

Food for Thought

Bruce Gibson of Villa Spain reveals the top places to sample authentic local fare in the sun-kissed Costa Blanca region.



MUNICIPAL MARKET - JAVEA

Located in a former convent in the vintage town of Javea, this indoor market is a wonderfully atmospheric location for browsing, sampling and savouring the best local produce the region has to offer. Boasting 800sqm dedicated to cheeses, cold/cured meats and poultry, seafood, fruits, vegetables, pickles and preserves, not to mention rustic breads and pastries; breakfast, lunch and dinner simply meld into one big tasting menu.

THE RASTRO - PEDREQUER

Not just bric-a-brac hunting ground, but the perfect place for sampling exceptional fruit and vegetables from local producers. Prices are competitive too. 2kg of tomatoes will set you back the princely sum of just 1 Euro.

CASA PEPA - ONDARRA

Sublime creative food served in a tranquil country house setting. Michelin guide recommended. Don't forget to visit the restaurant's fabled wine cellar. www.casapepa.es

VALENCIA

The ideal day-tripping city and easy to reach by train, Valencia gracefully mixes new and old, with





modern public services, business establishments and leisure attractions, all moving against a backdrop of historically important civic and religious buildings, monuments and museums. Among these are the Fine Arts Museum, Modern Art Museum, Ceramics Museum, Taurine Museum, Fallas Museum and the City of Arts and Sciences. Foodies should head for the indoor market. The pride of Valencia, the Mercado Central is brimming with authentic Valencian produce. Buy ingredients for your evening meal, or find rare Valencian delicacies for the ultimate take-home souvenir.

WHERE TO STAY

A stunning four-bedroom property that mixes quintessential Spanish charm with contemporary living and design, Finca Badowa is situated within the national park and nature reserve of Montgo and near the charming boutique town of 'Jesus Pobre'. The area is a walkers' and nature lovers' paradise and has the added benefit of being just a short drive to the sandy beaches of Javea and Denia. For rental rates visit: www.villaspain.co.uk

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- Stunning villa with traditional/modern style
- Large private grounds with 10 x 5 m pool
- Spacious 4 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms
- Modern kitchen with all appliances
- Rental between £795 - £1,690 per week

Website has live availability, virtual tour, picture gallery, aerial view and unbiased grading

villaspain.co.uk tel: 01273 623723