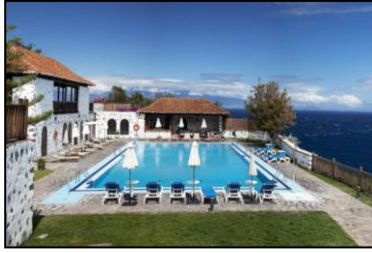


La Gomera

Also known as “la Isla Mágica” (the magical island), La Gomera is the perfect place for a relaxing break. Here you can enjoy the peace and beauty of the island, explore its natural treasures and indulge in luxury at the Parador at great prices.

Prices per person per night from: £43 ‘Lowest Prices Yet’ room only – £58 ‘Golden Days’ B&B – £45 ‘5 Night Card’ room only

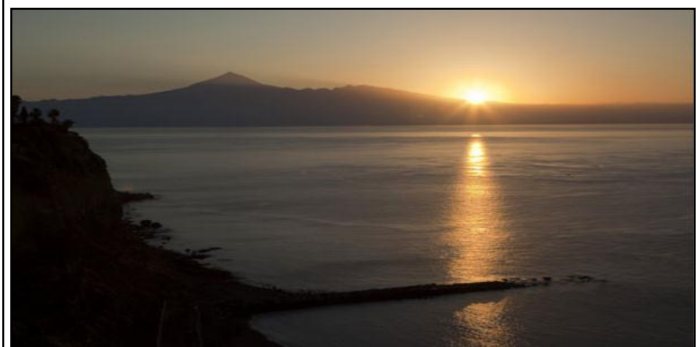


The Island...

La Gomera, the second smallest of the Canary Islands, is full of breath-taking contrasts from palm-covered valleys to huge canyons; from vast coastal landscapes with waters ideal for scuba diving, to alluring forests full of subtropical vegetation and wildlife. Paradise for nature lovers, most of the island’s natural treasures can be explored and admired within conserved spaces. The Garajonay National Park is a prehistoric forest with numerous trails to explore and boasts spectacular geological monuments such as Los Roques (curious rock formations). For a more rugged and mountainous landscape, The Majona Nature Reserve is very steep with deep ravines and cliffs, offering magnificent views and opportunities for adventure. After exploring these wild terrains you might like to take some time to relax on the island’s beaches surrounded by banana trees or lazing on the sand in-between immense cliffs. La Gomera, being Christopher Columbus’s last port of call before he sailed for America, is also interesting historically and culturally. The inhabitants of La Gomera traditionally communicated with each other across the island’s many valleys by a unique language of whistles called the “silbo” – a unique language that is now taught in all the island’s schools. Whether you want to visit historical towns, enjoy watersports at the capitals port or take off on hiking and mountain bike trails, there is something for everyone. And be sure not to miss the local cuisine!

The Parador...

Stunningly situated on a terrace high above the sea, with unbeatable views across to the island of Tenerife and its lofty Mount Teide in the background, this is the perfect place to stay. The Parador is a traditional Canary manor house, with a veranda and a beautiful pantiled roof, and furniture combining Castilian and Isabelline styles. The hotel reflects the island’s history with its interior filled with maritime references and navigational instruments in memory of Columbus’s ships, which set sail for the Americas from the island. The cosy rooms, swimming pool and colourful garden, make a very pleasant setting for a relaxing break away. Characterised by its simplicity, the cuisine of La Gomera offers plenty of tasty delights and provincial wines, which can be enjoyed in the Parador itself. Typical Canary Island dishes on offer in the restaurant include *Potaje de berros* (watercress soup), young goat cooked with aromatic herbs, wine and almonds, and *Cazuela de pescados Gomereros* (a fish stew). Be sure to try *Guarapo*, or palm syrup. The sap is taken from the heart of the Canary palm, and cooked until it thickens to the consistency of honey, used as a basic ingredient in a variety of rich desserts.



Getting there...

The Parador de La Gomera is located in the east of the island, close to the port of San Sebastian de La Gomera. It is just off the main road which links the port to the town. Driving towards the port it is raised up on the left hand side. The island can be reached by plane or ferry. The ferries run from Los Cristianos in Tenerife, El Hierro and La Palma to San Sebastian de La Gomera. By plane there are flights from both Tenerife and Gran Canaria operated by Binter Canarias which fly into the airport at Playa de Santiago 30km away in the south of the island. There is a local bus which runs between Playa de Santiago and San Sebastian. These networks offer you the opportunity to extend your holiday to do a bit of island hopping, staying in Paradors along the way either in Tenerife, La Palma, El Hierro or Gran Canaria.

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