

# Tenerife - November 2014

Knowledge is without a doubt the most important weapon in a travel agents armoury, without it how can you recommend a holiday and guarantee a successful holiday. With that in mind each of our offices sent a representative on a Tenerife fact finding mission and below are their thoughts and hotel recommendations.

Note this trip was from Southend, what a fantastic experience, very calm no long queues we can see why London Southend has beaten all other UK airports for the second year running to once again be named Best in Britain in the latest which airport passenger survey.



## Playa de las Americas

This resort is a busy resort on the south coast of Tenerife and has now become one of the liveliest, most vibrant and custom built resort for sun worshippers. The resort runs along a 8km coastline. The raw, big resort aspect of concrete high rises and sprawling complexes is softened by palm trees and flowering shrubs.

This hotspot boasts several stretches of sandy beaches, some of which are better than others, no beach in Tenerife is privately owned most have parasols and beds for hire. Playa Las Vistas is the best beach in the area, however few hotels sit directly on this beach, Playa Las Vistas beach is good for families and disabled, it is a lot bigger and wider and the sand is less black than some of the other beaches.

A lot of the properties listed below are near Playa Camison, this beach is stoney and is very rocky as you get into the waters, however it is only a short walk away from Playa las Vistas.

The **Hotel Vulcano** is strategically placed in the best part of Playa de las Americas, near beaches, the best shopping and entertainment the hotel is internationally renowned for its excellent facilities including the botanical garden, in the same area is the **Bitacora** with half board and all inclusive option they have something to suit everybody, this hotel is more suited to families, children can enjoy facilities and services especially adapted for them, like a waterslide at the pool they also run a full programme of entertainment and activities for all ages. It is located on a quite side street, various short cuts lead to the beaches, restaurants and bars.

<http://www.springhoteles.com/en/vulcano-hotel-tenerife>

<http://www.springhoteles.com/en/bitacora-hotel-tenerife-all-inclusive>

**The Sir Anthony** offers an exclusive ambiance for discerning guests. It is a very quiet, relaxing, pleasant hotel it is set in landscaped gardens in a very modern and chic style. The hotel is located on the oceanfront with direct access to the palm tree-lined promenade.

<http://www.marenostrumresort.com/en/sir-anthony-hotel/gallery-images/index.jsp>

We personally liked the **Villa Cortes**, this hotel is very unique and individual, it is ideally situated directly on the oceanfront and in a very attractive area within walking distance of designer shops, sophisticated bars and fine restaurants. The hotels architecture is influenced by the colonial style of old Mexico. Playa de Guincho, is a very small man made beach just outside the luxury 5\* hotel Villa Cortes though it is a bit rocky for bathing, there are a couple of day beds and beach bar, this area is popular with surfers and windsurfers.

<http://www.europe-hotels.org/en/villacortes/apartados/rooms>



The food at the **Hotel Catalonia Oro Negro** is highly recommended by trip advisor reviewers, this is thanks to a buffet restaurant which has a la carte options, this 3 \* hotel is in a prime position in Playa de las Americas. <http://en.cataloniaoronegro.com/>

Mare Nostrum is the best shopping area which also has some very good upmarket restaurants; this is close to the Villa Cortes area.

**The Parque Santiago Apartments** is made up of five separate apartment complexes lined along Playa de las Americas beach. Each one is walkable from the next, so you can make the most of shared facilities. <http://parquesantiagotenerife.es/parque-santiago-iii/>



**Parque La Plaz Apartments** are located on a flat area, just minutes away from the beach, you are surrounded by shops, bars and eateries, long strolls would take you along the promenade to Los Cristianos, or Veronicas entertainment center which is about 10 minute walk away. <http://www.parquelapaz.com/>

Playa de Las Americas nightlife is legendary with 'The Strip' and Veronicas it has a reputation for being the place to party. Out of season I would recommend Club Bar restaurant Papago Beach this is more sophisticated than the other bars on the strip and also offers entertainment.



Playa Troya is a smaller beach in a busy area close to Veronicas; there are lots of water sports available, this area is good for the young and lively. **Hotel Troya** is a good hotel in an excellent position across from the beach, close to restaurants, shops, bars and only a 100m walk to 'The Strip' <http://www.hoteltroyatenerife.com/en/habitaciones>

## Los Cristianos

Having expanded considerably in the 1970s and 80s, the original fishing village has grown into a thriving place, now 2km long, with little left of its former existence. The resort's main focus is a pedestrian promenade with pavement cafes, which has more Spanish feel; it is a lot smaller than Playa de las Americas.

The two main beaches are Playa de Las Vistas, as mentioned above and a 20 minute walk away or around the port area is the main wide sandy beach of Playa de Los Cristianos, the sea is very calm and has a large shallow area, which makes it especially appealing for families with children.

San Telmo is the Spanish area of Los Cristianos where you will find restaurants that overlook the sea and a few discos.



There are no family or luxury hotels in Los Cristianos, however it has some good apartments, the **Cristian Sur** are a modern apartment property with two excellent pool terraces and generously sized adults and childrens pools set in immaculate gardens, they are located in a quiet resort location, it is an easy stroll to the beach and resort centre, although it is located more inland. <http://www.cristiansur.com/>

The **Tenerife Sur** is an appealing, modern self-catering establishment with restaurant and bar facilities opening out to the street side. Attractive grounds in the centre of the accommodation. Plenty of amenities are on hand it shares some facilities with the Cristian Sur which is opposite, it is a comfortable walk to the beach, although it is more inland.

<http://www.hg-tenerifesur.com/en/>

**The Oasis Mango** is a pleasant apartment establishment with open-plan minimal interior areas and pleasant terraces, it offers a rustic restaurant and a children's playground they are a long way inland from the coast or centre, so taxis are the best alternative to the long uphill walk on the return, these apartments are ideal for young couples wanting a reasonably priced getaway in the sun. <http://hotelesreveron.com/en/apartamentos-oasis-mango-tenerife>

**Paloma Beach Apartments** are an attractive development of 230 self-catering 3 Star Apartments in Los Cristianos on the coast of south Tenerife. It is located just 100 meters from the Sea and a pleasant 15 minutes stroll from the busy town centre of Los Cristianos, furthermore, two world-class beaches are within a 15 minute walk Built around a large pool area, private gardens and sun terrace. <https://www.palomabeach.com/>

**The Sol Princesa Dacil hotel** is in a really convenient location less than a 5 minute walk from Los Cristianos beach and less than 10 minutes from the heart of the town with all its shops, bars and restaurants. This hotel it is a big hit with families, with lots of entertainment both day and night in the school holidays, a Flintstones-themed playground opens its doors, also offer a wide choice of sporting activities. <http://www.melia.com/en/hotels/spain/tenerife/sol-princesa-dacil/index.html>

**The Arona Gran Hotel** is aimed firmly at the more mature couples market, as it offers little for kids apart from a children's pool, it's a large, grand establishment in a tranquil setting with impressive interior areas dominated by a jungle-like atrium with hanging greenery and a rock waterfall. Good choice of bars and restaurants plus a shopping centre are located in the same building. Two good-sized pools run right alongside the seafront and activities are aimed at adults rather than children. <http://www.springhoteles.com/en/aron-gran-hotel-tenerife>

A small, personal establishment that will appeal to couples and more mature guests with its homely style and local character. The charming, well-appointed **Reveron Plaza Hotel** is in a resort centre location which was the first hotel in the south of Tenerife way back in 1949! a very short walk to the two main sandy beaches. It has a small rooftop pool with great views. No entertainment and nothing for children either. <http://hotelesreveron.com/en/hotel-reveron-plaza>

A large marina is also based in Los Cristianos, with a variety of boat trips on offer including

excursions where you can spot dolphins and whales swimming. Ferries depart from here to neighbouring islands of La Gomera, La Palma and El Hierro.

## Costa Adeje

Recognised as the upmarket region of Costa Adeje you have a choice of quality hotels apartments and shopping. We would argue Villa Cortes is much nicer in Playa de las Americas however there is less of it and you are surrounded by the sprawling Playa de las Americas.

There is a designer golf course to the north of the resort.

The sandy beach of Playa del Duque has a couple of excellent waterfront restaurants the beach is good for water sports and relaxing alike.



Playa Fanabe has pristine waters on a tranquil stretch of golden sand, the emphasis here is of serenity rather than hustle and bustle, distinguished by its blue flag status, Playa Fanabe stands out as one of the best beaches in Tenerife's coastline, close to the beach you will find an abundance of gourmet restaurants, cafes and bars, and shops. Playa de Torviscas joins Playa Fanabe and we thought it looked a little less crowded.

Hotels near these two beaches are the family owned **Adrian Hotels Jardins de Nivaria** offers a friendly atmosphere and an interesting combination of art deco and typical Canarian architectural styles, it is situated on the beachfront in Costa Adeje in an area known as Playa Fanabe. The exclusive El Duque shopping area with its designer shops, restaurants and cafes is in close proximity. Combined with a reputation for high quality and service this hotel welcomes many repeat guests. <http://www.adrianhoteles.com/en/jardines-de-nivaria/>

**The Adrian Hotels Colon Guanahani** is just across the road from the Jardin de Nivaria, this is a modern elegant property built in a neo-classical colonial style, set in beautiful gardens with a large variety of trees tropical plants. This hotel is only suitable for adults and does not allow children under the age of 16 years. <http://www.adrianhoteles.com/en/colon-guanahani/>

Located directly on the waterfront in Costa Adeje between the two main beaches of Playa del Duque and Playa de Fanabe. **The Iberostar Hotel Anthelia** has been designed to combine luxury and comfort, set in 60,000 square metres of landscaped gardens, creating a feeling of spaciousness. <http://www.iberostar.com/en/hotels/tenerife/iberostar-anthelia>

Popular with couples and families, **the Jacaranda Hotel** is an impressive destination amidst tropical gardens. The hotel's spacious rooms offer a relaxing welcome after a lazy day by one of the inviting pools, whilst vibrant bars and a choice of activities are sure to keep everyone well entertained. There are some great facilities especially for the kids, including two pools, a playground and mini disco. <http://www.hoteljacaranda.es/en/>



**The Isabel hotel** is an attractive apartment hotel property with rustic village-style accommodation designed in a typical local style with wooden features. A full programme of entertainment for adults and children is on offer and the large pool is enclosed by the accommodation areas, two good sandy beaches are within walking distance and the resort amenities are on its doorstep. Please note it is a slightly elevated position in the Fanabe area. <http://isabelfamilyhotel.com/en/index.html>

Further along the coast in a quieter location is the **Sheraton La Caleta**, it is an outstanding upmarket establishment with a laid-back atmosphere, on the rocky coastline, in a peaceful position just outside the village of La Caleta. An impressive choice of dining venues includes a traditional Spanish restaurant as well as Japanese and Mediterranean options. Inviting lagoon pool has plenty of space and sunbeds, with a choice of beaches within walking distance. [http://www.sheratonlacaleta.com/en?PS=LGEN\\_AA\\_DEMA\\_CGGL\\_TPRP](http://www.sheratonlacaleta.com/en?PS=LGEN_AA_DEMA_CGGL_TPRP)

Set in well-maintained grounds centred around a fantastic swimming pool, the Parque del Sol is comfortable and well-maintained. Along with a friendly welcoming atmosphere, the apartments enjoy a convenient location. Located in the area of Playa de Fanabe - 300 metres from the beach - **the Parque del Sol** is also conveniently close to the all-action resort of Playa de las Americas where you'll find shops, bars and restaurants. These pleasant apartments offer something to suit all ages, especially good for families as they have one and two bed room apartments. [http://www.parquedelSol.net/en/servicios\\_en.html](http://www.parquedelSol.net/en/servicios_en.html)



Also in this area is the 5\* luxury **Bahia Del Duque**, arguably the best hotel in the south of Tenerife. <http://www.bahia-duque.com/en>



## The Ritz Carlton Abama

Beautifully appointed with exclusive, personal service, the **Ritz Carlton Abama Golf & Spa** Resort sits in a tranquil private area, with far reaching views over the Atlantic, a dramatic volcanic landscape and vibrant planting leads down to an exclusive sandy cove, entirely secluded and accessible via funicular. Built in classic Moorish style, the Abama's stunning pink domes and rooftops nestle amidst lush golf greens, lakes and waterfalls. After a day on the hotels own 18 hole golf course, indulge in a visit to the spa which has a full range of health and well-being treatments, don't forget the new 40 seat train that runs around the resort or the Ritz Kids programme. With two restaurants holding Michelin stars, and another eight dining options available.

A tranquil and exclusive enclave within the resort, Tagor Villas is an adult's only paradise, in a hidden location amidst lush tropical flower gardens and closer to the ocean, this row of villas has direct access to its own swimming pool and a wealth of benefits for its adult guests.

If you are used to exotic beach holidays but are just looking for a quick break in the sunshine then this is the one for you.

[http://www.ritzcarlton.com/en/Properties/Abama/Default.htm?utm\\_campaign=TBPSUKEGPB142&src=ps&pld=rztbppc](http://www.ritzcarlton.com/en/Properties/Abama/Default.htm?utm_campaign=TBPSUKEGPB142&src=ps&pld=rztbppc)



## Summary

Tenerife offers something for everyone, weekly markets, souvenir shops and trendy designer shops.

There is a wonderful promenade that runs along the south coast where the resorts all run into one, facilities are excellent, kiosks selling refreshing drinks and ice-creams line the sand and you will even find volleyball nets if you are feeling energetic on some of the beaches, and if you want to try out water sports, there is a wide variety on offer with plenty of shops hiring out equipment like surfboards, wetsuits and snorkelling gear. In addition, boat excursions are also available; from spending a day on a pirate ship to taking a cruise along the coast on a catamaran. Perhaps you would like a dolphin and whale-watching trip? Or maybe journey to the bottom of the ocean on a submarine safari

Note: Whale watching is all year round, a pod of 300 humpback whales live between the Tenerife and La Gomera.

Siam Park – is the newest water park in Tenerife with its fantastic beach and wave machine and jaw dropping thrill rides, provides a great day out for thrill seekers (height restrictions apply)

Aqualand is the oldest aqua park which is better for younger children and babies.

Note: Mount Teide is the highest mountain that Spain has 3780 metres - you can take a day trip and see volcanic craters and a sea of clouds!

There are trolley buses that run around Costa Adeje and Playa de las Americas.

Go, enjoy the winter sunshine and if you can book the Southend flights they are so easy.

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