



# SATISFY YOUR WANDERLUST

ADD THESE  
INTERNATIONAL DESTINATIONS  
TO YOUR TRAVEL BUCKET LIST

By Cindy Brzostowski

As we become more and more comfortable with the idea of returning to international travel, it can be hard to decide where to go given how long we've had to put off any overseas adventures. With a newfound appreciation for just how much travel means to us and a literal world of options, what should that next big destination be? If they weren't on your travel bucket list already, two places worth seriously considering are Bologna, Italy and Mallorca, Spain. The first makes for a fun, quick getaway during any bigger trip in Southern Europe, while the latter is somewhere you can spend days on end and still not feel ready to leave.

To help with your planning, we've put together sample itineraries for a weekend in Bologna and a week in Mallorca. Whether you follow these to a T or use them as general inspiration, you'll be set for an unforgettable time.





Nettuno Palazzo Re Enzo



Portico di San Luca



Mò Mortadella

## A Weekend in Bologna

When dreaming up a vacation to Italy, cities like Rome, Milan and Venice are bound to be at the top of your list, especially if you've never visited the Mediterranean country before. But if you can spare a couple of days in your itinerary, you won't regret making your way to Bologna, the historic capital of the Emilia-Romagna region. Bologna is not only the food capital of Italy, which is enough reason to visit, but also the oldest university town in Europe as its university was founded in 1088. Given that the city has an international airport and is easily walkable, it's an accessible and worthwhile place to visit even for those who are short on time.

### DAY 1

Start your Bologna adventure at Piazza di Porta Ravegnana, a city square where you'll see not one but two legendary leaning towers (Asinelli and Garisenda). Then, walk five minutes to the Basilica di San Petronio. This impressive church is one of the largest in Europe and is distinct for its unfinished facade. It's also the focal point of Piazza Maggiore, a busy square with a Neptune fountain from the 16th century. Continue west to reach Mercato delle Erbe, an indoor market with stands for produce and other foods as well as sit-down dining.

Speaking of food, sampling the local specialties is an essential part of experiencing Bologna. Try a mortadella sandwich at Mò Mortadella Lab, the lasagne verdi alla Bolognese (green lasagna) at Osteria dell'Orsa, the tortelloni and/or tortellini at Pasta Fresca Naldi and the cotoletta alla Bolognese (veal cutlet) at Trattoria Amedeo.

### DAY 2

Bologna is famous for its 62 kilometers of porticoes, including about 40 kilometers in the city center, so you'll find that much of your time walking around the city is spent strolling under roofed arcades. To fully experience this architectural wonder, walk the length of the Portico di San Luca, regarded as the longest portico in the world at just under four kilometers. It starts at Porta Saragozza, a medieval gate at the southwestern border of the center, and takes you all the way to the hilltop Sanctuary of San Luca outside the city.

When you make it back to the city, explore whichever parts of the Quadrilatero, the city's lively mercantile square, which you haven't seen yet. Before you call it a day, treat yourself to gelato at Gelateria Gianni (the pistachio is a delight). >>



## A Week in Mallorca

Every year, millions of tourists make their way to Mallorca, the largest of Spain's Balearic Islands. While you can easily drive from one end of the island to the other in two hours, there are far more things to do and sights to see than you might expect. For starters, the landscape transforms from picture-perfect sandy beaches to long stretches of vineyards and olive groves to lush mountainous regions. There's also the vibrant cityscape of Palma, the capital of the island, situated right on the coast. While you can make do without a car in Palma, it's in your best interest to rent one for getting around the rest of the island. Must-see attractions are scattered all over, and you'll appreciate the freedom of coming and going as you please.

### DAY 1 - PALMA

After flying into Palma de Mallorca Airport, spend your first day settling in and enjoying the island's bustling capital. One can't-miss attraction is the Palma Cathedral (also called the Cathedral of Santa Maria of Palma or La Seu), the magnificent Gothic Roman cathedral that dominates the city skyline. From there, wander the picturesque alleys throughout the rest of the Old Town, check out the Palace of Almudaina and visit the many shops along Paseo del Borne.

For lunch, enjoy a meal at Botànic, where you can be seated in an enchanting and serene garden setting. For dinner, make reservations at the sophisticated DINS Santi Taura, which has a Michelin star. >>

DINS PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF DINS;  
BOTÀNIC PHOTOGRAPHY BY CAN BORDOY



Palma Cathedral



Botànic



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## **DAY 2 — BANYALBUFAR & VALLDEMOSSA**

Drive up to Banyalbufar, a quiet town tucked in the Tramuntana Mountains and characterized by a series of terraces. Some things to do in the area include shopping for local products in the village, swimming at Cala Banyalbufar (a small stretch of beach surrounded by cliffs) and watching the sunset at Torre del Verger (a former watchtower on the hilltop).

Afterward, make the 25-minute drive to the nearby town of Valldemossa. You can spend a good chunk of time simply wandering the cobblestone streets of this romantic, picturesque town. For dinner, book a table at Es Taller, which specializes in tapas made from local, seasonal products.

## **DAY 3 — DEIÀ**

On your way into Deià, stop by Son Marroig, the former mansion of the Archduke Ludwig Salvator of Austria. Many visit the mansion purely for the stunning view of the coastline. For another amazing vista, pop over to Restaurante Mirador Na Foradada for lunch, where you can look out onto the Sa Foradada rocky peninsula.

From there, it takes less than 10 minutes by car to get to Deià, a pretty mountain village that has attracted many creatives over the years, including English poet and novelist

Robert Graves. Those interested in fine dining should consider reserving a table at Es Racó d'es Teix.

## **DAY 4 — SÓLLER & PORT DE SÓLLER**

Another day, another charming old town to visit. This time, it's Sóller. If you're staying in Palma, you can take a train on the narrow-gauge railway that runs between the two towns. Once you arrive, you'll be right next to the main square, Plaza de la Constitución, a good starting point to explore the local cafes, shops and restaurants.

Next up is a short trip north to Port de Sóller. An alternative to driving from Sóller to Port de Sóller is to take the roughly 15-minute journey on an historic tram. Once you've made it to the resort town, take a stroll around the protected bay, where a number of restaurants serve seafood by the water.

## **DAY 5 — POLLENSA/POLLENÇA & PUERTO POLLENSA/PORT DE POLLENÇA**

To explore a different area on the northern part of the island, drive to Pollensa, where several historic attractions await. The Pont Romà is a Roman bridge still used today, and fit travelers can tackle the Calvari Steps, 365 steps leading up to a chapel and a nice view over the town.

While you're on this part of the island, take the short drive to Puerto Pollensa, a coastal resort town with easy access to a long strip of beach. Keep going east from there to visit Mirador Es Colomer, one of the best lookouts on the island, and the lighthouse at Cap de Formentor, a popular destination for watching the sunset.

## **DAY 6 — ARTÀ & NEARBY BEACHES**

The beaches, of course, are one of the big draws of Mallorca, and you can find some gorgeous ones on the east side of the island. Cala Torta, Cala Mesquida, Cala Agulla and Platges de Canyamel are popular options, and they're all within easy driving distance of each other.

To break up the beach hopping on this part of the island, take some time to explore Artà, a historic town that isn't as crowded with tourists as others we've mentioned. Check out the fortified Sanctuary de Sant Salvador and enjoy a filling meal of local food at Es rebost de Ca'n Mauro.

## **DAY 7 — BINISSALEM & CONSELL**

If you like wine, you can spend the day hopping from winery to winery in and around Binissalem and the neighboring town of Consell, which are at the heart of the island's wine region. Some popular wineries to visit include Bodegas José L. Ferrer, Can Novell, Bodegas Angel, Bodegas Macià Batle and Bodega Biniagual.

This area is also where you'll find Bodega Ribas, established in 1711 and recognized as the oldest winery on the island.