

DISCOVERING THE COSTA BLANCA

Focus on Benidorm



Benidorm

Sand, Sea and Sun

By Karen Marco

Benidorm skyline competes with New York and Dubai, featuring distinctive skyscrapers against a backdrop of sparkling blue sea! Benidorm is Spain's top resort, the most popular holiday destination in Europe... miles of golden sand, a fabulous climate, great theme parks, intrepid water sports, restaurants galore and around-the-clock entertainment for everyone.

Levante Beach

Playa Levante is the most popular beach in Europe. Three kilometres of golden sands, meticulously cleaned every night. Sea

mini-golf, and literally hundreds of pocket-friendly pubs and eateries, bakeries, ice-cream parlours, etc.

Benidorm old town lies between the Levante and Poniente beaches. Once a fishing village, there is a quaint church at the top, and a marvellous lookout point over the beaches and towards the island. The maze of narrow streets are filled with traditional restaurants serving seafood, tapas and cava, paella and sangria.

Cala de Mal Pas, a sandy cove sheltered by cliffs lies directly behind the leisure harbour. Known locally as 'the oven', it's ideal in cooler months for that year-round suntan.



escape the crowds. There's always a frontline spot for your sun umbrella! Once again, there are kiddies' play areas, a floating raft, life-savers on duty and a Red Cross post for your safety, disabled access facilities, beach volley nets...

The Poniente seafront is great for a stroll, or jogging, and it's got a cycle path. Restaurants and cafés line the way. The bay ends at the quieter and exclusive La Cala, where you'll find more restaurants, cocktail bars and cafeterias.

Benidorm bay is located in a

privileged place on the Costa Blanca. Great for weekend breaks, holidays, extended stays, or for living all-year-round... it's not surprising that generations of holidaymakers have fallen in love with Benidorm, and come back time, and again.

Drive up to the cross at Punta del Cavall on the Sierra Helada coastal ridge to watch the sun set over Benidorm, an unforgettable picture postcard experience.

■ Benidorm beaches have specially adapted facilities for people with reduced mobility.

There are three access points for the disabled with parking spaces, ramps down to the sea, dressing rooms and bathroom, shaded areas with windbreaks, adult and child water chairs, water crutches, lifesavers and a team of monitors ready to help people on the beach, and in the water (according to season).

Photos by K. Marco

You can see more photos and descriptions about the Costa Blanca on my personal travel blog: www.KaliTravel.net

activities include a cable ski attraction, floating raft platforms, and the ever-popular pedaloos. There are several children's play areas on the sand, a beach library, and facilities for the disabled.

The famous promenade is traffic-free and pedestrian friendly, lined by an astonishing variety of lively cafeterias, restaurants and pubs – many with live music and dancing. Behind the seafront, you'll find the Rincon de Loix area where the main hotels are located, gift shops, markets, kiddies' funfair,

Poniente beach

The busy beach area in front of the shady Elche 'dove' park is wide and sandy. There's beach games, senior keep-fit sessions, sun beds and shades, and disabled access facilities.

Three kilometres of immaculate sands and shallow transparent waters, Benidorm's Poniente beach competes in beauty with Playa Levante, but wins hands-down on peacefulness and quality-time.

Walk a hundred metres along the landscaped, colourful designer promenade and you'll

