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Adults-only Barceló Teguisse Beach



# Hot rocks

Volcanic Lanzarote provides sun, sand and a lovely lunar landscape

WHILE THE Canarian island of Lanzarote may not sound like the obvious location for a father-daughter weekend away, Dad and I were after a bit of R&R and guaranteed sunshine, so it ticked both boxes splendidly. With the flight just under four hours, we were enjoying complimentary champagne in the lobby of Barceló Teguisse Beach – our adults-only hotel a two-minute walk from the golden sands and clear waters of Las Cucharas beach in Costa Teguisse – before we knew it.

Despite its size – there are 305 rooms and suites – the low-rise hotel with its white stone walls and abundant cacti felt intimate and warm. It also had everything we could possibly need: a spacious deluxe sea-view room with a hot tub on the terrace, a bountiful buffet restaurant, an on-site spa, two pools and three bars, including the Mediterranean Breeze Gastro Pool Bar serving à la carte and cocktails, and the Dad-approved Champs Sports bar, with widescreen TVs and the best imported whiskeys.

Located on the east coast of Lanzarote, the hotel is just a 15-minute drive from the island's capital, Arrecife,

and a good base from which to explore this volcanic island. There's also lots to do on your doorstep. As avid thrill seekers, we were soon whizzing along the seafront on rented scooters. Dad, an art enthusiast, spent an afternoon exploring the nearby Fundación César Manrique (a fantastic fusion of lava and architecture that was once the home of the artist and architect who influenced the

legislation against high-rises in Lanzarote) while I took a dip in the sea.

On our last day we joined a local wine-themed walking tour (winetours.lanzarote.com), which saw us exploring vineyards in Lanzarote's lunar, volcano-pocked landscape. While it's hard to believe this environment could be conducive to wine production, the Canarians dig deep into the dust and use the volcanic rock to create multiple crescent-shaped walls to protect the grapes from harsh winds, producing surprisingly good whites and rosés. I loved the dry white Malvasía Volcánica at Bodegas El Grifo. Our final port of call was Bar Bodegas Rubicón in the centre of the island, where we toasted a weekend of indulgence with chilled glasses of its limited-edition Sweet Gold dessert wine.

For a more authentic, off-the-beaten-track experience, head 15 minutes inland to Caserío de Mozaga, a simple eight-room hotel run by the delightful Maria Luisa, which inhabits a farmhouse that's been in her family since the 18th century. Low-key and comfortable, this whitewashed home feels more rustic-chic private residence than slick hotel, and in the farm's old stable is an excellent traditional Canarian restaurant, its menu packed with fresh fish and vegetables. It's open every day except Tuesday. There's also a drawing room offering complimentary coffee and tea throughout the day, and a lovely garden with a hammock and strategically positioned daybeds for sunbathing and snoozing.



**1. BARCELOTEGUISE BEACH** Doubles from £114 (barceloteguissebeach.com)  
**2. CASERIO DE MOZAGA** Doubles from £95 (caseriodemozaga.com)