

GOLF

in Spain



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Front Cover: Golf Costa Adeje, Santa Cruz de Tenerife
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INTRODUCTION

Get your clubs ready to enjoy one of the world's top golf destinations, birthplace of great champions like Severiano Ballesteros, Jose María Olazábal and Jon Rahm. This is paradise both for beginners and for advanced players, with courses hosting **major** international **competitions** like the Ryder Cup, Andalucía Masters, Solheim Cup and Spain Open.

You'll find there are courses right next to the beach, up in the mountains and even near the historical centre of some major cities, which also stand out for their **commitment to** social, economic and environmental **sustainability**. The fantastic weather means that you can play your favourite sport throughout the year. Together with a great selection of high-quality accommodation and so many wonderful natural environments, your sport becomes a pleasure which is hard to imagine.

The great number and **variety of courses** means there is always something for you no matter what your level or requirements are. With really different types of courses within a small area, the choice becomes almost endless. You can enjoy incredible sea views along the coast, play surrounded by ancient oaks and pine trees or try

a course out in the country where the environment is taken into consideration and the essential factors are ecology and sustainability. We have some of the best and most exclusive golf courses in Europe, like Real Club Valderrama (Cadiz) and the Catalonia Golf PGA (Girona). Just choose the one you like the most, and start playing!

There's every possible choice for improving your game: all over Spain there are **9-hole** courses which are quick and fun to play and tough, demanding **18-hole** courses, which are the most common. There are also thirty or so courses which are a combination of both and each has different layouts with a total of **27 or 36 holes** where you can spend hours practising your game on the *greens*, in the bunkers and around the water hazards. An increasing number of facilities provide *Pitch and Putt* courses where you can practise your short game.

The climate, hospitality and incredible natural surroundings make Spain an **ideal destination for golf lovers**. There's everything you're likely to need: a broad range of services, unbeatable accommodation, a wide variety of first-class sports facilities. If you come, you can find out for yourself.

GOLF IN SPAIN

Golf is not just a sport, it's a healthy way of life and a chance to really get to know a country. Come and see why Spain leads the field in European golf tourism. Take advantage of your visit to take a closer look at our artistic and cultural heritage and enjoy both traditional and avant-garde cuisine.

Drive off into the mountains or with a sea breeze in your face. After a few holes you can then relax in one of our parador hotels, spa resorts or thermal baths, oases of peace and relaxation located in surroundings of stunning beauty.

① Go to www.golfspain.com for further information and all kinds of suggestions for playing golf in Spain.



GOLF AND WORLD HERITAGE CITIES

Spain's UNESCO World Heritage Cities are a good choice when it comes to planning a golfing holiday. You'll always find one or more easily-accessible golf courses near these cities with up-to-date facilities and excellent value for money.



Photo: REAL FEDERACION ESPAÑOLA DE GOLF

▲ ZARAPICOS GOLF COURSE
SALAMANCA

SALAMANCA

Take a stroll through the streets in the historical old town to discover a monumental city, with symbolic buildings like the university, the oldest in Spain still in operation and dating back eight centuries. Just ten minutes from the centre of Salamanca you'll find the **Villamayor** Golf Course, designed for advanced players. The course is part of the Salamanca Forum complex, which includes a hotel with panoramic views over the golf course and the

nearby Tormes River.

In **Zarapicos**, another great golf course near the city, you'll be enjoying the oak trees and gentle hills while you practise your game. This very technical course has an artificial lake. Once your round is finished you can then retire to the Club House to relax. The courses, Villamayor and Zarapicos, have merged to create the **Salamanca Golf & Country Club**.

GOLF IN SPAIN





Photo: REAL FEDERACION ESPAÑOLA DE GOLF

▲ EL ENCÍN GOLF COURSE, ALCALÁ DE HENARES
MADRID

ALCALÁ DE HENARES

Come and discover the birthplace of Miguel de Cervantes, the author of *Don Quixote*. Here you can take a stroll through the busy Calle Mayor while enjoying a few tapas, or you could visit some of the churches and university buildings, the legacy of an extraordinary past.

Encín Golf is very near the historical town centre and has an enjoyable 18-hole course which will be a test for all your skills. Another attraction is how the golf course aesthetically blends with the hills surrounding the nearby town of Los Santos de la Humosa. If you're looking to improve your game you should try one of the best practice courses in Spain, with a driving range for more than 100 players. Just a little further from the centre of Alcalá you'll find **El Robledal**, a course which is suitable for players of all levels. The course runs through brush land and oak trees and the uneven terrain provides hazards that will really test your game.



Photo: World Heritage Cities

▲ ALCALÁ DE HENARES, MADRID



Photo: REALFED RACIO ESPANOL DEL COU

▲ SEGOVIA AQUEDUCT

SEGOVIA

The first things that catch your eye are the impressive Fortress and the Roman aqueduct, an amazing 2nd-century feat of engineering which is in an excellent state of repair. The modern *parador de turismo* is one of the best places to savour the region's most traditional dish: roast suckling pig.

It is well worth visiting the nearby La Granja de San Ildefonso and the Royal Palace, surrounded by beautiful gardens and fountains. There you'll find

La Faisanera, a golf course designed by the famous Spanish player, José María Olazábal. There are surprising views out over the Sierra de Guadarrama mountains, an incredible place to spend a lovely sunny day. Just a few minutes from La Granja and with panoramic views over the Pontón Alto Reservoir you'll find the nine-hole **Club de Campo El Tiro** golf course. If you're looking for a more all-round experience, then the **Club de Golf de Los Ángeles de San Rafael** offers a wider choice.



▲ SANTIAGO CATHEDRAL
SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

You'll find the grassy meadows of the **Club de Golf Val de Rois** just a few kilometres from the capital of Galicia. It is located in the La Mahía valley, and has two completely flat, treeless courses. You'll find the course at the **Real Aeroclub de Santiago** rather more technical and it also has a cosy club house offering a full range of services.

Both provide a perfect excuse for getting to know the Way of Saint James, enjoyed every year by millions of pilgrims from all over the world. The historical town centre is outstanding, as is the beautiful Cathedral with its majestic facade towering over the Plaza del Obradoiro. From the roofs of the church you can enjoy incredible panoramic views of the city and its natural surroundings.

CORDOBA

This is the city that is the meeting-point for three cultures (Christian, Moorish and Jewish) and it has left an incredibly beautiful heritage in the streets and buildings of the historical town centre. As dusk falls you should visit the Mosque-Cathedral, one of the most beautiful examples of Muslim art in Spain. The Festival of the Patios takes place in May: the patios and interior areas of nearly all the buildings in the city are adorned with brightly coloured flowers. A delight for all your senses.

Enjoy a round of golf surrounded by nature at the **Club de Campo**, in the heart of the Sierra de Córdoba. There, with Mediterranean forest as a background, you'll be faced by 18 holes protected by trees, streams and shrub land. You'll have direct contact with nature, there'll often be rabbits and partridges crossing your winding path. If you come in early autumn you're likely to hear the deer bellowing as it is the start of the rutting season.

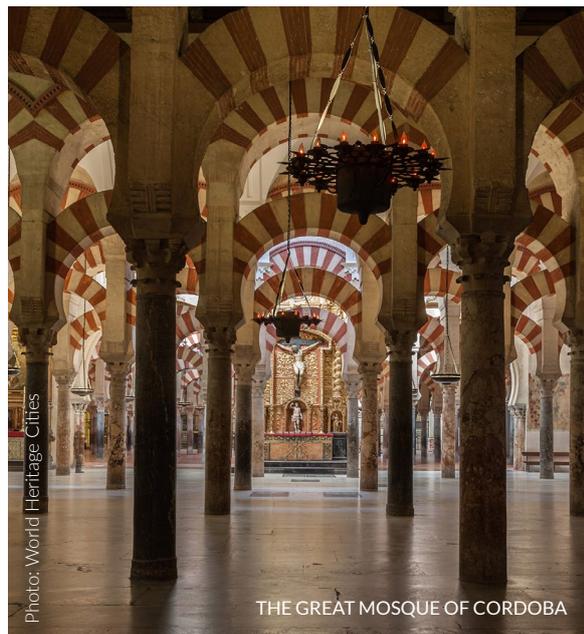


Photo: World Heritage Cities

THE GREAT MOSQUE OF CORDOBA



▲ TOLEDO

TOLEDO

Within its walls Toledo preserves an artistic and cultural legacy in the form of churches, palaces, fortresses, mosques and synagogues. The cathedral, one of the highlights of Gothic art, is well worth a visit as is the Alcázar de Toledo, a Medieval fortress from which you'll be able to enjoy beautiful panoramic views over the Tagus River and the outskirts of the city.

You'll also be able to make out the profile of the **Campo de Layos** golf course. There you'll find a balanced, demanding course with four lakes coming very much into play. Some days of the week they have special offers which include the *green fee*, a picnic at the 9th hole and a traditional local casserole with meat, greens and chick peas. A perfectly satisfying way to round off a day's golf.

CUENCA

If you're looking for a city which is original, attractive and has history, then Cuenca is just the place for you. The city is a maze of alleyways and is surrounded by a spectacular natural environment dominated by pine forests and water. Its most characteristic feature is the "Casas Colgadas", or Hanging Houses, built in the 15th century and leaning out over the Huécar River.

Not far from the city centre you'll find an 18-hole course at the **Cuenca Golf Club** in Villar de Olalla, a complex course which will require all the clubs you have in your bag. For a more rustic environment, you should try **La Vereda Golf**, located in surroundings of incredible natural beauty. The course is surrounded by a pine forest, so peace and quiet are guaranteed.



AVILA

High up on a hill you'll find one of the oldest and best preserved walled cities in the world. The city walls and the cathedral are well worth a visit, and as you stroll through the streets you'll be able to enjoy impressive Gothic and Renaissance houses and palaces. In the area around this Medieval city, sheltered by the Sierra de Gredos mountains, there are a variety of courses for both advanced players and those teeing off for the first time.

In **El Fresnillo** you'll find a blend of abundant indigenous vegetation and numerous lakes and streams. Finally, there's the **El Casino Abulense** country club, which is committed to nature and has a rustic 9-hole course in exceptional surroundings.





▲ ROMAN THEATRE, MÉRIDA

CÁCERES AND MÉRIDA

Take a trip to the past in Cáceres and Mérida, two of the most beautiful cities in Extremadura. In the old town of Cáceres you'll find one of the most important monumental Medieval and Renaissance complexes in the world, with iconic elements like the Arco de la Estrella gateway. Every summer in nearby Mérida the International Festival of Classic Theatre is held in the Roman Theatre.

Before or after a little tourism, golf fans should appreciate the delights of the **Norba Club de Golf**, in the natural surroundings of Los Llanos de Cáceres and the Sierra de Fuentes mountains. On the outskirts of Mérida you'll find the **Club de Golf Don Tello**, a course with wide fairways, water hazards and gently rolling hills, ideal for open play and having fun.

IBIZA

Internationally renowned for the night-life and crystal-clear, turquoise waters, in the interior of the island some surprises await you. From the walled citadel of Dalt Vila there are stunning panoramic views of the city. Take a stroll through the maze of streets in the historical old town and get a closer look at the beautiful popular architecture.

Thanks to the mild climate you'll be able to enjoy a round at the **Club de Golf Ibiza** at any time of the year. It was recently renovated and now has two courses (9 and 18 holes) located in a beautiful valley near the Ibiza coast. There's also a restaurant serving exquisite Mediterranean cuisine.

SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LA LAGUNA

Visit Spain's first unfortified colonial city. The urban grid-plan layout became the model for the first Spanish colonial settlements in the Caribbean. The former capital of the island of Tenerife is full of churches, palaces and stately houses with brightly coloured facades. And then there are surprises like the Museum of Science and the Cosmos where you'll learn about some of the mysteries of the universe.

Surrounded by fertile farmland, valleys and a small mountain range, you'll be able to play at the **Real Club de Tenerife** which dates back over 80 years. The lie of the land is rather challenging, so prepare yourself: you'll need to be in good physical shape as this is quite a hilly course.

TARRAGONA

In the capital of Costa Daurada, you will go back in time to the Roman Empire when you visit its main monuments such as the Roman amphitheatre and circus. They are the stage for the historical re-enactments and shows during the Tarraco Viva Festival, in spring. From its historical centre, you can stroll to the beach and relax with a swim in the Mediterranean.

Reserve time to enjoy the 18 holes of the **Costa Daurada Golf Club**. There are also other courses in neighbouring towns where you can practice your swing. For example, the **Gaudí Golf Club de Reus**, in the hometown of the famous Modernist architect Antoni Gaudí; and the **Infinitem Club de Golf**, in Vila-Seca, with 45 holes in three courses, two of them designed by Greg Norman.

▼ SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LA LAGUNA



GOLF AND THE COAST

Spain's different coasts provide endless ideal scenarios for relaxing and playing your best shots. Seaside golf is a very challenging experience.

▲ LA QUINTA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, MARBELLA
MALAGA

In **Andalusia**, the climate, the atmosphere and the variety of courses make the **Costa del Golf** a favourite destination for golfers from all over the world. In the province of Malaga, the districts of Marbella, Benahavís and Estepona are known as the Golden Triangle, a luxury destination with a high concentration of golf courses. Perfect examples of quality and exclusivity are **La Quinta Golf & Country Club**, **Aloha Golf** and the **Real Club de Golf Las Brisas**. A little further south you can enjoy an experience which is out of most people's reach, the **Real Club de Valderrama**, voted the best golf course in Europe on a number of occasions.

Also in Costa de la Luz, in the provinces of Cadiz and Huelva, you'll find magnificent courses such as the **Real Club de Golf Sotogrande**, one of the five favourite courses of Robert Trent Jones, and **El Rompido Golf**, with amazing views over the Atlantic. Finally, the province of **Almería** features over a dozen sites to choose from, and offers you the chance to play on one of the first Arizona-style courses in Europe, the **Desert Springs Golf Club**.

① *For further information on golf courses in the region, go to www.andalucia.org/es/golf.*

The **Canary Islands** are ideal for improving your game and exploring the exotic countryside. The islands enjoy a privileged climate where you can play golf 365 days a year, in a variety of spectacular surroundings: volcanic landscapes, black sandy beaches, mountains... You'll find golf courses on five of the islands: Gran Canaria, Tenerife, Lanzarote, Fuerteventura and La Gomera.

Some of the most prestigious clubs are on the island of **Tenerife**.

Play amongst the palm trees and surrounded by the sea at the 27-hole **Golf Costa Adeje**. Or enjoy the luxurious facilities at the 36-hole **Abama Resort**.

Gran Canaria is home to the oldest golf course in Spain with 18 holes, the **Real Club de Golf de Las Palmas**, which was founded by British emigrants in 1891. In Maspaloma, there is the **Salobre Golf & Resort**, with 27 holes and two courses. In the south of the island of

La Gomera, high up on the cliffs, you'll find **Tecina Golf** where all around the course you'll have spectacular views of the Atlantic Ocean and the Teide, the enormous volcano dominating the neighbouring island of Tenerife.

The **Costa Brava** will surprise you with its turquoise waters, hidden coves and picturesque fishing villages. A perfect backdrop for enjoying a round of golf on one of the region's more than ten courses. You'll get a variety of options and perfectly-kept green fairways at the **Catalonia Golf PGA**, the **Empordà Golf Club** and the **Club de Golf Costa Brava**, all with more than 18 holes. There are plenty to choose from!

You'll find countless options on the Mediterranean coast. **Valencia** and **Costa Blanca** in Alicante, and the **Region of Murcia**, have great golf tourist offerings. The **Parador de El Saler** golf course and **Oliva Nova Beach & Golf Resort** and **La Sella Golf**, in the region of Valencia, and **Roda Golf & Beach Resort** and **La Serena Golf**, in Murcia, are but a few examples.

The mild climate, natural surroundings and the number of courses go together to make the **Balearic Islands** a unique destination for golf fans. There are over 20 different sports complexes in the Balearic Islands, most of them on the island of Mallorca. That's where you'll find two 36-hole courses, **Mallorca Son Antem Golf Resort & Spa** and the **Club de Golf Santa Ponsa**. There are also places for those looking for the absolutely best services, **Alcanada** and **Son Gual**. While you're there you can also enjoy an excursion to discover the Balearic Islands' incredible natural beauty, find a bargain in one of the flea markets or take advantage of the comprehensive cultural programme.



The regions along the north coast of the Spanish mainland are known as **Green Spain**, and feature estuaries, cliffs and mountains. A perfect setting for golfers seeking new challenges. In Galicia, from the beautiful but challenging course at the **Club de Golf Ría de Vigo** (24 holes) you'll have amazing views over the city of Vigo, the Rande Bridge and the deep-blue sea. Take a boat trip to the nearby Cíes Islands and take a dip on some of the best beaches in the world.

In Asturias, Cantabria and the Basque Country there are incredible golf courses right next to the beach, near delightful fishing villages and surrounded by unspoiled nature.

The **Llanes Municipal Golf Course**, just three kilometres from this beautiful village in Asturias, is an 18-hole links course in incredible natural surroundings between the Cantabrian Sea and the Picos de Europa mountains. The **Real Golf de Pedreña** has panoramic views of the city of Santander and the course is quite challenging. This is where the golfing legend, Severiano "Seve" Ballesteros, was born and who became world famous for winning five *majors*. The **Real Club Golf de Zarauz**, right next to the Cantabrian Sea in Guipúzcoa, is the only golf course in Spain made of sand: 9 holes and an unforgettable experience.

▼ SON ANTEM GOLF RESORT & SPA
MALLORCA



Photo: REAL FEDERACION ESPAÑOLA DE GOLF

GOLF AND PARADOR HOTELS

Spain has an extensive network of Parador Hotels which are ideal for rest, relaxation and enjoying memorable experiences. They are located in delightful historical buildings which blend perfectly with their picturesque surroundings. The excellence of their cuisine and the variety of services are a guarantee of top quality and comfort for the traveller.



▲ EL SALER PARADOR HOTEL
VALENCIA

If playing a round of golf is a priority, you'll love the **Parador de El Saler** in Valencia. It is located on the Mediterranean coast and the architecture blends perfectly with the dunes and pine trees in the Albufera Nature Reserve. The golf course was designed by one of Spain's best specialists, Javier Arana, and is considered to be one of the most attractive in the world. The 18-hole course is very testing, going from *links* style holes beside the beach, like the courses in Scotland, to long, broad fairways surrounded by Mediterranean forest.

After a great day's golf you can take a dip in the sea, relax in the spa and try a real Valencian paella in the fantastic restaurant. You can take advantage of a stay in the Parador Hotel to discover Valencia, where you'll find incredible places like the City of Arts and Sciences, the Cathedral and the El Carmen Neighbourhood.

In the south you can enjoy a few days relaxing and playing golf at the **Parador Málaga Golf**, in a privileged location just ten minutes away from the airport and the city of Malaga. The complex consists of *chalets* with a private terrace and direct access to the golf course.

Here you can also enjoy the spectacular round swimming pool and the soft, white sandy beach. The long, beautiful and challenging 18-hole course lies beside the sea, and there are also another 9 challenging, links-style holes. The course is bordered by palm trees, eucalyptus trees and sand dunes in idyllic surroundings. If you're looking to improve your game, the club has an excellent golf school, practice course, *links*, *putting green* and *approach greens*.

To end a fantastic day you should try the delicious local Malaga cuisine in the Parador Hotel's restaurant, or maybe make a shopping trip to exciting places like Torremolinos, Mijas, Puerto Banús and Marbella. This is the ideal place to relax while enjoying sport, the sun and the beach.

① To find out all about our Parador Hotels, go to www.parador.es.

GOLF AND GASTRONOMY

We suggest you blend two passions, golf and good food. A fun and savoury way to discover our cuisine and new ways of improving your *handicap*.



Photo: REAL FEDERACION ESPAÑOLA DE GOLF

▲ ABAMA GOLF, GUÍA DE ISORA
TENERIFE

The **Greenlife Golf** course in Marbella is an exclusive design and perfectly maintained to ensure a perfect day. You should round off your day by visiting the El Lago Restaurant, a benchmark for Andalusian cuisine and holder of a Michelin star. Very near there, right in the Golden Mile, you can enjoy a memorable day's golf at the **Marbella Club Hotel**. This elegant golf club has numerous possibilities and facilities where you can enjoy the haute cuisine

prepared by the award-winning chef, Juan Gálvez. Or taste the culinary delights at the **Villa Padierna Golf Club**, a spectacular palace-museum surrounded by three golf courses. The **Mijas Golf Club** complex completes this golden triangle with two excellent 18-hole courses and an old-fashioned Andalusian farmhouse which is home to one of the region's most prestigious restaurants.



▲ SELLA GOLF RESORT & SPA, DENIA

Along the Cantabrian coast, Green Spain, there are all kinds of golf courses. You'll also find Michelin-starred restaurants throughout Galicia, Cantabria, Asturias and the Basque Country. Just five minutes from the centre of Donostia-San Sebastián, in mountainous surroundings, the **Real Nuevo Club Golf de San Sebastián Basozabal** has one of the most demanding courses in the country. There is a restaurant with a terrace where you can try the exquisite local cuisine while enjoying magnificent panoramic views of the surrounding countryside. If it's haute cuisine you're looking for, then you really should try the Martín Berasategui, Akelarre and Arzak Restaurants, each one with three Michelin stars.

The whole of the Mediterranean coast is noted for its excellent golf facilities and delicious cuisine. Here some of the best restaurants in Spain serve all types of paellas, fish and signature cuisine. These include El Celler de Can Roca, in Girona, a delight for the palate with three Michelin stars. Very nearby you'll find the **PGA Catalunya Golf** where you can always play a few holes. Further south, on the Costa Blanca, the **Sella Golf Resort & Spa** in Dénia, has three different suggestions which will surprise even the most demanding palate. In the same town you can discover the creations of Quique Dacosta, a benchmark in avant-garde gastronomy.

Madrid is home to the **Real Club de Golf La Herrería**, located in specially protected natural surroundings, largely covered by oak trees, ash trees and holm oaks, and with spectacular views of the **Royal Monastery of San Lorenzo de El Escorial**. In its restaurant, as well as other interesting venues like Cava Alta and Montia, you'll find splendid examples of local cuisine. The **Club de Golf Campo de Layos**, a venue for important *amateur* tournaments in Spain, is just ten minutes by car from Toledo. This monumental city is well worth a visit and you can also discover its delicious culinary heritage.

▼ SAN LORENZO DE EL ESCORIAL

Both the Canary Islands and the Balearic Islands provide first-class golf and gastronomic experiences. In **Abama Resort** in Tenerife there is a golf course with incredible views of the Atlantic Ocean. Just a short distance from there you'll be able to enjoy exquisite dishes prepared by the renowned Spanish chef, Martín Berasategui, in his restaurant called **M.B.** In the heart of the Mediterranean, Mallorca is the perfect place to enjoy the delights of Balearic Island cuisine in restaurants like Zaranda, just 15 minutes from **Golf de Andratx**. If you're looking for a club which also serves haute cuisine, the **Capdepera Golf** and its Roca Viva Restaurant are a great choice.



GOLF IN UNIQUE SURROUNDINGS

In Spain there is a such a variety of landscapes and experiences for you to enjoy. The locations of the golf courses go from mountains to spa complexes, from desert landscapes to green meadows with sea views.



Photo: REAL FEDERACION ESPAÑOLA DE GOLF

If you like the mountains, you'll find an exceptional atmosphere in **Golf de Caldes** in Catalonia, just a few kilometres from the Caldes de Montbui spa resort. The course lies between the peaks of Sant Llorenç de Munt and El Montseny and winds through a pinewood from which you can see the outline of the city of Barcelona. The night sky in this area is ideal for star gazing.

About 70 km away, you'll find the **PGA Catalunya Resort**, with a top-flight competition course considered to be one of the best in continental Europe. Here you'll find all the luxury and facilities you'd expect from a first-class club, including a surprising welcome pack. The two courses, one very demanding and the other more accessible, are a perfect excuse for exploring the area. Hike or mountain-bike along the Rail Trails that criss-cross the region and discover the delights of the Costa Brava villages.

In contrast to this setting, **Desert Springs** will be quite a unique experience. It is located in Cuevas de Almanzora, Almería, a luxury tourist complex where you can play on the only desert course in Spain, designed exactly like those in California and Arizona. You'll be surprised by the desert springs, the emerald-green fairways and how they blend in with the arid landscape full of cacti and rocks.

GOLF AND SPAS

Are you looking for somewhere to relax, play golf and switch off from your daily routine? Then there are spas which combine playing your favourite sport with health care and the benefits of thermal springs.



The **Senator Mar Menor Golf & Spa Resort**, very near the beaches in Murcia and less than 50km away from the Región de Murcia international airport, has a professional 18-hole course, a pool with water from the Mar Menor salt pans and facilities for providing all kinds of treatments. An ideal place for relaxing and leaving your stress behind.

In the interior of this same province you'll find **La Manga Club Resort** which holds top level tournaments. There are three 18-hole courses, each with its own personality. You could even test your skills on the *Pitch and Putt* course designed by the great Spanish golfer, Severiano Ballesteros. The comprehensive facilities include a

wellness centre with a spa, ideal for your body and soul. Here's a real invitation to wellness.

In Galicia, in the northwest of the Spanish mainland, you'll find **Oca Augas Santas Balneario & Golf Resort**, a complex which was built near an ancient spa and founded in the 19th century. The curing powers of the waters rich in sulphur, the hydrotherapy treatments and massages will provide you with an unforgettable experience. Before and after treatments you can play on the 18-hole, practically flat course, with three enormous lakes and a stream flowing alongside several holes, emphasising the role played by water.

GOLF AND ECOLOGY

In Spain there are more than 20 rustic golf courses, which adapt to their natural surroundings and have a minimum impact on the landscape. This shows a commitment to sustainability. Get everything ready, pack your golf bag and prepare yourself for a completely new experience on any of these courses. Most have 9 holes and can be found all over Spain.



Photo: REAL FEDERACION ESPAÑOLA DE GOLF

▲ CLUB DE GOLF SOMOSAGUAS, POZUELO MADRID

In **Castile-León**, very near to Ávila, you'll find the **Club de Golf Navarrevisca**. Practise your swing in exceptional surroundings. Not far from Segovia you'll find the first certified rustic golf course in Spain at the **Club de Golf El Espinar**. It has greens made of synthetic grass, the fairways are cut short and well-maintained, and it is suitable for all levels.

Just 20 kilometres from Cuenca in **Castile-La Mancha** you can play surrounded by pine trees at the **Club de Golf La Vereda**. The natural-grass fairways become a little sandy in the summer and present quite a challenge even for the most experienced players. An ideal setting for you to enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the countryside in La Mancha.

There are two unusual rustic courses very near Madrid. **The Club de Golf Somosaguas**, in Pozuelo, and **Quijorna Golf**. They are very simple courses where only rainwater is used, which send us the message that golf can be ecologically sustainable. Quijorna, with 18 and 9 holes, is in a particularly pretty spot, on a hillside surrounded by oak trees.

Next to the Riotinto Mines in **Huelva** you'll find the **Club de Golf Corta**

Atalaya. The main attraction of this course founded in 1914 is the incredible view of the Riotinto opencast mine, with a spectacular array of red, ochre and copper tones.

In the area around **Barcelona** you'll also be able to play golf at the **Club de Golf Castellterçol**, which stays green naturally for most of the year.





▲ REAL CLUB DE VALDERRAMA
CÁDIZ

SIGNATURE GOLF

A golf course is designed considering its playability, the environment, aesthetics and strategy. Only the best courses manage to balance these four factors. In Spain, you will find exclusive courses designed by some of the best architects in the world.

The **Real Club de Valderrama** in Cadiz has the best golf course in Spain according to a large number of national and international *rankings*. In Europe it has become known as "little Augusta", one of the most prestigious and exclusive golf clubs in the world. It was designed by the prestigious English

landscape architect **Robert Trent Jones**, who really paid attention to every last detail. It was the first course in Europe outside the British Isles to hold the Ryder Cup. Continuous improvements to the course and absolutely first-class maintenance mean that you'll really enjoy your golf here.

Robert Trent Jones also designed the course at the **Real Club de Golf Las Brisas** in Malaga. In idyllic natural surroundings, the course has numerous water hazards (there are ten artificial lakes) and a lot of *bunkers*. Most of the *greens* are elevated and present quite a challenge even for experienced players.

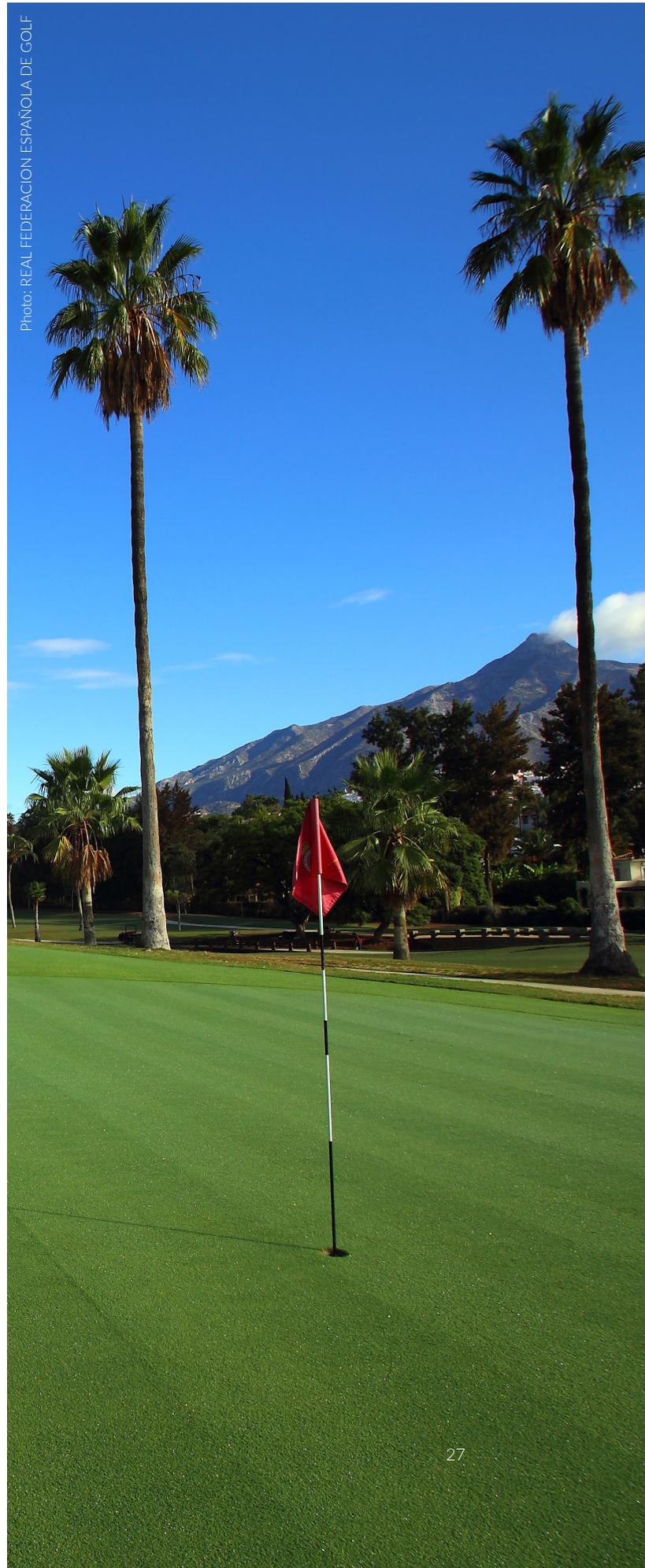
The German landscape architect **Thomas Himmel** was responsible for the excellent **Son Gual** course in Mallorca. The design is really quite beautiful and the course integrates over a thousand ancient olive trees which give the course quite a unique character. And it has one of the best final holes in Europe: a par 5 which is ideal for the select few.

Javier Arana is the great Spanish golf course designer. One of his best courses is at the **Real Sociedad de Golf de Neguri** in Vizcaya. Such is the variety that you'll need to master all aspects of the game to finish under par. From the very first holes you'll already have incredible views of the Cantabrian Sea and arriving at the 18th with the Club House in the background is quite spectacular.

The experience of great Spanish players like **Severiano Ballesteros**, **José María Olazábal** and **Jose María Canizares** is behind the layout of iconic courses. **Los Arqueros**, **Real Golf de Pedreña**, **Sevilla Golf** and **Baviera Golf** are just a few examples.

① *Further information on*
Real Federación Española de Golf
<https://rfeg.es/>

Photo: REAL FEDERACION ESPAÑOLA DE GOLF



GOLF AS A FAMILY

In Spain, you can travel as a family and play golf, since there are countless resorts with a golf course. You can discover magnificent cities and unique places, and continue practicing your swing, improving and having fun with your clubs... while your family has fun too.



You will find options to enjoy family holidays, relax and play golf throughout Spain. There are specialised resorts with golf courses adapted to all levels and ages, which offer services, promotions and entertainment alternatives for everyone to enjoy.

One of the leading destinations is Andalusia, with its incredible golf offering on the Costa del Sol and Costa de la

Luz. You can choose places like **El Rompido Hotel & Golf Resort**, in the province of Huelva, with 36 holes and views of the Atlantic Ocean, as well as the possibility of relaxing with its spa's wellness treatment. The younger members of your family can enjoy shows and entertainment activities, as well as bike or quad tours to the nearby natural area of the Piedras y Flecha River Marshes.



If you visit the Costa Cálida, in the region of Murcia, you can visit the three magnificent 18-hole golf courses of **La Manga Club Golf & Spa**, in Cartagena, while the rest of the family has fun at the kart track, playing cricket, training at the football academy or taking a horse riding route along the semi-wild beaches of the Calblanque park.

Along the rest of the Mediterranean coast, as well as on the Balearic and Canary Islands, you can find many other resorts that offer special promotions for those who play golf and travel with their families. Some examples are **La Costa Golf & Beach Resort**, on the

Costa Brava, whose course has direct access to Pals beach; **La Sella Golf Resort & Spa**, on the Costa Blanca, just ten minutes from the towns of Dénia and Jávea, and with the amazing surroundings of the Montgó natural park in the background; and the **Salobre Golf Resort & Serenity**, in Maspalomas (Gran Canaria).

GOLF AND BUSINESS

If you travel to Spain for business and you like golf, you have come to the right place. You can enjoy all the facilities offered by a world-leading destination in incentive and meeting tourism, and one of the best European countries to enjoy your favorite sport.

Cities like Madrid, Barcelona and Valencia, which often place high in the main international MICE tourism rankings, will also give you more than one opportunity to relax with a round of golf when you travel there for business.

In **Madrid** and its surroundings, there are around thirty clubs with layouts for all tastes and levels. At the **Centro Nacional de Golf**, you can perfect your style and practice on its 18 competition holes. Near the capital city, you can find one of the best courses in Europe, **Golf Santander**, designed by Rees Jones. At **Golf Park Madrid**, you can play at night under artificial lighting, and in places such as **El Robledal Golf** and the **Lomas Bosque Golf Club**, you can test yourself surrounded by nature.

Near **Barcelona**, you will also find options to play golf. About 30 minutes by car, you have courses such as the exclusive **Real Club de Golf El Prat**, with 45 holes designed by Greg Norman. In the Penedés wine area, you can practice at the **Club de Golf Barcelona**, while at the **Llavaneras** and **Terramar golf clubs** you will enjoy splendid views of the Mediterranean Sea.

And if you go to the Barcelona Golf Destination website, you can reserve your Golf Pass to pay and play at different courses, and buy packages with accommodation and green fees included.

📍 *Barcelona Golf Destination*
<https://barcelonagolfdestination.com>

In **Valencia**, you can also hit the ball in incredible surroundings and landscapes less than half an hour away by car. These include **El Bosque Golf Club**, which has hosted various international tournaments; and the **El Saler Golf Club**,

which is located in the nearby Albufera natural park, next to the beach and surrounding the Parador de Turismo; the layout is very popular among professional and amateur players.





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