# Ibiza flight chaos sparks fresh outcry against overtourism crisis



An Ibiza resident has ignited a fervent debate over 'overtourism' after sharing distressing footage of a chaotic flight filled with rowdy tourists from Luton to the popular Spanish island. Erika Barrachina, who has amassed a following online under the name Kiribarrachi, described her experience as akin to "being in a pub or nightclub, but in the air." Her video captures the tumultuous atmosphere onboard, where passengers reportedly banged on luggage compartments and shouted phrases like "Come on Ibiza" while indulging in excessive alcohol consumption.

In her post, Barrachina lamented the conduct of her fellow passengers, labelling them as "real English animals" and insisting that such behaviour should not be tolerated on flights. She expressed her fears during the ordeal and noted that even the flight attendants struggled to manage the disruptive crowd. The incident has sparked wider discussions regarding the impacts of mass tourism on Ibiza, a vibrant locale cherished for its nightlife but increasingly viewed as overwhelmed by the sheer volume of visitors.

This incident is part of a broader trend of rising discontent among locals regarding the influx of tourists, particularly in Spain's Balearic and Canary Islands. Recent protests organised under banners such as "Canaries have a limit" have highlighted the pressing issues of soaring housing costs, traffic congestion, and inadequate public services. In these demonstrations, participants have called for a cap on tourist numbers to mitigate the strain on local residents. Many feel that their way of life is being eroded as the tourism sector prioritises visitor numbers over community welfare.

The sentiment that stretches beyond Ibiza is echoed across other notable cities and tourist destinations. In Barcelona, for instance, anti-tourism demonstrations have gained traction, driven by similar frustrations regarding rising housing prices and increasing public disturbance from holidaymakers. The growth of Airbnb and other short-term rental platforms has exacerbated the housing crisis in many areas, forcing essential local workers to seek alternative living arrangements.

To combat these issues, local governments in regions like Ibiza are taking steps to regulate tourism more strictly. This includes closing access to overcrowded popular tourist spots, banning illegal accommodations on platforms such as Airbnb, and enforcing stricter limitations on alcohol sales during flights. Such measures aim to foster a more sustainable approach to tourism that balances the economic benefits with the needs of local communities.

The prevailing discontent is not just confined to flights and nightlife; it permeates the very fabric of local living conditions, as workers struggle to find affordable housing amidst the economic influx brought about by tourism. Reports have surfaced about locals, including essential service workers, resorting to living in caravans or even sleeping in their cars due to skyrocketing rents. This situation has prompted calls from residents for authorities to take decisive action, with demonstrations already planned for the coming months to voice their concerns.

As this ongoing dialogue unfolds, the balance between tourism and local tranquillity remains a pressing issue for many. The growing frustration among residents highlights an urgent need for collaborative solutions that respect both the natural beauty of destinations like Ibiza and the rights and needs of those who call it home. Continuing protests and community unity may be pivotal in steering these discussions toward meaningful reform in the tourism sector.

**Reference Map**

* Paragraph 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)
* Paragraph 2: [[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)
* Paragraph 3: [[2]](https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/thousands-protest-against-overtourism-spains-canary-islands-2025-05-18/), [[4]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/1903020/ibiza-protests-overtourism-spain)
* Paragraph 4: [[3]](https://www.ft.com/content/de15a5a3-941d-4da0-b928-3da70b6e31ac), [[6]](https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/may/25/tourism-surge-forcing-ibiza-workers-to-live-in-car-parks)
* Paragraph 5: [[5]](https://www.thelocal.es/20250301/inside-spain-how-ibizas-residents-are-taking-action-against-overtourism), [[7]](https://allaboutedm.com/ibiza-sees-over-50-decrease-in-summer-travel-over-new-rules-and-protests/)
* Paragraph 6: [[4]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/1903020/ibiza-protests-overtourism-spain), [[6]](https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/may/25/tourism-surge-forcing-ibiza-workers-to-live-in-car-parks)
* Paragraph 7: [[2]](https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/thousands-protest-against-overtourism-spains-canary-islands-2025-05-18/), [[6]](https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/may/25/tourism-surge-forcing-ibiza-workers-to-live-in-car-parks)
* Paragraph 8: [[4]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/1903020/ibiza-protests-overtourism-spain), [[5]](https://www.thelocal.es/20250301/inside-spain-how-ibizas-residents-are-taking-action-against-overtourism)

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

## 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.reuters.com/world/europe/thousands-protest-against-overtourism-spains-canary-islands-2025-05-18/> - Thousands protested against mass tourism in Spain's Canary Islands, urging authorities to limit visitor numbers to protect local residents from soaring housing costs, traffic congestion, and overburdened services. Organized under the banner 'Canaries have a limit,' demonstrators highlighted issues such as water shortages, traffic jams, and limited healthcare access during peak tourist seasons. The protests reflect growing national concerns over overtourism, with similar demonstrations occurring in other Spanish regions like Mallorca, Barcelona, and Malaga. ([reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/thousands-protest-against-overtourism-spains-canary-islands-2025-05-18/?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://www.ft.com/content/de15a5a3-941d-4da0-b928-3da70b6e31ac> - Europe has seen intensified backlash against mass tourism, with protests erupting in cities like Barcelona, Venice, and Amsterdam. In Barcelona, anti-tourism demonstrators doused tourists with water pistols, highlighting local frustration over the influx of visitors. This surge has led to unaffordable housing, strained public services, and environmental issues. Spain, the world's second-most visited country, faces challenges in balancing tourism's economic benefits with residents' well-being. Proposed solutions include better regulatory oversight and promoting high-end tourism. ([ft.com](https://www.ft.com/content/de15a5a3-941d-4da0-b928-3da70b6e31ac?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/1903020/ibiza-protests-overtourism-spain> - Residents in Ibiza are protesting against mass tourism, calling on authorities to limit tourist accommodations due to severe impacts on local living conditions and public services. Activists from Prou Ibiza ('Enough Ibiza' in Catalan) plan to gather outside government offices, with similar protests scheduled in Majorca and Menorca. Demonstrations highlight the frustration among locals who feel priced out of their own homes, with essential workers like nurses and police officers forced to live in cars and caravans due to unaffordable housing. ([express.co.uk](https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/1903020/ibiza-protests-overtourism-spain?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.thelocal.es/20250301/inside-spain-how-ibizas-residents-are-taking-action-against-overtourism> - Ibiza residents are taking action against overtourism, with local authorities closing access to popular spots like Mirador des Vedrà to tourists. The local council has signed an agreement with Airbnb to ban advertisements for illegal accommodations, aiming to combat unregulated tourism and ensure sustainable development. The Ibiza and Formentera Tenants' Union has called for a mass protest on April 5th in defense of housing and against rising rent prices on the island. ([thelocal.es](https://www.thelocal.es/20250301/inside-spain-how-ibizas-residents-are-taking-action-against-overtourism?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/may/25/tourism-surge-forcing-ibiza-workers-to-live-in-car-parks> - The surge in tourism in Ibiza has forced workers to live in vans or caravans, undermining the island's ability to attract new staff. The influx of northern European digital nomads with high salaries has exacerbated housing shortages, leading to unaffordable living conditions for locals. Regional president Marga Prohens acknowledged the increasing anger over unchecked tourism and emphasized the need for limits to ensure coexistence between tourist activity and residents' well-being. ([theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/may/25/tourism-surge-forcing-ibiza-workers-to-live-in-car-parks?utm_source=openai))
7. <https://allaboutedm.com/ibiza-sees-over-50-decrease-in-summer-travel-over-new-rules-and-protests/> - Ibiza has seen a significant decline in summer travel, with online searches for holidays dropping more than 50% compared to the previous year. This downturn is attributed to growing unrest among residents over mass tourism, which has strained public services, inflated housing costs, and eroded the island's cultural identity. Protests and new regulations, including strict alcohol sales bans and restrictions on party boats, have further diminished the island's appeal to traditional party-goers. ([allaboutedm.com](https://allaboutedm.com/ibiza-sees-over-50-decrease-in-summer-travel-over-new-rules-and-protests/?utm_source=openai))