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The 60 best holidays in Spain for 2017



Albarracín, in the Aragon region, is on the slopes of a mountain and is almost completely surrounded by the Guadalaviar river

- [Annie Bennett](#), DESTINATION EXPERT

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Planning a holiday to [Spain](#)? Read our guide to the best regions, including expert advice on where to go in Catalonia, Aragon, Valencia, Andalusia, the Balearic and Canary Islands, as well as recommendations on getting there. By Annie Bennett, Telegraph Travel Spain expert. **To read the full article please visit <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/destinations/europe/spain/articles/spain-summer-holidaysguide/>**

Getting there

By air

14 airlines fly direct between the UK and Spain – between them, to over two dozen Spanish destinations. As well as the likes of easyJet and Ryanair, there are less familiar airlines such as Vueling and Norwegian. Use [skyscanner.net](#) to research who flies where and fares – but before booking, calculate extra charges for checking in bags and so forth.

By ferry

Brittany Ferries (0871 244 1400; [brittany-ferries.co.uk](#)) currently has the monopoly on UK-Spain sailings. Its ferries operate twice a week Portsmouth-Bilbao, three times a week Portsmouth-Santander (one crossing is a fewer-frills, cheaper "économique" service), and once a week Plymouth-Santander. Fares are pricey in peak periods, much more reasonable at other times.

Read our [full guide to ferry crossings to Spain](#)

By train

A direct TGV service operates between Paris (Gare de Lyon) and Barcelona, taking just over 6 1/2 hours. Combined with Eurostar from London to Paris, you can travel from London to Barcelona in around 10 1/2 hours. Book on [uk.voyages-sncf.com](#). For rail travel within Spain, turn to [renfe.com](#). [seat61.com](#) gives invaluable advice on rail travel to and within Spain.

Car hire

Rip-off "full-empty" fuel policies, and other petrol scams, are all too common in Spain. Consider booking through Enjoy Car Hire (0845 900 3727; [enjoycarhire.com](#)): the broker deals only with car hire companies which have fair fuel policies. Also note that rental companies generally impose excessive excess waiver charges: stand-alone alternatives – see [moneymaxim.co.uk](#) – are much better value.

"Getting there" advice by Fred Mawer