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Ed's Letter

October is always a glorious month on Lanzarote, with warm mellow sunshine, calm weather and brilliant blue skies and seas. And always in the background, those mystical, magnificent volcanoes.

You may notice a volcanic theme in this magazine. A few weeks ago, we'd already watched the constant trembling of the earth's crust on a computer screen in the depths of the Cueva de los Verdes, and asked guide David Penney to head into one of the island's loveliest volcanoes. Even our fantastic, fiery-haired cover star Bella, who hit the office like a minor earthquake, seemed to fit the theme.

So, it felt a little spooky when the news came through that La Palma, a couple of islands away, had started to tremble and that an eruption could occur. There's been some concern on the islands because of this, mainly because of a sensational documentary a few years back. But the risks remain vanishingly low.

The volcanic nature of these islands is essential to

their fertile soil and their thrilling beauty. Where else can you stand on a golden beach and watch a rainbow arching over a volcano? But the knowledge that we're perched on top of a volcanic hot spot also adds a touch of urgency - the feeling that we should get the most of out of this surreal, stunning place while we can.

And while the earth moves in La Palma, a lot more is moving here on Lanzarote, as the island wakes up and shakes off the worry and uncertainty of coronavirus. The resorts are buzzing now, but its great to see so many tourists discovering the rest of the island, too. And it seems as though they will keep on coming.

"Winter is coming" is a grim threat in Game of Thrones, but here on Lanzarote its cause for more hope, as new flights start to arrive, restrictions are sensibly relaxed and the island gets back to doing what it does best.

And that includes us – a few months ago I asked readers to contact us with announcements articles, photos, poems, anything they think will spark interest and which they want to share. That offer remains open, and I can't wait to hear from you.

Enjoy the mag and enjoy October.

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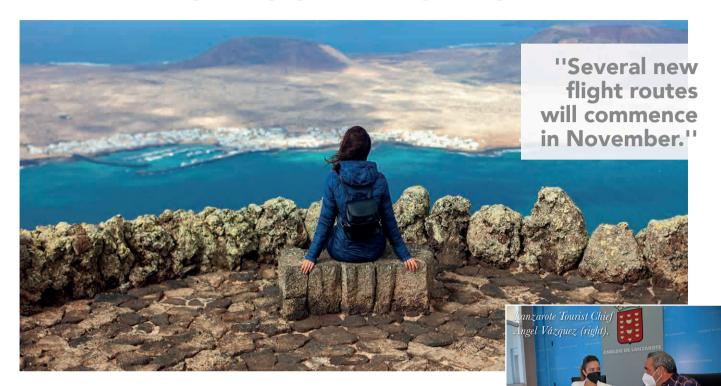
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Top 5 Photo Spots

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WINTER SEASON PROMISE



ALL THE SIGNS ARE THAT LANZAROTE HAS NOW PASSED THE WORST OF THE COVID PANDEMIC AND CAN LOOK FORWARD TO A PROSPEROUS WINTER SEASON.

The average number of daily Covid cases on Lanzarote fell notably in September, and the island was rewarded with Level 1 (low risk) status and a significant relaxation of restrictions. Shortly afterwards, the Canarian Government passed a law that relaxed measures even further, permitting bars, restaurants and night-clubs to open until 3 am.

This easing of measures has been made possible by the incredibly successful vaccination programme on the island - more than 80% of over-12s are now fully vaccinated -; and the apparent effectiveness of a tourism policy that permits those who have been double-jabbed to arrive without tests or quarantine.

Other good news includes the upgrading of the Canary Islands to yellow status on the European Centre for Disease Control's map; a decision which is likely to improve the prospects of tourism from several European destinations.

There have also been widespread reports that the UK government is likely to remove the requirement for a second-day PCR test before the October half-term holiday begins. This would remove

one of the important financial barriers for British holiday-makers.

Meanwhile, several

new flights will commence as the winter season gets under way at the start of November, and Lanzarote Airport is already buzzing with activity again.

Lanzarote Tourist Chief Ángel Vázquez has said that Lanzarote can look forward to the winter season with "reasonable optimism" as air routes are re-established with the UK and Ireland.

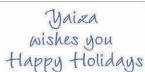
The winter season has always been important to the Canaries - one of the only European short-haul destinations where winter sun can be virtually guaranteed. However, the first proper season after the pandemic may see other changes.

That's because this will be the first winter season since the UK fully left the EU last January, and many British "swallows" (visitors who winter on the islands) are now restricted to a maximum stay of 90 days rather than 180.

Despite campaigns to change the rules, this is an issue that has, so far, not been addressed by Spanish or British authorities, and its full implications could be seen in the months to come.









LOCAL NEWS

MIRADOR REOPENED

The Avuntamiento of Haría officially opened the Mirador de Haría last month. The Manriquedesigned walkers' rest spot overlooking the Malpaso valley is situated on the hairpin bends on the LZ-10 road descending to Haría, and now features two impressive balconies which will give visitors the sensation of walking on air.

Haría's Mayor Chaxiraxi Niz led the opening ceremony, which was also attended by Cabildo President María Dolores Corujo and Miguel Ángel Fontes Figuera, the architect in charge of the project.

The Mirador is open from 11-3 and, as parking is so limited, a shuttle bus will operate from Haria library at weekends.



PATERAS RETURN

Calm weather in September has led to an increase in the arrivals of pateras (boats carrying migrants) on the Canaries.

Several boats, usually carrying around 30 to 40 migrants, have arrived on Lanzarote's shores or been intercepted at sea over the last month. Images of a patera sailing straight into the lagoon of Playa de Jablillo in Costa Teguise, and grounding on a beach full of holiday makers, went viral.

But not all boats have arrived safely. Three bodies were recovered after a patera capsized 24 miles from Lanzarote in early September, and a further eight are missing.



WELCOME HOME, RAY!

Olympic silver medallist Ray Zapata returned to Lanzarote in September and was greeted with a hero's welcome by the gymnastics club where he started his meteoric career, before attending an official reception at the Cabildo.

As Ray emerged from arrivals with his silver medal round his neck, members of the Gymnastic Club Isla de Lanzarote formed a circle around him, embracing him and chanting his name.

Later, Cabildo President María Dolores Corujo received Ray at the Cabildo, where she presented him with a commemorative plaque. "We wish to congratulate Ray Zapata for this achievement, which is a reflection of the determination, perseverance and hard work that he has shown during all these years," said Corujo. "With this medal, he will be an example and an inspiration to all boys and girls on the island."

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ALL EYES ON LA GRACIOSA



A Spanish celebrity marriage on the island of La Graciosa will be one of the biggest stories on Lanzarote this month.

Celebrity TV presenter Anabel Pantoja's marriage to Canarian surf instructor Omar Sánchez will take place on the Plava La Francesa on La Graciosa in the first week of October, and Spain's formidable "prensa rosa" (gossip press) are likely to be out in force.

That's because Anabel's aunt is Isabel Pantoja, one of the greatest singers of Andalusian coplas, and a fixture of Spanish public life for over 40 years. La Tonadillera, as she is known, is likely to attend the wedding along with other celebrity names such as Belén Esteban.

Ecologists have warned of the effect that such a highprofile event could have on the environment of the "Eighth Canary Island", not just because of the media that have already started to arrive on the island, but also by raising the profile of the island, which is already suffering from the pressure of thousands of visitors.

COVID RESTRICTIONS RELAXED

September saw a significant relaxation of restrictions on Lanzarote, as the Canarian Government placed the island at Level 1 (low risk), and extended opening hours for bars and restaurants at that level.

These establishments are now able to close at 3am. The new law also increases the maximum number of people who can meet in public or private places to 12 at Level 1.

However, although the new law permits nightlife to open at all levels, dancing remains prohibited and owners of nightlife establishments must keep a register of all customers.

Mask laws, which are not decided by the regional government, also remain unchanged for the time being.

SHEARWATER SEASON

Ecological groups have asked local authorities and residents in coastal areas of Lanzarote to reduce light pollution during the months of September and October, when shearwaters make their maiden flights.

The young birds navigate by the moon, but are frequently guided off course by artificial lights, crash-landing and often injuring themselves. As the young birds are clumsy on land, they can be easy prev for predators.

Locals in northern and eastern coastal areas are asked to keep lights off wherever possible and to

check under their cars before driving, as the shearwaters often hide under vehicles. If you find a stranded bird, call 696 733 177.



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ISLAND INFO



RIP. ROBBIE ROBINSON

AKA "The Admiral", Robbie Dale, Mr.Robinson Coo Coo Ca Choo

Stella Robinson writes: "Robbie was such a big person. A big personality, big heart, loving and generous and great fun. For the last 30 years he lived in the sun in Lanzarote, running San Francisco Park in Puerto del Carmen until 2010, when he happily retired.

He started off in Lancashire, UK and then on to London, where he met Ronan O'Reilly and started working on Radio Caroline, known as Robbie Dale "The Admiral". When Caroline became illegal in the UK, the Caroline offices moved to Amsterdam. It was there he met his wife, and partner for life, Stella. It was lust at first sight!

In the Netherlands Robbie joined Radio Veronica, and a year later also had a successful television show called "JAM". He and his family, Stella, daughter Manon and son Elliot, then moved to London were Robbie helped in setting up a high-power cleaning equipment company. Subsequently the family moved to Dublin to start the well-loved Sunshine Radio.

One of his colleagues from that time says; "Robbie's contribution to radio in Europe and Ireland, was immense. Many people now working in radio, TV, and print media in Ireland will mourn his passing, and many, many more listeners will mourn him too. From Caroline to Sunshine, he was a legend who will be remembered for following his dreams and bringing joy to millions of people. That is a fantastic legacy to leave behind."

On a personal note, I cannot praise the Hospital Doctor José Molina Orosa in Arrecife enough for the way they took care of my Robbie."



I am heartbroken to have lost my love, my partner and my best friend. But I am also grateful:

Grateful for the life we shared, Robbie and I.

Grateful for the good Dad he was to Manon and Elliot.

Grateful that he was such a generous man who loved and spoiled me so much.

Grateful for the peaceful way he left this world.

I will miss my Robbie, he was everything I wish I could be, and, I am most grateful for the 53 beautiful years we shared.

R.I.P. my love.

TREATS IN STORE

Don't be tricked this Halloween. Caramelos Josefina in Tías, "the best Little Sweet Shop in Lanzarote", is the place to go for all your spooky treats.

There'll also be FREE face painting for the

under-12s on Sunday 31st October from 12pm - 4pm with the wonderful Esther Laguna! Plus FREE spooky balloons!

Caramelos Josefina is at Calle Islote Hilario 10, Tías (behind Caixa Bank).

STEP INTO THE MOVIE VAULT

If you're doing some early Christmas shopping or are just into cool stuff, you need to visit the Movie Vault at 110 C/Limones, Playa Blanca. As you pass the brilliant display by the door, you find yourself in a treasure trove of film, movie and TV merchandise and memorabilia with something for everybody. Movie Vault is a licensed supplier of Disney, DC, Star Wars, Harry Potter, Marvel products, and much, much more.

The Movie Vault is a fantastic addition to Lanzarote's shopping culture, and we wish David and Emily all the best in their exciting new venture.



FLU SEASON

The flu jab programme in the Canaries will commence later this month. Anti-Covid measures and flu vaccines meant there were hardly any cases of flu in the Canaries last year. Experts warn that this could leave the population more susceptible to flu this winter. The Spanish health ministry recommends that the following groups should request the flu vaccine from their doctor:

- Those over 65 years of age
- Those under 65 at high risk of complications from flu.
- Those habitually in close contact with either of the above two groups

To get your free flu jab, make an appointment with your GP (médico de cabecera).



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WALK AGAINST CANCER

The 17th October is International Day Against Breast Cancer, and Haría will turn purple as the 5th edition of the Walk Against Cancer takes place. It's a short stroll around this beautiful town but a great social occasion, and all proceeds will go to Lanzarote cancer charity AFOL.

Walkers will assemble at the Plaza León y Castillo in Haría at 9.30 for a 10.30 start. Entry costs €10, and you'll get a t-shirt and water. Register at www.tripasioneventos.com

PET SOUL HAS MOVED

Pet Soul in Playa Blanca would like to announce that the shop has moved around the corner to Calle El Correíllo 50 (the road with the post office). It's been hard work, but Dusana and co are now open and ready to cater for all vour pet-related wishes at Pet Soul your one-stop pet shop in Playa Blanca.

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DOG AND CAT OF THE MONTH

Geria is a lovely, smaller-sized female podenco. She has been at SARA for some time and has grown in confidence. She likes interacting with people and loves her walks. Podencos are wonderful, loyal and gentle dogs. They have a lot of energy but also love to lounge around at home! Find out more about her at www.saraprotectora.org or book an appointment on 928 173 417 (English spoken). Dog walkers welcome from 10.30 - 13.00 Monday-Saturday (Saturday by appointment only). If it is your first visit, please bring ID.

Gloria really is the sweetest girl. At just over three years old, she finds herself at SARA through no fault of her own after previously living with a family. She is affectionate and gentle and would make a wonderful addition to the right home. Find out more about her and how to meet her at www. saraprotectora.org. There are also limited places for people to help with socialising cats. Email info@sara-lanzarote.eu.

Don't forget the SARA Clothing Event at the Highlander Too in CC Montaña Tropical, Puerto del Carmen on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd October, from 12 to 4pm. The following Saturday 9th will see the regular Flea Market at SARA in Tahiche, from 10 to 12.

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

SAN SIMÓN

Muebles San Simón is proud and delighted to announce that, from September of this year, they are the exclusive Lanzarote and La Graciosa distributors of the prestigious SENTTIX brand - "specialists in quality sleep", offering a line of high-quality mattresses, as well as pillows, folding beds, bases and bedding. Be sure to visit Muebles San Simón to see the new SENTTIX exhibition in its usual store on Av. San Simón in San Bartolomé. You won't be disappointed...



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LA PALMA ERUPTS



After weeks of intensifying tremors and earthquakes, the earth opened on the afternoon of Sunday 19th September in a beautiful pine-wooded hillside in the sparsely populated area of Cabeza de Vaca on Montaña Rajada, belching out lava, ash and smoke and creating an incredibly loud roar described as "breathtaking" by onlookers.

Two fissures about 200 metres apart opened up and eight outlets of lava were detected in the 12 hours after the eruption. At the time of writing, the lava flow has a temperature of over 1,000 degrees centigrade and is descending the hill towards the sea at a speed of 700 metres per hour. This river of molten rock has already affected over 80 properties, and 5,000 people were safely evacuated from the area well before the eruption commenced.

As night fell, the red-hot lava flow glowed in the

"THE ROAR WAS BREATHTAKING.
THE LAVA HAS A TEMPERATURE
OF 1.085 DEGREES CENTIGRADE

creating startling images that have not been seen

AND IS TRAVELLING AT 700 METRES PER HOUR."

on the Canaries since the Volcano of Teneguía erupted further south in La Palma almost exactly 50 years ago.

Mariano Hernández, President of La Palma's Cabildo, said he was pleased to report that there had been no human loss in the eruption, but recognised that material losses had been considerable: "Between 80 and 100 homes have been affected by unstoppable lava flows of up to 6 metres in height," Hernández reported.

Spanish President Pedro Sánchez cancelled a flight to New York to travel to La Palma to offer support to the islanders yesterday, and assured La Palma that, once the eruptions finished, material losses would be recovered "as soon as possible." Loss by volcanoes is classed as an uninsurable "Act of God" by most insurance policies, and Sánchez's words may hint at the establishment of a special government compensation fund.

The lava continues to make its way towards the sea this morning, and experts have absolutely no way of predicting when the eruption will stop, or whether it will increase in size. However, so far it has fitted the pattern of an "effusive" eruption perfectly, with no violent explosions and easily avoidable lava flows.

The area of the eruption is located on Cumbre Vieja, the massive volcanic ridge that was the subject of a sensational BBC documentary 20 years ago. The documentary predicted that Cumbre Vieja could collapse into the Atlantic Ocean, causing a massive tidal wave that might destroy the eastern American seaboard.

However, the theory has been widely challenged by other volcanic experts, and there appears to be absolutely no danger of any such collapse during the current eruption.

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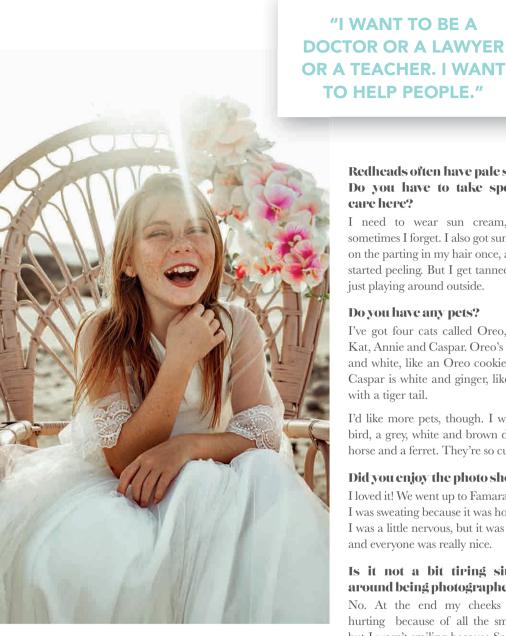
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What are your favourite subjects?

I like English, lengua (Spanish language), P.E and religion. I'd like to do communion!

Do the other children tease you about your hair? Your mum Rachel told me they call you Ginger at home, so you'd get used to teasing, but redheads don't seem to get teased in Spanish schools.

No, they like it. My friends call me Zanahoria, which means carrot.

It's beautiful hair. How do you look after

I wash it every day, and I brush it, although that can be hard when it gets tangled.

Redheads often have pale skin. Do you have to take special

I need to wear sun cream, but sometimes I forget. I also got sunburn on the parting in my hair once, and it started peeling. But I get tanned too, just playing around outside.

Do you have any pets?

care here?

I've got four cats called Oreo, Kit-Kat, Annie and Caspar, Oreo's black and white, like an Oreo cookie, and Caspar is white and ginger, like me, with a tiger tail.

I'd like more pets, though. I want a bird, a grey, white and brown dog, a horse and a ferret. They're so cute!

Did you enjoy the photo shoot?

I loved it! We went up to Famara, and I was sweating because it was hot and I was a little nervous, but it was great and everyone was really nice.

Is it not a bit tiring sitting around being photographed?

No. At the end my cheeks were hurting because of all the smiling, but I wasn't smiling because Sabrina told me to. I was smiling because I was having fun.

So what do want to be when you grow up? A supermodel?

No! I want to be a doctor or a lawyer or a teacher. I want to help people.

What's your favourite place on Lanzarote?

The water park! I've only been once, but I want to go again. I got stuck on the big red slide and people were coming down behind me, but I learnt that you should get wet before you go on the slides.

OSWALDO MACHÍN

Oswaldo Machín, who lent us the lovely dress that Bella modelled for our photoshoot, is one of Lanzarote's foremost designers, an artist whose wedding dresses are a reference for elegance and quality on the island. But Oswaldo does far more than wedding outfits, and the pandemic has made him diversify even more.

Oswaldo, Many people have postponed weddings until they're sure they can celebrate with fewer restrictions. How has this affected your business?

The wedding commissions were difficult for a while, but of course that's not all of what we do here, and so we immediately decided to diversify. That has worked well for us and, since the lockdown started, I've only had to furlough employees for a couple of months.

How did you diversify?

First I made masks! There was a sudden demand, so we got to work. Then, because celebrations were on hold and carnival was cancelled, we focused on uniforms. We've created the uniforms for staff at the Fariones Hotel, and also San Bartolomé's Municipal Choir, among others. Communion celebrations also came back fairly soon, we've had enough work to do since January, at least.

Are most of your clients Spanish?

No, they come from all over. I can't forget one day last year when a taxi pulled up outside and two British women stepped out. They were tourists who wanted cocktail dresses for a party.

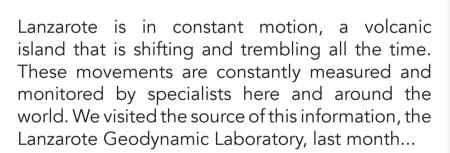
What about the future?

Restrictions are being relaxed and weddings are now starting to happen again, so now I'm focusing on the Si Quiero wedding fair, which will take place here in San Bartolomé later this year.

LANZAROTE'S HEARTBEAT

INTERVIEW: ORLANDO HERNÁNDEZ

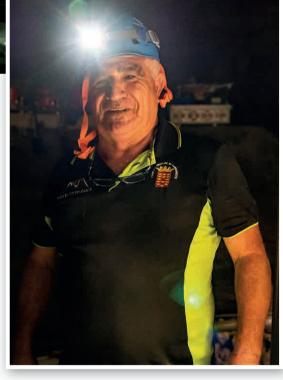




Jesús Soto first illuminated the Cueva de los Verdes for visiting scientists in 1964. His creation astonished island officials and ignited a creative flame that later saw César Manrique transform Lanzarote into the unique tourist destination it is today. Several years later, the scientist Ricardo Vieira - with the support of the recently-deceased Cabildo President Enrique Pérez - established the Lanzarote Geodynamic Laboratory in 1986.

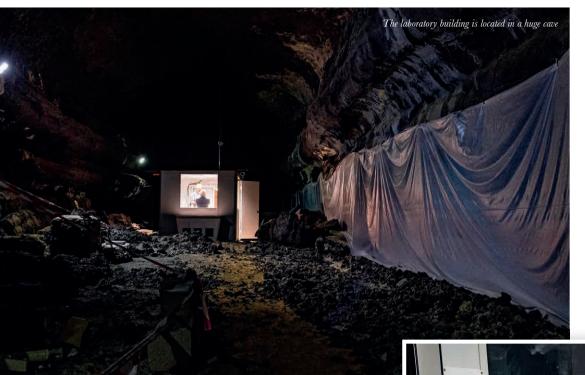
Orlando Hernández has been a technician at the Laboratory since 1989, working there alongside Jesús Soto at first. "The laboratory is Lanzarote itself," explains Orlando, "There are three main modules at Cueva de los Verdes, Jameos del Agua and another 35 points where measurements can be taken if necessary."

Orlando leads us underground, along the path that is trodden by hundreds of tourists every day, until we arrive at a metal fence blocking a lava tunnel. Orlando unlocks it and we pass through, finally arriving at a large cave with a pre-fabricated building plonked right in the centre.



Inside and outside of this structure there are several instruments: gravimeters, inclinometers, extensometers, seismometers, luxometers and others, all designed to give continuous information on what is happening here, 30 metres under the earth's crust. They measure everything from the temperature; the types of gases found in the tunnel and the "land tides" that cause tiny movements in the earth's crusts that are related to the gravitational pull of sun and moon.

Orlando carefully tops up the wate levels in one of the instruments.



equipment, and sets to work topping up the water in two horizontal pendulums. The water in these advanced spirit levels detects the slightest movement in the earth's crust.

Beside the spirit level, a tube of Chinese porcelain 11 metres in length hangs horizontally by fine threads, measuring any deformation of the rocks around us. Similar instruments are used in China's Three Gorges Dam, and are a sign of the international cooperation that goes into scientific projects such as this. The data from the laboratory is transmitted to the Casa de los Volcanes in Jameos de Agua or the Cabildo, and then shared with Madrid and other centres in Belgium and China.

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Communication has improved so much in recent years that Orlando and his colleague Jaime Arranz, who is currently the director of the Casa de los Volcanes, rarely descend into the cave these days. When they do so it's mainly to check and maintain equipment."It's actually better



Checking the data

that way," Orlando tells us. "Any human presence affects the measurements; from footsteps that are registered on seismographs to changes in temperatures caused by turning the lights on or opening the door of the prefab."

ACTIVE ZONE

Just one look at the seismometer displayed on the computer screen shows that Lanzarote remains an active volcanic zone, with constant minor tremors registered on screen. When I stamp my foot, the line suddenly zig-zags sharply, showing precisely how sensitive the instruments are. "Any earthquake in the world above magnitude 6 will be registered here," says Orlando.

The equipment in this cave has been assembled over several years. Some instruments date from the early 90s and are still working perfectly today: "If it works, why replace it?" says Orlando.

Today, Orlando carefully notes down the exact time of our visit, which may account for variations in the incredibly sensitive It's not the job of Orlando and his colleagues to warn of possible eruptions on Lanzarote. "All we do is gather information and pass it on to the Geoscience Institute in Madrid," says Orlando. "It's up to them to make decisions based on that information."

It's also impossible to predict future eruptions. All Orlando can say is that the instruments and equipment at the laboratory can detect the increased volcanic activity which usually precedes an eruption in the Canaries.

Although Orlando and his colleagues don't go down to the laboratory as much any more, there is still one constant presence there – a small plastic smurf in a cage, which was gifted by a Belgian scientist, has been present in the laboratory for almost three decades, listening to the heartbeat of Lanzarote in darkness.

FIRE ISLANDS



This month marks the 50th birthday of the youngest volcano on the Canaries. Teneguía, on the southern tip of La Palma, was formed by an eruption that started on the 26th October 1971.

During this spectacular eruption, hundreds of scientists flew to La Palma to observe the volcano, while locals moved their beds outside and slept in the open air in fear that earth tremors might bring their homes crashing down on them.

The eruption destroyed various vineyards and a beach, although a new beach, Echentive, was formed – a beautiful place with natural rock pools where tourists now trek to cover themselves in volcanic mud that they believe has health-giving properties. Even today, there's a distinct whiff of sulphur and ashes in this stark, beautiful landscape.

The last significant volcanic eruption in the Canaries occurred underwater, off the coast of La Restinga on El Hierro in 2013. Orlando Hernández of the Lanzarote Geodynamic Laboratory says that if the lava hadn't emerged on an underwater slope, sliding downwards into deeper water, we may have seen the birth of another Canary island.

On Tenerife, the mighty Mount Teide dominates the island. At 3,715 metres,

it's the tallest peak in Spain and the Atlantic, and from its base below the sea it is the third largest volcano in the world. Formed over millions of years, its last eruption occurred over a thousand years ago.

The volcano at Teneguia, 1971

Lanzarote's last eruption took place at Tinguatón in October 1824, the last of three eruptions in that year. However, it was the six years of massive eruptions and lava flows that occurred between 1730-1736, which created the Timanfaya fire mountains – the most impressive volcanic landscape in the Canaries. Almost 300 years may seem a long time ago, but Orlando says "If we look at the geological timescale in terms of a human lifespan, it's not even ten minutes ago."

Despite the volatile volcanic history of the Canaries, there are no records of any human deaths caused by volcanic eruptions on any of the islands.



FINANCIAL ADVICE FROM

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There are certain jobs (not just in the financial sector) which require companies to be regulated to legally carry out their roles. Being a financial adviser is one of them.

Individuals could be forgiven to presume that any financial advisory firm advertising in magazines, newspapers or on the radio are fully licensed and regulated – unfortunately, that is not always the case.

Regulations and licences are vitally important as they provide clients with a level of protection, not only when advice is given, but also post advice should recommendations ever be deemed inappropriate.

Equally important, however, is that the individual you are dealing with is fully qualified to act as a financial adviser. The UK has tightened its laws in recent years meaning that advisers now must obtain level 4 status (Diploma level) before they are able to give advice. This requirement has not yet reached the Spanish coastline, but it should hopefully only be a matter of time.

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Diploma status advisers in Ian and George. This provides our clients with peace of mind that we continue to build our family- run business for the long-term; to be sustainable, licenced and regulated moving through the generations. Clients have certainty with who they are dealing with and know exactly who is going to turn up at every review meeting. You don't always get this stability with other companies who have a high turnover of staff.

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- Highlighting differences between the UK and Spanish tax systems.
- Holistic financial analysis/planning to cover an individual or couple's overall position.

The events over the last few years have created several questions, especially for individuals who have recently moved here or who are considering a move over to Spain. Processes which we were used to have changed and will no doubt continue to change moving forward.

If you have any questions or would like clarification on any doubts you may have, then please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to assist.





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DAVID'S DETOURS



WALK INFO

Distance: about 4.5 km

Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Terrain: Easy, non challenging circular route over rocky path

Public transport: No bus stop nearby

The Volcán del Cuervo is one of the most perfect volcanoes on Lanzarote, and always a mystical experience. Tour guide David Penney has taken groups there a hundred times before, but never after dark. Until now...

The Volcán del Cuervo (Raven's Volcano) was originally known as Montaña de las Lapas because of the shape of the volcano, which is similar to the limpets which stick to the side of the rocks by the ocean. Over a decade ago, a family of ravens made their home here but after a while, one died and they moved on to another area.

We park in the authorised car park on the LZ 56, on the opposite side of the road to Montaña Negra.

This was a trek with a difference, as we had agreed to meet at 9pm in the evening when it was completely dark.

I provided everyone with head torches and a wee bottle of water each, then we set off walking along the well-established track. The head torches were set so we could easily see the volcanic rocks which are embedded in the track and which can be a hazard if you trip on them.

It takes about 20 minutes to get to the entrance of the crater, BUT PLEASE, do not wander off the track. The area

There are several information boards placed along the track and one clearly shows the circular route for you to follow.

is fragile and part of a protected area

called Parque Natural de los Volcanes.

We regroup by the massive lava bomb at the mouth of the entrance, where I explain the various types of lava and minerals.

We now descend down into the caldera and I point out the various basalt rocks and lava bombs which are impregnated with olivina (a green, semi-precious crystal often used for making jewellery).

We explore the area while sticking to the path, which is marked out with rocks, I show how we can protect the vegetation by placing little rocks around the plants to prevent people walking over them and killing them off.

The head torches have a limited range

and one of the girls spots the BIG spiral on the ground made with the volcanic rocks. I gather the girls together and tell them about the early settlers to this island who used to worship the sun and the moon and the spiral was used for meditation. It is known as the spiral of life and we agree to walk the path of the spiral to cleanse our spirits.

It is considered bad luck to cross over the path or to tell anyone your wish when you reach the centre stone.

This was the perfect opportunity to reveal the contents of the cooler bag rucksack which Ange had carried for us. I provided a chilled

"TWO MINUTES SILENCE SOON TURNED INTO FOURTEEN: A VERY SPECIAL MOMENT."

bottle of cava and prosecco, got out the flute glasses and we all had a glass or two to celebrate the moment. Then Karen brought out the cookies and cakes, so we had to make sure every thing was finished before we leave.

We then agreed to sit in silence with our head torches turned off to experience a very special moment, gathered together under the stars. Although we agreed to remain still and silent for two minutes, it was fourteen minutes before anyone chose to turn their head torch



back on - a very special moment which everyone appreciated.

We made sure that we gathered everything together, including the two corks, and set off walking to the other side of the crater. Often in the spring there are masses of wild geraniums here, with their pink flowers in bloom, which makes a nice contrast with their green leaves,



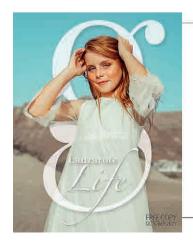
the blue sky, the white clouds and the volcanic terrain.

We now set off back up the track to the mouth of the crater. At this point we had a choice: to return back on the same path back to the car park; or to turn left and walk anti-clockwise around the base of the crater which will add another 20 minutes to the route.

You really need to allow a minimum of 1.5 hours to enjoy it properly, but it's not a race and we took two hours and made it an enjoyable evening. It's certainly a unique one - some of us wondered how others had been spending their Sunday evening. Not like this, for sure!

> Photos supplied courtesy of ADRIYANA HODGE

For further information about walks around Lanzarote please contact, DAVID Penney via email lanza888@yahoo.com OR via WhatsApp message 0034 649389888



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Lanzarote's landscapes and light make it the perfect place for photography, but if you're looking for some fantastic photos, some places stand out above all others. Most of us know the resorts, the Timanfaya visitors' centre, Famara beach and other tried-and-tested photo hotspots, but there are plenty of other places worth catching. Here are five of the best:

FAMARA VIEWPOINTS.

There are a number of viewpoints at the top of the Famara cliffs. Mirador del Río is the most famous – Manrique's stunning creation that hangs off the cliff at the northern tip of the island. But it's also worth heading to the Mirador de Yé a little further down the spectacular cliffside LZ-202 road. The Mirador de Guinate also offers amazing views of the islands north of Lanzarote.

Further south, El Bosquecillo and the wild, lonely clifftop church of Ermita de Las Nieves overlook Famara beach and also have gobsmacking views, as well as some fascinating wild plants.





2 TENESAR.

The tiny village of Tenesar is sometimes called a "ghost town" or a "secret village". In fact, it's a settlement where residents in Tinajo come to spend the summer, or long weekends. The contrast between sugarcube houses, brilliant blue sea and sky and black volcanic rock is stunning. The houses are on the edge of the "Sea of Lava" caused by the Timanfaya eruptions, and Tenesar is also a starting point for the Timanfaya coastal path. Come, and you'll find something to photograph.



VOLCÁN DEL CUERVO/ MONTAÑA COLORADA.

Two short walks to two of the island's most amazing volcanoes are well worth bringing a camera along. Montaña Colorada is a vivid reddish colour and about 15 minutes from the parking area you'll find the largest volcanic bomb in Spain – an immense rock with an intense red volcanic slope in the background. Across the road, Cuervo is a classic semi-collapsed cone volcano that you can enter and which has an almost mystical atmosphere.



PAPAGAYO.

The beaches of Papagayo are one of Lanzarote's most unforgettable experiences - a series of strands and coves with natural, freshly washed golden sand and a magnificent westward view for sunsets at the end of the day. It's worth exploring the area – from the broad sands of Playa Mujeres and the petrified sand formations on Playa del Pozo to the picturesque (but often crowded) coves of Playa de la Cera and Papagayo itself. Then there's the Playa de Caleta de Congrio on the other side of the headland, the least-known of these beautiful beaches.



5 LOS CHARCONES.

These natural rock pools on a volcanic shelf near the long-abandoned Atlante de Sol Hotel near Playa Blanca are a riot of colour – from deep blue to brilliant turquoise, with green seaweed, frosted white seasalt and black lava - with the occasional bright orange crab, as well. They're not that easy to get down to, and we wouldn't advise going at high tide when the sea is rough, but they're well worth a visit if you want a glimpse of paradise.



PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS Gazette photographer Sabrina Suppers offers a few tips for shooting on Lanzarote.

- If you want great landscape shots, a tripod is a great investment. It eliminates blur caused by movement, but also allows you to play with longer exposures or even time-lapse videos.
- When using your mobile to take photos, try and get on the same level as your subject. This may involve getting right down on the floor, but the results will be worth it.
- Shade is important if you're taking portraits. Always look for shady places to avoid the subject squinting into the camera.





A stressful summer

THESE DAYS, THANK HEAVENS, POISONING IS RARE.

LANZAROTE VET JANE BURKE TALKS ABOUT THE DISTRESSING CRIMINAL ACTS THAT SHE AND HER DOGS HAVE SUFFERED THIS SUMMER.

This summer is not the first time my dogs have been poisoned.

Less than six months after we arrived, in 1996, four of our five dogs died a dreadful death when the goat farmer close to where we lived seeded the land with strychnine hidden in scraps of meat.

I had never heard of, let alone experienced, this inhumane practice before, but it was a common nightmare in those days, and over the following decade I saw cases every week. (Before one condemns the locals for such practices, I would remind you that most ex-pats here contribute knowingly and willingly to the massive cruelty of the meat and dairy industry. God bless the internet and TV that pets are now mostly treated as well, if not better, by the Spanish than by us immigrants.)

Most of the poisoned dogs died an excruciating death, and a significant number of those that could be saved required euthanasia because of irreparable brain

or heart damage. More recently, awareness has increased that poisoning is not just the act of sick cowards; it is also a serious crime punishable by prison. These days, thank heavens, cases are rare.

This summer, however, someone has been throwing some sort of decayed flesh into my dogs' yard, causing clostridial food poisoning in whichever dog found it first or ate the largest share. So my greedy old basset Leah (in endstage heart failure) suffered the most frequent and most serious episodes, whilst my fastidious and non-food-orientated pointer escaped altogether.

Clostridial poisoning isn't pretty. It commences some 2 to 12 hours after ingestion with the pain of excruciating abdominal distention, followed by profuse painful bloody diarrhoea lasting 12 to 36 hours. Fortunately, a very close friend was staying with us here in our home. She is an experienced retired nurse who has assisted me for years and I can never thank her enough for



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helping me to nurse my dogs and clean up the carnage throughout those dreadful days and endless nights. She saved my life.

At first, we thought it was my greedy old dog eating some mouldering rubbish she had found dropped by a bird or out on a walk. But later with one or other of us on the lead. We then notice that the dogs always race each other to one place by the wall, but we find nothing there.

Nearly a week later I get distracted as I am letting the little Lhaso out, but when

is responsible is seriously deranged and, next time, it could be your pet or your child that is affected. Please, if you have any information at all, please tell someone.

The only good thing to come out of all this is that my dogs have lost their Covid weight gain. Sadly, I myself eat when stressed and have a close friend who is a brilliant pastry & cake cook, not to mention a certain special couple that work so hard to help feral cats and still find the time to gift me vegan chocolate. With the result that I have actually doubled my lockdown love handles!

For those of my clients, especially out-ofhours consults this summer, who may have wondered at my even higher levels of scruffy chic and, possibly, my even less organised paperwork than normal, I apologise.

To those who have contacted me with kind words and offers of support, I would like you to know how much your support is appreciated.

To those who have kept my spirits up with their kindness, company and endless generosity and vegan food, I can only say thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Let's give all our furry family fresh water in clean bowls and raise a non-shattered glass ourselves to the end of all animal suffering for any human purpose, and to the hope that we wake up in time to give this planet a chance.





Nancy, my tiny podenco, started with the same heart-wrenching pain and dreadful diarrhoea. So we halted all off-leash exercise. Then my tiny Lhaso apso nearly died, and Leah had a second bout. Endless on-line research and consultation with other local vets and sample analysis got us nowhere.

All walks stop when Leah begins to suffer for the third time. It's much worse this time, and she very nearly dies, in so much pain throughout the endless night. As dawn appears I fill the syringe to ease her out of her suffering for ever, and curl up with her for maybe our last cuddle. She falls asleep in my arms and when she wakes later, she is soaked and smelly but definitely feeling a little better. Sadly, Nancy is just starting with her second bout.

Finally, we come to the conclusion that whoever is repeatedly hurling wine glasses to smash in my forecourt is also chucking something into my yard, and all loo breaks are now escorted

I rush after her she seems fine, so I didn't worry. We get up the next morning to a lounge that looks like a slaughterhouse. My whimpering little dog is unable to walk. This time the samples are conclusive.

FIND THE CRIMINAL

I reach despair when the glass-throwing leads to a shard in Leah's pad that requires general anaesthesia (not to mention several tyre punctures). So I go public on Facebook. I discuss the security camera footage with the authorities and spend even more money on improving the quality of photographic evidence.

I thank all those who offered help for your kindness and concern. I thank the few that phoned me with anonymous material, but I need more! Someone knows who is doing this and I can only hope they find the courage to come forward! Clearly, whoever

Prize Crossword





LANZAROTE DENOMINACIÓN DE ORIGEN

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8			9			
10				11	12	
13	14	15	16			
17				18		
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21						

Get your answers to us by the 15th of October and you could win a bottle of La Geria wine or a €10 voucher for Hankey Panky's bar at CC Montaña Tropical in Puerto del Carmen.

WhatsApp to 628628083, email editorial@gazettelife.com or deliver to our office in Tías (address pg 3).

Keeping up with the Joneses last month were winners Sabrina Honeyman, who can look forward to a bottle of La Geria's finest 2019 vintage; and Jackie Tollow, who will be gracing Hankey Panky's with her presence and a €10 voucher. Well done, you two.

DOWN

- **1.** Monochrome (5.3.5)
- 2. 1976 book by Alex Haley or 1971 album by Curtis Mayfield (5)
- 3. Beneath, inferior to (5)
- **1.** Celestial messenger with wings (5)
- **5.** When you have these you're nervous and scared (6,7)
- **6.** Stephen ..., Irish actor who starred in The Crying Game (3)
- 7. London band whose only No. 1 was True, in 1983 (7,6)
- **12.** To bring in, to present one person to another (9)
- **11.** Baby Canis lupus (4,3)
- **15.** Poet who wrote The Faerie Queene (7)
- **16.** Caribbean island, home of reggae (7)

- 1. Knee-length trousers from the Caribbean (7,6)
- 8. Cheryl, Nadine, Kimberley, Sarah and Nicola were Girls (5)
- 9. Argentine revolutionary Ernesto, known as Che (7)
- 10. Small falcon commonly seen hovering on Lanzarote (7)
- 11. Homer's epic about the siege of Troy (5)
- 13. Lizard-shaped amphibians (5)
- **16.** Japanese close-combat martial art (2-5)
- 17. Leonardo DiCaprio's middle name (7)
- 18. Deadly virus named after a Congolese river (5)
- 19. Monsters, ..., 2001 animated film (3)
- 20. African-American religious song (9)
- 21. Shame, humiliation (13)

Last month's answers Across: 1. Jones 4. Frantic 8. Marital 9. Vault 10. Spherical 11. Hue 12. Apricot 14. Blini 16. Little 17. Kindle 19. Tantrum 21. Grace 22. Missy 23. Gattaca Down: 1. James Earl 2. Norah 3. Satirical 4. Felicity 5. Anvil 6. Touch 7. Catherine Zeta 13. Ratings 14. Bridget 15. Indiana 18. Smog 19. Tom 20. Ray

MORETHAN HOLA



Whether you would like to learn some Spanish in order to communicate on a day-to-day basis as you are living in Lanzarote or just some simple greetings and good-byes when you are here on holiday - putting together some simple forms of greeting is a great place to start.

GREETINGS

Greetings are something the Spanish love to do, whether they know you or not, or just passing you on your walk!

A traditional Spanish greeting with someone you know would involve a kiss on each cheek (starting with the left)... but in current times of social distancing this has been replaced by fist-bumping or knocking elbows! Always accompany a greeting with good eye-contact and a smile.

Hello Hola (OH-la)

Hi (friendly) Buenas (bWHEN-as)

Buenos días (bWHEN-oz DI-as) **Good morning** (Generally used up to 2pm, traditionally siesta time – after which the afternoon begins.)

Good afternoon Buenas tardes (bWHEN-as TAR-dez)

(Generally used between 2pm - 8pm)

Good evening/night Buenas noches (bWHEN-as NOTCH-ez)

(This comes into use after 8pm)

In a more formal setting, the greeting may be accompanied by señor (Mr), señora (Ms) or señorita (Miss). Canarian style however is much more informal referring to younger people as mi niño / mi niña (my child) or tio (mate).

FAREWELLS

Goodbye Adiós (ADDY-os).

See you soon Hasta pronto (ASTA PRON-toe) See you later Hasta luego (ASTA loo-WAY-go)

Ciao – (CHOW) Bye

It's also nice to finish your 'farewell' with one of the following:

Have a good day Que tengas un buen día (kay TEN-gas un bWHEN DI-ah)

Take care Cuídate (coo-EEE-da-tay)



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NEXT STEP



GOING FOR RONAE

Lanzarote's sun-kissed climate is perfect for building a perfect tan, but there are also many reasons why you might not want to do this, and faking it is becoming increasingly popular.

First of all, you may not be here for long enough. How many times has the early part of your holiday been ruined by sunburn? Visitors who typically come for a week or two may prefer to look superbronzed from day one instead of gambling with sunburn.

Secondly, you may simply decide you'd rather not tan your skin at all. Despite its healthy look, a sun tan is a sign of skin damage and, at best, it will age your skin more quickly. At worst, it can cause skin cancer.

When it comes to tanning, even on Lanzarote there's no shame in faking it, and on Lanzarote there's no shortage of beauty salons who'll offer you a professional spray tan.

Bronzer is another solution, more suitable for those crazy Lanzarote party nights that we're just beginning to enjoy again. Bronzers are cosmetics that can be removed easily, and there are so many bronzers on the market that you're spoilt for choice, but you can choose ones that contain sun protection for daytime use, and a wide range of matte or shimmery finishes. Matte bronzers are more natural, while the shimmery ones are the perfect highlights for an evening out.

Choose between liquid, powder and cream bronzers, all of which will suit particular skin types and routines; but try not to mix them up too much.

If you're at all worried about which self-tanning methods suits you, seek professional advice. It's worth it, and it will help you enjoy Lanzarote to the maximum..

PICK YOUR BRONZER

. **Peach:** If you tend to burn or go rosy in the L sun, choose a natural matte peach shade.

\Oldot. **Golden:** If your tan is a natural golden or honey colour, this is the bronzer you should look for. You can play with a little shimmer, too.

Q . Caramel: Darker skin will tan deeply, and the bronzer you use will be just as dark. Shimmer all you like, but consider blusher to keep from looking a little drab.





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SAVEALIRE

Accidents happen, and when they do, being prepared can make all the difference. There's no way we can provide a complete First Aid course in two pages, so we'll just focus on a few of the most important things you need to know.

CPR

Cardio-pulmonary resuscitation is basic first aid, a life-saving procedure that everyone should know. You should perform this in emergency situations when a victim has stopped breathing or is breathing irregularly. Whenever possible, send someone to find helplifeguards and police are trained in First Aid.

If you have to perform CPR yourself:



- 1. Ensure you and the victim are in a safe place.
- Check for any response. If patient responds, stay with them and reassure them until help arrives.



- **3.** Call 112 or get someone to do it for you. Ask them to try and locate a defibrillator.
- **4.** Ensure the airway is clear. Roll casualty to one side if necessary.



- 5. Check for breathing. If breathing is normal, place victim in recovery position and wait for help to arrive.
- Do not move victim if you suspect they may have a spine injury.



6. If breathing is absent or abnormal, perform CPR.

Place one hand between chest and casualty's left armpit, place other hand on top and push hard and fast two compressions per second.



After 30 compressions give two rescue breaths. Repeat until casualty responds or breathes normally.

7. If you manage to locate a defibrillator, follow the instructions.



112 is the emergency number that immediately connect you to the Emergency

Co-ordinating Centre in the Canaries. The number is free and calls can be placed from mobile phones that are otherwise locked.

You will be attended in one of five languages (Spanish, English, German, French or Italian) and co-ordinators will immediately contact the nearest emergency services. Try and keep answers short and concise, and do your best to establish your exact location.

STOPPING BLEEDING

In the case of severe cuts and wounds, your main aim is to stop bleeding. If you're not trained in First Aid, this is all you should focus on until help arrives.

1. Clear clothing or debris from the wound. Don't remove large, embedded objects. Elevate wound above level of heart if possible.

- 2. Place a sterile bandage or cloth on the wound and press with the palm of your hand to staunch bleeding. Maintain pressure. Do not press directly on an eye injury or an embedded object.
- 3. Don't remove bandage or cloth. Add more on top, if necessary.
- **4.** Apply a tourniquet only if you know how.







THE HEIMLICH MANOUEVRE

The Heimlich manouevre was developed by Dr Henry Heimlich in 1974, and has saved the lives of countless people who were choking on food or other obstructions. Today, most medical authorities recommend combining the manouevre with the older technique - firm thumps on the back.

- 1. Stand the casualty up
- **2.** Get them to bend forward and give five hard blows in the centre of the back with the heel of your hand.
- **3.** Place your arms around their waist from behind.
- 4. Make a fist and place it above the casualty's navel, thumb side in.
- 5. Grab fist with your other hand and push inward and upward at the same time. Repeat these thrusts five times.
- 6. Continue to alternate back slaps with thrusts until object is dislodged

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YOU MAY THINK YOU KNOW BARBECUES, BUT ONCE YOU'VE EXPERIENCED A URUGUAYAN ASADO, YOU MAY CHANGE YOUR MIND. THIS IS THE DADDY OF GRILLS – A MEAT-FEAST THAT OCCUPIES A SPECIAL PLACE IN THE CULTURE OF URUGUAY.

The most important element of a Uruguayan grill is a cut of meat called *tira de asado* – a cross-cut rack of ribs, which contains plenty of meat, as well as fat and bone to add flavour.

An asado frequently includes other cuts of meat, such as sirloin *(entrecot)* or flank *(vacio)*; and plump chorizo sausages are also widespread. Shop well, and buy quality ingredients from a relaible supplier.

The parrilla is a metal grill that is cleaned well before use, and in Uruguay a real asado will use firewood as fuel, rather than charcoal. The firewood is lit, and when it burns down to hot embers the meat is grilled. This can take a long time, and it may be worth keeping a fire going separately, or on one side of the grill, to provide more embers for the cooking area. Test the meat with a fork rather than a knife.

This recipe has been sponsored by **Canary Meat,** 13 Calle Las Puntas, Playa Honda Industrial Zone (the street to the right of Milar).



The other vital ingredient for this grill is chimichurri:

Chimichurri is a spicy, aromatic green sauce or marinade, whose name probably comes from the Basque country (although one theory suggests it was British prisoners of war in Argentina who said "Gimme curry" to add flavour to their meat). It's the perfect barbecue relish.

INGREDIENTS

- 8 tbspns (125 ml) good olive oil
- One handful finely chopped fresh Parsley
- 2 tbspns red wine vinegar
- 3 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1 tbspn aji (chilli flakes) or one dried red chilli, chopped.
- 3-4 tspns dried oregano
- 1 level teaspoon coarse sea salt
- · Pepper to taste

Mix all ingredients well in a bowl and leave to infuse for at least two hours. You can prepare a day in advance and refrigerate it.

Chimichurri can be used to baste the meat while it's grilling, or added after it is served.





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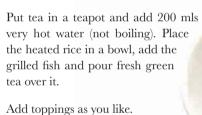
SUGGESTED TOPPINGS

OCHAZUKE

Ochazuke is eaten all over Japan for breakfast, lunch or supper. It's a simple, light fragrant dish which blends rice, grilled fish, hot green tea and garnishes - and the possible combinations are only limited by your imagination.

INGREDIENTS

- 250 mls cooked short grain rice
- 200 gms Grilled tuna or salmon (leftovers from a previous meal are ideal)
- 2 tspns Green tea





Jon's Tip:



KENEWA

Nikkei Food

HALLOWEEN SPECIAL Pumpkintini

It's worth preparing the main ingredient in advance for this unique Halloween cocktail, which can be prepared in unsweetened and sweet, creamy versions.

PUMPKIN SPICE VODKA

INGREDIENTS

- One 75 cl bottle vodka
- A vanilla pod
- · Half a nutmeg
- 400 g piece of ripe pumpkin

Blend vodka and pumpkin in a sterile jar and blend. Add spices and leave for at least a week, shaking occasionally. Strain before using.

THE PUMPKINTINI

INGREDIENTS

- Black salt
- 1 part Pumpkin spice vodka
- 1 part gin
- Ice

Sprinkle black salt on table top, wet rim of glasses and press into salt. Shake other ingredients with ice in a cocktail shaker, strain and serve in martini glass.

Sweet version

- 1 part pumpkin spice vodka
- 1 part sugar syrup
- 1 part Irish cream

Shake with ice as before and serve in a glass rimmed with sugar or crushed crackers.

Tip: A dash of grenadine can add a bloody touch to this terrifying cocktail.



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

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Wins

Restaurants and bars have had a rough time during the coronavirus pandemic, but things are now starting to look up and there are plenty of lessons to be learned.

THE **PANDEMIC** HAS CREATED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR **ADVENTUROUS** OWNERS.

waiting until tourist numbers improve

But other establishments have used the pandemic to make a name for themselves that would have been more difficult to do in normal times. Courageous owners who lifted the shutters at least a year ago are now much better known among locals.

But they've also had it tough - From January to March as the Delta strain raged, Lanzarote faced the strictest of all measures at Level 4, with all establishments having to close at 6pm. Many took

set up takeaway or delivery services, but it was a brutal time for all businesses on the island, and those who had the guts to re-open often suffered the worst.

the opportunity to

But the resorts don't tell the whole story Jon Pérez has a different experience. His Nakai restaurant in Playa Honda is already established as an island classic: "We have the locals hooked," he says. However, it's been a lot of work - Jon rises at 6am to take deliveries, and, like almost all bars and restaurants, he's been working with limited staff.

Jon's other restaurant, Kenewa, is in one of the best locations on the Charco de San Ginés, Arrecife's most popular dining zone, and the story in Arrecife has been very different to the resorts. "Evenings are fine," says Jon, "The Charco has been really busy after dark, but the lack of cruise ships means that there's very little traffic during the daytime. That's when you're likely to find a table free."

This summer's tourism has also been marked by a high number of Spanish visitors, as well as unprecedented numbers of French and Italians. These are all nationalities who enjoy eating out and are willing to be adventurous. The beneficiaries haven't just been modern restaurants, but also Indian, Asian and other ethnic eateries.

Go to the resorts and you'll still

see plenty of establishments that

remain closed. Some, sadly, have

gone for good - unable to cope

with the extraordinary demands

before committing themselves.

of the pandemic. Others are simply





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MASDANZA

October 29th

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Tickets €10 at www.culturalanzarote.com

CINEMA

LANZAROTE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

October 14th

21st edition of the short film competition. *Venues tbc*

SPORT -

OCEAN LAVA TRIATHLON 2021

October 23rd

Lanzarote's own international triathlon event. Puerto del Carmen, Playa Grande. 9 am





XXI TRAVESIA LA BOCAINA

October 2nd

21st edition of Lanzarote's toughest swimming event - a 15km open water swim from Playa Blanca to Fuerteventura.

CHESS TOURNAMENT (AT SOCIEDAD DEMOCRACIA, ARRECIFE)

October 2nd

8pm. Teatro El Salinero, Arrecife. Tickets €10 at www.culturalanzarote.com

IRONMAN 70.3

${\bf October\ 9th}$

Classic half-Ironman race that starts at Playa Dorada in Playa Blanca.

ENDURA HARIA 2021

October 10th

Mountain bike race in Haria.

CAMINAMOS CONTRA EL CANCER/WE WALK AGAINST CANCER

October 17th

Charity walk to raise funds for Lanzarote cancer charity AFOL. 9.30, Plaza de Leon y Castillo, Haria

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MUSIC

AINHOA ARTETA

October 14th

The multiple award-winning Spanish soprano arrives on Lanzarote to perform an intimate concert.

Cancelled due to illness.





ANYELIA & YORIELL October 15th Guitar + vocals concert. 8pm. Casa Museo del Timple, Teguise.

OTHERS

CACT EVENTS

Lanzarote's Centres of Arts, Culture and Tourism will continue to run the Insólita Experience tours until the end of the year. These will fgive visitors an exclusive chance to see hidden and unseen areas of Timanfaya, Jameos del Agua and the Cactus Garden, with food and wine

The Jameos Night dinners with timple concert also continue until December.

Find out more and book at: www.cactlanzarote.com/en/events/

MARKETS & FLEA MARKETS

EVERY SATURDAY Haria Artesanal

(crafts and food), Plaza de Haría. 10am to 2pm.

Arrecife market, Plaza de San Ginés

(farmers market).

Morning.

EVERY SUNDAY Original PALS car

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Teguise Market (everything) 9am to 2pm.

Mancha Blanca (food) Mornings

EVERY TUESDAY AND FRIDAY Marina Rubicon

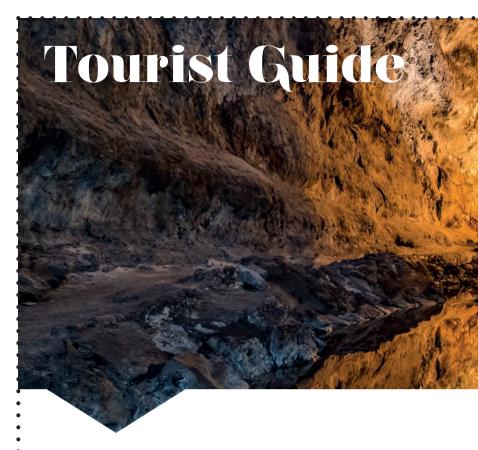
Market (Souvenirs and gifts) Playa Blanca. 10am to 2pm.

October 9th SARA Flea Market

Sara Animal Shelter, Tahiche. 10 am to 12 midday.

October 16th Second Hand Market, for Doggys del Sur and Creciendo Yaiza

La Aurora, C/Mariscxo 29, Playa Blanca. 9.30 am to 2 pm. More info from Cecilia at 645 406 042



Last month saw the opening of the spectacular Mirador de Haría, and other attractions are also on the way. Lanzarote is now open for business, and the official Centres of Art, Culture and Tourism (CACTs) are all seeing queues and crowds. They're all worth a trip.

Centres of Art. Culture and Tourism

Timanfaya: The Fire Mountains

Lanzarote's most popular outing offers 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

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.

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 marvellously lit tour through a volcanic cave system. The optical illusion towards the end is genuinely stunning.





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.

MIAC: Castillo de San José

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.

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 centre.

Casa-Museo del **Campesino**

This complex of buildings near San Bartolomé, 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.





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Caleta de Famara, La Santa and Soo

Caleta de Famara and the nearby towns of La Santa and Soo are different from anywhere else on Lanzarote – unique villages whose rhythms of life have been dictated by sea, surf and sand for centuries.

All three of these villages are strung along the northern coast of Teguise, where waves constantly pummel the shore and northern winds blow inland. The waves bring immense amounts of sand to shore, which the winds carry south. This created El Jable, a sandy desert area that has been farmed for centuries, and which is still an important part of the economy in Soo, which also enjoys shelter from the Montaña Soo that towers over it.

This sand provides good terrain for runners and off-road cyclists, and the La Santa sports complex has made the most of its location in this respect.



In Famara and La Santa, fishing has also been a tradition – La Santa provides the only locally-caught prawns on the island, but the sea has also brought a new opportunity – surfers.





Caleta de Famara

Famara and La Santa are surf villages, dotted with surf schools and shops where you can buy everything from Sex Wax to board shorts. The action takes place on the nearby beaches of Famara and San Juan, but these are the places where surfers gather to chill out after an exhilarating day catching waves.

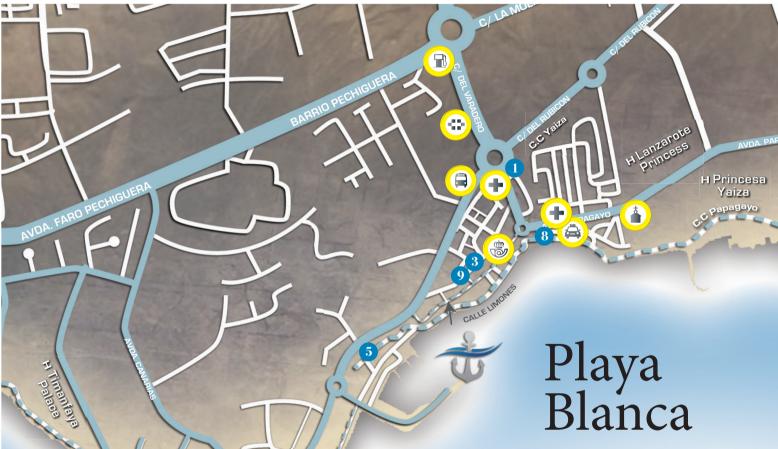
And the bars and restaurants in both villages are another of the main attractions. El Golfo and Órzola may be most famous seafood destinations on the island, but you'll find some fantastic places to eat in Famara and La Santa, too.

You'll also find traditional shops selling local fruit, veg and baked goods and eclectic shops run by new arrivals that share this value for quality, sustainable local products. The Emporio Canario craft shop in La Santa and the famous Tienda de Lourdes in Soo may look different, but they share a surprisingly similar, hopeful and respectful outlook on life.





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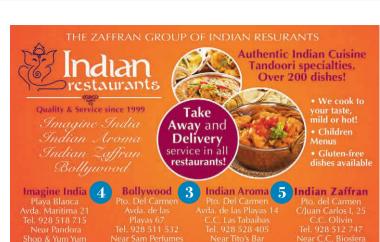
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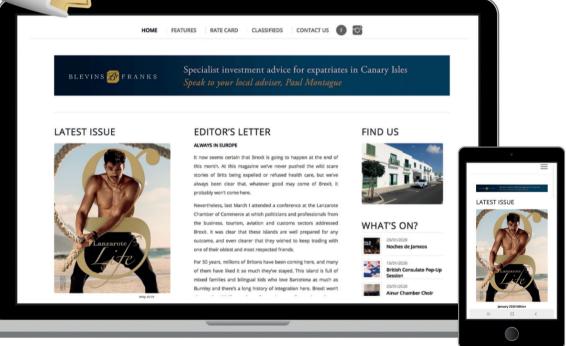
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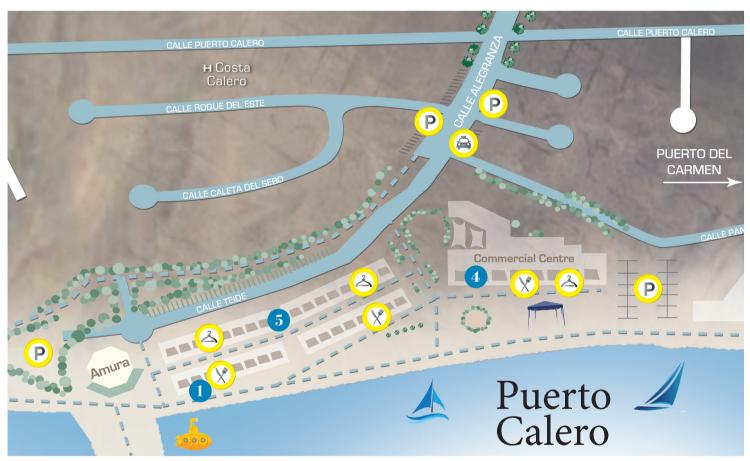
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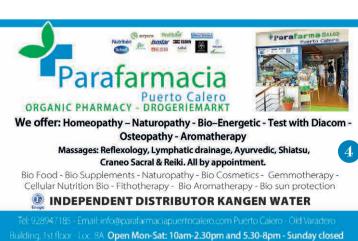
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Property & Home

October 2021

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If you signed a mortgage loan contract between 2000 and 2015, it is highly likely that you're legally entitled to compensation in some of the clauses of your mortgage.

It doesn't matter if you have canceled the loan, modified, or changed banks; it is still very probable that you have the right to reclaim the excess interest paid. Also, if you continue to pay the loan, there's a strong chance that your monthly mortgage payment can be reduced.

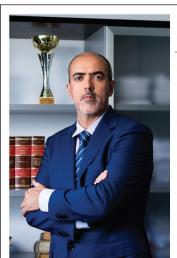
A few years ago, when courts started to rule against these abusive clauses, many banks contacted their clients and persuaded them to sign agreements that purported to remove or reduce the unfair clauses. However, many of these private agreements are also likely to have been declared void by subsequent court decisions, as they are deemed to have forced consumers to renounce their rights to claim.

The European Court of Justice protects and protects consumers, and one way in which it does this is by insisting that the bank cannot take any action against the customer who complains. Conditons cannot be removed or modified.

Erardo Ferrer of Lanzarote Abogados says "We have won 100% of the floor clause cases against the banks, and we are also able to reclaim part of the mortgage formalization expenses."

If the conditions above apply to you, you should seek legal advice immediately. A lawyer will assess your claim and inform you whether they can help you reclaim money that you are rightfully owed due to the abusive practices of a banking sector that failed to inform and support its clients..

Many have fought and won, while many other victims don't know that there's a possible victory in store. But the fight against banks and their abusive mortgage clauses continues.



ERARDO FERRER QUINTANA Lawyer

- Unfair Spanish mortgage clauses.
- Mortgages "floor clauses".
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SPAIN BOUNCES BACK



The Spanish property market shows every sign of recovering strongly, as the lockdowns and restrictions of the coronavirus pandemic ease off. All the major house price trackers are showing increases, and the Canaries are one of the best-performing regions of Spain.

The overall year-on-year increase in house prices in the second guarter of 2021 range from 2.3% (sale prices observed by the Spanish Notaries Association) to 10.1% (Idealista's resale asking prices), although these two figures show that there is still disparity between what properties are offered for and how much they actually sell for.

Nevertheless, the Canaries lead the nation in terms of the increase in sales registered during June this year, with property transfers rising by almost 120% compared to last year.

This isn't surprising, given that the market was still virtually paralysed last year, but the Canaries is also showing an increase on sales in 2019, before the pandemic. However, sales are still below what they were in 2018.

House price increases also saw an 18% rise in the Canaries in June this year, and when combined with the sales volume figures, this suggests that there is currently a shortage of properties on the market in the Canaries.

LOCAL BUYERS DRIVE REBOUND

Other figures suggest the recovery in Spain is largely being driven by local demand. Purchases of properties by Spanish buyers are now higher than they were before the pandemic. Foreign buyers are also returning, but much more slowly and are still 16% below pre-pandemic levels.

But it should be remembered that national Spanish figures often do not reflect regional markets, and signs are that sales to foreign buyers are much healthier in traditionally popular areas such as the islands and the Costas.







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PLEASE BE SEATED

Whether you're dining, just taking the weight off for a few minutes or settling in for an extended session of binge-watching, you'll be needing somewhere to park your backside.

WORK CHAIRS

Those of us who work at a table or desk will know the importance of choosing the right chair, and although laptops and tablets have now made it possible to work from an armchair, a sofa or even your bed, most of us will still choose something more supportive when it's time to get to work.

Desk chairs are now standard for this type of work (as well as leisure activities such as video-gaming), and the range available is immense. However, you'll probably need a chair that can be adjusted for height, as well as one that can swivel around, allowing you to readjust your viewpoint easily. Many of these chairs are also mounted on castors, allowing you to shift position and even scoot around on them.

DINING CHAIRS

You don't need a desk chair to eat your dinner. In this case, all that is required is a firm, upright chair that fits at a dining table (meaning no armrests). Comfort is not the main priority here, as you won't be seated for long enough to make it an issue, but the chair should

support the back.

Above all, these chairs need to be attractive, as you'll often have a number of them, depending on the size of your family or your social life. Traditional wooden chairs take a lot of beating, but if you're really pushed for space, it may be worth looking into collapsible plastic or metal chairs, too.

Simple, reliable chairs are best here. It's a good idea to go for quality, as you'll often find yourself using decent

chairs for other purposes - the pandemic has seen thousands of people choosing to work from a dining table.







ACCENT CHAIRS

Accent chairs are the halfway house between soft chairs such as armchairs and sofas, and firm, upright chairs. These chairs are where you or your friends might perch to have coffee with friends in your living room and, as they'll be a central element of the room, you'll want them to impress.

On Lanzarote it may be a good idea to buy fairly light, portable chairs in this style, which can be taken outside in fine weather.

66 A GOOD **CHAIR CAN BECOME YOUR BEST FRIEND.**"

UNORTHODOX CHAIRS

Lanzarote lends itself it to eclectic design statements you only have to visit César Manrique's home in Tahiche or Haría to realise this - and chairs are no exception.

Wicker chairs are on-trend right now, and offer the perfect materials for Lanzarote's natural indoor/outdoor lifestyles. Then there are hanging chairs, which are also seeing a huge revival.

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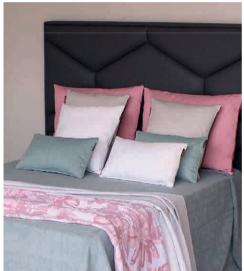
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Lanzarote's wide-open, outdoor lifestyle cries out for space – space to stretch, space to let your mind float free, space to let your imagination run riot. But the fact is that, for many of us, space is limited, and we need to make the most of every cubic centimetre. Here's how:

GET ORGANISED

You've probably already seen dozens of TV shows and articles on decluttering, so we won't go into all that sparking joy stuff again. We prefer William Morris's Golden Rule: "Have nothing in your houses that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful."

Let that be your rule of thumb as you sort out your belongings and plan your storage options. Don't take it too seriously, but be aware that you wouldn't be doing this if vou didn't feel a need to do it, so give it the time and planning it needs.

CLEANING

Cleaning, of course, isn't the same as decluttering, but it can be every bit as effective. It's the visible manifestation of the word "house-proud", meaning that you get satisfaction and fulfillment from a home that is clean and tidy.

On Lanzarote, autumn cleaning is every bit as important as spring cleaning, because summer living can be dusty, sweaty and messy. Now's the time to sort out your summer junk and make space for Christmas and the New Year.

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But a scrub, a sweep, a wipe or even a lick of new paint are things that can really make your home seem open, clear and spacious.

LIGHTEN UP

Lighter colours give an illusion of greater space, but you probably knew that already and, on Lanzarote, there's no shortage of white walls. More cleverly, you could use contrasting shades to bring out space where you want it- a white roof with pale blue walls will create the feeling of height, for example.

NATURAL LIGHT

Ask any photographer or painter and they'll agree that natural light is best-On Lanzarote, you get 12 hours of this good stuff every day - the only problem is that a lot of it is on the strong side,

with sunshine and glare posing a real problem. Use blinds and curtains or think about shading your windows with awnings so that you can use natural light to its best advantage.

MIRRORS

Mirrors multiply everything in front of them, so its no surprise that they'll give an illusion of greater space. That's because, apart from the immediate reflection, they also bounce light around a room, illuminating nooks and corners and opening it up. Invest in good mirrors, and experiment with angles to get the best effect.

OPEN FLOOR LAYOUTS

We're gradually getting more and more open plan in our daily lives, as kitchens blend into dining rooms and even living rooms. That's because, with

modern laptops, headphones and tablets, we tend to take our rooms with us wherever we go these days and it's not strange to find a family watching TV, studying, chatting with friends, cooking a meal and listening to music all within a couple of metres of each other.

Once you get rid of unwanted walls and compartments, you'll immediately feel the difference. It's a big job, and one that needs expert skills, but it can be so worth it.

TRANSPARENCY

Opaque materials that block light simply feel as though they occupy more space than those that let light pass through. It's not necessarily true - glass bricks can be just as solid as stone ones - but you'll feel like you have more room.

Work with transparent materials such as glass, plastic or perspex, or investigate diaphanous screens, blinds and curtains. Learn to appreciate how, with just a twist, a venetian blind can cut light out completely or let it all through. Get things clear in your head and your home.





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African fabrics and wax prints offer some of the most vivid and exciting ways to decorate your home. These exuberant patterns are perfect for Lanzarote's sunshine lifestyle.

The technique of wax printing was brought to Africa by Dutch colonists who had picked up the technique of batik dyeing in Indonesia. Since then, however, it has become an immense industry in Africa and one that is often central to the lives of African women.

Often known as Ankara, or Dutch prints, these are always printed on cotton, using waxing and dyeing techniques that allow the full depth of colour to shine through. From deep saturated greens, reds and oranges to rich browns and brilliant whites, and often featuring repeated motifs and striking geometrical patterns, these textiles are instantly loveable.

In Ghana, the government has encouraged the wearing of wax prints to work on Fridays in order to promote the textile industry. Many of the most popular patterns have names and histories, and their popularity shifts according to the region or the occasion on which they are used.

This fabric is mostly used for clothing, adapting to traditional dress styles all over the continent; but it's also perfect for decorative use – a wall hanging, perhaps, or a throw on a sofa or armchair.

If you know your way around a sewing machine,



Designer: Pelebe, from Ivory Coast. Model: Fantastyck. Photographer: Matthew Miziolek. Stylist jewelry: Chyba jewelry. Make-up: Renee Balou. Hair: Dieudonne Senato

you could run up some amazingly vibrant cushion covers or even refit a lampshade. If you find a pattern you love enough, you can even frame a swatch of cloth for an eye-catching piece of wall art.



Moving to Spain is a challenge, but it's one that thousands of people have found well worth the effort. However, when you first arrive you'll need to be prepared for a few things. Here are a few tips to make things easier.





DOCUMENTS

Copy everything at least twice and take everything with you. Spanish bureaucracy is famously complicated, and you never know when you'll need a particular document.

INFORMATION

The internet and social media are full of useful information about moving to Spain. Unfortunately, not all of it is reliable. Stick to official sites whenever possible, and double check everything.

LANGUAGE

Learning Spanish will help immensely as you settle on the island, but when you arrive you're unlikely to be speaking at a level that will be sufficient for negotiating the many procedures you'll have to go through. Many officials here speak a bit of English, but you'll always be better off with the help of a native or fluent speaker.

OUEUEING

You'll probably be doing a lot of waiting after you arrive. Many places have queues or numbered tickets, but many others will operate the Spanish way - asking the bunch of people "quien es el último?" (Who's the last one?) and then just keeping an eye on that person.

In normal queues beware of little old ladies who push in with "una preguntita" (a little question), which usually takes 15 minutes to resolve.

CONTACTS

Having friends here who have been through the same processes can be an immense help, but hiring a gestor or administrator who can guide you through is even more useful. Social media can be incredibly useful for expanding your social horizons.

PATIENCE

Many ex-pats who move here spend their first few years moaning about how the locals do things. Some never get out of the habit. To avoid this, accept that things are done differently here and try to be positive. You'll also find that certain procedures are easier and cheaper than they are at home.

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Sun Savers



n northern Europe, conservatories are used to make the most of meagre amounts of sunlight, and were originally built to allow more exotic types of plants to flourish in a cool climate. Back then, they were limited to old country houses — Colonel Mustard and Miss Scarlett were often found doing evil deeds in the conservatory with the lead piping or the dagger — but more recently, new materials have meant they are more accessible to everybody.

On Lanzarote, a conservatory or sunroom can be the ideal choice for an area of the house that doesn't get as much sunlight – in a zone away from the south-facing areas, for example -and they can also be an attractive choice in higher parts of the island where it is always cooler and often cloudier.

However, Lanzarote's year-round sunshine mean that any enclosed area with plenty of glass will need to be easily opened up to the outside, allowing fresh air to flow in and stop the interior becoming stiflingly hot.

This is where newer materials on the market, such as UPVC and aluminium, come into their own, allowing to open up or close off your indoor area at will, keeping it windtight when its closed and also watertight on the few occasions when it rains.

If you can't stretch to an entire conservatory or a sunroom, you may still be able to partially close off a balcony or a patio area, which will allow a smaller, but every bit as tempting haven of warmth and quiet. As well as ventilation and windproofing, safety and security will also be a consideration when you're using a lot of glass. That's why it makes sense to choose the toughest and most reputable products on the market.



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Climate change is now accepted by consensus, with the only arguments remaining about whether us humans have created it or not. It's too early to say what effect it's having on Lanzarote's weather, but ever since the unprecedented tropical storm of 2005, the island has been increasingly conscious of adverse weather conditions.

So far, a mild rise in overall temperature and an increase in calima dust storms seem to be the main symptoms, but the thing about climate change is that it can't be predicted. And in a year such as this, when we've seen strange weather all over the world, that's even more true than normal.

All this means that, despite the island's generally sunny climate, making your home as tight as a drum is almost certainly a wise idea.

might think - and when it rains on Lanzarote, you'll certainly know about it.

Leaks on Lanzarote often happen, almost certainly because the prevailing fine, dry climate fools residents into thinking there'll never be any serious rain. But although rain is scarce here, when it does happen it can be surprisingly heavy. It can also be one of the main causes of a problem many of us thought we'd left well behind us in wet, moist Britain-damp.

The solution is to ensure your roof is well waterproofed and guttered, and to treat external draughts. While the traditional materials used on the island are wood, this will require frequent maintenance. Aluminium and plastic fittings have now proved to be far more durable and every bit as attractive.

Wind, sunlight and water aren't the only things you might want to keep well under control on Lanzarote. Fireproofing is also a basic safety measure that most people with an interest in the future of their home will want to consider. This should be accompanied by a periodic thorough check of the wiring and electrics in the house for best effect.



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Garden Paradise



Some of the most beautiful gardens on Lanzarote can be found in the island's hotels. That's why we spent a fascinating morning at the Hotel Jameos Playa at Matagorda, whose grounds are a beautifully designed and immaculatelykept botanical garden

Hotel director Beate Sekula tells us that the gardens at the Jameos Playa were designed by landscaper Luis Vallejo, a Madrid-based garden architect who has created beautiful gardens in Spain, Kuwait, Morocco and Israel. Head gardener is Juan Jesús Doníz, who arrives once a week from Tenerife to oversee the gardens, and the five gardeners hired by the hotel.

Beate explains that these professionals select the plants, "They all have to fit into a sub-tropical garden concept." Beate once planted a small jasmine in one of the borders herself, but it was immediately noticed and had to be removed. "They don't miss a thing," she smiles "And that makes my job easier, as I don't have to worry about this aspect of the hotel."

For Beate, the stars of the gardens are the palms, huge, elegant clusters of Washingtonia and Date palms that tower over everything else and are living symbols of a sub-tropical paradise. Elsewhere, there are impressive clusters of Canarian palms and the strange Canarian Drago tree. Ornamental colour and foliage is provided Grevillea robusta and several varieties



of ficus tree, while, Tipuana tipu shrubs from Brazil explode into brilliant orange.

The palms are perfectly kept, their trunks regularly trimmed to prevents insects breeding in the cracks. Here and there, the odd, bulbous trunks of the Drago trees can be seen - another source of huge pride in the gardens.

Some of the palms are clustered in "islands" - a nod to Canarian culture that also includes stone walls based on the vineyards of La Geria, and a colour scheme that nods to the influence of César Manrique on the island.

But there is so much more than palms. The delicate leaves of Flamboyan trees shade parts of garden, and they, along with African Flame or Tulip trees, will burst into brilliant red flower later this year. The delicate fern-like fronds of a strange Cycas revoluta explode like a fountain.

Two of the most beautiful plants are also among the easiest to cultivate here. A Lantana camara

shrub is in full flower, with fragrant, brilliant orange flowers; while the pale blue clusters of flowers on a Plumbago plant are running riot in a number of beds.

We pause to breathe in the gorgeous scent of a delicate pink oleander flower that overlooks the mini-golf course, before heading for the aromatic garden, where we find bay, laurel, mango, rosemary, grapevines, lemon and banana plants. This is still a work in progress, as are the experimental patios we see in a semi-





Plumbago

enclosed area. Here, Dracaena (or Mother in Law's Tongue) plants reach up like green flames from geometric containers, with LED light displays above. These are Luis Vallejo's experiments - a fascinating glimpse at how garden design is developed.

During our tour we see scores of tourists, already relaxing by the pool or enjoying a late breakfast in these perfect surroundings. "Guests love the gardens," says Beate "I see them feeling the leaves when they arrive because they're so perfect they think they're plastic. I'm often asked for cuttings, and sometimes they even send me photos of the plants they've grown at home as a result!"



Hydrangea

Gardener Joaquín Bustos tells us that watering is the most important aspect of his daily duties, followed by pest control: "Cochinilla insects are the greatest threat at the moment," he explains. Joaquín has arrived from a centre opposite the hotel where there is a water purification facility, as well as a garden nursery where new plants are nurtured, and organic composting.

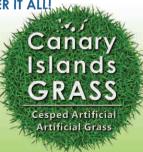
The gardens at the Hotel Jameos Playa can be enjoyed by anyone on the island. We'd recommend booking a meal at the excellent restaurant and taking your time to enjoy the gastronomic and horticultural delights on offer.





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Garden gurus

In a new series we'll be talking to gardeners on Lanzarote, finding out how they deal with the unique conditions on this island and sharing some favourite tips and favourite plants.

Our first garden guru is **Lauren Osadci,** who runs the Greensleeves garden care company from Playa Blanca.

Lauren, for anyone starting a new garden, what is the most important factor that should be addressed?

The wind. Soil, watering and other factors are also important, but the wind is the one that must be addressed. It depends on where you live, of course – some places are more sheltered than others. Most gardens will have a wall that provides shelter, and you can also use other plants, such as agaves, to create windbreaks or build your own.

Once you have protection, smaller plants that otherwise wouldn't survive can be grown. You can start with tougher species such as geraniums, which provide reliable flowers.

What about the soil on the island?

In the north the soil is good, and that's why a lot of the

agriculture on the island takes place there. But other parts of the island have poor soil, and you'll often find soil with a lot of sand in it. Sand is made of eroded rocks and shells, which don't provide much nutrition and this soil isn't really suitable for many plants.

What do you use?

I'll buy compost soil from a garden

centre and generally mix it in a ratio of 50:50 or 60:40 with the soil that's already there.

How about fertiliser?

You can buy specialist fertiliser for different types of plants, which is useful. For example, there are types high in nitrogen for citrus and fruit trees. When a plant is producing fruit it needs special care and protection, like a pregnant woman, and this fertiliser provides the necessary nutrition.







Other plants, such as olive trees, require different fertilisers and it's worth investigating what's on offer.

How important is watering?

Very important. I think if you have a big enough garden it's well worth investing in a watering system. The tubes are pretty cheap, and you can instal a timer to water the plants even while you're away. You'll need to experiment, as water pressure can vary around the island.

What about pests?

The worst ones on the island are cochinilla and

white fly. All gardeners have to deal with these, and I've used various treatments, from chemicals to soaps. Treatments usually last about three or four weeks.

Have you had any accidents with spiky plants?

Oh yes. My arm once went black after cactus spikes went through my sleeve, and I've got thorns in my hands all the time. You have to take care, especially when working on spiky plants such as Lanzarote aloe veras or when pruning palm trees - I'll wear goggles and gloves to do this.

TOP TIP

"My most important piece of advice before vou even start would be to plan your garden according to different plant families. Many people just mix up all types of plants and end up giving them the same fertiliser and water. But different families of plants have very different requirements, and this can be controlled much more easily if you keep them separate."

FAVOURITE PLANT

If I had to choose it'd probably be the Espina de Cristo (Crown of Thorns - Euphorbia milii). It's a really tough, resistant plant with spiky stem and lots of small flowers - usually red, but also available in pink, purple and yellow varieties. You pay more for the rarer varieties, of course, but I save money by buying them when they're smaller. The flowers are beautiful and always cheer me up.

You can contact Lauren at the Greensleeves Facebook page, or call 640 27 11 70.

You don't have to be an expert to be a Gazette Garden Guru! If you'd like to share your experiences of gardening on the island, and maybe even share some pictures of your garden or plants, **contact us at editorial@gazettelife.com**



A SHAKY START

WITH THE SEASON IN ITS INFANCY, LOS ROJILLOS (THE REDS) HAVE PLAYED TWO, DRAWN ONE AND LOST THE OTHER, LEAVING THEM IN 13TH SPOT IN A 17-TEAM LEAGUE IN THE TERCERA DIVISION (FOURTH TIER). IAN LANE REPORTS:



One of the problems UD Lanzarote has faced over the last couple of years is keeping the same squad together so that they can get to know each other, with the hope that this will bring consistency.

Most Tercera División clubs have the same problem, with the majority of players on one-year contracts. Last season was the club's most difficult that I have seen for years. The club had got together a great bunch of players but because of our own government's incredibly strict rules, many players decided to leave after receiving offers from other clubs either in mainland Spain or abroad, where restrictions were less harsh.

Some fans believed these players to be traitors, but they are footballers who just wanted to play football and through no fault of their own were unable to do so.

The pre-season this year has been good with very few restrictions, but it does seem that it may take a little time for the squad to blend. In the back of everyone's mind is last season's horrific start to the season, which saw just four points on the board after seven matches. I am confident that the club can string together some wins quickly and climb the table.

In both games this season Lanzarote took the lead. The first match of the new season was on the 5th September at home versus Fuerteventura side

CD Unión Puerto which ended fairly at 1-1. The following week Lanzarote travelled to Gran Canaria to face UD Las Palmas C. The Rojillos were by far the best team in the first half, but just couldn't convert their chances.

A minute into the second half, new striker Rubo gave Lanzarote a 0-1 lead. This woke up the home side and before the clock had reached the hour mark they were 2-1 up. Lanzarote fought back, but a penalty in the 70th minute for Las Palmas sealed the win to make it two wins out of two for a side much-fancied to do well this season.

Fans are welcome back; originally 400 supporters were allowed but with each person having to distance from each other, many people were sitting under that red hot sun - not ideal in temperatures of 32 degrees. This has now improved and 900 fans are now permitted. Filling to that capacity would be unlikely at this time, but it does bring far more comfort and atmosphere to the 400-500 regular fans.

Season tickets are only 60 Euros per adult,

Pensioners and also 4-16 year olds are 30 Euros. These are available from the club at Calle Isleño 4, Arrecife (up past the stadium, left at Sports Bar and 100m to your left), Monday to Friday between 9am to noon.

To pay at the gate you MUST bring identification with you or you will not be admitted. Adults are $8 \in (6 \in \text{residents})$ and Pensioners and 4-16 year olds $6 \in (\text{Residents})$ 4 \in). Under 4's are admitted for free. As well as ID, bring a bottle of water, sun cream and a hat.

We do ask the public to please respect the rules. These rules come from the government and are not from the club. However the club must abide by them. Most importantly, just respect your fellow fans.



FORTHCOMING HOME FIXTURES

(normally it is Sunday at 12 noon but please check)

3RD OCTOBER: LANZAROTE V CD SANTA ÚRSULA **12TH OCTOBER:** LANZAROTE V CD ATLÉTICO PASO

24TH OCTOBER: LANZAROTE V YAIZA (DERBY MATCH)

Go to Lanzarote Football Club (Facebook page) or www.mercancialanzarote.com for info, season ticket & membership details etc. All shirts and other merchandise can be bought at the Teguise market stall on Sundays; online at www.mercancialanzarote.com/shop/ or at the shop in Costa Teguise which is based at Centro Comercial Nautical, local 25 (up from Decades bar and behind Café Bonjour). The shop is open Mon to Fri 10am to 1pm.

SUPER MARLINES

The Marlines Kayak Club is one of Lanzarote's most inspiring sporting success stories. Based in the heart of Arrecife's maritime zone, the Charco de San Ginés, the club has paddled out and made a huge impact at national level.

The Marlines recently returned from Castellón, where they won six Gold medals, two silvers and two bronzes; and were proclaimed champions of the Young Promises of Sea Kayaking for the third year running.

The Marlines are currently classified as fifth out of 53 kayak clubs



GO, KENNEDY!

15-YEAR-OLD KENNEDY **DENBY** FROM COSTA TEGUISE HAS HAD AN **ASTONISHING SWIMMING** SEASON, FLASHING THROUGH THE WATER. **SHATTERING RECORDS** AND WINNING GOLD **MEDALS GALORE** AS SHE **SWIMS** WAY INTO THE TOP RANKINGS IN SPAIN. HER YEAR IS ONE OF THE MOST PROMISING SPORTING STORIES ON LANZAROTE, SO WE THOUGHT WE'D LET HER TELL IT:



"My first big achievement this season was winning the 1,500 metres freestyle at Sands Beach Active last October . I broke three Canarian records for 15-year-olds in the same swim - the 400 metres, 800 metres and 1500 metres.



In December, I competed in the Long Distance Regional Championship, swimming 3,000 metres in a 25m pool at Las Palmas Swimming Club. This qualified me for the Spanish National Long Distance Championship in Barcelona in January, where I swam 5,000m and finished 8th in Spain.

That same month, at the Canary Island Championship I won four Gold medals for my age group, and four Golds overall, as I was the fastest girl of any age. I also broke the Canarian 1,500 m freestyle record.



I broke that record again in March in the Spanish National Championships, and came top 6 in Spain at four distances. In June I came 5th out of all ages in the Spanish Open Water Championship.

In July I won 5 Golds at my age group and 5 Golds overall, breaking more Canarian records at 400, 800 and 1500 metres.

In August I swam the most important competition of the year, the Junior Spanish National Championship. I came third in the 1500m freestyle, winning Lanzarote's first national medal. I've managed all this without a professional coach, nutritionist.

I left my school in March, as they were not supporting my swimming, and am now enjoying studying at home. I'm also acquiring Spanish nationality, which will qualify me for the national team, and also hope to qualify for elite athlete training programmes."



LIVING ON A TOURIST ISLAND MEANS THAT BOTH LOCALS AND VISITORS ARE EXPECTED TO ACCOMMODATE TO EACH OTHER EVERY DAY. THE KEY IS PATIENCE, BUT A LITTLE MORE FORESIGHT FROM THE AUTHORITIES WOULD ALSO COME IN HANDY - ESPECIALLY NOW THAT THEY'VE HAD 18 MONTHS TO THINK ABOUT IT.

Every regular driver on Lanzarote has found themselves behind a hire car driving hesitantly and slowly, as the occupants work out their route or simply pause to enjoy the scenery. They'll also have spent some time admiring the buttocks of cyclists that are ahead of them on narrow roads.

There's not a lot you can do about any of this. Swearing is free, of course, but parping your horn is only likely to increase stress, and could attract a fine. It's probably best to remember that Lanzarote relies on tourism, and a few minor obstructions are part of the price we must pay for that. Be patient and understanding.

However, Lanzarote's authorities could do more to make life a little easier for tourists who are visiting the island, with roads to the resorts that could be better organised or signposted.

The confusion begins at the airport, where new arrivals leaving the airport must search hard for signs to Puerto del Carmen, Playa Blanca or Costa Teguise.

Puerto del Carmen is signposted, but those headed for Playa Blanca are expected to know that it is in the same direction as Yaiza. Meanwhile,

the first sign for Costa Teguise is located after the turn off that takes drivers in the right direction.

Elsewhere, travelling south at Los Lirios in Tías, the LZ-2 dual carriageway forks, with those heading for Playa Blanca expected to take the lefthand overtaking lane. Again, Playa Blanca is not mentioned on any road sign.

Meanwhile, heading to Costa Teguise on the LZ-2, drivers are expected to understand the word Circunvalación (Ring Road) and know that it leads to Costa Teguise before they occupy the fast lane again. The first sign for Costa Teguise actually turns up 50 metres after a continuous white line prevents drivers from changing lanes.

Other frequent complaints are the patchy system of cycle paths on the island. The island's Vía Ciclista is still a work in progress, but cyclists have already encountered problems such as the abrupt decision of San Bartolomé Ayuntamiento to ban cycles on its sea front. There are also frequent complaints that the hard shoulders of roads, which are frequently used by cyclists, are seldom cleaned up.

INSECT HITS

There seems little doubt that the reduction of insect splatters on car windscreens reflects a worrying reduction of insect life throughout Europe. Increased use of pesticides and destruction of insect habitats are the main causes for spotless windscreens.

Other experts have suggested that improved aerodynamics on cars have helped cut down insect hits, sweeping them out of the way rather than hitting them directly. But others disagree: Entomologist Martin Sorg said "I drive a Land Rover that's as aerodynamic as a fridge, but my windscreen is still clean in summer."

Analysis of number plates (not known for their aerodynamic qualities) in the UK shows a 50% drop in insect hits over the last 15 years alone. The results were consistent over vintage and newer cars, suggesting the aerodynamic argument does not stand up.





TRAFFIC LAW TRANSLATED

Volunteers from the N332 Facebook page translated Spain's traffic law into English and made it available free online.

N332 started Alicante police officer Francisco Javier Morales in order to aid Englishspeaking motorists



may not know Spain's driving laws. The Traffic Law – a daunting document which contains five sections and 173 articles - has been carried out by volunteers with the advice of policer officers, is an impressive project and a real help to anyone driving in Spain.

> You can access or download the document at: www.spanishtrafficlaw.es

SPEED LIMIT CHANGES SURPRISE MOTORISTS

Speed limits on certain roads in Lanzarote were reduced to 60 kph by law in July, and fines are already being issued.



The main roads affected are the LZ-701, the original road that links Yaiza and Playa Blanca, and which now runs alongside the LZ-2 main road; and the LZ-67 from Yaiza to Mancha Blanca. On both these roads, speed limits are now reduced to 60 kph and average speed cameras have been installed, which time the passing of a vehicle at two points and calculate whether it was possible to cover the distance within the speed limit.

Fixed speed cameras have also been enforcing speed limits on the LZ-56 from La Geria to Mancha Blanca (passing the Volcán del Cuervo) and the LZ-30 road connecting Uga with Teguise (the La Geria road).

Our advice is for motorists to take extra care to watch their speed on the roads involved, or take alternative routes such as the main road to Yaiza.

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RENEWING YOUR DRIVING LICENCE

If you're a British national resident on Lanzarote, you should now have exchanged your UK driving licence for a Spanish one. You may also have learned that rules for renewing a driving licence in Spain are different than in the UK, and these apply to all drivers.

Your licence (carnet de conducir) should be renewed before the expiry date that appears on it. If you wait until after it expires, you will be unable to drive.

The most common class B licence (for normal cars) should be renewed every 10 years until the age of 65, when a five-year term begins. However, this is not automatic, and the period may be reduced if you suffer from medical conditions that may affect your driving.

On Lanzarote, the process will usually take place at an authorized medical centre, of which there are four in Arrecife. You'll first be given a brief interview about your medical history by a doctor, and will have to do a short eye test.

Then you'll be required to play the video game- This is a test of visual/manual skills that requires you to keep two short lines within a road as it scrolls down. It's not as easy as it seems and you'll probably make a few errors, but this doesn't usually affect the result. You'll also be photographed.

Once the test is finished, you'll need to pay the tax for the renewal (usually €24 + fees for the medical centre) and will receive a temporary authorisation to drive until your new licence arrives by post.

TAKE:

- Your old driving licence
- Residency/TIE document
- Any recent medical reports

THE MOSAIC MAN

This month's story comes from Jim Cane, a tiler by trade who moved to Lanzarote seven years ago after meeting his future girlfriend, Roni. Jim recently tried his hand at mosaic art with the left-over tiles from previous jobs.

How long have you lived in Lanzarote, Jim?

I visited Lanzarote for the first time seven years ago for a holiday. I had never planned on making a move to Lanzarote, it never even crossed my mind.

What made you make the move?

I decided to swap the rain for sunshine when I first met my girlfriend, Roni. As soon as I got to know her I knew there and then that this is where I wanted to live.

You recently started to make mosaics out of tiles. What made you try it out?

At first I started with wood carvings. I couldn't afford to buy Roni a Valentine's present one year, so I decided that









I'd try to make something from scratch. It took some time, but I finished the plaque in time, and carved "I love you to the moon and back" on it.

I'm a tiler, so I often get left with the odds and ends from previous jobs. I've always wanted to give mosaics a try.

Was it a challenge at first?

At first I started with villa name plaques and door numbers, which were a challenge at first but are second nature to me now. I slowly progressed to making more intricate pieces.

And they became popular quite quickly!

Now my most requested plaques are football shields.

How much time does it take to complete a mosaic?

Depending on the detail, they can take from 2 hours to 2 or 3 days. I've made all sorts, from guitars, pet memorials and football shields to even a mosaic skip lorry.

Is this something you see yourself doing more of in the future?

I think so. Regardless of whether I get commissioned to make them for people or not, it's something I enjoy doing as an art form. I find it therapeutic!

Best of luck with your mosaics in the future, Jim!





Do you have any photographs with stories behind them that would like to share? Email us at: digital@gazettelife.com.



Tide Tables for Arrecife, Lanzarote. Height is in metres. (Times may vary by a few minutes around the island)

Day	Hour	Metres	Day	Hour	Metres	
Day	L: 04:07	1.3	Бау			
1	H: 10:22	2.1	17	L: 06:02 H: 12:09	0.8 2.7	
	L: 16:52 H: 23:06	1.1 2.1	1	L: 18:30	0.6	
	L: 05:09	1.1		H: 00:38	2.6	
2	H: 11:19	2.3	18	L: 06:41	0.7	
	L: 17:42 H: 23:51	0.9 2.3	10	H: 12:48 L: 19:05	2.8 0.5	
				H: 01:11	2.7	
3	L: 05:54 H: 12:03	0.9 2.6	19	L: 07:16	0.5	
	L: 18:22	0.6		H: 13:22 L: 19:37	2.9 0.4	
	H: 00:29	2.5		H: 01:42	2.8	
24	L: 06:33 H: 12:41	0.6 2.8	20	L: 07:48 H: 13:54	0.5 2.9	
	L: 18:58	0.4		L: 20:06	0.4	
	H: 01:05	2.7	0.4	H: 02:11	2.8	
5	L: 07:10	0.4	21	L: 08:18	0.5	
	H: 13:18 L: 19:34	3.0 0.3		H: 14:24 L: 20:34	2.8 0.5	
Q	H: 01:40	2.9	•••••	H: 02:40	2.8	
O	L: 07:47 H: 13:56	0.3	22	L: 08:49	0.5	
6	L: 20:11	3.1 0.2		H: 14:54 L: 21:03	2.8 0.5	
	H: 02:17	3.0		H: 03:09	2.7	
7	L: 08:25	0.2	23	L: 09:19 H: 15:24	0.6 2.6	
	H: 14:33 L: 20:48	3.2 0.1		L: 21:32	0.7	
••••••	H: 02:54	3.0		H: 03:38	2.6	
8	L: 09:04 H: 15:13	0.2	24	L: 09:52	0.7 2.5	
	L: 21:26	3.1 0.2		H: 15:56 L: 22:02	0.8	
	H: 03:34	3.0	~~	H: 04:10	2.5	
9	L: 09:45 H: 15:55	0.3 2.9	25	L: 10:26 H: 16:31	0.8 2.3	
	L: 22:07	0.4		L: 22:35	1.0	
10	H: 04:16	2.8	0.0	H: 04:46	2.3	
10	L: 10:31 H: 16:41	0.5 2.7	26	L: 11:07 H: 17:13	1.0 2.1	
	L: 22:52	0.6		L: 23:16	1.2	
	H: 05:03	2.6	~~	H: 05:31	2.2	
11	L: 11:23 H: 17:35	$0.7 \\ 2.4$	27	L: 12:00	1.2	
	L: 23:45	0.9		H: 18:10	1.9	
	H: 06:00	2.4	28	L: 00:13	1.3	
12	L: 12:29	0.9		H: 06:35 L: 13:16	2.0 1.3	
	H: 18:46	2.2		H: 19:35	1.8	
13	L: 00:56	1.1	0.0	L: 01:40	1.4	
	H: 07:17 L: 13:59	2.2 1.1	29	H: 08:05 L: 14:51	2.0 1.3	
	H: 20:23	2.0		H: 21:12	1.9	
4 94	L: 02:32 H: 08:55	1.3 2.2	90	L: 03:16 H: 09:33	1.3 2.1	
14	L: 15:38	1.0	30	L: 16:06	1.1	
	H: 22:01	2.1		H: 22:22	2.1	
1~	L: 04:06 H: 10:20	1.2 2.3	94	L: 03:25 H: 09:36	1.2 2.3	
15	L: 16:54	0.9	31	H: 09:36 L: 16:01	0.9	
	H: 23:10	2.2		H: 22:12	2.3	
10	L: 05:13	1.0	O Ne	w AF	irst	
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Weather Watch

The loveliest month

October is the favourite month of many Lanzarote locals and holiday-makers in the know. Why? Because it's simply gorgeous.

While northern Europe wraps itself in scarves and overcoats to prepare for a wet, cold autumn, Lanzarote still basks in the most beautiful summer weather. It's warm, sunny and the least windy month of the year, bringing mellow days and evenings before the clocks go back at the end of the month.

And while you wouldn't dream of swimming in October in the UK, in Lanzarote, the sea remains warm and inviting.

It's also a month when the island is less crowded. Children are back in school, courses have restarted and many people are back at work, meaning that the resorts and the tourist attractions are less crowded than they are at peak times. That means that all those bars, restaurants and other local businesses could use your custom, and you won't find a better time to give it to them.

What to Expect in October



Day Time Temps

24°C (Ranges from 20°C to 29°C)



Night Time Temps

Average 22°C (ranges from 19°C to 25°C)

<u>:</u>



Sunshine Hours

12 hrs daylight, 7 hrs full sun



Sea Temp

22°C



Rain

2 days (10 mms average)



Wind

N/NE average 15 kph

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Horoscopes BY CLAIRVOYANT SHONA LANGHOLM

Aries (21 MAR - 19 APR)

If it feels that someone is talking a different language of love to you, then maybe you'd better seek an interpreter, Aries. Friends will help you understand what's going on, and you may be

surprised at the insight and deep communication that results.

Taurus

(20 APRIL - 20 MAY)

The laid-back, easy-going Taurus that you've become recently has charmed and enchanted friends and family, but now it's time to work that magic in your romantic life. Stay cool, Taurus, and let yourself have some real fun this month.



Gemini

(21 MAY TO 20 JUNE)

When you open a map to plan your route, first you have to work out where you are. This is your task this month, Gemini. Don't start out on a new venture until you're absolutely certain where you're setting off from. Life's too short for false starts.

Cancer

(21 JUNE TO 22 JULY)

You're normally pretty tactful, Cancer, but this month take care not to overstep the limit when you give your opinions. Remember that not everybody is as cool and collected as you, and blunt honesty isn't always the best



Leo

(23 JULY TO 22 AUG)

It's a month of social extremes, Leo. You'll need me-time to be alone, gather your thoughts and enjoy your own company, but you'll also feel the urge to get out and go wild with your gang. Just follow your feelings and don't skip jobs that need doing.

Virgo

(23 AUG TO 22 SEPT)

Your road in life is forking, Virgo, but you may not have seen all the new paths that are open to you. Take some time to examine where you are, and don't be afraid to step out on a new venture that will fulfil and maybe even define you.





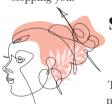
(23 SEPT TO 22 OCT)

Time to stand up for yourself, Libra. Don't let anvone take advantage of your good nature and generosity this month, and don't let insults go unchallenged. Once you've asserted yourself you'll feel much more confident and happy.

Scordio

(23 OCT TO 21 NOV)

This month is all about getting the rhythms right at work and in your personal life, Scorpio. Things will start out a little jerky, but a little concentration will soon get you in the groove, and once you are, there'll be no stopping you.



Sagittarius

(22 NOV TO 21 DEC)

Some people are happy just to admire the horizon, Sagittarius, but you need to know what's over it. This month it's time to make plans that'll take you to new places and faces, and satisfy your curiosity and thirst for discovery

Capricorn

(22 DEC TO 19 JAN)

You're still a little stunned by how last month turned out, Capricorn, but it's time to accept that things have changed and you need to adapt. The more you look at the situation, the more hopeful and promising it will seem, so seize the moment.



Aquarius

(20 JAN - 18 FEB)

That breathless flutter of attraction will hit you this month, Aquarius, but keep your cards close to your chest at first. This is a connection that will happen in its own time, if it happens at all. For now, just enjoy the thrill.

Pisces

(19 FEB - 20 MAR)

Spend some time in front of the mirror this month, Pisces. Take a good long look at your face and every bit of your body and decide what you'd like to change. Then, whether it's a diet, a workout regime, a beauty treatment or something else, transform yourself.



Instagram of the month



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