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12 OF THE BEST RESTAURANTS FOR MEMORABLE MEALS IN PALMA DE MALLORCA

A COSMOPOLITAN MEDITERRANEAN CAPITAL THAT HAS IT ALL

By Anna Nicholas, destination expert
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With a dramatic and turbulent history harking back to the Bronze Age, Palma has had its fair share of invasions – from the Romans and Vandals to the Moors and Christians. So it's hardly surprising that this perky, perfectly formed city has such a welcoming and grown-up attitude to international visitors.

With the glistening Mediterranean Sea at its feet, this effortlessly accessible capital offers a delicious melting pot of cultures and historic influences. Whether in the cobbled streets of the atmospheric old town, or in the heart of the grand plaças, impressive monuments, museums, galleries and churches of Gothic splendour abound. Edgy districts happily rub shoulders with more traditional and exclusive neighbourhoods, while a vibrant food and shopping scene weaves its magic across the city. So much to do, so little time? Head for a seafront café, breathe the air, relax and enjoy that first sip of ruby red Majorcan wine.

Day one

MORNING

Start the day at landmark La Seu cathedral (Plaça de la Seu; 00 34 902 022 445), which

looms above the city walls, and admire the shimmering Parc de Mar Lake below.

Don't miss the quirky re-design of St Peter's Chapel by artist Miguel Barceló, before heading to neighbouring Almudaina Palace (Carrer del Palau Reial; 00 34 902 044 454). There's some exploring to be done at this gothic masterpiece, but on a sticky day, take respite in the King's Orchard, a smaller version of Granada's Generalife water garden.

Now stroll up the leafy Borne, once a river in the 17th century, and pop into Centro Cultural Can Balaguer and take a peek at Café Balaguer's patio (Carrer de la Unió; 00 34 971 72 01 35) where you'll find 4,000 years of history and impressive skeletons at the Sa Galera exhibition. **On Jaime III, take a right turn for Fera restaurant (Carrer de la Concepció, 4; 00 34 971 595 301) where you can enjoy a cool glass of wine and an exceptional menú del día. Expect exciting creations such as crab roll in salsa verde, or subtly flavoured sea bream ceviche with pomegranate tiger milk and shiso.**

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