

Spain



Key Facts

Location

Western Europe.

Time

Mainland Spain/Balearics: GMT + 1 (GMT + 2 from last Sunday in March to last Sunday in October).

The Canary Islands: GMT (GMT + 1 from last Sunday in March to last Sunday in October).

Area

505,988 sq km (195,363 sq miles); includes Spanish North Africa.

Population

44.7 million (official figure 2006).

Electricity

220 or 225 volts AC, 50Hz. Generally, round two-pin plugs and screw-type lamp fittings are in use.

Currency

Euro (€) = 100 cents. Notes are in denominations of €500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10 and 5. Coins are in denominations of €2 and 1, and 50, 20, 10, 5, 2 and 1 cents.

Climate

Spain's climate varies from temperate in the north to dry and hot in the south. The best months are from April to October, although July and August can be excessively hot throughout the country except the coastal regions. Madrid is best in late spring or autumn. The central plateau can be bitterly cold in winter.

Public Holidays

Below are listed Public Holidays for the January 2008-December 2009 period.

2008

1 Jan: New Year's Day.

6 Jan*: Epiphany.

19 Mar*: San Jose.

20 Mar*: Maundy Thursday.

21 Mar: Good Friday.

1 May: Labour Day.

15 Aug: Assumption.

12 Oct: National Day.

1 Nov: All Saints' Day.

6 Dec: Constitution Day.

8 Dec: Immaculate Conception.

25 Dec: Christmas Day.

2009

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