



Thanksgiving in Mallorca



Friday, November 20. Evening departure from your chosen US gateway city aboard an overnight transatlantic flight. **Overnight: Plane**

Saturday, November 21. Morning arrival in Palma, Mallorca. On arrival you will be met for the transfer to our hotel in Soller. The rest of the day is free to unpack, settle in and rest from the flights. Dinner is included at our hotel this evening. **(D) Overnight: Soller**

Sunday, November 22. Today, after a leisurely breakfast Gavin will take those interested to the beautiful village of Deia, nestled in the mountains south of Soller. We'll have time to climb up to the church and visit the grave of poet Robert Graves, who made the village his home for many years. We'll continue to nearby Valldemossa and the Carthusian Monastery that was home to Frederick Chopin and Georges Sand in the winter of 1838-9. After free time for lunch, we'll travel south for a view of spectacular coastal scenery; then return to Soller. The evening is free to explore some of the wonderful family run restaurants around the main square. **(B) Overnight: Soller**

Monday, November 23. A completely free day to enjoy this beautiful town. You might like to take the electric tram down the valley from the town to the Port of Soller and stroll the boutiques along the quayside, stopping for lunch at one of the many inviting restaurants serving the catch of the day. **(B) Overnight: Soller**

Tuesday, November 24. Today Gavin will lead an excursion into the capital, Palma, a city of some 300,000 inhabitants. To get there we'll take a vintage electric train that first ran this route through the mountains in 1912. On arrival we'll take a walking tour of the historic center that includes the fabulous Gothic cathedral, known as "La Seu," and the Moorish Palacio de la Almudaina, with beautiful gardens featuring a Calder mobile. There will be free time for lunch and exploration before we take the train back to Soller. The evening is free. **(B) Overnight: Soller**

Wednesday November 25. Our excursion with Gavin today takes us to the southeast corner of the island. We begin with the charming fishing village of Portocolom, where we'll have time to stroll the waterfront or sit and have coffee in one of the harborside cafes. Lunch will be included at the nearby mountaintop monastery of San Salvador – the best paella on the island. After lunch we drive back across the island and visit Petra and the Birthplace Museum of Junipero de Serra, a Franciscan friar who established a string of missions along the coast of California. Free evening. **(B, L) Overnight: Soller**

Thursday, November 26. Thanksgiving - a free day in Soller. Alternatively you can hike Archduke Ludwig Salvator's spectacular mountain path towards Deia or simply relax and enjoy the town. This evening we'll celebrate Thanksgiving Mallorcan style with slow-roasted lamb at a very special restaurant up in the mountains. **(B, D) Overnight: Soller**

Friday, November 27. This morning we'll explore the mountains to the north of Soller, where the first stop will be the Monastery of Lluc. Lluc has been a center of pilgrimage since the 13th century when an Arab shepherd boy, newly converted to Christianity, discovered a dark wooden statue of the Virgin in a cleft in the rock. The image was placed in the local church but three times it returned miraculously to its cave, whereupon the villagers built the monastery to house it. Descending, we'll stop in the charming village of Pollenca for lunch before heading to the north coast at Alcudia. Here we'll visit the remains of the Roman City of Pollentia, capital of the Roman colonies of the Balearic Islands. We'll return to our hotel via the mountain village of Fornalutx, where we'll stop for our farewell dinner. **(B, D) Overnight: Soller**

Saturday, November 28. Alas, all good things must come to an end, and this morning we transfer back to Palma Airport for return flights to the US. **(B)**

Key to included meals: B - breakfast, L - lunch, D - dinner



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