

# Sailing Log

## Mallorca/Menorca Spain

### 7 August – 20 August 2016

Some insights into anchorages around Mallorca and Menorca acquired during a two week bareboat charter circumnavigating both Mallorca and Menorca

- [Mapped Itinerary with comments](#)
- [Pictures and Videos of Anchorages](#)

#### MALLORCA

##### **7 August: Palma to Sant Elm**

The Buoy Concessionaire positioned us on a buoy at the southern edge of the buoy field, very near the cliff. This was a secluded part of the anchorage but, the position was open to fetch from the west. No wind overnight caused buoy to hit against the bow and small waves reflected off cliff face causing bouncy conditions throughout the night. In this anchorage/buoy field it's best to moor at northern end of buoy field with some western protection from Illa Pantaleu and Sa Dragonera. You will need to arrive early to find mooring buoy closer to town.

[Photo](#) & [Video](#)

##### **8 August: Sant Elm to Puerto de Soller (Breakfast)**

We stopped to have breakfast on the boat at Porto de Soller. It's the only protected anchorage on the entire northwest coast of Mallorca. Here's info from sailchoices.com "The only marina along the entire Tramontana coastline, it offers limited moorings but a magnificent anchorage area. The town offers several restaurants, the best of which is probably the one located above the fish-market. Looks wonderful for an overnight anchorage, well protected, good holding over sandy bottom.

##### **August 8: Cala Pi de la Posada (I. Formentor near the Puerto de Pollenca)**

Anchoring is prohibited so we moored on a government buoy (29 Euros). Buoys are colored coded to boat length and available on a first come basis, reservations not possible. If you take a buoy not designated for your boat's length you might be asked to vacate by the concessionaire managing the buoy field. Many boats vacated the buoy field before sunset. This is a very active bay during the day, but, calmed significantly at night. Very peaceful overnight. Highly recommended. [Photo](#)

## MENORCA

### **August 9: Raco des Barrill (Platja Binigaus)**

This is a large, easy anchorage with great holding in sand near Son Bou. We anchored in 4.5m near the western edge cliffs. During the day the cliffs and caves are visited by tour boats and day trippers. The cliff side of the anchorage empties substantially before sunset. A very peaceful well protected anchorage. [Photo](#) & [Video](#)

### **August 10: Cala Galdana (Provisioning)**

This was a provisioning stop. The inner bay is buoyed off for swimmers leaving the out bay for anchoring. This bay gets very crowded and we anchored at the mouth of the bay in sand and grass. We took a dingy up the creek to the west of the inner bay to access two small markets. Looks like party central, probably a loud anchorage in the evening with a large hotel and many restaurants around the bay head. [Photos](#)

### **August 10: Cala En Turqueta**

WE wanted to anchor in Cala Macarella but it was quite crowded, so we ventured a bit further to Cala Turqueta. The head of the bay is buoyed off for swimmers. The bay is rather narrow accommodating two boats across free swinging. This was a busy anchorage during the day, but, quiet at night. We anchored at the mouth of the bay. Even though the wind was light, the anchorage was bouncy due to reflective waves of the cliffs. [Photos](#)

### **August 11: Cales Coves (Lunch/Swim)**

A very busy bay during the day with the inner bay buoyed off for swimmers. At most two boats across free swing within the bay. Since it was a lunch stop for us, we anchored at the mouth of the bay in sand and weed, good holding. Marcello snorkeled to the head of the bay where he noticed that many anchor chains were crossed. [Photos](#) & [Video](#)

### **August 11: Cala Teulera**

Our first attempt to anchor in Mahon was in Cala Teulera. We were warned that it gets very crowded and had poor holding due to anchors wearing the bottom thin. This turned out to be our experience as we attempted to anchor in a very crowded anchorage twice but failed to set the hook. Get in early to find good holding.

### **August 11: Mahon (Provisioning+ crew pickup)**

Problems anchoring in Cala Teulera required us to seek dockage at the last minute. So, on a Friday evening during high season we called all the marinas to try to secure a mooring for the night. Only Marina Menorca had space on the overflow floating dock west of I. del Rei (70 Euros). The only service

available was water. Access to Mahon town was via dingy to the public dingy dock. Turned out to be a wonderfully calm night, not much shore activity on shore and wonderful setting below castle

## **August 12: Illa den Colom**

Another protected area where you can only anchor on sand which tends to be in the shallows at the south end of the anchorage. We reserved a buoy (29 Euros). It was a quiet night. Though there was no wind, there was a bit of bounce probably a result of the residual waves from the earlier strong northern winds. The beach at the northwest corner of the Island is buoyed off. Most of the buoys are located along the western shore of the Island. There's also a smaller buoy field at Fondejador des Llanes behind Punta sa Pastera to the west of the main buoy field. The bay south of Es Colomar is buoyed off for swimming. [Photos](#) & [Videos](#)

## **August 13 Binimel.la**

We attempted to anchor in the crowded bay in sand but our anchor wouldn't hold. We learned that the corrosion over the years had caused the angle stop to break and the anchor wouldn't remain open. This anchorage looked like a wonderful stop given the correct wind conditions.

## **August 13 – Fornells**

As a backup we went to the government buoy field opposite Fornells. Upon arriving we were met by the concessionaire who manages the field and directed us to our buoy for the evening. Buoy fields abound in this very large bay. Light winds out of the east so it was a very peaceful night, probably the most restful of the entire two weeks. We looked west as the sun set over this very picturesque Menorcan town. This was necessary as we crossed the channel back to Pollenca to have the anchor replaced by a SunCharter technician.

### **Cala d' Algariens**

This was one of two intended anchorages for the night of August 13. On our way to Mallorca, we dropped in for a look. It was a rather crowded anchorage but large enough to accommodate many more boats. Looked like there was good holding over a sandy bottom, but, there was a foul smell in the air. [Photo](#)

### **Cala Morell**

Another intended anchorage for August 13. Again we dropped in on the way to Mallorca for a look. A very small bay that could accommodate only a few boats. The inner bay was occupied by many small daytripper boats. Look like a very calm anchorage with a high cliff wall to the east. [Photo](#)

## **Mallorca**

### **August 14: Cala Pi de la Posada (I. Formentor)**

See description above

### **August 15: Port de Pollença (Water, Provisions, Repairs)**

We tied up on the side of the fuel dock (room for 4 boats) to meet the mechanic to exchange the anchor and fix the electronic head. While waiting for the repairs to complete, we provisioned and also filled the water tanks (10 Euros).

### **August 15: Es Vells Marins Baixos (Abandoned)**

An intended overnight anchorage that was both very crowded particularly at the recommended northeast end of the bay. This forced us into the rocky part of the anchorage which we abandoned once freeing our anchor from the rocky bottom. Only anchor if you can set the anchor in an adequate sandy patch. Use a trip line.

### **August 15: Isla de Alcanada (Bahia de Alcudia)**

This is beautiful setting with ideal protect for W->N but the light winds were out of the E->ESE making it a bouncy evening. In addition, ferry and small craft wave action added to the bounce. But, we were rewarded with a fireworks show above a town across the bay. [Photos](#)

### **August 16: Cala Molto' (Lunch & Swim)**

Very easy to set the anchor in sand. The anchorage was quite crowded, but, perfect for a lunch stop and swim. We could not find the undersea pipe referred to in the nautical guide.

### **August 16: Portocolom**

Moored on a buoy for the night (36 Euros). We were assisted by the concessionaire who also took payment after completing an arrival form. There are two buoy fields separated by the bay's channel. The field to the south west looks more protected, but, also more crowded. We also noticed some boats anchored around the bay. It was a very quiet evening.

## **ISLA CABRERA MARINE NATIONAL PARK**

### **August 17 - L'Olla, I Cabrera (Lunch & Swim)**

Free buoys are available for daytime stays, but, a permit is needed which is included in the required overnight buoy reservation. Anchoring and overnight stays are prohibited. Great swim and lunch stop

before we circumnavigated the island heading to our reserved buoy for the night. This is the only permitted mooring area other than the main anchorage. [Photos](#)

### **August 17 - Cabrera National Park**

Reservations are required to visit the island and include a buoy (25 Euros) for the evening. The buoy field is large and well protected. Your permit allows you to stay in the National Park from 6p -5p the next day. We didn't see anyone managing the buoy field until 6p in the evening, generally, to insure that boats moored to buoys had permits and were moored to the correct buoy for boat length. There's a small port with a restaurant. There are a variety of guided and unguided hikes around the island. The most popular is to hike up hill to the medieval fort that offers outstanding view of the island. [Photos](#)

### **August 18 - I. Cabrera (outer bay just south of the castle)**

Great location to dingy and snorkel to see undersea coral, fish, and rock formation in the crystal clear water of the Island [photo](#)

## **MALLORCA**

### **August 18 - Es Trenc/Illa Gavina**

An enormous roadstead and extremely popular near the resort of Colonia de Sant Jordi. The light winds were out of the S->SW so there was substantial roll augmented by the active day tripper traffic. There was some evening music from the hotel at the southern end of the bay. [Photos](#)

### **August 18 - Cala Pi**

Our final stop for lunch and a swim. Not much space inside the bay, but, decent holding in sand and weed just outside the bay. The inner bay is buoyed off for swimmers. [Photos](#)