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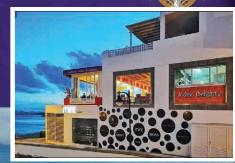
"A totally amazing evening for our daughters 11th Birthday, she was treated so special with balloons, fireworks, ice cream, poppers, the food was 100% spot on - definitly the best in Playa Blanca. If that wasn't enough the view was out of this world - stunning panoramic sea views!"













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## Ed's Letter

The magazine you're holding has a marine flavour this month, reflecting the constant presence of the sea in Lanzarote's life. This is the best season to enjoy everything our beaches and coasts have to offer, with shimmering, warm waters; glorious, mellow days of sunshine and endless horizons that offer promise and wonder.

It's been great to see increasing amounts of tourists flocking to those beaches recently, and the school holidays mean that plenty of kids have been having some well-deserved fun, too. This month, many of them will go back to school, and hopefully it'll be a more enjoyable experience than it has been over the last 18 months.

Young people have suffered a lot during this pandemic. For many small ones, it has been a genuinely frightening time, while older ones have seen their social lives destroyed, education

disrupted, jobs lost and horizons shrink.

They've also been unfairly blamed by the mainstream and social media, simply because they gather outdoors rather than behind locked doors like their parents. Footage of young people in Arrecife being lined up against a wall by armed police with dogs during the curfew earlier this year was one of the most disturbing things I saw during the pandemic.

During a summer of laughter and activity, I've been hugely impressed by the humour and optimism of the young people that I've met. As they return to their desks, their studies and their lives this month, lets wish them all the best, and offer our gratitude and respect.

I know that Lanzarote is a terrific place to raise your children, and I also know that the future of this young island depends on those kids. Let's hope their horizons are as glorious as the ones all around us this autumn.

#### Regulars

**06** Local News

08 Island Info

22 Pet Spot

24 Crossword

31 Recipe

**11** Maps

**30** Property

74 Sport

**76** Motors

**78** Marketplace

**81** Classifieds

85 Tel Nos/Need To Know

7 Tide Times/Weather Watch

89 Horoscopes

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#### The Recovery

Lanzarote gets back on track.

#### **Supermarket Sweep**

How many supermarkets does Lanzarote need?

#### **Market Forces**

Lanzarote's markets are on the way

## Where Time Stands

A day out on La Graciosa.

#### Non-resident tax talk

Get your property tax sorted.





#### Son of the Sea

We meet fearless bodysurfer Ahmed Erraji.

### THE ROAD TO RECOVERY



AUGUST BROUGHT THE TURNAROUND IN COVID FIGURES THAT THE CANARY ISLANDS HAD BEEN HOPING AND PRAYING FOR. AT THE TIME OF WRITING, CORONAVIRUS IS ON THE RETREAT ON THE ISLANDS AND THROUGHOUT SPAIN.

On the 30th July, the islands posted 990 new cases in a single day, the highest figure ever registered. Since then, figures have tumbled almost every day, and infection rates have seen a steep decline.

Unlike the other islands, figures on Lanzarote have generally remained stable, with no drastic rises or falls. The hospital has remained virtually empty of Covid patients and, at the time of writing, Lanzarote has not experienced a Covid death since June.

The Canarian pattern reflects a wider decrease in Covid cases throughout Spain, with every region showing significant drops in infection rates.

This means that, unless something unprecedented occurs, Spain and the Canaries are almost certain to remain on the UK's amber list for the foreseeable future, although green list status appears to be still some way off.

That status will be supported by the incredible success of the vaccination programme in Spain, which has now double- and single- jabbed more of its population than the UK. Spain met the objective of fully vaccinating 70% of its target population on August 18th, two weeks after Lanzarote had passed the same milestone.

Nevertheless, the campaign remains active and is now focussed on the 12 to 16 year-old age group.

Meanwhile, tourism continues to improve. July brought more than 340,000 visitors to Lanzarote airport and August is likely to beat that record by some way. 80% of hotels and tourist apartments on the island have reopened, and restaurants and bars are finally seeing the return of custom.

There will be problems to come, as Spain winds up its furlough scheme and islands feel the absence of several businesses and facilities such as hire cars, many of which have been sold to tide companies through the pandemic. But there is no doubt that Lanzarote is now strongly on the road to recovery.









## **LOCAL NEWS**

#### **VACCINE TARGET ACHIEVED**

Lanzarote reached the target of fully vaccinating 70% of its target population against coronavirus almost a month earlier than scheduled, and a fortnight before Spain reached the same milestone.

Canarian President Ángel Víctor Torres tweeted the news on 5th August, praising the "great job" that Canarian Health Service workers have done to meet this objective.

Two weeks later, on the 18th August, Spain's Health Minister, Carolina Darias, announced that Spain had also reached this landmark.

Spain is now Europe's bestperforming large country in terms of Covid vaccinations, overtaking the UK earlier last month.



#### **MOUSE IN DA HOUSE**

San Bartolomé revealed the arrival of a world-famous celebrity resident last month.

El Ratoncito Pérez (Pérez the Mouse) is the Spanish equivalent of the Tooth Fairy - a little mouse who arrives while



children are asleep to take the tooth they've left for him, which he replaces with a gift.

Last month, the Ayuntamiento of San Bartolomé released a video in which the postman delivers a tiny letter to Mayor Alexis Tejera, asking to become a resident of the town.

Local craftsmen have created a home for the mouse, which also features a store room for teeth, a gift workshop and a "wish factory". The Mouse's House can be seen by the Parque Félix Rodríguez de la Fuente in the centre of San Bartolomé.

#### **ELECTRICITY BILLS OUTRAGE**

Fury at increased electricity bills is sweeping Spain as electric companies fail to send bills on time while raking in money from high energy prices.

Endesa, the main power company, has been issuing bills dating back three months instead of the usual month, blaming the delay on the introduction of the new tariff system in Spain in June.

As a result, many Canarian households have faced bills

will combine May, June and July at a time when electricity charges have risen considerably and usage has been high because of the summer heat.

Endesa have contacted affected customers. apologising for the delay and offering them the possibility to request payment of their bills by instalments "at no extra charge".



#### PRESIDENTIAL SEAL OF APPROVAL



Spain's Prime Minister, Pedro Sánchez, spent his summer holiday at the "King's House" of La Mareta near Costa Teguise with his wife Begoña Gómez; their daughters Carlota and Ainhoa and the family dog Turca.

Sánchez is a fan of Lanzarote, and cancelled a stay in mainland Spain to extend his stay on the island. He made just one public appearance, at a centenary tribute to the late Nobel-Prize winning novelist José Saramago at his home in Tías. However, locals also spotted him jogging with a heavy police escort.

#### **EX-PRESIDENT DIES**

Lanzarote's Cabildo ordered three days of official mourning following the death of Enrique Pérez Parrilla, who held the post of President of the island's government on four occasions between 1983 and 2003, and who died in August at the age of 73.

Pérez Parrilla was also Mayor of Arrecife for three years from 2007 to 2009. When not involved in politics, Pérez Parrilla was a maths teacher who taught many hundreds of Arrecife schoolchildren. He could frequently be seen taking a coffee and chatting in the cafés of Arrecife.

The Gazette would like to express its condolences to his widow, Doña Nieves, an equally respected figure for her work as President of women's association Mararía, and family.

#### HOT, HOT, HOT

Lanzarote suffered high temperatures exceeding 40 degrees Celsius in mid-August, as a "heat dome" originating in North Africa moved across the Canarian archipelago.

Four consecutive days of amber

heat alert were announced for the heatwave, which saw beaches packed with sweltering locals and tourists.

While damage on Lanzarote was minimal, the hot winds fanned a large forest fire on the island of La Palma.

#### **DRONE BASE LANZAROTE**

Four Reaper military drones owned by the Spanish Air Force will be stationed at Lanzarote's military aerodrome over the coming months. Lanzarote will act as a secondary base for the drones, which will be under the control of 233 Squadron, whose main base is at Talavera la Real in Badajoz.

The Reaper drones will be used for operations in and around the Canaries, as well as in the Sahel region of Africa "in support of Spanish missions in countries such as Mali."

Reaper drones, originally known as Predator B drones, are generally used for reconnaissance and surveillance, but are also capable of carrying and delivering missiles.



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By appointment only Puerto del Carmen Office Call: 928 815 262 Calle San Carlos 1, N°. 26 Local 2 - Pto. del Carmen (Opp. Lidl beside Hiperdino Express and Tias Land Registry Office)

## ISLAND INFO



#### JOHN NICOL: MY WALKING PAL

Neil Thompson has sent us this tribute to his good friend John Nicol, a popular Lanzarote resident who died recently.

John and his wife Elizabeth moved here from Scotland after they retired, and they were well-known around Tías.

A keen walker, he persuaded me to go walking and almost every week, in all weathers, for the next fourteen years, we tramped all over Lanzarote, getting to know it well. We had a few scrapes, but fortunately nothing serious, but our in-joke was we always had our Acme Thunderers (referees' whistles) just in case.

When his wife died, John moved back to Scotland and enjoyed a short time with his family before he died.

Rest in peace, John.



#### **TOURISM TIPS**

The return of tourism has already seen long queues forming on the road to Timanfaya and other places. As a result, Lanzarote's Tourist Board has reminded visitors that "to avoid annoying queues, crowding and to guarantee a memorable experience", visiting during the following hours is recommended.



Timanfaya Fire Mountains: After 1pm (last visits at 3.45pm)\*

**Jameos del Agua:** At 10 am (first thing) or after 3pm.

Cueva de los Verdes: At 10 am.

Casa-Museo del Campesino: From 10 am to 2pm if you wish to join one of the craft workshops.

Tourist Information offices have re-opened around the island, providing information, advice and tickets to all visitors.

\*Locals travelling north on the LZ-67 to Mancha Blanca should also consider alternative routes during late morning and lunchtime, to avoid getting caught

#### IT WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR

Last year's wine harvest was lower than average, with 1.8 million kilos of grapes harvested. However the resulting wines have been classified as "very good", the secondhighest assessment available after "excellent".

17 million bottles of the 2020 vintage have been produced, from upmarket boutique brands to the simple table wines that are generally sold only on the islands.





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#### DOG AND CAT OF THE MONTH

#### Famara

Famara is a real sweetie. She is one of the longest-serving residents at SARA and recently lost her kennel-mate, but remains her cheerful self. She is an eleven-year and seven-month-old Pitbull mix, which means she will need a special licence. However, she is on SARA's PAP scheme - which means the shelter will cover all medical costs. Find out more about her at http://saraprotectora. org or book an appointment on 928 173 417 (English spoken). Dog walkers welcome from 10.30 am to 1pm Monday-Saturday (Saturday by appointment only). If it is your first visit, please bring ID.



#### Cúrcuma

Cúrcuma is a lovely, seven year and elevenmonth-old white-andgrey female cat. She has now fully recovered from the cancer that took her nose, and is a little timid now, but she would surely bloom in the right home. Hopefully someone will

give her the chance of happiness. Find out more about her at http://saraprotectora.org. There are also limited places for people to help with socialising cats. Email info@sara-lanzarote.eu.

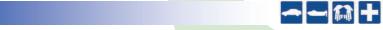
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#### **RYANAIR NEW ROUTES**

Ryanair has announced that it will be operating two new routes this winter season, which usually starts in November. The routes will serve the Slovakian capital Bratislava and Venice in Italy, and operate once-weekly.

Ryanair has also confirmed that it will be adding a new route from Newcastle-upon-Tyne next summer, which is canny news for Lanzaroteloving Geordies.



#### **CORRECTION: SET & MATCH**

Last month on page 74 we printed an incorrect number for Juan Ramón Martín of the Set & Match Tennis Club in Puerto del Carmen. The correct number is 629 631 066. Apologies for any inconvenience.

#### What paperwork problems?

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## SUPERMARKET SWEEP

How many supermarkets does Lanzarote need? And are they in the right place?

Until 10 years ago, the supermarket scene on Lanzarote was dominated by locallyowned chains Spar and Hiperdino. However, demonstrations against high prices and alleged price-fixing brought a change in the law which permitted new operators to arrive.

First came Lidl, now with three shops on the island; then Mercadona arrived, with another three. But more recently there have been rumours and announcements of the opening of several new supermarkets. Both Aldi and Lidl are reported to be opening two new stores in Arrecife's Argana Alta and Costa Teguise,





while Hiperdino are also planning a large store in Argana Alta (near the hospital). It is likely that the new Las Garavillas

shopping centre in Arrecife will have a supermarket, too.

José Torres, President of Lanzarote's Chamber of Commerce, told us "We know of one large plot in Argana Alta that will be a supermarket, but the other announcements need to be confirmed, as it won't be the first time that such projects fail to materialise."

However, while Arrecife and Playa Honda have no shortage of supermarkets, areas such as Costa Teguise, Playa Blanca and Tahiche have very little choice. According to Torres, this isn't decided by local authorities. Instead, "supermarket chains study the populations and transport flow of potential customers before opening branches." It seems that the island's two largest towns, Arrecife and Playa Honda, still offer the best returns.

Torres believes that the arrival of Lidl and Mercadona "has helped to normalise prices, and the differences between the price of the average shop on different islands are now smaller."

Lanzarote's towns and villages still have many small shops selling fruit and vegetables, bread, fish and other products, but there are fears that these will be further threatened by more supermarkets. José Torres says "What's happening in the food sector and commerce in general has to do with globalisation trends that are difficult to resist. However, there will always be a space for small businesses that offer specialist service close to home."

#### **TOP DINOSAUR**

Gazette Life recently ran an online poll for the best of the Big Four supermarkets on the island, and the



winner was a goofy green dinosaur that is very far from becoming extinct.

Hiperdino went through some tough times after the 2008 financial crisis, but the Canarian chain has reinvented itself and its new branch opposite the airport is a sign of exactly how it has done so.

# Recently become resident in Spain? Looking for financial advice?

If you are new to Spain, you need to understand how the local tax and succession regime affects you and your family, as well as what opportunities are available to improve your situation and protect your wealth. Blevins Franks has been providing effective tax and estate planning solutions to British expatriates for 45 years, along with investment and pensions advice.

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Fourteen students passed an average of 17 different subjects in the International GCSE examinations this summer.

### A FIRST TIME EVER RECORD OF EIGHTEEN SUBJECTS PASSED AT IGCSE WITH GRADES A\*-C.

Bhavik Bhagwani, is the first person in the world to achieve this outstanding success. He speaks five languages and will go on to study Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Spanish at Advanced level.

Excellent students in the UK might pass ten or twelve subjects and one or two outstanding students in the world might obtain fourteen results, but no student outside Lanzarote will achieve excellent results in between 16 and 18 different subjects.

Marcus McCarter must also be congratulated for his outstanding success as he had the highest results in the world this year passing seventeen subjects, fourteen of which were grades A\*-A.



Marcus McCarter.

The Department for Education can award a points score for each result and by adding up the total score for each student, the youngster with the best combined GCSE results in the world can be readily be assessed. It will be some months before the Cambridge Assessment in International Education will allocate awards for the most outstanding students in any individual subject.

The strengthening of the digitally based subjects continues to be the novelty at the Hispano Británico, with four different courses on offer.

The digital world is the future of our children and yet



Bhavik Bhagwani.

it is a subject where there are very few teachers. Every child knows how to work a smart phone, but will they ever know what makes a smart phone work? Our I.T. department offers lessons given by specialist teachers to children as young as five years of age. Employment for

graduates in this subject starts at 70,000€ per year.

The most impressive achievement at Advanced level was that of Daniela Sánchez who was still 15 years and nine months old when she sat her exams this summer. She already has two full A Level subjects passed with an A\* grade and has four other AS grades A-B, in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology.



Daniela Sánchez.

One should remember that Daniela obtained the highest results in the world at GCSE last year.

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After 15 years of study, many of the students in this photo will never be seen together again.

## They're leaving home.

At the end of every school year, we invite the members of the Sixth Form to a gala dinner.



Many of these students are leaving Lanzarote to go to universities in the UK and throughout the rest of the world. These youngsters will probably never live on this island again.

Only four of this year's cohort will study subjects other than sciences

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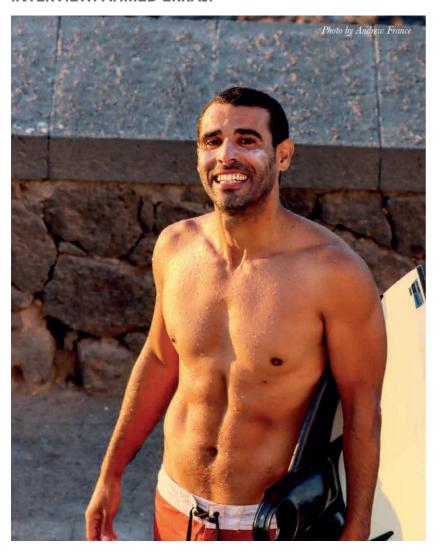
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## THE SON OF THE SEA

INTERVIEW: AHMED ERRAJI



On days when small waves roll into Lanzarote's beaches, it's common to see tourists trying a bit of bodysurfing. But surely no one would consider doing it on notorious, awe-inspiring waves such as El Quemao at La Santa. No one, that is, apart from expert bodysurfer Ahmed Erraji – also known as El Hijo del Mar (Son of the Sea).

#### Ahmed, how did you get the name "Son of the Sea"?

That was a name given to me by my grandmother, Arabia, when I was just five years old. One day my uncle took me out with some friends. We were crossing a bridge and someone said

there was an octopus in the water. I climbed up to look, and my uncle pushed me in, then jumped in after me. I couldn't swim but I doggy-paddled, crying, while he said "Come on, Ahmed." I was angry with him, but the next day I went back and did it again.



#### When did you start body-surfing?

Not much later afterwards. I've been doing it since I was seven years old, and started on the beaches of my hometown of Rabat, in Morocco.

#### Do you ever use a surfboard or body-board?

No, I only ever surf with my body. Bodysurfing is an elusive activity that a lot of people don't know about because very little information is available about it. However, most people who love the ocean at least know how to do it, and understand the importance of it. For them, it may just be a pleasurable activity. But there is something mystical about it, too.

Bodysurfing is arguably the best way to connect with the ocean's power, simply because there is nothing that separates the surfer from the waves.

#### What is the biggest danger?

The wave itself. No one really has a clue as to how waves will behave in their most extreme forms.

#### What is the riskiest situation you've been

The spots here are super intimidating, and often provide a big reality check. Rip currents, slabs, rocks, and difficult access all add up to make it difficult. You can spend a lot of energy just swimming one mile to the peak while battling the elements.

One of the riskiest situations that I remember is, during





a red weather alert, jumping from the harbour while next to me there was a big, powerful whirlpool. By luck or skill or grace I resurfaced.

#### Why do you do it?

Because I've never had a bad time while I'm bodysurfing. For me it's a sport that's more gladiatorial than athletic.

#### Do you have a special fitness regime or diet?

A plant-based diet is the basis of my health.

As regards fitness, I do most of my training in

water, swimming or free-diving with a monofin.

#### Are there any preparations for a bodysurfing session?

For some years now I've been calling the police before a session. Sometimes people who don't know what I do see a red dot in the water and think that I've lost my board or that I'm in trouble, and they call the emergency

services. So, I call ahead, tell them where and when I'm bodysurfing and what colour lycra I'll be wearing. That way I can avoid being "rescued" and wasting time and resources.

#### What's your favourite bodysurfing place?

La Santa.

#### What do you love about Lanzarote, Ahmed?

Lanzarote is a box of surprises. This island has always been compared to the moon or Mars. Once you have been stricken with the nature bug, it's impossible to stay at home! In my case, I have been hypnotized by La Santa village and its big waves.

#### What do other surfers think of what you do?

I think they have the same thinking as me. Here in La Santa there are times when there's a big swell and we get together in an outer reef line up.

This is a place that we all regard with reverence: light, water, volcanoes and motion all add up to something transcendent.

It's an exquisite suspension of all things mundane, in which nothing matters but living in that particular instant. Some people spend years meditating to capture this feeling. Others take psychedelic drugs. For me, a brief, exhilarating ride on a mountain of water does the trick.







Ian, George and Joe

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# MEGA-TSUNAMI!

A Spanish/Portuguese research team has discovered evidence of massive prehistoric mega-tsunamis on Lanzarote, Tenerife and Gran Canaria. They believe the gigantic waves were caused by immense ancient landslides, when flanks of islands collapsed into the sea.



Ancient sea bed deposits at Piedra Alta. Photo: Geoparque Lanzarote

he research team, led by Mercedes Ferrer, of Spain's Geological and Mining Institute (IGME), and Luis González de Vallejo, Geological Risk director at the Canarian Volcano Institute, claim that deposits found in the Lanzarote area of Piedra Alta, on the coast between Playa Blanca and Janubio, show that a gigantic tsunami may have hit the island around 150,000 years ago.

The team analysed massive deposits of fossilized seashells and marine sediments located 15 to 21 metres above current sea level at Piedra Alta. These deposits were originally thought to be due to the land rising through volcanic action, but the mixture of deep-water and shallow-water species suggests a more violent process, leading to the current theory that tsunamis

dragged up immense amounts of the seabed and deposited them inland.

The sea level in the Pleistocene era, when the tsunami occurred, was around 20 to 100 metres lower than it is at present, meaning that the tsunami that hit Lanzarote is estimated at 125 metres high.

The team also discovered evidence of even bigger tsunamis in the Agaete region of Gran Canaria and at Teno and Isla Baja in Tenerife. They believe these tsunamis were likely to have been caused by immense flank landslides that took place in northern Tenerife.



#### WAVE OF DESTRUCTION

The discovery is sure to revive discussion of the BBC Horizon documentary Mega-Tsunami: Wave of Destruction, first shown in 200. In this famous programme, scientist



The September equinox brings the highest tides of the year.



Simon Day claimed that the collapse of the massive Cumbre Vieja ridge on the island of La Palma could cause a massive tsunami that would cause widespread destruction on the eastern coast of America, where 40 million people live.

Day's claims have been frequently challenged since, with some claiming that a tsunami was likely to diminish while crossing the Atlantic. But the recent findings certainly show that there is potential for local mega-tsunamis in the Canaries.

The good news is that Cumbre Vieja's collapse is more likely to be gradual, and there has only been one major flank landslide in recorded history (since 5,000 BC).

Source: Megatsunamis Induced by Volcanic Landslides in the Canary Islands: Age of the Tsunami Deposits and Source Landslides. Geohazard Magazine

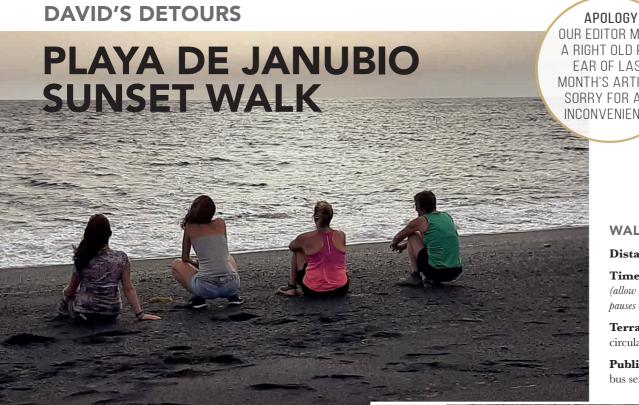
#### TIDAL EXTREMES

While tsunamis remain highly unlikely, anyone on Lanzarote will be able to see the impressive force of tides on the 8th to 9th of this month, when the highest tides of the year will occur in the Canaries.

Named the Mareas del Pino, as they coincide with the feast day of the Virgin of the Pine, these tides signify the end of summer for many Canarians. It's common to see entire beaches underwater at their height, and, as the tides are also at their lowest, many islanders can be seen collecting seafood from shores that are usually underwater.

These tides are likely to occur on the 8th and 9th of September this year, with the highest tides occurring between 3 and 4 pm.

Cumbre Vieja -Photo: Turismo Canarias



**OUR EDITOR MADE** A RIGHT OLD PIG'S EAR OF LAST MONTH'S ARTICLE. SORRY FOR ANY **INCONVENIENCE** 

#### **WALK INFO**

Distance: 5 kms

Time: 1 hr 15 mins (allow 2 hours for photos, pauses etc).

Terrain: Easy flat circular walk.

Public transport: No bus service available.

David Penney guides a group along the Playa de Janubio - a stark black strand where sea, sky, surf and black sand meet, and which often offers magnificent sunset views.

At the end of a very hot calima day where temperatures hit mid 30s during the daytime, we all agreed to enjoy the cooler evening breezes at Janubio.

We parked in the big parking area on the north west side of Las Salinas (the salt pans) and set off towards the disused molina (a light windmill, not to be confused with the larger molinos), keeping the ocean on our right and Las Salinas on our left.

When we arrived at la molina we pause for a few photos and I tell the girls about the history and the purpose of them being introduced to pump water in and out of the salt pans. I also shared the tall story which I often tell the tourists to have a bit of fun, that the area of Las Salinas is famous because here they "grow the salt" to put it in the ocean and make the water salty!

We continue walking towards the cliff face in front of us and I ask everyone to stop talking and walk quietly so we can see the various species of wading birds who have made their home here.

The best time to see these birds is early morning, as they are more noticeable. I tell them to keep a special eye out for the



black winged stilts, which reside here all year round and can easily be identified by their black-and-white body and very distinctive long red legs. As we approach, a group of about a dozen stilts are disturbed and take off, skimming the water with their legs tucked up flush to their bodies.

Some of the water around this area can have a film of chemical build up as it is almost stagnant and not fully refreshed by the tides. Here you will see some colourful fauna and vegetation which survives on the water's edge and attracts the insects, which some of the birds feed on.

As we are now facing the rocky cliff in front of us, I suggest that we continue along the water's edge and head over to the cliff face and explore that area. This is the site of a mini barranco (ravine) which has been formed by the rain water running down the rocks and creating an almost smooth surface exposing various colours. Red is from iron oxidation (rust) and yellowy-orange is sulphur phosphate.



Next, we make our way over to the abandoned buildings and realise that it has been "adopted" by a German guy who has some of his personal items inside. Although he was not "at home", we respectfully moved on to the aljibe (sealed water tank). As we approached, a feral cat was disturbed and went scurrying up a water pipe to avoid us.

We now follow the track up to the other carparking area, which is on the south west side of Las Salinas and is accessed from a rough track from the LZ-701 which runs parallel with the LZ2 down to Playa Blanca.

At this point we start our return back along the black sand beach of Playa del Janubio. The tide was out, so the wet sand was peppered with tiny particles of olivina, the green semi-precious crystal.

We paused for a few photos on the beach, but on this occasion the sky was hazy because of the calima that the island experienced, so we didn't get to enjoy a spectacular sunset. We were greeted by a friendly dog who came running along the beach to



#### "JANUBIO OFFFRS **INCREDIBLE** SUNSET VIEWS OF SKY, SURF AND SAND."

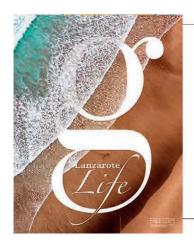
check us out in the hope we may have a snack bar left to share with him.

The car park ahead of us was filling up with hire cars and locals who choose this as a good place to watch the evening sun disappear over the ocean.

A few of us drove back to Yaiza to have a cool drink and it was a nice finish to a pleasant evening stroll with friends.

> Photos supplied courtesy of everyone, including Michelle

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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## Underwater World

The sea is at its warmest this month, meaning there's no better time to put on a mask and a snorkel and discover some of the amazing creatures that surround the island.

Some of the best places to snorkel on Lanzarote are the protected lagoons in the tourist resorts – Playa Jablillo in Costa Teguise, Playa Chica in Puerto del Carmen and Playa Dorada and Flamingo in Playa Blanca are all good. There are plenty of other places, too, but the lagoons are ideal for beginners.

All you need is a decent dive mask and a snorkel. Avoid the cheap ones at the souvenir shops and ask at dive shops and dive centres instead. Full-face masks are all the rage right now, but are not as versatile as the old mask and tube combination.

Don't forget to stay safe – take a partner or let someone know where you are, and watch out for boats, jetskis and other craft. The only sea creatures that may harm you are jellyfish, which only arrive here rarely. Most of the year you'll never see one.

What you may see are turtles, sea bass, albacore tuna, stingrays, eagle rays, torpedo rays, barracuda, angel sharks, triggerfish, pipefish, octopuses, butterfly cone shells, groupers, moray eels, spider crabs, massive anchovy shoals and dozens of other species.

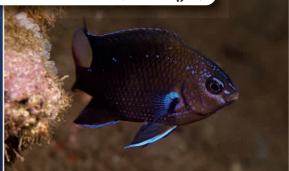
Here are nine of the species that you're most likely to find in a Lanzarote lagoon.

#### Ornate Wrasse (Pez Verde)



This brightly coloured little fish can be seen almost everywhere darting around rocks. Most are females, but keep your eyes out for the larger, differently coloured male fish. Strangely, these fish actually lie down on their sides for a sleep at night.

#### Blue Damselfish (Fula Negra)



Jet black with vivid, electric blue fins, this feisty fish is another common sight around rocks. They're very territorial, and you'll often see then squabbling with other fish. Hold your finger out and they might have a peck at it, too.

#### Red Mullet (Salmonete)



This mullet is pink, but as red light doesn't penetrate far under water they usually look grey. Usually seen on sandy seabeds using their beard-like barbels to sense food, which they then snort up and filter. They're usually seen in small groups of two to five.

#### Dream Fish (Salema)



One of several sea bream found around the island, this one stands out for golden stripes on silver background, and its habit of forming large shoals, which graze on rocks like herds of cattle or swirl around over sandy seabeds.

#### Parrotfish (Vieja)



A large fish that is usually seen bustling quickly around rocks and using it's tough beak and lips to finds bits of food. Females are a brightly coloured red, grey and yellow, while males are a duller green.

#### Cuttlefish (Sepia)



Often seen on sandy seabeds, where they try and merge into the background, these unmistakeable molluscs will usually start changing colour if you approach them, before shooting off – sometimes leaving a few squirts of ink to distract you.

#### Sea Urchin (Erizo)



There are several species of sea urchin around Lanzarote, and you'll sometimes see them camouflaging themselves with shells and stones. Keep an eye out for their skeletons, which are green, red, purple, brown and, once in a while, pure white.

#### Pearly Razorfish (Pejepeine)

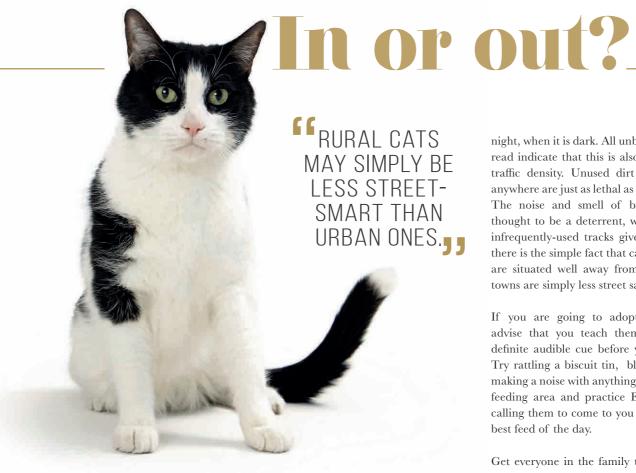


A beautifully-coloured fish shaped like a machete blade, this likeable fish will turn its body towards you so you don't see it so clearly. It's a solitary character, often seen following other sea animals as it waits for a stray scrap of food

#### Garfish (Aguja)



The long, needle-shaped garfish is one of the strangest fish around Lanzarote. They live in shoals and, unlike other fish, are always seen at surface of the water. Try and chase one and it may disappear before your eyes—in fact, it's jumped out the water to escape.



#### LANZAROTE VET JANE BURKE ASSESSES THE RISKS OF LIFE OUTDOORS, FOR CURIOUS CATS AND HOT DOGS.

I recently posted a Facebook list of the many ways that keeping cats indoors can, and does, benefit them. However, as with just about everything, there are pros and cons. Keeping cats indoors does provide safety from risks such as road accidents, cat/dog/rat fights, theft, infection, poisoning, traps; the likelihood of your cat killing and maining other little creatures or ruining your neighbour's garden, (as well as your own), to mention but a few.

But one has to balance all this against your family's freedom from indoor cat toilet smells and your pets' pleasure in the freedom they have to explore the outside world, to climb trees, to hunt, to roll in the dust, to snooze in the sun and to check out next door's facilities!

So you see, it is never a simple decision and will depend to a considerable extent on the place that you live in and the cats and other pets you own. Don't be too quick to judge those whose choice differs from your own

There is, however, one indisputable statistic that I would like to share. Most tragic fatalities of pet cats occur in the night, when it is dark. All unbiased studies I have read indicate that this is also true regardless of traffic density. Unused dirt tracks miles from anywhere are just as lethal as our main highways. The noise and smell of busy main roads is thought to be a deterrent, whilst poorly-lit and infrequently-used tracks give them none. Also, there is the simple fact that cats from homes that are situated well away from the bustle of the towns are simply less street savvy.

If you are going to adopt a cat I strongly advise that you teach them to respond to a definite audible cue before you let them loose. Try rattling a biscuit tin, blowing a whistle, or making a noise with anything that is kept by their feeding area and practice EVERY EVENING calling them to come to you before dusk for the best feed of the day.

Get everyone in the family to use the same tin to bang on, the same sing-song call, the same whistle, whatever it is - a clear familiar noise that will carry a long way and is always followed by something really good to eat. Only let them out



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hungry for very short periods for the first week. Give them chance to get their bearings and route home clear before giving them time to wander off and get lost. An old English belief was that cats would not run away from new homes if you buttered their feet, but this is much safer and more effective!

Furthermore, before you let them wander, PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR FEMALE KITTENS ARE NEUTERED (and ear tagged or microchipped or both) before they ever go outside. Those who allow them to have even one litter are cruel and selfish. They are guilty of producing hundreds of unwanted kittens, down the line, to starve and die of untreated disease and neglect. Pet owners, charity workers or veterinary personnel who allow or condone a kitten having one litter are responsible for every consequential kitten and should be deeply ashamed of themselves.

Every European and British veterinary society has published studies that evidence neutering between 12 and 16weeks is more beneficial and less hazardous for the individual cat, and brings fewer long-term health disadvantages. If you re- house any un-neutered kitten that you do not or cannot ensure is neutered, you are as bad as the blighters that take her and let her breed. You are the cause of horrendous unending suffering.

Indisputably, cats are best neutered at 10-16 weeks. Those who claim otherwise are uneducated, uncaring or both. Get them neutered before they are allowed out to get gang-banged and pregnant. This is not a choice for a young female cat. They have no choices, it is forced upon them, Whilst many enjoy the few brief weeks breast-feeding their babies, all of these babies suffer and many of them die.

Ideally, get all their vaccines done and leave at least a one-week resting period after the second doses to ensure they are fully protected before they go out. Discuss and decide on anti-flea (and worming) protocols so they do not carry visitors into your home. One flea produces thousands of eggs in 10 brief days, in their beds and yours, as well as the furniture and carpets.

#### **POOR PAWS**

While we're talking about outdoors; despite living here for 25 plus years now, it never fails to distress me to see the number of unthinking idiots walking their dogs ( some even take them running ) in the hot summer sun or stifling calimas.

remember. Both were post-beach trips and fortunately neither was fatal. Prompt coldwater hosing with shampoo ( or in one case Fairy Liquid) before a soggy trip in a car with windows down were what saved them.

I have, however, seen eight cases of severe paw damage in dogs that were taken out



For heaven's sake, don't take dogs out on hot sunny days. Not in the car, not on the roads and for mercy's sake not on the beach. I see so many with blistered, ruined pads., sudden collapse or dire breathing problems, and their owners cannot see the connection to the kids' game outside or a nice couple of hours on the seashore.

Most dogs have a waterproof coat. They do not get wet and are not cooled by water on top of their fur. In fact, the water evaporates making it impossible for them to lose heat panting which is their only hope! The more they pant the hotter they get from the muscular activity; the hotter they get the more they pant and so on until heat stroke

Surprisingly, I have seen only two cases of heat stroke this summer. I suspect this has more to do with the severe financial crisis than the worst summer weather I can

running or biking by their unfurry family. These people were all caring, educated people who had not grasped the real danger of hot floors. The few sweat glands of dogs and cats are situated between their paw pads. This salty moisture soaks into and softens the blistering / peeling skin, worsening the damage. It is very, very painful and very difficult to heal. The damage from a short thoughtless run in the sun can require weeks of dressings and antibiotics.

Let's hope this Covid crisis is reaching an end. Reaching a point where it doesn't ruin lives and livelihoods. Let's clean our pets' water bowls and fill them with sparkling clean water to share a toast with us all as we raise a glass to vaccination controlling yet another deadly pandemic - and the forces that be taking control of our disgusting animal industries to prevent the next one...

## **Prize Crossword**





LANZAROTE DENOMINACIÓN DE ORIGEN

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#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Commonest surname in Wales (5)
- **1.** Extremely worried and excited (7)
- S. Connected with marriage (7),
- 9. To jump over something, perhaps with a pole (5)
- **10.** Round, like a ball (9)
- 11. Colour or shade (3)
- 12. Pale orange fruit with a stone (7)
- 11. Russian pancakes (5)
- **16.** Not large (6)
- 17. Amazon's e-reader (6)
- **19.** Fit of temper (7)
- 21 & 1 across: Jamaican fashion icon and singer of Slave To The Rhythm (5,5)
- 22. .... Elliott, who performed Get Ur Freak On (5)
- 23. 1997 sci-fi film starring Uma Thurman and Ethan Hawke (7)

There are two prizes available for this month's crossword. One winner will receive a bottle of wine from the La Geria bodega, while another will get a €10 voucher for Hankey Panky's Restaurant in CC Montaña Tropical, Puerto del Carmen.

Last month's winners were Steve Gunning, who wins a €10 voucher for Hankey Panky''s, and Louise Tillin, who gets a bottle of La Geria's finest. Well done, you two!

Send your answers to us at editorial@gazettelive, WhatsApp to 628 628 083 or deliver them to our office in Tías before the 15th of the month.

#### **DOWN**

- **1. & 1 across:** US actor who was the original voice of Darth Vader (5,4)
- **2 & 1 across:** US singer of Come Away With Me (5,5)
- **3.** Ironic, mocking and humorous (9)
- **4 & 1 across:** British actress who won acclaim in The Theory of Everything (8, 5)
- **5.** Tool where blacksmith works metal (5)
- 6. Come into physical contact (5)
- **7 & 1 across:** Welsh actress who shot to fame in The Darling Buds of May (9,4,5)
- **13.** Television viewing figures (7)
- 13 & 1 across: Renee Zellweger played this comic character in three films (7,5)
- **13 & 1 across:** Archeology professor played by Harrison Ford (7,5)
- **18.** Thick air pollution in cities (4)
- 19 & 1 across: Welsh singer of Sex Bomb (3,5)
- **20.** Flat fish or beam of light (3)

Last month's answers Across: 1. Leicester City 8. Warship 9. Ticks 10. S.O.S. 11. Reference 12. Axle 13. Shipyard 15. Idaho 16. Poultry 18. Tank Top 20. Corfu 23. Notice 24. Serbia. Down: 1. Lewis Hamilton 2. Idris Elba 3. Ether 4. Top of the Pops 5. Rat Trap 6. In Contact 7. Yesterday 14. Poetic 17. Uncle 19. Net 21. Rib 22. Uma

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Susana Villa, beauty consultant at Estetica Los Arcos at CC Los Arcos in Puerto del Carmen, shares the secrets of a professional pedicure.

Our feet are so important to us that, paradoxically, we often don't give them the care they deserve. But in summer they're likely to be on display more than ever, so now's the time to give your tootsies some TLC.

Remember that our feet allow us to balance and walk and carry the entire weight of our body. That is why it is important to maintain their care at all stages of life, but even more so in old age.

Men don't always know about pedicures, but once they try it, they return to visit us faithfully every month.

Here are the eight steps to show off perfect feet this summer.

#### STEP 1

Sanitize the area and remove any nail polish. Next, we will carry out an assessment of the condition of the foot. Sometimes, we find the presence of fungi, stretch marks and brittle nails. It is vital that the tools used are completely sterilized for their treatment.

#### STEP 2

Cut the nails straight (never oblique or oval) respecting the length of the toes. In this way we can promote natural growth and avoid ingrown toenails.





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File and shape. The key is to file in one direction to avoid breaking and damaging the nail.

#### STEP 4

Push back and clean. At this time, we will apply a suitable product to soften the cuticles and skin at the side of the nails. This allows us to remove and clean avoiding any type of small injuries.

#### STEP 5

Cut cuticles as needed. This improves the appearance of the nail but it is also the natural barrier that protects us from possible infections.

#### STEP 6

Soften corns and callouses. Next, apply a foot scrub. In this way we eliminate all the dead cells and the remains of dead and cracked skin.

A good hydration combined with a relaxing massage helps treatments penetrate the skin and decongests the area.

#### STEP 8

A good long-lasting enamel but always remember that it is important to remove the enamel before fifteen days to let the nail breathe to prevent it from showing without shine, yellowish because the pigments of the lacquer can penetrate into the upper layer over time.

Now you're ready to show off your feet for the summer!

#### TOE TONES

**BEFORE YOU GET** THOSE LITTLE PIGGIES PAINTED, IT'S TIME TO **BRUSH UP ON THE IN-**TREND SHADES.

Vivid natural pinks such as coral and watermelon are always on-trend in summer, while you can reflect Lanzarote's natural love of contrast and colour with vivid lime green or yellow pops.

But pastel shades are definitely having a moment right now, and pearly lilacs and even cool, frosted blues reflect the fact that you're a cool customer.

Above all, don't forget to have a nude shade to hand – perfect for Lanzarote's natural, no-hassle vibe.



CAROLINA HERRERA



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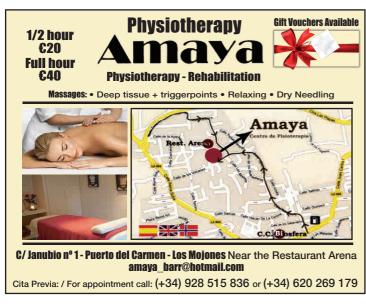
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#### RUN. CYCLE. SWIM

Triathlon has become a way of life on Lanzarote, and the return of the Ironman race in July was one of the first and most welcome signs that the island was returning to normality, just as the Ocean Lava Race will be next month. But the three separate elements of triathlon are all well-catered for around the island, as well.

Joggers, runners and the increasing amount of 5K acolytes can be seen every morning and evening, pounding the promenades. Lanzarote beauty, breezes and level terrain make it the perfect spot for running, and several are already training for the island's oldest sporting event - the Lanzarote Marathon on December 9th.

Swimmers will find the sea off Lanzarote's shores at the most perfect temperatures

this month - so delightful that you'll want to stay in for ages.

Cyclists are, once again, a common sight on the island's roads, and there are expert cycle hire companies offering everything from top-of-the-range sports bikes, to e-bikes.

#### **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Team sports have been seriously affected by the pandemic, but the Canaries' recovery from Covid promises that they'll be back up and running fairly normally. Other sports, such as tennis and padel, are already booming back.

Soon, the northern swells will start rolling into the north of the island, bringing perfect conditions for surfers, while the breezes off Costa Teguise offer a paradise for windsurfers. September's calm weather often brings the

## TAP INTO THE

If you wish to explore something a little more spiritual, investigate voga and meditation on the island. This is an island where the air is continually refreshed; where the weather is almost always kind, and where you can feel the power of the volcanic energy just a few metres beneath us and the incredible nature that has developed on the island

Many classes take place in the open air, allowing you to commune with the primal energy and unique essence of this incredible place.

sort of mirror-like seas that stand-up paddleboarders love to make the most of.

The lack of tourists over the last year has given Lanzarote's nature a breathing space, and walking around the resorts or further afield is a genuine pleasure at this time of year.

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## **SUPERMARKET** ADVENTURES PT. 4

Three more products not to miss in Spanish supermarkets and shops.

#### **CIDER**

Just like Britain, cider in Spain is associated with a particular place, and the northern region of Asturias is the Spanish Somerset.

Sidra is a festive drink in Spain (although surprisingly cheap), and you'll find various foil-topped bottles, champagne-corked to keep the fizz in, on sale, with the most famous brand probably being El Gaitero. Sidra natural is non-fizzy cider, with a distinct touch of scrumpy about it. In Asturias they make their own bubbles by "throwing" it into plain glasses with the arm stretched above the head.

#### **SARDINES**

If you like tinned fish, you've come to the right place. You can get sardines back home, of course, but the range and quality are nowhere near what you'll find here. Choose between sardinas and sardinillas (smaller fish), and decide whether you want them in

vegetable oil, virgin olive oil, smoked, escabeche (a light vinaigrette), tomato sauce, lemon or picante (spicy). A basic tin will cost less than a Euro, but it's worth trying the more gourmet brands, too.

Add some good bread, sliced red onion and olives and you've got the perfect light lunch.

CIDER IS A PARTY DRINK IN SPAIN. 55

#### **PIMENTÓN**

Pimentón is probably the definitive Spanish spice, giving colour and flavour to hundreds of dishes. It's what make chorizo red, and an essential element in patatas bravas, pulpo a la gallega and Canarian red mojos.

Basically, it's finely ground dried red peppers - exactly the same as Hungarian paprika. You'll find it in dulce or picante varieties, as well as smoked and unsmoked.

> Most supermarkets will have a few varieties on sale. Make sure it's kept tightly sealed to maintain the flavour, and don't keep it for too long.

# Pinchos Morunos



Grilled, skewered meat and vegetables are the perfect barbecue combination, and the very definition of street or party food.

There are two keys to this dish. First, the meat should be of the best quality - a little fat will add more delicious flavour and texture.

Second is the marinade, which gives the meat that delicious spicy flavour. We've used a Canarian adobo here, with that deep spicy tang and a mouth-watering touch of vinegar. Crush the salt, garlic and cumin in a pestle and mortar. Place in a bowl and add other ingredients. Then add the meat cubes and make sure each one is well coated. Refrigerate for at least two hours (preferably overnight).

Thread the meat onto the skewers, separating each chunk with a piece of pepper, onion, courgette or tomato.

Grill on medium high heat until the meat is well browned and the vegetables sightly charred.

#### (CANARIAN KEBABS)

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#### INGREDIENTS

- Wooden skewers (soaked in water for 20 minutes to avoid burning)
- 500 gms lamb, pork or beef, in 2.5 cm (1 inch) cubes
- Red, green and yellow pepper
- Courgettes
- Red onion
- Tomatoes

For the marinade

- 4 tbspns olive oil
- 1 tspn cumin seeds
- 1 tspn dried oregano
- 1 tspn dried thyme
- 3 cloves garlic
- 1 tspn sea salt
- 1 tbspn pimentón dulce
- 1 chopped red chilli
- 3 tbspns cider vinegar

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



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#### IF YOU LIKE

## Piña Colada

Want to join the P.C. Brigade? All you need is three ingredients and a lazy Lanzarote afternoon.

#### **INGREDIENTS**

The recipe is a simple 3:3:9 mixture of three ingredients:

- 30 ml of White Rum (Archucas, Hayana Club, Bacardi etc)
- 30 ml Cream of Coconut
- 90 ml Pineapple Juice

Many bartenders add a dash of fresh lime juice to add a little citrus zing.

Cream of coconut can be made by heating 375g of sugar with a 400 ml tin of coconut milk and adding a pinch of salt. Then chill. You can also mix equal quantities of coconut milk and sweetened

If juicing fresh pineapples proves too expensive, just use the flesh of one, blended with a carton of pineapple juice. Don't forget to



You can fight about whether they belong on a pizza or not, but there are no arguments about the place of pineapples in a classic Piña (pronounced peen-ya) Colada.

Some say the cocktail was invented by a Caribbean pirate, others a Puerto Rican barman, but everyone agrees it's one of the classic summer cocktails and first choice for anyone who fancies spending an afternoon floating on an inflatable flamingo in the pool.

#### **METHOD**

Place in a cocktail shaker or blender with crushed ice and give it a whizz or a good shake until you get a creamy texture. Serve in a hurricane glass if you've got one, and decorate with a pineapple slice, a couple of cherries on a swizzle stick and a cocktail umbrella. Now climb onto your inflatable and enjoy!

**Tip:** Variations on the Piña Colada include the Chi Chi (vodka instead of rum), the Kiwi Colada (Kiwi fruit and a little syrup instead of pineapple) and the PC Float (served with a scoop of vanilla ice cream and topped with Sprite).









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# ARKET FORCES



Here's a quick guide to the biggest markets on Lanzarote, charming farmer's from markets where you can buy fresh produce, to handicrafts and souvenirs and gifts.

**TEGUISE** Open on Sundays from 9am to 2pm, Teguise Market is one of Lanzarote's most popular outings. Covid restrictions have limited the

actual market to an enclosed area in the main square, but the rest of Teguise is also very much open for business, and worth exploring.

Local shopkeeper Laura Manfield told us "There is so much to explore at Teguise Market on a Sunday, all the local shops in and around the streets of Teguise are open and waiting for you! From cafes and restaurants, to local crafts, arts, clothing and much more. The market stalls are only a small part of Teguise on a Sunday so make sure you don't miss out on all the shops as well, you never know what you might find! We are waiting to welcome you!"

ARRECIFE Arrecife's Saturday morning market in the Plaza de San Ginés is well worth a trip if you like organic and fresh fruit and veg, local cheeses, baked goods and other treats. The city centre usually has a buzz about it on Saturday, with plenty of shoppers and frequent events such as live music. It starts early at 8 am, and winds up at 2 pm.



Arrecife Saturday market

HARÍA

Probably the prettiest market on the island, Haría's main square fills with stalls selling handmade crafts and some organic fruit and veg on Saturday mornings from 10 am until 2.30 pm.

It's worth visiting the municipal market on C/ Barranco de Tesnesia while you're there. It's a busy place with a handful of great little stalls.

MANCHA BLANCA If you're going to Mancha Blanca this month, try and make it on the morning of Sunday the 12th, when the traditional weekly food market will be joined by the annual craft fair - where you can see and

buy incredible hand made articles of all types.

SAN BARTOLOMÉ

The first Sunday of each month, from 9am to 2pm, sees a food market in the lovely Plaza León y Castillo of San Bartolomé, just in front of the town's impressive theatre and Town Hall buildings.

**BLANCA** PLAYA MARINA RUBICÓN

Souvenirs and gifts can be bought in the sleek surroundings of the Marina Rubicón every Wednesday and Saturday from 9am until 2 pm.



#### **INGREDIENTS**

## CRUNCHY POTATO TORTITAS WITH PICKLES

Jon Pérez, head chef at the amazing Kenewa restaurant on the Charco de San Ginés, offers a simple and flavour-packed snack that gives you the opportunity to explore the range of pickles available in Spain. These include boquerones (anchovies preserved in vinegar), pepinillos (gherkins) and pickled chillies called *piparras*. You can add your own pickles, such as silverskins, if you like.

#### **METHOD**

Peel the potatoes, wash well and grate them, adding salt, pepper and a little olive oil to stop them from discolouring.

Heat a little oil in a frying pan or griddle and flatten the grated potatoes out into a "pancake" shape, When golden underneath, flip with a spatula and repeat. Put aside.

Mix the tomato paste with the mayonnaise and put the dressing in a piping bag or any squeezable container with a nozzle.

Heat plenty of oil to 180 degrees C in a deep fryer or deep frying pan. Fry the potato cakes until crunchy (about one minute). Drain and pat down



Jon's Tip:

with kitchen paper.

Serve the potato cakes on a plate and add the toppings, with blobs or streaks of dressing as you like.

# KENEWA

Nikkei Food

## LA GRACIOSA: WHERE TIME STANDS STILL



La Graciosa is one of the highlights of anybody's trip to Lanzarote, but it's worth planning it an advance.

Most people who visit La Graciosa will be on a day trip. That's because accommodation is scarce and highly in-demand on the island, and the campsite is closed until October 15th due to Covid restrictions. So be sure to catch an early ferry and make the most of your day. The views of the Famara cliffs from the ferry are one of the highlights of the trip, although it can get a bit rough.

#### CALETA DE SEBO

You'll arrive at the harbour of La Graciosa's capital, Caleta de Sebo – a scattering of sugarcube houses on sandy, untarmacked streets. There are some nice cafes and restaurants along the seafront, and other tempting establishments are hidden away in the back streets. You'll also find a couple of small supermarkets and a tiny museum. It's a great place just to let time go by and watch the imposing cliffs of Lanzarote across the water.

#### **GETTING AROUND**

The only motor vehicles that will get you around La Graciosa are 4X4s. There are 14 taxis on the island, and you'll probably have to book yours well in advance.

Cyclists can hire bikes, but walking is easiest. In both cases, you'll need to take sun protection and any food and water vou'll need.

#### **BEACHES AND VOLCANOES**

Playa Francesa is 3 kms to the west of Caleta de Sebo, and the spectacular Playa de la Cocina, set in an azure cove overlooked by a volcano the colour of cinder toffee and chocolate, is another kilometre or so further on. Or you can head off north for a 5 km walk to the Playa de la Concha, one of the most spectacular unspoiled strands in the Canaries.

Hikers may want to scale Montaña Amarilla or the isle's two highest peaks, Agujas Grandes and Agujas Chicas. Both offer amazing views and astounding volcanic colours.

#### **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

La Graciosa and Órzola both offer private sailing trips aound La Graciosa, and it is possible to hire a 4X4 for a guided "Safari" of the island. Scuba divers can enjoy some of the most spectacular marine life in the Canaries.



# NEVER STOP EXPLORING



# BEACH READY!



It's September and my favourite month of the year in Lanzarote – the weather is generally on its best behaviour this month... average temperatures are a steady 23-25 degrees, with around 12 hours of sunlight per day AND those winds are much less evident - just right in fact, for grabbing your beach bag and heading off to the beach!

What are we going to pack into it? Let's check out the beach essentials list in Spanish too.

The towel La toalla (la tow-WHY-ah) **Swimsuit** El bañador (el ban-YA-door)

Sun glasses Las gafas de sol (las GAFF-az de sol) El sombrero (el som-BRARE-oh) Hat

Something to read Algo para leer (AL-go para lay-AIR)

Water Agua (AG-wah)

Sun screen Protector solar (pro-TECT-or SOL-ar)

Sun screen is probably THE most important. Even on those rare cloudy days in Lanzarote the UV index is high, so a good SPF filter applied regularly, is essential, especially for children, in and out of the water.

A few hours in the sun is a great way to relax, but what if the worst happens and your skin gets burned? Here are some useful phrases to use:

Where is the nearest pharmacy? ¿Dónde está la farmacia más cercana?

(DON-day es-TA la far-MA-thee-ah mas ther-CAN-ah)

I have sunburn. Tengo quemaduras de sol.

(tengo kay-ma-DOO-raz day sol)

It is painful. Es doloroso.

(es doll-or-ROSE-oh)

Aftersun lotion. Loción para después del sol.

(low-thi-ON para des-PWEZ del sol)



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The August holidays are over, and Lanzarote's cultural scene is now quickly getting back to normal. There are some incredible concerts in store, and César Manrique's arts centre in Arrecife, El Almacén, is back up and running after renovation. There are also markets, sporting events and much more...

# THEATRE

# REMEDIOS NATURALES. DESTILADO **EN RE MENOR (NATURAL REMEDIES** DISTILLED IN D MINOR)

#### 11th September

Three women clowns perform a hilarious musical show for all the family. (Spanish language) 6pm, Teatro El Salinero, Arrecife. Entry €6 at www.culturalanzarote.com



# LAS PLANTAS (THE PLANTS)

## 17th & 18th September

A lonely, mistreated woman shares her problems and thoughts with her houseplants. A one-woman play performed by Lanzarote actress Yuri Fontes (Spanish language) 8pm. CIC El Almacen, Arrecife. Entry €10 at culturalanzarote.com

# **SPORT**

## I RALLYSPRINT YAIZA

#### 4th September

Motor rally that takes place in the south of the island, around Femes, Las Brenas and Yaiza.



### **LANZAROTE SUMMER CHALLENGE 2021**

## 11th September

International crossfit championship in Arrecife www.lanzarotesummerchallenge.com

# **TINAJO YOU TRAIL 2021**

### 12th September

5th edition of Tinajo's gruelling trail race www.tinajoyoutrail.com

# **MUSIC**

## **CAMERISTI CROMATICI "FROM BAROQUE TO SOUNDTRACKS**"

#### 4th September

A talented quartet led by the late Ennio Morricone's principal oboeist, Carlo Romano, play works by Scarletti, Albinoni, Nino Rota and Morricone. 8 pm. Teatro El Salinero, Arrecife.



### M-CLAN

#### 23rd September

M-Clan are one of Spain's most popular rock groups, but at this concert their singer Carlos Tarque and guitarist Ricardo Ruipérez present stripped-down acoustic versions of their best known hits.

8pm. Teatro El Salinero, Arrecife. Entry €22 at www.culturalanzarote.com

#### CRISTIAN DE MORET

### 25th September

The amazing flamenco electric guitarist presented his first album Supernova earlier this year. 8pm, Teatro El Salinero, Arrecife.

Entry €15 at www.culturalanzarote.com







# EXHIBITIONS

FRANCISCO MONTELONGO & FRANCISCO RODRIGUEZ - LA ORILLA (THE COAST)

3rd September until November



Two Lanzarote artists present an exhibition inspired by Lanzarote's

CIC El Almacen, Arrecife, 10am-9pm Mon-fri, 10 am - 2pm Sat. Free entry.

## OSCURA (DARK) BY IVAN VILELLA

20th September until 18th December

A 15-minute audiovisual work. CIC El Almacen, Arrecife, Free entry.

# **CINEMA**

# **FIRST COW**

### 29th September

A chance to see Kelly Reichardt's critically acclaimed film starring Ewan Bremner and Toby Jones (English language with Spanish s/ts 8.30 pm. Cinema Buñuel, El Almacén, Arrecife

## Saturdays and Wednesdays:

Marina Rubicon Market, Playa Blanca Souvenirs and gifts

## Saturday mornings Arrecife Market

Fruit, vegetables, dairy, plants, baked goods etc Plaza de San Ginés, Arrecife

# Haria Market

Handicrafts and food

# Sunday mornings

Teguise Market The island's biggest market

#### Mancha Blanca market

Fruit, vegetables etc.

# 10th -15th September Feria de Artesania de Lanzarote, Mancha Blanca

An unmissable craft fair which marks the Romeria de los Dolores.

## 11th September. SARA Flea Market

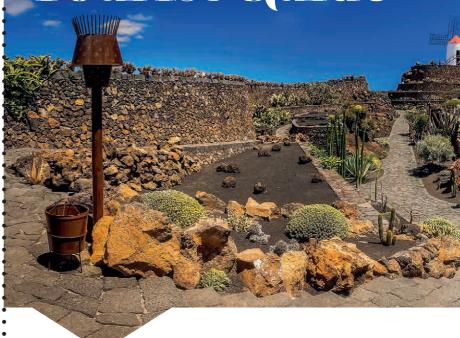
Sara Animal Shelter, Tahiche. 10 am to 12 midday.

# 18th September Second Hand Market, for Doggys

### del Sur and Creciendo Yaiza

9.30 am to 2 pm. La Aurora (C/Marisco 29), Playa Blanca

# Tourist Guide



Lanzarote still isn't quite back on its feet yet. The opening of Rancho Texas last month was great news, but many other attractions remain temporarily closed, so be sure to check in advance. The official Centres of Art, Culture and Tourism (CACTs) are all open, though, and all are 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

# 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.



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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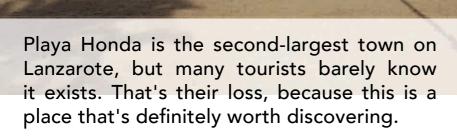
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# Playa Honda



Playa Honda lies on the coast between Arrecife and the airport, and its broad, golden beaches of natural sand are larger than any in the resorts. Playa Honda itself is delightful, while the Playa de la Concha, tucked away on the eastern edge of the town, is one of Lanzarote's hidden jewels that tourists rarely discover.

It's a brisk 8 km hike there and back along the coast from Puerto del Carmen, with beaches all the way, but many prefer to jump on the bus and alight at the Deiland shopping centre instead.

Deiland is currently the island's biggest shopping centre, and the main shopping attraction in Playa Honda, with a cinema, bowling alley and several cafes. The busy



industrial zone on the other side of the motorway also has several shops. It's not the most pedestrian friendly of areas, but you'll find shops, such as the gourmet grocery CanaryMeat, that are unique on the island.



In the town itself, it's worth taking a walk down C/ del Mayor and C/Princesa Ico for other shopping opportunities, and C/ San Borondón also has some interesting bars and restaurants. But the real magnet for tourists is the seafront.

On the right day or evening, Playa Honda's promenade has a buzz that is unmatchable anywhere else on the island. This is a young town, home to many of the people who work in the resorts, and there are several excellent bars and restaurants dotted along the seafront. We'd recommend Nakai, the Japanese-inspired restaurant that one of Lanzarote's most exciting young chefs, Jon Pérez, has set up.



Playa Honda is the ideal place to take a table, enjoy that view of golden sand and a distant ocean horizon, indulge in some people watching and just relax.





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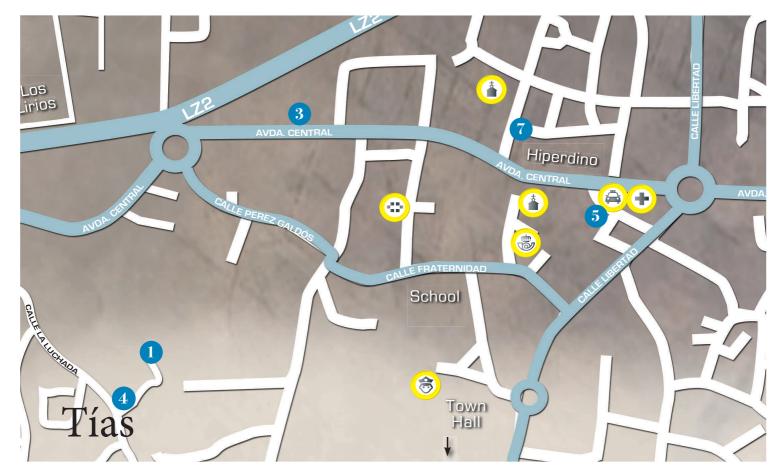
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# **NON-RESIDENT TAX TALK**



As travel continues to open up, it's worth knowing the tax rules that apply to non-resident property owners, and how Brexit has brought extra costs for British owners. Erardo Ferrer of Lanzarote Abogados gives us a brief outline.

# **NON-RENTAL OWNERS**

Individuals who own a Spanish property and have no rental income are required to submit an annual return using Form 210, and must pay income tax based on the rateable value (Valor Catastral) of the property.

When your Spanish property is not rented out, a deemed income tax (Renta

Imputada de Inmuebles Urbanos) is due annually. This deemed income is calculated in reference to the official rateable value (valor catastral) of the property.

The most up-to-date valor catastral will be found on your annual property tax (Impuesto sobre Bienes Inmuebles, or IBI) bill. The normal calculation of the taxable income is 1.1% of this valor catastral.

The current tax rate for owners who are not resident in Spain varies according to whether they are residents in EU/ EEA countries or not. For an Irish non-resident owner, for example, it will be 19%. Following Brexit, British residents are now third-country nationals and (like any other thirdcountry nationals such as Russians or Americans) are subject to a tax of 24%.

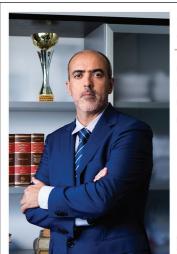
## **RENTAL OWNERS**

However, when the property is rented out, a quarterly return and tax payment must be submitted, also using Form 210.

As a non-resident with property in Spain that you rent out, you are obliged to submit tax returns on a quarterly basis. If you are a citizen of an EU country, Norway or Iceland, all expenses relating to the rental of the property (including mortgage interest) are deductible for tax purposes. However, if you are a citizen of a non-EU country, then the full amount of income that you receive is taxable with no allowances.

The current tax rate for Spanish rental income earned by non-residents is 19% for residents of the EU, Norway or Iceland and 24% for others.

To find out more and deal with these costs in the most efficient way, seek expert legal advice.



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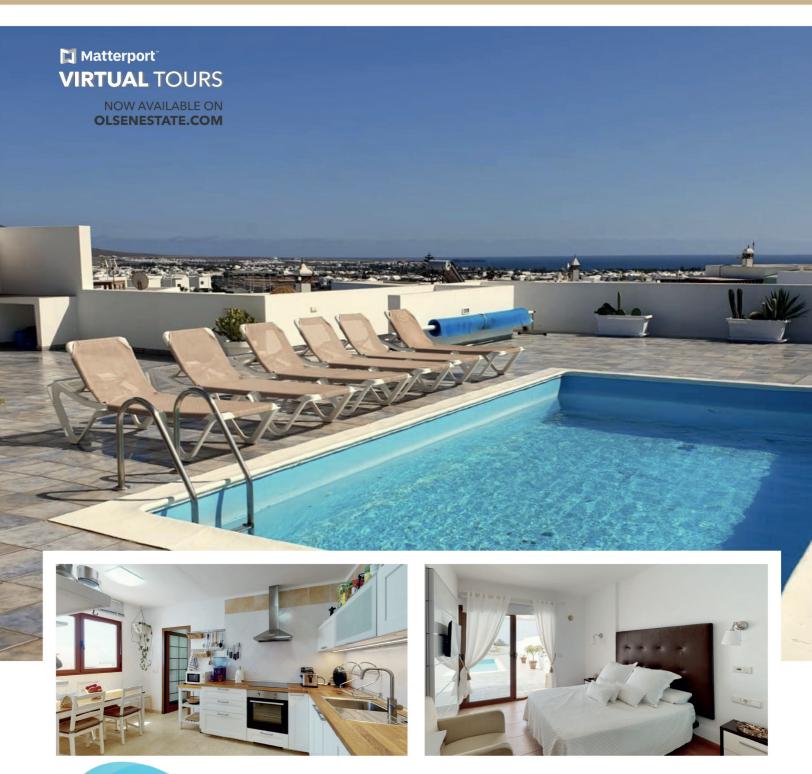


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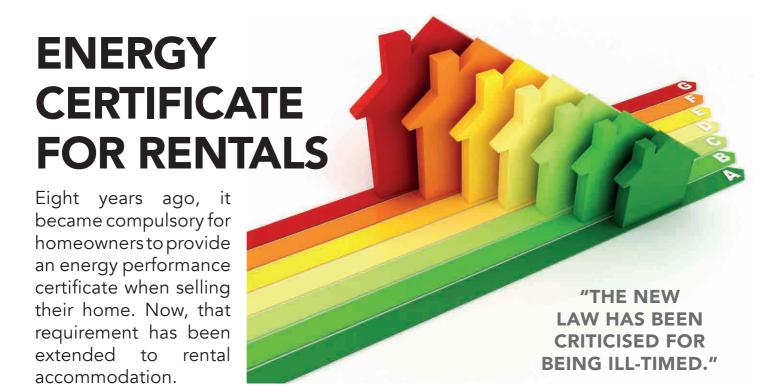
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The introduction of energy certificates arrived late in Spain, with several other EU countries including the UK adapting to the EU directive first. But it is now part of the standard paperwork involved in a property sale, with qualified professionals offering assessment services that are necessary to get the document. From 2013, a certificate was also a condition for long-term residential lets.

However, in June, the Spanish government extended the requirement to the estimated 295,000 tourist rental properties in Spain. Rental owners are now legally obliged to display the certificate's A-G rating on advertisements and provide copies of the certificate with rental contracts.

Fines for not having a certificate

range from €600 to €1,000, and will be issued by the regional government of each Spanish community.

Rental owners' associations have already criticized the abruptness of the law, and pointed out that the vast majority of rental properties do not have a certificate. The law has also arrived at the least practical time - just as tourists are returning to the country. An energy certificate assessment could mean owners losing rental income while the assessment is carried out and the result processed.

The rule is also likely to heighten resentment against those who continue to rent their properties illegally, and do not comply with laws such on energy, safety or declaration of rental income.

# **RENTALS RETURN**

The Rentalia property portal has published a survey which shows that holiday rentals in Spain are fast reaching pre-pandemic levels.



Rental levels are reaching 90% in several areas of mainland Spain, and are almost at 100% in the Balearics. However, the Canaries are showing lower levels, possibly because they are only accessible by plane; as well as the fact that high demand usually comes in the winter.







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# THE GOTELÉ EFFECT



In a country where wallpaper has never caught on to the extent that it has in northern Europe, Gotelé is the Spanish equivalent to woodchip wallpaper or "popcorn" effects on ceilings and walls. otelé is a stippled, or stucco, effect that is used on mainly white walls to give a uniform texture of small lumps or granules, and it has been widely used on Spanish walls and ceilings for several decades. The arrival of plaster board and a general falling out of fashion has reduced its use recently, but there's still plenty around and Lanzarote got more than it's fair share.

If you have a home with Gotelé on the walls, you'll face a couple of problems. The first problem is whether you still like it or not. Most people can live with it, but there's definitely been a backlash against it in recent years, just as

there was against woodchip wallpaper. Unfortunately, if you don't like it at all, you'll probably need a professional plasterer to come to the rescue, and it'll be an expensive job.

The other problem is how to repair it. Many of us will do various DIY jobs on

# "Gotelé is once again on-trend among nostalgic hipsters.

our walls, sinking screws here and there or moving a plug or light fitting. It's only when you come to patch up the damage that you realise that it's not easy to replicate that lumpy Gotelé effect.

Some decorators can do it perfectly, using the compressed air spray guns that the stuff is applied with in the first place, but you might not want to hire a professional for a few square inches.

In this case, it's possible to buy aerosol cans that can roughly approximate the original effect.

# THE GOTELÉ YEARS

Gotelé is associated with Spain's boom in construction of the 1960s and 70s. Quickly-built homes, sometimes of inferior quality, chose the effect because it camouflages cracks, imperfections and unevenness.

However, in recent years Gotelé has fallen out of fashion, with many house buyers actively avoiding flats which feature it. They believe it's old-fashioned

and is an emblem of a Spain they no longer wish to be associated with.

But every backlash has another backlash, and a new generation of young people who grew up in Gotelé homes, are celebrating the nostalgia of the effect.



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of life Music is a way of life Lanzarote, and if you love sweet sounds as much as you do cool interiors, it's time to think about making it part

## MUSIC AS DECOR

Musical instruments are often so beautiful that they can become the central decorative element of a room. Pianos have certainly served that function for centuries, although they're probably a big space commitment if you're not planning to play them.

If you have a guitar, think about a decent stand that will make it an ornament in any room, but it's also worth investigating the stringed instruments that are traditionally popular on these islands, from the little character-filled timple to the beautiful twelve-string bandurria. It's also worth researching how they can be hung from a wall. Saxophones and brass instruments also offer a gleaming impression of sheer cool.

Smaller pieces worth considering include percussion instruments such as the African djembe drums and mbira (thumb pianos which can be found at local souvenir markets), Latin American bongos and congas and shekeres.

## MUSIC IN YOUR LIFE

We're now so used to listening to music through headphones on our phones or laptops that we may have forgotten what our favourite music sounds like in the real world, played through a decent pair of speakers.

Some still choose to have a classic old hi-fi system, although cables and the availability of streaming means this is now dving out fast. Instead, there is now an immense range of Wi-Fi speakers available in all shapes and sizes, that can be connected to

a computer or phone, and you don't even have to change the tune if you've got Siri or Alexa to do it for you.

of your living space.

Streaming, however, will never wipe out those who love the physical feeling of owning music, whether it's in a neatly shelved CD collection, or the more cumbersome but undeniably cool stack of vinyl.

Vinyl records are still, perhaps, the format where musical product and visual art were combined to the most stunning effect, and if you've got some cool looking records, it's well worth thinking of putting them on display.









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Then there is the world of memorabilia - vintage concert posters, photos, magazine covers, T-shirts etc - all of which can be put on display, and already is in bars and restaurants all over the world.

# **NATURAL MUSIC**

When we think about music in our homes, we usually consider instruments recordings, but there are other ways to bring agreeable sounds into your everyday life. They may not always fit the technical

description of music, but they can have a very similar effect.

Water features are one of those things the trickle or rush of running water can be extremely relaxing, and it's just as easy to install a small fountain indoors as it is outside.

Wind chimes are another way that cultures all over the world have brought music to their lives. That random sound of tinkling glass or metal chimes or the sonorous wooden clunk of bamboo tubes also brings an unmistakeable ambience to your living

And, of course, if you're lucky enough to live within earshot of the sea, or near one of those Lanzarote trees that attracts chirruping little finches, then you'll have an enviable sonic dimension to your life.

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At this time of year, outdoor living is the only option on Lanzarote. But that doesn't mean there aren't lots of ways to do it - here are just three...

# CHRINGUITO STYLE

"Chiringuito" is the Spanish word for a ramshackle beach bar - the sort of shady, palm-roofed hut that serves beer and cocktails to a soundtrack of salsa or bachata. On Lanzarote, local by-laws mean that these sort of establishments are difficult to find, but the laid back chiringuito style has influenced businesses, as well as homes, all over the island, and you're almost certain to find chiringuito style structures in most local hotels.

The key to chiringuito style is informality - we're talking about bamboo, driftwood and woven palm, and the most important element is a solid wooden bar or counter. Furniture is almost always cheap and cheerful, with plastic and aluminium every bit as popular as wood.

Make sure there's plenty of shade, and, if possible, go for natural palm roofs. Chiringuito style is perfect for any place where you gather to enjoy drink. If you

fancy food as well, then go for a barbecue - sardines and grilled meat are true chiringuito flavours.

# MOROCCAN ROLL

Morocco is just a few hundred miles away from Lanzarote, and its influence can be seen everywhere from local chimneys to the fragrant cumin in local recipes. Moroccan style is also seductive and perfect for Lanzarote living.

Start with tiles – not just a fixture in swimming pools, but a decorative element you can really develop in your outdoor space. Beautiful and durable, they're the perfect choice for a gorgeous, low maintenance exterior space.

Next, address comfort. Divans, chaises and daybeds are perfect, but it's the cushions where you can really go to town. Ornate, delicately embroidered soft furnishings in gorgeous, sumptuous colours and patterns are the essence of North African style.

Don't forget water. The sound of running water - somehow cooling even though it's only a sound symbolises luxury and relaxation throughout the Arab world.

One of the key elements of adapting your outdoor space is the time of day. Ask yourself when, exactly, will you be spending most of your time out of doors?

Sundown Style-

While visitors bake in the midday sun, residents tend to take things a little easier - and if you live here, it's likely that the cooler mornings and, most of all, the warm evenings, will prove most attractive to you.

Sunset is a special time on Lanzarote, especially so if you have a west-facing view. It's a time when flowers open up, releasing their fragrance, and when we traditionally sit with family and friends, talk, chat and simply enjoy the good life.

Dining is a central part of this, and a grill or barbecue adds its own charm. Lighting is also important as the shadows lengthen and darkness falls.

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Let's slide



Sliding doors use 5% of the space of hinged doors.

Sliding doors offer space, convenience and security. If your living space is cramped, it may be time to slide.

ne of the main advantages of sliding doors is space. A hinged door 80 cms wide and 3 cms thick that swings out 90 degrees will require half a square metre of clearance space. If it slides to one side, it will only need 0.024 square metres - one twentieth of the space a hinged door needs.

This is especially valuable in smaller living spaces, and a sliding door installed in a bathroom or kitchen can really open up possibilities. However, don't forget that the clearance space offered by hinged doors offers room to manoeuvre, which should never be forgotten.

Indoors, sliding doors tend to be lighter and usually only require an overhead rail to hang them from . But when those doors face onto the exterior, you'll be looking at glass and metal.

Sliding doors are the only real option when you're considering heavy patio doors made of glass and metal. Not only does the sliding mechanism take the hard work out of opening and closing them, but the sheer weight of the door and the ease of securing them means they're surprisingly secure against burglary. On these outdoor facing fixtures, sliding doors also offer the chance to control the amount of air and breeze that enters your home.

Glass is attractive, safe and irreplaceable for certain fixtures, but there's a reason why greenhouses are made of it, and that heating property can be a real problem on Lanzarote unless you take into account ways of reducing it. This will usually involves curtains and blinds - often a lighter, diaphanous one that provides privacy, and a heavier, light-blocking curtain for when things start to heat up.

If you have elderly patio doors that are cracked or stiff, it's also worth looking into replacing them. The materials and construction techniques that have recently come onto the market mean that modern doors could be a worthwhile investment, both for your own personal convenience and the value of your home.

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This is the time of year every home owner on Lanzarote has been waiting for. This is when the sun will shine and continue to shine; when the four walls around you start to cage you in and force you into the glory outside; when we make the very most of the magnificent climate that most of us came here for.

utdoor living is in the heart and soul of every Lanzarote islander. Take a look at traditional houses on the island, and you'll see that many of them feature a sheltered interior courtyard or patio that is open to the sky above. These are places where families enjoy the best of life, where friends share food and drinks and where individuals can curl up and relax in shade and solitude during the day with a good book, with fresh air softly caressing bare skin.



After nightfall in rural areas there'll be a lightshow that no interior decorator could emulate, as a vast carpet of stars spreads out above and the moon sails high. Maybe there'll be a glittering sea view in the distance, as well. It's a lifestyle that no one in northern Europe is able to enjoy for more than a few weeks every year, and even then they'll have to be wrapped up much more warmly to do so.

This is why this is the time to plan your outdoor retreat if you haven't done so already. You can do this wherever you live, whether your outdoor area is a large patio or simply a small balcony. The trick is to make it one the first places you'll want to spend time during high summer.

# The Basics

All you really need to enjoy yourself out of doors are five things; sun, shade, shelter, comfort and beauty.

The first is already there for you – all you have to do is find the best place to enjoy it. When doing so, take the movement of the sun during the day into account, and plan according to the times when you're most likely to want to enjoy your outdoor space. If you like a sunny breakfast, for example, you'll want to situate a table and chairs so that they get the best sunshine from the south east in the morning. On the other hand, if you prefer evening



relaxation, plan to make the most of the west. The sun is so hot and vertical at mid-day that you'll be able to enjoy it anywhere, but bear in mind that it can quickly get uncomfortable at this time of day.

Shade is vital – so that you can cool down a little, relax without fear of burning, and simply rest your eyes. Trees are beautiful, but will take a lot of installation if you don't already have them, so think of other options. Awnings, pergolas, light roofs, sail shades and many other options are available on Lanzarote, but once again, make sure they are located precisely, taking the sun's movement into account. Shade will also affect the plants you choose, so think about them, too.

Shelter from the wind is still necessary on Lanzarote, when brisk breezes can sometimes arise even during high summer. For comfort, you'll need some kind of windbreak. On most of the south-facing homes here, that will partially be provided by your won home, as the prevailing winds are north easterly. But you may want to think about erecting fences or even a new wall for extra protection. The stronger the structure the better, as flimsy shelters can rattle and even collapse in high winds.

Comfort means that you can go out shopping for garden furniture without thinking that it is an extravagance. You'll be using it a lot, so allow yourself to splash out a little. The furniture you buy depends entirely on your own idea of comfort - if you like sun loungers or even an outdoor bed, go ahead; others will prefer something a little more upright and formal. In most cases you can go ahead and buy light indoor furniture, move it outside and bring it back inside in the occasional event of rain or calimas.

Beauty is, of course, entirely up to you, but everyone wants to relax somewhere that is calming, stimulating, homely and attractive. Fortunately, Lanzarote is full of wonderful ornaments, accessories and occasional furniture. Plants will almost certainly be an element of your beautiful outdoor space, too. Plan them well and take good care of them.

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"THE WORD "EXPERT" COMES FROM THE SAME ROOT AS "EXPERIENCE".

September and the following couple of months offer some of Lanzarote's best. gentlest weather. The summer winds have usually died down, calimas and storms are far less frequent and the sun is warm and welcoming rather than scorching.

This makes it a wonderful time for a holiday - something that plenty of tourists who don't have kids in school have already learned. But it also makes it the perfect time to get work done on your property.

That's because, despite Lanzarote's generally fantastic climate, those winds, calimas, heavy rainstorms and scorching hot days will be back one day, and when they return, you'll want to be fully prepared for them.

That means ensuring your property is as tight as a drum against the elements, with modern, safety-tested fittings that are durable and attractive. It means checking that all external fixtures can handle high winds and torrential rain, or can be moved to shelter. It means being able to batten down the hatches or fling the windows open and let the light and air in.

And it means getting experts in to

ensure that this is done properly. The word 'expert" is related to the word "experience" for good reason - you only really learn to do things well by doing them over and over again, and experience in Lanzarote's unique conditions is an asset worth paying for.

You may think you're a DIY whizz, but chances are you've a lot to learn about the particular demands that Lanzarote places on your home. And you're only likely to discover the mistakes you've made at the worst possible time.

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Pool season on Lanzarote continues throughout September and well beyond. In fact, island veterans know that these months are often the most perfect that the island brings, with far less wind than midsummer, and mellow warmth for days and days and days.

The most famous swimming pool on Lanzarote is probably César Manrique's gorgeous turquoise pool at Jameos Del Agua. This abstractly-shaped pool is set in brilliant white concrete studded with dark volcanic rocks from the island with elegant palm trees that lean over the water.

Other amazing pools can be seen in the island's hotels, where Manrique's vision is



often replicated or adapted to include new trends such as infinity pools and play areas.

Your own pool environment will, of course, depend on where your pool is located. Generally, the smaller the space, the more likely you'll be to choose clean, minimal lines and geometric shapes, which not only save space but provide definition and an "uncluttered" feel.

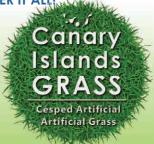
But the area where you relax away from the pool is important, too, and it's usually vital for this to be child-friendly. Real grass is unsuitable for poolsides in the best of conditions, and on Lanzarote it's an absolute non-starter, which is why many hotels and rental owners are choosing artificial grass for this zone, which provides long-lasting beauty and a touch of greenery.

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# Pool surrounds

One of the most important concerns about your pool surround will be safety, and the key here is non-slip materials. On YouTube it may be hilarious when someone slips into a pool, but it's not nearly so funny in real life, and the chances are high that you could badly injure yourself on the edge of the pool.

The other thing to bear in mind is that pool users will be barefoot, and the area around the pool should be as cool as possible underfoot to avoid scorching soles. That means light colours and/or insulatory materials that don't conduct heat to your tender tootsies.

Laying your pool surround is a job you'll want to get the professionals in for. This isn't something that an amateur DIY enthusiast is likely to handle. Bearing that in mind, it's probably best to get their opinion before you decide how to surround your pool.



Various surrounds are available, and the one you choose will depend on your budget, your personal preferences in terms of safety and aesthetics, and maintenance. For example, synthetic rubber surrounds are probably the safest of all in terms of slippage and softness, but they'll cost you. Then there's wooden decking, which is attractive and delightful underfoot, but will require frequent maintenance.

On Lanzarote, most pools are surrounded by poured concrete, stone tiles, paving slabs or smaller bricks. Many will have a resin pool border, too. All of these have their advantages and disadvantages, and it really is worth consulting the experts to discover exactly what will suit you before you choose.





# Water, ater

Summer's far from over yet. Lanzarote sees hot weather until October, at least, and although

we've seen a little rain this year, your plants still face a long wait until the heavens are likely to open and give them a welcome soaking. Here are a few tips for keeping your garden gorgeous as we reach summer's final straight.

Lanzarote's dry season is a long haul for plants. Look at wild areas and you'll see how native species manage it - hunkering down and withdrawing, living on the scarce moisture they've saved in previous months and any dew that may arrive, and conserving all-important energy.

In your garden, things are only different because you've created a special environment, with shade, windbreaks and, most importantly, water. This is absolutely vital in July and August, but once the summer holidays are over in September doesn't mean you can't stop caring for your garden.

# Water

Evapotranspiration is the word that describes how plants sweat in hot weather, cooling their leaves down by exuding moisture which then evaporates. To do this, they'll need plenty of moisture, at the right time.

Set your alarm clock and water them in the morning. This allows moisture to penetrate the soil before the sun comes out to evaporate it. If you can't do it in the morning, make sure plants get a good soaking the night before.

It's worth considering a slow



irrigation system, such as a system of pipes that drip water into the right areas and can be turned on and off at the right times of day. This helps water get right to the deepest roots - something which fast watering isn't always capable of.

Just like humans, many plants droop and wilt in Lanzarote's intense heat - this is normal in the hottest parts of the day, but if a plant is wilting in the morning, it needs more water.

Container plants lose water faster than those rooted in beds, so make sure they get a daily soaking in high summer.

This type of weather is not the time to fertilize your plants. You can't expect much growth in these conditions – the priority is survival, so save the fertilizer until your plants can use it more effectively. If you see plants that are obviously in need of a bit of feeding, however, then offer them some well-diluted plant food.







#### Shade

Move container plants into areas where they get more shade at this time of year, and if you're leaving your garden alone for any length of time, think about moving them indoors.

#### Wind

We've seen a pretty constant alisio breeze this year, which brings freshness to the climate but also dries out your plants just as effectively as it does your laundry. Vulnerable plants should be kept in the least windy spots possible, and it may be necessary to create windbreaks.

Once in a while at this time of year, the island suffers hot, intense, hair-dryer winds from Africa that can ruin crops and gardens. In this case you'll need emergency protection such as old sheets, which should be thrown over plants until the risk is over.

#### **Pests**

Plants aren't the only thing that is parched at this time of year, and insects and lizards will often nibble well-kept plants in search of moisture. Local farmers sometimes avoid this by providing them with easily accessible water in a bottle laid on its side and semi-buried.

#### Hose or can?

The choice of whether to use a hose or a watering can to irrigate your garden depends on several factors.

Obviously, the first one is size - a large garden requires a hose, or even a complete irrigation system. A smaller patio garden

with containers probably requires a can.

Water is heavy, so your strength will be a factor in the can you choose. A 10-litre one should handle most smaller patios, but may be too unwieldy for weaker gardeners.

How you water is also important. The

watering can rose is designed to imitate rainfall, softly watering the whole plant, while a spout allows you to target particular areas more directly.

Don't forget that smaller cans are required for hanging baskets, and a mister is vital for indoor plants.



#### LANZAROTE LIMBER UP FOR AN EXCITING SEASON

THE ROJILLOS WILL KICK THE LEAGUE SEASON OFF ON THE 5TH SEPTEMBER AT **HOME VERSUS FUERTEVENTURA SIDE** CD UNIÓN PUERTO.

There are plenty of new faces at UD Lanzarote, including three strikers and a new manager, Mateo García. The 45-year-old from Salamanca has coached the junior sides of Real Madrid, Atlético Madrid and Rayo Vallecano, amongst others. His first senior coaching role was in Segunda B for Getafe CF and he also won promotion for San Sebastian de los Reyes to Segunda B. Lanzarote are hoping for some of the same magic.

Season tickets (abonos) and memberships (socios), as well as Gold Cards, are now available from the club and remain the same price as they were in 2019. Memberships are also available for our foreign supporters at the online shop (see below).

A season ticket for a pensioner costs just €30 Euros and for a further €10, membership is included. For adults it is €60 and an extra €15 for membership. Gold Card membership is also available from €120 Euros, and season ticket holders and members will benefit from discounts on all club merchandise. All details are on www.lanzarotefootball.com

Whilst British clubs have ended restrictions regarding distancing, etc, it is very different with our authorities. People may not like the rules, but the club must abide by them. These include spectators



Juan New manager Mateo García (left) welcomed by President Juan Carlos Albuixech (centre) and sporting director Sosa Espinel and Kai.

sitting three seats apart from each other (even families); mask wearing is compulsory and only water (no fizzy drinks) are allowed inside. Unfortunately only around 450 will be admitted, so to guarantee your seat for the 2021/22 campaign buy a season ticket. Turning up on the day right now will not guarantee entry.

Last season the squad were prevented from training as a unit and could only play two pre-season matches because our local government issued restrictions that were harsher than for any other club in our league. This season has been completely different, with Lanzarote winning three

of their four pre-season matches, including a superb 4-1 win on the 19th August against newly-promoted Yaiza.

All the new signings have settled quickly and the strikers seem to have already developed a good understanding of each other. The most recent signing is Alyson Matheus, otherwise known as "Ratinho". The 19 - year-old Brazilian player has impressed from day one during his trial with the club and from the moment he came on the pitch versus Yaiza he had everyone on the edge of their seat. He's just 5 feet 4 inches (165cm) tall, but his pace and movement is simply outstanding. There is no doubt that this lad will cause nightmares for opposing defenders.

#### FORTHCOMING HOME FIXTURES

Lanzarote host two teams from across the water on Fuerteventura this month. Please check kick-off times at the links below.

#### **5TH SEPTEMBER: UNIÓN PUERTO** 19TH SEPTEMBER: GRAN TARAJAL

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.



#### Paul Kelly muses on slow recoveries and offers some advice that no one in Lanzarote should ignore.

"Long Covid" is a drawn-out and lingering condition, but the effects of dehydration on a golf course during the pandemic, under the hot sunshine of Lanzarote, also brings a slow and equally drawn-out reinstatement process. But now that Costa Teguise golf club has had its water source restored, the course is slowly being brought back to life, although it will take some time to reach a fully-manicured restoration.

However, there is another far more troubling issue that golfers, and frankly all Lanzarote residents, should be more aware of and that is the damage that is being caused to you personally that you don't necessarily see.

People need to think about why, and how, their skin is getting damaged and what they can do about it. We've probably all got some damage we didn't know was there, so what can we do about it? We all need to practice the five S's of sun safety: Slipping on clothing, Slopping on cream, Slapping on a hat, Sliding on some sunglasses and Seeking the shade wherever you can.

There has been a 45 per cent increase in skin cancer cases in the "cloudy" UK over the past half decade, with some 250,000 people diagnosed each year. At Lanzarote's latitude, the occasional 10 minutes in the midday sun without protection is the absolute

It's clearly even more relevant to lovers of golf - a sport that takes place under the unforgiving glare of the sun's rays.

Going out in the sun is good. We like the warmth, we like being outside and it is really healthy for you. It's all good stuff but we often don't protect ourselves.

So, while we get jabbed to prevent severe Covid and the golf course slowly recovers from water starvation, please take care of yourself as you play and enjoy your golf!



#### ON THE COURSE

Ian Stothert was the July Henson Cup winner, with Stephen Hay still top of the leaderboard just ahead of Anne Rees, while Jean-Francois Crinquand is still ahead in the Ian Oxley Men's Cup and Sue Lee is the still leading contender for the Jef Harris Memorial Ladies Trophy.

Join us as a visitor any Tuesday or Friday with our first tee time @ 9.30. Just let us know 24 hours in advance by emailing to lpgs2016@gmail.com Or if you would like to join the society you can get more information on our website at: www.laspalmerasgolfsociety.blogspot.com. Costa Teguise Golf Club also continues to have some excellent bulk green fees special offers, available when you enquire in the golf shop.

The Society email is: lpgs2016@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you. More info on our website Visitor section: www.laspalmerasgolfsociety.blogspot.com

## NO OFFENCE



SPAIN HAS ONE OF THE HIGHEST ROAD SAFETY RECORDS IN EUROPE, AND PART OF THAT IS DUE TO THE RULES IN PLACE. HERE'S HOW TO STAY ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE LAW WHEN IT COMES TO TRAFFIC FINES.

#### **MASKS**

It is against the law not to wear a mask in a car you're sharing with people you don't live with. However, it's not a traffic offence and you won't lose penalty points for it.

Although it is not the law to carry a mask, occupants of a car are advised to have one to hand, as it may be required in situations such as a police check or an accident.

#### **SMOKING**

It's not against the law to smoke tobacco while driving. However, if smoking causes you distraction and puts other roads users at potential risk, you can be fined.

Remember that it is against the law to throw cigarette butts out of vehicles, whether they're moving or not.

#### WASHING YOUR CAR IN THE STREET

It's not a traffic offence to wash your car in a public street, but it is almost certainly a municipal infraction and your local council could fine you for it. The matter is taken even more seriously on Lanzarote, where water is a precious resource. You can wash your car on private property or in an official car wash.

#### **DRIVING IN FLIP-FLOPS**

The Guardia Civil have stressed that driving in flip-flops is not, in itself, an offence, but if they suspect that your footwear means that you cannot control your car properly, a fine may be issued. Their

ARTICLE 18.1. TRAFFIC RULES: "THE DRIVER MUST MAINTAIN FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT, HAVE AN ADEQUATE FIELD OF VISION AND PAY PERMANENT ATTENTION TO DRIVING.

suspicion will be based on the way in which you are driving, and could apply to any footwear that they regard as unsuitable.

#### **MOBILE PHONES**

Using a mobile phone while driving will soon be reclassified as a "very serious offence", subject to a €200 fine and six penalty points. At the moment, you can still lose three points and this also applies if you're using the phone "hands free" on speaker settings, or using it for directions.

Even if you pull over or park to make or receive a call, you continue to break the law until you turn your engine off.

#### CAR DECORATIONS

Dream-catchers, nodding dogs and furry dice may make your car feel cosy, but they could attract a fine of €200 if police think they impede your vision of the road. The same goes for hanging your face mask from the mirror.

Stickers and vinyls on the windscreen could also fall foul of this law, while you'll need two operational side mirrors before you can stick stuff on your rear windscreen.



#### DOGS IN CARS

Animals (and for that matter, any human passengers) in a car must not be capable of causing distraction or interference with the driver. That means that animals must be restrained with harnesses or in boxes; or separated from the driving area with a grille.

#### **HOSPITAL ACCESS**

The Cabildo has completed a project which will improve access to Arrecife's General Hospital from the main Arrecife LZ3 ring road.

Currently, all, cars leaving the roundabout towards the hospital have to take the main LZ30 road to San Bartolomé, bearing right to access the hospital and the industrial zone of Argana Alta. The new plan will create two new lanes to serve these zones, separating vehicles from main road traffic headed north.

The project will cost €470,000



#### **MOBILE HOME LAWS**

The Cabildo will move to regulate the situation regarding mobile homes and caravans on the island, given the rise in popularity of this form of tourism.

Two months ago a huge parade of mobile homes passed through Arrecife, tooting their horns to demand more rights, including the reopening of official campsites on the island. Papagayo site is now open until the end of this month.

Myriam Barros, the Podemos councillor who



proposed the regulations, said "We're certain that encouraging this type of tourism will boost local business, especially smaller ones in areas where mass tourism has not arrived.".



#### **HIRE CAR SHORTAGE**

The Covid pandemic has caused a drastic shortage of hire cars, and an increase in rental prices for those that are available.

Rita Hernández, President of the Association of Car Hire Businesses on Lanzarote, has explained that some car hire companies "have had to sell up to 75% of their fleets" in order to survive the economic crisis caused by the pandemic.

Hernández said it had been good news for the sector that demand for second-hand cars had remained strong, allowing car hire companies to sell "in order to pay debts and survive."

She also pointed out that uncertainty in the tourist sector had, so far, discouraged rental companies from reinvesting.



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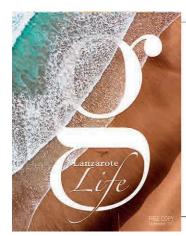
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#### **MASK RULES**

With more and more tourists arriving on Lanzarote, it's a good time to remind everyone of the mask rules that currently apply on the island.

#### THE LAW

#### - INDOORS

Masks must be worn in any indoor space open to the public, such as shops, airports, hospitals, museums etc. In restaurants and bars masks may be removed to eat and drink.

#### - OUTDOORS

Masks must be worn in any outdoor space where personal distancing of 1.5 metres cannot be guaranteed. This means places that are likely to get crowded, such as high streets, narrow pavements, markets etc.

#### - TRANSPORT

Mask must be worn in all public transport, including taxis. They must be worn in cars when the occupants do not normally live together.

#### - EXEMPTIONS

Children under the age of 6 do not have to wear masks. Those with medical exemptions require a certificate from a doctor, although exemptions issued outside Spain are not valid.

#### THE REALITY

You'll still see most people wearing masks in town centres, while markets and other outdoor events may have staff ensuring that they are worn. Although the outdoor rules also apply to beaches, you'll see plenty of people not wearing them.

In bars most people remove their masks when seated to eat and drink, and put them on when they stand up.

You cannot be fined for not carrying a mask, but it's a very good idea to carry one at all times, as you cannot be sure you won't find yourself in a situation where you'll be required to wear one.

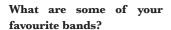
The most important thing is to watch, learn and respect local customs.

## OSCARS' MUSICAL LEGACY

#### This month's story comes from Martin McCormack, a musician who immortalised a Playa Blanca bar in the form of an electric guitar.

#### When did you start to play the guitar, Martin?

I've been playing since the 1980s! A marching band sparked my interest in music, later going on to drums and then the clarinet. My Dad was a clarinettist and taught me to read sheet music from a young age, which helped me greatly.



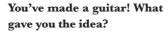
My current favourites are Neil Young, Bob Dylan, JJ Cale, Hendrix and Gary Moore. Although, the go-to guy at the moment is Joe Bonamassa.



#### How long have you been performing live?

I started in the 1990s and loved

The past year and half have been tough for musicians, though. I took the time to learn new skills like playing the piano, banjo and making my very own guitars.



My friend, Marc Johnson, had recently given me two guitar necks that he didn't need. I had a few spare parts lying around at home, so the idea to try and make a guitar came from there.

A local bar called "Oscars" had closed during the lockdown and the owners still had the wood from the bar. I asked if I could take the wood and they agreed. The piece that I ended up using was from the flap entrance to the bar, it still had the hinges attached!

#### What was the process of making the guitar?

Using the body of another guitar as a template, I jig-sawed the shape and allowed space for the electronics, pickups and switches.

Halfway through the build the whole piece broke in two! Luckily I was able to use glue and screws to secure it back together. I'm not a professional at making guitars, yet!

I strung the guitar and tuned it accordingly, it sounded great. I named the guitar "Oscar" after the bar.

#### Is it easy to source guitar parts on Lanzarote?

Getting to know the bar owners helps. They can be a great source for bits and pieces as well as putting me in contact with other performers who might have spares.

#### Have you used Oscar live?

I used him last week at a gig in Playa Blanca, the guitar sounded great. I just need to find somewhere to keep him now, I'm running out of wall space!

Best of luck for any guitars that you may make in the future, Martin!





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)

	(Times may vary by a few minutes around the Island)					
Day	Hour	Metres	Day	Hour	Metres	
1	L: 03:22 H: 09:45 L: 16:18 H: 22:33	1.3 1.9 1.2 1.9	17	L: 05:26 H: 11:38 L: 18:04	1.0 2.5 0.7	
2	L: 04:42 H: 10:58 L: 17:25 H: 23:35	1.2 2.1 1.1 2.1	18	H: 00:15 L: 06:18 H: 12:28 L: 18:50	2.4 0.8 2.7 0.5	
3	L: 05:40 H: 11:51 L: 18:13	1.1 2.3 0.9	19	H: 00:58 L: 07:01 H: 13:10 L: 19:29	2.6 0.6 2.8 0.4	
4	H: 00:20 L: 06:24 H: 12:33 L: 18:52	2.2 0.9 2.5 0.7	20	H: 01:35 L: 07:38 H: 13:47 L: 20:04	2.7 0.5 2.9 0.3	
5	H: 00:58 L: 07:02 H: 13:11 L: 19:28	2.4 0.7 2.7 0.5	21	H: 02:08 L: 08:12 H: 14:20 L: 20:36	2.8 0.4 3.0 0.3	
6	H: 01:33 L: 07:37 H: 13:46 L: 20:03	2.6 0.5 2.9 0.3	22	H: 02:40 L: 08:45 H: 14:52 L: 21:06	2.8 0.4 2.9 0.4	
7	H: 02:08 L: 08:13 H: 14:22 L: 20:38	2.8 0.4 3.0 0.2	23	H: 03:10 L: 09:16 H: 15:23 L: 21:36	2.7 0.5 2.8 0.5	
8	H: 02:43 L: 08:49 H: 14:58 L: 21:14	2.8 0.3 3.1 0.2	24	H: 03:40 L: 09:47 H: 15:54 L: 22:05	2.7 0.6 2.7 0.6	
9	H: 03:19 L: 09:26 H: 15:35 L: 21:52	2.9 0.3 3.0 0.2	25	H: 04:10 L: 10:19 H: 16:26 L: 22:36	2.6 0.7 2.5 0.8	
10	H: 03:57 L: 10:05 H: 16:15 L: 22:31	2.8 0.3 2.9 0.4	26	H: 04:42 L: 10:54 H: 17:01 L: 23:10	2.4 0.9 2.3 1.0	
11	H: 04:38 L: 10:48 H: 16:59 L: 23:15	2.7 0.5 2.7 0.6	27	H: 05:19 L: 11:35 H: 17:43 L: 23:51	2.3 1.0 2.1 1.2	
12	H: 05:24 L: 11:38 H: 17:50	2.6 0.7 2.5	<b>28</b> 0	H: 06:05 L: 12:31 H: 18:43	2.1 1.2 1.9	
13	L: 00:07 H: 06:19 L: 12:40 H: 18:55	0.8 2.4 0.9 2.2	29	L: 00:53 H: 07:16 L: 13:57 H 20:19	1.4 1.9 1.3 1.8	
14	L: 01:13 H: 07:32 L: 14:04 H: 20:25	1.0 2.2 1.0 2.1	30	L: 02:31 H: 08:57 L: 15:40 H: 22:01	1.4 1.9 1.3 1.9	
15	L: 02:42 H: 09:06 L: 15:43 H: 22:04	1.2 2.2 1.0 2.1	31			
16	L: 04:15 H: 10:33 L: 17:05 H: 23:20	1.1 2.3 0.9 2.2	O Nev Mo	l O	First Quarter Moon Last	
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## **Weather Watch**

#### September splendour

Many Lanzarote lovers think that September sees the arrival of the best weather on the island. There's still plenty of glorious sun, but the winds of July and August drop significantly to bring calmer, mellow days that will last until November.

The sea is at its warmest at this time of year - so tempting to plunge into and cool off and calm enough to make this a great month for swimming and paddle-boarding. Then there's the food - this is the month when you can find local shops packed with fresh, ripe, delicious local fruit, veg and fish.

The equinox on the 8th September usually bring the highest and lowest tides of the year - known in the Canaries as the Mareas del Pino. You'll often see beaches flooded at high tide and seafood gatherers picking delicacies at low tide.

#### What to Expect in September



#### Day Time Temps

25°C (Ranges from 21°C to 30°C)



#### Night Time Temps

Average 21°C (ranges from 19°C to 23°C)



#### Sunshine Hours

12 hrs daylight, 7 hrs full sun



#### Sea Temp

23°C



#### Rain

1-2 days



#### Wind

N/NE average 20 kph



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# Horoscopes

BY CLAIRVOYANT SHONA LANGHOLM



#### Aries

(21 MAR - 19 APR)

There's a difference between goodbyes and farewells, Aries, so this month it's worth making special plans to celebrate a parting that may last for some time. You will not regret pushing the boat

out for this, and could build exciting new bridges.

#### Taurus

(20 APRIL - 20 MAY)

Your determination and commitment is admirable, Taurus, but it can edge over into stubbornness. So ease off a little this month-you'll save energy, and may discover that some things go perfectly without your stress and worry.



#### Gemini

(21 MAY TO 20 JUNE)

Last month I said you were steady as an island in a stream, but islands are eventually worn away bit by bit. So if you're feeling the strain, just up anchor and go with the flow this month. No hurry at all, but there are new landscapes to enjoy, new

friends to make.

#### Cancer

(21 JUNE TO 22 JULY)

Check your defences this month, Cancer. Try to stay fit and strong, revise your insurance and change your passwords. Above all, ensure that the people around you are the ones you trust to stand by your side in a crisis.



#### Leo

(23 JULY TO 22 AUG)

It's bucket list time, Leo! This month focus on doing one or two of the things you've always fancied trying. It may be a day out or a long-term commitment, but it will enrich and satisfy you and lead to all sorts of happy consequences.

#### Libra

(23 SEPT TO 22 OCT)

This is a month to surround yourself with music, Libra. Find some new playlists or track down some old favourites from the past. It'll bring rhythm and harmony to your daily life, and awake emotions you'd forgotten about.



#### Virgo

(23 AUG TO 22 SEPT) Simplest things are always the most profound, Virgo. Stop holding yourself back in a relationship and accept the strength of your own feelings. Call love by its name and it will answer. And it will change

everything.

#### Scorpio

(23 OCT TO 21 NOV)

Blank pages are terrifying, but you have to start somewhere, Scorpio. The most important thing about a new project you're involved with is getting started. Take that first step and your worries and doubts will soon be buried in satisfying work and achievement.



#### **Sagittarius**

(22 NOV TO 21 DEC)

Time to sort out your surroundings, Sagittarius. Take some time to reassess the places where you live and work, then invest in a few changes. A little effort will pay off big, and you'll experience a real sense of satisfaction and pride.

#### Capricorn

(22 DEC TO 19 JAN)

Love isn't always eyes meeting across a crowded room, Capricorn. Sometimes it's right in front of you, or in the last place you'd think of looking. Keep your romantic wi-fi turned on and you'll soon make a connection you weren't expecting.



#### Aquarius

(20 JAN - 18 FEB)

You're on a winning streak right now, Aquarius, and it's not going to stop for a while. Don't get carried away, though, and be sure to share the benefits. Once your luck changes you may need the goodwill you've fostered.

#### **Pisces**

(19 FEB - 20 MAR)

Learn to walk away from conflict this month, Pisces. There's no point fraying your nerves and losing sleep about a meaningless battle. Turn your back and it'll soon be forgotten as you walk towards a more promising, rewarding situation.



# Instagram of the month



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