



Canary Islands Spain



Isla Graciosa island

Playa Francesa, 29° 13'.09N
13° 31'.77W

The large anchorage is the centre one of the three anchorages at the south side of the tiny island. Shelter from the N and NE winds is perfect, some swell will find its way into the bay but not bothersome. The bay is open to S and SE, therefore uncomfortable in strong

winds. Holding (sand) in 5-10m is perfect and the spot is marvellous, in front of the beach and at the foot of one of the 4 volcano cones. The dinghy will be safe at the beach above the flood line. No water available. The island has only sand roads and a tiny town Caleta del Sebo at a 45 min walking distance along the seaside. It has 3 small supermarkets, a butcher and a fruits & veggie shop as well as many restaurants around the inner-harbour. The internet café was closed (November '11) due to the pregnancy of the owner. No availability to buy a dongle for the internet but the cruisers at anchor will provide you with the latest weather forecast. Tip: When all but a few boats leave, you know change of weather will be imminent! We have seen a few boats at anchor east of Caleta del Sebo in SE winds. From ashore they looked OK in 20kn SW-wind but no swell.



Lanzarote Island

Arrecife anchorage, 28° 58'34N 13° 31'82W

This anchorage is off the tiny beach inside the breakwaters, west of the commercial harbour. It is the perfect spot in strong NW-N-NE winds. No swell at all and very sheltered from the wind. Holding (sand) in 4-8m is perfect. The (minimal) noise of the container terminal will stop after 6pm. Many large cruise ships more in this harbour but all will be gone at the end of the day, so no interruption during sleeping hours! Free Wi-Fi signals are scarce but one "GowexWiFi" is free available for 30min a day after joining up at their website. We used the Spanish Orange dongle we had bought in town. The reception at the anchorage is very good and the Internet worked perfect. With Orange you have to buy days instead of hours. The monthly rate was €34,= November 2011. You can leave the dinghy safely at the beach but take care when landing during low water due to the nasty rocks in front of the beach. After the serpentine footpath uphill, cross the road and walk in-between the buildings to the next wide road. Across the road a little to the left, you will find the **Lidl** supermarket and other large businesses (e.g. IKEA!)

Arrecife' town centre is a nice 30 min walk following the footpath along the seaside. In town are several supermarkets 'Hyperdino' as well as many other shops and restaurants. Walking from the anchorage to town, you will pass a couple of very good chandlers and hardware shops. The first large hardware shop is opposite the fisherman's quay. They have an amazing stock of nautical items (e.g. we bought 30m of calibrated chain) which are mostly cheaper than the Duarte chandler, mentioned in the pilot. Even the staff is more friendly and speaks reasonable English.

Arrecife' 2nd anchorage 28° 57'99N 13° 32'26W

This anchorage is off the tiny beach west of the Varadero (yard) opposite the fisherman's quay, just inside the line of red buoys. This spot or further south into the bay will give you excellent shelter during winds and swell from the SW-S-SE. When we were there in 20kn of Southern winds, the holding (sand) in 3-5m was OK. The dinghy was save at the base of the steps in the corner at the south side of the fisherman's quay, not allowed anymore in November 2012. November 2012, the building of the new marina is going very fast. At the moment they already take boats in up to 10m and from mid-December boats up to 12m. No power available but water and shower blocs are already in place.

Gran Canaria

Las Palmas marina 28° 07'6N 15° 25'5W

Las Palmas marina lies directly opposite the entrance of the main breakwaters inside the commercial harbour. Behind the enormous breakwater of the commercial harbour and its own breakwaters, the marina is very sheltered for the prevailing NE winds. Some swell might come in with SE-winds but is of no concern. Berthing is head or bow to floating pontoons and 2 mooring lines fixed to the pontoon with lazy lines for each boat. Electricity & water is available at the pontoon. Every single pontoon is secured by a gate. Every gate has its own key card, good for security! Only berth holders of your pontoon should be able to go there. Facilities; laundry (washing & drying €8,- a load of 8kg), showers & toilets, a little supermarket, many chandleries and restaurants, the Sailors' bay has a book swab as the laundrette. You have to buy Wi-Fi access from Aspira communications, at the marina area, for a day, a week or more. (in 2015 a month costs € 31,-).The signal is good, strong and reliable, however during the ARC gathering in November it will be slower. Sailor's Bay has a free and fast Wi-Fi and sockets to plug-in for electricity as have many of the restaurants along at the marina ground. Marina prices are reasonable and go by the M². (in 2015 the fee is 0,145€/M²/a day. On top of that comes for H₂O - € 0,01227/M²/day and the same for electricity). Boats over 12m are due for lighthouse tax, also /day. (For our 46 foot/55M² it was €289,- for 31 day including lighthouse tax, water and electricity.) Airport is a 30 minutes' drive by bus. All daily necessities available near the marina. From September the 15th till the end of November there are only a few visitors berth available due to the assembling of the ARC-fleet. Thereafter it is not a problem anymore.

Las Palmas anchorage

The anchorage is just north of the north marina breakwater and south of Club Naval marina, out of the way of the big commercial ships and next to a nice sandy beach. We haven't anchored there but we were told that the holding is good (sand). There are showers on the beach. This anchorage "belongs" to the marina and you have to pay whilst at anchor (± €2,-/day). In return you are allowed to park the dinghy inside the marina, get a key card for toilet & shower block and fill up H₂O by jerry can.

Gran Canaria

Arguineguin Anchorage 27° 45'7N 15° 41'2W

The place we anchored (Sept 2015) is just north of the little fishing harbour off a tiny sand beach lined with rocks. It is easy to recognize due to the 2 mega hotels just behind the beach. It is a quiet place, hardly jet skis or other wave making sea toys. The little ferry's (Arguineguin-Anfi del Mar-Puerto Rico-Puerto Mogan), pass at a safe distance. Holding over sand and gravel is perfect, depth app. 8m. The ocean swell (mostly NW) enters the anchorage during the day but dies down most of the time during the night. We were able to receive a free Wi-Fi signal from one of the 2 hotels. Ashore are a few supermarkets, many restaurants and shops. At Friday is a big non-food market at the parking lot near the fishing harbour. The dinghy can be left in the fishing harbour underneath the bridge, connecting the little pontoon next to the travel lift. The town is pleasant although full of tourists.

Tenerife

San Miguel Marina 28° 01'2N 16° 36'9W

The marina is nice and sheltered for the prevailing NE winds. The staff is friendly. Berths are at pontoons with fingers or alongside the quay. €31,=/day for 14m (Sept 2015). Water and electricity at every berth, shower and toilet block, 2 old-fashion washing machines and a dryer (€5,=/load 2015). There is a book swab. The marina is at least a 30min walk away from supermarkets. There are some small ones in the area of the big hotels. Rent-a-car leaflets are available at the marina office. We rented a car for 3 days to explore the island Tenerife.

Los Cristianos Anchorage 28° 02'4N 16° 42'6W

The place we anchored (Sept 2015) was south of the main harbour entrance and north of the 2 fish farms in front of the high rocks. Depth is 8m, holding over sand is perfect. Quiet place, a little swell due to the prevailing winds in the acceleration zones, but not bothersome. Mostly there is an E-wind during the night while in daytime the winds come from the N-quarters. We were not able to receive a Wi-Fi signal (all locked) so we used our 4G smartphone to collect the weather forecast and email. The dinghy can be left in the fishing harbour out of the way, at the end of the wall in the corner with the rocks. Take a long line to secure the dinghy! There is a possibility to haul out in the fishing harbour we heard. Ask around for more details. Nice beach next to the harbour. Shops near the fishing harbour and many restaurants.

La Gomera Island

San Sebastian 28° 05'1N 17° 06'5W E-Coast

The marina is at the north side behind the huge breakwater. Entrance is narrow as mentioned in the Atlantic Islands Pilot. All berths have finger pontoons, water and electricity. Friendly staff/marinero will help you moor into your berth. A 24/7 security guard is on the premises and an electronic key card operating entrance doors. Marina charged in **2015 is €0.416/m2/day**, on top of that you pay for water and electricity; boats over 12m length pay lighthouse tax. Shower and toilet block is basic but clean, no washing machines available. At the marina office is a pick-up and drop-off for laundry and in town is a laundrette available. Free Wi-Fi in the marina, code through the marina office. In town are several supermarkets, bakeries and a covered market for fresh produce daily from 8-13. Car rental shop near marina, discount for sailors in the marina. Bus station is nearby. Airport is only inter-Island flights. 2 Fast Ferry company's (Fred Olson & Armaz) sail daily to Los Cristianos at Tenerife. We liked the small marina very much especially the tranquillity and the nearby fascinating town, with a few museums. The island is tiny but the Garajonay National Park with a rain forest, is very special and a must while you are there. At the visitor's centre of the park are leaflets and also a book with walks throughout the park. Busses go to the park but we rented a car to go and walk there.

El Hierro Island

Puerto de la Estaca 27° 47'1N 17° 54'1W NE-Coast

Inside the main harbour breakwaters is a marina since November 15, 2015, so quite new. We saw the new marina from a viewpoint above the marina. The marina looked safe and sheltered from the NE winds due to the two little breakwaters at the entrance of the marina. Two catamarans were moored inside the new marina. We saw elec. and water was available but do not know about prizes of facilities.

La Restinga 27° 38'4N 17° 58'9W S-Coast

The marina of La Restinga is tiny, just the most western pontoon is suitable for sailing yachts. All berths have short finger pontoons, water and electricity. The inside pontoon has some space for small boats and when all berths are occupied you can more alongside the inside of the breakwater wall as mentioned in the Atlantic Islands Pilot. The marina has a difficult system for charging but we paid in **2015** for 7 nights € 99,85 all included. There is a 24/7 security guard on the premises and an old fashioned key is required for the entrance door. No showers or toilets or washing machines.

Free Wi-Fi signal all over the island. The Wi-Fi is slow but it works. A bus stop is in front of the marina. Several times a day busses go to and from El Pinar and beyond. Next to the marina is a little beach with a shower. In the little town are 2 well stocked supermarkets and many bars and restaurants. La Restinga has a busy diving industry due to the marine reserve area to the west of the island. Diving is only allowed through official diving companies.

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