# British couple arrested in Ibiza over £2,685 cruise bill amid rising tourist payment fraud



Two British holidaymakers were arrested in Ibiza after allegedly attempting to flee from their cruise liner, having accrued an outstanding bill of £2,685. The incident unfolded on May 21 when the couple, aged 23 and 18, tried to hurriedly disembark the ship with their luggage after their ship docked on the island. Spanish National Police responded swiftly to crew reports of the duo’s attempt to leave without settling the bill linked to their time aboard.

Upon apprehension at Ibiza Airport, the National Police confirmed their suspicions of fraud, detailing that the couple had insisted on leaving in haste, reportedly attempting to push past crew members to exit. Police highlighted the proactive measures taken; the duo was tracked to the airport soon after the cruise company alerted authorities to the situation.

Such incidents of alleged non-payment by tourists are not isolated. Recent reports indicate a troubling trend, with multiple arrests made in Ibiza and surrounding regions. Earlier this month, six individuals, including a 77-year-old British man, faced arrest for their refusal to pay a €12,300 restaurant bill, igniting discussions about the consequences of irresponsible tourist behaviour.

Further compounding the issue of disruptive tourism in Ibiza, increased public discontent has emerged surrounding the impact of mass tourism on local communities. Reports of rowdy tourists have sparked protests from locals who claim that unchecked tourism leads to significant disruption and alters the character of their towns. A local resident expressed this frustration vividly after her flight from London to Ibiza, describing it as a distressing experience with “real English animals” behaving wildly on board, asserting that such behaviour should not be permissible.

This public dissatisfaction dovetails with a broader narrative across Spain, which has faced anti-tourism protests over the past year. Such movements emerged as countless residents decry “overtourism,” suggesting it is driving up housing costs and affecting quality of life. In a country that welcomed over 15 million tourists to Mallorca alone last year, the strain on local resources is acutely felt, prompting calls for action from both citizens and local authorities alike.

Despite government measures being introduced, such as a recent rent cap mechanism, results have been inconsistent. Only a few regions, like Barcelona, have seen any tangible benefits, leaving many locals feeling disenfranchised and frustrated. As summer approaches, more protests are anticipated, highlighting a growing need for a sustainable approach to tourism that balances visitor enjoyment with local residents' rights and needs.

As the situation continues to unfold in Ibiza and beyond, the impact of tourism behaviour on community morale and local economies remains a pressing issue requiring both dialogue and resolution.

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

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