

One week circumnavigation of Menorca

Menorca is an island with multiple calas and two significant ports, Mahon and Ciutadella.

This suggested itinerary can be modified as you wish to make the most of the weather at the time.

The coastline and distances between anchorages lends itself well to 7 days of absorbing all the elements of sailing, combined with daytime swims and overnights in stunning bays, taking the dinghy to restaurants ashore. Or berthing in one of the many picturesque town marinas.

Day 1

Arrive on the boat in the port of **Mahon**, get settled with a welcome drink on board before choosing one of the many excellent restaurants for dinner.



Day 2

Breakfast on board or ashore as you wish, then an introduction to the functions of the boat, a safety briefing and the use of the safety gear on the boat.

Then a leisurely sail to **Cala Grao** where the harbour entrance is dominated by the Castle of San Felipe. The crew can practise their steering under way while we discuss the effects of the wind on the boat and the various points of sail.



Day 3

After a discussion about navigation for the route and how the wind will affect our plan we will proceed northwards, sailing along the beautiful coastline of the Nature Park Albufera des Graw.

We'll take a lunch and swimming stop before anchoring in the bay or tying up in the port of **Fornells**, which has exquisite seaside restaurants specializing in the preparation of tasty fish and seafood dishes.

During the day we'll practise holding a course on the different points of sail and begin to explore the manoeuvres of tacking and gybing. We'll also look at communications and navigation equipment as we go.



Day 4

This is the longest day of the week, we'll start with a navigation plan allowing you to brush up on your chartwork, considering the effects of wind and current, taking into account the characteristics of our boat.

The distance is 24nm along a varied and deeply indented coastline with multiple attractive calas, great for a midday swim and light lunch, before arriving in **Ciutadella**, the islands second largest town at the head of a deep fjord.

The town has a rich architectural heritage and a very pleasing atmosphere.

En-route we'll practise some knot tying as well as considering how to deal with a 'man overboard' event while all the time practising steering and learning more about boat control.



Day 5

Now on the southern coast of the island we head east to either the Cala Galdana or Cala Macarella. Here there are plenty of choices for eating ashore, with beaches that offer both busy and quiet options.

Departing the port we'll find somewhere to practise controlling the boat in restricted spaces and brush up on 'man overboard' recovery, which will involve lots of tacking and gybing.



Day 6

Another day of brushing up on sailing skills while enjoying the scenery and going over all you've learned along the way.

Tonight, we'll be in or close to the Cala Binibeca, an area popular with tourists due to fine white sand that contrasts with turquoise water. Binibeca is a small fishing village, with completely restored streets and whitewashed houses, where silence often reigns in an area known for its beautifully restored village.



Day 7

A morning swim off the back of the boat, breakfast and coffee, then an easy day going over all we have dealt with during the week, before the last night ashore in the bay of Mahon.



One-week West Coast of Mallorca



Day 1

The programme for the week is flexible and will be adjusted to allow you to improve your knowledge of sailing and practical boat handling skills from whatever level you are currently.

Arriving on the boat in Palma late afternoon we'll enjoy a welcome cocktail and nibbles while getting to know a bit about the boat and settling into your cabins.

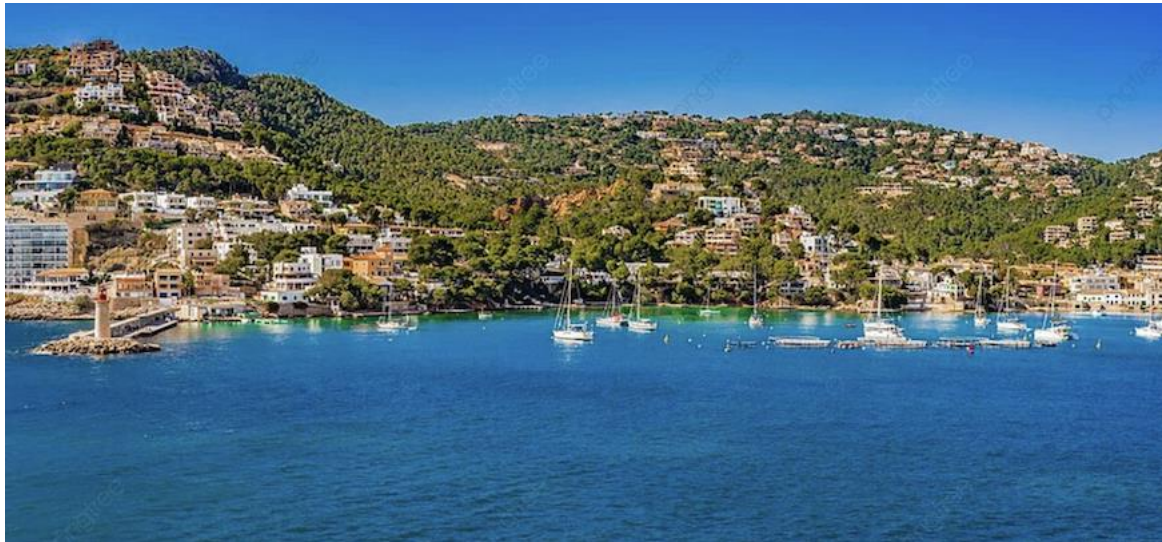
Dinner will be ashore in the old town where we are spoiled for choice when choosing a restaurant.



Day 2

Breakfast ashore or onboard as you wish, will start the day. Followed by a full safety briefing which includes the use, as well as the location of the equipment on the boat. An introduction to the considerations we need to observe when leaving the berth follows, then we'll be under way and heading for Andraitx.

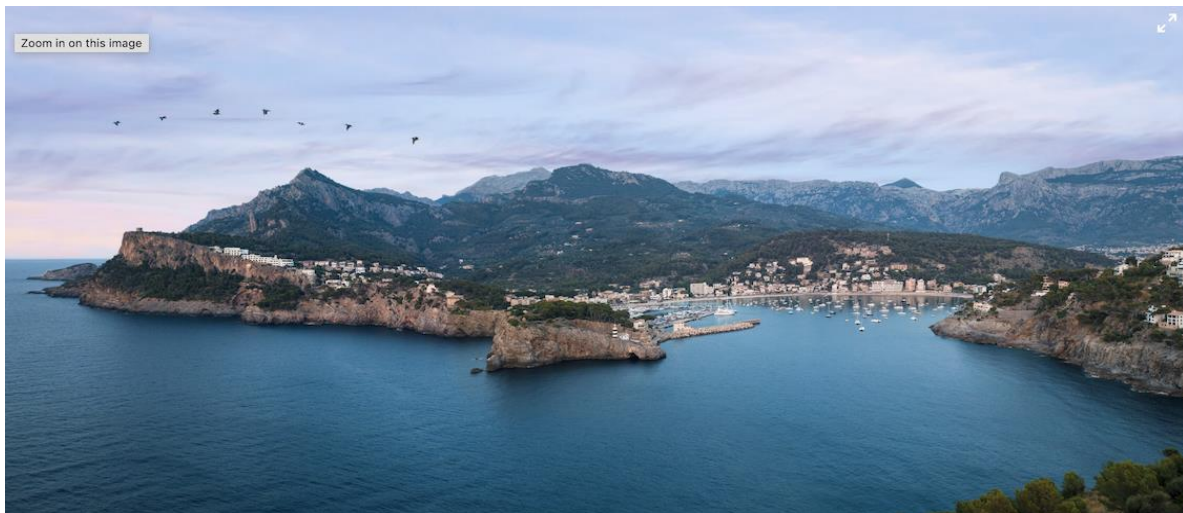
En-route we'll go through learning or revising the angles of sailing relative to the wind, and practising steering. Depending on wind direction we'll also practice tacking and gybing.



Day 3

We'll be using this day to practice our navigational skills, steering to a wind angle and how to anchor in deep water. We'll also have plenty of time to work on rope skills and knots.

Our route takes us along the stunning Tramontana coastline to the port of Soller. This coastline and harbour are to my mind among the most dramatic in the Mediterranean, the calas are magnificent, with some excellent cliff-face restaurants. We'll make a stop for a lunch and time for a swim while we practise anchoring techniques.





Day 4

The character of the port and town of Soller is stunning and a day trip on the vintage train into Palma with a taxi back is a popular and excellent way to see a special part of Mallorca, especially if the weather is against onward progress.

We'll use this day to get some practise in handling the boat in close confines and getting to grips with the considerations required for parking in a marina.



Day 5

We'll continue along the coast in the direction of Cape Formentor, refining tacking or gybing skills and covering the various techniques of recovering a 'man overboard'. Weather permitting we'll anchor in one of the magnificent calas near the headland. Along the way there will be plenty of time to practice rope work and knot tying.



Day 6

The trip continues around the northern tip of Mallorca at Cape Formentor and into the town of Pollenca. Anyone who has seen the TV adaptation of John Le Carré's *The Night Manager* will be familiar with the dramatic location of this route as it is where much of the action was filmed



The calmer waters of the bay offer a multitude of safe anchorages as well as a great location for re-visiting everything you've learned in the past few days.



Day 7

The marina and bay of Pollenca is suited to more berhing practice as well as practical 'man overboard' recovery and a last chance at route planning for our sail to Alcudia. Alcudia is a town of some historical significance and provides a great location for your last night aboard.



This itinerary may be modified to make best use of the prevailing weather and any preferences of the crew if possible.



One-week East Coast of Mallorca

(can include Cabrera if mooring space is available)



Whilst this coastline is a little less dramatic than the west coast it is nevertheless full of attractive calas and excellent beaches, as well as having more predictable weather better suited to an introduction to sailing.

The route is from Alcudia to Palma with stops in Cala Ratjada, Porto Colon or other small towns as desired by the crew. With the options of overnight anchoring in various calas, we can take the dinghy to eat onshore or stay on board for a sunset supper.

Day 1

The programme for the week is flexible and will be adjusted to allow you to improve your knowledge of sailing and practical boat handling skills from whatever level you are currently.

Arriving on the boat in Alcudia late afternoon we'll enjoy a welcome cocktail and nibbles while getting to know a bit about the boat and settling into your cabins.

Dinner will be ashore in the old town where we are spoiled for choice when choosing a restaurant.



Day 2

Breakfast ashore or onboard as you wish will start the day, followed by a full safety briefing which includes the use as well as location of the equipment on the boat. An introduction to the considerations we need to observe when leaving the berth follows, then we'll be under way and heading for Porto de Colonia de San Pedro, set in a lovely, wooded area well away from most tourism.

En-route we'll go through learning or revising the angles of sailing relative to the wind, and practising steering. Depending on wind direction we'll also practice tacking and gybing.



Day 3

We'll be using this day to practice our navigational skills, steering to a wind angle and how to anchor in deep water. We'll also have plenty of time to work on rope skills and knots.

Our route takes us around the north-eastern corner of the island towards Porto de Cal Ratjada where we'll overnight. On the way we'll have a lunch stop in Cala Molto, one of the more renowned calas on Majorca.



Day 4

We'll use this day to get some practise in handling the boat in close confines and getting to grips with the considerations required before parking in a marina. En-route to Porto Colom we will explore the various methods of boat handling and how to recovery a 'man overboard'.



Day 5

We proceed towards the area around Porto Petro to overnight in the marina or one of the several local calas, all the time honing our steering and manoeuvring skills as well as our navigational aptitude.



Day 6

If our luck is good, we'll have managed to reserve a place on the island of Cabrera where we can overnight in the middle of unspoiled beauty. This will give us the opportunity for slightly more challenging navigation as well the treat of a totally peaceful anchorage.

And if Cabrera is unavailable, we'll proceed to the area around Porto de la Rapita, an area reputed to have the best beaches on Majorca.

There'll be plenty of time on this day to go over everything you've learned and address any areas you would like to focus more on.



Day 7

We'll make this a short day in order to be in Palma in plenty of time for a wander around the old town and to choose a suitable venue for the last night of the trip.

Not forgetting another chance to practice parking in a tight environment.



