

Pauwels Travel Bureau  
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## SPAIN'S SUBTROPICAL "FORTUNATE ISLES": THE CANARIES

12 days, Thursday, February 16, to Monday, February 27, 2012

*A wonderful winter break on islands blessed with a subtropical and dry climate, outstanding natural beauty, including exuberant vegetation as well as superb coastal, mountain, and desert landscapes, a rich history and culture, and excellent Spanish food and wine! We stay in a fine 4-star/first-class hotel on the island of Tenerife, but will explore two other islands, Gran Canaria and Gomera on daytrips by fast ferry. Two meals are included daily. The tour is escorted by Jacques Pauwels, PhD, author of *Beneath the Dust of Time* (London, 2009), who will lecture on the history of the islands, their aboriginal inhabitants, the Guanches, and the role of the Canaries in the voyages of discoverers like Columbus.*

Tour cost, based on double occupancy:  
From Toronto: \$2,695 - Single room supplement: only \$345

### PROPOSED ITINERARY:

#### Day 1 – Thursday, February 16:

Evening departure from Toronto International Airport to Frankfurt with Lufthansa Airlines. Dinner and a light breakfast will be served on board.

#### Day 2 - Friday, February 17:

Morning arrival in Frankfurt, and connecting flights to Madrid and **Tenerife**. Arrival in Tenerife in the late afternoon, and short transfer to the first-class/4-star Hotel Catalonia Las Vegas, magnificently located on the waterfront in the resort of **Puerto de La Cruz**, in the middle of the "banana belt" of the lush northern shore of the island. Welcome drinks and buffet-dinner in the restaurant of the hotel. ([www.hoteles-catalonia.com/pictures](http://www.hoteles-catalonia.com/pictures) and a video on [www.hoteles-catalonia.com/es/nuestros\\_hoteles/europa/espanya/canarias/tenerife/hotel\\_catalonia\\_las\\_vegas/index.jsp](http://www.hoteles-catalonia.com/es/nuestros_hoteles/europa/espanya/canarias/tenerife/hotel_catalonia_las_vegas/index.jsp); guest comments on: [www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Hotel\\_Review-g187481-d291589-Reviews-Catalonia\\_Las\\_Vegas-Puerto\\_de\\_la\\_Cruz\\_Tenerife\\_Canary\\_Islands.html](http://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Hotel_Review-g187481-d291589-Reviews-Catalonia_Las_Vegas-Puerto_de_la_Cruz_Tenerife_Canary_Islands.html))

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE PROVIDE STANDARD ROOMS *WITHOUT BALCONY OR SEA VIEW*. ROOMS *WITH BALCONY AND SEA VIEW* ARE AVAILABLE AT A SURCHARGE OF \$60 PER PERSON FOR THE ENTIRE 10-DAY STAY. PLEASE ADVISE WHEN BOOKING IF YOU WOULD LIKE AN UPGRADED ROOM.



< *View from a room in Hotel Catalonia Las Vegas*

Day 3 - Saturday, February 18:

Morning walking tour of Puerto de la Cruz. Frequent stops will be made at belevederes along the seafront promenade in order to view and photograph the rugged rocky coast and the snow-capped Pico del Teide, a huge volcano, with 3,718 m the highest point in the archipelago and indeed in all of Spain. Local attractions include Martianez Lake, a complex of swimming pools surrounded by vegetation and volcanic rock; Playa Jardin,

“Garden Beach,” a black sandy beach; the old town with its 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century houses; the historic San Telmo Chapel; Castillo San Felipe Fortress. The afternoon is free to explore the town on your own.

Day 4 - Sunday, February 19:

Full-day circle tour of Tenerife, the largest of the seven Canary Islands, featuring a very green northern part (with countless banana plantations) and an arid southern zone, separated by Teide, the huge volcano. Our itinerary will include the quaint town of **Icod de Los Vinos**, famous for its particularly impressive (and very old) specimen of the dragon tree, the only survivor of the archipelago’s original flora; the Castillo de San Miguel in **Garachico**; the resort of **Los Gigantes**, whose name refers to enormous black cliffs with a vertical drop of over 400 meters!; and **Candelaria**, a famous centre of pilgrimage devoted to the Virgin Mary. Return to the hotel in time for dinner.

*Los Gigantes >*

Day 5 - Monday, February 20:

Full-day excursion, by fast ferry, to the island of **Gran Canaria**, second largest island of the archipelago. Upon our arrival in the Starting in the port of Las Nieves (Agaete), where we arrive, we first visit the local cathedral, then pay a visit to the Basílica of the Virgen del Pino. On via Valleseco to Cruz de Tejera, where we make a stop to visit the typical shops and enjoy the panoramic view. Lunch in a typical restaurant in Santa Lucía. Our afternoon program includes the spectacular Dunes of Maspalomas, conjuring up the Sahara, and some time in Las Palmas, the island’s capital. ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gran\\_Canaria](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gran_Canaria))



*The Sahara? No, the dunes of Maspalomas!*

Day 6 - Tuesday, February 21:

Full-day excursion to Tenerife's historically most important towns: **Santa Cruz**, the capital, and **La Laguna**, a university city, with visits to the most important churches and monasteries as well as free time for shopping.

**WEATHER:**

Like the other islands of the Canary Archipelago, Tenerife enjoys a wonderful subtropical climate, with lots of sunshine and very little rain. In late February, the temperature oscillates between a low of 16-17° C and a high of 21° C, with a daily mean temperature of 18° C.

Day 7 - Wednesday, February 22:

Free day. An optional **dolphin and whale watching boat tour** will be available, including transportation to/from the port of Playa de las Americas, on the SW coast of Tenerife. The Atlantic waters between western Tenerife and the island of La Gomera are home to giant sperm, minke, white and blue whales as well as common, spotted, and bottlenose dolphins.



< *Whale watching off Tenerife*

Day 8 - Thursday, February 23:

Morning excursion to **Teide National Park**, the most visited National Park in the Canary Islands and Spain; with around 3 million visitors annually, it is second only to Mt. Fuji in Japan! Teide was a sacred mountain to the aboriginal inhabitants of the Canary Islands, like Mt. Olympus was to the ancient Greeks. (For more information, see

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teide>)



*Volcanic landscape in Teide National Park*

Day 9 - Friday, February 24:

This morning, visit to **Loro Park**, a subtropical garden with an impressive collection of animals, including parrots, monkeys, dolphins, and crocodiles! Afternoon at leisure. This evening, *optional* Flamenco show! (Cost approximately \$50)

Day 10 - Saturday, February 25:

Full day excursion (by ferry boat) to **La Gomera**, one of the smallest islands of the Canary group, situated 35 km south-west of Tenerife, a distance covered by fast ferry in about one hour. Our local sightseeing will include a drive through Garajonay National Park, a rare example of "laurisilva," the humid kind of subtropical forest that covered almost all of Europe in the Tertiary Era, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with stops at spectacular viewpoints and in quaint villages, a demonstration of traditional whistle-blowing, lunch in a country restaurant, and time to explore the island's capital, San Sebastian, with its souvenirs of Columbus, who, having arrived from Spain, took on supplies here before sailing on his 1492 voyage of discovery to the New World, propelled by the prevailing northeast trade winds. ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La\\_Gomera](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Gomera))



*San Sebastian, capital of La Gomera, with Tenerife and the Pico de Teide in the background*

Day 11 - Sunday, February 26:

Your last day in the Canary Islands is entirely at leisure.

Day 12 - Monday, February 27:

Early morning transfer to the airport and return flight to Toronto, via Madrid and Frankfurt. Arrival in Toronto around 7:30 PM.

**Tour cost, based on double occupancy, from Toronto: \$2,695 – Single room supplement: \$345**

*Included in the price are:*

- Return airfare from Toronto to Tenerife;
- Accommodation, based on double occupancy, in a first-class/4-star hotel – the single room surcharge is \$345;
- Transfers and all visits and sightseeing as described in the itinerary;
- Breakfast and dinner (both buffet-style) daily as well as lunch on days 5 and 10.

*Not included:*

- **The usual combination of airport taxes, fuel surcharges, and security fees, presently (July 2011) approximately \$500, but subject to change;**
- Wine, beer, mineral water and similar beverages with dinners;
- All items of a personal nature;
- Travel Insurance, available as follows:

All-inclusive package:

Up to age 59:	\$221.40
Ages 60-64:	\$272.16
Ages 65-69:	\$326.16
Ages 70-74:	\$451.44
Ages 75 and over:	Call for rates

Non-medical package:

Up to age 59:	\$181.44
Ages 60-64:	\$198.72
Ages 65-69:	\$218.16
Ages 70-74:	\$246.24
Ages 75 and over:	Call for rates

## THE CANARY ISLANDS

The Canary Islands are a Spanish archipelago situated off the northwest coast of Africa, approximately 100 km west of southern Morocco. There are seven islands: Tenerife, Gran Canaria, Fuerteventura, Lanzarote, La Palma, La Gomera, and El Hierro, as well as a few islets. The archipelago's beaches, climate and important natural attractions, especially Mount Teide, the third largest volcano in the world, make it a major tourist destination, with over 12 million visitors per year. The islands enjoy a sub-tropical climate. During the times of the Spanish Empire, the Canaries were the main stopover for Spanish galleons on their way to the New World because of the favorable easterly trade winds. The name *Islas Canarias* is likely derived from the Latin term *Insula Canaria*, meaning "Island of the Dogs." These dogs were probably a species of monk seals, known as "sea dogs" in Latin, no longer present in the archipelago. The original inhabitants of the islands were the mysterious Guanches, now extinct. (Summarized from Wikipedia articles, see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canary\\_islands](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canary_islands) and <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guanches>)



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Ont. Reg. #1034992

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

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**RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSITS:**

Reservations should be made as early as possible to ensure the departure of your choice. A deposit of \$750.00 is required at the time of registration. **Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of your deposit and application form. No reservations will be accepted without a signed application form.**

**REFUND OF UNUSED ARRANGEMENTS:**

Because the rates of Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. are based on group participation, no refund can be made for any tour accommodation or tour service or tour feature not taken. If cancellation occurs while the tour is in progress, no refund can be made for the tour portion not taken. We strongly suggest that to allow for any unexpected contingencies, you purchase the all-inclusive insurance.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:**

Refund of deposit is made in full if cancellation is received in writing by Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. more than 90 days prior of the departure date of the tour less a \$500.00 non refundable administrative fee per person. For cancellation received in writing 90 days prior or less the following cancellation charges apply:

90 days to 46 days before departure:	25% of tour cost
45 to 15 days before departure:	50% of tour cost
within 14 days prior to departure:	100% of tour cost

**RESPONSIBILITY:**

Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. reserves the right without notice, to withdraw any part or all of the tour. Factors such as airline schedule changes, hotel overbookings, inclement weather, etc. may necessitate changes in the itinerary as outlined. There may also be other circumstances in which changes become necessary or advisable. Any savings realized by these changes will be passed on to the passengers, any resultant expenses shall be borne by the passenger. Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. acts only as an agent in securing hotel, transportation and other travel services and in no event shall be held responsible for the failure by any person or company to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. All hotel, transportation and other travel services are provided to tour members subject to all the terms and conditions under which they are offered to the public generally. The acceptance of the initial service to be provided under the tour shall be considered an acceptance by the tour member of those conditions. Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. also reserves the right to decline, to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour, in which case equitable refund will be made at the discretion of the tour operators.

**AIR TRANSPORTATION:**

Trans Atlantic economy flight by scheduled, IATA carriers, based on a group rate, but other fares may also be used. Deviations (e.g. earlier departures or later returns) are usually available at a surcharge. All fares are subject to specific rules and regulations, to changes, and to government approval.

## APPLICATION FORM

Please book \_\_\_ seat(s) on the "Canary Islands Tour" of February 16 to 27, 2012.

Enclosed is my/our deposit of \_\_\_\_\_ (\$750 per person, *plus* insurance premium if taken.)

I would like a room with balcony at a surcharge of \$60: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**Deposit and insurance premium, if taken, are due with registration. You will be invoiced for the balance approximately 45 days prior to departure.**

**WE NOW REQUIRE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT (INFORMATION PAGES ONLY) TO BE SENT WITH YOUR APPLICATION FORM AT TIME OF REGISTRATION.**

**Name as on Passport.** Indicate the appropriate title before each name (Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr., Ms.)

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, give your commonly used first name as you would like it to appear on your name tag: (e.g. "Liz" for "Mary Elizabeth") \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (Residence) \_\_\_\_\_ (Business) \_\_\_\_\_ (Fax/Email) \_\_\_\_\_

If traveling alone, please indicate your willingness to share accommodations: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

SINGLE ROOM REQUIRED: \_\_\_\_\_

(We will try to find a roommate for those willing to share, but cannot guarantee success in doing so. For single travelers we are not able to match, the single supplement will apply.)

**SPECIAL REQUESTS:** (Dietary, wheelchair assistance, frequent flyer number, twin beds, etc.) Please list here so we can do our best to assist you. (We will do our best to assist you but cannot guarantee success, especially in the case of requests for specific seating arrangements, since airlines do not normally allow individual seat selections for groups.)

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I/we agree to the "terms and conditions" attached to the program. \_\_\_\_\_

**Insurance**, I/we accept:

All-inclusive Package \_\_\_\_\_ Non-medical Package \_\_\_\_\_ Decline Insurance \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (s) \_\_\_\_\_

If purchasing travel insurance, we require your date of birth:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT:**

Cheque payable to Pauwels Travel     Visa     Mastercard     American Express

Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please forward this completed form, copy of passport and payment to:**

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