

Lanzarote - Road

Tour Leader: John Upton

Tuesday 21th to Monday 27th January 2025

Lanzarote is the perfect winter cycling destination:

- * little rain
- * temperatures in the day rarely going below 20 degrees
- * some great roads, being well maintained and relatively quite
- * a wide variety of different terrain, albeit pretty arid

This is a 5/6 day, fixed-base trip based purely on paved roads, avoiding those which are busy or fast wherever possible. Each day we will head out to a different corner of the island, taking in some of the best views and visiting attractions, both on and off the 'regular' tourist trail.

Itinerary

Tuesday 21st January 2025 Arrival

Lanzarote Airport, Accommodation near Mozaga, settling in

- No cycling
- Accommodation: Guesthouse near Mozaga
- Meals: (D)

Wednesday 22nd January 2025 North

Teguise, Haria, Mirador Graciosa, Jameos del Agua, Arieta

- Route distance: 78.0km
- Route altitude gain: 1500m
- Accommodation: Guesthouse near Mozaga
- Meals: (B, D)

Thursday 23rd January 2025 South

Yaiza, Green Lake, Las Brenas, Playa Blanca, La Geria

- Route distance: 84.0km
- Route altitude gain: 1200m
- Accommodation: Guesthouse near Mozaga
- Meals: (B, D)

Friday 24th January 2025 Rest day

Up to you..

- No cycling
- Accommodation: Guesthouse near Mozaga
- Meals: (B, D)

Saturday 25th January 2025 West

Tinajo, La Santa, Famara, Teguisse

- Route distance: 71.0km
- Route altitude gain: 950m
- Accommodation: Guesthouse near Mozaga
- Meals: (B, D)

Sunday 26th January 2025 East

Passageways, Tias, Peurto del Carmen, Costa Teguisse, Teguisse Castle

- Route distance: 66.0km
- Route altitude gain: 850m
- Accommodation: Guesthouse near Mozaga
- Meals: (B, D)

Monday 27th January 2025 Final day

Quarry, climb from Arieta

- Route distance: 67.0km
- Route altitude gain: 1190m
- Accommodation: n/a
- Meals: (B)

Dates and Prices

Cost

- Land only price: £600

Payment Schedule

Deposit to be paid on booking, final payment by 15-Dec-2024

Price includes:

- Breakfasts
- Evening meals (except the last day)
- Entrance to Jameos del Agua

Price does not include:

- Lunch
- Admittance to other unplanned attractions
- Alcohol
- Flights
- Taxi/transfer costs
- Bike hire
- Single room supplement - £200 extra

Cancellations

Written Notice Received	Cancellation Charge
15-Dec-2024	£100 (deposit)
Date of departure	Full amount paid

The price of £600 is based on a minimum number of 5 people taking part in the holiday. If there are insufficient bookings by Sunday 15th December 2024, we will contact you and return all monies paid.

Holiday Information

Accommodation

- We will be staying in a guest house in the centre of the island near the town of Mozaga. It is in a non-tourist suburban area. The nearest shop (convenience store) is around a mile away, as is the nearest bus stop and restaurant.
- Assuming that the tour is fully booked then we will take over the place for the week. Our hosts are really nice and speak fluent English. They live on site and you will no doubt see them around, they may join us for dinner at some point.
- There are 5 bedrooms: 1 double, 3 twin or double and 1 twin. Anyone wanting a single occupancy room will almost definitely get a double. Some rooms are on suite. There is a pool, but be warned that it may not be very warm!
- There are a selection of toiletries such as shampoo and sun cream that you are free to use.
- There is wifi throughout the accommodation.
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Breakfast

- Breakfast will be cereal and/or fruit based. Let me know what you like and (within reason!) I will get it if I can

Lunch

- We'll get lunch on the road. This will be in cafes and bakeries where available, otherwise restaurants. Lunches are not covered in the price of the tour.

Dinner

- I am planning to have communal dinners, cooked by ourselves. Exceptions to this will be on the first day, when we will likely get takeaway pizza, and one other day when we will go to a local restaurant, both of which are covered in the price of the tour. However, if anyone would like to opt out of this on any (or even all) days, that is fine.
- Although I am happy to prepare evening meals, I would appreciate volunteers to help and hopefully take charge on some days.

It's your holiday

- Although our main reason to be there will be cycling, there is no compulsion on you to cycle all day or every day. If you decide that you would like to do something else one day, or head home early, that's fine as long as you are comfortable taking care of yourself and getting yourself home.

Nature of the holiday

- This is a holiday designed to allow us to explore the island by bicycle, utilizing a comfortable base. Most days we will aim to start cycling at 9am after breakfast. We will either cycle as a group or at your own pace and we will regroup every 16km or so to take on water or snacks, which you need to carry with you, or we shall use local but basic cafe stops. Every day will include something to see which will sometimes be our lunchstop as well. We will aim to arrive back at the finca (guest house) by 4:30pm, though this may vary. I encourage people to stop and look because that's why we have come: we won't necessarily cycle as a closely grouped bunch and as many of you will have GPX routes and route instructions, you are free to explore at your own pace, though I do encourage us all to meet up at periods during the day. This is not a race, it is an experience.

Travel

- The tour is 'land only', i.e. flights are not included, and it will officially start and end at the guest house. Having said that, I am more than happy to travel with anyone taking the same or similar flights to me. We will taxi the approx. 10 miles the guest house from the airport and likewise on the return.
- My flights are:
- Birmingham to Lanzarote: 11:40-15:45
- Lanzarote to Birmingham: 20:00-00:05

- Note there is no timezone difference with the UK.
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Roads Used

- The tour will use tarmac roads, but there may be short sections of unmade roads to get to the attractions where these are the only option. We will use quieter roads wherever possible, but inevitably will have to use some busy ones where necessary.

Size of group

- Maximum number: 10. Minimum number: 5

Weather and clothing

- Firstly, please note that Lanzarote can be windy. Wind speeds of 15 mph or more are not uncommon. This can be annoying if you are fighting against it, uphill at the end of the day
- Temperate is fairly predictable and does not vary much - It's unlikely to go much below 20 degrees in the daytime or above 23 degrees. I usually wear (cycling) shorts and T-shirt, occasionally long sleeves. Although Lanzarote is generally very arid, it does sometimes rain so a waterproof jacket is advisable, but a lightweight one would be best to avoid getting too hot. However the evening can get (relatively) cold, so long trousers and a thickish jumper (or similar) are recommended, e.g. what you will likely be wearing to leave the UK!
- Using sunscreen is strongly recommended.

Bikes

- You are of course welcome to bring your own, but personally I always hire as it is convenient and (depending on your choice of bike) cheaper than paying Ryanair.
- If you do want to hire and you want me to take care of it for you, please select one from <https://www.bikesensations.com/en/lanzarote/our-bicycles/>. I have used them a few times and they are decent bikes, but the main benefit is that they are one of the few bike hire places who will deliver. I will likely take one of the cheaper road bikes, but a 'city bike' will be fine if you prefer flat bars. If you want to use an E-bike, that's completely fine too.

Tools and equipment

- If you hire and you want to bring e.g. saddle or peddles, that's fine, though they can provide most pedal types.
- Helmets are mandatory, bring one or hire as you like.
- Every hire bike comes with a pump, tyre levels, a spare tube and a lock. I will have a puncture repair kit and some basic tools. If you do bring any tools, I would recommend ones that you are prepared to lose - I lost my favourite multitool to Customs a year or two back :(

- Lights are recommended - it is unlikely we will need them, but better to be safe than sorry.
- You will need at least 1 water bottle, noting that most of the hire bikes only come with one cage.
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Maps

- I will provide .gpx files a week or so before the tour starts. If you would like them in any other format, let me know.

Passports and visas

- Lanzarote is part of Spain, so Spanish rules apply.

Money

- I would recommend bringing ~100 euros cash for emergencies as some places do not take cards. Note that ATMs can be (in fact, in my experience are always) expensive. I recommend bringing a visa/mastercard and using that whenever possible. Personally I have a Postoffice card that I can top up with euros easily from a phone app.

Food and shopping

- I will get most of the food in the form supermarket deliveries. The rest I will get from the local convenience store at the end of each day. I will more than happily take you to the store and/or take orders as you like.