



The best MARCO POLO Insider Tips

Our top 15 Insider Tips

INSIDER TIP ➔ Big reputation

Their reputation is as large as the Marabou stork after which it is named – the *Marabú* in Esquinzo, here you can dine inside or outdoors under the palm trees – and the ingredients are sourced locally from the island's farmers → p. 80

INSIDER TIP ➔ Feast followed by sleep

You know the problem: good food deserves good wine, but who does the driving back to the hotel? The *El Patio de Lajares* is the ideal solution: a gourmet restaurant with guestrooms → p. 43

INSIDER TIP ➔ Become an artist!

Hundreds or maybe thousands have helped to build the pebble cairns in *Punta de Tostón*. There are still more than enough pebbles lying around. All you need is a steady hand, patience and caution: one wrong move and you will have to start all over again (photo above) → p. 43

INSIDER TIP ➔ Pleasure to the ear

Amateur musicians dominate the live music scene in Morro Jable/Jandía Playa and give it its laid-back style. Their genres range from Canarian folk music to African rhythms → p. 85

INSIDER TIP ➔ Latin rhythms

If you really feel like dancing, it is best to go to the island's capital, *Puerto del Rosario*, where things really get going on weekends late into the night → p. 50

INSIDER TIP ➔ Culinary Canarian delights

Even island inhabitants didn't realise just how appealing a restaurant in indigenous design could be – the *Casa Santa María* merits its new status as a culinary hotspot in Betancuria (photo right) → p. 58

INSIDER TIP ➔ Parrot fun

The *Oasis Park* at La Lajita offers lots of animal shows and entertainment and the parrot show is very funny → p. 69

INSIDER TIP ➔ Simply divine

The fantastic *Bar-Lounge El Divino* in Costa Calma is loved for its relaxed, laid-back atmosphere – here you can dance the night away! → p. 75

INSIDER TIP ➔ Wild West

The west coast is wild and uninhabited and there is no better way to experience it than on horseback. The *stables at La Pared* will take you on an adventure ride → p. 78

INSIDER TIP ➔ Dive under water!

If you want to experience the variety of the underwater world – without getting wet – take a trip on one of the dive or glass bottom boats for a nautical excursion under the sea → p. 108

INSIDER TIP ➔ Island Art

The exhibition centre *Centro de Arte Canario* in La Oliva presents artworks by local artists and sculptors → p. 44

INSIDER TIP ➔ Pirate attack

In the past Fuerteventura's farmers used to fall victim to pirate attacks but once they were the victors – and now the beautiful *Fiesta of Tuineje* commemorates the event → p. 111

INSIDER TIP ➔ A cycle up hill and down dale

Cycling on the island is a must and a good option for bicycle rentals and organised tours is *Easy Riders* in Corralejo → p. 36

INSIDER TIP ➔ Take the easy option

A unique way to experience the island is by trike, a three-wheeled motorbike. *Xtreme Car Rental* in Jandía Playa makes it possible → p. 84

INSIDER TIP ➔ Camel safari

You may not actually be heading out into the desert but the 30 minute ride on the back of a camel is a lot of fun. The camel caravan starts at *Oasis Park* at La Lajita → p. 109



BEST OF...

GREAT PLACES FOR FREE

Discover new places and save money

● *Magnificent landscape*

How wonderful it is that the best of Fuerteventura is still free: the sand, the dunes and the ocean. Nowhere else do colours and shapes lift the spirits as much as here, in the *shifting dunes of Corralejo* → p. 33

● *Visit the past*

Even the drive through a Malpais – an uninhabitable lava field – is something special. Get a glimpse into the uncomplicated and simple lives of the island's original inhabitants when you visit the ruins of the partially restored lava huts in the *ancient Canarian settlement* → p. 56

● *Breathtaking view*

The best lookout point on the whole island is from *Mirador Morro Velosa*. From the slopes of the 645 m/2116 ft high Tegú Mountain you will have panoramic views over the island's northern valleys all the way to its volcanoes (photo) → p. 59

● *Open air art*

The *Parque Escultórico* (sculpture park) covers the whole of the island's capital Puerto del Rosario. The city exhibits the best works from the local sculpture competition held for the last ten years. A leaflet is available showcasing 16 of these artworks → p. 48

● *Cheese please!*

A friendly smile and tasty cheese can be had at the *Finca Pepe Goat Farm* close to Betancuria where you can watch the entire cheese making process for free – from the milking of their goats to the finished block of cheese! → p. 61

● *The wild west coast*

You can experience the spray of the surf at many places along the coast but in the little fishing village of *Puertito de los Molinos* there is also a beach and a duck pond giving it a feel of rural Fuerteventura on a small scale – a type of outdoor museum but without the entrance fee! → p. 106



●●●● Dots in guidebook refer to "Best of..." tips

ONLY ON FUERTEVENTURA

Unique experiences

● *Wind, waves, World cup*

The island holiday experience does not get better than this: when the best windsurfers in the world visit the beautiful lagoon landscape of the Canary Islands they showcase their artistic skills and amaze the crowds → p. 111

● *More than just a hint of Rio*

The magnificent and impressive Puerto del Rosario *carnival* procession clearly shows what an influence South America has had on the culture of the Canary Islands → p. 110

● *Expert hikes*

The countryside may look desolate but it hides a wealth of interesting and wonderful things – large and small. You just have to know where to look which is why it is best to take a hike *guided by an expert* → p. 104

● *Mansion for connoisseurs*

La Era de la Corte on the outskirts of Antigua is just one of many inns that have been authentically refurbished in the charming and traditional style of the old rural Fuerteventura – but with all the modern amenities → p. 56

● *Living history*

The large and beautifully done outdoor museum *La Alcogida* recreates a typical village from Fuerteventura's past (photo). The village comes to life with, among other things, traditional crafts workshops which nowadays make their products for the visitors → p. 52, 108

● *Authentic flair*

Betancuria, a small atmospheric town in the interior of the island, has the most beautiful shops for authentic handicrafts and a rarely visited monastery ruin, providing insight into the way life once was on Fuerteventura → p. 57

● *Endless beaches*

Located above deserted beaches that seem to go on for ever, *Cofete* gives a hint of what it used to look like on the other side of the peninsula in the 1960s before the arrival of tourism and its large hotels. Of course, there is also the mysterious Villa Winter... → p. 89



ONLY ON

DISCOVERY TOURS



1

FUERTEVENTURA AT A GLANCE



START: ① Morro Jable/Jandía Playa

END: ⑭ Corralejo

9 hours
Driving time
(without stops) approx.
3 hours

Distance:

→ 175 km/109 miles



COSTS: 55 euros for hire car (compact car) and petrol, approx. 50 euros per person for admission costs, lunch and dinner

WHAT TO PACK: sun protection, swimwear

IMPORTANT TIPS: Return to Morro Jable is 120 km/75 miles (approx. 1 ¾ hour). Do not take this tour on Sundays, Mondays or Bank Holidays to ensure that all the shops and restaurants are open yet not too busy. Set off at 9am at the latest in summer and even earlier in winter.

Every corner of the earth has its own special charm. If you want to explore all the many different facets of this region, head off the beaten track or get tips for the best stops, breathtaking views, hand-picked restaurants or the best local activities, then these customised discovery tours are just the right thing. Choose the best route for the day and follow in the footsteps of the MARCO POLO authors – well-prepared to navigate your way to all the many highlights that await you along the tour.

Experience the diversity Fuerteventura has to offer on this tour that takes you right across the island: from Morro Jable/Jandía Playa in the south to Corralejo in the north. Take in the mountain landscape, beaches, fantastic views and a meal in the nicest restaurant on the island.

09:00am The tour starts in the south of the island at **① Morro Jable/Jandía Playa** → p. 81. First head to the spectacular lagoon in front of Playa Barca → p. 79. The best view over the lagoon can be had from a **② viewpoint near Risco del Paso** to the south of Playa Barca; to

① Morro Jable/Jandía Playa

(17 km/10.6 mi)

② viewpoint near Risco del Paso

