

# Walking Lanzarote - The Island of Eternal Spring

Trip Code: LWW

Version: LWW Walking Lanzarote - The Island of Eternal Spring



WALK & TREK



GUIDED GROUP



LEISURELY



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience the contrasting scenery of Lanzarote along the GR131 footpath
- Hike over the island's highest point and explore the breath-taking Famara cliffs
- Discover the charming Isla of La Graciosa and pretty ancient capital of Tegui

- Enjoy beautiful landscapes and wonderful flora
- Easily combined with Hidden Trails of Fuerteventura for a two week walking holiday

#### AT A GLANCE

- 6 days walking and sightseeing,
- Join at Costa Tegui

#### ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

- 7 Breakfasts
- 6 Lunches
- 7 nights Villa with Swimming Pool

VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE

## Introduction

The Island of Eternal Spring, Lanzarote is fondly known for its mild climate, beautiful coast, colourful flora, dramatic landscapes and volcanic beauty. This KE walking holiday is centre-based in the coastal town of Costa Tegui and each day you'll walk sections of the excellent GR 131 long distance footpath that covers all seven of the Canary Islands. Lanzarote was declared a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in 1993 and is home to palm-filled valleys, meandering footpaths and white-washed villages. We'll explore the South-Western coast with its traditional villages and sweeping views across to neighbouring Fuerteventura, before walking through a landscape of volcanic vineyards, tiny hamlets, fragrant orchards and lava fields. We'll enjoy views of the Timanfaya National Park, home to the Fire Mountains and explore pretty Tegui, the ancient capital and known as La Villa due to its cobbled streets lined with beautiful buildings. A holiday highlight is hiking over the dramatic Famara cliffs and taking a ferry to the charming Isla of Graciosa.

LOOKING FOR A TWO WEEK CANARY ISLANDS HOLIDAY?

For a complete Canary Islands experience, why not combine our Lanzarote - The Island of Eternal Spring with our one week [Hidden Trails of Fuerteventura](#). Our dates work back to back and with frequent ferry crossings between Playa Blanca on Lanzarote and Corralejo on Fuerteventura it really couldn't be simpler!

### Is this holiday for you?

This lovely holiday is centre-based with easy day walks which follow the GR131 long distance footpath. During the week we cross the complete island on a rich variety of terrain, including footpaths, farm tracks, volcanic scree (lapilli) and ash plus small roads. Minor sections of the trail have stony slopes, but these are mainly when ascending and descending. Each walk is from 3 - 5.30 hours and allows plenty of time for sightseeing and photography along the way. On top of this, every day optional so you choose to walk or have a day off. Adding to the relaxation factor is the accommodation. Whilst there is sufficient walking each day for weekend hikers, this holiday is led at a relaxing pace. Evenings are spent enjoying dinner in the town and of course, sampling local wines. (Depending on the wind conditions the leader may run this holiday from north to south. However this won't take away any of the enjoyment or highlights and the decision will be made once you've arrived).

# Itinerary

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## DAY 1

### Meet at the group accommodation in Costa Tegui.

The holiday starts at the group accommodation in Costa Tegui. Our wonderful accommodation is in a quiet residential area of town. With a communal pool and relaxed surroundings, this is the perfect place to unwind.

Depending on your arrival time, you may wish to swim, relax on the terrace, stroll along the beach or visit one of the many cafes. Costa Tegui is easy to navigate with a traffic free promenade, tree-lined avenues, beaches and a refreshing breeze, which makes it a pleasant place to wander in the evenings.

Once everyone has arrived, we'll stroll into town with our Tour Leader to enjoy a welcome meal at one of the many restaurants.

Meals: **D**



#### Accommodation

Villa with Swimming Pool

## DAY 2

### Walk along the GR131, from Orzola to Haria, and visit the architectural gem of Jameos del Agua.






Today begins with a short transfer (30 mins) to Orozola, a relaxed fishing settlement famed for its laid-back feel, to pick up the GR131. The footpath is undulating with no steep ascents or descents and easy underfoot. We skirt the hamlet of Ye and the base of Monte Corona on a trail of gravel and "lapilli" (small lava stones). The footpath is dotted with spurge and the quirky "vinagreras rumex lunaria." Part of the diet for goats and chickens, this acidic plant is now fondly known as the vinegar tree.

We then head towards one of the highest volcanoes on the island, La Corona (609m). After its final eruption almost 4000 years ago, Corona's lava covered a large area of the northeast of the island. We then follow a quiet country road, passing the cultivated fields of Guinate village, where potatoes, corn, peas and figs grow. Finally, we reach Haria and after a brief refreshment stop we transfer (15 mins) to one of Cesar Manrique's architectural masterpieces, Jameos del Agua. Described by the Hollywood movie star Rita Heyworth as "the Eighth Wonder of the World"

Manrique created a concert auditorium in a 6km long lava tube, running under the Atlantic, which that

was formed 4000 years ago when Montana La Corona erupted. Jameos del Agua is a great place to see how Manrique perfectly fused nature and architecture. The centrepiece is a natural lake, which is home to a species of blind crab known as 'Jameitos', which have become the symbol of Jameos del Agua. We end with a short transfer (15 mins) back to our accommodation.

Meals: **B L**

	<b>Accommodation</b> Villa with Swimming Pool		<b>Ascent</b> 490M		<b>Descent</b> 150M		<b>Time</b> 3 hrs walking
	<b>Distance</b> 11KM						

### DAY 3






## Hike from Haria to Tegui across the Famara cliffs, where Canarian Lavender grows. Visit the Jardin de Cactus.

This morning we transfer (20 mins) back to Haria, known as "The Valley of a Thousand Palms.". This pretty oasis town has a long tradition of planting a palm tree each time a child is born. The local gardens are full of fruit trees and vegetables, whilst the streets are awash with poinsettia and bougainvillea. The main square, Plaza y Castillo, is shaded with eucalyptus trees and the cemetery is the final resting place of artist Cesar Manrique.

We join the GR131 again, though today we will divert from the trail briefly so we can walk along the spectacular Famara Cliffs. Towering over 400m high, these amazing cliffs offer panoramic views across to Isla Graciosa, Isla de Montana Clara. Along our way, we should be able to see Canarian Lavender, purple bell flowers and endemic daisies. We will also visit Las Penas del Chache (670m), the highest point on the island. Weather and wind permitting, we will stay on these remote and wild coastal paths to enjoy the views over to the East and West coasts, plus the northern point of the Canary Islands - the uninhabited Alegranza Islands. Located just off the African Coast, the Alegranza Nature Park is a geological treasure with an incredible natural breeding programme for loggerhead sea turtles, ospreys, Egyptian vulture, peregrine falcon and the extremely rare Eastern Canary gecko.

We depart the cliffs on a clay path that takes us down to Tegui, the ancient capital. The town is named after a 14th Century chieftain's daughter who was married to Maciot, a nephew of the French explorer Jean de Bethancourt. In 1402 Bethancourt conquered the Islands, earning himself the title "King of the Canary Islands.". After a brief stop in Tegui, we will pay a visit to the Jardin de Cactus designed by Cesar Manrique, a celebration of the world's spiniest plants. Situated in an old quarry, the terraced garden resembles a beautiful amphitheatre. We then transfer (20mins) back to Costa Tegui.

Meals: **B L**

	<b>Accommodation</b> Villa with Swimming Pool		<b>Ascent</b> 360M		<b>Descent</b> 380M		<b>Time</b> 4 hrs walking
	<b>Distance</b> 13KM						



## DAY 4

### Walk from the former capital of Tegui to Montana Blanca. Look for bustard in the central desert and visit the Cesar Manrique's Foundation.

This morning starts with a brief transfer (20 minutes) to the village of Tegui, where we rejoin the GR131. Today, we'll be walking from the region known as the central desert of Lanzarote to an area known for its wine production. Leaving the village of Tegui, we pass by a cemetery and walk a gentle trail through sandy fields. The trail snakes on through lava fields and cultivated areas. We are likely to see melons, watermelons, corn, and sweet potatoes, and we'll pass small local farms along the trail. We will arrive in the village of San Bartolome (260m), a pretty town with some interesting architecture, including the grand Casa Mayor Guerra, the former home of the military Governor of Lanzarote. The next part of our walk sees us leaving the village on a paved footpath. We continue the trail, which is gentle underfoot, through a landscape of rich volcanic ash that is home to a number of rare ground-nesting birds. If we're lucky, we'll spot a number of species, including partridges and possibly the elegant Houbaras bustard. These unusual birds are found along the North African rim all the way from Egypt to Mauritania, and a small population can be found on the Canary Islands, including Lanzarote. Our walk ends in Montana Blanca. We drive (20 minutes) to visit the Cesar Manrique Foundation, one of the most fascinating houses on the island, built over five volcanic bubbles! Finally, we'll transfer (15 minutes) back to our accommodation.

Meals: **B L**



#### Accommodation

Villa with Swimming Pool



#### Ascent

300M



#### Descent

260M



#### Time

4 - 5 hours walking



#### Distance

15KM

## DAY 5






### From Montana Blanca to Uga. Explore the land of volcanic vineyards and hike up Guardilama Volcano.

We transfer back to Montana Blanca (30 mins) and join the GR 131 once more. From Montana Blanca follow a wide trail, which skirts the peak of the same name, until we reach the village of La Asomada at the base of Guardilama Volcano (603m). We have the option to ascend this peak, also known as Montana de Guardilama. The trail to the top rises steeply on a small path of scree, but is not technically difficult. The reward is to stand on "Best Panorama Peak of Lanzarote!" From the summit the view extends to the north-west "Fire Mountains" - the Montanas del Fuego, the Los Ajaches Range in the South and the neighbouring island of Fuerteventura. As we descend back to the trail we'll pass the "GR131 50km" marker, which offers a great photo opportunity with the mountain behind.

From here, the path to Uga will lead us across the central volcanic crest of the island. The path is mainly "lapilli" and interesting to walk on as it covers a lava stream lying below and we'll see the famous Lanzarote "vineyards" where thousands of pits have been dug into the ash and are flanked by dry stone walls that shelter grape vines. Farmers in this region have taken advantage of the soft ash and volcanic cinder which has an amazing ability to hold moisture. The area is dotted with figs, almonds and vines, so

the whole landscape resembles a checkerboard! This beautiful path brings us to Uga where today's walk ends. We transfer back (40 mins) to tour accommodation. Time allowing we may have time to stop at a wine cellar to taste some wines (optional).

Meals: **B L**

	<b>Accommodation</b> Villa with Swimming Pool		<b>Ascent</b> 480M		<b>Descent</b> 390M		<b>Time</b> 5 - 6 hrs walking
	<b>Distance</b> 18KM						

## DAY 6

### Follow the GR131 through the heart of the Los Ajache Mountains from Uga to Playa Blanca.






This morning we return to Uga from where we follow a gentle path to the neighbouring village of Yaiza. Described as "short of a miracle" in the village should be under layers of lava after the volcanic eruptions of 1730. However, as lava flowed towards the town, it split into two streams, leaving Yaiza and its pretty church unscathed! The town has twice won "prettiest village in Spain" with its whitewashed buildings.

From Yaiza we follow the trail to Las Brenas. We then follow a soft dirt track, which leads to the base of the Montana de la Cinta (441m). Today we are walking through one of the oldest areas of the island, the region of the Los Ajache Mountains. Created during the first volcanic eruptions, 15 million years ago, this mountain range dominates the south of the island.

Leaving Las Brenas, we follow the GR to reach Playa Blanca in the south of the island. The path is level and easy underfoot as we head through the centre of a lava field known as the Rubicon Desert Plain to the end of the GR on the shores of the sea. Playa Blanca, originally a fishing village, has a bustling marina and is overlooked by the dramatic dormant volcano of Montana Roja "The Red Mountain."

On our way back to Costa Teguise we'll visit El Golfo "the Green Lagoon" where trapped sea water has formed a striking green lake.

Meals: **B L**

	<b>Accommodation</b> Villa with Swimming Pool		<b>Ascent</b> 300M		<b>Descent</b> 120M		<b>Time</b> 4 - 5 hr walking
	<b>Distance</b> 15KM						

## DAY 7

## Take the ferry across the strait of El Rio and explore the starkly beautiful Isla Graciosa.

After a short transfer Orzola, we take a ferry (35mins) across the strait of El Rio to the charming little port and fishing village of Caleta del Sebo. With a population of only 700, Isla Graciosa is a compact 8km long and 4km wide. Today is a day for wandering rather than following exact footpaths as we explore beaches and dunes.

A few areas are lava but mainly we'll be enjoying walking on sandy trails. Often called the Eighth Canary Island, Isla Graciosa has been described as the original Treasure Island! Legend has it that in the 18th Century ships bound for the West Indies would pass through the El Rio Straits and one particular vessel, whilst been chased by pirates, managed to reach land and bury the ships treasure before the crew were captured.

Apparently a cabin boy escaped and made his way to Lanzarote before boarding a ship back to England. Whilst laying on his deathbed, he revealed the location of the treasure and the legend of Treasure Island was born. It's easy to see how the island could be a base for pirate legends as we traverse dunes, beaches and lava fields through a beautiful landscape of volcanic and coastal vegetation. In the afternoon we'll take the ferry back to the mainland before transferring to Costa Tegui. After freshening up, we'll head out to a local restaurant for our final dinner on Lanzarote.

Meals: **B L**



### Accommodation

Villa with Swimming Pool



### Time

3 hrs walking



### Distance

10KM

## DAY 8

### Departure day.

Your holiday ends after breakfast..Taxis to the airport can be arranged through your Tour Leader.

Meals: **B**

# Holiday Information

## What's Included

- A professional and qualified tour leader
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- All land transport involved in the itinerary

## What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Some meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Tips for support staff and guide
- Miscellaneous expenses drinks souvenirs etc

## Joining Arrangements & Transfers

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### TRAVEL TO YOUR DESTINATION

If flying from the UK there are low cost airlines available to the start and from the end of your holiday.

To benefit from full financial protection, ease your holiday planning, and avoid dealing with airlines, we can book scheduled flights from the UK as part of a flight inclusive package. Scheduled flights are usually more expensive than low cost alternatives, however potentially less stressful if your flight is cancelled or delayed. If you book flights through KE Adventure Travel we will offset the carbon of your flight.

The group will meet at the accommodation in Costa Teguisse.

Airport transfers are not included. It is straightforward to take a taxi from the airport to the accommodation.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

## Meal Plan

All breakfasts, 6 lunches and 2 dinners are included in the holiday price.



## Food & Water

Many places on this holiday have drinkable water from the tap to fill your personal water bottles. Please check with the leader at the various locations. Please take purification tablets or a filter bottle (such as a [Water-To-Go bottle](#)) for days when drinking water out of the tap is not available. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles.

Breakfasts each day will be more of a continental style, consisting of tea and coffee, bread, toast, butter, jam, honey and fruit juice. Lunches will be picnic style which we'll carry with us to enjoy during the day, either consisting of sandwiches that we'll make up in the morning after breakfast or a range of picnic items that we'll stop and share between us at a suitable point on the trail. During the evening we will eat in one of the many local restaurants walking distance from our accommodation. The evening meal is a social affair on Lanzarote and during the week we'll sample a range of different restaurants. Some of these will offer a fixed menu of 2 or 3 courses whilst others offer "tapas style" menus. Traditional "tapas" is a great way of sampling different local dishes and as a group we'll order a selection of items that we'll share as a group followed by dessert. Lanzarote produces around 2 million litres of wine and the island has an excellent selection of local wines mainly from the area of La Geria. The most popular grape is Malvasia, originally a honey coloured medium to sweet variety which was highly praised by William Shakespeare! Nowadays the grape produces a variety of quality white, red and rose wines from very sweet to very dry - so something for everyone! Worth sampling is the "ron miel" or local honey run served over ice and don't forget summer Sangria is widely available!

## Special Diets

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your diet with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

## Accommodation

On this centre based holiday we will stay in two or three bedroomed bungalows/villa or aparthotel style accommodation, each with it's own private terrace or balcony and access to a wonderful communal pool.

Located in a quiet residential area of Costa Teguisse, each property is light and airy with an open plan living room plus a kitchenette. Having a kitchen area means any local drinks or refreshments purchased during your week can be kept chilled to enjoy at leisure on your terrace, perfect for a pre-dinner aperitif or night-cap!

Bedrooms are not en-suite, there are 2 bathrooms in each of the bungalows which means you may need to share.

Every morning breakfast will be laid out self-service style in one of the properties, ensuring a more leisurely start to the day. There are a range of restaurants in Costa Teguisse in which to take evening meals.

During the week if you wish to opt out of one of the day walks, you can spend the day relaxing and reading on your terrace whilst enjoying the pool.

Accommodation is twin share. If you are travelling by yourself, you will be paired with another single client of the same sex. Single rooms are available for a supplementary cost.

## Group Leader & Support Staff

The group will be led by a professional and qualified tour leader.

## Spending Money

We estimate that €200 - €250 should be sufficient to cover all personal expenses, including the 5 evening meals that you will purchase directly (allow €15-€20 per meal), as well as tips for your Tour Leader. If you are intending to buy souvenirs you should budget accordingly. ATMs are available at the airport and in Costa Teguisse.

## Baggage Allowance

We ask you to restrict your baggage to one main bag and a day pack of approximately 25-30 litres. The KE trek bag may not necessarily be the best option for this trip and we recommend a bag with wheels or a rucksack for this holiday.

## Group Size & Holiday Status

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status and so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

# General Information

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## Passport & Visas

### Europe

Your passport must meet 2 requirements. It must be:

- less than 10 years old on the day you enter (check the 'date of issue')
- valid for at least 3 months after the day you plan to leave (check the 'expiry date')

For the latest details on visiting countries within the EU or the European Economic Area (EEA), please check the UK Government website

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

**It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday.** Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

## Health & Vaccinations

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

## Currency

The currency for part or all of this holiday is the Euro.

## Preparing for your Holiday

This is an easy walking holiday with limited ascents and descents. However the more prepared you are for a walking holiday, the more enjoyable you will find the experience. Regular walking is the best preparation whilst jogging, cycling or swimming are good for your fitness too.

## Climate

The islands of the Canaries are a year-round holiday destination with what is often described as eternal spring conditions with temperatures ranging between 16 in the winter to 25 in the summer. Lanzarote has its own micro-climate with the north being slightly windier and cloudier whilst the south is drier and warmer with approximately 2,500 hours of annual sunshine. Central Lanzarote has a moderate and stable climate. Due to its proximity to Africa, Lanzarote is one of the sunniest places on the planet. Due to the sunny climate the island is home to over 600 plant species including scrub, lichens, lavender, bougainvilleas, geraniums, hibiscuses and many species of cacti.

## Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that prior to travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at [travelaware.campaign.gov.uk](http://travelaware.campaign.gov.uk) and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates direct from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

## Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

## Books

- Lanzarote Marco Polo Pocket Guide
- The Wind off the Small Isles - Mary Stewart
- Sandwiches in the Sun: The Extraordinary Truth about Life on a Spanish Island - Chris Herman
- Lanzarote & Fuerteventura Pocket Guide - Berlitz Pocket Guides

## Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

# Equipment Information

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## Equipment List

Please try to keep the weight of your baggage to a minimum. See the 'baggage allowance' section for further details.

### You must bring the following items:

- Hiking boots (these should be sturdy with a good tread on the sole and with ankle support)
- Socks
- Trekking trousers
- Lightweight waterproof overtrousers
- Underwear
- Baselayer shirts (long sleeved and short sleeved)
- T-shirts and/or casual shirts
- Fleece jacket or similar
- Waterproof jacket
- Lightweight thermal gloves
- Warm hat
- Sunhat
- Eyewear - sunglasses
- Daypack c. 30 - 35 litres
- Headtorch
- Sun protection (including for lips)
- Water bottles 1 Litre (x2)
- Washbag and toiletries
- Antibacterial handwash
- Basic First Aid Kit including: Antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhoea treatment (Imodium), painkillers, plasters (band-aids) and blister treatment, insect repellent, and re-hydration salts (Dioralite).

### The following items are optional:

- Trekking poles (highly recommended)
- Trainers or sandals
- Shorts
- Camera and batteries
- Penknife (for picnic lunches)

## Cotswold Outdoor





Many of the Equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive 12.5% discount voucher from Cotswold Outdoor and other retailers. [>> Find out more](#)

## Land Only Information

We sell this holiday on a Land Only basis allowing you the flexibility to choose the travel method that best suits you. The holiday starts at the group accommodation in Costa Tegui. Transfers are not included.

# Why Choose KE

## Why KE

With KE you'll walk across the complete island of Lanzarote and hike on La Graciosa, the newest Canary Island. As the inspiration for Robert Louis Stevenson's Treasure Island we can't promise pirate encounters on La Graciosa, but a treasure chest of stunning views, beautiful golden beaches and majestic sweeping dunes are guaranteed.

**Please Note** This document was downloaded on 18/05/2024 and the trip is subject to change