

## History

Municipality of the island of Mallorca and 17 km. Away from the capital, Palma de Mallorca. Situated at 436 meters above sea level, is part of the Serra de Tramuntana mountain range that stretches 80 km along the entire northern coast of the island. The origin (Muza Valley) is explained by the influence of Islamic rule in Mallorca, for 300 years after the invasion of the Iberian Peninsula in 711. Valldemossa is rich in springs and being surrounded by a rich and luxuriant vegetation (olive trees, oaks and almond trees, etc ...) offers visitors a sense of calm and quiet secular. Its narrow and steep, narrow streets have a special charm. Valldemossa is the birthplace town of the most venerated saint in the island, Catalina Thomas who was born in Valldemossa in 1531 and died considered like a saint in Palma in 1574. Also notable for its location is the original parish church of the XIIIth, although renovated extensively in the s. XVIII. The main attraction of Valldemossa has been and is, without doubt, the monastery of La Cartuja. Here you visit the rooms where there stayed some of the best of French romanticism of XIX century: the famed Polish composer Frederic Chopin and his companion, the writer Aurore Dupin, better known by her nickname of George Sand. Traces of their brief (December 1838 - February 1839) but intense stay has led since then a ceaseless pilgrimage.

Other famous people have left their indelible mark among valldemossa's people: the famous Ruben Dario, Gaspar Melchor de Jovellanos, Santiago Rossiñol, His Royal Highness the Archduke of Austria Ludwig Salvator, 5 Kms away from the village is Miramar, former residence of the Archduke. At Miramar centuries before the eminent philosopher Ramon Llull founded (1276) a Franciscan monastery that developed the first school of Oriental languages in Europe, intended to instruct the missionaries in Africa.

Another place to visit is the Ermita. Situated at the foot of a mountain near Valldemossa, 4 km towards Deia, and integrated in a place of unparalleled beauty, in it a small community of hermits devote their lives to prayer and penance. It is kindly requested to respect the silence during the visit. Moreover, the fabulous views over the Mediterranean will transfer a leisurely mood to enjoy the harmony of the environment. In short, a village urbanistically unchanged for centuries, inhabited by a warm loving people with a respectful visitor.

## Events and Festivities

### Festes de la Beata (July 28th)

From the canonization of Catherine Thomas in 1930, the Santa valldemossina became the patron saint of Valldemossa. The festivities in her honor are the most important for the people of Valldemossa. Hundreds of people attend with devotion from all over the island. The epicenter of the celebration is called "Carro Triomfal" (procession "la Beata"): Year after year one girl aged 6 years is chosen to represent the Santa in a procession through the main streets of the village.



### Festival of Saint Bartholomew (August 24)

Festivities in honor of Saint Bartholomew patron of the Vila de Valldemossa. Many cultural events and ceremonies, music and sports activities are held, with the cooperation and participation of villagers, famous people and local authorities.

### Piano Concertos

In 1930, Joan Marie Thomas Mallorcan composer creates the Chopin Festival with the active collaboration of spouses Boutroux-Ferrà. Over 29 editions, the Cloister of the Cartuja has hosted many prestigious performers that year after year have left an indelible memory. [www.festivalchopin.com](http://www.festivalchopin.com)

## Panoramic Views

**Port of Valldemossa (Sa Marina).** 6 km away from the village, at the foot of the Serra de Tramuntana, accessed by a narrow and steep road, we find this small fishing port and a charming cove of crystalline waters. The Port of Valldemossa offers visitors a privileged environment.

**Mirador Puig de sa Moneda.** Sightseeing spot created by Archduke Luis Salvator, from which magnificent views to the coast and the village of Valldemossa. This viewpoint is located on the Urbanització George Sand, 3.5 km from the Vila of Valldemossa on Banyalbufar direction.

### Mirador Miranda des Lladoners.

Prime setting at the foot of the Royal Monastery and Palace King Sancho where the visitor can enjoy a unique view of Valldemossa village and the valley, through which the city of Palma can be seen.

## What to Visit

**Birthplace of Santa Catalina Thomas.** Birthplace of the most venerated saint in the island, Catherine Thomas who was born in Valldemossa in 1531. At an early age expressed her religiosity and her determination to join a monastic institution. 1553 Entered the Augustinian convent of Santa Maria Magdalena de Palma, where currently her incorrupt body can be worshiped.

**Real Cartuja.** This monastery, originally a royal residence, founded and inhabited by Carthusian monks since 1399-1835, hosted the pianist and Polish composer Frederick Chopin and George Sand, French writer in the winter 1838-1839. Its museum houses memorabilia of the romantic couple and samples of art and culture from the XV to XX.

**Palace of King Sancho.** Palace built by King James II for his son Sancho in Mallorca who reigned 1311-1324. From 1801-1802 D. Gaspar Melchor de Jovellanos (famous minister of King Charles IV) was imprisoned in the Tower until he was transferred to the Castillo de Bellver. In 1906 and 1913 these walls have housed the great Nicaraguan poet Ruben Dario Carthusian who sought great inspiration for his writings. Among the architectural elements should be highlighted the steps of the Ave Maria with its drawbridge and the Medallion of San Bruno (Jaume Blanquer, 1623), the "Torre dels host" and cloister of Santa Maria.

**Coll i Bardolet foundation.** This foundation aims to preserve, exhibit and publicize the pictorial work of Josep Coll Bardolet, illustrious son of Valldemossa, as well as his private collection owned by the foundation, and promote the fine arts in general. [www.fccollbardolet.org](http://www.fccollbardolet.org)

**Costa Nord.** Home to the Sustainable Foundation of the Balearic Islands. It was created by an initiative of the actor Michael Douglas, thanks to his meeting with the North Coast Mallorca and the trajectory of the Archduke Luis Salvator. In Costa Nord concert series, gastronomic events, exhibitions, plays, guided tours of the Serra de Tramuntana are held. [www.costanord.es](http://www.costanord.es)

**Ermita de Valldemossa.** Unique place for meditation of the spirit. Fabulous views over the Mediterranean. Respect the silence of the religious community. (Ctra Valldemossa-Deia, km. 4)

**Miramar.** Old Monastery founded by the philosopher Ramon Llull in 1276. Throughout the history passed through different hands, including those of various monastic orders: Cistercians, Dominicans, Jeromes, hermits, and so on. In 1485 the first printing of Majorca was settled. After a few centuries, in 1872, Archduke Luis Salvator of Austria bought it and made an important work of restoration. Unique place for meditation of the spirit. Fabulous views over the Mediterranean. Respect the silence of the religious community. (Valldemossa-Deia, km. 4) [www.sonmarroig.com](http://www.sonmarroig.com)

## Famous People

The village of Valldemossa has hosted throughout the story countless artists who would not escape the spell of this charming valley. Many of them continue working even now covered by the inspiration of its light.



**In first case we highlight the most relevant figure: Santa Catalina Thomàs, better known as the Beateta.** Born in Valldemossa in 1531, her exemplary life, compassionate has remained in the heart of the Mallorcan. Since her death she has been venerated as a saint. She was beatified in 1792. The town celebrates in her honor the most important festivity of the year.



**The Archduke Luis Salvador (S'Arxiduc).** He arrived in Mallorca for the first time in 1867. He established in Valldemossawith the acquisition of several properties and made important studies on the Mediterranean. His legacy: "Die in wörter Balearen und bild" was crucial to know and promote the Balearic Islands.



**Frédéric Chopin and George Sand (Aurore Dupin).** Polish composer born in Warsaw in 1810, spent three months in Valldemossa with his partner George Sand and her two children in a monastery cell at La Cartuja. Chopin composed several Preludes as well as other works. George Sand wrote the literary work "A Winter in Mallorca".



**Other important writers who have visited Valldemossa are Jorge L. Borges.** Argentine writer, one of the most outstanding authors of the twentieth century literature. **Rubén Darío.** The Nicaraguan poet, author of "island of gold" in reference to Mallorca, visited the island in 1906 and 1913, and **M. Gaspar de Jovellanos,** writer, politician and illustrated Spanish. He was banished to Mallorca for political reasons the first time in 1801 at the Royal Carthusian Monastery of Valldemossa, and subsequently transferred to prison Bellver Castle in the city of Palma.

**At the same time, Valldemossa has been a place of inspiration for both local and foreign painters and sculptors who have come to appreciate the light and the environment for the creation of their works. Prominent names such as** José María Alcover, Mónica Areilza, Nils Burwitz, Paco Carvajal, Josep Coll i Bardolet, Jaime Colorao, Bartomeu Ferrà, Rafa Forteza, Josep Guinovart, Erwin Hubert, James Lambourne, J.B. Laurens, Masaya, Eliseu Meifren, Pilar Montaner, Carlos Nogueira, Bernat Reüll, Santiago Rossiñol, Lourdes Sampol, John Sargent, Pedro & Jacobo Sureda, Margareth Sweeny, Claudio Torcigliani, Xim Torrens and Bruno Zupán. And also for the following musicians and performers, musical groups, dancers and writers as relevant as : José Carlos Llop, Bartomeu Calatayud, Bartomeu Estaràs - El Parado de Valldemossa, Els Valldemossa, Miquela Lladó, Ivan Martin, Ivan Nagy and Marilyn Burn, among others.

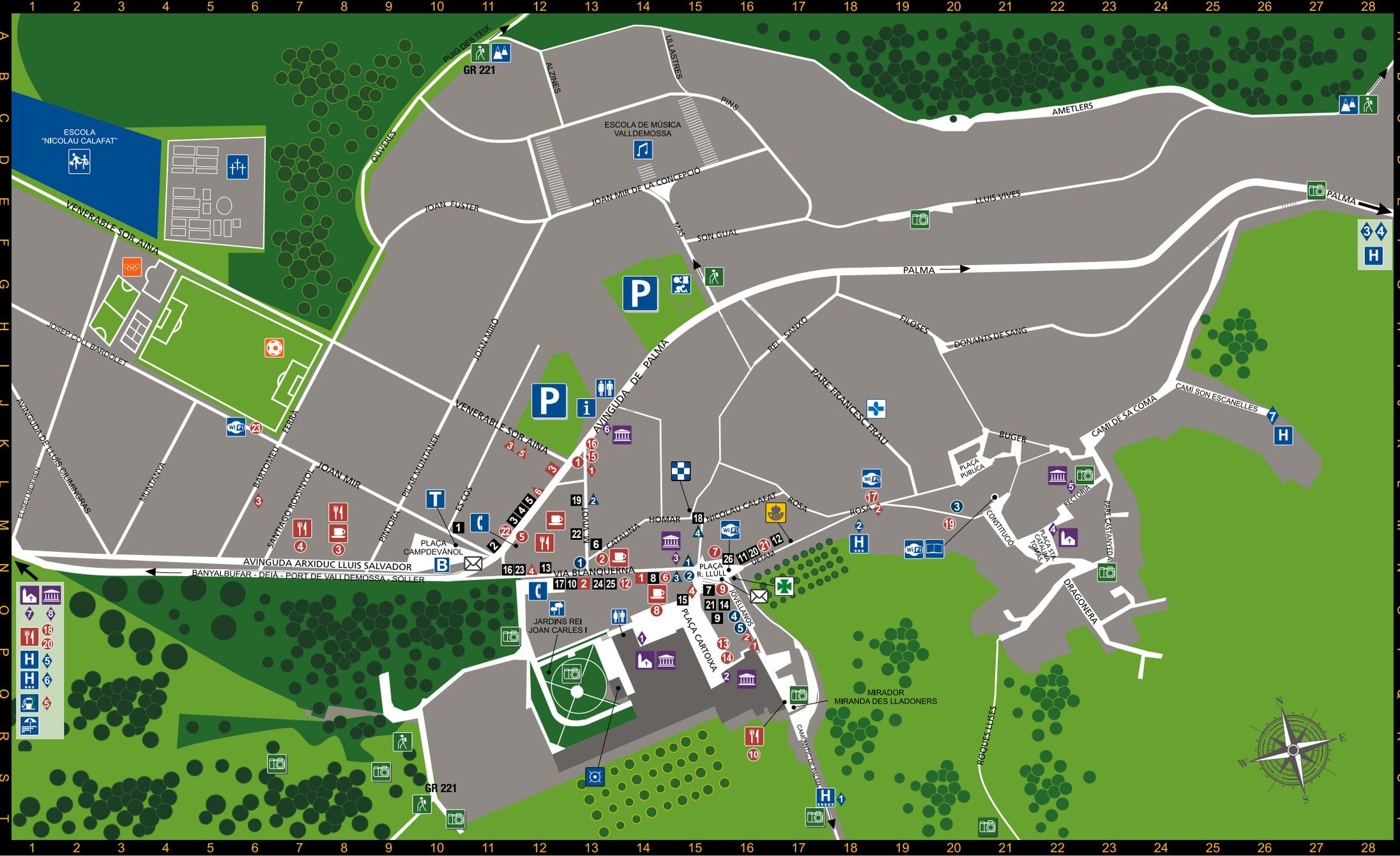


"The most beautiful place in the world"  
Frédéric Chopin

Valldemossa



Ajuntament  
de Valldemossa



Foundation: Unknown (Circa. 150aC) | Population: 1970 | Extension: 456 km<sup>2</sup> | Official languages: català i castellà | Economy: Tourism

- A TRACCIONS CULTURALS - ATRACCIONES CULTURALES - CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS - KULTURELLE ATTRAKTIONEN**
- 1 REAL CARTUJA DE VALLEMOSSA
- 2 PALACIO REY SANCHO
- 3 FUNDACIÓ CULTURAL COLL BARDOLET
- 4 ESGLÉSIA SANT BARTOMEU
- 5 CASA NATAL SANTA CATALINA THOMÀS
- 6 CENTRO CULTURAL COSTA NORD
- 7 ERMITA DE LA TRINITAT
- 8 MIRAMAR
- COMPRES - COMPRAS - SHOPPING - EINKAUFEN**
- ARTESANIA - ARTESANIA - CRAFTS & SOUVENIRS - KUNSTHANDWERK UND SOUVENIRS**
- 1 LA CARTUJA I
- 2 LA CARTUJA II
- 3 VENTAFOCs
- 4 THE MOON UNDER WATER
- 5 MIRAMAR
- 6 SAN BRUNO
- 7 CAPAMUNTA
- 8 BODEGAS CA'N GOTXO
- 9 PRELUDIOS
- 10 CALS TIOS
- 11 MUZA & CO
- 12 SLEEPING COMPANY
- 13 TOLEDO GOLD MALLORCA
- 14 ART NOSTRE
- 15 ES TEIX
- 16 LOVELY MALLORCA
- 17 I-BÉ
- 18 CA'N LLINÀS
- 19 ARTESAN
- 20 ES CASTANYER
- 21 BLAU MARÍ
- 22 LORENA'S CB
- 23 NATURALMENTE
- 24 ES MOLINET
- 25 SOUVENIR RIPOLL
- 26 SA CANTONADA
- MENJAR I BEURE - COMERY BEBER - EAT & DRINK - ESSEN UND TRINKEN**
- CAFETERIES, RESTAURANTS - CAFETERÍAS, RESTAURANTES - CAFETERIAS, RESTAURANTS - CAFÉS, RESTAURANTS**
- 1 BAR S'OLIVERA
- 2 BAR MERIENDAS
- 3 RESTAURANTE CA'N PEDRO
- 4 PIZZERIA VESUBIO
- 5 RESTAURANTE ES ROMANÍ
- 6 BAR RESTAURANTE SA FOGANYA
- 7 CAPPUCCINO GRAND CAFÉ
- 8 BAR LOS TILOS
- 9 RESTAURANTE SA COSTA
- 10 BAR LA MIRANDA
- 12 CAFETERIA Y PANADERIA CA'N MOLINAS
- 13 RESTAURANTE SA PICADA
- 14 RESTAURANTE ES ROQUISSAR
- 15 BAR SA MATA
- 16 BAR ARRAN DE CEL
- 17 AROMAS GRAND CAFÉ
- 18 RESTAURANTE CA'N COSTA
- 19 SA COVA DES VI
- 20 RESTAURANTE ES PORT
- 21 CA'N MARIÓ
- 22 GELATERIA
- 23 CAFETERIA BARDEMOSSA
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- 5 EL MERCADER DEL MEDITERRÁNEO
- MODA I CALÇAT - MODA Y CALZADO - SHOES & CLOTHING - MODE UND SCHUHE**
- 1 ALTER EGO BOUTIQUE
- 2 MIRINYAC ROBA D'AUTOR
- 3 HIPPIE CHIC
- 4 BLANC DU NIL
- 5 ZAPATERIA DIORIS
- 6 MIRAMAR ROPA
- JOIERIA I RELLOTGERIA - JOYERIA Y RELOJERIA - JEWELRY & WATCHES - SCHMUCK UND UHREN**
- 1 JOYERIA L'OR DE MALLORCA
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- www.gjvalldemossa.net
- www.infomallorca.net
- www.sonmarroig.com
- www.visitbalears.com
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- 6 HOTEL EL ENCINAR
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