

Through My Eyes! Mallorca

Jerry Grasso

Welcome to my *Through My Eyes!* coverage of some amazing locations my wife Jayne and I have visited around the world. Some are iconic while the majority of the images presented here require a more intimate exploration of the location. This particular ebook is devoted to [Mallorca](#), Spain. My goal is not to present a definitive study of this island, but rather to provide hopefully a limited, tantalizing glimpse of only a small, subset of locations to peak your interest! You will find that these images are not just your typical iconic scenes, but also contain some rather different ones as well.

When my wife and I visited the island off the southern coast of Spain, near Barcelona, it was during the end of January, 2017, not exactly the best time of year to showcase what the island has to offer. But we rather enjoyed the ability to freely move wherever we wanted on the island with very few tourists. Although many of the shops were closed for the season, having a car at our disposal allowed us to explore parts of the island that may have been difficult with so many tourists on the roads during the peak season.

I chose many of these pictures as abstract, intimate versions of elements within some local scene. My attempt here is not to portray a travelogue. Rather, these are quiet images that you may not have noticed as you hike, walk, or travel throughout this scenic getaway.

For an interactive map of the island with the visited sites referenced within this ebook, please click [here](#). Feel free to do your own exploring!

Explore the many informational hyperlinks included within the ebook!

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Enjoy life!



Just outside of Palma de Mallorca, we visited the Medieval [Bellver Castle](#).









We walked around [Poble Espanyol](#) built in the 1960's. It represents and recalls the most characteristic and famous elements of the urban architecture in the Hispanic geography. It is a walk through the old Spanish architecture, from the Muslim period until today.









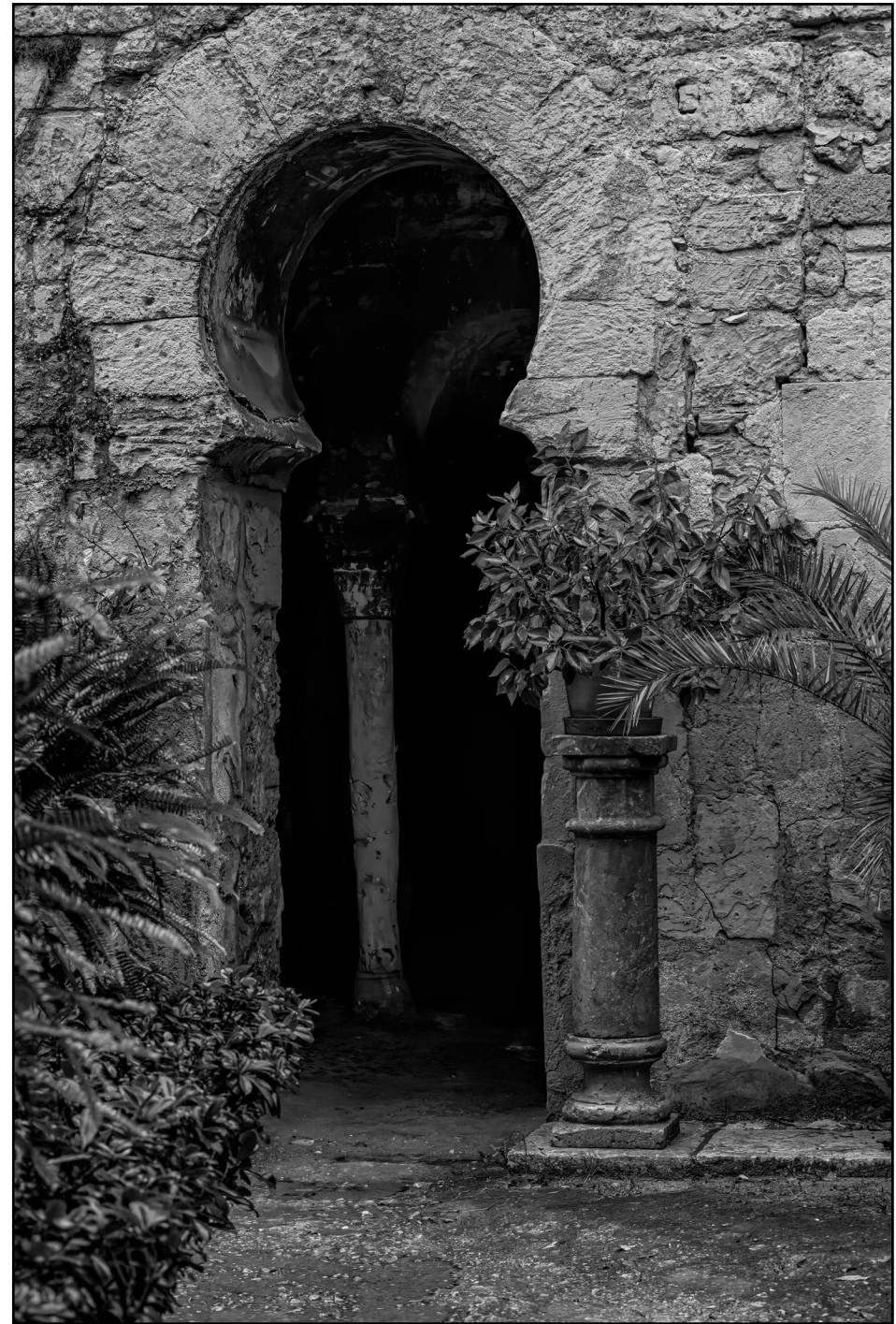






Another interesting find in the old city of Palma was the [Banys Arabs](#), Arabian Bath, dating from the 10th to 12th centuries.









As is usually the case with our travels, we went off-season. This time it also happened to be the rainy season which made it a bit challenging at times to drive on the island as well as walk around. Although many of the smaller towns around the island were basically closed and deserted, this made for some excellent photography. The good news was that there were very few people on the roads or in the towns beyond the capital city of [Palma](#).



The [Cathedral of Santa Maria](#) of Palma more commonly referred to as La Seu is a Gothic Roman Catholic cathedral.





The old city section of Palma is mostly found near the marina. There are many excellent restaurants there that serve local cuisine and local Mallorcan wines which were very tasty! The city lights at night were fun to see.



These are from [Cala Canyamel](#).





One of the other places we visited on Mallorca was the [Cuevas del Drach](#) in Porto Cristo. These seem to have been first mentioned as existing in 1338 but it wasn't until the late 1800's that the caves were formally explored.

Be warned, however, that photographing down there is a challenge. This is due to the 95% humidity which causes your lens to steam up. But the sights are beautiful and eerie and well worth the visit.



As part of the [cave tour](#), there is a short classical concert performed by musicians on a boat. The concert is very majestic and presented with subtle drama as the lights in the cave are turned off until the boats appear. Very moving.

The final treat is a boat ride on Lake Martel.







This is the old section of the village of [Pollensa](#). Of note is the Església de Nostra Senyora dels Àngels (the [Church of Our Lady of the Angels](#)) which was partially built by the Knights Templar.









In addition to the village's storied history, the [Church of Calvary](#) sits atop a hill with 365 steps leading up to it. Every Easter Good Friday commemorations trace the path of the cross up those stairs.











There are commanding views of the World Heritage [Serra de Tramuntana mountains.](#)





Pollenca's storied history includes the Church of Calvary which sits atop a hill with 365 steps leading up to it. Every Easter Good Friday commemorations trace the path of the cross up those stairs.



This one is [Torre des Verger](#), an old watchtower from 1579 used by sentinels to warn of Moorish pirates. 35

















The picture above and on the next few pages show the typical coastal seascapes from the mountainous side of the island along route MA10.

The northwestern side of Mallorca is the mountainous side with the famous World Heritage Serra de Tramuntana mountains. [Banyalbufar](#) was a vineyard during the Middle Ages which used an elaborate system of terraced aquaducts, walls and stones used for irrigation of the fields.





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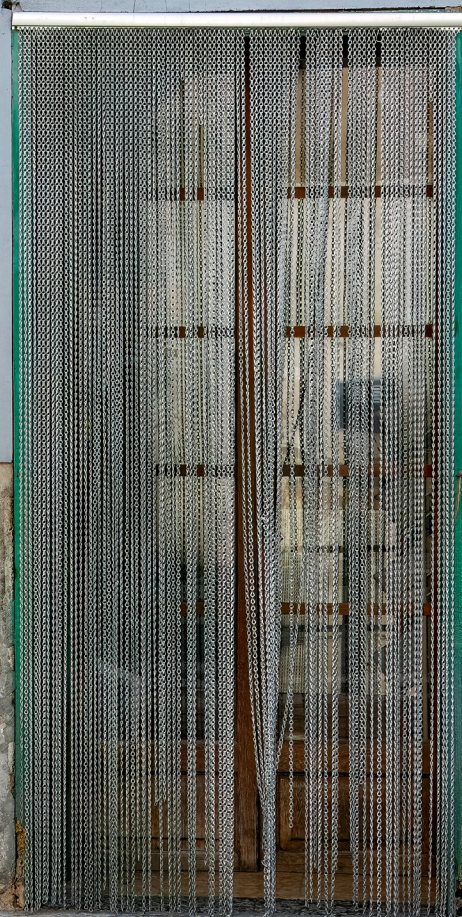
Productos
Naturales y Artesanos

Shop - Geschäft

Refrescos y vinos



5













Banyalbufar was a vineyard during the Middle Ages which used an elaborate system of terraced aqueducts, walls and stones used for irrigation of the fields.









The pretty village of [Valldemossa](#) has many unique shops which make it a delight to visit.



The pretty village of Valldemossa has many unique shops which make it a delight to visit. It was also a residence of [Chopin](#).

























The mountain village of [Fornalutx](#) is high up the Tramuntana mountain range overlooking the Sóller valley. The village is referred to as the 'Prettiest village in Spain'. Stone buildings and red tiled roofs combine with the surrounding orange and lemon groves to provide a very picturesque charm.





As with many of the Mallorcan towns, the old town was established first and then the port access for the town, [Port de Sóller](#).



This port has a scenic harbor surrounded by the mountains.



















The 1912 [church of Sant Bartomeu](#) (Saint Bartholomew) in the town of [Sóller](#) is the dominant highlight.



One of the spots we visited along the southern coastline of Mallorca was a town called [Colonia Sant Jordi](#). The surrounding countryside was very picturesque.







The views from the beaches with the waves crashing on the rocky coastline made for some fun photos.





These and the following pictures were taken from the area near Colonia Sant Jordi.











The photo above was typical of the farmland countryside throughout Mallorca, with groves of olive, almond, and lemon tree. Many sheep freely roamed within these groves. It was fun to hear the bells clanging around the necks of so many sheep!



The views from the beaches with the waves crashing on the rocky coastline the southern most point of Mallorca called [Cap de Sea Salines](#). There is a lighthouse and wonderful views of the archipelago islands of the [National Maritime Park of Cabrera](#).



My Artistic Mission

Child-like wonder and inquisitiveness

are qualities frequently put aside once we become adults. We tend to slowly become sterilized by our right-or-wrong kind of world which too often has too little time to explore the what-if's and the what-could-be's. I believe we all need to re-connect with these qualities to re-enrich our lives. A first glance at a photograph of an onion often reveals the fact that, indeed, it is an onion. But what also lies beneath its surface? We won't know until we peel back its layers.

Animation innovator, Walt Disney, recognized this and tried to bring back the power and importance of imagination. Inspired by his spirit, my mission therefore is to encourage the use of viewer imagination. My work attempts to explore and suggest what often lies hidden within the personalities and mysteries present in the world that was, and the world that is around us.

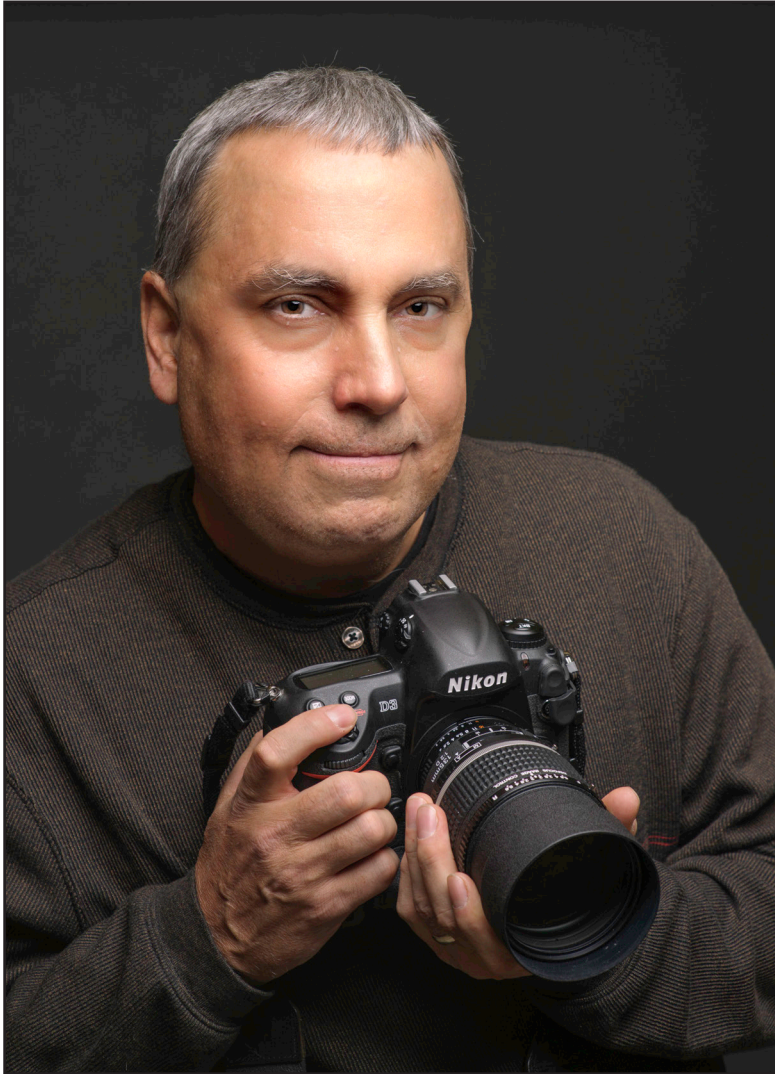
For me, my photography often is not so much about the decisive moment. Rather, it is about creating an awareness of place and a sense of history, with an aura of mystery. It is the starting point for my artistic journey, not the destination. I try to use what I produce

as personal metaphors for my reactions to what I saw and felt. My favorite motivational quote is that "Life begins at the edge of your comfort zone." My works attempt to reflect this as I probe the emotional, mind's eye after-image that was captured by both the eye and the heart, and which often defies logical explanation by the mind.

My goal is that my projects will serve as a springboard into inventiveness and exploration with the hopes of awakening my viewer's inner child. I try hard to show the connections and implications of things that others may not readily see. My hope is that my work may also help viewers discover the beginnings of their attempt to understand and perhaps even learn to tolerate and sympathize with the human condition and the world in which we live. I will try to do whatever I can to make viewers linger longer in front of my works so as to ignite their imaginative response through discovery and inquisitiveness.

Any image found within this book or on my website is available as a print purchase. Just email me at jerrygrasso96@yahoo.com, or visit my website at jerrygrasso.com.

Enjoy life!



JERRY GRASSO has been an award-winning, international fine art photographer and visual artist since 2002. He has mentored locally with photographer, [Mallorie Ostrowitz](#), and then with internationally-renowned visual artist, [John Paul Caponigro](#). Photography is only the starting point for many of his projects. His favorite motivational quote is that “Life begins at the edge of your comfort zone.”

In addition to his travel photography, Jerry specializes in the intimately abstracted architectural photography, the photo essay, and the photo composite series.

Jerry’s mission is to awaken his viewer’s inquisitive inner child by creating an awareness of place and a sense of history, with an aura of mystery.



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