

Gran the Canaria guide



Did you know?

Gran Canaria is a circular volcanic island which last erupted seriously about 3,000 years ago.

The island covers an area of 1,532 sq km and makes up the third largest of the Canary Islands, behind Tenerife and Fuerteventura.

Explore the stunning scenery with your Avis car...

This island offers a surprising range of scenery, climate, resorts and attractions within its compact bounds. Winding roads follow the steep, ruggedly beautiful terrain which rises to a symmetrical cone at the centre of the island. White villages provide oasis of palms and olives, while the blue seas and golden sands tempt the sun-seeking tourists to come back year after year. Once discovered, this region is never forgotten.

Great spots to visit in an Avis car...

- Discover **Las Palmas**, the capital in the far north-east to uncover the island's history. See the 16th century cathedral, La Casa de Colon (the Christopher Columbus museum) and El Museo Canario (the Canarian museum). Being far from resort – a car is a certainly an advantage!
- Drive to **el Cruz de Tejada** for the most spectacular views of Gran Canaria, overlooked by Roque Nublo, the highest point of the island – a great sight to see.
- Visit el Barranco de Guayadeque, an enchanting canyon on the eastern side of the island. See the island's rarest plants plus the caves left by the aborigines who once inhabited the area.
- The spectacular sand dunes of **Maspalomas** are a must. The dunes, together with el Charco de Maspalomas – a freshwater lagoon – form an area of natural beauty within the busy resort.
- Inland, **Puerto de Mogan** is worth a visit too. Often described as Little Venice, the area is full of elegant luxury yachts. Definitely worth a drive to.

A1 = Avis locations

Please note, that some places mentioned in this guide do not appear on the map. This guide is to be used as an overview of the destination.

Top tips for Gran Canaria

- A **right hand side road** system operates on the island.
- **Speed limits:**

Motorways:	120 kph
Country roads:	90kph
Urban roads:	50 kph
Residential roads:	20 kph
- **Drink driving:** Random breath testing operates – limit: 0.8gms of alcohol in 1,000cc breath.
- **Petrol stations** are generally situated on main roads and are usually open 24 hours.

AVIS

We try harder.

Experiencing Gran Canaria

Benefits of renting a car...

- **Comfort** – choose an air conditioned car and travel in comfort.
- **Freedom** – explore those hidden treasures.
- **Value for money** – if you enjoy sightseeing, car hire can work out much better value for money than excursions.
- **Flexibility** – do what you want, when you want.
- **Reliability** – no need to wait around for buses or trains.

Top selling tips

Always introduce car hire into every booking...

Q. What do you like to do on holiday?

"I hired a car in ... and it was great for seeing/doing..."

Q. "Have you been to the area before?"

Yes "So you know that there's lots to do round there. Let me get some car hire prices for you"

No "Well there's lots to do in that area (such as...) and the best way to see them is by hiring a car"

Q. Do you normally hire a car on holiday?

Yes or No "Let me get some prices for you, it usually works out cheaper to pre-book"



4 Places to note...

Bandama – the Caldera de Bandama is a volcano, 569m high. It's a very popular visitor point, with a view into the crater.

Jardin Botanico Canario – famous botanical garden in the Guinguada barranco.

Vegueta – the oldest part of Las Palmas, it has some of the most historic sites of the Island.

Fataga – the nicest village on the island. Popular for its camel safaris and farms located in the middle of the 'thousand palms valley'.



Join the festivities...

February/March/April

Arguineguin: Celebrates the feast day of Santa Agueda.

Fiesta de los Aborígenes: Commemorates the defeat of the aboriginal people at Fortaleza de Ansite on 29 April. Celebrations marking the conquest of the islands.

May/June/July

Fiestas del Carmen: Celebrated by all fishing villages, on 16 July.

Feast day of Santiago: 25 July in Galdar and San Bartolomé. Canarian wrestling, romerías (picnics) and traditional dancing take place.

August/September/October

Bajada de la Rama: Celebrated in Agaete, 4 August, is probably the most popular festival on the island. From an ancient aboriginal rite of praying for rain. A great opportunity to get wet and have a party.

Fiestas de Nuestra Señora del Rosario:

Celebrated in Aguimes, 5 October, with Canarian stick-fighting and wrestling.

Avis locations

- **Arguineguin (FV5): A1**
Hotel Sunwing, Ctra Sur Km 62, Mogan.
- **Las Palmas (LPA): A2**
Las Palmas Airport
00 34 928 579578.
- **Las Palmas (LP4): A3**
Juan Manuel Duran, 13.
- **Playa Del Ingles (SAG): A4**
Ctra Las Palmas A Mogan, Km 53.
- **Puerto Rico (O6L): A5**
Tomas Bos, S/N.

Top places to eat...

Churchill – this old colonial house in Las Palmas with attractive gardens invokes the early days of British settlement. Excellent food and stylish atmosphere.

Bentayga – use the best of local produce in local cuisine. The lamb and goat dishes are highly recommended in this first class restaurant situated at Santa Brígida.

La Silla – situated in Artenara – the highest village on the island – this bistro serves traditional Canarian food and grills with tremendous mountain views.

Savings to be made...



Do more with your holiday by hiring a car. You could save money at the same time as well! Compare these excursion costs against car hire:

Discover the excitement of Sioux City, a western theme park, average cost per adult £26, costing £104 for a group of four adults.

Touring the highlights of Gran Canaria can cost approx £22 per person, that's £44 per couple.