

Altea

Valencian Community · Spain

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Altea is a white town on the Costa Blanca, in the province of Alicante, about 50 km northeast of Alicante and a few kilometres from Benidorm. Its old town climbs a hill to a church with a blue-tiled dome, the best-known landmark of the coast.

The old town has narrow cobbled lanes, art galleries and small restaurants. Below it, a pebble-beach promenade follows the bay, with the Sierra de Bernia mountains behind.

When to visit

Spring and autumn are the best times. Summers are hot and the town is busy. Winters are mild. Fiestas in September and the Moors and Christians festival in October are popular.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Great Great for hiking	15° / 20°	8° / 4°	Dry air · Calm winds
February	Great Great for hiking	16° / 21°	8° / 4°	Dry air · Calm winds
March	Great Great for hiking	18° / 24°	10° / 6°	Dry air · Calm winds
April	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 25°	12° / 8°	Dry air · Calm winds
May	Great Great for sightseeing	24° / 29°	15° / 11°	Dry air · Calm winds
June	Great Great for the beach	28° / 33°	19° / 16°	☀ 22 sunny days · Calm winds · UV 8 (Very high)
July	Great Great for the beach	31° / 35°	22° / 19°	☀ 26 sunny days · Muggy, humid air · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
August	Great Great for the beach	31° / 35°	23° / 20°	☀ 22 sunny days · Muggy, humid air · Calm winds
September	Great Great for the beach	28° / 32°	20° / 17°	Humid air · Calm winds
October	Great Great for sightseeing	24° / 28°	16° / 12°	Calm winds
November	Great Great for sightseeing	19° / 24°	12° / 7°	Dry air · Calm winds
December	Good Good for hiking	16° / 20°	9° / 5°	Dry air · Calm winds

Best months: March, April, May, June, July, September, October, November

Climate data: NASA POWER + Copernicus ERA5-Land and ERA5 · 1996–2025

Top sights

- The Iglesia de Nuestra Señora del Consuelo is the parish church at the top of the old town, with a blue and white tiled dome.
- The old town (*casco antiguo*) has whitewashed lanes, a plaza with views and artists' studios.
- The Mirador Cronistes d'Espanya is a viewpoint over the old town and the sea.
- The Platja de l'Espigó, the Platja de l'Olla and Playa del Bol are pebble beaches by the promenade.
- The Roman aqueduct remains and the Torre de Bellaguarda are small historic sites.
- The Sierra de Bernia and its Fort offer hiking and views.
- The Castillo del Mascarat is a castle at the edge of the municipality.

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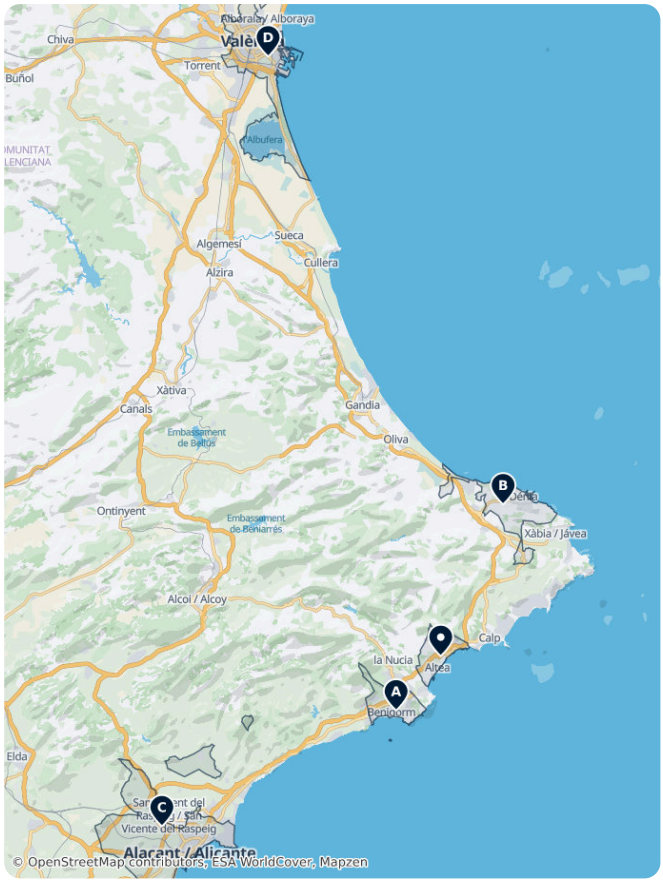
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What to experience

- Walk up the old town to the church and sit in the plaza.
- Stroll along the promenade in the evening.
- Hike in the Sierra de Bernia.
- Visit Guadalest.

Day trips

- A Benidorm (about 10 km): a high-rise beach resort.
- B Dénia (about 55 km): a port with a castle.
- C Alicante (about 50 km): Santa Bárbara castle and the Esplanade.
- **Guadalest** (about 25 km): a mountain village with a castle and a reservoir.
- D Valencia (about 140 km): a city of arts and sciences.



Where to explore

Other places nearby:

- **Costa Blanca**: Benidorm, Dénia and Alicante.
- **Valencia**: Valencia.

Getting there

- **By air**: Alicante-Elche airport is about 65 km away.
- **By train**: The TRAM d'Alacant tram line from Benidorm to Dénia stops near Altea, and connects with the Alicante tram network. Long-distance trains are on Renfe from Alicante.
- **By bus**: Buses link Altea with Alicante, Benidorm and Valencia.
- **By car**: The AP-7 and N-332.

Getting around

- **On foot**: The old town is steep, with steps and cobbles. The promenade is flat.
- **Tram and bus**: The tram links the coast.
- **Cycling**: A cycling path runs along the coast.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

The old town is steep with steps, and the promenade is flat.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

A coastal path is flat, but the old town is hilly.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Useful for the mountains and Guadalest.
- **Parking**: Paid parking near the old town, and limited at weekends.
- **Roads**: The AP-7 is a toll road. The N-332 is free but slow.

Food & drink

Altea's food is Valencian. Try *arroz a banda*, *paella*, *arroz con costra* and *fideuà*, plus local seafood. Sweet wines and the *Mistela* liqueur are typical. The area is known for its almond and citrus orchards.

What to eat & drink

BREAKFAST

Churros · Churros con Chocolate
Fried dough sticks served with a thick, dark hot chocolate for dipping — a classic Spanish breakfast or late-night snack.

LUNCH

Paella Valenciana
A saffron-scented rice dish cooked in a wide, shallow pan. The traditional Valencian version uses chicken, rabbit, and green beans — best eaten at midday.

Gazpacho
A cold, blended soup of raw tomatoes, cucumber, pepper, garlic, olive oil, and vinegar, originally from Andalusia. Served as a drink or a starter, especially in summer.

DINNER

Pulpo a la Gallega
Boiled octopus sliced onto a wooden board and dressed with olive oil, coarse salt, and smoked paprika — a signature dish of Galicia.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Jamón Ibérico
Dry-cured ham from acorn-fed Iberian pigs, sliced paper-thin and eaten on its own or with bread. The finest grade, jamón ibérico de bellota, is one of Spain's most prized products.

Tortilla Española
A thick potato and egg omelette, served warm or at room temperature, found in virtually every bar in Spain. Often eaten as a tapa or a quick meal.

Patatas Bravas
Fried potato chunks served with a spicy tomato sauce or aioli — one of the most common tapas across the country.

Pintxos
Small snacks anchored to slices of bread with a toothpick, the Basque Country's answer to tapas. Found in bar counters across San Sebastián and Bilbao, often with elaborate toppings.

Croquetas
Crispy breaded cylinders with a creamy béchamel filling, typically made with jamón, bacalà (salt cod), or mushrooms.

DRINKS

Rioja Wine · Vino de Rioja

Spain's best-known wine region produces full-bodied reds from Tempranillo grapes, aged in oak. The crianza, reserva, and gran reserva labels indicate increasing age and complexity.

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Safety & health

Altea is a safe town. The old town's steps are slippery when wet. Use sun protection in summer.

History

Altea was settled by Iberians and Romans, and under the Moors it was a fortified town. After the Reconquista in the 13th century, it became a fishing and farming town.

In the 20th century, it attracted artists and writers, and became known for its art galleries and bohemian old town.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Spain at a glance:

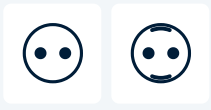
CURRENCY

EUR €

EMERGENCY

112

ELECTRICITY



Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES

Spanish

TAP WATER

Safe to drink

Altea Essentials

Altea's landscape is defined by the blue-domed Parroquia Nuestra Señora del Consuelo and the white-walled streets of its Casco Antiguo. This selection covers the historical core around Plaça de l'Església and the 16th-century Torre de Bellaguarda. Beyond the town, the list includes Roman aqueduct ruins and the high-altitude Fort de Bèrnia. Coastal features like the volcanic Cap Negret beach and the Memorial per la gent de la mar highlight the village's maritime heritage and botanical diversity.





A Parroquia Nuestra Señora del Consuelo

This 19th-century church is famous for its two domes of blue and white glazed tiles. Built on the site of a former temple, it serves as Altea's most recognizable landmark in the heart of the old town.

13 Plaza de la Iglesia, Altea 03590, Spain
(38.59893, -0.05180)

B Plaça de l'Església

The main square of the old town, located at the highest point of the village. It is surrounded by traditional whitewashed houses and serves as a central hub for artisan markets and outdoor dining.

4 Plaza de la Iglesia, Altea 03590, Spain
(38.59870, -0.05161)

C Mirador Cronistes d' Espanya

A balcony viewpoint adjacent to the church square, offering panoramic views across the Bay of Altea, the neighboring town of Albir, and the Peñón de Ifach rock formation in Calpe.

Mirador Cronistes d'Espanya, 03590 Altea, Spain
(38.59840, -0.05173)

D Torre de Bellaguarda

A 16th-century defensive watchtower built on the foundations of an ancient Moorish fortification. It was once part of the coastal defense system against pirate raids and now serves as a scenic lookout.

(38.60154, -0.04985)

E Bernia Ridge (rope needed)

A technical limestone ridge in the Sierra de Bernia. The route involves steep climbs and exposed sections that require ropes and climbing gear, providing expansive views of the coastline and surrounding mountains.

(38.65668, -0.03407)

F Fort de Bèrnia

A 16th-century military fortification commissioned by King Philip II. Built to suppress Moorish uprisings and guard against Mediterranean pirate attacks, the site now consists of preserved stone ruins on the mountain slopes.

03510, Spain (38.66110, -0.06219)

Mo–Su Open 24/7

G Restos del acueducto romano de Altea

Archaeological remains of a Roman-era water transport system. These stone structures reflect the ancient engineering used to channel water through the region for agricultural and domestic use.

(Unnamed Road), 03590, Spain (38.59273, -0.06443)

H Platja del Cap Negret

A semi-urban beach characterized by dark pebbles and volcanic rock formations. Located near the mouth of the Algar River, it offers clear waters and a quieter setting than the central town beaches.

03590, Spain (38.60832, -0.03759)



I Memorial per la gent de la mar

A public sculpture and memorial dedicated to the local fishing community. It honors the historical importance of the sea to Altea's economy and commemorates those who lost their lives at sea.

Carrer San Pere, 03590 Altea, Spain (38.59278, -0.05417)

J el jardin de los sentidos

A botanical garden and tea house containing over 400 species of tropical and subtropical plants. The space features narrow paths and water features designed for quiet contemplation.

03590, Spain (38.62493, -0.02629)

eljardindelossentidos.com

DATA SOURCES

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- Memorial per la gent de la mar — "Memorial Pep La Cent de la Mar by Joan Lluis Rodriguez" by Joan Lluis Rodriguez, CC BY-SA 4.0

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