

Population:

332.000

Currency:

Euro, €1 = 100 cents

Opening hours:

Smaller, privately-owned shops are mainly open from 10.00 to 14.00 and 17.00 to 20.30. Big department stores, larger chains and shopping centres are open from 10.00 to 22.00, Mondays to Saturdays. Shops are closed on Sundays. Most banks are open from Monday to Friday from 8.30 am to 2 – 2.30 pm. Only some branches open on Saturday mornings.

Internet:

www.alicanteturismo.com
www.comunidadvalenciana.com
www.spain.info

Newspapers:

Información
La Verdad
Costa Blanca News

Emergency numbers:

112 Emergencies
091 Police
062 Guardia Civil

Tourist information:

Tourist Info Alicante
Address: Rambla de Méndez
Núñez 23
Tel. +34 965 200 000
alicante@touristinfo.net
Tourist Info Alicante – Centro
Address: Calle Portugal 17 (next
to the bus station)
Tel. +34 965 929 802
alicantecentro@touristinfo.net

ALICANTE

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Contents: The City, Do & See, Eating, Cafés, Bars & Nightlife, Shopping, Sleeping, Essential Information, Maps

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ALICANTE

Welcome to Alicante – the friendliest city in Spain!

Alicante, situated on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, surprises its visitors with a vivid mixture of Spanish culture, architecture, history and the way of life of its citizens. With more than 3,000 years of history, patent in the remains left by different civilizations, the capital of the Costa Blanca offers varied landscapes and enviable contrasts.

A historic and cultural city with parks, shops and a city centre with lots of businesses, a wide range of bars, cafés and restaurants turns Alicante into a city that never sleeps. On the contrary, its fine sand beaches invite to relax body and soul. The beaches are some of the best in Spain and the favourable climate all year round along with the convenient size, complete Alicante as a perfect holiday destination.



THE CITY



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With shattered mountains in the background, the city is located in a bay with a cosmopolitan harbour. Tropical palms line the avenues. From the sea front you can look up towards Mount Benacantil, where the historic Castillo de Santa Barbara, open to the public, is located.

You will find small narrow streets near big avenues with lively business activities in the area of Rambla Méndez Núñez.

Elegant pubs and sophisticated restaurants can be found in the more modern part of the city between the sea front, Explanada España and Avenida "X" Alfonso El Sabio.

In the evenings in "El Barrio", a pedestrian area in the Old Town around the Cathedral, locals meet up with visitors of all ages and from all over the world. Spanish and English, along with some sign language and lively gestures, are apparent among the conversations which often end in a mutual toast.

DO & SEE



Castillo De Santa Bárbara

A visit to the Santa Bárbara Castle is highly recommended. This castle crowns the Mount Benacantil, from where you can enjoy breathtaking panoramic views of the entire city. On clear days you can see all the way to Tabarca Island.

To descend down from the Santa Bárbara Castle take the route through Parque de La Ereta, along the mountainside. Its location and views transform it into a place of relaxation as well as a meeting place. It also has a spectacular restaurant and a café with an exhibition hall and, on the way down to the old town quarter, you can visit the picturesque, typically Spanish Santa Cruz district.

Another attractive option between the castle and the Santa Cruz district is to walk along the remains of the walls that surrounded the Castle and that now end in the Santa Cruz district.

Opening hours: The castle is open 7 days a week.

Phone: +34 965 162 128

Price: Free entrance. Lift: € 2,40

Tabarca Island

A visit to Tabarca island is an absolute must for visitors. Boats from the company Kontiki depart from the marina in Alicante several times a day during the summer months and 3 days a week during the rest of the year.

The journey takes around one hour from Alicante. The route will give you the



opportunity to enjoy the coastline.

Try one of the traditional fish stews in the terrace of one of the restaurants. On the island you will find nice little bays to have a swim as well as a beach offering different facilities. There are also little hotels where you can stay on the island.

Phone: +34 686 994 538 / +34 965 216 396 Kontiki
Tickets: Return ticket from Alicante around €20.

MARQ

The MARQ is the Archaeological Museum and is located in the restored building of an old hospital. Valuable finds from the Palaeolithic found in different sites in and around Alicante are exhibited in this museum. In 2004 the MARQ museum was awarded "European Museum of the Year".

Address: Plaza Doctor Gómez Ulla S/N
Opening hours: Open every day except Mondays.
Phone: +34 965 149 000
Price: Entrance fee €3
Internet: www.marqalicante.com

MUBAG

The Gravina Fine Arts Museum (Museo de Bellas Artes Gravina) houses the artistic collection of the Alicante County Council, from the Middle Ages up to the beginning of the XX century.

The museum is located in a building from the XVII century that has been converted and adapted for this purpose.

Address: C/ Gravina, 13-15
Opening hours: Open every day except Mondays and Sunday afternoons
Phone: +34 965 14 67 80
Price: Free entrance
Internet: www.mubag.org

Bonfires of Saint John Museum

This museum (Museo de Fogueres) is dedicated to the most popular "fiesta" in Alicante and shows the "ninots", or wooden statues that have been "saved" i.e. not burned every year, a video room showing the best of this "fiesta", photographs, costumes etc. This museum is a special tip

for families with children!

Address: C/ Teniente Alvarez Soto (next to Rambla Méndez Núñez)
Opening hours: Open every day except Sunday afternoons and Mondays.
Phone: +34 965 146 828
Price: Free entrance

TuriBus

For those who want to have a general idea of Alicante or for those with less time, Alicante offers a special service –the TuriBus-, a bus through the city with 9 interesting stops for holidaymakers. During the journey the sights and sites are explained in Spanish, English, French, German and Italian.

The TuriBus runs every hour on the hour from 10.00 to 19.00 with a break between 14.00 and 16.00, every day of the week except Mondays. A ticket costs €10 for adults and €5 for children and pensioners, and allows you to use it as many times as you wish in one day.

Old Town Quarter

Back in the old town quarter, we recommend a route that includes a visit to the San Nicholas Co-cathedral dating from the 17th century, although the cloisters are from the 15th (Herrerian Renaissance style), the Town Hall building, an 18th century Baroque building and the Santa María Basilica, a gothic structure based on the mosque from the ancient town, it dates from the 14th and 16th centuries and was completed with Baroque and Rococo finishes in the 18th century.

Beaches

Alicante has a wide variety of beaches, from fine sand to rocky. Most of them are proud to hold the Blue Flag award, the European distinction for beaches that offer best quality in their waters and sands.

El Postiguet is the Alicante beach par excellence. Located in the very heart of the



city, it is at the foot of the Santa Barbara Castle. It's a long sandy beach and is close to all types of services. It is not surprising that it has been famous over Spain since the 19th century, when beach resorts began to spring up.

The San Juan beach (Playa de San Juan) is the most famous beach, not only as it is the longest, but also because of the quality and cleanliness of its waters.

Enjoy the sun and the sea relaxed in the warm sand of one of Alicante beaches.

EATING



Alicante's most famous dishes contain rice. There are more than a hundred different rice recipes in the region, and they are all delicious!

At an "arrocería", or rice restaurant, among other dishes you'll find one of the Spanish national dishes, "paella", saffron rice mixed with local ingredients such as shellfish and vegetables. Fish and shellfish are fresh every day while sausage and meat is produced in the mountains near Alicante. Salads are served with salted accompaniments and olives.

The tasty and unusual local drink made with tiger nuts, "horchata", is very popular and served in many bars and "horchaterías", which you will find nearly everywhere in the city –you will love it!

Another local delicacy is "turrón", a dessert made with whole almonds, honey, sugar and egg white that is served everywhere.

Apart from buying bars of "turrón", you can try "turrón" flavoured ice-cream.

Alicante offers a wide range of restaurants of every category from elegant to fashionable, from exclusive to snack-bars.

Meal times are usually somewhat later than in the rest of Europe: breakfast between 7.30 and 10.00. The main meal or lunch is served in restaurants between 14.00 and 15.30 and dinner is between 21.00 and 22.30.

Restaurante La Ereta

It is situated on La Ereta park, on the side on Mount Benacantil, where Santa Barbara Castle is located. It enjoys wonderful views of the coastline, the Castle and the city centre, and it is set in lovely surroundings. They specialise in very elaborated cuisine.

Address: parque de la Ereta, Monte Benacantil
Phone: +34 965 143 250
Internet: www.laereta.es

Restaurante Dársena

One of the oldest restaurants in Alicante. It is located in the sports marina and it offers spectacular views of the seafront. They specialise in "paella" and Mediterranean food.

Address: C/ Marina Deportiva – Muelle Levante 6
Phone: +34 965 207 399
Internet: www.darsena.com

Restaurante Nou Manolín

It is located in one of the pedestrian streets of Alicante city centre. It has a very good and varied à la carte restaurant and it is also considered to serve the best "tapas" in the whole of Spain.

Address: C/ Villegas, 3
Phone: +34 965 200 368
Internet: www.noumanolin.com

Restaurante El Cantó

It is one of the most authentic "tapas" bar in Alicante. They don't take bookings but it is surely worth waiting to get a table and



enjoy some of their culinary delights!

*Address: C/ Alemania, 26
Phone: +34 965 925 650*

Bar Guillermo

It is a traditional "tapas" bar located in the centre of Alicante. Very popular due to their home-made meals and their "montaditos", little sandwiches with varied fillings.

*Address: C/ Pintor Velázquez, 21
Phone: +34 965 200 184*

CAFÉS



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Would you like to take a rest after walking through the old town or the shopping streets? In that case the terraces alongside Explanada de España are number one choice. Here you'll find cafés and bars, which are open air and offering some of the best views in the city, namely to the harbour.

Havana

Opens at 08.00 in the morning and is a popular café for tired bon vivants or morning people who want a good cup of coffee

Address: Rambla de Méndez Núñez 26

Marcel Cerdan

Small place located in the Plaza de Gabriel Miró Square, in the heart of the city centre, just behind the Explanada de España. Nice atmosphere. They also serve food.

Address: Plaza de Gabriel Miró 10

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



The nightlife is best and most abundant in the part of Alicante known as "el Barrio" which is situated around the Cathedral and the Rambla de Méndez Núñez.

Pubs, terraces and nightclubs are to be found here. Fashionable clubs with imported DJ's are located next door to bars for open-minded adults. Night owls have few problems to decide where to go as there is a variety of music bars open all night.

O'Hara Irish Pub

Open all day, from the morning to late at night, this pub serves breakfast, coffees and hot drinks, and alcoholic drinks. It also has a terrace on the Explanada de España.

Address: Explanada de España,4

Clan Cabaret

This bar is a classic in the alicantinian night and has become a reference cultural point with their performances, painting or comic exhibitions and concerts.

*Address: C/Capitán Segarra, 16
Phone: +34 965 210 003
Internet: www.clancabaret.com*

Santa Lounge

One of the latest opened pubs in Alicante offering the best house music. It has become a fashionable bar that you can not forget to visit to dance to good music!



Address: C/ López Torregrosa (next to the Rambla Méndez Núñez)

Isla Marina

Located at the end of El Postiguet beach, overlooking the sea. It is a very trendy place with a restaurant and areas to sit down to enjoy a drink and a dance.

Address: Avda Villajoyosa s/n
Phone: +34 965 265 728
Internet: www.islamarina.com

SHOPPING



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Alicante has something for everyone when it comes to shopping, whether you want to buy hot designer clothes, shoes and interior design items or pottery as well as exciting bargains from local artisans.

Try the shops and department stores along Avenida Maisonnave and surrounding streets, where you will surely find what you are after.

Another hot tip is the area around Calle Castaños, which is a pedestrian street next to the Rambla Méndez Núñez. Here you will find loads of shoe shops.

As well as in the city centre and in the old town, you will find several big shopping centres, offering plenty of shopping and leisure options for everybody. Particularly interesting and attractive is Panoramis shopping centre, located on one side of the sports marina. Restaurants and some of Spain's most popular chains are to be found there.

If you have never been to a Spanish traditional market, don't miss a visit to the Central Market (Mercado Central).

Here you will find every type of food from fresh fish to meat, from fruits to nuts and bread or desserts. Enjoy the vivid and colourful atmosphere while you get to know new fruits or gaze at fresh seafood.

Every Thursday and Saturday there are also outdoor markets in different districts of Alicante from around 08.00 to 14.00. They are situated in Benalúa, Carolinas and Babel districts.

On Sunday mornings a stamp & flea market takes place at the Plaza de Ayuntamiento, just opposite the town hall.

El Barrio

Small shops selling all types of presents, souvenirs, clothes and typical foods are to be found in the narrow streets of the old town.

Panoramis

Just east of the harbour is the Panoramis leisure and shopping centre. A wide choice of shops and restaurants enjoying some of the nicest views over the marina, as well as cinemas, are to be found here.

El Corte Inglés

Spain's largest chain of department stores is to be found in 53, Avenida Maisonnave and 1-3 Avda. Federico Soto. But sooner or later everyone comes here. Take the opportunity to buy turrónes, nougat with nuts. The best price in town. You can also find Fondillon Gran Reserva 1964 here. A wine unique to the Alicante region at the reasonable price of €13



SLEEPING



Alicante offers from 5-star hotels to pensions and guest houses, to be decided depending on your budget and preferences. You will find accommodation in every category from cosy and exclusive guest houses to very simply decorated pensions as well as a youth hostel.

More information and contact details you find on www.alicanteturismo.com

EXCLUSIVE Sidi San Juan

Hotel Sidi san Juan is located right by the sea on one of the best beaches in Spain. Most of the things you want when on holiday are available here. As well as swimming there are also beauty treatments, a spa and gymnastics sessions. The chef, Juan Fajardo, makes sure that the menus maintain a high class.

Situated right beside the San Juan beach, five minutes from the centre.

Address: C/ La Doblada, s/n, San Juan beach
Phone: +34 965 161 300
Internet: www.hotelessidi.es

Hospes Amérigo

The Hotel Hospes is situated in the old Dominican monastery in the heart of historic Alicante. Considered to be the finest that can be offered to the visitor. First-class food and service.

Address: 7, Calle Rafael Altamira
Phone: +34 965 146 570
Internet: www.hospes.es

BASIC Albahia

Albahia is a pleasant mid-class hotel which is located three kilometres from Alicante's Golf Club. The hotel offers taxis for its guests who want to go into the centre, one kilometre away. With the exception of holidays and during the period 15 July to 15 September.

Address: 6, Sol Naciente
Phone: +34 965 155 979
Internet: www.albahia.com

Pension Les Monges

The rooms of the family-owned Pension les Monges are fascinating. Woven tapestries hang on the walls and every room has its own style. One room has a jacuzzi while others have simpler bathrooms. A few of the rooms only have a toilet. They are simple but exquisitely decorated.

Address: 4, Calle san Agustín
Phone: +34 965 215 046
Internet: www.lesmonges.es

GOOD VALUE Melia Alicante

Hotel Melia is located beside the Gravina Palace with its art collections. Well managed and central.

Address: 3, Plaza Puerta del Mar
Phone: +34 965 205 000
Internet: www.solmelia.com

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION



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Airport

Alicante's international airport is situated



11 kilometres south of the city and is called "El Altet". The cheapest way to get into the centre is by urban bus C-6. A single ticket costs €2.60. The bus departs every 20 minutes and it takes around 30 minutes depending on the traffic. A taxi costs around €18 and a journey time around 10 to 15 minutes.

Public Transport

There are urban buses running to every district of the city, as well as to Alicante's suburbs. The central bus station offers regular connections with other towns in the area, as well as the main Spanish cities and European capitals, as well as Morocco (www.subus.es).

Trams leave from the Mercado Central station in direction to San Juan beach and the coastal town of El Campello, Benidorm and also connect with the "Trenet" (narrow gauge train) service going up the north coast of Alicante, including Calpe and Denia. Due to the spectacular landscape along the way, the "Trenet" is loved and popular among tourists.

The train is another useful method of transport. Thanks to modern train types Spanish as well as European capitals can be reached easily and comfortably from the station located in the city centre

Coach Station: +34 965 130 700

Railway Station: +34 902 240 202 / www.renfe.es

Trenet: +34 900 720 472 / www.fgv.es

Taxi

Easy to get hold of if you want to stop one on the street. Fare meters are used. In order to book a taxi, including taxis adapted for the handicapped, there are several local companies:

Tele Taxi +34 965 101 611

Radio Taxi +34 965 252 511

Taxi Área +34 965 910 591

Post

The central post office is open all day from Monday to Friday from 08.30 to 20.30 and on Saturday from 09.30 to 14.00, closed on Sunday.

*Address: C/ Alemania nº 7
Phone: +34 965 131 887*

Pharmacy

All chemists have a list of current emergency chemists. It is also published in all daily papers in the region.

Dentist

Dr J A Martinez

Speaks both English and Spanish

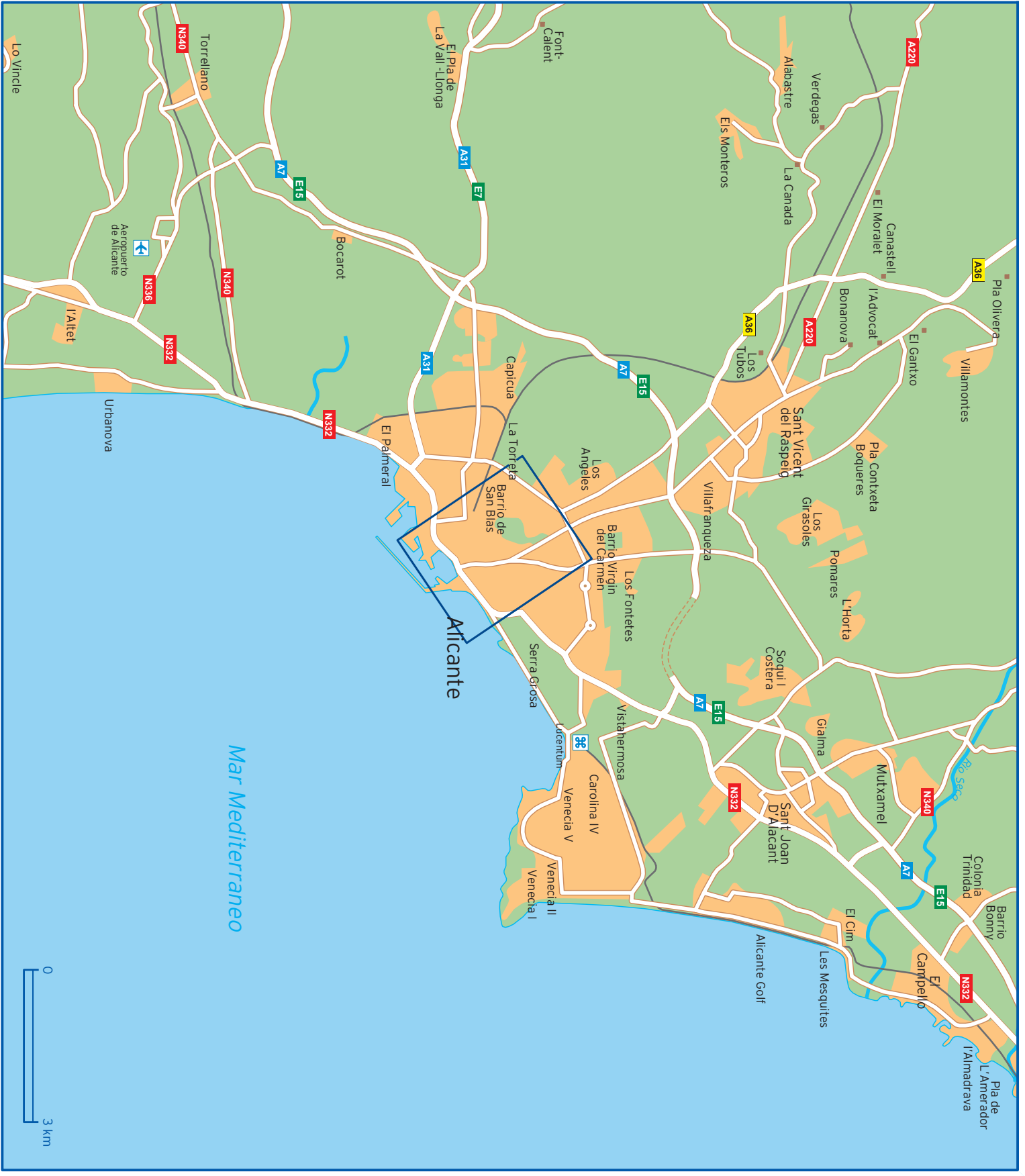
*Address: 24, Alfonso el Sabio, Alicante
Phone: +34 965 213 845*

Telephone

Country code + 34. Area code within Alicante 965. You have to dial the area code even when you are in Alicante

Electricity

220-240 volts



Mar Mediterraneo

Alicante

0 3 km





Avenida Alfonso x .	B3 C3	Calle Huerta	C3
Avenida Estacion	A3 B3	Calle Isabel La Ca.	A3
Avenida Jaime II	C3 D3	Calle Jaime Segarr.	D2
Avenida Maisonnave	A3 B3	Calle Jorge Juan	C3
Avenida Adolfo Mun.	A2 B2	Calle Juan Ortega	A2
Avenida Aguilera	A2 A3	Calle Maestro Alon.	D1
Avenida Alcoy	C1 C2	Calle Maestro Caba.	C2
Avenida Benito Per.	B2	Calle Maldonado	C3
Avenida Conde de L.	C1 D1	Calle Marques de M.	B2
Avenida Doctor Gad.	B3	Calle Mayor	C3
Avenida Doctor Jim.	A1 B1	Calle Miguel Soler	C3
Avenida Doctor Ric.	B1	Calle Montero Rios	D1 D2
Avenida Federico S.	B3	Calle Olof Palme	D1
Avenida General Ma.	B2	Calle Padre Marian.	C2
Avenida Jijona	C2 D2	Calle Padre R de I.	A1 B1
Avenida Jovellanos	D3	Calle Paraiso	C2 C3
Avenida Loring	A3 A4	Calle Pintor Cabre.	A3 B3
Avenida Oscar Espl.	A3	Calle Pintor Gisbe.	A2 B2
Avenida Pintor Bae.	D1	Calle Pintor Loren.	A3 B3
Avenida Ramon y Ca.	A4 B3	Calle Pintor Muril.	C2
Avenida Salamanca	A2 B2	Calle Plus Ultra	D2
Avenida Tomas y Va.	B3 C4	Calle Poeta Quinta.	B2 B3
Calle Albacete	B1 B2	Calle Poeta Zorril.	D2
Calle Alcala	A2	Calle Portugal	B3
Calle Alcala Galia.	C2 D2	Calle Primitivo Pe.	C2 D1
Calle Alemania	B3	Calle Rafael Asin	C1 D1
Calle Alferez Diaz.	C2	Calle Reyes Catoli.	A3
Calle Alona	A3	Calle San Carlos	D2 D3
Calle Angel Lozano	B3	Calle San Fernando	B3 C3
Calle Arzobispo Lo.	A3 B3	Calle San Francisc.	B3
Calle Aspe	D2	Calle San Mateo	D2
Calle Augustin Sos.	C1 D1	Calle San Pablo	D2
Calle Aureliano Ib.	C1	Calle San Salvador	A2 B2
Calle Bailen	C3	Calle San Vicente	C2 C3
Calle Barcelona	D2	Calle Santos Fuert.	A4
Calle Bono Guarner	A2	Calle Sevilla	D2
Calle Calderon de .	C2 C3	Calle Teatro	B3
Calle Canalejas	B3	Calle Teulada	C1
Calle Canota Pasar.	A2	Calle Torres Queve.	D2 D3
Calle Capitan Meca	C3	Calle Trafalgar	C3
Calle Capitan Sega.	C2 C3	Calle Tucuman	B2
Calle Castanos	B3 C3	Calle Valencia	D2
Calle Cerda	C1	Calle Vazques de M.	D3
Calle Churruca	A3	Calle Virgen del S.	D3
Calle Ciudad Real	A1 B1	Rambla Mendez Nune.	C3
Calle Colon	B3		
Calle Cordoba	A2		
Calle Cremades	A2		
Calle Diaz Moreu	C2 C3		
Calle Doctor Baude.	D1		
Calle Doctor Berge.	D2		
Calle Elda	D2		
Calle Foguerer R G.	B1		
Calle Francisco Ve.	D1		
Calle Garbinet	D2		
Calle Garcia Andre.	A3		
Calle Garcia Morat.	C2 C3		
Calle General Eliz.	D2 D3		
Calle General Espa.	D1		
Calle General Pint.	C2 D1		
Calle Gerona	B3		