

The Cultural Landscape Foundation®

connecting people to places™

Gardens and landscapes of the Balearic Islands Visiting Menorca & Mallorca. 23 MAY TO 1 JUNE 2025

- **THURSDAY 22 MAY: USA- SPAIN. TRAVEL DAY.**



The **Balearic Islands** were already mentioned by Greek Herodotus, who called them the “Gymnasias”, due to nakedness of their inhabitants. The conquest of the islands by Rome was in 123 AC by General Quintus Cecilio Metelo, nicknamed “Balearicus”. From there comes the name of these beautiful islands. Under the Roman Empire, Balearic slingers were incorporated into their legion’s troupes. From Rome comes the name of these beautiful islands. The biggest of all was called Majorca (from Maior= big island). Palma (palm tree) was founded as the capital of this new Roman settlement. The smallest of the island was called Minorca (Minor Island). It has been wild and little populated during its history. Menorca because of its strategic position and its impressive narrow and long bay of Mahón, was conquered by Carthaginians, Muslims, English and French. In the last years Menorca has become one of the most fashionable islands in the Mediterranean due to the establishment of the gallery Hauser & Wirth and other art institutions on the island. Lovely gardens have been landscaped in consequence.

(The island of Ibiza is part of the Pitusas archipelago and was conquered by the Phoenicians. It is a drier island, and we do not include it in this tour)

We invite you to join us on this trip to discover the beauties of gardens, nature and heritage of the **Balearic Islands** under the guidance of **Charles Birnbaum** and **Sofia Barroso**.

1. FRIDAY 23 MAY: MENORCA (D).

MAHON- SANTA PONSA.

AM

Organized transfers to the **hotel Fontenilles Santa Ponsa**. Check-in for 3 nights.
Free time to unwind. It has a lovely interior pool, Spa and exterior pool.

www.lesdomainesdefontenille.com/en/santa-ponsa.html

**Hotel Fontenilles
Santa Ponsa.**
Relais & Château
Carrer Llucalcari
07730 Alaior.
Tel. + 34 971 37 23 52



6pm. **Welcome drinks.**

Briefing on the trip by **Sofia Barroso**, your lecturer and tour leader and **Charles Birnbaum**, president of TCLF. Visit the gardens of Muslim inspiration with director Nicolas Orget.

8pm. **Welcome dinner at the hotel.**

Sofia: + 34 6393790
Charles: +1 202 422 5710
Nord: +1 202 255 7076

B: breakfast / L: lunch / TP: tapas / DR: drinks / D: dinner
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2. SATURDAY 24 MAY: MENORCA (B, L, TP). MAHON-SAN LUIS.

AM

10:00 am. Departure by minibus to **Mahon**, one of the best ports of the Mediterranean, with and English and French influence.

11:00 am. Board 2 private boats that will take us to visit the beautiful **bay of Mahón** and finish at the **Isla del Rey**, seat of an **18th** Century military hospital. In several of its buildings, the Swiss gallery **Hauser & Wirth** have opened an Art space following the other Art and garden spaces they have at in Somerset (Durslade) and in San Sebastian (Chillida- Leku). On arrival we will be received by Hauser & Wirth Menorca director, **Mar Rescalvo**. Visit the garden designed by Netherland landscape architect **Piet Oudolf** with his Spanish Balearic counterpart: **Alvaro de la Rosa**. Guided tour of the gardens by Alvaro. <https://oudolf.com/> <https://larosamaura.com/>



1:30 pm. **Lunch at La Cantina Restaurant with Hauser director.**

PM

3:30 pm. Return by our 2 private boats to Port.

Enjoy a walk around the old town of Mahon viewing its main sites such as the old fish market, cloister and church of El Carmen and the Church and cloister of St Francesc. We will also try the famous pinenut island ice-cream.

5:00 pm. Drive to the nearby village of **St. Luis** to visit **Camp Sarch**, beautiful private garden of the Landa family designed by top Spanish landscape architect **Fernando Caruncho**. It was once a new potato field before Caruncho transformed it. Welcome by Marivi Landa, her husband, the architect Santiago Alameda and their son, Guzman. We will also visit their second lavender and olive garden, designed by Santiago Alameda. **Drinks and tapas will be hosted.**

<https://web.fernandocaruncho.com/en/>

7:00 pm. Return to the hotel. (50m).

Independent dinners.



Camp Sarch. Menorca.



Fernando Caruncho, his son Pedro & Fernando Jr. in the studio.



3. SUNDAY 25 MAY: MENORCA. CUITADELLA. (B-L-DR) AM.

9:00 am. Departure by minibus.

Drive up **Mount Toro** so that you can see the view of the whole island.

We will then visit the “**Naveta des Tudons**”, World Heritage Talayot burial. (1200-750 BC).



11:30 am. Departure to **Son Vell**, old country manor house now converted into deluxe hotel with a lovely dry garden by **Alvaro de la Rosa**. Visit Vestige **Son Vell gardens** with Alvaro.



1:30 pm. **Lunch at S'' Amarador fish restaurant** in the Port of Ciutadella.

PM

After lunch we will visit “**Rocamar**”, a private garden designed by Alvaro, on the port of Ciutadella. We will then enjoy a stroll through **Ciutadella** visiting its main monuments up to the **private palace of the baron of Lluriach**. Private visit. Welcome by Pepe Olivar, baron of Lluriach. Drinks will be hosted.

6:00pm. Drive back to our hotel. **Independent dinners.**



5. MONDAY 26 MAY: MENORCA-MALLORCA. (B-L)

CIUDADELLA-ALCUDIA-PALMA

AM

7:30 am. Luggage will be collected.

8:30 am. Departure with luggage to the Port of Ciutadella.

10:00am. Departure of the ferryboat from the Port of Ciutadella to the port of Alcudia, Mallorca.

*In the early Middle Ages, after the fall of Rome, **Mallorca** was under Byzantine influence. Finally, the Islam conquered the island in the 10th Century and gave great splendour to its capital that was called “Medina-Mayurka”. James the 1st of Aragon and Catalonia re- conquered the island at the beginning of the 13th century because of its strategic position in the Mediterranean. The Crown of Aragon would later conquer Sicily and Naples. Under the Christian, the “Town of Mallorca/ Ciutat de Mallorca” – as it was re-baptised following the Islamic name- was greatly destroyed. Where the main Friday Mosque stood, a handsome Gothic Cathedral was built reflecting on the blue waters of the Mediterranean. Monasteries, churches, and manor houses were constructed during this period of Gothic splendour.*

With the conquest of America and the importance of the Atlantic, Mallorca would lose its importance and Palma its brilliance. It would regain its prosperity under the first Spanish Bourbon kings, during the beginning of the 18th century, who called the town again: Palma.

During the 19th Century, the islands were anchored in the past, with no industry and a total agriculture economy. It the moment is “discovered” by George Sand and Chopin, The Archduke Luigi Salvatore of Habsburg and later in the 20th Century, by English author and poet: Robert Graves. Gertrude Stein suggested that Graves should go to Mallorca after is hard experience fighting in World War I: “Majorca is Paradise, if you can stand it”. They all praise the beauty of the island and landscape.

12noon. Arrival at the **Port of Alcudia**. Drive by minibus to the **Sa Bassa Blanca**, seat of the **Jakober Foundation**, located in the natural park of La Victoria, between the bays of Pollensa and Alcudia.
<https://www.msbb.org/> Lunch at the foundation.



PM

Visit the **Yannick & Ben Jakober Foundation** and with its sculpture park, olive garden and patio garden. Its art collection includes an impressive old master's collection of paintings depicting royal children and a contemporary art collection. Welcome by Yannick Vu & Ben Jakober. The garden has been designed by Yannick.

4:30 pm. Drive to the town of **Palma**. (1h)



Check into the **Hotel San Francesc** for **5 nights** in the heart of the old town, Infront of the Franciscan monastery and church of St. Francis.

Hotel Sant Francesc.
Plaça de Sant Francesc 5.
07001 Palma.
Tel. + 34 972 49 50 00



Independent dinners at the hotel or in the town of Palma.

"I'm in Palma, between Palm, cedar, aloe, orange, lemon, fig and pomegranate trees; the type of trees that will never grow in The Garden of Plants there in Paris. The sky is turquoise, the sea blue, the mountains emerald, and the air? The air is as blue as the sky. The sun shines all day and people are dressed as in the summer time, because here it is hot." -
From Chopin's letter to Julio Fontana on November 15, 1838

"The nature, the trees, the sky, the sea, the monuments surpass all my dreams: this is the promised land!"- From Sand's letter to Carlotta Marliani on November 14, 1838.

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6. TUESDAY 27 MAY. MALLORCA. (B, L, TP)

PALMA & RAIXA- ALFABIA-SOLLER-PALMA AM

10:00 am Departure by 2 minibuses. Visit the historic **gardens of Raixa, 18th Century gardens created by Cardinal Despuig** after his stay in Rome. He was the 3rd son of the Count of Montenegro and a collector of Roman Sculpture. He personally designed this beautiful garden in his country estate.



12:00 noon. Continuing to beautiful **Citrus valley of Soller**, all in dry wall terraces.



12:30 pm **Drinks and lunch at “Pla del Bisbe” (The Bishop’s place), private home and garden of artist Francesca Marti and her Swedish husband, Gunnar Dahl.**

<https://www.francescamarti.com/>

PM

3:30 pm. Departure. Visit the **gardens of Alfabia**, gardens of Arab origin in hand of the Zaforteza family since the 12th Century with lovely water features.

5:0pm. Return to Palma. **Free time.**



8:00 pm Departure on foot to **Can Vivot**, one of the most impressive **private manor houses in Mallorca owned by of the Counts of Zavella**. Welcome by owners, Perico & Mayda Montaner, the Counts of Zavella. **Drinks and concert** followed by a **buffet dinner** of Majorcan specialties.



7. WEDNESDAY 28 MAY. MALLORCA. (B-L-T)

PALMA-VALLEDEMOSSA-DEIA.

AM

10:00 am. Depart by minibus. Drive to **Valldemossa**. On the way lecture on Raymond Lull or Ramon Lull, George Sand and the Archduke Luigi Salvatore of Habsburg.

Visit the **Carthusian Monastery** and its gardens, where Chopin and George Sand lived during the winter of 1838. Then, we will have a walk through the charming village famous for its plants and flowerpots decorating the winding streets.

Visit the **private rose garden of the Marquises of Ysasi**.

1:30 pm. **Lunch at the private garden of artist Clara Carvajal**, in the Carthusian Monastery.



PM

3:00 pm. Departure by minibus. **Visit Son Moragues**, the beautiful eco-farm and 19th Century Garden of Bruno and Aina Entrecanales.

5:00 pm. Continue to **Son Marroig**, the late Archduke Luigi Salvatore Habsburg's main home on the island with owners.

Then we will enjoy a scenic drive to the village of **Deia**, home of the late poet and author Robert Graves. Optional walk in the village up to the Cemetery and Graves tomb. Beautiful views.

7:00 pm **Drinks and tapas at Belmond La Residencia Hotel gardens**.

8:00 pm. Return to Palma.



8. THURSDAY 29 MAY. MALLORCA (B-L-D)

PALMA- FELANITX- PALMA.

AM

10:00am. Departure by minibus Visit **Son Muda gardens** designed by Helene Lindgens. This garden has been featured in “Adventures in Eden” by Carolyn Mullet. It also has a sculpture collection. Welcome by owners Hans & Helene Lindgens and landscaper Hans Achille. Drinks will be hosted.



1:00pm. Continue to **Son Bernadinet rural hotel for lunch.** Its garden has been designed by German landscaper Henning Braiman. Welcome by owners Francisca and Alicia Bonet.

<https://www.breimann-cie.com/henning-breimann/>

<https://www.son-bernadinet.com/>

PM

3:30 pm. Visit to **Son Mut Nou**, fig tree collection and nursery. Welcome by owner and fig tree expert **Montserrat Pons**, who will show us his collection and explain all the different varieties. Fig tasting together with a tasting of Mallorca products made with figs. <https://monserratpons.com/sonmutnou/>



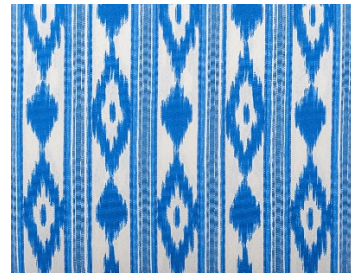
5:30 pm. Drive to **Son Oliver, private home, and garden of Winckler- Moragues family.** Welcome by Margarita Moragues. She is a poet, a gardener, and a wonderful cook. Her late husband was an architect. Both passionate gardeners, they designed this private paradise in the last 25 years when she inherited her family home with a 19th Century Garden. Over the years they have expanded the garden, creating an incredible space based on the local indigenous species such as mastic bushes’ = *Pistacia lentiscus*, “palmitos” = *Chamaerops Humilis* and wild olive trees. Visit the garden followed by a **buffet dinner.**



8.30 pm. Return to the hotel.

8. FRIDAY 30 MAY: MALLORCA. (B-L-D) POLLENSA- FORMENTOR-LLUBI-SANTA EUGENIA. AM

10:00am. Departure by minibus to **Pollensa**. Visit **Vicens textiles** that have been producing the Majorcan typical cotton fabrics of Ikat influence for generations called “telas de llenguas”. Lemonade a finger food will be hosted. After we will explore the beautiful village of **Pollensa**.
1:30pm. Lunch at local restaurant in Pollensa.



PM.

3:00pm. Drive to **Cape Formentor** to see the view. Then we will continue to **Llubí**. Special visit **Sa Vinya Vella**, spectacular **private garden of the Countess of la Coruña**, landscaped by **Fernando Caruncho** over 30 years ago. (Featured in “Reflections of Paradise”, The gardens of Fernando Caruncho by Rizzoli)



Departure to the quaint village of **Santa Eugenia**, where we will have **dinner at the private garden of Ana Toran & Jose Ortega**. Ana designed her garden herself. Garden sculptures by English artist James Lambourne. Guitar music by Mary Lambourne.

9:30 pm Return to Palma.

9. SATURDAY 31 MAY:

PALMA.

AM

10:00 am. Departure by coach. Visit **Bellver Gothic castle**, one of the few round castles in the world, it boasts an incredible view on the bay of Palma.



Continue to the **Pilar & Joan Miró Foundation**. Located on the grounds of Miró private home: it has a building by Pritzker prize Rafael Moneo; Miró's studio, built by architect José Luis Sert (Harvard architectural Dean in the 40's) and an old farmhouse, which was his sculpture studio, that was bought thanks to a Carnegie-Mellon award. All is surrounded by almond and carob trees and there is a lovely sculpture garden. Guided visit with curator Patricia Juncosa, great-niece of Miró. <https://miromallorca.com/en/>





1:30 pm. Departure for **tapas lunch at El Pesquero** on the seafront.

PM

3:30pm Visit the **Cathedral**, Palma's seafront landmark, which in old days reflected on the water. It's Gothic interior was redesigned by Gaudí. Some years ago, the Mallorca artist, Miquel Barceló, designed the impressive chapel of St Peter, in ceramics. We will then enjoy a stroll, viewing **Palma's architecture and art treasures, patios, and its hidden gardens**. Visit the **bishop's garden, Arab baths, and the Convent of St Claire**.

6:00pm. Return to the hotel. Free time.

8:00 pm. Departure by minibus for our **farewell dinner at Cap Rocat**, fortress turned into a deluxe hotel on the cliffs of the bay of Palma.

11:00 pm. Return to our hotel.



10. SUNDAY 1 JUNIO PALMA-USA.

Individual transfers to the airport.

