

# TARRAGONA SPAIN Beaches



Photo credit: Arrabassada beach © Alberich Fotògrafs, courtesy of Tarragona Tourism

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## Tarragona Beaches

One of the biggest draws to visitors in Tarragona are the gorgeous beaches. The city boasts 15 km of coastline, with numerous beaches and a fine selection of pretty, easily accessible coves.

The beaches of Tarragona are well known for their fine, golden sands, which isn't a huge surprise as this part of Spain is known as the Costa Dorada, or Golden Coast.



Some days during winter can even be around 20 degrees celsius, but other days could be a good bit cooler, plus we do get very interesting storms. That said, you can often enjoy some winter sunshine.

A major bonus, and a top reason why these beaches are so favoured by families, is that they gradually slope into the sea – as there are no sudden drops, they are perfect for little ones to paddle in.



There are many sporting activities organised on the beaches throughout the summer by the city's Sport Council. This combined with the fact that many beaches are proudly displaying their Blue Flags make Tarragona a fine beach destination, apart from its immense beauty and culture.

What many do not realise is that these beaches have a diverse and rich ecosystem, which is formed thanks to the life forms that live in the sea, meeting those which live on the land.



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This in turn gives rise to a rich diversity of dunes and saltwater plants as well, and many different species of marshland wildlife and birds. The downside of mass tourism is that it damages this over the years, but Tarragona is very proud of the fact that they have two areas of conservation, which are legally protected.

The first reserve is called Punta de la Móra, known as PEIN locally. Here you can see a variety of flora, which also has a dense underbrush, with fan palms and Kermes oaks, plus gorgeous pines and junipers.

Along this area, as in some other places on the coast, there's the unusual sight, because of the wind – of some trees that have been bent into almost poetic shapes. In the sea there are several different strains of seaweed thriving along with a huge expanse of Neptune grass, which is a plant offering sustenance to a vast range of fish.



Punta de la Mora

The second reserve is the Gaià River Delta and Tamarit Beach, where you'll have the chance to see more than 80 different species of bird. Inland on this reserve is a coastal forest, primarily populated by poplars. Moving closer to the shoreline, the nature is dominated by beds of reeds. The authorities have launched a programme to repopulate the area with native species, like willows and black poplars also.

Whether you're travelling by yourself, as a couple or family, both of the nature reserves are well organised, offering routes, which show the visitor the reserve, but also aim to educate. They also do the same for bigger groups, including schools and universities.

Here are some of the Tarragona Beaches – by the way the word “platja” is beach in Catalan and “cala” is cove:

## 1. Platja del Miracle/Comandancia



Yes this is a busy beach, but not without good reason, it is the one by the amphitheatre, right in the centre of all the activity. Let's face it, who doesn't want to sunbathe, at least once in their life, with the backdrop of an amphitheatre?

It's 500 metres long and 75 metres wide, with regenerated sand, which is cleaned on a daily basis. Access is via Pg. Rafael Casanova / Robert d'Aguiló and the number 22 bus stops here in the summer. The red cross are in attendance during the summer and those who come by car can access the beach from Passeig Marítim Rafael Casanova.

## 2. Platja de l'Arrabassada



Arrabassada beach © Alberich Fotògrafs

## 3. Platja dels Capellans

The fine, soft sand is cleaned every day on this tiny stretch beach which measures 60 metres long and 50 metres wide.

Access is gained via the N-340, km 1166-1167 and the buses which serve the beach through the summer are 1, 9, 1E and 1M. The Red Cross are on this beach in the summer months and those coming by car can access by beach by N-340a, Cala Romana.

## 4. Platja Llarga

Daily cleaning takes place of the fine sand which makes up Platja Llarga. This is a massive expanse of beach measuring 300 metres in length and 30 metres in width.

Access is gained here via the N-340, km 1167 while the buses that will drop you off here are the 1, 9, 1E and 1M, the Red Cross are on hand through the summer and those in cars can access the beach via the N-340a, residential area.

Platja de L'Arrabassada stretches for 550 metres and is 65 metres wide. The sand here is very fine and cleaned daily.

Access to the beach is off Pg. Rafael Casanova via the N-340 and the buses which stop here through the summer are the 1, 9, 1E and 1M. The Red Cross are here during the summer months and access by car is via the N-340a, at the end of Via Augusta.

## 5. Cala Fonda/Platja Arboçar



Compared to some of the other Tarragona Beaches, Cala Fonda is a relatively small beach at 200 metres long and 25 metres wide. It's a lot quieter being a separate cove, rather than part of the main beach and the fine sand here is only cleaned on a weekly basis.

Access is by Platja Llargà, just head north; or from Cala de la Roca Plana, you need to go south. The buses which stop here are 9, 1E and 1M. There are no Red Cross attendants on Cala Fonda at any time of year and the beach is only accessible on foot.

## 6. Platja de Savinosa



We overlooked this beach from the Hotel Sant Jordi, and did wonder if it is nudist. Apparently it is, but there were also people who were not in their birthday suits, so it is obviously flexible. It measures 350 metres in length with a width of 30 metres.

The sand, which is cleaned daily is very fine and it's easy to access from N-340, km 1165-1166. There are several buses which stop here through the summer namely the 1, 9, 1E and 1M. The Red Cross are here throughout the summer and access by car is gained via the N-340a, Savinosa.

## 7. Cala de la Roca Plana

Cala de la Roca Plana is like Cala Fonda in that it is a cove away from the main stretch of beach. It is 205 metres long and 26 metres wide and the fine sand is cleaned weekly.

You can find this beach by heading north from Cala Fonda and it is only accessible by foot via Bosc de la Marquesa. There are no Red Cross attendants here and if you catch the bus the numbers you are want are 9, 1E and 1M.

## 8. Platja de la Móra

The Platja de la Móra is part of the second main stretch of beach in Tarragona north of Cala de la Roca Plana and is 520 metres in length and 65 metres wide. The fine sand here is cleaned, by hand, every day and the Red Cross are in attendance through the summer to make sure all is well.

Access by foot and by car is via the N-340 La Móra housing development or urbanisation. Coming on the bus? Then the number 9 will drop you here.

## 9. Cala Jovera

North of Platja de la Móra you will come across the tiny but very pretty cove that is Cala Jovera. Measuring only 40 metres in length and 8 metres wide, the fine sand here is once again cleaned daily by hand.

Access on foot is either going north from Platja de la Móra or south from Platja de Tamarit. The Red Cross do not attend this beach, the bus you need to catch is the number 9 and those coming by car will have to come along the Tamarit Castle route.

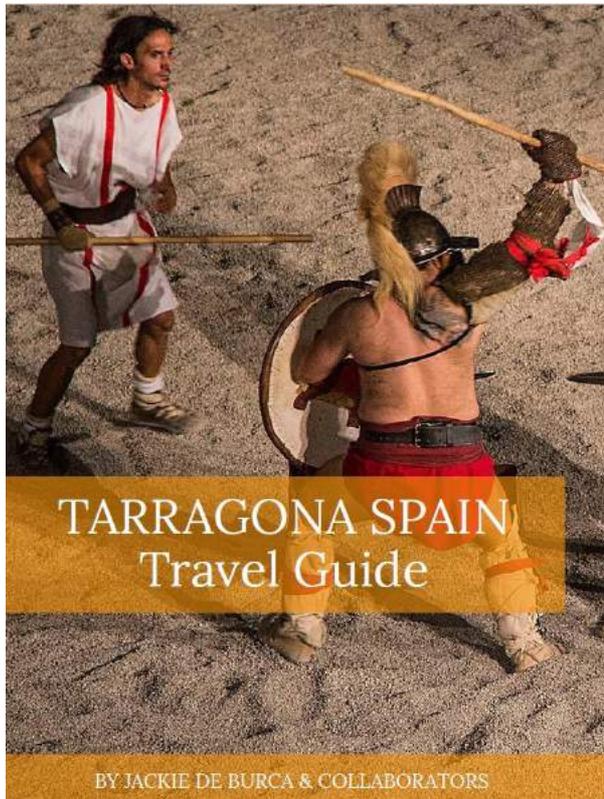
## 10. Platja de Tamarit



North of Cala Jovera is the longest singular stretch of sand attributed to being one beach. Platja de Tamarit stretches for 1750 metres and is 45 metres wide.

Access is gained by the Tamarit exit off the N-340 and by car you will come along the Tamarit Castle route. The sand is cleaned by hand daily, the Red Cross is here in the summer and the number 9 bus will bring you here.

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