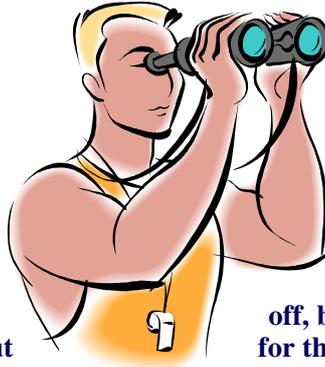




## Beaches Around Ciudad Quesada

Blue flag beaches are everywhere on the Costa Blanca coastline, this mark of high quality is known across Europe, it simply means that its facilities are as good as it gets.



The beaches are usually safe to swim strong undercurrents. Always look out don't swim, but if you see a green one, go very large fine for disobeying the flags, and besides, is it really worth risking your life for a swim?

off, but there can sometimes be some very for the flags, if you see a red or yellow flag, swimming and have a great time! There's a

## Guardamar del Segura

From one end of Guardamar to the other is about 11 km of beach. Starting from the north end walking south, you will first come across a large breakwater barrier where you could see many fishing. It is a great spot to join in the fun or buy something as fresh as it gets for the BBQ.

Back on the beach with the sea on your left, you can see the most fantastic sand dunes to the right, a great spot to cook your fish. If you do decide to venture up the dunes, you will find the most wonderful nature reserve with trees and plants of all descriptions. Another great spot for a picnic. The park does lead onto the marina, a haven for the boat lover. In addition, of course you will find a bar or two where you could have a rest.



A mile or so further down the sand, you would come across a row of houses on the beach. Some look well kept and lived in, others are falling down.



This is due to yet another land law in Spain that states no homes can be on the beach. So if they have not fallen down in the next 8 to 10 years then they will be demolished, what that means also, is that the owners cannot do any repairs on them. After this beauty spot, you come to the town part of the sea front or where

the town meets the sea, where there is a lovely promenade with cafes and bars serving Spanish foods of the best standard. If of course you are a true British person on holiday, you will be happy to know that they also do full English breakfasts all day long.

In the summer, you would also come across wooden sheds that are built on the sands that are then opened up as bars and only a few feet from the waters edge. Garden furniture is place around for the customers with the necessary umbrellas. What a wonderful spot to chill out.

## La Mata

This must be the longest beach in the area and joins at one end to Guardamar, and at the other Torrevieja. This beach can get a little busy in the summer with parking a nightmare, so get there early. La Mata has a fantastic boardwalk stretching the length of the beach with various bars and restaurants just waiting for you to pay them a visit.



## Punta Prima, Playa Flamenca, La Zenia, Cabo Roig Beaches

What you would find at all the beaches on this stretch of the coast line is the same. All are small coves in an urban area, the fine white sand is fantastic and to be honest so are the facilities that are on offer. These locations cover the area south of Torrevieja over a distance of 5 miles. To reach any of them drive down the N332 with the sea on your left and then take one of the roads to the left marked Playa, (this means beach in Spanish)

### Campoamor Beach

This is a very nice place to spend the day doing absolutely nothing. Again, a cove, but its large and the countryside around the beach is very beautiful with wild life and parrots all over the place. A beach bar (shed) in the summer and a few permanent ones for the rest of the season.

### Santa Pola

Santa Pola is less busy than Torrevieja but still has all the facilities you would expect from a small prosperous Spanish coastal town. The town has several wonderful beaches, including over 4km of fine sand and crystalline water.

At the Playa Lisa beach you can walk out to sea for kilometres and the water only reaches knee-height!



## Mar Manor

I will cover this area even though it does not come under Costa Blanca, in fact it's known as Costa Calida. The Mar Manor is a huge mass of water that is locked in by a small piece of land a few miles out to sea, called the La Manga strip. There is an opening to the sea of a few hundred meters, so the strip becomes a very big sea wall. Inside, the water is dead still and very shallow. The beach is long and sandy but does not have a tide. The place has become famous for the mud that people cover all over themselves for health reasons, and it has been reported to work. Making this area one of the healthiest places in the world to live, with the average age being 10 years longer than anywhere else.

**The La Manga Strip** has now been built on from one end to the other. Tall blocks of flats can be seen everywhere, the prices are as high as the buildings, with views to the sea on both sides. The area is open to all, and again it is a good day out if not just for a look at the jet setters in this area. You could always pop in to the La Manga golf club, famous to all golfers, for the rest of us we have seen it on T.V. a few times hosting sports events for T.V. personalities

