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I'm a Mallorca regular and autumn is my favourite time to go

• NEW

Fewer crowds, kinder temperatures, the lures of harvest season and a new luxury hotel on the southwest coast — here's why to visit the island now

Your final stop is just a five-minute drive from the hotel. Puerto Portals has a yacht scene to rival St Tropez and is a great spot for people-watching and romantic evening strolls along the marina. It also has some brilliant restaurants including Yara, one of the hottest recent openings on the island, where the chef Simon Petutschnig creates his special brand of Asian-Mediterranean fusion food (mains from £24; yarapuertoportals.com). I spent my last evening here, gazing at the sun setting over the marina, tucking into bright-red Mediterranean red tuna sashimi and a perfectly grilled Spanish-raised wagyu beef tomahawk steak, sipping an exceptional sauvignon blanc from the Mallorcan Montesion Wine Estate — and wondering if it might be time to get more familiar with the works of Pliny the Elder.

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