

formentera

FORMENTERA
GREEN ROUTES



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GREEN ROUTES



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Ismael Ibáñez

GREEN ROUTES.

An island that goes on and on.

Visitors to Formentera feel the tranquillity the moment they disembark. Formentera means shifting your priorities, leaving the hustle and bustle and the fast pace of everyday life behind and moving at a different rhythm. This privileged sensation is even greater when you explore the island on foot or bicycle. That's the best way to see secluded spots off the beaten track, to appreciate another side of the island, the real natural, authentic Formentera while being kind to the environment.

Formentera is such a small island that you can explore it by car in just a morning. However, those who wander its lanes and enjoy the scenery as they pedal the side roads know that the island never ends. Accept our invitation to discover infinite Formentera through its 32* green routes, a network of more than 100 kilometres of paths, most of which are suitable for cyclists.

The following is a summary of each pathway's most interesting features, geographic data and natural and heritage value.

** Route 24 is currently under development and will be available soon.*

SYMBOLS:

- PANORAMIC VIEW
- NATURAL PARK
- BEACH
- WINDMILL
- CHURCH
- SALT FLATS
- LIGHTHOUSE
- DEFENSIVE TOWER
- FIG TREES
- DRY DOCKS
- ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE
- BIRD WATCHING
- LIVESTOCK
- QUARRY
- DRY STONE WALL
- VINEYARD

1 LA SAVINA - SES ILLETES

50 min 15 min



- DISTANCE: 3.400 m.
- GRADIENT: 4 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Easy
- LINKS: 19
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

The route starts in the port town of La Savina and explores the island's traditional salt industry. Set off from the salt flats, once the main source of income before the arrival of tourism, and go through Sa Sequi, the canal built to drain stagnant water from the Estany Pudent to the sea. Follow the Sa Guia road through a landscape of the island's characteristic juniper bushes, sand dune plants and turquoise waters. See the Moli de Sal, where salt was once loaded onto boats.

The first beach on your way is Cavall d'en Borràs, whose spectacular clear waters make it a natural swimming pool. Next comes the famous Ses Illetes beach, named after the little islets close to the shore. If you feel like it, walk on to Es Trucadors, the long spit of sand that joins the east and west of the island. It's a wooden walkway interspersed with sand and rocks, with the sea on both sides. At the end of your walk you'll see the neighbouring island of Espalmador, the natural extension of Formentera.

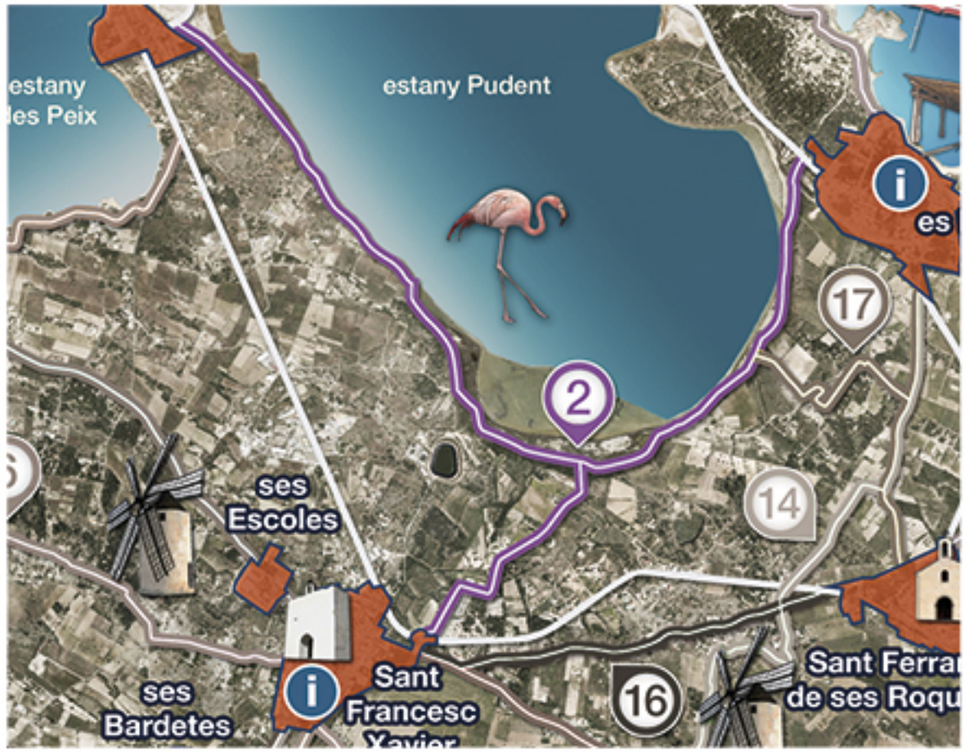




2 LA SAVINA - SANT FRANCESC - ES PUJOLS

85 min 30 min





- DISTANCE: 5.600 m.
- GRADIENT: 23 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Easy
- LINKS: 17
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

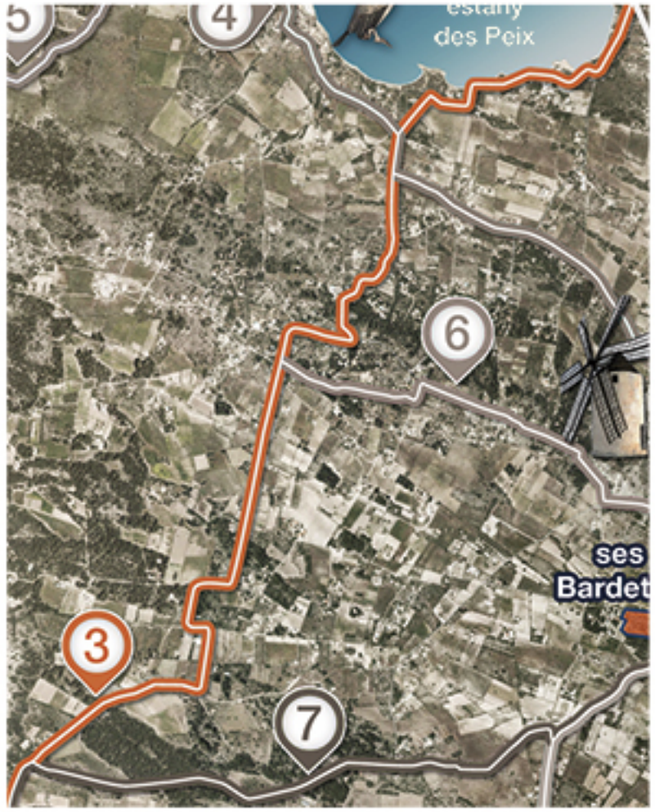
When we leave the port of La Savina, the road skirts a large salt water lagoon known as Estany Pudent. Discover Ses Salines, which looks especially pink and purplish in summertime. These are vestiges of the salt industry, the cultural legacy of Formentera and the island's only industry in the days before tourism.

This route runs along the Es Brolls pathway, which circles a large part of the lake and is a unique place for walking. The name refers to the underground sources of fresh water that allow plants to thrive and attract nesting birds. Flamingos are frequent visitors in winter, as are grey herons and mallard ducks. A unique setting where rushes, cane and other fresh water plants live alongside vegetation adapted to salty environments, thereby creating authentic marshlands.

This circular route allows for trips to Formentera's main town, Sant Francesc Xavier, as well as the coastal town of Es Pujols.

3 LA SAVINA - CALA SAONA

95 min 35 min







- DISTANCE: 5.500 m.
- GRADIENT: 52 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Intermediate
- LINKS: 4, 6, 7
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

This route connects La Savina and Cala Saona and will take you through the Porto-salè area. Start by skirting the Estany des Peix, a small lake with a narrow opening to the sea in which shallow-draft boats can drop anchor, creating the island's typical marine landscape. It is also an ideal spot for water sports such as kayak and sailing.

Your walk continues through a rural area with fields, dry stone walls and typical houses. As you draw nearer to your destination, you will be surprised by spectacular views from the cliffs. At the end of the road you'll come to Cala Saona, a natural bay surrounded by low cliffs that provide shelter for a large number of well-kept dry docks. The contrast between the red rock and the turquoise blue of the sea is amazing. End your excursion by watching the sun set from Cala Saona. On a clear day, you'll see a glimpse of mainland Spain from this spot.

4 SANT FRANCESC - SES ESCOLES - CAN MARROIG

60 min 20 min





- DISTANCE: 3.900 m.
- GRADIENT: 39 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Easy
- LINKS: 3, 5
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

This peaceful route runs from the central town of Sant Francesc Xavier to the Can Marroig Interpretation Centre. Leave from Port-salè Avenue and make your way to the Estany des Peix. This little lake with a small opening to the sea is an ideal place for taking part in and learning water sports. There are also small beaches with shallow water which is warmer than the temperature of the sea, making them ideal for spending an afternoon on the beach with the kids.

Follow the road that circles the lake as far as Can Marroig. This building was acquired by Majorca-born Antoni Marroig at the end of the 19th century. He introduced the innovative crop irrigation systems. It now houses a centre that offers visitors information and educational activities on the subject of the protected natural environment. The estate was refurbished and opened to the public in 2011. It was awarded the Sustainable Construction Prize of Castile and Leon. Enjoy the shade under the pines and junipers or take advantage of the available facilities to tuck into a picnic with your family.

5 CAN MARROIG - PUNTA DE LA GAVINA

30 min 10 min



- DISTANCE: 2.000 m.
- GRADIENT: 9 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Easy
- LINKS: 4
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

The main feature of Route 5 is that it runs along the north-eastern coast of Formentera as far as the Sa Gavina watchtower. This route starts at the Can Marroig Interpretation Centre which is set in a wooded area, in sharp contrast to the moon-like landscape that lies ahead. This desert like area is scattered with strange shaped rocks and stones. In bygone days the area was a quarry that provided the sandstone used in the island's traditional buildings.

This walk runs along a craggy coastline, difficult to reach from the sea, with amazing views of Ibiza and its Es Vedrà and Es Vedranell islets.

Eventually you'll come to the Torre de Sa Gavina, built between 1762 and 1763. One of four watchtowers on the island, it formed part of a defensive system that used fire and smoke signals to raise the alarm in case of attack from the sea.





6 SANT FRANCESC - PORTOSSALÉ

40 min 15 min







- DISTANCE: 2.300 m.
- GRADIENT: 20 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Intermediate
- LINKS: 3
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

This short route is just over two kilometres long. It starts in the Jardí de Ses Eres behind the Sant Francesc Xavier church, and runs alongside the old, recently restored cemetery. Then go up what is known as the old Porto-Salè road, marked at the beginning by the Sa Miranda windmills. The first mill you'll see is part of a private home, while the second one, the Molí de En Jeroni, is easy to reach. It is one of seven flour mills on the island. This one dates back to the 18th century and the tower is in a very good state of repair. The grindstones have been disassembled and can be seen outside the tower.

Continuing on your way you will enjoy marvellous views of the Estany des Peix and La Savina, the island of Ibiza and the Es Vedrà islet from the slightly raised path. As you travel through part of rural Formentera, you'll see houses with allotments, vineyards, fields with cereals and buildings with typical Formentera architecture. If you would like to go down to the sea, this peaceful path connects with Route 3 that ends in Cala Saona.

7 SANT FRANCESC - SES BARDETES - CALA SAONA

65 min 20 min







- DISTANCE: 3.700 m.
- GRADIENT: 54 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Intermediate
- LINKS: 3, 8, 10
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

This route is an alternative to the most direct road from Sant Francesc Xavier to Cala Saona. If you head south from the town, you'll find the road that leads to Ses Bardetes. Leaving this area behind, head west along dirt roads through areas full of kitchen gardens, pine and juniper forests and farmland, until you reach Cala Saona beach. This is a pleasant walk past typical, traditional houses surrounded by characteristic dry stone walls.

These traditional walls, built by hand by the people of Formentera of yesteryear, were multifunctional structures that marked the borders of land, protected crops from the wind and acted as a natural barrier to stop livestock from escaping. The stones used to build the walls were gathered when the farmers cleared the land to prepare it for crops.

Your journey will end in Cala Saona, where deep turquoise water contrasts with the red rocks.

8 SANT FRANCESC - SES BARDETES - FAR DE BARBARIA

165 min 60 min



- DISTANCE: 9.600 m.
- GRADIENT: 73 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Intermediate
- LINKS: 7, 9, 10, 11
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

An almost desert landscape, a narrow road, a far-off lighthouse in the centre against the blue backdrop of the sea, are part of our collective film imagination. The lighthouse that was shot by Julio Medem in his movie "Lucia y el Sexo" is the one at Es Cap de Barbaria at the south-eastern tip of the island. This route starts at Sant Francesc and heads south.

After leaving the town, you will walk through rural Formentera with its almond groves, vineyards and fig trees divided by dry stone walls. The final stretch passes through a forested area that abruptly changes into an arid landscape. The far end of Es Cap is dry and rocky, with low scrub formed by rosemary, fennel and thyme. You'll be surprised to learn that this area was once a forest, before all the trees were cut down to make charcoal. The lighthouse stands in the distance. Once you reach it, off to the right you will see the entrance to the well-known cave that also appears in Medem's film, with gorgeous sea views. On a clear day, the mountainous coast of mainland Spain is visible.

9 ES CAP - PUNTA RASA

30 min 10 min



- DISTANCE: 2.200 m.
- GRADIENT: 35 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Easy
- LINKS: 8
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

This unique excursion will take you along the western side of Es Cap. It is a short trip that provides glimpses of numerous facets of Formentera. In just a few steps you'll see contrasting landscapes; rural, forested inland areas and rocky, arid, maritime seascapes.





The first part of your journey will take you through dry-farmed fields, most of them producing crops for consumption by the local families that own them. You'll see the odd fig tree, with branches propped up by poles. This feature is unique to Formentera and its purpose was to create small shady areas for livestock to shelter under and to make fig-picking easier. Es Cap can make you feel as though time stood still just before tourism took off on the island. As you approach your destination, your surroundings will change: the green countryside disappears and the red rocks of Punta Rasa take their place. The panoramic view from the rocky cliffs is breath-taking. Before you, the islet of Es Vedra and Ibiza; to your right, Cala Saona with its typical boats and its white, sandy beach. An excursion full of contrasts to entertain any walker.

10 SANT FRANCESC - SES BARDETES - FAR DE BARBARIA

165 min 55 min



- DISTANCE: 9.400 m.
- GRADIENT: 63 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Intermediate
- LINKS: 7, 8, 11, 12
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

This walk covers about nine kilometres and runs parallel to the main road through a peaceful part of Can Parra: At the half-way point, it joins the old path to Es Cap and it ends at the famous Es Garroveret lighthouse and watchtower.

A walk through Can Parra affords lovely views of the Formentera countryside with its fields and their dry stone walls, traditional houses and small flocks of livestock for family use. After crossing the main road, you'll travel the old Es Cap road where the influence of tourism seems to become invisible. Always heading south, the route runs parallel to the main road, taking you past the prehistoric site of Es Cap de Barbaria. The entire area was densely populated during the Early and Middle Bronze Ages (around 1600 - 1000 BC). There are around 20 sites from that period, three of which have been excavated. Cap de Barbaria II is the largest site, with a complex structure made up of different adjoining buildings. Cap de Barbaria I and III, in contrast, have simpler layouts. They are signposted and can be visited.

11 ES MAL PAS - FAR DE BARBARIA

170 min 60 min



- DISTANCE: 9.700 m.
- GRADIENT: 94 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Intermediate
- LINKS: 8, 10, 12, 13, 14
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

This is your third option for reaching the Es Cap Lighthouse and the Es Garroveret watchtower. The route runs through Es Mal Pas, a natural area surrounded by junipers and pines, which zig-zags through dry stone walls. Soon after you set off you'll cross the Torrent de S'Alga, a flash flood gully that drains rainwater away to the sea. This is a very special place, with old dry docks that have been declared an Asset of Cultural Interest. Fish are hung out to dry in the sun on the bare branches of the junipers and then used to make a local dish known as "peix sec". You will also be able to enjoy an amazing panoramic view over La Mola and the Migjorn coast.

The route runs southwards until it reaches the road, which you will cross, taking the old path towards Es Cap through typical countryside. White houses with small blue and green windows, little stone walls, fig trees, vineyards, goats and sheep. The final stretch, by road, will take you to the Es Cap de Barbaria lighthouse and watchtower to the left, after going through some prehistoric remains.

12 ES CAP - TORRENT DE S'ALGA

30 min 10 min



- DISTANCE: 1.800 m.
- GRADIENT: 38 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Easy
- LINKS: 10, 11
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

Just two kilometres of track running perpendicular to the Es Cap road will take you to one of the least known and most special spots on the island: Torrent de S'Alga. Starting from the Es Cap crossroads, go towards Camí de Can Parra along a road with numerous dry stone walls. This characteristic zig-zag road gives you the feeling that you are seeing something new around every bend. It also serves as a flood gully because it has a slight but steady gradient that drains water out towards the sea.

Eventually you'll reach the Torrent de S'Alga which has well-kept dry docks where fishermen protect their small boats from the waves and rain. You'll notice the dry bare branches of the juniper trees embedded in the rocks alongside the sea. This is where fishermen hang their catches out to dry by impaling them on the wooden structures. This traditional technique was used by fishermen to preserve their catches for year-round consumption. Once dry, the fish is toasted on the fire, crumbled and preserved in glass jars with olive oil where it becomes "peix sec", the star ingredient of "pagesa salad". It can be tasted in many of the island's restaurants.





13 SANT FRANCESC - ES MAL PAS

45 min 15 min



- DISTANCE: 2.800 m.
- GRADIENT: 31 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Easy
- LINKS: 11, 14
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

Starting in the town of Sant Francesc Xavier, head for Es Mal Pas along a tarmac road which is nevertheless still reminiscent of older roads. It is narrow, uneven and largely flanked by dry stone walls, dotted on both sides by traditional houses with small kitchen gardens and farmland. At the start and at the end of the road, just before you reach the forested area, there are fig and carob trees whose leafy branches provide shade for the local cattle. This is something you will only see on this island, and it is interesting to see how these trees are used like small organic buildings.

Just before you reach the end of your journey you'll find yourself in an area with pine trees that provide some welcome shade on hot days. The Migjorn beach is your destination, a long stretch of sand where you'll find peaceful places to rest even during the high season. Because the east wind is more prevalent during summertime, the south coast tends to be more sheltered. You'll find typical beach restaurants everywhere, serving local rice and fish-based dishes, as well as some legendary beach bars or 'chiringuitos'. It's no surprise that this is a favourite haunt for local residents.





14 ES PUJOLS - ES MAL PAS

75 min 25 min







- DISTANCE: 4.200 m.
- GRADIENT: 20 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Intermediate
- LINKS: 11, 13, 15, 16, 17
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

This route is the best connection between Es Pujols and the Migjorn beach. It is a direct road and quite a lot shorter than the main road. Start out from Es Pujols, the tourist hub of the island well-known for its bustling summer lifestyle. You'll find a wide array of services for holidaymakers, such as hotels, apartments, restaurants and leisure facilities, souvenir shops and boutiques and a hippie market... Es Pujols also has a pretty shell-shaped sandy beach. It is dotted with tiny islands, small rocks and boatyard huts that give it the picturesque appearance of a fishing village.

Walk along the Camí de Ses Vinyes between the towns of Es Pujols and Sant Ferran de Ses Roques. As the name suggests, it is surrounded on all sides by vineyards. You will pass by the Can Teuet windmill, the oldest in Formentera, documented in the 18th century and built in 1773. Finally you will reach Es Mal Pas, where the Es Pi des Català stands. It is one of the four watchtowers on the island. All have the same circular floor plan and are built on two levels, with access from the second floor for security reasons.

15 SANT FRANCESC - LA MOLA

135 min 45 min



15 SANT FRANCESC - LA MOLA

135 min 45 min



- DISTANCE: 9.000 m.
- GRADIENT: 26 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Easy
- LINKS: 14, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

Route 15 is one of the longest green routes on the island and it connects Sant Francesc with La Mola. Start by taking the old road from La Mola that runs parallel to the main road, the first stretch of which is tarmacked. This route takes you through typical countryside, with stone walls, livestock and shored-up fig trees, some of which are enormous. There are several reasons for this age-old custom. It stops the branches from taking root, it makes it easier to pick the fruit, it stops goats and sheep from eating the figs and it strengthens the tree tops, making them more resistant to the strong winds that blow on the island. The biggest fig tree of them all, known by locals as "Blanca d'en Mestre" is in Can Metre. An enormous space has been created under it using a spiral system of wood and iron. This internal structure has been analysed by Formentera architect Marià Castelló as though it were an organic-artificial construction model. Before you reach Es Caló, why not visit the castellum romano of Can Blai, the remains of a fortified structure from Roman times. Continuing along the main road, you'll reach the fishing village of Es Caló with its typical seaside atmosphere. Don't miss the opportunity to visit the natural harbour and restaurants serving the area's typical dishes. Leaving Es Caló behind, Route 15 ends where the Sa Pujada road to El Pilar de La Mola starts.





16 SANT FRANCESC XAVIER - SANT FERRAN DE SES ROQUES

30 min 10 min







· DISTANCE: 1.800 m. · GRADIENT: 9 m.
· DIFFICULTY: Intermediate · LINKS: 14, 15
· INTERESTING FEATURES:

Route 16 is the old road between Sant Francesc Xavier and Sant Ferran de ses Roques, and it is the most direct route between the two towns. Your journey starts in the capital of Formentera, Sant Francesc, where you can visit the church, the ethnological museum, perhaps an exhibition in the "Adjuntament vell" municipal hall in the square or in the nearby Gabrielet centre, which also houses the country market where you can buy local fruit and vegetables. This austere-looking church was designed to be a defensive fortress as well as a house of worship, at a time when pirates were still a threat to the local population. This town is also home to the Sa Tanca Vella chapel, a small building that dates back to 1369.

Leave Sant Francesc and make for the town of Sant Ferran de Ses Roques along the Vell de La Mola road, an alternative to the main road. On the way you'll see typical countryside, the Can Teuet windmill, the oldest in Formentera, examples of popular architecture, fields with crops and small flocks of sheep and goats. Your journey will end in Sant Ferran de Ses Roques which has the smallest of the island's three churches.

17 SANT FERRAN - ES PUJOLS - ESTANY PUDENT

35 min 10 min



- DISTANCE: 2.200 m.
- GRADIENT: 22 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Easy
- LINKS: 2, 14
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

This trip is more than just a journey from "A to B" because not only does it link the towns of Sant Ferran de ses Roques and Es Pujols, when we are half way there we can also visit the large salt-water lake known as Estany Pudent. The route takes the historic Ses Vinyes path, a meandering narrow path flanked by dry stone walls on both sides. In the sixties, the town of Sant Ferran de Ses Roques was a magnet for hippies and Bohemian types who would meet in the legendary Fonda Pepe which is open to this day. Its carefree, creative, festive air is kept alive by the art and craft markets that take place during the summer season on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, as well as by live music in the square on Fridays.

Es Pujols is the most touristy part of the island, although you will still find signs of its fishing past, such as dry docks and a lovely beach where a relaxing swim is highly recommended. The Es Pujols and Es Arenals beaches both have access for people with reduced mobility. There are access ramps, shady platforms, handrails, amphibious chairs and lifeguards.

End your tour at Estany Pudent enjoying the wonderful landscape and its bird life; it is a perfect place for a stroll or a bike ride. This spot is accessible using Route 2 to Sant Francesc Xavier or La Savina.





18 SANT FERRAN DE SES ROQUES - ES PUJOLS - PUNTA PRIMA

40 min 15 min



- DISTANCE: 2.600 m.
- GRADIENT: 28 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Easy
- LINKS: 20
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

The path runs mainly through the traditional area of Punta Prima, a protrusion between the end of the long Llevant beach and the Tramuntana coast. There are two roads. The first connects the towns of Sant Ferran de ses Roques and Es Pujols, which coincide with the final stretch of route 20, while the second option is the only one that leads to the Punta Prima watchtower.

Start in Sant Ferran with a visit to the main square and the church. Set off in the direction of Es Pujols along a quiet inland road that winds between stone walls that mark out the plots and fields. If you take the road towards the coastal village of Es Pujols you'll be able to enjoy its magnificent beach and its seafront promenade with numerous restaurants and, in the evening and at night, little stalls.

To resume your trip to the tower, retrace your steps to the road diversion. The Punta Prima watchtower is a fortress built between 1762 and 1763 that dominates the northern part of the island. End your excursion by walking to the end of Punta Prima over the strange, rocky ground with odd shapes and curious contours that will bring all manner of figures to mind.





19 ES PUJOLS - SES ILLETES

90 min | not suitable







- DISTANCE: 4.600 m.
- GRADIENT: 5 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Difficult
- LINKS: 1
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

The Es Trucadors area, to the north of the island, is a long 'tongue' of land that stretches from south to north. The Llevant beach is on the eastern side, while Ses Illetes and Es Cavall d'en Borràs are on the western side. This four-and-a bit kilometre walk gives you an opportunity to see them all.

The Llevant beach boasts powdery white sand with small rocks scattered here and there. In summertime, the size of the waves depends on the strength of the east wind, which tends to blow at this time of year. Illetes, however, is sheltered by sand dunes and is usually a glittering, shiny mirror dotted with the small islets that give it its name.

This area is part of the Ses Salines nature park and is subject to a high degree of environmental protection. With the exception of a few beach bars there are no buildings of any kind. This beach is virtually untouched. As you travel north, both the Llevant and the Illetes beaches are just a few metres from each other, in fact you can spread out your towel between the two and look at both of them at the same time. Just 50 metres of water away is another island, semi-deserted and as glittering as Illetes. This is S'Espalmador.

20 ES PUJOLS - ES CA MARÍ

90 min 35 min







- DISTANCE: 5.100 m.
- GRADIENT: 34 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Intermediate
- LINKS: 15, 18, 21, 22
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

Just over five kilometres long, this comprehensive route connects two of the island's coasts, Llevant and Migjorn, tracing a vertical line that stretches from Es Pujols to Ca Marí. This route will take you through some contrasting landscapes. The crystal clear waters at the Es Pujols beach give way to the wild scenery at Migjorn and contrast with the rural nature of the inland pathways and roads. The itinerary also takes in some interesting heritage sites such as the dry docks in Es Pujols, the dry stone walls and the Es Pi des Català watchtower.

Your trip starts in the well-known holiday spot of Es Pujols, with its fishermen's huts that transport us back to the not-too-distant past before the arrival of tourism. However, the main attraction is the fabulous white, sandy beach with its rocky formations and tiny islands scattered randomly in the sea. Travel southwards along roads far removed from the hustle and bustle of the summer crowds, through radiant, radically different countryside. Eventually you'll arrive at Es Ca Marí, on the island's other large sandy beach; the Migjorn beach. Close by you'll find one of the four defensive towers, Es Pi des Català, which affords beautiful views over the island's two promontories: Es Cap and the La Mola plateau.

21 SANT FERRAN - CALA EN BASTER - PLATJA DE MIGJORN

65 min 20 min







- DISTANCE: 4.200 m.
- GRADIENT: 38 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Easy
- LINKS: 15, 20
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

If you know anything about Formentera then you'll be aware that the Cala en Baster is one of the most special, unique places on the island. It is a haven for fishermen, surrounded by high limestone walls in which they have carved out their traditional cave-like shelters for their boats. The easiest way to get there is to start out from the town of Sant Ferran de Ses Roques, where you can visit the church, the square and the legendary Fonda Pepe, the heart of hippiedom the seventies. From Sant Ferran, head for the Tramuntana coast which occupies the central northern part of the island and is mainly formed by low-lying rock. Cala en Baster awaits us at the end of the road and you will be surprised by its imposing height, its crystal clear waters and the haphazard wind-carved sandstone rocks that hide the traditional dry docks with their cave-like appearance. Our trip continues southwards along inland country paths where you'll see typical elements of the Formentera countryside, with fig trees shored up by poles, small flocks of sheep and goats and family kitchen gardens with characteristic stone walls. At the end of the road is Migjorn, the longest beach in Formentera; measuring five kilometres and with a half-moon shape, it covers the entire south of the island.

22 SANT FERRAN DE SES ROQUES - ES CA MARÍ

35 min 10 min







- DISTANCE: 2.300 m.
- GRADIENT: 17 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Easy
- LINKS: 15, 20
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

This route, that takes just ten minutes by bicycle or half an hour of light walking, separates the inland town of Sant Ferran de ses Roques from the Es Ca Marí beach. This route, an alternative to the main road and much more direct, travels along the inland rural roads of Formentera. Along the way you will see one of the characteristic elements of the Formentera countryside, the dry stone walls that criss-cross the fields. These have several functions. They separate areas designed for different uses, they serve as borders around properties, they protect plants from the wind and they are a way of using stones that are removed from the fields so that they can be cultivated. They also act as a barrier and stop animals from jumping from one side to the other. In short, these walls show how humankind has shaped and organised the landscape over the years, making use of one of Formentera's most abundant resources: stone.

Farther down the road and before you reach the Migjorn beach, you will come across one of the defence towers that are dotted along the coast: The Es Pi des Català tower. Like the other four, it was used for raising the alarm in case of pirate attacks from the sea. It is in a strategic location and is visible from the watchtower at Es Cap.

23 ES CARNATGE - ES ARENALS

25 min 10 min



- DISTANCE: 1.500 m.
- GRADIENT: 16 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Intermediate
- LINKS: 15
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

At this part of the island, barely two kilometres separate the Tramuntana coast from the Migjorn coast the other side. This route leaves from approximately kilometre 11 of the main road and Es Carnatge with the Es Arenals beach. Es Carnatge is a natural, quiet area, close to Es Caló de Sant Agustí, a little fishing village. Your stroll will take you along a tarmac road that runs by isolated homes, ofttimes with kitchen gardens, flocks of animals, shored up fig trees and dry stone walls. Once you pass the wooded area near the end of the road, you will reach the Es Arenals beach, one of the most popular with tourists because it is so beautiful and so easy to reach. Two colours sum up the character of this beach: the turquoise blue of its crystal clear water and the white sand that gives it its name. The shallow waters make it ideal for a family day out on the beach. There are numerous traditional family-run hotels in this area.

The Es Pujols and the Es Arenals beaches both have access for people with reduced mobility. There are access ramps, shady platforms, handrails, amphibious chairs and lifeguards. Es Arenals also has adapted lavatory facilities and disabled parking spaces.





24 ES CALÓ - MARYLAND

25 min 10 min



- DISTANCE: 1.400 m.
- GRADIENT: 29 m.
- DIFFICULTY: Intermediate
- LINKS: 15
- INTERESTING FEATURES:

On the east part of the island, before the ascent to la Mola, the two opposite coasts are very close. Route 24, with a slight gradient, joins Tramontana coast with the south coast. Setting off from the village of Es Caló de San Agustí, with its characteristic fishing quay, we take a route that follows the edge of a pine and juniper woodland and which ends in Es Copinar, one of the last beaches of Migajón. It is a quiet beach with crystalline waters, white sands and small rocky areas. Once past the hotel resorts, we find family-run premises serving traditional food, and one of the most emblematic and authentic beach refreshment stands on the island- just metres from the sea and offering spectacular views. A five-minute walk further along towards La Mola we discover Es Caló des Mort, a small bay separated from the Es Copinar area by a rocky and craggy section.

On the first part of this journey we can take Route 25, the path that was historically used to reach Pilar de la Mola before the current road existed: The Sa Pujada Way.







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