

Walking on Gran Canaria

Tour Style: European walking holidays

Destination: Spain

Trip code: GALCL

2 & 4



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Enjoy Gran Canaria's world-class walking, varied scenery and 'eternal spring' weather as we uncover the island's beautiful central mountains and rugged coastline. Our base in Agaete is away from the hustle and bustle of the larger resorts and offers great access to trails in the north, tucked away villages, as well as the dramatic landscapes of Tejeda and the eye-catching rock formation of Roque Nublo. Walks along balcony paths provide sweeping views across the island.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Gatwick, including baggage and transfers (flights available from other airports - price may vary)
- A choice of 2 guided walks per day with local leaders (on walking days)
- HF Holidays Tour Manager
- 7 nights' accommodation in Agaete
- 7 breakfasts & 7 dinners
- All in-destination transport

HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- The wonderful walking climate, especially in winter
- Walking through stunning scenery and rock formations
- Visiting Europe's only coffee plantation at San Pedro
- Relaxing at our comfortable seafront hotel in Agaete
- Admiring the dramatic landscapes of Tejeda

TRIP SUITABILITY

This is a level 2 and level 4 graded Activity, Easier walks: 5 to 7 miles (8 to 11km) on good but sometimes rocky paths. Up to 1,100 feet (340m) of ascent in a day. Harder walks: 5.5 to 8 miles (9 to 13km) on rocky paths with some steep sections. Up to 2,600 feet (780m) of ascent in a day.



ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival Day

Welcome to Hotel Occidental Roca Negra. Unpack and settle in.

Day 2: Finca De Osorio And Teror

Visit Parque Rural de Doramas, which has one of the last strongholds of laurel forest in Gran Canaria. We finish our day with a visit to one of the most charming and typically Canarian villages, Teror.

Option 1 - Finca De Osorio And Teror

Distance: 4.7 miles (7.5km)

Ascent: 300 ft (100m)

Descent: 400 ft (120m)

In summary: We journey through laurel forest that forms part of the ancient forest of Doramas, which once occupied the entire north of the island. As we explore the forest further we will discover trails with tree species of American and European origin, too.

Highlight: The ancient forest of Selva Doramas and the charming village of Teror

Option 2 - Osorio Pico De Rayo, Laguna De Valleseco & Teror

Distance: 5.3 miles (8.5km)

Ascent: 1,200 ft (360m)

Descent: 1,100 ft (340m)

In summary: Our walk explores the Finca de Osorio which covers over 200 hectares of forest and farmland surrounding the Pico de Rayo, our summit for today which is a small volcano that reaches a height of 3,176 feet (968m).

Highlight: Reach the summit of Pico de Rayo.

Day 3: Cruz De Tejada Circuit

Walk on the rim of Caldera de Tejada to the village of Cruz de Tejada. Take in the impressive volcanic scenery and discover the striking rocky outcrop of Roque Nublo.

Option 1 - Lianos De La Pez And The Balcony Path To Cruz De Tejada

Distance: 4.5 miles (7km)

Ascent: 530 ft (160m)

Descent: 1025 ft (315m)

In summary: We start walking on a spectacular balcony path round the rim of the Caldera de Tejada, before arriving at the welcoming cafes in Cruz de Tejada.

Highlight: Views on the Balcony Path.

Option 2 - Roque Nublo And The Balcony Path To Cruz De Tejada

Distance: 6 miles (9.5km)

Ascent: 1,100 ft (330m)

Descent: 1,600 ft (480m)

In summary: We start by ascending towards the stunning feature of Roque Nublo, standing at 5,800 feet at the heart of the island. We then transfer to start a further walk on a spectacular balcony path round the rim of the Caldera de Tejada.

Highlight: Spectacular views from Roque Nublo.

Day 4: Tamadaba Natural Park & Agaete Valley

Ascend the foothills of Tamadaba Natural Park and the 'Sacred Mountains', finishing in the coffee plantations of the Agaete Valley.

Option 1 - Agaete Valley

Distance: 5 miles (8km)

Ascent: 920 feet (280m)

Descent: 100 feet (20m)

In Summary: Walking up Agaete ravine at the base of Tamadaba National Park's sacred mountains, we admire one of the last volcanic lava flows of the island and cross the fertile valley of Agaete before arriving at the aromatic coffee plantation in San Pedro.

Highlight: Visit the coffee plantation at San Pedro

Option 2 - Guayedra To The Agaete Valley

Distance: 5.3 miles (8.5km)

Ascent: 2,550 feet (780m)

Descent: 1,550 feet (480m)

In summary: We ascend to the foothills of Tamadaba Natural Park (a biosphere reserve), admiring the views over fertile Agaete Valley and Europe's highest cliff, before descending to the aromatic coffee plantations in San Pedro.

Highlight: Visiting the coffee plantation at San Pedro for a tasting of local produce and, of course, home-grown coffee.

Day 5: Free Day

Each week there is a free day when no guided walks are offered. This is an ideal opportunity to relax around the hotel, walk independently or visit local places of interest. Some options for your free day might include:

Santa Cruz: Take a ferry to Santa Cruz, the port city which is the capital of neighbouring Tenerife. Wander the old town and visit the Palmetum – a large botanical garden containing one of the biggest collections of palm trees in the world. Santa Cruz also has a large waterpark with many different saltwater pools plus a lively bazaar and food market – the Mercado de Nuestra Senora de Africa. You could also visit the Museum of Nature and Man which contains the cannon which shot off the arm of Admiral Nelson! From Santa Cruz you could also take a tram to La Laguna, a town which is considered to be the cultural capital of Tenerife. Its historic centre is UNESCO listed.

Las Palmas de Gran Canaria: Take the bus to Gran Canaria's capital – Las Palmas. This port city is known for its duty-free shopping, UNESCO listed old quarter and large, sandy beaches. Wander its side streets where you can pull up a chair in a café for tapas and drinks. In February, the annual carnival takes place with flamboyantly dressed performers, music and dancing.

Playa de La Aldea: Take the bus to this resort on the western side of the island with its long stretch of pebble beach served by bars and restaurants.

Agaete: Explore the town and visit Tamadaba Natural Park which is home to a range of exotic plant species and the largest area of pine trees on the island. Then head for the port of Las Nieves with its many restaurants and beach. The nearby Maipes Archaeological Park is worth a visit; it's a cemetery housing around 700 tombs topped with rocks of volcanic origin.

Hotel: Relax at the hotel and take advantage of its outdoor swimming pool, wellness centre and roof terrace.

Puerto de Mogan: Why not use one of the local bus services to visit the quaint resort of Puerto de Mogan, known as 'Venice of the Canaries', due to the pretty canals and bridges here. There's a charming harbour,

sheltered beach and lovely old village - a delightful way to spend an afternoon.

Day 6: Montaña Del Viso And La Aldea

Visit the impressive province of La Aldea in the west of Gran Canaria. Take in the views from Degollada de Tasarte and climb Montaña del Viso, or traverse the valley below.

Option 1 - Degollada De Tasarte To La Aldea

Distance: 5.6 miles (9km)

Ascent: 700 ft (220m)

Descent: 2,300 ft (700m)

In summary: This walk starts at the Degollada before following a well used path to the town of La Aldea.

Highlight: Beautiful views on this walk.

Option 2 - Mount Viso And La Aldea

Distance: 6.2 miles (10.8km)

Ascent: 1,400 ft (420m)

Descent: 3,300 ft (1,000m)

In summary: Starting from the Degollada we traverse a spectacular balcony path above the valley before rising to the ridge and along to the summit of Mt. Viso. There are spectacular views over the coast and to Tenerife. We descend the end of the ridge to a viewpoint above La Aldea and through farmland to the town.

Highlight: Reach the summit of Mt. Viso.

Day 7: Moriscos And Pinos De Gáldar To Caideros

Enjoy the viewpoints over the Canarian pines and Caldera at Moriscos and Pinos de Gáldar before continuing to Caideros.

Option 1 - Pinos De Galdar To Caideros

Distance: 5 miles (8km)

Ascent: 200 feet (60m)

Descent: 2,800 feet (860m)

In summary: We begin at the viewpoint of Pinos de Galdar looking over its recent Caldera (volcanic crater), before descending through pine forest to open countryside with fine views of the north of the island.

Highlight: Extensive views of Pinos de Galdar and the charming village of Caideros.

Option 2 - Moriscos To Caideros

Distance: 6.8 miles (11km)

Ascent: 800 ft (200m)

Descent: 3,500 ft (1,100m)

In summary: This option starts higher up at Mirador de Las palomas with views over Caldera de Tejada and take us through Los Morsscoc before descending through pine forest to Lomo Galeote, and on to Caideros.

Highlight: Views over Caldera de tejeda and volcanic landscape.

Day 8: Departure Day

We hope to see you again soon.

ACCOMMODATION

Occidental Roca Negra, Gran Canaria

Enjoying a seafront location in a quiet residential part of Agaete. Occidental Roca Negra offers 140 large and bright en-suite rooms, a large freeform swimming pool and a wellness centre. This hotel combines a wonderful location from which to access Gran Canaria's superb walking as well as a comfortable stay, including a contemporary restaurant and outdoor seating which enjoy sea views.

Rooms

The Roca Negra features 140 spacious and contemporary rooms. All rooms feature:

- Flat screen television
- Air conditioning
- Tea/coffee making facilities
- Complimentary toiletries
- Telephone
- Balcony or Terrace
- Room safe
- Hairdryer

About Your Stay

Whilst staying at the hotel guests can enjoy:

- Large outdoor swimming pool with sea views
- Extensive wellness centre
- Rooftop terrace with panoramic views and comfy seating
- Two bars serving a selection of beers, wines, spirits and soft drinks
- Gym
- Free Wi-Fi

Food & Drink

Our holidays in Gran Canaria are on a half-board basis and include breakfast and evening meal.

Breakfast

Breakfast is served in Restaurante El Juncal and there is an extensive selection of hot and cold options from a self-select buffet.

Lunch (Payable Locally)

Ingredients for packed lunches can be purchased in nearby Agaete and stored in the fridge in your room. On some days it may be possible to eat out at local cafes; your leaders will advise you of the best options.

Dinner

Dinner is also served in Restaurante El Juncal. A large and impressive buffet with a huge range of appetizers, at least 4 options of main course and a mouth-watering dessert section including a range of cheeses.

Your Evenings

The friendly atmosphere of our guided walking holidays continues into the evening. Enjoy a glass of wine or local beer whilst hearing about the next day's walking options. You may wish to take a stroll to Agaete, passing the natural salt water swimming pools in the rocks and meandering down to the harbour. Your leaders will advise you of any local entertainment on offer.

TRAVEL DETAILS

Address

Occidental Roca Negra
Avenida Alfredo Kraus 42
Urbanizacion El Turman
Agaete 35480
Gran Canaria, Spain

Tel: [0034 928 898009](tel:0034928898009)

USEFUL HOLIDAY INFORMATION

Joining Instructions (With Flights)

Book your holiday 'with flights' and you can choose to depart from a range of UK airports* to your destination. For latest flight times and prices please call us on 0203-974-8865 or email reservations@hfholidays.co.uk

If you choose to book your flights with us, we automatically include return transfers between the destination airport and hotel.

Joining Instructions (Without Flights)

Alternatively, tailor your journey to suit you by booking your holiday 'without flights' and you'll have the freedom to book your own flights from your local airport.

Shared group transfer

You can still purchase a seat on our group airport transfer, but you must arrive in destination prior to the main group. It is your responsibility to book flights which allow enough time to meet our shared transfer.

Please note, all flight times are subject to change. If your arrival and/or departure time changes and no longer fits our group transfer, we will be unable to delay departure for you. Should this occur, we will refund you the cost of the transfer and you can either make your own way to the accommodation or we can book a private taxi transfer (at your expense). HF Holidays cannot be held responsible for your onward travel if you are unable to meet the transfer coach.

Private taxi transfer

Depending on your destination, we may be able to arrange a private taxi transfer for you. Please call us up to 5 weeks in advance to enquire about availability and costs for this option on 0203-974-8865.

*Subject to availability

Essential Information

It's best to be prepared for all weather conditions. To make it easier, here is a list of items you should consider packing.

Essentials

- Walking boots
- Waterproof jacket
- Waterproof trousers
- Insulated jacket/top
- Walking clothing
- Walking socks (plus spares)
- Sunhat
- Gloves/mitts and warm hat
- Water bottle (minimum 2 litre capacity)
- Headtorch
- High-factor sunscreen (minimum SPF 30)
- Sunglasses with a dark lens
- Rucksack (15-30 litres)
- Mobile phone
- Personal first aid kit (containing your medication, blister plasters, etc.)
- Passport
- Visa (if applicable)
- Copy of your travel insurance policy
- UK Global Health Insurance Card (**formerly known as EHIC**)

Recommended

- Collapsible walking poles
- Swimwear and travel towel
- Snacks
- Dry bags
- Rubbish bags
- Insect repellent

Optional extras

- Camera
- Sit mat
- Flask for hot drinks
- Durable lunch box
- Gaiters
- GPS device

Useful Information

Language:

Spanish

Currency:

Euro

Changing money:

There is an ATM machine in Agaete where you can obtain money.

Electricity:

220 Volt AC with round two pin plugs; you will need an adaptor for any appliances brought from the UK.

Tap water:

Is considered safe to drink, but if you prefer, bottled mineral water can be purchased from the hotel or local supermarkets.

Telephone code:

If the international number you wish to call starts with a 0, you must drop the starting digit when dialling the number.

To dial a UK number 0044

To dial a Spanish number 0034

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is a condition of booking. Therefore, if you have not already arranged insurance, it is imperative that you do so, and advise us of the insurance company and policy number.

We work with Campbell Irvine to provide you with competitive single and annual multi-trip insurance. Please see our website for more information and details of how to contact them for a quote:

<https://www.hfholidays.co.uk/about-us/booking-information/insurance>.

For more information about healthcare abroad and its costs, please visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/>.

For 23 December Departure Only

Please note that the Gala Dinner on Christmas Day is formal dress code, with evening wear, including suit and tie for gentlemen

Local Currency

The local currency is the Euro (€)

TRIP NOTE VALIDITY

These Trip Notes are valid based on the date printed at the bottom of the page. They will occasionally be updated post booking and pre-departure. We will send you the latest trip notes prior to departure through a link in your pre departure documents or we can send you a copy in the post if preferred.

In booking this trip you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call HF Holidays and ask to speak to one of the team about this itinerary.

The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; so please be prepared to be flexible where necessary. At times, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned due to weather conditions, political, physical or other factors. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

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