# Majorca braces for mass protests as locals demand limits on tourism



UK tourists heading to Majorca are facing significant protests against overtourism, scheduled to take place soon. On Sunday, June 15, locals alongside residents from other popular Spanish holiday destinations—including Ibiza, Menorca, and Tenerife—plan to march in Palma’s Plaça Espanya at 6 pm. The demonstrations are organised by the Southern Europe Network Against Touristification, which has raised concerns over the detrimental effects heightened tourism poses on local communities, including overcrowded streets, housing shortages, and severe ecological impacts.

Attendees will join forces with various groups, trade unions, and environmental organisations, with an estimated attendance of around 10,000 people expected based on previous years’ turnouts. Organisers have asserted that while their aim is not to vilify tourism, it is vital to ensure that tourism does not erode the cultural identity of the local populace. This event follows previous successful protests, notably one held last year by the Menys Turisme Més Vida (Less Tourism, More Life) coalition, which highlighted the urgent need for sustainable solutions to the current issues plaguing the tourism sector.

Menys Turisme Més Vida has vocally opposed the Balearic government's new tourist campaign and extravagant investments that seemingly prioritise luxury tourism and property speculation over the pressing housing crisis faced by locals. A statement released by the group expressed frustration over the lack of effective policies to manage tourism better, citing the negative impact of increased tourist volumes on local life.

As Spain grapples with its status as the second-most visited country in the world, it has witnessed a surge in anti-tourism protests recently. Major cities, including Barcelona, have seen similar demonstrations highlighting the struggle against unmanageable tourist influxes, which have been linked to rising living costs and environmental degradation. A protest in Barcelona last year involved protesters playfully squiring water at tourists, raising awareness of growing local displeasure.

Reports indicate that the wider backlash against mass tourism in Spain is a response to the economic and societal pressures that have intensified as visitor numbers continue to swell. While tourism typically contributes significantly to the national economy, accounting for approximately 12-13% of Spain's GDP, many community voices are clamouring for a reassessment of tourism strategies that prioritise the well-being of residents alongside economic interests.

Organisers of the upcoming protests have called for specific measures to limit tourism in most impacted areas such as Sóller, Artà, and Palma. They argue that without intervention, the distinctive character and quality of life in these locales could be irreparably harmed, a sentiment echoed through their social media outreach. "Of course, we want you to come, but not at the cost of our identity," a representative noted in a recent post.

Tourists visiting Majorca during this period are advised to remain mindful of the protests, which aim to shed light on the real challenges faced by residents in tourist-heavy zones. Ultimately, the demonstrators seek a balanced approach to tourism that benefits all stakeholders, allowing both residents and visitors to enjoy the rich cultural heritage that the Balearic Islands have to offer without overwhelming its local communities.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/travel/uk-tourists-majorca-warned-overtourism-31826624), [[2]](https://cadenaser.com/baleares/2025/06/10/la-red-del-sur-de-europa-contra-la-turistificacion-llama-a-los-ciudadanos-a-protestar-este-domingo-en-la-calle-radio-mallorca/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/travel/uk-tourists-majorca-warned-overtourism-31826624), [[5]](https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2024/07/22/thousands-in-mallorca-demand-less-tourism-more-life-in-pushback-against-overtourism)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://time.com/6995756/barcelona-protesters-water-pistols-tourists/), [[4]](https://www.ft.com/content/de15a5a3-941d-4da0-b928-3da70b6e31ac)
* Paragraph 4 – [[6]](https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/mallorca-occupy-beaches-protest-overtourism-b2555534.html), [[7]](https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20240722-in-mallorca-20-000-rally-against-overtourism)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/travel/uk-tourists-majorca-warned-overtourism-31826624), [[2]](https://cadenaser.com/baleares/2025/06/10/la-red-del-sur-de-europa-contra-la-turistificacion-llama-a-los-ciudadanos-a-protestar-este-domingo-en-la-calle-radio-mallorca/)

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/travel/uk-tourists-majorca-warned-overtourism-31826624> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://cadenaser.com/baleares/2025/06/10/la-red-del-sur-de-europa-contra-la-turistificacion-llama-a-los-ciudadanos-a-protestar-este-domingo-en-la-calle-radio-mallorca/> - The Southern Europe Network Against Touristification has called for a protest on Sunday, June 15, in Palma's Plaça Espanya, urging citizens to demand measures against overtourism. The demonstration aims to address issues like overcrowded streets, housing shortages, and ecological impacts. Despite previous large-scale protests, authorities have yet to implement effective solutions. The group emphasizes that the movement is not anti-tourism but seeks to preserve local identity amidst increasing visitor numbers. ([cadenaser.com](https://cadenaser.com/baleares/2025/06/10/la-red-del-sur-de-europa-contra-la-turistificacion-llama-a-los-ciudadanos-a-protestar-este-domingo-en-la-calle-radio-mallorca/?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://time.com/6995756/barcelona-protesters-water-pistols-tourists/> - In July 2024, thousands of Barcelona residents protested against mass tourism by squirting water pistols at tourists in Las Ramblas, chanting 'tourists go home' and displaying signs like 'tourism kills the city'. The protests highlighted concerns over overcrowding, unaffordable housing, and environmental degradation. Similar demonstrations occurred across Spain, including Mallorca, where locals demanded action against overtourism and gentrification. ([time.com](https://time.com/6995756/barcelona-protesters-water-pistols-tourists/?utm_source=openai))
4. <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, drawing global media coverage. This incident highlights a broader frustration among locals who feel overwhelmed by the influx of tourists, leading to unaffordable housing, strained public services, and environmental issues. Spain, the world's second-most visited country, has seen significant anti-tourism protests, particularly in the Canary Islands, Mallorca, and coastal cities. The tourism industry, a vital economic driver contributing 12-13% of Spain's GDP, faces challenges in balancing local needs and economic benefits. Proposed solutions include better regulatory oversight, promoting high-end tourism, expanding infrastructure, and implementing degrowth strategies to limit tourist numbers. ([ft.com](https://www.ft.com/content/de15a5a3-941d-4da0-b928-3da70b6e31ac?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2024/07/22/thousands-in-mallorca-demand-less-tourism-more-life-in-pushback-against-overtourism> - In July 2024, thousands demonstrated in Mallorca against overtourism, citing issues like wage drops, reduced quality of life, noise, and increased housing costs. Organised by the 'Less Tourism, More Life' platform, the march aimed to be a turning point, with plans for similar actions across the Balearic Islands. The demonstration highlighted the unsustainable growth of tourism and its adverse effects on residents. ([euronews.com](https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2024/07/22/thousands-in-mallorca-demand-less-tourism-more-life-in-pushback-against-overtourism?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/mallorca-occupy-beaches-protest-overtourism-b2555534.html> - In June 2024, Mallorca residents symbolically occupied a beach in Campos to protest overcrowding caused by overtourism. Organised by Mallorca Platja Tour, the demonstration aimed to highlight the challenges locals face during peak tourist season, including overcrowded beaches and strained public services. The protest was a response to comments suggesting locals should avoid beaches in summer due to tourist influx. ([independent.co.uk](https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/mallorca-occupy-beaches-protest-overtourism-b2555534.html?utm_source=openai))
7. <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20240722-in-mallorca-20-000-rally-against-overtourism> - In July 2024, approximately 20,000 protesters rallied in Palma, Mallorca, against overtourism, demanding changes to the current tourism model. Organised by around 80 organisations, the demonstration highlighted issues like strained public services, environmental harm, and housing difficulties. Protesters carried banners with slogans such as 'Your luxury, our misery' and 'This isn't tourismophobia, it's numbers: 1,232,014 residents, 18 million tourists'. ([france24.com](https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20240722-in-mallorca-20-000-rally-against-overtourism?utm_source=openai))