

Travel

On Page
30

Once the capital of Spanish Morocco, it is forgotten by tourists
Tahir Shah on Tétouan





Go native in the real Majorca

20 rural retreats

High summer on Majorca. Hot, hectic, with stratospheric hotel prices and beaches crammed with bodies. So why not forget the beach resorts and head instead to the mountains and agricultural plains, dotted with more than a hundred agroturismo properties, where you stay on a farm and eat locally grown food.

Agroturismo in Majorca encompasses everything from simple farm stays to

luxurious hotels in converted *estancias*. The best time to go is September and October, when the weather is still warm, prices are lower and the island is quieter.

1 For romantics *Es Mirabó de Valldemossa*

Hidden away up a winding track, Es Mirabó is a former private *finca* that dates back to the 1500s. Simply but comfortably furnished with beautiful views make this a fabulous retreat. The house is elegant but informal — slouchy white sofas in the lounge and a kitchen that runs on an honesty system, stocked with drinks and snacks. In the evenings sip rosé and watch the houses of Valldemossa melt away.

Details Double rooms from €140 (£115) B&B (00 34 661 285215, mirabo.es)

2 For minimalists *Can Simoneta, Canyamel*

Rooms are sleek and minimalist, the manicured grounds are ideal for lazing and the restaurant offers elegant morsels of



The historic Sa Pedrissa, top (3), is a site of cultural interest with stunning sea views and a stylish restaurant. And Es Ratxo, (12) hidden away in a valley, has top spa facilities

painstakingly prepared food. **Details** Doubles from €185 B&B (00 34 971 81 61 10, cansimoneta.com)

3 For heritage *Sa Pedrissa, Deià*

The former home of Archduke Louis Salvador of Austria, Sa Pedrissa has been

decreed a site of cultural interest by the Spanish Government, and the house is steeped in history. There are eight rooms, some with glorious sea views, and an elegant restaurant where Victor Artigues, the chef, whips up spectacular suppers of fish and succulent meat. Alternative therapies and yoga are available in the spa. **Details** Doubles from €160 B&B (00 34 971 639 111, sapedrissa.com)

4 For fashionistas *Cases de Son Barbassa, Capdepera*

Cases de Son Barbassa offers a similar vibe to Ibiza; white drapes billowing around beds by the pool, elegant rooms with exposed brickwork, wooden beams and a chic restaurant serving modern Mediterranean dishes. An added bonus is the location, tucked away on the lesser-known northeast corner of the island, close to the medieval town of Capdepera and the west coast beaches.

Details Doubles from €95 B&B (00 34 971 565776, sonbarbassa.com)



8 For old school charm

welcome is warm and breakfasts on the

growing was restarted on the estate in



Clockwise from main picture: The stunning Cases de Son Barbassa



10 For simplicity Can Guilló, Pollença

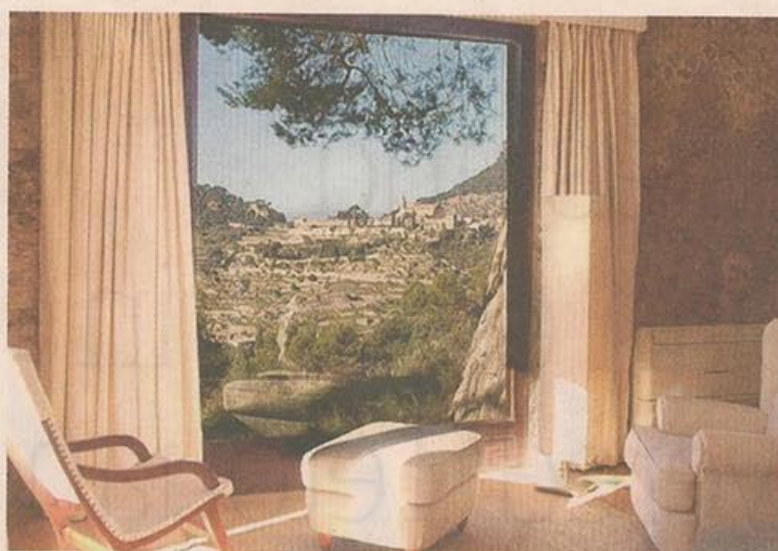
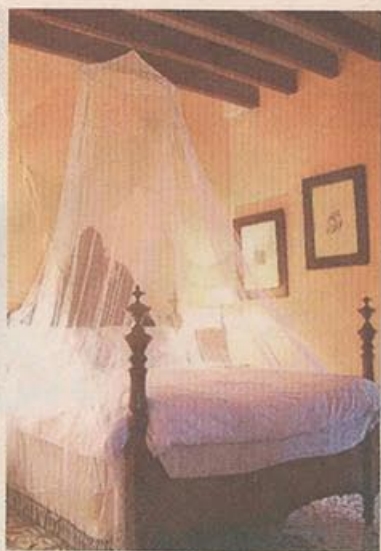
gardens
Details
(00 34 6

11 For
S'Oliv

The rest
is renew
island. A
terrace,
and bea
dotted v
Details
(00 34 9

12 For
Es Ra

Rural ho
facilitie
souther
Moorish
with pre
bitherm
includin
The hot
bottom
Details



Clockwise from main picture: The stunning

10 For simplicity

gardens that blaze with colour. Blissful. **Details** Doubles from €85 B&B (00 34 687 896 815, canguillo.com)

11 For foodies
S'Olivaret, Alaro

The restaurant at S'Olivaret, Es Lledoner, is renowned as one of the best on the island. As well as indulgent suppers on the terrace, S'Olivaret has 23 luxurious rooms and beautifully furnished lounge areas, dotted with antiques and art. **Details** Doubles from €150 B&B (00 34 971 510 889, solivaret.com)

12 For spa-lovers
Es Ratxo, Puigpunyent

Rural hotels aren't always big on spa facilities so Es Ratxo, tucked away in the southern Tramuntana, is a real find. The Moorish-designed spa has an indoor pool with pressure jets, a sauna and steam bath, bithermal showers and treatments including Thai and Ayurveda massages. The hotel is off a long winding road at the bottom of a valley, surrounded by gardens

Children are positively welcomed, with games, books, DVDs and a big pool. It has spacious, comfortable lounges, a pretty patio and a good selection of wines. **Details** Doubles from €132 B&B, cottages for four from €210. (00 34 971 54 96 62, sonsiurana.com)

14 For a movie moment
Hotel Juma, Pollença

It's not luxurious, hip or even strictly rural, but when you open the shutters on a sunny morning and the cobbled square of Pollença is before you, with waiters unstacking chairs and children scurrying to school, it does feel like a scene from a film. The Juma is a sweet, simple, family-run hotel. **Details** Doubles from €80 B&B, (pollensahotels.com)

15 For beach life
Son Marimon, Santanyi

A rural escape doesn't have to be miles from the sea — Son Marimon is only 3km from the untouched beach at

16 For scenery
C'an Reus, Fornalutx

Fornalutx is one of the prettiest places on the island and the view of the Tramuntana peaks from C'an Reus is breathtaking. The former 19th-century home of a wealthy citrus importer, the hotel has kept the feel of a private house. **Details** Doubles from €120 (00 34 971 631 174, canreushotel.com).

17 For isolation
Scotts Galilea, Galilea

Tucked away in the tiny hamlet of Galilea, high in the southern Tramuntana, Scotts has three cottages and seven studio suites, each with south-facing terraces for maximum viewing potential. **Details** Doubles from €140 room only (00 34 971 870 100, scottsgalilea.com)

18 For art-lovers
Son Foguero, Maria de la Salut

Son Foguero is the creation of Pere Alaman, an artist, and his wife, Antonia, an interior designer. The five suites are lushly decorated, with Alaman's works on the clean white walls. The house is surrounded by jacaranda and fruit trees and has a romantic pool area. **Details** Doubles from €200 B&B (00 34 971 525 343, sonfoguero.com)

19 For veggies
Finca Es Castell, Binibona

At Es Castell the ebullient host James ensures that vegetarians are well catered for. Suppers are taken on the roof terrace after lazy days around the pool or a walk through the foothills of the Tramuntana. **Details** Doubles from €130 B&B (00 34 971 875 154, fincaescastell.com)

20 For horticulturalists
Posada des Moli, Es Pillari