Spanish politics in limbo land as PSOE leader Sánchez fails to form government

leader Pedro Sánchez delivered his investiture address in Congress on Tuesday.

In his 90 minute speech the socialist party leader talked of “a government of change and of dialogue” promising that it would save Spain from what he termed its “current situation of impasse and rectify the consequences of the past four years of Popular Party (PP) government.” Speaking to the deputies of the lower house (think MP’s and the House of Commons) Sánchez called for the support of the other political parties that will be required if he is to form a government and be voted in as Prime Minister. Though the incumbent PP won the election in December in as far as polling the most votes, they fell a long way short of the majority needed to govern. Sánchez has agreed coalition terms with new kids on the centre right (Continued on page 2)
On Wednesday morning it was the turn of vote. His investiture by abstaining during the next week should Podemos make way for others. All of these proposals, he explained, could be put into place the very plan for 750,000 families in need, among others. The leaders of other parties to offer their responses.

Acting PP Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy addressed Congress first, followed by Pablo Iglesias, leader of the anti-austerity left-wing group Podemos. Both went to great lengths to distance themselves from Sánchez. Rajoy ridiculed the PSOE leader and Iglesias called Sánchez “miserable” at one point. The PP leader described the Socialists attempts to form a government as a “farce.” Iglesias said Sánchez had “surrendered to the oligarchs and the powers that be.”

The most-repeated word during the speech was “change,” and Sánchez made it clear that he considered himself the only solution to the inconclusive December elections.

He repeated previous statements precluding any possibility of a partnership with the PP, stating time and time again that his government must be formed with parties that want change, not the status quo. “Do we want a government based on the PP, stating time and time again that his government must be formed with parties that want change, not the status quo. “Do we want a government based on dialogue?”

The leader of Ciudadanos, Albert Rivera, took on the role of peacemaker, appealing for dialogue and accord. He accused the PP and Podemos of trying to derail “an agreement that represents nine million Spanish voters.”

The debate, which continues throughout Wednesday, is likely to see Sánchez lose the first investiture vote. As it stands, he is unlikely to win a second vote on Friday, at which he needs a simple majority to be successful. Even with the support of Ciudadanos, Sánchez will only count on 130 votes from the 176 needed for an absolute majority during Wednesday night’s vote.

On Friday night, when the PSOE leader only requires more votes in favour than against, it will still not be enough to be successful in his bid to lead the government. Depending on the outcome of this week’s sessions in Congress, Spain could be looking at fresh elections later in the year.

2,600 Ex-Pats Registering Per Day, In “Less Time Than It Takes To Make A Cup Of Tea”

The announcement of June 23rd as the date for the Referendum on the UK’s membership of the European Union has triggered a surge in the numbers of British expats wanting to register to vote. Latest figures show the average daily rate of online registrations by Britons abroad has quadrupled from an average of just over 600 per day before the announcement of the referendum date last weekend, to more than 2600 per day since then.

The Electoral Commission has launched a global campaign to encourage an estimated five million Britons living overseas to check their eligibility to vote ahead of the referendum on EU membership. The British Ambassador Simon Manley, visiting Malaga on Tuesday said “Whether you think the UK should remain in or leave the EU, the 23rd of June will be your chance to have your say. This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for the British people to decide.”

If you have been on the UK electoral roll within the last 15 years, you are eligible to vote. The electoral commission’s latest marketing promises that online registration is a simple process, quicker than making a cup of tea.

For full details of how to register and eligibility see our online guide at http://theibizan.com/community/yapadvice/guiri-guides/eu-referendum/

New Ibiza Office of Housing Rights Opens

The Minister of Land, Transport and Energy of the Balearic Government, Joan Bonet, together with the President of Ibiza, Vicente Torres, and the Vice President and Minister of Housing Insular, Viviana Sans, were in attendance to present the official opening of the Balearic Institute of Housing (IBAVI) to Ibiza, which will also host the Office of Housing Rights. The first vice president of the Consell, Viviana Sans, who also presides over housing matters in the Island government, explained that the office will offer a service that is “global, integral, and will promote actions to develop policies on housing issues and find solutions to the problem of foreclosures.” Sans also announced the next meeting of the Bureau of Housing, which will bring together the councillors of Social Welfare and Urban Planning of the different municipalities of the island. “Housing in Ibiza has become a problem of unacceptable proportions and we must find solutions,” said Sans.

The Minister of Land, Transport and Energy of the Balearic Government, Joan Bonet, said that the opening of an IBAVI office in Ibiza is “the fulfillment of a campaign promise, and a commitment to attend to the housing problems of Ibiza’s citizens.”

- The office opened to the public on March 2, and is located on the fourth floor of the Consell offices on Avenue España in Ibiza Town. Open from 9am to 2pm Mon to Fri; Tel: 971 784 994 or email

“A government of change and of dialogue”

PSOE leader Pedro Sánchez addressing Spain’s deputies. Credit: J.J. Guillén

(Continued from page 1)
Egg and in the backstreets of San All night supermarkets around the whole town and not anything negative at all.”

ers rather than have a shop open up next door and sell legally ours back: the ability to sell drinks to our custom-

drinks in shops and then drink in the street rather than the local police. This has lead to people being able to buy government were not allowed, legally, to enforce it via and has been an unenforceable law for years as the local selling alcohol after midnight has been a real problem “This is good for san antonio, not bad. shops illegally Viva responded in defence of the council’s initiative.

This is a law finally being enforced to the benefit of the town will have ‘dry’ hours during which alcohol cannot be purchased from any outlet. Speaking of the initiative Councillor Juanjo Ferrer stressed that the regulations are designed to “protect the health of our children and ensure public safety is maintained.”

The ordinance was passed with all party consensus and now has to wait for a one month public consultation period for any objections before being passed into law. Establishments selling alcohol will then have one month to put the regulations into place or face fines ranging from 350€ to 1,500€.

The possibility of placing a ban on the opening of new Bodegas was considered infeasible due to Bodegas being covered by exactly the same licence as supermarkets and other food shops.

The news sparked considerable debate following our online posting. Many people seemed determined to use the story as a tool for berating San Antonio’s tourism reputation, seemingly ignoring the publicised local fac-
tors behind the Council’s decision.

Local Businessman and West End Bar owner Nathan Viva responded in defence of the council’s initiative. “This is good for san antonio, not bad. shops illegally selling alcohol after midnight has been a real problem and has been an unenforceable law for years as the local government were not allowed, legally, to enforce it via the local police. This has lead to people being able to buy drinks in shops and then drink in the street rather than the bar environment that has made Ibiza a tourist des-
nation in the first place. No one is ‘losing their liveli-

hood’, we, as bar owners, are merely getting what is legally ours back: the ability to sell drinks to our custom-
ers rather than have a shop open up next door and sell under the counter for a fraction of the cost paying much less in taxes and ruining it for everyone. This is a law finally being enforced to the benefit of the whole town and not anything negative at all.”

Vericad Meets Animal Rights Groups

Ibiza’s Minister of the Environment, Miquel Vericad, has held talks with three representatives of animal rights groups fol-

lowing protests against the culling of the goats on Es Vedra which were held in front of the Consell HQ in Ibiza Town.

During the meeting, Vericad is said to have expressed “understanding and respect” for the views of the activists, stating that he understood the decision taken by the Ministry of Environment of the Balearic Government has hurt the sensitivity of many people in Ibiza. He went on to explain that the practice of culling is “commonplace in wildlife control”, and defended scientific and technical reports that support this action. Vericad warned of spreading false stories about the events that occurred in Es Vedra, saying that it was irres-

ponsible to exacerbate the mood surrounding the affair through what he termed an “unfounded rumour mill”. Representatives of the animal rights groups were not swayed in their view that the culling is totally unjustifiable, though they did condemn those responsible for the death threats and insults the minister has received on social networks.

Load of Bollards

The bollards recently added to Ibiza airport’s transit car lane have been upsetting pretty well everybody it seems. Now San Jose town hall have joined the chorus of voices asking for their removal.

An online petition is active here http://chn.ge/1Qnx0qM
Stevie D’s, Expatacular!

Stevie D’s has, to the best of our knowledge, been the only venue in Ibiza serving the full English breakfast and Traditional Sunday Roast all winter long. For that alone they deserve a round of applause, just for being there, for fulfilling that expat need to cure the hangover, or get that special Sunday feeling, in the best ways we know how, come rain, wind or lucky as we are here normally shine.

Availability alone would however not however gain the pun-line Expatacular. To achieve such Stevie D’s don’t just do it, they do it very well.

Breakfast.
What you see is what you get, plus 2 rounds of toast that you don’t see because I forgot to add them to the photo frame in my haste to tuck in.
It’s big, and it is all British.
Well the bacon is probably Danish but you know what I mean. So it’s 2 rashers, 2 proper sausages, Heinz baked beans, 2 eggs cooked as you like them—and neither the 2 hash browns or mushrooms are priced add ons, they all come as standard on the full breakfast.

There is a smaller option for lesser appetites, great value at 3.50€ and those preferring the lighter plate need not look over at their full breakfast counterparts in envy having missed out on the usual omissions of smaller breakfasts, they still get everything on the full breakfast, just 1 of each item instead of 2.

Onto the roast (a different sitting I should add, it would be a brave man to take both breakfast and dinner on the same day), and whilst waiting for my Roast Beef Jeanette delivered a sampler of Roast Pork and Crackling. This presented a problem. The crackling was a real cracker leading to questions as to my existing crackling loyalties. I therefore decided that ranking was becoming impossible and a roll of crackling excellence was required, onto which Stevie D’s go without hesitation.

The Sunday roast is quite simply huge. It is hard to argue with Jeanette’s outlook of preferring to see some left on a plate than have people leave still wanting, and it is hard to think any comment of ‘not enough’ would ever come up on their diner reviews.

Cracking Roll of Honour
Awarded to those establishments that fulfil the criteria of excellence in Pork Crackling.
In Date Order …
- Tapas Restaurant
- Lounge Bar
- Mariposa Pool Bar
- Stevie D’s

Stevie D’s, Expatacular!
The beef was cooked superbly, full of flavour, and everything on the plate had that home cooked quality, unsurprising as that is exactly what everything on the plate was. Criticism? Only one really, and as criticism's go it’s as good as a compliment. I’d have liked another Yorkshire to soak up the pot of delicious gravy. It’s not that I wanted more, far from it, but I’d never say no to another home cooked Yorkshire Pud. Perhaps I’d have traded something—perhaps roast spuds or beef, it would have to be a lesser vegetable :-)

Stevie D’s offer Sunday Lunch from 2pm until 6pm throughout the winter. Half of Roast Chicken 13€, Roast Beef 14.50€ and Roast Pork 14€ all served with freshly mashed potatoes, roast potatoes, Yorkshire pudding, a selection of seasonal vegetables and gravy. Plus of course, as if you’d have to ask, plentiful pots of mustard, horseradish and apple sauce.

There is plenty going on every day and night of the week at Stevie D’s. See their advert for the day by day diary.

Find Stevie D’s on facebook http://on.fb.me/21GaUd0

Stevie D’s
Sports Bar & Restaurant
Cala de Bou, San Antonio Bay | Tel: 656 411 043

Winter Hours
Mon–Thurs Bar Only 11 noon–11 midnight	Fri, Bar 10am–12 midnight | Kitchen 12noon–6pm Sat & Sun Bar 10am–12 midnight | Kitchen 10am–6pm

Thursdays are Pool Nights with either the “chicks” or the “dicks” at home
Fridays @ Pub Quiz & Play Your Cards Wrong!
Saturdays All The Sports, & a night we take it Free & Easy, Whatever You Want!

Sunday Traditional Roast
* Killer Pool from 7am all day welcome

Mondays it’s all about Sunday Night Football plus
Free Pool Table Day & Night
Tuesday Free Pool Table Day & Night

All Welcome, Enjoy & Chill!!
Stevie D’s Ibiza

Sunday Roasts @ Cubar
Ibiza Town

“Claire B
Ibiza’s very own Cuban bar ‘Cubar’ is going all British on Sundays at the moment and offering Sunday Roasts, cooked by Darren Potter (formerly of jds). 2 courses (starter and main) costs 15€ or 2 courses plus a mojito...
ARIES – The Hermit
You need some alone time this week. Healing, through meditation or by other means is essential to your wellbeing, connecting you to source. Not so random thoughts may pop into your head and you’ll heal old wounds by acknowledging that your outer world only reflects what’s within. You’ve travelled an arduous road; thankfully now there’s a light at the end of the tunnel.

TAURUS – The Emperor
You’re on top form and anything you need to accomplish is easily done. Your leadership qualities stand out and you’re at your creative best if approached to organise or take charge of a new or existing project, say YES! One thing to watch this week is time for some rest and music etc. but even then the Emperor will do that in style!

GEMINI – Judgment
You feel a sense of liberation and anything that’s held you back is now but a memory. This is especially true if, in fact, you’ve been the engineer of your own setbacks. Be determined to operate from a place of happiness and contentment to be open with your thoughts and feelings and especially don’t be afraid to speak your truth.

CANCER – Transformation
A situation’s past it’s sell by date, so why are you reluctant to move on? Whether it’s about a friendship, or a different way of life. It’s time to move on and take a different direction in life.

LEO – Queen of Pentacles
A woman relative or friend will offer you sound advice, especially when it comes to relationships. This will be wise counsel, so don’t do this twice before ignoring it. Business wise, she also represents a female boss or powerful colleague who, it would be wise to treat with respect. She’ll apply her knowledge, but only if you prove to be trustworthy.

VIRGO – Nine of Swords
Keep your thoughts as positive as possible even though your environment is becoming problematic. You have much to deal with this week; making it difficult for you to clear your mind. Sort out one issue at a time by categorising your immediate obligations. Most of what you fear may never happen, so don’t give in to it.

LIBRA – The天秤座
This card is a great indicator that your finances are looking up. You’ll be attracting material rewards with insulting ease. New business ventures may be on your mind and you’ll need to sign contracts and make agreements. Don’t be too hasty to decide on a new love you do. Property investments are worth looking into.

SCORPIO – Five of Wands
Love can only be earned. You can’t force it or demand it, therefore sort out the internal workings of your emotions this week and let others get on with theirs. Muddled thinking will tie you up in knots, so relax and bask the affection you attract. You succeed by breaking through emotional blocks and letting down your barriers.

SAGITTARIUS – Four of Swords
This card advises you to take a back seat and to take life easy; withdraw from a hectic lifestyle and take time of the past few months, enjoying being in the NOW, before making plans for the future. Meditation, yoga, tai chi, chill music etc. are all good methods for helping you to un-wind. Be helpful in all your dealings.

CAPRICORN – Queen of Swords
You’ve already put through the crap and get straight to the heart of important issues this week and will probably observe others lies or weaknesses with a zeal that borders on ruthlessness. It’s important however, to maintain a sense of humour which air sign women, Aquarius, Libra or Gemini have in abundance; they’re straight talking and insightful too!

AQUARIUS – Ten of Swords
You’re at the point of an emotional break-through this week however from your current perspective you might find that hard to believe. Old fears could crop up and you could be faced with other lies or weaknesses as a result. It’s important not to be too hard on yourself, but to see that this is an opportunity to move on.

PISCES – The Tower
Somewhere in your life, a false ideal or belief requires dismantling. This involves great courage on your part as this will have consequences in all your relationships at work and play. If you don’t initiate this process, events could be taken out of your hands. The result will be the same, radical change. See this as an amazing opportunity.
to publicise it. Unfortunately, perhaps due to the dismal weather, perhaps due to people having ambivalent feelings towards the cause, perhaps due to people being too busy or unable to attend for one reason or another, despite the Love From Ibiza group having 100 members; there were only around 60 of us in total at the Red on Saturday. I’d be lying if I said we weren’t disappointed with the turnout, however some very influential locals were there to make their stand, including the president of the Consell; Vicent Torres Ferrer Benet and councillor for the environment Miquel de l’Espluga (and of course, The Ibiza’s favourite local DJ David ‘Chip’ Squarre’ Ward).

Bites & Beats

**Playa d’en Bossa**

*Claire B*

1st and 2nd the Bites & Beats pop up food and music parties take place on Friday and Monday April 1 at Forty Fives on the beach in Playa d’en Bossa (Formerly JdJ). Hosted by chef Jila Walkr and DJ Buckley Baltimore, the event will combine a sumptuous mix of food and music. Each event will have a different theme on the menu - this week will be cooking up a 3-course menu of organic veggie and vegan food. Buckley sets the mood and provides music for the soul.

**Rincoxet D’ol (children’s cafe)**

Fifty Fives, Playas d’en Bossa, 12.30

Apéro: Inappropriately Gentlemens (blues BB, Mallor-Can, Can Pou, 22.30

**Apr 2**

Apero: Los Peligros Gentlemens (blues BB, Mallo-Can, Can Pou, 22.30

**Apr 16: GAF y la Estrella de la Muerte (rock-post, Tenerife), and Saturns (Mallor-Can, Glaustre de l’Ajuntament de l’Evissa)

May 1: Leemonaco (folk, Menoraca), Bar Can Pou 12.30

In Live Gertirs

**Santa Gertrudis**

*Claire B*

As I continue to put on free live music on Sunday afternoons in Santa Gertrudis from 16.30-20.00.

**March 6**

Mali Brittain, Jodie Keal & Vögel Schmitz (unplugged)

**March 13**

Jazzybiza (jazz)

**March 20**

Edu Egito (Brazil)

**March 27**

Rebecca Gam-boa (playing new work)

Still on the Carretera Ibiza-San Antionio, look out for the blue and white cow outside Santa Gertrudis.

**Cinema**

**TeatroSara Soria Eulalia

2st Wed 2nd Sat 5th Apr 2016**

**The Danish Girl (2015)**

15.95 mins. A fictitious love story loosely inspired by the lives of Danish artists Lily Elbe and Gerda Wegener. Lili and Gerda’s marriage and work evolve as they navigate Lili’s ground-breaking journey as a transgender pioneer. Stars Eddie Redmayne, Alicia Vikander, Amber Heard. Why not check out the web site for future films and events teatro sarasoria@sdentadula.com

Live music

**Ibiza Town**

*Claire B*

More live concerts are being announced on the bar of ‘Kiniguito a Groenlàndia’. The concerts have been organised by a group of local musicians who want to bring more music to Ibiza and have received a Balearic grant from the Insti- tuit d’Estudis Baleiards, called L’AGENT-IB to promote perfor-mances by music and theatre groups from the Balearic islands. Most are held in bar Can Pou in Ibiza Town and the one April 16th is outdoors in the Cloister of the City of Ibiza, plaza del Ajuntament (Eivissa), which is a fantastic venue.

**Mar 5**

Los Bélmex (pop, Jaén), Can Pou, 22.30

Red Peril

**Playground Pop Pill Popping, Infants on E.**

*Gibbs*

Blue (age 6) “Dad if I get a headache later I will eat some E. OK because I can take some of my pills”.

Dad (distracted) “Let’s hope you don’t get a headache then.”

(Blue is now looking at her bottle)

(Dad is now looking at his, looking down at the (blue) Cuddles and trying to push them away)

(Blue is now looking at her bottle)

“I will go down as the most out-rageous song of 2016”.

“I don’t want to do this ever again! A blister pack of pills, sized, shaped, brightly coloured sweets complete with foil pop out dispensing systems. They make sweet cigarettes look like a nutri-tious health bar in compar-ision. At least that 70’s faux pas hadn’t gone to such lengths to create such a per-fect fascimile of their ‘vice in vices’ to which could aspire”.

It boggles the mind what company would manufacture them, what retailer would stock them, and what parent would buy them. Though I guess none of that supply chain would acknowledge their resounding resis-tance to prescription drugs, it was clear to Blue that he and his friends saw them as exactly that – play pills. You can imagine the play-ground that “I’m having the same yellow ones as Mummy every day, as she said it was because of them I was born”.

“I’m taking blue ones like daddy’s that make mum happy Saturday”, I mean seriously, we warn of medi-cine’s danger, we lock tablets away, ever high out of reach, we devise kidproof bottles, then wonder why we have the message ‘tablets are safe, so don’t just have one’. We have turned our children over to the corruption of uni-versal childlike will, cut short with Blue’s comment, “the red ones were best”. As many parents will know, and many more should know, ‘red’ in concoctionary terms means only one thing, trouble ahead. Don’t ask what E number it is they put in it, but I know it has had a much effect on a child’s per-sonality as its grown up brother E can on a 18 year old double dropper on their first Sunday in the Mediterranean sun.”

Within 20 minutes our son had gone from mild-mannered nedar jinan to whirling dervish. The dog was hiding under the bed, mum was hiding under the pillow where I was just keeping control. With use of an overturned dining chair and wigs in the style of circus lion tamer. OK it wasn’t that bad, but the usual hugely hyperactive that follows ingestion of that special kids E. The problem is even more commercially acknowled-ge. Having noticed this change some time ago, I read the ingredients on the side of sweets he had eaten, what we used to refer to as red liquorish, to find the tiny small print warning “not rec-ommended for children under 12 years of age” and on this, and on a packet clearly marketed at children alongside fusty coke bottles, and mallow banans.

As it turned out my concerns are to do with the E numbers, not recognised as a ‘drug’ by the EU, but in effect to do with the E numbers, not recognised as a ‘drug’ by the EU, but in effect on us. But as ever parents know, kids have a huge and immediate effect on them, though they won’t even feel them, as I did, all along my bout of foot. Since days of raising kindergartens in the UK I have been an advocate of the dialled i.e. that a huge amount of behav-ioural problems in children are to do with the E numbers they eat, and especially the E 300 numbers. Perhaps, but then again perhaps this is just a ground pill popping junkie hooked up.

View From the Pew: George Herbert

Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King! The heavens are not too high, his praise may thither fly. The earth is not too low, his praises there may grow. Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King! Let all the world in every corner, my God and King! Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King! The church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out. But, above all, the heart must bear the long-evest. Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King! It’s quite remarkable that a Church of Eng-land poet and priest of the 1600’s could say “The Church with its psalms must shout”. That’s so enthusiastic – so un-Church of England. It’s a thought that has been hundreds of years before Pentecostals or charismatics existed. I do like best of all, his phrase: “Heaven in ordinary”. It seems to me that we do get glimpses of heaven in the ordinary things of life if we treasure each moment as a pre-cious gift of life.

**Services**

Mothering Sunday 6th March 9.30am traditional holy communion & easter breakfast, holy communion both at San Rafael

**The English-Speaking Church on Ibiza & Formentera. See website for locations & information. Tel 971 343383 chaplainhibiza@gmail.com

Postbag

**Easter Fairs**

This year’s Easter Fair at Bar San Cristobal in San Rafael takes place on Saturday 26th March 9am to 3pm. The fair is to raise money that will be di-vided between B.A.C.E. (Beginnings), and Homeless. I am asking for all donations of items that can be raffled, used on the tombola, toy, book, toy, homemade cake/jams and nearly new clothing stalls. If you have anything that you wish to donate then you can drop off at Thomas & Co on the main street in San Antonio, or if you’re on the eastern side of the island then call me and I’ll arrange to meet you. I hope that the generously shown in the past can once again help to make the fair a huge suc-cess. Please look forward to seeing you there. For more information or if you would like to help out on the day then call me on 971 563349. Margaret Nawaz.

**Age Concern**

The recent AGM of Age Concern Ibiza and Formentera was agreed that in future enquiries concerning the hire and return of equipment should be handled by ‘Ibiza Greens in San Antonio, or if you would like to help with the hands of Jayne and Karen, if you have any note contact should be made during office hours via telephone at 971 343232 or mobile 966 926 871. Kind regards, Dee Facey-Thorne.

Oscar winning ‘The Danish Girl’ on at the flacks

As I write this, the Anglican Church commemorates the life of the 1st century, AD, Roman priest George Herbert (d.1633). I think of someone who always said “Love bade me welcome; yet my soul desired Heaven in ordinary”. “Church bells beyond the stars heard”. I think of his wonderful hymns:

**B. Member**

*Rev. Dr Peter Pimentel*
The Balearics

The Statute of Autonomy of the Balearic Islands, approved by the Organic Law 2/1983 on February 25, established the Balearic Islands as an autonomous community of Spain. Since its initial approval, the statute has undergone many changes and reforms, the most recent of which came into effect on March 1, 2007, coinciding with the Day of Balearic Islands. Balearic Islands.

The Balearic Islands are an archipelago of Spain. The four largest islands are Majorca, Minorca, Ibiza and Formentera. There are many minor islands and islets in close proximity to the larger islands, including Cabrera, Dragonera and S’Espalmador.

The archipelago forms an autonomous community and a province of Spain, with Palma de Mallorca as the capital. The co-official languages in the Balearic Islands are Catalan and Spanish. The current Statute of Autonomy declares the Balearic Islands as one nationality of Spain. Though currently a part of Spain, throughout history the Balearic Islands have been under the rule of number of different kingdoms and countries.

Languages

Both Catalan and Spanish are official languages in the islands. Catalan is designated as a “lengua propia”, literally “own language” in its statute of autonomy. Practically all residents of the Balearic Islands speak Spanish fluently. In 2003 74.6% of the Islands’ residents also know how to speak Catalan and 93.1% can understand it.

Etymology

The official name of the Balearic Islands in Catalan is Islas Baleares, while in Spanish they are known as the Islas Baleares. The term “Balearic” derives from Greek (Γυμνασίαι/Gymnasiae) and Latin (Baleares). The root bal does point to a Phoenician origin perhaps regarding the name as of Phoenician origin. He observed it was the Phoenician equivalent for lightly armoured soldiers the Greeks would have called γυμνηται/gymnetes. The root bal does point to a Phoenician origin perhaps the islands were sacred to the god Baal and the resemblance to the Greek root ΒΑΛ/βαλλω (in lightening) ‘to launch’, although Strabo regards the name as of Phoenician origin. He observed it was the Phoenician equivalent for lightly armoured soldiers the Greeks would have called γυμνητας/gymnetes. The root bal does point to a Phoenician origin perhaps the islands were sacred to the god Baal and the resemblance to the Greek root ΒΑΛ/βαλλω (in lightening) ‘to launch’, although Strabo regards the name as of Phoenician origin. He observed it was the Phoenician equivalent for lightly armoured soldiers the Greeks would have called γυμνηται/gymnetes. The root bal does point to a Phoenician origin perhaps the islands were sacred to the god Baal and the resemblance to the Greek root ΒΑΛ/βαλλω (in lightening) ‘to launch’.

Geography

The main islands of the autonomous community are Majorca (Mallorca), Minorca (Menorca), Ibiza (Eivissa/Ibiza) and Formentera. Among the minor islands is Cabrera, the location of the Cabrera Archipelago Maritime-Terrestrial National Park.

The islands can be further grouped, with Majorca, Minorca, and Cabrera as the Gymnesian Islands (Illes Gimnèsies) and Ibiza and Formentera as the Pityusic Islands (Illes Pitiuses). The Pityusic Islands are the islands that were first settled by the Greeks and Romans, and are therefore called Pityusic Islands. These islands are also referred to as the Pityuses or sometimes informally in English as the Pine Islands. There are many minor islands or islets close to the biggest islands, such as Es Conills, Es Vedrà, Sa Conillera, Drages, S’Espalmador, S’Espardell, Ses Bledes, Santa onera, S’Espalmador, S’Espardell, Ses Bledes, Santa Eulària, Plana, Foradada, Tagomago, Na Redona, Colom, L’Aire, etc.

The Balearic Front is a sea surface density regime north of the Balearic Islands on the shelf slope of the Balearic Islands, which is responsible for some of the surface flow characteristics of the Balearic Sea.

History

Ancient history

Little is recorded on the earliest inhabitants of the is-
lands, though many legends exist. The story, preserved by Lycophron, that certain shipwrecked Greek Boeotians were cast nude on the islands, was evidently invented to account for the name Gymnesiae. There is also a tradition that the islands were colonized by Rhodes after the Trojan War.

The islands had a very mixed population, of whose habits several strange stories are told. In some stories, it is said that the people went naked or were clad only in sheepskins—whence the name of the islands—until the Phoenicians clothed them with broad-bordered tunics. In other stories, they were naked only in the heat of summer. Other legends hold that the inhabitants lived in hollow rocks and artificial caves, that they were remarkable for their love of women and would give three or four men as the ransom for one woman, that they had no gold or silver coin, and forbade the importation of the precious metals, so that those of them who served as mercenaries took their pay in wine and women instead of money.

In ancient times, the islanders of the Gymnesian Islands (Illes Gimnèsies) constructed talayots, and were famous for their skill with the sling. As slingers, they served as mercenaries, first under the Carthaginians, and afterwards under the Romans. They went into battle ungirt, with only a small buckler, and a javelin burnt at the end, and in some cases tipped with a small iron point but their effective weapons were their slings, of which each man carried three, wound round his head, or, as seen in other sources, one round the head, one round the body, and one in the hand. The three slings were of different lengths, for stones of different sizes the largest they hurled with as much force as if it were flung from a catapult and they seldom missed their mark. To this exercise they were trained from infancy, in order to earn their livelihood as mercenary soldiers. It is said that the mothers allowed their children to eat bread only when they had struck it off a post with the sling.

The Phoenicians took possession of the islands in very early times—a remarkable trace of their colonization is preserved in the town of Mago (Maó in Minorca). After the fall of Carthage, the islands seem to have been virtually independent. Notwithstanding their celebrity in war, the people were generally very quiet and inoffensive. The Romans, however, easily found a pretext for charging them with complicity with the Mediterranean pirates, and they were conquered by Q. Caecilius Metellus, thence surnamed Balearicus, in 123 BC. Metel-
The Vandals under Genseric conquered the Islands Late Roman/Early Islamic Era maintain their traditions and religion as well as a high number of an Umayyad fleet, which allowed the residents to resist for some time. In 707 the islands submitted to the generous terms of the Treaty of Orange, which ended the westward expansion of the Umayyads.

The two largest islands (the Balearic Islands, in their historical sense) had numerous excellent harbours, though rocky at their mouth, and requiring care in entering them. Both were extremely fertile in all produce, except wine and olive oil. They were celebrated for their chief mineral product was the red earth, called sinope, though rocky at their mouth, and requiring care in entering them. Both were extremely fertile in all produce, except wine and olive oil. They were celebrated for their chief mineral product was the red earth, called sinope, which was used by painters. Their resin and pitch are mentioned by Dioscorides. The population of the two islands is stated by Diodorus at 30,000.

Late Roman/Early Islamic Era

The Vandals under Genseric conquered the Islands sometime between 461 and 468 during their war on the Roman Empire. However, in late 533 or early 534, following the Battle of Ad Decimum, the troops of Belisarius re-established control of the islands to the Byzantine Empire. Imperial power receded precipitously in the late 6th century, and in 554, the islands were lost to the Ostrogoths.

The islands were then ruled by the Visigoths until the arrival of the Umayyads in the late 7th century. The Umayyads established a strong presence in the islands, and the islands became a center of Umayyad power in the western Mediterranean. The Umayyads maintained their traditions and religion as well as a high number of an Umayyad fleet, which allowed the residents to resist for some time. In 707 the islands submitted to the generous terms of the Treaty of Orange, which ended the westward expansion of the Umayyads.

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One Legend holds that the people forbade the importation of the precious metals, so that those of them who served as mercenaries took their pay in wine and women instead of money.
Baleares By Numbers
Each of the main islands is administered, along with its surrounding minor islands and islets, by an insular council (consell insular) in Catalan) of the same name. These four insular councils are the first level of subdivision in the autonomous community (province) of the Balearics. Before the administrative reform of 1977, the two insular councils of Ibiza and Formentera were forming in a single one (covering the whole group of the P lilusic Islands). This level is further subdivided into six comarques only in the insular council of Mallorca; the three other insular councils are not subdivided into separate comarques, but are themselves assimilated each one to a comarca covering the same territory as the insular council. These nine comarques are then subdivided into municipalities (municipis), with the exception of Formentera, which is in the same time an insular council, a comarca, and a municipality. Note that the maritime and territorial natural reserves in the Balearic Islands are not owned by the municipalities, even if they fall within their territory, but are owned and managed by the respective insular councils from which they depend.

Iriqiyi (the coastal areas of what is today Tunisia, eastern Algeria, and western Libya) but ended in defeat. Fearing reprisals, the inhabitants of the Balearics rebelled against the Almoravid and accepted Almohad suzerainty in 1187.

Reconquista
On the last day of 1229, King James I of Aragon (see image previous page) captured Palma after three months of siege. The rest of Mallorca quickly followed. Minorca fell in the year 1232 and Ibiza in 1235. In 1236, James traded most of the islands to Peter I, Count of Urgell for Urgell, which he incorporated into his kingdom. Peter ruled from Palma, but after his death without issue in 1258, the islands reverted by the terms of the deal to the Crown of Aragon.

James died in 1276, partitioning his domains between his sons in his will. The will created a new Kingdom of Mallorca from the Balearic islands and the mainland counties of Roussillon or Montpellier, which was left to his eldest brother Peter. Chafing under the vassalage, James joined forces with the Pope Martin IV and Philip III of France against his brother in the Aragonese Crusade, leading to a 10-year Aragonese occupation before the islands were restored in the 1295 Treaty of Anagni. The tension between the kingdoms continued through the generations until James' grandson James III was killed by the invading army of Peter's grandson Peter IV at the 1349 Battle of Lliu- ma- jor. The Balearic Islands were then incorporated directly into the kingdom of Aragon.

Modern period
In 1469, Ferdinand II of Aragon (king of Aragon) and Isabella I of Castile (queen of Castile) were married. After their deaths, their respective territories (until then governed separately) were governed jointly, in the person of their grandson, the Emperor Charles V. This can be considered the foundation of the modern Spanish state, albeit a decentralized one wherein the various component territories within the united crowns retained their particular historic laws and privileges.

The Balearic Islands were frequently attacked by Barbary pirates from North Africa. Formentera was even temporarily abandoned by its population. In 1514, 1515 and 1521 the coasts of the Balearic Islands and the Spanish mainland were raided by Turkish privateers under the command of the Ottoman admiral, Hayreddin Barbarossa.

The island of Minorca was a British dependency for most of the 18th century as a result of the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht. This treaty—signed by the Kingdom of Great Britain and the Kingdom of Portugal as well as the Kingdom of Spain, to end the conflict caused by the War of the Spanish Succession—gave Gibraltar and Minorca to the Kingdom of Great Britain, Sardinia to Austria (both territories had been part of the Crown of Aragon for more than four centuries), and Sicily to the House of Savoy. In addition, Flanders and other European territories of the Spanish Crown were given to Austria. The islands fell to French forces, under Armand de Vignerot du Plessis in June 1766 and were occupied by them for the duration of the Seven Years' War. The British reoccupied the island after the war but, with their military forces diverted away by the American War of Independence, it fell to a Franco-Spanish force after a seven-month siege (1781–82). Spain retained it under the Treaty of Paris in 1783. However, during the French Revolutionary Wars, when Spain became an ally of France, it came under French rule.

Minorca was finally returned to Spain by the Treaty of Amiens during the French Revolutionary Wars, following the last British occupation, which lasted from 1798 to 1802. The continued presence of British naval forces, however, meant that the Balearic Islands were never occupied by the French during the Napoleonic Wars.

Compiled with the help of good old Wikipedia and the Balearic Government Websites.
Hello everyone, and welcome to another instalment of Amanda Zips It Up.

Yay, it’s March and springtime is just around the corner. I hate winter - in fact, the only good thing about these winter months is the Awards season: the Brits, Baftas, Oscars and the recent Grammys. Fashion-wise, it’s entertaining to see all the A Listers on the Red Carpet dress up to within an inch of their lives, especially those who get it severely wrong.

One thing that has intrigued me this awards season is how female celebs manage to produce the most amazing cleavages within their red carpet frocks. How do they defy gravity in something that has barely any support whatsoever?

Well, Kim Kardashian answered that for us at the recent Grammys. She revealed beforehand via Twitter (like you do) how she achieves that incredible rack. Duct tape. She had zero shame in revealing this secret, even posting pictures of her enhanced bosom with very painful looking tape holding them up and out.

I’m not really blessed in this department so I can only look on in admiration, but if you can bear the agony and uncomfortable feeling of being taped up all night, it actually creates and amazing effect. High five to Kim for revealing all.

Here’s how she does it.

Covering the nipples is very brave. Do you think she peels it off slowly or rips the tape off like a band aid?

Rymans and WH Smiths have never been so edgy or X Rated.

Onto this week’s edition, and we check out the red carpet at the Oscars. Who nailed it and failed it?

Here’s a sneak peak at my favourite, Gwen Stafani.

London Fashion Week

As well as our Capital hosting the BRITS last week, it has of course been London Fashion Week A/W16. I didn’t go, no prizes for guessing why. It’s always a spectacular few days showcasing all the best in British Fashion.

LFW is known for its weird and wonderful trends, but one new season style is giving us the creeps. British designer Gareth Pugh held his autumn/winter 2016 show at the Freemasons’ Hall in Covent Garden - which alone would be eerie enough, if it wasn’t for the fact he sent models wearing Hannibal Lecter masks down the catwalk.

Yes, the cannibalistic serial killer Hannibal Lecter from ‘Silence Of The Lambs’, who was forced to wear the same-style restraint mask in case he tried to eat someone.

London Fashion Week is always a top place for celeb spotting, but we didn’t expect this many to turn up to the Topshop Unique show.

A whole host of style stars took their seats in the FROW to watch the brand’s autumn/winter 2016 collection debut, including a very sharply dressed Anna Wintour - but it was the supermodels we just couldn’t take our eyes off.

Now onto the clothes - Topshop described their A/W 16 woman as “a rebel in a rush”, wearing exciting mannish cuts with racy femininity.

The models strutted down the catwalk, donning baby-beehives and heavy feline eyeliner, to an orchestra playing ‘Sympathy For The Devil’ by The Rolling Stones. For day - oversized trousers and cropped knits were mixed with seductive lace mini dresses and décolletage-baring bra-tops. But the eveningwear truly had the wow factor - featuring embellished star-print velvet, glamorous dresses and plunging necklines.

You all know Topshop is my favourite High Street brand so I’ve already started my wish list.

www.topshop.com
The Ibizan, Thursday 3rd March 2016, Issue 818                                    also online at theibizan.com

Health & Fitness

Beach Body Challenge

The Workout Club Ibiza

For you, our loyal Ibizan readers, we have developed a program that will get you back into training.

- Summer is peeking around the corner, are you beach body ready?
- At TWC Ibiza we help many people reach their fitness goals, and now its time to help you! The Workout Club Ibiza Beach Body Challenge.
- Especially for newbies, who prepare well are most likely to succeed in any fitness training, so it’s never too late to start.
- "We believe that you can do it, now you only need to believe in yourself." - Maria S, The Workout Club Ibiza

- Preparation. In all the years of helping people in Ibiza and all over the world with our online training programs, we have learnt that people who prepare well are most likely to succeed in reaching their fitness goals. So this is what you do first:
  1. Write down your fitness goals.
  2. Choose the best time to train.
  3. Find a fitness buddy.
  4. Cut out all processed sugars.

- Training together is so much more fun.
- Writing down your goals is very important. If you don’t know where you’re headed, you are going nowhere. Training is about you. So plan your YOU-time and aim to be consistent. You will form a habit just like brushing your teeth (you do run the risk of becoming addicted to training after the 30 days).
- Training together is so much more fun.
- And the good thing is that you can keep one another accountable.

- The TWC Ibiza Beach Body Program
- Before you start, make sure that you have a doctor’s clearing for exercise. Every day you will do only two simple exercises. The squat and the jumping jack. Is this all you need to do order to become the new super you?
- In the future you will need to add more exercises and resistance to keep on progressing. But for now these two exercises will make a great start. To motivate you even more, we will give away a prize to one person who completes the 30-day Challenge.

- All you need to do is train daily and for 30 days post a picture of you working out on Facebook with the tag #TWCibiza.
- We will select one winner who will receive 3 months of free training at The Workout Club Ibiza, as well as eternal glory.

- Are you ready to rumble?
- So now it’s your turn to become the best you can be. Follow our programme top left and if you have any questions, feel free to ask us anything on Facebook or Twitter. We will rush to feel free to ask us anything on Facebook at the top left and if you have any questions, feel free to ask us anything.

- We believe that you can do it, now you only need to believe in yourself! - Maria S, The Workout Club Ibiza

Pop Up Yoga @ Hostal La Torre

This week I had the pleasure of taking part in a Vinyasa flow yoga class courtesy of YogaOnIbiza Pop Up Yoga. YogaOnIbiza is the brainchild of The Workout Club Ibiza co-founder Marisa Van Welsen and respected island yoga teacher Anna McColl and Leanna Buchanan and classes have been popping up all over our gorgeous white island for several months now. Their aim is to provide a form of yoga accessible to all levels, in beautiful locations and they have struck gold in the beauty stakes by teaming up with Hostal La Torre in Cap Negret for weekly sessions every Wednesday at 17.30 – perfect timing to take in that legendary San Antonio sunset through the huge arched windows of the upper terrace.

I am not an experienced yogi, far from it having only done a handful of sessions, but was very keen to go along. I’ve been doing some pretty intense kettlebell fitness training, so thought a nice relaxing yoga session would be a good way to ease off and stretch out my aching muscles and wind down from the daily mission of keeping an ever increasingly energetic toddler entertained and safe!

It exceeded my expectations.

The space itself was light and airy but warm, with the sounds of the sea, wind and tranquil music creating a calm and peaceful atmosphere which was felt as soon as you entered. Leanna’s gentle voice and big smile added to the sense of warmth and calm and the slow, strong, breathing-led yoga that followed was sublime. A series of breathing and stretching exercises, downward dogs, planks, forward and back bends and various other poses, whose names have since escaped me, flowed together smoothly and lulled me into a kind of trance like state as I moved to the sounds of Leanna’s voice guiding us through, of the wind and music in the room and of my breath. At times Leanna moved around the room and of my breath. At times Leanna moved around and gently corrected our postures or eased our hunched, stressed shoulders down and I could hear the peaceful breathing as everyone in the room slowly let go of their tensions and worries in the fading sunlight.

It was pure, indulgent ‘me time’ when I didn’t worry about what Ela was up to (and how much I need to thank my darling husband for watching her so I could attend the class), wasn’t counting how many reps or sets I’d done or planning what to cook for dinner, instead, I thought about nothing at all other than the breathing and movement of the moment. Absolute bliss.

I floated out of there full of serenity and totally relaxed. The only downside was that the overcast sky prevented us from seeing the glorious colours of the setting sun – I’ll just have to go back another time. And I highly recommend that you do too.

Pop Up Yoga classes run every Wednesday at Hostal La Torre from 17.30 – 18.30 and cost just 10€. To book a place at this class, or any of the other locations – they pop up on various beaches and other locations around the island too – join the facebook group YogaOnIbiza.com Pop Up Yoga. The website YogaOnIbiza.com, where you can stay updated on future Pop Up classes, is due to launch soon.

The Ibiza Beach Body Challenge. Especially for newbies, who prepare well are most likely to succeed in any fitness training, so it’s never too late to start.

- "We believe that you can do it, now you only need to believe in yourself." - Maria S, The Workout Club Ibiza

- We believe that you can do it, now you only need to believe in yourself! - Maria S, The Workout Club Ibiza
Rugby Union

and after 3 matches of 5 for each team in the 6 Nations Championship. The gap is beginning to look like a straight England/Wales head to head with the latter two teams both playing well. England, at the end of last season, sit proudly at the top of the table, whilst Wales are 2nd, having won 2 of their 3 matches so far. With England now being the only team to win the Grand Slam by dint of Wales’ earlier draw in Dublin, it should be a cracker as the Red Rose rise revenge for their defeat by the Dragons in last year’s 6 Nations competition. Last weekend, the Dragons put up a good show against Italy, but it looks dire for Arsenal, having lost 2-0 at home to Barcelona, although to be fair Arsenal were certainly not embarrassed and could have been 2-0 up at the break. But, as we all know, missed chances don’t win matches and to make it worse, they were caught by two sucker punches in counter-attacks. Brilliant though for the English sides in the Europe as all 3 went through to the last 16, Man Utd with a 6-3 aggregate score over Mittjylland, Tottenham 3-1 over Fiorentina and Liverpool 1-0 over Augsburg. Shame then, that the draw threw up a Man U/ Liverpool tie, which, considering both club’s illustrious European history, is the first time the two have met in Europe.

Finally, in La Liga, looks as if Real Madrid’s challenge for Barca the title is all over as they lost 1-0, at home to book, to rivals Athletic Bilbao, while Barca opened up an 8 point lead over Real after their 2-1 home win against Sevilla. And absolutely finally, can’t quite get my head around the fact that Buffini infanino has been voted in as President of FIFA, this the same man who was General Secretary in the infamous Blatter for the best part of 12 years and where the money was going. The fact is, what was occurring when Blatter was supposedly taking and giving out bribes! As for the team, and I quote, "weak field 4/5 youngsters from their Academy, and, yes, you blew it". However, a result that had netted Sky TV pundit Graham Souness the team, and I quote, "weak field 4/5 youngsters from their Academy, and, yes, you blew it". However, a result that had netted Sky TV pundit Graham Souness.

Football

now, and the first of the season’s silverware, the (Capital One) League Cup, was up for grabs at Wembly on Sunday and what a match that turned out to be as favourites Manchester City were 1-1 with Hen Klopp’s Liverpool after extra-time. City should have been out of sight after 90 minutes with much-heralded strikers Aguero and Sterling missing a host of chances but cometh the hour, cometh the goalie as much-desired Willy Caballero saved 3 penalties in a row to give City the Cup, this after his recent howlers at the Bridge as Chelsea put 5 past him. Anyway, good on you mate, as us goalies must stick together! So the first Cup of City’s hopes for treble, but methinks could be the only one as in the Premier League, Leicester took another bold step towards the title, winning ugly at home to Naomi with an 89th minute winner to remain 2 points clear of the North London challenge from Tottenham after they took Swans 3-1 at the Lane. Up until last weekend it was a double North London challenge as Arsenal were only separated from Spurs by goal diff, but Here We Go Again must be the feeling of you Gunners fans, as your team faltered, surprise, surprise, when the going got tough vis-a-vis a 3-2 loss at OT to a Manchester United side under pressure and with 13 injured players, having to field 4/5 youngsters from their Academy, and, yes, you blew it. Again, a result that had netted Sky TV pundit Graham Souness calling the team, and I quote, "weak and insipid pussyfooters! However, well done United and the North London duo as they had confidence in their "kids" and are beginning to get back to some good form, and remain in 5th, only 3 points behind noisy neighbours City in that last CL slot. Elsewhere, West Ham scored the only goal in a win at home over Sunder-

land to stay in 6th, Southampton’s run of 6 unbeaten came to an end on the South coast as Huddersfield’s Chelsea, unbeaten in the League and Cup in 2015, are making up for their woeful first half of the season and came from behind to win 2-1. Stoke just beat bottom club Aston Villa 2-1 in the Potteries in what Sky TV pundit and Anfield legend Phil Thompson described as the "worst match this season". Watford dropped 2 points at home to Bournemouth in a stalemate and, finally West Bromwich almost gave up a 3-0 half-time lead at home to Crystal Palace but scrapped through to 2-1, important week as it’s a double header this week with both mid-week and w/end games in the Premier with Leicester playing West Brom and Watford, and Totten-ham at West Ham and then home to Arsenal so by next weekend we could be much closer to know-ing where the title’s going, or not, as the case may be!

Jezza’s Sports Report...

City take their first cup, but what odds the 3?

Sport
The construction sector in Spain contributed a total of 80,055 million euro to Spain’s GDP during the last quarter of 2015, which, according to the National Statistics Institute, is the highest figure in the last three years.

The last time that the sector generated a figure over 80,000 million euro was at the end of the third quarter of 2012. The last quarter of 2015 was the seventh consecutive quarter in which revenue generated from the construction sector increased each quarter. Nevertheless, while it is great news that the construction sector is back on track, the 80,000 million euro from the last quarter of 2015 is nothing in comparison to figures reached during the boom years. In fact, September – December’s total is just 57% of the 140,000 million euro reached during the second quarter of 2007, the best figure in the history of the sector. So, despite the fact that the construction sector is generating more money than it has done for a while, it is still almost half of what it was almost ten years ago.

The last time apart from in 2012 that figures of 80,000 million euro were registered was actually in 1998. However, let’s not forget that the construction sector is back on track, the 80,000 million euro from the last quarter of 2015 is nothing in comparison to figures reached during the boom years. In fact, September – December’s total is just 57% of the 140,000 million euro reached during the second quarter of 2007, the best figure in the history of the sector. So, despite the fact that the construction sector is generating more money than it has done for a while, it is still almost half of what it was almost ten years ago.

The last time apart from in 2012 that figures of 80,000 million euro were registered was actually in 1998. However, the recovery of the construction sector is one related to mortgages. Last year, a total of 244,827 mortgages were granted – almost 20% more than in 2014. As expected, this is a long way off the number awarded between the years of 2005 and 2007, when the norm was around the 1 million mark.


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18500m² plot
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5 beds
355m² built on
5085m² plot
Roca Llisa

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1,900,000€
6 beds
302m² built on
2653m²
Cala Carbo

Ref: 359
2,100,000€
7 beds
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