

# Majorca Daily Bulletin

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## TENSIONS MOUNT AS UKRAINIAN REFUGEES ARE MOVED FROM PALMA'S COVID HOTEL

# SPAIN'S MARCH INFLATION RISES TO 9.8%, FASTEST SINCE 1985

WARNINGS OF RATIONING AT BALEARIC SUPERMARKETS: SEE PAGE 3

**S**PANISH consumer prices rose 9.8% year-on-year in March, their fastest pace since May 1985 and a jump from 7.6% in February, flash data from the National Statistics Institute (INE) showed yesterday.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the ensuing economic fallout have fuelled inflation worldwide, especially through increasing prices of energy and grains.

Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez said more expensive electricity and fuel and non-processed food accounted for almost three-quarters of the overall CPI increase.

Analysts polled by Reuters had expected 12-month CPI to rise to 8% in March.

"It is bad data. Bad data that affects our economy, our society, particularly the more vulnerable groups," Sanchez told parliament.

Responding to concerns about the rising cost of living, his government passed a series of measures this week aimed at curbing energy prices.

As inflation in the euro zone speeds up, top European Central Bank officials have insisted the rise is temporary, with ECB Chief Economist Philip Lane describing high inflation as an imported shock that will fade away over time.

"We would still diagnose that this essentially is an imported inflation shock, it's a supply shock," Lane said.

"Most of this inflation will fade away."

Central banks are facing a complicated policy dilemma between keeping



Consumers are paying a high price.

calm amid the market turmoil while also responding to mounting price pressures.

INE data also showed Spain's EU-harmonised consumer price index rose 9.8% in the 12 months to March, faster than the 8.1% expected by analysts polled by Reuters and higher than the 7.6% in February.

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## SNOW IN TIME FOR APRIL IN MAJORCA

● More confirmation of the wintry weather heading Majorca's way.

The delegate of the Aemet met agency in the Balearics, María José Guerrero, said yesterday that a polar trough will affect the island from tomorrow.

There may be snow down to 700 metres high. "April will begin with unpleasant winter weather: cold, snow, wind and rough seas."

If there's any consolation, it will not be the first time that it has snowed in April. It did last year, for example.

Tomorrow, there will be cloudy skies with showers, occasionally accompanied by hail. Aemet adds that there could also be a storm that deposits snow at 700 metres. Temperatures, needless to say, will drop. Minimum temperatures will range between 4C and 7C but be as low as -1C in the Tramuntana Mountains. The normal minimum for this time of year is 8C. The highs will be between 10C and 14C; the usual temperature for the beginning of April is 18C.

Wind will blow from the north and northwest, with gusts up to 70 kilometres per hour. A yellow warning for rough seas has been activated, with waves of three to four metres. Saturday is forecast to be much the same.

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