# UK tourists warned of housing crisis in the Balearic Islands



In a developing situation within the Balearic Islands, which include Majorca, Menorca, and Ibiza, UK tourists are being warned about an escalating housing crisis that is affecting local residents. The crisis has been exacerbated by the issue of overtourism, resulting in soaring rents and an inability for many locals to secure affordable housing.

The two prominent real-estate agency associations on the islands, ABINI and API, have voiced robust concerns regarding the crisis, urging immediate action from the Spanish government. They delivered a joint letter addressed to Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez, emphasising that without decisive measures, the local communities could face a grim reality—becoming “condemned” to expelling their own residents due to an overwhelming housing shortage. In their correspondence, they stated, "If urgent measures are not taken, our society will be condemned to expelling its own citizens due to the inability to find a home.”

The associations have called for a grand pact for housing, arguing that housing should be perceived as a fundamental right rather than a speculative asset. They expressed that the current trajectory must urgently change to discourage speculation while simultaneously promoting responsible investment and increasing housing supply. Their appeal highlighted how "families see their chance of having a home in their own land slipping away," reflecting a widespread concern that reaches various demographics including workers, business owners, and the elderly.

As Majorca becomes increasingly popular with tourists, the resultant overcrowding is raising alarms for residents who are grappling with escalating living costs associated with property conversions into short-term rentals. Local protests have grown, particularly in Palma, as residents demand government intervention to address escalating rents that are pricing them out of their own communities. The impact of the tourist influx has sparked discussions about the sustainability of the region’s housing market.

The urgency for solutions is underscored by growing frustrations within Balearic society. Local activists are reportedly planning to intensify their campaigns this summer, aiming to create adverse publicity to deter travellers, thereby attempting to reclaim their locales from what they view as an unsustainable tourist model.

The situation in the Balearic Islands is remaindered closely watched, as both the local community and tourists alike are affected by the formidable challenge of balancing tourism with the right to housing. As the summer season approaches, the prospect of a resolution remains uncertain.

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

## References

* <https://www.majorcadailybulletin.com/news/local/2025/02/22/131405/000-houses-needed-balearics.html> - This URL supports the claim about the housing crisis in the Balearic Islands, noting that 91,000 affordable homes are needed to address the issue. It also mentions the impact of overtourism and the highly lucrative but often illegal holiday rental market on rents and housing availability.
* <https://investropa.com/blogs/news/balearic-islands-real-estate-trends> - This article discusses trends in the Balearic Islands property market, highlighting the shortage of long-term rentals and the impact of tourism on housing demand and prices.
* <https://www.housesinspain.com/blog/2025-will-be-a-challenging-year-for-homebuyers> - The scarcity of housing supply in Spain, including the Balearic Islands, is exacerbated by a surge in demand driven partly by tourism and foreign buyers, leading to increased property prices and rents.
* <https://www.majorcadailybulletin.com/> - This news outlet provides ongoing coverage of local issues in Majorca, including housing crises and local responses to tourist pressures.
* <https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islas_Baleares> - This Wikipedia page provides general information about the Balearic Islands, including their geographical and demographic context, which helps understand the scale of the housing crisis and its societal impacts.
* <https://www.thelocal.es/20240220/balearic-islands-urge-action-amid-housing-crisis> - Although not explicitly listed, similar articles from reputable sources like The Local Spain discuss the Balearic Islands' housing crisis, highlighting calls for action and the effects of overtourism.