

COVENTRY CTC GROUP – MALLORCA 23

HOLIDAY INFORMATION - BY MIKE THOMAS

DRAFT 18th September 2022

INTRODUCTION

Following the success of this years Mallorca holiday we have decided to run the holiday again in 2023 using the same Polenca Park and Spa Hotel. This was popular with comfortable rooms and a big choice of buffet food, and a great atmosphere due to the number of keen cyclists.

For many years Mallorca has been a very popular destination for both top level racing teams and recreational cyclists. Cyclists are wonderfully catered for with a number of dedicated cycle paths and fabulous scenic roads. Port Pollenca provides a variety of terrain; three peninsulas, coast, the rolling centre of the island, and the challenging Tramantana mountains.

The dates we have chosen in late April are after the training teams have left, and before the main holiday season starts in May. Temperatures should be ideal then, but some of the sightseeing trips and cafes may not be open.

The holiday is based on a Jet2 package which is very flexible with flights and accommodation options. Members will make their own bookings.

The intention is to plan a series of rides with dedicated leaders. We also plan to arrange transport to take us with our bikes to places to visit and enjoy a linear ride back, to reduce the amount of ascents, and route repetition. The walking options from the hotel usually have an opportunity to swim and bird watching.

For Mallorca 23 we hope to offer an option for a day's sailing

HOLIDAY BOOKINGS

Members need to make their own bookings with Jet2 for the holiday.

<https://www.jet2holidays.com/balearics/majorca/puerto-pollensa/pollensa-park-and-spa>

The nominal start date is Thursday April 20th for 10 nights but members can be flexible with their duration. Bookings can be made for B&B, half board and all inclusive. This year we all booked the half-board option which included free wine, beer and soft drinks in the restaurant, but the quality of the drinks was not the best. If you are unsure about which option to book you can pay for an upgrade at the hotel. Once booked please confirm with an email to mike999thomas@gmail.com



FITNESS REQUIREMENTS

Its always difficult to decide if you are fit enough for tours and fixed base holidays. The attraction for this holiday is the Tramantana Mountains and surrounding areas which demand a reasonable degree of fitness. Members need be able to comfortably do the Intermediate club rides.

WEATHER

In April There is a 54% chance of a perfect sunny day and a 46% chance of seeing some clouds, with on average only 5mm of rainfall. Temperatures are generally excellent for cycling, but for sunbathing it can be cool. Visitors are recommended to take warmer clothes especially for venturing out in the evening. The average daily maximum is 17 C and the average daily minimum is 6 C.

INSURANCE

To comply with Jet2 terms and conditions you must take out adequate travel insurance. <https://www.jet2holidays.com/terms-and-conditions>

All Cycling UK members are covered for third party insurance worldwide and there's increased cover for registered leaders. For this reason all members on the holiday must be

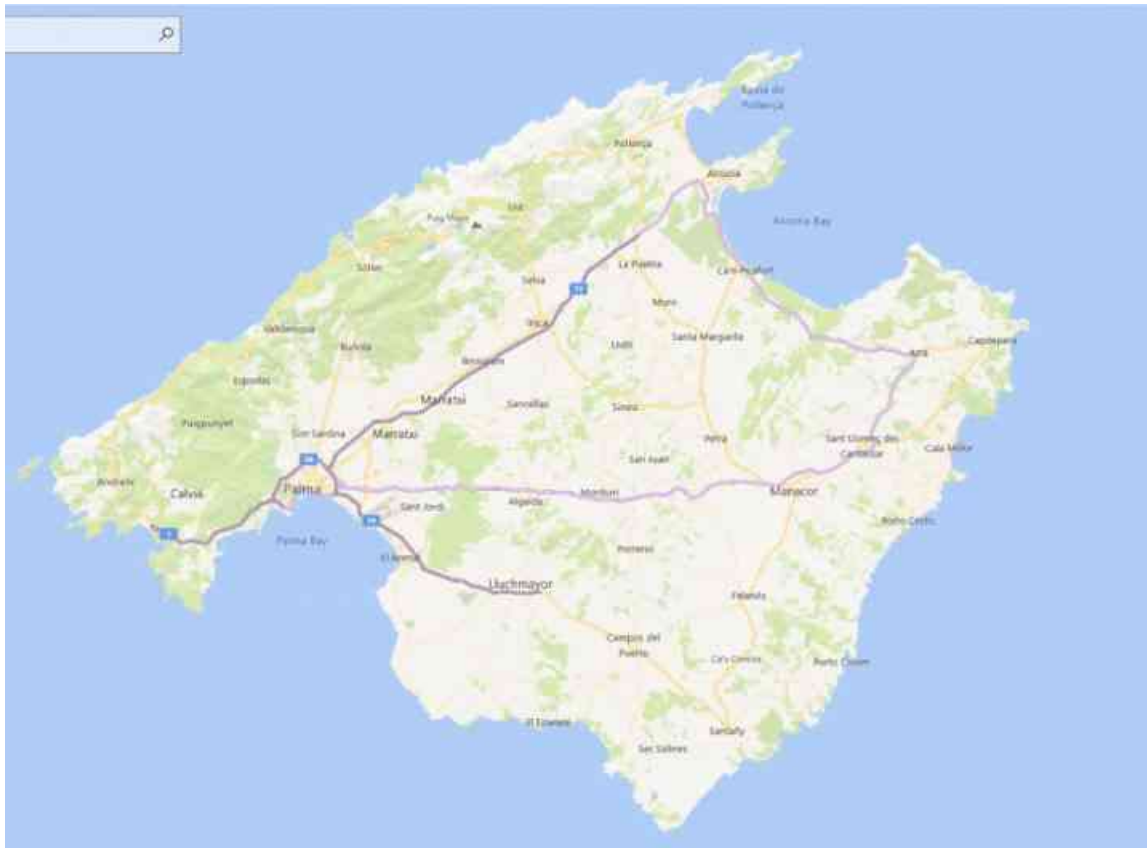
members.

Please ensure that you have a valid EHIC card. If this has expired, apply for a replacement and you'll get a GHIC, which provides reciprocal health cover for participating countries.

When arranging insurance check the small print to ensure it covers for cycling, and any conditions such as wearing helmets.

PASSPORT

British visitors' passports **MUST** be valid for at least 6 months to enter the EU, and be less than 10 years old (even if it has 6 months validity or more left). [See if your passport needs renewing.](#) Check also that you have a clear page in your passport as it will need to be stamped with your travel date when you're travelling to and from the EU.



BIKES

About 2/3 of the members on this year's holiday hired bikes, and were pleased with them. This often gave them a chance to try a modern bike. The downsides of hiring bikes is that

they have standard group sets which don't have low enough gear ratios for those of us of a certain age! It's more cost effective to take your own bike the longer you go for. I **strongly recommend** arranging to hire a bike as soon as you book to avoid disappointment.

This year bikes were hired from 2 places with good service from both; Pro Cycle Hire is opposite the hotel <https://www.procyclehire.com/> and Ultimate Bike Hire will deliver bikes ultimatebikere@com Both can be contacted by phone.

If you take your own bike you need to arrange this when you book your flight. There's a separate charge for bike transfers from the airport to the hotel. The total cost is about £90. You need to box your bike with either a purpose made box or one from a bike shop which was used for delivering bikes. If anyone needs help with this just let me know; it's no big deal.

CYCLE RIDES

The choice of rides from Port Pollença is endless with routes into the centre of the island with sight seeing opportunities, in the Tramantana Mountains to stretch the legs, along the scenic Formentor Peninsula, and onto the other scenic peninsulas in the north of Mallorca.



I intend to develop the rides from last year to offer more choice, and these will be distributed on a schedule with nominated ride leaders. These will include more rides using bike transport to offer linear rides, and some more demanding rides. I can circulate this year's rides if you can't wait!



WALKS

There are plenty of walking options from Port Pollenca and beyond. The footpaths tend to be rugged limestone, but the rewards are bird life, scenic views and swimming opportunities. I will circulate these in a schedule later.

SAILING

Mike Aston has kindly offered to explore the opportunity to hire a yacht for one of the days, and I'll circulate details of this when Mike has worked out costs etc.

SIGHTSEEING SUGGESTIONS

The public bus services are excellent on Mallorca, and there are stops 10 mins from the hotel. But these services are somewhat seasonal as are many of the boat trips etc. A good train service operates between Palma and Inca and to Manacor.

Puerto Pollenca: Visit the market 0900-1300 on Wednesdays

Palma: A full day sight-seeing in Palma by local bus service 340. The bus journey takes about 90 mins.

Pollenca: Take the bus service 345 or a taxi to the old town of Pollenca – explore the old winding streets and climb the steps to the Calvary

S'Albufereta/S'Albufera Wetlands: A haven for bird-spotting. Easily accessible by bus

service 352.

Alcudia: Take the bus service 352 to visit the old town or the port area

EMERGENCIES

All members on the holiday should have their 'in case of emergency' details on their phone.

Before the holiday I'll send out a note asking members for insurance, medication , and next of kin

Below is a list of emergency services.:

Medical Centres: Public Medical Centre – UBS Port de Pollenca, Carrer de Vincenc Buades, 45.

Tel: +34 971 86 56 81 . Or ask Hotel Reception to assist.

Public Hospitals: Centre de Salut "EsSafrà", Alcudia, Tel : +34 971 54 97 77. Open 24 hrs, accepts EHICs

University Hospital Son Espases, Ctra. deValldemossa 7907010 Palma de Mallorca, Spain, Tel: +34 871 205 000.

This is a new, large hospital and has an accident and emergency department.

Pharmacy: On the sea-front.

Emergency numbers:

ANY EMERGENCY 112

National Police 091

Local Police 092

Guardia Civil 062

Ambulance/ medical emergency 061

British Consulate Palma 971 712445