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IT'S A KIND OF MAGIC

Searching for a hedonistic or holistic holiday, the natural luxury and free spirit of Ibiza, will leave you nothing but satisfied

Words by Natascha Hawke



A 25-metre spa pool surrounded by day beds inspires total relaxation



Picturesque La Veranda restaurant offers great food in an intimate garden setting

When it reaches the time of year that you're crying out for a break, it's unlikely that Ibiza will be the first place that springs to mind when booking a relaxing getaway. One of Europe's top party destinations, visions of EDM-hungry, fist-pumping Gen Zs in neon crop tops and hot pants so short you can see things you shouldn't, are commonly associated with this tiny island in The Med. Unless you're in the know, that is, for there are many different sides to The White Isle that keeps the jet-set coming back. Celebrities like Kate Moss, Bianca Jagger, a whole host of supermodels, and a large number of Middle Eastern royals love Ibiza for its melange of world-class restaurants, superclubs, beach clubs, and yacht clubs, topped off with perennially good weather and, of course, music. If done right, when you've been once, you'll return again and again. Atzaró Agroturismo is one such place that will quash any negative connotations of the island. Nestled in the countryside in the northeast, 20-minutes from the airport, this 300-year-old working farm was turned into a hotel 15 years ago, by the same family that have lived there for centuries. Set away from the crowds of the popular areas of Santa Eularia and Ibiza Town, the property is a bolthole for spa lovers, yogis, couples, tourists – those who love the buzz of the island, but want somewhere to retreat to if it all gets too much. The “Natural Luxury” tagline says it all. With only 24 rooms, some renovated fincas originally lived in by the family, the boutique size creates an intimate



Electric colours saturate the property, from the sky, to the pool, to the lush gardens



Superior rooms have private pools on the terraces



Outside every room are private chillout areas and sunbeds



Original handmade terracotta tiles add to Atzaro's rustic charm



All rooms house four-poster beds



Stunning sea views await at Atzaro Beach Club in Cala Nova

ATZARÓ BEACH CLUB

Located in the pretty cove of Cala Nova on the east coast of the island, Atzaro Beach is everything you'd expect from an Ibizan beachside restaurant. Shabby-chic decor, luxury sun loungers, excellent food and a sophisticated crowd make it the perfect place to spend the day. *Atzaro.com*



The farm-to-table dining concept at Aubergine Ibiza means fresh, healthy food bursts with flavour

AUBERGINE IBIZA

Dining out in Ibiza usually means a sea view, but Aubergine has nestled itself into the countryside to become one of the island's favourite foodie hotspots. A farm-to-table concept that is also vegan-friendly, the food is authentic and delicious. An absolute must. *Aubergineibiza.com*

environment that feels instantly exclusive. Five room categories, ranging between Double to Suite Deluxe, with some housing private plunge pools for that extra special touch, are elegantly appointed and decked out with all mod cons. The floors throughout are tiled with handmade terracotta slabs that add to its authentic, imperfect charm, and rooms are furnished with what could be antique wooden four-poster beds, rustic coffee tables and seating areas, upholstered in fresh white – a signature of the island. Relaxation is Atzaro's modus operandi – at every turn, there is a daybed begging to be enjoyed. Even in the vegetable garden, hidden among the foliage is an outdoor sauna pod, and multiple nooks in which to curl up and read a book. Music is only played in dedicated areas, allowing for the choice between toe-tapping Balearic beats, or nature's own soundtrack of the breeze rustling through the palm trees, and intermittent chirping of birds, and occasionally, excitable frogs who reside in ponds throughout the property. Two swimming pools service guests, each with a distinct vibe. Running through the centre of the spa garden, surrounded by orange groves, is a 20-metre lap pool, punctuated at the end with oversized letters spelling out the word 'Love' – the focus of many Instagram posts. This is the more private of the pools where, depending on your preference, the daybeds sleep, or sit, up to six people and provide a suitable chillout scenario pre- or post spa treatment.

The second pool sits at the heart of the hotel equipped with poolside bar, and slightly elevated to the spa pool, showcases 360-degree views to the hills in the distance, and front row seats to the always incredible Ibiza sunset. Circular daybeds with full, part or no sun exposure make it the first choice for sunworshipping European guests, who will come and go between siestas and sightseeing. It is noticeable that privacy is paramount at Atzaro, and the staff have clearly been briefed to avoid unnecessarily disturbing the peace, rather making subtle eye contact to determine their guests requirements. In true Mediterranean style, nothing is done fast here, and where at first it might take some getting used to, by the end of a stay, the rhythm is just right. Naturally, being on the island you will want to explore, and the property will work hard to ensure all your needs are catered to. Fancy a beach club? Atzaro Beach is a short 15-minute drive away in the pretty bay of Cala Nova. Book a table for lunch and a daybed to follow, and while away the day eating the freshest fish in the beach club's shabby chic surroundings. Getting around the island has become easier in recent years, and transfers can easily be arranged from the hotel, but if you like freedom, hiring a car in Ibiza is always a good idea. When not lying by the pool, be sure to spend some time exploring the myriad private beaches and multitude of hidden bars and restaurants that have made the island a gastronomic go-to.

Food, as in Spanish and Catalan culture, is at the heart of Atzaro. When not dining at La Veranda, the hotel's main restaurant which serves excellent locally-inspired dishes prepared straight from Atzaro's own farm, then at least one excursion to Aubergine Ibiza, its sister restaurant, is a must. Just a short drive or taxi journey from the hotel, nestled in the picturesque Ibizan countryside, Aubergine continues Atzaro's farm-to-table gastronomy in a romantic setting of olive groves and fairy lights, serving up Mediterranean delicacies accompanied by vegetables fresh from the ground, usually served in the presence of a live acoustic band. Such is the restaurant's growing popularity, during the summer, queues have been known to form, so booking in advance is advisable. If you're a music enthusiast, or even if you're not, when you visit Ibiza it's almost a right of passage to experience a night out in one of the superclubs. Pacha, Ushuaia, Hi, or a daytime party at Destinos – all the major clubs offer VIP access with private table packages offering space away from the crowds of the main dancefloor, so there is little excuse not to get involved at least once, even just as a voyeur. Superstar DJ lineups and a euphoric crowd will show you firsthand what the island is really about: love, music, people, before you retreat back to the little slice of paradise you found in the countryside. *Atzaro.com*