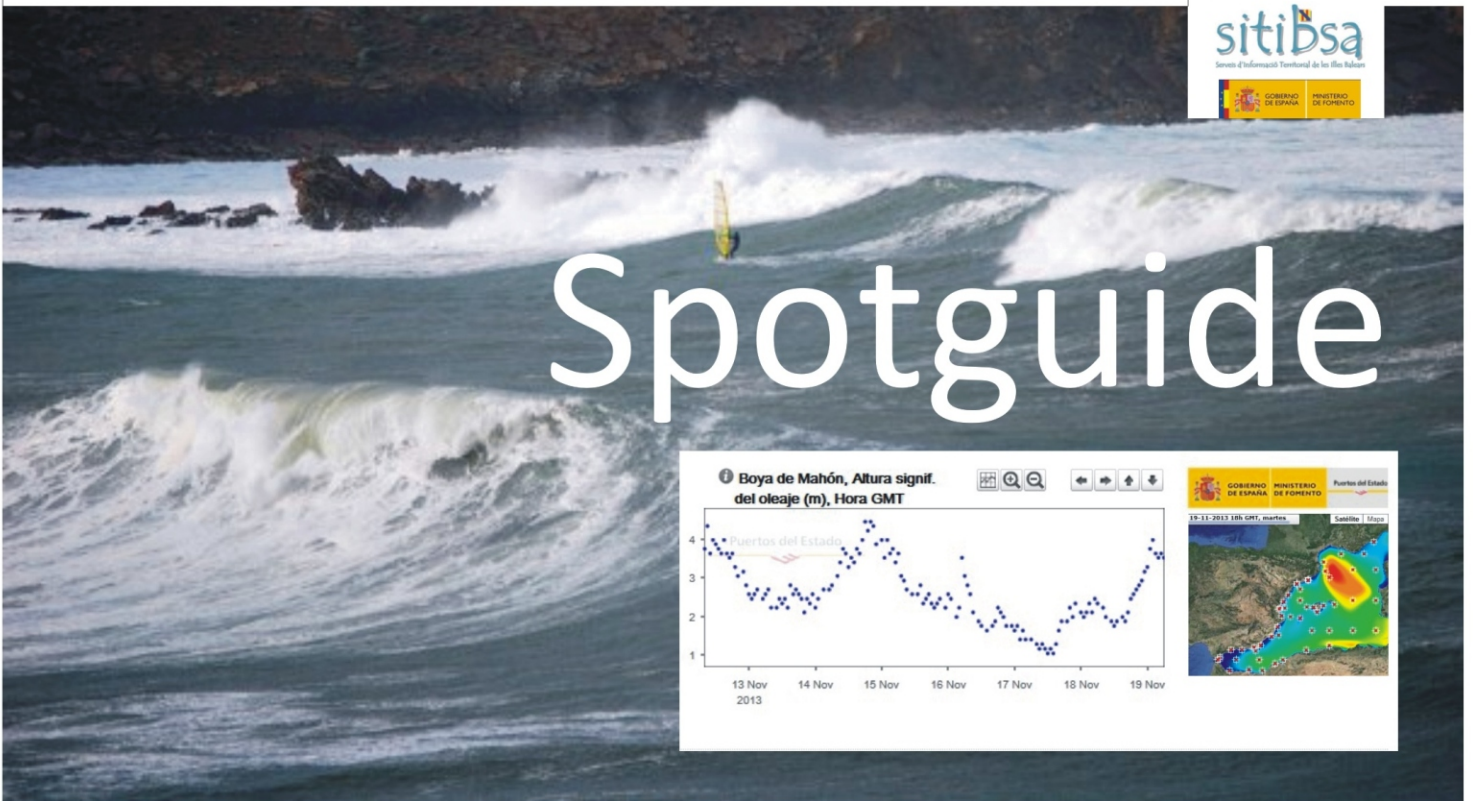


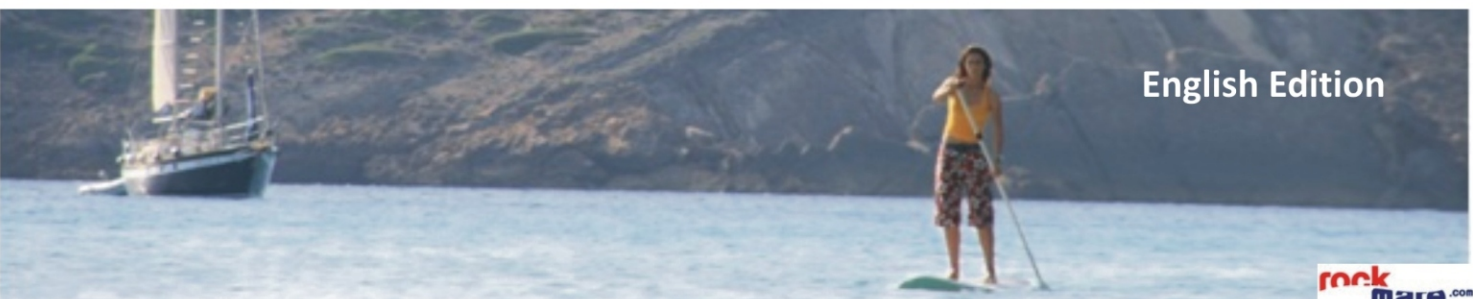
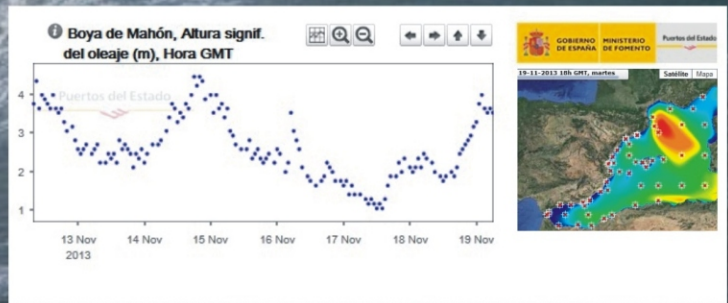
Menorca



H2O



Spotguide



English Edition

Menorca

H2O

Spotguide



The Balearic Island of Menorca's got a reputation for being very windy. This is true, but only up to a certain point... The famous 'Tramuntana' is a northerly wind, blowing strong from the Rhone Valley straight to Menorca's north shore between force 5 and 8 Bft. Then, Cala Tirant becomes one of the best places to be!

The best times for wind and waves are autumn, winter and spring. Realisticly, we only get 3-6 days of 'Tramuntana' per month. Sometimes in winter, it can blow 2 weeks non-stop, then it gets quite chilly. But we have got some more enjoyable winds over here, like the 'Gregal' (northeast) and the 'Poniente' (west). It all depends on the general weather pattern, like everywhere else in the world...

During the touristic summer season, Kite surfing is forbidden on most public beaches in Menorca! That's not a great problem, as there is no wind anyway and the beaches are full of people getting roasted in the sun.



Wind- and water sports in Menorca / in general:

Wind related water sport on the island is kind of a gamble on the weather but if you crack the jackpot, it can be really awesome!

The most reliable kind of water sport is also one of the easiest and enjoyable for almost everyone: SUP, stand up paddling! One side of the island always provides flat and clear turquoise water, which invites you for a paddle out. Off-season, the chalet Casa Rockmorell in Cala Morell is a perfect place for active groups of friends and families up to 10 people.

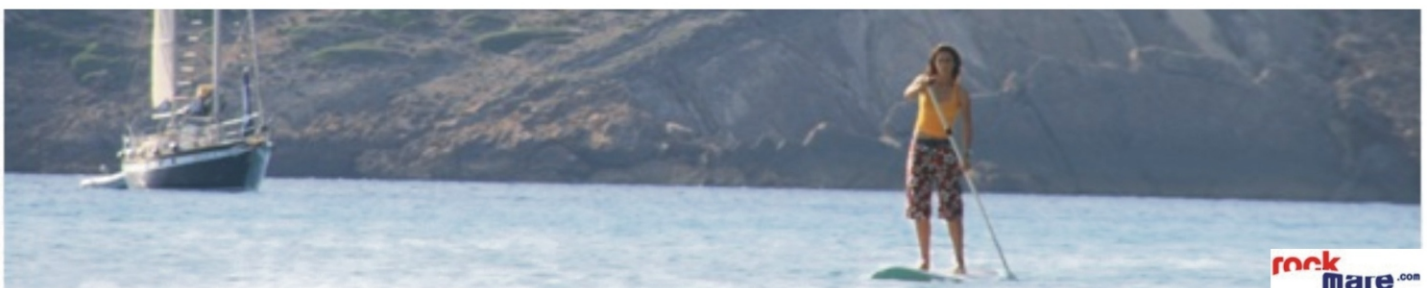
Also, please note: you find surprisingly good waves more often than a cracking side shore wind...

When it comes to water sport, wherever you base yourself, you will need a rental car to discover the full potential of the island. The local car rental company 'AmbercarsMenorca' have got good prices, no hidden extra charges and most of their cars are equipped with roof racks.

Kite- or Windsurf equipment you better off flying in but SUP boards you can rent locally. Knowledge and safe handling are a prerequisite.

Published by Martin Rockmann,

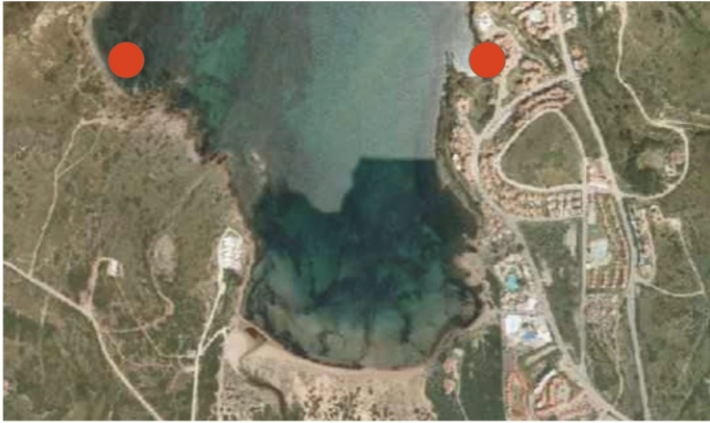
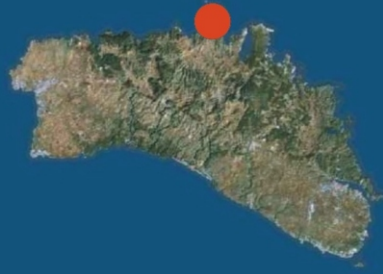
'retired' water sport instructor, living and surfing on the island since 1991



Menorca

North

Cala Tirant



Geo:

40.044922N x 4.102685E

Cala Tirant

Urb. Playas de Fornells

Cala Tirant / Windsurfer:

As a Windsurfer you can start from a little bay, (sometimes by swimming) from a small cove just outside 'Cala Tirant' on its east side. This way you can get straight into the big waves, that break a bit off-shore in the middle of the bay. These waves are created by a shallow, and work only when it's getting logo or mast high. Impressive wave riding and jumping on massive but gentle monsters, if everything works out right...

At the same time, right opposite, on the outer west side of 'Cala Tirant' (a rocky beach called 'Es Colodar') waves are smaller and get bend around a shallow headland. This creates good conditions for front side turns.

These two spots in 'Cala Tirant' attract the experienced wave riding windsurfer only.

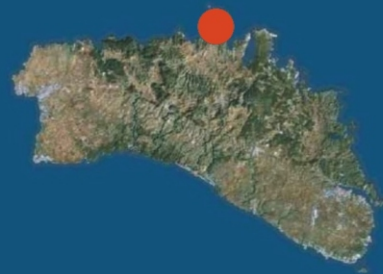
The huge bay of Fornells is like an inland lake and therefore perfect for blasting up and down without any worries. Two well established Sailing and Windsurf Schools are working here in summer.



Menorca

North

Cala Tirant



The huge bay of Fornells, near by, is like an inland lake and therefore perfect for blasting up and down without any worries. Two well established Sailing and Windsurf Schools are working here in summer . Kitesurfer are NOT welcome in Fornells

Cala Tirant / Kitesurfer:

Kite surfers launch on the west side of the main beach. Most of them play with the waves near the shore. It's like a kite skate park. Small waves on one side, bigger ones up to 2m on the other. Hold on to your board on the left side of the beach! A little bit of a rip current pulls out here! Sometimes seaweed adds a bit of spice to the playground. This spot near the beach is very popular for kiting, not so much for windsurfers.

In exchange, the heavy waves outside, are tricky for kite surfing. You must be fully concentrated flying the kite, while surfing the wave and keeping tension on the lines at the same time. If your kite drops out of the sky and gets mangled by a big wave, you are facing a long swim back to the beach.



Menorca / North

Near Cap Cavalleria / Surf & SUP

El Secret

Geodaten

40.057282N x 4.095399E

Cap Cavalleria, Finca Santa Teresa,

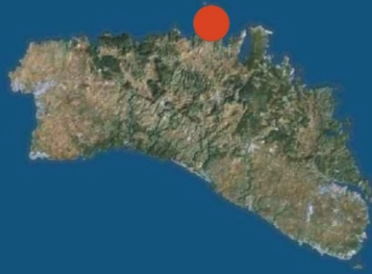
Cami de Cavalls



Menorca

North / Cap Cavalleria

Surf & SUP



El Secret:

Es Marcar Gran, known as 'El Secret' today, is no secret at all! It's a bay on the west side further outside Cala Tirant. You can reach the spot only by hiking the 'Cami de Cavalls' (Horse path). So it's better to choose some lightweight equipment... It is a gravel beach with two point breaks, left and right that work between 1,5m to 3m northerly swell (very gnarly at 3m!). You should know what you are doing, if you go out on a big day. Small days are fine.

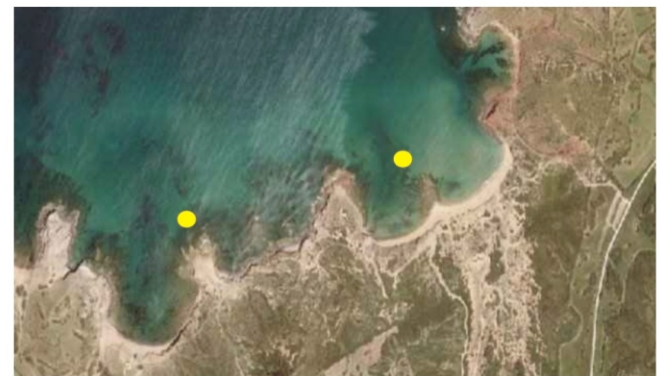
Geo: 40.059081N x 4.075175E
Car park Playa Cavalleria



Playa Cavalleria:

Those who don't want to carry their SUP board for ages on a mountain bike (or horse) trail, better choose 'Playa Cavalleria', a beach on the west side of the 'Cap Cavalleria'. Smaller waves (from 1,5m 2m) break near the rock in the middle. When the swell gets to a decent size, the sand bank on the right side of the beach kicks off! Swimmers, be careful! If waves look big outside, there's a rip current near the steps, it can take you out to sea works fine for surfers...

If waves become more than 2,5m, it's not recommendable anymore! You only find a wet chaos...



El Pico:

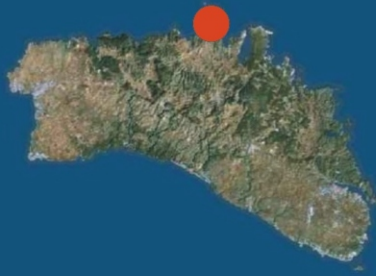
A shallow rock headland, west of 'Playa Cavalleria', picks up even very small waves on the north. A good chance for a 'baño pequeño', as the locals say. Even tube rides are possible - sometimes (proved by quite a few photos).

But be careful here!!! Very shallow, pointy rocks (that can tangle up your leash) and plenty of sea urchins wait for you. With more than 4 surfers on the line up, it feels crowded. Sound interesting?

Menorca

North / Cap Cavalleria

SUPexcursion



SUP excursion / Cap Cavalleria, Sa Nitja

To paddle around the 'Cape Cavalleria', the most northern point of the island, you need no wind at all and a flat sea. If you park your car in, 'Sa Nitja', you are only a few meters away from the shore. You can paddle to the island 'Isla de Porros' and to the old watchtower opposite or finally to the beach 'Playa Cavalleria'.

Plan B: Arrange a friend in a shuttle car, to pick you up in 'Binimela'. This way, you can explore the coast between 'Cavalleria' and 'Cala Pregonda' without having to paddle back.

Plan C: That is best plan (!) It is a tour for experienced paddlers only. No emergency exits along the way!



To get started, you park near the old Roman excavation site. Now hike east along the horse path (10min), to the little bay 'Saler d'en Patet'. This way you round the cape from east to west, finishing in 'Sa Nitja' or 'Playa Cavalleria', not far away from where you parked your car. Very clever! (Cheers Jono, for that tour suggestion!)

Alternative:

You can also find a few well-prepared sport climbing rock faces on the 'Cap Cavalleria'. Sector 'Nova' and sector 'Jamaica' are about 2km away from the old Romans settlement, but, that leads into another story...

Menorca

South / Son Bou

Windsurf, Kitesurf, Surf & SUP



Geo 39.899702N
4.071649E

Menorca

South / Son Bou

Windsurf, Kitesurf, Surf & SUP



Son Bou / Windsurfer

Nice all-round spot! It is the longest stretch of sandy beach on the island, with the car park right behind. For windsurfing, best wind directions are 'Poniente' (west), 'Mestral' (northwest) and 'Levante' (east), as they come in side shore to the beach. Nice wave jumping and wave riding in front of a long sandy beach. But watch out! From a certain size, waves will break hollow and peaks can shift quickly. Also, be aware of hidden rocks under the water, especially at the east end of the beach. You don't need to be overrate the currents, if you are comfortable windsurfing in waves.



Son Bou / Kite-surfer

What's right for windsurfers, can't be that wrong for a kite-surfer... (in most cases). There is one difference: kite-surfers like 'Son Bou', even when the wind blows pretty much onshore. Most wind directions from southeast to northwest work on this large open beach. When waves get bigger than 2m, it can get a bit chaotic. Watch out if you lose your board, as it can drift away quickly. Windsurfer and Kiter share the same spot, no limitations. Ride with respect and harmony that's the way to enjoy the same playground in different disciplines.

Son Bou / Surfer, SUP-Surfer

Beach break the wave always peaks, where you don't expect it... But if you are here and the wind has dropped and the waves look good to you for surfing, why not!?! If the waves are really big, be careful! There are a few tricky rip currents created by underwater rocks!



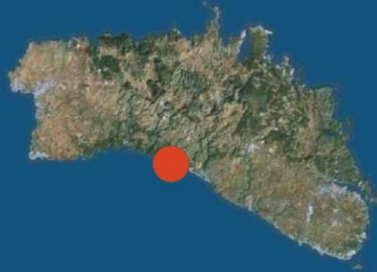
Son Bou / no Wind, no Waves

You can explore the coast paddling eastwards. First, you paddle over a sunken prehistoric sight, than around the huge cliff marking the east end of 'Son Bou' beach. Right behind, you find a interesting little cove called 'Llucalari'. In the surrounding rocks of that valley, you also find various sport climbing routes for experienced climbers but that's a different story again...

Menorca

South / Sant Tomas

Windsurf, Kitesurf, Surf & SUP



Geo: 39.917008N x 4.033244E

Sant Tomas / Windsurfer

Favourite wind directions are west, south west, or sometimes southeast. If westerly winds in 'Son Bou' blow too much onshore, 'Sant Tomas' can be a good alternative spot to find side shore conditions. It's a sandy beach too. Well, it's supposed to be... watch out, as there are quite a few rocks hidden under the water. The little island, right in front, affects the waves in a positive way. There is a little bit more order in the chaos. Summing it up: Winds are often gustier, but waves shape up better than in 'Son Bou'.

With the southeasterly wind called 'Xaloc', you can do some wave riding, windsurfing right in front of the headland at the east end of the main beach.



Sant Tomas / Kitesurfer The beach around the corner is called 'Binigaus' and it's got far more sand for launching and landing your kite. More sand than on the main beach near the car park. The valley, at the back, channels the wind and the little waves can be quite nice too. The best wind direction for kite-surfers in 'Sant Tomas' is 'Xaloc' (southeast). Park your car at the car park, take your kit and hike less than 5min west, along the horse path. As a Kite-surfer with lightweight equipment, you can do it!

Sant Tomas / Surfer, SUP-Surfer

If there are waves on the south, 'Sant Tomas' becomes the place to be for many local surfers. Within 500m you find four different breaks, including 'Playa Binigaus' west of the beach. The majority of the breaks are quick and dirty, if it's over a certain size. Have fun!



Sant Tomas / no wind, flat water...

Ok no worry's. Get yourself a few 'Cervezas' at the beach bar 'Es Brucs' and check out bikinis (if there are any...) and talk the talk with your surf buddy.

If the weather is dull, do a bit of hiking up the canyon to visit the huge cave, called 'Cueva des Coloms'. It's size is truly amazing! In spring, you walk past, literally, hundreds of tiny orchids.

With your SUP you can start a long excursion towards the west, up to 'Cala Galdana'. This long paddle will keep you busy for most part of the day... You can discover virgin beaches, coves and caves along the way. Arrange a friend to pick you up by car! Or reduce your excursion to 'Cala Fustam', spend some time on an unspoiled beach, and paddle back to base.

Menorca

East / Punta Prima

Windsurf, Kitesurf, Surf & SUP



Geo:

39.814767N x 4.287049E

**This is where surfing started
on the island of Menorca.**

(www.lunatics-surfmajorca.blogspot.com).

It makes sense, if you look at the map.

It's Spain's most easterly point and it picks up various different swell directions. A flat rock headland, east of the public beach provides a powerful and sometimes quite long left-hander, if we have swell it's from the north or northeast.

Most of the point breaks have got a rocky sea bottom. At this site too several sea urchins decorate the underwater rocks...

Southwest and west winds can also create a nice wave on the opposite side of the bay. Punta Prima is a very



Menorca

East / Punta Prima

Windsurf, Kitesurf, Surf & SUP



Punta Prima / Windsurfer

This point break is what wave riding windsurfers are dreaming about! (... if conditions are right, unfortunately, that's not very often!)

If you misinterpret the forecast, you'll either find a mushy onshore sea or flat free-ride conditions. So what kind of conditions are you looking for exactly?

You need a good blowing 'Tramuntana', turning slightly east to 'Gregal'. That creates a decent swell and side offshore wind (sometimes pretty gusty) perfect for wave

riding with space for many front side turns on a nice peeling wave! Wow! You start from the beach (wind sheltered by the hotel complex) and tack upwind to the point on the left, catch a wave and ride it (& pull out in time...)

So, it screws you up when it's northerly! Having to choose between on-shore monster-waves in Cala Tirant (incl. Es Colodar), freestyle jumping in 'Fornells', or front side wave riding in Punta Prima!



Punta Prima / Kitesurfer

It just doesn't work the same way for kite surfing! Most of the time, it is too gusty or there's no wind for launching at the beach. Razor sharp rocks along the shore, do not forgive any mistakes. In this case, leave the spot to the windsurfers and drive off to 'Es Grau'.

Punta Prima, with an easy southeasterly breeze can be a good free ride spot for kiting. Enjoy the scenery, cruising over turquoise water!

Summing up, kiting in Punta Prima: free ride yes! However with side / offshore winds and decent waves; leave your kite in the car and try SUP surfing instead!

Near Punta Prima / flat flat water:

If you're at the southeast end of the island on a flat day and you're looking for something to do. Go for a little excursion from 'Alcafar' to 'Calo de Rafalet'. This cove is like a Scandinavian Fjord in miniature. Further along these cliffs, there is another sport climbing area, named 'Sector Sotil'. But let's talk about water...



Menorca

North East / Es Grau

Windsurf, Kitesurf, Surf & SUP



Geo: 39.955543N x 4.271695E

Es Grau / Windsurfer

This place is not too exciting in regards to windsurfing. In easterly winds you can tack out of the bay towards the island 'Ille de Colon', but you may just miss out on a perfect Punta Prima session...

Es Grau / Kitesurfer

'Es Grau' and kite surfing that's a better combination! The northeast wind comes into the sheltered bay. Flat and shallow water is ideal for freestyle action. Watch out for mooring bouys and little fishing boats anchored in the bay. You can also tack out towards the island. Waves often break nicely in the channel, over a shallow sand bank (don't confuse it with the shallow rock nearby...). Always keep in mind that if something goes wrong, it's a very long walk back around the bay, back to the car park.



Es Grau / no wind, flat sea

It's kind of a Mecca on this island for kayaking and SUP paddle excursions. The little island, 'Ille de Collom', and the surrounding areas of the village are a nature reserve and give shelter to many migratory birds (in ornithology terms!). Many unknown bays, beaches and the island itself invite you for a paddle around. Check the map, and off you go...

Es Grau / SUP-Surfer

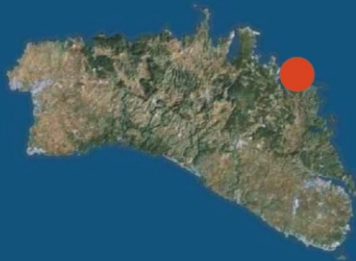
The shallow bay next to the village always stays flat, but outside, opposite the village, in the channel between the islands, a gentle wave breaks over a sand bank. It works, if an easterly swell, around 1,5m to 2m, appears. You enter the water at the village slipway, paddle out of the bay and head northwest around the corner. There you are! You don't see short boarders here but surf-skiers have been spotted on rare occasions!



Menorca

North Northeast / Port Adaya

Windsurf, SUP

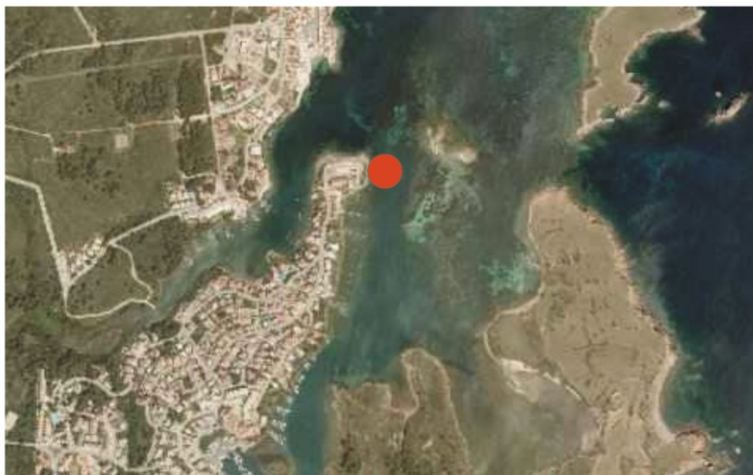


Geo: 40.013417N x 4.203293E

Adaya / Windsurf

Next to the entrance channel of the little marina of 'Adaya' (near to the car park / children playground at the headland) you find a freestyle playground for windsurfers providing 'Tramuntana' wind conditions. Flat as a pancake, about 100m wide, muddy, and just deep enough for wave fins. Here you will practice your jibing skills if you want to or not...

For kite surfing you won't find any space for launching your kite and remember, 'Cala Tirant' is more exiting, that's for sure!



Adaya / SUP-excursion

This is a nice area for paddle excursions, for beginners as well as for explorers. The shallow Salinas further inland are great for bird watching, if you are into that... The little sports marina is charming too.

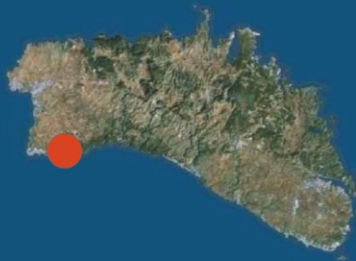
Near by: Arenal de Son Saura (Hotel resort on the north coast)

Is an option for kite surfing with a north / northeasterly breeze. Yes, but it's gusty on one side and rocky at the other.

Menorca

Southwest / Son Saura

Windsurf, Kitesurf, Surf & SUP



Son Saura (South coast, west end) / Kitesurf

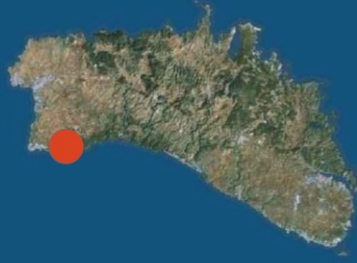
What Kite surfer doesn't dream of an unspoiled white sandy beach? You don't need to fly as far as Mauritius, to get 'that feeling'. Well, it's not only sand that you usually find here along the shore. Sometimes, quite a bit of seaweed piles up in one of the corners. Funny tennis ball size, seaweed balls are lying around all over the beach.

Playa 'Son Saura' is my suggestion for the explorer, if the wind is from southwest (so called 'Llebeig'). This bay invites you to free riding or shredding nice little waves in onshore wind conditions (talking about the second beach, of the two). During the summer months, lifeguards can stop you from playing around in the swimming area. Don't get too cross with them; just ask at what time duty finishes ... By the way; after 'Lebeig' wind follows rain, almost guaranteed!

Menorca

Southwest / Son Saura

Windsurf, Kitesurf, Surf & SUP



Geo: 39.927033N x 3.895723E



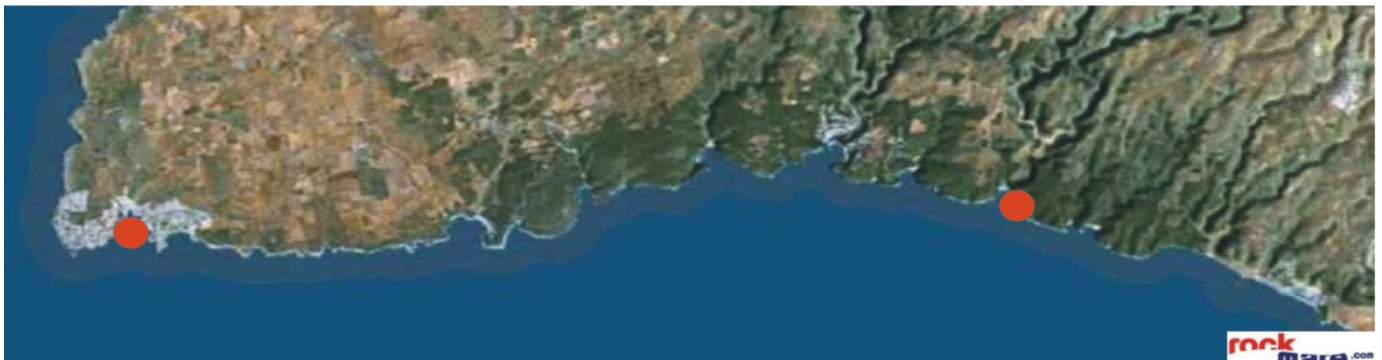
Son Saura (south coast) / Surfer, SUP-surfer

When waves of more than 1,5m appear along the south coast of Menorca Son Saura is a good place to ride them! The breaking waves here may be a bit smaller than in 'Sant Tomas' but much smoother and sometimes even longer. If you get to the beach and the water is disappointingly flat don't worry either! There is so much to explore around the whole bay on your paddleboard! Just enjoy the Caribbean scenario!

SUP one way excursion south coast :

If the forecast is flat for the whole day, on the south coast of Menorca, why not prepare for a long whole day excursion? one way.

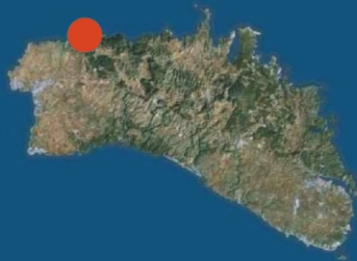
In 'Calan Bosch' you can catch the 'Family Fun Glass Bottom Boat, Don Pancho' at 10.00am with all your paddle gear. You enjoy the boat trip (...) until they moor up in 'Cala Mitjana' (as long as its flat). You say 'gracias y hasta luego' to the skipper, and from here you paddle yourself back to 'Cap Artrux'. Be surprised by the nicest part of Menorca's south coast, with beaches like 'Cala Midjana' and 'Cala Macarella'. If you plan on this kind of trip, contact the skipper, Sebastian, in advance! You will need to coordinate your plans with the Captain, and get his ok! Make sure you are well prepared; sun protection / wetsuit, board leach, plenty of water & food and a charged up mobile phone.



Menorca

Northwest / Cala Algayarens

For explorer: Surf & SUP

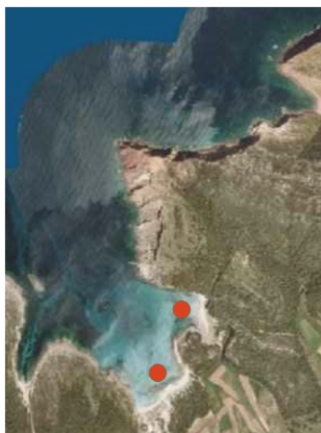


La Vall - Cala Algayarens (Es Tancat) / Surfer, SUP-Surfer

This popular spot for surfers from 'Ciutadella', is located in a picturesque nature reserve. You need at least 1,5m waves from the north. Depending on height, it's either a left or right wave, or even both (right in most cases). On the left side of the beach is a channel with a strong rip current out to sea! Good for surfers, to get out to the line up dangerous for unaware swimmers! If the swell is bigger than 2,5m it starts getting a bit chaotic and waves will close out. This is when the neighbouring beach 'Es Bot' starts to work nicely.

La Vall, Cala Algayarens (Es Bot) / Surfer, SUP-Surfer

If the Tramontana still blows strong and the main beach closes out all the time, 'Es Bot' is the answer and it's just a walk around the corner. This beach creates a smooth right-hander wave over pure sandy bottom. Ideal for learners, Longboard and SUP surfing



Geo: 40.047821N x 3.921558E



Algayarens:

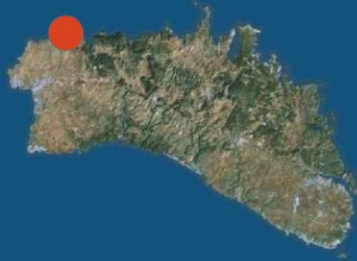
Es Tancat, Es Bot, Ses Fontanelles, Cala Carbo / flat water

The hold bay, with its many names for all the little coves and beaches within the area of 'La Vall', is a great playground for SUP paddle excursions! You find something new and surprising behind every rock or corner. A tour just around the bay will take you about an hour. The panorama is impressive! If you paddle east and out of the bay, around the red rock point 'Sa Punta Rodja', you get to the deserted surf spot 'Cala Carbo'... To the east of here you reach the marine reserve of the north coast fishing is not allowed in the marine reserve.

Menorca

Northwest / Cala Morell

For SUP explorer



Cala Morell / flat flat water

From this careful developed touristic resort you can paddle east towards 'La Vall'. Very high cliffs and dark blue water makes you feel very small in front of this impressive part of the coast. Better do this not on your own. It will take an hour one way, to get to 'La Vall / Playa Algayarens'. But easily it can get twice of that time, because there are little inlays, deep caves and rock arches to discover along the way. Fishing is Ok, as long you respect the regulations.

You could also paddle the other way, west towards the 'Punta Nati' lighthouse. After an hour (one way) of paddling along the cliffs, you are really surprised by the caves and coves around 'Calas Morts'

More information about 'Casa Rockmorell' here in 'Cala Morell' including a webcam facing the bay, You find at:

www.rockmare.com



Geo:
40° 3'11.34"N
3° 52'56.83"E



Menorca

more to discover...

www.rockmare.com

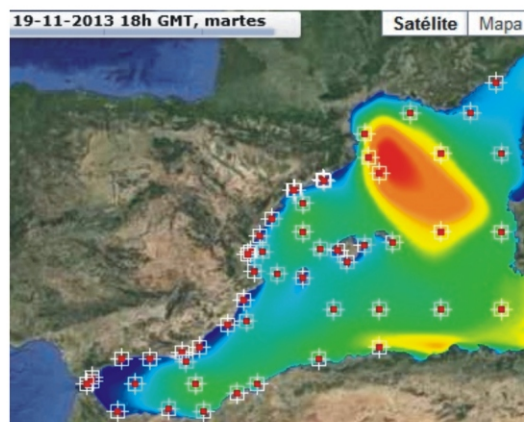
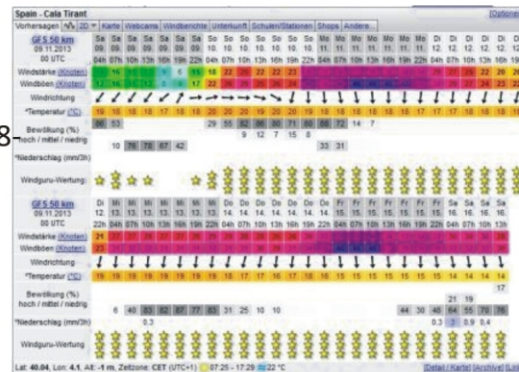


more to read:

Menorca, With the Kayak around the island / Sergi Lara / Ediciones Desnivel S.L. / ISBN: 978-84-9829-120-9
 Cami de Cavalls / Sergi Lara / TrianglePostals / ISBN: 978-84-8478-507-1
 Sport Climbing Guide / German Kunusch

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<http://ideib.caib.es/visualitzador/visor.jsp>



Previsión Puertos para Mahón

	Jueves					Viernes					Sabado					Dom	
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1 mt.																	
Altura olas	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.8	3.0	3.3	3.6	3.8	3.7	3.4	3.0	2.7	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.2	1.8
Dir. olas	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Intervalo	8	8	8	8	9	10	10	11	11	10	10	9	9	10	10	9	8
Vel. viento*	22	24	24	26	28	30	31	32	31	28	25	22	20	18	18	19	22
Dir. viento	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓

* La velocidad del viento está expresada en nudos (1 nudo = 1.85 Km/h)
 Información suministrada por Puertos del Estado

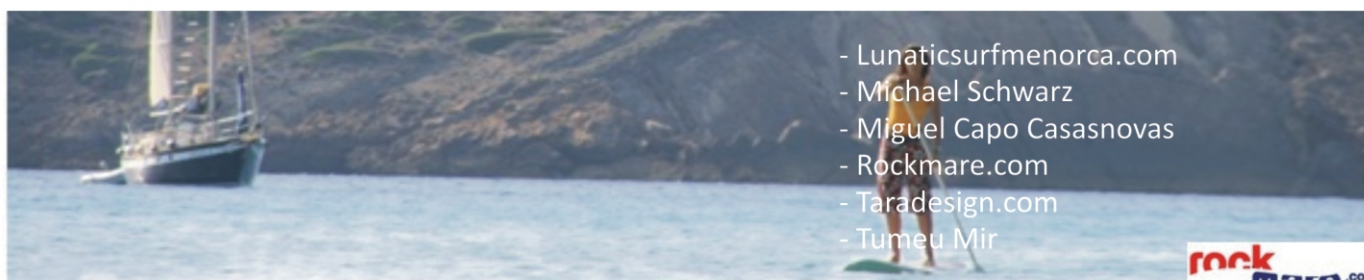
Moltes Gracies!

Lucy Pennick,
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