

Discovering Denia

Sitting on the Costa Blanca in the Alicante region of Spain, Denia is a city not often talked about, but rich with history and culture. When you look upon the area, you will see the Montog hills, and a towering castle. This is a former Arab fortress that was strategically placed on the Mediterranean Sea. The original name of the region was Dianium. The Romans named it. Around 6 B.C. the Greeks were in the area. They called it Hemeroscopeion. They were comfortable in the area because its climate was much like that of their home. But eventually, as has happened in many regions of Spain, the Arabs came in and called the area home. They began the real population of the region. When the Moors were expelled, the area fell with their leaving. The population suffered a severe drop and the economic situation became dire. But it did eventually make a comeback. Those still in the region started producing and exporting raisins to England. That kept the area doing well for a while, but in recent years even that industry has seen a down-turn in Denia and also in nearby Javea. Their next transformation was into a tourist region.

Modern Day Denia

While it has opened a new door for the tourism trade, Denia is also still an old city with the same charm it has had for centuries. Many areas of the city have been conserved in their ancient splendor to be enjoyed by those who visit the area. You can visit, The Baix la Mar which is in the fishermen's neighbourhood or stop by Plaza de la Creu where you can watch the rolling Mediterranean Sea as you enjoy a meal. If you are looking for variety in your dining, consider the Cervantes Promenade where there 'tapas' restaurants where you can try a number of small portions of meats, egg dishes or seafood. While some of these will be specific to the region, others will be dishes from nearby areas such as Altea, Benidorm, Torrevieja, Murcia and Calpe. When you get thirsty; there are a variety of Spanish wines and beers to choose from.

While food and drink are wonderful, people really head to this region for its coves and beaches. Scuba divers swarm to the coves that are just south in an area called Les Rotes. Fishermen also are drawn to this area. But for beaches, there are a number of options to enjoy the sun and surf from Els Palmars or las Marinas.

When it comes to culture, Denia has the well-known Fallas, and the Moor and Christian parade, as well as a special feast honoring their patron saint, Santísima Sangre. If you have always been interested in bullfighting, you may want to head to the area in the first two weeks of July for the 'Bulls into the water' event. No matter the time of year you plan to visit, doing a little research can make sure that you are in the city as something special is going on, to enjoy your holiday, but also [learn about another area's culture and tradition](#).

About the Author

Robert Carlton pens most often for <http://www.alicante-spain.com>, an online publication covering information on denia railway and holiday tips on denia. You might see his abstracts on [map of denia spain](#) over at <http://www.alicante-spain.com>.

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