

8. Report anti-ecological behaviour and environmental disasters.



If you come across any type of activity that endangers wildlife or the natural landscape such as illegal tipping, irresponsible excursions, the use of poisoned bait, smuggling animals, etc., please report it.

Call the emergency number 112 or the Environmental Protection Service (SEPRONA) on 062.

9. Eco-volunteers



Various ecological associations and organisations offer environmental volunteer programmes to raise citizen awareness and help to conserve and recuperate sensitive areas that don't receive sufficient funding.

The WWF in Lanzarote runs a volunteer programme in the Chinijo Archipelago (<http://www.wwf.es>).

Tel: 91 354 05 78

10. Being a responsible consumer

Purchases made in a destination work as an indicator to mark the level of visitors' implication in their resort. Opt for fresh foods that have been produced locally. Use cloth or paper bags rather than plastic bags. When buying souvenirs, look for those that express the local culture.

Try to make your visit count towards the sustainable and responsible development of the area; in this way, both you and the destination will benefit from your stay.

Following these recommendations, we can all help to conserve this part of the Biosphere that is Lanzarote.

THANK YOU

More info at:

[www.lanzarotebiosfera.org](http://www.lanzarotebiosfera.org)

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Biosphere Reserve of Lanzarote:  
How to be an excellent visitor



Oficina de la Reserva de la Biosfera de Lanzarote



CABILDO DE LANZAROTE



Oficina de la Reserva de la Biosfera





# Lanzarote Biosphere Reserve: How to be an excellent visitor

A respectful attitude when visiting your chosen holiday destination contributes towards local conservation. If you plan to come to Lanzarote, the Biosphere Reserve office has set out some simple guidelines to help make your experience both satisfying and consistent with UNESCO's Man and Biosphere Programme. Lanzarote is home to countless treasures and we all have a part to play in ensuring that the island is treated with care and consideration.

## 1. Sustainable travel. Efficiency



Public transport is the most ideal way to get around the island.

If you wish to use private transport, choose hybrid or electric vehicles. You can also choose to share with others and reduce exhaust emissions, promoting human contact with fellow travellers.

The most ecological option for travelling short distances is to go on foot or by bike.

Excursions using off-road cars, motorbikes or quads erode the soil and generate noise pollution which can affect the environment.

Try not to leave the engine running if you aren't moving; this way you can save fuel. Comfort and safety are optimised if you drive at a regular speed without too many stops and starts. The most efficient way to reduce fuel use and emissions is to drive in a high gear with low revs.

## 2. Respect the rules and guidelines covering protected areas



Please respect all regulations covering visitor access to protected natural areas. Read the information boards carefully and if possible, try and find out more about their particular features before your visit.

## 3. Eat responsibly



If spending a day outside or on the beach, carry your picnic in a basket or a rucksack. Pack food in reusable containers, avoiding plastic and take drinks in flasks or aluminium bottles.

Plastic bags and bottles have an enormous impact on the environment.

Please take home any packaging and pick up any non-biodegradable waste you see littering the area as it could end up being ingested by animals, causing them a great deal of harm.

Don't have a negative impact on the environment; be careful with your rubbish, depositing it in the correct containers.

If you eat out in a restaurant, choose one that serves local products; order water in a glass bottle and drinks that have been produced locally. Lanzarote offers some marvellous wines, beers and liqueurs, some of which are ecological.

## 4. Water use



Water is an increasingly scarce resource. On an island like Lanzarote, obtaining water is very expensive and is produced by burning oil for which reason we should optimise its use and most of all, avoid wasting it.

Don't leave taps running and make sure that detergents don't end up in the sea.

## 5. Cigarette butts



If you smoke, never discard cigarette ends on to the floor or into the sea. If you can't find any bins, take the cigarette end with you until you come across one. They are extremely toxic for the environment and difficult to collect from volcanic ash.

## 6. Don't disturb species or alter the environment

Lanzarote's natural wildlife survives in a delicate equilibrium that can be destroyed by the slightest modification, particularly in the case of vulnerable species.

It is advisable not to touch birds' nests; not to feed animals; not to raise your voice or generate loud noises such as car engines or music, especially in sensitive areas. Please don't take volcanic rocks home; the souvenir should stay in your memory, not disappear into your bag. It is better to take a photograph rather than destroy the landscape for future visitors.

## 6.1 Birdwatching



Birdwatchers, whether the expert seeking rare sightings, a nature-lover, an eco-tourist or a birding enthusiast from any town or city, can all follow good, basic guidelines so that the experience is positive for the watcher, for the birds and their environment; minimising impact.

Protect the habitat.

We shouldn't alter the birds' behaviour in any way.

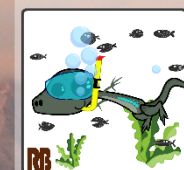
Don't harass rare species. It is important not to disturb them.

Respect landowners' rights.

Respect other visitors in the observation area.

Share your information with local birdwatchers.

## 6.2 Responsible diving



Lanzarote is considered to have some of the most unique and best preserved diving grounds in the Canarian archipelago.

Control your flotation by using your jacket correctly and avoid swimming very close to the seabed.

Avoid lifting stones or moving elements on the seabed.

Don't take away items that look as though they shouldn't be there. Don't take "souvenirs" from your dives

Whilst it might seem like a fun thing to do, avoid trying to feed the fish or other species.

## 7. Don't introduce invasive species



Before bringing your pets to Lanzarote, check that there aren't any restrictions. At times, invasive species have entered the island due simply to a lack of care or understanding of the consequences.