



Nightlife, beaches, countryside...
check out the new Rough Guide DIRECTIONS Gran Canaria

“Basking in year-round sunshine, Gran Canaria might have been custom-designed as a holiday paradise,” says Neville Walker, author of the new **Rough Guide DIRECTIONS Gran Canaria**. The year-round balmy weather, beaches and nightlife have made it a hugely popular winter-sun destination, and beyond the resorts there are plenty of secluded coves, colonial towns, volcanic landscapes and beautiful forests to contrast with the urban hedonism.

The new Rough Guide covers everything from the Canarian countryside to gay resorts, together with all the best nightspots, beaches, places to stay, and ideas for daytime activities. Whether you're here for a short break or a longer holiday, Rough Guide DIRECTIONS Gran Canaria is like having a local friend help plan your trip.

The Rough Guide's top Gran Canaria experiences

Circumnavigate the island - Witness the island's scenic diversity with a drive around the dramatic coastline.

Discover the island's unspoilt mountainous interior - Trek through pine forests and conquer volcanic peaks or just picnic in the beautiful outdoors.

Eat fresh fish - You'll never eat fresher fish than at a Canarian fish restaurant - perhaps the most memorable is Puerto de las Nieves

Explore colonial towns - Take a trip back to the island's colonial heyday with a stroll through Agüimes, Teror or Santa Maria de Guía.

Tan on a southern beach - Blue skies, balmy temperatures, soft sand and nothing to do but relax.

Visit a Canario site - Clamber over the hillsides at Cuatro Puertas or Fortaleza Ansite for a glimpse into the drama and mystery of the pre-Hispanic past.

The Rough Guide's top Gran Canaria nightspots

Calle La Pelota, Vegueta, Las Palmas - From café bars to cool DJ lounges, the hottest street in Las Palmas after dark.

Casino Gran Canaria, San Agustín - Dress to impress and try your luck at the roulette wheel.

Chinawhite, Playa del Inglés - Great music, beautiful people and a cool vibe, proving there's more to the south's nightlife than cheap beer.

Drag cabaret in Playa del Inglés or Puerto Rico - Show tunes, sequins and outrageously funny innuendo - Canarian style.

Pacha, Playa del Inglés - Get into the latin spirit of salsa in this stylish upmarket *terrazza*.

Salsa in Las Palmas - Dance till you drop at one of the capital's buzzing Cuban clubs.

The Rough Guide to gay and lesbian Gran Canaria

Maspalomas beach - Known throughout Europe for great sunbathing and gay crowds.

The Yumbo Centre - Home to Europe's largest concentration of gay bars.

Gay Pride, Maspalomas - Legendary floats, fun and grown men dressed as leopardskin handbags...

Strand Apotheke, the Oasis, Maspalomas - Great beer and a superb view of the surfers on Maspalomas beach.

Heaven, Playa del Inglés - An injection of London sophistication into the island's gay club scene.

Miau, Las Palmas - Go native for a real dose of latin spirit in Gran Canaria's vibrant capital.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

Rough Guides, founded by Mark Ellingham and Martin Dunford in 1982, publishes more than 300 travel guides, maps and phrasebooks and more than 60 reference titles from music to computing.

Rough Guide DIRECTIONS Gran Canaria

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