# British teenager found dead in Tenerife after music festival disappearance sparks major search



Jay Slater, a 19-year-old British teenager, went missing in Tenerife while attempting to navigate his way back to his accommodation after a night out. A friend, Josh Forshaw, recounted during an inquest the last interactions he had with Jay, describing him as "excitable" but also "off his head on drugs." Just hours before his disappearance, Jay sent a concerning message indicating he had been thrown out of a venue with two individuals. In a startling admission, Josh stated that Jay claimed to be selling a luxury watch strap he had taken from someone, which he admitted he hoped to sell for £10,000.

The search for Jay escalated quickly, drawing global attention and prompting a significant manhunt across the picturesque yet rugged terrain of Tenerife. Multiple agencies, including police, rescue and volunteer teams, utilised dogs, drones, and helicopters in efforts to locate him. Notably, he was last tracked near the Masca ravine, an area known for its difficult terrain within the Teno National Park. The mayor of Santiago del Teide confirmed that authorities were reviewing CCTV footage to gather insights into Jay's whereabouts during the hours leading up to his disappearance.

Despite extensive searches, which spanned 29 days, no trace of Jay was found initially. His father, Warren Slater, expressed the torment experienced during the search, describing it as "a living hell." Tragically, four weeks after Jay went missing, his body was discovered in a remote area, consistent with an accidental fall. Reports indicated that he had contacted a friend just before his last known movements, stating he was lost, low on battery, and desperately in need of water.

The findings from the autopsy suggested that Jay's injuries were consistent with falling from a height, leading to speculation about the circumstances of his last hours. Both his family and law enforcement officials have emphasised their commitment to uncovering the full details surrounding his disappearance and death. Jay had been attending the NRG music festival in Playa de Las Americas before venturing away with two men; this decision proved fatal. His mother, Debbie, described the conflicting narratives surrounding his last moments as "vile rumours," dismissing speculation regarding theft.

While the investigation remains open, the tragic outcome of Jay's case raises profound questions about safety for young travellers in foreign countries, particularly in areas known for their nightlife and remote locations. Both local authorities and foreign visitors are urged to exercise caution and remain aware of their surroundings, particularly in treacherous terrains rich in natural beauty but equally fraught with risk.

**Reference Map**Paragraph 1: (1)
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Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2058975/jay-slater-photo-friend-admits> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/spanish-police-examine-cctv-footage-missing-uk-teenagers-case-tenerife-mayor-says-2024-06-25/> - Spanish police are reviewing CCTV footage from Santiago del Teide, Tenerife, where British teenager Jay Slater, 19, went missing on June 17. His phone was last detected near the Masca ravine, a remote area in a national park. A significant search operation involving police, rescue teams, and firefighters, equipped with dogs, drones, and helicopters, has been underway. Warren Slater, Jay's father, circulated a blurry CCTV image in hopes of identifying him. Mayor Emilio Jose Navarro confirmed that police are examining these security camera images. Witnesses possibly saw Slater watching Euro 2024 matches along the coast. However, Tom Beckett, familiar with the area, doubted the teenager reached the town, suggesting the narrow and frequently traveled roads would have likely revealed his presence. ([reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/spanish-police-examine-cctv-footage-missing-uk-teenagers-case-tenerife-mayor-2024-06-25/?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/article/2024/jul/16/jay-slater-body-autopsy-tenerife-identified> - The court confirmed that the body found in Tenerife was that of missing British teenager Jay Slater, 19. The injuries sustained were consistent with an accidental fall. Slater had been staying with friends and attended the NRG music festival in Playa De Las Americas. He left the festival and went with two men to their Airbnb in the Rural de Teno national park, about 11 hours on foot from his accommodation. Slater phoned a friend, Lucy Law, at about 8.30am on June 17, saying he was lost, thirsty, and his phone battery was at 1%. The body was found by a Civil Guard mountain rescue group, four weeks after he went missing. ([theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/article/2024/jul/16/jay-slater-body-autopsy-tenerife-identified?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c72225djxl9o> - The father of missing British teenager Jay Slater, 19, described the search for his son in Tenerife as 'a living hell.' Slater was last heard from on June 17, when he called a friend to say he was lost, his phone was running out of battery, and he needed water. The search operation, which included police, rescue teams, and volunteers, focused on the Rural de Teno National Park, where Slater's phone was last traced. Despite the extensive search, no trace of him was found, and the official search was called off on June 30, though the investigation remained open. ([bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c72225djxl9o?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.reuters.com/world/spanish-authorities-confirm-body-found-tenerife-is-missing-briton-jay-slater-2024-07-16/> - Spanish authorities confirmed that a body found in a remote area of Tenerife was that of missing British teenager Jay Slater, 19. The injuries sustained were consistent with an accidental fall. Slater's mother, Debbie, expressed her heartbreak over the tragic news. The body was found by a Civil Guard mountain rescue group, with his possessions and clothes found nearby. The case will be handled by a Tenerife court. ([reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com/world/spanish-authorities-confirm-body-found-tenerife-is-missing-briton-jay-slater-2024-07-16/?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cv2g10dkel7o> - The search for missing British teenager Jay Slater, 19, in Tenerife took 29 days. His phone was last traced to the Rural de Teno park, a difficult terrain with thick vegetation, steep ravines, and cliff-faces. Despite extensive searches by the Guardia Civil, including sniffer dog teams, helicopters, and drones, the body was found in the ravine close to the phone mast. The injuries were consistent with a fall onto rocky ground from height. The Guardia Civil declined to answer questions about the investigation. ([bbc.co.uk](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cv2g10dkel7o?utm_source=openai))