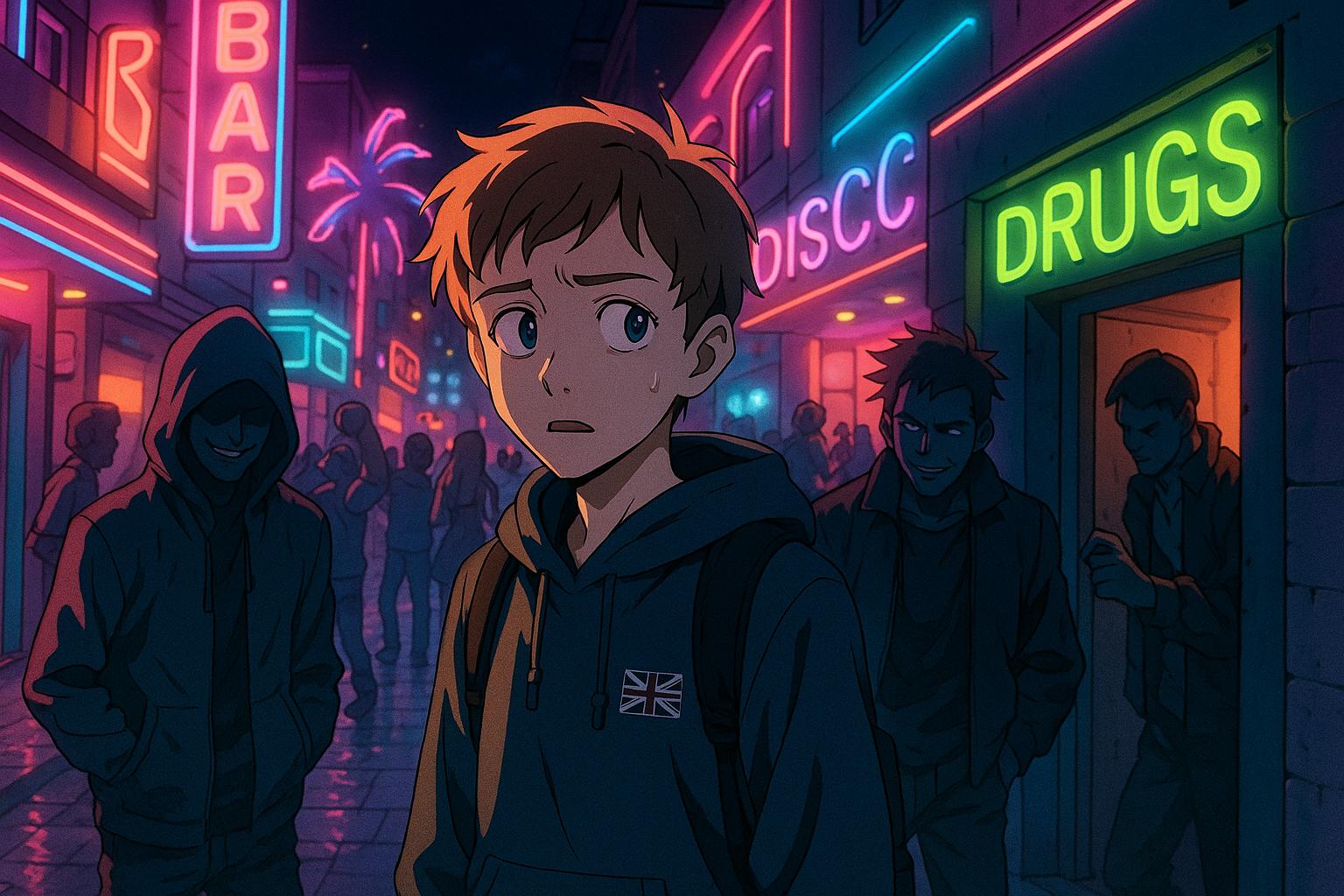
# Jay Slater inquest exposes rampant drug trade and police failings in Tenerife nightlife



The ongoing inquest into the death of Jay Slater, a British teenager who tragically died while on holiday in Tenerife, has opened a floodgate of questions and sparked immense concern among his family and the public. Jay, who was just 19 years old, was described as being "off his head on drugs" during the final night of his life, raising alarms about how easily accessible such substances are in tourist-heavy regions like Playa de las Américas. The toxicology report revealed a disturbing cocktail of Class A narcotics, including cocaine, ecstasy, and ketamine, presenting a troubling image of the nightlife that thrives in this popular destination.

A recent visit to the notorious Veronicas strip, where Jay was last seen, highlighted just how pervasive drug culture has become in the area. A reporter noted that within mere seconds of arriving, he was approached by a dealer trying to sell him various drugs, illustrating the alarming ease with which these substances can be obtained. This encounter occurred just outside the Papagayo nightclub, where Jay was spotted just hours before he plunged to his death. It is sobering to consider that the very environment in which he sought fun and excitement may have also played a significant role in his demise.

The inquest revealed that on the night preceding his death, Jay had consumed an astonishing 10 to 15 vodka shots. Moreover, he sent messages to friends boasting about stealing a Rolex watch, supposedly worth £12,000, further entangling him in the chaotic nightlife of the strip. This distressing narrative underscores not only the destructive behaviours that can emerge in such settings but also the vulnerability of young tourists who may not fully comprehend the risks associated with drug deals and unsafe environments. Amidst the revelry, there are still whispers of discontent among locals about the vibrant yet hazardous atmosphere that has come to characterise the area.

Concerns about the role of organized crime in Tenerife’s drug trade are not unfounded. Reports suggest that Spanish cannabis laws have been exploited, effectively turning parts of the island into a "new Amsterdam," where young tourists are often targeted by pushers. This atmosphere complicates efforts by local authorities to control drug-related crime, as illegal cannabis clubs proliferate and the presence of law enforcement appears insufficient. Observations from a recent night out indicated that while police patrol the area, their effectiveness is questionable. Dealers operate with alarming impunity, seemingly aware of the shortcomings in police enforcement, with one local laughing at how easily the drug trade thrived despite visible policing.

In the midst of this chaos, Jay’s mother, Debbie Duncan, has publicly defended her son's character, vehemently denying claims that he was involved in drug trafficking or associated with a cartel. She has condemned the vitriol directed at her family online, asserting that Jay’s brief stay in Tenerife, where he was attending a festival, does not align with the allegations cast against him. The heartache of losing a child under such tragic circumstances has led her to call for greater awareness of the dangers lurking in popular nightlife scenes and a push for better protections for young people.

As the inquest unfolds, it stands as a grave reminder of the intertwined nature of youthful exuberance and the lurking dangers of substance abuse, particularly in a party atmosphere like Tenerife. While many flock to this sun-soaked destination for leisure, the dark underbelly of its nightlife continues to cast a shadow over the experiences of unwitting tourists, making it imperative for authorities to reassess strategies to protect individuals from exploitation and harm.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2060077/i-went-strip-where-jay-slater-partied-10-seconds-i-offered-drugs), [[5]](https://www.the-independent.com/news/uk/home-news/jay-slater-missing-veronica-strip-tenerife-b2570050.html)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2060077/i-went-strip-where-jay-slater-partied-10-seconds-i-offered-drugs), [[2]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1920888/jay-slater-inside-tenerife-drugs-mafia), [[3]](https://www.lbc.co.uk/news/jay-slaters-heartbroken-mum-slams-claims-her-son-was-involved-with-a-drug-cartel/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[4]](https://tenerifeweekly.com/2024/07/07/jay-slater-disappearance-tenerife-jay-slater-20-days-missing-a-stolen-rolex-and-a-date-with-a-convicted-drug-trafficker/), [[6]](https://tenerifeweekly.com/2024/07/25/jay-slater-tenerife-the-identity-of-the-other-mysterious-man-with-whom-jay-slater-spent-the-night-before-he-died-has-been-revealed/), [[7]](https://metro.co.uk/2024/08/19/jay-slaters-mother-denies-son-involved-a-drug-cartel-tenerife-21446899/)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2060077/i-went-strip-where-jay-slater-partied-10-seconds-i-offered-drugs> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1920888/jay-slater-inside-tenerife-drugs-mafia> - An investigation reveals that organized crime groups have exploited Spanish cannabis laws to transform Tenerife into a 'new Amsterdam.' The report highlights concerns about the involvement of significant members in the island's drug trade and the targeting of young tourists by drug pushers. The article also discusses the prevalence of cannabis clubs operating illegally and the challenges faced by authorities in addressing the issue.
3. <https://www.lbc.co.uk/news/jay-slaters-heartbroken-mum-slams-claims-her-son-was-involved-with-a-drug-cartel/> - Debbie Duncan, mother of Jay Slater, has vehemently denied claims that her son was involved in drug trafficking or stole a £12,000 Rolex watch in Tenerife. She criticized online trolls for spreading false information and emphasized that Jay had only been in Tenerife for three days, attending a festival with friends that had security measures in place.
4. <https://tenerifeweekly.com/2024/07/07/jay-slater-disappearance-tenerife-jay-slater-20-days-missing-a-stolen-rolex-and-a-date-with-a-convicted-drug-trafficker/> - The article delves into the mysterious disappearance of Jay Slater, a 19-year-old British apprentice bricklayer who vanished in Tenerife. It discusses his last known activities, including attending a music festival and an alleged altercation involving a stolen Rolex watch. The piece also touches upon his encounter with Ayub Qassim, a convicted drug trafficker, and the subsequent search efforts that lasted 20 days.
5. <https://www.the-independent.com/news/uk/home-news/jay-slater-missing-veronica-strip-tenerife-b2570050.html> - This report sheds light on the darker aspects of Tenerife's nightlife, particularly the Veronicas Strip in Playa de las Americas. It describes how young British tourists, including Jay Slater, frequent the area, where they are often approached with offers of Class A drugs and cannabis. The article also highlights the challenges faced by authorities in curbing such activities and the potential dangers for unsuspecting visitors.
6. <https://tenerifeweekly.com/2024/07/25/jay-slater-tenerife-the-identity-of-the-other-mysterious-man-with-whom-jay-slater-spent-the-night-before-he-died-has-been-revealed/> - The piece reveals the identity of the second man who accompanied Jay Slater on the night before his disappearance. Known only as 'Rocky,' he and Ayub Qassim, a convicted drug dealer, were with Jay at an Airbnb in Masca. The article discusses their interactions, the circumstances leading to Jay's departure, and the subsequent search efforts that culminated in the discovery of his body.
7. <https://metro.co.uk/2024/08/19/jay-slaters-mother-denies-son-involved-a-drug-cartel-tenerife-21446899/> - Debbie Duncan, mother of Jay Slater, has denied allegations that her son was involved with a drug cartel in Tenerife. She criticized online trolls for spreading false information and emphasized that Jay had only been in Tenerife for three days, attending a festival with friends that had security measures in place. The article also touches upon the funeral held for Jay and the support received by his family.