

Tamariu

Catalonia is a region of contrasts; the Costa Brava boasts long beautiful sandy beaches and hidden secluded rocky coves. Against the turquoise, green and navy blue sea rise steep cliffs or luscious banks of pine forests. With over a millennium of cultural heritage from both France and Spain, Catalonia is proud of its unique heritage and customs.

The Costa Brava is the most beautiful of all the Spanish coastlines, then Tamariu and the surrounding area must be the jewel in the crown. With steep cliffs and pine covered hills tumbling down to the Mediterranean and simple village houses and open-air cafes surrounding a lovely beach, Tamariu has a special kind of magic that draws the visitor back year after year.

A superb stretch of the Spanish coastline with rocky cliffs opening to pictures coves. The rugged terrain has meant that the developers have avoided the area, leaving an unspoilt paradise reserved for you alone to enjoy. Tamariu is a tiny fishing village with cottages and open air cafes surrounding a golden sandy beach. The steep cliffs and wooded hills add to the beauty and magic of this place.

Around the headland is Aigua Gelida, a beautiful rocky cove with two tiny but very pretty beaches. The pine forests here go right down to the sea and there is some spectacular scenery along the coast. All in all this makes for a lovely area in which to spend your holiday and relax under the Mediterranean sun. Tamariu is situated about 70 miles south of the French border and lies in a small-secluded bay between the towns of Begur and Palafrugell. Small coves set amongst rugged tree-lined



cliffs, crystal clear water and beautiful beaches have made the area famous the world over for its beauty. Originally a small fishing village, Tamariu has not been over developed and has retained its identity and charm. There are some new villas and apartments on the edge of the village and, like everywhere, the village centre and beach gets busy in August.

The main beach in Tamariu is extremely clean, extends around the bay and is nearly all sand. The water is crystal clear and ideal for swimming. The beach, especially on the right hand side, shelves at a fairly gentle angle in to the water. From the beach you can hire small inflatable motorboats, canoes and pedaloes at quite reasonable rates. The waters around Begur and Palafrugell are believed to be the cleanest and purest on the whole coast.

As well as the main beach at Tamariu, there are many other beaches within easy reach and it is difficult to know where to start. On a two week holiday you could almost choose a different beach to visit each day. Alternatively, if you don't feel that energetic, just sit on Tamariu's beautiful beach, relax and watch everyone else rush around! Sailing boats, windsurfers and kayaks can usually be hired from a few locations along the coast but the companies organising this seem to change almost every year and it is difficult to provide reliable brochure information.

You will not find night clubs, discos and pubs on every corner, but there are numerous cafes and bars, especially on the waterfront and village centre that stay open quite late. From late June until mid September, Sardanas, the traditional Catalan folk dancing usually takes place about once a week on the sea front - locals and visitors, young and old, are all welcome to join in. On a Saturday night during July and August, you will often find a group of



musicians playing on the promenade and you can join in the impromptu dancing - or just sit with a glass of wine and enjoy the atmosphere. There is one very small disco (better described as a small bar with minute dance floor) but Tamariu is essentially a village community and for organised entertainment you will need to go further a field.

Begur, Santa Tuna, Aigua Freda y Sta. Riera

The old town of Begur is found high on a hilltop, presiding over the surrounding Catalan countryside, offering her visitors fantastic views, interesting cobbled streets and narrow tree lined roads to explore. The central square is an ideal resting place to sit and enjoy the Catalan way of life over a glass of the excellent local wine, made from grapes grown in the nearby hills.

Begur is a town which has attractions for old and young alike with plenty of cafes and restaurants staying open well into the early hours. As with many of the beautiful towns and villages in the region, Begur is just a few minutes drive from the rugged coastline with its many hidden sandy coves of the picturesque fishing villages such as Sa Tuna and Aigua Freda. A car is essential to enjoy this area. Sa Riera nestles in a picturesque cove surrounded by high, rugged hills in which many of our villas are situated. The views from most of the properties in this area are stunning, looking out over the green forests and across the deep blue Mediterranean. For sun worshippers,

Sa Riera has an excellent beach surrounded by shops and restaurants in which to take refuge from the midday heat of high season. Colourful fishing boats anchored in the cove and resting ashore provide a traditional fishing village atmosphere.



Lanfranc

The lovely bay of Llafranc with its pine trees reaching to the water edge, is just a short walk round the headland from Calella. It has a wide, sandy, crescent shaped beach backed by a shady promenade where you will find a selection of bars, restaurants and hotels. An ideal spot to sit and watch the world go by! At one end of the beach there is a small safe harbour for visiting yachtsmen, while the interesting, flourishing market town of Palafrugell is only five minutes away by car, taxi or the frequent bus service.

L'Escala

L'Escala is an old fishing town situated on the southern shore of the Gulf of Roses. Over the years it has become a popular holiday destination offering a wide range of activities.

For those with plenty of energy there are numerous activities such as jet skiing, windsurfing, sailing and boat trips, discos, nightclubs and plenty of bars. However, for those looking for a more relaxing time there are some fabulous beaches, concerts, Sardana dancing (the Catalan Folk Dance), restaurants, and narrow shopping streets to explore.

The Greek and Roman ruins at Empúries, dating back to 575 B.C. and the attractive hill top village of Sant Marti are well worth a visit. An added advantage is that once at L'Escala a car is not essential.

Torroella de l'estartic

The small market town of Torroella de Montgri is on the crossing point of the river Ter, almost mid way between Pals and L'Estartit. Between Torroella de Montgri and L'Estartit on the on the lower slopes of the Montgri Massif is the pleasant development of Torre Gran. Ideally placed for the



shopping, restaurants and beaches are all within a few minutes drive. The area also offers a wide diversity of activities from water sports, go carting, to the more cultural Torroella de Montgri International Music Festival, which includes numerous concerts throughout the summer months.

Calella de Parafrugel

Originally a tiny fishing village, Calella has grown into a charming, small resort where development has been strictly controlled so that the original charm and beauty of the sea front and old village have been unaffected. The beach front is most picturesque, with a series of small sandy bays protected by rocky outcrops. In place of high rise development, the emphasis is generally on small well-planned apartment blocks in wooded landscaped gardens. Calella will meet many peoples' idea of a perfect resort, large enough to contain excellent amenities including good restaurants, bars, shops and facilities for a large variety of sports, yet small enough to avoid the package tour excesses.