## Torrevieja

Torrevieja is one of the fastest expanding towns in the whole of Spain, but Torrevieja has learned a few lessons from places like Benidorm,



because you'll find no high-rise skyscrapers or package holiday hotels here. This is an ideal place for family holidays.

Torrevieja is surrounded by two large and beautiful natural salt water lakes which form the "Salinas de Torrevieja" and are an official Spanish nature reserve. These lakes attract a wide variety of bird life. The entire area around Torrevieja and Orihuela are famous for their salt production. Huge salt lakes surround the road down from Alicante airport to Torrevieja.

The city of Torrevieja which gets its name from an old tower was first mentioned around 1800. It became famous in 1802, when it took over the salt administration from Orihuela. Apart from the salt industry, tourism and fishing keep the city alive. The harbour in Torrevieja gives home to 300 fishing ships and over 900 private sports boats. A wonderful view, especially when the sun sets.

Torrevieja is a developing tourist centre and one of the most important on the Mediterranean coast. However, you'll find it is not nearly as commercialised as the Costa Blanca resorts to the north of Alicante. It still retains that special "Spanish" feel and is in a relaxed environment.

The concentration of salt and the temperature combine to endow Torrevieja and nearby areas with a particularly healthy micro-climate, recommended by doctors for its beneficial properties. Bathing in the salt lagoons is also becoming popular for many medicinal reasons.

Go down to the marina at Torrevieja and walk along the front, at lunch times and in the evenings this area and the surrounding streets are a hive of activity, with many busy cafes, restaurants and bars. The activity continues into the early hours. These streets also offer many shopping opportunities and an excellent indoor seafood market. There is also a marina daily street market where there are bargains to be had. Every Friday morning one of the largest street markets in Spain is in Torrevieja and the market in Torrevieja, is on Avenida de las Habaneras

The Park of Nations in Torrevieja is an oasis to be found in the most unexpected place - right next to the N332!!!



Not the obvious venue for peace and quiet, but despite the location, it's a surprisingly tranquil and beautiful place - nestled between the highway and the city, the thoughtfully landscaped green areas and lake, coupled with the rustling palm trees and fascinating fountain, make a great place to sit and rest while you watch the world go by.

Midway down the harbour wall at the Torrevieja seafront, his lady love stands, handkerchief in hand, waving her man off to sea. Along the seafront at Torrevieja, a beautiful lady patiently gazes out to sea and waits in vain for the return of her brave man.

