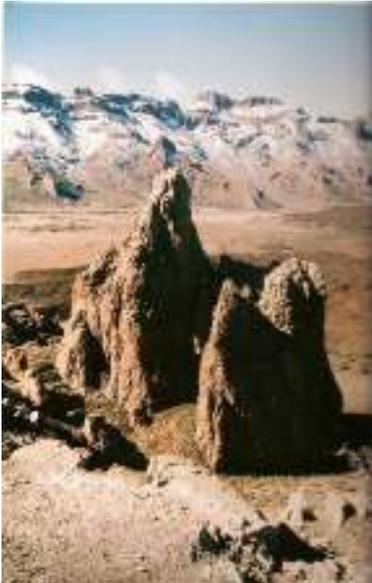


Spain

Self-Guided Hiking tour



Tour Details

Thursday and Saturday departures
year-round

Cost: \$1695 per person

Single Supplement: \$595

Length: 8 days / 7 nights

Grade: Moderate / Intermediate

Starts: Garachico

Ends: Arona / Vilaflor

Active Journeys



Wild Tenerife

The sun-drenched Canary Islands lie close to North Africa and have an exotic flavour of their own.

The northern region on the island of Tenerife is a hiker's paradise with its temperate climate and abundant vegetation. The vast region enables hikers to experience a diverse landscape including a forest of fragrant laurel trees, deserts with bizarre basalt formations, exuberant vegetation and colourful volcanic slopes.

Beyond the crowded beaches of the Canary Island of Tenerife there is a vast hinterland with a great variety of landscapes. There is an opportunity to discover the black lava fields, exotic flora and deep gorges that surround El Teide, the king of all Spanish peaks. For those who thought of the Canary Islands as a beach escape, this trip will change your mind forever!



Fast Facts

- 7 overnights in specially chosen lovely accommodations
- Daily luggage transfers, route notes and detailed maps
- Beautiful historical villages such as Garachico and Masca

Trip Highlights

- Bizarre formations and colourful deserts
- Boat trip Playa de Masca – Los Gigantes
- Exotic vegetation with intriguing names, such as the Dragon Blood tree

Day 1 Arrive in Orotava

Arrival at Tenerife North airport and transfer to Garachico. The old part of town boasts beautiful mansions, churches and the 'Castillo San Miguel'. The volcanic rock pools invite you for a refreshing plunge. Settle in to your hotel where you spend two nights.

Day 2 Circular Hike 14 km

You hike through the volcanic area of Garachico along historic paths. The strenuous ascent to the Ermita de San Francisco is rewarded with a stunning view onto the town situated below, but first and foremost views onto the Atlantic Ocean and the entire northern coastline. After a short break in San Juan del Reparo you descend across the fertile landscape past colourful flowers, cacti and agaves back to the sea again. 990m ascent /decent

Day 3 Santiago del Teide - Laurel Forests 11 km

Today you go on an amazing hike from the sea into the uplands. Hiking through remote gorges, characteristic cultivated land and laurel forests you reach the tranquil mountain village of Erjos. You continue along alpine paths through the Teno-mountain range until you arrive at Santiago del Teide. On today's hike you'll walk across several vegetation areas – a true paradise for flora and fauna enthusiasts. 990m ascent / 250m decent

Day 4 Circular Walk 13 km

Walking day in the Teno-mountain range, surrounded by grassland, terraced cultivated areas and grazing herds of goats. Initially the route takes you up to a mountain ridge from where you can enjoy a marvellous panoramic view. Then you proceed along the ridge over to the Tabaiba pass and onwards along a stunning high altitude path. From here you have an extraordinary view onto the western coastline and the mighty Masca-gorge with its black rocks. Passing the two Gala-Peaks, you return to Santiago del Teide. 900m ascent/ 500m descent

Day 5 Los Gigantes / Masca Gorge 5 km

From Santiago your journey leads to the remote mountain village of Masca, its unique location amidst green volcanic flora and jagged rocks. After a short 'cortado'-coffee break you start your hike through the Masca gorge, which enthalls every hiking enthusiast with its rugged beauty. From Playa de Masca a boat ride to the holiday resort of Los Gigantes, where you stay overnight by the sea. 0m ascent/ 600m descent

Day 6 Arona / Vilaflor 14 km

Transfer to the quaint village of Adeje, where you hike along ancient bridle paths, used formerly to transport goods across remote mountainous passes. The route offers panoramic views alongside terraced fields and forests, leading you high above the infernal gorge towards Ifonche. You continue along trails to the idyllic mountain region of Arona, situated below the mighty Teide-massif. 750m ascent/ 300m descent

Day 7 Circular Walk 13 km

On today's walk you experience yet another one of Tenerife's unique landscapes. You walk up to a viewpoint located at over 1800m in altitude just below Mount Teides, from where you can spot the 'white lunar landscape'. Let your imagination go wild whilst watching these bizarre sand stone formations on the slopes created by wind, water and the weather. An amazing contrast compared to the black volcanic rock of the past few days. 600m ascent/descent

Day 8 End of Services

Departure from Arona/Vilaflor.



What to Expect

What will the weather be like?

The daytime temperature will be warm and sunny. In June and July, you can expect high 80s, maybe even 90's, and cooler evenings. Sunscreen is a must during the day, as is a sweater for the cooler nights. Normally it does not rain, but we recommend rain gear, just in case. Some snow near El Tiede in winter.

How many hours of hiking a day?

Be prepared to hike between 4 to 6 hours daily, rarely on flat terrain. The countryside is all hills and sometimes stony paths. You are either going up or down almost all the time; you are ascending and descending about 1000m a day.

How fit do I need to be?

The fitter the better, and past hiking experience is recommended and required. You have the option of taking a day off and not hiking, or only doing half the route if you want. Surefootedness is especially required for the hike through the Masca-gorge. Hiking boots with good ankle support are recommended.

What are the hotels like?

Based in 4 properties, we use 4* accommodations with twin-bedded rooms, all with private facilities, most with pools.



Not Included:

- Lunches and dinners
- Tickets for public bus to/from walks
- National Park permit to El Tiede summit
- Cable cars or tickets at El Tiede

Getting There

Airport Tenerife South:

- Arrival to Garachico: By public bus (www.titsa.com) in approx. 2.5 hours.
- Departure from Arona/Vilaflor: By public bus in approx. 1.5 hours.

Airport Tenerife North:

- Arrival to Garachico: By public bus in approx. 2 hours.
- Departure from Arona/Vilaflor: By public bus in approx. 2.5 hours.

How to book your holiday

- Contact our office to make sure there is space available. One of our travel planners will walk you through the entire booking process.
- Download the reservation form from our website and send in the completed form by fax or email. Once this is done, your space is confirmed and a pre-departure packet will be sent immediately.
- A deposit is required immediately, and final payment is due 60 days prior to departure. Terms & conditions are outlined on the back of our Reservation Form.
- Plan your air travel as soon as possible.
- We encourage you to purchase travel insurance, either through us or directly from a travel insurance provider.
- Ensure that you are in proper health for the trip. Contact us for more information on vaccinations, inoculations, and fitness requirements.