

# DISCOVER FORNELLS

GENERAL INFORMATION

HISTORY

LOBSTER'S TRADITION

HOT SPOTS

SHOPS

ACTIVITIES

RESTAURANTS



**Menorca**  
*Turismo Activo*

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## BUS PICK UP

Please be ready at meeting point  
At least 5 minutes before.  
Buses do not wait

## BUS SCHEDULE

**Standard Ticket AM**  
Arrival Fornells 09:30h  
Depart Fornells 13:45h

**Standard Ticket PM**  
Arrival Fornells 14:30h  
Depart Fornells 18:45h

**Special Ticket**  
Arrival Fornells 09:30h  
Depart Fornells 18:45h

## RETURN

Please be at the collection point at least 5 minutes before the scheduled time. The bus will not wait for anyone under any circumstances.  
[Check Here](#)

## DOWNTOWN FORNELLS

The bus stop it's located just in front of the center of Fornells.

## MAPS AND BICYCLE

If you want a free map of Fornells you can visit our store, Menorca Turismo Activo. You can also rent bicycles to see the surroundings of Fornells, such as Ses Salines or the virgin beach of Cala Tirant.  
Our shop it's just in Front of the bus stop.

# HISTORY XVII

Menorca had long been a top priority point for the British, who yearned for commercial maritime control of the Mediterranean and needed a supply point for their ships. Menorca lent itself to these needs, presenting in its orography two natural ports of great importance. That of Mahón, considered at the time the best port in the western Mediterranean.



And the port of Fornells, not inconsiderable in size. When in 1708 the British, commanded by Sir Edward Whitaker, began the conquest of Menorca from the north, they found a small fishing village that hardly resisted their advance: Fornells. The War of the Spanish Succession had divided the Spanish between the Bourbons and the Austrians, and the inhabitants of Menorca, mostly Aragonese far from their homeland, had never shown special sympathy for the French candidate, so they welcomed the British with open arms.



The British consummated their advance by bombarding the only defensive point in the north of Menorca, the Castillo de San Antonio, which had just been built just 40 years before. Faced with the incessant fire from the English cannons, the Franco-Spanish squadron that was occupying the position soon surrendered, and this is how the town that had grown up around it, Fornells, began a period of prosperity under the British occupation.

# HISTORY XVII

In fact, the British never came to understand how the Spanish Empire had underestimated and neglected a place as important for the control of the Mediterranean as Menorca. With the aim of preserving it at all costs, the English built a system of defensive towers along the entire coast. One of these towers was built not far from the still smoking ruins of the castle of San Antonio. A circular tower, with a rotating platform at its upper point, which could be defended with a reduced contingent and which was capable of repelling any incursion into Fornells Bay.



# FORNELL'S TOWER

The Torre de Fornells is one of the many defense towers that surround the coast of Menorca. The one in Fornells was built between 1801 and 1802, in the last period of British domination, with the aim of guarding the entrance to the port of Fornells, preventing the landing of enemy ships and protecting the Castle of San Antonio. It consists of four levels. A cistern dug into the subsoil waterproofed with mortar.



A ground floor where weapons, ammunition and food were stored. The first floor where the garrison was staying. The upper floor, which was the artillery platform, where there was a small oven to heat the cannonballs until they were red hot with the aim of setting fire to the enemy ships. Under the parapet of this work of war engineering, the town of Fornells prospered until it became something similar to what we can find today. Although the British soldiers were expelled from the island after the signing of the treaty, the English one way or another never left the island completely.

But. Why did the British stay? The answer seems obvious: a mild climate, a privileged coastal relief... but also a unique gastronomy thanks to its abundant fishing.

# LOBSTER'S TRADITION



Fornells has always been a fishing village where lobster is the star of different preparations, although the best known is the stew.

It is a seafood stew. Fishermen have already made it since ancient times, as a poor dish, when this crustacean did not enjoy the current reputation. Its passage to restaurant tables came, more than a century ago, thanks to Casa Burdó, an establishment that has now disappeared, which rescued it 120 years ago, giving it fame.

Today there are rare restaurants in this town that do not prepare them. It is a simple dish. The base is a sauce of garlic, onion, green pepper and a little tomato to which water is added. When it boils, add the lobster, cleaned and chopped. Undoubtedly the secret is in the cooking point of the crustacean. In any case, the lobster stew preparations vary from one place to another: there are those who add a minced garlic and parsley, those who add a splash of cognac or white wine, and those who add breadcrumbs or a little flour. to thicken the broth. At present there is control over lobster fishing and they can only extract it from April to September.



# HOT SPOTS

## SANT ANTONI'S CASTLE

The castle of San Antonio is the genesis of the town of the bay of Fornells, a strategic enclave of the island, which was born linked to this fortification. 1637 is the year the construction of the castle began, during the reign of Felipe IV, until 1671. The castle had a square shape; approximately thirty meters long by twelve wide. At the four ends were located four bastions with the names of the four evangelists.



Inside there was a modest chapel, storerooms, a large cistern, the troop housing and the quartermaster. In the center, a small parade ground. This fortification was destroyed in 1782, shortly after the island returned to Spanish hands, by order of Carlos III. Currently it has been restored and several underground galleries and the remains of a bastion have been preserved. It was thanks to the construction in the port of the Castillo de San Antonio in the 17th century, that the town of Fornells was born.



# HOT SPOTS

## SAN ANTONIO ABAD'S CHURCH

The church of San Antonio Abad de Fornells, is a church located at number 2 Calle de las Escoles and acts as a local parish. It receives its name from the monk and Christian saint San Antonio Abad. The Church already XVII, the date of 1639 is given as the year of its construction, to serve the small suburb that served the Castle of San Antonio, although with the increase in population that Fornells experienced, it was expanded in the eighteenth century.



**Fornell's Tower** is one of the many defense towers that surround the coast of Menorca. The one in Fornells was built between 1801 and 1802, in the last period of British domination, with the aim of guarding the entrance to the port of Fornells, preventing the landing of enemy ships and protecting the Castle of San Antonio.



# HOT SPOTS



## HERMITAGE OF LOURDES

The hermitage of Lourdes is a small hermitage that takes advantage of a natural cave. It is located at the northern end of the town of Fornells, on a path that starts from the car park located at the end of Calle de la Tramontana, and which ascends in a westerly direction towards the Fornells Tower.

## THE TOWN

A fishing town of barely 1,000 inhabitants that, in times, was essential for the defense of the island against pirate incursions, thanks to its natural bay. A safe port for the boats of the time and that today continues to give away some of the most typical images of the island. As for urban planning, Fornells is the typical Mediterranean town, with narrow streets, whitewashed houses, with wooden doors and windows painted in bright colors.



## FORNELL'S SURROUNDINGS

From the town by bike you can easily reach some of the most emblematic points of Menorca, such as Cap de Caballería with its spectacular lighthouse on an impressive cliff and its virgin red sand beach, or the urbanization of Playas de Fornells and the beach of Tirant cove.

# SHOPS



**ART I ARTESANIA  
DE MENORCA**

Decoració, complements,  
bijuteria de disseny

Family shop selling art and crafts, decoration, accessories and designer jewellery.

Crafts, jewelry and accessories, costume jewellery, souvenirs, dresses, t-shirts, hats, caps, pareos.



**CASTILLO MENORCA**

For porcelain lovers, Lladró exhibition, collection of the typical Menorcan Avarcas Ria footwear, the beauty of Majórica pearls and the original UNOde50 jewelry designs, among other brands. Souvenirs for the whole family.

# SHOPS



Artisan ice cream parlor of the highest quality, with a great variety and originality of flavors

Mahón cheese from Menorca, goat, sheep or mixed cheeses, classic sausages typical of the island's artisans, such as sobrasada, carnixua or cuixot.

**TASTDEMENORCA**

**FORMATGERIA**



Organic fruit and vegetables from Menorca. Artisan cheeses and sausages. Oil, wines, honey km 0 Organic products.

Abarcas, shoes, bags and accessories store. In Fornells since 1990

**S'ESCUI  
FORNELLS**

**AVARCAS ARTESANALES**  
*Naturals Menorca*

# ACTIVITIES



Excursions through the unknown Menorca. Hidden corners, private country roads, cliffs, ravines, quarries, archaeological monuments.

Menorca from the sea, aboard a typical Menorcan llaut. Private experience, away from the crowds.



*Menorca Nord*

Boat trip along the north coast of Menorca discovering the best virgin beaches of the island's Marine Reserve.

Get to know the Menorca marine reserve. Visit Pregonda, Cavallería and different caves. Stops to snorkel and taste typical Menorcan products.



# ACTIVITIES

## Diving Menorca

More than 20 diving points to show you the best of Menorca. Guided dives, courses, personalized experience, snorkeling, diving.

Boat rental with and without license for half a day to discover the Bay of Fornells.



Kayak excursions, paddle surfing, jet skis, water activities.

Windsurfing, dinghy sailing, wing foiling and paddle surfing for both adults and children. More than 30 years of experience.

Wind  
FORNELLS

# RESTAURANTES



Small family restaurant, specialising in Menorcan cuisine, where you can taste lobster stew, Paellas, Panaderas, Fideuá, and much more.

For lovers of grilled meat. A unique culinary proposal where tradition is recovered and fused with new flavours in a bright grill with a terrace. Extensive wine list.



For the most demanding palates. It stands out above all for its lobster stew, one of the best and most renowned on the island. It is a cult of lobster cooked in up to 10 different ways.



Traditional Menorcan cuisine. Lobster stew, casseroles, rice dishes and paella. Emblematic restaurant.

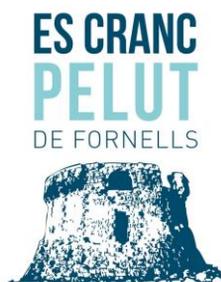


# RESTAURANTES



Next to the Ses Salines Yacht Club, terrace with spectacular views of the Bay of Fornells. Lobster stew, rice dishes, fish. Extensive wine list.

Good rice dishes and fresh ingredients of the day. Traditional Menorcan food and avant-garde proposals. Terrace with views of the bay.



In a historic building on the seafront promenade. Traditional recipes, mainly Menorcan cuisine but also with touches of Balearic inspiration, bringing flavours from Mallorca, Ibiza and Formentera to the table. Terrace facing the harbour.



In the central S'Algaret square, with terrace facing the harbour Menorcan and Mediterranean cuisine.

Hostal - Restaurant **S'Algaret**



# RESTAURANTES



RESTAURANT

Passeig Marítim Gumersindo Riera nº 13  
Telf.: 971376597 07748 Fornells

Located right on the seafront, Sa Proa offers seafood cuisine with excellent dishes to nibble on and excellent rice dishes.

Tapas and portions.  
Meat and fish dishes.  
Sandwiches.  
Terrace facing the sea.



HOSTAL LA PALMA

Homemade Mediterranean cuisine. Very cosy interior dining room and terrace on the main street of the village. Fresh fish, grilled meats, homemade pasta, salads made with products from their own garden.



In the centre of town, delicious tapas, salads and homemade burgers. Also an extensive drinks menu including wines and cocktails.

