

GIBRALTAR

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK



WELCOME TO GIBRALTAR

WELCOME TO GIBRALTAR AND THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING TO SPEND YOUR HOLIDAY WITH US.
I HOPE YOU ENJOY READING THIS GUIDE, WHICH WILL GIVE YOU A TASTER OF THE MANY THINGS
THERE ARE TO SEE AND DO DURING YOUR STAY.

In today's Gibraltar, you'll be met by an eclectic mix of cultures that has developed from the many settlers who have made Gibraltar their home.
These influences are evident in our architecture, our cuisine and our customs.

The Gibraltar Tourist Board looks forward to making your visit as enjoyable as possible and is here to help you make the most of your stay.

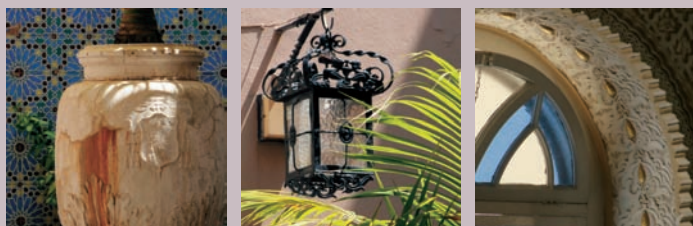
J.J. Holliday Minister for Tourism and Transport



Gibraltar has attracted visitors for centuries. There can be few places in the world that equal the Rock in terms of sheer physical presence. Gibraltar is situated in a unique strategic location on the southern tip of the Iberian Peninsula, overlooking the Strait of Gibraltar and linked to the Spanish mainland by a narrow isthmus. Despite an imposing appearance Gibraltar is small, measuring less than six square kilometres in total. Its precipitous rock and cliffs stretch skywards some 426 metres. This is the only place in Europe where monkeys range free in a semi-wild state, reflecting the Rock's rich natural history which flourishes in a sub-tropical climate. Gibraltar's past is etched right here on the limestone, as well as expressed in the faces and customs of the people: British, Moorish, Genoese, Portuguese, Spanish, Jewish, Maltese, Indian, a fascinating blend of cultures that have all left their stamp throughout a rich and tumultuous history which dates back to Neanderthal times.

Today Gibraltar offers something for everyone, ranging from archaeological treasures and priceless artefacts to a wide variety of shops and restaurants. It is also a stimulating world centre of business and commerce. Gibraltar is a perfect base to explore the surrounding cultures, countries and continents. Enjoy a day trip to the ancient town of Seville famous for flamenco dancing, or discover the home of sherry - Jerez.

A short ferry ride across the Strait lies Morocco and the exotic town of Tangier. There are several golf courses within a short drive of the Rock, including the home of the 1997 Ryder Cup.

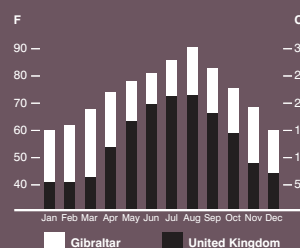


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CLIMATE

Gibraltar has an average of 320 days of sunshine a year and temperatures can rise well above 30°C in summer. The sub-tropical sun of North Africa is tempered by gentle sea breezes in summer.



INFORMATION CENTRES

For a warm introduction to the attractions waiting for you, contact the Gibraltar Tourist Board (see address below left). Or, when you arrive in Gibraltar, make your first stop one of the five tourist information centres located at the:

- Airport Arrivals Hall
- Casemates Square
- Frontier
- Coach Terminus
- Cruise Terminal

There you'll discover everything you need to get started on your holiday; things to do, places to go, sights to see. You'll find further useful information and interesting facts and figures on page 34 of this brochure or you can visit our website at: www.visitgibraltar.gi

The Gibraltar Tourist Board does not accept responsibility for any changes or unavailability of the services listed.

LOCATION

Gibraltar is situated at the southern end of the Iberian Peninsula. It is recognised as the southernmost point of Europe. It is also strategically positioned at the western end of the Mediterranean, forming one of the ancient Pillars of Hercules. The surrounding countries are Spain on the north and Morocco (North Africa) south, on the opposite side of the strait 24 kilometres (15 miles) away.



HISTORY

GIBRALTAR IS ONE OF THE LAST REMAINING BRITISH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES; A SURVIVING PART OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE. ITS COMMUNITY, DRAWN FROM BRITISH, GENOESE, PORTUGUESE, MALTESE, SPANISH, JEWISH AND OTHER ORIGINS, IS FIRMLY CONSOLIDATED – FRIENDLY, BILINGUAL AND IN RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS HARMONY.

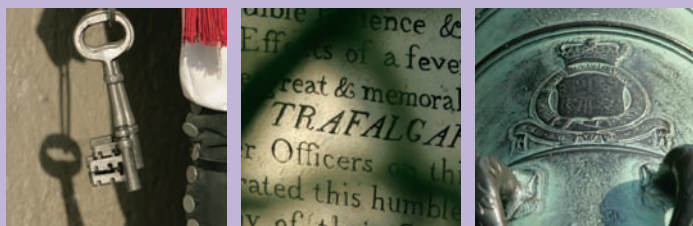
Gibraltar is steeped in history; an intertwining of civilisations and cultures which dates back many thousands of years. What's more, it is a living history reflected, not just in the Gibraltarians themselves, but also in the many legacies that remain to this day, including a number of pre-historic caves and a Medieval Castle and baths that date back to the 11th century.



The architecture is similarly eclectic with many Georgian and Victorian buildings, as well as those that reflect a Portuguese, Genoese or Moorish influence. But it is the caves that were certainly man's first home here. In 1848 an ancient skull was discovered in Forbes's Quarry, at the foot of the steep north face. Then, just eight years later, an identical skull was discovered, this time in the Neander Valley near Dusseldorf. "Neanderthal Man" should really have been "Gibraltar Woman"!

Ancient mariners first arrived here by the 8th century BC, leaving gifts to the gods to bribe the almighty before sailing into the Atlantic and the unknown. The Phoenicians called the Rock "Calpe". Julius Caesar defeated the sons of Pompeii almost within sight of Calpe, and the first description of Gibraltar was written by the Roman geographer Pomponius Mela. The Muslim invasion of Europe started in the Bay of Gibraltar where the Visigoths sided with Muslims by lending their ships to Berber Chief, Tarik Ibn Zeyad who landed by Tarik's mountain – "Jebel Tarik" – and became immortalised by naming it at the same time.

Gibraltar continued under Moorish dominion for over seven centuries, but was taken by Spain for a brief period of 24 years in the early 14th century. It was not until 1462 that the Spaniards finally re-captured the Rock. It remained in Spanish possession until 1704 when it fell to a combined Anglo-Dutch force. The Treaty of Utrecht ceded the Rock into the 'Crown of Great Britain' in perpetuity, but Gibraltar continued to be subject to bloody conflict from Spain and, in 1782, work began on the famous "Great Siege Tunnels".



TAKE A WALKING TOUR, WHICH WILL TAKE YOU ON A HISTORICAL JOURNEY THROUGH THE CITY CENTRE AND FORTIFICATIONS.

GREAT SIEGE TUNNELS

The sieges of the late 18th century led to a network of tunnelled defences being excavated in the Rock to allow the mounting of a prototype gun, the first ever able to fire downwards. This tunnel was the first to be excavated on the Upper Rock in 1782.

WORLD WAR II TUNNELS – ROCK AND FORTRESS

Immediately following the successful tunnelling during the Great Siege, a further network of tunnels was excavated inside the Rock. Up until 1940 when Britain was at war with Germany and Italy, Winston Churchill believed that an attack on Gibraltar was imminent. The answer was to construct a massive network of tunnels to build a fortress inside a fortress. In June 2005 this network of tunnels was opened to the general public allowing you to follow in the footsteps of Churchill and De Gaulle.

WORLD WAR II TUNNELS – MOD TOURS

Much of the tunnel network still belongs to the Ministry of Defence. Specialist military guides provide fascinating tours of this other section of tunnels by prior arrangement.

MILITARY HERITAGE CENTRE

A fascinating array of artefacts of military history housed in Princess Caroline's Battery.

GIBRALTAR, A CITY UNDER SIEGE EXHIBITION

The graffiti here dates back to the 18th century. The exhibit demonstrates the appalling conditions the soldiers lived in, as well as an old water system.

MEDIEVAL CASTLE

The fortifications on and around the site of the Medieval Castle were first built in 1160. These were, however, destroyed when the Spanish re-conquered Gibraltar from 1309 – 1333. The Tower of Homage, its main feature, dominates the hillside and the landward approach to Gibraltar. It dates primarily from about 1333 AD when Abu'l Hassan recaptured Gibraltar from the Spanish. On another occasion the Count of Niebla attacked the castle, was captured by the Medieval defenders and his body was suspended from the walls in a barcina, or net for carrying straw. The Tower of Homage proudly displays the battle scars inflicted during the various sieges. Here a Spanish governor held out for five months against the Duke of Medina Sidonia, who took Gibraltar from his own sovereign, Queen Isabella of Spain. In 1540, hundreds of people found safety inside the castle when Turkish pirates ransacked Gibraltar. The lower castle formerly stretched all the way down to Casemates Square in the town centre.

JEWS' GATE

An old Jewish Cemetery tucked away behind the trees, a fascinating piece of history that reflects the important role the Jewish people have played in moulding Gibraltar's history.



The Battle of Trafalgar was fought close to the Rock in 1805. The 19th century was Gibraltar's heyday, as a staging port on the vital route to India. Another series of tunnels was completed during the Second World War. Gibraltar became home to naval fleet Force H and became the focal point from where Eisenhower masterminded the North Africa landings in 1942. During the Franco era, Spain attempted to revive her claim for the reversion of the Rock to Spanish sovereignty, which culminated in the closure of the border for thirteen years in 1969. The roots of Gibraltar have grown deep into the Rock for millions of years. The natural history, the culture and, finally, the people themselves - the Gibraltarians - are the result: the ultimate proof that the history of the Rock lives on...



GIBRALTAR MUSEUM

Experience and enjoy Gibraltar's fascinating 200-million year history, with an audiovisual presentation and several galleries displaying original artefacts, old prints and photographs. The Rock's rich and diverse natural history is also represented while the lower part of the building houses what is arguably the best-preserved Moorish Bath House in Europe.

GARRISON LIBRARY

This handsome building was built on top of the site of the Governor's residence during the Spanish period. It was inaugurated in 1793 and houses a remarkable collection of works on Gibraltar. Close by are some of the offices of the Gibraltar Chronicle, Gibraltar's oldest newspaper (founded in 1801), Europe's second oldest English periodical and the first to report the victory at Trafalgar.

NELSON'S ANCHORAGE – 100 TON GUN

HMS Victory was towed to Rosia Bay after Nelson's Victory at Trafalgar, with the Admiral's body preserved on board in a barrel of rum. Also worth visiting is the impressive 100 Ton Gun installed in the early nineteenth century but never fired in anger.

PARSON'S LODGE

Dominating Rosia Bay you find Parson's Lodge Battery, dating from 1875, which formerly housed three 18-ton guns. The old Spanish walls were reinforced by the British, while beneath the battery are the former ammunition stores and living quarters. This fortification has been refurbished by the Gibraltar Heritage Trust and has become a tourist attraction with a military flavour.

TRAFALGAR CEMETERY

Situated just south of the City Walls, this was used as Gibraltar's military cemetery in the early 19th century. Although the name commemorates the Battle of Trafalgar, only two of those buried there actually died of wounds suffered in the battle (1805). A ceremony is held here every year, on Trafalgar Day, to commemorate Lord Nelson's victory.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Built by public subscription in 1817, the former commercial exchange and public library is now the seat of Gibraltar's House of Assembly.

LAW COURTS

Among the most famous cases heard here were those of the sailing ship Marie Celeste (1872) – one of the greatest sea mysteries of all time. Gibraltar is also a popular wedding destination – John Lennon and Yoko Ono married at the Registry Office in this building on 20th March 1969.

THE CONVENT

This building, situated towards the southern end of Main Street, has been the official residence of Gibraltar's Governors since 1728. It was once a Convent of Franciscan Friars, hence its name. A guard mount takes place at the main entrance a few days a week conducted by soldiers of the Royal Gibraltar Regiment. A more elaborate and colourful parade of the Changing of the Guard is also performed outside this historical venue, a few times a year.

War Memorials

AMERICAN WAR MEMORIAL

Designed by Dr. Paul Cret of Philadelphia for the American Battle Monuments Commission. This prominent arch was built into the main City Wall in 1932-33 to commemorate the achievements and comradeship of the U.S. and Royal Navies during the First World War.

GIBRALTAR WAR MEMORIAL

Unveiled by the then Governor Sir Charles Monro on the 27th September 1923, the memorial is the work (on Carrara marble) of Jose Piquet Catoli of Barcelona. There are two Russian guns close by, which were brought to Gibraltar in 1858 after having been captured during the Crimean War.

POLISH WAR MEMORIAL

The original propeller situated at the entrance to Eastern Beach, near the site where Polish Prime Minister General Sikorski lost his life in an air crash in 1943.

EVACUEES MEMORIAL

This statue was erected in honour of the Gibraltarians, most of whom were evacuated during World War II and sent to Morocco, Madeira, Jamaica, Northern Ireland and England. British troops occupied their homes locally whereas the Gibraltarians who had the misfortune of being sent to London suffered at the hands of German bombings.

Places of Worship

HINDU TEMPLE

Inaugurated in 2000, the Hindu Temple located in Engineer Lane, serves Gibraltar's Hindu population of approximately 600.

CATHEDRAL OF ST. MARY THE CROWNED

Situated on the site of the chief mosque in the centre of the town, the Cathedral was badly damaged by shelling during the 18th century Great Siege. Some of the early structure can still be appreciated, however, as well as a fragment of the Spanish and Moorish architectural tradition. It was converted into a Roman Catholic Cathedral soon after 1462.

GREAT SYNAGOGUE AND FLEMISH SYNAGOGUE

Gibraltar has a considerable Jewish community and the Great Synagogue in Engineer Lane has the distinction of being one of the oldest on the Iberian Peninsula, dating back to 1724. Guided tours of the beautiful Flemish synagogue, located in Line Wall Road, can be arranged. There are a total of four synagogues in Gibraltar.

ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY TRINITY

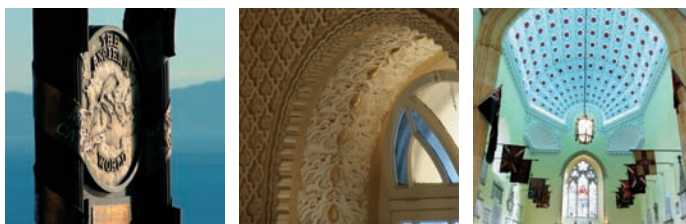
Despite its deceptively Moorish appearance, Holy Trinity was not laid down until 1825. It was consecrated in 1838 at a service attended by Queen Adelaide, widow of William IV. Among those buried here is General Sir George Don under whose direction the cathedral was erected.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Throughout the 150 years since it opened there has been a Presbyterian presence in Gibraltar. In the mid nineteenth century Scottish regiments were an integral part of the British army presence on the rock, but official indifference prevented those posted to Gibraltar practising their own religious tradition. In the 1840s a group of ex-patriot Scots began the fundraising, which resulted in the opening of St Andrew's Church on May 30th 1854. A striking set of stained glass windows dating from 1953 surrounds the chancel area. The church is open to visitors on weekdays from 11am-1pm. Sunday worship is at 1030am.

If you wish to read more about St Andrews Church, see the website:

www.scotskirkgibraltar.com



KING'S CHAPEL

The garrison church beside the convent was renamed Queen's Chapel during Queen Victoria's reign, but Queen Elizabeth restored its original title. Inside, beneath the colours of several British regiments, lie the remains of the wife of the Spanish governor of 1648, together with those of British governors O'Hara and Campbell, laid to rest in 1802 and 1813 respectively.

SHRINE AND MUSEUM OF OUR LADY OF EUROPE

Located at the southern end of the Rock, this shrine was originally a mosque and converted into a chapel by the Spaniards in 1462. The light that was kept burning in a tower above the chapel was the original Gibraltar lighthouse. Although the shrine was plundered and pillaged by the pirate Red Beard, its most valuable treasure – the 15th century statue of the Virgin and Child – is still venerated there to this day. There is a museum at the Shrine that depicts its long history.

MOSQUE

This beautiful example of architecture has been standing at Europa Point since 1997. It was paid for by the late King Fahad Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia and caters for the Muslim population of Gibraltar, most of them originating from Morocco.

NATURAL HISTORY

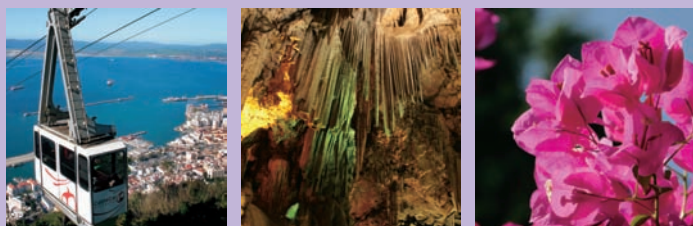
STAND ON TOP OF THE ROCK OF GIBRALTAR AND YOU FEEL AS IF YOU ARE ON TOP OF THE WORLD, EUROPE IS AT YOUR FEET, AFRICA FILLS ONE HORIZON, WHILE THE GATEWAYS TO THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE ATLANTIC ARE ON EITHER SIDE.

The Rock of Gibraltar seems foreboding from a distance; a great slab of jagged Jurassic Limestone towering high above its surroundings. Look closer and you can appreciate that, for 200 millions years, the Rock has continually evolved and changed. At one time it was barren and inhospitable, when the natural woodland was cleared for firewood by soldiers, at other times, carpeted with brightly coloured flora and wild flowers, some indigenous such as the Gibraltar Candytuft and Gibraltar Chickweed. The porous limestone means that there is never a shortage of water so, when the Iberian Peninsula is arid and brown, the Rock is essentially 'green', covered in shrubs and trees, such as nettle trees, carob, eucalyptus and wild olive.



Without doubt, the best-loved is the mischievous Barbary Ape which lives in a semi-wild state on the Upper Rock tolerating and teasing the camera-clicking tourists. It is believed that this tailless monkey was first introduced by the British during the 18th century. Red deer, wolves and wild boar once made the Rock their home. Although these have long disappeared, the migratory bird life has seemingly been untouched by the passage of time and over 200 species have been recorded here.

If you are lucky, you may well catch sight of a spectacular Griffon Vulture swooping into view over the top rim of the Rock. Or a flock of tiny colourful songbirds – even the occasional stork has been spied here, crossing the Strait of Gibraltar, this being the shortest migratory crossing point between Europe and Africa. Some birds are permanent residents, like the Barbary Partridge, which also originally came from North Africa. If you visit the Rock at certain times of the year, you can delight in the dazzle of colour from the flocks of Painted Lady butterflies, which are similarly endemic to Gibraltar. Possibly less appealing to some people are the bats, which swoop in and out of the innumerable crevices and caves feeding on the small rodents.



LOWER ST MICHAEL'S CAVE TOUR

Not available as part of the standard Rock Tour, these caves were discovered accidentally during the Second World War when blasting a second entrance to St Michael's cave to prepare it for use as an emergency hospital. Tours are available and take around three hours. Be prepared for some minor climbing with ropes as this cave is in its original natural state. It's well worth the effort, however, as the cave is quite spectacular and includes an underground lake. Group sizes range from a minimum of five to a maximum of 10. Children under 10 are not allowed. Cameras are permitted.

APES' DEN

World famous, and perhaps Gibraltar's most important tourist attraction, the Barbary Apes, **Macaca Sylvanus**, are actually tailless monkeys. Natives of North Africa, their presence in Gibraltar probably dates from the early days of the British garrison when it is presumed that they were imported as pets or even game, inevitably finding the rough limestone cliffs and scrub vegetation a congenial habitat. In fact, many legends have grown up around them. One is that they travelled from their native Morocco via a subterranean tunnel starting at St Michael's cave leading down underneath the Strait of Gibraltar. Another legend claims that should the apes ever disappear, the British will leave Gibraltar. During the last war, natural causes had diminished the ape numbers alarmingly, and they were in danger of extinction on the Rock. Fortunately, Sir Winston Churchill took a personal interest and additional animals were imported from Morocco. Today, in addition to the pack resident at Apes' Den, there are other packs living wild on the steep slopes of the Rock. The apes are not to be touched or fed; there is a maximum fine of £500 for feeding the apes.

BOTANIC GARDENS AND WILDLIFE PARK

The spectacular Alameda Gardens were first opened to the public in 1816 and there are a number of commemorative busts and cannon on view here, which date back to the 19th century. For most visitors, however, it is the beauty of the plants and trees, which make the Alameda such a magical place; many are a combination of native species while others are imported. At certain times of year, various cultural events take place in the gardens' open-air theatre. Tours of the Botanic Gardens are also available. In 1994 the Gibraltar Customs searched and confiscated a group of animals from a large container ship from Central Africa. These and other animals that came from such ships are now housed in the Alameda Wildlife Park located within the gardens.

BIRD WATCHING

As the Strait of Gibraltar is the narrowest crossing for bird migration from Europe and Africa, the Rock offers unrivalled bird watching opportunities. Over 200 species of birds have been recorded, many of which are migratory.

CABLE CAR

A unique way of appreciating the breathtaking views is from the Cable Car. You can start your ride from the Gibraltar Botanic Gardens to the Apes' Den and then onto the summit from where, on a clear day, you can see the coast of Morocco with the Atlantic stretching before you and the Mediterranean behind.

ST MICHAEL'S CAVE

Located more than 300 metres above sea level, with magnificent stalactites and stalagmites, the cave has been famous since ancient time (there are references in the works of Pomponius Mela (45 AD) and other Roman writers). Its upper hall is connected with many lower chambers by a series of winding passages. During World War II the cave was prepared as an emergency hospital, but happily it was never used for this purpose. The main chamber has been transformed into a large subterranean auditorium, and provides a unique venue for concerts, ballet, drama, fashion shows and other social events.





WATER-BASED ACTIVITIES

WATER SPORTS DOMINATE THE SPORTING SCENE. THE WARM WATERS AROUND GIBRALTAR OFFER WINDSURFING, WATERSKIING AND SAILING AT ALL LEVELS FROM DINGHIES TO YACHTS.

For scuba divers there's everything from "try a dive" to advanced instruction.

There is lots to see underwater, from ancient relics to wrecks.

You can obtain scuba diving qualifications from the "NAUI", "PADI" or "BSAC" schools in Gibraltar.

Well-equipped boats offer big game fishing for Bluefin Tuna, Broadbill Swordfish and various shark, according to season.

The environmentally considerate can catch, tag and release.





MARINAS

There are three marinas in Gibraltar offering excellent berthing facilities, shops and restaurants. Sailing boats are available for charter.



WINDSURFING

As well as being a popular water sport in Gibraltar, Tarifa – touted as the windsurfing capital of Europe – is just 40 minutes drive away on the Atlantic coast.

DOLPHIN-WATCHING AND BOAT TRIPS AROUND THE BAY

The Strait of Gibraltar is home to no fewer than three species of dolphin that can be enjoyed at close quarters when you take a dolphin-watching trip, the Common Dolphin, the Striped Dolphin and the large Bottle-nosed Dolphin and it is quite common to see schools of all ages and sizes. Whales also migrate here, including the largest mammal of all, the Blue Whale, but are less common these days.

FISHING

Gibraltar is a good catch for anglers due to the unique positioning of the Rock with the Atlantic merging into the Mediterranean via the Strait. There are good fighting fish to be had, like the Conger Eel, or tasty fish like the 14 species of Bream. Book a fishing trip and discover this angler's paradise first-hand.

DIVING

Explore Gibraltar's spectacular underwater world with more than 30 wrecks, reefs and pinnacles to choose from. There are three established diving schools that offer diving opportunities both for the experienced diver and the first-time novice. All provide equipment, so all you need is a swimsuit and towel to participate.

SAILING AND YACHTING COURSES

It is difficult to imagine a better place to learn to sail than Gibraltar. The climate is warm, the Bay is sheltered but open sea, and indeed ocean, is close by. The sailing centres offer a full range of courses, from Competent Crew to the most advanced RYA qualifications. As Gibraltar is surrounded by water, sailing is a major attraction in the area with challenging wind conditions and many marinas in the vicinity.

ON THE BEACH

Swim and sunbathe at one of Gibraltar's three sandy beaches; Eastern Beach, the picturesque village of Catalan Bay and Sandy Bay, all situated on Gibraltar's eastern Mediterranean coast. Throughout the year a delightful sub-tropical climate of pleasant winters, exquisite springs and shining summers make the beaches, marinas and waterfront restaurants a popular attraction.

CATALAN BAY VILLAGE

First settled by Genoese fishermen in the 18th century, some residents here still speak in their Italian native tongue. A rocky cove with a quiet sandy beach, this has always been an ideal vantage point and was considered a haven for Spaniards fleeing from Napoleon's invasion of Spain in the 19th century.

THE LIGHTHOUSE

The Gibraltar Lighthouse is the only one regulated by Trinity House outside the UK. It dates back to 1841 and stands 49 metres above sea level with a range of some 37 kilometres.

ENTERTAINMENT

FOR MANY YEARS GIBRALTAR HAS ATTRACTED THOUSANDS OF BRITISH EXPATRIATES LIVING ON THE IBERIAN PENINSULA SEEKING TO STOCK UP ON ALL THOSE BRITISH GOODIES THAT THEY JUST CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT. THE TRUTH IS THAT GIBRALTAR OFFERS FAR MORE THAN FISH AND CHIPS AND IS ARGUABLY THE SHOPPING MECCA OF THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN.

Given its position, this is hardly surprising, as for centuries, the Rock has existed as a trading community. These days it is appreciated, not just because of the quality and choice of products available, but also because goods here are sold VAT free.



The city centre is long and narrow, extending along Main Street. Much of this bustling high street has been pedestrianised as part of an overall city plan to beautify the Rock and create a pleasant environment for visitors and residents. Trees have similarly been planted throughout the old city. Strategically placed benches, pavement cafés and bars offer a little welcome relief for weary shoppers, whilst numerous exchange centres and banks make money changing as easy as flipping a coin. Interspersed with these familiar names is a fascinating selection of smaller shops, selling everything from Chinese linens to designer sunglasses.

Handicraft shops sit side-by-side with souvenir stores where the choice ranges from a cuddly toy to an exquisite piece of Gibraltar Crystal, which you can watch being produced on-the-spot. A new innovation at the entrance to Casemates is the opportunity to have your souvenir photograph taken dressed in period costume! Also to be found are a number of electrical / audio-visual equipment shops. Cigarettes, imported cigars and spirits are all-time favourites. Gold jewellery, watches, perfumes, porcelain figures, designer wear... they are all available here. It would be easy to spend days exploring Gibraltar in terms of buying power.



ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITION HALLS

Situated in the old barracks at Casemates Square, this is an interesting area where one can find examples of local and foreign artwork.

WINING AND DINING

Running parallel to Main Street is the pedestrianised Irish Town that is well worth a visit with its historic coffee houses, specialist ironmongers, Irish pubs and attractive restaurants. You can find most ethnic and international cuisines in Gibraltar, including Indian, Chinese, Thai, Argentinean, Japanese, Moroccan, Kosher and European, such as English, Danish, French, Spanish and Italian. For a meal on the go, there are fast-food restaurants and conveniently located sandwich bars plus, plenty of 'ye olde' English pubs and pavement cafés. Fish lovers are catered for as well. The marinas are an easy walk from the city centre, while Catalan Bay on the east side is equally charming with well situated restaurants specialising in seafood with that 'catch of the day' freshness.

NIGHTLIFE

There are no shortages of places to go in the evening. Hotel cocktail bars offer comfortable and sophisticated surroundings for a quiet drink or not so quiet, jazz performance or other live band. For a more informal evening, almost every street in town has wine bars and lively cosmopolitan pubs. Later you might dance into the small hours at one of Gibraltar's trendy disco pubs or enjoy a flutter at the Casino. There is live entertainment during the summer months at the bustling Casemates Square positioned at the entrance of the town centre. Check our monthly Calendar of events for an up to date list of what's on.

CASEMATES SQUARE

Named after the British Barracks located at the north of the square, this area has served many purposes. Formerly the site of public executions, this commercial and social square contains remains of an old Moorish galley house and a gun mounted on a Koehler Depression Gun Carriage, of the type developed during the Great Siege. Nowadays, this focal entrance to the city centre has become the hub of social activities with restaurants, cafes and shops.

JOHN MACKINTOSH HALL

The John Mackintosh Hall is the centre of Gibraltar's cultural activities where some 200 societies and associations meet regularly. It was opened by the Governor and Commander in Chief General Sir Dudley Ward on the 8th April 1964, containing a public library, a theatre / conference hall, gymnasium, spacious halls for exhibitions and other public functions, and a wing for higher education.

OCEAN VILLAGE

Gibraltar's only integrated retail, leisure and residential complex, Ocean Village, will see an eventful year in 2007 as the development springs to life and luxury apartments are paired with their new owners. As different phases are completed visitors will be impressed by the attention to detail and the careful selection of street furniture, lighting, floral plantings...a beautification process that will distinguish Ocean Village as the destination for the perfect lifestyle.

The superb marine waterfront will feature seven-day-a-week premier bars, international restaurants and fashion retailers. Ocean Village will be an inspirational destination in which to live, work and spend leisure time...setting a new standard in Gibraltar for many decades to come.



GIBRALTAR CRYSTAL GLASS FACTORY

The factory is open to visitors who can watch as the highly skilled glass blowers shape and work the molten glass by hand using methods, which have been perfected over the last two thousand years. By prior arrangement you can blow your own vase.



GETTING MARRIED

FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SIR SEAN CONNERY, JOHN LENNON AND YOKO ONO AND GET MARRIED ON THE ROCK. GETTING MARRIED IN GIBRALTAR IS EASY AND VISITORS CAN CHOOSE FROM A VARIETY OF LOCATIONS.

Hollywood lovers, heartthrob Lawrence Harvey and Margaret Leighton were one of the first high profile couples to say 'I do' in Gibraltar. In 1962 as the world became entranced by the numbers 007, screen hero Sean Connery married actress Diane Cilento. Sadly, this marriage was not to last but Connery's affection for Gibraltar did as he returned in 1975 to marry his present wife Micheline Boglio Roquebrune.

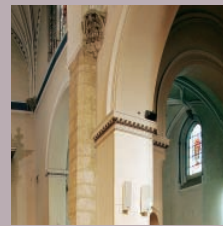
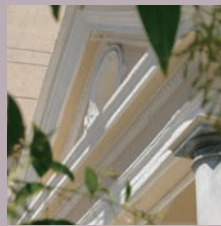
However, it is the marriage of Beatle John Lennon to Yoko Ono in 1969 that caused the biggest media sensation.



CIVIL STATUS & REGISTRATION OFFICE

Sir Joshua Hassan House, Secretary's Lane, Gibraltar.
Tel: 00 350 72289 / 51725 Fax: 00 350 42706
Email: csro@gibtelecom.net

All enquiries and further information regarding getting married in Gibraltar should be addressed to the above authority.



PLACES TO STAY AND ENTERTAIN

Gibraltar has seven hotels offering a range of styles and budgets to suit all. Four of Gibraltar's largest hotels, The Caleta Hotel, The O'Callaghan Elliott Hotel, The Rock Hotel and The Queen's Hotel permit marriages on their grounds and offer teams of advisors to assist with every arrangement from paperwork, catering, photography, flowers and the bridal suite. It is advisable to book a wedding well in advance of the chosen date to avoid disappointment. Bookings need to be made directly with the Registry Office.

TIMELESS HISTORY FOR THE PERFECT SETTING

Recent legislation permits the marriage registrar to marry couples outside the registry office, if requested. Four of Gibraltar's hotels have been registered as places where marriages can be held. In addition, you are able to choose from an historical building or perhaps prefer natural settings, these include, The Mount and The Alameda Botanical Gardens.

THE MOUNT

The Mount, which was built in 1797, was formerly the official residence of the senior officer of the Royal Navy in Gibraltar. It is today an officially listed building, which boasts fascinating gardens.

THE ALAMEDA BOTANICAL GARDENS

The Alameda Botanical Gardens were developed in 1816 for the purpose of providing civilians with an area of beauty for rest and relaxation. Today the gardens have developed into the Botanical Gardens. Wedding services are permitted in "the Dell", an Italian style garden laid out by a Genoese gardener in 1842.

SIMPLE PROCEDURE

Today hundreds of couples are travelling to Gibraltar to exchange vows, choosing to follow in the footsteps of Sir Sean Connery, John Lennon and Yoko Ono. There are no residency restrictions and in theory you can get married with just 24 hours notice. However, as Gibraltar is a popular location for getting married it is wise to plan well in advance. Local marriage law does not contain any residential requirements and so therefore it is a simple procedure, also a Gibraltar marriage is recognised worldwide. To get married at Gibraltar's registry office you will need to present yourself at the registry at least 24 hours before you wish to get married. You will need your birth certificate, passport and if you've been married before, a copy of your divorce decree absolute. The registrar will only accept originals, not photocopies.

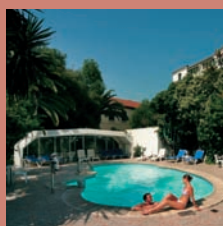


ACCOMMODATION

GIBRALTAR'S COMPACT SIZE MEANS THAT TRANSFER TIME TO HOTELS FROM ALL POINTS OF ENTRY IS RARELY MORE THAN 15 MINUTES, WHETHER YOU ARE PLANNING YOUR HOLIDAY, BUSINESS MEETING, LEISURE GROUP ARRANGEMENTS OR EVEN YOUR WEDDING, YOU WILL FIND A RANGE OF HOTELS TO CATER FOR YOUR NEEDS.



HOTELS



BRISTOL HOTEL

This hotel, with attractive walled garden and swimming pool, is centrally situated close to the Museum and Tourist Information Centre. Many of the 60 recently refurbished bedrooms enjoy a splendid view of the Bay of Gibraltar.

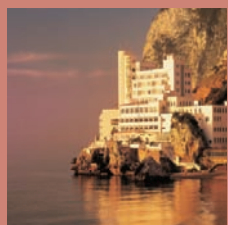
8/10 Cathedral Square, Gibraltar
Tel: +350 76800 Fax: +350 77613
Email: bristhtl@gibnet.gi
www.bristolhotel.gi



THE CONTINENTAL HOTEL

The Continental Hotel is conveniently situated in the heart of Gibraltar's duty free shopping area. The hotel offers a choice of en-suite, single, double, triple and four bedded rooms, each with satellite TV, air conditioning, heating and telephone.

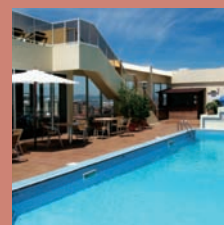
1 Engineer Lane, Gibraltar
Tel: +350 76900 Fax: +350 41702
Email: contihotel@gibtelecom.net



THE CALETA HOTEL

The four star Caleta Hotel, Health, Beauty & Conference Centres, in a spectacular location on the eastern side of the Rock, awarded two AA rosettes for fine dining. Italian food at its best.

Catalan Bay, Gibraltar
Tel: +350 76501 Fax: +350 42143
Email: sales@caletahotel.gi
reservations@caletahotel.gi
www.caletahotel.com



THE O'CALLAGHAN ELLIOTT HOTEL

Tucked away in the heart of the city centre, only minutes walk from bustling Main Street, the stylish and newly rejuvenated O'Callaghan Elliott Hotel offers every comfort and facility for the perfect holiday.

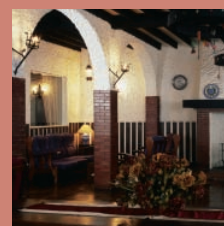
2 Governor's Parade, Gibraltar
Tel: +350 70500 Fax: +350 70243
Email: elliott@ocallaghanhotels.com
www.ocallaghanhotels.com



THE CANNON HOTEL

Situated near the city centre, and ideal for leisure breaks. The main shopping area and most of Gibraltar's historic sites and places of interest are within easy walking distance.

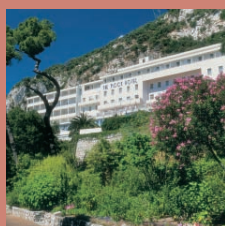
9 Cannon Lane, Gibraltar
Tel: +350 51711 Fax: +350 51789
Email: cannon@gibnet.gi
www.cannonhotel.gi



QUEEN'S HOTEL

The Queen's Hotel is situated just outside the historic city walls of Gibraltar, and commands views of unparalleled beauty of the Rock itself.

1 Boyd Street, Gibraltar
Tel: +350 74000 Fax: +350 40030
Email: queenshotel@gibtelecom.net
www.queenshotel.gi



THE ROCK HOTEL

The world famous Rock Hotel is perched majestically above the city, and enjoys splendid views of the Bay of Gibraltar. The attractive sea water pool is set in secluded gardens where light meals are available throughout the day.

3 Europa Road, Gibraltar

Tel: +350 73000 Fax: +350 73513

Email: rockhotel@gibtelecom.net

www.rockhotelgibraltar.com



THE GIBRALTAR TOURIST BOARD OFFICIAL GIBRALTAR HOTEL GRADING SCHEME

The Gibraltar Tourist Board's Official Hotel Grading Scheme is managed in partnership with the Automobile Association (AA) of the UK.

The Scheme uses a star classification system for hotels, ranging from One to Five stars. In addition the AA awards Rosettes, from One to Five, to those hotels where the restaurants serve food of an excellent or outstanding quality.

The AA along with visit Britain™, the Wales Tourist Board and Visit Scotland™ have worked together to establish a Common Standards rating for hotel properties in the UK. These common standards are also applied to Gibraltar in this scheme. More information is available on the AA's website at www.theaa.com or in the AA's annual Hotel Guide.

The properties taking part in the Scheme in Gibraltar are inspected annually by the AA.

Properties featured that are not graded by the Gibraltar Tourist Board/AA are listed for information purposes only. The Gibraltar Tourist Board cannot comment on the standards of accommodation or service in these establishments.

HOSTEL

EMILE YOUTH HOSTEL

On Gibraltar's historic city walls, one-minute walk from the popular Casemates Square and Main Street. Easy access to all places of interest.

Montagu Bastion, Line Wall Road, Gibraltar

Tel: +350 51106 Fax: +350 51106

Mobile: 57686000

Email: emilehostel@yahoo.co.uk

SELF-CATERING

HERALD TRAVEL HOLIDAY APARTMENTS

Centrally located, just a minute's walk off Main Street.

Suite 1E, Ocean Heights, Gibraltar

Tel: +350 71250 Fax: +350 59953

Email: herald@gibnet.gi

www.gibraltar.gi/herald

GOVERNOR'S INN (APARTMENTS)

Centrally situated, a 2 minute walk from the town centre.

36 Governor's Street, Gibraltar

Tel: +350 44227 Fax: +350 79992

Email: gibc@gibnet.gi

www.gibc.gi

JADE TRAVEL APARTMENTS

Centrally located, just a minute's walk off Main Street.

Suite 1E, Ocean Heights, Gibraltar

Tel: +350 56585000 / 49364 Fax: +350 77041

Email: janmarkaron@yahoo.com

www.gibraltarholidays.com

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

LANGUAGE

The official language is English although Spanish is widely spoken.

HEALTH

No specific vaccinations are required for Gibraltar. Those needing emergency medical attention in Gibraltar are entitled to free NHS treatment on production of a UK passport.

GETTING THERE

Regular flights from the UK to Gibraltar are operated by British Airways, Fly Gibraltar and Monarch. Flight time is approximately two hours and 30 minutes. Gibraltar is also easily accessed by those wishing to fly to Malaga Airport and can be reached by road in approximately one hour and 30 minutes. The land frontier between Gibraltar and Spain is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week both for vehicles and pedestrians. There is no limit on the number of frontier crossings you can make.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A full valid passport or EU Identity card in the case of EU nationals. Other passport holders may need a visa to enter Gibraltar. Further information available from Tel: +350 72289 / 51725, Fax: +350 42706 or csro@gibtelecom.net

TELEPHONES

Gibraltar's international dialling code is +350.



GETTING AROUND

Taxis are plentiful and inexpensive and a good local bus service operates throughout Gibraltar.

CURRENCY

The legal tender in Gibraltar is Gibraltar Government Sterling notes and coinage, although United Kingdom sterling is equally welcome. There is a full range of international and UK banks. Credit cards, travellers' cheques and Euros are widely accepted. Gibraltar sterling cannot be used in the UK.

VOLTAGE

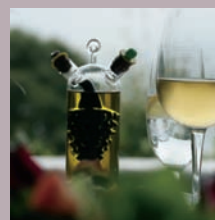
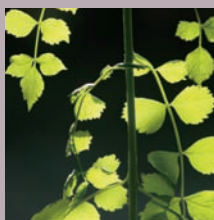
240v - the same as in the UK (3 pin plugs).

WEATHER

Gibraltar has an average of 320 days of sunshine a year with temperatures rising well above 30°C in the summer and going down to approximately 12°C. The climate of Gibraltar is Mediterranean. A warm, dry summer alternating with a mild wet winter.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Please contact:
Gibraltar Tourist Board
Arundel Great Court
178-179 Strand
London WC2R 1EL
Tel. 020 7836 0777
Fax. 020 7240 6612
e-mail. info@gibraltar.gov.uk
www.visitgibraltar.gi



HOW TO BOOK

TOUR OPERATORS

CADOGAN HOLIDAYS

Tel. 023 8082 8313
Fax. 023 8022 8601
info@cadoganholidays.com
www.cadoganholidays.com

CRESTA HOLIDAYS

Tel. 0870 240 2693
Fax. 0870 169 0795
www.crestaholidays.co.uk

MY VACATIONS

Tel. 0870 2420241
Fax. 020 8554 0202
info@mygibraltar.co.uk
www.mygibraltar.co.uk

SAGA HOLIDAYS

Tel. 0800 0960074
Fax. 01303 712699
www.sagaholidays.co.uk

THE CLASSIC TRAVELLER

Tel. 0870 4434500
Fax. 01733 417784
info@tcsignature.com
www.tcsignature.com

THOMSON CITIES & SHORT BREAKS

Tel. 0870 8880225
Fax. 020 8939 0430
www.thomsoncities.co.uk

AIRLINES

BRITISH AIRWAYS

Tel. 0870 850 9850
www.ba.com

FLY GIBRALTAR

Tel. 0870 774 7411
www.flygib.com

MONARCH

Tel. 0870 0405040
www.flymonarch.com

See special offers from the above operators on www.visitgibraltar.gi

USEFUL GIBRALTAR CONTACTS

GIBRALTAR TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Casemates Square | +350 45000/74982 | tourism@gibraltar.gi |
| Cruise Terminal | +350 47670 | tourism@gibraltar.gi |
| Coach Terminus | +350 44929 | tourism@gibraltar.gi |
| Ferry Terminal | +350 71630 | tourism@gibraltar.gi |
| Airport Terminal | +350 73026 | info@gibraltar-airport.com |

GETTING AROUND

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Taxi | +350 70027 | gibtaxass@gibtelecom.net |
| Public buses | +350 47622/76520 | |
| Shopmobility | +350 79898 | |
| Cable Car | +350 77826 | swellstead@mhbland.com |

ATTRACTIONS

| | | |
|--------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| Upper Rock | +350 74950 | upperrock.gtb@gibtelecom.net |
| Museum | +350 75669 | museumpr@gibraltar.gi |
| Botanic Gardens | +350 72639 | alameda@wildlife.gib.gi |
| Shrine of Our Lady | +350 71230 | |
| Casino | +350 76666 | info@thegibraltarcasino.com |

MINI BUS TOURS

| | | |
|-----------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| Bland Travel | +350 75552 | albert@bland.gi |
| Calypso Tours | +350 76226 | hcatania@mhbland.gi |
| Hercules Travel | +350 79773 | parodyturtra@gibtelecom.net |
| Parodytur | +350 47366 | sgaragesml@gibtelecom.net |
| Persian Rose | +350 79773 | gibtaxass@gibtelecom.net |
| Taxi Tours | +350 70052 | gibtaxass@gibtelecom.net |

TOURS

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Lower Cave tours | +350 56639000/54231000/78105/55820 | |
| Rock and Fortress | +350 45957 | rock.fort@gibtelecom.net |
| MOD Tunnel Tours | +350 55820 | paj@sapphire.net.gi |
| City walking Tours | +350 45957 | rock.fort@gibtelecom.net |
| Synagogue Tours | +350 75965 | holyland@gibtelecom.net |

DOLPHIN TRIPS

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Dolphin Adventure | +350 50650 | |
| Dolphin Safari | +350 71914 | dolphin@gibnet.gi |
| Dolphin World | +350 54481000 | reservation@dolphinworld.gi |

DIVING TRIPS

| | | |
|--------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Dive Charters PADI | +350 45649 | divegib@gibtelecom.net |
| Dive Hire NAUI | +350 73616 | divehire1st@gibtelecom.net |
| Rock Marine BSAC | +350 73147 | fred@gibnet.gi |

FISHING TRIPS

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------|--|
| Jalex | +350 78468 | |
| Joevan | +350 57270000 | |
| Straits Fishing | +350 57274000 | |
| The Angling Centre | +350 74537 | |

SAILING

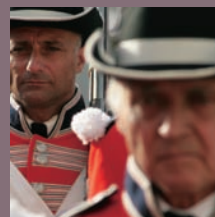
| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Allaboard | +350 50202 | info@sailing.gi |
| Straits Sailing | +350 51372 | straits.sail@gibtelecom.net |
| Trafalgar | +34 699411194 | cathy@trafalgarsailing.co.uk |
| Alfer Sea | +350 74016 | info@alferseaschool.com |
| Ocean Odyssey | +350 73017 | mark@hire-u-shop.com |

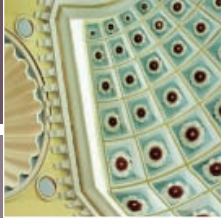
OTHER

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Heritage Trust | +350 42844 | heritage@gibnet.gi |
| Public Library | +350 75669 | gfjmh@gibraltar.gi |
| Immigration | +350 72289/51725 | csro@gibtelecom.net |
| Registry Office | +350 72289/51725 | csro@gibtelecom.net |
| Port Authority | +350 77254 | |

EMERGENCY

| | | |
|--------------------|------------|--|
| Fire and Ambulance | 190 | |
| Police | 199/192 | |
| Hospital | +350 79700 | |





GIBRALTAR

Duke of Kent House, Cathedral Square, Gibraltar.

Telephone: +350 74950 Fax: +350 74943 Email: tourism@gibraltar.gi www.visitgibraltar.gi

MADRID

Torres de Colón, Torre 1 - Planta 3ª A, Plaza de Colón 2, 28046 Madrid

Telephone: +34 91 559 6259 Fax: +34 91 559 7470 Email: gibraltar@interlink.es www.visitgibraltar.gi

LONDON

Arundel Great Court, 178-179 Strand, London, WC2R 1 EL.

Telephone: +44 (0) 20 7836 0777 Fax: +44 (0) 20 7240 6612 Email: info@gibraltar.gov.uk www.visitgibraltar.gi