

EXPLORE!

TRIP NOTES



Mallorca Tramuntana Traverse (OL 2017)



TRIP DURATION
8
DAYS



Tour Style: Classic
Accommodation
Grade: Standard

Tour Type: Small Groups
Trek Grade: Moderate

Trip Code: OL

Trip Highlights - Mallorca Tramuntana Traverse

- ✓ Serra De Tramuntana - Walks through stunning Alpine-like scenery with valleys, ravines and rushing rivers
- ✓ Deia - Picturesque village with orange and olive groves on steep cliffs overlooking the Mediterranean
- ✓ Monestir de Lluc - Stay in a 13th century sanctuary nestled in a remote and serene valley
- ✓ Pollenca - Opportunity to visit this atmospheric traditional Mallorcan town with ancient narrow streets and an impressive plaza

Trip Essentials

Accommodation: 7 nights Standard Hotel
Included Meals: 7 breakfasts, 0 lunches, 0 dinners
Start Point: Join trip: Port de Soller
End Point: Trip ends: Port de Pollenca
Transport: Bus, Public Bus, Taxi
Countries: Spain, Mallorca

Mallorca Tramuntana Traverse

Explore the rugged terrain of Mallorca's spectacular Tramuntana range from Port de Soller to the 18th century town of Pollenca, including the Victoria Peninsula. We walk along coastal pathways and historic merchant routes to traditional villages and beautiful lakes, and are rewarded with panoramic views of the coast and surrounding mountains. We also experience staying in a remote 13th Century monastery in Lluc.

Suitability

We've given each of our tours a comfort rating and a tour pace, walking or cycling grade to give you a general idea about the level of activity on each tour and the standard of accommodation you will be staying in at the end of your day's adventure.

Often you'll stay in different styles of accommodation during your tour; so we make an average rating across the entire tour. For more information on where you'll stay each night, please refer to the day by day tour itinerary.

Accommodation Grade: Standard

Our mid-range accommodation offers a good level of service often with other amenities such as a restaurant, bar, garden or swimming pool. Generally rooms will be comfortable with en-suite facilities.

Tour Style: Classic

Packed with adventure, these tours offer inspiring destinations and authentic travel experiences at a reasonable price. Using all kinds of transport and accommodation, we'll take you off the beaten track to discover the true heart of the people and places you visit.

Trek Grade: Moderate

For those who are fit and active, these moderate walks are normally on good paths and tracks at low altitude. Days may include some fairly demanding ascents and descents, so previous experience is preferable but not essential.



Your trip itinerary

Tour itinerary notes

While our intention is to adhere to the day-by-day itinerary as printed below, a degree of flexibility is built in. Overnight stops may vary from those suggested.

Your Tour Leader

A Tour Leader is an integral part of any Explore tour and your tour will be led by one of our experienced tour leaders who have been handpicked and expertly trained. We believe that our Tour Leaders are the key to the success of our tours; they are passionate travellers who are bursting with first-hand local knowledge which they love to share. Your tour Leader will also take care of all the planning and organization throughout your journey. Their passionate approach will make this tour fun and inspiring, bringing the destination to life whether you're travelling alone or with others.

DAY 1 Trip starts in Port de Soller

Trip starts in Port de Soller, a pretty harbour town surrounded by the Tramuntana Mountains and our base for the next three nights.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

Swimming Pool Available 

 **Included Meals:** None

DAY 2 Coastal walk from Deia to Port de Soller

Early this morning we take a public bus the short distance to Deia, a beautiful village and once the home of poet Robert Graves. We wander through Deia with its stone houses stacked one above the other, and continue through the stone-built terraces of olive trees, to the tiny Cala de Deia, a rocky fishing cove. We follow this dramatic coastline north, through Llucalcari village and back to Port de Soller. Today's 12.5km walk is expected to take around 5hrs with 300m ascent and 500m descent.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

Swimming Pool Available 

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 3 Bus to Valldemossa to begin the circular walk known as the Archduke's Trail

After breakfast we travel by taxis or minibus to the attractive rural town of Valldemossa. From here we take a circular walk along the stone path known as the Archduke's Trail, part of which was laid by Archduke Ludwig Salvador of Austria who owned the local estate in the 19th century. The path offers some insight into rural life, including lime kilns and charcoal stoves, as well as stunning coastal views. We return to Port de Soller from Valldemossa by public bus. Today's 10km walk is expected to take around 4hrs with 540m descent. The trails can be uneven at times.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

Swimming Pool Available 

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 4 Take the tram to Soller to start the walk. Hike to Cuber Lake. Bus to Lluc Monastery

This morning we take the historic tram out to the town of Soller, just inland. Here we start our walk to Cuber Lake in the heart of the Tramuntana Range, an area rich with bird life. We walk via the village of Biniarritx and cross the Coll d'Ofre pass (890m) en route to the lake, which lies in the shadow of the highest peak on the island, Puig Major (1443m). We then travel by minibus or taxi to the remote valley where Lluc Monastery has quietly existed since the 13th century, and where we will spend the night. The 'Monestir de Nostra Senyora de Lluc' is an historic sanctuary and place of pilgrimage, and still takes in visitors. We can eat in the atmospheric wooden-beamed hall, formerly the monks' dining room. The impressive Basilica is well worth visiting, and the peaceful and beautiful setting is best appreciated by a short walk to the Mysteries of the Rosary which will take you up to the crucifix at the peak of a nearby hill. Look out for granite stations, some of which were worked on by Gaudi himself but never completed due to his sudden and unexplained departure from the island. Today's 12km walk is expected to take around 4hrs with 850m ascent and 150m descent.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

Swimming Pool Available 

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 5 Descend from Lluc Monastery along a pilgrims trail to Pollenca

Following one of the oldest pilgrimage trails on the island, we start our walk from Lluc passing through shady woodland, with the imposing north face of Tomir looming over us. As the path starts to descend, we get our first stunning view of Pollenca, built a few kilometres from the sea to protect against pirate attacks, and the port beyond. Entering denser woodland, the steep, scree covered slopes of Tomir tower even nearer as we continue our descent. Finally we join a small lane going past pretty cottages and fields of almond and orange trees, a serene farming landscape with the mountain range rising majestically behind. As we approach the main road into Pollenca we meet our minibus and continue to Port de Pollenca by bus. For those wishing to explore the ancient narrow streets and impressive plaza of Pollenca there is the option to be dropped off en route, making their own way to Port de Pollenca. Today's 12.5km walk is expected to take around 4hrs with 200m ascent and 600m descent.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 6 Taxi to Victoria Peninsula, hike a circular walk via Penya Roja viewpoint. Bus to Port de Pollenca

This morning we travel by taxi to the Victoria Peninsula, on the north coast of the island. Starting from Chapel Ermita de la Victoria we take a circular walk via Penya Roja viewpoint and Ralaia peak (451m), down to the town of Alcudia - a medieval town with a popular market. We take a stroll through the interesting narrow streets of the old town before making our way back to Port de Pollenca by public bus. Today's 13km walk is expected to take around 5hrs with 360m ascent and 400m descent.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 7 Free day. Opportunity to take a boat trip, walk to Cala Boquer. or visit Palma

Today is free to relax, swim, walk or take one of a number of excursions in and around the Peninsula de Formentor. For those who wish to explore on foot a little more, it is possible to walk to Cala Boquer. The route affords superb views into the bays and winds among the palms and pine trees. The peninsula is also popular amongst ornithologists due to its resident birdlife and in April to October it's location on the migratory routes. The largest marshland in the Mediterranean is located at the Natural Park of S'Albufera, just south of Port d'Alcudia and is criss-crossed by paths linking bridges and hides from which to view the varied birdlife. Alternatively you may choose to visit Mallorca's capital Palma. Palma dates back to pre-Roman times, the architecture shaped by the ebb and flow of trade. For many people the highlight is the warren of narrow streets, reminders of its prosperity before Spanish trade shifted to the New World.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 8 Trip ends in Port de Pollenca

Trip ends in Port de Pollenca.

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

Accommodation and Meals

Food & Drink

Included meals: 7 breakfasts, 0 lunches, 0 dinners included in the price of this trip. Please be prepared to pay for non-included meals. Please note that costs for drinks and meals can vary depending on location.

Budgeting for your Trip

You will need some extra money to cover meals and drinks not included in the trip price, any optional sightseeing, souvenirs and items of a personal nature such as laundry.

Food

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Spain

Lunch £: 6.00 - 10.00

Dinner £: 12.00 - 16.00

Mallorca

Lunch: 13.00

Dinner: 23.00

Drink

The prices for drinks can vary greatly depending upon location and the prices detailed below are an average guide. In general you would expect that drinks purchased in a supermarket or local bar to be less expensive, whilst drinks in an upmarket bar or restaurant may be more expensive.

Spain

Bottle of Beer £: 1.50 - 2.50 (depending on the region/area in Spain)

Water £: 1.40

Mallorca

Water: 1.80

Other Sightseeing & Activities

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations.

Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

Optional Excursions

Soller - Tram from Soller to Port €5 per person

Lluc museum €4 per person

Port De Pollenca - Bus to Alcudia €3 per person; Bus to Palma €5 per person; Boat Trip €55 per person (upto 12 people)

Tipping - Tour Leader

At your discretion you might also consider tipping your Tour Leader in appreciation of the efficiency and service you receive.

Tipping - Local Crew

Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognized part of life in this region of the world. Some local staff will look to members of the group for personal recognition of particular services provided. In order to make things easier for you, the Tour Leaders may organise a group's tips kitty and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the tour.

Accordingly, you should allow at least €5 for tipping.

Foreign Exchange

Spain

ATM Availability: In cities and most major towns.

Credit Card Acceptance: Visa and Mastercard are generally accepted in larger restaurants and some shops.

Travellers Cheques: Not recommended.

Local Currency: Euros

Recommended Currency for Exchange: We recommend you take the majority of your spending money in Euros cash.

Where to Exchange: We recommend that you change any currency into Euros prior to arrival. Bureau de Change are generally only found in major cities and large airports.

Mallorca

Local Currency: Euro.

Recommended Currency for Exchange: We recommend that you bring Euros cash.

Where to Exchange: Tour leader will advise

ATM Availability: Credit/debit cards can be used to withdraw cash at ATM`s but should not solely be relied on.

Credit Card Acceptance: Only in major restaurants and shops.

Travellers Cheques: Can be difficult to exchange and are not recommended.

Joining your Trip

Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found on our website at www.explore.co.uk, in the tour specific dates and prices section.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer. For more information please refer to <https://www.explore.co.uk/transfers>.

Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer please refer to <https://www.explore.co.uk/transfers>.

Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

Important Information

Travel Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

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The Adventure Travel Experts

CAMPBELL IRVINE
DIRECT TRAVEL INSURANCE



Travel Insurance is essential. If you have not already arranged cover, please contact our recommended Travel Insurance providers www.campbellirvinedirect.com/Explore who offer Travel Insurance specifically designed to cover travel with Explore or call **Campbell Irvine Direct** on Tel: 020 7938 1734

Explore Worldwide is an Introducer Appointed Representative of Campbell Irvine Ltd who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Travel Aware

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office Advice follow the link at www.explore.co.uk/travel-safety

We strongly advise that you register with the FCO to receive updates to the travel advice for your chosen destination. A hard copy of the current FCO Travel Advice for your chosen destination is available by contacting cr@explore.co.uk or 01252 379438.

Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

Visa Information

Spain: Visas are not required by UK, Australian, New Zealand, US and Canadian citizens. Other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may consider applying through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See www.travcour.com to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on 0208 5431846.

Vaccinations & Protection

Spain

Nothing compulsory but Tetanus is usually recommended as a precaution. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at <http://www.explore.co.uk/Travelhealth/> and from your local healthcare provider. Vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed before departure.

Mallorca

Nothing compulsory. Tetanus recommended. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at www.explore.co.uk/Travelhealth/ and from your local healthcare provider.

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Preparing for your Trip

DAILY DISTANCES

Day 2	11km	5hrs
Day 3	11km	3.5hrs
Day 4	12km	4.5hrs
Day 5	12.5km	4.5hrs
Day 6	13km	5hrs
Day 7	6km	1.5hrs

Optional Walks

Trekking Details

Walks on 5 days for an average of 4.5 hours with an additional optional walk on Day 7. There is however the option to opt out of any walks. We have graded the walking on this tour as moderate.

Climate

Spain

Overall, spring, early summer and autumn are ideal times for a Spanish trip - though the weather varies enormously from region to region. The high central plains suffer from fierce extremes, stiflingly hot in summer, bitterly cold and swept by freezing winds in winter. The Atlantic coast, in contrast, has a tendency to damp and mist, and a relatively brief, humid summer. The Mediterranean south is warm virtually all year round. Spain's Islands the Canaries and Balaerics experience very mild winters and warm summers making them ideal year round destinations.

Mallorca

We travel outside the intensely hot summer months. These months can be prone to showers which can be wintery at higher altitude during March. From March to April the temperatures hover around 10-14

Clothing

As in other mountainous areas the weather in the Serra de Tramuntana can change suddenly. It is therefore essential that you bring waterproofs and a fleece. We also recommend a hat and gloves early and late in the season when the weather may be variable.

Equipment

We recommend you bring a water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen, sunglasses and trekking poles for steep descents, full waterproofs (Autumn departures). Please note that the walk on day 3 is mostly downhill.

Footwear

Walking or trail boots with ankle support are essential, plus comfortable trainers or sandals for relaxing.

Luggage: On Tour

One main piece of luggage and a daypack. Remember you are expected to carry your own baggage as we travel using public transport between hotels so don't overload yourself.

Luggage allowance on trip: 20kg

General Information

Country details

Spain

Population: 46,030,109

Size of Country: 504,782 sq km

Major Language: Castilian Spanish, Catalan, Galician, Basque

Religion: Roman Catholic

Time Difference to GMT: +1

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Mallorca

Size of Country: 3,604 sq km

Population: 869,067

Major Language: Spanish

Time Difference to GMT: +1

Electric Supply & Plugs

Spain

2 Pin Round

Mallorca

2 Pin Round

Why Choose Explore

We've been creating award-winning pioneering adventure holidays for over 30 years, earning the trust of thousands of delighted customers, who feel safe in our hands. Our tour leaders have expert local knowledge and our tours are designed to take you off the beaten track to see the most exotic, inspiring and dramatic places in the world.

- With over 30 years' experience, we are passionate about what we do.
- Pioneering small group adventures, self-guided, private journeys & tailor-made holidays.
- Award winning tour leaders who you can trust.
- Responsible travel is and always has been one of the driving principles of Explore.

Our adventure holidays are full of exciting things to see and do, exploring in small groups travelling by bus, boat, plane, rickshaw, camel, or any number of unusual forms of transport. Often you will stay in family run hotels and village houses and enjoy authentic local cuisine. In this way, it's easy to discover the true heart of the people and the place you travel to – and make some new friends along the way. Each tour is uniquely different, so please feel free to browse through our tours to see what may whet your appetite.

Cool Earth

Explore are proud to support Cool Earth in their effort to reduce global carbon dioxide levels through the prevention of deforestation in the South America rainforest. Cool Earth focus on areas in immediate danger of deforestation, supporting local communities to be forest guardians. To date 350,000 acres of rainforest has been protected. Saving rainforest also protects rare animals and plants, allows local forest communities to maintain their way of life, and protects a major source of oxygen and fresh water. When you travel on an Explore holiday we make a donation to Cool Earth that exceeds the impact of our customers flights each year.

Earth Matters

We are passionate about sustainable travel and work hard to create tours where your holiday delivers real benefits to the local communities. We minimise our impact by travelling in small groups, respecting local cultures, reducing waste and offsetting 100% of the CO2 from our flights.

When you travel with Explore, you are directly contributing to local economies and helping empower the people you meet. We currently support a range of charities and good causes, including: Toilet Twinning (helping to flush away poverty), Lone Buffalo Foundation (a community project based in Laos providing creative skills for young people) and have recently supported women's cooperatives in Borneo and Morocco. We are a member of Tourism Concern's Ethical Tour Operator Group (www.tourismconcern.org.uk) and support their campaign for fair and ethical tourism. We also care passionately about the world's wildlife and actively support and promote the Born Free Organisation and Mahouts Elephant Foundation.

Booking Your Holiday

Peace of mind - book with confidence

You can book your Explore holiday with confidence, as all monies paid to us for your trip are fully protected. Explore is a fully bonded tour operator licensed by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and by ABTOT.

The air holiday packages (Tours including flights) that we advertise are ATOL protected, since we hold an Air Travel Organiser's Licence granted by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 2595. In addition, As a member of the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT), Explore has provided a bond to meet the requirements of the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992. Please note that packages booked outside the UK are only protected when purchased directly with Explore.

Reserving your place

To reserve your place on this tour you will need to check availability on the Explore website or through our dedicated call centre based in the UK where you can. Our tours can fill up quickly so you are advised to book as early as possible. If your chosen date is 'Available' or 'Guaranteed' we will be able to provisionally hold you a space for up to 48 hours.

For Self-Guided holidays and Private Journeys simply choose your date of travel and let us know so we can confirm all ground services.

The easiest way to confirm your booking is through our website. When you are ready to book, we normally require a 10% non-refundable deposit, but for some holidays this may be more to cover such items as permit fees, internal flights or other non-refundable services. If your travel starts within 60 days of booking, full payment will be required at the time of booking

100% No Surcharge Guarantee

The price paid for our holidays is no longer subject to change. Once booked and confirmed we will guarantee the price you pay will not increase, whatever the circumstances. You will not be approached to pay fuel surcharges unlike the vast majority of other adventure tour operators. The price guarantee applies to all new bookings departing between 1st January 2016 and 31st December 2017.

Trip Itinerary Versions

Itinerary details may vary depending on departure date and alternative itineraries for this tour may exist. Please refer to the dates and prices page on our website to check which itinerary operates on each departure date.

Please ensure that you have an up-to-date copy of these tour notes immediately before you travel, as from time to time our itineraries may be amended, either for operational reasons or in response to feedback from customers. You will be informed of any major changes to your tour but small changes may just be added to these tour notes.

Please note: 2017 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing in 2017. 2018/19 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing from 1st January to 31st December 2018.

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