEmerson@ gmail.com as soon as possible.

HAPPY RETIREMENT, FÉLIX & MARÍA



Best of wishes to Félix and María, the couple who have run Zapatería Félix in Arrecife for decades.

The couple will start their well-deserved retirement this Christmas.

Félix recently mentioned Canarian the Government has been in touch with him about the possibility of preserving the old shoe shop on C/ Hermanos Zerolo 22 as a cultural asset.

ADIÓS, CHARMAINE

We'd like to wish all the best to Charmaine Arbouin, who recently left her post as Consul for Andalusia and the Canary Islands.

Charmaine took charge at a difficult time for British residents in Spain, as Brexit agreements began to take effect, but her calm and knowledgeable attitude was a great help to many. We always looked forward to her visits.

British Embassy The says "We are making a small number of internal staffing changes, to ensure that UK nationals in Spain can continue to receive the best possible services from their Government. This will not disrupt the delivery of consular services in Spain."

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CATS AND DOGS FOR EVERY MONTH!

The SARA 2023 calendar is now on sale at €9.50 from the SARA office, and will be stocked in friendly shops soon.

In full colour, the A4 calendar features dogs and cats from SARA posing for the cameras alongside the works of César Manrique, whose Foundation is just a stick's throw from SARA.

SARA said "This special calendar would not have been possible without the help of collaborating companies, thanks to which all the proceeds from the sales of the same will be for the animals. We've also have to

thank our beloved photographer Justin Kerswell for always being willing to collaborate for the benefit of the animals.

SARA is open from Monday to Saturday from 10:30 to 13:00 and Tuesday afternoon from 17:00 to 19:00.

DOG AND CAT OF THE MONTH

Goloso is a very handsome podenco/pastor-mix. At just under four-and-a-half years old, he still has lots of energy and love to give. He adores his walks and has a real lust for life. This friendly boy would make a perfect companion for an active person or couple. Why not come and meet Goloso? Find out more about him at http:// 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.

Melendi is a friendly three-and-a-half-year-old male cat. This sleek, handsome boy is bright and inquisitive. He would make a wonderful feline companion. Melendi is available now from SARA. Find out how to meet him and about adoptions at http://saraprotectora.org.

There are also limited places for people to help with socialising cats. Email info@sara-lanzarote.eu.



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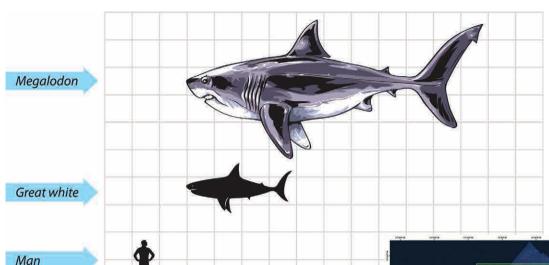
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THE SECRET MOUNTAIN OF CONCEPCIÓN



"MEGALODONS WERE COMMON IN THE ANCIENT SEAS OF LANZAROTE."

75 kilometres north of Lanzarote lies the biggest underwater mountain in the Canary Islands a refuge for wildlife and a source of immense biodiversity.

Lanzarote emerged from the ocean over 15 million years ago, with the mountains of the Ajache region and the Famara cliffs reaching immense heights of thousands of metres. They have since been eroded to a fraction of their original size.

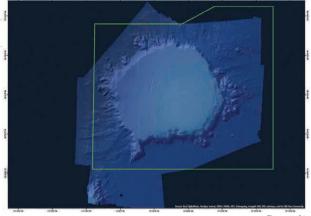
At one point, when sea levels dropped, it was part of an ancient island known as Mahan. which included Lanzarote. Fuerteventura, La Graciosa and Lobos. And to its north was another island - Concepción.

Concepción seamount rises 2,400 metres from the sea bed, and its peak is just 150 metres beneath the surface. The discovery that parts of the mount had been subjected to wind erosion suggests that it was above water for millions of years, forming part of the Canarian archipelago.

The abrupt rise of Concepción from the seabed still causes disruption in ocean currents, causing deep water sediments containing nutrients to billow upwards. This attracts animal life and makes Concepción an incredibly rich and varied ecosystem.

Long before humans existed, ancient species of whale and the megalodon shark were frequent in the waters north of Lanzarote; and the Concepción Bank is still a haven for wildlife. 497 species have been detected there so far, including nine species of whales and dolphin, and five previously unknown creatures. But many more remain to be reported.

Those smaller creatures have also changed the face of Lanzarote. Much of the sand on the island is calcium based, formed by the skeletons of trillions of tiny



Concepción



animals that have been washed up on the beaches of Famara from the seas to the north. This sand then travels slowly south over the island with the wind, ending up on the natural beaches on the island's southern coast.

The Concepción Bank has been proposed as a protected area, although its distance from land means that human activity has not yet been significant.

ADIÓS, FISH FARMS

The fish farms at Playa Quemada are likely to disappear shortly, after the Canarian Government confirmed that the company operating them would not have its operating licence extended.



Fish farming started in the bay off Playa Quemada 20 years ago, with ten cages of farmed tuna. The industry grew until there were 53 cages farming sea bass and dorada. However, the practice has been criticised by locals from the start.

They claim that the local seabed has been virtually destroyed by the waste produced by the fish and the uneaten pellets used to feed them. This has affected the livelihood of local fishermen and made bathing in the sea an unattractive proposition.

The damaging environmental effect of the fish farms was detailed in a report commissioned by marine conservation organisation Innoceana, which was published in September and showed that fish farming had caused a "decrease in sea-grass meadows and an increase in mud and cyanobacteria" off the coast.

The report was partly responsible for the decision by the Canarian Government not to extend the operating licence of Yaizatun S.A., which operates the fish farms.

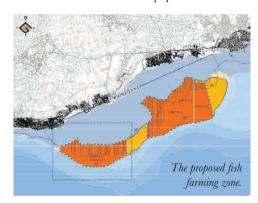
Canarian Agriculture and Fishing minister Alicia Vanoostende said "Yaizatun should have dismantled the cages last August when their licence expired. Their appeal was rejected and now they must finish removing the cages."

Yaiza's Mayor, Óscar Noda, has also called for Yaizatun to contribute to cleaning up the seabed at Playa Quemada.

THE BATTLE CONTINUES

While announcing the end of fish farming off Playa Quemada, the Cabildo also repeated its total opposition to a Canarian Government plan to site fish farms further out to sea off the coasts of Puerto del Carmen, Playa Honda and Arrecife.

The plan, which has been opposed by every institution involved on Lanzarote, proposes a zone of "aquatic interest" that extends for nine kilometres less than a kilometre from the shores of some of Lanzarote's most popular beaches.









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EGIFE LOOKS AHEAD



The Gran Hotel and the Islote de Fermina.

Could Arrecife become a tourist hotspot? As the capital slowly adapts to new realities, we look at how things could change in years to come.

Why do people go to Arrecife? Until recently, the answer for many residents has been simple. As the base of most lawyers, notaries, the national police, the traffic centre, the registry and much more, it's an unavoidable stop on the paper trail.

It also remains an important area for retail, with many shops that can't be found on other parts of the island. However, many larger stores now lie on the outskirts of the city, as easy access and parking is important on an island where the car is king.

Until now, though, tourists have been few, restricted mainly to visitors from the large cruise ships. That is now changing, however. Holiday rentals have risen sharply in Arrecife during recent years, and local hoteliers are reporting a healthy trade in visitors who are arriving for weekend city breaks.

These are often younger, and hail from other Canary Islands or mainland Spain. They're attracted by the city's culture, which includes events like the recent Arrecife En Vivo music festival and the carnival parade in early spring. But foreign interest is also on the rise.

A clear sign of this was the appearance of a guide to Arrecife in The Guardian newspaper earlier this year, which praised the city's "cool shops and seaside restaurants". It's perhaps the first time Arrecife has ever been recommended as a destination in the British press, and it has prompted more speculation as to how Arrecife can become a "tourist city".

The "tourist city" model would focus on dining, drinking, sightseeing, and "boutique" shopping. The idea comes from other Spanish cities, which have successfully marketed themselves as destinations for city breaks, and the rise of Airbnb has been a key element of its growth.

It's perhaps surprising that Arrecife hasn't made more of its tourist potential before, but the recent renovation of Manrique's stunning pools on the Islote de la Fermina, and the planned pedestrianization of Playa Reducto are projects that show the way forward.

Nevertheless, there remains a lot to do before Arrecife lives up to its potential, and there is currently no unified plan as to how to do it.



The election of new council next May will be a key factor in how the capital can get its act together and draw up a road map for the future.

THE SHOPPING FORECAST

The new Open Mall shopping centre, which opens on the 11th of this month, is another development that is likely to mark a change in Arrecife's fortunes.

The Open Mall is a huge shopping centre located in Valterra, and shops that have been announced include Zara, Sketcher, XTI Footwear, New Yorker, JD, Sprinter, Oysho, Massimo Dutti, Women's Secret, Bimba y Lola, Levi's, Guess, Vans, HiperDino, Worten, Ale-Hop, Bershka, Pull & Bear, Fund Grube, Kiabi, Bijou Brigitte and José Luis Joyerias. Primark will also be present, although the Spain Retailer site claims it will not open until later in 2023.

Fears have been expressed that the shopping centre will contribute to the decline of businesses in the city centre, but this is a process that has already been going on for several years. There have been proposals to link the Open Mall to the town centre by turning C/León y Castillo into a boulevard, perhaps with a shuttle tram service, but nothing definite has been agreed yet.

Nevertheless, the presence of the Open Mall, along with the continued development of the commercial zone of Argana, where a MediaMarkt is due to open shortly, and the imminent arrival of Aldi on the inner ring road, means that outer Arrecife will become an ever-stronger attraction for shoppers.

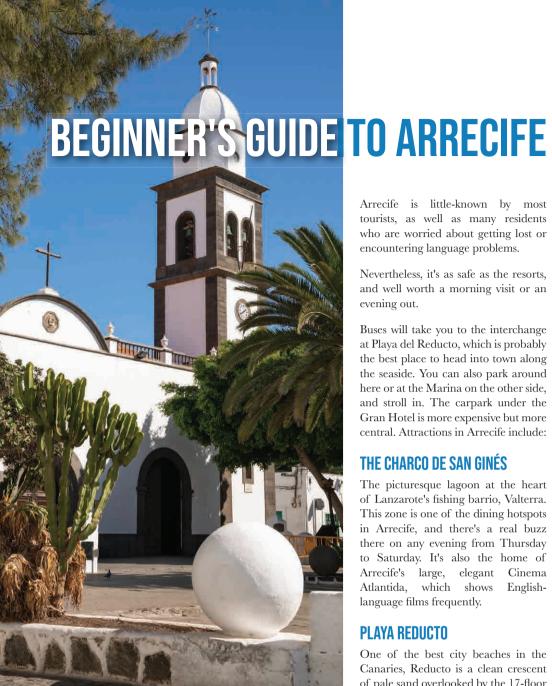
WALKING THE CITY

Tourists can walk the entire length of Arrecife's seafront, and cycle paths are also available for much of the way.

A 4 kilometre walk will take you from the Cabildo building, past Playa Reducto, the two seafront park areas, the Charco and the Marina and then through Puerto Naos commercial port to the Castillo de San José.

It's a much more interesting route than you might imagine, and there's no shortage of opportunities to stop for a drink or a snack along the way.





Arrecife is little-known by most tourists, as well as many residents who are worried about getting lost or encountering language problems.

Nevertheless, it's as safe as the resorts, and well worth a morning visit or an evening out.

Buses will take you to the interchange at Playa del Reducto, which is probably the best place to head into town along the seaside. You can also park around here or at the Marina on the other side, and stroll in. The carpark under the Gran Hotel is more expensive but more central. Attractions in Arrecife include:

THE CHARCO DE SAN GINÉS

The picturesque lagoon at the heart of Lanzarote's fishing barrio, Valterra. This zone is one of the dining hotspots in Arrecife, and there's a real buzz there on any evening from Thursday to Saturday. It's also the home of Arrecife's large, elegant Cinema Atlantida, which shows Englishlanguage films frequently.

PLAYA REDUCTO

One of the best city beaches in the Canaries, Reducto is a clean crescent of pale sand overlooked by the 17-floor

Gran Hotel, where you can get a meal or a drink and enjoy the best view in the

CALLE REAL

It's hard to believe now, but Arrecife's main shopping street was filled with cars before it was pedestrianised in the 1980s. You can still find interesting shops here, or on the side roads that lead off it to the left, and it's a great place to have a coffee and watch the world go by.

EL ALMACÉN

César Manrique and friends set up this arts centre with Andy Warhol's Factory in mind, and the mark of the great artist is still very much evident, especially in the lovely little cafe/bar.

THE SATURDAY MARKET

Tucked away just behind the seafront is the Church of San Ginés, and the square it overlooks hosts a small but lively market every Saturday morning. There's always a buzz here, and as Christmas approaches, you're likely to come across special festive events, too.

CASTILLO DE SAN GABRIEL

This ancient fort lies on an island just off the shore of Arrecife and is accessed on foot only by two bridges - one of which is the Puente de las Bolas, named for its large stone spheres.

There are sandy beaches near the castle and a museum inside where you can see all sorts of items from the island's history on display.

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Estate planning for UK nationals in Spain

By Paul Montague, Partner, Blevins Franks

British expatriates living in Spain need to be aware of, and plan for, a number of inheritance issues.

Your last will and testament

It is advisable to make a Spanish will to deal with your Spanish assets. It's easier to wind up an estate using a local will, rather than a foreign one. If you still have assets in the UK, you can have a will for each country.

Succession law

Spanish succession law imposes 'forced heirship' rules - in general terms, children are entitled to receive two thirds of an estate's assets. This applies to foreign nationals living in Spain by default.

You can however use the European Succession Regulation to opt for the succession law of your country of nationality to apply on your death. You must specifically state this in your will.

Spanish succession and gift tax

Spanish succession and gift tax is due if the asset is located in Spain, or if the recipient is resident in

The tax is paid by each recipient. The rate varies depending on the relationship between the donor and beneficiary, with no blanket exemption for

State tax rates range from 7.65% to 34%. Multipliers based on the familial relationship and beneficiary's net worth can take rates much higher. The reductions and allowances at state level are low, for example, spouses, descendants and ascendants only receive a reduction of €15,957. There is a 95% reduction against the inherited value of the main home for spouses and descendants, but with limited.

The autonomous communities can adjust the tax rates, allowances and reductions to make them more beneficial for residents, as is the case in the Canary Islands for inheritances.

In summary, in the Canaries children under 21 basically escape succession tax. Older descendants, spouses, ascendants, siblings, cousins, nieces/ nephews, aunts/uncles receive a relief depending on the amount received (inheritance only), which starts at a generous 99.9% relief for inheritances up to €55,000, then tapers down. The main home is 99%, with a maximum of €200,000 and the property need only to be kept for five years.

Estate planning

Start by establishing your goals: Who should benefit from your estate? Do you want to control how and when they receive their inheritance? Would they need the money quickly? How can you make the inheritance process easy and cost-effective?

Then seek specialist cross-border estate planning advice on how to achieve your wishes for your heirs while keeping inheritance taxes as low as possible.

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.blevins franks.com

Inheritance planning in Spain. Protect your heirs.

There is more to cross-border estate planning than many people realise. You need to plan for many different elements, including the complex and potentially high Spanish succession tax, UK inheritance tax, and Spain's forced heirship regime. Also consider how your pension can be passed to your family and the tax implications.

Blevins Franks has 45 years of experience helping thousands of UK nationals in Spain achieve their wishes for their heirs. Every family is unique, so our estate planning recommendations are personalised for your specific situation and wishes.

Talk to the people who know

928 433 411

canaryisles@blevinsfranks.com

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VINYLISTS!

Vinyl has never really gone away, and Lanzarote still has plenty of people who'd rather spin a disc than stream a file. We spoke to a few of the island's vinyl enthusiasts and asked each of them to choose a favourite record.

MIET VAES

Sleeping Beauty - Sun Ra

"Collecting vinyl is my passion," says Miet from Belgium, the owner of Bistro Árbol in Puerto del Carmen. "It started years ago, but when my uncle Willy donated his collection I knew I had to do something with it. When I started the Bistro 5 years ago, we decided to play only vinyl, and it's been lots of fun. We've had some great conversations with many of our customers about certain records. They like to tell about when they've bought the record, why they love it so much, what they were doing when they first heard a particular song. It really is unbelievable!

"A couple of years ago Alan and Jules visited our Bistro. Alan loves jazz and couldn't stop talking about Sun Ra. Intrigued by this, I started listing to his music. WOW! It blew my mind. "Sleeping Beauty" was recorded in a studio with no less than 28 musicians and originally released on November 1st, 1979 (a month before I was born, it's a

sign!). It's jazzy, funky, groovy and laidback, with passionate solos and striking melodies. Just enjoy all this beauty."



SIMON LARGE

Bob Landers - Cherokee Dance

Simon's from Liverpool and has had the vinyl bug for over 40 years. Rock 'n' roll is very much a lifestyle thing with Simon, who's shipped a jukebox over from Norfolk.





He is a veteran jiver and has a gorgeous vintage Ford Capri sitting in his garage.

The record Simon's chosen is the wild 1955 rocker Cherokee Dance by Bob Landers. "I went to a concert by Bill Haley in 1979, and there was a stall selling records where I bought this 45. It's one of my first rock 'n' roll records, with special memories."

ÁNGEL RODRÍGUEZ

Three Rock 'n' roll classics

Ángel is a vinyl-holic who runs the Asturias Bar in Arrecife. He holds regular vinyl days and has organised rock 'n' roll festivals on the island, with a big event planned for next year.



"Charlie Feathers is one of the fathers of rock 'n' roll and Elvis, is the King, of course. The American Graffiti is a cult film and soundtrack for everyone who wants to get started with rock 'n' roll, '

RHYS LLOYD

The Police - Roxanne picture disc

Rhys is "The Count" from Monster Radio, (we could have filled another article with their DI's choices).

"I bought this police badge-shaped single at a back-street shop in Sandown, Isle of Wight, called Hard Times in 1981. It had all the latest imports and there were all sorts of coloured vinyls and picture discs, but this one by the Police stood out. Also, it's such a great tune!"

JOHN GREAVES

Jethro Tull - Stand Up

John 's from York, and visited Lanzarote twice a year before finally moving here in 2017. He started collecting records in his mid-teens and has a large collection of around 1,500 rock and blues records. "I've been tempted to get rid of them, especially when moving," he admits, "But there's just something about having a collection."

John has chosen Stand Up by Jethro Tull, the band's 1969 album that came with a unique pop-up gatefold cover. Over 50 years later, John's copy is still in great condition.

JONATHAN CHARLES

The Clash - London Calling

Jonathan is a lifelong vinyl collector who was a BBC presenter and foreign correspondent for 30 years. Currently transferring his large collection to his family's house in Conil, Jonathan also presents a weekly radio show and podcast that is broadcast on 15 stations to around 250,000 listeners.



"I love London Calling because you really feel that the band are stretching the muscles of their imagination. They are moving on from pure punk to incorporate reggae, ska, rockabilly and a host of other styles. Listening to the title track, London Calling, immediately takes me back to images of what Britain was like in 1979. It's an evocative record and listening to it on vinyl is the same warm, crackly sound today as it was when it first came out. Fantastic!"

RECORD SHOPPING IN THE CANARIES

Few places sell vinyl on Lanzarote. Bysiroco in Arrecife has a selection of new and second-hand records, and Angel at the Bar Asturias also keeps the flame burning, but most collectors will have to get online or catch a flight to feed their habit.

Most collectors do it online,

from sites such as Discogs, eBay or the Todocoleccion site in Spain.

In Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, 33 Revoluciones is the biggest secondhand shop on the islands. Meanwhile, in Tenerife's La Laguna we'd especially recommend a trip to Jumping Man.





magnificent views and new discoveries.

We parked our car in the car park at the Mirador. We bought some drinks and displayed the receipt, as there is a parking charge otherwise. Supervised parking is a good idea, as vehicles have occasionally been broken into when left in other sites.

We cross over the LZ-10 road and walked up past the goat farm towards El Bosquecillo, the picnic area on the cliffside. Just before the carpark at El Bosquecillo, we head along the track which leads off to the right. This is easily identified because several years ago the track was rebuilt with stones due to the heavy rains which had washed it away in places.

We follow the track as it leads away from the picnic area and, heading north, we arrive at an amazing viewpoint along the edge of the cliffs, which looks down to Famara Beach.

We pass an area on the left which has eroded quite badly

from exposure to the wind and rain. Attempts were made to plant out some small bushes on the hope that the roots would become established to prevent further erosion, but unfortunately it hasn't been successful.

This track is an access route to an electricity substation further along, and they are currently building a long, low-lying wall of volcanic rocks which is intended to stop the heavy rains from washing the track away which would prevent maintenance vehicles from accessing the substation.

Next, we come to an abandoned

which project originally introduced by David Riebold to Haría council back in 2003. The cloud catchers were a brilliant idea - a natural means of capturing water to assist the young trees which had been planted along the hilltop.

The idea was so simple, yet effective: as the clouds drift over the hilltop, they come into contact with a vertical mesh board. This collects the moisture which runs down to be collected in a trough which has a pipe supplying the water to some sunken tanks.

The objective was that, once the trees





became established, they would source their water by intercepting the moisture from the clouds themselves, adding water to the ground and reducing soil erosion.

Phase 1 of the project was a success but in the winter of 2005 the cloud catchers were destroyed by Tropical Storm Delta. The second phase began in 2011 but "complications" with red tape and obstacles from Haría council meant that it didn't go ahead as planned and the project was abandoned.

We continue heading north, where some new ground works are being undertaken over to the right of the track, and on closer inspection we realise that terraces are being created to allow vegetation to become established. A considerable number of materials have been transported up here along with hessiantype matting which covers over some compost areas.

This appears to be another attempt to utilise a couple of areas which could be the start of a future mini reforestation project. I will certainly revisit a few times to see how things are progressing.

The electricity substation was getting a much-needed restoration and paint job and some of the bases of the antennas needed maintenance as the long lanky antennas were swaying around in the wind.

At the far end of the hilltop, we reached our destination which is the huge wooden cross which sits on the top of Montaña Aganada overlooking Haría. This cross was originally intended for a church in Haría but turned out to be too big. A smaller cross was used, and young local men carried this cross up here on their shoulders over seven days in 1967.

We stopped to admire the view and enjoy a few swigs of water before heading back along the same route back to the car.

For further information about walks around Lanzarote please contact, DAVID Penney via email lanza888@yahoo.com

OR via WhatsApp message 0034 649389888



ze Crossword





LANZAROTE DENOMINACIÓN DE ORIGEN

1	2	3	4		5		6	
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It's St Andrew's Day on 30th November, so there are few Scottish singers mixed up among the rest of the clues.

When you've polished it off, WhatsApp a photo to 628 628 083, email one to editorial@gazettelife. com or send the completed puzzle to our NEW ADDRESS on page 3. Make sure it arrives by November 15th and don't forget your name. One winner will receive a bottle of La Gería's finest wines and another will enjoy spending a €10 voucher at Hankey Pankey's in the CC Motaña Tropical in Puerto del Carmen.

Last months winners were Irene Hails, who wins the wine, and Steve and Lisa in Tías, who get the voucher. Well done, you three!

DOWN

- 1. Edinburgh-born singer with US band Garbage (7,6)
- 2. Estimated time of arrival (1.1.1)
- **3.** Type of bomb or family (7)
- 4. Scottish singer and guitarist with Orange Juice and "Girl Like You" fame (5,7)
- 5. A fixed term in prison, or a complete phrase (8)
- What Americans call porridge (7)
- 7. 26-year-old Glasgow singer of "Someone You Loved" (5,7)
- 11. Nasal hemorrhage, or epistaxis (9)
- **16.** Spice, similar to caraway (5)
- 18. Someone from Riyadh or Jeddah (5)
- 19. Glasgow-born singer of Bond theme "Man With The Golden Gun" (4)

ACROSS

- 1. Lanarkshire-born singer of Bond theme "For Your Eyes Only" (6,6)
- 8. Soul singer Hayes (5)
- 9. Country singer Tammy (7)
- **10.** A portable lamp (7)
- 12. ... Sandé, Scottish singer (5)
- 13. Not an open question (3,2,2)
- 14. Babies' stomach cramps (5)
- 15. Roscoe "Fatty", silent film actor whose career was ended by a scandal (8)
- **17.** As soon as possible (1.1.1.1)
- 20. US Civil War General or WWII tank (7)
- **21.** Normal (5)
- 22. Ex-UK culture secretary Ms Dorries (6)
- 23. Scottish singer Paolo, of "New Shoes" fame (6)

Last month's answers Across: 1. Café Con Leche 8. Filters 9. Pagan 10. Ecstasy 11. Elope 13. Mocha 16. Susanna 17. Rarebit 18. Beth 20. Iranian 21. Arrow 23. George Cloone Down: 1. Coffee Morning 2. Files 3. Crema 4. Nasty 5. Espresso 6. Hug 7. Anne Hathaway 12. Ounce 14. Cortado 15. Ambling 16. Satanic 19. Halo 22. Run

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.

DISABLED ACCESSIBILITY

Dear Ed.

I recently broke my ankle and decided to get a mobility scooter to get around and give me some freedom. How wrong was I?

So many kerbs in Costa Teguise are not lowered at crossings which makes it nearly impossible to get around without having to go on the road. I was lucky that my husband was with me so I could get off at various stages (leaning on my crutches) and wait for him to bump it down.

I feel for the disabled people who have to rely on mobility aids permanently. This is totally unacceptable these days.

I only kept the scooter for two days and returned it as felt it was not helping me at all. I feel this matter should be properly investigated and made a priority.

Lorraine Robinson, Costa Teguise

Ed: There are some parts of the island that are lacking, especially in accessibility. This year we have seen the island's local councils address this by installing handrails, dropping kerbs, and installing ramps. But it seems that there is still work to be done.

PUT A SHIRT ON

Dear Gazette Team,

I would like to know if your readers feel the same way I do about tourists that walk into establishments shirtless.

Last weekend I took a walk along the Puerto del Carmen seafront, and I stopped off in a café to buy a café con leche and a sandwich. Just as I had ordered two shirtless tourists walked in and sat down beside me.

I felt quite uncomfortable as there weren't many places I could look without seeing their sunburned chests... I don't think it's appropriate to enter a café, bar, or restaurant shirtless.

Regards, Elaine Chapman

HONEST BRITS, FELLOW PASSENGERS

Dear Gazette,

I have flown with Ryanair to Lanzarote on many occasions over the past eight years and always believed my fellow passengers were generally honest people.

I flew Ryanair from Birmingham on Monday 10th Oct on flight FR1448.

During the flight I had placed my wallet on the empty middle seat under my coat. Unfortunately that was the last time I saw it.

The plane landed on time and I was keen to disembark as most passengers are. Collecting my hold-all from the overhead locker and putting my coat on I proceeded to leave the plane. It wasn't until I got through security and greeted by a friend to collect me I realised my wallet, holding my bank cards, UK driving license, and over €450 was still on the plane.

I went straight to the Ryanair office in the departure area and the assistant said she spoke with the crew and no items had been handed in!

This trip was supposed to be short and sweet but due to losing my wallet, it caused serious grief for myself and family.

All I have learnt from this experience is don't trust your fellow passenger if you drop or leave anything by an innocent mistake. I now know there is always one dishonest individual waiting to pounce. It's more than likely that this particular individual does not read your excellent publication but I just wanted the majority of your readers to understand the risk of travelling with strangers!

If the individual concerned does see this letter and returns the lost item to Birmingham lost property office upon return from their holiday. I will pay a reward and offer my sincere thanks and retract the statement above. A week I want to forget!

Regards, Steve O

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WEATHER WORDS ...AND HOW TO USE THEM!



Lanzarote seems like a world away from the UK and Ireland in November – not just a 4-hour flight. The nights are closing in 'back home' but you will still get 11 hours of daylight in the Canaries.

In November, Lanzarote generally has warm daytime temperatures with a maximum around 24 degrees and minimum night-time temperatures around 17 degrees. So, on average the conditions are good with only a low rainfall expectation.

Talking about the weather is something we all do – it's something easy that everyone can relate to, so it's the perfect place to start some basic conversations if you're learning Spanish.

Let's take a look at some weather vocabulary:

Weather El tiempo (el tee-EMPO)

Temperature La temperatura

(la tem-per-ah-TOUR-ah)

Sun El sol

Wind El viento (el bee-EN-toe)

Breeze La brisa (la BREE-sa)

Rain La lluvia (la YOU-bee-ah)

Rainbow El arcoiris (el ar-co-EAR-is)

Flood La inundación

(la in-un-da-thee-ON)

Thunder El trueno (el true-WAY-no)
Storm La tormenta (la tor-MEN-ta)

... and if you'd like to try two very Spanish words, use chaparrón (cha-pah-RON) and chubasco (chew-BAS-co) – both meaning 'shower'.

Instead of trying to learn them all at once, focus firstly on the ones you're most likely to use in real conversations. For example, the sun and the wind are regular visitors here on the island, so those would be a good place to start!

AS YOU BECOME MORE CONFIDENT

Useful Weather Expressions

It is hot Hace calor (AH-they ca-LOR)

It is cool Hace fresco

(AH-they FRES-co)

The weather is nice *Hace buen tiempo*

(AH-they b-WHEN ti-EM-po)

It is cloudy Está nublado

(es-TA nuu-BLAD-oh)

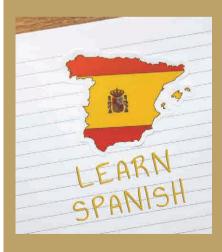
What a heatwave! ¡Qué calufa!

(kay ca-LOO-fa)



If the idea of learning some basic Spanish words or phrases appeals to you, check out my collections of factsheets for more ideas to get you started in a vast range of everyday scenarios – simply cherry-pick the ones that inspire you to start practicing.

Go to www.thespanishcoach.



For more Spanish hints and tips, follow me on Facebook: SPANISH COACH

www.thespanishcoach.net

A Happy Ending for Sky



EACH YEAR, SARA FINDS HOMES FOR CATS AND DOGS ACROSS LANZAROTE, BUT DID YOU KNOW THAT MANY ALSO GO TO NEW HOMES ACROSS EUROPE?

BY JUSTIN KERSWELL, SARA VOLUNTEER PHOTOGRAPHER.

Podencos are still widely considered as working dogs here on the island. The abandonment of podencos who are considered too old, or who don't show an aptitude for hunting, means the breed often makes up over half of the dogs at the shelter at any time.

One such dog was Sky. Podencos are known for their loving, trusting nature. And this gentle girl with the sad eyes was no different.

Karen and Vicky Grove-Parkin, who live on Lanzarote for part of the year, tell how this dream adoption came about: "We first visited SARA to walk the dogs after hearing about it from a friend around six years ago. We always said that one day, when we had moved over full time, we would get a podenco."

Karen continues "However, whilst looking at SARA's posts on Facebook, up popped this beautiful but sad face that I couldn't stop thinking about. I even tagged my wife into her post and wrote 'Look at her'. SARA was having a market day, and I saw her face again. She was looking at me over the kennel. Her beautiful brown eyes looking at me."

Karen and Vicky made enquiries about adopting Sky: "I arrived back in England and that's when the call came. We instantly said yes. It took a few months to sort out the paperwork and wait for a flight. Sky, as she had been named, landed in Manchester and I travelled up to meet her."

She quickly settled into her new home: "Her name is now Cielo as we wanted her name to be culturally fitting. She is the most loving, warm and friendly dog. We're always stopped and asked what breed she is, and she is so gentle with all the young grandchildren; she wants to be in the midst of them all. We love her and wouldn't be without her. I would definitely recommend a podenco as a family pet for an active family."









There are lots of animals waiting for their happy endings at SARA. Adopting an animal to another country is not cheap, but help and advice is available in English. The shelter would also love to hear from people who would like to adopt a dog or a cat here on Lanzarote. There are also other ways to help through donating much needed funds or sponsoring an animal. Other great ways to help are donating your time to walk dogs or volunteer at the monthly market. For information about adopting and any other enquiries contact SARA directly on (+34) 928 17 34 17 or email info@sara-lanzarote.eu. Or visit the SARA website www.saraprotectora.org.

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READY...STEADY...

On Lanzarote it pays to plan your Christmas gift shopping early, ensuring that your presents are just what people have always wanted...

Lanzarote has a long gift tradition, with many millions of tourists returning home with a few well-selected presents in their luggage. Then there are the local Christmas celebrations. with frequently being exchanged on Christmas Day and Three Kings Day on January 6th.

It really does pay to take a little time exploring what the island has to offer in the run-up to Christmas. From the markets of Teguise and Haría to the seafronts in the resorts; from upmarket shops in the leisure Marinas to fascinating little places tucked away in Arrecife, Teguise or San Bartolomé; from modern shopping centres to traditional shops in rural villages, Lanzarote always rewards the adventurous and curious.

And the range of gifts available is immense shimmering jewels, fun toys, gorgeous plants and trees, electrical goods, clothes, and all sort of other items.

But if you choose to give experiences, then you're in the right place on an island that's overflowing with fantastic leisure activities, trips and restaurants.

Just put yourself into presentbuying mode, and start on a low setting. Take your time, look around and, above all, enjoy yourself before switching up a gear and starting to make decisions. The more you explore, the more you'll find - and the more you'll be tempted to treat yourself.



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PLAZA MACIOT DE BETHENCOURT **CALLE RESTINGA, LA PLAZUELA, TEGUISE**



PLANNING FOR

When you're buying Christmas gifts for a loved one, it helps to know exactly what they want - and that takes a bit of preparation. Now's the time to go fishing for ideas...

If you go looking for hints too close to Christmas, you might be rumbled immediately. Instead, plan your campaign stealthily, with plenty of time ahead. Drop a few leading questions if you like, and note the answers well. Gift buying can often turn into a sort of game where you both pretend not to be doing what you're doing.

However, the real secret to buying the perfect gift is to be attentive and willing to learn. If you're a man going clothes shopping with your partner, take an interest instead of mooching about in boredom.

Find out what styles your partner likes, learn the names of the colours she likes, and just as importantly, that you think suit her. Don't just say "OK" when he asks how something looks - be honest and get involved.





JEWELLERY

Jewellery is intensely personal, and if you're planning to buy a piece as a gift, research is vital. Find out the styles that the recipient favours - go through their jewels if you get the chance - and don't stray from those guidelines.

As a rule, expensive jewellery is a no-no unless there's a very strong relationship. For friends and colleagues, you're better off thinking of cheaper, more fun items.

TREATMENTS

Vouchers are usually seen as uninspiring present, but when it comes to beauty treatments, they're a terrific idea, allowing the recipient to exercise free choice about exactly what pampering to pick.

CLOTHES

Clothes are tough, let's be honest. We spend enough time trying on our own to know how sizes can vary.

If you end up in clothes shops with your partner before Christmas, be attentive and observant. Hints may be dropped and plenty of ideas are likely to be presented. Don't just choose something you think they'll like - pick something you'd love to see them in, too. But the golden rule at the end of the day is: keep the receipt.



ACCESSORIES

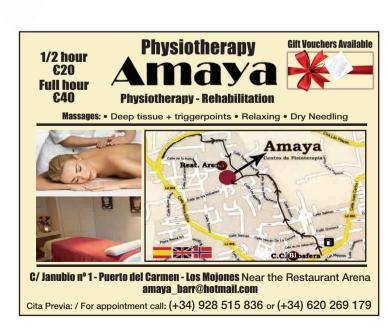
Bags, sunglasses, and other accessories are a lot easier to buy than clothing. Sizing isn't usually a problem (unless its shoes, which you shouldn't even think about buying as a surprise), and there are fantastic ideas everywhere you look.

Again, do a bit of research and drop a few leading questions to make sure you're getting something that will be loved and appreciated.

FRAGRANCE

The world of perfume is sensual and alluring and there's no excuse for not getting involved before you start shopping. There are four families of scents: Floral, which includes myriad delightful aromas; Fresh, an increasingly popular style that is perfect for Lanzarote life; warm, spicy Oriental fragrances; and mature, rich Woody scents that are ideal for outdoors.

Try and identify which style the person you're buying for prefers, or simply just ask them what they're wearing and work from there.







From Playa Blanca to the old town of Teguise, Lanzarote is full of shops where you can find the perfect Christmas gift. Here are just a few ideas to ensure you make this the perfect festive season...



NATURAL TREASURES

Natural Treasures, on Arrecife's seafront, is a magical little place were you can find crystals, artisanal jewellery, incense, toys, ornaments and much, much more. Owner Marta will offer you a warm welcome, bathed in the soft glow of the amber which is one of her specialities.

Avenida de la Marina No 10, Arrecife seafront.



Threads, in the Matagorda Shopping Centre, is the home of delightful designs, a place where Cherry will help you choose from an exquisite selection of clothes, bedlinen, pillows, cushions and all sorts of gift ideas from the UK. With brands such as Next, Matalan and M&S available, and a special Christmas range just in. Threads should definitely be on your Christmas shopping list.

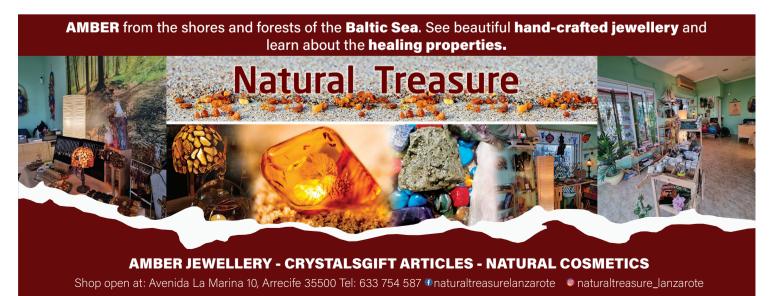
THREADS

Matagorda Shopping Centre

SUBMARINE SAFARIS

An underwater excursion on the Yellow Submarine is one of Lanzarote's iconic experiences, and if you know someone who hasn't tried it yet, now's the time. A gift voucher will give the option to dive, dive, dive whenever it's suitable, and it's one of those gifts that is absolutely guaranteed to provide lasting memories.

Puerto Calero





MUEBLES SAN SIMÓN

Muebles San Simón in San Bartolomé is always worth a visit in the run-up to Christmas, with a wide range of expertly selected furnishings, lighting, kitchen equipment and much more. And this December they're offering 30% discount on bedlinen!

C/San Simón 244, San Bartolomé



MIÓPTICA

Mióptica, in Playa Blanca, offers a wonderful range of designer sunglasses and frames. A recent arrival are these Ray-Ban Stories - a smart update of the classic Wayfarers which allows you to take photos, videos and listen to music - hands-free. At €329, they're a very special gift indeed, but there's much more on offer at Mióptica.



C. el Correíllo, 42, Playa Blanca

PHARMADVICE

Massage, acupuncture, beauty treatments and products, candles, jewellery and many

more gift ideas mean that PharmAdvice is the perfect place to look if you're planning on giving natural health and beauty as a gift for Christmas - and who could say no to that?

C/Reina Sofia 3, Puerto del Carmen



WENDY'S PLUS SIZE **FASHION**

Wendy's is already a legend among many shoppers on the island. That's because she has an eagle eye for bright, attractive and tempting garments that are perfect for Lanzarote life. You may find the perfect gift on the racks, but a gift voucher will let your recipient enjoy a bit of retail therapy at Wendy's.

Matagorda Shopping Centre



PABLO RAMOS BALDI

Anyone on Lanzarote who's looking for a uniquely special gift knows about Pablo Ramos's shop and studio in San Bartolomé. Pablo's expert eye is behind one of the most fascinating and tempting design shops on the island, and these exquisite French clay pots are a perfect example of his eclectic style. If you're looking for a gift that's really special, start here...

C/Rubicón, 160, San Bartolomé



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LOTS OF CHRISTMAS STOCK NOW IN -**GET YOUR PRE CHRISTMAS ITEMS WHILE** STOCKS LAST! DON'T MISS OUT!!

> Opening Days/Hours: Tues. Thur. Fri. Sat. 10am - 2pm Calle Gramillo 1 (Local 68) Matagorda, 35510

TXAO JEWELLER

Quality jewellery never goes out of style, and Joyería Txao in the Biosfera is where to look for it. Luxury Festina watches like the one in the photo are just an example of the tempting items available, but there's plenty more to ensure that your Christmas shimmers and glitters in the best possible way.

Biosfera Shopping Centre, Puerto del Carmen

HAND ART STUDIO

Create your unique hand sculpture as a memorable gift for your loved ones. Whether it's a sculpture of the kids for you to keep, or as a treasure for their grandparents; maybe a happy couple celebrating an anniversary or just to say "I love you" - the choice is yours. At the Hand Art Studio in Teguise, Paul and Laura will help you create your perfect memory to share this Christmas.

Plaza Maciot de Bethencourt, 11, Villa de Teguise

LE RENDEZ-VOUS

Christmas cakes and puddings are a central element of any British Christmas celebration, but they take time to make. Fear not! At Le Rendez-vous in Costa Teguise, they're already taking orders for delicious, professionally-prepared cakes and puds, with gluten-free and diabetic versions available.

CC Calipso Centre (opposite Pueblo Marinero), Costa Teguise.



PROPERTY OF

If you're up in Teguise, check out Property Of in the charming Plazuela. Luca and Paola will give you a warm welcome, and the shop's wide selection of quality T-shirts, hoodies and accessories are sure to tempt you. Take these smooth, lightweight Italian leather bags with quality clasps, for example - the perfect Christmas gift!

C/Restinga 3, Villa de Teguise



CHRISTMAS Planner

Here's some useful information you need to know to plan for the Christmas season on Lanzarote.

HOLIDAYS

Tuesday the 6th and Thursday 8th of December are public holidays throughout Spain, and many shops and businesses will be closed. Lanzarote will also see a rise in Spanish tourism, as many people choose this week to take a short break. After this holiday, the Christmas season really starts to get underway.

Unlike the UK and Ireland, where Christmas Day is the final climax after weeks of anticipation, Christmas on Lanzarote is more relaxed. The festive atmosphere spreads out over two weeks, even though many will return to work. Christmas Day and Boxing Day (26th December) are public holidays which mark the start of the two-week Christmas period. New Year's Day is also a holiday, and Kings Day (6th of January) is the final holiday of the Christmas season, when gifts are traditionally given to

Be prepared for mischief on December 28th the "Dia de los Inocentes" is Spain's version of April Fool's Day.

POST

The cost and delay of sending packages has made it a less popular way of sending presents, but if you want to get Christmas cards sent off overseas, you'd be advised to do so as soon as possible. If they're not away by mid-December, there's a good chance they'll arrive late.

A small (20g) card to the UK or Ireland will cost €1.65, and a larger 50g one is €1.95.

SIGHTSFFING

Every town will put up its Christmas lights and unveil its nativity scene in early December. The beautiful, intricately prepared nativity scenes are well worth visiting, with Yaiza, Tías, and



Arrecife among the most impressive. For lights, we'd especially recommend a trip to Tinajo and San Bartolomé after dark.

The Three Kings parades on 5th January are a hugely popular event on the island and take place in most towns and villages.





RELAX ... AND

Pelebrate

It's time to start thinking about dining at Christmas time, but this is Lanzarote, and the golden rule is "Don't stress out".

Christmas is just around the corner, and if you want to reserve a seat in your favourite restaurant for a Christmas meal on the day itself, you'd better get cracking - its already too late for some places, where many regular tourists booked their festive feast long ago.

But while traditions from home have a strong pull, they often change, and there are local traditions that are just as tempting. So, if you can't guarantee your crackers and turkey before the King's Speech, don't lose your cool. Why not relax a little, and enjoy Lanzarote's lovely, laid-back Christmas in the spirit that the locals do.

Most Spanish families will stay in for their special meal, which takes place on the evening of Christmas Eve, and unlike the rigidly fixed British Christmas dinner of turkey, stuffing, sprouts, roasties and pigs in blankets, all swimming in gravy, there are no rules at all here.

Seafood is very popular, as is roast lamb or pork, and there'll be plenty of cava and cider flowing, but the basic rule is that you can prepare and eat what you like, as long as it's a bit special.

In the twelve days after Christmas, there'll be many more opportunities to go out and enjoy a meal, with friends and family, all in your own time. It's one of Lanzarote's most relaxed, enjoyable times, with a warm feeling of celebration in the air and a vearning to live the good life.

You can head out to the coast and enjoy a seafood feast as the surf pounds against the shore; or you can let one of the island's Indian restaurants prepare that Christmas curry for you, instead of doing it yourself. Share some tapas with friends, stop for a wine tasting, do what you like – the options are immense.

You don't have to plan for this, but there's no harm in doing a little groundwork and November is a great time to do it. The island isn't too crowded, so you're guaranteed space and attentive service; chefs are preparing menus for the busy Christmas season and the weather is still warm and wonderful.





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Cook's tips: Experiment with your mincemeat - stem ginger, nutmeg & dried apricots can all add their own magic.

early, and it's a great idea to prepare your mincemeat early, so you can bake a batch you like and enjoy them with the perfect glass of chilled Lanzarote

MINCE Pies

Mincemeat

- 50g each of sultanas, raisins, currants, dried figs and mixed peel
- 25g each of almonds and pecans
- 200g soft brown sugar
- Small piece of ginger, grated
- 1/2 tsp mixed spice (a blend of ground clove, cinnamon, ginger and allspice)
- 3 tbsp whisky (or brandy or rum)
- Zest of 1 lemon or 1 small orange
- 1 small cooking apple, unpeeled and grated
- 2 tbsp suet (vegetable, if you like) or cold butter

Lightly toast nuts, chop all dry ingredients roughly and place in a bowl. Add the rest of the ingredients and mix well. Taste and add more booze or spice as you like. Place in sterile jars and fasten.

Pastry

- 340g plain flour
- 1 pinch salt
- 225g cold butter

- 85g ground almonds
- 100g caster sugar
- 2 egg yolks
- · Beaten egg or milk
- Icing sugar

Rub the butter into the sifted flour and salt until you have a fine crumb, like wet sand. Add the almonds and sugar, then mix in 2 tbspns of cold water. You should end up with a firm dough that's not wet. Wrap in cling film and chill for 30 minutes.

Heat oven to 200C (180C Fan) Grease a baking tray and roll out half the pastry until it's 3 mms thick. Cut out bases, place in the baking tin and fill with mincemeat. Roll out the rest of the pastry, cut out the lids to whatever shape you like and seal with a little milk or water.

Prick each pie with a fork, glaze with milk or beaten egg and bake for 20 mins, until golden.

Dust with icing sugar and serve.



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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 experiencemore pleasurable, do not hesitate to ask.

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If you are visiting Puerto Del Carmen don't forget to come and see us in Indian Aroma, Indian Zaffran and Bollywood

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Avda de las Playas 14, C.C. Las Tabaibas Tel. +34 928 528 405 Near Sunset Beach Bar & Tito's Bar Open daily 12.00am - 23.00pm

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Puerto del Carmen

C/Juan Carlos I, 25 – C.C. Olivin Tel. +34 928 512 747 Near the Biosfera Commercial Center Open daily 17.00pm - 23.00pm

BOLLYWOOD

Puerto del Carmen

Avenida de las Playas 67 Tel. 928 511 532 Near Sam Perfumes Open daily 12.00am - 23.00pm

BOLLYWOOD

Puerto Calero Avenida Maritima 6 & 7

Open daily





Kebabs have been an important part of British street food for decades, but Lanzarote has been slow to catch up.

> Kebab is a Turkish word, but the basic technique of grilling marinated meat can be found from Morocco to India and beyond, under names such as gyros, souvlaki, and shawarma. In Spain, pinchos morunos are a grilled meat dish with roots in Arabia.

> The little individual skewers that are the basis of a kebab have been replaced by a large cylinder of marinated meat that is grilled slowly, with thin slices being carved off to be served. They are usually served, sandwich-style, in a pitta bread or a wrap, with various garnishes and sauces of your choice. It's the perfect meal for a sit-down feast or a takeaway treat.

> Ramesh Saraswati, who has established Indian Delights as one of the finest places to dine on the island, is behind the Kebab House: "When setting up the Kebab shop in Playa Blanca, the most difficult aspects were sourcing high-quality kebab grills and finding experienced staff, "he says "Luckily, we have that now."

> Ramesh explains the technique of creating this delicacy: "You must marinate all the meat strips in spices and then skewer them on top of each other until you have a tall stack. Then that is put on the kebab grill for hours, as we slice pieces from it for each portion."



"When making a Doner wrap we take slices of the delicious meat from the grill, lay it on an open wrap with the sauce of choice, followed by lettuce, tomato, onion, and olives. Finally, we wrap it tightly with foil to keep everything together and then it goes back onto the heat."

Ramesh says "To make good kebabs you must buy quality meat - the highest-grade meat will make for the tastiest kebabs. Of the meat that we offer, chicken has by far been the best-selling."





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FESTIVAL

FUERTEVENTURA KITE FESTIVAL

10th - 13th November

November offers a great excuse to head over the water to Corralejo, where the blue skies over the dunes just south of the resort will be filled with all kinds of strange and colourful shapes as the 35th Kite Festival takes place. It's an unmissable spectacle that even attracted Angelina Jolie and her children when she was filming on the island a few years ago.



The festival will start at El Cotillo on the 10th November, with the main event taking place over the weekend of the 11th, 12th and 13th at the dunes near the Hotel Oliva Beach, 3 kms south of Corralejo.

OPERA



SOBRE SURCOS CALCINADOS (ON **CHARRED TRACKS**)

4th & 5th November

An opera specially created in homage to the centenary of the birth of José Saramago, the Nobel-prize winning writer who chose to spend his final years on Lanzarote.

With music by Samuel Aguilar and a libretto by Rafael-José Diaz, the opera follows the final steps of an old man who decides to cross his volcanic island home.

8pm. Teatro El Salinero, Arrecife. Entry €10.

DANCE

TRANSLATION

November 12

A free contemporary dance performance in Playa Honda

6pm. C/Princesa Ico.

MIGRARÉ

November 12

The Maduxia Dance Company present a show that combines dance with balance that's ideal for all the

1pm & 7pm. Jameos del Agua. Entry €10

RAICES

November 18th

Dance perfomance in San Bartolomé 8 pm. Teatro de San Bartolomé. Entry €10.



PETITDANZA

November 19th

The Natalia Medina Company present a dance spectacular aimed especially at children.

7pm. Teatro El Salinero, Arrecife. Entry €10



EXHIBITIONS

FAKE BY IVAN VII FI I A

From 18th November

Artist Ivan Vilella explores truth, lies, fact and fiction in this multimedia exhibition.

El Almacén, Arrecife



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SPORTS

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4th - 6th November

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Arrecife

LANZAROTE

RUNNING **CHALLENGE**

INTERNATIONAL

20 th - 23 rd NovemberFour days; four races, four distances; four terrains -La Santa's unique event returns for its 33rd edition. Club La Santa, Tinajo.



19th November

Club La Santa, Tinaja

CLUB LA SANTA NIGHT RUN

light, competition, food and fun.

4k and 7k races held at night time - a riot of neon



12TH NOVEMBER SARA car boot sale

at SARA animal shelter starts 10am ends 12pm.

EVERY TUESDAY & FRIDAY:

Puerto Calero Market

(starts 9am ends 1pm).

EVERY SATURDAY

Haria 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





Julie's Live Music Guide

The year is racing by, and we've already reached November! Don't worry; the fabulous entertainment on Lanzarote never stops, so let's take a look at what's going on this month.

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.

Please get in touch with Julie Helliwell via Facebook to add or confirm your event in the next edition (in print and online).

- REGULAR GIGS -

Monday

COSTA TEGUISE

7.30pm: Julie H Music, The Shamrock 8.30pm: John Alan Pick, Four Seasons Rock Cafe 9pm: Scott McQ, Tekkers 9.30pm: Carl White, The Shamrock Band of Gypsies, Decades Bar

Band of Gypsies, Decades Wayne Harrison, Abbey Road

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 Connor James, Roadside Grill Cool for Cats, San Antonio Hotel 8:45pm: Dave Bandanna, Rocas Blancas 9pm: Andy King, Marco's Bar, Los Pocillos Mick Garry, The Good Old Days Graham Jacques, Stars Café 10pm: Collie Farrell, Mulligans Bar, Old Town Mick Bennett & Connor Sloane, Craic n Ceol Gayle O'Donovan, Murphy's Irish Pub Amo, Spinnaker

PLAYA BLANCA

5pm: Alexander Lammers van Toorenburg,

Paulo Bar

9.30pm: Don Parker, Portobello Good Intentions, Bikers Beach Club

Tuesday

COSTA TEGUISE

9.30pm: The Ska Duo, The Venue

Gerie B, The Shamrock Brian John, The Cavern

John Alan Pick, Tekkers Bar & Restaurant

10pm: Scott McQ, Saxos

PUERTO DEL CARMEN

6pm: Concrete Jungle, Cafe La Ola 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

9:30pm: Boulevard, Bikers Beach Club 10pm: Don Parker, The Flagship Bar

Wednesday

COSTA TEGUISE

9.30pm: John Alan Pick, Cactus Jacks Tara C. The Shamrock Scott McQ, The Venue Raggle Taggle Gypsies, Irelands Eye Bradley Bromley, Abbey Road

PUERTO DEL CARMEN

6pm: Concrete Jungle, Cafe La Ola 8:30pm: Live music, The Dubliner 9pm: Graham Jacques, Stars Café 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 JäGerBone, Bikers Beach Club

Thursday

COSTA TEGUISE

5pm: The Ska Duo, Decades Bar 7pm: John Alan Pick, Decades Bar Wayne Harrison, Abbey Road

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

PLAYA BLANCA

9.30pm: JäGerBone, Bikers Beach Club

Friday

COSTA TEGUISE

5pm: Jam Session, Tekkers 9.30pm: The Ska Duo, The Venue John Alan Pick, Cactus Jacks

PUERTO DEL CARMEN

9pm: Graham Jacques, Stars Café

10pm: Collie and Deanne, Mulligans, Old Town

PLAYA BLANCA

9.30pm: Andy King, The Old Mill Gary Mac, Portobello Boulevard, Bikers Beach Club

Saturday

COSTA TEGUISE

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

HARIA

8pm: La Noche en Mala, Don Quijote

PLAYA BLANCA

9.30pm: JäGerBone, Bikers Beach Club

PUERTO DEL CARMEN

3pm: The Ska Duo, Hankey Panky's **9pm:** Graham Jacques, Stars Café Gerie B, The Good Old Days

Sunday

COSTA TEGUISE

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

PUERTO DEL CARMEN

1pm: Sax on the Roof with Anthony, Biosfera 8:30pm: Live music, The Dubliner 8:45pm: Dave Bandanna, Rocas Blancas 9pm: Graham Jacques, La Avenida Restaurante Pedro Ruiz, The Good Old Days 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 John Gold, Murphy's Irish Pub

PLAYA BLANCA

9.00pm: Adrian Bambrough, Portobello 9.30pm: Andy King, The Old Mill

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



Centres of Art, **Culture and Tourism**

Mirador del Río

Manrique's spectacular viewpoint set into the Famara cliffs looks out over La Graciosa and the rest of the islands of the Chinijo Archipelago.

Cueva de los Verdes

The oldest of Lanzarote's tourist centres is a marvelously lit tour through a volcanic cave system. The optical illusion towards the end is genuinely stunning.

Jameos del Agua

Manrique's space age party venue is located in a lava bubble, where a legendary lake filled with unique blind crabs is flanked by restaurants, cafés, a volcano museum and a natural concert auditorium.

MIAC: Castillo de San Juan

This 250-year old fortress overlooks Arrecife's commercial port and is home to an art gallery featuring works by Picasso, Tapies, Miró and other modern artists. With a famous restaurant and attractive gardens, it's a glimpse of the island's past and future.

Cactus Garden

Manrique's favourite of his creations, this charming garden features over 1,400 different types of cactus and is set in a disused quarry in the heart of Lanzarote's cochineal country. A traditional windmill overlooks the scene.

La Casa Amarilla

The "yellow house", located at the foot of Arrecife's main shopping street, is the old seat of the island's government, and is now an art gallery and information

Timanfaya: The Fire Mountains

Lanzarote's most popular outing offers a pure, breathtaking spectacle at one of the newest landscapes in the world. Take an unforgettable coach trip through the volcanoes and see the power and heat of the earth's inner crust.

Casa-Museo del Campesino

This complex of buildings in the very centre of Lanzarote is overlooked by Manrique's 15m high monument to the Farm Worker. Visitors can buy unique souvenirs, see exhibitions and take part in traditional activities.

Other outings

Museo Agrícola El Patio

Step back in time at this charming and fascinating farm museum on one of Lanzarote's largest estates. Clucking chickens, windmills, living history and a gorgeous location.

Museo del Timple, **Teguise**

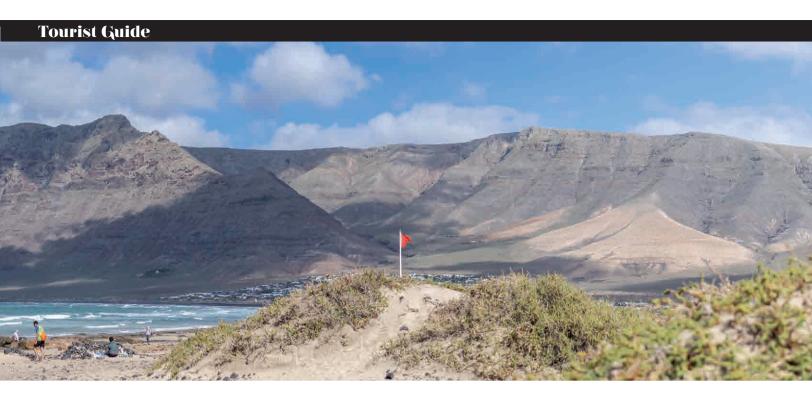
The timple museum is devoted to the small guitar that is the sound of Canarian folk music, but you'll also be amazed by the Palacio Spinola, the island's grandest colonial home.

Mancha Blanca Volcano **Visitors Centre**

Often overlooked by visitors, this terrific little museum will teach you all you need to know about Lanzarote's dramatic volcano country.

César Manrique Foundation, Tahiche

Built in a lava bubble, Manrique's first island home is utterly fascinating. Solid lava flows into a lounge, trees grow out of underground caves, magnificent gardens flourish at every turn and the whole creation is inspirational.



Casa-Museo César Manrique, Haría

Manrique's second home in Haría has been recreated as if the artist had never left us, and gives us a glimpse of the man behind the legend. See his living room, his wardrobe, his record collection and visit the studio where he created many of his works.

Aeronautical Museum, **Lanzarote Airport**

Set in the island's first terminal building, this great little museum gives you a glimpse of bygone days when one plane a week landed here.

LagOmar, Nazaret

Built by Manrique's associate, Jesús Soto, LagOmar is an amazing gallery, museum and restaurant set in a mountainside. It's a magical, unforgettable place.

Pirate Museum, Teguise

Located in a hilltop castle where locals used to hide from raiding pirates, this museum revisits the island's lawless and often tragic past.

Museo Tanit, San Bartolomé

A lovely little museum that offers a fascinating glimpse of bygone Lanzarote and the tough, resilient and gloriously creative islanders who lived there.

Close up on: Papagayo

For many, Papagayo is the jewel in Lanzarote's crown – a chain of gorgeous natural beaches on the southern tip of the island.



You can drive there (a charge of €5 is charged for non-residents, so take your TIE/NIE card if you live here); you can jump onto one of the boats that offers day trips from Playa Blanca, or you can walk from Playa Blanca.

The first beach you'll come to is Playa Mujeres, with a cave at the north end that can be accessed at low tide. Then there's Playa del Pozo, Playa de la Cera and Playa de Papagayo. The last two are perhaps the most popular beaches, separated by a headland with a pair of restaurants.

Around the headland that forms the southern tip of Lanzarote, you'll also find another, more exposed beach called the Caleta de Congrio.

There are smaller coves, as well, best visited at low tide on a calm day. Bathing is usually safe, although waves can be strong on some days. There is no life saving service, so don't take risks.



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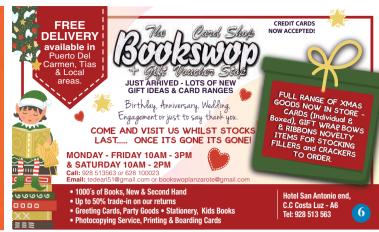
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HOUSING MARKET HOLDS UP - FOR NOW...



The province of Las Palmas, which contains Lanzarote, led Spain in the amount of second-hand property sales in July, according to figures from Spain's institute of Statistics.

Sales in Las Palmas are up by over 24% on last year, three times the Spanish average of 8%.

However, the average price of a square metre in the province rose by 3%, compared to 8% in Tenerife.

The pattern of an increase in activity was reflected by figures showing that the Canaries was the Spanish region with the secondhighest increase in new mortgages in the first quarter of 2022.

Nevertheless, the average amount of those mortgages fell by just over 1% in the Canaries, suggesting that the market is most lively among those buying cheaper properties.

Further caution has been advised by the Tecnocasa real estate company, which has predicted that rising interest rates are likely to cool the property market in the months to come. Lázaro Cubero of Tecnocasa has advised that if sellers do not "react quickly" and revise their prices downwards, "they could be in for a surprise."

CANARIES LEAD FOREIGN BUYERS MARKET

The Canaries, Andalusia and the Valencia Community are the most popular places for foreign buyers, according to statistics from the Spanish Notaries Council.

While British buyers still account for the highest amount of sales – 10% of the market - Ukrainians are the fastest-growing market, for obvious reasons. Spain opened its doors to Ukrainian refugees following the Russian invasion, and it seems many wish to stay.

However, many Russians have also been

buying property, probably in fears that the Rouble is likely to fall even further.

In the Canaries, non-resident property sales have been led by Germans, who account for 25% of the market. The UK, at 12%, is less than half of the German share, and is possibly linked to restrictions of the 90-day rule.

Resident foreign sales are led by the Italians, on 25%, with the Germans in second place at 12%.



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SEEKING SWALLOWS



Canary Islands actively encouraging older tourists to come and stay for longer periods and enjoy everything that the eight different islands have to offer.

The "Silver Plus" market is composed of over-55s with time and money to spend and has been a key element in the Canarian tourism strategy for a few years now, as the industry focuses on "quality" tourism - visitors with higher spending capacity and an interest in culture, food and sporting activities.

Canarian Government has launched an eight-minute video which aims to attract older tourists for long stays on the islands. The campaign targets the "Silver Plus" sector - over-55s with time and money to spend, and will be shown in the UK, Germany, Spain, France Italy, Belgium, Norway, the Netherlands, and Sweden.

"What would it be like to live on another planet" asks the narrator of the video, referring to the Lanzarote's "intense and powerful" landscapes and it's "pure energy".

Titled "Islands That Extend Life", the video is the longest ad ever created by the Canarian Government and invites older tourists to consider "eight lives" on the eight different Canary Islands.

Yaiza Castilla, the Canarian Tourist Minister, justified the length of the video, saying "If people are to spend more time here, they'll need more information."

UK SWALLOWS AFFECTED

While EU citizens can travel freely in Spain, British "swallows" remain adversely affected by the 90-day rule

that came into effect after Brexit, which limits them from spending more than 90 days out of 180 in Spain or any other Schengen country.

While the Canarian Government is unable to change these rules, it could certainly communicate the problem to the central government in Madrid as it negotiates the bilateral agreement that will govern relations between Spain and the UK.

Other regions of Spain, such as Valencia, have already indicated their support for an agreement that would permit British tourists to stay longer and permit non-resident homeowners to enjoy their property to the full. The Canaries have so far, however, remained silent on the issue.









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Decor and decoration are two separate things, but in November, when we're rolling up our sleeves for the Christmas ahead, season can help us understand more about the other.

Decoration is easily defined by comparing two sentences. First: "The decoration in Jill's living room is lovely" could refer to a new paint scheme, some indoor plants or even just a single item. It could even refer to something temporary.

Most homes are already full of permanent decorations such as framed photos, lampshades, pot plants and much, much more, but at Christmas they'll be joined by a host of temporary decorations.

Now try "The decor in Jill's living room is lovely". It's clear now that















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NortysurHogar - Arrecife - Tel. (+34) 928 811 111 Carretera de los Mármoles - Polígono industrial Arrecife Puerto - C/ Océano Atlántico we're talking about the entire room, and that's because decor refers to the whole shebang, starting from room design and layout down to the smallest detail.

ASSESSING DECOR

Every time we decorate, we need to take the decor into account. That's the difference between plonking a Christmas tree in your corner and hoping for the best; and making a real effort to tie your seasonal decorations into vour room.

On Lanzarote, this might require a bit of a culture shift. On an island where colour schemes tend to be dominated by whites, maritime shades of blue and green, and where sunshine enters every home even in the depths of winter, it's a lot harder to make deep, rich Christmas colours such as crimson, green, purple, gold, and silver work for you.

This gives you the chance to look for new Christmas ideas and natural elements are one of the most universal. At Christmas, we like to bring nature into our home - whether it's a bushy fir tree or an elegant, scarlet poinsettia plant.

Natural lighting is also a must, and while a crackling fireplace is unlikely on Lanzarote, you can still do wonders with candles, and the reflected light in mirrors and metallic surfaces.



Decluttering has become a modern obsession, with entire books and TV series devoted to it. But it's probably a lot less scary if you just call it "tidying up."

Thinking about Christmas your decorating will give you the opportunity to think about what you need and what you don't need in your living space.

So, while there's no need to go for a radical minimalist approach (no one wants to celebrate Christmas in a laboratory or an Apple Store), you'll certainly benefit from making a few choices about your living space and can look forward to a new feel when the decorations come down in January.

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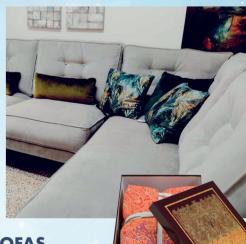
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It's Christmas decorations decades old, and begin to plan how we will deck our halls. If you're looking a host of new pieces to decorate your home in a on Lanzarote.

Christmas on Lanzarote is a charming, serene time, when families get together to spend time with one another and enjoy the numerous nativity scenes across the island. This month we will see the lights go up in towns and there will be a switching-on event, but they'll be nowhere near as garish as your average British city centre. Home interiors will be decorated while the exteriors will remain a brilliant white rather than adorned with flashing lights.

Similar to Lanzarote's understated colour code of white, green and brown, the decorations should be subtle rather than flashy. The key is to decorate how you like but keep your surroundings in mind.

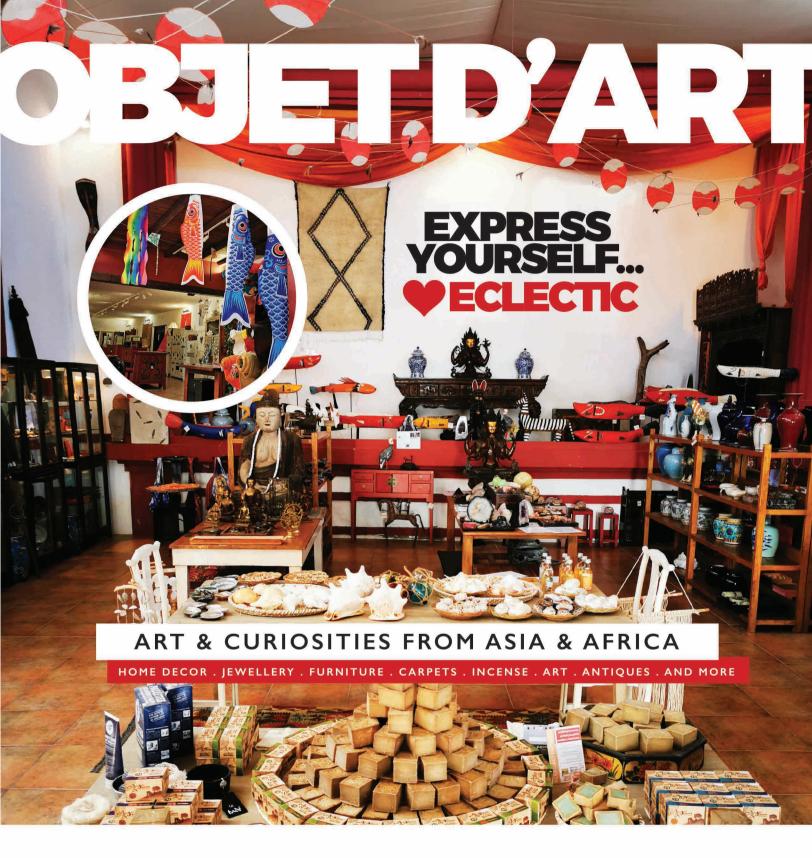
The worldwide commercial nature of Christmas means that you can expect to see plenty of Santa Claus' and Grotto's especially in the shopping centres. However, the Three Kings dominate Spanish Christmastime and their arrival in the New Year is hotly anticipated by young children.

As the Three Kings hail from the East and African continent, we can take some inspiration from the far-flung cultures this Christmas. Antique Asian furniture, spectacular Indian patterns and Moroccan materials are just the tip of the iceberg. And while they may not be particularly festive, their rich colours and beautiful patterns reflect the luxurious items brought by the Kings.

Christmas is centred around bold colours - exciting reds, deep blues, gorgeous greens, and regal golds.

If you yearn for a Christmas tree, sparkling fairy lights, baubles, and tinsel, you'll find it in abundance in furniture shops, but adopting new traditions is one of the best parts of the festive period.

So, get out there, tour the boutique furniture shops and take notes along the way. Pick up a few uncommon items and work them into your decorations this Christmas. Most of all, enjoy it.





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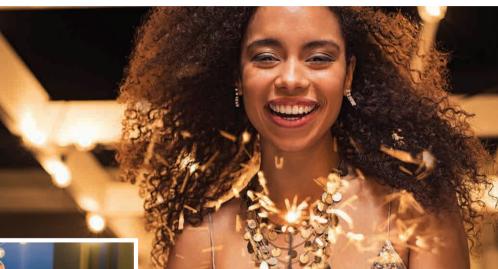
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DREAMING OF A









Decorating for Christmas marks an important change in the time of year - it's when we spend intimate moments with our friends and family members, but it is also when we reconnect with our homes.

> The most important aspect of decorating for Christmas is personal expression; a time to let your personality shine through. It's all about setting a mood for the winter period.

> Unlike the cold winters experienced in the UK, where British families keep doors and windows firmly closed, Canarian families will be spending time outdoors. December is just around the corner and now is the perfect time to get your outdoor area ready for guests to enjoy.

LIGHT UP YOUR LIFE

In North America and Europe it is common to see house exteriors decorated head-to-toe in obnoxious flashing lights, however, you'll want to keep your decorations subtle to fit in with Lanzarote's festive style.

The islands public decorations don't flash multiple colours, they're subdued and often bright or warm white. Use Lanzarote's white colour scheme to your advantage by complimenting it with mellow fairy lights.

IT SMELLS LIKE CHRISTMAS

The aroma of cinnamon in the kitchen, the scent of orange peel and brandy, it's Christmas time and with it comes the smells that we've come to know and love.

Get stocked up on scented candles, incense, and wax melts; they look great lit up in a covered outdoor area protected from the wind... and they smell great too!

KEEP IT COSY

While it will be warm this Christmas, you'll want to invest in some comforting blankets and soft cushions for your house guests. Try deep reds to compliment the burning candles.



Passive actio



2015 SAW THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FIRST PASSIVE HOUSE IN THE CANARIES, IN TENERIFE. THE "PASSIVHAUS" CONCEPT AROSE IN GERMANY IN THE 1980S, AND THE AIM IS TO BUILD HOMES WITH AN AGREEABLE TEMPERATURE ALL YEAR ROUND AND EXTREMELY LOW ENERGY CONSUMPTION.

At a time when energy costs are at the forefront of many of our minds, the idea is more attractive than ever, and this applies in hot climates such as Lanzarote's as well as colder ones. The Passive House idea is designed to be adaptable to all types of climates.

Central to the idea is insulation - an idea we usually associate with colder climates, where conserving heat is a priority in cold winters. But the thick stone walls on older Lanzarote houses also provide their own form of insulation, ensuring that any changes in indoor temperature are minor. Modern breeze blocks often perform a similar function.

In Lanzarote homes, wall or roof insulation is hardly ever used. That's because its main job is to keep heat in and on most of the island, for most of the year, there's no real need for that.

What's more important on an island where the sun shines almost every day is keeping heat out, and it's here where you need to look at your windows. Sunshine that hits window panes directly can turn a home into a greenhouse in just a few minutes.

That's why having the right windows and shutters, and using them correctly, means you won't have to spend extra money to cool your home.

On Lanzarote, double glazing can be a real game changer, always ensuring there's a layer of insulating air between your windows.

However, it's also important to cut heat out completely at times. This is where awnings, shutters, blinds, and curtains come in useful. These elements can be combined and adjusted to permit you complete control over your interior.

While the Passive House concept is still not widespread throughout the Canaries, builders and constructors are certainly aware of the set of standards that govern it, and there are several products already available that help you to slash your home's energy consumption while staying perfectly snug.

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After the rain





"When it

rains, it

pours."

Heavy rain doesn't happen often on Lanzarote, but when it does, it pays to be prepared.

In late September, tropical storm Hermine formed hundreds of miles south of the Canaries, and veered northwest before petering out. The islands were spared the violent winds of cyclones, but did experience continuous

rainfall - an extremely rare phenomenon on Lanzarote, where sudden heavy showers are more likely.

Hermine may not have caused too much damage, and was welcomed by the island's farmers and ecologists, but it certainly

showed plenty of residents on the island how effectively their homes or business premises performed in rain.

Like Britain with snow, Lanzarote often seems unprepared for heavy rains, but that's because the investment in drainage is not seen as cost-effective for an event that is relatively rare. But flooding and leaks in private homes are another matter.

Interior water damage caused by leaks can be permanent, and in the cooler months it can cause long-lasting

> problems with damp especially on north-facing walls. It's a threat to your investment, and the easiest way to avoid this is to make sure it never happens in the first place.

> That involves watertight roofs, walls and especially doors and windows. You need to make sure your

house is as tight as a drum when the bad weather arrives.

To do that, you'll need to hire a professional. Making your home watertight is a skilled job, and one of those tasks where testimonials, aftercare and value-for-money are all vital.



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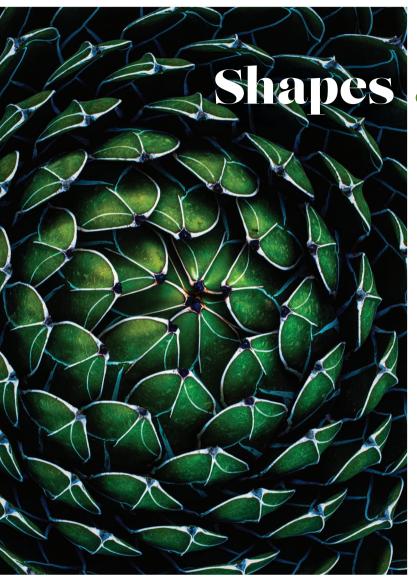
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apes and forms

Plants on Lanzarote come in a range of distinctive shapes.

The shapes of native plants are generally dictated by the climate and conditions. Lanzarote is full of tough plants which often have fleshy succulent leaves to conserve water, and woody stems and trunks that also protect against the weather and animals.

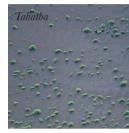
Some plants protect themselves from the wind by remaining low and clumpy, such as the famous tabaiba. Others, like palm trees, make a virtue of flexibility, swaying and tossing in the alisio breezes.

Here are a few of the distinctive shapes you'll see around the island:

Aeoniums

Embroidered rosettes are one of Lanzarote's traditional crafts, but the rosette shape can also be seen in nature – in flowers, but most noticeably in the succulent aeoniums that are native to the Canary Islands. A perfectly developed aeonium is a fascinating arrangement of lush green fleshy leaves.















Strelitzia

Named the "Bird of Paradise" plant, the Strelitzia's asymmetric, poised elegance is set off by its vivid orange and purple colouring. It's a firm favourite on the island, where its flamboyant nature is perfect for an island that is not known for shyness.

Euphorbia canariensis

Cacti aren't native to the Canaries, but there's no shortage of these euphorbias, whose clusters of thick stubby, finger-shaped succulent stems can often be seen reaching towards the sky. Occasionally beaded with tiny yellow flowers, they're strange and unique.

Agave

The agave is an introduced species that has become widespread in the wild, as well as widely cultivated. It's thick, succulent leaves, with their sharp tips and serrated edges, are used for all variety of herbal remedies. Agaves shoot up tall flowering stalks, which then slowly lean and fall, spreading younger plants to new soil.

Norfolk pine

The Canarian pine is the native species of conifer (although it's rare on Lanzarote) but the conifer that sticks in your minds is probably this relative of the monkey-puzzle from Australia, whose evenly spaced, geometric branches have made it an ornamental favourite worldwide.



Golden barrel cactus

Known in Spanish as "mother-inlaw's seat", or the "hedgehog cactus", Echinocactus grusonii is unmistakeable. A hefty, barrel-shaped cactus armed with sharp yellow spikes arranged in vertical stripes. It's an ornamental favourite in gardens for obvious reasons - nothing else has a shape like this.

Tabaiba

The tabaiba is another variety of euphorbia that can be seen in plenty





of Lanzarote's wild areas. Like a small baobab tree, it's tangled fan of stems puts brilliant green leaves forth in springtime. These are the plants that form the bright green spots on black mountainsides.

Drago tree

Much valued in the Canaries, this bizarrely beautiful tree grows slowly - a metre every ten years - with thick branches fanning upwards from a single trunk. The overall effect can resemble an inverted cone, or a solid fountain of greenery spouting from the dry soil.





Indoor palms

Here on Lanzarote, there are palm trees all over the place outside, but Lanzarote is also a great place to bring them indoors, too.

Living on Lanzarote, you can sometimes forget that we're in the sub-tropics. It's lovely to wake up to warmth and sunlight every morning, but it's also something we can take for granted. But the sight of a palm tree dancing outside our window always brings us back to the sheer exotic wonder of living in the Canaries.

Of course, palm trees can be found in places as far north as Western Scotland, but even there they add a reminder of warmth and distant climes.

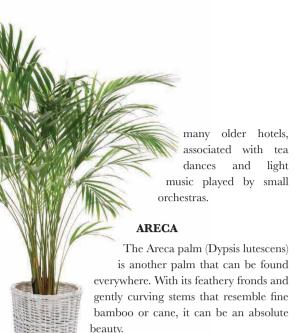
But for those of us who live in smaller apartments, huge palms are an impossibility. It's here that elegant indoor palms can bring that hothouse atmosphere to your home.

KENTIA

The most popular indoor palm, and one that can be found everywhere on Lanzarote, is the Kentia (Howea forsteriana). This palm comes from the tiny Lord Howe Island in the South Pacific, and was brought back to Britain by Captain Cook.

It became hugely popular during the Victorian era (Queen Victoria left orders that her coffin be surrounded by Kentia fronds during her lying-in-state) and is the plant that is responsible for the Palm Court - a large, conservatory-style lounge found in





Arecas can grow up to 8 feet tall, but will require a bit of care to stop them drying out on Lanzarote.

PARLOUR PALM

The Parlour palm (Chamaedorea Elegans) is another globally popular indoor palm, with attractive, relatively broad fronds. Its



popularity is probably to do with the fact that it's a very slow grower and rarely reaches more than three feet high - basically, you know what you're getting when you buy it. Older parlour palms can produce attractive "strings of beads" of little yellow flowers.

CARE TIPS

The main threat to palms on Lanzarote is dehydration, and that's usually a direct consequence of the dry air on the island. You'll know it's happening when the tips of the leaves start turning brown. Keep the palms out of draughts that will strip the leaves of moisture, and mist regularly or use a pebble tray.

Palms like moist soil, but hate overwatering. Let the topsoil dry out before watering, but don't leave it too long.

The indoor palms above are popular precisely because they don't need high light levels and can thrive in the light conditions of most living rooms. Other varieties, however, may need more light.

Special palm fertiliser can be bought from local garden centres and should be used once a month to ensure lush growth.

Try and keep your palms out of the way of cats. Not because they're poisonous, but because a curious or attention-seeking cat may munch those leaves until they're ragged.



CLIMBING THE TABLE

AFTER A SHAKY START TO THE SEASON WITH A DRAW AND A DEFEAT, THE ROJILLOS (THE REDS) THEN WON THEIR NEXT TWO MATCHES AND HAVE MOVED UP TO 8TH SPOT WITH A GAME IN HAND IN THE TERCERA R.F.E.F. (FIFTH TIER). IAN LANE REPORTS:



Getting to a match couldn't be easier from Costa Teguise and Puerto del Carmen, as the number 3 bus drops you 100 metres from the Arrecife stadium and goes back and forth every 30 minutes. Entrance is paid at the gate Adults 8 Euros (6 Euros Residents) Pensioners 6 Euros (4 Euros Residents). Children under 16 are admitted free of charge.



UD Lanzarote ought to have played six games by now. However all Canarian matches were suspended on the 25th September due to a storm and an away match in La Palma was cancelled because of the unavailability of return flights.

On October 2nd Lanzarote faced Tenerife side CD Marino and, after a hard-fought goalless first half, it took the Rojillos just 24 seconds to take the lead after the break. Brazilian Rodrigo latched onto a poor back pass, rounded the keeper and coolly slotted the ball home. Striker Meca secured a 2-0 win just before the hour to earn his side their first victory of the season.

Two weeks later Lanzarote beat Fuerteventura rivals CD Unión Puerto 3-2 in a hugely entertaining game. Argentinian striker Di Renzo and Rodrigo gave the Rojillos a 2-0 lead but the visitors pulled a goal back before Meca restored the two-goal advantage in the 69th minute.

The Majoreros (Fuerteventurans) didn't lie down and again reduced the deficit to 3-2 in the 77th minute, after which it

was all hands on deck for the Lanzarote defence as they were bombarded - but they held on to claim their second consecutive win.

UD Lanzarote had the toughest restrictions in the whole of Spain during the pandemic and many fans have still not returned to watch the Rojillos because of this. Nevertheless, after recent performances one can feel the buzz returning and the club is hoping fans that are yet to return finally come back into the fold.



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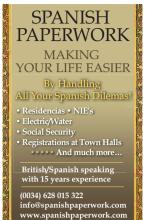


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Day	Hour	Metres	Day	Hour	Metres
1	H: 06:17 H L: 13:02 H H: 19:26 H	2.3 1.0 2.0	17	L: 01:18 H H: 07:38 H L: 14:17 H H: 20:34 H	1.4 2.1 1.2 2.0
2	L: 01:31 H H: 07:52 H L: 14:34 H H: 20:54 H	1.2 2.3 0.9 2.1	18	L: 02:35 H H: 08:48 H L: 15:18 H H: 21:30 H	1.3 2.2 1.0 2.1
3	L: 02:58 H H: 09:11 H L: 15:44 H H: 21:59 H	1.1 2.4 0.8 2.3	19	L: 03:33 H H: 09:42 H L: 16:04 H H: 22:15 H	1.1 2.3 0.9 2.3
4	L: 04:02 H H: 10:11 H L: 16:36 H H: 22:47 H	0.9 2.6 0.6 2.5	20	L: 04:20 H H: 10:27 H L: 16:45 H H: 22:54 H	0.9 2.5 0.7 2.5
5	L: 04:52 H H: 11:00 H L: 17:19 H H: 23:28 H	0.7 2.7 0.5 2.7	21	L: 05:02 H H: 11:08 H L: 17:23 H H: 23:32 H	0.7 2.7 0.5 2.7
6	L: 05:34 H H: 11:41 H L: 17:57 H	0.6 2.8 0.4	22	L: 05:42 H H: 11:48 H L: 18:01 H	0.5 2.8 0.4
7	H: 00:05 H L: 06:12 H H: 12:18 H L: 18:31 H	2.8 0.5 2.9 0.4	23	H: 00:10 H L: 06:22 H H: 12:28 H L: 18:40 H	2.9 0.4 2.9 0.3
8	H: 00:38 H L: 06:48 H H: 12:53 H L: 19:04 H	2.8 0.4 2.8 0.4	24	H: 00:49 H L: 07:03 H H: 13:10 H L: 19:19 H	3.0 0.3 2.9 0.3
9	H: 01:11 H L: 07:22 H H: 13:27 H L: 19:35 H	2.9 0.4 2.8 0.5	25	H: 01:29 H L: 07:46 H H: 13:54 H L: 20:01 H	3.0 0.3 2.8 0.4
10	H: 01:43 H L: 07:56 H H: 14:00 H L: 20:06 H	2.8 0.5 2.6 0.6	26	H: 02:12 H L: 08:32 H H: 14:40 H L: 20:46 H	3.0 0.4 2.7 0.5
11	H: 02:15 H L: 08:31 H H: 14:35 H L: 20:38 H	2.7 0.6 2.5 0.8	27	H: 02:59 H L: 09:22 H H: 15:32 H L: 21:36 H	2.9 0.5 2.5 0.7
12	H: 02:48 H L: 09:07 H H: 15:11 H L: 21:12 H	2.6 0.8 2.3 0.9	28	H: 03:51 H L: 10:20 H H: 16:31 H L: 22:34 H	2.7 0.6 2.3 0.9
13	H: 03:24 H L: 09:47 H H: 15:51 H L: 21:52 H	2.5 0.9 2.1 1.1	29	H: 04:51 H L: 11:26 H H: 17:41 H L: 23:44 H	2.5 0.8 2.2 1.1
14	H: 04:06 H L: 10:36 H H: 16:42 H L: 22:41 H	2.3 1.1 2.0 1.3	30	H: 06:03 H L: 12:43 H H: 19:02 H	2.4 0.9 2.1
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16 0	H: 06:14 H L: 12:59 H H: 19:17 H	2.0 1.2 1.8	O Nev Mo	on Qu	arter Moon
			Mo		arter Moon

Moon Quarter Moon



Weather Watch

Remember November

November is the month when Lanzarote enters winter – a winter that's more like a warm spring day in northern Europe.

There'll be brilliant blue skies, fluffy white clouds and tons of fine weather, although the chance of the odd rain shower increases. November also sees slightly brisker winds than the extraordinarily calm, still autumn months.

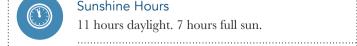
Temperatures are still warm, but you might want to wear layers if you're out early in the morning or in the evening. This is also the month when sea temperatures drop – the water's cooler now, and a bit more bracing. That won't stop the surfers enjoying the first big swells of the season on the north coast, though.

November's fresh, sunny climate makes it a wonderful month for getting out and about and exploring the island - why not hunt down that secret beach or climb that volcano?

What to Expect in November Day Time Temps







Sea Temp 21°C - 22°C.





10-25 kph.

H=High Tide L=Low Tide

Telephone Numbers



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Jane Burke......928 513895 or 649 910784

Need to Know



HEAVY WEATHER

Lanzarote can suffer high winds and heavy rainfall in the winter months. Here's how to prepare:

WATCH FOR WARNINGS

Weather warnings are issued by Spanish meteorological agency AEMET, but may be accompanied by statements from the Canarian Government. There are three levels of warning:

Yellow: Be aware. No danger to the population is forecast. Some outdoor activities nmay be affected.

Orange/Amber: Be prepared. A significant risk exists. Open air activities may be affected.

Red: Take precautions and follow the government's instructions. High risk to the population. Do not make unnecessary journeys, and if you have to drive, do so extremely carefully.

GENERAL ADVICE:

If high winds are forecast, secure your property. Close shutters, move outdoor furniture and other loose items to shelter. Roll up awnings. Prepare old towels to mop up possible floods. Park vehicles in sheltered places if possible.

During storms, stay indoors. Avoid buildings and trees if walking, and avoid cliffs, ravines and other steep areas. Never walk alone.

High seas can be extremely dangerous. Stay away from the coast (especially on the north of the island) during storms.

It's wise to avoid swimming in the sea for a few days after heavy rainfall, as lots of dirt can be washed into the water.



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Loroscopes BY CLAIRVOYANT SHONA LANGHOLM

Aries

(21 MAR - 19 APR)

Time is running out if you want to fulfill a personal ambition you've held for quite a while, Aries. You've almost given up, but with a little hard work and renewed enthusiasm you can still make it happen. Go for it!

Taurus

(20 APRIL - 20 MAY)

The call of the wild is seductive, but deep down you're home lover, Taurus, and this month your roots will be calling you even more strongly. It's a time to strengthen family bonds, plan visits and touch base before you head off down unknown roads again.



(21 MAY TO 20 JUNE)

Problems always get magnified after bedtime, Gemini, and you may be losing sleep due to worries. The solution is to get things done straight away and place your own well-being ahead of everything else. Peace of mind is worth working and fighting for.

Cancer

(21 JUNE TO 22 JULY)

Like a crab, you shed your old skin occasionally, Cancer, and this is one of those times. You'll be vulnerable and uncertain for a while, but this change is necessary for you to grow and become comfortable in yourself.



Leo

(23 JULY TO 22 AUG)

The Spanish have a phrase "like cows watching the train" to describe situations where people gaze on passively in pure ignorance. Don't be one of those cows, Leo - you need to investigate and learn about the important aspects at work and at home.

Virgo

(23 AUG TO 22 SEPT)

You're like a mirror ball this month, Virgo, flashing lights all around you and making everyone else dance to your tune. Make sure to stir a little modesty into that potent charm, though - that's what will guarantee lasting, rewarding relationships.



Scorpio

(23 OCT TO 21 NOV)

Don't be annoyed if a good deed goes ignored or unthanked, Scorpio. You did the right thing, and that's the important thing. Any generous or thoughtful acts will eventually pay off for you this month, so spread the good feelings around.

Libra

(23 SEPT TO 22 OCT)

On this spinning globe we're always travelling at hundreds of miles an hour, Libra, so hold on tight. If life feels a little dull and static this month, just be patient and enjoy the calm. Things will soon speed up and take your breath away.

Sagittarius

(22 NOV TO 21 DEC)

Travel will occupy your thoughts this month, Sagittarius, but it may not be to the place you were planning. Your open mind and curiosity will win the day and turn duty into pleasure and an outing that will change the way you look at the world.

Capricorn

(22 DEC TO 19 JAN)

It's not the water outside the boat that sinks you, Capricorn; it's the water inside. This month you need to shut yourself off from negative thoughts online or from so-called friends. There are some choppy waters ahead and you need to stay afloat.



Aquarius

(20 JAN - 18 FEB)

The earlier nights may affect you more than you think this month, Aquarius. There's a bittersweet wintery feel, but also the knowledge that you need to get some serious work done. Light some candles and make the most of this

lovely time of year.

Pisces

(19 FEB - 20 MAR)

Before you make that joke, make sure you're not doing anybody down, Pisces. It's not about offence taken by others, it's about your judgement and the thoughtfulness that good manners represent. Wise silence is always better than a cheap laugh.



Instagram of the month



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