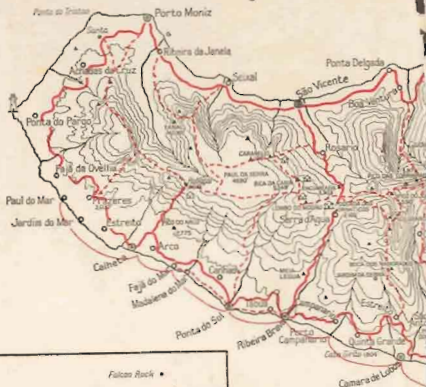
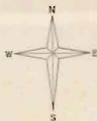


MADEIRA & THE CANARY ISLANDS

A Concise Guide for the Visitor



DONACIÓN
Cabildo Insular
de Gran Canaria

Abdullah Idriera



Cruzinhas do Faial, Madeira

Photo Perestrello

MADEIRA

AND THE

CANARY ISLANDS

A Concise Guide for the Visitor

BY
A. GORDON-BROWN,
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With
Photographs, Maps and Town Plans



BIENESTAR Y PROGRESO
LAS ISLAS DE CANARIA
N.º Edición <i>142895</i>
N.º Copia <i>10228</i>

Issued for

The Union-Castle Mail Steamship Company, Limited
(Registered in England)
2 & 4, St. Mary Axe, London, E.C.3

Third Edition—1963

Robert Hale Ltd., London



INTRODUCTION

After this he shall turn his face unto the Isles—Daniel xi 18

Madeira and the Canary Islands are among the most attractive holiday resorts in the world. They have been known to British travellers as health resorts for more than a century, but their fame is today rather as delightful Atlantic Islands in which, amid mild and sunny weather, one may escape the rigours of the European winter, or in which one may enjoy an outstanding holiday at any time of the year.

The facts are that normally visitors to Madeira or the Canary Islands will find long hours of sunshine, sparkling blue seas warmed by the Gulf Stream, and a climate never very hot nor very cold. They will find magnificent mountain and coastal scenery on a scale that seems incredible in such comparatively small islands, with excellent roads offering a wide variety of excursions into the interior. There are fine hotels, bright flowers and sub-tropical fruits, and a courteous, friendly people, whether Portuguese or Spanish, with interesting local customs.

This book is designed to tell the visitor what he will want to know, and has been compiled by the writer in many visits to the Islands and with the help of British residents and of Portuguese and Spanish friends.

Readers will appreciate that fares, tariffs, etc., where quoted are subject to alteration.

Suggestions for improvement in future editions or for eliminating errors will be much appreciated by the Author, who may be addressed c/o The Union-Castle Company, Ltd., 4, St. Mary Axe, London, E.C.3, or at P.O. Box 7, Cape Town.

London

January, 1963.

MADEIRA

I should think the situation of Madeira the most enviable on the whole earth. It ensures almost every European comfort together with almost every tropical luxury. The seasons are the youth, maturity and old age of a never ending still beginning spring.

Since H. N. Coleridge wrote these lines after his visit to Madeira in 1825, many writers have described the charm of Madeira ; its mountains and scenery ; its sparkling blue seas and generous sunshine ; its wealth of brilliant flowers and luscious fruit ; and its happy, good-natured people. Added to all this is the attraction of an ocean voyage to and from the Island, comfortable hotels, good food and willing service—surely almost everything that goes to make a holiday both delightful and memorable.

Geographical. Madeira is a Portuguese island lying in the Atlantic Ocean, some 340 miles from the coast of Morocco in North Africa. Distances in sea miles are: Southampton, 1,331 m.; Lisbon 535 m.; Azores, 480 m.; and Cape Town, 4,677 m.

Madeira is the largest and only important island in a small group of eight. The others, which will be mentioned later, are Porto Santo, the Desertas (3) and the Salvages (3).

Madeira at its greatest length and width is 35½ statute miles by 13½ miles, and has an area of about 240 square miles. The population is estimated at 300,000. It is of volcanic origin, more or less oval in shape, and consists for the most part of a ridge of mountains running east and west, with its highest point at Pico Ruivo, 6,104 ft. The island is cleft by many great ravines running down from the mountains, and fishing villages are usually found where these reach the sea.

While the coast lands generally are closely settled, with every available piece of land under cultivation, much of the interior of the island is wild and rugged with magnificent mountain scenery.

The coastline consists mostly of rocky cliffs or large boulders and except for a small cove at Prainha there are practically no sandy beaches.

Funchal, the port, capital and seat of Government, with about 100,000 inhabitants, is the only large or important town in Madeira.

The principal villages are Câmara de Lobos, Machico, Santa Cruz and Ribeira Brava.

Climate. Madeira's equable climate is largely due to the warm Gulf Stream which envelopes its shores, and tends to keep the temperature constant, so that there is relatively little variation between summer and winter. The climate naturally varies with the altitude, but at the coast it is mild and warm, averaging 17°F. higher than London. The heat is rarely oppressive, and the Island has long been famous with those who have sought to escape the English winter.

The rainfall in Funchal is about 22 inches a year ; it falls on an average of 48 days in heavy showers of short duration, with bright intervals between. March has the heaviest fall with over 4 in. ; April has just over 1 in. ; and from May to September it is trifling, with practically none at all in July and August. Between October and February rain falls on from five to seven days in each month, with a monthly average ranging from about 2½ in. to 3½ in.

The average temperature is Dec. to April 60° to 70°F.; July to Sept. 70° to 75°F.; Oct. to Dec. 65° to 70°F. Mean relative humidity (saturation=100) is 65·3, and the monthly average varies by only about one point above or below that figure.

During June and July there are occasional days when heavy clouds bank on the mountains above Funchal, and the weather may become somewhat oppressive. It is, however, during the summer months that expeditions into the interior may best be made.

The prevailing wind is from the north-east, and the atmosphere is remarkably free from dust. On rare occasions, during the summer months, a hot dry wind known as the *leste* blows across from the African desert, and may last one, three or five days.

The Winter Season, when visitors are most numerous in Madeira, extends from December to April, and the coolest months are January, February and March.

The most congenial climatic conditions are to be found in Funchal, which lies in a sheltered valley facing south, completely protected from the north wind.

The seawater temperature ranges from 60°F. to 70°F, being at its highest about September and lowest in March.

Flora. Flowers bloom in profusion throughout the year. Bougainvillea in many colours is perhaps the most striking feature of Madeira gardens, with most varieties in full flower from early summer. Wistaria blossoms from March to May; the Jacaranda from April to June; and the Magnolia Grandiflora is covered with huge white aromatic blooms from April to September. The blue Hydrangea, seen everywhere in the Island, flowers in July and retains its colour far into the autumn.

There are several varieties of orchid and a great variety of flowering bushes and trees—camellia, flamboyant, hibiscus, pride of Madeira, Indian crepe, etc. The beautiful night-flowering Cereus (Queen of the Night) flowers between July and September.

The Public Gardens, near the centre of the city, contain a large variety of plants and trees. Among the native trees found in Madeira are the Til (a species of laurel found only in Madeira and the Canaries), the Dragon Tree, Madeira Laurel and the Lily-of-the-Valley Tree; specimens of the first three of these are to be seen in the Public Gardens.

Good collections of trees and plants are also to be seen in the British Country Club and Casino Grounds and in the gardens of some of the hotels.

At the Quinta Reid—Bom Sucesso, formerly a private residence and now a Government botanical garden, are Madeira trees, plants, etc., also imported varieties, all properly labelled. This is situated on the east side of Madeira at about 1,000 ft. and may be reached by taxi from the Pier in ten minutes. Admission free.

In the older part of Funchal the gardens of private houses are usually concealed and the opening of a door in a high blank wall often reveals a charming old garden with bright flowers, and shady paths.

Most of the native plants are related to those found in south-west Europe, the Canaries and the Azores, but about a hundred, including three tree ferns, are found nowhere else.

The Giant Deserta Carrot, which resembles a small tree fern, grows on Deserta Grande and is not found anywhere else in the world.

Vegetation ranges from sub-tropical at the coast to sub-alpine on the peaks. Terraced cultivation is carried out up to almost 2,000 feet. For reference works see Bibliography.

Fauna. Apart from bats and seals, there are no mammals in Madeira other than those which have been introduced. There are a few rabbits, and wild goats are found on the neighbouring islands, the Desertas.

Over 200 varieties of birds have been collected, of which 36 breed on the Island. One hundred and fifty-seven varieties are migratory, mostly from the African coast. The long-toed wood pigeon is found only in Madeira. A good collection of local birds may be seen in the Museum.

Reptiles are limited to one variety of lizard (*Lacerta Dugestii*), which is very numerous in sunny gardens.

Insects are all harmless, but in the summer there are mosquitos and nets are sometimes used. There is no malaria.

Fish are found in great variety, and are mentioned on page 12.

Fruit, much of which is sub-tropical, is abundant throughout the year. Cherries and Apricots ripen between May and June; Pawpaws and Figs from June to October; Granadillas, Grapes and Melons from August to October; Avocado Pears, Mangoes and Guavas from September to December; Apples, Custard Apples and Pears from October to March; Oranges, Grape Fruit and Tangerines from November to January; Loquats from January to June; Strawberries from March to August; and Bananas all the year round.

Bananas grow well at low altitudes and large quantities are exported. The delicately flavoured silver banana is however not suitable for export. Other agricultural exports are onions, potatoes and canned butter. A little wheat and maize are grown for local consumption but the bulk of the island's requirements are imported.

The **Levadas** of Madeira are a system of some hundreds of miles of artificial watercourses, some of them very old, which carry water from the interior to many parts of the Island. They run for miles on ledges cut into the side of precipitous mountains and gorges, and sometimes pass through tunnels. The vegetation along these levadas is very luxuriant, often including masses of blue hydrangeas; and the narrow paths which run beside the water-courses open up magnificent and otherwise inaccessible scenery to the steady-nerved pedestrian. The network of old

levadas has been supplemented to meet the requirements of a small hydro-electric scheme which provides additional irrigation facilities as well as electric power. Electric light has been introduced in most of the villages.

Further hydro-electric developments are in progress by which water from the S. Jorge and Boaventura districts on the north of the island will be brought to the south by means of long tunnels piercing the central massif and debouching at Monte. The water will be used to irrigate the east of the island.

Language. The language of the inhabitants is Portuguese. English is understood at all the hotels, at most of the shops in Funchal and by many of the taxi drivers, so that language presents little difficulty to the English visitor. Outside Funchal, English is not usually understood.

The Inhabitants of Madeira. The people of Madeira are the descendants of the discoverers and colonists who originally came from Portugal, many of them members of noble families. Among the peasants, however, there are often traces of Moorish blood due to the introduction of slaves. They are simple, courteous and kindly people whose lives centre round their churches—nearly all are of the Roman Catholic faith—and the great occasions of the year for them are the Festas held in honour of Saints' Days.

These Festas are interesting to visitors, and are held at churches in various parts of the Island, mostly in summer months, and particularly in June and August. They often continue over two days, and are announced in the local newspapers. Though primarily of a religious character the Festas include, besides the decoration of the church with both flowers and illuminations, one or more bands, singing, dancing, feasting and fireworks. Stalls are erected for the sale of cakes, sweets, meat and wine.

The fondness of the Madeira people for noisy fireworks is quite remarkable, and vast numbers of rockets are set off at any time of the day from the localities where the Festas take place. A firework factory is established to the east of Funchal.

There is little comfort in the peasants' houses, and their food consists largely of maize porridge, sweet potatoes and occasional fish, with meat (usually pork) only on special occasions.

National dress is practically confined to the flower and curio sellers in Funchal; but the thick brown-woollen cap with ear-flaps

is widely worn in the country by men, and the half-boots with yellow calf-skin tops (botas) are frequently seen. Black is much favoured for clothes.

Picturesque Madeira folk dances are arranged occasionally in the hotels and elsewhere. The best known dancers come from the village of Camacha.

Local music is generally cheerfully boisterous and rhythmical, and the Portuguese folksong known as the "fado", usually a story of blighted love and misfortune, is not often heard in Madeira except perhaps in the night clubs.

The machete, a musical instrument resembling a ukulele, is peculiar to Madeira. The Brinco (brinquinho) is a contrivance shaped like a small Christmas tree on which are fastened dolls dressed like the dancers. A sliding attachment causes the dolls to keep time with the dancers and casinettes on their backs contribute to the music.

There is considerable emigration from Madeira to Brazil, Venezuela, South Africa, and other places, but it is the ambition of most of the emigrants to return to the Island and acquire a little property for themselves.

Real Estate in Madeira. There are no estate agents in Madeira and property transactions must be negotiated direct with the owner or his representative. The help of a Portuguese lawyer would be needed in connection with the transfer tax (8%) and registration. Land around Funchal is very costly, as much as from £5,000 to £25,000 per acre. A cottage on a small plot of land might cost £5,000, but the greatest care should be taken in checking drains, water, electricity, telephone connections, etc., before committing oneself. Indeed a substantial preliminary stay in the Island would be advisable before considering the purchase of property. Building costs are also very high, from about £4,000 for a small bungalow, and the assistance of a Portuguese architect would be necessary.

Government. Madeira is regarded as part of the mainland of Portugal and has three Deputies elected to the National Assembly,

The Civil Governor, who ranks as a Minister of State, controls all civil matters; and the Military Governor deals with matters relating to the garrison.

Both Governors have separate establishments and offices in the Palacio de São Lourenço.

The Junta Geral is the principal administrative body, and the equivalent of a local County Council. Government generally follows the same principles as in Portugal. Each District (Concelho), of which there are eleven, has its own Municipal Council. They are—with latest available population figures (Dec. 1950):—Funchal (95,765); Câmara de Lobos (27,388); Santa Cruz (27,368); Calheta (23,570); Machico (21,956); Ribeira Brava (20,500); Santana (15,663); Ponta do Sol (15,270); São Vicente (12,383); Porto Moniz (6,382); Porto Santo (2,934). Total population at July, 1962, about 300,000.

Historical.

- 1344 Machin Legend (see Index).
- 1418 Porto Santo discovered.
- 1419 João Goncalves Zarco, Portuguese navigator, discovered Madeira (uninhabited and covered with forests).
- c. 1460 Vine introduced from Crete.
- 1566 Three French vessels under De Montluc ravaged Funchal.
- 1582 Portugal, and with it Madeira, passed into Spanish hands.
- 1640 Madeira evacuated by Spain.
- 1660 Marriage of Charles II of England with Catherine of Braganza, when special privileges were given to English settlers in Madeira.
- c. 1660–1835 British Factory established at Madeira.
- 1775 Slave traffic prohibited.
- 1801–02 } Madeira garrisoned by British troops.
- 1807–14 }
- 1834 Monasteries (4) and nunneries (3) suppressed. Monks ejected but nuns allowed to die out.
- 1874 Telegraphic communication established with Europe.
- 1902 Madeira granted self-government by Royal Decree.
- 1910 Portugal, and Madeira with it, became a Republic.
- 1916 and 1917 Funchal bombarded by German submarines.
- In 1931 political malcontents stirred up trouble with the result that the Island revolted against the Lisbon Government for one month at the end of which the revolution was crushed.
- 1943 2,000 Inhabitants of Gibraltar evacuated to Madeira.

Madeira Wines. Vines were introduced into Madeira from Cyprus and Crete within a few years of the discovery of the Island in 1418. The wine had a European reputation by the middle of the 17th century and is referred to by Shakespeare in *Henry IV*; but the industry suffered a heavy set-back from 1580-1640 when Portugal and Madeira fell under the domination of Spain.

In 1665 Charles II of England prohibited the export of any goods to the West Indies and America unless they were shipped from an English Port in an English vessel, but he made an important exception in favour of the wines of Madeira and the Azores. This enabled the Madeira wine merchants to sell to ships calling at the Island, and the trade enjoyed considerable prosperity during the 18th century. In consequence the wine became well known in America and in the *East and West Indies*. Incidentally some of the British firms of wine merchants date back to before 1750.

The temporary occupation of the Island by British troops in 1807-1814 led to a great increase in the wine's popularity in England, which continued until 1852. In that year the vineyards of the Island were almost destroyed by *Oldium Tuckerii*, a fungus blight, and again in 1873 the vineyards suffered a further disaster from the insect pest *Phylloxera Vastatrix*.

The three principal types of grape which have been produced in Madeira for centuries are Sercial, Boal and Malvazia. The wines made from these are Sercial, a pale dry wine often used as an aperitif; Boal, fuller and medium sweet; and Malmsey, made from the Malvazia grape, a sweet wine. Since the *Oldium* blight of 1852, the Verdelho grape has been popular; from this the medium dry Verdelho wine is produced.

All varieties of Madeira are fortified wines of the heavier type. No light table wines are made as the grapes are unsuitable.

East Indies Madeira or Vinho da Roda, at one time much prized, was wine which had been carried in a sailing ship to the East Indies and back. The wine was greatly improved by its long journey in a warm hold; to-day, however, the same results are obtained *scientifically*.

Most wines tend to deteriorate after a certain age, but Madeira continues to improve and it is still possible to obtain it in very small quantities as old as 150 years.

The vintage takes place in late August and September, and visitors to Madeira at this time should not miss this picturesque

event—consult Hotel or Tourist Bureau. The crushing is mainly done with the feet. From the remote districts the new wine is still carried in goatskins (about 9 gals.) slung across the shoulders of the *borracheiros* (wine carriers), who walk in single file along the *levada* paths singing lustily.

Wine is sold wholesale by the pipe (92 gals.) or by the case, and the annual export is in the vicinity of seven to eight thousand pipes.

The best market for Madeira wine is in Scandinavia, and its popularity in the United Kingdom is increasing.

Sugar Cane was imported in the first half of the 15th century and sugar was for a long time the principal industry of Madeira. The first plantation was at Funchal on the site now occupied by the Cathedral and its surrounding streets; and, incidentally, the arms of the city of Funchal are five sugar loaves. Some 6,500 hectares (about 16,000 acres) are now under cane, which is grown on the south side of the Island up to altitudes of 1,000 feet, and the crop normally yields some 4,600 tons of refined sugar.

The sugar factory is owned by Messrs. W. Hinton & Sons, who are pleased to allow visitors to see the crushing, which usually takes place from March to June. The whole crop is consumed locally.

A certain proportion of the cane is made into brandy for local use.

Embroidery. This industry, for which Madeira is famous, was commenced by a Miss Phelps, an English lady, in 1856. There is now a substantial export, especially to the United States.

Over 40,000 women and girls are engaged in embroidery work throughout the Island, and it is a common sight in the afternoons to see them sitting working in groups outside their cottages. Designing, organising and distributing Madeira needlework provides employment for over 2,000 persons. There are embroidery schools at Machico and Camara de Lobos.

The usual procedure is for the factory to issue to the women the material on a piecework basis with the design ready transferred on to it. When it is completed the article is returned to the factory, where the cutting out is done and it is laundered ready for sale. The cash received by the women for their work pays

an important part in the economy of the Island peasants, who otherwise are for the most part dependent upon what they grow.

Material is usually of good quality, the linen being imported from Ireland, and the designs are generally the work of experts.

Woollen tapestry and petit point work is also made.

Wicker-work. Camacha, a village to the east of Funchal where osiers grow to perfection, is the centre of this industry. Well designed chairs, baskets and other articles are made both for sale locally and for export, and visitors may see the work in progress.

Other Manufacturers of Interest to the Visitor. These are mainly plaited straw hats, pottery, inlaid wooden cigarette boxes, etc., feather flowers, miniature wine barrels, model ships, and articles of national costume, such as local half-boots and caps. Good photographic postcards of the Island are obtainable. Attractive postcard reproductions of old coloured prints of Madeira are obtainable from the Tourist Bureau.

Fishing. Big game fish caught some six miles off the shore include Tunny, Bonito and the sporting Blue Fish. Large fish occasionally met in deep water are the Swordfish, Giant Tunny and Blue Shark. Closer inshore are found the Barracuda and the Marbled Sea Perch.

Mr. Afonso Coelho of Messrs. Blandy Brothers & Co. Lda. will assist visitors in arranging fishing parties, but facilities at the present time are very limited.

A modern motor launch, the "Altair", sponsored by the Tourist Bureau, has been specially built for the use of visitors. It is suitable for deep-sea fishing, sightseeing, etc. Charge per day (3 hours' sailing) Esc. 800\$00; per hour additional Esc. 160\$00. Normal complement ten passengers.

The principal commercial fish is the espada, a local fish caught 3 miles off-shore at depths below 300 fathoms. A line with 150 hooks is used. Other fish commonly caught, in addition to tunny, are cherna and grey mullet, and in nets the mackerel and chicharro.

There is a small whaling industry with a factory at Caniçal. Sperm and occasionally fin-back whales are caught and processed for oil and meat.

Sea Travel.

England to Madeira. Mail vessels of the Union-Castle Line en route to South Africa sail from Southampton to Madeira every alternate Thursday at 4 p.m. and arrive in Funchal Bay on the following Sunday afternoon. Northbound vessels leave Madeira for Southampton every alternate Monday afternoon and dock at Southampton the following Friday morning. A passenger travelling both ways by Union-Castle could therefore return after one, fifteen or twenty-nine days. These mailships for South Africa maintain a weekly service, calling alternately at Madeira and Las Palmas. Occasionally southbound vessels make calls additional to the fortnightly schedule, sometimes making possible stays of eight or twenty-two days.

Although it is only possible to carry Madeira passengers when the ships are not fully booked to South Africa, the Union-Castle Company endeavour to meet the demand by setting aside some first class accommodation solely for Madeira by sailings at certain times during the year. Passages to Madeira can, of course, be booked at other times if accommodation is available.

Bergen Line, m.s. *Venus*, of the Bergen Steamship Company, Limited, 21-24, Cockspur Street, London, S.W.1, runs between Southampton and Madeira every eight days during the Autumn Season.

The Greek Line operates the Q.S.S. *Arkadia* sailing from Southampton regularly during the period December/April on cruise voyages calling at Madeira, Teneriffe, Las Palmas and occasional calls at Casablanca and Tangier.

Elder Dempster Lines call monthly at Madeira on their way to and from London with their steamers *Winneba* and *Calabar*, trading to the West Coast of Africa.

Booth Line vessels, operating from Liverpool via Lisbon, make monthly calls at Madeira.

Cruising vessels, both from Europe and the United States, frequently call at the Island, but do not normally accept passengers destined for Madeira.

Lisbon to Madeira. The Empresa Insulana de Navegação operates a regular service with the 10,000 ton vessel, *Funchal*, carrying first and tourist class passengers and making the crossing in about 26 hours. This Company also operates the *Carvalho Araujo*, another passenger vessel of 4,500 tons, and cargo vessels with limited second class passenger accommodation (*Lima* 4,000 tons, *Madalena* and *Gorgulho* 1,200 tons).

It is advisable to enquire from the Head Office of the *Empreza Insulana de Navegação*, Rua Augusta 152, Lisbon, or from Blandy Brothers & Co. Lda., Madeira, as the sailings of all these vessels are subject to alteration.

Two other Portuguese Lines have sailings from Lisbon to Portuguese African Colonies or Brazil which call at Madeira.

They are :—

Cia. Nacional de Navegação, Rua do Comercio No. 85, Lisbon.

Cia. Colonial de Navegação, Rua São Julião No. 63, Lisbon.

This Company has a 22,000 ton vessel sailing monthly from Port Everglades (Miami, U.S.A.) for Teneriffe, Madeira and Lisbon, returning by the same route.

Agents in Madeira for all the above Lines, both British and Portuguese, are Messrs. Blandy Brothers & Co. Lda., except for the *Cia. Nacional de Navegação*, agents *Empreza Funchalense de Cabotagem* (in Blandy's building) and the *Cia. Colonial de Navegação*, agents Messrs. João de Freitas Martins, Lda.

Madeira to Canary Islands. Certain of the Mail Vessels of the Union-Castle Line call at both Madeira and Las Palmas.

Blue Star Line vessels sail every three weeks from London to Lisbon, Madeira and the Canary Islands during December–June; from these ports to London every three weeks October–March.

Companhia Colonial de Navegação, vessels to and from Teneriffe once monthly.

Companhia Nacional de Navegação, a vessel every other month from Teneriffe or Las Palmas alternately.

Greek Line, Q.S.S. *Arkadia*, December–April only, approximately every ten days to Teneriffe and Las Palmas.

Empresa Insulana de Navegação, m.s. *Funchal* twice monthly to and from Teneriffe.

Madeira to Porto Santo. Small steamers carry passengers between Funchal and Porto Santo (39 m.). Departures from Funchal all the year round on Fridays or Saturdays, and during the summer months on both Fridays and Saturdays. Return sailings every Tuesday and occasionally on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. There are other opportunities by launch. Accommodation on Porto Santo is very limited.

The vessel *Lisbonense* leaves Funchal on Sundays and Thursdays—and on other days as necessary—at 8 a.m. to connect with air services to and from Porto Santo, arriving there at 12.30 p.m. Leaves Porto Santo 3 p.m., due Funchal 7.30 p.m. It is necessary to purchase tickets the previous day. First class fare 123\$60 each way.

Coastal Steamers operate between Funchal and about seven little ports around the south west coast of Madeira. Details are given under Local Transport.

Air Service. The Portuguese Company, TAP, operates flights between Lisbon and Porto Santo on Sundays and in conjunction with BEA, maintain a weekly service on Thursdays between London, Lisbon and Porto Santo. The new air strip at Santa Catarina, in Madeira should be in use by 1963. See also under Porto Santo.

Transport to Madeira. Madeira's only railway, a cog-railway which ran from Funchal up to the Monte and Terreiro da Lucta, no longer exists.

Roads, suitable for motoring and finely engineered to overcome tremendous natural obstacles, serve most parts of Madeira.

Bus Services connect all the principal centres of the Island with Funchal, and it is possible, by careful planning, to travel over a large part of Madeira by bus at quite low cost. The shorter journeys, such as to Câmara, Caniço and Monte, present no difficulty as services are fairly frequent. The long-distance services from Funchal on the south coast to São Vicente, Ponta Delgada, Santana and Porto da Cruz on the north side of the Island and to Prazeres and Porto Moniz on the western extremity, have the disadvantage to the visitor of being planned largely to meet the requirements of the country people who want to come into Funchal for the day. Thus there are departures from the outlying centres to Funchal in the early hours of the morning and the buses from Funchal to the country mostly leave in the afternoons. Visitors who intend making use of this form of transport should consult the Visitors' Enquiry Office (see p. 30).

Bus seats are numbered and passengers who have booked in advance—and it is usual to buy tickets in advance even for local journeys—are required to occupy the seats corresponding with the number on the tickets. For long journeys it is essential

to obtain tickets in advance, preferably the previous day. It is necessary to enquire the whereabouts of the booking office for the route required and the starting place of the bus.

Excursions by Motor Coach

The following excursions are arranged by the Companhia de Automoveis de Turismo, Lda., Rua Dr. Fernão de Ornelas, Funchal. Days, places and times of departure should be confirmed with Hotel Porters or Tourist Authorities:—

Monday: Câmara d'Lobos - Cabo Girão - Ribeira Brava - Serra de'Agua - Encumeada-Funchal. Dep. 9.30 a.m., return 4.30 p.m.	Fare Esc. 70\$00
Tuesday: Camacha-Santo da Serra-Portela - Machico - Santa Cruz - Caniço - S. Gonçalo-Funchal. Dep. 2.30 p.m.; return 7.00 p.m.	50\$00
Wednesday: Câmara de Lobos - Estreito - Cabo Girão - S. Martinho - Pico dos Barcelos - Santo Antonio - Funchal. Dep. 2.30 p.m.; return 5.00 p.m. . .	40\$00
Thursday and Saturday: Pico dos Barcelos- Lombo da Estrela-Eira do Cerrado- Largo Antonio Nobre-Funchal. Dep. 2.30 p.m.; return 5.00 p.m.	25\$00
Friday: Monte-Terreiro da Lucta-Poiso- Ribeira Frio - Paial - Porto da Cruz - Portela - Machico - Santa Cruz - Caniço - S. Gonçalo - Funchal. Dep. 9.30 a.m.; return 6.00 p.m.	70\$00
Sunday: To the Mount Church and Babosas Terrace, return by running sleigh to Funchal and coach to hotel. Dep. 2.30 p.m.; return 5.00 p.m. Fare incl. sleighs	48\$00

A local bus, No. 83, is very useful to visitors as it carries them for 1\$00 from a point on the Cathedral side of Zarco's Statue to the top of the hill near the hotels. Departures on the hour and at 40 minutes past.



16A

Funchal Bay from the East

Photo Perestrello



Camara de Lobos

Launch Services. Services for passengers and cargo operate from the Pier.

Westward from Funchal. Launches run to Câmara de Lobos, Campanário, Ribeira Brava, Ponta do Sol, Fajã do Mar, Calheta and Paul do Mar. The boat makes the return journey to Paul do Mar in one day, leaving at 8.15 a.m. and arriving back at 5 p.m. Faro Esc. 11\$00 each way.

On weekdays there are one morning and two afternoon departures from Funchal to Câmara de Lobos. Fare Esc. 2\$50.

NOTE.—All the above information is, of course, subject to alteration and readers are asked to check it either with the Tourist Bureau or with their Hotel Office.

It should be practicable by starting early to go by bus from Funchal to Calheta and return by launch, or vice versa. Other shorter and perhaps preferable trips are from Funchal to Câmara de Lobos or Ribeira Brava. Visitors will find the Tourist Bureau ready to make suggestions along these lines and in any case the times should be worked out in advance.

Self-Drive Cars may be hired by visitors staying in the Island (not in transit passengers). Valid driving licences issued in Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Greece, Holland, Italy, Israel, Luxemburg, Morocco, Monaco, Republic of South Africa, Sweden, Syria, Turkey and U.S.A. may be used by tourists for driving in Madeira. Rate of hire Esc.3\$00 per kilometre, *minimum charge 60 kms. per day*, Esc.180\$00, inclusive of petrol, oil and Third Party Insurance only.

Taxis with four and six seats may be hired. Fares for long trips should be agreed in advance. Cars are usually modern and competently driven; any tendency towards reckless driving should be checked at once. The six-seaters are substantially more expensive.

Bullock Cars. These are canopied sleighs drawn by two oxen, which glide smoothly over the cobble stooes. They carry four passengers on upholstered wicker seats.

Hammocks may still be hired through Hotels or the Tourist Bureau, and are sometimes used on trips through the mountains.

Toboggans are used for passengers descending from Terreiro da Lucta and the Monte. They consist of wicker chairs holding two people and fixed to runners, and are guided down the steep cobbled roads by two men who run behind holding cords attached to the front of the runners. Owing to the proximity of the passengers to the ground, the noise of the runners on the cobbles, and the steepness and narrowness of the roads, there is a definite impression of speed ; however, the toboggans are never allowed to go faster than the men can run and are perfectly safe.

Sledges of various kinds are used for the conveyance of goods.

Clothing. Summer weight clothes are suitable all the year round, though warm garments are always desirable for excursions into the mountains, when pullovers or coats are useful. In winter months suits of normal English weight will be wanted on the cooler days.

Dressing for dinner is optional though customary at the principal hotels only.

Shorts are not worn by the Portuguese, either ladies or gentlemen, but there is no reason why visitors should not wear them when in their hotel grounds and for tennis.

Two-piece bathing costumes should not be worn at the Lido or other public bathing place, but are in general use in the hotel pools, etc.

As many of the streets and paths are paved with slippery cobble stones, visitors are strongly advised to bring with them rubber-soled shoes.

Health. Visitors are warned against over-exposure to the sun which is often harmful, even though precautions be taken by means of sunburn oil, etc.

Occasionally visitors are troubled with upset stomachs. This is generally attributable to chills contracted when bathing or sunbathing or to indulging too freely in local fruits. It is not serious, but should be treated promptly.

Water-borne sewerage is installed in Funchal.

Drinking Water in the Funchal hotels is perfectly safe, but outside recognised establishments care should be taken, and it may be advisable to drink tea, coffee or mineral waters.

Banking and Currency. There are four Banks represented in Madeira, and a list is given under Funchal.

The monetary unit is the Escudo. The rate of exchange at time of going to press is Esc. 80\$17 = £1 British sterling, but this rate only applies to Travellers' Cheques which are endorsed by the issuing Bank for External Account. Travellers' Cheques, unless endorsed for External Account, cannot be cashed in Madeira. One conto (1,000\$00) amounts to £12 10s. 0d.

United Kingdom Defence (Finance) Regulations. All sea and air passages in respect of travel by British ships and aircraft may be paid for in resident sterling so that the whole of the £250 Foreign Travel Allowance to each adult passenger (£70 for children) is available for use in Madeira. Additional foreign exchange may be granted in cases where travel is necessitated by ill health.

Persons intending to reside in Madeira should consult their bankers regarding the Bank of England regulations affecting emigrants.

Hotels, Boarding Houses, etc. A full list of Hotels suitable for tourists will be found under Funchal. The principal hotels are situated to the west of Funchal and within from half to one mile from the city. The standard of comfort, attention and catering is generally very good.

In addition to the hotels at Funchal, there are small country pensions or boarding houses at Caniço (Pension grade 2); Faial (Pension grade 2); Machico (Pension grade 1); Ribeira Brava (Pension); Santa Cruz (Pension grade 2), Santana (Pension grade 2); Santo da Serra (Pension grade 2); Terreiro da Lucta (Pension grade 2). See also under Porto Santo.

Tariffs are subject to 10% service charge and 3% tourism tax.

Renting Houses. It is not easy to rent house accommodation and there are no estate agents. A modest furnished home for a small family might cost from Esc. 2,500\$00 (£31 5s.) per month upwards depending on locality. Wages for a maid from Esc. 400\$00 and for cooks from Esc. 600\$00 per month, according to experience and references, plus at least Esc. 300\$00 per month for food. Gardeners Esc. 35\$00 to Esc. 40\$00 per day.

Intending residents should stay at an hotel until they have found for themselves suitable house accommodation.

Rest Houses are established at Bica da Cana on Paul da Serra (5,248 ft.); Caramujo (4,100 ft.); Rabaçal (3,510 ft.); Queimadas de Santana (2,952 ft.); Pico Ruivo (6,104 ft.); Ribeiro Frio (2,900 ft.); and Pousada dos Vinhaticos (2,164 ft.) near Serra d'Água.

Those at Pousada dos Vinhaticos and Pico Ruivo belong to the Official Tourist Bureau, and the others to the Junta Geral.

Details of the accommodation together with the necessary permission to occupy the Rest Houses may be obtained from the Official Tourist Bureau in Funchal.

Cost of Living. The tariffs of the hotels compare very favourably with those in the United Kingdom offering similar standards of accommodation. Generally speaking the cost of living approximates to that in England. There is no tax (at time of going to press) on income received from abroad.

The principal expenditure of the tourist staying in Madeira, apart from his hotel, purely personal expenses and purchases at the shops, would be on motor hire or other transport.

Shopping. Shops are generally good and well stocked, and all normal visitors' needs are obtainable locally. Chemists carry a good range of the more usual proprietary lines of medicines, etc., and prescriptions can be made up.

The embroidery and curio shops are the principal attraction.

Hairdressing Saloons for both ladies and gentlemen are available.

The principal British brands of cigarettes and tobacco are to be had more cheaply than in the United Kingdom. Several brands of cigarettes and pipe tobaccos are made locally. The cost is modest and visitors who would like to try them should seek advice at their hotels.

Imported spirits are plentiful but expensive. Madeira wine of quality is easily obtainable and there are plenty of Portuguese table wines at reasonable prices.

Usual sizes of photographic film are obtainable in Madeira both for ordinary and cine cameras. Developing and printing are carried out expeditiously.

There are two well stocked antique shops in Funchal.

Early Closing Day. Government Offices and shops are usually open all day on Saturdays, but commercial offices close on Saturday afternoons. Most shops engaged in tourist trade are open whenever a passenger vessel is in port, but otherwise they close from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on weekdays.

Public Holidays. 1 January, New Year's Day; 10 June, Camoes Day; 15 August, Assumption Day; 5 October, Heroes of the Republic; 1 November, All Saints' Day; 1 December, National Independence; 8 December, Patron of Portugal; 25 December, Christmas. Movable holidays: Good Friday and Corpus Christi. 1 May is a Town Holiday in Funchal.

Weights and Measures. The metric system is used both in Madeira and in the Canary Islands. 1 kilo is the equivalent of 2.2 lb. approx.; 1 litre = 1½ pints approx.; 1 metre = 3.28 ft., and 8 kilometres = 5 miles approx. A hectare = 2.471 acres.

Standard Time is one hour behind Greenwich. Summer Time is advanced by one hour from 1 April to 7 October (approx.), bringing it to Greenwich Time. Timetables, etc., give times on the Continental 24-hour system.

Postal Rates from Madeira.

		<i>Letters up to 20 gm.</i>	<i>Additional Postcards 20 gm.</i>	
United Kingdom	Surface	2550	1550	1550
	Air	3550	2550	2550
Portugal	Surface	1500	1500	550
	Air	1550	1550	1500
Republic of S. Africa	Surface	2550	1550	1550
	Air	4530	1580	3530
United States	Air	4530	1580	3530

Air Mail rates for S. Africa and U.S.A. are per 5 gm.
Cables rates unchanged.

Cable Rates from Madeira.

	<i>Ordinary (per word min. 7 words)</i>	<i>E.L.T. (22 words)</i>
To Great Britain	3520	35520
Republic of S. Africa	12515	(L.T.) 134520

The General Post Office is on the left of the Avenue just above Zarco's Statue.

Telephones. Automatic telephones now connect Funchal with most parts of the Island. Overseas telephone facilities are available with Europe and America but atmospheric conditions often cause delay.

Wireless. Most of the hotels have wireless sets on which the B.B.C. news may be heard.

Customs Regulations do not usually affect the ordinary visitor making a short stay in the Island and carrying only normal personal effects. It is not advisable to land with more than a very small quantity of cigarettes or tobacco or to bring anything—especially fabrics—which might be presumed to be intended for sale or as gifts in Madeira.

Household effects, in the case of intending residents, may, with the necessary Portuguese Consular Authority, be taken into Madeira free of duty. Enquiries as to formalities should be made well in advance and care must be taken to comply exactly with Portuguese requirements.

The expenses in connection with the temporary importation of cars with International Triptyque would probably be in the vicinity of £8 on landing and again on shipping.

Passports and Visas. All visitors to Madeira must carry current passports. These must have been vised for Madeira by a Portuguese Consul (fee about £1 0s. 3d., allowing visit of 60 days) unless the passport is British, American, Austrian, Belgian, Canadian, Danish, Eire, French, Greek, Italian, Lichtenstein, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norwegian, Swedish, Swiss, West German, Brazillian, Maltese, Monaco and Spanish. A British passport is one which is stamped "British Passport" on the cover and describes the holder as a "British Subject." South African and Rhodesian passports require a visa. Passengers requiring but not holding visas will not be allowed to land. The 60-day period may be extended on application to the International Police (P.I.D.E.), but failure to make this request involves payment of a fine.

Police requirements in regard to registration of visitors are usually attended to by the hotel office.

Transit passengers who go ashore for a few hours from passing ships merely require landing cards. These are provided by the Purser's Department. They must also carry their passports with them.

Embarkation Taxes. These are complicated and liable to alteration, but briefly visitors returning to Europe or the Mediterranean after a stay of less than 30 days pay; 1st class Esc. 50\$00; 2nd class Esc. 30\$00; Tourist class Esc. 15\$00. These are plus 3% Stamp Tax (on passage money) and Local Taxes of Esc. 22\$00.

Passengers staying 30 days or more and those proceeding to any port pay 5% Embarkation Tax, 3% Stamp Tax and Esc. 22\$00 Local Taxes. Children up to nine years, 3% on value of passage money.

The 3% Stamp Tax is not levied on single or return passages paid for outside Portugal (which includes Madeira).

Residents. For persons wishing to live in the Island it is necessary to apply for a Residence Visa, and the application has to be supported at the Head Office of the Lisbon International Police (P.I.D.E.) by a reputable resident or firm in Madeira or Lisbon.

Application should be made to the Portuguese Consul nearest to where the intending resident lives, and in no circumstances will the Portuguese Authorities entertain an application made by a person who has already arrived in Portugal or Madeira.

Possession of a Resident Visa does not entitle the holder to be employed in Portugal; for this purpose a Work Permit is also required. This is difficult to obtain.

Education. There is a small kindergarten school for British children up to school age, after which they are usually sent to England.

Churches. Church of England and Presbyterian Churches. *See under Funchal.*

Roman Catholic Churches are numerous, but no services are conducted in English. English-speaking priests and Sisters of Cluny and of the Franciscan Order of Mary are available.

Consulates are maintained by the Governments of Great Britain and Brazil. Other leading countries are represented by Acting Consuls.

Doctors and Dentists. There are no British doctors or dentists in Madeira, but there are several qualified Portuguese practitioners and specialists, some of whom speak English.

There are three fully equipped Nursing Homes (Portuguese).

Bibliography.

The following are useful books on Madeira written in English. Those marked with an asterisk were still in print at time of going to press :—

- Madeira : Its Flowering Plants and Ferns*, by Michael Grabham, H. K. Lewis & Co., Ltd. 1942.
- * *A Glimpse of Madeira*, by Cecil H. Miles, Peter Garnett. 1949. 15s.
- Brown's Madeira, Canary Islands and Azores* (last edn. 1932), Simpkin, Marshall, Ltd.
- * *Power's Guide to Madeira*, Geo. Philip & Son. 1951. 10s.
- Madeira, Its Climate and Scenery*, by J. Yate Johnson, 3rd edn. 1885. Still a most useful book.
- * *Portugal and Madeiro*, by Sacheverell Sitwell, Batsford Ltd. 18s.
- * *Spain and Portugal*, edited by Eugene Fodor. Fodor's Modern Guides, Newman Neame Ltd., London (Revised annually).

Map. A large two-sheet coloured ordnance survey map of the Island, 1 : 50,000, is obtainable from the local booksellers, who also carry a good selection of books on Madeira both in English and Portuguese.

Very useful maps and plans are issued free by the Official Tourist Bureau.

Other Islands of the Madeira Group.

Porto Santo, the only inhabited island besides Madeira, is 23 m. north-east of the nearest point of Madeira and 39 m. from Funchal. It is seen from the mail vessel before arriving at Funchal outward and after leaving it homeward bound. Porto Santo is about 6½ m. long by 3 m. wide, and has a population (1950) of 2,934. The highest point is 1,438 ft. There is one village, Vila, where Christopher Columbus once lived (see Index). At the eastern end on Ilheo de Cima is a lighthouse.

An aerodrome on Porto Santo takes aircraft up to Comet jets. An aerodrome on Madeira to accommodate up to Viscount aircraft is under construction at Santa Catarina near the town of Santa Cruz, about 14 miles east of Funchal. It is due for completion mid-1963. At time of writing air passengers for Madeira travel by sea from Porto Santo to Funchal (crossing takes 4½-5 hrs.)

There is a new 1B grade hotel, the Porto Santo, with 142 rooms; also a small pension.

The Desertas are the three islands visible from Funchal to the south-east, about 18 m. distant from the nearest point. Looking at them from left to right (actually N.N.W. to S.S.W.) they are Ilheo Chão, Deserta Grande and Bugio.

Ilheo Chão is 316 ft. high and about a mile long. On its northern side is a pinnacle known as Sail Rock which bears some resemblance to a ship under sail, and there is a legend that it was fired on by a warship for failing to reply to a signal.

Deserta Grande is about 6½ m. long by one mile at its greatest width. It has one practicable landing place, and was formerly inhabited. The highest point is 1,618 ft. The island is occasionally visited by sportsmen in search of wild goats.

Bugio is about 4½ m. by half a mile wide, with its highest point 1,350 ft.

The Salvages are a group of three small islands between Madeira and the Canaries, 156 m. distant from Funchal. Expeditions to the Great Salvage were made in 1830 and 1890 in unsuccessful endeavours to discover treasure said to have been buried there by Capt. Wm. Kidd, the pirate (1645-1701). There are still traces of the treasure seekers, and the islands have some interest for botanists. There is no permanent population.

FUNCHAL

Funchal, capital city and port of Madeira, has a population of 95,765. The British residents number about 200.

Hotels In Funchal	Category	No. of Beds
Reid's	Luxury B	228
Santa Isabel	1A	136
New Avenue	1A	100
Savoy	1A	366
Golden Gate (in city) ..	1B	62
Atlantic	2	60
Miramar	2	45
Pensão Monte Rosa ..	1	84
Vila Adelaide	1	8
Pensão Santos	1	22
Pensao Astoria (in city)	2	32
Pensao Zarco (in city) ..	2	63

There are other Pensions in Category 3.

Hotels all lie to the west of the centre of the city, except for four in the city itself. Reduced terms are usually quoted for the summer season, May to November. A service charge of 10 per cent. and 3 per cent. Tourism Tax is generally added to accounts.

En pension terms include a Continental breakfast, lunch, tea and dinner.

Some Notes on the Funchal Hotels

The positions of the hotels will be found on the Map of *Western Funchal* on page 54.

Reid's Hotel, Map reference No. 14, is situated on the west side of Funchal on a prominent cliff overlooking the sea and

harbour. Lifts serve all floors. Extensive sub-tropical gardens and two hard tennis courts. The private swimming pool, sea-bathing facilities and sun bathing terraces are reached by lift from the lower part of the gardens. Own water-skiing. Billiards, radio, bridge room, etc. Orchestra nightly in the dining room and in the bar, both of which have spacious dance floors. Summer pavilion open for breakfast and lunch July to September inclusive. Accommodation extensively modernised. Languages: English, Portuguese, French and Italian. Transfer charge Esc. 40 (10s.) per person from ship to hotel or vice versa, including personal luggage.

New Avenue Hotel, Map reference No. 12, is on the west side of Funchal overlooking the main road and the sea. This is a quiet and comfortable hotel under the same ownership as the Savoy Hotel, though operated separately. Guests are entitled to use the sea-bathing facilities of the Savoy Hotel which are within a few minutes walk. Languages: English, Portuguese and French. Transfer charge: Esc. 40 (10s.)

Hotel Santa Isabel, Map reference No. 9, is on the west side of Funchal in a prominent position on the main road. Lifts serve all floors. All rooms have private baths, verandahs and telephones. Suites. Roof-top fresh water swimming pool, terrace and bar. Languages: English, Portuguese, French and German. Transfer charge: Esc. 40 (10s.).

Savoy Hotel, Map reference No. 10, is situated on the west side of Funchal overlooking the sea. Lifts serve all floors. Gardens include a hard tennis court. Private sea-bathing either in the sea or in the large swimming pool, and sun-bathing terraces, all reached by lift. Water-skiing available with special apparatus for beginners. Billiards, table tennis and dancing every evening in the dining room and bar. Languages: English, Portuguese, French and Spanish. Transfer charge Esc. 40 (10s.).

Hotel Golden Gate, Map reference No. 22, stands in the centre of the town between the Governor's Palace and the Cathedral, and near the Town Pier. Every room in this recently-built hotel has a shower, toilet and telephone. Lifts to all floors including the roof terrace where there is an open-air bar and meals may be served. Guests have free admission to the night club in basement of the hotel. Languages: English, Portuguese, French and German. Transfer charge: Esc. 30 (7s. 6d.).

Atlantic Hotel, Map reference No. 11, lies on the west side of Funchal overlooking the sea and the harbour. There is no lift. Spacious gardens with a hard tennis court. A private path leads down to the shingle beach but there are no private bathing facilities. Languages: Portuguese, English, French and German. Transfer charge: Esc. 25\$00 (6s. 3d.).

Miramar Hotel, Map reference No. 13, is situated on the west side of Funchal facing the sea, close to the British Country Club. This comprises two buildings, the main one containing all the public rooms with two floors of bedrooms. No lift. The Villa Grando, 60 yards from the main building and in the hotel grounds, has rooms on ground and first floor. Bar and dance floor (separate building). Open-air dancing and meals in summer. Attractive lawns and gardens. No private bathing facilities but guests are entitled to free entrance to the nearby Lido. Languages: Portuguese, English and French. Transfer charge Esc. 30\$00 (7s. 6d.).

Funchal Pensions

Residencia Monte Rosa is in the centre of Funchal near the Cathedral. Lifts to all floors; roof terrace and bars. Languages: Portuguese, English, French. Transfer charge Esc. 30\$00 (7s. 6d.). The tariff is applicable throughout the year: no reduction in summer.

Vila Adelaide lies on the main road to the west of Funchal just past Reid's Hotel. This is an old Madeira residence converted into a small but comfortable private hotel, offering bed and breakfast only. Lunch and dinner may be taken at one of the nearby hotels. Languages: Portuguese English and French.

Pensao Santos is to the west of Funchal on the main road just past Reid's Hotel. This old established pension, which has catered for British visitors for many years, has no grounds or special facilities, but lies mid-way between the Lido and the British Country Club. Languages: Portuguese, English, French and German.

Pension Astoria is in the centre of the city behind the Cathedral. It occupies the upper floors of a modern building and is served by lift from street level. Languages: Portuguese and limited English.

Pensao Zarco is in the centre of the city near the Town Pier. No lift or gardens. Languages: Portuguese, English, French and German.

Boarding Houses. There are several Pensions, tariff from Esc. 2,000\$00 a month (£25 0s. 0d.). They cater principally for Portuguese guests, but many British visitors stay at some of the Pensions listed under "Hotels in Funchal".

Restaurants. In the City: Apolo; Combatentes. At Terreiro da Lucta, on the motor road, 3,000 ft. above the city, Windsor Tea Room. In addition, all the hotel restaurants are open to non-residents. There is a night club in the basement of the Golden Gate Hotel.

At Camara de Lobos (see page 44) there are two restaurants, Ribamar and Tartaruga. Visitors sometimes dance at these places which are picturesquely situated near the sea. Jardim do Sol, restaurant at Caniço.

Newspapers. *Diario de Noticias* and *O Jornal da Madeira* daily in Portuguese. Very useful to visitors who can read a little Portuguese as they indicate what is going on in the Island.

Union-Castle Agents. Blandy Brothers & Co. Lda., Avenida de Zarco, 2.

Banks. Blandy Brothers (Banqueiros) Lda.; Banco Nacional Ultramarino; Banco da Madeira; Banco Português do Atlantico.

Transport is by Taxi, Bus, Coach, Bullock Car, Running Car and Launch (see Index).

Landing Arrangements. Passengers who have booked at hotels in Funchal are met by Representatives who assist them in landing and attend to the clearance of their baggage through the Customs. Union-Castle Mail vessels lie in the Roadstead and passengers are landed by launch at the Pier. There are no formalities for those who are merely going ashore for a few hours while their vessel waits, other than to obtain a landing card from the Purser and carrying their passports.

Visitors' Enquiry Office. The Official Tourist Bureau, Avenida Arriaga (centre of City), gladly gives information to visitors, and distributes maps, etc. The officials speak English. Visitors will

also find that employees in the offices at their hotels are very helpful. Tourist police (green and red armband with the word "Turismo ") speak English and will assist visitors.

Entertainments. There is a Cinema in the Municipal Theatre, Avenida Arriaga, where most films shown are British or American. British visitors usually go on Monday and Friday at 9 p.m.; Matinees at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.

Open air cinemas :—Cine Parque ; Cine Jardim.

There is dancing every night at Reid's Hotel and the Savoy Hotel and, during the season, at other leading hotels.

No gambling is yet allowed at the Casino (January, 1963).

The Golden Gate night club, in the basement of the Golden Gate Hotel, has dancing nightly and usually a floor show.

Concerts are occasionally held by the Music Club.

Military Band performances are held in the Public Gardens (Jardim de São Francisco) periodically.

English Club (founded 1832), known as the English Rooms, is in Rua da Alfandega, between the two entrances of Blandy Brothers (Banqueiros) Lda. There are billiards, card and reading rooms, where newspapers may be seen; also a good library. Bar and refreshments. Visitors desiring membership should apply to the Secretary. Subscriptions for short periods are:—

Half month 40\$00, additional lady 20\$00.

One month 60\$00, additional lady 30\$00.

British Country Club, formerly Quinta Magnolia, was for forty years the home of Dr. Herbert Watney, who assembled a large number of exotic plants, including palms, cycads and cacti in the beautiful gardens.

Tennis, squash, 18-hole pitch and putt golf course and croquet lawn are available. Library. Billiards and card rooms; light refreshments. Visitors' Subscriptions:—Two weeks, 60\$00; one month, 80\$00.

All British Passengers and Ships' Officers calling at Madeira are welcome to call and see the gardens. The Club is situated about one mile to the west of the City.

The Rotary Club of Funchal meets on Thursday evenings at 8 p.m. Visitors should communicate with the Secretary, Rua do Aljube 13-2, Funchal.

New Year in Madeira. This is a time of great gaiety, and on the evening of 31st December buildings in the town and on the mountainside are brightly illuminated. The climax comes at midnight when the New Year is welcomed with a vast discharge of fireworks from all directions. These light up the mountains and the waters of the bay and afford a spectacle which is both grand and unique.

The Cathedral, though not of great architectural merit, is worth a visit. It was built between 1485 and 1515 with a dark red local stone, and the spire, on a square battlemented tower, is about 133 ft. high. The style is early Gothic. Internally the carved cedar roof and stalls, the monumental brasses, and the high altar, are of interest.

The Patron Saint of Funchal is St. Thiago (St. James the Less).

Church of England, in Rua do Quebra Costas, was built in 1814. The Chaplain's residence is adjacent. Services: Sundays, Holy Communion 8 and 11.45 a.m.; Matins and Sermon, 11 a.m. The church is designed somewhat on the lines of the Pantheon at Rome because of a law which prohibited the erection of any building resembling a church unless it was intended for use as a Roman Catholic place of worship.

Presbyterian Church. St. Andrew's, Rua do Conselheiro, 47 (opposite the Botanical Gardens). Services Sundays 11 a.m.

This is used by the congregation of the Portuguese Presbyterian Church, but a service in English is held on one Sunday in each month; details posted in hotels.

British Cemetery, Rua da Carreira, dates from 1770, prior to which all Protestants dying in Madeira were buried at sea. It is a beautiful spot, and visitors wishing to see it should ring the bell.

Public Gardens (Jardim de São Francisco). Visitors should see these gardens, built on the site of the Convento de São

Francisco, which are two minutes' walk from the centre of the city. They contain a fine variety of interesting flowering and other trees (see page 5).

Until the beginning of the 19th century there was attached to the Monastery a chapel that was lined with skulls and thigh bones, the former said to number 3,000. After the ejection of the monks in 1834, the Monastery fell into ruins, and when it was finally demolished, two skeletons were found walled up in different parts of the building—evidence of tragic happenings at which one can only guess.

Casino (Quintas Vigia e Pavao). This is just off the road between the city and the hotels, and is situated in beautiful and extensive gardens, whence there are attractive views over the harbour. Admission is free. The Vigia, now the Casino, was in 1848 the home of Queen Adelaide, widow of William IV of England; it was also occupied by Empress Elizabeth of Austria in 1860.

The Market. This presents a very animated scene and is always interesting to visitors, especially early in the morning when a large variety of local fish are to be seen. The stalls with their abundance of fruit, flowers, vegetables, basketwork, etc., are open all day (closed from noon on Sundays). Outside the market building there are usually vendors offering locally made Madeira half-boots. Auction sales of furniture and effects are held in the City occasionally on Sunday mornings.

Bathing. Facilities for bathing are available at the Lido, 1½ m. west of the city. There is also bathing at the Club Nautico at Quinta Calça, Ajuda, 3 miles west from Funchal. Reid's and the Savoy have their own private bathing facilities and have speed boats for water skiing. Santa Isabel has a fresh water swimming pool on its roof terrace.

Sports. Reid's, Savoy and Atlantic Hotels have their own tennis courts, also the British Country Club.

Football matches (Soccer) are played between Portuguese teams on Sunday afternoons at the Sports Stadium. This fine new Stadium, with covered stand, cinder tracks, etc., has been built on the old football ground at Barreiros.

Golf. There is an attractive nine-hole Golf Course at Santo da Serra (19 m.), 2,214 ft. above sea level, commanding a fine





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Ribeiro Frio

Photo Perestrellos

view across to the neighbouring islands, the Desertas and Porto Santo. Visitors wishing to play should consult their hotels. Clubs may be hired from the Tourist Bureau.

Most of the principal hotels are subscribing members. Their visitors automatically become temporary members of the Santo da Serra Golf Club and may obtain green fee tickets free of charge from the hotel porter or office. There is no suitable bus to the golf course, but sometimes lifts may be given by resident members at weekends. A taxi from Funchal to the course and wait for return, 3-4 passengers, should cost about Esc. 200\$00, price to be established in advance. There is a club room near the course (meals and drinks). Caddies normally available.

Museums. The Museu & Aquário Municipal do Funchal (admission 2\$50) is housed in a fine old Portuguese house formerly the home of Conde de Ribeiro Real at Rua da Mouraria 35. There are good collections of locally obtained fish, birds, and other material pertaining to natural history, some interesting early prints of Madeira and a sword traditionally said to have belonged to Zarco, discoverer of the Island.

The Aquarium contains 15 tanks with over 60 varieties of fish and is worth visiting. Feeding time weekdays 3 p.m. Open daily 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays; Sundays and holidays noon to 4 p.m. Aquarium also open 8-10 p.m. weekdays.

The Museum of Sacred Art is housed in the former Bishop's Palace, No. 21, Rua do Bispo. It contains a fine collection of 15th and 16th century religious pictures, mostly of the Flemish School, and is open 2-5 p.m. every day except Monday, admission Esc. 2\$50. Many of the pictures are from churches in various parts of the Island. They have been skilfully restored and are well displayed. It is said that they were obtained from the Low Countries in exchange for local sugar shipped from Funchal.

The Cruzes Museum of Decorative Art, at the Quinta das Cruzes, Calçada do Pico, just above the Santa Clara Convent, contains an interesting collection of antique furniture. This is mostly Portuguese with some Madeira-made pieces, but also includes English, French and Spanish items. Two cabinets (contadores) and a table are believed to have belonged to Catherine of Braganza. The building itself is a National Monument, and the exhibits are attractively displayed in its

fine rooms. In the gardens are numerous named trees and a large collection of orchids. Admission daily except Monday 2-5 p.m.: admission free.

Historical Buildings. **The Governor's Palace.** The Fortress of São Lourenço dates from the 16th century, but has been considerably altered. The figure of São Lourenço is seen over the entrance in the corner of the small square; and on the wall, facing the sea-front, are the old fountains where the inhabitants formerly obtained water.

Pico Fort (Castelo de S. João do Pico) is a conspicuous fortification of black basalt, which occupies a commanding position overlooking the town and harbour. It was built during the Spanish occupation, between 1622 and 1640, and is now used only as a wireless station. Visitors are usually admitted if they walk in and ask permission to look round. The panorama from the top of the Fort (335 ft.) is probably the finest in Funchal.

Chapel of Santa Catarina (*see Index*) was built in 1425 by the wife of Gonsalves Zarco, and is the oldest place of worship in Madeira. Not usually open.

The City Hall was built by Count Carvalhal, and is a handsome building of late 18th century.

Colegio Church of St. John was erected by the Jesuits in the 17th century. It has a very handsome façade, and contains richly decorated chapels.

Chapel of St. Louis (date 1600 over door) and former Episcopal Palace date from 17th century and are situated in Rua de Bispo.

The Old Customs House in Rua da Alfandega is an interesting 16th century building of ecclesiastical origin.

Carmo Chapel, Rua do Carmo, is a 17th century building with two tombs of interest.

Chapel and Convent of Santa Clara date from 15th century and were reconstructed in the 17th. The tomb of Zarco is in the Chapel, and the Franciscan Sisters have a mission school in what used to be the Convent (*see note in History under 1834*).

The Convent of Santa Clara and its beautiful nun, Maria Clementina, acquired considerable publicity as a result of a visit to Madeira by H. N. Coleridge, who told her romantic story in his book, *Six Months in the West Indies in 1825*. In consequence

many visitors to the island called at the Convent and asked to see Maria, and she and her sad story are referred to by several travellers.

Coleridge states that Maria Clementina, who was the youngest child of Pedro Agostinho and was born in Madeira, was considered the most beautiful girl in the Island, with a fair complexion, blue eyes and gold brown hair. She was admitted to Santa Clara at the age of eighteen, and took the veil at nineteen. A year later the Constitutional Government was established in Portugal, and one of the first acts of the Cortes was to order the doors of religious houses to be thrown open. Maria, released from the Convent, fell in love with a Portuguese officer and their marriage was decided upon. However, she became ill and the wedding had to be postponed; but before the ceremony took place the King dissolved Parliament and revoked the law of the Cortes, and poor Maria had to return to her cell. Maria was 21 years old when seen by Coleridge in 1825.

See Index for the Cathedral, English Church, Fort São Thiago and Santo da Serra Well.

The Loo Rock, the 70 ft. high rock now incorporated in the Harbour mole, was formerly detached from the shore. On it is the 17th-century Fort of Nossa Senhora do Conceição. This contained a chapel, magazine and barracks, and mounted fourteen guns; it is still a military post.

The Pontinha, a much smaller rock, also incorporated in the mole and nearer to the shore than the Loo Rock, was formerly fortified.

Empress of Brazil's Hospital for tubercular patients was the gift of the Dowager Empress of Brazil, whose only daughter died of this complaint in Madeira in 1853.

Harbour Works. Leading to the Avenida do Mar and close to the centre of the city, is a stone pier where passengers from the mailships land, and from whence the local coastal vessels operate.

The harbour, usually referred to as the Pontinha (admission 1\$00) consists of a concrete wall linking the old fortified rocks, the Pontinha and the Loo Rock, with the shore. The harbour was originally extended by tunnelling through the Loo Rock and continuing the quay beyond by about 1,090 ft. This quay has

now been widened and extended a further 1,640 ft. to enable ocean liners to be berthed. There is now a road round as well as through the rock.

The Wine Lodges of The Madeira Wine Association, Lda., shippers for some of the leading Wine Firms, are near the Public Gardens and the British Consulate, and are open daily, Sundays excepted. Thousands of tourists visit these wine lodges each year to see the various stages of wine production and to sample, free of charge, various blends of wine. This hospitality is offered by the Association in order to make the wines of Madeira better known.

WHILE THE MAIL SHIP WAITS— THREE HOURS IN MADEIRA

Madeira's most numerous visitors are those who land in hundreds from the passing Mail Vessels on alternate Sundays and Mondays. To them the call at Madeira is a delightful interlude on the voyage to or from South Africa.

They will, on first landing in Funchal, be struck by the gay national costumes of the flower and curio sellers, by the straw-hatted drivers of the carros, who lead their patient oxen through the streets, and by the pressing invitations on all sides to visit the embroidery factories or taste the wine.

This section has been specially compiled to show these visitors how they may best enjoy their short stay.

Notes: The Escudo is worth threepence (80 to the £).

Traffic keeps to the right. The Authorities expect visitors to walk between the white lines when crossing the streets in Funchal.

Rubber-soled shoes should be worn on account of the cobbles.

Ladies are expected to respect local conventions by not going ashore in shorts, backless sunsuits, etc., On entering the Cathedral or other churches they must cover their heads.

Landing Arrangements. All through-passengers going ashore must obtain Landing Cards in accordance with instructions posted up on board by the Purser's Department and should carry their passports.

Launches leave the vessel for the shore at frequent intervals. The return fare is 4s. 6d., payable at the entrance to the Pier on the *return* journey. All passengers are landed at the Pier.

Organised Tours. Tickets obtainable from representatives who board the vessel. These are inclusive of travel from the ship to shore and back to the ship.

1. Scenic Coach Tour, a circular drive including splendid views over Funchal and visit to viewpoint at the Peace Memorial, Terreiro da Lucta, 2,873 ft. (2 hours). Fare

(including return launch fare ship to shore) 20s., children 4-14 half price; similar by car, 25s. adults, 15s. children 4-14. Tickets available from Bureaux of *Windsor Castle*, *Transvaal Castle*, *Pendennis Castle* and *Edinburgh Castle* only.

2. To Terreiro da Lucta, 2,873 ft. By motor via the Monte, returning by toboggan or motor.
3. To Monte, 1,965 ft., by motor and return by toboggan or motor.
4. To Pico dos Barcelos, 1,164 ft., fine viewpoint, by motor. (*Note.* Readers should refer to these names in Index for further information.)
5. To Reid's Hotel by launch to shore, car to Hotel for tea and back to the ship.

Suggestions for through passengers in the Mail Vessels which do not offer organised tours, or who prefer to make independent arrangements. (Prices to be agreed with taxis in advance).

6. To Pico dos Barcelos, 1,164 ft., fine viewpoint, via the parish of Santo Antonio. Return via São Martinho down to the coast road, and along to the picturesque fishing village of Câmara de Lobos before returning to Funchal. Distance about 13 m., 21 kms. ; allow 1½ hours including stops.
7. To Pico dos Barcelos and return via Casino Gardens. About 8 m., 14 kms. ; allow 1-1½ hours, according to length of stops.
8. To Câmara de Lobos and return via Lido for bathe if desired, and Casino Gardens. Distance about 12½ m., 20 kms. ; allow 1-1½ hrs. according to stops.
9. To the east of the city to the viewpoint known as the Pinaculo, 918 ft. (2 m., 3.5 kms.), with splendid view over the Bay of Funchal. Visitors may return from here by way of the market (closed Sunday afternoons), or may continue the drive, passing above the Brazen Head, to the villages of Caniço and Camacha, 2,296 ft. (latter is centre of wicker-work industry), and return to Funchal by another route, making a circular drive. Distance about 17½ m., 28 kms. ; allow 2 hours.

10. Old Funchal : Take taxi to Praça do Municipio (City Hall, Colegio, Barracks and former Bishop's Palace containing Museum of Sacred Art) ; thence past the Museum, housed in a fine old residence (see p. 33), up to the Chapel of Santa Clara (see p. 34), and Cruzes Museum (if open). To Pico Fort (17th century) where permission is usually given to enter and see the magnificent views from the summit ; British Country Club ; Ribeiro Sêco Bridge (viewpoint) ; and down the road past entrance to the Pontinha with near view of old fort on the Loo Rock. This should leave time to see the Cathedral on foot.
 11. Gardens : To British Country Club by taxi, instructing the driver to return via Casino Gardens and to finish the drive at the Public Gardens (Jardim de São Francisco), which is within five minutes' walk of the Pier. This could be extended after leaving the Country Club to take tea at one of the Hotels in the vicinity and see their gardens also.
 12. In the Town : Those wishing to remain in the city will easily fill in their time by visiting the embroidery and other shops, the Wine Lodge of the Madeira Wine Association, the Gardens, Cathedral, Market, Praça do Municipio, etc.; and they may obtain refreshments at one of the cafes in the centre of the city. It is a pleasant arrangement to engage a bullock car (seats 4) by the hour at an agreed charge, and let the driver take them in a leisurely manner to any of these places. The following notes will be of interest in this connection.
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Most places of interest to visitors are open on Sundays except the Wine Lodge and the Market.

Readers will find other references to most of the places mentioned if they will refer to the Index.

In and around Funchal are many Balcony Viewpoints (miradores) ; these are invariably situated so as to command fine panoramas.

Taxi drivers generally show intelligence in trying to point out to their passengers what is of interest.

On Foot in Funchal. From the entrance to the Pier visitors cross the Avenida do Mar (Esplanade) and go up the Avenida Zarco, passing the Governor's Palace on left, to its intersection with Avenida Arriaga (two minutes' walk). In the centre of the road is a statue of Zarco, discoverer of Madeira in 1419. This may be regarded as the centre of the city, and taxi ranks and cafes are situated in this vicinity.

Readers will find both the Index and the plan of Central Funchal useful in connection with these notes.

1. Turn left at Zarco's Statue and walk on right side of road past the Official Tourist Bureau (information, maps and plans free; stamps obtainable on Sundays when Post Office is closed). Immediately beyond is the entrance to the Wine Lodge of the Madeira Association, Lda. (visitors welcomed—closed Sundays), the British Consulate, and the Public Gardens (Jardim de S. Francisco), 1½ mins. from Statue. Continue past Gardens to roundabout in road (4 mins.) where there is a monument to Prince Henry the Navigator, and a fountain; and at a little distance above the road to the left is the ancient Chapel of Santa Catarina. Walk on up the Avenida do Infante past the Dowager Empress of Brazil's Hospital, on right, to the top of the rise, where the entrance to the Casino Gardens (admission free) is seen to the left just off the road. The walk may be continued along the level to the bridge over the Ribeiro Sêco Ravine, where the New Avenue Hotel stands above the road on right. To the left is a small public garden, Antonio Nobre Redondo, with attractive views over the Ravine.

From the Ribeiro Sêco bridge return to the city by turning left towards the sea, and keeping right where the road turns downhill at the Atlantic Hotel. This is a pleasant walk back to the Pier entrance by way of the Harbour (admission 1\$00) and the Esplanade (17 mins. or 35 mins. to the Ribeiro Sêco and back, without allowance for stops).

2. Turn right at Zarco's Statue. One minute to the Cathedral; the shopping centre is in this vicinity. It is about ten minutes' walk to the Market (Fruit, Flowers, Fish, etc.—closed Sundays after mid-day). There are several routes, all of which cross the

Santa Luzia Ravine, a stony river bed covered over with bougainvilleas. Refer to Plan or ask directions. The return may be made by turning down towards the sea and walking back along the Avenida do Mar (Esplanade) to the Pier Entrance.

3. Continue up Avenida Zarco past the Statue. The visitor passes the Post Office on left, and on reaching the top of the street (2 mins.) he may turn half left up the Rua dos Pretas to the Museum (*see* Index) and the São Pedro Chapel; and beyond to Sta. Clara Chapel, etc. (*see* Plan).

Or, turning right at top of Avenida Zarco, one enters the handsome Praça do Municipio, with its fine buildings and mosaic paving. In front is the City Hall (*see* fine entrance and courtyard); to the left are the Barracks and the Colegio Church; to the right is the former Palace of the Bishops.

4. From Entrance to Pier turn left along the Avenida do Mar (Esplanade) with its pleasant gardens and attractive seats with pictures in blue and white tiles. Above, where the road narrows, is the Chapel of Santa Catarina. The route continues to the entrance to the Harbour, known as the Pontinha (10 mins.), with pleasant views of the Loo Rock, etc. Admission to Harbour 1\$00.

SUMMARY OF EXCURSIONS FOR VISITORS STAYING IN MADEIRA

In the following pages will be found details of all the motor routes in the Island. Readers will find these useful in planning their excursions, and they should also refer to the Map of Madeira and to the Index.

Visitors will seldom want to undertake long excursions on two consecutive days, and the suggestions given in this book should be ample for normal requirements during a stay of up to four weeks. Distances are for the return trip unless otherwise stated. Owing to the mountainous and winding nature of the roads, speeds are slow and 80 or 100 miles represent a very long drive.

Excursionists are advised to take a warm wrap when going on trips which take them above about 1,500 ft. This applies particularly in winter.

Motor coach tours are mentioned on page 16.

Whole Day Trips

1. Western and Northern Circuit: To Ribeira Brava, Encumeada Pass, São Vicente, Santana, Ribeiro Frio and Funchal (by car 79½ m.)
 2. Western Circuit: To Ribeira Brava, Calheta, Porto Moniz, São Vicente, Ribeira Brava and Funchal (by car 103 m.)
 3. Poiso, Ribeiro Frio, Santana, Santo da Serra circuit by car (60 m.).
 4. To Rabaçal by car—some walking necessary (80 m.).
 5. To West Coast by launch—Paul do Mar or intermediate landing place.
- (If time for only one trip No. 1 or 3 is recommended.)

Half-Day Trips

6. To Ribeira Brava by bus, car or one way by road and the other by sea (road distance 20 m. each way).

7. To Santa Cruz and Machico by bus or car (distance 17½ m. each way). Caniçal is 5 m. beyond Machico.
8. To Santa da Serra and Machico circuit by car (37 m.).
9. To Câmara de Lobos and Cabo Girão by car (24 m.).
10. To the Monte and Terreiro da Lucta by car (9 m.). The Monte may be reached by bus for 3\$50 and one may walk back if desired. The journey back, being downhill, costs 2\$00.

Trips into the Mountains—start after early breakfast and return for lunch. No. 14, however, is a very long and strenuous full day trip.

11. To Pico Arieiro by car all the way to the summit, but the last three miles are unpaved (1962) and very dusty (28 m.).
12. To Ribeiro Frio by car—thirty minutes' walking (26 m.).
13. To Eira do Serrado overlooking the Grand Curral (19½ m. by car—15 minutes' walking. A new road leads down to the Curral Village adding 5 m. to the excursion. Recommended.
14. To Pico Ruivo. By car to Queimadas (27½ m. single journey), thence three hours' rough and steep walk (each way) to summit. There is a Rest House a mile below the summit.

Walks. All country walks in Madeira, with the exception of those along the levada paths—which are apt to be dangerous—are very rough, steep and strenuous. The levada paths, though level, are often very narrow and in poor condition with precipices on one side. Walks along them should not be undertaken by anyone who has not a very good head for heights. This comment applies to the mountain paths also.

The weather can change very rapidly, especially in winter, and cloud or mist can come up very quickly. Although numerous footpaths through the mountains are shown on the map at the front of this book, many of them are badly defined and none is signposted. It is recommended therefore that no visitor should attempt either mountain or levada walks unless accompanied by a guide or a local resident who knows the way.

Walkers in the mountains should wear strong shoes with rubber soles and heels, and be prepared for chilly weather.

THE MOTOR ROADS OF MADEIRA

The following pages contain a brief survey of the motor roads of the Island, mentioning the villages, viewpoints and other places of interest. Distances from Funchal are given in miles and kilometres from the City centre, and altitudes are in feet. It should be noted that the old kilometre stones are being replaced by those of the Estradas Nacionais, which are measured from the City boundary, and may start anything up to two kilometres distant from the centre.

A motor road encircles Madeira, and three roads cross the Island from north to south. These connect Funchal with many points of interest in the country districts, such as small ports, villages, waterfalls, mountains and wonderful viewpoints.

In some areas miles of roads are lined with blue hydrangeas or agapanthus.

To the West

The road to the west of the Island leaves Funchal by the Estrada Monumental and passes the Hotels and the Lido. Farther on is the tunny fish cannery standing just above Ponta da Cruz (small cross on rock), the most southerly point of Madeira. Above the road at this point is Pico da Cruz, an old volcano with one side of its crater broken away. The building on the hilltop beyond is the Chapel of São Martinho. From the road here may be seen the cliffs of Cabo Gúão, 1,804 ft., which rises sheer from the sea, and is among the highest sea-cliffs in the world. Zarco, the discoverer of Madeira, sailed as far as these cliffs in 1419 before turning back. The word "Girão" means "turn".

At 5 m., 8 kms., the road crosses the bed of the Ribeira dos Soccoridos, where there is extensive banana cultivation. The name Soccoridos (succoured) commemorates the rescue here of two members of Zarco's crew who were being swept away by the stream.

Câmara de Lobos, 5½ m., 9 kms. (The Seals' Lair), with its houses built on high rocks above its small harbour, and its many fishing boats, is most picturesque (it was the subject painted by Mr. Winston Churchill in 1950). Ribamar and Tartaruga restaurants (*see* p. 29).

From Câmara de Lobos the road climbs to where, at 9½ m., 14.5 kms. a branch road leads up to Estreito Church, 1,575 ft., centre of an important wine-growing district. Beyond the church a track leads up to the Jardim da Serra and views of the

Grand Curral. The steep valley crossed after leaving Estreito is extensively terraced on both sides, and affords a very good example of the terraced cultivation universal in the Island. On the far side of the valley, at the Cruz de Caldeira, 11½ m., 18·5 kms., 1,906 ft., a road leads left to the Balcony viewpoint on the summit of Cabo Girão, 1,804 ft. (about ½ m.).

The main road continues through the parish of Quinta Grande; the church is below the road, 12½ m., 20·3 kms.; 1,542 ft.

At Campanário, 16 m., 25 kms.; 1,027 ft., the road passes on a slope above the 17th-century church (date over door 1683). A mile beyond Campanário, looking east, is a fine view of the cliffs of Cabo Girão.

A sharp descent is now made by a series of hairpin bends to the large coast village of Ribeira Brava, 20 m., 31 kms., at sea level. It has a landing place reached by a tunnel through the cliff, an old tower used as a gaol, a few shops, a church and a pension.

From Ribeira Brava village the road turns northwards up the Ribeira Brava Valley (wild valley), a narrow ravine flanked by precipices.

From the branch road to the church of Serra d'Água, 24½ m., 38·5 kms., 1,173 ft., the road climbs steeply to the summit of the Encumeada Pass. The mountain scenery is magnificent, and among the peaks seen on a clear day (on right) are Pico Grande, 5,271 ft. (distinguishable by knob on summit) and Pico do Jorge, 5,590 ft.; and (on left) are the heights of the Paul do Serra Plateau, 5,364 ft.

Some two miles before reaching the summit, the road passes the Rest House, Pousada dos Vinháticos, 25½ m., 40·5 kms., built by the Official Tourist Bureau in 1941. The house is furnished and stands at an altitude of about 2,000 ft.

Immediately on the south side of Encumeada Pass the road crosses the levada constructed in connection with the hydro-electric scheme. The vegetation changes as the altitude increases, and consists towards the summit mainly of giant heaths, bilberries, gorse and broom. Heath trees grow more than 20 ft. high.

At 26½ m., 42·5 kms., a path turns east to Ribeira do Porco, Boca dos Corregos (view of Grand Curral), Jardim da Serra, Estreito, Câmara de Lobos and Funchal.

The summit of the **Encumeada Pass**, 27 m., 43.7 kms. ; 3,303 ft., affords views over the Serra d'Água on the south, and over the São Vicente Valley down to the sea on the north. A good path constructed by the Tourist Bureau climbs the ridge to the east, and goes over the saddle of the Pico Jorge to the Torrinas Pass. This pass connects the Grand Curral with the Ribeira do Porco route to Boa Ventura on the north coast, a frequented path across the Island. A path continues from the vicinity of the Torrinas Pass up to Pico Ruivo and so to Santana, Faial, etc.

Westwards from Encumeada is the new levada which passes through the tunnel where fossilised wood was found embedded in the volcanic ash. On the north side of the tunnel is an almost virgin forest. Westwards from Encumeada a path also climbs the ridge to Lombo do Mouro, the Caramujo Rest House, and to the Bica da Cana house which is on the eastern side of the Paul da Serra Plateau.

The descent from Encumeada commences immediately, and the road passes Rosario Chapel, 32 m., 50.2 kms. ; 1,256 ft., on its way to São Vicente, 34½ m., 54.8 kms. ; a village at sea level on the north coast. Here the road and stream bed are flanked with the remains of a basalt lava flow which formerly partly blocked the mouth of the valley. Just beyond the village, at the outlet of the valley, is a curious chapel cut into a small isolated rock, built in 1696.

From São Vicente roads run both east and west. The north coast is generally even steeper than that of the south, and there are many fine marine views where the Atlantic swells beat along the precipitous shores. To the west the motor road runs to the village of Seixal, 38 m., 60 kms., beyond which the road encircling the Island was completed in 1954.

The road eastwards follows the coastline sometimes along the face of mountains which run down steeply to the water's edge, to Ponta Delgada, 39 m., 62 kms., a village built on a tongue of land resulting from a landslide. In places this road passes through tunnels, and a little beyond Ponta Delgada it turns inland to the village of Boaventura, 40 m., 64 kms. Between here and Arco de São Jorge, 45 m., 71 kms., is the tunnel, a quarter of a mile long, the completion of which (1954) was the last link in the road which encircles the island (128 m., 205 kms.). The route then passes through beautiful and mountainous country to São Jorge, 50 m., 80 kms., and the attractive

village of **Santana**, 52 m., 89 kms. For route between **Santana** and **Funchal**, see pages 48-50.

From **Ribeira Brava** the road continues westward through a succession of steep valleys and ravines, and passes the villages of **Ponta do Sol**, 25 m., 40 kms., and **Canhas**, 27 m., 43 kms. ; 1,082 ft. Beyond **Canhas** the road passes above **Madalena do Mar**, 31 m., 40 kms., and crosses the **Arco da Calheta** amid fine scenery. At mile 35, kilometre 56, a road turns up towards the tunnel leading to the levadas and waterfalls of **Rabaçal** (see page 47).

Calheta, 37 m., 49 kms., on the coast, has a church containing an ebony sanctuary, the gift of King **Manoel I.** Beyond are the villages of **Estrelto da Calheta**, 38 m., 59 kms. ; 1,109 ft. ; **Prazeres**, 41 m., 66 kms. ; 2,037 ft. ; **Fajã da Ovelha**, 48 m., 73 kms. ; 1,548 ft. ; and **Ponta do Pargo**, 50 m., 80 kms. ; 1,551 ft. ; near which is an important lighthouse at the western extremity of **Madeira**.

The route now turns north-east and passes through the parishes of **Achada da Cruz**, 55 m., 89 kms. ; 2,207 ft. ; **Santa Maria Madalena**, 59 m., 95 kms. ; 1,640 ft. ; whence it descends by a series of formidable hairpin bends to **Porto Moniz**, 61 m., 98 kms., an administrative centre on the north coast. Beyond **Porto Moniz** the scenery becomes grand and awe-inspiring as the newly completed road continues through the villages of **Ribeira da Janella**, 62 m., 100 kms. and **Seixal**, 68 m., 109 kms. to **Sao Vicente**, 72 m., 115 kms. This remarkable road overcomes great natural obstacles by means of cuttings, galleries and tunnels, often cut daringly into the sheer cliff face high above the sea.

The circuit of the Island **Funchal-Ribeira Brava-Calheta-Porto Moniz-Ponta Delgada-Machico-Funchal** is about 127 m. ; 205 kms. It is a very long day's run and the night could be spent at **Santana**.

The road to **Rabaçal** (the place of wild celery) leaves the main road at a point beyond the **Arco da Calheta**, and leads up the steep **Lombo de Salão**. At the end of the road, 40 m., 64 kms. ; 3,510 ft., it is necessary to leave the car and walk. There may be boys with flares available here; if so it is advisable to engage one or two to carry provisions and to provide light in the tunnel.

The distance to the tunnel entrance, which carries a levada through the mountain spur, is about half a mile. The tunnel, half a mile long, is well paved and smooth, but a light is essential and each visitor should carry an electric torch or a lantern. On the far side a path climbs to a Rest House. From the house a walk along the old and higher levada leads in about 15 minutes to the Risco, a waterfall with a drop of about 300 ft. Another walk along the new levada leads in about 35 minutes to the Twentyfive Waterfalls. The Risco is the more attractive of the two.

Care should be taken on some of the paths which are very narrow and sometimes wet. The vegetation along the levadas is luxuriant.

A footpath leads from Rabaçal to the high plateau of Paul da Serra at an altitude of 4,690 ft. and some four miles wide. The plateau, which is almost level, is uninhabited and is used as a pasture for horses, etc. It is dangerous on account of mists which come up very suddenly.

Motor Roads—To the North and East

The road climbs steeply up the hill behind Funchal, whence there are attractive views over the City and roadstead. At 4 m., 6 kms., 1,965 ft., is the village of Monte, where there is the well-known twin-towered church of Nossa Senhora do Monte, dating from 1470. The church, which is easily seen from vessels in Funchal Bay, is dedicated to Our Lady of the Assumption, and stands on a platform reached by 74 steps. Every year on 15th August, the Feast of the Assumption, a great crowd assembles at the Monte Church, and worshippers may be seen ascending the steps on their knees. On the high altar is a jewelled image of Our Lady which is credited with miracles; and the church contains the tomb of Emperor Karl of Austria, who died in exile at the Quinta do Monte in 1922. Below the church is an old fountain with a Latin inscription recording that the levada which brought the water to it was made at the expense of Charles Murray, British Consul in Madeira in 1778. The Holy Well is seen on alighting from cars just before taking the path up to the church.

A road eastwards at the foot of the church leads in five minutes to the Babosas Balcony, whence there is a very fine view

over the Little Curral. Visitors should not allow themselves to be deterred from seeing this by the importunities of toboggan men or others. If they have taxis they should instruct their drivers to take them round by car.

The Monte is the terminus of one of the favourite excursions taken by visitors who pass through in the Mail Vessels, and from here they may descend the mountain by running toboggan guided by two men. These men are experienced and there is no danger; towards the end of the run they will probably ask for a glass of wine.

Beyond the Monte the road ascends to Terreiro da Lucta, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m., 9 kms.; 2,873 ft., amid pines, eucalyptus and an occasional cork-oak. There is a splendid panorama of Funchal Bay. A monument has been erected here to Our Lady of Peace. Terreiro de Lucta Restaurant and Windsor Tea Room.

Terreiro da Lucta, owing to the time factor, is generally the limit of excursions made by Mail Ship passengers. They may return from here to Funchal by toboggan.

The road beyond climbs on through grassy country, and crosses a bridge to the left of which is another Murray Stone (see note on fountain at Monte Church).

From near the summit of Poiso Pass a road turns east to Santa da Serra and another leads west towards Pico Arieiro (see page 53).

The top of the Poiso Pass, 9 m., 14 kms., 4,592 ft., affords fine views to both north and south of the Island.

From Poiso the road winds through open country with fine mountain views and descends into the valley of Ribeiro Frio, 13 m., 20 kms.; 2,624 ft. Opposite the Casa de Cha (Tea House) a wide and safe levada path leads left to the Balcão (viewpoint) in about 15 minutes. Visitors should follow the footpath which diverges right from the levada and leads in one or two minutes to the Balcony. This affords a superb view with the Metade Stream flowing over its stony bed more than a thousand feet below one's feet; while above tower the lofty summits of Pico Arieiro, Pico Ruivo and the jagged pinnacles of the Torres. Growing along the rocky sides of the levada path are flowers and plants of interest to botanists.

The Forestal Department has established a trout batchery, and the fish introduced into the rivulet, Ribeiro Frio. They may be fished on obtaining a permit from the Forestal Dept.

The road descends and passes through the *Achada de Cedro Gordo*, then crosses the closely cultivated *Metade Valley*, and climbs to the *Cruzinhas Pass* and hamlet on the ridge between the *Metade* and *Ribeiro Sêco Ravines* (cross on hill). The route passes the *Casa de Cha do Faial*, a guest house commanding good views. On the right is seen the church of *São Roque do Faial*. The route then approaches the enormous and precipitous rock, *Penha d'Águia* (The Eagle's Eyrie), 1,935 ft. The ascent of the rock is not easy and it is rarely visited except by peasants who go up to collect fodder and wood.

The route continues downward and at the foot of the descent passes the turning to the right to *Porto da Cruz*. Beyond the bridge the three ravines unite and reach the sea at the western foot of the *Penha d'Águia*. From the bridge the old road climbs in a series of zigzags to the church of *Faial*, 21 m., 33 kms., 433 ft. The motor road passes round and above the *Faial* village to the *Cortado Ridge*. Along the road are balcony viewpoints.

At the top of the ascent the road turns through a cut in the ridge and *Santana* comes into view. The motor road continues past small ravines flanked by beautiful fern-covered cliffs. *Nativo laurels*, *til* and *lily-of-the-valley trees* (*clethra arborea*) are found in this vicinity.

Santana, 25 m., 39 kms. 1,440 ft., is a pleasant village with flower-edged roads, an old church with a small public garden adjoining, and a pension, where lunch can be obtained if ordered in advance. It is much frequented in summer on account of its cool climate.

From *Santana* a road runs south-west to *Queimadas* (Rest House), 2½ m., 4 kms. ; 2,952 ft., whence the ascent of *Pico Ruivo*, 6,104 ft. (The Purple Peak) may be made in three hours. There is a Rest House on *Pico Ruivo*. The ascent is a steep, rough walk without danger, but a guide is necessary. It is possible to spend the night at *Pico Ruivo* and to ascend the peak at dawn so as to see the sunrise. Permission to use the Rest House must be obtained from the Official Tourist Bureau.

Beyond *Santana* to the westward the route continues to the villages of *São Jorge*, 30 m., 48 kms. ; and *Arco de São Jorge*, 36 m., 57 kms. ; *Boavestara* and *São Vicente*.

On returning from Santana the visitor should take the road which runs round the foot of the Penha d'Agua to Porto da Cruz, 24½ m., 39 kms. from Funchal. This village lies on the seashore and has a small beach with dark volcanic sand.

From Porto da Cruz the road climbs again to the Portela Pass, 20 m., 35 kms., from Funchal, 2,027 ft. From here there are magnificent views. Northwards is the rock of Penha d'Agua and the village of Porto da Cruz on the shore; westwards on the far side of the Penha d'Agua is Faial with its church, and above is the Cortado Ridge; and farther west are the summits of Pico Ruivo, the Torres and Pico Arieiro.

Below the pass the road follows the west side of the valley to Machico. About half-way down a branch of the motor road climbs up to the Santo da Serra, 19 m., 30 kms., from Funchal; 2,214 ft., in open moorland country. The village has a pension and many Funchal residents have their country houses here. The attractions are its cooler climate and the beautifully situated nine-hole course of the Santa da Serra Golf Club (see also p. 32)

Visitors to Santo da Serra should see the charming old fountain (much neglected) which lies below a bridge at the foot of a flight of steps. On either side of the fountain are circular stone seats; and cut into the moss-covered walls are some seventy names, mostly of British residents and visitors. They bear dates ranging over more than a hundred years from 1707, relics of forgotten people, passing ships and old romances.

Santo da Serra is the junction for a number of motor roads.

Camacha, 7½ m., 12 kms. from Funchal; 2,296 ft., is the centre of the osier industry where the well-known Madeira wicker-work is made and visitors may see the workshops. Camacha has a much drier climate than the Monte or Santo da Serra, and it is popular as a place of summer residence.

The road back to Funchal passes above the famous Quinta do Palheiro, 1,800 ft., originally the property of a Portuguese nobleman, the Count do Carvalhal. It is now a private residence, but visitors interested in seeing the gardens may obtain permits to do so on days other than Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, at a cost of 5\$00 a head in aid of local charities. Apply to the Offices of Messrs. Blandy Brothers & Co. Lda.

Below the turn off to Santo da Serra, the road continues down the Machico Valley to the pleasant little town of Machico, 17½ m., 28 kms. from Funchal. It lies on a small bay with a harbour and fishing industry. There is an old fort in the town dated 1706, a bandstand, a pension, a tea-room (Paradise), and a church.

The romantic legend of Machin is closely linked with Machico, and is briefly as follows :—

Robert Machin, an Englishman who lived in the reign of Edward III, fell in love with Ana d'Arfet ; her father, however, had other plans for his daughter's marriage. The young couple therefore made their way to Bristol and embarked in a ship for Brittany. The vessel was swept southward in a gale, and eventually arrived in a bay off an unknown island. They landed to refresh themselves, but a sudden storm occurred and the vessel and part of her crew were carried out to sea and lost. Ana, overcome by this disaster, died, and Machin buried her under a cedar tree. He died a few days later and was buried in the same grave. The survivors of the crew built themselves a boat and made their way to the African coast, where they were captured and sold as slaves in Morocco. The story is that one escaped and that it was from him that Zarco first heard of Madeira. Zarco sailed to the Island ; named Machico after Machin ; and built a chapel where the cedar tree had stood. This chapel (far side of stream passing through the village) was destroyed by flood and rebuilt in 1804 ; in it was preserved until recently a small cedar-wood cross, with a note to the effect that it was the remains of Machin's Cross and was deposited there in 1825 by Robert Page, an English resident of Madeira.

The story has probably little foundation of fact, but it is interesting that the name Machin is still found in Bristol, and that the original legend came from Portuguese sources.

Just after leaving Machico by the motor road to Funchal a turn right leads up to the Mirador de Francisco Alvares de Nobrega from which there is a delightful view over the town and lighthouse.

Santa Cruz, 12½ m., 20 kms. from Funchal, is another large coastal village with an old church and town hall and flourishing fishing industry. Brilliant coloured fish are caught here and despatched alive to the London Zoological Gardens for the

Aquarium. The Santa Catarina Aerodrome lies a little to the east of Santa Cruz.

The road passes below the village of Gaula to Porto Novo, the centre of the onion growing area. Beyond the village of Caniço, 5½ m., 9 kms. from Funchal, 751 ft., the road passes above the high cliffs of the Brazen Head and descends towards Funchal. 2 m., 3.5 kms., before reaching Funchal is the Balcony viewpoint known as the *Pinaculo* (Montanha), 918 ft., which commands a magnificent view over the city and bay from the east, especially in the morning. At Caniço is a restaurant, Jardim do Sol.

To Pico Arieiro, 5,937 ft.

The road turns left just short of the summit of the *Poiso Pass*, 9 m., 14 kms. from Funchal, and continues over grassy country as far as the Meteorological Observatory, 11½ m., 18 kms.; 5,228 ft. From here it used to be necessary to proceed on foot, and the summit of Pico Arieiro, one of the highest peaks in the Island, may be reached in about an hour. The ascent is a rough walk of about 1½ m. over open ground, quite without danger. By making a short deviation to the south, one may see an old ice-house (*circa* 1800), which consists of a deep pit, covered by a domed roof (dangerous to enter), wherein winter snow used to be stored from nearby drifts. This remained as a supply of caked ice through the following summer for use on the tables of the wealthy inhabitants. A motor road to the Pico was completed in 1961 but is still unpaved (mid-1962) from the Observatory to the Pico and not usable in wet weather.

The view from the Pico Arieiro is magnificent on a clear day. On three sides there are enormous ravines and precipices, beyond which rise the rocky peaks of the central ridge of the Island.

From the beacon on Arieiro a rough path leads eastwards, passing through the nearby rocky ridge, to disclose a magnificent panorama to the north-east.

To the Grand Curral.

The motor road climbs through the thickly-populated parish of São Antonio, with its large twin-towered church, to the point known as the Midshipmen's Curral, whence there is a splendid view over the Soccorridos Ravine. Its English name is due to

the story that Midshipmen used to hire horses to ride out to the Grand Curral, but the horse boys, who went on foot, used to pretend that this was the Grand Curral—which is actually considerably farther on—in order to reduce their own exertions. Other views of the Soccorridos Ravine are passed and the road ends at 9½ m., 14 kms. at the *Eira do Serrado* whence a short ascent by a path takes the visitor in a few minutes to the summit of the *Pico do Serrado*, 3,365 ft.

It is advisable just before the summit to follow the path along the ridge extending towards the ravine as far as the balcony, from which a much extended view is obtained, including *Pico Ruivo*, the highest point of the Island. From here one may see some of the wildest scenery in Madeira. The Curral Village, seen a thousand feet below, is in a great hollow surrounded by some of the Island's loftiest peaks, and the river, a thousand feet below the village, escapes into the Soccorridos Ravine through an exceedingly narrow passage. A zig-zag footpath said to have 25 hairpin bends descends to the village from near the car terminus. A new road descends to the picturesque Curral Village, 1,200 ft. below, in about 2½ m. The scenery is fine and the road passes through two mountain spurs by tunnels of about 500 and 400 yards respectively. This is a very good excursion.

On the return journey a short deviation may be made to *Pico dos Barcelos*, 3½ m., 6 kms. from Funchal, 1,164 ft., a viewpoint above and south of Santo Antonio Church.

The round trip to the *Eira do Serrado*, out via Santo Antonio and return via *Pico dos Barcelos*, allowing for stops, may be done in three hours. However, it is not advisable for through-passengers in the Mail Vessels to attempt this excursion.

The Grand Curral is also referred to as the Curral das Freiras, and often appears thus on maps.

To the West of Madeira by Sea

Well-found diesel launches leave Funchal Pier for points along the southern coast of Madeira as far west as the village of Paul do Mar. No food is obtainable on board. Toilets available.

The launch returns the same day (*see p. 17*) and the journey normally occupies about four hours each way. The return fare is very modest, 22\$00 (5s. 6d.), and the coast scenery is very

fine indeed. The launch tows rowing boats which convey passengers between it and the landing steps of the seven stopping places.

The first call is at the village of *Câmara de Lobos*, 4½ m., 7 kms., where the launch enters the attractive little harbour. Beyond this she passes under the gigantic cliffs of *Cabo Girão*, and visitors marvel at the inaccessible spots to which peasants climb in order to cultivate a few square yards of soil. Many interesting rock formations are seen, all due to volcanic action.

From *Campanário Landing*, 8 m., 13.5 kms., the peasants climb by steps and steep paths to the village of *Campanário*, some 1,000 ft. above.

At *Ribeira Brava*, 9½ m., 16.1 kms., is a pleasant view of the village and of the ravine which leads up to the mountains of the interior.

Ponta do Sol, 12 m., 20.3 kms., has a well constructed landing place. This is built at the foot of a flat vertical rock which has a central boss of stone from which cracks radiate; it is supposed to resemble the sun and gives the place its name.

Fajã do Mar. 15 m., 24.8 kms., is the landing place for this region, including *Madlena do Mar* and *Arco da Calheta*. Another landing place, *Calheta Pier*, 16½ m., 27.8 kms., serves the village of *Calheta* which lies a little farther to the west. Beyond this the launch passes, but does not call at, the village of *Jardim do Mar*, 19½ m., 32.4 kms., where there are well-terraced hillsides overlooking the sea, to the terminus at the large village of *Paul do Mar*, 21 m., 34.4 kms. This stands on a landslip at the foot of high cliffs.

Generally there is time for visitors to go ashore at *Paul do Mar* before the launch commences her return journey; however, it is probably pleasanter to stay on board and eat one's lunch. A most precipitous path leads from the village to *Prazeres* some 1,800 ft. above.

To the East of Madeira by Sea

Excursions by launch to *Praia Beach* are arranged occasionally by hotels for the benefit of their guests.

The launch from *Funchal* passes the *Fort of São Tiago* to the east of the city, dating from 1614 and now used as an *Artillery Barracks*. At 3½ m., 5.5 kms., the launch passes below the sheer

cliffs (459 ft.) of the Brazen Head (Cabo do Garajão), on the summit of which (925 ft.) is a large figure of Christ with arms extended. Several old forts are situated along the coast between Funchal and Machico, presumably because landing on this coast is less difficult than elsewhere.

4½ m., 7.3 kms. from Funchal is Ponta Oliveira, and on its western side are the steps of the landing for Caniçal. This is a great onion-growing region and about 5,000 tons are exported annually. Just beyond is the Friar's Cave where a remarkable statue-like rock stands in the entrance to a lava cave beside the sea.

Ponta de Atalaya, 5½ m., 9.3 kms., is a conspicuous headland of considerable geological interest. Here, resulting from marine erosion, is displayed a cross section of a volcanic cone with a plug of lava in its throat, which is bordered by the ashes forming the sides of the pile. It belongs to the younger series of eruptions in Madeira, of which there are other examples in the neighbourhood.

The Porto Novo Steps are 7 m., 11 kms. Beyond the point Gaula Church is seen some distance up the slopes.

Santa Cruz, 9 m., 14.3 kms., is a large village at the foot of the slopes leading up to the Santo da Serra. Just beyond the landing is the old fort, now used as a prison.

Machico, 11½ m., 18.6 kms., lies in a well protected bay facing south-east.

From Machico a new road has been constructed to Caniçal a village formerly difficult of access except by sea. Distance Machico to Caniçal, including a tunnel half a mile long, 5 miles. The road continues a further half mile to the Whaling Station.

The excursion to the Fossil Beds may be made by rowing boat from Machico in about an hour if the weather is suitable, or on foot from the Whaling Station.

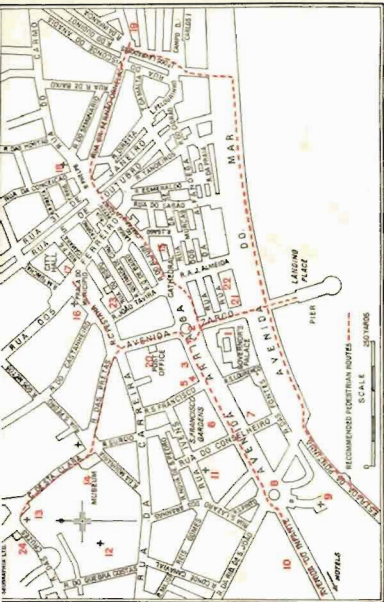
Beyond Machico distances by sea from Funchal are Caniçal, 13½ m., 18.6 kms. and Prainha Beach, 15 m., 23.8 kms. At Prainha is a sandy beach much appreciated by bathers.

The peninsula here is only about half a mile wide and on the far side are the Fossil Beds. Here are casts moulded on the former vegetation; the beds also contain quantities of land shells of kinds now extinct.





CENTRAL FUNCHAL



- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Governor's Palace 2 Zarco's Statue 3 Official Tourist Office 4 British Consulate 5 Madeira Wine Assn., Ltd. 6 S. Francisco Gardens 7 Theatre 8 Prince Henry's Statue 9 Sta. Catarina Chapel 10 Empress of Brazil's Hospital 11 Scottish Church 12 English Church 13 Sta. Clara Chapel & Convent 14 Museum 15 Cathedral 16 Colégio Church 17 City Hall 18 Carmo Chapel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19 Market 20 Post Office 21 Blandy Brothers & Co. Ltd. 22 English Room 23 Museum of Sacred Art 24 Crozes Museum |
|--|--|

The red line shows the Bus route
between the Port and the City

0 1/4 1/2 MILE (APPROX)



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ENGLISH
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*Playa de las
Lanteras*

- A Catedral Sta. Ana
- B Plaza de Sta. Ana
- C Bishop's Palace
- D Town Hall
- E Plaza Espirita Santo
- F Canary Museum
- G Plaza Sta. Domingo

- H Columbus Museum
- I St. Antonio Abad Church
- K Perez Galdos Theatre
- L Casino
- M Elder Dempster (Canary
Islands) Ltd.—Union-
Castle Agents.





Canary
Folk Dancers
in National
Costume



CANARY ISLANDS

Geographical: The Canary Archipelago consists of seven main islands lying between latitudes 27° 44" to 29° 15" N., and longitudes 13° 26" to 17° 53" W. Fuerteventura lies less than 60 miles from the African coast at Cape Juby, with Hierro and Gomera some 200 m. farther west.

The islands from east to west are :—

	Sq. miles	Population (1959)	Highest point (feet)
Lanzarote (with six small satellites)	283	36,580	2,244
Fuerteventura	788	18,632	2,770
Grand Canary	591	395,117	6,435
Teneriffe	795	372,041	12,152
Gomera	148	29,942	4,400
La Palma	280	68,238	7,877
Hierro	109	7,447	4,990

All these islands are of volcanic origin and, with the exception of Grand Canary and Fuerteventura, have erupted in historical times. The most recent were Teneriffe in 1909 and La Palma in 1949.

A legend states that the Canaries are all that remains of the Lost Continent of Atlantis, described in two of Plato's Dialogues. Another theory is that they once formed part of the African mainland.

The eastern islands, Lanzarote and Fuerteventura are low-lying and composed largely of desert and extinct volcanoes. The western islands, however, including Grand Canary, are all mountainous with peaks varying from 4,400 ft. in Gomera to over 12,000 ft. in Teneriffe. For the most part they are well-watered and fertile though there are stretches of desert-like country in both Grand Canary and Teneriffe.

Government: The Canary Islands are regarded as part of Spain, not as a Colony, and Canarios (inhabitants of the islands) refer to the mainland of Spain as "The Peninsula." The Captain-General of the Islands has his headquarters in Teneriffe. The islands of Teneriffe, La Palma, Gomera and Hierro are regarded as one province, and Grand Canary, Fuerteventura and Lanzarote as another, each under a Civil Governor who represents the Government. The Island Councils (Cabildo Insular), similar in functions to British County Councils, are in charge of the interests of the Islands.

Las Palmas, capital of the Province of Grand Canary, is a very busy Spanish seaport, and one of the largest oil bunkering ports in the world. It lies 1,548 sea miles from Southampton, 262 m. from Funchal, Madeira, and 4,426 m. from Cape Town. For distances between the islands see Map at end of book.

Santa Cruz de Tenerife is capital of the Province of Teneriffe. 52 m. N.N.W. of Las Palmas.

Climate: Meteorological tables, taken at approximately sea level, are given on the following pages for Las Palmas and Santa Cruz de Tenerife. Generally speaking, the islands to the west of Grand Canary receive more rain; those to the east near the African coast receive very little.

From the tables it will be seen that there is small variation of temperature, the mean for Las Palmas being 67·2°F. in January, the coolest month, and 76·4°F. in November, the warmest. Similarly the range in Santa Cruz de Tenerife is from about 63·5°F. in January and February, to about 77·3°F. in August.

The rainfall in Las Palmas is about 5·5 inches, and in Santa Cruz about 9·5 inches, falling on 39 and 51 days respectively.

There is virtually no rainfall in either city during June, July and August.

Hours of sunshine in Las Palmas are from 5·39 hours in January to 10·23 in June; and in Santa Cruz from 5·45 in December to 11·05 in July.

The winter season, which attracts large numbers of visitors from Europe, extends from November to mid-April inclusive.

when the islands are at their gayest. It is usually possible to bathe all the year round.

During the winter months wind and cloud conditions may sometimes interrupt air services between the islands, etc.

The summer heat is never excessive, except perhaps on those few days when the levante wind blows across from the Sahara. A curious feature of these winds is that while they are blowing the heat increases with the altitude if one travels inland. They are also supposed to blow for an odd number of days—one day or three, but not two. Generally, however, the summer months have much to commend them: it is warmer for bathing, and conditions are better for expeditions into the mountains and for visits to the other islands.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLES

Las Palmas

	SHADE TEMPERATURE			RAIN m/m	No. OF DAYS	SUNSHINE HOURS DAILY
	Mean Max.	Mean Min.	Mean			Mean Average
January ..	72.5°F.	59.1°F.	67.2°F.	36.65	9	6.1
February	73.4°F.	59.1°F.	67.2°F.	8.25	2	8.9
March ..	78.8°F.	58.6°F.	65.6°F.	1.80	2	7.7
April ..	72.3°F.	61.3°F.	67.4°F.	11.55	6	7.7
May ..	76.5°F.	63.6°F.	69.2°F.	1.85	2	8.7
June ..	78.6°F.	64.9°F.	70.3°F.	—	0	10.3
July ..	78.6°F.	68.1°F.	73.5°F.	—	0	9.8
August ..	83.3°F.	68.9°F.	75.7°F.	—	0	8.3
September	78.8°F.	67.1°F.	75.2°F.	6.20	3	6.0
October ..	78.4°F.	68.5°F.	76.4°F.	3.70	2	5.9
November	75.0°F.	64.7°F.	76.4°F.	58.20	9	5.6
December	73.0°F.	60.0°F.	66.2°F.	9.60	4	5.0

Rainfall totals 136.8 mms. = 5.3 in. falling on 39 days.

Santa Cruz de Tenerife

	SHADE TEMPERATURE			RAIN m/m	No. OF DAYS	SUNSHINE HOURS DAILY
	Mean Max.	Mean Min.	Mean			Mean Average
January ..	68.7°F.	58.5°F.	63.5°F.	29.4	6	5.55
February ..	68.7°F.	58.3°F.	63.5°F.	35.7	6	6.40
March ..	70.8°F.	59.2°F.	64.9°F.	24.8	5	6.40
April ..	72.5°F.	60.8°F.	66.5°F.	14.8	4	8.40
May ..	74.5°F.	62.6°F.	68.5°F.	7.6	2	9.20
June ..	78.6°F.	65.6°F.	72.1°F.	0.6	0	10.15
July ..	83.5°F.	68.3°F.	75.6°F.	0.1	0	11.05
August ..	84.7°F.	70.0°F.	77.3°F.	0.1	0	10.30
September	81.8°F.	69.8°F.	75.7°F.	1.8	2	7.55
October ..	78.6°F.	67.6°F.	73.2°F.	27.7	6	6.15
November	73.9°F.	64.8°F.	68.9°F.	50.7	10	6.00
December	70.1°F.	60.4°F.	65.3°F.	50.3	10	5.45

Rainfall totals 243.8 mms. = 9.6 ins. falling on 51 days

Flora and Fauna. There are public gardens at both Las Palmas and Santa Cruz de Tenerife with good displays of flowers and flowering trees. The Garden of Acclimatisation near Orotava, is mentioned later. Among the interesting local trees are the til (laurel), several palms, dragon trees, Canary Island pines, night-flowering cactus, etc.

Over 200 species of birds have been collected, about 75 of which breed in the Islands (see Bibliography). There are no mammals apart from those introduced, no snakes, but numerous lizards, including the famous lizard of Hierro, mentioned later.

Language: Spanish is the language of the Canary Islands. English is understood in hotels in and near Las Palmas, in Santa Cruz de Tenerife and Puerto de la Cruz, and in many shops in Las Palmas and Santa Cruz. It is seldom understood in the country districts or in any of the other five islands, except in the hotels in Arrecife and at La Palma, and a Spanish phrase book

can be very useful. French is sometimes understood when English is not. The whistling language of Gomera is described in the section dealing with that island.

The **Inhabitants** of the Canary Islands are the descendants of the original Guanches and their Spanish conquerors.

Mention of their folk dances, wrestling and other local sports will be made farther on.

Every evening between 7 and 8 p.m., as in most Spanish towns and villages, crowds of young people parade slowly up and down a certain street or square, the men and girls being in separate groups. This is known as the "paseo", and meetings on these occasions often lead to marriage.

History. The Canaries, sometimes called the Fortunate Isles, are believed to have been known to the Carthaginians 3,000 years ago. The modern history, however, dates from the fourteenth century, when many adventurers visited them but none attempted conquest.

In 1402, Jean de Bethencourt, a Norman, fitted out an expedition which succeeded in occupying Lanzarote without opposition, and soon after, with the support of Henry III of Castille, he managed to secure for Castille the islands of Fuerteventura, Gomera and Hierro. Grand Canary was finally captured by Spain in 1483, La Palma in 1492, and Teneriffe in 1496.

Lanzarote suffered a number of attacks by Moors who occupied it both in 1569 and 1586. The Islands have also been attacked by both English and Dutch with varying lack of success, the best known being Nelson's repulse at Teneriffe in 1797. Since then, until General Franco's National Rising, which commenced in the Islands in 1936, their history has been comparatively uneventful.

Canary Dogs: It is said that the name of the islands comes from the Latin, *canis*: a dog, because of the large and savage dogs found there. The connection seems remote but there were some fierce dogs of a variety still bred in Fuerteventura, and mentioned under that island.

Sea Travel: Vessels of many Shipping Companies, both *British and Foreign*, call at Las Palmas and/or Teneriffe. The *Union-Castle Mail Steamship Company, Ltd.*, which serves South and East Africa, has the largest number of passenger vessels calling at the Canary Islands. Their eight luxurious liners in the South African mail service (25,554 to 37,640 tons) call at Las Palmas and provide a regular fortnightly service. Northbound, certain vessels provide calls additional to this fortnightly schedule. For the regular fortnightly calls both northbound and southbound vessels arrive on alternate Monday mornings. The ships making the additional call northbound arrive on Sunday evening. Departures from Southampton are at 4 p.m. on alternate Thursdays.

The *Royal Mail Lines, Ltd.* have several passenger vessels from England which call at Las Palmas in their South American service.

Other British Lines whose passenger vessels from the United Kingdom call at the Canaries are the *Elder Dempster Lines, Ltd.* (West African Service); *Shaw Savill Line* (South Africa and Australia); *Ellerman Bucknall Line* (South and East Africa); and *Blue Star Line* (South America).

Both the *Naviera Aznar S.A.* (Spanish) and the *Fred Olsen Line* (Norwegian) carry a limited number of passengers between London and the Canaries. Other Foreign Lines include German, Belgian, Argentine, Danish, French, Italian and Swedish vessels, operating mainly from Continental ports.

Compania Trasmediterranea-Spanish Lines:—This Company provides the principal sea communications between the Canaries and ports in the Spanish Peninsula, together with the *Inter-Island Services*.

Inter-Island Service:—There is a daily service between Las Palmas and Santa Cruz de Teneriffe (52 miles). Departures are usually at midnight with a 7 a.m. arrival. There are at least three sailings a week, each way, between Teneriffe and Santa Cruz de La Palma.

SERVICE No. 1 Las Palmas-Arrecife (Lanzarote)
 Las Palmas-Teneriffe
 Teneriffe-La Palma

Per " CIUDAD DE HUESCA " 2,888 Tons

		<i>Arrivals</i>	<i>Departures</i>	
LAS PALMAS	Mondays	07.00	Mondays 21.00	} Odd weeks
ARRECIFE ..	Tuesdays	08.00	Tuesdays 21.00	
LAS PALMAS	Wednesdays	08.00	Fridays 09.00	
TENERIFFE..	Fridays	15.00	Fridays 21.00	
LA PALMA ..	Saturdays	08.00	Saturdays 21.00	
TENERIFFE..	Sundays	08.00	Sundays 24.00	
LAS PALMAS	Mondays	07.00	Mondays 21.00	} Even weeks
ARRECIFE ..	Tuesdays	08.00	Tuesdays 21.00	
LAS PALMAS	Wednesdays	08.00	Thursdays 24.00	
TENERIFFE..	Fridays	07.00	Fridays 21.00	
LA PALMA ..	Saturdays	08.00	Saturdays 21.00	
TENERIFFE..	Sundays	08.00	Sundays 24.00	

SERVICE No. 2 La Palmas-Teneriffe
 Las Palmas-Puerto del Rosario (Fuerteventura)
 Arrecife (Lanzarote)
 Per " LEON Y CASTILLO " 1,480 Tons

		<i>Arrivals</i>	<i>Departures</i>
LAS PALMAS	..		Mondays 13.00
TENERIFFE..	.. Mondays	19.00	Mondays 24.00
LAS PALMAS	.. Tuesdays	07.00	Tuesdays 18.00
PUERTO ROSARIO	Wednesdays	08.00	Wednesdays 12.00
ARRECIFE ..	.. Wednesdays	16.00	Wednesdays 21.00
LAS PALMAS	.. Thursdays	11.00	Fridays 24.00
TENERIFFE..	.. Saturdays	07.00	Saturdays 09.00
LAS PALMAS	.. Saturdays	15.00	Saturdays 18.00
ARRECIFE ..	.. Sundays	08.00	Sundays 18.00
LAS PALMAS	.. Mondays	08.00	

SERVICE No. 3 Las Palmas-Teneriffe

Teneriffe-La Palma

Las Palmas-Arrecife (Lanzarote) Puerto del Rosario (Fuerteventura)

Per " CIUDAD DE MAHON " 2,150 Tons

LA PALMA ..	..		Mondays	21.00	
TENERIFFE..	..	Tuesdays	09.00	Tuesdays	24.00
LAS PALMAS	..	Wednesdays	07.00	Thursdays	18.00
ARRECIFE ..	..	Fridays	08.00	Fridays	13.00
PUERTO ROSARIO		Fridays	18.00	Fridays	22.00
LAS PALMAS	..	Saturdays	10.00	Saturdays	24.00
TENERIFFE..	..	Sundays	07.00	Sundays	21.00
LA PALMA ..	..	Monday	09.00		

SERVICE No. 4 Teneriffe-San Sebastian (Gomera)-Valverde (Hierro)

Teneriffe-Las Palmas

Per " LA PALMA " 1,503 Tons Capacity:

		<i>Arrivals</i>	<i>Departures</i>
TENERIFFE			Tuesdays 24.00
GOMERA ..	..	Wednesdays 08.00	Wednesdays 12.00
VALVERDE	..	Wednesdays 18.00	Wednesdays 24.00
GOMERA ..	..	Thursdays 06.00	Thursdays 12.00
TENERIFFE..	..	Thursdays 20.00	Thursdays 24.00
GOMERA ..	..	Fridays 08.00	Fridays 12.00
VALVERDE	..	Fridays 18.00	Fridays 24.00
GOMERA ..	..	Saturdays 06.00	Saturdays 12.00
TENERIFFE..	..	Saturdays 20.00	Saturdays 24.00
LAS PALMAS	..	Sundays 07.00	Sundays 24.00
TENERIFFE..	..	Mondays 07.00	

SERVICE No. 5 Las Palmas-Teneriffe

Teneriffe-San Sebastian (Gomera)—La Palma-Valverde (Hiero)

Las Palmas-Puerto del Rosario (Fuerteventura)—Arrecife (Lanzarote)

Per "VIERA Y CLAVIJO" 1,465 Tons

GOMERA Mondays	08.00	Mondays	11.00	} Odd weeks
LA PALMA ..	.. Mondays	18.00	Mondays	24.00
VALVERDE ..	.. Tuesdays	07.00	Tuesdays	11.00
GOMERA ..	.. Tuesdays	18.00	Tuesdays	22.00
TENERIFFE ..	.. Weds.	08.00	Thurs.	24.00
LAS PALMAS ..	.. Fridays	07.00	Fridays	18.00
PUERTO ROSARIO	Sats.	08.00	Sats.	10.00	
ARRECIFE ..	.. Sats.	15.00	Sats.	18.00
LAS PALMAS ..	.. Sundays	08.00	Sundays	11.00
TENERIFFE ..	.. Sundays	18.00	Sundays	22.00
GOMERA Mondays	08.00	Mondays	11.00	} Even weeks
LA PALMA ..	.. Mondays	18.00	Mondays	24.00
VALVERDE ..	.. Tuesdays	07.00	Tuesdays	11.00
GOMERA ..	.. Tuesdays	18.00	Tuesdays	22.00
TENERIFFE ..	.. Weds.	08.00	Weds.	24.00
LAS PALMAS ..	.. Thurs.	07.00	Fridays	18.00
PUERTO ROSARIO	Sats.	08.00	Sats.	10.00	
ARRECIFE ..	.. Sats.	15.00	Sats.	18.00
LAS PALMAS ..	.. Sundays	08.00	Sundays	11.00
TENERIFFE ..	.. Sundays	18.00	Sundays	22.00

Vessels go alongside quays at all the above ports.

The vessels employed in these services are clean and well-run and, for their small tonnage, quite comfortable. There is a buffet bar, but passengers would usually take their meals on shore except when visiting the islands of Fuerteventura, Gomera and Hierro. Properly served meals are available if ordered in advance.

Tourists travelling overnight are advised to travel first class, the fares for which, as will be seen below, are quite moderate. Ordinary first class generally provides a two-

berth cabin with bedding; first class "preferencia" is a two-berth cabin with a toilet and washbasin (recommended when available); first class "lujo" accommodation is available only in some of the larger vessels from Spain, and includes a bathroom and possibly a sitting room.

Inter Island Fares (subject to alteration)

FROM LAS PALMAS TO:

		Sea		Air	
		1st	2nd	Single	Return
Teneriffe	Ptas.	178.00	116.55	280.00	504.00
Santa Cruz Palma		281.00	196.30	635.00	1,143.00
Arrecife		178.00	116.55	525.00	945.00
Puerto del Rosario		152.25	106.25	395.00	711.00
San Sebastian		229.50	170.55	—	—
Valverde		229.50	170.55	—	—

FROM TENERIFFE TO:

Santa Cruz Palma	229.50	170.55	355.00	639.00
Arrecife	229.50	170.55	805.00	1,149.00
Puerto del Rosario	229.50	170.55	675.00	1,215.00
San Sebastian	178.00	129.35	—	—
Valverde	203.75	129.35	—	—

NOTE: Higher rates apply for travel in the "Ciudad de Huesca", viz.:—

TO		From Las Palmas		From Tenerife	
		1st	2nd	1st	2nd
Teneriffe	Ptas	315.00	171.00	—	—
Santa Cruz Palma		488.00	291.00	401.00	263.00
Arrecife		401.00	263.00	459.00	297.00
Puerto del Rosario		401.00	263.00	459.00	297.00

There is no reduction on return tickets by sea. A charge is made by the Airways for the bus from Las Palmas or Santa Cruz de Tenerife to the Airport.

Express Service Barcelona-Canary Islands.				Weekly	
		<i>Arrivals</i>	<i>Departures</i>		
Barcelona	.. ..		Saturdays	17.00	
Cadiz	Mondays	08.00	Mondays	15.00
Las Palmas (or Teneriffe)	Wednesday	08.00	Wednesdays	20.00
Teneriffe (or Las Palmas)	Wednesday	24.00	Thursday	24.00
Las Palmas (or Teneriffe)	Fridays	07.00	Fridays	24.00
Malaga	Mondays	07.00	Mondays	11.00
Barcelona	Tuesdays	17.00		

These vessels sail one week direct from Cadiz to Las Palmas and return via Teneriffe, and the next direct from Cadiz to Teneriffe and return via Las Palmas. The voyage between Cadiz and Las Palmas takes 41 hours.

Service Seville-Cadiz-Canary Islands.				Weekly	
		<i>Arrivals</i>	<i>Departures</i>		
Seville			Fridays	p.m.	
Cadiz	Saturdays	a.m.	Saturdays	10.00
Las Palmas	Mondays	17.00	Tuesdays	20.00
Teneriffe	Wednesdays	01.00	Wednesdays	23.00
La Palma	Thursdays	08.00	Thursdays	23.00
Teneriffe	Fridays	08.00	Fridays	24.00
Las Palmas	Saturdays	07.00	Saturdays	20.00
Cadiz	Tuesdays	07.00	Tuesdays	p.m.
Seville	Tuesdays	p.m.		

This service is operated with two 3,000 ton vessels.

Barcelona-Canary Islands via Spanish Mediterranean Ports

Fortnightly operated with two 2,500 ton motor vessels.

Barcelona	.. ..	Dep.	Wednesdays	Midnight
Tarragona	.. ..	..	Thursday	P.M.
Valencia	.. ..	..	Fridays	P.M.
Alicante	.. ..	..	Sunday	Evening
Cartagena	.. ..	..	Monday	Evening
Almeria	.. ..	..	Tuesday	Evening
Malaga	.. ..	..	Wednesday	Evening
Ceuta	.. ..	..	Thursday	Evening

Las Palmas	..	..	Dep.	Monday	Midnight
Teneriffe ..	..	..	"	Tuesday	Evening
La Palma	..	..	"	Wednesday	Evening
Teneriffe ..	..	..	"	Thursday	Midnight
Las Palmas	..	..	"	Friday	Evening
Malaga ..	..	..	"	Tuesday	Evening
Alicante ..	..	..	"	Thursday	Evening
Valencia ..	..	..	"	Friday	Evening
Barcelona	..	..	"	Saturday	A. M.

North of Spain-Canary Islands service.

Fortnightly

Bilboa ..	..	..	Dep.	Wednesday
Gijon ..	..	..	"	Thursday
Vilagarcia	..	..	"	Saturday
Vigo ..	..	..	"	Tuesday
Las Palmas	..	..	Arr.	Saturday
Las Palmas	..	..	Dep.	Monday
Teneriffe ..	..	..	Arr.	Tuesday
Teneriffe ..	..	..	Dep.	Wednesday
Las Palmas	..	..	Arr.	Thursday
Las Palmas	..	..	Dep.	Thursday
Vigo ..	..	..	Dep.	Tuesday
Gijon ..	..	..	"	Thursday
Bilbao ..	..	..	Arr.	Friday
Pasajes ..	..	..	Dep.	Wednesday
Santander	..	..	"	Thursday
La Coruna	..	..	"	Saturday
Vigo ..	..	..	"	Tuesday
Teneriffe ..	..	..	Arr.	Saturday
Teneriffe ..	..	..	Dep.	Monday
Las Palmas	..	..	Arr.	Tuesday
Las Palmas	..	..	Dep.	Wednesday
Teneriffe ..	..	..	Arr.	Thursday
Teneriffe ..	..	..	Dep.	Thursday
La Coruna	..	..	Dep.	Tuesday
Santander	..	..	Dep.	Thursday
Pasajes ..	..	..	Arr.	Friday

Note:—Passage bookings to Spain are accepted three months prior to date of sailing. Accommodation must be paid for at the time the booking is made, when the passage ticket will be issued.

Compañía Transatlántica Española:—Services are operated between Genoa, ports on the Spanish Mainland, the Canary Islands, Venezuela and the West Indies.

Planning a visit:—Fairly full details are given of sea and air services between Madeira, the Canary Islands, North Africa, Spain and Portugal because of the wide variety of circular tours which may be worked out, based on the travel routes between those Territories and England.

While the recommended route between England and Madeira and the Canaries is by the mail ships of the Union-Castle Line, their vessels offering the most frequent sailings, it should be pointed out that during the spring and early summer these vessels are often well booked with passengers from South Africa to England, and from August to October the bookings from England to South Africa are equally heavy. It follows, therefore, that while first class passages are probably available one way or the other almost all the year round, during some months the reservation of berths in both directions may be difficult. Hence the suggestions made here for travelling one way by sea and planning a circular tour, are worth careful consideration. The following suggestions, practicable in either direction, do not involve travel in any very small ships:—

- (a) Out of Las Palmas by sea; thence via Teneriffe to Malaga by Spanish mail ship, and return to U.K. via Madrid and Paris.
- (b) Out by sea to Gibraltar (by Union-Castle East African vessel if available), visit Tangier, thence to Casablanca, Sidi Ifni or El Aaiun, whence there is an air service to Las Palmas. Return by sea.
- (c) Out by sea and return by sea from Las Palmas in the Spanish mail vessel via Malaga to Barcelona, thence visiting the Balearic Islands and return via Marseilles and Paris.
- (d) Out by sea and cross to Madeira by one of the occasional sailings, thence direct to England or via Lisbon.

To give an approximate summary of the position, there may be some difficulty in obtaining first class accommodation by Union-Castle Line to Madeira and Las Palmas from August to October and December to January, and from these islands to

England from March to June. First class return passages from England to the islands would probably be available in November returning in November/December, or in June/July returning July/August, but accommodation does sometimes become available even in the busiest months and it is always worth making enquiries. Cabin and tourist class accommodation is generally rather more difficult to secure.

It is always advisable to make sea, air and hotel bookings in advance.

From time to time specially reduced return first class fares are offered during the summer months by certain sailings.

It is recommended to the traveller that having gone as far as Las Palmas he should also see Tenerife.

For those who would like to go off the beaten track, there are five other islands in the Canary Archipelago, three of them of considerable interest, and all of them seldom visited by English-speaking visitors. As will be seen from the Inter-Island sailings, already detailed, it is quite easy to reach them.

All the itineraries suggested above require organising well in advance, and would be best handled by a good travel agent.

For sailings between the *Canary Islands and Madeira* see p. 14.

It is imperative that passports should be in order for all territories it is proposed to visit. They should also be carried when travelling about among the various islands.

All sea and air services are of course subject to alteration, and readers should check the details given before relying on their accuracy.

Air Travel

Iberia Air Lines (Spanish) operate the following services with Caravelle and Super Constellation planes.

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 8 services weekly | Madrid-Canary Islands (Las Palmas or Tenerife). |
| 2 | „ Madrid-Seville-Sidi Ifni-El Aaiun-Las Palmas. |
| 6 | „ Tenerife-Las Palmas-Fuerteventura-Lanzarote. |
| 7 | „ Tenerife-La Palma. |

Several services daily between Las Palmas and Tenerife.

Aviacion y Comercio operates a twice-weekly service :—
Madrid-Casablanca-Las Palmas-Teneriffe and return.
Madrid-Seville-Teneriffe-Las Palmas and return.

British United Airways operate frequent non-stop services between London (Gatwick), Las Palmas and Teneriffe, with prop.-jet Britannia aircraft providing accommodation for first and tourist class passengers.

Spanish Government Tourist Offices are maintained in Las Palmas, and Santa Cruz de Tenerife and there are local Tourist Offices at Santa Cruz de la Palma and Arrecife. Their friendly and capable services are freely at the disposal of visitors seeking information and advice.

Clothing: The most useful clothes for men during the summer are lightweight tropical suits or light sports coats and trousers. Shorts are not much worn outside the hotel grounds by ladies or gentlemen. In winter ordinary English clothes are suitable. Rubber-soled shoes and sun glasses may be useful. Guests often dress for dinner in the luxury hotels, and gentlemen staying in these will find it convenient, though not essential, to have with them a dinner jacket, white or black. Ladies will find that short frocks suit most occasions. Sun hats may be bought in the islands and superior footwear is very reasonably priced.

For bathing from the more frequented public beaches men must wear trunks of the "boxing shorts" type or costumes with skirts. Ladies wear one-piece costumes with skirts. Bathing wraps are usual if bathers wish to sit about the beach. These remarks do not apply to hotel swimming pools or country beaches.

See also note under "Churches."

Health: Newcomers to any of the islands are occasionally troubled with a severe colic due to change of food and conditions, and it is generally accepted that in order to avoid this it is advisable to be very moderate in partaking of soft fruit and wine at the same time, and to avoid undue exposure to the sun or excessive fatigue. The use of fruit salts or other laxatives may be helpful, and visitors to the smaller Spanish islands should carry their requirements of these and, if the visit is to be during the summer, an insect repellent. There is definitely no malaria.

Drinking water in the larger hotels is perfectly safe. English-speaking Spanish doctors and specialists practise in the large centres.

Currency. The Spanish peseta has fluctuated considerably, but at time of going to press is Ptas. 168 to the £1 sterling, a rate fixed in July, 1959. The value of a U.S. dollar is Ptas. 59. The peseta is divided into 100 centavos. The currency is mainly paper with notes from Ptas. 5 upwards and metal coins in the low denominations.

Hotels may charge about Ptas. 3 in the £1 for cashing Travellers' Cheques (about 4½%), and visitors are advised to cash these Cheques at the Bank of Spain where the full value will be given. They should not purchase Spanish currency in excess of their requirements as they will not, at any rate in Spain, be able to change it back into foreign currency.

Visitors should consult their Banks before leaving home as to the best method of obtaining their currency requirements. They may not take into the Canaries more than Ptas. 10,000 each in Spanish money. Travellers' Cheques must be endorsed by the issuing Bank for External Account, and visitors will be required to produce their passports when cashing them at the Bank.

While at one time some shops and others were prepared to buy foreign currency at a premium over the official rate, this is no longer so.

United Kingdom Defence (Finance) Regulations: All sea and air passages in respect of travel by British ships and aircraft may be paid for in resident sterling so that the whole of the £100 Foreign Travel Allowance to each adult passenger (£70 for children) is available for use in the Canary Islands. Additional foreign exchange may be granted in cases where travel is necessitated by ill-health.

Hotels are graded by the Spanish Tourist Authorities and are mentioned later under the islands in which they are situated. The luxury hotels in Las Palmas and Santa Cruz de Tenerife provide accommodation of a high standard, and there are many others at more economical rates which will also be found very satisfactory. Accommodation suitable for British visitors is to be found in all the islands except at Gomera, Fuerteventura and Hierro, where, however, there are small Spanish pensions with a daily inclusive tariff equivalent to seven or eight shillings.



80A

Teror, Grand Canary

Photo Spanish National Tourist Office



The Spanish Government Tourist Authorities own and run very comfortable inns (Paradores) in Lanzarote, Santa Cruz de La Palma, Las Cañadas, Tenerife, and at the Cruz de Tejada, Grand Canary (temporarily closed Dec., 1962). These can be recommended. *See also* under Icod, Tenerife.

Gratuities: Generally 15 per cent. for service is added to all hotel accounts except at the Paradores, and beyond this it is not necessary to give anything except for special attention. It is, however, usual to give something to the men who actually handle the baggage. Taxi drivers engaged on a long trip do not normally expect anything above the price agreed upon, but on short journeys where the fares are very low, it is usual to add a trifle.

Cost of Living: The Canary Islands have a reputation for cheapness which is sometimes exaggerated. Wages are low and the charges at small pensions used by the local inhabitants are sometimes exceedingly modest; but visitors who stay at the luxury and first grade hotels, which cater for foreign guests, will find that they pay reasonable prices for what they obtain—perhaps a little below what they would be charged for such accommodation in most large European centres. However, one may stay in the comfortable Government-owned Paradores at an inclusive charge of Ptas. 255 including tax, a day, plus Ptas. 12 on day of arrival only (at time of going to press), and in some of the country districts it is possible to have board and lodging for as little as eight shillings a day. But this would not normally appeal to a British visitor.

Renting Houses: Furnished villas and flats are scarce. Intending residents are strongly advised to stay at an hotel until they have found permanent accommodation to suit them.

Shopping: Shops in the two principal islands are very good, and the visitor will be able to purchase all ordinary requirements; but elsewhere stocks are very limited.

Souvenirs of interest to visitors are principally local embroidery (mostly made in the island of La Palma), Spanish mantillas and combs, attractive hand-woven curtaining, inlaid woodwork, basketwork, etc. Large walking-talking dolls are bought by visitors in considerable numbers, and there are also beautifully made figures of Spanish ladies in typical dresses. Some of the

cigars made in La Palma are fairly good, but when possible the advice of a local resident should be sought in buying these. Footwear and bronze and crystal electric light fittings (made in Barcelona) are among the best purchases. Some shops stock oriental goods.

Food: The table in the hotels is generally very good. Cooking is usually in the Spanish style, often with olive oil, and food may be found rather richer than that to which visitors may be accustomed. Excellent steaks, veal and egg dishes appear frequently on the menus, but are often too underdone to suit British tastes. The expression "bien cocido" (well cooked) will be found useful in correcting this tendency.

Hotel meals usually consist of the Continental breakfast of tea or coffee, rolls, butter, marmalade, jam, etc., served in the bedroom or elsewhere at any time between about 8 and 10.30 a.m. Lunch, a substantial meal, is available from 1 p.m. to 2.30 p.m., and dinner, which generally commences at 9 p.m., may continue until midnight or later.

Cold meat dishes are not usually popular.

Paella is a palatable rich dish containing meat, chicken, sea food, etc.

Gazpacho, available at most hotels, is a soup made of tomato, vegetables, etc., flavoured with vinegar. It is eaten cold.

Cocido has a basis of chick-peas with the addition of vegetables and various meats.

Octopus (calamares) is cooked in various ways, and unless stipulated otherwise is likely to be an ingredient of paella.

A popular local dish—unlikely to be offered to a foreign visitor—is squid cooked in its own black fluid.

Garlic used as a discreet suspicion is quite pleasant, and visitors are not likely to find it used generously except perhaps in national dishes or in meals served in small pensions catering for Spanish guests.

The best wines made in Grand Canary are *Vino del Monte*, a dry red wine, and a sweet wine known as *Malvasia*. There are also the white, dry wines from *Lanzarote*. Wines from other Canary islands are available, also Spanish wines from the Peninsula.

Mineral Waters. Pleasant natural sparkling waters are largely used in the Canary Islands and sold bottled. Some of the best known are those from Fingás and San Roque. For mineral baths see under *Agate*.

Business Hours: Offices are normally open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m. Some firms close at 1 p.m. on Saturday but shops do not. Shop hours are 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m. Many shops, however, open at any time when ships with passengers aboard are in port, Sundays included.

Public Holidays: Those visiting the Canaries on business are sometimes inconvenienced by finding offices, etc., unexpectedly closed owing to a public holiday or a fiesta, the latter often of a local character.

Monday is always a quiet day and in some respects business and other activities do not seem to regain their full momentum after the weekend until Tuesday. Monday is the day when probably there will be no music in the hotel and museums may be closed.

Standard Time in the Canaries is G.M.T., *i.e.*, it is the same as in England. There is no "summer time."

Postal Services: The islands are linked with the airmail routes of the world. Visitors will be principally concerned with airmail rates which are at time of going to press, per 5 grammes, to Spain Ptas. 1.25; to Portugal and Gibraltar Ptas. 1.50; to rest of Europe Ptas. 6.00 up to 5 gr., Ptas. 9.00 up to 20 gr. Other rates are per 5 grammes, to the United States Ptas. 10.00; all parts of Africa Ptas. 10.00; Asia and Australasia Ptas. 13.00

These rates are liable to alteration. Information given in hotels, etc., regarding airmail rates outside Europe are not always accurate and under-stamping results in carriage by surface mail.

There is telephone communication with most of the world.

Cable rates to United Kingdom, ordinary rate Ptas. 6.35; night letter Ptas. 3.20 per word (min. 22 words); Republic of South Africa, ordinary rate Ptas. 21.00; night letter Ptas. 10.50 per word (min. 22 words).

Customs Dues, etc.: The Canary Islands are free ports and there are no customs houses or restrictions affecting passengers' normal baggage. Merchandise is a different matter.

Visitors wishing to import cars temporarily will need International Triptique, etc., and should make full enquiries in advance from a Motoring Association. "Drive Yourself" cars may be hired in Las Palmas and Teneriffe.

Passports are essential. Spanish visas are required by all visitors with the exception of persons holding British and Commonwealth, United States, Belgian, Dutch, French, German, Italian and Portuguese passports. South African visitors must have their passports vised. This information should be checked.

Visas may be obtained through any Consulate in Europe or through the Consulate in Cape Town. The Spanish Consulate-General in London is at 21, Cavendish Square, W.1. The passport must be handed to the hotel office on arrival.

Churches: The inhabitants of the islands are Roman Catholics, and there are many old churches, convents, etc., some of which are of considerable interest. There are specially venerated images in Teror, Grand Canary (The Virgin of the Pine), Candelaria, Teneriffe (The Virgin of Candelaria), and at Santa Cruz de La Palma (The Virgin of the Snows). In many churches visitors will be shown gold and silver ornaments, vestments and pictures, and it is an interesting fact that many of the silver vessels and most of the silver sheathing on altars were made by silversmiths established in La Laguna, Teneriffe, during the 16th to 18th centuries, using metal brought in treasure galleons from the Spanish possessions in South and Central America.

Ladies should not enter churches with their arms or shoulders bare nor when wearing shorts or trousers. The head must be covered but for this a handkerchief will suffice.

English churches are established in Las Palmas, and in Santa Cruz and Puerto de la Cruz in Teneriffe. These are mentioned later.

Bibliography: The following are useful books on the Islands, those marked with an asterisk being still in print at time of going to press :—

**Les Canaries* (French) by Claude Dervenn, Horizons de France, Paris. (Finely illustrated.)

**Madeira and the Canaries*, by Elizabeth Nicholas, Hamish Hamilton, 1953.

Brown's Madeira, Canary Islands and Azores (last edn. 1932). Simpkin, Marshall Ltd.

The Canary Islands, an Ornithologist's Trips in the Archipelago, by D. A. Bannerman, 1922.

The Guanches of Tenerife, Our Lady of Candelaria and the Spanish Conquest and Settlement. Hakluyt Society, 1907.

Tenerife and its Six Satellites, by Olivia M. Stone, 2 vols. 1887.

History of the Canary Islands by George Glas, London, 1764.

**The Book of Teneriffe* by L. D. Cuscoy in collab. with P. C. Larsen. Santa Cruz de Teneriffe, 1957.

**Spain and Portugal*, edited by Eugene Fodor. Fodor's Modern Guides, Newman Neame Ltd., London (Revised annually).

GRAND CANARY

The island of Grand Canary has a population of 395,117 (1959), (250 British, 500 Americans). Its capital is the well known city of **Las Palmas**, one of the busiest oil-bunkering ports in the world.

Grand Canary is roughly circular in shape, measuring 34½ miles from north to south and 29 miles from east to west with an area of about 591 sq. miles. It is exceedingly mountainous, rich in beautiful and majestic scenery, and visitors should not judge it by the barren hills seen from the Puerto or from the road to the city. The island is in the form of a great cone with deep ravines radiating from its central range, La Cumbre, whose peaks rise to over 6,000 feet. Generally the mountains continue almost to the sea, but there are stretches in the south-east where plains run inland for four or five miles.

Isleta, at the extreme north-east of Grand Canary, consists of three conical hills, 817 feet, joined to the rest of the island by the long narrow isthmus of Guanarteme. This area is fortified and closed to the public.

The eastern slopes of Isleta provide shelter for shipping in **Puerto de la Luz**, the port for Las Palmas.

The principal industries of the island, apart from the important bunkering trade, are the production of bananas, tomatoes, potatoes and onions. Manufactures are cigarettes, wine, and drawn-thread work.

GRAND CANARY FESTIVALS

Easter Week	Las Palmas	Celebrations and Processions.
April 29	Las Palmas	Commemoration of Incorporation in the Kingdom of Castille. Procession, local festivities.
June.		
Corpus Christi	Las Palmas	Religious Festival. Carpet of flowers, etc.

July 25	San Bartolome or Tunte and Galdar	Feast of Santiago; pilgrimage and cattle fair.
Sept. 6-8	Teror	Feast of the Virgin of the Pine—Patroness of the Island. Processions, decorated cars, local costume, etc. (Sept. 7 is of most interest.)
Sept. 11	Aldea de San Nicolas	Inhabitants dive for fish in the Charco Lagoon.
Oct. 12	Las Palmas	Naval Festival of the Virgin de la Luz ; procession of boats.

Hotels, both in the City and in the country, are listed together under Las Palmas.

LAS PALMAS DE GRAN CANARIA

On arrival at Las Palmas vessels are berthed alongside the Generalissimo Franco Mole, over 1½ miles long, and are at once coupled up with large oil pipes on the quay. Bunkers are usually received at about 400 tons per hour.

With several ships berthed end to end, the narrow quayside is a scene of great activity, thronged with taxis, lorries and pedestrians, and perhaps stacked with tons of tomatoes, potatoes or bananas awaiting shipment. Once clear of the Mole the road passes through attractively laid out gardens to the Dock Gates. From the Port area on a clear day the Peak of Tenerife is visible.

LAS PALMAS DE GRAN CANARIA

Las Palmas, capital city of the island of Grand Canary, is the largest port belonging to Spain. More than 8,000 vessels call in the course of the year, carrying some quarter of a million passengers, most of whom are bound between Europe, Africa and America. The city extends for about five miles along the sea front, and building is now rapidly extending along the hills behind the town. *Puerto de la Luz*, the harbour of Las Palmas, is completely sheltered by the hills of the *Isleta* and by its long mole. There are more than 2½ miles of quays. The Port is about four miles from the Cathedral and the old part of the city, and is connected with the main island by the narrow isthmus of *Guanarteme* (see Plan). The whole distance is through a built-up area, consisting for the most part of a level strip of land at the foot of a steep escarpment. Las Palmas was founded in 1478, and has now a population of 182,217 (1959), of whom 250 are British.

Las Palmas has changed greatly in the past few years. Millions of pounds have been spent on new buildings and public works, blocks of offices and flats, hotels, shops, large sub-economic housing schemes and new roads. Lately a good deal of colour has been used in painting the outsides of houses and, while white still predominates, there is a considerable sprinkling of pink, blue, green, yellow and mauve. Often in a pair of semi-detached houses each dwelling will be painted a colour in contrast to its immediate neighbour, said to indicate the extent of ownership of each occupant.

As will be seen from the map, a large area on the sea side of the *Triana* has been reclaimed, though it is still undeveloped at time of writing. A further large project is under consideration, the scope of which is shown in dotted line on map.

Landing Arrangements at Las Palmas are very simple as there are no Customs formalities affecting passengers' baggage, and porters remove it from the ship or plane to taxi or airport bus. Passports are taken by the Immigration Officials and returned later through the hotel office. Baggage Porters (grey uniform and number) have a fixed tariff of from Ptas. 4 to Ptas 8 per package according to weight.

	Category	Rooms
Hotels in Las Palmas		
Santa Catalina	Luxury	171
Gran Canaria	1A	98
Grand Hotel Parque	1A	110
Metropol	1A	225
Las Vegas	1B	24
Caleta	1B	18
Monopol	2	43
Atlántico	2	21
Cairasco	2	37
Madrid	2	33
Playa	2	23
Hostal Comodoro (Pensions)	Luxury	15
Hostal Roma	Luxury	79
Pension Luz	Luxury	18
Pension Ciudad Jardin	1	17
Pension Residencia Paris	1	10
Pension Alcaravanas	2	48

	Category	Rooms
Country Hotels		
Santa Brigida	1A	59
Pension Monte	2	9
<i>Monte Coello 6½ miles</i>		
Parador (Spanish Tourist Dept.)	1B	12
<i>Cruz de Tejeda 21 miles (Temporarily closed)</i>		
Guayarmina	2	54
<i>Berrazales, Agüete, 35 miles</i>		
Bandama	1A	17
Lentiscal	2	13
Los Frailes	2	25
<i>Tafira Alta, 5 miles</i>		
Pension el Pilar	2	12
<i>Moya, 18½ miles</i>		
Pension Royal	2	21
<i>Teror 13 miles</i>		

Notes on Hotels in Las Palmas

Official rates are quoted by the Tourist Board according to the grade of the hotel, but owing to changes it is not practicable to quote tariffs here. At time of writing it is said that the official rates are insufficient to enable hotels to provide meals such as their visitors would expect. For this reason they may be asked to pay an extra amount to cover a special menu and to sign a note of their willingness to do so.

The Spanish State Tourist Department, Casa Turismo, Las Palmas, will always be glad to send the latest tariff details on request.

English and generally French are understood in all hotels catering for the tourist business.

15% service charge is added to hotel bills, and there is a tourist tax payable on the first day of the stay.

The tariffs charged by hotels, etc., run by the Spanish Tourist Department are, however, inclusive of the service charge.

The map on pages 62/3 is keyed to show the whereabouts of the establishments listed here.

Santa Catalina Hotel (Ref. No. 1) is a luxury grade establishment situated about halfway between the Port and the city. It has fine gardens, swimming pool, miniature golf, tennis and bowling alley. Lifts to all floors.

Gran Canaria Hotel (Ref. No. 2) is a popular modern hotel facing the Las Canteras Beach and within a few yards of the sea. Lifts.

Grand Parque (Ref. No. 3) is another first grade hotel conveniently situated near the city centre. Lifts.

Metropole Hotel (Ref. No. 4) is a large new hotel facing the Alcaravaneras Beach. It has its own swimming lido.

Las Vegas (Ref. No. 5) and Residencia Caleta (Ref. No. 6) are small hotels of 1B grade, situated respectively facing the Las Canteras Beach, and near the Canary Model Village halfway between port and city.

The Cairasco Hotel (Ref. No. 9) is in the centre of the city and is used partly as an overnight stopping place for British United Airways passengers between London and West Africa. Also in the centre of the city are the Monopol (Ref. No. 7) and Madrid (Ref. No. 10).

The Atlántico (Ref. No. 8) is an old-established hotel away from the sea and midway between port and city.

The Playa (Ref. No. 11) is a small hotel facing the Las Canteras Beach. Hostal Roma (Ref. No. 13) and Pension Luz (Ref. No. 14) are situated somewhat nearer to the Port area.

Hostal Comodoro (Ref. No. 12) is a good grade pension facing the sea and within easy distance from the centre of the city.

Pensions Ciudad Jardin (Ref. No. 15) and Residencia Paris (Ref. No. 16) are small establishments, the first near the Canary Model Village, and the second is rather nearer to the city. Pension Alcaravaneras is a medium sized pension facing the beach of that name.

There are numerous other small establishments many of which cater mainly for local residents.

Several "Apartamentos", some of very good grade, let apartments. Details from the Turismo Office mentioned above.

Best known of the hotels outside Las Palmas is the Santa Brigida, 8 miles from the city and 1,400 ft. above the sea. It is a modern building with large garden, tennis and miniature golf.

Restaurants in Las Palmas	Address	Grade
Club 31	Parque de San Telmo	1
Brasilia	Bravo Murillo, 5	1
Villa Edén	Escaleritas	1
Bodegón	Pueblo Canario	2
Casino	Malteses, 2	2
Casa de Galicia	Canteras, 11 (Playa)	2
Costa Bella	Canteras, 3 (Playa)	2
Las Cuevas	Canteras, 17 (Playa)	2
Chipén	Canteras, 1 (Playa)	2
El Guanche	Parque Santa Catalina	2
Hosteria del Mar	Sagasta, 103 (Playa)	2
Pino de Oro	Canteras, 68 (Playa)	2

Meals may also be obtained at the principal hotels.

Night Club: Tangier, 4 kms. from Las Palmas on north road.

Visitors' Enquiry Office. Information of all kinds is readily given without charge by the officials of the Spanish State

Tourist Department at the Casa Turismo, situated half way between the city and the Port, near the Santa Catalina Mole. The building is designed in the old Canary style of architecture.

There is also a Municipal Enquiry Office in the Pueblo Canario.

Newspapers : Daily papers, which give an indication of what is going on in the city to those who have even very little knowledge of Spanish, are *Diario de Las Palmas* and *Falange*.

Union-Castle Line Agents : Elder Dempster (Canary Islands) Ltd., Apartado No. 6. Offices at Santa Catalina Mole.

Compañía Transmediterránea (Inter-Insular Services, etc.) : Santa Catalina Mole.

Aviaco (Spanish): Santa Catalina Hotel.

British United Airways: Elder Dempster (Canary Islands) Ltd., Santa Catalina Mole.

K.L.M. (Dutch Air Line): León y Castillo 300.

Sabena (Belgian Air Line): Santa Catalina Hotel.

Iberia (Spanish Air Lines): Bravo Murillo 8-10.

Tourist Agencies: *Viages Cyrasa, Triana* 140; *Canarias Expres, León y Castillo* 287-289; *Viajes Blandy, Santa Catalina Mole*; *Viajes Marsans, León y Castillo No. 14*; *Wagons-Lit/Cooks, León y Castillo* 300.

Banks : There are several ; the Bank of Spain, usually used by visitors for cashing travellers' cheques, is at León y Castillo No. 4, second block beyond the turn for the Gran Parque Hotel when going towards the Puerto.

Consulates: *British: Santa Catalina Mole*; *Portuguese: Lord Byron No. 15*. Several other countries are represented in Las Palmas.

British Institutions : See under Clubs, Church of England and Nursing Homes. British children are sent home to be educated.

Car Hire:—Tariff for Taxis within the city of Las Palmas is Ptas. 4.50 plus 50 centimos per 100 metres. Thus after a journey of one kilometre the taximeter would show Ptas. 9.50. It is usual to tip the driver of a metered car about 15 per cent. of the fare if satisfied.

Tartanas are two-wheeled horse-drawn vehicles sometimes used by visitors. Charges to be agreed with driver.

Town Buses known as *guaguas* (pronounced wa-wa) operate a one-minute service between the Port and the Market (near Cathedral). The fare for the whole distance (4 miles) is Ptas. 0.80 and for shorter distances Ptas. 0.70. The Port Terminus is about fifty yards from the Harbour entrance, and as most of the places a visitor may want to see in Las Palmas, including the Beaches, are within a very short distance of the bus route, one may effect a considerable economy by using these vehicles. Nevertheless most visitors prefer taxis. Other local bus services are of less interest to visitors.

Country Buses : Daily services to all the small towns of the island are operated by the Aicasa Company, whose central bus station and booking office is at Bravo Murillo Street No. 3 (a turning opposite that which leads to Hotel Parque). Intending passengers on long distance buses are advised to arrive at least fifteen minutes in advance. Vehicles employed are moderately comfortable. The following are the best arrangements for day tours that can be arranged by these buses :

Northern Route: Las Palmas, Arucas, Galdar, Agaete, Berrazales (where one may lunch at the Guayarmina Hotel). dep. Las Palmas 8 a.m., 12.15 p.m. and 5.30 p.m.; dep. Barrazales 7 a.m., noon and 5 p.m. Ptas. 64.50 return.

Central Route: Las Palmas, Santa Brigida, Cruz de Tejeda (where one may lunch at the Parador). Dep. Las Palmas 8 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.; dep. Cruz de Tejeda 6.42 a.m. and 4.27 p.m. Ptas. 39.50 return.

One may also make an afternoon circular trip from Las Palmas via Telde, Valsequillo, Teror, Arucas to Las Palmas.

Other trips may be made by these buses at quite moderate fares to Gáldar; to Valleseco (lunch in Teror); to San Bartolome de Tirajana (7 a.m. start); or to Santa Brigida (hotel) buses every half hour.

The above excursion details should be checked with the Tourist Office who are always ready to offer suggestions in regard to such trips.

Traffic: Crossing places in the busy streets are marked in yellow paint. Some are police controlled, others are operated with traffic lights and must be used. Traffic keeps to the right but vehicles sometimes turn unexpectedly into narrow side streets and a wariness on the part of pedestrians is essential.

Motor Coach Excursions in comfortable vehicles, accompanied by a Guide, are operated by Cyrasa and the Canarias Express. There is usually an excursion every day except Monday and these afford an opportunity of seeing a good deal of the interior of the island at reasonable cost.

Theatres : The Perez Galdos Theatre is magnificently equipped and decorated, the murals being the work of the well-known island painter Nestor de la Torre. It stages operas, concerts, etc., periodically, and visiting companies come from Spain. Cinemas frequented by visitors are: Avellaneda, Avenida, Capitol, Cuyas, Royal, Rex and Rialto.

Music: The Philharmonic Orchestra gives concerts in the Theatre, and the Municipal Band plays occasionally in San Telmo Park or the Santa Catalina Park.

Dancing nightly at the Santa Catalina Hotel (Mondays excepted); Las Cuevas and Costa Bella at the Las Canteras Beach; Parque Hotel (Sat. and Sun.). Tangier (4 miles).

Canary Island Folk Dances are arranged frequently and parties usually give exhibitions on board Union-Castle and other passenger vessels. Music is provided by guitars of various sizes and by singing and clapping. The smaller guitars are called bandurria and timple (smallest). The costumes are bright and attractive, and visitors will find these dances well worth seeing.

Bathing : Las Canteras Beach, a fine stretch of sand 2 m. long, with esplanade, lies on the opposite side of the isthmus near the Puerto. A barrier reef forms a natural swimming pool with calm water. Municipal bathing huts at end of Alfredo L. Jones Street, Ptas. 3. Several restaurants.

Akaravaneras Beach is on the same side of the isthmus as the port and about half-way between it and the city. It adjoins the Metropole Hotel, where there is a fine swimming bath (visitors admitted). There is also a swimming pool in the

Parque de Doramas and another at the Santa Catalina Hotel for Residents only. Other swimming baths: Julio Navarro and Ciudad Deportiva.

There are numerous sandy beaches round the island, notably at Maspalomas in the south.

Tennis: The Las Palmas Tennis Club is at the Santa Catalina Hotel.

Golf: An 18-hole course with grass greens has been laid out amid striking scenery near the Caldera Bandama. New club house with restaurant. Visitors welcomed.

Greyhound Racing: Races are held frequently on the Campo España.

Traditional Sports are Canary Wrestling and Cock Fighting. The wrestling is said to be of very ancient origin. Each bout lasts only a minute or two, and the man whose body touches the ground first has lost. This sport seems to have lost some of its popularity in Las Palmas, and at time of writing is seen only in the country.

Cockfighting takes place on Sunday afternoons in the Circo Gallera, Viera y Clavijo, No. 11, February to May.

Yachting: Races are arranged during the summer months.

There is no bullfighting in Grand Canary. Boxing is arranged occasionally.

Association Football: Matches are held on Sunday afternoons between September and May in the Estadio Insular and attract large crowds.

Clubs of interest to the visitor are: the British Club, Leon y Castillo, No. 344 (adjacent to Metropole). This is a social club to which visitors are welcomed as temporary members. Visitors are also made welcome by the Automobile, Filarmonica, Fishing and Nautical.

Casino. There is no gambling, and the Casino is now a social club, the Gabinete Literario, which offers temporary membership to visitors.

Roman Catholic Churches: There are many of these, some of which, especially the Cathedral, mentioned later, are of interest. Services in Spanish only.

Church of England : Holy Trinity Church, a substantial stone building, is in *Rafael Ramirez Street*, a turning to the left a little past the Metropole Hotel on the way to the Puerto. Resident Minister during winter months; lay reader at other times. Service 11 a.m. on Sundays. The British cemetery is a part of the main cemetery.

Nursing Homes and Doctors : There are four private nursing homes in Las Palmas and over 200 doctors, including specialists. Many of them speak English, French or German.

The Queen Victoria English Hospital, Sagasta No. 52, in the Port, has an English-speaking staff. There are also state-owned hospitals and clinics.

Public Gardens : The Parque de Doramas, which lies behind the Santa Catalina Hotel, is always full of flowers, and is worth a visit. Several examples of the famous dragon tree may be seen here. The Gardens may be approached through the Pueblo Canario mentioned below.

Pueblo Canario, sometimes called the Model Canary Village, is an exceedingly attractive reproduction of old Canary architecture designed by the Canary artist Nestor. The buildings include a Chapel, an inn, several shops, a permanent exhibition of work from the various Canary Islands and a Modern Art Museum, admission Ptas. 2. The last contains many of Nestor's pictures, and his studio and unfinished drawings may be seen by permission. In the old Chapel is a display of antiques for sale. On Sundays and public holidays from noon to 1.30 p.m. there are displays by groups of local dancers and singers. On such occasions visitors are usually given a buttonhole by a girl in Spanish costume and are expected to contribute about a shilling. The Village adjoins the Doramas Park. Nearby are turtle and fish ponds, Municipal Enquiry Office.

Spanish Colonial Architecture: Most visitors see the Model Canary Village (*see above*) near the Santa Catalina Hotel, which is a reconstruction based on 15th and 16th century styles. In the old part of the city, however, within 200/300 yards of the Cathedral, are numerous genuine and attractive old dwelling houses. Some of the best of these will be found by turning down the narrow road which runs past the unfinished side of the Cathedral. This leads into the Calle de Ferreira and to a street



6A

Teod de los Vinos

Photo Spanish National Tourist Office



Arucas,
Grand Canary

*Photo
Spanish National
Tourist Office*

marked "Colon" which leads to the Columbus Museum and the St. Anthony Hermitage. Plaza del Pilar Nuevo also lies behind the Cathedral and contains a restored house with remarkable sculptured arms which backs onto the Columbus Museum. One of the oldest houses, distinguishable by its curious corner windows, lies at the top end of Calle de Herrera facing out towards the Barranco.

At the top of the Plaza Sta Ana, which faces the Cathedral, above the Bishops Palace, is the Chief Magistrate's house (No. 6) one of the most picturesque in the Island. On the opposite side of the Plaza are several old houses, three of which bear plaques commemorating famous men who have lived in them.

Coats-of-arms carved in stone on the walls of old houses usually denote that they belonged to Conquistadors (nobles who took part in the original capture and settlement of the Island) or to Spanish nobles who settled soon after. Some of these houses are still occupied by descendants of the original owners. Such houses are usually from 150 to 200 years old, some much older. The outer door usually stands open, and through an inner doorway of wrought iron or lattice the passer-by may often have a glimpse of a pleasant fern and palm-filled patio.

Other outstanding old buildings are the Cathedral, the Columbus Museum and the Castillo de la Luz at the Puerto; these are mentioned separately.

A remarkable piece of modern architecture, the church Los Dolores, with a detached tower, is to be seen in the Schumann district above the city. It was designed by a local architect and is worth seeing.

San Telmo Park is a pleasant square with bandstand where the Municipal Band plays from time to time. In it are the old Church of San Telmo, founded by sailors and fishermen; and a statue to the Spanish writer Benito Galdos. Opposite to the square is the Military Governor's residence, on the wall of which a plaque records that from here General Franco commenced the National Rising.

Shopping: (normal hours 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; 3 to 7 p.m.). Shops of interest to the visitor will be found in the Triana and in some of the cross streets which turn upward from it. Here are modern shops dealing in most kinds of goods, but especially clothing, shoes, novelties, hardware, electrical goods, etc., and at the San

Telmo Square end are most of the Banks. There are two well-stocked self-service stores in Las Palmas offering a wide range of provisions and liquor. Ladies' and gents' hairdressers are numerous and visitors might seek advice about these from their hotels. English newspapers, brought out by air, are obtainable from most newsagents. The Canary Island Village has shops offering local needlework and other souvenirs; there is a permanent exhibition of handicrafts from all seven Canary Islands, and an interesting antique shop in the church.

In the streets vendors offer balloons, sweets, cakes and lottery tickets. And bootblacks are both numerous and persistent (charge Ptas. 3).

Market: The fruit, meat, vegetable and fish markets are interesting in the early morning. The largest markets are usually on Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays.

Canary Museum, 29, Calle de Dr. Chil, is near the Cathedral. Open weekdays (except Tuesdays) 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; 3 to 6 p.m. Feast days and Sundays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission Ptas. 5. On the ground floor is the printing press first used in the Canary Islands in the 18th century and zoological rooms whose exhibits include a six-legged kid, Carved tombs, etc. The upstairs rooms contain a very important collection of relics of the Guanches, the original inhabitants of the island, including mummies, skulls, and other bones, pottery, etc. The curious dull reddish hair on the mummies may be seen reproduced in many of the peasants, who are descended from the Guanches and their Spanish conquerors. On the ground floor is the Library; open 3 to 8 p.m.

Historical Buildings

The Cathedral de Santa Ana has twin towers (167 feet) and an imposing façade. It was built of local stone 1497-1570, the latter being the date when it was first used for public worship. Between 1781 and 1820 it was reconstructed and the left front is still incomplete. The interior is rather dark. The Cathedral treasures may be seen, charge Ptas. 2, and consist of some good silver and silver-gilt, embroidered vestments and relics. Among the last is the heart of a missionary bishop whose portrait hangs nearby. Some of the silver and the lectern are said to have come from old St. Paul's Cathedral, London, having been sold in Oliver Cromwell's time. There is a silver-gilt pyx by

Benvenuto Celleni, but this may be seen only by special permission. The portrait of Bishop Verdugo is attributed to Goya. The handsome groining in the roof dates from the reconstruction.

Opposite to the Cathedral, on the far side of the Plaza de Santa Ana, is the Town Hall, and on the right is the Bishop's Palace. The square is flanked by old buildings, and at the Cathedral end are a number of bronze dogs supposed to represent the original Canary dogs.

Just before reaching the Cathedral, the road from the Port crosses the Verdugo Bridge over the dry ravine, the Barranco de Guiniguada, into the old part of the town known as the Vegueta. This is mainly a residential area, and the buildings, many of which are 150 years old and more, have typical Spanish overhanging balconies. On the Feast of Corpus Christi (June) the streets in the immediate vicinity of the Cathedral are carpeted with flowers.

Plaza Calrasco with the adjacent Columbus Gardens is passed just before crossing the bridge over the Barranco into the old part of the city.

Plaza de Hurtado de Mendoza is an area paved in coloured marbles (pedestrians only) lying along the Barranco Guiniguada on the opposite side to the Cathedral, and containing a statue to Mendoza.

Plaza Espiritu Santo, which leads off the Plaza Sta. Ana to the left of the Town Hall, is a small triangular garden onto which faces a very old church.

Plaza San Domingo is reached by turning left along the first road above the Museum in Calle Dr. Chil. It is a quiet paved square, away from the traffic, planted with trees and surrounded on three sides by houses. On the fourth side is San Domingo Church, a large 18th century building with an ornate interior.

The Hermitage of San Antonio Abad, near the Cathedral, attracts many visitors on account of its association with Columbus, who attended Mass in a former church on this site before leaving on his voyage of discovery in 1492. The original building was the first church in Grand Canary; the present church dates from 1796. It is often closed, but the interior is not of special interest.

The Columbus Museum (La Casa de Colon) is opposite the Hermitage. Hours, etc., as for the Canary Museum (see previous page). This house was occupied by early Military Governors of the Islands, among them Antonio de Torres, a friend of Columbus, who accompanied him on his second voyage to America. It is the most interesting historical building in Las Palmas, and was built soon after the founding of the city in 1478. Columbus is believed to have stayed in the house on his first (1492), second (1493) and fourth (1502) voyages to America. The building was restored in the 17th century, but the old well in the courtyard belongs to the end of the 15th century. The exhibits include old Canary furniture, pictures from the Prado Museum in Madrid, a pirates' treasure chest, several old cannons, murals dealing with Columbus's voyages, a Columbus Library, modern paintings by Nicholas Massieu, a Canary Island painter, and some live parrots. The small 15th century figure of Sta. Ana is reputed to be that before which Columbus prayed. A garrote, a grim instrument formerly used in the execution of criminals, is shown on the first floor.

The descent into the crypt should be made with care as there are no handrails. The ascent by another route is quite safe.

General Post Office is in General Franco, and there is a branch at the Port. Generally the Hotels attend to posting letters, etc., but the air mail rates they quote to foreign countries are not always reliable and under-stamped letters go by surface. For postal rates, etc., see Index.

Castillo de la Luz. This picturesque old fortress, seen to the left shortly after leaving the Port, was used in repelling an English fleet under Sir Francis Drake in 1595 and a Dutch fleet in 1599. It was built in 1492 and reconstructed in 1599.

A FEW HOURS IN LAS PALMAS

Most of those who come to Las Palmas are aboard ships which put in for a few hours to take in oil bunkers, etc., and the following notes will help such visitors to make the best of their time.

Union-Castle mail vessels on the route between Southampton and South Africa normally arrive at dawn and sail again during the forenoon; however, those who go ashore very early probably see the country at its best.

Visitors in passenger vessels usually have the opportunity of going on one of the following organised tours :

1. To the principal places of interest in Las Palmas, 4 miles away (see list on next page).
2. In addition to visiting Las Palmas, as above, passengers are taken inland through the village of Tafira and ascend by a spiral road to the viewpoint from which they may look into the remarkable extinct crater, the Caldera Bandama.

Those who prefer to make independent arrangements may engage a taxi on the quay to take them to places of interest in the city. Alternatively they may walk as far as the Dock Gates and take one of the buses (departures every minute) to the Cathedral for the equivalent of about 2*d.* (more if paid in English money). All the points of interest mentioned below may be reached by the bus. They are listed in sequence as seen on the journey from the Port, and some details of them will be found on reference to the preceding pages.

It is suggested that visitors might like to take a taxi from the Port to the Cathedral, calling en route at the points of interest. The car could then be dismissed and they could make their own way back in the bus (*guagua*—pronounced *wa-wa*). It is advisable to get on at the starting place, close to the Cathedral, as these vehicles are often filled to capacity.

There is little of interest in the port area, and the *Isleta* (the hills above the port) is a prohibited area.

The following are places which the taxi driver should be told to show his passengers :

Castillo de la Luz
Las Canteras Beach
Turismo Office (Canary architecture)
Las Alcaravaneras Beach
Hotel Santa Catalina (dragon trees in front of entrance)
Canary Village, Fish and Turtle Pools and Doramas Park
(dragon trees)
San Telmo Square (San Telmo Church and General Franco's
headquarters)
Shopping Area
Cathedral

Town Hall and Plaza de Santa Ana
St. Anthony Hermitage and Columbus Museum.
Canary Museum
Starting place for buses to Port.

The best shops are in the street called *Triana*. See *Index* under Shopping.

Groups of Canary Island Folk Dancers visit passenger vessels and give exhibitions usually just before sailing time.

Passengers staying overnight may like to dine and dance at one of the hotels or restaurants.

Those wishing to bathe would probably choose the *Las Canteras Beach Club*.

ROAD ROUTE 1—LAS PALMAS TO THE SOUTH

Population figures are for 1950, and are for the parishes, not the actual villages.

There are two roads out of Las Palmas to the south which link a little distance beyond the city. The lower runs close to the shore and passes an old fortified tower on the left. From a point beyond where the road passes through a cutting (4 m.) a new and more direct deviation to the *Gando Airport* is under construction.

A great deal of evidence of volcanic action is seen, with lava streams close to the road. The village of *Jinamar*, 6 m., lies amid the lava and ash in a valley below the *Gran Caldera*. A turn to the right leads to *Tafira*.

At 9 m. the road branches left over a stone bridge and through a palm grove into *Telde*.

The branch to the right leads through the valley, *Higuera Canaria*, in which are orange groves said to produce the finest oranges in the world. These may weigh up to almost a pound each and ripen from November. This road continues to *Atalaya* and *Santa Brigida*.

Telde (population 24,780) is an agricultural centre and one of the two most interesting country towns in the island (see also *Teror*). It is 2½ m. from the sea and was the seat of noble families of the Spanish Conquerors, some of whose manor houses with coats-of-arms carved over the entrances are still found in the valley.

Opposite to the fine church of St. Juan is a pleasant shady plaza surrounded with old-world houses with typical overhanging wooden balconies. The church, apart from the towers which are modern, is late 15th century and built of blocks of lava of various colours. Its Flemish Reredos of carved gilded wood was presented to the church prior to 1515 by the Conquistador Cristobal Garcia del Castillo. This remarkably fine piece contains six panels illustrating the Nativity and is believed to have been made in Brussels or Malines about the close of the 15th century. Among its quaint anachronisms are shepherds blowing bagpipes in the Birth scene, and elsewhere is bald-headed St. Simeon wearing spectacles.

The figure of Christ over the High Altar, though rather over life size, weighs under 14 lbs. It is said to have been made from a paste of maize stalks in the 15th century.

In the Sacristy is a small collection of examples of religious art, the most interesting of which is an early 17th century figure of the Virgin whose face is believed to be a portrait of Mary Queen of Scots. Its history is unknown, but the execution of the Catholic Queen caused a considerable stir in Spain where she was regarded as a martyr.

About $\frac{1}{2}$ m. towards the sea is the old church and district of San Francisco. The church, though the interior is of no special interest, is one of the most picturesque in the Islands; there are other examples of old Canary architecture in the village.

The south road from Telde leads through the adjoining village of Los Llanos, with a church and large shady plaza, and soon after the hill known as Cuatro Puertas (Four Doors) may be seen ahead. This was the sacred mountain of the Guanches, and is easily recognisable at a distance by the four square openings in a row just below the crest. It is best approached by a rough track which leaves the road to Ingenio rather less than a kilometre beyond the traffic triangle at the 19 km. stone. A footpath leads to the summit (925 feet) in about ten minutes. The four neatly cut doors all enter the same large cave or hall, and in front is a flat terrace from which there are fine views. Behind, approached by a path to the left, is a semi-circular platform with curious shallow trenches; and beyond are a series of caves, some joined by outside galleries. The place is believed to have been a Guanche place of worship and sacrifice.

and the home of vestal virgins. It is also said to have been the laboratory of the embalmers who carried out their unsavoury tasks in the strong wind which nearly always blows there. However, although its purpose and use remain to a large extent a mystery, Cuatro Puertas is well worth a visit.

The turning to the left at the 19 km. stone leads to the fine modern Airport at Gando, 16 m. A small peninsula at Gando protects the bay where the water is always smooth, and in the past it was the port for shipment of wine from Telde.

This is the usual route to the south of the island, and the road continues from Gando via Carrizal, to the small town of Juan Grande, 26 m. This road is unusually straight for the Canary Islands, and traverses miles of tomato plantations. Juan Grande is sometimes described as an oasis on the edge of the desert, and it is conspicuous for its palm and olive trees. Beyond it are the sand dunes and at 34 m. is Maspalomas Village.

About 3 m. farther on, at the southern extremity of the island, is the lighthouse, and the Playa de Maspalomas, a popular bathing beach (restaurant). Nearby is the landlocked lagoon, El Charco, into which the sea flows at high water.

An important scheme has been approved for the development of a seaside resort at Maspalomas.

Beyond is the village of Arguineguín, 40 m., in wooded surroundings protected by an old fort. Formerly there was a boat running from here to Bco. de Mogan, but now a road has been built through to Morgan Village, 66 m. (pop. 3,747) and San Nicholas, 88 m. The complete circuit of the island, about 146 miles, is therefore possible, but it is a very long day's drive including some rough roads which may be dangerous in places (see under Anden Verde).

If at 19 kms. the traveller passes the left-hand turn to Gando, he has an interesting view of the caves in the back of the Cuatro Puertos before reaching Ingenio, 16 m., a modern village with church (pop. 9,068). Baskets, mats and homespun are made here.

Aguilimes, 18 m., is an older, somewhat windswept village (pop. 7,875). From here roads connect with the main route from

Gando to the south, either direct or via the village of Sardina. The road to the west from Agüimes passes through fine mountainous scenery to Santa Lucía, 32 m., 2,165 feet (pop. 7,020).

At 24 m. where the road crosses the Barranco de Valos, a footpath leads down to a rock ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile) in the bed of the ravine, known as the Risco de los Letreros. Names, etc., of no special interest are carved into the rock.

At 36 m., 2,936 feet, is San Bartolomé at the foot of the central Cumbre Mountains (pop. 8,809). To the south a road connects with Maspalomas, passing through Fataga, 41 m., 1,722 ft., with fine views of the ravine of that name, and of the great vertical rocks known as La Fortaleza. It is 10 m. from Fataga to Maspalomas.

The alternative road from San Bartolomé continues to Tejeda, 27 m., 3,773 feet (pop. 3,632), thus making possible a long and magnificent circular drive down the east coast and back to Las Palmas through the central mountains via Tejeda and Teror.

ROUTE II—LAS PALMAS TO THE NORTH AND WEST

The more usual route taken by visitors is via Tamaraceste, 4 m., and Tenoya, 7 m., so as to include the town of Arucas, but the more direct route keeps to the coast and skirts the shore of Confital Bay. Just before reaching Tenoya the road passes through a tunnel.

Arucas, 11 m., has a population of 25,010, and is the second town in the Island. An outstanding feature is the large and ornate modern church, with three spires, which dominates the town. A road past the church leads in a short distance to the summit of Arucas Mountain, 13 m., whence there are remarkably fine views of mountain and sea and of mile upon mile of banana plantations. There is still a small production of cochineal from this part of the island, and visitors wishing to see the cochineal insect will often find it on the cactus growing on Arucas Mountain. There are many irrigation dams in this area.

From Arucas there are again alternative routes. The longer and more picturesque leads through mountain scenery via Moya. At 17 m. a turn left leads south to the village of Firgas, 16 m.,

1,522 ft. (pop. 4,934). From here it is a short drive up the wooded Valley of the Virgin to the spring, Fuente Agría, from which is obtained the sparkling table water associated with the name of Firgas.

Moya, 19 m., 1,558 ft. (pop. 8,544) is situated beside a precipitous barranco in the centre of beautiful and well-wooded country. From here a road leads southwards to the village of Fontanales, 26 m. The Jardín de Corbo is a beautiful eucalyptus forest south of Moya. There is a small Pension.

After leaving Moya the road to the east makes a long detour round the Barranco de las Madres on its way to Guía, where it joins the north coast road. The scenery is particularly fine between Firgas, Moya and Guía.

The alternative route from Arucas descends to the coast to join the north coast road. This passes Bañaderos and along the Lairaga Coast to the fishing village of Pagador through rich banana lands. It then encounters the Cuesta de Silva, a cliff 800 ft. high, which it ascends by a finely engineered road winding through deep ravines to the summit, whence there are splendid views along the coast. But quite one of the most interesting places in the Island is the Guanche Cave of Valeron, 20m., lying to the left of, and high above, the main road on the Cuesta de Silva, somewhat short of the summit in a cutting known as the Roque de Moro. The Cave is approached by a steep, made path, and reached in a few minutes. The path, which is reasonably safe, though care should be taken on account of loose stones, leads to a huge cavern honeycombed with small interleading caves or compartments, each presumably occupied by one of the Vestal Virgins or others who used the caves as a religious retreat. The view down the gorge from the Cave is most awe-inspiring.

Guía, 23 m. (pop. 11,851) has an old church and plaza, and is the junction of the coast road with that from Moya.

Galdar, 25 m., 361 ft. (pop. 13,704) was the ancient Guanche capital of the Island. The church is built close to the former site of the residence of the Guanarteme or Guanche kings, and the font is said to be the one at which the Guanche converts were baptised soon after the conquest of the Island. In the Town Hall courtyard is a fine old dragon tree, and some Guanche

relics from the Painted Cave, which was found nearby, are preserved. Galdar Mountain, close to the town contains many caves. Dripstone filters are manufactured in the neighbourhood.

From Galdar a branch road leads to Puerto de Sardinia. Some 6 kms. along this road and close to the beach and on the far side of a stony river bed (last few hundred yards on foot) is a large Guanche burial ground, where well-preserved multiple graves may be seen. Those wishing to visit this site should make sure in advance that their driver knows the way. There are other burial places at Moya and Morgan.

Agæte, 30 m. (pop. 4,366), is on the western side of the Island and situated in an attractive valley leading down to the sea. Agæte is the junction of three roads, that to the right leading to the sea at Puerto de las Nieves, 1½ m., an attractive little place, where there is a rocky bay with a small mole, also an old church, restaurant and windmill. To the left is the road up the valley to the Balneario de Berrazales. At the head of this valley, 5 m. from Agæte, almost surrounded by mountains which tower above them, are the hotel and the mineral baths. The waters, temperature 77°F., are considered to have medicinal value in cases of arthritis and rheumatism and bathing facilities are available. Views from the hotel are very striking.

From Agæte the south road continues along the coast to El Risco, which lies below the pine forests of Tamadaba, to the small Puerto de San Nicolas, to San Nicolas itself, 52 m. and to Morgan, 72 m., whence it is now possible to complete the circuit of the island via the east coast road. The road beyond Agæte is narrow and in places long stretches of it are excavated at a great height in vertical cliffs which overhang the sea, especially at Anden Verde (Green Shelf); the drive cannot therefore be recommended.

ROAD ROUTE 3—LAS PALMAS TO THE CRUZ DE TEJEDA AND THE CIRCULAR ROUTES

The route to the centre of the Island runs for the most part through fine scenery which becomes increasingly grand as it ascends the Cumbre Range. At a number of points along the road one may turn left or right and return to Las Palmas by another route. These circular drives range from about 16 miles up to 88 miles.

On leaving Las Palmas the road climbs to Tafira Alta, 5 miles, 1,230 feet. The district between here and Santa Brígida is known as the Monte; it is a pleasant area with many villas and country houses, and produces what is considered the best wine in the Canaries (red).

- (a) A turn right leads through the Dragonal Valley to San Lorenzo, Tamaraceite and back to Las Palmas (circuit 16 miles).
- (b) The turn to the left joins the coast road at Jinamar (circuit 17 miles).

Beyond Tafira is Monte Lentiscal, 5 m. (hotel), and at 6 m. a branch to the left passes the turn to the Golf Course and climbs to the summit of the Crater Peak (wine shop), whence from an altitude of about 2,000 feet there are wonderful views in all directions. At one's feet is the perfect crater of an extinct volcano, the Caldera Bandama, the bottom of which is under cultivation. The crater is about 650 feet deep and 3,250 feet in diameter. This is the most interesting of the short excursions available to visitors with only a few hours in the Island.

7½ m. from Las Palmas a turn left provides another circular drive :

- (c) Via Atalaya, a village of cave-dwellers engaged in the manufacture of primitive pottery. The caves were originally occupied by the early Guanche inhabitants of the Island, and Atalaya has the best group of troglodyte dwellings to be seen in the Canaries. The route passes through the *Goteras Valley* and the *Barranco Higuera Canaria* (orange groves) to Telde. One of the best shorter excursions, circuit 27 miles.

Santa Brígida, 9 m., 1,607 ft., is popular with visitors to the Island on account of its cooler climate and attractive surroundings (pop. 8,745). Hotel, pension and restaurants, 2 m. on the city side of the village.

- (d) A turn right leads through the picturesque Angostura Valley and rejoins the main road at Tafira. (Circuit 19 m.).

At San Mateo, 14 miles, 2,706 feet (pop. 8,537), are further branch roads :

- (e) Turn right for Teror, Arucas and Tamaraceite (circuit 32 m.), and for the north of the Island.
- (f) Turn left for Valsequillo, 17 m., 2,132 ft., and Telde (circuit 36 m.). There is some very fine mountain scenery between San Mateo and Telde, and also between San Mateo and Teror.

Beyond the village of Lagunetas, which is often shrouded in cloud, the ascent of the Cumbre Range begins, and the many bends in this fine road provide a succession of changing views. At the summit is the Cruz de Tejada, 21 miles, 4,757 feet, where there is a Parador (Inn) of most attractive old Canary architecture, belonging to the Spanish Tourist Department (temporarily closed at time of going to press). From the terrace of the Parador are enthralling views over an incredibly rugged panorama of rocks and valleys. Away to the right, rising majestically out of the sea and framed between mountains, is the famous Peak of Teneriffe some sixty miles away. To the left is the Roque Nublo, a curious monolith, 200 ft. high, which stands on a natural pedestal (5,725 ft.). The view is at its best at sunrise or sunset.

The excursion to the Cruz de Tejada is the most popular of the longer circular drives, the return journey usually being made via Valleseco and Teror.

Some 3 m. from the Cruz de Tejada, at Cueva Corcho, 4,165 feet, the main road from Las Palmas is joined. This continues left to Artenara, 8 m. from Cuevo, 4,364 feet, the highest village in the Island (pop. 1,890), and terminates in the Pine Forest of Tamadaba, 15 m., 4,528 ft. (32 m. from Las Palmas). Between Cueva Corcho and Artenara the road passes along the edge of the great Crater of Gandar.

Artenara is a village of cave-dwellers where, strangely enough, people occupy caves in preference to houses; this by no means implies poverty as is the case at Atalaya. Even the church is in a cave, high up in the cliff side.

From near the forester's house at Tamadaba is a wonderful view over the Valley of Agaete and the distant island of Teneriffe.

Bearing right at Cueva Corcho, the road descends to Valleseco, 3,117 feet (pop. 5,256), 28 m. from Las Palmas by the circular route (18 m. direct).

Teror, 33 m. (13 m. direct), 1,886 feet (pop. 9,992) is a large and interesting village (Pension) beautifully situated in a valley flanked by mountains. With its shady square and numerous old houses with overhanging balconies, it is a place of quiet charm. The handsome church (1765), tower of earlier date, contains the greatly venerated image of the Virgin of the Pine. It is related that this image appeared in the branches of a pine tree outside the church on 14th September, 1481; the spot where the tree grew is marked by a monument, and the adjacent pine is a descendent of the original tree. The image is reached by a twisting stone stairway behind the altar, and its valuable robes, etc., are shown. The massive silver shrine, altar casing and candlesticks are the work of the master-silversmith Antonio Juan Correa of La Laguna, Teneriffe, and were made in about 1777. The Fiesta del Pino is held annually on 8th September, when the image is accorded the same military honours as a Captain-General by a representative of the Head of the State. Behind the church is the Bishop's Palace, formerly a convent, and in the village are Cistercian and Dominican convents. There are two fondas (inns). To the north of Teror is Mount Osorio, 2,925 feet (viewpoint).

Just beyond the village a road leads right to the mineral springs where Teror waters are bottled.

From Teror roads lead north to Firgas, Arucas, etc.

The circuit is completed via Tamaraccita to Las Palmas, 46 miles.

A longer circuit may be made by descending from the Cruz de Tejeda by a finely engineered road to the village of Tejeda, 27 miles from Las Palmas, 3,773 feet. Beyond are San

Bartolome, 42 m. (36 m. direct), 2,820 feet, lying at the foot of the Cumbre Mountains and Santa Lucia, 46 m., 2,165 feet. The main road is joined at Agüimes, 72 miles, and the return journey is completed via Telde, making a circuit of 78 miles.

It is possible to extend the circuit still farther by taking the new road south from San Bartolome to Maspalomas, 51 m. and return via Juan Grande, Gando and Telde, making a total distance of 88 miles.

The circuit of the island via Agaete, San Nicolas, Morgan, Maspalomas and Telde is about 146 miles.

FUERTEVENTURA

This island has an area of 788 sq. miles, and measures 63 m. by 16. It is second only in size to Teneriffe and has some 18,632 inhabitants.

Puerto del Rosario (pop. 5,360) is both capital and the island's principal port. The other port is Gran Tarajal, 10 m. to the south-west.

Fuerteventura in some respects resembles the Sahara Desert, from which it is separated by only 60 miles of sea. Unlike the more westerly islands, it is relatively low-lying, and its highest point is the Orejas de Asno, 2,770 ft., to the south in the privately owned sandy peninsula of Jandia.

It is more sparsely populated than any of the other Canaries, and less productive. However, despite a shortage of water, it produces substantial crops of sisal, tomatoes, potatoes, grapes and wheat which, together with some fishing, provide a living for the inhabitants.

The principal villages are La Oliva (pop. 2,716), Tuineje (4,067), La Antigua (2,362), Sta. Maria de Betancuria (817), and Pajara (2,253).

Off the north-east coast of Fuerteventura, where the Bocayna Strait separates it from Lanzarote, is the Isla de Lobos (light house), covering about 4 sq. miles and privately owned.

Communications are provided by the steamers of the Trans-mediterranea Company which make two regular calls a week at Puerto del Rosario on their run between Las Palmas and Arrecife. Steamers lie alongside a mole, and passengers may walk ashore.

There is an airstrip 2 m. from Puerto del Rosario where aircraft of the Spanish Iberia Company call daily, connecting Fuerteventura with Las Palmas and Lanzarote.

Accommodation is available in Puerto del Rosario, at the Pension Fuerteventura, a boarding house with bar, grade 2. This now contains 19 rooms, some with balconies and fine views.





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La Laguna, Tenerife

Photo Spanish National Tourist Office

over the bay. Visitors who would be prepared to find their own amusements might appreciate a short stay in simple unspoilt surroundings. The manager understands some English.

The clear water round the island and plentiful fish are attracting visitors interested in under-water fishing.

There is good bathing from sandy beaches at Playa Blanca, within walking distance, and at El Castillo, 8 kms. where there is a lagoon and a ruined tower.

Buses run to the principal villages, but are of little use to visitors as they do not return until the following day.

Fuerteventura has little to show in the way of interesting old buildings. There is, however, an ancient church in the village of Betancuria, originally capital of the island and founded by the conquistador, Jean de Bethencourt at the end of the fifteenth century. Numerous windmills, used for grinding wheat and gofio, are a feature of the somewhat barren landscape.

Fuerteventura was the home of the fierce dogs which are supposed to have been responsible for the name "Canary", and these, somewhat deteriorated and known as "bardinos," are still bred in the island. Incidentally, legend tells that the name Fuerteventura comes from an exclamation by Juan de Bethencourt, who, when about to land there at the head of his troops in 1402, cried "Quelle forte ventura" (what a great adventure).

Camels are largely used for transport.

Cars may be hired in Puerto del Rosario and Gran Tarajal. The road distance between these two ports via Tuineje and Antigua is a little over 20 miles. Sea distance 25 miles.

The hottest months are July to September. There is a good deal of wind.



LANZAROTE

Lanzarote, the most easterly of the Canary Islands, is separated from Fuerteventura by the Bocayna Strait, and has, with its six satellites, an area of 283 sq. m. with a population of 36,580. The highest point is the Risco de Famara, 2,244 feet. It is the most volcanic of the Canaries, and eruptions of 1730 covered the richest part of the island with a sea of lava. The distance from Las Palmas to Arrecife is 132 miles, and it is easily reached by sea or air. To travellers who are prepared to leave the beaten track in search of new experiences, a stay of two or three days in this strange, windy island may be recommended. Ship or air passages, both ways, together with accommodation in the Parador, should be booked in advance. Four sailings weekly from Las Palmas and daily air services.

Puerto de Arrecife, population 12,866, is the capital and port of the island of Lanzarote.

The passenger steamer berths at the end of a long curved mole which encloses a considerable area of water in front of the town. This is known as the Old Harbour.

The Airport lies 4 miles to the south-west.

Hotel: Parador Nacional, a comfortable modern building (29 rooms, 53 beds), belonging to the Spanish Tourist Authorities. Also Pensions: *Vasca*, Grade 2, and *España*, Grade 3.

Long reefs forming a natural breakwater, protect the port and are the explanation of its name, *arrecife*: a reef. The Old Harbour and the Puerto de Naos to the east are the base for a large fishing fleet which operates off the African Coast and supplies the fish drying factories of Arrecife. A new harbour, *Las Marmoles*, is almost completed 2 m. to the north-east. Adjoining the town is the picturesque Charco de San Ginés, a landlocked lagoon, bordered by the fishing quarter. Salt, largely to supply the requirements of the fish industry, is produced by evaporation at Arrecife and in other parts of the island. There is a school for fishermen, also a school of handiwork.

Two eighteenth century fortresses, built by the Spaniards, protect the two ports. The solid-looking Castillo de San Gabriel, on the mole opposite the town, is an outstanding

feature, and is still connected with the shore by a causeway and drawbridge. The Castillo de San José, which guards the Puerto de Naos, is occupied by the military.

The buildings of Arrecife are mostly square, single-storey, white houses in narrow streets unrelieved by trees or flowers. There are some fairly good shops in the León y Castillo, the principal street. Visitors should see the market; this is surrounded by arcades in the shade of which sit vendors of fruit, fish, poultry, etc., but it is the costumes of the peasants that will be found more interesting than the produce they sell. The country woman seems anxious to protect her skin from the sun and wind and swathes her neck and head with a scarf or shawl so that only a small part of her face is visible. A long-sleeved garment, gauntlet gloves and a great deep, straw hat completes the unusual ensemble. The warmest months are July-September.

Behind the market buildings, on the sea front, may be seen the camels and donkeys of the vendors.

The parish church is that of San Ginés, in whose honour a fiesta is held each year in the latter part of August, when the esplanade between the end of the mole and the Parador is filled with roundabouts and the like brought over from Barcelona. At this time the inhabitants indulge for a week in carnival, music and gaiety which culminates in a fine display of fireworks. A carnival is held about February or March.

From the terrace of the Parador steps lead down into the smooth water of the harbour. There are modern cinemas. Under-water fishing (April-Nov.); fishing from rocks or boat take own gear).

The Route to the South:

This, the more interesting part of Lanzarote, may be covered, as suggested by the Tourist Authorities, in two half days, the one to the Fire Mountains (Montañas del Fuego) and the other to the salt works at Janubio and the lake at El Golfo. The writer found, however, that everything likely to be of interest to a tourist could be seen in from six to seven hours, including moderate stops. The suggested route from Arrecife is as follows:

San Bartolomé, 4½ m., is a village noted for its folk dancers. Beyond this the road enters an area of volcanic ash, country of utterly sterile appearance. At a little distance a field or

hillside may appear as an unbroken expanse of grey black lava ash, but on near approach it will be found to be a vineyard. The whole area is covered with neat circular depressions, perhaps nine feet across and five feet deep, in the bottom of each of which grows one vine, a vine so prolific that it may produce from 200 to 300 bunches of well-flavoured grapes. The rainfall is very small and one wonders how it is possible that anything could grow under such conditions. The secret lies in what is sometimes called the "miracle of the cinders", for this unpromising powdered lava has the remarkable property of attracting and holding the nightly fall of dew and thus supplying the roots below. These roots are planted in a small quantity of yellow volcanic soil, generally brought from a distance, and then over-all are spread a few inches of ash. The vines are planted in depressions as a shelter against the strong winds; figs are grown in the same way, and other developments of the same principles of cultivation will be found in many parts of the island for a variety of crops, such as maize, grain, lucerne, fruit, tomatoes, onions, etc. A feature with all crops is the wind protection which frequently takes the form of semi-circular walls to give shelter against the prevailing winds.

In the grape season (August), camels may be seen lying patiently between the vine pits while their wooden panniers are filled with grapes for conveyance to the wine presses.

Villages passed are La Geria, 10 m., Uga, 12½ m., and Yaiza, 16 m. It will be noticed that most of the villages consist of square houses set amid palm trees, and have the appearance of *Moorish* rather than Spanish villages. 5 m. beyond the village of Yaiza, mostly through very rough lava, is Jamblo, a circular lake close to the shore, perhaps three-quarters of a mile across, where salt is obtained on a large scale by evaporation. This is worth seeing, especially in the morning, when the gleaming white pyramids of salt look like distant encampments of tents. The visitor may walk among the salt pans and see the simple method by which the salt is obtained.

From Janubio the car returns almost to Yaiza before turning off to reach the west coast at El Golfo. From the road terminus it is a short walk to the left along the beach, through some unusually red lava, to El Golfo, a curious lagoon, some 100 yards in length, which lies close to the sea at the foot of a semi-circle of crater. The sides of the crater show a remarkable

lace-like strata, and the water in the lagoon is of bright yellow-green colour, due it is said, to the presence of some marine plant.

South of Yaisa are the fishing villages of Playa Blanca and Berugo. Near the latter is the circular tower, the Torre del Aguila, built by Bethencourt early in the 15th century.

From Yaiza the route turns north-east into a region of complete desolation of lava among broken craters where there is no cultivation, nor, indeed, any sign of life. One of the many streams of lava that once flowed over this area has now the striking appearance of a petrified river. It is possible to arrange in advance to be met by camels at one point (Ptas. 50 for two persons) to ascend to the rest house on the mountain above, whence there is a fine view over the craters. It is said that there are some three hundred craters in the island, and in this part the visitor finds himself ringed about by sugarloaf hills from which the tops have been erupted, leaving them jagged and awe-inspiring. A good deal, however, may be seen without this digression by camel, and presently the road branches left into the heart of the Fire Mountains, ending at the Islote de Hilario, where in places the ground is yellow with sulphur. The hill to the left is one of the hottest of the fire mountains, and just below the surface is very considerable heat, though the ground is not noticeably hot under foot. Generally the driver will have with him a bundle of brushwood, which, when pushed into a shallow hole, at once gives off smoke, and within a matter of seconds bursts into a mass of angry flame. If further demonstration is required, one may fry eggs or boil water by placing a pan in a shallow hole. Statistics give the temperature as 140° C. at 10 cms. depth and 460° C. at 60 cms. The scenery round about is desolate in the extreme, and though one knows that these volcanoes, whose fire lies hidden so near the surface, have not erupted since 1730, one wonders how soon they may flare up once more.

About a hundred yards to the right of the road, soon after leaving Islote de Hilario on the way back, is a miniature crater known as the Chocolate Cup, so-called from the appearance of its interior, which resembles chocolate paint. It is worth stopping for a few minutes to see this.

On the return journey to Arrecife one passes through the village of Mancha Blanca. Here in the Ermita de los Dolores is an

image of the Virgin which is credited with the stopping of a lava flow, and also with saving many ships, models of which are to be seen to the left of the altar (Fiesta de Dolores 15 Nov.). The road then passes through Vegueta, Mozaga and San Bartolomé, completing the round tour back to Arrecife in a trip of about 69 m.

Northern Route:

Most of what is of interest in the northern half of the island may be seen in the course of a full day trip. The road from Arrecife passes through the village of Tahiche, 3 m., to San Miguel de Teguisse, 6 m., once the principal village of the island, but now of little account. The principal church, Iglesia de San Miguel, was severely damaged by fire, and rebuilt early in the present century. The figure of the Virgin, over the High Altar, was once stolen by an impious Moor, whose flight was intercepted by a large dog, and the image was recovered. A small painting at the foot of the Virgin shows the dog at the throat of the Moor, and a scar on the Virgin's left eye is said to have been received in the struggle. The two old and disused Convents of San Francisco and Santo Domingo are of little interest. In a workshop described as a School of Handiwork, the three types of mandolin used in the Canary Islands are made.

On the brow of a steep hill outside the village in the direction of Haria is the imposing 16th century fortress, the Castle of Antiguo Guanapay, now called the Castillo de Santa Barbara. This was built to protect the Spanish garrison against the Moors, who made attacks on the island from time to time. It may be reached by driving along a track for some distance up the hillside and leaving the car to walk up over the rough lava to the castle (10 minutes). It is necessary, in the absence of any steps, to climb up a few feet of masonry to gain admission to the building. This is not very difficult but care must be taken as there is usually a strong wind blowing.

The road from Teguisse to Haria passes Los Valles, 12 m., and climbs the Cuesta de los Valles, 1,980 ft., whence there is a very fine view down into the Valley of Haria. The valley is a fertile one, and the white houses of Haria, 14½ m., set about with palms, remind one of a desert oasis. Near the viewpoint is the Church of the Virgin de las Nieves.

Haría is a fairly large village with a fonda where food and accommodation may be obtained, but there is little to detain the tourist. Beyond, the road continues through malpais, apparently useless lava country, but which, with great industry, has in part been reclaimed. Grapes and other fruit grow well in this unpromising area.

The road passes through the villages of Máguez and Yé, some distance beyond which it comes to an end at a disused battery, on a high point known as Bateria del Rio, 19½ m., which commands a magnificent and memorable view across the Strait of El Rio, three-quarters to one mile wide, to the island of Graciosa. This, actually the eighth in size of the Canary Group, is about 5½ miles long by 2½ wide. On it are two fishing villages and four extinct volcanoes, the highest being about 875 ft. It is possible to arrange to cross the Strait by motor launch if specially desired. More distant than Graciosa, but normally visible, are the smaller islands of Montaña Clara (1½ by ½ m.), El Roque and Alegranza (2¾ by 2½ m.). The excursion to El Rio should be made in the morning when visibility is usually at its best.

The return journey is by the east coast, bearing left after leaving Yé to see the Cueva de Los Verdes and the Jameo del Agua. It is perhaps best to proceed to the end of the road and see the Jameo del Agua first (shade and suitable stopping place for lunch). This is a lofty volcanic cavern reached by steps from the car terminus. Within is a stretch of clear salt water some 30 by 10 yards, in which live a very small, blind, white crab, said to be found nowhere else. Both ends of the cavern are open and light also enters through a shaft from above, causing weird reflections in the still waters.

On the way back to Yé the two entrances to the Cueva de Los Verdes may be seen, both of them close to the roadside. This is a great volcanic cavern through which, by entering at the seaward end, it is possible to pass and emerge at the landward entrance 1½ m. distant. Visitors would rarely wish to see more than the entrances to the cave, and should not attempt to do so without a guide and proper equipment obtainable from Haría. It would be very dangerous otherwise as there are several branches and in places ropes are necessary. Some parts of the grotto are said to be 200 feet high. It was in this cave that the inhabitants took refuge when the island was invaded in the 16th and 17th centuries, but it is said that in the end the

secret was given to one of the Moors by a girl, and that in consequence some hundreds were taken away into slavery.

The circular route passes through Arrieta, a fishing village, Mala, Guatiza and Tabiche, making a circuit of about 56 miles which may be accomplished comfortably in from five to six hours, according to stops.

From Teguíse there is a road which continues across the island to La Caleta, a fishing village and summer bathing resort with 3 m. of beach. Soon after leaving Teguíse, the road descends into a wide level plain of lava, which produces only an inedible bushy plant, the aulaga, which is collected and used as fuel.

TENERIFFE

Teneriffe is the largest of the Canary Islands, with a population of 387,767 (about 300 British). Its capital and principal port is Santa Cruz de Tenerife. The area of the island is 2,058 sq. kms. (795 sq. miles).

It is volcanic and very rugged, being little more than a long mountain ridge sloping steeply to the sea. The most remarkable feature is the world-famous Peak, 12,152 feet, known as Pico de Teide, which is surrounded at a height of from six to seven thousand feet by the sunken crater of the Cañadas. Much of the scenery is magnificent, with remarkable contrasts of mountain and sea, rich banana lands and volcanic desolation. Excellent roads place some of the finest country within easy reach of the visitor.

The principal industries are agricultural, with large exports of bananas, tomatoes and potatoes, also salt fish to Africa. Manufactures are cigars, drawn linen-work, glassware and canning. At Santa Cruz is a large oil refinery with a capacity of 1,200,000 tons per annum served by a constant succession of tankers, and an important business in oil-bunkering.

English is understood in the hotels used by visitors and in most of the shops in Santa Cruz.

Hotels : These are listed under Santa Cruz, La Laguna and Puerto de la Cruz. Two Pensions are mentioned under Orotava.

A large and handsome Parador (Inn), built and operated by the Spanish Government Tourist Authorities is at Las Canadas. Another, under private management, the Hostal del Drago, has been established at Icod. These provide, at a moderate charge, accommodation of a standard acceptable to foreign visitors.

Teneriffe Festivals :

- | | | |
|------|---------------|---|
| Jan. | Tacoronte. | Official Golf Championship : General Franco Cup. |
| Jan. | 5 Santa Cruz. | Parade through the city of the Wise Kings with camels ridden by Teneriffe girls in typical dress. |

May 1-10	Santa Cruz.	Festivals commemorating the Cross and the foundation of the City. Massed bands, cavalcades, decorated coaches, bull-fights, exhibitions of local arts and crafts, etc. A Regional Day is celebrated with exhibitions of traditional costumes, customs, folk dancing, singing parties, wrestling, etc.
June	La Laguna.	Corpus Christi. Religious Festival. Carpets of flowers along route of procession.
June	Villa Orotava.	Octava del Corpus. Religious Festival. Carpets of flowers in principal streets.
July 16	Santa Cruz.	Festival of the Virgin del Carmen. Maritime procession and nautical sports.
July 25	Santa Cruz.	Civil and military commemoration of the successful defence of the city against Lord Nelson in 1797.
July	Puerto de la Cruz.	Tradition festivals in honour of the Virgin del Carmen and of the Gran Poder de Dios.
July 27	La Laguna.	Festival of San Cristóbal, Patron of the city. In the morning the Flag of the Conquest is carried in a civil procession from the Town Hall to the Cathedral.
Aug. 14-15	Candelaria.	Festival of the Virgin of Candelaria, when the appearance of the Virgin to the Guanches is represented.
Sept. 15	La Laguna.	Traditional festivals in honour of Santísimo Cristo. Fair, exhibitions, wrestling, battle of flowers, etc.
Sept. 16	Santa Cruz.	Festival of Our Lady of Mt. Carmen. Folklore rally, wrestling, etc.
	Puerto de la Cruz.	ditto.
Sept. (last Sunday)	Icod de los Vinos.	Fiesta del Santísimo Cristo.

SANTA CRUZ DE TENERIFE

Santa Cruz, capital city and port of Tenerife, founded in 1494, has a population of 133,100, of whom about 50 are British.

The entrance to Santa Cruz from the sea is imposing, and is dominated by the tower of the fine Palace of the Island Council and the Civil War Monument, both on the Plaza Espana. The coast is fringed with high cliffs and behind the City the hills rise steeply to La Laguna and beyond. The long south Mole which protects the harbour and at which the larger vessels berth, abuts on the Plaza Espana in the centre of the city. Adjoining this is the Plaza del Candelaria, out of the upper part of which leads the Calle del Castillo, the principal shopping street.

Hotels:	Category	Rooms
Mencey	Luxury	320
Orotava	1B	33
Camacho	2	56
Pino de Oro	2	25
Anaga	2	40
Ramos	2	25
Pension Spragg	Luxury	14
Residencia Principe	Luxury	24
(furnished room, bath and breakfast only)		
Hostal Santa Cruz	1	15
Leon Medina Pension	2	100

Under present conditions it is not practicable to include hotel tariffs. 15% to 20% is added to hotel accounts for service, and there is an additional tax in luxury grade hotels. There are many pensions.

Notes on Hotels in Santa Cruz de Tenerife

The preliminary remarks in the note on Las Palmas hotels are applicable to Santa Cruz also (p. 90).

The address of the Spanish State Tourist Office is Palacio Insular, Santa Cruz de Tenerife.

The map on page 61 is keyed to show the positions of the hotels mentioned below.

Mencey Hotel (Ref. No. 7) is a luxury grade establishment, recently much enlarged, with attractive gardens and swimming bath.

Orotava Hotel (Ref. No. 8) is old established and very centrally situated on the Plaza de la Candelaria.

Camacho Hotel (Ref. No. 9) and Anaga Hotel (Ref. No. 28) are both in the central part of the city.

Pino de Oro Hotel (Ref. No. 10) lies above the Municipal Park; Ramos Hotel (Ref. No. 19), also in the upper part of the city, is just off the Rambla de General Franco.

Pension Spragg (Ref. No. 11) is a comfortable establishment near the Municipal Park and the English Church.

Residencia Principe (Ref. No. 29), centrally situated in the city, offers comfortable accommodation, bed, bath and breakfast only.

Hostel Santa Cruz (Ref. No. 30) and Leon Medina Pension (Ref. No. 31) are both central, the latter being close to the sea front.

There are several other pensions and a Category 3 hotel.

Restaurants: Meals may be obtained at most of the hotels. Also Sotomayor, Villalba Hervás; Gambinus, Adelantado 3; Atlántico, Marina 1; Pino Gumira, Porlier 52.

There are numerous restaurants, cafes and bars. Foreign visitors usually meet at the Atlantic on the sea front.

Cabarets: Copacabana, Riga and Rosaleda. These open from 9 p.m. to 3.30 a.m. Spanish ladies resident in the island do not go to these entertainments.

Visitors' Enquiry Office: Spanish State Tourist Department, Palacio Insular del Cabildo. (Palace of the Island Council on seafront to right of Civil War Monument when looking seawards.)

Guide Interpreters: The services of these may be obtained through the Tourist Office.

Newspapers: *El Día* and *La Tarde* daily in Spanish.

Union-Castle Agents: Elder Dempster (Canary Islands) Ltd., Avenida de Anaga, 13.

Agents for Inter-Island Services: Compañía Transmediterránea, Marina 3. (See p. 71 for sailings).

Air Services: Iberia Offices, Avenida de Anaga (Cacitsa Bldg.). Airport (*Los Rodeos*) $7\frac{1}{2}$ m., from Santa Cruz. Cia. Aviaco, Calle del Pilar. (See p. 78 for services).

Landing Arrangements : Tenerife is a free port and there are no Customs formalities affecting visitors' normal baggage.

Tourist Agencies: CYRASA (Elder Dempster): Avenida de Anaga No. 13; Viajes Atlantida, *San Francisco*, 9; Blandy, *Marina* 45; Marsans, *San José Street (Casino Bldg.)*; Wagon-Lits Cook, *Pilar*, 2, *Viajes Solymar*, *San José*, 2.

Banks : There are several, but Travellers' Cheques are usually negotiated at the Bank of Spain, *Viera y Clavijo*, 25.

Consuls : The British Consulate is at *Marina*, 15 ; Portugal, *Garcia Moroto* 12. There is no United States Consulate.

Taxis within the city operate on taximeters and are very moderate. For short distances it is customary to give a gratuity of about 20%. For country excursions there are official tariffs, but it is advisable to agree on fares in advance. Modern cars are available.

Buses within the City operate frequently to all parts at modest fares.

Long Distance Buses are operated by Transportes de Tenerife, *Marina*, 11. These vehicles serve the principal centres at economical fares. Buses on the northern route run to La Laguna, Tacoronto, Orotava, Puerto de la Cruz, Los Realejos, Icod and Buenavista. There are eight direct services a day to Puerto de la Cruz and others via Orotava. Single fare by regular line bus Santa Cruz to Puerto de la Cruz: Ptas. 17.

Buses on the southern route serve Candelaria, Guimar, Arafo, Fasnia and Granadilla. Certain taxis run between Santa Cruz, Orotava and Puerto de la Cruz at the same fares as the buses, Enquire Turismo Office. Buses start from Plaza Weyler.

British Institutions : There are English churches at Santa Cruz and Puerto de la Cruz, both substantial stone buildings erected by the British community about the beginning of this century. British cemeteries in Santa Cruz near San Sebastian Street, and at Puerto de la Cruz,

There are a British Library and a British Outdoor Sports Club at Puerto de la Cruz. No British doctors or nursing facilities but English-speaking doctors available. English children are sent home to be educated.

Entertainments.

Theatres : Companies come occasionally from Spain to the Guimera Theatre. Several cinemas.

Music : The *Municipal* or *Military Band* plays in winter 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday mornings at the Plaza Principe; in summer at same time on Thursday. During the winter the *Symphonic Orchestra* gives monthly performances.

Dances are held in the *Casino* (membership of *Casino* not necessary), at the *Mencey Hotel*, *Nautical Club*, *Sahara*, *Marina*, etc.

Local Folk Dances: Exhibitions are arranged frequently in the *Municipal Park* (as advertised).

Bull-Fighting : The *Bull Ring*, the only one in the *Canaries*, is in the *Rambla de General Franco*, and seats more than 6,000 spectators. *Matadors*, *bulls*, etc., are brought from *Spain* and occasional fights are arranged during the summer, especially during the *May festivals*. There are generally five or six bull-fights each year. They start at 4 or 5 p.m. and usually six bulls are killed. Admission from about *Ptas. 50* for seats in the sun to about *Ptas. 350*.

Canary Island Wrestling : (*Luchas Canarias*). Contests throughout the year.

Cockfighting : Meetings are held on Sunday afternoons between February and May in *San Sebastian Street*.

Association Football : Matches are held on Sunday afternoons during the winter months.

Golf : The *Teneriffe Golf Club* has its club house and course (18 holes; must take own clubs) at *El Peñon*, near *Tacoronte* 1,850 ft. 8½ m., from *Santa Cruz*. Grass greens, restaurant, telephone, and boarding accommodation for players. Miniature golf in the *Municipal Park*, *Garcia Savabria*, *Santa Cruz*.

Tennis : Courts are available to residents at the *Hotel Mencey*, *Santa Cruz*, and at the *Taoro Hotel*, *Puerto de la Cruz*. There are also courts at the *Nautical Club* (see *Index*); and the *British Outdoor Sports Club* at *Puerto de la Cruz* has facilities for tennis, badminton and croquet. The *Bethencourt Tennis Club* admits temporary members.

The Municipal Park (No. 17 on plan) is well laid out with trees, flowers, fountain, miniature golf, etc., and has some cages of monkeys and birds.

Bathing and Beaches : The best beaches are the Playa de San Andres, 5½ m. N.E. from Santa Cruz; Playa Martiánez and San Telmo at Puerto de la Cruz; Playa de San Marcos at Icod; and Médano and Los Cristianos (fonda) in the south of the island.

There are fine bathing pools at the Nautical Club; at the Balneario (see below); at the Martiánez Beach and Taoro Hotel, Las Vegas Hotel and Tenerife Playa Hotel at Puerto de la Cruz; at the Mencey Hotel, Santa Cruz, and at the village of Bajamar.

Please see note on bathing costumes under "Clothing."

Nautical Club : This handsome modern club stands on the seafront on the road to San Andres. It has a splendid bathing pool, tennis courts, restaurant, etc., and is one of the finest of its kind in Spain. Swimming, sailing and rowing competitions. Visitors are admitted to temporary membership on presentation of an introduction card from their hotel, the Tourist Office or a member. The subscription is Ptas. 250 for 7 days; Ptas. 500 for 15 days and Ptas. 1,000 for 30 days.

Balneario: This recently constructed bathing pool, restaurant, etc., (admission Ptas. 5), is 2 m. from the city on the road to San Andres, and is served by bus. Foreign visitors, however, usually use the Nautical Club.

The Casino (no gambling), is a beautifully appointed building overlooking the Plaza de la Candelaria and the sea. It contains interesting pictures by modern Canary artists, and is now used as a club for both ladies and gentlemen. Foreign visitors are welcomed as temporary members and might find such membership very congenial if they should be making a long stay. The Club Library includes English books.

In the Council Chamber of the Island Council (close to Turismo Office) is an outstanding mural painting covering all the walls. This depicts the activities of the people of the seven Canary Islands, including the Guanches. The artist, Jose Aguiar, is a Canary Island painter. Admission free on request.

Of recent years great improvements have been made to the seafront of Santa Cruz, principally in the construction of the fine Avenida de Anaga and the Plaza de la Candelaria. The

Civil War Monument stands on the site of the Castillo de San Cristobal, which defended the Mole. In Nelson's day the distance from the Castillo to the end of the Mole was only about 100 yards.

It is in the Plaza de la Candelaria and the Avenida de Anaga that the inhabitants promenade in the early evenings (see "paseo" in Index). The principal shopping street, the Calle de Castillo, leads off the upper part of the Plaza.

The Plaza del Principe, shaded by Indian laurels, has a bandstand where concerts are given frequently. In the Plaza Weyler is the Capitanía General, where General Franco, then Captain General of the Canaries, organised the National Rising of July, 1936. The Municipal Park contains a good collection of indigenous and sub-tropical trees and plants.

Most interesting among the numerous monuments is El Triunfo de la Candelaria in the Plaza de la Candelaria. It was the work of the sculptor, Canova, 1778, and commemorates the appearance of the Virgin to the Guanches.

The Parish Church, Parroquia de N.S. de la Concepcion, sometimes known as the Cathedral, is a large building with five naves and a square tower, mostly dating from the 17th century. On the north wall are two of Nelson's flags captured during his assault on the city, and nearby is the original cross carried by Don Alonso Fernandez de Lugo, the conqueror of the island, when he landed in Tenerife in 1493. There is some fine wood carving, especially in the unfinished Capilla de Carta, a chapel left just as it was when the craftsman died.

The English Church, St. George's, is an attractive stone building in the Plaza de 25 de Julio. Services are held at 11 a.m. on Sundays (lay-reader) from October to Easter.

The Municipal Museum, which is in the former Convent of San Francisco, is entered from below the Plaza del Principe. Open on weekdays (closed Mondays) from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Sundays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission free on Sundays and Thursdays, Ptas. 5.00 other days. It contains paintings and sculpture and includes the work of local artists.

Museum of the Cabildo Insular (2nd floor). Open weekdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 to 7 p.m.; Sundays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Admission Ptas 2. This specialises in Guanche archeology and anthropology and contains valuable and well displayed collections of mummies, skulls, etc.

On the seafront, just beyond the Club Nautical, is an old battery, the Castillo de Paso Alto, laid out as a garden. It contains among others the famous cannon, "The Tiger", which wounded Lord Nelson when he lost his arm on the Mole in the attack on the City on 25 July, 1797.

Fine Arts: A permanent exhibition is maintained at the Circulo de Bellas Artes, Calle de Castillo, 47.

The Library, which includes a collection of books on the Canary Islands, is housed in the same building as the Museum and is open on weekdays 1—5 p.m. and 7—9 p.m.

The Market, situated close to the centre of the city, is usually well stocked with fruit and other produce. It is best visited early in the morning, at any rate before noon.

A FEW HOURS IN TENERIFFE

The following notes are intended to help visitors to Santa Cruz from passing ships to make the most of a short time ashore, especially when no organised excursions are arranged for them.

The best short excursion, which includes magnificent mountain scenery and a visit to the old city of La Laguna, is Route 3 to the Mercedes Forest and the Pico del Ingles. Circuit 26 miles, allow three hours.

A longer trip is across the island to Puerto de la Cruz, Route 1, via La Laguna and returning via Villa Orotava. This journey of about 60 miles includes visits to three interesting old towns and many villages. Allow 4½ hours.

For a short drive, a visit to La Laguna is suggested, about 12 m. return, allow 1½ hours. The driver should be instructed to stop at the various places of interest.

Charges for country drives should be agreed with the driver in advance; taxis inside the city boundaries operate on meters and are very moderate.

Visitors to Santa Cruz on foot may see the shops in the Plaza del Candelaria and in the Calle del Castillo which leads off it; they may make their way to the Conception Parish Church (Nelson relics) and the Market, and they will find pleasant Continental cafes near the sea front where they may obtain refreshments.

If, in order to see more, the visitor takes a taxi, he should include in addition to the foregoing, the Nautical Club and the adjacent *Castillo de Paso Alto*, and drive past the Municipal Gardens, the English Church and the Bull Ring.

For bathing it is best to obtain an introduction to the Nautical Club through the Tourist Bureau, where there is a fine swimming bath. The Spanish are conservative in the matter of bathing costumes—see note under *Clothing* on page 79.

ROUTE 1.

SANTA CRUZ TO LA LAGUNA, VILLA OROTAVA, PUERTO DE LA CRUZ, ICOD, AND GARACHICO

The road climbs the hills to the west behind the City and passes through built-up areas for most of the way to La Laguna $5\frac{1}{2}$ m., 1,774 feet, situated in the Aguere Valley, population 57,344, formerly the capital of Tenerife. There is an atmosphere of leisured peace in the quiet streets of the old city, some of which have shown little change with the passing of the centuries. La Laguna has a University and is the seat of the Bishop; and there are many examples of early Canary Island architecture, for it abounds in churches, convents and balconied manor houses. Over the doors of many of the houses are carved the arms of their noble owners. Noteworthy are the Town Hall, the Bishop's Palace and the Nava Palace.

Hotels: Aguere; Grade 2, 33 rooms. Pension Soria, 13 rooms and Pension Ramos, both Grade 2.

The cathedral (reconstructed) contains the tomb of Don Alonso Fernandez de Lugo, conqueror of Tenerife (died 1525), a fine Italian marble pulpit and some good locally made silverwork. The oldest church in the city, now a national monument, is the *Iglesia de la Concepcion*, commenced in 1511. It has a high tower and the interior contains a well carved pulpit and good silverwork.

The garden of the Ecclesiastical Seminary of San Domingo contains a remarkable dragon tree (to be seen by permission) said to be of very great age, though not so old as that at Icod (see Index). By means of a step ladder one may enter the central platform formed by the branches, when it will be appreciated how it was possible to celebrate Mass inside a tree as was done

in the famous dragon tree which formerly stood in Villa Orotava. To the east of the city is the Airport, Los Rodeos, 7½ m., with modern installations.

Tacoronte, 12½ m., 1,544 ft., population 10,282, is served by bus from La Laguna. The newer portion built close to the main road is without interest, but the old village lying at some distance below is picturesque and worth visiting. Here, behind the altar in the Convent of San Augustin (1662), may be seen the famous wooden Christ of Tacoronte, to which many miracles are attributed. It is said to have been made in Genoa in the 17th century. The Parish Church of Santa Catalina is nearby and contains fine locally made silverwork.

Near Tacoronte, at El Peñon, is the Golf Course.

The road continues, mostly within a sight of the sea, passing above El Saenzal, 14 m., and through the villages of La Matanza, 16 m., La Victoria, 17 m., to Santa Ursula, 19 m. A little beyond this a turn in the road reveals a splendid view over the Valley of Orotava. This is often known to foreigners as Humboldt's Corner, for it was here that the famous traveller, on seeing it for the first time, declared it in his enthusiasm to be the most enchanting view that eyes had seen. The road now divides, the left fork going to Villa Orotava and the right to Puerto de la Cruz (two routes) and the north coast road to Icod.

Villa Orotava, population 22,371, is an important town lying at an altitude of more than 1,000 feet in the hills above Puerto de la Cruz, from which it is distant 4 m. by road. It is a picturesque place with fine old buildings and bright gardens, and is still the home of some of the Spanish noble families. Among the more notable buildings are the Church and Convent of S. Francisco at the lower end of the Plaza, now occupied by military, and the Iglesia de la Concepcion, with unusual dome and turrets, recently declared a national monument. Higher up the hill in a street named San Francisco there are some fine large houses with handsome balconies and coats-of-arms of their owners carved over the doorways. Still higher are the hospital, the old church of San Juan and a curious old aqueduct. Tea, etc., may be had at the Cafe Egon Wende.

Pensions : Teide and Academia (grade 2) ; Suiza and Victoria (grade 3).

Frequent bus service to the Puerto, or a footpath may be taken through the banana plantations.

Beyond Orotava the road climbs the Monte Verde to the Portillo, 17 m., at the gateway to Las Cañadas, where it links with the route to Santa Cruz via Esperanza (see route 2).

The right-hand road again divides, the left fork for the north coast road and the right to Puerto de la Cruz.

Puerto de la Cruz, 28½ m. from Santa Cruz, is a small disused port which formerly served the nearby town of Orotava, population 15,248. It is an attractive old town with many pleasing examples of Canary architecture including groups of old houses with balconies, and the curious shutters through which the women looked unseen at the passers-by. There is an old shady plaza, and nearby is the principal church, the Iglesia de N.S. de la Pena de Francia.

Within the past few years Puerto has become famous as a holiday resort and many modern hotels have been built. It attracts thousands of visitors from Europe, both in summer and winter, who come for the sunshine and bathing. Bathers use the Martiánez Beach (black sand) or the Martiánez or San Telmo swimming pool.

Hotels:

Europahotel Oro Negro	Grade 1A	42 rooms
Las Vegas	1A	226
Taoro	1A	132
Fenerife Playa ..	1A	260
Tigaiga	1A	40
Valle Mar	1A	78
Belgica	1B	39
Martiánez	1B	34
Monopol	1B	87
Marquesa	2	65
Residencia Rex ..	1B	27
Residencia Astoria Bamba	2	24
Residencia Iriarte ..	2	19

Notes on Hotels at Puerto de la Cruz

This holiday resort has developed rapidly over the past few years; most of the hotels on the sea front were built very recently

and are in all respects modern. All the larger hotels in Puerto de la Cruz were inspected by the writer in 1962 and created a favourable impression. They appeared likely to satisfy British visitors. The smaller and lower category establishments also seemed to give good value for the modest tariffs charged, and a little Grade 3 residencia (bed and breakfast only) offered clean and decent rooms which might suit those with whom economy was of first importance.

A full list of hotels, etc., together with latest tariff details is obtainable from the Spanish State Tourist Office, Palacio Insular, Santa Cruz de Tenerife.

A 15% service charge is added to accounts as elsewhere in the Islands.

English, French, German and Spanish is spoken in most hotels.

The map on page 133 is keyed to show the positions of the hotels mentioned below.

Facing the sea on Avenida de Colon are the Las Vegas (Ref. No. 1), Valle-Mar (Ref. No. 5), Belgica (Ref. No. 6) and the Tenerife Playa (Ref. No. 3). Las Vegas and Tenerife Playa are both large modern hotels with fine views of sea and the Peak of Tenerife. All rooms in both hotels have private bath or shower, toilet and telephone. Las Vegas has a private swimming pool. Tenerife Playa has a small pool, dancing and night club. The Belgica is a smaller hotel also in a very good position. The Valle-Mar is a well appointed modern establishment; all rooms with bath, balcony and telephone.

In the Calle Quintana, just off the sea front, are the Monopol (Ref. No. 8) and the Marquesa (Ref. No. 9). The Monopol is a comfortable old-established hotel, modernised in 1961, all rooms with bath and toilet. Nearby is the Residencia Rex (Ref. No. 10) under same management. The Marquesa is also an old established hotel recently modernised and built in Spanish style round a central patio. Another of the older hotels is the Martianeze (Ref. No. 7) near the Martianeze Beach. In the same vicinity are the Astoria Bamba (Ref. No. 11) built in 1958 and the Residencia Iriarte (Ref. No. 12).

On the hill above Puerto are the Taoro Hotel (Ref. No. 2) and the Tigaiga Hotel (Ref. No. 4). The Taoro is a very old established hotel, recently rebuilt, standing in large grounds.

Fine swimming pool, tennis, views of sea and the Peak. Nearby is the modern hotel, Tigaiga, pleasantly situated, with a garden, near British Club. Astoria Bambi, mentioned above, is under the same management.

Higher up the hill, inside the gates of the Taoro Hotel, is the English Church, a stone building with good windows. Services during winter months. Some 150 yards below the hotel gate is the British Outdoor Sports Club with good tennis, croquet, bowling, and badminton courts. Tea days: Tuesdays and Saturdays. Visitors are welcomed as members; fees are very modest. Just above the Club on the other side of the road is the British Library, open Tuesdays and Fridays 5 to 6 p.m., where there is a considerable collection of books. Temporary members are welcomed.

A bus runs from Puerto to Orotava every 30 minutes.

The Orotava Botanical Gardens (admission Ptas. 5) lie between the Puerto and Orotava and should be visited. They were established in 1788 for the purpose of acclimatising useful plants from America and Asia as a stepping-stone to transplanting them to the Spanish mainland. Such transfers from Teneriffe to Spain proved a failure, but the plants have grown luxuriously at Orotava. Trees in the Gardens are mostly numbered and a useful reference catalogue in English (price Ptas. 6) is obtainable from the custodian.

A little beyond Puerto along the north coast road is a branch to the left which leads up to the village of Realejo Alto. The church of Santiago, which was amongst the oldest in the island, was destroyed by fire recently. The main road is rejoined via Realejo Bajo.

San Juan de la Rambla, 32½ miles, is a picturesque old village. Outside the little church are buildings with typical overhanging balconies; that at the house marked "No. 2" is a very good example.

Icod, 40 m., 721 ft., population 15,042, is an attractive old town with a parish church and pleasant shady square from which there are extensive views over the fruitful Valley of Icod. At the side of the main road on the far side of the town is the famous dragon tree said to be over 3,000 years old. Accommodation at the Hostal del Drago and Pension Gloria, both

grade 2. Beyond Icod the route climbs rapidly and reaches a magnificent viewpoint at El Tanque, 45 m., 1,462 ft., situated on the terrible lava stream which in former times engulfed the town and port of Garachico below.

The road continues to the villages of Santiago, 54 m., Guía, 66 m., and Adeje, 78 m. From this point one may return to Santa Cruz via Guimar, 79 m., thus making a complete circuit of the island, total distance 157 m. (preferably allow 2 days).

The lower road from Icod leads to the old town of Garachico, 42 m., the most important town in the island until it was for the most part buried by a great lava flow from above in 1705. This not only destroyed the town but filled up its harbour. Among the few old buildings remaining, which include churches and convents, is the picturesque little fortress at the harbour, the Castillo de San Miguel, with five coats-of-arms carved over the doorway. Off the port is the great Rock of Garachico, and there is a smaller one closer inshore. Both are surmounted by crosses expressive of the prayers of the inhabitants to be spared another eruption.

Farther on are the large villages of Los Silos and Buenavista, lying in a prosperous banana growing area and flanked by high rugged mountains. These are distant 4 m. and 7 m. from Garachico respectively, and beyond is Teno Point at the western extremity, with lighthouse. This Point, though somewhat inaccessible by land, is frequently seen close in from the decks of vessels passing between the islands of Gomera and Tenerife on the South African route.

ROUTE 2.

SANTA CRUZ TO LAS CAÑADAS AND RETURN VIA VILAFLORES, GUIMAR AND CANDELARIA

From Santa Cruz the road runs via La Laguna (see Route 1) whence it ascends rapidly to La Esperanza, 9½ m., 2,925 ft. Beyond is the Monte de la Esperanza, 14 m., covered in pine forest. It was in a glade in this wood that General Franco gathered the officers of the garrison of Tenerife prior to the National Rising on 17th June, 1936. (Stone obelisk.) Just before the 14 km. stone a road leads left to the Pico Atalaya, a viewpoint.

The first view of the Peak is at the 19 km. stone from La Laguna. The road continues to climb until it reaches an altitude of over 7,000 feet, and continues along the central ridge of mountains whence, for much of the distance, the famous Peak is seen ahead, and there are wonderful views down to the sea both to the north and south. This high altitude is maintained with little variation for more than 30 miles. The Izana Observatory, 33 m., 7,676 ft., is seen on the left. There is usually snow on the road Jan./Feb.

At the Portillo de la Villa, 31 m., 6,500 ft., is a turning down to Villa Orotava, 17 m. At the Portillo the road enters the great lava-strewn sunken crater known as *Las Cañadas* which stretches round the lower slopes of the Peak. It is for the most part flat country slightly undulating from the flow of lava and yellowish in colour, ringed on the outer edge by mountains. Vegetation, such as it is, consists mainly of a plant known as *Retama*, an aromatic broom, found only in *Las Cañadas* at altitudes of from 6,000 to 10,000 ft. Coloured lava and pumice are seen at the roadside.

At 38 m., at an altitude of about 7,600 feet, a large map marks the track where the actual ascent of the Peak commences (see p. 140). Near here the road passes a post of the Civil Guard. At 42 m. is the *Mirador de Los Roques* where there is a remarkable view of tall isolated rocks standing like sentries on the arid plain. A short distance beyond is *Llano de Ucanca*, one of the finest viewpoints.

Opposite the *Mirador* is an excellently equipped *Parador* belonging to the Spanish Government opened in 1959. 36 bedrooms all with baths. Chapel.

At the *Boca de Tauce*, 46 m., the end of the *Cañadas*, the road branches, and visitors take the turn to the left which descends by many hairpin bends to the village of *Vilaflor*.

The shorter return route follows the road back as far as the Portillo, whence one may take the road which winds down more than 5,000 ft. to Villa Orotava, and return to Santa Cruz via Tacoronte and La Laguna. This circular drive covers some 100 miles.

A longer and very fine circular drive is to turn left at Boca de Tauce and descend by a finely engineered winding road to Vilaflor, 4,550 ft., which, lying amid pine groves, is the highest village in the island. Below the village are remarkable stone-built terraces on which potatoes are grown; the soil in these terraces is covered with a layer of small whitish stones to retain the humidity, thus giving them a very curious appearance. The road from Vilaflor down to Granadilla is an almost constant succession of hairpin bends. Stone terraces continue all the way, but as the road descends potato crops give way to tomatoes, maize and oranges.

From the village of Granadilla, 66 m., 2,025 feet, a road runs south to the fine bathing beach at Medano, 7 m. distant.

The route from Granadilla to the villages of Arico, 74 m. and Fasnia, 86 m., passes through arid-looking but productive country, covered with miles of stone terracing, where rocks, houses, terraces and soil are all of the same light colour. The many caves are for storage purposes. Numerous camels are used in this vicinity and are often met on the road.

At a point some 4 m. beyond Fasnia—called Mirador de Don Martin (bar and restaurant)—a sudden bend in the road unfolds a remarkable view from the summit of the *Ladera de Guimar*, 1,300 feet, over the Valley of Guimar. A stone look-out place has been built at the side of the road, and the panorama extends from the foot of the steep volcanic wall over comparatively level and closely cultivated coast-lands to Guimar and beyond.

Guimar, 97 m., pop. 11,000, is the largest village in the southern part of the island, and was formerly regarded as a winter resort for visitors. Pension Medina Grade 3.

A branch road at 100 m., leads upwards for 2 m., to the village of Arafo.

At 102 m. is a turning down to Candelaria, 2 m. away. It was on the beach herabouts that two Guanche goatherds found the famous image of the Virgin and Child in 1393, and, certain miracles having convinced them that it was sacred, they placed it in a cave at Candelaria. Sanchó de Herrera carried it off in 1464 to the island of Fuerteventura, but had to return it owing to an outbreak of plague, which was attributed to his impiety. In 1826 the image was lost when heavy floods from

the mountains destroyed part of the church and swept it out to sea. It was replaced by a copy which may be seen in the church close to the beach. The cave (obtain key from house near church) is a very short distance away along the seafront. It now forms the upper part of a chapel built into the rocks, and contains interesting paintings dealing with the image.

Candelaria was held in great veneration during the 16th and 17th centuries. The Feast of our Lady of Candelaria is held on 15th August.

For the remainder of the journey the route to Santa Cruz follows the coast road, completing a splendid but rather long circuit of 118 miles.

ROUTE 3.

FROM SANTA CRUZ TO PICO DEL INGLES IN THE NORTH OF THE ISLAND AND RETURN VIA TEGUSTE, TEJINA, TACORONTE AND LA LAGUNA

From La Laguna (see Route 1) the road to the north leads through fine wooded scenery of the Mercedes Forest to the magnificent viewpoints of the Cruz del Carmen and Cruz Afur (Pico del Ingles), whence there are wonderful views of the Anaga Mountains in the northern part of the island, with wooded ravines and coastal scenery of great beauty.

The return journey is made via the villages of Tegueste and Tejina and along the north west coast to Tacoronte, thence back through La Laguna.

An interesting extension is to turn north at Tejina through the banana plantations to Bajamar, a coastal village with a good natural bathing pool, changing huts, etc. Punta del Hidalgo, 4½ m. from Tejina, the present terminus of the road which is eventually to link with Santa Cruz, is a large village, also on the coast, with a curious red church. Behind it rise the jagged peaks of the Anaga Mountains.

This excursion, which occupies some three hours, includes some of the best forest scenery in the island, and passes through rich farm lands under crops such as tobacco, maize, cotton, oranges and vines.

It will soon be possible to return from Pico del Ingles down to the coast at the village of San Andres, 5½ m., north of Santa Cruz, but at time of writing the road is still under construction.

THE ASCENT OF THE PEAK (PICO DE TEIDE)

Doth not a Tenerife or higher Hill
Rise so high like a Rocks that one might think
The floating Moon would shipwrecke there and sink.

John Donne, 1573-1631.

The ascent presents no mountaineering difficulties and may be undertaken by an active person without excessive fatigue, except perhaps in the winter months when the snow makes the undertaking more formidable. Arrangements should be made in advance through the Turismo Office. Parties should be accompanied by an official guide; mules must be hired and permission obtained to use the Rest Hut.

Visitors proceed by car to the point in the Cañadas below Montana Blanca, mentioned on p. 137, whence the mule track commences. It is usual to allow two days, sleeping the night at the Rest Hut at Alta Vista, 10,595 ft., and making the summit soon after dawn the next day to see the superb view at sunrise. From the summit it is sometimes possible to see all the islands of the Canary Archipelago and even the African coast. Climbers must be prepared for severe cold during the night and early morning. From the main road to the Rest Hut allow 2 hours, and from the Rest Hut to the summit, 2 hours (each way).

At the summit there is a small crater some 80 feet deep and 150 feet across, the floor of which contains numerous blow holes some two or three inches in diameter, many of which emit hot sulphurous vapours. In spite of this it is considered safe to enter the crater.

It is possible to ride mules within 500 or 600 feet of the summit to where the actual cone commences, and the angle of ascent increases to from 33° to 38°.

The costs involve the hire of a guide for two days 200 Ptas., one mule per person, Ptas. 200, use of Rest House, Ptas. 40-60 per day, plus food and the cost of car to and from Montaña Blanca.

NOTE.—The English spelling for Tenerife is used for the Island, and the Spanish for its Capital, Santa Cruz de Tenerife.

LA PALMA

The island of La Palma, which lies to the west of the group, has a population of 78,000 and is the third in importance of the Canary Islands.

It is 29 miles long by 17½ at its widest, with an area of about 280 square miles.

By some it is considered the most beautiful of all the Canaries. It is an island of high mountains running from north to south, of deep gorges, fruitful green slopes, and dense pine forests; here and there are large areas of ash where the countryside has been devastated by molten lava. Considerable eruptions took place on 24th June, 1949, from the Volcan de San Juan.

There are several peaks of over 7,000 feet, the highest being the Roque de los Muchachos, 7,877 feet, remarkable altitudes for so small an area. Besides these there is the stupendous Gran Caldera de Taburiente occupying the centre of the island and ranking among the greatest craters in the world.

La Palma produces wine, bananas, almonds, tomatoes, raisins, manufactured tobacco, rum, woven silk and embroidery.

The original inhabitants were known as Benahoaritas, and their descendants today are of good physique and light complexions.

Wild flowers are at their best in April and May. In February the villagers of El Paso, Punta Gorda, Tijarafe and Los Llanos adorn their streets with carpets of almond blossom.

The principal fiestas in the Island are :—

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 28 June | Our Lady of Los Remedios at Los Llanos. |
| 5 Aug. | Virgin de las Nieves at Santa Cruz (see note later). |
| 15 Aug. | Our Lady of Las Angustias at Los Llanos. |
| Sept. (first Sunday) | Virgin of El Pino Festival at El Paso. |
| 8 Sept. | Our Lady of Monserrat at San Andrés y Sauces. |
| 29 Sept. | St. Michael's Day at Santa Cruz and Tazacorta. |

SANTA CRUZ DE LA PALMA

Santa Cruz, capital of the island of La Palma, is 103 miles by sea from Santa Cruz de Tenerife and 720 miles from Cadiz. It is a most attractive little town and seaport on the eastern side of La Palma, and has a population of about 18,000. Small ships lie alongside the mole and the port is served by frequent vessels from Spain, the other Canary Islands and elsewhere, also by air.

The sea wall, flanked by an Esplanade with flower beds and electric lighting, stretches in a curve for a full kilometre from the harbour mole to the far side of the town. From the Esplanade in clear weather is a fine view of the Peak of Teneriffe and of the nearby island of Gomera.

Along the seafront are several old houses with interesting overhanging balconies, some on two storeys. At the far end is the old fortress of Castillo del Real de Sta. Catalina, now a National Monument, and beyond it in the dry barranco (ravine) is a full-size model in stone of Columbus's ship, the *Santa Maria*.

Santa Cruz, which is referred to by the inhabitants as La Ciudad (the city), is built on the lower slopes of a large amphitheatre. Parallel with the Esplanade on level ground are two other streets, but behind them the hills rise steeply. The inner one, the Calle O'Daly, is $\frac{3}{4}$ m. in length and includes the principal shopping and business area. Off this street is an attractive little square, Plaza de España, onto which faces the Church of El Salvador, with handsome porch, built in 1500, and the Town Hall. The latter, which has a most pleasing façade with columns and is decorated with coats-of-arms, dates from 1563, having been built after the destruction of the earlier building by French pirates. The interior, which is modern, has very handsome pine ceilings. In the same street are to be found the Tourist Office, the Library, Museum, Banks, and post office. The market is a little above the Calle O'Daly and is worth a visit. Higher up is the old Santo Domingo Monastery with its pleasant square planted with laurel trees. The picturesque old tower and part of the original building remain.

There is a British Vice Consul in Santa Cruz. Also two Banks

Hotels in La Palma:	Category	No. of Rooms
Hotel Mayantigo.. .. .	1B	36
Parador Nacional	1B	28
Florida	1B	40 beds
Pension Patria	2	20

There are also two grade 3 Pensions.

The Mayantigo is a new well-equipped establishment. The Florida is under the same management. The Parador Nacional is operated by the Spanish Tourist Authorities.

Visitors' Enquiry Office:—Turismo Office in Calle O'Daly near the Post Office.

Drinking water in the town is safe and good.

Folk dances are arranged occasionally. Local island costume is now only worn on 2nd May.

English is understood in the hotels but not usually elsewhere.

The Museum, which contains interesting relics of the early inhabitants, etc., is open on Thursdays 4-7 p.m. and Sundays, 10-1 p.m.

Aerodrome 4 m. from the capital; service to and from Tenerife twice daily.

Calls at La Palma are made thrice weekly by vessels of the Transmediterranea Line, also by those of the Compania Maritima Frutera.

La Palma is connected by telephone with other Islands of the group and with Europe.

Taxis are available, and there is a Bus Service which connects Santa Cruz with most of the principal villages.

Some 2½ m. above the town, 630 feet, is the sixteenth century church of the Virgin de las Nieves (of the Snows) containing a greatly venerated and richly jewelled image of that name. A fiesta is held here annually on 5th August, when the church and small square are thronged with people. Every fifth year, however, (starting at the decade), the image is carried down to the town; Columbus's ship (mentioned above) is rigged and decorated; and the festivities which continue for a month attract visitors from the Spanish mainland and neighbouring islands and also from America.

ROAD ROUTES IN LA PALMA—SOUTH AND WEST

In the vicinity of Santa Cruz de la Palma, dragon trees, Canary Island pines, palms and prickly pears are a feature of the landscape. The crops consist principally of tobacco and maize, but as one travels southwards along the coast these give place to vines.

Two roads to the south lead out of Santa Cruz. The lower one, after skirting the end of the mole, runs close to the sea and passes by a long tunnel through the wall of the Caldereta to Breña Baja, 5 m., 650 feet. It joins the upper road at 5 m.

The upper road climbs the old crater behind the city to Breña Alta, 5½ m., 3,132 ft. Shortly before reaching the village a turn leads left to the viewpoint of Mirador de la Concepcion, 4½ m., 1,500 ft., which commands a magnificent panorama over the town and coast. The main south road is joined at 5 m. from Santa Cruz.

The famous Cave of Belmaco, 8 m., 650 feet, lies beside the road to the right. Once the home of the Kings of Tedote, it now fulfils the humbler function of a cowshed. Outside the cave are two large stones engraved with curious spiral designs, supposed locally to be ancient writing. The village of Mazo is nearby.

At 11 m., 1,500 feet, a new lava stream, erupted from the volcano above in June, 1949, crosses the road on its way towards the sea.

Henceforward the road for much of the distance maintains an altitude of from 2,000 to 2,500 feet, sometimes above the cloud, and a turn in the road will often reveal a remarkable contrast in scenery.

Fuencaliente de la Palma, 18 m., 2,340 feet, is the southernmost village of the island. Population 4,000. This is the principal wine-growing district of La Palma. Cochineal was formerly a considerable industry. The medical springs, Fuente Santa, said to cure leprosy, were covered with lava by the eruption of the volcano San Antonio, in 1677.

A road running southwards from the village leads towards the Volcan de San Antonio. Visitors should leave their cars at ½ m., whence about five minutes' walk over the lava will take them to the lip of this perfect crater. The bottom of the crater, over 600 feet below, is planted with pine trees, and from

various points on the edge of the crater are a remarkable variety of views. On the one hand is the stark desolation of lava and ash; and on the other is a vista of vine-covered country stretching along the west coast, and of the white houses of the village of Las Indias; while above are lofty mountains and volcanoes capped with pine forest. Turning again, one sees the lighthouse on Punta Fuencaliente, the most southerly point of the island stretching out into the blue Atlantic.

The road now turns northward along the west coast, and at 20 m., 2,437 feet, is a particularly grand view down a ravine to the sea, known as Los Rodaderos.

At about 22 m. the road enters an area desolated by lava flows from the volcano above, and this type of country continues to about 28 m. The domed church of Sta. Cecilia, in the El Charco district, is close to the road (20 m.).

At 26 m., 2,000 feet, just beyond the village of San Nicholas, is a new lava flow (1949) which, coming down from a narrow ravine above, spread over the countryside, destroying houses and lands on its way to the sea, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant. This lava has altered the coastline by forming a new cape which projects three-quarters of a mile into the sea. The cape can be seen from several points along the road, and here and there in the lava stream near the roadside are rough crosses symbolising the prayers of the peasants to be spared a repetition of this disaster. Below San Nicholas is the Charco Verde, a curative mineral spring.

On the far side of the lava stream the road branches, the lower going to Los Llanos and the upper to El Paso.

The lower road continues through the fruitful Valley of Aridane, a district of many reservoirs, with a very large production of bananas.

Los Llanos, $32\frac{1}{2}$ m., 1,000 feet, is the chief centre for the district, population 10,000, second only to Santa Cruz. It is an attractive little town with an old church, town hall, shops, cafes, pension and a pleasant shady plaza. Considerable building has taken place recently.

Beyond is the village of Argual, 34 m., 1,000 feet, and at 36 m., 300 feet, is Tzacorte with 4,000 inhabitants, the principal banana-growing centre. Below, on the coast, is the small Puerto de Tzacorte. It was here that the Spanish conquerors landed in 1490.

The road continues round the side of an imposing ravine and over a bridge, before commencing the formidable climb up the mountain, El Tlme, which was formerly approached by a path having 365 zigzags. This finely engineered modern road carries one in $4\frac{1}{2}$ m., from 400 to 1,700 feet and from a viewpoint at the summit is a magnificent vista over the valley with its little towns and huge banana plantations. The new lava cape stands out clearly. To the east are the Cumbreclta, the mountains which surround the Gran Caldera, and one may gain some idea of the magnitude of the crater, though of course the interior is not visible from here.

The motor road continues to the village of Tijarafe, 44 m., 2,200 feet, population 4,500. On the coast near here is the Cueva Bonita, a large and beautiful cavern containing smooth water. The cave has two entrances and may be entered by boat.

The road continues beyond Tijarafe to Punta Gorda, but the more distant village of Garafia can only be reached by bridle path.

The upper road beyond the lava stream at once enters an extensive almond-growing area (blossoms in February) and climbs to the busy village of El Paso, 31 m., 2,000 feet. There is a country hotel, Hotel Monterrey, with theatre adjoining. This is the centre of the island's silk and cigar manufacturing industries.

From El Paso a road leads to a rest house (key obtainable at Town Hall) at a point on the central mountain chain known as Cumbre Vieja, 5 m. distant at an altitude of 4,700 feet. About half of the distance from El Paso is over a track through black volcanic ash. The Rest House, however, is pleasantly situated amongst grassy slopes and pine trees.

From Los Llanos or El Paso a motor road leads to the Cumbreclta, a natural balcony overlooking the Gran Caldera, 3,700 ft. From this ridge one may look down into the Gran Caldera or Caldera de Taburiente. The view is stupendous.

The Caldera is an old extinct volcano, claimed to be the largest in the world, and is so vast that an old legend has it that through some convulsion of nature the Peak of Teneriffe, 80 miles away, was torn out of the crater. The circumference is 17 miles, diameter over $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and depth about 2,300 feet. It is ringed about with craggy mountains, often snow-covered in winter, and round the whole perimeter alternate pine forest, ferns, waterfalls and precipitous rocks. On the floor of the crater, far below, are several farm houses, and conspicuous is a strange looking monolith known as *Idafe*, said to have been used by the early inhabitants as an altar. It is doubtful whether the Caldera can be photographed successfully except perhaps from the air.

Persons wishing to visit the interior of the crater should make enquiries well in advance from the Tourist Office in Santa Cruz de la Palma.

ROAD ROUTES IN LA PALMA—NORTH

The northern route is remarkable for the large number of deep ravines or barrancos which run down to the sea, round which the road has to be carried in long inland detours to points where the ravines can be bridged. Between the Capital and San Andres y Sauces, 18 m., there are something like twenty ravines, a dozen of them calling for very considerable detours before they can be crossed.

For the first few miles out of Santa Cruz the road climbs through barren country which nevertheless affords many striking views.

Beyond the church of *Sta. Lucia* the country becomes more fruitful, and from *Pantallana* northwards there are banana plantations. Along the route the terracing of the precipitous mountain slopes is in places quite astonishing.

At 8 m. the road passes through a mountain spur by a long tunnel, immediately beyond which is a bridge over the Barranco de la Galga in wild, and beautifully wooded scenery. A branch road from here leads into the mountains.

San Andres y Sauces, 18 m., 850 feet, is the centre of a fruitful district, and has a population of 8,000. It is a pleasant village with an old church and an attractive shady plaza. Hereabouts are large banana plantations and one may see growing the nyami, with a beautiful leaf like that of a large arum lily; the root resembles a sweet potato.

Soon after one leaves Sauces, the lighthouse is visible on Punta Cumplida, the north-east corner of the island.

Barlovento. 24 m., 2,700 ft., is the most northerly village in the island. The main road ends here but a forest road continues to Garafia.

Shorter excursions are :

1. To Las Nieves ; the viewpoint of the Mirador de la Concepcion which commands a magnificent panorama, Breña Alta, and return to Santa Cruz via Breña Baja. Return distance 12½ m. Allow 3 hours.
2. The same as above but extended to include the Cave of Belmaco, Mazo, Fuencaliente and the Volcano de San Antonio. Return distance 38 m. Allow 4 hours. This is a very fine drive.
3. North to Puntallana and La Galga returning by the same road. 22½ m. return. Allow 3 hours. This excursion can be extended to Sauces and Barlovento.

GOMERA

Gomera is one of the smaller Canary Islands lying to the west of Tenerife, and is a familiar sight to travellers in the South African mail vessels on the voyage between Madeira and Cape Town. They see its cliffs rising steeply out of the sea, and have a glimpse of the village of Hermigua.

The island has an area of about 148 sq. miles and a population of 28,383. It is roughly circular with a diameter of about 14 miles, and is exceedingly mountainous with its highest point, Alto Garajonay, reaching 4,400 feet.

Bananas form Gomera's principal crop.

When seen from the sea the rocks of the island appear to have a reddish horizontal strata, but there is also a vertical strata of harder stone which, especially in the interior, outcrops like natural walls between plantations.

The principal fiesta is held in October when the image of the Virgin is brought by boat to San Sebastian from the Ermita de la Virgen de Guadalupe, which lies near Cape Cristobal.

San Sebastian, the capital and port, population 6,664, is pleasantly situated at the mouth of a wide ravine and sheltered by a small bay. Conspicuous from the sea are the square tower, the walled football ground, the hospital and a row of houses curiously built over the curve of a hill. The town is usually hidden from the passing mail ships by Cape Cristobal.

There is a harbour mole and steamers berth alongside. Vessels of the Trasmediterranea Line make three calls weekly, connecting Gomera with all the other islands of the group.

In the Plaza de Calvo Sotelo, at the entrance to the town, is a bandstand, also a fine group of local laurel trees whose branches are usually alive with small birds.

The Church of the Ascension, close to the Plaza, bears a notice to the effect that Columbus prayed there in 1492 (see page 154). It contains a small painting of the Virgin and Child, attributed to Velasquez, but this seems to have been indifferently restored.

Of more interest is the large mural of a naval action on the wall beside the left-hand altar. This is a spirited piece of work, *much damaged* by age and damp, which is supposed to represent the repulse of a Dutch fleet attacking Gomera in 1599. Enormous cannon-balls in flight are a feature of this curious picture: it was the work of a local painter named Jose Mesa in 1780.

The house pointed out as that in which Columbus stayed, probably for the most part re-built, is an old double-storey building on the right-hand side of the main street No. 60, opposite the Port Captain's Office and next below the Post Office.

Many of the houses in San Sebastian appear to be very old, and one or two still display on their walls the handsome coats-of-arms of their former owners.

The Torre del Conde, a square stone tower dating from the 15th century and about 50 ft. high, stands amid modern barrack buildings, but despite this it is in some respects unaltered. This played a considerable part in repelling attempted invasions by the British and Dutch. Permission is usually given to enter the tower, and there is a good view from the top. Originally the sea lapped its foot but it has now receded.

Two grade 3 pensions offer accommodation in San Sebastian; they are the Gomera and the Santiago Castilla.

San Sebastian is surrounded by mountains, and the main road out of the town, which at first follows the dry bed of the barranco, climbs steadily by a succession of curves which often reveal fine views. The country is very fruitful and all available land is under cultivation. Frequently one sees men and women working on apparently inaccessible hillsides. The road from San Sebastian leads to Hermigua, 15 m. and Valle Hermoso, 25 m., in the course of which it passes through seven tunnels cut through the mountain spurs. The first four are between the 9th and 13th kilometre stones, and the fourth tunnel is 556 yards in length. Along the road are many varieties of wild flowers, and birds are fairly numerous. At present the road ends at Tase, 30 m. from the port.

The unique whistling language of Gomera, by which peasants communicate with each other over very considerable distances, certainly over a mile when conditions are suitable—possibly much farther—has probably been developed out of the need to

speak from hilltop to hilltop without having to cross the deep ravine which lay between. The language appears to be fairly widely understood, though the best whistlers who really use it are those living on farms in the south of the island.

A man lounging at a street corner in San Sebastian was asked whether he could demonstrate the language for the writer, whereupon he whistled some notes which meant "Ramon". Presently Ramon, who proved to be the village policeman, appeared on the far side of the square, looking very surprised and enquiring who called him. Subsequently he carried out a number of whistled instructions, such as sitting down, raising his left leg, drawing and flourishing his baton, removing the hat from a nearby man, and so on. The whistler in this case used the fingers of both his hands, but some whistlers use no fingers at all. The whistle is shrill and of considerable variation in intensity, much resembling the singing of a canary in full song.

A Spanish gentleman owning an estate in the south of Gomera told the writer that his foreman habitually gave instructions to labourers at a distance by whistling. He demonstrated how the name "Antonio" was whistled, and after two or three repetitions it was almost possible to recognise the name. He said that the best whistlers could send messages of any kind, and instanced how he had once told his foreman to send a message asking for a packet of a certain brand of cigarettes to be sent to him. This was not understood the first time; when repeated a reply came back that they could not understand what kind of cigarettes were wanted; on sending the message for a third time they replied that they did not know that kind of cigarette. The next message enquired what kinds of cigarettes were available (meaning at the local shop), whereupon a list of the names of several brands was whistled back.

A Gomera official related that the man in charge of the irrigation furrows serving the farms behind San Sebastian always whistled his instructions to his assistants, a full kilometre away, telling them which furrows were to be opened and for how long.

HIERRO

Hierro, the most westerly of the Canary Islands, has an area of about 109 sq. miles and a population of 7,447. It is divided into two districts, Valverde and El Golfo. Estaca, the port, lies 51 sea miles from Santa Cruz de La Palma and 39 sea miles from San Sebastian.

The island rises sheer out of the sea and has no flat coast land so that most of the inhabitants live in the interior. The highest point is Alto de Malpaiso, 4,990 ft., the top of which is frequently enveloped in mist.

Hierro was the last land sighted by Columbus on his voyage to discover America. Until then it was regarded as the end of the world.

The people of Hierro are engaged in agriculture and there is neither wealth nor poverty among them. Various food crops are grown, the most important being figs, and there is a small production of wine. Exports are mainly cheese and pine needles (*pinus canariensis*) used in the other islands for packing bananas. When the writer was in Hierro, there were hundreds of bales of pine needles stacked for a considerable distance along the side of the road out of Estaca as there was no flat land where they could be stored until they could be shipped.

Estaca, the island's port, is merely a landing place at the foot of a cliff, where less than two dozen houses are perched precariously on ledges in the hillside. There is a small rool, and slight protection is afforded to vessels anchored off the port by a mass of fallen rock. The Trasmediterranea steamers, which call twice weekly, land their passengers onto a jetty.

A reasonably graded motor road, from which there are fine views over the sea, winds its way up from Estaca to the capital, Valverde, 6½ m., 2,000 ft., a village of 4,888 inhabitants. It has a church, a plaza and a town hall. The road continues to Frontera on the north of the island, 23 m. from the port.

There are two small pensions in the island, Pensión Zamora Moreno at Valverde and Pensión Febles Morales at Frontera.

Attractions for visitors are very limited. There are some fine view points in the island, notably that at El Golfo, where one looks over a great precipice. Botanists might find a visit rewarding as there are giant heaths, etc., in the mountains.

At Sabinosa is a mineral spring credited with outstanding curative properties, and parties of visitors go there in May and June to bathe and to take the waters internally.

The annual fiesta is held in May, when the image of the Virgin de los Reyes is brought from the Ermita to Valverde.

Rock engravings in various parts of the island, especially at Los Letreros near El Pinar, are believed to be written characters as yet undeciphered.

The giant lizards, referred to by early travellers, *Lacerta simonyi*, are now found only in the vicinity of the Roque de Salmor. The males grow to over 21 inches, and are harmless.

A Tree whose tender bearded root being spread
In dryest sand, his sweating leafe doth shed
A most sweet liquor . . .

Joshua Sylvester 1563-1648.

The remote island of Hierro, which even today seldom sees an English-speaking visitor, had a remarkable phenomenon which featured in several early travellers' tales, including the Voyages of Sir Thomas Herbert, first published in 1638. This was the miraculous tree which provided the inhabitants with water by distilling it from its leaves. The tree, known as El Garoe, was blown down in 1610. It grew some 2 m. from Valverde, from which the site may be reached either on foot or horseback. Remains of the tanks built by the early inhabitants to catch the water may still be seen.

The tree is believed to have been a til (local laurel) and the Forestry Department have planted one of these on the same spot. The new tree is still quite small, but when it grows to maturity it is expected to reproduce the same phenomenon as the original El Garoe.

It is reliably stated that during a drought in 1948, a laurel tree in a different part of the island, but at the same altitude as El Garoe, showed the same property by precipitating water from cloud, so much so that the owner arranged sheets of galvanised iron to collect it, and obtained a cask full every day.

COLUMBUS IN MADEIRA AND THE CANARY ISLANDS

Travellers among the islands will occasionally have pointed out to them houses in which Columbus is alleged to have lived or churches in which he prayed, but as usually no details are obtainable the following notes may be of interest. The name in Spanish is Cristóbal Colon.

In about 1479, Columbus married Dona Felipa Perestrello, daughter of the hereditary captain of Porto Santo, the small island near Madeira. He first saw her, however, at Mass in a church in Lisbon, and probably did not visit Porto Santo until after his marriage. His father-in-law had died in about 1457, and when Columbus and his wife went to Porto Santo in 1480, his wife's brother was captain of the island. Their son, Diego, was born in Porto Santo, and subsequently they lived for a time in Funchal.

The most numerous and important of Columbus's island calls were at San Sebastian, the port for Gomera, where he first arrived in 1492.

Some years earlier a beautiful girl named Beatriz y Bobadilla had appeared at the court of Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain and been appointed maid of honour to the Queen. However Isabella soon found that Beatriz was attracting the amorous attentions of Ferdinand, and looking about for some means of terminating this without unpleasantness, her eye fell upon Hernan y Peraza hereditary captain, under the Crown of Castille, of the island of Gomera. This gentleman had been sent for to answer a charge of having murdered a rival, Juan Rejon, and Isabella provided a happy solution to her problem by having him married to Beatriz (his pardon being the inducement) and packing the pair of them off to Gomera. Back in Gomera, Peraza's cruelty led to a rising in which he was killed, and Beatriz with her two children was besieged in the Tower in San Sebastian, a predicament from which she was eventually rescued by the Governor of Grand Canary.

When Columbus reached Gomera in August, 1492, Beatriz was away and he waited for some days until she returned on 1st September. Columbus had probably not seen Beatriz

before and his anxiety to meet her is supposed to have been on account of a boat which he wished to acquire from her. He was then a widower, and Beatriz, who was governing the island on behalf of her minor son, was still young and handsome. While Columbus is believed to have been strongly attracted by Beatriz, her charms were not allowed to delay his departure unduly, and he put to sea on his great adventure on 6th September. On 12th October, 1492, he sighted San Salvador in the Bahamas group, having discovered the New World.

Columbus was back again at Gomera on his second voyage on 5th October, 1493, after making a brief call at Grand Canary. Beatriz received him enthusiastically with fireworks and salutes from her cannon: eventually, however, the lady married Alonso de Lugo of Grand Canary.

When Columbus left Gomera a few days later he took with him eight pigs from that island, from which, as an old writer said, "all the swine in the Indies are descended".

Beatriz was a lady of considerable character, and it is related that a Gomera resident who had been overheard to suggest that this was not beyond reproach, was sent for and hanged forthwith from a rafter in the Tower.

On his third voyage, Columbus first put into Porto Santo, hoping to secure supplies, but the inhabitants mistook him for a French corsair and made for the hills with their flocks. Columbus, disgusted, sailed the same evening for Madeira where he was made welcome and spent six pleasant days. When he reached Gomera on 19th June, 1498, he found a French corsair in San Sebastian with two captured Castilian vessels. The Frenchman made off and Columbus recovered the prizes. But Beatriz had left: there were no more romantic moments among the palm trees, and Columbus could find nothing more interesting to report than the fact that he had shipped a few cheeses.

On his fourth and final voyage, Columbus called at Las Palmas in May, 1502, and anchored in the shelter of the Isleta (Las Palmas). A few days later he left for Maspalomas in the south of Grand Canary, apparently to fill watercasks from the small lake near the present lighthouse, and to cut firewood.

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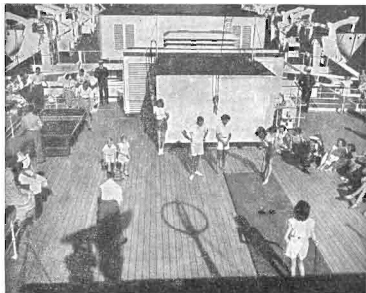
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Before the 19th century, Madeira embroidery was exclusively worked with blue cotton thread upon white cotton cloth. An English girl living in Madeira found the work so charming that she took a lot of specimens home to England with her.

Her name was Miss Phelps, and one of the principal streets of Funchal to this day is called the rua Phelps.

Miss Phelps was at once inundated with requests for Madeira embroidery from her English friends and it was largely due to her that its fame spread throughout the world.

The modest art immediately grew until today it is a great industry.

Before the war of 1914 some factories were opened in this town by German firms. When the factories were closed on account of the war, the embroidery business decreased considerably.

After the 1914 war, a new kind of embroidery began to be created in Madeira. Instead of merely blue thread on white cotton, thread of all kinds of colours was worked on silk, organdie and linen.

But the workmanship remained the same, the same countrywomen laboured on the same intricate patterns in their homes, the only difference being that they worked on new materials and in new colours.

There are masterpieces of intricacy in the output of these workers and the industry maintained its position all through the last war, simply because the people of America, with their unerring eye for the unique, fell in love with Madeira embroidery.

In 1980 exports of embroidery reached £1,740,000. Among the principal embroideries that can be purchased in Funchal are bed sets, table linen, underwear, blouses, handkerchiefs and cushions.

The entire output of Madeira embroidery goes out to the world through Funchal—one of the prettiest harbours in the world.

The Official Gremio (Corporation) of the Embroidery Manufacturers has contributed a great deal towards the growth of this famous industry.

There are treasures for the visitor in Madeira to take home in the unique embroidery work of the islanders.

An item of particular interest is a visit to the embroidery schools at Camara de Lobos and Machico where children from the age of five years are taught the intricate work of embroidery, and such permission can be obtained from the Gremio dos Bordados (The Embroidery Association) by giving one day's notice. Apply for such permission to the Official Tourist Bureau in Funchal—

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