

MALLORCA

48 hours in... Mallorca

Adam Coulter suggests a two-day itinerary to make the most of what the Spanish island has to offer

Day 1

8am Breakfast at the five-star Marriott Son Antem Golf Resort & Spa, a 142-room property in the hills near Palma.

9am If work is on the agenda, the hotel has the 284m² Son Antem Ballroom, which seats 350 and divides into four smaller salons. There are ten meeting rooms, all offering wi-fi, with 5,027m² of meeting space in total. Incentive groups have the island's two best golf courses on their doorstep, the Marriott Son Antem East and West. Both are 18-hole and 72 par, and are available for rentals and lessons. Non-golfers can check out the spa, with a range of treatments including massage and a steam room; a huge swimming pool; or choose from other more energetic activities including horse-riding, sailing, water-skiing and bowling, all available nearby.

2pm Lunch at Bahia Mediterraneo, arguably the most stunningly situated of Palma's restaurants, which provides some of the best views of the city from its outdoor terrace.

5pm Head out on a Palma city tour and explore the streets of this Barcelona-in-miniature. Wander along the main tree- and café-lined boulevard Passeig des Born and dive into the tiny, winding streets, packed with bars, cafés, specialist shops and little squares. Head up towards the breathtaking Palma Cathedral, an enormous gothic masterpiece and one of the largest cathedrals in Europe.

8pm Back at the hotel, enjoy a cocktail reception at the Es Trenc Pool Bar, followed by an informal BBQ.

BEN KIRCHNER/HEART AGENCY



Day 2

9am Breakfast at the hotel before taking a tour of the island's west coast for stunning panoramas. The coastal road has the dramatic Tramuntana mountain range on one side and steep drops to the sparkling Mediterranean on the other. Stop off for a coffee and a wander around pretty Port d'Andratx before following the winding road up to Deià, a strong contender for the island's most beautiful village. Explore the home of poet Robert Graves and wander down to the tiny sheltered beach.

1pm Lunch at El Olivo, the former Richard Branson-owned luxury hotel with rooms built up into the rock face and popular with everyone from the King and Queen of Spain downwards. The hotel tumbles down in a series of terraces to pretty patios and small buildings. The restaurant of the same name is one of the best on the island. After a long lunch, cool off in the hotel pool or wander back down to the beach.

5pm Transfer to Valldemossa, another beautiful village which was home for many years to George Sand and Chopin, and visit the spartan cells in the monastery.

7pm Transfer back to the hotel for time to freshen up.

8pm Transfer to Palma for dinner in La Boveda, one of the best tapas restaurants in town in the heart of the old quarter, La Lonja, then sample the city's many bars, restaurants and clubs.

Overleaf, a round-up of the latest developments, plus Thomas Cook's Corporate Lowdown

