MARELLA CRUISES

Explore Ashore

Ceuta, Spain

Port information

Currency

Taxis

The currency in Ceuta is Euro. Foreign exchange is available from reception onboard on deck 4.

Language

The language spoken in Ceuta is Spanish.

Getting around

Distance to town

100 meters from the city centre, which is best seen by foot.

Main Highlights

Taxis will be available from outside the port area. Most taxis have a meter but if not, make sure you agree a rate with the taxi driver before making your journey

Main Highlights

The Straits of Gibraltar separate Ceuta from European Spain. Ceuta is an ancient city - it has been continuously inhabited since its founding by Carthage in the 5th century B.C. Over the millennia, Ceuta has been ruled by Carthage, Rome, the Moorish Kingdom of Granada, Portugal and, since 1580, Spain. From 1912 until 1959, the city was also the capital of Spanish Morocco, a colonial protectorate created when France and Spain divided that kingdom during the "Morocco Crisis" of 1912. Generalisimo Francisco Franco launched the Spanish Civil War from Ceuta in 1936. Today, Ceuta boasts an easy-going charm and a cosmopolitan mix of cultures. The city is also a gateway for the real Morocco and the dramatic landscape of the Rif

The most impressive sight in Ceuta is the medieval Royal Walls, dating back to the 5th century. These extensive fortifications, of great strategic complexity, have been beautifully restored, with information boards in English. The beautifully designed Museo de los Muralles Reales, a gallery that houses temporary art exhibitions, lies within the walls themselves. It's a most atmospheric space, worth visiting regardless of what's on show – although if you're lucky enough to catch local artist Diego Canca, don't miss his work.

Parque Marítimo del Mediterráneo - This creative maritime park is one of several versions developed by the brilliant artist and architect César Manrique of the Canary Islands. He borrowed the city-walls theme to construct a huge pool deck on the sea, including a grand lagoon and two other saltwater pools, surrounded by 10 bars, pubs, restaurants, cafes and a disco. A central island holds a fortress casino. A pictorial display of Manrique's work lies just inside the entrance, 50m to the right. This is a real hit in the summer, and perfect for families.

This is the charming heart of Ceuta, with manicured tropical plantings, a square of cobblestone streets and some of the city's finest architecture. Moving clockwise from the oblong Commandancia General, a military headquarters closed to visitors, you encounter the striking yellow Santuario de Nuestra Señora de Africa, an 18th-century Andalucian-style church; the 19thcentury Palacio de Asamblea with its elegant dome and clock, a combination palace and city hall; and finally the 17th-century, twin-spired Cathedral Santa Maria de la Asuncion with its museum. The centre of the plaza contains a memorial to soldiers lost in the Spanish-Moroccan War of 1860, a conflict over the borders of Ceuta.

The Casa de los Dragones on Plaza de los Reyes is a fantastic dream that has entered the real world Recently restored to perfection, this former home is an extraordinary example of eclectic architecture, with Moorish arches, polished brick facades, Mansard roofs, fabulous balconies, and the pièce de résistance, four enormous dark dragons springing from the roof. Unfortunately, it's not open to the public. The intricate anagram of the Cerni Gonzalez Brothers, the builders, is emblazoned on the corner.

Museo de la Legión This intriguing museum is dedicated to and run by the Spanish Legion, an army unit set up in 1920 that played a pivotal role in Franco's republican army. Loaded to the gills with memorabilia, weaponry and uniforms, not to mention glory, pomp and circumstance, it is a fascinating glimpse into the military culture. Passports are needed

Museo de la Basilica Tardorromana This superbly executed underground museum is integrated into the architectural remains of an ancient basilica discovered during street work in the 1980s, including a bridge over open tombs, skeletons included. The artefacts become a means of branching out into various elements of local history.

Essential information

Tourist information

The tourist office near the Plaza de Africa has information about local attractions

Internet access

Many cafes and restaurants in Ceuta offer WiFi access.

Nearest beaches

El Chorrillo is located 1.3km from the port. This beach is very close to the city centre and its many establishments. Its facilities are excellent, and well signposted.

La Ribera beach with its fine sand, its dimensions are about 270 meters long by 40 wide. It is a city beach.

PLEASE NOTE: As with all cities always please keep a close eve on valuables

Located heart of the city, Calle Camoens Street is the main high street in Ceuta. Here you will find plenty of shops, cafes, restaurants and bars.

Your Destination Services team would like to wish you an enjoyable day in Ceuta