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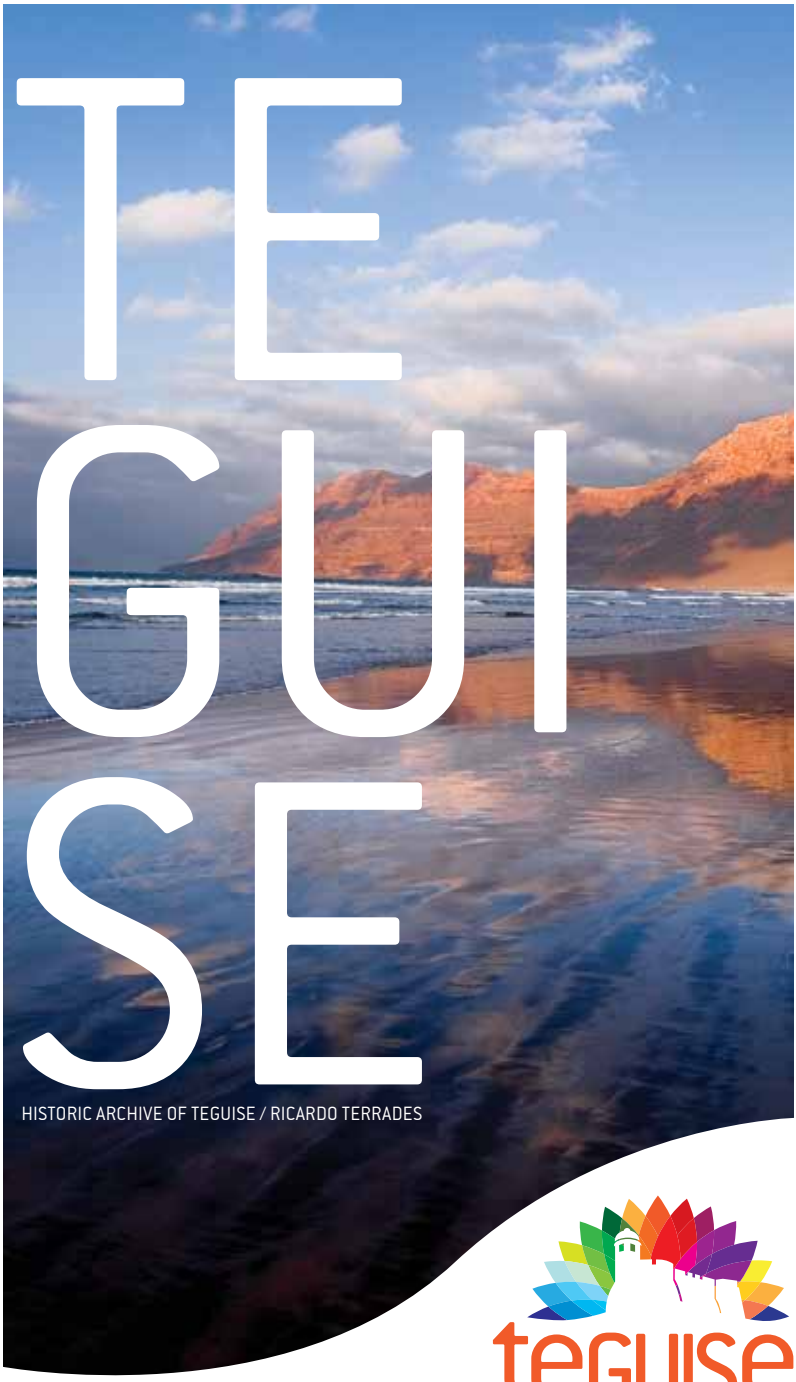
TEGUISE



HISTORIC ARCHIVE OF TEGUISE / RICARDO TERRADES

LANZAROTE

teguise

a sun full of history

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This guide has been specially designed for visitors of Teguise. In its pages we will explain everything you need to know about Teguise, looking back at its history, visiting it town by town, and showing you the fantastic variety of its beaches, the activities that you can enjoy here, etc.

This publication has been created by people who are from here, who are proud to give you a closer look into the place where they live and have grown up. Only in this way can a personal point of view, one which is genuinely close to the reality of the place, be transmitted. The book's text, the design of its pages and its photographs all aim to communicate the essence of Teguise in all its splendour and to encompass everything that it has to offer.

We hope that, if you have yet to discover Teguise, these pages will give you everything you need to know to come visit us. And if you have already spent some time in our municipality, maybe we will be able to surprise you in some way, showing you facets that you had not seen before or images which will call you back to this captivating place.

The journey is about to begin. Turn the page and take a step closer to Teguise - so much awaits you.

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un sol lleno de historia

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Occidental Alegro Oasis
Playa Verde
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Beatriz Costa & Spa
Albatros club
Hotel-Apartamento
Hotel-Apartment
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Lanzarote Bay
Lanzarote Gardens
Residenciales
Residential Siedlung
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Las Coronas
Playa Bastián
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Aquarius
Las Gaviotas
Apartamentos
Apartments
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Mansión Nazaret
Las Marinas Club Resort
Santa Rosa
Lanzarote Paradise
Timanfaya Golf
Molino de Guatiza
Camel Spring
El Guarapo
Oasis Lanz Club
Punta Jablillo
Neptuno
Galeón Playa
Barceló la Galea
Puerto Tahiche
Ocean
Nazaret
Celeste
Los Ficus
Sol
El Trébol
Los Zocos
Club Timanfaya
Club Siroco
Teguisol
Las Arenas
Sands Beach Resort
Club Tahití
Tabaiba Center
Golf y Mar

Teguise is one of the seven municipalities that the island of Lanzarote is divided into today, and it is without a doubt the one that enjoys the richest history and traditions. Lanzarote was the first island in the Canary Islands archipelago to be explored by European seafarers, probably because it is the northernmost of the islands and the closest to the continent.

Between 1320 and 1339, the Italian seafarer Lancelotto Malocello arrived at Lanzarote and gave it his name. In 1402, the Frenchman Jean de Béthencourt arrived and defeated *Guadarfía*, the Guanche king, or *Mencey*, of the island. And so Lanzarote became the first annexed island of the Kingdom of Castile, coming under its rule and vassalage.

What we know of today as the Real Villa de Teguise stands above the Gran Aldea of the *majos* of Lanzarote (the former inhabitants of the island) which, according to Viera y Clavijo, the natives called "Acatife". The place received the name of Teguise in honour of Princess Teguise, daughter of King *Guadarfía* and wife of Maciot de Béthencourt, the nephew of Jean de Béthencourt. The city enjoyed prosperity and rapid economic growth, which made it the target of numerous attacks by pirates, privateers and criminals during the 16th and 17th centuries.

Teguise as seen from the interior of the Castle of Santa Bárbara

Convent of San Francisco

Real Villa de Teguise is the heart of the municipality and, thanks to its historical legacy, it has been declared a national heritage site. Teguise is possibly the best-preserved historic centre in all of the Canary Islands, since it did not undergo any major alterations in the 19th and 20th centuries. The precarious economic situation of this municipality at the beginning of modern times and the impact of the discontent caused by its losing the status of island capital to Arrecife, in 1852, led to a terrible downturn in the local economy, causing it to miss the train of urban renovation projects and other contemporary movements which, had they taken hold on the town, would have had devastating effects upon its original buildings.

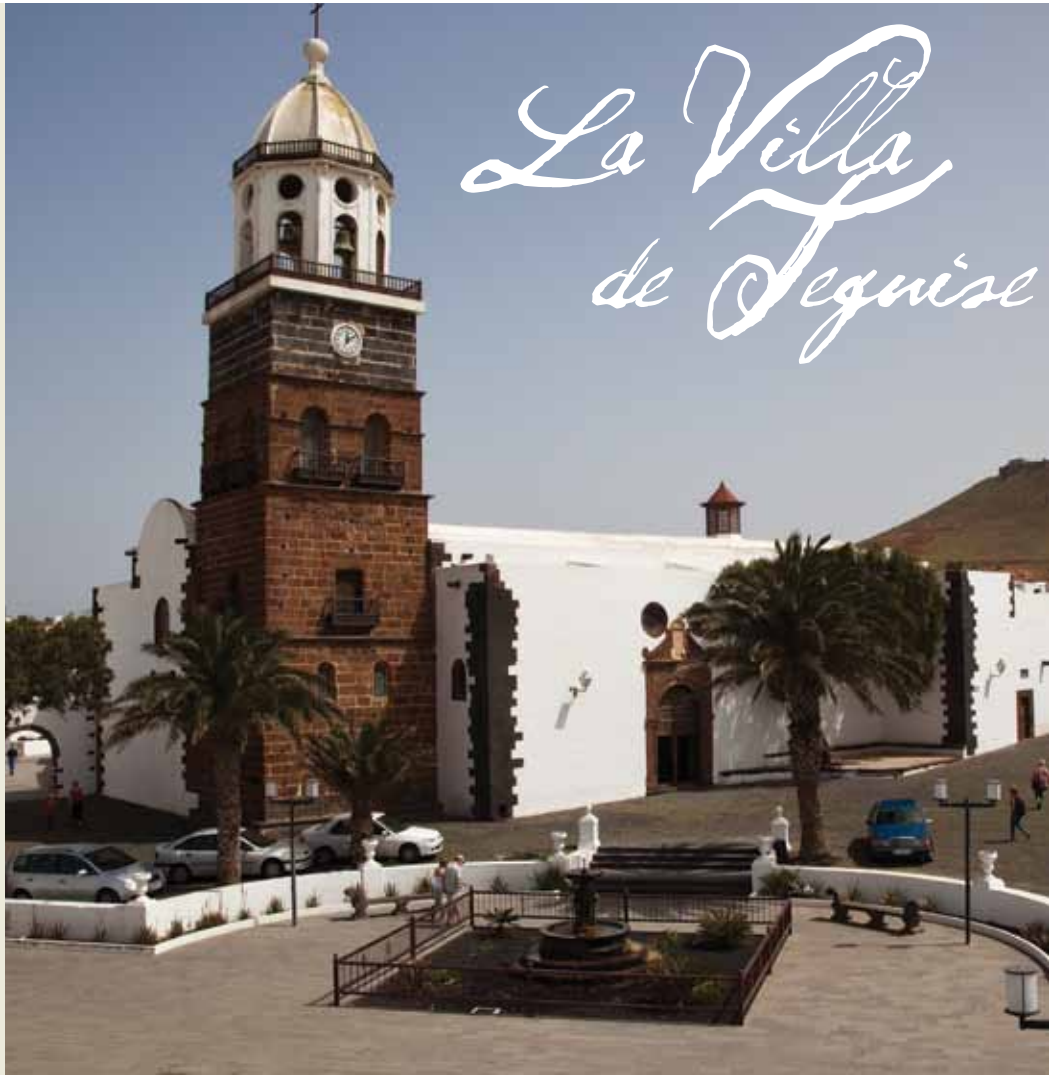
Teguise today, and especially since the municipality has been blessed by tourism's arrival to the area, continues to fight to stop any changes being made to its streets, which have, interestingly, become one of the island's top cultural attractions. As such, a stroll through Teguise in the 21st century is the closest one can get in the Canary Islands to stepping back in time to when our grandparents were still young. Villa de Teguise has been able to preserve a taste of the genuinely antique.

1. PLAZA DE LA CONSTITUCIÓN

Also known as Plaza de San Miguel, this square is located right in the centre of Teguise, and is presided over by Lanzarote's main church, dedicated to Our Lady of Guadalupe. The square was reworked by Leonardo Torriani in around 1590, and again by Pedro del Castillo, in 1686. Following a series of improvements, by the beginning of the 20th century the structure of the square was very similar to that of today and the two statues of lions, designed by Francisco Spínola, had also been incorporated. Around the 1940s, the fountain was added, as well as the benches made using Arucas stone, with Luís Ramírez González being the main contributor.

2. 2. TIMPLE MUSEUM / PALACIO SPÍNOLA

This building is situated in the Plaza de la Constitución and is considered to be one of the most important constructions of its type in the Canary Islands. It is a stately home which, with its facade alone - the stairway leading up to the oversized doorway and the six lintelled windows - announces the architectural splendour contained within its walls.. Of particular interest are its structure, its rough stone roof above the beams, the kitchen, the chapel, and the courtyards, complete with cisterns. It was the home of the Feo Peraza family from the beginning of the 18th century and was previously known as "La casa de las inquisidoras" (The house of the inquirers), as it was once the headquarters of the Tribunal of the Holy Office, more commonly known as the Spanish Inquisition. In the latter half of the 20th century, a descendent of the Feo family, Adelina Feo Curbelo, entered into wedlock with Ángel Spínola Cancio, with this event marking the first time that this surname appears in connection to the house's history. In the seventies it was worked on by the architect Fernando Higueras and decorated by José Domínguez del Río and César Manrique. In 1989, it was the official residence of the Canary Island Government. Since 2011, it is the Timple Museum where the origins and modern history of this typical instrument are on exhibit.



Plaza de la Constitución

3. LA CILLA

After the conquest and up until the first half of the 19th century, Lanzarote was a feudal island. In addition to the feudal taxes, the inhabitants also had to pay the clergy a tithe, that is, ten percent of what they made each year from farming and harvests. The yielded cereals were stored in these granaries, named cillas, and Teguise benefitted greatly from the fact that it held the most important granary on the island, especially on a cereal-rich island such as Lanzarote. The building's construction dates back to 1680, and is the work of the master builder Marcial Sánchez. In 1986, a banking group paid for its restoration, led by César Manrique, and it was turned into a branch of a bank, whilst conserving its original structure.

4. PARISH CHURCH OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE

Founded in the first half of the 16th century, this church was originally a simple construction, with no windows and with only stone seats, built into the walls. Thanks to its age, it has borne witness to much of Teguise's long history of looting, arson and violence. Having been consolidated with three naves since the 18th century, it was once again set fire to in 1909, and promptly rebuilt thanks to public donations. In 1914, bishop Ángel Marquina Corrales blessed the church. In its last intervention, another section was added to the tower, thus making it the tallest architectural element in Teguise and the religious centrepiece of the island of Lanzarote. The granite elements (holy water stoup, font, pulpit and part of the choir) were made by the local artist Juan Hernández Pérez, whilst the altarpieces and the canopy of the pulpit are the work of Eugenio Bañasco. This is Lanzarote's principal church which, over time, has been bestowed with an ecclesiastical heritage which is without a doubt the most important on the island and one of the most important in the entire region.

interior detail of the Palacio Spínola

La Cilla

5. CALLEJÓN DE LA SANGRE

Located to the northeast of the parish church, this was once a natural course for the waters that ran along the cliff of Miraflores towards the Mareta. The street owes its current name (Blood Alley) to the violent raid, in September 1569, from northern Africa, led by the pirate Calafat, when the town suffered looting, fires and kidnappings. Although in many places these scenes were impossible to prevent, on this street the invaders were forced back, chalking up a victory for the local people of Villa de Teguise.

6. LA MARETA

La Mareta de la Villa has its origins in the island's aboriginal past. Back then, it was a building used to store water from the scarce rainfall, so as to safeguard the settlement and the survival of the people. Each year, the Cabildo (local government) decided whether the water was to be used by the inhabitants or by the animals, and it also named a guard, or maretero, to make sure that the water was used wisely. The boundaries of the Mareta were extended and reinforced over the years. This was not the only one of these structures, but it was the most highly prized one, both for its size and for its location in Teguise, the island's principal settlement. Since the area was connected to the public water network, in the second half of the 20th century, the mareta fell into disuse and was subsequently sold off, and its infrastructure dismantled. All that remains today is its place name, although it was declared a National Heritage site in 1976, when it had already disappeared.

7. ERMITA DE LA VERACRUZ (CHAPEL)

This building dates back to the 17th century and was erected under the patronage of Lucas Gutiérrez Melián. The small chapel holds an image of Christ from which it takes its name, which dates from the 17th century and arrived on the island from Portugal. The Christ on the cross displays a characteristic

Bell tower of Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

Callejón de la Sangre

mane of real hair that reaches down to just above his waist. The figure used to preside over the acts of Semana Santa, or Holy Week. The chapel was further enriched by the addition of two canvases, installed in the side altars, representing the Desposorios de María y San José (the nuptials of Mary and Joseph) which belonged to the shrine of San José, in the valley that bears his name, and the Venida del Espíritu Santo, the most important canvas, dedicated to the Espíritu Santo of Teguise.

View of the site of the former Teguise mareta

Ermita de la Veracruz

8. CASA PERDOMO (HISTORIC ARCHIVE)
This house belonged to the Robayna family back in the 18th century but, in the second half of the 20th century, it became the property of the Perdomo family. Later, in 1988, it was purchased by the local council of Teguise and, following major renovation work in which the primitive outbuildings of the Mudejar residence were left unaltered, the current Historical Archives were installed.

9. CONVENT OF SANTO DOMINGO (CHURCH OF SAN JUAN DE DIOS Y SAN FRANCISCO DE PAULA)
This was the convent church of the order of Santo Domingo, founded at the beginning of the 18th century and built upon a church erected earlier, in the 17th century. The entire estate formed part of a donation made by captain Gaspar Carrasco Rodríguez. Back then, the convent area extended along the left wing, now reconverted into the town hall, with some of the earlier remains still being visible today. Nowadays, the church has been converted into an exhibition hall but the main altarpiece of the original church, dedicated to Nuestra Señora de Gracia, is still on display.

10. CASA CONSISTORIAL
The ayuntamiento (Town Hall) of Teguise is built over the convent outbuildings of what was the local monastery of Santo Domingo, and still preserves two arcades of the cloister and the original cisterns. In 1956, the municipal authorities agreed to carry out

Facade of the Casa Perdomo

a series of remodelling projects, since back then the site had already been earmarked for council buildings and a public school. Once finished, the building presented a terraced roof and a particularly interesting doorway, with a Roman arch carved in red tuff stone, and an upper balustrade, made from wood.

11. LA CASA CASTILLO
This property once covered the entire block. Of particular interest are its doorway, with stone jambs, and the wonderful carpentry work. It still conserves an orchard, surrounded by a bevel-finished wall with diamond-tip decorative effects, as well as an imposing hearth.

Casa Consistorial and Convent of Santo Domingo

12. CASA SPÍNOLA
This property was bought by the Spínola family from the Dominican order, its previous owners. Some important members of the family lived here, including for example, the sculptor Francisco Spínola, the painters Francisca and María Rosa Spínola, the writer Dominga Spínola, the sisters Esperanza and Manuela Spínola Ramírez, and the man of letters Leandro Spínola Perdomo. For all of them, the house was a source of inspiration for many of their unforgettable portraits of local customs and manners. The house has two levels, with a central courtyard in which a large row of balconies was installed to form a gallery.

13. MARQUÉS DE HERRERA Y ROJAS MUSEUM HOUSE
This residence was built in 1929 by Luís Ramírez González over an old house from the 18th century. Its reconstruction was primarily carried out in order to turn it into a museum under the name of Marqués de Herrera y Rojas. As such, the original tea-wood door and stone-cut doorway were brought from the original palace of the marquis and fixed into the main facade of this property. The building has two floors and a gallery on the top floor which looks out over

Imposing facade of the Casa Castillo

the central covered courtyard. The town council of Teguise completed work on the architectural structure in 1988 and the crest was completed by the artist Pancho Lasso. Today, it has been converted into the culture department of the Teguise town council.

14. CONVENT OF SAN FRANCISCO (CHURCH OF LA MADRE DE DIOS DE MIRAFLORES)

Of the Franciscan convent of Teguise all that is left is the church, a temple dedicated to Our Lady of Miraflores. In 1588, Gonzalo Argote ordered the construction of this religious complex, which was to become the first convent founded on the island of Lanzarote and making its church, in turn, a military target and the victim of numerous lootings and arson attacks. The holy site used to be made up of two sets of buildings: the church and the monastic outbuildings. On the left-hand side was the area where the monks lived and which, after the disentailment of church property in the first half of the 19th century, passed into the hands of private owners, with some remnants of the original cloister still being retained. Today, these remains, together with the former Dominican convent church, conserve the most important collection of Mudejar roofs in Lanzarote. The building has now been reconverted into the Museum of Sacred Art, with original elements such as the baroque altarpieces dedicated to Nuestra Señora de Miraflores, San Antonio de Padua and Nuestra Señora de la Inmaculada Concepción being preserved.

15. PALACIO DEL MARQUÉS

The Herrera y Rojas family settled in Teguise and turned the town into the political and social centre of the Canary Islands. Their home originally occupied an entire block, as can be seen in the plan by Leonardo Torriani, made in 1590. However, this once richly decorated house gradually fell into ruin. During the 19th century, another mansion was built in a vain attempt to imitate the splendour of the original. Whilst the foundation works for this new building were underway, fragments of the old arcade were found by accident in the subsoil. In order to get an idea of the sheer size of the old house it is useful to know that, today, this same surface area is occupied by six houses. Of these buildings, only one can be considered to be the real palace of the Herreras, where a stone in its interior, featuring podomorphic engravings, serves as archaeological proof of its identity.

16. MUNICIPAL THEATRE

This theatre occupies the site of the old chapel of the Holy Spirit, founded in 1730 and subsequently converted into a hospital and nursery. In 1825 it was turned into a dramatic arts space, the third to be built in the Canary Islands and currently the oldest of those preserved in the province of Las Palmas. In 1995, the town council of Teguise updated it, respecting the original facades and the low elevation of the property.

Detail of the Casa Spínola

Doorway of the convent of San Francisco

Current main entrance to the Palacio del Marqués de Herrera

Marqués de Herrera y Rojas museum house

Municipal theatre of Teguise

17. MOLINO (MILL)

The mill represents the industry which was the most important generator of the most basic foodstuff for the population of Lanzarote: *gofio* (flour made from cereals). These mills use the force of the wind which, through the sails and a series of gears, turn the stone that grinds the grain. They have a circular layout, two floors and a conical roof. The mill has two large round stones, which are extremely hard-wearing, with a central orifice. The upper stone receives the force of the wind, making it turn round over the top of the other, which remains still. The two stones are separated by only a few millimetres. The grains of cereal are introduced through the *toba*, a funnel-like recipient that drops the grain through the hole in the centre of the stone. As this grain builds up between the stones it is transformed into *gofio*.

18. PIRATES MUSEUM / CASTLE OF SANTA BÁRBARA

This is the oldest preserved military construction on the island. It was built during the first half of the 16th century by Sancho de Herrera, who placed it over the Caldera de Guanapay, a strategic vantage point from which to keep watch over the area's ports and coasts. From the second half of the 19th century, such fortresses became ineffective and began to fall into disrepair. After many years of neglect, in 1960 the *Friends of the Castles of Lanzarote* started repair and preservation work on the fortress of Santa Bárbara. Between 1998 and 2011, the site has been managed by the Teguise Town Hall. Initially, it became the Canary Island Emigration Museum to later become the current Pirates Museum. The exhibits housed here show the importance these greatly feared pirates held throughout the history of the Canary Islands.

Night view of castle of Santa Bárbara on the summit of Guanapay mountain

To the north of the municipality of Teguise's east coast we find a curious spot named **El Charco del Palo**. Along the steep rocky coastline here, there exist several small lagoons or natural pools which, with the rising tides, fill up with clean sea water and make the perfect spot for a relaxing dip. This hideaway is frequented by naturists and it is not unusual to see people of all ages in the nude relaxing along its stretches of sand.

Turning south, we reach **Los Cocoteros**. Here there are no naturists but in all other respects it is very similar. The coast is full of volcanic rock, where the waves crash in rhythm with the tides, and some small walls have been built in order to hold back the water from the high tides to create a pleasant natural swimming pool.

Here in Lanzarote, the building of salt pans has always been an important tradition. The most famous ones are those of El Janubio and Risco, but they are not the only ones. In the municipality of Teguise are **the Salinas de Guatiza**, located very close to Los Cocoteros. Despite being small, they are absolutely stunning and the images and colours they offer up are nothing short of beautiful. The salt pans have always been among the most charming and original places created by the conejeros (the people of Lanzarote). Water mills push the sea water up to these shallow pools and here, under the heat of the sun, the water evaporates and, at 25ºC, the salt crystallises.

Leaving the coast behind, we head inland towards **Guatiza**. Immediately around the village we see fields packed full of chumberas, or prickly pear cacti. The landscape is stunning; a magnificent blue sky arches over an endless green sea made up of thousands of prickly pears growing in the volcanic ash. The really interesting thing is that they are not grown for their fruit, but rather for a small parasite that invades them. If you look closely, you should be able to see how the plants are colonised by little whitish insects *(Dactylopus coccus)*, commonly known as *cochineal*. The insects are used to make carmine (a natural red dye with a very strong, resistant colour) and are of great commercial value. Surrounded by prickly pear fields, Guatiza has another surprise in store for visitors with its Cactus Garden, of which we will speak at greater length later. In the centre of the town of Guatiza itself, the peculiar church of Cristo de las Aguas is well worth investigating.

Halfway between Guatiza and Teseguite we find an old quarry for extracting *lapilli* (volcanic ash), known in Lanzarote as *picón* or *rofe*. Roferas, or quarries, like this one can be found all over the island, but

Alleyway in Caleta de Famara

these are perhaps the most original ones thanks to the curious forms and colours that can be seen here.

Teseguite is a little village that oozes peace and tranquillity. Its fields in blossom in spring, or simply a few drops of a timid rainfall, provide food for herds of goats and sheep and make the perfect setting for the few constructions that are found here, faithful to the forms of traditional architecture. Of particular note is the chapel of San Leandro (17th century) which stands in a charming paved square, from which we can see other nearby settlements such as El Mojón and Los Valles. Throughout this area you can find typical houses which are now dedicated to rural tourism.

The ceramics from **El Mojón** are renowned all over the island, and some of its charming figures, such as "Los Novios de El Mojón" (The Bride and Groom of El Majón) are particularly famous. Apart from its ceramics, the people of El Mojón dedicate their days to grazing livestock and growing the traditional produce of Lanzarote, such as onions, potatoes and tomatoes, amongst other things. The village's chapel of San Sebastián (16th century) is extremely pretty, despite its small dimensions, and features a single nave and a gable roof.

In **Los Valles** we see the mills in the wind farm, the heirs of Lanzarote's long-standing tradition of harnessing and making use of the power of the wind. Los Valles is a totally unique spot on the island; its earth is fertile and its inhabitants work in the fields to produce the best fruits and vegetables in all of Lanzarote. As is common in this area, buildings stick to the traditional types and even the new homes respect these same styles. The rural tourism offered here is also of the very highest quality.

Leaving Villa de Teguise and heading towards Arrecife we come across some really charming little towns. The first of them is **Nazaret**, a cluster of little white houses resting on the south face of Las Laderas. This mountain hides a special secret - one of the island's most surprising man-made spaces, and it is open to visitors. It is a museum restaurant where, in the very belly of this mountain of volcanic rock, a truly unique place has been created, with an architecture that blends into the natural environment perfectly. This is the ideal place to enjoy fine cuisine and to have a drink whilst listening some of the latest music.

Afterwards, still on the same route, we reach **Tahíche**. The lava flow from the eruptions of 1730 and 1736, which runs around this town, is absolutely spectacular. This black, young lava contrasts with the arid earth and the mountains formed before these eruptions. New buildings have gradually began to spring up, but of all of them the one that stands out the most is the César Manrique Foundation, of which we will speak a little later. In Tahíche, the crater of the volcano that gave the town its name rises up before us. It is an imposing form, and depending on the time of year the combination of colours that can be seen on its slopes changes dramatically: reds, ochres, greens and blacks. At the base of this mountain, it is possible to see the different layers of earth, showing off an extremely attractive display of geomorphology and a variety of different textures.

Just before leaving the municipality of Teguise and entering that of San Bartolomé, we come across **Zonzamas**. This is one of the most important archaeological sites in all of the Canary Islands. Zonzamas was the old aborigine king of Lanzarote, who lived in this very area around the year 1377. The site is not currently open to the public but many tools and artefacts have been found here which tell us much about the life and customs of the aboriginal people.

In terms of its administration, **Mozaga** is a very unusual place, since it straddles the border between the two municipalities of Teguise and San Bartolomé. Mozaga forms part of La Geria, a very important area for the cultivation of the vines used to make wine with the Lanzarote appellation of origin, one of the island's prized culinary treasures. The landscape of La Geria is totally atypical and very impressive. The *malpaís* (badlands) have been transformed into fertile wine country thanks to the ingenuity of Lanzarote's farmers, who dig deep holes into the earth, cover them with *picón* or *rofe* (volcanic charcoal) and then plant their grapevines, protecting them from the strong winds with semi-circular stone walls. In Mozaga, wineries, traditional houses, and rural tourism are plentiful, along with many enchanting little corners, such as the church of Nuestra Señora de la Peña.

From Mozaga, if we head towards the north-east coast of the island, the first little village we come across is **Tomaren**, closely followed **by Tao**, an aborigine name meaning fortress. In spring, the mountain of Tamia is normally covered by tiny little flowers and its slopes reach down right into the town. From here, on a clear day it is possible to enjoy some truly unique panoramic views of Nazaret, Las Laderas, Tahíche, Teguise and even Risco de Famara and La Graciosa, in the distance. This is a town which is largely dedicated to agriculture and so it is also commonplace to see herds of goats and sheep

Guatiza salt fields

Iglesia del Cristo de las Aguas in Guatiza

Chumberas plantations

grazing in the surrounding fields. The town also has a strong tradition of Canarian wrestling, a native sport that we will talk more about a little later.

Keeping on the same road, after Tao we reach **Tiagua**. All of these settlements are small, with just a few well preserved buildings that are inhabited by extremely friendly and hospitable people. Among all of these little white houses is an agricultural museum which is considered to be the most complete ethnographical museum in the Canary Islands. The property dates back to 1790 and in its interior we can see an old mill, a wine press, a collection of tools, photographs recalling the agricultural and livestock tradition of Lanzarote, etc. Here it is also possible to enjoy fine wine and savour one of the island's cheeses. At the exit to the village is the chapel of Nuestra Señora del Socorro (1612), with its characteristic arched door with red stone profile, and its robust whitewashed buttresses at the sides.

A few kilometres past Tiagua we reach **Muñique**, an even smaller village than the previous ones but with the same magic and tranquillity. Its handful of buildings look towards Soo and the Risco de Famara. Standing out is its small church, situated in the middle of the village at the foot of the road.

Faced with a shortage of rainfall, the Lanzarote farmer works his land by covering it with a 10 cm thick layer of volcanic charcoal, which allows it to collect the humidity from the air and the morning dew and prevents it from evaporating in the heat of the sun. But in this area something called *jable* is also used. This is sand displaced here by the wind, with similar properties to the volcanic charcoal known as *rofe*. Around Muñique and Soo we can see some dunes and the cultivation, using both jable and rofe, of different traditional products such as potatoes, sweet potatoes, onions, watermelons, melons, lentils, etc. And keeping watch over this landscape is the mount of *El Cuchillo* (The Knife), thought to be Lanzarote's oldest crater.

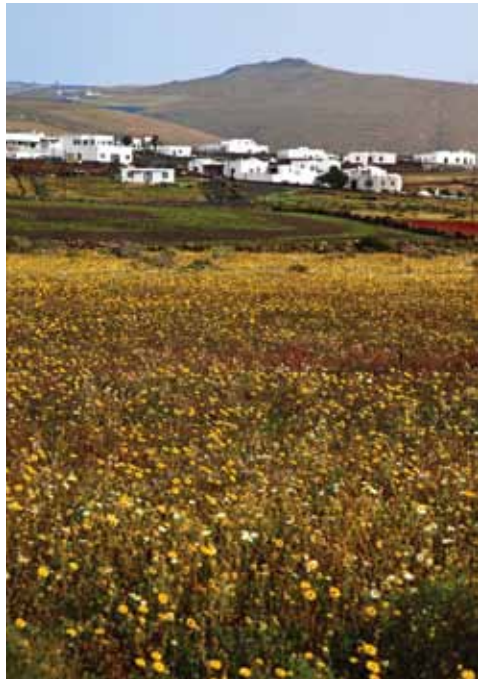
Natural pool at El Charco del Palo

Soo is the westernmost town in the municipality of Teguise and belongs to the Chinijo natural park. It is in an idyllic spot, flanked by the beaches of La Santa, to the west, and Famara, to the east. From here you can get a magnificent panoramic view of the Pico de la Vieja Andrea and the Pico Colorado peaks, as well as a fantastic sunset over the ocean. From Soo, heading towards the coast we arrive at **Caleta Caballo**, a little town with very few tourists and a pleasant white sandy beach.

Our journey from village to village through the municipality of Teguise draws to a close at the Caleta de Famara, where any of the restaurants will be able to serve you up some excellent fresh fish, prepared in the most traditional style, of course. This small town also belongs to the Chinijo natural park, and enjoys a privileged and absolutely beautiful location. From its little white houses, with their blue wooden window and door frames, you can clearly see the small islands of the Chinijo Archipelago and the vertical slopes of the majestic Risco de Famara rise up right next to the town, so that at sunset the strong light tints its rocky walls with tones of red and orange. Such a moment provides a glimpse of a sublime beauty, and if we add to it the spectacular views of Famara beach, which stretches out at the feet of this imposing massif, the spectacle is complete. Here there are hardly any tarmac roads. The sand-track streets and the whistle of the wind, accompanied by the tireless breaking of the waves, make the Caleta both a beautiful and a savage place.

If we cross the municipality to the east coast, the most southerly village is **Las Caletas**. Just a few kilometres from Arrecife, Las Caletas is made up of a handful of little houses scattered along the coast, in which several families live peacefully the whole year round, with undisturbed views of the clean, blue sea. To the north we first come across **Costa Teguise** with **Los Ancones** a little further on.

Wind power fields



Springtime view of Teseguite

Panoramic view of Los Valles

Typical mill at the Museo Agrícola, Tiagua

Rural tourism in Mozaga

For all who visit Lanzarote, César Manrique cannot go unnoticed. He has left some unforgettable creations on the island. Here, to talk of César Manrique is to talk of a symbol. A symbol of a respect for the environment and the defence of this island against overcrowding and the excesses of rampant construction. César Manrique was without a doubt an artist of astounding creativity, but he was also the person who managed to raise awareness among the inhabitants of the island of the importance of caring for and protecting Lanzarote, and it will be this that is remembered as his greatest legacy. The brilliant artist who created the Lanzarote Art, Culture and Tourism Centres also collaborated in many other, less well-known projects. Here, in this book, we highlight those places within the municipality of Teguise where Manrique left his mark.

EL PUEBLO MARINERO

Although it would be wrong to attribute all of the design of "El Pueblo Marinero" to César Manrique, we can confirm his collaboration in the project. This complex contains houses, a spacious commercial area and a well-known square in which many events are held, such as the carnival fiestas, the Well-being Fair, the celebrations for Canary Island Day, and the popular market which takes place each Friday. The location is designed with exquisite taste and is a faithful tribute to traditional Canarian architecture, with white walls, impeccable green carpentry and pleasant garden areas. Its main entrance stands out, with its imposing archway and multitude of chimneys, reminding visitors of those which can be found in any of the little villages of the island.

"Wind toy" in Tahíche

THE GRAN MELIÁ SALINAS HOTEL

Also on the Costa Teguise is the Gran Meliá Salinas hotel. This emblematic building was the island's first five-star luxury hotel. Its gardens and pool are really spectacular, as are its large-scale murals, all the work of César Manrique.

CACTUS GARDEN (JARDÍN DE CACTUS)

In the town of Guatiza you can find the Jardín de Cactus, one of Lanzarote's seven Art, Culture and Tourism Centres. It opened in 1990 and is surrounded by never-ending fields of prickly pear cacti. This unusual creation was built over an old volcanic rock quarry and covers an area of more than 5,000 square meters, with 1,420 different species of cactus and a total of 9,700 individual plants. Its architecture is reminiscent of a Roman amphitheatre, inviting visitors to take a stroll amongst its terraces and beds whilst taking in the diversity of shapes and colours of the cacti.

César Manrique was able to create a unique place that literally oozes personality. From a distance, you can se a spectacular green metal sculpture that looks like a giant cactus, which welcomes visitors to the garden. The entrance is made from carved stone and invites you to come inside, playing with sinuous, sumptuous curves. The original shop, located inside, is also well worth a look, as is the decor of the café bar and all of the architectural details so typical of Manrique.

Details of Gran Meliá Salinas, displaying the style of Manrique

Cactus garden, with the Guatiza mill in the background

CÉSAR MANRIQUE FOUNDATION

In Tahíche is the César Manrique Foundation, dedicated to conserving, studying and spreading the famous artist's work. This foundation also promotes culture, art and the environment through exhibitions, conferences and publications.

On his return from New York in 1968, César Manrique began work on this very singular house in the middle of a lava flow, cold and black, a legacy of the eruptions of 1730 and 1736. The artist lived here up until 1988. Today, the building houses the headquarters of the foundation that bears his name.

The upper floor is a faithful reflection of Lanzarote's traditional architecture, into which the artist has incorporated more modern elements such as oversized windows, curved spaces, sinuous corridors and open-plan rooms. This level houses the lounge, the kitchen and a living room which is today the Espacios (Spaces) room, where the artist's private collection, including important works by other Spanish artists of his generation such as Miró, Chillida, Tàpies, Picasso, etc. is kept. The room next door, Bocetos (Sketches), is where the bedroom used to be, along with the guest room and a bathroom. Nowadays, visitors can look at sketches from both completed projects and others that never saw the light of day, but which are yet more proof of the creative capacity of Manrique.

The most spectacular level of the building, however, is perhaps the basement. Here, the spaces left behind by five natural volcanic bubbles form the rooms, with attractive corridors drilled into the hard volcanic lava connecting each of them to one another. All the spaces are decorated with an exquisite aesthetic taste and in each a particular colour has been chosen to take centre stage. In the centre of these bubbles, we find a jameo (volcanic cave without a roof) which houses a small pool of crystal-clear water, an original garden, barbecue, oven, bathrooms, and even a little dance floor decorated with work by Manrique himself. In this space of leisure and rest, lush vegetation mingles with the imposing cacti which seem to reach up and touch the sky.

WIND MOBILES

Along this route, we should also keep a look out for the roundabouts, since several of them feature what César Manrique christened his "wind toys". These designs by Manrique are large-scale, original sculptures that move with the wind, and have become the indisputable highlights of our island's road decorations.

Corridor inside the César Manrique Foundation

Pueblo Marinero, Costa Teguise

Pool and gardens of the César Manrique Foundation

In the Cactus Garden, 1420 species of cactus can be seen among a total of 9700 different kinds of plants

WEST COAST

Famara beach

Without a doubt, this is the most spectacular beach in all of Teguise. It begins in the little village of La Caleta de Famara and stretches on for several kilometres right up to the feet of the Risco de Famara cliffs. The sand is clean and fine, with a slightly golden colour. At the rear, the prevailing trade winds have formed some impressive dunes, with very little vegetation, and among their shelter bathers rest under the sun. It is a beach which tends to have good waves and, despite the fact that it attracts lots of visitors, its large size never lets it feel overcrowded and each person can still feel by themselves in their own dream-like landscape. Famara is the ideal spot for learning or practising water sports such as surfing, bodyboarding, kitesurfing or windsurfing. Another common sight are hang-gliders or paragliders, who launch themselves off the top of the Famara massif in order to glide over this incredible beach.

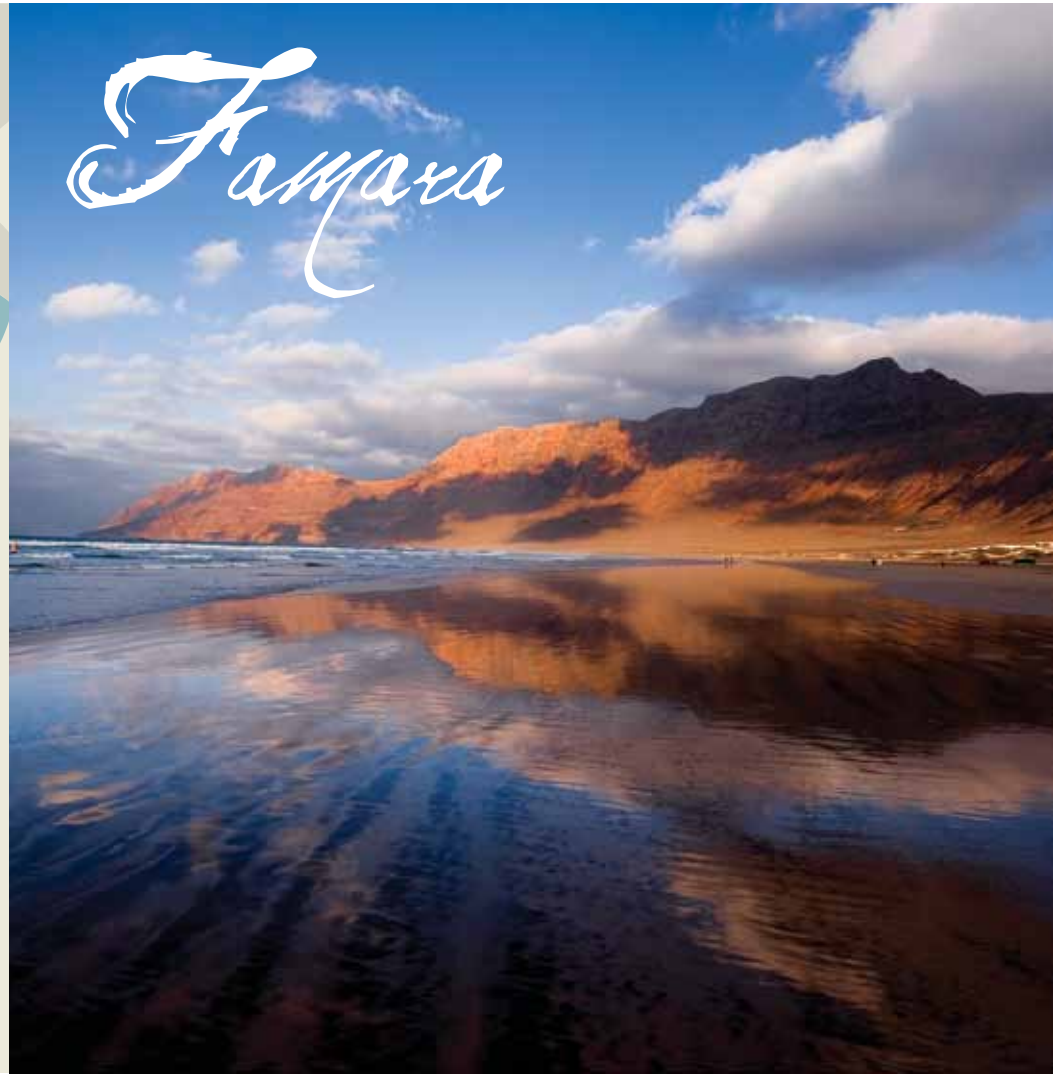
You could say that there exist two Famaras - one at low tide, and the other at high tide, but both are equally spectacular. At low tide, the sand wins ground over the sea and large shallow pools of still water form on the seashore. It is then when the enormous stretch of wet sand is lit up by the sun and the reflection of the walls of the Risco cliff appear, creating a huge natural mirror, the beauty of which is unmatched. On the other hand, when the tide rises, there are parts of the beach where the sand disappears beneath the sea and the waves reach right up to the *callaos* (rolling stones), pebbles of volcanic rock worn smooth by the sea's erosion.

- Length: 6,000 m
- Services: Accommodation, beach cleaning, rubbish bins, warning signs.
- Warning: very strong currents.

Caleta de Famara beach

This beach, with fine, golden sand, is located in the town of the same name, Caleta de Famara. It is a small but very charming fishing cove, with a little pier on one side and a rocky area, where locals often go to gather shellfish, on the other.

- Length: 190 m
- Services: Parking, restaurants, beach cleaning, rubbish bins.



La Caleta de Famara

San Juan beach

Low tide at Caleta Caballo

El Ancla, Costa Teguise

Bastián beach, Costa Teguise

Las Salinas beach

Las Cucharas, Costa Teguise

San Juan beach
Situated more to the southwest than Caleta de Famara, this is an ideal beach for surfing and bodyboarding. Each year, the "La Santa Pro Surf de Lanzarote" world surfing championship takes place here, an important date on the international calendar. The beach has retained a certain degree of wildness and most of its visitors come to practise these sports.
- Length: 100 m
- Services: None

Caleta Caballo
This white sand beach is very pleasant, especially at high tide, and along its coast the lava has formed a multitude of curious caves where it is easy to find octopuses, limpets and crabs. Caleta Caballo is also the perfect place for surfing and bodyboarding, and it has extremely good waves, just like so many other spots in this part of the island.
- Length: 60 m
- Services: Parking, beach cleaning, rubbish bins

EAST COAST

El Ancla
This is the most southerly beach of the Costa Teguise, a small, pretty cove with white sand and crystal-clear water. Its rocky sea beds are home to a multitude of fish whilst its calm waters are an absolute delight for bathers; perfect for a relaxing dip or snorkelling.
- Length: 150 m
- Services: Accommodation, beach cleaning, rubbish bins.

Bastián beach
This beach of golden sand is very well cared for, with thick stone walls, stairs and landscaped garden areas. Behind it is the delightful seafront walk of the Costa Teguise, and nearby there are a good selection of bars and restaurants to choose from.
- Length: 375 m
- Services: Hammocks, restaurants, parking, signposts, walkway, showers, rubbish bins, accommodation.

El Jablillo
A little further to the north, we find this beach of calm waters, shielded by a breakwater, and fine, white sand. El Jablillo is one of the Costa Teguise's most important beaches and here, as well as taking a refreshing swim and sunbathing, you can practise scuba-diving, with courses and introductory sessions available for all levels.
- Length: 150 m
- Services: Hammocks, restaurants, parking, signposts, walkway, showers, rubbish bins, accommodation, public telephones.

Las Cucharas
This is perhaps the principal beach of the Costa Teguise. It is surrounded by a carefully controlled tourist environment, shielded with breakwaters, its sand is fine and golden and its waters are almost always calm. A whole host of apartments, bars, restaurants and commercial areas serve this beach. At Las Cucharas, the sports on offer are varied, and there are several windsurfing and scuba-diving schools here. And each June, the PWA World Windsurfing Championship of the Costa Teguise, La Santa Surf, takes place here.
- Length: 640 m
- Services: Telephones, public toilets, showers, rubbish bins, lifeguards, signposts, restaurants, disabled access, seafront walk, parking, newsagents, bus stop, rental of sports equipment, hammocks.

Las Salinas
This small, charming cove is situated just in front of the Gran Meliá Salinas hotel. Its spectacular white sand, in the form of a small circle, contrasts with the turquoise of the sea. This site is very well protected from the wind and the waves, which means that bathers can enjoy the sun and the sea at their leisure, whilst not far away windsurfers and kitesurfers glide along, entertaining us with their acrobatics and stunts.
- Length: 640 m
- Services: Hammocks, rubbish bins.

Spectacular Famara sunset

Crystal clear waters at El Ancla beach

Los Charcos

This is the Costa Teguise's most northerly beach. It is characterised by the strong winds further out to sea and its pleasant bathing area nearer the shore, which is of pristine white sand. Various important international windsurfing competitions have been held here and fans of this sport find this to be an ideal place to practise. The beach is flanked by two large tourism complexes. On one side is Gran Meliá Salinas and on the other Lanzarote Sands Beach, more oriented towards family tourists.

- Length: 310 m
- Services: Seafront walk, beach cleaning, rubbish bins, accommodation, hammocks.

Teguise's beaches do not stop here, and we invite you to discover the rest of them in the route "La Graciosa".

Windsurfing off the beach of Los Charcos

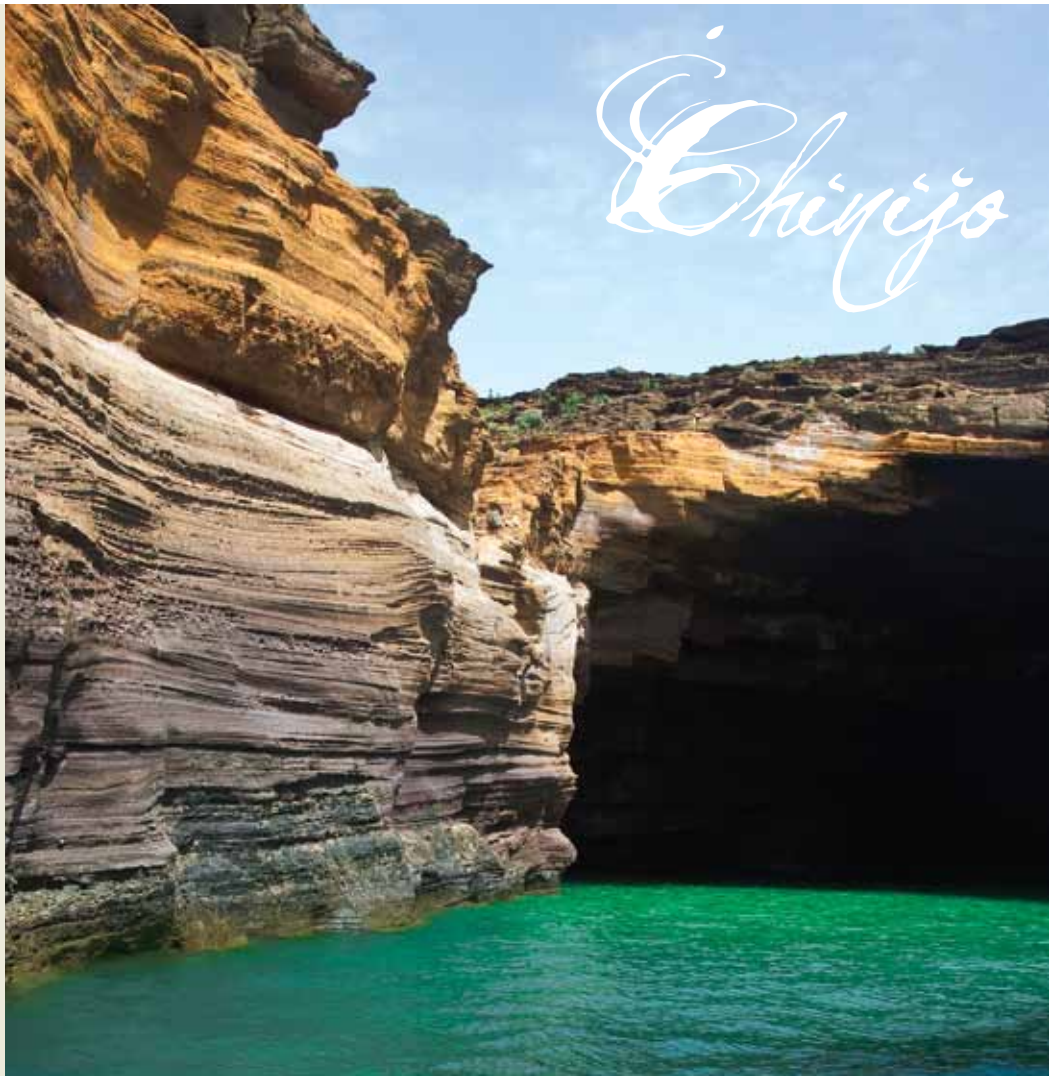
The municipality of Teguise encompasses both the larger and smaller islands to the north of Lanzarote: the Chinijo Archipelago. This is made up of the islands of La Graciosa, Montaña Clara and Alegranza, and the volcanic rock formations of Roque del Este and Roque del Oeste, also known as Roque del Infierno.

This archipelago and its waters have, since 1986, formed part of the Parque Natural de los Islotes del Norte de Lanzarote y de los Riscos de Famara . In addition, its waters belong to a marine fishing reserve, one of only two that exist in the Canary Islands, and the largest in all of the European Union.

The Reserva Natural Integral de Los Islotes is of major scientific value, sheltering as it does numerous protected and threatened species. For the birds it is a very important area for nesting and raising young, and also for shelter, with a high concentration of both marine and land species, both native and migratory using the reserve. Among the most characteristic of the birds is the Cory's Shearwater, a seabird with fine plumage and an elegant flight, which feeds exclusively on live fish. It is currently a protected species and Alegranza is home to the world's second largest breeding colony.

LA GRACIOSA

La Graciosa is the largest of these little islands. With a surface area of 27 km² and a maximum height of 266 metres, it is also the only one open to visitors. Today, around 600 people live here, many of whom earn their living through fishing. Here, tarmac does not exist, and nor does any hurry or stress. Here there is only peace, nature and hospitality. To reach La Graciosa, there is a regular line of small ferry boats that leave from the port of Órzola several times a day.



Spectacular *jameo* (volcanic cave) on the island of Alegranza

La Lambra beach with Alegranza on the horizon

Montaña Amarilla and La Cocina Bay, La Graciosa

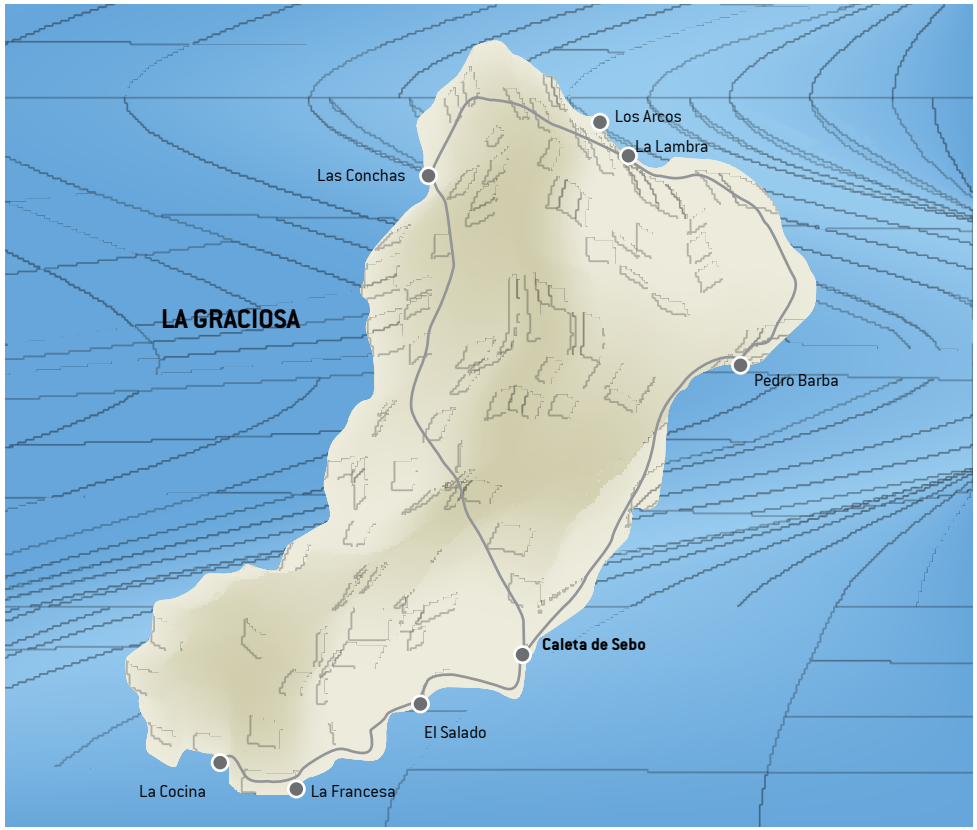
Upon reaching La Graciosa, we come across the main town, Caleta de Sebo, where the majority of the islanders live. Two hours' walk along the coast to the east is a little settlement called Pedro Barba, a popular summer destination for people from Lanzarote and other parts of the Canary Islands. The rest of the island is completely uninhabited; an idyllic hideaway with crystal-clear waters, a pleasant temperature and superb beaches.

La Graciosa can be seen on foot - there are a wide variety of trails - or by bike, which can be rented in Caleta de Sebo or brought over by boat from Órzola. The island also offers 4x4 tours and surfing and bodyboarding lovers can find plenty of spots here with fantastic waves. In the island's spectacular waters, scuba-diving is also allowed, offering a multitude of sites which will delight even seasoned divers, with unforgettable sea beds and an extremely rich marine flora and fauna.

La Lambra beach

Following the route eastwards, after Pedro Barba we find the beach of La Lambra. This wild spot is largely free from tourists, and here the visitor can enjoy nature in its most unspoilt state. Dunes of white sand surround the beach and the waves caress the black rocks of the coast. A little further to the north we find a natural phenomenon of great scenic value: Los Arcos. Here, the line of the volcanic coast forms some curious and surprising natural arches of basalt rock, several metres tall. Below them, the sea crashes fiercely against the coast and crabs and limpets thrive.

- Length: 600 m
- Services: None



Las Conchas Beach, La Graciosa

Playa de La Laja, Caleta de Sebo, with the Risco de Famara massif in the background

Los Arcos, La Graciosa

Las Conchas beach
This is probably the most spectacular beach of them all. Situated on the north of the island and flanked by the imposing Montaña Bermeja, it is an idyllic place from which you can clearly make out Montaña Clara, Alegranza, Roque del Este and Roque del Oeste. The contrasting colours are impressive: the golden sand, the turquoise sea with its infinitive shades of blue, the shining white foam, the mountain as red as fire with its sprinkling of green vegetation, a wall of shining black rocks, and all under a clear blue sky and the light of an omnipresent sun.
- Length: 610 m
- Services: None

La Cocina beach
To the west of the island is the Montaña Amarilla (Yellow Mountain) which gets its name from the yellowish shades of the calcalreous material that it is made from. At its feet, the turquoise waters of the Bahía de la Cocina stretch out, and, on the other side, is Lanzarote, with its spectacular Risco de Famara cliffs.
- Length: 360 m
- Services: None

La Francesa beach
If we continue to skirt around the island, after the Montaña Amarilla we find the long beach of Playa de La Francesa. When the tide rises, this beach floods to form a very pleasant lagoon.
- Length: 435 m
- Services: None

El Salado beach
El Salado is the nearest beach to the town of Caleta de Sebo. The Risco de Famara cliffs remain in view, offering a truly stunning panorama. The waters of the river reach the seashore and the white sand seems to go on forever between the dunes and winding paths.
- Length: 1,800 m
- Services: Camp site, public toilets, showers, rubbish bins, beach cleaning.

La Laja beach
Once inside the town of Caleta de Sebo, we find the little beach of La Laja. A common sight on its white sands are sailors and fishermen repairing or painting their traditional boats, with families enjoying the good climate on its seashore beside them.
- Length: 100 m
- Services: Public toilets, rubbish bins, beach cleaning, bars and restaurants, supermarket, ferries to Lanzarote, diving centre, kayaks, bicycles.

IN VILLA DE TEGUISE

Every Sunday morning, Teguise is transformed and the peace and quiet of its streets give way to the hustle and bustle of a multitude of stalls and craftsmen. Here, in its streets and squares, the most important market of the Canary Islands takes place, where you can get your hands on all sorts of crafts, ceramics, wickerwork, leather goods, etc. as well as natural, typical produce, such as cheeses, wines and other products made from cacti and aloe plants. Many artists also sell their very varied works here. It is an event that no visitor should miss.

- Location: Villa de Teguise
- Day: Sunday
- Time: 9.00 - 14.00

** We recommend you visit Teguise between Monday and Friday in order to appreciate the peace and quiet of the town, reserving Sunday for enjoying the market.

IN THE COSTA TEGUISE

For those of us who love markets, its possible to find something special in the Plaza del Pueblo Marinero, where you can also enjoy a delicious dinner or a drink in one of the numerous bars and restaurants around the square.

- Location: Pueblo Marinero, Costa Teguise
- Day: Friday
- Time: 17.00 - 22.00

Pueblo Marinero square, Costa Teguise

The open market every Sunday in la Villa de Teguise

SPORTS

The variety of sports on offer on the Costa Teguise is impressive. Here there is room for much more than just relaxing strolls, jogging and cycling. The area's trails and tracks through the mountains are perfect for trekking and mountain biking, with routes for all levels. Water sports such as scuba-diving, sailing and windsurfing are very popular here. The waves and the strong trade wind make this the perfect place for these sports and major important competitions are often held here. Its coasts also offer the possibility of sports fishing.

Fans of racket sports such as tennis, squash and paddle tennis flock here to play. And for golf lovers, Costa Teguise has an excellent 18-hole course, from which players can enjoy a very special view: the blue of the sea contrasted against the brown of the volcano - a real spectacle.

Golf in Costa Teguise

Windsurfing between Las Cucharas and Los Charcos

Cyclists are a common sight on the area's roads

Sharks, manta rays and tropical fish thrill visitors at the aquarium in Costa Teguise

Nocturnal ambience in Nazaret

LEISURE

The Costa Teguise is home to Lanzarote's one and only **water park**, where kids of all ages can have fun for hours and hours in the park's impeccable facilities, which include water slides, chutes and pools, and all under the warmth of a radiant sun.

For those of us looking for something a little more daring, and especially for fans of sea life, Costa Teguise also has an **Aquarium**, where you can take a dip in the shark pool or gaze at the tropical fish or the majestic underwater movements of the mantas and rays.

Here there is a leisure space for all the family, where everyone can enjoy a fantastic day bowling, playing in the kids' park or exploring the arcade game room.

Without a doubt, Costa Teguise clearly shows the excellent quality of the tourism on offer here and where every last detail is taken care of to make sure that our visitors enjoy every minute of their stay.

After nightfall, too, the fun is guaranteed, and there are many places to have a drink or dance to some really great music. Lovely terraces, lively bars and bustling nightclubs are the perfects destinations for those looking to have fun and enjoy a night out. The areas with the best nightlife are, mainly, Costa Teguise, Villa de Teguise and Nazaret.

An exciting day of kitesurfing

Lanzarote's cuisine, like that of the Canary Islands as a whole, is characterised by simple food made using top-quality ingredients. There are many places in Teguise to enjoy some really excellent food, be it traditional cooking or avant-garde signature cuisine.

Of the typical Lanzarote cuisine, we recommend the following dishes:

The caldo de pescado (fish soup) or the tasty **caldo de *millo*** (corn soup). For the fish soup, species such as grouper, dentex, and sea bream tend to be used, among others. As well as corn, the caldo of *millo* contains various vegetables and a sprinkling of coriander.

Gofio flour is used throughout the Canary Islands archipelago. It is toasted and ground corn, wheat, barley or a mixture of cereals. It can be used in different ways, such as kneaded into a dough with water and salt, with honey, or diluted in stock, stews or milk. *Gofio* is a key ingredient of the Canarian diet, and is even used to prepare ice-creams, cream, sorbets and mousses.

Of all of the stews in our cuisine, the ***sancocho*** is without a doubt the most typical. This stew is made from salted fish, potatoes and sweet potatoes, and is served with a spoonful of *gofio* dough and the ever-present *mojo* sauce. The type of fish used can vary, but the most suitable is usually wreckfish or grouper.

The most famous sauce of the Canarian kitchen is ***mojo***, and it comes in many different varieties. The most famous of these are *mojo* rojo (red) and *mojo* verde (green). The first is made from tomatoes, red pepper and paprika, and is normally slightly more spicy. The green variety uses coriander and garlic, along with oil and vinegar.

Limpets with green *mojo* sauce

Parrotfish and other top-quality fresh fish

Clacas, a native shellfish

Pella de gofio dough, with soft cheese

La Geria, where excellent wine is produced

Papas (potatoes) play an important role in numerous local dishes, but their best-known incarnation is that of the *papas arrugadas* (wrinkled potatoes). They are very easy to prepare: once cleaned of dirt, and without peeling, they are boiled with plenty of salt and, as they cook over a low heat, the water evaporates, the peel wrinkles up, and the salt sticks. They have an exquisite taste and are the star accompaniment to many other dishes. They are typically served with *mojo*.

The ***batata*** or **boniato** (sweet potato) is plentiful all over the island and is a common ingredient in many recipes thanks to its peculiar sweet taste and its ability to grow in very harsh conditions, even where there is practically no water.

Cabrito or ***baifo*** meat (pork) is another common dish in Lanzarote's cuisine, and is prepared in many different ways: fried, marinated, roast or in *salmorejo* (similar to gazpacho soup).

Fresh fish are one of the Canary Islands' best quality products: sardines, comber, tuna, sea bream, dentex, grouper, filefish, meagre, wreckfish, parrotfish, etc. The most common way to cook fish is grilled, split open, with garlic and parsley, and accompanied by *mojo* sauces and *papas arrugadas*.

The best-known shellfish here are the ***lapas*** (limpets). The most frequent way to prepare these delicious molluscs is on the grill, drizzled with green *mojo* sauce. Less common are the *clacas*, but they are, without a doubt, the native shellfish with the most pronounced sea flavour.

Canarian cuisine offers many different types of ***potaje*** (stew), including those with lentils, arvejas (peas), watercress, chickpeas, and vegetables.

Teguise also produces a delicious **goats' milk cheese**, which, depending on the degree to which it is cured, can be soft, semi-cured or cured.

The wine of Lanzarote is of a high quality and has its own appellation of origin. In La Geria, the locals learned how to tackle the volcano and overcome the obstacles of the strong winds and lack of water by coming up with a highly original way to plant the vines. Buried in deep holes, covered with volcanic ash and protected from the wind by little hand-made stone *zocos*, the vine stocks grow and produce a Malvasia grape with a distinct, unique flavour.

The most typical desserts here are ***torrijas*** and ***truchas***. The former are made from stale bread, soaked in milk and then coated in honey and cinnamon. The *truchas*, on the other hand, are pastries, normally filled with pumpkin or sweet potato, which are typically made around Christmas time.

Papas arrugadas (wrinkled potatoes) with *mojo*

NATIVE SPORTS

The native sports practised in Lanzarote are Canarian lateen sailing, Canarian wrestling, the juego del palo (literally, "game of the stick"), Canarian bowling, and handball.

Lucha canaria (Canarian wrestling) is perhaps the sport with the biggest following here in Teguise. It is a noble sport, combining strength with technique, and it is very popular all over the Canary Islands. Two teams compete, each of which has twelve wrestlers, and inside a sand circle, or *terrero,* one wrestler has a face off with an opponent from the opposite team. After greeting each other, they each place their hands on the back and hip of their opponent and try to make them touch the floor with any part of their body other than their feet. It is not a sport designed to cause harm or even show aggression. On the contrary, the idea is for the wrestlers, with shrewd use of holds and skill, to show their worth.

The ***juego del palo*** is of aboriginal origin and is known to have been practised on almost all of the islands. Nowadays, it is almost exclusively seen in exhibitions, although there still are some schools which are trying to keep this custom alive. The game, which is actually more like a martial art, demands both skill and agility, since each player must avoid the long pole of their opponent whilst trying to touch them with their own.

Bola canaria is a sport with a great following in all of the towns and villages of the island. Technically, it is very similar to the French pétanque, except that the balls are not made of metal as in this other game, and are also larger.

Canarian lateen sailing still has plenty of supporters here in Lanzarote. There are barquillos (boats) of 5 and 8.55 metres that have been built according to the traditional methods. There is no doubt about it, these are authentic floating wooden jewels.

Pelota mano (handball) was introduced to the

Canarian wrestling in Famara

La Graciosa island fishermen with traditional boat

Countrywoman dancing a typical folk dance

islands by the colonists and is today played with a relatively small ball and no fixed number of players (between 4 and 6 per team). The game consists, roughly, in trying to return the small solid ball, made of leather and with hardly any bounce, back to the opposing team that served it before it can bounce twice on the floor, by hitting it with the palm of the hand. This game is currently enjoying something of a renaissance here in Teguise.

CRAFTS

Lanzarote's crafts are extremely varied and here in Teguise they have found a great bastion. Thanks to the market of Villa de Teguise, craftsmen from all over the island come here to show off their work, and many of them have now set up their workshops here. Artisans specialising in ceramics, gold- and silver-smithing, carpentry, and wickerwork are particularly well represented.

If only for their originality, we cannot fail to give another mention to the famous figures of *"Los Novios de El Mojón"* (The Bride and Groom of El Mojón). These figures, a couple with highly pronounced sexual organs, were traditionally exchanged by couples engaged to be married.

The area offers a huge variety of textile creations - *calados, encaje* (lace), *rosetas*, knitting, crochet, embroidery and *traperas*, among other techniques - which are greatly admired both on the island and off of it.

Here in Teguise the famous *timples* are made. These popular island instruments have a similar form to a ukulele and give a very cheerful, musical sound. Several master craftsmen have their workshops here, which you can visit in order to watch the magic at work.

Us Canarians have a deep respect for our customs and traditions, which shows through in our **folklore**, or folk tradition. Among the many songs and dances, the *folía*, the malagueña, the isa and the *sorondongo* stand out, and form part of almost every *fiesta* or celebration.

Canarian bowls

The tranquil pace of La Graciosa

Master craftsman of the *timple*

The *timple*, an essential instrument of our traditional music

DECEMBER - JANUARY

La Misa del Gallo

This midnight mass (the Mass of the Cockerel) is held on the 24th December in the church of Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, in Teguise. Despite being held at midnight, it is normally very well attended. During the ceremony are the famous performances of "Ranchos de Pascua o Ánimas", a custom that dates back centuries. The Rancho de Pascua of Teguise is perhaps the most important of the whole island. It has its origins in the Ranchos de Ánimas that used to collect money in the streets throughout the year in order to raise funds for the prayers for the souls of the deceased. Later, when the performances were limited to Christmas time, the Rancho de Ánimas began to be known as the Rancho de Pascuas. Today, the Rancho is only performed on the night of Christmas Eve, with songs and dances performed before the figure of baby Jesus, in a custom that goes back centuries.

Other Christmas activities

In the tourist area of Costa Teguise, popular parades with Papá Noel (Father Christmas), cavalcades of the Reyes Magos (the Three Wise Men), Christmas markets, and beautiful nativity scenes recreating the arrival of the baby Jesus are organised.

FEBRUARY - MARCH

Carnival

In Teguise, carnival is lived out in all its splendour. There are the famous *"Diabletes de Teguise"*, a living, breathing example of a popular tradition, the product of a mixture of aboriginal beliefs with Castilian elements and pagan influences, which dates back to the end of the 16th century. These days they come out to frighten the children in the streets of Teguise, clad in a costume representing the skin of a billy goat with a mask complete with horns and tongue.

In Teguise, fun parades, theatrical shows and live music are also organised for the little ones. Elsewhere, in Costa Teguise, carnival is a more colourful affair, and to all those visiting, its rhythm is contagious. Fun floats, lively street musicians and spectacular bands are the stars of the show on the Costa Teguise. People of all ages have fun singing and dancing, decked out in all kinds of costumes. Right into the early hours and with a wide variety of festive and leisure activities on offer, hundreds of people enjoy every second of this carnival.

APRIL - MAY:

Well-being fair

The Costa Teguise, a laid-back bohemian kind of place, becomes the ideal meeting point for health and well-being devotees. Workshops, exhibitions, demonstrations and health products on sale can all be found in the Pueblo Marinero.

Book day

On the 23rd April, the Costa Teguise becomes a not-to-be-missed destination for book lovers, where they can buy and exchange books and listen to storytellers and book readings.

Día de la Cruz

On the 3rd May, Villa de Teguise celebrates the Day of the Cross. During this fiesta, the numerous crosses

Colourful Carnival in Costa Teguise

of the town's old quarter are decorated with beautiful flowers in what is one of the Canary Islands' most deep-rooted traditions. The reasons why the people of Teguise are motivated to raise these crosses are very diverse, but all of them are tied to faith and a strong devotion to this Christian symbol.

Europe Day
This fiesta, on the 9th May, celebrates the cultural mix of both the inhabitants of the Costa Teguise and its visitors, as reflected through cultural displays, gastronomy, folklore and traditional music.

Canarian week
In May, Teguise celebrates the "Guanapay Folklore Festival" and the "Gran Fiesta Canaria", featuring the best of the folklore traditional of Lanzarote and the Canary Islands. The very best traditional musicians and dancers perform in an unmatched setting.

Canary Islands Day
On the 30th May we celebrate the Canary Islands Day with music, crafts, popular culture and displays of our native sports, letting visitors get a real feel for Canarian idiosyncrasies.

JUNE - JULY
Corpus *Christi* Procession
Corpus Christi is a special date in the calendar of the Catholic church, in celebration of the Eucharist. It is celebrated 60 days after Easter Sunday, or more formally the Thursday following the ninth Sunday after the first full moon of spring in the northern hemisphere, for which reason it can take place in either May or June, depending on the year. This day is marked by a procession in which the locals prepare impressive carpets of salt stained a thousand different colours along the main streets of Teguise. Windows and balconies are decorated in preparation for the passing of the Santísimo (Holy Sacrament) as it is taken in procession from altar to altar. These altars are authentic works of art, crafted by the islanders who, with plenty of inventiveness and skill, display them in their doorways or windows, letting the scent of the lilies and the rosemary waft out through the entire town.

Popular Fiestas of the Costa Teguise
Just like in every village in Lanzarote, the locals of the Costa Teguise celebrate their popular *fiesta (celebration)* with attractions and activities, which they are all too happy to share with the visiting tourists.

Beach cleanup day
Coinciding with World Environment Day, the 5th of June, on the beaches of the Costa Teguise the Beach Cleanup Day is organised, in which schoolchildren, diving centres, tourists and residents all muck in. On this day, everyone unites for a cleaner coast, enjoying environmental workshops and a well-earned meal after all the hard work.

"Los Diabletes" of Teguise during carnival

PWA World Windsurfing Championship - Costa Teguise - La Santa Surf
Each June on the Costa Teguise, a new edition of the "PWA Costa Teguise - La Santa Surf" World Windsurfing Championship is held, in which fifty sportsmen and women compete for the world title. Its pleasant climate, good water temperature and excellent wind and wave conditions make the Costa Teguise an ideal destination for windsurfers from all over the world.

Fiesta for Nuestra Señora del Carmen
On the 16th July Teguise's main fiesta takes place, along with plenty of other activities such as the "Acatife" folk festival, featuring performances by Canarian folk music groups; Canarian wrestling contests; processions; popular dances; theatrical performances; a Canarian *fiesta* in which an offering is made to the Virgin, etc. However, the most exciting of all of them has to be the procession of the sailors on the island of La Graciosa, in which the locals of this island make offerings to the Virgin from their boats.

Active summer
During the summer months on the beaches of Famara and Costa Teguise, a number of activities for adults and children alike take place, ranging from beach volleyball or handball championships to aerobics classes, kayaking, etc.

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER
Romería de la Virgen de las Nieves
On the Saturday before the 5th August, the day of the Virgin of Las Nieves, a charming romería (procession) travels along the route to her sanctuary. The event commemorates the times when, back in the 15th century, the virgin was the object of fierce devotion, with locals turning to her to whenever rain was scarce or in the event of other problems.

World Tourism Day
On World Tourism Day, the 27th of September, various activities are organised to celebrate this modern phenomenon, which is so important here in Lanzarote.

Costa de Músicas Festival
Costa de Músicas is an international music festival, each edition of which satisfies fans of the most varied kinds of music: indy, mestiza (fusion), rock, pop, electronic, etc. As well as the outstanding quality of the music, the venue itself is a pleasant surprise: the incomparable backdrop of the Costa Teguise, right on the seashore.

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER
La Santa Surf Pro Lanzarote
This event, held during October, has reached the top level within the WQS, obtaining in 2007 the most important category on the world circuit and the final step before becoming a world WCT event. As such, it is now a much more important event in the surfing calendar, attracting the very best surfers.

Halloween
The 31st October is the night of Halloween, and on this magical day the little ones have the chance to enjoy a fun-filled *fiesta* on the Costa Teguise.

Día Internacional de los Pueblos
The Costa Teguise constitutes a melting-pot of different cultures. This richness does not go unnoticed by its inhabitants who, in the month of November, express this diversity with an explosion of colours, smells and sounds in the multitude of exhibitions, workshops, culinary tastings, and musical performances that take place.

Exhibitions
Throughout the year, the Convent of Santo Domingo offers an ample programme of exhibitions by traditional and emerging artists, in diverse disciplines such as painting, photography, illustration and sculpture.

Art exposition in the Convento de Santo Domingo

Tourist information offices and other information of interest:

COSTA TEGUISE TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE
Avenida Islas Canarias s/n (next to the Pueblo Marinero)
OPENING HOURS: 10.00- 17.00
TEL.: 0034 928 592 542
FAX: 0034 928 592 542
costateguise@teguiseturismo.com
www.teguise.com

CENTRO DE SALUD DE COSTA TEGUISE (Costa Teguise Health Centre)
TEL: 0034 928 59 07 28

PARADA DE TAXIS DE COSTA TEGUISE (Costa Teguise Taxi stop)
TEL: 0034 928 52 42 23

POLICÍA LOCAL DE COSTA TEGUISE (Costa Teguise local police)
TEL: 0034 928 59 12 25

VILLA TEGUISE TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE
Villa de Teguise; Plaza de la Constitución s/n (next to Palacio Spínola)
OPENING HOURS: 10.00- 17.00
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www.teguise.com

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Agrupación folclórica Guajime
Los Diabletes de Teguise
Líneas Romero (La Graciosa)
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Sands Beach Resort
Aquarium Lanzarote
Aquapark Lanzarote
Club de Lucha Canaria Tao
Lounge & Cocktail Bar Orient Express
Restaurante Lagomar
Pub La Cueva
Golf Costa Teguise
UCCT
Policía Local de Teguise
Parque Eólico de Lanzarote
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