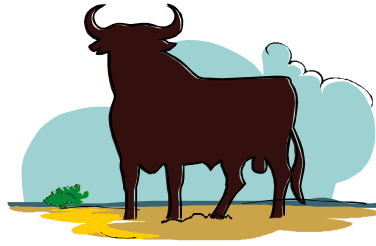


# Benidorm



**LOCATION:** Benidorm is located on the Northern Costa Blanca, Spain and can be accessed via the AP-7 motorway, or the N332 coast road. By Car it's an hour away, Quesada has coach trips throughout the year departing from the Arches 2-3 times a week.

**OVERVIEW:** The biggest tourist destination on the Mediterranean coastline with over 4 million visitors every year, Benidorm is truly an all year round resort. With its many tourist attractions and facilities it is hugely popular with families especially during the summer months. Benidorm's vibrant and exciting nightlife attracts young couples and singles (predominantly during the summer months) and its mild winter climate and huge selection of top quality hotels attracts the older generation during the quieter winter months. Benidorm is also a popular destination for the Christmas holiday period with many hotels offering some fantastic entertainment.

**HISTORY:** Benidorm was just a small fishing village up until the 1950's when it became a popular tourist destination. Rapid growth during the 1960's fuelled the tourist invasion and Benidorm was quick to provide the ideal environment for the holidaymaker. The early history of Benidorm abounds in stories of Arab invaders, pirate attacks and Christian reconquests.

**PLACES TO VISIT:** There is a huge choice of places to visit in and around Benidorm, here are just a few of them. **Parque de L'Aigüera** - Famous for its palm lined promenades, beautiful fountains and 2 fine amphitheatres, extensively used for concerts and outdoor events. **La Isla de Benidorm** - Small, uninhabited Island, a great location for swimming and snorkeling. Reached by a short boat trip, (try to take the glass bottomed boat for a more interesting experience). **Castillo Mirador** - Site of the former castle of Benidorm, now a charming square with fine views of the surrounding coastline and beaches. **Iglesia de San Jaime** - Built in 1740, the blue tiled domes of St James church are one of the best known landmarks in Benidorm. **Aqualandia Water Park** - Located within easy reach of Benidorm town centre, is a great place to visit for both kids and adults alike, a fantastic selection of water activities for all ages with slides, waterfalls and pools. There are also lots of other facilities including shops, bars, restaurants and picnic areas. **Terra Mitica** - A theme park to end all theme parks with some of the scariest rides in Europe, Terra Mitica is sure to get the pulse racing. Again within easy reach of the town centre Terra Mitica is based around the ancient civilisations of the Mediterranean region (Greek, Roman and Egyptian). **Mundomar Marine Animal Park** - Also within easy reach of Benidorm town centre, Mundomar is especially famous for its dolphin shows, it has lots of other attractions though, and it is extremely popular with the kids.

**CABARETS AND SHOWS:** Here are just some of the most popular locations to catch a show, cabaret or just great entertainment. **Benidorm Palace** - Magnificent nightclub where you can eat in style and be entertained by some of the best cabaret acts in Europe. **Rich Bitch Show Bar** - Popular show bar located in Benidorm old town famous for its adult comedy shows. **Valentines** - Located on the Eastside and featuring tribute bands, comedy acts and late night adult shows. **Molino** - Located on Avenida Beniarda 2, Molino is well known for its "Comedy Musical" style shows from its own resident company. **Carriages** - Located in the Levante area of Benidorm on Calle Gerona, Carriages is well known for its tribute bands. **The Talk of the Coast** - Also on the Eastside of Benidorm in the Levante area The Talk of the Coast presents some more off-beat and quirky cabaret acts - if you want something a little different the The Talk of the Coast could be the place for you. **The Town** - Popular Cabaret and Disco bar also located in the busy Levante area of Benidorm. **Zodiac** - Comedy is the order of the day at the ever popular Zodiac, again located in the Levante area. **Stardust** - Another predominantly comedy style club, the Stardust is huge with 3 bars and lots of entertainment on offer. **Steptoe's II** - Cabaret bar on Avenida de America, Benidorm. This is just a taste of the Benidorm nightlife available.

**BEACHES:** The two main beaches of Benidorm are Playa de Levante (Sunrise Beach) and Playa de Poinente (Sunset Beach), both are very busy all year round (but particularly so during the summer months), but they are both kept exceptionally clean and tidy. Other beaches include La Cala and Mal Pas.