

Mar Menor Shores

Surface area: 135 Km²

Population: 71,947 San Javier, San Pedro del Pinatar and Los Alcázares (Spain's National Institute of Statistics, 2017)

Kilometers of coastline: 73

Communications

Considering the dispersion of Mar Menor, the municipality of San Javier is taken as a reference, more specifically its urban area.



Road

The **A-7 freeway** (Mediterranean Freeway) runs through the municipality, whereas the **A-30 freeway** (Cartagena-Murcia-Madrid) is only 22 minutes away.



Plane

Due to above-mentioned characteristics it is difficult to determine the distance to the closest airports, but roughly speaking it is **30 minutes to the International Airport of Murcia** in Corvera).

From North to South, the beaches of Mar Menor belong to the municipalities of San Pedro del Pinatar (towns of Lo Pagán and Los Cuarteros), San Javier (Santiago de la Ribera), Los Alcázares and Cartagena (El Carmoli, Los Urrutias, Los Nietos, Islas Menores, Mar de Cristal, Playa Paraíso). To the South there are five islands of volcanic origin: 3 are the so-called islas mayores (large islands): Perdiguera, Mayor or Barón and Ciervo; and are 2 smaller islands: Redonda or Rondella and Sujeto.

This is the largest salt-water lagoon in Europe, **with 22 beaches in four municipalities: seven of those beaches and two marinas received the blue flag award in 2018**. It has protected areas of an important environmental value: Hita beach and the islands of Perdiguera, Barón and Grossa. Furthermore, **'Camina 10.000 pasos' in La Manga was declared a Blue Trail**. Furthermore, **20 beaches in Mar Menor received the "Q" quality award, granted by the Tourist Quality Institute (ICTE)**.

The municipality of San Javier is home to the Spanish Air Force Academy and the international airport of San Javier.

Its twelve golf courses, mild weather and good communications, where the international airport stands out, make Mar Menor an excellent golf destination for tourists.

Mar Menor has ten marinas for nautical sports, with 3,853 moorings points.

Within the framework of the strategy for promotion of tourism, San Javier has established itself as the first town in the Region of Murcia to obtain the "tourist municipality" distinction, an initiative of the Region of Murcia Government included in the regional tourism covenant developed jointly with the city halls.



International festivals

International Theater, Music and Dance Festival. Declared of Regional Tourist Interest in 1995.

International Jazz Festival. Declared of Regional Tourist Interest in 2004.