

# Mallorca Bulletin

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**Walking around Mallorca:**  
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**The king of the kitchen**  
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## "Red hot" Puerto Pollensa

● Puerto Pollensa was the hottest place on the island last month with a maximum temperature of 37 degrees Centigrade on September 12. The Palma Met Office described the month as one of the hottest on record with an average temperature of 24.3 degrees Centigrade, 2.2 degrees higher than normal. The coldest day of the month was September 30, when a minimum temperature of 6.3 degrees Centigrade was registered in Escorca.

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# TOURISM REVENUES ON THE MEND



**Palma.**— Even if the number of visitors has still not quite recovered to pre-pandemic levels, Mediterranean countries are enjoying a much-needed boost, as inflation and a strong sector recovery lift this year's tourist spending and tax receipts higher.

The positive trend is one factor lending support to the heavily indebted economies of the region, as they grapple with a spike in energy prices hitting both consumers and businesses.

Spain this week reported that

it received nearly nine million passengers through its international airports in August - about 87% of those who arrived in the same month of 2019.

But higher prices meant tourist spending stood at 11.26 billion euros, nearly twice that recorded the same time last year and only fractionally down on August 2019.

Spain expects tourism revenues to hit 151 billion euros this year, 98% of pre-pandemic levels, when tourism activity earned the country

154 billion euros, according to Exceltur, which groups major Spanish hotel chains, travel agents, tour operators and airlines.

The number of visitors to neighbouring Portugal beat pre-pandemic levels in July for the first time since the end of most COVID-19 restrictions, the National Statistics Institute (INE) having noted 1.8 million foreign arrivals that month.

That recovery, plus the impact of inflation, contributed to a 21.6% jump in tax reve-

nues to 5 billion euros.

Italy's tourist industry lobby Assoturismo estimates that 49 million tourists spent at least one night in a hotel during the June-August summer period - still 6.9% lower than in 2019.

Yet separate data from the tourist industry association Federturismo confirmed the same pattern as elsewhere: revenues from foreign tourists during the period almost returned to their pre-COVID, levels, with a decline of just 0.9% from 2019.

## Amber Heard takes refuge in Mallorca after Johnny Depp libel defeat

**Palma.**— In June, the actress Amber Heard and president of the Council of Mallorca, who was sentenced to a total of eleven and a half years for corruption and entered prison in 2013.



Earlier this week, she was seen out and about in the village with a group of friends. The house, it is understood, is owned by the family of Maria Antonia Munar, a former mayor of Costitx

and president of the Council of Mallorca, who was sentenced to a total of eleven and a half years for corruption and entered prison in 2013.

Amber Heard's legal battle with Johnny Depp hasn't come to a total end. She has changed lawyers in an attempt to force two insurance firms to pick up the multimillion-dollar bill for her libel payout.



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