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Welcome To Our October Edition

There's a definite change in the air as we move into October. The mornings start to feel a little cooler, the evenings arrive earlier and, finally, you can sit outside without wondering whether you are about to melt. But the days can still be pretty warm, which makes this a lovely time of year to get out and enjoy this beautiful corner of Spain.

This month, we're looking at the change of season, but without getting too carried away with pumpkins and chunky jumpers. We'll look at ways to enjoy autumn in Spain, whether that means getting on your bike and checking out some of the best cycle routes through the countryside, heading to a local fiesta or finding somewhere new to stop for lunch along the way.

At home, we're also looking at some ways to make things feel a little more cosy as the evenings get cooler. A few rugs, soft throws, warmer lighting and candles can make a room feel completely different, without the need to redecorate from top to bottom.

Of course, October isn't all about autumn colours and cosy evenings. We've got plenty of ideas for getting out and about too, including some of the festivals and events taking place across Alicante, Murcia and Almería. We've even found a few worth travelling a little further for.

There's plenty more to discover in this month's issue too. We take a look at the growing number of electric cars on our roads, ways to help animals in need, plus all the usual favourites, from tarot and puzzles and much more.

As always, we hope you find something in these pages that makes you want to get out, try something new, or maybe even discover somewhere new. And if nothing else, October is a good excuse to slow down a little, enjoy the cooler evenings and make the most of this lovely time of year.

Happy reading, and as always, thank you for letting us be part of your journey.



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Spain In October

Is a month for golden afternoons, stunning sunsets and village fiestas. It's a time for slowing down, long lunches and walks beneath the changing leaves.

Fiesta Nacional de España

October 12 is Spain's National Day and a national bank holiday, meaning schools, banks, public offices and many businesses will close for the day. Even better, this year October 12 falls on a Monday, giving people across Spain a three-day weekend without having to take an extra day off.

For Indigenous peoples in the Americas, Columbus's arrival was followed by European conquest and colonisation, making October 12 a controversial date for some.

● How is Spain's National Day celebrated?

The biggest official celebrations take place in Madrid, where the King, senior members of the government and other dignitaries attend the National Day events. The highlight for many people is the military parade, which sees members of Spain's Armed Forces march through the capital. Military aircraft also take part in the celebrations, with the traditional flypast providing one of the most spectacular moments of the day.

The parade is broadcast on television, so people around Spain can watch the celebrations without having to travel to Madrid.

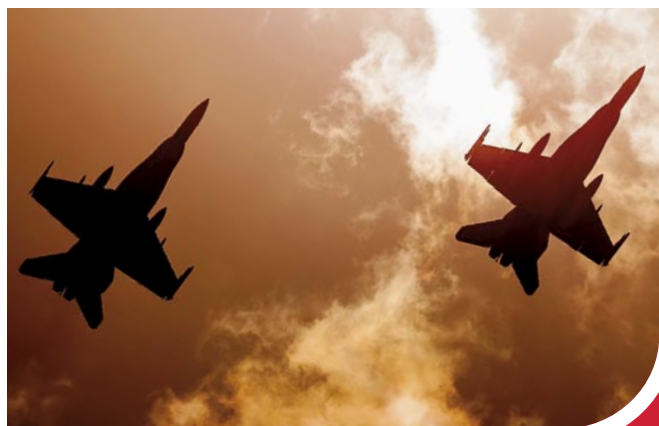
As with other national holidays, opening hours can vary, so it is worth checking before heading out. Many offices, banks and public services will be closed, while schools will also shut for the day. Some shops and supermarkets may open, particularly in tourist areas, although this depends on the location and the individual business.

Restaurants, cafés and bars are generally more likely to open, and with a three-day weekend this year, they could be busy. If you are planning to eat out, booking ahead is a good idea.

Known as the Fiesta Nacional de España, the day includes official celebrations, with the biggest taking place in Madrid, but for most people it is also a chance to enjoy a day away from work and spend time with family and friends. Of course, there is more to October 12 than a three-day weekend. The date has its roots in an important moment in Spanish history.

● Why is October 12 Spain's National Day?

On October 12, 1492, Christopher Columbus reached the Americas after sailing from Spain under the patronage of the Catholic Monarchs, Isabella I of Castile and Ferdinand II of Aragon. The date became associated with Spanish identity and its connection with the Americas, although the way it has been viewed and celebrated has changed over the centuries. Spain officially made October 12 its National Day in 1987. Today, the day celebrates Spain, its culture and national identity, but it also has a more complicated side.



For many people, though, October 12 is not about the formal celebrations. With October's typical weather of cooler, sunny days, people tend to enjoy long, lazy lunches outside, making the three-day weekend the perfect reset after what can be a hectic September.

Check with your local tourist office or Town Hall to find out what activities and celebrations are planned in your area.



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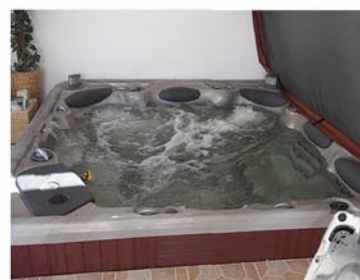
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Tropical Reefs To

For many travellers, the true appeal of cruising lies not simply in visiting destinations, but enjoying the journey to get there.

Cruising allows you to reach places that would otherwise require weeks of planning, multiple flights and complicated logistics. It is about waking each morning to a new landscape, a new culture and a fresh sense of discovery, without having to prepare the suitcase each night before moving to a new destination.

Two of Princess Cruises' most remarkable itineraries for the coming seasons offer exactly that opportunity. One journeys through the sun-drenched waters of Australia's tropical northeast and the world-famous Great Barrier Reef. The other ventures south to the wild landscapes of Patagonia, Tierra del Fuego and Cape Horn, where towering glaciers, windswept coastlines and extraordinary wildlife await.

Although the destinations could not be more different, both voyages share the same spirit of adventure and exploration that has made Princess Cruises one of the world's most respected cruise lines.

● Australia's Great Barrier Reef: Nature's Masterpiece

There are few natural wonders that capture the imagination quite like Australia's Great Barrier Reef. Stretching for more than 2,300 kilometres along Queensland's coastline, it is the largest coral reef system on Earth and one of the planet's most spectacular marine environments.

A voyage through this region combines the relaxed lifestyle of tropical Australia with unforgettable encounters with nature. Ports such as Airlie Beach, Townsville, Port Douglas and Cairns provide gateways to colourful coral gardens, pristine islands and lush rainforests.

Guests can choose to explore the reef by boat, snorkel above vibrant marine life or simply take in the breathtaking scenery from the shoreline. Beyond the reef itself, the region offers charming coastal towns, bustling waterfronts and some of Australia's most welcoming communities.

The journey also includes visits to Brisbane, Newcastle and Sydney, allowing guests to experience both Australia's natural beauty and its vibrant urban culture. The included three-night stay in Brisbane adds another dimension to the holiday. Set along the winding Brisbane River, the city combines a sophisticated dining scene with a relaxed outdoor lifestyle.

Spend your days exploring South Bank's waterfront promenades, enjoying fine restaurants, visiting world-class cultural attractions or simply unwinding in the sunshine before embarking on your Princess Cruises voyage. It is the ideal introduction to Australia and a wonderful complement to the spectacular Great Barrier Reef itinerary that follows.

The holiday concludes with two nights in Sydney, allowing guests time to experience one of the world's great cities. Set around one of the most beautiful natural harbours on the planet, Sydney offers countless attractions, from the iconic Opera House and Harbour Bridge to the golden sands of Bondi Beach.

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The End Of The World

● Patagonia And Cape Horn: The Last Great Wilderness

If Australia represents warmth, colour and tropical beauty, Patagonia offers something altogether different. This is a land of dramatic contrasts, where rugged mountains meet icy waters and where nature still dominates the landscape.

Beginning in Buenos Aires, one of South America's most elegant and fascinating cities, this Princess Cruises voyage heads towards some of the continent's most remote and awe-inspiring regions.

Highlights include the Falkland Islands, home to vast colonies of seabirds and penguins, as well as the striking landscapes of southern Chile and Argentina. Guests visit Puerto Montt, Punta Arenas, Puerto Williams and Ushuaia, famously known as the southernmost city in the world.

For many travellers, the emotional high point of the journey is sailing through Tierra del Fuego and around legendary Cape Horn. For centuries these waters challenged explorers and mariners navigating between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Today, passengers can experience these historic routes from the comfort of a modern cruise ship while enjoying panoramic views of one of the world's most dramatic natural environments.

The region's immense glaciers, snow-capped peaks and untouched wilderness create an experience unlike anywhere else on Earth. It is a voyage that appeals not only to cruise enthusiasts but also to travellers seeking genuine adventure and discovery.

● The Princess Difference

Long-haul cruising is about more than just the destinations. When travelling to the far corners of the world, comfort and service become just as important as the ports themselves.

Princess Cruises has earned a reputation for combining destination-rich itineraries with exceptional onboard experiences. Spacious accommodation, attentive service, varied dining options and carefully designed enrichment programmes allow guests to relax while gaining a deeper understanding of the regions they are exploring.

The inclusion of Princess Plus adds further value, making it easier for guests to enjoy their holiday without constantly considering additional costs.

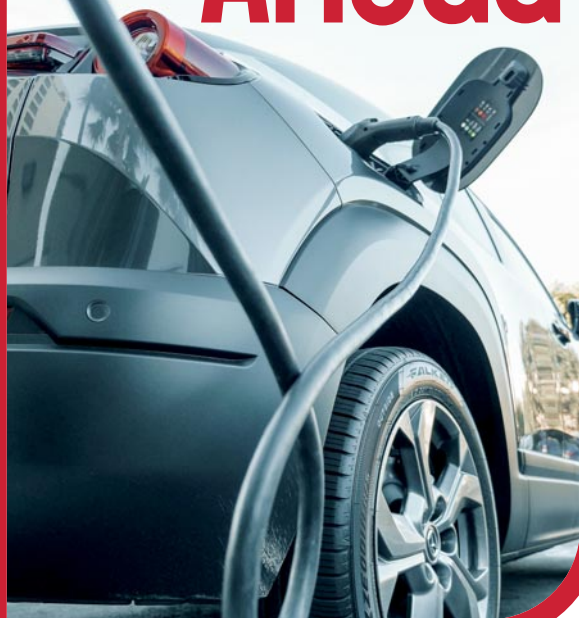
● Which Adventure Would You Choose?

One journey takes travellers to tropical reefs, golden beaches and iconic Australian cities. The other ventures to remote wilderness, legendary seafaring routes and some of the most spectacular scenery on the planet.

Whether your dream is swimming in the warm waters of the Great Barrier Reef or witnessing the raw beauty of Patagonia and Cape Horn, both itineraries offer something increasingly rare in modern travel: the opportunity to experience truly extraordinary places in comfort, style and depth.

With Princess Cruises, the journey becomes every bit as memorable as the destination.

Charge Ahead



More people in Murcia are making the switch to electric cars, with new figures showing a big jump in registrations this year. A total of 484 electric cars and plug-in hybrids were registered in the Region during August, compared with 283 in the same month last year.

That is a 71% increase, the second-biggest increase in Spain in August, with only Extremadura recording a higher rise. Between January and August, 3,944 electric and plug-in vehicles were registered in Murcia, up from 2,420 during the same period in 2025. That is a 63% rise, compared with 34.82 % across Spain. Almost three in every ten new cars registered in Murcia during August were either fully electric or plug-in hybrids.

Fully electric cars accounted for around 13%, with plug-in hybrids making up another 16%. Alicante is also seeing strong growth in fully electric cars. DGT figures show 3,733 new fully electric passenger cars were registered in the Province during 2026 by mid-September, with August the latest completed month in the figures.

For drivers thinking about going electric, grants and tax breaks can help bring down the cost. In Murcia, residents can deduct up to 30 % of the purchase price of an electric vehicle from the regional part of their income tax, up to €7,000. A further deduction of up to €4,000 is available for installing a charging point at home. With electric car numbers rising in both Murcia and Alicante, the next challenge will be making sure there are enough places to charge them, both at home and when drivers are out on the road.

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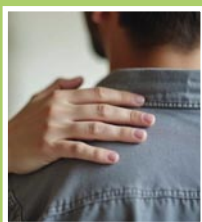


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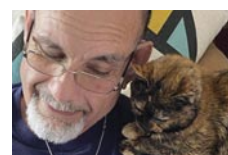
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Making Room For Autumn

It may have taken its time, but autumn is finally on the way. As summer lingers well into September in the sunny southeast, summer clothes are still very much required.

But now that October is here and the cooler evenings have arrived, it is time to start putting the summer gear away and getting the warmer clothes out. And there is something quite satisfying about putting away your summer clothes for another year and pulling out cosy jumpers and blankets. It is also the perfect time to have a proper clear-out. That dress you have not worn in three years. The jeans that no longer fit (we all have a pair). The pile of clothes you keep moving around because you cannot bear to throw them out? You know what to do; it's time.

If you are constantly running out of space and finding something to wear has become a stressful situation, it might be time to rethink the wardrobe itself. Once you have decided what is staying (think Marie Kondo), you can see much more clearly what you actually need from your storage space. And if shoes, bags and accessories are taking over the bedroom too, perhaps it is time for a rethink.

Wardrobes have come a long way from a rail, a shelf and a couple of doors. Modern designs can make use of every bit of available space, with drawers, shoe storage and compartments for bags, belts, jewellery and all those smaller things that somehow end up everywhere.

You do not necessarily need a whole new bedroom, either. Sometimes a good sort-out is enough to make the room feel completely different. So, if your wardrobe has been driving you mad for years, autumn is not a bad time to finally do something about it.



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TV News

At the time of writing he (or she!) who controls the thermostat has turned it down a few notches and we have some very pleasant weather. Nice sleeps without A/C. At Casa Rainbow we have still not had any significant rainfall so the garden still needs a steady 24 hour wet session, at the moment it is the weekly soaking. Don't give your garden the daily light spray down that so many people seem to do, it is a total waste of water. Spend a couple of hours giving everything a good soaking in the late evening once a week. The exception would be smaller pots and baskets. The dogs are all OK. At the moment we have a foster lad called Rudder, he had to have a front leg amputated and is scared of his own shadow. He is coping well on three legs and very slowly gaining his confidence.

● TV NEWS

Those of you using Starlink for a year will have had notice of a change in contract. From fastest speeds possible for €40 per month they are changing you to 200MBS for €45 per month with two other possible options available which you have to apply for. Fastest speeds possible for €65 per month or 100MBS for €35 per month. Clients we know have stuck with the €45 package but we would be interested to hear from anyone who has taken the €35 package. Do you watch TV OK and does it perform as well as before the change for you?

Starlink is an excellent internet provider that is available to all locations – we would still go fibre if available. However, we are finding some of the fibre installers who seem to be totally price led are failing to provide a good quality service. They are buying in ever cheaper routings and using "cheap" equipment including the routers. This can, and does, give the client inferior fibre connections with some ongoing problems especially to TV watching that is extraordinarily demanding on the internet.

The big companies – Movistar, Orange, Vodafone and some others are not so price led. They use (more expensive) direct routings and quality equipment and their fibre lines are significantly better than the cheaper end of the market.

If we question a clients internet provision we so often get told "well we have fibre it must be OK", but this is not the case, some fibre lines are significantly better than others.

If you are having TV viewing issues, contact Rainbow for an assessment of the problem. For good TV viewing you need two excellent services – the internet and the TV supplier. We are happy to install our system and give you a week's free no obligation trial to fully assess the TV service.

We at Rainbow can usually help all nationalities get their own language TV. Unfortunately, our language skills are fairly limited but WhatsApp a message to us and Google translate can help us chat to each other!

That's it for October – more TV information in November 2026. Article sponsored by RAINBOW SATELLITES SL – the TV company for ALL your TV and Radio needs in the region of Murcia.

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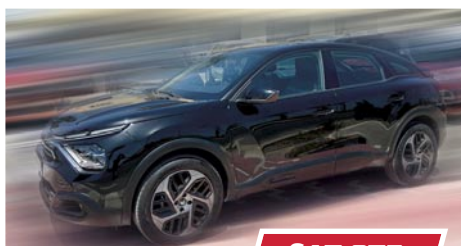
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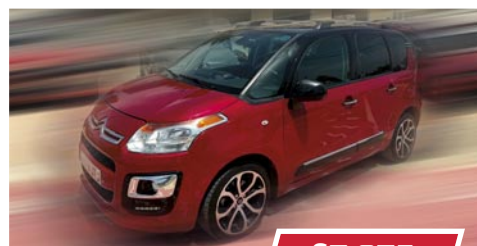
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DIFFICULTY: EASY
TYPE: ROAD AND CYCLE PATHS

This is quite a long cycle, but it's worth it as it takes you well away from the coast and into the countryside. Starting in Torre Vieja, the route heads towards the La Mata and Torre Vieja lagoons before continuing through Benijófar and Rojales and into the Vega Baja countryside. From here, it heads towards the El Hondo wetlands and on through Crevillent and Albalera before turning back towards the huerta, passing through places including Cox, Callosa de Segura, Rafal, Benejúzar and Jacarilla.

The biggest challenge comes towards the end, with the climb to the La Pedrera reservoir. Once you have reached the top, though, you can take a breather and enjoy the views before the route heads back towards Torre Vieja via San Miguel de Salinas. The official Costa Blanca route provides GPS tracks, which are worth downloading before setting off.

There are plenty of small towns along the way where you can stop for a coffee or something to eat. Rojales makes a good early stop, while the countryside around the Vega Baja is also dotted with bakeries and traditional cafés. If you prefer to take your own food, the reservoir makes a good place to stop once you have finished the climb.



If the thought of 100km makes your legs hurt just reading about it, this is the one for you. The official Mar Menor cycle route is around 50km and is mostly flat, following promenades and cycle paths between Santiago de la Ribera and La Manga. There is also a longer version of around 75km which goes further around the lagoon although this includes sections shared with traffic.

One of the nicest things about this route is that you get to see the Mar Menor from several different angles, passing beaches, promenades and small coastal communities along the way. The route also includes a ferry crossing between the Playa Barnuevo area and Puerto Deportivo Tomás Maestre, so check the current timetable before setting off.

There is no shortage of places to stop for a drink or lunch. Santiago de la Ribera has plenty of cafés and restaurants, while the marina at Tomás Maestre gives you another option at the end of the ride.

If you would rather bring a picnic, there are plenty of beaches where you can stop, sit down and enjoy the view. Just remember that exposed coastal routes offer very little shade, so take plenty of water and sun protection.



You do not have to be a serious cyclist to enjoy biking in southeast Spain. In fact, Autumn is the perfect time to get out on the bike. The worst of the summer heat has passed, the days are still long enough for a nice winding route and there is plenty to see across the Alicante Province, and Murcia Region. Let's take a look at three great routes with sea views or that take you through Spain's mountains and countryside as it changes to shades of gold and brown. And of course, they include a few cafés and bars where you can grab a cold brew and some perfect picnic spots.

Through Sierra Espuña



DISTANCE: 81.7KM
DIFFICULTY: MODERATE
TYPE: ROAD

For something completely different, head inland to Sierra Espuña. The Espuroad route starts and finishes in El Berro and takes in Alhama de Murcia, Totana, Aledo, Las Alquerías and some of the most impressive scenery in the regional park. The circular route is 81.73km with around 1,629 metres of climbing, so this is definitely one for cyclists who are comfortable with hills. The route is entirely on asphalt and is suitable for road bikes.

One of the highlights comes towards the end when the route climbs towards Collado Bermejo before descending through the forest towards Fuente del Hilo. There is a picnic and recreation area here, making it a good place to stop, catch your breath and enjoy the surroundings.

And if 80km sounds a little bit ambitious, the Sierra Espuña has several other cycling routes, including a 46km mountain-bike route divided into four sections, so you can choose something that suits your ability.



Before You Set Off

A cycling trip is much more enjoyable when you do not spend half of it wondering where you are or whether you have enough water.

CHECK THE WEATHER: Wind can make a big difference on exposed coastal routes.

TAKE PLENTY OF WATER: Do not assume there will always be somewhere to refill your bottle.

DOWNLOAD THE ROUTE: GPS tracks are available for several of the routes above, and they are worth having even if you know the area.

CHECK YOUR BIKE:

Brakes, tyres, gears and lights are worth checking before a longer cycle.

TAKE A REPAIR KIT:

A spare inner tube, pump, tyre puncture repair spray and basic tools could save a long walk home.

WEAR A HELMET: And make sure you are visible when sharing roads with traffic.

PACK SOMETHING TO EAT: Even if you plan to stop at a café, it is worth having a snack with you.

START EARLY IN WARMER WEATHER: Coastal routes can have little shade and mountain climbs can become hard work in the heat.

CHECK FERRY TIMES: If your route includes the Mar Menor crossing, make sure the service is running before you set off.

KNOW YOUR ROUTE: Some of the longer cycles include roads shared with vehicles, so choose a route that matches your experience.

The best thing about cycling around this part of Spain is that you do not have to make every bike ride a challenge. Sometimes a few hours on the bike, a coffee in a village and a picnic with a view is more than enough.



Alicante got the biggest day of the three regions, with the ninth stage taking the cyclists from La Villajoyosa to the summit of Aitana. The 187.5-kilometre route stayed within the province, passing through 27 municipalities before the final climb into the mountains. The roads were packed in places, with spectators turning out to watch the cyclists pedal by. Enric Mas won the stage on Aitana and took control of the race, going on to win La Vuelta overall in Granada. He became the first Spanish winner of the race since Alberto Contador in 2014. The race also had a clear impact on tourism. According to HOSBEC, a Vuelta stage brings more than 3,000 people to an area, including cyclists, teams, organisers and



La Vuelta Effect

La Vuelta a España 2026 has now finished, but its time in southeast Spain gave Alicante, Murcia and Almería plenty of attention, with huge crowds turning out along the routes and millions watching the race around the world.



cycling fans, with average spending of around €250,000 on hospitality. Alicante also recorded more than 800,000 overnight stays linked to cycling, showing just how important the sport has become to the province's tourism industry.

Alicante's cycling credentials were also recognised during this year's race. Six municipalities received the national "Más Bici" seal, including Torrevieja and Benidorm, alongside Calpe, Castalla, Orihuela and Villena.

The awards recognise towns that are investing in cycling, from everyday transport and infrastructure to sport and tourism. Benidorm was singled out for its 130-kilometre cycling network, while Torrevieja's application included its cycling infrastructure, sports programmes, education and cycle tourism.

The race then headed into the Region of Murcia for its 11th stage, travelling from Cartagena to Lorca. The route took the

cyclists through the region from the coast and the Mar Menor towards the interior, finishing in Lorca.

There was a nice local connection in Cartagena too, with cycling legend Alejandro Valverde turning up to watch the race and meet fans as it passed through his home region. The following day, La Vuelta also reached Almería province, with the 12th stage starting in Vera before heading into the mountains and finishing at Calar Alto. The stage included five categorised climbs and gave viewers another look at the landscape around the eastern end of Andalucía. For a few days, people around the world got to see the roads, towns, coastline and mountains of all three areas, giving Alicante, Murcia and Almería some valuable international exposure.

The cyclists may have moved on, but La Vuelta has left all three regions with another reminder of what they can offer cyclists, from challenging mountain routes to coastal roads, good weather and towns that are increasingly investing in cycling.

European Senior Masters Returns

Promoted by Champions UK plc and part of the Legends Tour, La Manga Club's biggest commercial golf event returns to the 5-star resort's iconic South Course for the fifth consecutive year between November 5th and 8th.



The start of the championship will be marked by an exclusive, invitation-only Gala Dinner at the Grand Hyatt hotel on Thursday November 5, with international opera star Lesley Garrett, CBE providing a memorable performance. A record prize fund of €400,000 and an impressive winner's cheque of €60,000 are sure to attract a field of high-profile professional golfers, with the event also supported by a growing list of international and local sponsors, including Computacenter, Coca-Cola, The La Manga Club Grand Hyatt hotel, Air Services, Spain Today Online, Murcia Today, Andalucia Today, Alicante Today, TKO Radio, Home & Living Magazine and La Manga Life, the premier lifestyle magazine of the La Manga Club resort.

If you're interested in going along to this golfing competition, which is growing in prestige every year, you're in luck as you can get your hands on one of the 250 free tickets that Murcia Today is giving away. More details below. The event will start with practice days on November 3-4. The professional and Pro-Am competitions will tee off on Thursday November 5

with the final round of the professional championship taking place on Sunday, November 8. The €60,000 first prize will be presented to the winner at the prize presentation, which will be held on the 18th green at approximately 3pm.

Pro-Am prizes will be presented at an invitation-only evening Buffet dinner on Saturday November 7, which will be held on the spectacular terrace of the Grand Hyatt hotel, overlooking the south course. Once again, Lesley Garrett, CBE, will be adding her magic to the occasion.

SKY SPORTS Golf will show La Manga Club at its best and air vox pop interviews during the event, while extended coverage of the 2026 Champions UK plc European Senior Masters will be broadcast worldwide via a post-event TV special.

Get a free ticket to watch the Champions UK plc European Senior Masters 2026

So, with all this going on, how can you afford to miss it?

Murcia Today has 250 tickets to give away to lucky winners. All you have to do to enter the prize draw is answer a simple two-part question and email the answer to info@spaintodayonline.com. Be sure to get your answers in before midnight on October 29, when the competition deadline comes to an end.

HERE'S THE QUESTION YOU HAVE TO ANSWER:

WHERE WAS RORY MCILROY BORN
AND WHAT NATIONALITY IS HE?

Lucky winners will be contacted by email with instructions on how to pick up their tickets.

To be in with an extra chance of winning, listen in to TKO radio (91.9fm Costa Blanca and 106.5 Costa Cálida) to enter their own competition, where they are giving away an equal number of tickets!





ALIGN YOUR ENERGY, DEFINE YOUR PATH

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True luxury is knowing exactly who you are and moving through the world with absolute clarity. While we meticulously design our homes to create balance, balancing our internal energy is the true key to a harmonious life. **San Tarot** brings a refined, modern approach to the ancient arts of Tarot and Numerology. Led by intuitive guide **San**, this bespoke practice helps you uncover the hidden patterns of your life.



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Gain immediate clarity, perspective, and direction on your current life chapters, relationships, and decisions. Through custom-tailored spreads and pendulum guidance, your pathways become clear, fluid, and beautifully defined.



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You're in for a lucky break. It may come as happy news, experience, new opportunities, or an exciting acquaintance. You will find yourself in the right place at the right time. It is not a coincidence but a gift from fate.

CONTACT & BOOKINGS

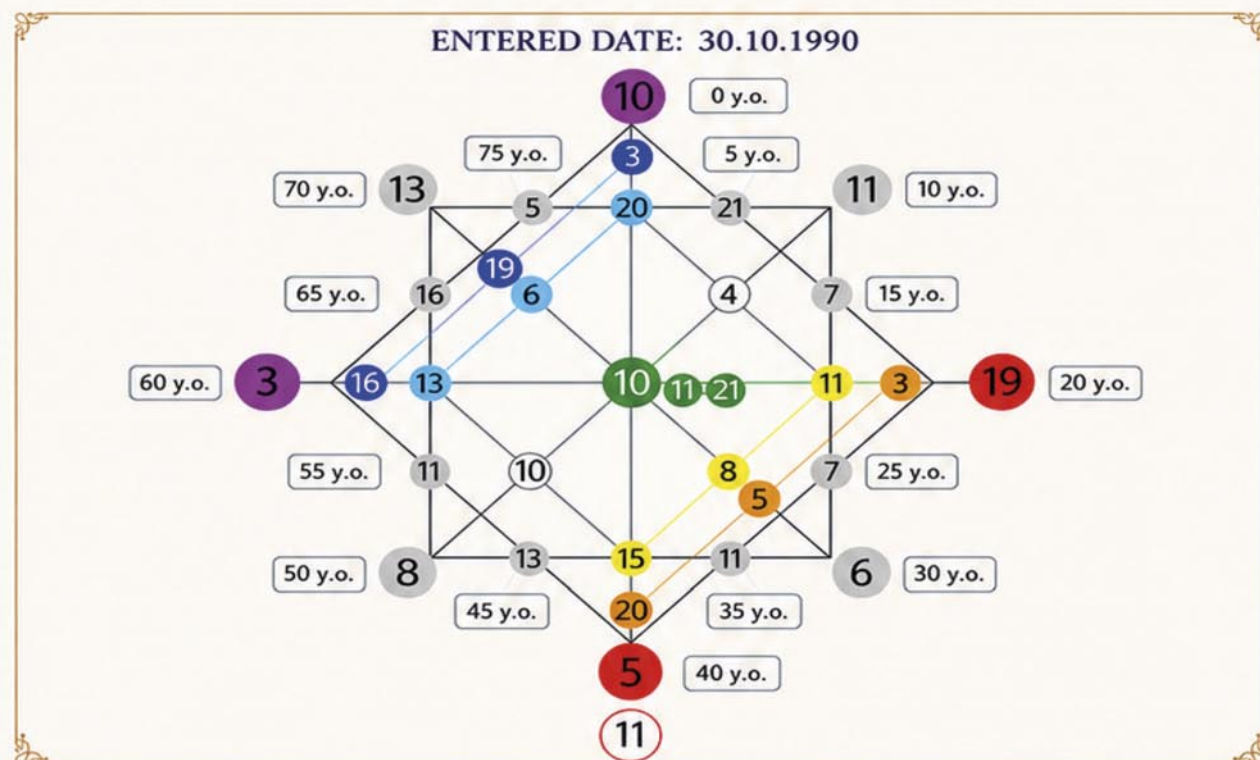
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While Tarot provides a vivid, real-time mirror to your current emotional and spiritual landscape, Numerology acts as the permanent foundation. By analyzing your unique birth data, San constructs a detailed geometric matrix—a personalized blueprint that decodes your inherent strengths, life cycles, and soul purpose.

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A SANCTUARY FOR CLARITY

A session with San is designed to be an empowering, beautifully curated experience of self-discovery. It is not about predicting a fixed fate; it is about unlocking your agency, recognizing synchronicity, and understanding that the magic to transform your life is already within you.

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Consultant: San

Telephone / WhatsApp Business: +34 711 07 94 30

Step into your alignment. Your journey to self-realization starts here.

Paws For Thought



There is something very special about bringing a rescue animal home. Whether it is a cute puppy or an older cat who has been waiting patiently for a home, or a nervous animal that needs a little extra time to trust people, adopting a pet can change their life and yours.

Across Spain, thousands of dogs and cats are looking for homes, including many abandoned or rescued from difficult situations. Adopting rather than buying gives an animal a second chance and can be incredibly rewarding.

● Before You Adopt

TIME: Dogs need walks, attention and company, while cats still need daily care and interaction.

YOUR HOME: Think about space, outdoor areas, neighbours and whether pets are allowed.

YOUR ROUTINE: What happens when you are working, travelling or away for the weekend?

THE COST: Food, vaccinations, insurance, vet bills and unexpected expenses all need to be considered.

THE RIGHT MATCH: Age, temperament and exercise needs matter. A nervous older dog may be a very different proposition from a young, energetic one.

● Can't Have A Pet? You Can Still Help

And if you would love a pet but your circumstances do not allow it, there are other ways to get involved. Animal shelters and rescue groups need volunteers for all sorts of jobs.

WALK THE DOGS: Give dogs some time outside their kennels.

SPEND TIME WITH NERVOUS

ANIMALS: Sit with them, talk to them and let them get used to people at their own pace.

HELP AT A SHELTER: Cleaning, feeding and general jobs are always needed.

TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS: Good photos can help animals get noticed online.

HELP WITH SOCIAL MEDIA: Share animals looking for homes or help shelters with posts.

FOSTER: Give an animal a temporary home while they wait for their forever home.

HELP WITH FUNDRAISING: Help arrange charity events and collection days; there are plenty of ways to lend a hand.

● What Do You Get Out Of It?

There are plenty of benefits for the humans too!

MORE TIME OUTDOORS: Dog walking gets you moving and out in the fresh air.

A BREAK FROM EVERYDAY LIFE: Animals have a funny way of making you forget about your phone for a while.

COMPANY: Spending time with animals can be welcome if you live alone or have recently moved somewhere new.

A SENSE OF PURPOSE: Knowing that your time is helping an animal can feel good.

MEETING PEOPLE: Volunteering can be a great way to get to know people in your local community.

EXERCISE WITHOUT CALLING IT EXERCISE: A long dog walk doesn't feel quite so much like a workout when there is a happy dog involved.

There are so many ways to make a difference, from adopting or fostering an animal to giving a few hours of your time each week. And sometimes the animal you thought you were helping ends up doing a little something for you, too.



Noah's A.R.C. Animal Rescue

Registered Animal Charity No 9.971/1

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CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO

EMAIL: janenahoming150@gmail.com

CALL: 602 653 639

VISIT: www.noahsarcmurcia.com

ADOPT ME



TARA



I am a medium size Staffy/Boxer cross, still under a year old and have my whole life ahead. I was found as a stray, but at some stage had a family as Noahs ARC found me in good condition. I am a very confident, friendly girl and am eager to interact with everyone I meet. I am fully vaccinated.



TOBY



I'm a medium size crossbreed boy approximately 3 years old who came to Noah's ARC after being found close to death. I was in an appalling state, but surprisingly am a calm and gentle boy with a very sweet nature. When I first meet new people, I can be a little shy, but little by little I'm starting to come out of my shell and show my loving side. Once I feel safe and comfortable, I really enjoy soft strokes, cuddles and quiet moments with my humans. I am fully vaccinated and neutered.



ANNIE



Even if I say so myself, I am a beautiful, sweet and friendly medium/large Podenco puppy, just 8 months old and was found abandoned. Anyone familiar with my breed will know that we are the most loving dogs ever. I can be a little prey driven but that all adds to the fun. I am fully vaccinated.



ANGEL



A great name for me as I'm a very sweet and gentle small crossbreed girl, approximately 15 months old, with a calm and loving nature. I'm still finding my paws, am very curious about the world and like to quietly explore and take things at my own pace. I'm really affectionate and enjoy kind attention and peaceful moments. With my soft personality and gentle heart, I'm simply happy to be safe, cared for and close to those I trust. I am fully vaccinated and spayed.



ALL THE ABOVE DOGS HAVE BEEN ABANDONED AND LET DOWN BADLY BY HUMANS, BUT IT IS NOW OUR AIM TO FIND THE PERFECT HOMES FOR THEM AND ALL THE DOGS IN OUR CARE. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MEET ANY OF OUR DOGS PLEASE CONTACT JANE ON 602 653 639 OR EMAIL JANENA150@GMAIL.COM OR CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE NOAHSARC MAZARRON FOR LOTS OF INFORMATION. PLEASE REMEMBER THESE DOGS AND PUPPIES NEED TIME TO ADJUST IN A HOME SO PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING IS PARAMOUNT. THOSE ADOPTING OUR PUPPIES WILL BE ASKED TO SIGN A DOCUMENT TO SAY THE PUPPY WILL BE SPAYED OR NEUTERED WHEN THEY ARE OLD ENOUGH. A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERY ONE OF OUR SUPPORTERS AND VOLUNTEERS AS WE CANNOT RUN THIS BRILLIANT CHARITY WITHOUT YOU.



PLEASE REMEMBER HOW HOT THE PAVEMENTS ARE WHEN WALKING YOUR DOG, THEY CANNOT TELL YOU HOW DANGEROUS IT IS BUT, WE POLITELY CAN.

DONATE ❤️

WE AS A CHARITY RELY SOLELY ON DONATIONS WHETHER IT IS MONEY OR GOODS TO SELL IN OUR SHOPS AND WE ARE ALWAYS VERY GRATEFUL. IF YOU HAVE ANY ITEMS OF CLOTHING, BRIC A BRAC, OR FURNITURE WE WILL BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR DONATIONS. WE ARE ALSO HAPPY TO COLLECT LARGER ITEMS OF FURNITURE, JUST CALL OUR SHOP FOR COLLECTION ON 711 016 236. WE ALSO STOP AT MAZARRÓN COUNTRY CLUB ON TUESDAYS BETWEEN 10AM AND 12PM FOR DONATIONS, OUTSIDE THE SPAR SHOP

WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR MORE VOLUNTEERS TO WALK THE DOGS AT THE KENNELS, SO IF YOU LOVE DOGS AND ARE LOOKING FOR SOME EXERCISE THIS WILL COVER BOTH. IT IS A GREAT MORNING STARTING AT 9AM AND FINISHING WITH A NICE CUPPA. PLEASE CALL PAUL ON 604 172 627 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.



A little early, but one for your diaries about the Christmas Fayre, amazing how fast it comes around. Saturday 14th November at Mariano's, Camposol A, Mazarrón, between 10.30am-2.30pm. Just €1 entry. Loads of stalls, raffle, tombola, scrummy cake stall, bric a brac. To book a stall for €10 message us via whatsapp on 605 296 858 or via our FB page





Across Alicante, Murcia and Almería, towns and villages have their own celebrations, festivals and traditions, with everything from spectacular parades and centuries-old fairs to food, music, theatre and, of course, Halloween fun. Some of these celebrations have been part of local life for hundreds of years, while others are much newer. Either way, October gives us plenty of reasons to get out, have some fun and enjoy what is happening around us. Here are some of the things worth putting in the diary this October.

● A Fair With A Very Long History

If you want something a little different, head inland towards Cocentaina at the end of the month. The Fira de Tots Sants, or All Saints' Fair, takes place from October 30 to November 1 and has been part of the town's calendar since 1346. Yes, you read that right. More than 680 editions later, it is still going strong. The fair spreads through the streets and squares of the town, with agriculture, livestock, machinery, crafts, food, entertainment and plenty to see and do. It is also a good example of how an old tradition can keep changing without losing its connection to the place where it began. The 2026 edition is the 680th, making this a particularly good year to visit. The fair also overlaps with Halloween weekend, so you could easily combine the two if you are looking for a full day out.

● Halloween, Spanish Style

Halloween is now a familiar sight in Spain, with children dressing up, pumpkins appearing in shop windows and bars and clubs getting in on the act. But it is worth remembering that Halloween is not traditionally the main event here. November 1 is Todos los Santos, or All Saints' Day, a national

Fiestas

After the long summer, when everything seems to slow down, and in some places comes to a standstill, September brings that familiar back-to-school, back-to-routine feeling. Then October arrives and it feels like time to have a bit of fun again.

● Moros y Cristianos

If you live in Alicante Province, you have probably seen a Moros y Cristianos parade at some point. They are hard to miss, with elaborate costumes, marching bands, fireworks, gunpowder and streets packed with people. The fiestas are based on the history of the Reconquista and the battles between Muslim and Christian forces, although the celebrations we see today have developed over many years and vary from one town to another. In Crevillent, the celebrations run from October 3 to 10. The town's Moros y Cristianos fiesta is recognised as an International Tourist Interest event, with 12 comparsas taking part, six representing the Moors and six the Christians. Further along the coast, Calp celebrates from October 21 to 25, with parades, music, religious events, a paella competition and the spectacular Moorish landing on Arenal Beach. The Calp fiesta dates back to 1977. And there is another one to look out for in El Campello, where the celebrations run into the middle of October, including the traditional Moorish landing at Carrerlamar beach on October 12.

holiday and an important day for many Spanish families. Traditionally, people visit cemeteries to remember relatives who have died and take flowers to their graves. Food is part of the tradition too, with different parts of Spain having their own seasonal favourites. You might find panellets, roasted chestnuts, sweet potatoes, buñuelos or huesos de santo, depending on where you are. Halloween has definitely grown in popularity in Spain over recent decades, helped by films and television, schools, social media and international influences.

And while the US may seem to have claimed Halloween, its roots actually go back to the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, which was celebrated in Ireland more than 2,000 years ago. These days, Halloween is particularly popular with children, with costumes, pumpkins, trick-or-treating and themed parties becoming much more common. At the same time, Spain's older traditions around Todos los Santos remain very much part of family life. So, rather than Halloween replacing Todos los Santos, the two now sit alongside each other.

● Halloween Weekend October 31

Look out for children's parties, fancy-dress events, themed nights and trick-or-treating in towns across the region.

● November 1, Todos Los Santos And A National Public Holiday

When we think about autumn harvests in Spain, wine and olives tend to get most of the attention. But around Calasparra in Murcia, rice is another important autumn crop. It has even had a starring role in *The Simpsons*, with the town and its famous rice making an appearance in the famous cartoon.

The rice fields around the Segura River are beautiful at this time of year and make a lovely setting for a walk. The official Sendero del Arroz (Rice Route) takes visitors through the countryside and along the river, with views over the rice fields and traditional irrigation channels. The fields turn golden during September, with harvesting normally beginning at the end of September or the start of October. And then there is the best bit after a walk: sitting down to a plate of Calasparra rice.



Frights And Fun



The rice has its own protected Denomination of Origin, so this is one harvest where you can see the crop in the fields and enjoy it on the plate too.

● Plenty More Going On

Moros y Cristianos and traditional fairs may steal the show, but there is plenty more happening around the region during October. In Alicante city, Circarte 2026 runs from October 9 to 25, bringing circus and performing arts to venues across five municipalities in the province. Murcia city has its own autumn programme, while towns and villages across the Region will be holding local fiestas, food events and cultural activities. And if you are heading into Almería, October is a good month to keep an eye on the local cultural calendar too, with concerts, theatre and other events taking place across the province.

● Worth Travelling For

If you fancy making a weekend of it, there are some interesting events elsewhere in Spain too. One of the more unusual is the Rosa del Azafrán festival in Consuegra, Toledo, which celebrates the saffron harvest from October 23 to 25.

There are demonstrations showing how saffron is taken from the flowers, along with traditional food, crafts, music and the town's famous windmills. And then there are the castellers in Cataluña, where teams build enormous human towers during local festivals and celebrations. It is a tradition that has been part of Catalan culture for generations and is one of those things that really needs to be seen in person to appreciate quite how impressive it is.

Victory Churches Spain

We at Victory are very excited about our upcoming event on 20th and 21st of October. Terradez ministries will be joining us all the way from Colorado in the USA.

Ashley and Carlie have a great testimony of healing and faith. It's an event not to be missed, and it's free and open to all. Check out our Facebook page for information on times and schedules.

God said to go into the world and preach the gospel, and these guys travel the world preaching God's word. (Mark 16:15 NLT 15 And then he told them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone.)

The word of God is a survival kit to navigate the rocky road we call life. If you are looking for something more than just the sun and sea here in Spain, then come along and see what's on offer.

The world is full of exciting and interesting things that stimulate our human senses, but they are temporal quick fixes, and soon fade. Only a relationship with Jesus can give eternal peace to our souls. (John 14:27 NIV Peace I leave with

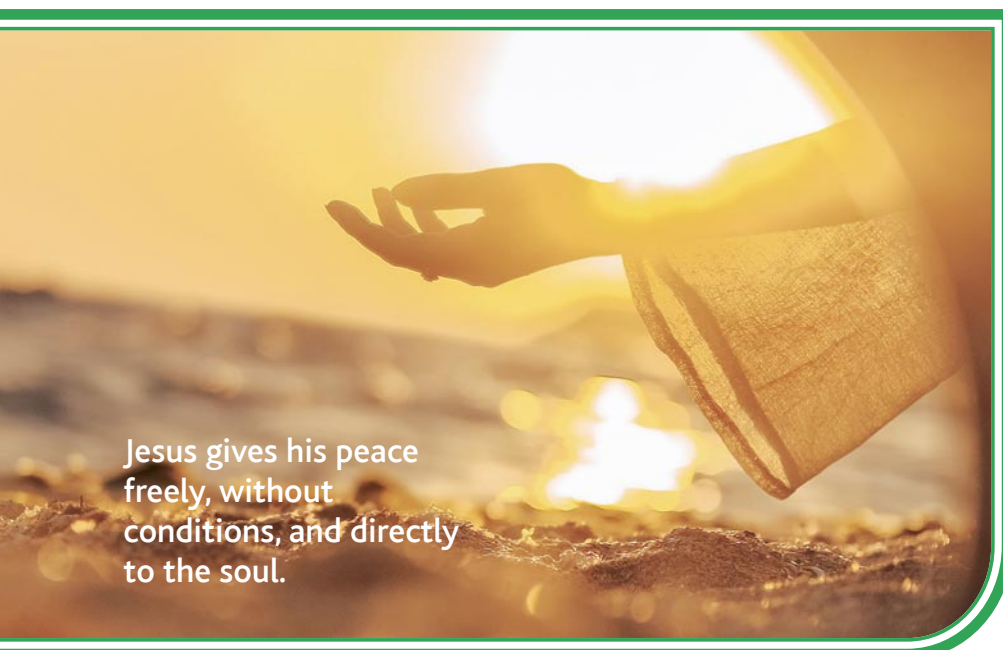
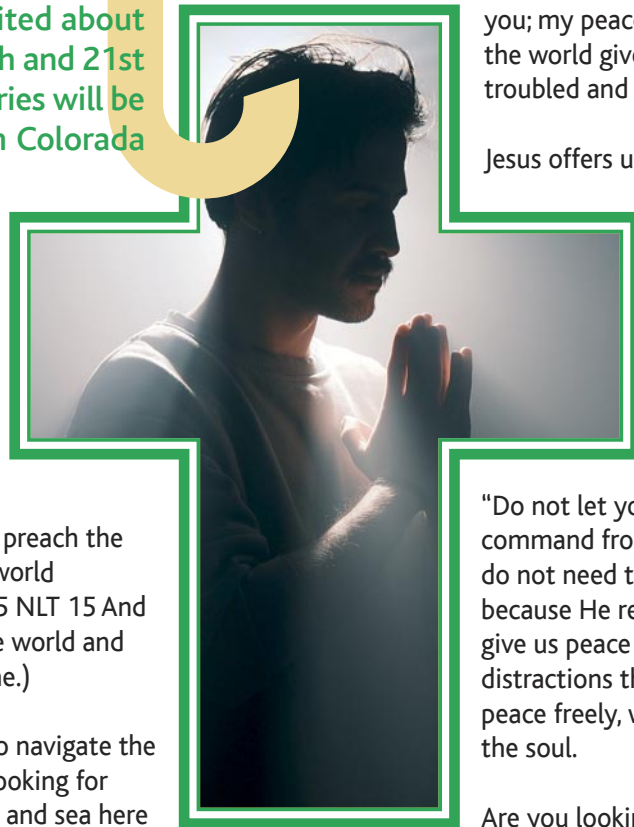
you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.)

Jesus offers us a lasting, inner calm that does not depend on our worldly circumstances or temporal worldly comforts. Unlike our human peace, which is often just the absence of conflict, Jesus offers a supernatural, spiritual calm, that is rooted in a permanent relationship with God.

"Do not let your hearts be troubled" is a command from God, and a reassurance that we do not need to be controlled by anxiety or fear because He remains in control. The world tries to give us peace through money, status, items, or distractions that don't last for ever. Jesus gives his peace freely, without conditions, and directly to the soul.

Are you looking for an inner peace in this chaotic world? If so, then come along and see for yourself how having a relationship with Jesus can transform the chaos of this world into a calming peace. There are no requirements, Jesus says "come as you are".

You will find a warm and welcoming reception from all our Victory Family.



Jesus gives his peace freely, without conditions, and directly to the soul.



**A community Church,
Serving God, Serving People.**
Our Sunday service is at
11am at the Calle Villaricos de
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Premier Parking offers a convenient Meet & Greet service directly outside the Departures Terminal at Murcia International Airport.

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Premier Parking is currently offering two special annual-parking rates for Home & Living readers: just €280 for 12 months of outdoor parking or €325 for 12 months of covered parking when mentioning "Home & Living 2026" at the time of booking.



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These annual packages include unlimited Meet & Greet services throughout the contract period, making them ideal for frequent travellers or homeowners who regularly travel between Spain and the UK. Be quick, though covered spaces are limited. Optional vehicle-care services are also available while you are away, including a full valet, ITV or pre-ITV checks, and vehicle servicing.

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WE PARK, YOU FLY

Cosy Up For Autumn



If you live on the coast, your home probably has tiled floors. They are practical and brilliant for those high summer temperatures; they keep rooms cool and make it much easier to escape the heat. Come autumn, though, those same tiles can feel a bit chilly under your feet.

It is one of those funny things about living in Spain. You can be sitting outside in the sunshine during the day and reaching for a jumper when the sun goes down. Inside, the house can feel much cooler than you expected too, especially in the evenings. This is where a few small changes can make a difference. You don't need to redecorate the whole house or fill every room with pumpkins. Adding some softer textures, warmer lighting and a few cosy touches can make your home feel much more inviting as we head into autumn.

● Start From The Floor

If your home is mostly tiled, a rug can make an immediate difference. It adds a bit of warmth and texture and can also make a room feel more comfortable and lived-in. A large rug works well under a coffee table and sofa, while runners are useful in hallways and smaller rugs can make a bedroom feel warmer first thing in the morning.

To keep that Mediterranean look, opt for natural materials such as jute and cotton. If you want something softer underfoot, look for a thicker pile or a washable rug that can cope with everyday life. You do not need to cover every inch of floor either. Start with the places where you spend the most time and see how it feels.

● Let There Be Light

As the evenings get darker earlier, lighting becomes much more important. One big ceiling light can do the job, but it is not always the most relaxing way to light a room. Try adding a couple of smaller lamps instead. A table lamp on a sideboard, a floor lamp beside the sofa or a little lamp on a shelf can create pools of light around the room rather than lighting everything at once. Warm-toned bulbs can also make a difference. And if you have a terrace or balcony, lanterns or rechargeable outdoor fairy lights can keep those spaces useful for a little longer into the evening.

● Throw Everything At It

Throws and cushions are probably the easiest way to give a room an autumn update because there is no decorating involved. You can fold a chunky blanket over the arm of the sofa, add a couple of softer cushions and you are done. You could bring in warmer shades such as terracotta, rust, ochre, olive green or cream, but there is no need to make everything match.

In a coastal home, lighter colours can work just as well. Keep your whites, creams and natural tones and add a few warmer textures instead. Think knitted throws, soft cotton, linen, boucle or anything that makes you want to curl up on the sofa. And when spring comes around again, most of it can go back into a cupboard until next autumn.

● Bring On The Candles

There is something about lighting a candle when the evenings start to draw in. Even if you are not particularly into seasonal decorating, a few candles can make a room feel different. If you like scented candles, autumn is a good excuse to try warmer scents such as cinnamon, vanilla, orange, fig or cedarwood. You can also use lanterns, little glass holders or groups of candles on a tray. There is no need to scatter them all over the house. A few together on a coffee table or dining table can be enough.

Just remember the boring but important bit: never leave burning candles unattended and keep them well away from curtains, children and pets.





● Give The Table An Autumn Touch

You can do much the same thing with your dining table without spending much money. Take a wooden board, tray or shallow bowl and use it as the base for a simple centrepiece. Add a few candles, some greenery, pinecones, dried orange slices and perhaps a couple of small pumpkins. You could even use rosemary or eucalyptus from the garden for a bit of greenery.

● Keep The Coastal Feel

Autumn decorating does not have to mean turning your home dark brown and covering every surface with pumpkins. If you love the light, airy feel of a Mediterranean home, keep it. Add warmth through texture rather than changing everything else. A woven basket for blankets, a wooden tray, natural fabrics, a few dried flowers and warmer

cushions can give a room that autumn feeling without losing what you already like about it. And because we are still in Spain, there is no need to pretend it is November in a cottage in Yorkshire. You might still be opening the windows during the day and sitting outside with a coffee. And most importantly, you don't need a new sofa, new curtains and a completely different colour scheme to make your home feel ready for autumn.

MAKE YOUR OWN AUTUMN WREATH



You do not have to be particularly crafty to make a wreath, and it can actually look better if it is not too perfect. Start with a plain wreath base and add whatever you like the look of. Dried leaves, grasses, eucalyptus, small branches, pinecones and dried flowers all work well.

A few dried orange slices can add some colour, while ribbon or twine can finish it off. You can buy the materials, but you may already have plenty at home or growing in the garden. Rosemary, eucalyptus and lavender can all be dried, while fallen leaves, twigs and pinecones can provide the rest.



● What You Need

- A plain wreath base
- Dried leaves and foliage
- Small branches or twigs
- Pinecones
- Dried grasses or flowers
- Dried orange slices
- Florist's wire or a glue gun
- Ribbon or twine

Start by arranging the larger pieces before adding the smaller details. Once you are happy with it, secure everything with wire or glue and add a loop of ribbon or twine for hanging. And if it looks a little uneven, don't worry. It's supposed to look homemade.

Experts In Administrative Legal And Judicial Advice

A recent resolution issued by the Directorate-General for Legal Certainty and Public Faith has changed the criteria for registering older buildings or structures that had not previously been declared in the Land Registry. This change affects all properties located within the protection zone (zona de policía) of a ravine or watercourse including Camposol. A property in a zona de policía is one subject to a legal

easement due to its proximity to a public watercourse (such as a river, stream or ravine). In these cases, it will no longer be sufficient simply to prove that the construction has existed for many years.

In order to register it, it may first be necessary to obtain authorisation or a favourable report from the Segura River Basin Authority (Confederación Hidrográfica del Segura). Therefore, before

starting the process of declaring an existing construction (declaración de obra nueva) or proceeding with the purchase or sale of a property, it is advisable to check whether the property is affected by a watercourse protection zone and to review each case individually before beginning the procedure.

This may also affect properties with extensions, swimming pools, porches or other structures that are not yet recorded in the Land Registry.

Being in this zone does not mean that building is prohibited, but it does mean that any construction work, renovation, fencing or earthworks must be authorised in advance by the relevant river basin authority (Confederación Hidrográfica correspondiente).

For further information or legal advice please contact:

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Destination Delicious

There are cafés you visit for a coffee, and then there are cafés that turn an ordinary outing into something truly memorable.

Blu Café on Mojácar Playa, although renowned for its exquisite ice cream, also offer delicious breakfasts, tempting snacks, freshly prepared quiches, indulgent crepes and waffles, beautifully crafted coffees and an impressive selection of cocktails. From the start of the day, it is the perfect place for a leisurely breakfast, whether you fancy something light or a more indulgent start. Throughout the day, the selection of savoury quiches and snacks provides delicious options for a light lunch or afternoon treat.

The real star, however, is undoubtedly the ice cream. Rich, creamy and wonderfully indulgent, the array of flavours offers something to tempt every sweet tooth. The crepes and waffles are equally irresistible, especially when accompanied by a generous scoop of that exquisite ice cream. Coffee lovers are also spoilt for choice, particularly when accompanied by one of their delicious home made cakes, while the cocktail selection makes the café an appealing destination as the day progresses.



Adding to the experience is the genuinely friendly staff, whose warm and attentive service creates a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. Whether visiting for breakfast, a quick snack, coffee, cocktails or a decadent dessert, this café is a delightful destination worth returning to.



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Recipes

Tortilla De Patata

WHAT YOU NEED

- Olive oil, the better the quality, the better the dish
- 1 onion, peeled and chopped
- 2 medium potatoes, peeled and thinly sliced
- 3 large eggs at room temperature, beaten
- Salt



TIP. It's worth using a good quality olive oil as potatoes absorb a lot of oil, so using one with an excellent flavour will make all the difference.



The Spanish love tortilla de patatas because it combines a few things that are deeply important in Spanish food culture: simplicity, comfort, tradition and sharing. A tortilla is often placed in the middle of the table and cut into portions, making it naturally social. Simple ingredients, big flavour. There's nothing fancy about Spanish tortilla but when cooked well, the combination is incredibly satisfying. It fits almost any occasion. You can eat it for breakfast, lunch, dinner, as a tapa, in a sandwich (bocadillo de tortilla) or as part of a picnic. It's a national classic. Like pizza in Italy or roast beef in Britain, tortilla has become one of those foods that feels distinctly connected to Spanish identity.

● LETS COOK!

Pat the potatoes dry with kitchen paper, then put in a large bowl and sprinkle with salt, rotating the potatoes with a wooden spoon so they are evenly covered. Be careful not to use too much salt – just enough to taste.

Heat a frying pan with enough oil to cover the base of the pan and fry the chopped onion over a medium heat, stirring regularly to avoid burning (around 5 minutes). Remove onions from the pan and pat off excess oil with kitchen paper. Add more oil to the pan and fry the potatoes lightly, turning carefully a few times during the frying process until they are soft when pierced with a knife. This should take around 15 minutes. Don't worry if they break up a little. It adds your own uniqueness to the dish!

Drain the potatoes well and add back to the bowl together with the onions, then the eggs, before returning all the mixture to the frying pan, (wiped clean of excess oil). Cook on a low heat for around 5 minutes, running a rubber spatula around the edges to make sure it's not sticking. Pop a plate large enough to hold the tortilla over the pan, flip the pan on to the plate then slide the tortilla back in the pan to cook the other side until cooked (test with a skewer – if the skewer comes out covered in raw egg you need to cook for longer). Don't be tempted to turn up the heat to make it cook quicker, this will result in a rubbery tasting tortilla and no one likes that!

It's difficult, but try to avoid the temptation of eating a Spanish tortilla immediately. It's at its best when left for around 15 minutes.

Recipes

Spain has a huge seafood tradition. With long coastlines and strong fishing communities, fish has historically been an everyday food rather than a luxury. Vegetable and wine sauces suit fish very well, giving acidity and sweetness to balance the delicate flavour of the fish. A simple fish fillet simmered gently in a sauce keeps it moist and allows it to absorb the flavour of the vegetables. This recipe produces a complete, flavourful meal, only needing nice crusty bread to mop up the juices.

● LETS COOK!

Coat 2 fillets of hake with the flour and thyme and fry in a little oil for a few minutes each side on a low to medium heat (too high and the fish will stick to the pan and burn). Remove from the pan and reserve.

Heat enough oil to coat a frying pan and cook the onion, green pepper and carrot until almost cooked. Add the garlic for a few minutes more. Remove half of the mixture and whizz in a food processor until a paste forms. Add the paste to the rest of the cooked vegetables with the wine and water. Stir well, add half fish stock cube and cook over medium heat for 5 minutes then add the ensaladilla (still frozen). Cook for 10 minutes, before adding the fried fish and warm through (do not boil).

Hake In Sauce

WHAT YOU NEED

- 2 hake fillets
- 1bsp flour
- 1 tsp dried thyme
- Olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1 onion, peeled and chopped
- 1 green pepper, de-seeded and chopped
- 1 carrot, peeled and chopped
- 125ml white wine
- ¼ litre of water
- ½ fish stock cube
- 250g frozen ensaladilla (mix of vegetables)





Summer might feel like the obvious choice for a wedding in Spain, but Autumn can be a beautiful time of year to tie the knot. A perfect example is actress Emily Atack, who recently held her wedding celebration in Mojácar, Almería, in September.

Emily and her husband Alistair Garner had already married in the UK, but headed to Spain for a second celebration with around 200 friends and family members. Mojácar has a special place in Emily's heart as she spent holidays there as a child and has continued to return to the area over the years. And while most of us won't be flying in quite as many famous faces for the occasion, there is something to be said for an autumn wedding in Spain. The summer crowds have started to thin out, the worst of the heat has usually passed but the weather is still warm and sunny. It also opens up some beautiful settings that can be pretty uncomfortable in the middle of July.

● Finding The Right Setting

A beach wedding is an obvious choice in Spain, but autumn gives you a little more freedom about where to hold it. The Mar Menor is one option in the Region of Murcia. Around Los Alcázares, Santiago de la Ribera and La Manga, the calm waters can look more like a huge lake than the sea, particularly on a still autumn day. A ceremony beside the water followed by dinner as the sun goes down would make the most of the setting without putting everyone through a midday summer wedding.

The Costa Blanca has plenty of possibilities too, with hotels and wedding venues overlooking the Mediterranean from around Alicante and Altea to further north along the coast. Guests can stay nearby, spend a few days at the beach and turn the wedding into a little Spanish holiday. Then there are the whitewashed villages. As we have seen, Mojácar Pueblo is a

good example, sitting high above the coast with winding whitewashed cobbled streets that open out to views across the Mediterranean. Frigiliana in Málaga and Mijas Pueblo on the Costa del Sol have a similar feel, while closer to home, the inland villages around Alicante and Murcia have plenty of character without the busy resort atmosphere.

For something completely different, head inland to the vineyards. Jumilla is an easy one to pick out in this part of Spain. The countryside around the wine-growing area has stunning views, rows of vines and hills in the distance, and by autumn, the worst of the summer heat has passed, and the vineyards start to change colour, making it a lovely time for a countryside wedding.

A finca or country property surrounded by vineyards, olive trees or open countryside can work particularly well at this time of year. Outdoor drinks and photographs are much easier to enjoy when nobody is desperately searching for shade.

● Why Autumn Can Make Sense

June and July are popular months for couples coming from northern Europe. The days are long and sunny, but there is also a very good chance of intense heat. A 2:00 pm ceremony in July can mean guests sitting in full sun in formal clothes while the thermometer heads towards the high 30s. Not quite the romantic picture you had in mind. Spanish weddings have traditionally been rather good at avoiding this problem. Daytime weddings are still popular,



but evening weddings and late-afternoon ceremonies are more common, especially during the hotter months. The celebrations can start once the temperature begins to drop, followed by dinner and dancing late into the night and into the early morning. An autumn wedding gives you more options and October brings warm days and cooler evenings without the intensity of July and August. It is also much easier to imagine sitting outside for a long meal, chatting over drinks and letting the evening carry on without everyone wondering when they can escape to the air conditioning.

● A Footnote About The Weather

There is one thing anyone considering an autumn wedding on Spain's Mediterranean coast needs to keep in mind though. Autumn is the season when the Mediterranean coast can see some very heavy downpours and thunderstorms, including DANA episodes. That doesn't make an October wedding a bad idea. It just means your beautiful outdoor setting needs a spot where people can go inside.

● Before You Book, Check:

Is there an indoor space big enough for all your guests? Can the ceremony, drinks and meal all be moved inside if the weather turns? It might never be needed. But if the heavens open halfway through the ceremony, you'll be very glad you asked.

● And What About The Food?

Forget the idea that a Spanish wedding means everyone sitting down to a giant paella. Rice dishes can certainly feature, particularly in Murcia and the Valencian Community, but wedding menus tend to be much more varied.

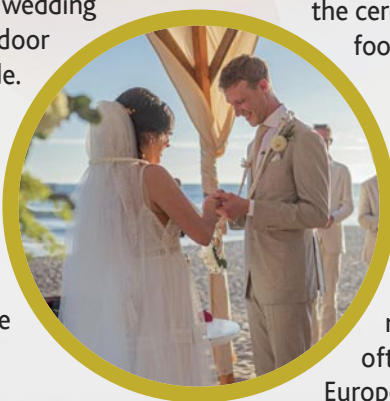
A Spanish wedding meal might start with a long cocktail reception, with small dishes and drinks served while everyone catches up. Seafood is an obvious choice on the coast, while meat dishes such as carrillera, slow-cooked beef or pork cheek, are also popular.

● And Then There Is The Jamón

A jamón table, complete with a professional cutter slicing Serrano or Iberian ham, can be a feature of the celebrations in its own right. Guests can help themselves throughout the day while drinks are being served and the next part of the meal is getting ready. There might also be cheeses, cured meats, seafood, croquettes and plenty of little bites before anyone gets anywhere near the main course. And if you think that sounds like a lot of food, Spanish weddings are not exactly known for sending guests home hungry.

● The Spanish Wedding Timetable

One of the nicest things about an autumn wedding is being able to make the most of the changing temperature throughout the day. A daytime wedding can work beautifully in September or October, particularly for a countryside celebration. Start with the ceremony in the afternoon, move on to drinks and food, and let the party continue into the evening.



For a coastal wedding, a later start can be even better. By the time guests arrive, the strongest sun has gone, the temperature is dropping and you get that lovely evening light over the sea. And there is no great rush to finish. Spanish weddings can carry on well into the night, with dinner taking its time and dancing often continuing long after many northern European guests would normally have gone home.

Autumn in Spain doesn't mean giving up the sunshine. Far from it. It means getting a little more breathing space, avoiding the worst of the summer heat and having the chance to enjoy some of Spain's most beautiful places at a time when they can feel much more chilled.

And if Emily Atack's Mojácar celebrations are anything to go by, autumn might just be the perfect time of year to say 'I do' in Spain.



Say 'I Do' To An Autumn Wedding

Charities & Groups Directory

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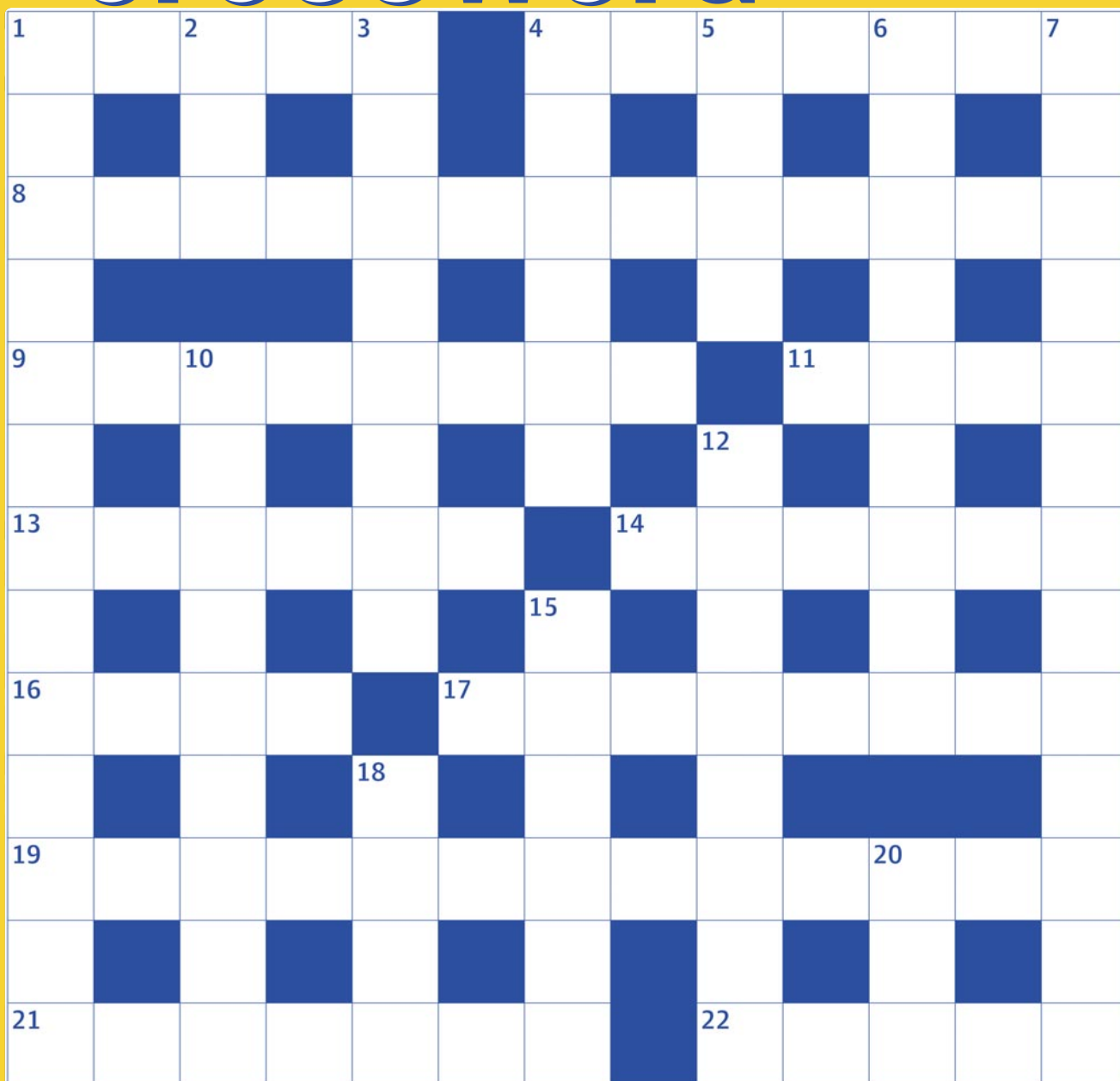
Sudoku

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NOITUTOS

Crossword



ACROSS CLUES

- 1 Fairly – or completely (5)
- 4 A rag man (one of these) (7)
- 8 Watery, pressure-maintaining fluid in eye (7,6)
- 9 Nasal inflammation – Irish ITN (anag) (8)
- 11 Gratis (4)
- 13 Piquet or Mandela (2)
- 14 Ball game (6)
- 16 Club – press (4)
- 17 Pink Panther Inspector (8)
- 19 Juicer (5,8)
- 21 Longest river in Asia (7)
- 22 Buttocks – a nest (anag) (5)
- 15 Winter snow sport (6)

DOWN CLUES

- 1 Every four years (13)
- 2 Initialed memo of debt (3)
- 3 Combination of characters expressing feeling (8)
- 4 Descend vertical drop using rope (6)
- 5 Water (4)
- 6 North American river (3,6)
- 7 Open spaces for trading in towns (6,7)
- 10 Its capital is Douglas (4,2,3)
- 12 Sky-blue – earn clue (anag) (8)
- 15 Memorial plate – film on teeth (6)
- 18 Small, mosquito-like fly (4)
- 20 Slang for a spot (3)

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TKO RADIO




October horoscopes....

October brings a strong focus on relationships, money and personal priorities, with Venus and Mercury both turning retrograde. A Taurus Full Moon and Libra New Moon add further opportunities for reflection and change.



Aries:

Venus retrograde asks you to reconsider shared finances and close relationships. The Taurus Full Moon highlights money matters, while Mars in Leo brings confidence to romance and creative projects.



Taurus:

The Full Moon in your sign brings a personal turning point. Venus retrograde encourages you to reassess relationships, while Jupiter in Leo puts your home and family firmly in the spotlight.



Gemini:

With Uranus retrograde in your sign, October encourages reflection before action. Venus and Mercury highlight work, health and daily routines, while the Libra New Moon brings fresh creative energy.



Cancer:

The Libra New Moon puts your home life under the spotlight. Venus retrograde may reopen questions around romance and creativity, while Jupiter in Leo encourages you to think bigger about money.



Leo:

Mars and Jupiter continue to energise your sign, giving you plenty of drive. Venus retrograde brings attention to family matters, while the Taurus Full Moon highlights career and reputation.



Virgo:

October puts communication and finances under review. Venus and Mercury retrograde in Scorpio could bring an old conversation back around, while the Libra New Moon encourages a fresh approach to money.



Libra:

The New Moon in your sign offers a chance to reset your priorities. Venus retrograde may prompt relationship reflection, while the Full Moon highlights shared finances and deeper commitments.



Scorpio:

Venus and Mercury both turn retrograde in your sign, making October a month for reflection rather than rushing ahead. Old relationships, decisions or personal priorities could come back into focus.



Sagittarius:

Venus retrograde encourages you to look behind the scenes and deal with unfinished business. The Libra New Moon refreshes friendships, while Jupiter in Leo supports travel, learning and new experiences.



Capricorn:

October brings attention to career, friendships and long-term ambitions. Venus retrograde could make you reconsider professional priorities, while the Taurus Full Moon brings romance and creativity into focus.



Aquarius:

Pluto turning direct in your sign brings renewed momentum. Venus and Mercury highlight career matters, while the Taurus Full Moon could bring a decision about home, family or your living situation.



Pisces:

Venus retrograde puts travel, education and beliefs under review. The Libra New Moon encourages you to reconsider shared finances, while the Taurus Full Moon brings news or conversations to a head.



What's On

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Every Day



- Noah's ARC Dog Walking @ Mazarrón

Every Mon



- Market @ Alhama & Huercal Overa
- Forget Me Not Respite Care @ The Social Centre, Camposol B 10.15am
- Friends of Mazarrón Animals Collection @ Camposol B Lower Car Park 10.30am-11am
- HELP MMM Coffee & Company @ Calle Helena, Los Alcazares 11am-12.30pm (2nd Mon)
- Andrea's Animal Rescue Collection @ Camposol B Car Park 11am-1pm
- Bereavement Café, Mazarrón @ Casa Club, Camposol 3-5pm (1st Mon)

Every Tue



- Market @ Alhama & Los Gallardos
- Volunteering with cats & dogs @ Mazarrón Perrera 9am
- Making a Difference available for donations @ Camposol A (1st Tues)
- Qi Gong & Tai Chi on the beach. Meet at Samsara, Mojácar Playa 11am. Proceeds to PAWS-PATAS
- Los Bandidos Cycle Ride from Mojácar Playa. See their FB page for times
- Noah's ARC available for donations @ Spar, Mazarrón Country Club 10am-12pm
- PAWS-PATAS Book Sale @ Scottys, Mojácar Playa 10.30am-1pm (2nd Tues)
- Monthly 'B' Clean Meeting @ Camposol B 4pm (1st Tues)

Every Wed



- Market @ Guardamar, La Mata, San Miguel del Salinas, Totana & Mojácar
- Los Bandidos Run/Walk/Jog from Mojácar. See their FB page for times
- Los Bandidos Sea Swimming Club @ Mojácar. See their FB page for times
- St Nicholas Church Coffee Morning @ Camposol D20 C/Sobrija 9.30am-12pm (14th and 28th)
- Victory Churches Spain Prayer Meeting @ Calle Villaricos de la Alumbres 17, Mazarrón 4pm

Every Thur



- Market @ Lorca
- Los Bandidos Cycle Ride from Mojácar. See their FB page for times
- Forget Me Not Respite Care @ The Social Centre, Camposol B 10.15am
- Friends of Mazarrón Animals available for donations @ Pto de Mazarrón 10-10.30am
- Qi Gong & Tai Chi on the beach. Meet at Samsara, Mojácar Playa 11am. Proceeds to PAWS-PATAS
- PAWS-PATAS Bingo Lunch Club @ The Snug, Mojácar Playa 1.30pm (1st Thurs)
- Over 60's Memory Workshop @ Centro de Usos Multiples, Mojácar Pueblo 5pm
- Mazarrón AA Meeting @ Cañadas de Gallego 5.30pm (646 290 420)

Every Fri



- Market @ El Pareton, Garrucha, Los Montesinos, Puerto Lumbreras & Torre vieja
- Volunteering with the cats and dogs @ Mazarrón Perrera 9am
- Noah's ARC Stall @ Camposol B Commercial Centre 9.30am-1pm
- Camposol D Bucket Collection @ The Hut, Camposol D 9.30am-12pm
- Los Palacios Gardening Group Library @ Camposol A 10am-12.30pm
- Friends of Mazarrón Animals Collection @ Isla Plana Social Centre 1-1.30pm
- Line Dancing @ Centro de Usos Multiples, Mojácar €5 4-8pm. Proceeds to Charity (648 217 503)

Every Sat



- Market @ Aguilas, Almoradi, Fuente Alamo, Mazarrón, Playa Flamenca & Vera
- Los Bandidos Run/Walk/Jog from Mojácar. See their FB page for times
- Qi Gong & Tai Chi on the beach. Meet at Samsara, Mojácar Playa 11am. Proceeds to PAWS-PATAS
- Harlequin Rock Choir Rehearsals @ The Social Centre, Camposol B 1.30pm

Every Sun



- Market @ Campoamar & Pto de Mazarrón
- Antique and Second Hand Market @ Cañadas del Romero 8am-1pm
- Rastro Market @ Centro de Usos Multiples, Mojácar Pueblo
- Beach Dog Club Meeting @ Bolnuevo Beach 9am
- Beach Dog Club Meeting opposite Pueblo Best Indalo, Mojácar 9.30am
- Los Bandidos Cycle Ride from Mojácar. See their FB page for times
- Victory Churches Spain Sunday Service @ Calle Villaricos de la Alumbres 17, Mazarrón 11am
- St Nicholas Church Service @ Camposol D20 C/Sobrija 11am (634 143 260)
- Dog Walking/Socialisation from Plaza Constitución, Turre (check Turre dog walking club FB page for time)
- JUKEBOX DJ Zeppelins, Mojácar Playa 9pm, €1 a song, all proceeds to PAWS-PATAS

Animal Magic

In November, IFEPA will bring together the world's best dogs and cats for a must-attend weekend for animal lovers.

The International Dog Show and for the first time in the Region of Murcia the prestigious Mediterranean Winner Cat Show, alongside the Pet Expo, will transform IFEPA into a hub where visitors can enjoy a weekend surrounded by the finest canine and feline specimens from the international stage. On November 7th and 8th, the Region of Murcia Trade Fair and Exhibition Centre (IFEPA) will gather thousands of animal lovers. The event will feature a new edition of the International Dog Show-incorporating the 55th National Dog Show (CAC) and the 33rd International Dog Show (CACIB)-alongside the Pet Expo and a major highlight: the prestigious Mediterranean Winner Show 2026 hosted for the first time in the region.

The International Dog Show will bring together specimens from around the world. The International Dog Show will gather breeds from various countries, to be evaluated by national and international judges. Experts will assess morphology, movement, temperament, and adherence to each breed's official standard, offering visitors the chance to see some of the best dogs from the national and

international scenes up close. The event will bring together breeders, industry professionals, and enthusiasts from different countries.

● Mediterranean Winner Show 2026

A unique event for cat lovers, the major highlight will be the Mediterranean Winner Show (MW). This is one of Europe's most prestigious feline competitions, endorsed by the Fédération Internationale Féline (FIFe). This championship is held annually on a rotating basis among Mediterranean countries and will bring together nearly 300 cats at IFEPA, alongside breeders from the Mediterranean and elsewhere. Unusually, the Show is reserved for cats with an outstanding track record in official FIFe competitions. Visitors can see some of the world's finest cats competing.

● The Pet Show

Activities for the whole family and animal lovers, the Pet Show will be the event's most interactive area, featuring a programme designed for visitors of all ages to enjoy a unique experience in a fun and educational way. There will be exhibitions and demonstrations-featuring breeds such as the *Ratonero* (ratter) and Spanish Water Dog, plus displays of rescue work, firefighting skills, obedience training, and more. Among the highlights will be the "Mascotada," where pets and owners take centre stage, providing some of the weekend's most entertaining moments.

Advance tickets available at: www.ifepa.es/canina

Hours: Saturday 9am-8pm. Sunday 9am-6pm



7€
5€

DISCOUNT VOUCHER

With this voucher the price is 5€, per person at the box office
Valid up to 4 people tttt / Single entry for both fairs

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL

DOG SHOW

CAT SHOW

**MEDITERRANEAN
WINNER SHOW**



**7 & 8
nov. 2026**

**ife*
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Home & Living 41

Magical Mojácar



Finding a home is about so much more than finding a property. Mojácar is a particularly appealing place to live if you like sun, sea, a relaxed Spanish lifestyle, and a fairly international community.



Mojácar gets around 3,000 plus hours of sunshine a year, with mild winters and hot, dry summers. The municipality also generates an annual average temperature of about 20°C. That makes it attractive if you want to spend a lot of the year outdoors rather than having a long, grey winter. At K7 Grupo Inmobiliario, we believe that every property has a story to tell, and that finding the right home means discovering a place where you can enjoy life and create lasting memories. With more than 30 years of experience in the property industry, we have an in-depth knowledge of the Mojácar property market and the surrounding areas, providing our clients with a professional, personal and truly bespoke service. From Mojácar Pueblo and Mojácar Playa to Garrucha, Vera, Turre, Los Gallardos and the surrounding areas, our local knowledge allows us to help you find the right property in the right location.

Our team works with dedication, discretion and meticulous attention to detail, guiding clients through every stage of the buying or selling process with clear, honest and professional advice. We speak Spanish, English, French and Arabic, allowing us to offer a truly personal service to clients from different backgrounds and nationalities. Because buying a property is an important decision, our aim is to make the experience smooth, secure and above all, rewarding. K7 Grupo Inmobiliario has over 30 years experience, local expertise & personal service.

To discover more, and to find a property suitable for your needs and your budget, contact K7 Inmobiliaria by calling 625 451 433 or by email at roisin@k7mojacar.es

Why Mojácar?

● IT HAS AN UNUSUALLY SUNNY CLIMATE

● YOU CAN GENUINELY LIVE BY THE SEA

There are about 17 km of coastline, ranging from serviced urban beaches to quieter stretches and coves. For 2026, six Mojácar beaches have Blue Flag status, recognising water quality, safety, facilities and accessibility. So beach life isn't just something you do on holiday-you can easily make it part of everyday life.

● YOU GET TWO VERY DIFFERENT LIFESTYLES

This is one of the particularly very nice things about Mojácar. Mojácar Pueblo is the traditional whitewashed hilltop village: narrow streets, old houses, restaurants and spectacular views. Mojácar Playa is much more practical for everyday coastal living: apartments, shops, restaurants, supermarkets, beach bars and a more international atmosphere.

● GOOD FOOD AND A SOCIAL LIFESTYLE

There are lots of restaurants and bars along the coast, with everything from Spanish food and seafood to international cuisine. The surrounding area is particularly good for seafood, including the famous red prawns of nearby Garrucha.

● IT'S MORE PRACTICAL THAN IT LOOKS

For a relatively small coastal town, there are useful everyday amenities, including supermarkets such as Supermercados Consum, Aldi and Parque Comercial Mojácar. You also have access to local clinics, pharmacies, banks and other services, while larger hospitals and major shopping facilities are within driving distance.

● LOTS TO DO OUTDOORS

Beyond the beach, there's golf, walking and hiking around the Sierra Cabrera, water sports, cycling and easy access to the wider Almería coastline. And you're close to Cabo de Gata-Níjar Natural Park, which is one of the really beautiful parts of southeastern Spain.

● IT HAS A RELAXED PACE

Perhaps the biggest attraction is simply the quality-of-life feeling: coffee overlooking the Mediterranean, walking along the paseo, lunch that turns into a couple of hours, swimming in the morning and watching the sunset in the evening.



K7GRUPO
INMOBILIARIO
MOJÁCAR

Find Your Dream Home

In Mojácar & Surrounding Areas

LOCAL EXPERTS PERSONAL SERVICE PREMIUM PROPERTIES

LUXURY ESTATE IN A WELL SOUGHT AFTER AREA

- Spacious luxury estate with private pool & beautiful mature gardens
- Expansive terraces ideal for outdoor living
- Peaceful & private setting
- Just minutes from Mojácar Pueblo
- High-end finishes throughout



ONLY
€825,000
Five beds
Four baths
335m²

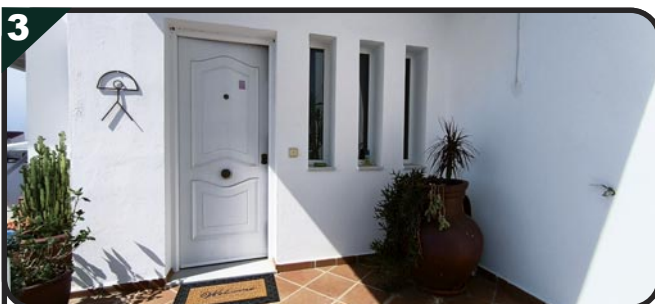
FIVE BEAUTIFUL PROPERTIES. ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES



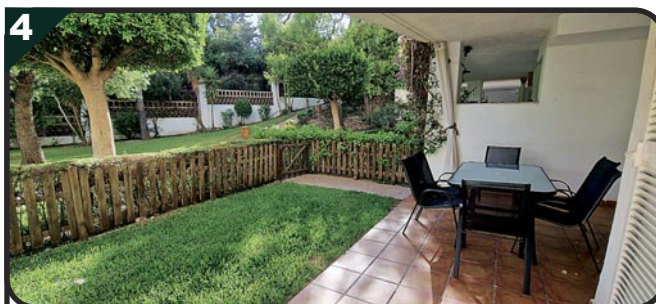
€245.000 2 1 56m²



€385.000 2 3 115m²



€420.000 4 3 168m²



€245.000 2 2 85m²

Thinking Of Selling?



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actively looking in
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