# Ibiza locals demand action after easyJet flight chaos reignites overtourism concerns



An easyJet passenger’s distressing experience aboard a flight from Luton to Ibiza has sparked renewed discussions regarding the conduct of holidaymakers and the phenomenon of overtourism in popular destinations. Erika Barrachina, a resident of Ibiza, shared footage depicting a chaotic scene onboard, where passengers were reportedly shouting, drinking excessively, and even engaging in physical altercations. “My flight from London to Ibiza was absolutely horrible,” she lamented while expressing her fears during the tumultuous journey.

The two-and-a-half-hour flight was marked by unruly behaviour, including shouts of “Come on Ibiza” from passengers banging on the overhead luggage compartments. Barrachina contended that such behaviour should not be tolerated, claiming, “They shouldn’t let rabble like this get on a plane or sell alcohol on board. We don’t want this type of tourism in Ibiza; they should stay at home.” This incident coincides with a broader backlash against mass tourism in Spain, where locals are increasingly voicing their concerns about the impact of disruptive tourists.

Recent surveys indicate that the rising trend of rowdy behaviour among holidaymakers is not isolated. A separate incident involving a Ryanair flight from Manchester to Ibiza highlights similar issues. In September 2024, the flight was diverted to Toulouse due to disruptive passengers, leading to their removal by police upon landing. This recent trend underscores a growing unease among airline staff and the public, with Ryanair reaffirming their position that such disturbances are beyond their control.

Notably, this year's protests against overtourism in the Balearic Islands were timed with Barrachina's video post. On June 15, demonstrators are expected to rally against the increasing noise and disruptive nature of foreign tourists. Locals are understandably perturbed by the rising costs of living and housing, attributed in part to the influx of tourists. Government attempts to regulate the rental market through caps have had limited success, leaving many residents dissatisfied with the status quo.

Instances of misbehaviour on flights to holiday hotspots have been reported frequently in recent years. In August 2018, a Jet2 flight from Birmingham to Ibiza was similarly diverted due to aggressive behaviour from a group of stag party members. Such incidents have led airlines to enforce stringent measures, including lifetime bans for repeat offenders, as exhibited in the case of a passenger fined for threatening crew members on a Jet2 flight.

The trend is troubling, with calls for airlines to reconsider their policies on alcohol sales aboard flights. Reports suggest that Ryanair has urged airports to limit the liquor sales and service hours to mitigate the risk of intoxicated passengers causing disturbances. The situation is not unique to Ibiza, as other holiday destinations are grappling with the same issues of rowdy behaviour among tourists.

As the Balearic archipelago seeks to balance the benefits of tourism with the need for a harmonious community, residents like Barrachina are voicing their concerns against this disruptive form of visitation. With protests planned and an increasing spotlight on passenger conduct, the overarching question remains: how can popular destinations maintain their allure while ensuring the comfort of their local populations?

Despite ongoing efforts to address these pressing issues, the outlook for a more manageable tourism landscape remains uncertain, as both locals and authorities ponder the necessary changes in policy and community engagement to restore balance.

### Reference Map

1. [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14727301/Brits-labelled-wild-animals-Ibiza-resident-films-two-hour-flight-hell-Luton-screaming-kids-hitting-pleads-dont-want-kind-tourism.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
2. [[2]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cx2lv4wk2d1o)
3. [[3]](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-birmingham-44600608)
4. [[4]](https://www.jet2.com/news/2015/08/Leading_Leisure_Airline_Doesn_t_Tolerate_Loutish_Behaviour)
5. [[5]](https://www.theolivepress.es/spain-news/2023/08/25/the-mad-balearics-disruptive-brit-latest-to-be-arrested-after-pawing-flight-attendants-behind-and-spitting-on-her-boss-on-flight-from-manchester-to-ibiza/)
6. [[6]](https://ibizaincorporated.com/2025/03/13/ibiza-and-airbnb-join-forces/)
7. [[7]](https://www.nzherald.co.nz/travel/airline-urges-tighter-policy-on-alcohol-sales-after-rowdy-passengers-force-flight-to-divert/B57NXHWADPF7U7IR25XGALG5PU/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14727301/Brits-labelled-wild-animals-Ibiza-resident-films-two-hour-flight-hell-Luton-screaming-kids-hitting-pleads-dont-want-kind-tourism.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cx2lv4wk2d1o> - In September 2024, a Ryanair flight from Manchester to Ibiza was diverted to Toulouse, France, after a group of passengers became disruptive. The crew requested police assistance, leading to the removal of two passengers before the flight continued to Ibiza. Ryanair apologized for the inconvenience caused by the unruly behavior, emphasizing that it was beyond their control and now a matter for local police.
3. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-birmingham-44600608> - In August 2018, a Jet2 flight from Birmingham to Ibiza was diverted to Toulouse due to 'appalling and aggressive behavior' from a 27-strong stag party. Despite repeated warnings, the group continued to be disruptive, leading to the decision to divert the aircraft for the safety and comfort of all passengers. One individual received a lifetime ban from the airline.
4. <https://www.jet2.com/news/2015/08/Leading_Leisure_Airline_Doesn_t_Tolerate_Loutish_Behaviour> - In August 2015, Jet2.com offloaded two aggressive and abusive male passengers from its East Midlands to Ibiza flight. The individuals were observed being rude towards airport security staff, shoving fellow passengers, and threatening airline employees. Their behavior was so aggressive that local police had to escort them back through the airport. Both were given a six-month ban from flying with Jet2.com and Jet2holidays.
5. <https://www.theolivepress.es/spain-news/2023/08/25/the-mad-balearics-disruptive-brit-latest-to-be-arrested-after-pawing-flight-attendants-behind-and-spitting-on-her-boss-on-flight-from-manchester-to-ibiza/> - In August 2023, a 42-year-old British man was arrested upon landing at Ibiza Airport after allegedly sexually assaulting a flight attendant and spitting at the lead flight attendant on a Jet2 flight from Manchester to Ibiza. The pilot had radioed the control center to alert them to the unruly passenger, who ignored and disrupted the cabin crew’s instructions, causing mayhem on the flight. He was later released but reported to the Spanish State Air Safety Agency for his disruptive behavior.
6. <https://ibizaincorporated.com/2025/03/13/ibiza-and-airbnb-join-forces/> - In March 2025, the Consell d’Eivissa and Airbnb formed a strategic alliance to tackle unregulated tourist rentals, a significant contributor to overtourism in Ibiza. The partnership aims to identify and remove unlawful listings, including multi-family homes and unregistered rentals, by leveraging Airbnb’s data and platform capabilities. By March 4, 2025, 300 listings had been removed from Airbnb’s platform, signaling a proactive step toward greater oversight in the short-term rental market.
7. <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/travel/airline-urges-tighter-policy-on-alcohol-sales-after-rowdy-passengers-force-flight-to-divert/B57NXHWADPF7U7IR25XGALG5PU/> - In 2023, Ryanair urged airports to limit the number of alcoholic drinks and the hours of service to prevent intoxicated people from boarding aircraft. This call came after a flight from Dublin to Ibiza was forced to divert to Paris' Beauvais airport after three passengers became disruptive during the flight. The flight continued to Ibiza after the unruly passengers were removed and detained by French police.