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Gay Ibiza: A Gay Travel Guide to Spain's  
Most Popular Island

# Gay Ibiza: A Gay Travel Guide to Spain's Most Popular Island

*This guide was updated on November 24, 2019.*

## Overview

Ibiza is one of the four Balearic Islands in Spain and by far the most popular. This small island in the Mediterranean is very gay-friendly and brings in quite the mixed crowd. Whether you're there to go clubbing in its infamous nightlife scene or take it easy while tanning on one of its beautiful beaches, or perhaps a little bit of both, Ibiza won't disappoint. In addition to the clubs and beaches, Ibiza is also well known for its historic center where the old city wall still stands, its incredible Mediterranean gastronomy, and its can't-miss annual events.

## General Tips

Staying in Ibiza Town is probably your best bet as most sights and attractions are centered around there. If you want to avoid the swarming summer crowds, consider visiting Ibiza in the winter when tourism drops and the island becomes a quiet, tranquil haven. For a day trip away from the chaos of Ibiza, check out the island of Formentera known for its calmer presence and gorgeous beaches. Driving 20 minutes west of Ibiza Town is where you'll find San Antonio (called Sant Antoni in Catalan), the other major town on the island. It's significantly less expensive and you'll find a younger crowd – often British twentysomethings on their low cost package vacation. The official language of Ibiza is Catalan (like Barcelona) but everyone speaks Spanish and definitely English as well.



## Transportation & Airport Transfer

For a rather small island, Ibiza can seem oddly spread out so [renting a car or motorbike](#) is really helpful, if not necessary, to really explore the island. If you're staying in Ibiza Town, you may be able to get away with not renting a vehicle, but you'll eventually be taking a taxi at some point during your trip so you'll need to budget for that. Getting from one town to another can cost about €30 in a taxi, but the towns themselves are quite walkable and won't require transit. When arriving from the airport, there are a few bus lines to get you where you're going at a price of about €4. Line 10 connects the airport to the Ibiza Town and line 9 connects the airport to Sant Antoni and Sant Josep. If you want the life of luxury you can [book a private transfer from the airport to your hotel](#).

## Gay Hotels and Gay Friendly Accommodation in Ibiza

*Mid Range*

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**AxelBeach Ibiza** – located right on the beach, a unique landscape in Sant Antonio bay. Its trendy and exclusive interior design makes our modern apartments exclusive and stylish, which have private suite, living room, private terrace and totally equipped kitchen. Get ready to enjoy with us the best sunsets of Ibiza from the magnificent pool deck at our Sky Bar or just lying on the beach indulging yourself by the Axel best experience ever.

**Hotel Cenit** – a family friendly and gay-friendly hotel located on a nice hill offering great views of the sea and still walking distance to the historic center of Ibiza as well as well known beaches like Playa d'en Bossa and Figueretas. The hotel has 63 rooms and 55 apartments with free wifi in public areas. There's also a gorgeous rooftop pool and bar where you can sip on specialty cocktails and their beauty center offers treatments and massages for an extra dose of relaxation. (rates start at €60-100)

**Hotel Marigna** – this recently refurbished, adults-only hotel offers 44 rooms with a white and blue sea-side vibe. Located right in Ibiza Town, beaches are easily accessible along with the historic center. The hotel offers three styles of rooms including the standard, twin, and premium, the latter two choices both come with balconies. They've also got a restaurant and terrace with a jacuzzi, ocean views and free wifi in public areas. Though it doesn't have its own pool, it does offer free access to the pool at the hotel next door. (rates start at €45-100)

**Casa Alexio** – located near Jesus, a village just 5 minutes north of Ibiza Town, Casa Alexio is a men-only, clothing optional, gay guesthouse with 13 designer rooms. It has an outdoor pool, jacuzzi and bar with plenty of space to lounge and enjoy the sun. From the terrace you can catch great views of the center as well as the island of Formentera. Though not quite in the center, it's still quite easy to access some of the best spots around the island. (rates start at €50 during low season)

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[La Finca Ibiza](#) – this historical, gay-friendly guesthouse has ten one and two-room apartments located just 3 kilometers from the center of Ibiza. This charming stay has rooms with a more traditional and romantic ambience and the location also has an outdoor terrace, pool and bar. Privately run, the staff is very friendly and helpful making sure you have plenty of fun and relaxation during your stay. (rates start at €100)

## *Budget*



Photo via The Purple

[The Purple](#) – this hotel by Ibiza Feeling, a hotel company of four hotels in Ibiza, is located in San Antonio, a 20 minute drive away from Ibiza town. The ideal place to book if you plan on staying on the cheaper, San Antonio side of the island. Though San Antonio may not be for everyone, this property is definitely an LGBT haven among the swarms of young British tourists with still beautiful beaches and views. The hotel has a great restaurant and bar with unique, specialized food and drinks. The rooms and common areas have a fun, colorful decor and there's also a nice outdoor pool and bar behind the hotel. The mostly LGBT staff is incredibly warm and friendly and will be sure to help you make the most of your stay in Ibiza. [The Purple also has fantastic 5 star reviews on TripAdvisor.](#) (rates start at €60)

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## *Apartments*

There are many sites for apartment rentals in Ibiza, with [AirBnB](#) probably being one of the most popular. Prices are generally comparable to budget hotels, especially if you're willing to get a room in a shared apartment.

There are even a few LGBT-oriented booking sites like [misterb&b](#) with listings from gay hosts for gay guests where you can either rent a whole apartment or a private room in a shared apartment. Understanding Ibiza's gay scene is much more easily done with the help of a local and apartment sharing is one of the best ways to meet someone living in the city who knows how things work, where and when are the best nights to go out, and what places to eat at and which to avoid.

### **Special Offer!**

Sign up with [AirBnB](#) or [misterb&b](#) and you will receive a free \$25 credit to use on your first booking!

[Join AirBnB](#) [Join misterb&b](#)

## **Sightseeing & Activities in Ibiza**

Ibiza has numerous activities and sights for travelers to enjoy depending on what sort of holiday you're looking to have. Here are some of the top highlights to consider when visiting the island.

Beaches – the official gay beach in Ibiza is Es Cavallet which is about 15 minutes south of Ibiza Town. Not surprisingly, this is also a clothing optional beach. The most popular spot along this stretch of sand is in front of Chiringay, a popular restaurant and bar.

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Dalt Vila – the old walled town of Ibiza is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a beautiful collection of winding, narrow streets filled with cute shops, restaurants, museums and monuments. It is best to enter through the Portal de ses Taules to start your visit.

[Madina Yabisa Historical Interpretation Centre](#) – this museum is housed in the Casa de la Curia and recounts the town's history with audiovisual devices and also houses many archaeological remains.

## Tours in Ibiza

[Boat Party](#) – With an open bar, food and great DJs plus free entrance into the Café Olé party at Space, this boat party has it all. Traveling with a large group of friends? Why not [rent a private boat on your own](#) and make your own gay boat party. [Book tour →](#)

[Parasailing](#) – this is a great activity in Ibiza because the island landscapes and cliff faces are beautiful and the water is amazingly blue. It makes for great views and it's a fun option especially if you've never tried it. [Book tour →](#)

## Shopping

Calle de la Virgen – this street has many shops in addition to all the gay bars. Here you'll find many boutiques, the ever popular Spanish brand ES Collection as well as the sex shop Sa Majesté.

San Jordi Market – for a Saturday morning flea market, check out the one in San Jordi from 9am-3pm. Here you'll find a bit of everything including books, clothes, jewelry, and furniture.

Dalt Vila – within the old walled city itself you can find the typical souvenir shops as well as places to find handicrafts and various works of art.

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Paseo de Vara de Rey – this trendy area also has a lot of shopping and dining options. It's a great place to take a stroll, stop by a cafe and pop into a few shops while meandering the city.

## Restaurants and Cafes in Ibiza

[Chiringay Restaurant](#) – this restaurant and bar right on the gay beach offers quality Mediterranean/Spanish food and an incredible cava sangria – seriously, get the cava sangria! Dining on the outdoor terrace with views of gorgeous men tanning seaside is practically its own dessert. Did we mention the cava sangria?!

[El Chiringuito de Cala Gracioneta](#) – tucked away in an almost secretive cove with a view of the bay of Cala Gracioneta, El Chiringuito is an inspiring dining experience. They serve up a mix of Mediterranean and Spanish dishes. Seafood lovers, be sure to order the Parrillada de Pescado and thank us later.

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Freaking delicious seafood platter at Chiringuito de Cala Gracioneta

[Savannah](#) – with a gorgeous terrace overlooking a rocky coast and bright blue waters, this restaurant in San Antonio is very well situated and perfect for a nice lunch if you're on this side of the island. Their menu offers a variety of delectable and affordable dishes from around the world including seafood, woks, and Brazilian and Argentine meats. Again, the cava sangria is a must.

[El Carmen](#) – if you're in search of paella, El Carmen will not disappoint as the paella here is wildly popular. Like just about any restaurant in Ibiza, the views from the outdoor terrace are equally edible as it looks out over the water of the beach Cala d'Hort.



Amazing view from El Carmen Restaurant

## Ibiza Gay Bars and Lounges

Most of the gay and gay-friendly bars will be found on the gay street of Calle de la Virgen near the port. However, there are also a hand full at Peixateria Vella, the old fish market, and within Dalt Vila, the walled city as well.

When on the gay street, check out places like 22, DADO, JJ, Leon, MAD Bar, and Sunrise. Most of these spots are quite similar and have a cute terrace where you can enjoy a cocktail and people watch. Plus they've got a cute, friendly and flirty staff.

[Soap at Dome](#) – This is definitely the place to go to get your night started. It's got a nice terrace where everyone gathers before heading to the clubs. Address: Carrer d'Alfonso XII 5 , Ibiza

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**Mona Lisa** – A cute and stylish cocktail bar also with free WIFI and a large terrace. It's a great spot to get the night going. Be sure to order their recommended mojitos! Address: Carrer d'Alfonso XII 3

## Ibiza Gay Clubs and Parties

To get to the clubs and parties take taxis or the disco bus from the Ibiza port or San Antonio bus station. For years, Anfora was the only large, dedicated gay club in Ibiza but it closed several years ago. Lola's is the closest thing you'll find nowadays, so you'll want to keep on the look out for the special weekly and monthly gay parties hosted during the summer on the island.

### *Clubs*

Lola's – a long running small club and one of the first on the island, it's tucked away in the old quarter behind the Old Fish Market and has a gay leaning crowd. Tends to be popular earlier. Address: Calle Alfonso XII, 12 (Mercado Viejo)

### *Parties*

**Matinée** – This party has been going since 2009 and is held every Saturday night during the summer at the ever popular Amnesia where it attracts quite the Spanish crowd. Some parties have specific themes like Red Light, Matinee Gold and La Leche, but all of them are sure to be crazy fun. Address: Ctra. Ibiza – San Antoni, km. 5

**La Troya** – If Matinée doesn't tire you out, there's La Troya also at Amnesia every Sunday. It's a mixed party with a fresh mix of mainstream and house music along with great DJs, performers and dancers. Address: Ctra. Ibiza – San Antoni, km. 5

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[Supermartxe](#) – this award winning Friday night party at Privilege is focused on its stage show with great performers and club music that will keep you going all night. Since its start in 2007 in Madrid, it's become one of the must attend parties in Ibiza. Be sure to also check out its other 100% gay event, [Superman](#) over at Vista Club nearby. Address: Urbanización Sant Rafel, s/n

[Café Olé](#) – This Monday night party at Space is flamboyant, gay-friendly, and puts on a great show with famous DJs. Past themes like Erotica, Flashback, Burlesque, Freak and Pervert give an idea of what you're in for this party. Address: Platja d'en Bossa, s/n

Tanga Ibiza – first made popular in Madrid and Barcelona, this popular party offers a mix of pop, dance and 90's music with great energy and performances. It's held on Sundays and is known for its fun and friendly atmosphere. The organizers are the same who organize RuPaul's *Werq the World* in Spain, plus they invite popular performers like Vengaboys, Gala, INNA, Loreen and Eleni Foureira.

## Cruising & Men Only

[La Muralla](#) – this cruising bar can be found in Dalt Vila and is the only exclusively male bar on the island. They've got weekly parties and themes like Fun & Sex, Naked Party and Cruising Night. The dress code can be fairly strict, so be sure to check out that night's required attire online before showing up. Address: Calle Sa Carrossa, 3 (Dalt Vila)

## Popular Events in Ibiza

[Ibiza Gay Pride](#) – this event has been on hiatus for a number of years but recently returned in July of 2015. It consists of special parties and venues, a fashion show, art and photography exhibitions, documentaries and of course a small, but energetic Pride Parade.

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Mr. Gay Pride Ibiza 2015 (yes he has a cute face too!)



Circuit Festival boys promoting along the gay beach, Es Cavallet

## Day Trips from Ibiza

Formentera – this small island just south of Ibiza and the most southern of the Balearic Islands is a great day trip to escape the never ending club scene of Ibiza. Its beautiful white beaches and clear waters bring many visitors over to relax under the Mediterranean sun.

Travel to the island can be done easily by ferry. They leave from the Ibiza port about every 30 minutes in the high season and arrive in about 40 minutes. The ferry costs about 40€ round trip.