

MALLORCA TRAVEL GUIDE – LOGISTICS AND ITINERARY



My husband and I recently booked a trip to Mallorca on a free weekend to try and relax. I usually love our beach trips the most (duh), and he usually loves our mountain trips the most. Mallorca ended up being the perfect mix – very similar to **our Cinque Terre trip** but I think this one won out as our favorite. This island was made for me I think, and it's definitely my favorite place I've ever been – which is saying a lot! I can't wait and go back as we only got to explore a tiny piece of the island, but for now I'll let you know everything we did and loved.

In case you didn't know, Mallorca is part of the Balearic Islands, an archipelago of islands off the coast of Spain – Ibiza is probably the most well-known to Americans. It would be the perfect beach destination to combine with a trip to Barcelona. If you're interested, read this page and my **[step by step guide to booking a trip.](#)**

SHOULD I VISIT MALLORCA?

If you love exotic beaches and delicious food and beautiful scenery, then yes. This island is the most perfect mix of all three that I've ever seen. There's a little bit of exotic beaches, a little bit of beautiful mountains, a lot of beautiful views, a little bit of hiking, a lot a bit of food, and the ability to make it as luxury or as authentic of a trip as you want.

WHAT TIME OF YEAR SHOULD I VISIT MALLORCA?

I'm sure it is beautiful year round. Because of its island climate, the beach season ranges from April – October which is slightly longer than European mainland beach destinations, so that's good news!! We went early June and had one day with bad winds and the nights were cool, but the temperature was perfect. You will get in the high 80s and 90s in June – August with August being the warmest month.

HOW DO I GET TO MALLORCA?

You will fly into Palma from various places, but flying from Barcelona if you're coming from the US is probably your best bet. We had a straight flight from London on easyJet.

[Check flight prices and routes on Google Flights](#)

IS THERE A LANGUAGE BARRIER IN MALLORCA?

No – everyone we saw spoke English. We were actually trying to practice our Spanish and didn't really get to. It's always good to know the main words though to get by – hola, adios, gracias, por favor, no hablo español.

WHERE SHOULD I STAY IN MALLORCA?

This island is really large and choosing a place to stay can be pretty intimidating. By the time we booked most everywhere on the top lists were taken, so we used a recommendation from another blog I found, and it didn't disappoint. As far as areas, from my brief time there this is what I learned.

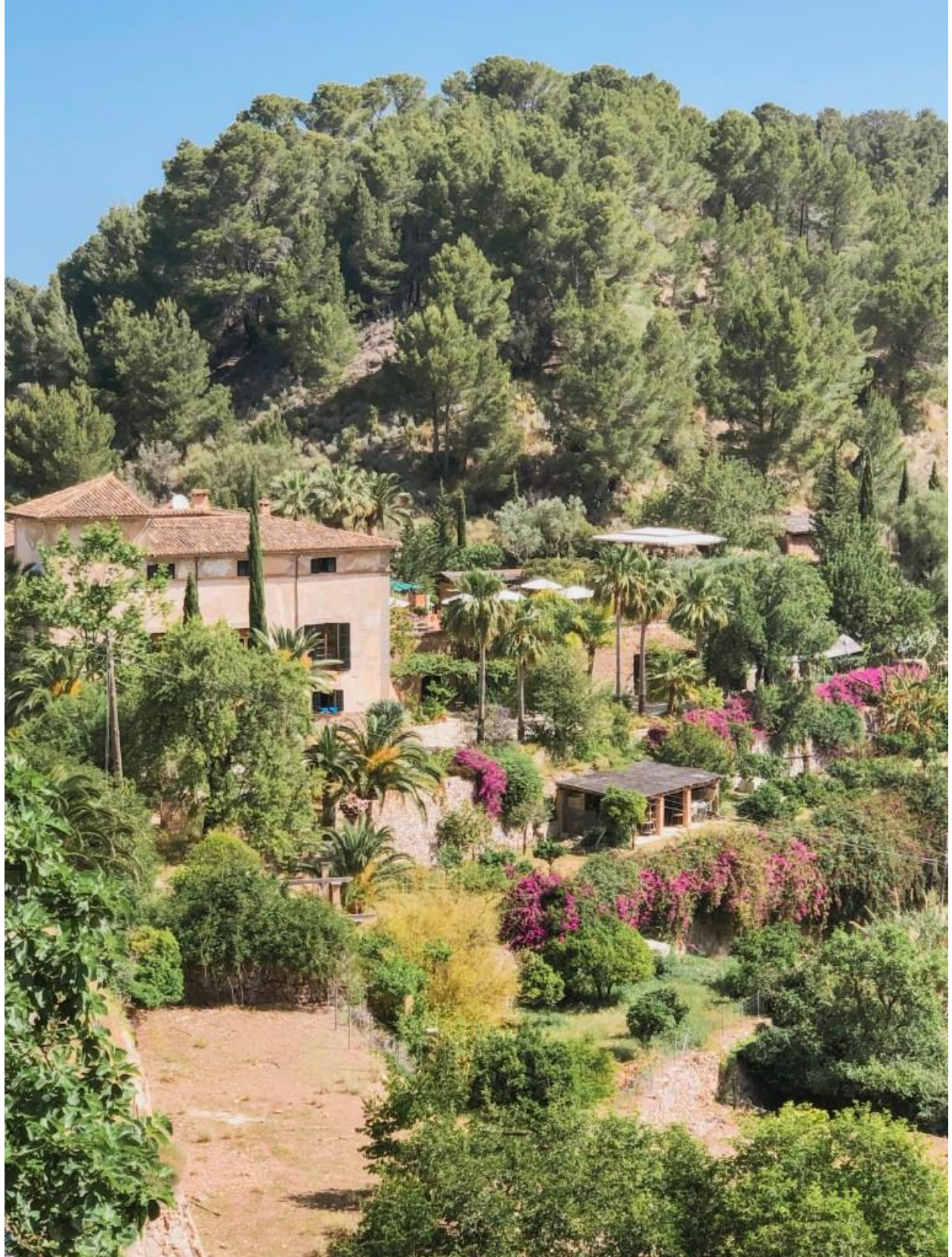
90% of the tourists coming to Mallorca are from Germany or England and will flock to the resorts centered around Palma and dotted around other parts of the coast. When you land, you'll notice how touristy the island actually is – I will admit to being a little concerned when I landed. From driving around it looked like the west side of the island has the beautiful mountains and views where the east side of the island is flat with beautiful cove beaches.

Lots of blogs I read recommended staying in the west and making a day trip to the east and I can confirm that it's a great way to do the island. Driving through the mountains on the west side and along the coast is probably the prettiest thing I've ever seen.

I would recommend staying somewhere around Sóller or Deià. We stayed at **[Son Bleda](#)** right between – a converted monastery turned hotel that was very beautiful. Port Sóller I think is a little more package-holiday touristy than Sóller and would be good if you are just wanting a relaxing trip without leaving your hotel – we had friends honeymoon at **[Jumeirah](#)** here and they were obsessed.







A lot of blogs I looked at recommended the **Belmond La Residencia** in Deià if you want to be a little more upscale.

There are over 2,000 hotels on the island, so I would definitely narrow down your location first. Our hotel was ranked as one of the lowest on TripAdvisor and was still amazing – so don't let those ratings sway you too much. When I read reviews none of them were negative – so I wasn't concerned (if anything it concerns me about how TripAdvisor works if it can get so low without a bad review!).

Use TripAdvisor to browse hotels

Use Mr and Mrs Smith to browse hotels if you like having less to choose from

Look at villas on AirBnB, especially for a group

HOW DO I GET AROUND MALLORCA?

I would highly, highly recommend renting a car. Driving through the mountains was a little intimidating at times – but your hotel should be able to hire you a taxi if you plan on drinking – we saw lots of people doing that.

Remember to get an automatic car and bring your drivers license. Since automatic cars are not as widespread as manual cars, I recommend securing a reservation as in advance as possible!

Use Kayak to book your rental car

There are buses on the island but we didn't figure them out since we had a car.

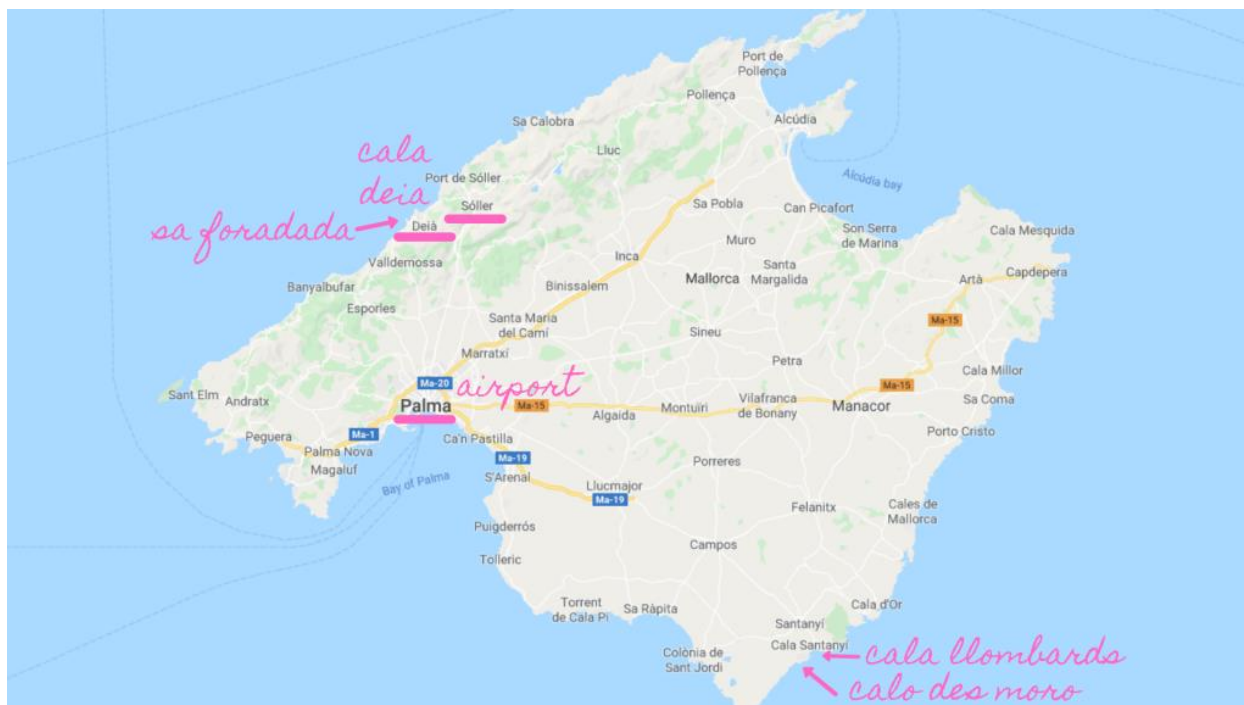
HOW MANY DAYS SHOULD I SPEND IN MALLORCA?

We spent 4 nights, but honestly this is one place where I feel like I could have actually stayed a week and have had plenty to do the whole time (similar to **Tuscany**). The terrain of this island is so varied and there are so many beautiful places, mountains, roads, and beaches to see.

WHAT IS THERE TO DO IN MALLORCA?

BEACHES

Seeing as you have traveled to an island in Spain, you are probably craving a little bit of beach time! These are hands down the most exotic beaches I have ever been to.



CALA DEIÀ

Type: Cove

Facilities: Two restaurants, parking lot (pay to park)

Made of: Rocks (no sand)

Arrive: By hike from hotel or Deià, drive and park, walk straight out to the beach

We hiked to this beach our first day in Mallorca which was super dreamy! One of the restaurants, **Ca's Patró March**, is famous because it was used in the filming of the BBC series, *The Night Manager*. It really does have a beautiful setting – fresh seafood being served in an open air restaurant looking out over the water and the sun bathers. It is not cheap, but honestly the food we got was some of the best seafood

I've had. A lot of times when I go to these holiday seafood restaurants, I am not a fan of the "fresh seafood" with no sauce, salt, or pepper. It's often a letdown for me. This time however, maybe we just ordered well, but everything was well-seasoned and the dousing of Spanish olive oil certainly helps!!

We really enjoyed our time at this restaurant in between sunbathing on the rocks. Call ahead to make your booking – I believe the times are 1 PM or 3 PM. When you get there, try to find someone that looks like a hostess and get their attention to point out that you have arrived for your booking. It was a little chaotic for me to try and find someone to talk to, so just a heads up.





The other restaurant is much more low-key and good if you are trying to have a cheaper meal. The best part is that at the register you can buy wine or beer to take away – they'll give you a plastic cup. Or ice cream. Or chips. Just have some euros on hand!





A note is that the first time we went, it was soooo windy with waves crashing against the beach. It was chilly and not really safe to lay out, but the restaurant was still full. When we went back a couple of days later, it was really tranquil. I guess it was just a windy day? But be prepared to possibly have your “beach day” a little ruined due to weather.

It is also worth noting that this is a short 30 minutes hike from Deià if you are staying there, and there is also a parking lot if you don't want to hike at all! The drive down to the parking lot is a little bit treacherous – very steep, narrow, and winding – but just hold your breath and brave it!

CALA LLOMBARDS

Type: Cove

Facilities: one small shack restaurant/bar with long lines, parking lot, chairs and umbrellas for rent, lifeguard

Made of: Sand

Arrive: Drive and park, walk straight out to the beach

On day 2, my husband and I drove across the island to the eastern side to the beaches I had read about. One thing to note is that as you drive east the island becomes very flat and dry – much different from the area around Deià and Sóller. So the drive was nothing spectacular, but the beaches were definitely worth it!

Cala Llobards is the most commercial beach we went to, but it was still so beautiful with so much to do and see. The main area is full of sunbathers on towels or chairs. There is a little restaurant/bar, but the lines were always horrendous. It is definitely in a cove, but there's a raised walkway all along the cove for

optimal exploring! The walkway on the left leads to a set of stairs up to some houses, and the walkway on the right is a bit wider and a good option to put your towel down on the concrete and swim around.







CALÓ DES MORO

Type: Cove

Facilities: a tiny drinks vendor (probably not there all the time)

Made of: Rocks

Arrive: Drive and park in parking lot about 30-45 minutes walk away, Cliffside walk and then down some boulders onto the beach – not for the elderly! Probably not good for kids either

This beach is so remote and hard to get to, but obviously the secret is out because it was still pretty crowded. In a very deep cove with no facilities except for a small pushcart selling drinks, this beach is really breathtaking. You have to walk about 30-45 minutes from the car park to this beach, along roads and then a rocky cliff down to the large rocks near the water that you can lay on. I loved how photographic this beach was, but it's not a great place to spend the day due to there being no facilities, not much to do, and not much space.

It's a beach that I would say is the prettiest beach I've ever seen in my life and you have to see it, but I probably wouldn't go back to it my next trip to Mallorca... if that makes sense.





OTHER BEACHES

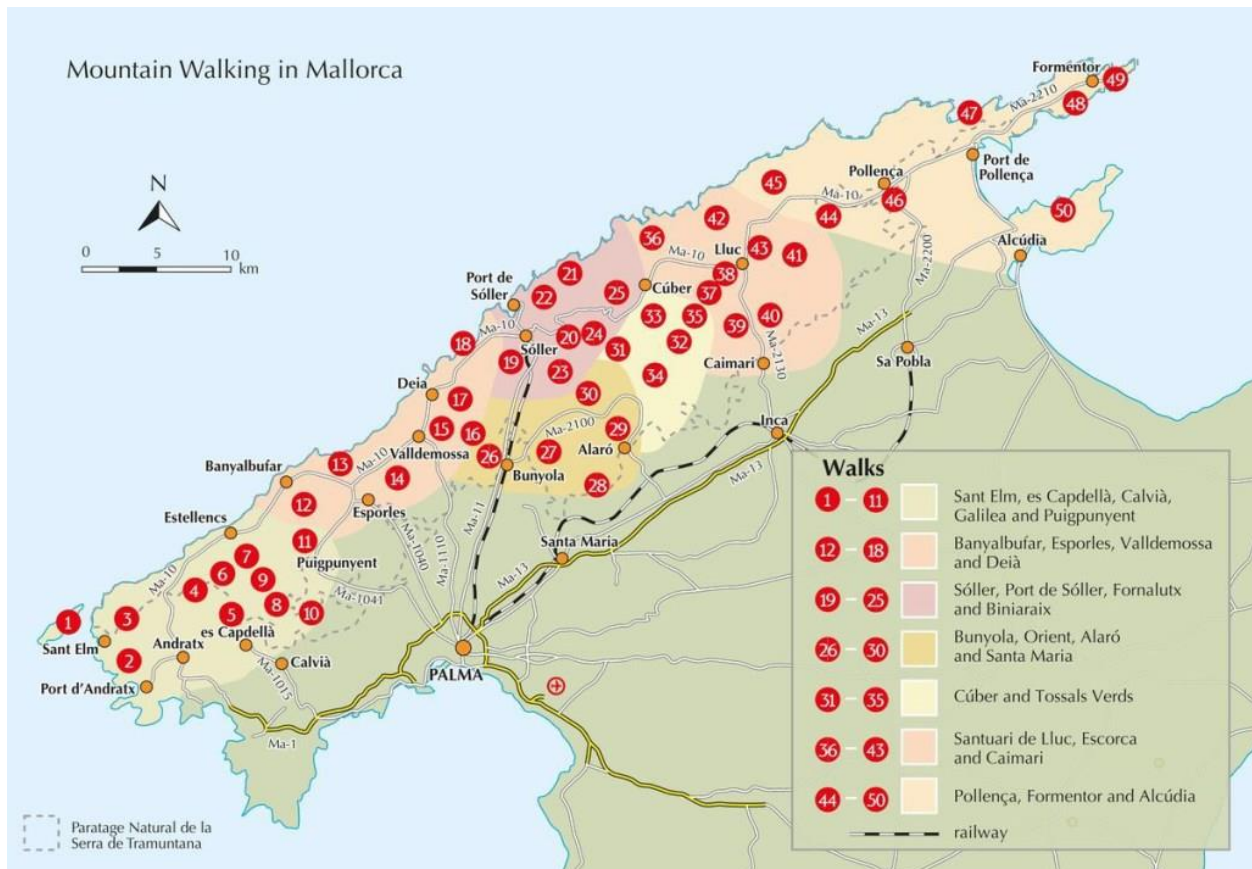
Other beaches I read are pretty are here – Cala Anguila and Cala Torta. Please note that I am ***obsessed*** with cove beaches so these are all going to be kind of exotic cove-style beaches. I know there are more family-friendly, US-style, long, sandy beaches on the island as well.

If you are interested in more of a beach club scene, I know there are LOTS in Palma. It is a very popular party destination for all the beach clubs. I also read about this one – Beach Club Gran Folies – from a blogger out of Austin. She arrived via boat on an all-day boat trip, and it looks so cool!

HIKING

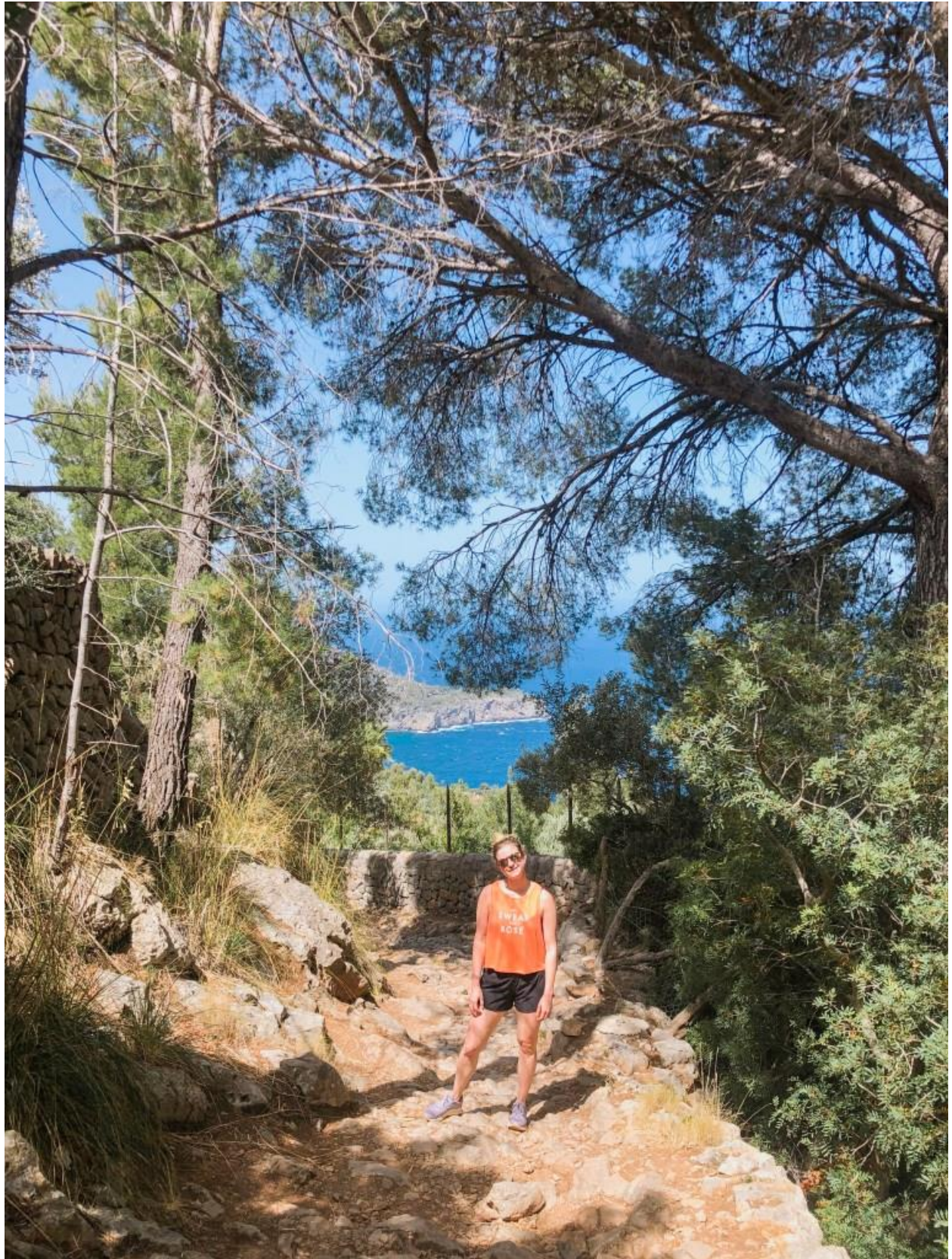
Mallorca has so many hiking trails, and I had no idea until I got there! The ability to hike down to beaches and restaurants from our hotel was just beyond dreamy to me!! Cinque Terre was similar, and we loved that too. Our hotel's website briefly mentioned the ability to hike to Cala Deià, and that is the only reason I knew it was a thing. So maybe the best thing to do is to check with your accommodation for the nearby hiking trails. Of course you can always drive and park somewhere to begin a hike as well.

The main trail is called the MA-10. Here is a map that I found online from Cicerone's "Guidebook to Walking in Mallorca", with the trails in white lines. Our hike was along number 18, technically the GR-221, and then we followed signs down to Cala Deià. There are lots of signs, and we only got lost once by accidentally missing a sign.



Our first day in Mallorca, we hiked straight from our hotel to Cala Deià for our reservation at Ca's Patró March. The hike took about 2 hours to get there mainly because of all the picture stops, and it wasn't very challenging. We had backpacks with a cover-up and sandals to change out of our tennis shoes and athletic clothes. Our hotel told us about a bus service in Deià (the bus is called Nord Belear) that we could hike to take back to our hotel, but we were feeling crazy and hiked back to our hotel too.

Please enjoy a hike while you are in Mallorca if you enjoy hikes! It's so rewarding and beautiful.





FOOD-RELATED HIKES

On the topic of hikes, one of the restaurants we went to was only accessible via an hour long hike (unless you have a boat, which is definitely cool). It was definitely worth it, and the hike back up was not my favorite thing I've ever done, I won't lie.

The restaurant is called **Sa Foradada**, they are known for their paella, and it is best to make reservations (we didn't have one and were able to get a table just fine). To get there, you can drive and park or hike from Deia to "Son Marroig". From here, exit the car park on either end (the entrance to the hike will be to the left if you are facing the water) and look for signs for Sa Foradada. You will have to climb over the gate to enter the trail. From here, enjoy the views alllll the way down (45 minutes to an hour), eat, and then enjoy the views all the way up. You can do it.

At the bottom, there is also a great little swimming hole so bring a bathing suit and towel if you want to delay the inevitable hike back up after lunch. The restaurant is open from 12:30 – 4:00 PM every day except Thursday.









VILLAGES

We dedicated more time to the nature of Mallorca, but the villages and towns in Mallorca are definitely worth exploring. Deià was super cute with beautiful views out over the water. Deià seemed to be an upscale destination with some high-end restaurants and hotels. We went to Sóller one night for dinner. It was more flat without the dramatic views of Deià but was a great dinner choice. Apparently Sóller has a big market on Saturdays that would have been great to see! Palma of course is the largest town in Mallorca with lots to do, but also lots of tourists and partiers. I won't include a guide to Palma here because we didn't go! But just look around the web and you'll find plenty of information.

DRIVING

Driving from our hotel to Deià and beyond was probably the prettiest drive I've ever done in my life. I was driving so couldn't truly soak it in, but I almost wish I had hired a taxi just so I could sit on the right hand of the car and enjoy the views. I highly recommend doing this at some point during your trip! From Sóller all the way to Valldemossa is supposed to be pretty.

Two other driving experiences I read about are the drives to Sa Calobra and the drive to Cap de Formentor. Sa Calobra is a beach at the end of a very winding road – labeled “one of the most scenic drives in the world”. With an extra day, we probably would have checked this out. Cap de Formentor has a lighthouse, and the drive here is also supposed to be stunning. Please do a little Google research if you are interested in either of these drives, and I will try to test them out eventually!

WHERE DO I EAT IN MALLORCA?

If you poke around my guides a little bit, you can see that I prefer really authentic food and experiences to fancy restaurants. I find that most of my friends seem to prefer the latter, but here I will tell you where I loved! There are thousands of restaurants on the island though – especially in each of the hotels.

Everything we had was amazing, and we especially loved the restaurants with beautiful views. So do a little research of what's around you – there's no point in driving a long way for a meal when all the food is so good here.

BEACH RESTAURANTS

See food related hikes above – **Ca's Patró March and **Sa Foradada**

RESTAURANT NAMA

Nama is actually an upscale Asian food restaurant in Deia which is kind of weird to eat in Spain – but the menu and the website proclaiming they use local produce, meat, and seafood swayed me. It was delicious. Every single dish we ordered was full of so much fresh flavor – I was obsessed!! I highly recommend their duck pad thai, their signature dish. We called ahead for a reservation and got a beautiful table on the patio overlooking the valley.



SON BLEDA

Son Bleda is where we stayed, but I would recommend coming to this hotel and eating here if you are staying anywhere nearby. The views from the patio where they serve you are unreal. There was one chef in the kitchen cooking everything to order, and the experience was so great. There are no more than 10 tables, so make sure and call ahead.

CA'N PINXTO

Our third night we drove into Soller and ate at a small, casual pinxto restaurant, **Ca'n Pinxto** (basically tapas). The atmosphere was great and all of the dishes were innovative and delicious. A great (slight) break for your wallet and an excuse to see a new town!

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Here are a few more recommendations that I picked up from different blogs

Ca's Xorc – looks similar to Son Bleda, a pretty hotel with beautiful views and a restaurant

El Olivo – the hotel inside Belmond La Residencia

Hotel Valldemossa – a pretty hotel that is a great spot to get drinks

IS THERE A PLACE TO GO OUT IN MALLORCA?

Definitely down in Palma with all the parties, but not around where we were staying.

WHAT SHOULD I PACK FOR MALLORCA?

It definitely depends on how fancy you want your Mallorca trip to be. You could technically just pack bathing suits and cover-ups and wear that to everything – hikes, beaches, casual dinners. I would upgrade that to some cover-ups if you want to do beach clubs, some cute outfits for dinner (heels not required as most of Mallorca is hilly) if you want some more upscale meals, and some tennis shoes and hiking outfits if your luggage can afford the space. If you can't fit tennis shoes, I would recommend skipping the hikes as they are pretty rocky and dirty and your sandals/feet would struggle without them – but we saw plenty of people walking without tennis shoes and they just dealt with it! For one hike I wore a bikini top and high-waisted shorts with my tennis shoes – so you can get creative.

MY PERFECT 4 DAY MALLORCA ITINERARY

TBH, this is exactly what we did

DAY 1

Get checked in and settled in your hotel. Hang by the pool and enjoy the views if your hotel is nice. Either eat somewhere nearby or just eat at the hotel. (We got in at midnight and the hotel made us some beef carpaccio platters that they brought to our room with a bottle of wine – ily son bleda).

DAY 2

Head out on a hike towards Cala Deià where your reservation at Ca's Patró March awaits. Lay on the rocks before and after lunch and head back to your hotel when you've had enough sun. Change and head to Sóller to eat at a restaurant of your choice, I recommend C'an Pintxo.

DAY 3

Pack your beach bags and drive across the island, about 80 minutes away. Start at Cala Llombards to explore and get a tan while enjoying some sangria in a bag. End your day at Caló des Moro to unwind. Casual food tip – for lunch we found a supermarket near Cala Llombards and got chips, chorizo, cheese, and some fruit. Head back to your hotel, change, and head to Deià for dinner at Nama or El Olivo – make sure you have time to wander around the village before dinner.

DAY 4

Enjoy a leisurely morning by the pool until you head out on your hike to Sa Foradada for paella. Enjoy the water near the restaurant before or after lunch to delay the inevitable hike back up to the top. Either end the trip with a fancy meal at a fancy hotel restaurant or eat somewhere casual nearby! Another good option one of the nights (or days, especially if you're not a beach person) is to drive from Sóller to Valldemossa and end with a drink from Hotel Valldemossa. Cry because you're leaving Mallorca.

HONESTLY, HOW MUCH DID YOU SPEND IN MALLORCA?

This was a more expensive trip for us because we stayed at a nicer hotel than we usually stay at, and I'm glad we did! Treat yourself! Our food was also pretty expensive as 2 of our 3 dinners were more upscale than we usually do and 2 of our lunches were the entertainment in themselves.

Flights from London – \$135

Hotel for 4 nights – \$498

Rental car for 4 days – \$97

Food – \$311

TOTAL FOR 4 NIGHTS PER PERSON – \$1041