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The town of La Laguna on Tenerife in 1880 (c/o Wikimedia Commons)

SPAIN'S SUBTROPICAL "FORTUNATE ISLES": THE CANARY ISLANDS

12 days, Thursday, January 17, to Monday, January 28, 2019

*A wonderful winter break on an archipelago 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 another island, historic Gomera on a daytrip by fast ferry. Daily breakfast and buffet dinner, including wine! 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: \$3,475 – "land only": \$2,425
Single room supplement (limited availability!): only \$345**

PROPOSED ITINERARY:

Day 1 – Thursday, January 17: Evening departure from Toronto International Airport to Madrid on a non-stop flight with Air Canada. Dinner and a light breakfast will be served on board.

Day 2 – Friday, January 18: Mid-morning arrival in Madrid, and connecting flight to Tenerife, described by Wikitravel as "probably one of the last European paradise isles, offering lush forests, exotic fauna and flora, deserts, mountains, volcanoes, incredibly beautiful coastlines and spectacular beaches." Arrival in early afternoon, and immediate transfer to our four-star/first-class Hotel Tenerife Playa, 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 (www.h10hotels.com/Tenerife-Playa). Free time to settle in, followed by our first buffet-dinner in the restaurant of the hotel.

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE PROVIDE STANDARD ROOMS *WITHOUT SEA VIEW*. ROOMS *WITH SEA VIEW* ARE AVAILABLE AT A SURCHARGE OF \$190 *PER PERSON* FOR THE ENTIRE 9-DAY STAY.

Day 3 - Saturday, January 19: Morning walking tour of Puerto de la Cruz. Frequent stops will be made at lookout points along the seafront promenade 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 post-modern complex of swimming pools surrounded by vegetation and volcanic rock; Playa Jardin, “Garden Beach,” a black sandy beach; the quaint old town and port with 17th- and 18th-century houses; historic San Telmo Chapel; and Castillo San Felipe Fortress. The afternoon is free to explore the town on your own, shop, or visit one of its museums, such as the Archaeological Museum or the Museum of Contemporary Art.

Day 4 - Sunday, January 20: 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, a 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* (photo by Axel Cotón Gutiérrez c/o Wikimedia Commons)

Day 5 - Monday, January 21: Free day. An *optional* full-day excursion (by fast ferry) will be offered to **Gran Canaria**, second largest island of the archipelago. This would include visits to the local cathedral and the Basílica of the Virgen del Pino in Las Nieves (Agaete), a scenic drive via Valleseco to Cruz de Tejera to visit the typical shops and enjoy the panoramic view, and, if time permits, a tour of the

spectacular Dunes of Maspalomas, similar to the Sahara, and some time in Las Palmas, the island’s capital.

Day 6 - Tuesday, January 22: 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 Canaries Archipelago, Tenerife enjoys a wonderful subtropical climate, with lots of sunshine and very little rain. In late January, 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, January 23: 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. This evening, *optional* Flamenco show!



Day 8 - Thursday, January 24: 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, a UNESCO World Heritage Site (<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/380>), with stops at spectacular viewpoints and in quaint villages, a demonstration of traditional whistle-blowing, an (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PgEmSb0cKBg>), lunch in a country restaurant, and time to explore the island’s capital, San Sebastian, with its memories 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)

San Sebastian, capital of La Gomera, with Tenerife and the Pico de Teide in the background (photo by Diego Delso c/o Wikimedia Commons)>



Day 9 - Friday, January 25: 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 (photo by Marc Ryckaert c/o Wikimedia Commons)

Day 10 - Saturday, January 26: Morning visit to **Loro Park**, a subtropical garden with an impressive collection of animals, including parrots, monkeys, penguins, dolphins, and crocodiles! Afternoon at leisure.

Day 11 - Sunday, January 27: Morning free, and group lunch, followed by transfer to the airport and flight to Madrid. Arrival at Madrid Airport, and transfer to a nearby 4-star hotel, the Sercotel or similar.

Circumstances permitting, it may be possible to enjoy some *optional* sightseeing and/or dinner in the Spanish capital.

Day 12 - Monday, January 28: After a leisurely breakfast, short transfer to the airport via hotel shuttle and non-stop return flight to Toronto, with Air Canada. Departure at 11:00AM, and arrival in Toronto at 1:30PM.

Tour cost, based on double occupancy, from Toronto: \$3,475 – “land only”: \$2,425
Single room supplement (limited availability): only \$345
Upgrade to Seaview room: \$190.00 per person

Included in the price are:

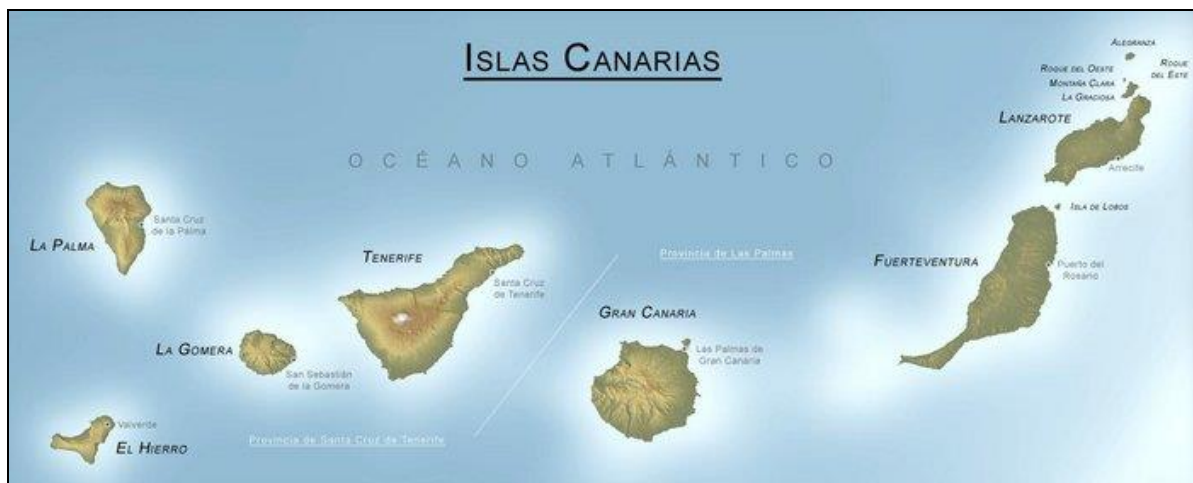
- Return airfare from Toronto to Tenerife, including all airport taxes, fuel surcharges, and security fees;
- Accommodation, based on double occupancy, in a first-class/4-star hotel – the single room surcharge is \$345;
- Transfers and all visits and sightseeing as described in the itinerary;
- Breakfast and dinner (both buffet-style) daily, with wine/water included, in the hotel in Tenerife as well as lunch on days 8 and 11; no dinner on day 11 in Madrid.
- Airport lounge pass for air-inclusive booking made 90 days prior to departure.

Not included:

- All items of a personal nature;
- Meals not indicated;
- Travel Insurance, available upon request.

THE CANARY ISLANDS

The Canary Islands are a Spanish archipelago situated in the Atlantic Ocean 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 and <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guanches>)



TERMS & CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSITS:

Reservations should be made as early as possible to ensure the departure of your choice. A deposit of \$750.00 required at the time of registration. Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of your deposit and registration 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 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 61 days before departure: 25% of tour cost

60 to 31 days before departure: 50% of tour cost

Within 30 days prior to departure: 100% of tour cost

RESPONSIBILITY:

The acceptance of the initial service to be provided under the tour shall be considered an acceptance by the tour member of those conditions. We also reserve the right to decline, to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. We reserve the right without notice, to withdraw any part or all of the tour. Factors such as airline schedule changes, hotel overbookings, inclement weather, travel warnings by the Canadian Government etc. may necessitate changes in the itinerary. There may also be other circumstances in which changes become necessary or advisable. By commencing the tour, I agree to the release and agreement as included below.

RELEASE & AGREEMENT:

By placing my deposit and commencing the tour I understand and agree to the following:

1. That all tours are delivered in conjunction with other service providers, including but not limited to travel agent and booking services, airlines, hotel and accommodation providers, transportation providers including but not limited to coach, train and ferry services, restaurant providers, and local guides. We shall not 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 hotels, transportation and other travel services are provided subject to all the terms and conditions under which they are offered to the public generally.
2. I know that tour programs include walking, and may including hiking and fitness programs that have potential hazardous activities associated with them. I should not participate prior to approval by my physician. I assume any and all other risks associated with these events included but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather including high heat and/or humidity.
3. To release, indemnify and hold harmless Pauwels Travel Bureau and their affiliates (which term shall include parents, subsidiaries, officers, directors, shareholders, agents and employees of Pauwels Travel Bureau as well as Pauwels Travel themselves) (the "Released Parties") from, and agree not to sue the Released Parties for, any claims that I may have arising from, or in connection with, any personal injury, bodily injury, mental anguish, emotional distress, physical, property or other damage that I may suffer from any cause whatsoever related in any way to my participation in this tour. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, I release, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from, and agree not to sue them for any personal injury, bodily injury, mental anguish, emotional distress, physical, property or other damage that I may suffer from the Released Parties' negligence other than from intentional or reckless acts by such parties. I further agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from any and all acts of God, war (whether declared or undeclared), terrorist activities, incidents of politically motivated violence, illness or quarantine, strikes or government restrictions or the acts or omissions of any other agents over which the Released Parties have no direct or indirect control, including, without limitation, airlines, railways, bus companies, hotels,

shipping companies, guides and sub-contracted agents or tour operators. This release also includes activities not offered that may be considered risky. I further release any Tour Directors, bus drivers or other individuals involved in my tour.

4. That the air carrier's liability for loss of or damage to baggage or property, or for death or injury to person, is limited by their tariffs, or the Warsaw Convention, or both.
5. That Pauwels Travel Bureau shall have no liability or responsibility for me when I am absent from activities, such as visits to friends or relatives or during stay-ahead/stay-behind option periods if the stay-ahead/stay-behind period does not include the services of a Tour Director.
6. To abide by directions of my Tour Director or other leadership personnel during my tour. Failure to do so may result in my termination from tour immediately. I understand that to disobey such rules or directions are to waive the right to any refund, and that I may be sent home at my own expense. The participant and family undertake full financial responsibility for any damage caused by the participant and agree to pay his/her return home on the first available flight, should his/her behavior be deemed detrimental to the welfare of the group.
7. To abide by all local laws when in Canada and abroad, including those concerning drugs and alcohol. (Minors must have parents' permission to use alcohol even if the local law would otherwise permit them to.) I understand that if I abuse or disobey such laws, even unintentionally, I waive my right to a refund, and Pauwels Travel may send me home at my own expense. I also understand that should local authorities be involved, I will be subject to the laws of the country I am visiting.
8. That if I become ill or incapacitated, Pauwels Travel and its employees, or a designated chaperone may take any action they deem necessary for my safety and well-being, including securing medical treatment (at my own expense) and transporting me home. Pauwels Travel retains the right, in its sole discretion, to contact the traveller's parent(s) and/or guardian or emergency contact with regard to health issues or any matters whatsoever that relates to the traveller's tour. These rights transcend any and all privacy regulations that may apply. In the event of a medical emergency, Pauwels Travel will attempt to cause appropriate treatment to be administered, and the traveller authorizes Pauwels Travel to do so. Pauwels Travel, however, makes no warranty that it will be able to cause effective (or any) emergency treatment to be administered.
9. That Pauwels Travel may use any film likenesses taken of me and any of my comments while on a tour for future publication and also use my contact information for future Pauwels Travel communications.

A WORD ABOUT *GROUP* AIRFARES:

Please note that when booking one of our air inclusive tours, Pauwels Travel has negotiated reduced rates with the airline that we are able to confirm and lock in up to 359 days before travel. While it is wonderful to share the savings and flexibility this provides with you, our valued guests, the privilege does come with some restrictions. In some cases it may not be possible to collect frequent flyer miles, you may not be able to check in online 24 hours before travel, or you may need to try checking in with your ticket number rather than your booking reference and, in **almost ALL cases we are not able to offer advanced seat selection.**

It is the airline that makes the reservation and has control over the booking so it is their policy, not ours, that prevents us from assigning specific seats. If a request is made, it is passed on to the airline by our staff when they submit the names to the airline, i.e., 30-60 days prior to departure. Calling us several days before you leave will not change this fact nor will getting upset with our staff.

If a certain type of seat is indispensable to you, we suggest that you book our tour on a "land only" basis and make individual flight arrangements, in which case you may be able to get the seat of your choice; Pauwels Travel would be happy to assist you with that reservation at absolutely no additional charge. We will offer you the best fare available, but please note that this can only be done once a tour is a guaranteed departure because your individual airfare's conditions are likely to involve cancellation penalties. We thank you in advance for your kind understanding of the above!

APPLICATION FORM

Please book _____ seat(s) on the "The Canary Islands" tour of January 17 – 28, 2019.

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

Please indicate with an X if you intend to travel on Group flights _____ or Land only _____.

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

WE REQUIRE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT (INFORMATION PAGES ONLY) VALID 3 MONTHS AFTER TOUR TO BE SENT IN WITH YOUR APPLICATION.

PASSPORT NAME(S): **Please** indicate the appropriate title (Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr., Ms.)

Surname _____ First _____ Middle(s) _____

Surname _____ First _____ Middle(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: _____ (Email) _____

If traveling alone, is a SINGLE ROOM REQUIRED? YES _____ NO _____

If sharing, what is your bed preference: twin _____ double _____?

Do you wish to upgrade to a sea-view room for \$190.00 per person? YES _____ NO _____

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: We find the earlier a request is made, the more success we have in filling it, so please list any dietary requests, allergies, any special physical needs or frequent flyer numbers etc. We cannot ensure requests made 30 days or less prior to departure will be possible.

Insurance, Please call the office for premiums then record it on application and add premium to deposit.

I /we would like to purchase (please check and record your rate):

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

All-inclusive Package _____ Non-medical Package _____

Other _____ **OR** Decline Insurance _____

PAYMENT: Cheque payable to Pauwels Travel Visa Mastercard American Express

Amount Paid: _____ Card Number: _____

Expiry: _____ Security Code: _____ Signature: _____

"I/we agree to the terms and conditions attached to the program, have indicated our insurance choice, indicated any special requests and included payment".

Date _____ (Signature)(s) _____

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

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