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Javea which is also known as Xabia is a popular holiday seaside resort town in Alicante province. It is located on Alicanteâ€™s north facing a wide sheltered bay by the rocky MontgÃ³ hill which stands at 750 m.

Javea also boasts of a beautiful Natural Park which protects it from cold winter winds to give it a pleasant climate of 15 degrees Celsius in winter and a maximum of 30 degrees Celsius in summer.

Background

Javea may be one of Spainâ€™s smaller towns but packs a great bunch of excitement for the tourists. It is hence considered an international tourist spot with one third of its population being British followed by the Germans and Dutch residents.

Over 100,000 tourists visit Javea every summer with most of them coming from all over Spain as there are easy road accesses.

Javea has a long history that stretches to prehistoric time before blossoming into an important economic centre during the Roman Empire. It functioned as an important and busy commercial port for exports of fish and minerals.

When the Visigoths conquered Javea during the 6th century, the Christian Visigoth monks set up the San Martin monastery before the Moors came into power in 714 AD. A few centuries later, the Spanish Re-Conquista defeated the Moors whose remaining members were expelled from the town in 1609.

Old Town Charm

Modern Javea is formed through a turbulent history with lots of ancient monuments left behind. The Old Town has been set up 3 kilometers away from the shores to protect its inhabitants from pirate attacks in the past. One of the most prominent buildings here is the 14th century Sant BartolomÃ© church of Gothic structure. A busy local market can be found supplying fresh vegetables, fruit and fish from around the region.

The Old Quarter is a charming place with narrow cobbled streets for a good leisurely stroll to view its ancient Gothic architectural buildings and iron balconies with stone porticoes. There are plenty of pubs, bars and cafÃ©s to enjoy a cup of local brew during the sight visits. There are also historical displays in the local Soler Blasco museum.

Urbanization

Javea combines the old and new well; the local port as well as Playa de Arenal are two areas which are considered more urban. The El Puerto port was a modest fishing harbor which has now been transformed into a modern complex for tourists with a nautical club.

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