

A scenic view of a rocky coastline with turquoise water and a green overlay at the top containing the title. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, and the rocks are dark and jagged. The sky is blue with some white clouds. The green overlay is semi-transparent and contains the title in white text.

5 Underrated Towns In Valencia Spain

BY HANNAH FITZPATRICK

5 Underrated Towns In Valencia Spain-Waiting To Be Discovered

The beautiful region of Valencia is known for its varying landscapes. The turquoise coastline, impressive mountains, quaint countryside and urban areas encompass the nearly 24,000 km² that make up this gorgeous part of [Spain](#).

While many escape to the metropolitan cities of Valencia or Alicante, there is a multitude of charming towns and villages located throughout the region that should not be missed.

Whether you're looking for a relaxing weekend at the beach, a hike in the mountains or a carefree vacation with the family, Valencia has you covered. Make sure not to miss these five towns when planning your visit to the beautiful region of Valencia.

1. Ontinyent



Located roughly 85 km (53 miles) southwest of [Valencia City](#), the city of Ontinyent has been an industrial hub since the 18th century. With a population just over 100,000, Ontinyent is a happy medium between bustling city and quiet village.

Due to the plentiful natural springs and waterfalls in the area, Ontinyent is popular with outdoor enthusiasts. El Pozo Claro, in particular, is among one of the most popular things to do in Ontinyent. This cold water spring is the perfect place to have a picnic with the family or to cool off at during a hot summer day.

Ontinyent also offers many different hiking trails ranging in length and difficulty.

Another area of Ontinyent to see is the old town area, which has been declared a Property of Cultural Interest in Spain. The rich history of this agricultural civilisation and industrial power shines through the architecture throughout the city.

Make sure to check out the Iglesia de Santa Maria, the Palace of the Duchess of Almondovar and the Natural Science Museum. Ontinyent also hosts the annual Fiesta of Moors and Christians each August, which attracts tourists and locals alike.

5 Underrated Towns In Valencia Spain-Waiting To Be Discovered

2. Morella



Voted one of the prettiest villages in Spain, [Morella](#) is nothing short of spectacular. Located just two hours north of Valencia, this medieval town is brimming with Gothic, Baroque and Neoclassical architecture.

The highlight of this enthralling village is the castle that sits atop the city on a large rock. Once a military fortress, the Castillo de Morella now serves as a perfect place to wander, take in the history and overlook the city.

Morella is also home to many distinguishable, local specialties. Among these specialties are flaó (pastry filled with cheese curd and almonds), virgin honey, goat and sheep cheese, black truffles and cecina (salted and dried meat).

[Sexenni](#) is the major festival in Morella that has occurs every six years since 1678 in honour of the town patron, Virgen de Vallivana. The next festival is set for August of 2018.

3. Tirig



Home to a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Tirig is located roughly 130 km (81 miles) from Valencia. Cova dels Cavalls, which includes over 900 painted images in 17 caves, is the most popular attraction in this small, tranquil village.

This World Heritage Site is open year round with free admission, making it an ideal trip for families. The [Museu de la Valltorta](#), located right in the town of Tirig, offers a comprehensive history of the cave art for those who aren't up for the guided cave tour.

Accommodations are very limited in Tirig, but the neighboring town of Sant Mateu has multiple options.

5 Underrated Towns In Valencia Spain-Waiting To Be Discovered

4. Requena



Known for its many [wineries](#), this picturesque town is located just one hour west of Valencia. Originally the epicentre for silk production, this beautiful city is now best known for producing wine.

With roughly 20 wineries scattered between Requena and Utiel, there are multiple options for tours and excursions.

Requena offers a unique opportunity to learn about the city's history underground. The Cuevas de la Villa, or the City Caves, located underneath the town centre, consist of 22 caves that were used for transportation dating back to the 9th century.

Requena is also home to the Fiesta de la Vendimia (Grape Harvest Festival), which is Spain's most ancient festival.

5. Jávea



This coastal town, located 112 km (70 miles) from Valencia, boasts not only pristine beaches but also rocky mountains, outdoor adventures, and a fun entertainment scene. Jávea is the best known of our five choices, in fact, we even have an article about why it makes a [great relocation destination](#).

The prime attraction to Jávea is understandably the beautiful, turquoise ocean that stretches alongside the beach. There are multiple places to relax on the sand, but if you're looking for an adventure, kayak and snorkel excursions are available. Another action-packed option is to hike to the top of Montgó mountain, which is located in Montgó Natural Park.

This fishing town also hosts [multiple festivals](#) throughout the year.

The region of Valencia is so diverse. While the bigger cities are beautiful in their own way, the smaller towns have a charming sense of hospitality that is hard to find in bigger cities.

5 Underrated Towns In Valencia Spain-Waiting To Be Discovered

One thing to take note of while planning the logistics of a trip (i.e. [where to stay](#), where to eat, what to do) to some of these smaller villages is to remember that many shops, restaurants, and cafes will most likely follow Spanish tradition by closing during siesta, serving a large lunch and having dinner late in the evening.

Javea La Granadella beach

