

YOUR FULL FIVE-DAY WEATHER FORECAST: See Inside

Spain's Iberia asks public to pick summer destination

Majorca Daily Bulletin

Saturday, April 17 2021

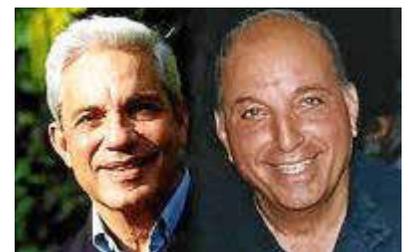
1.20€ · Founded 1962 · N.17503 · Passeig de Mallorca 9 A, Palma 07011

Spanish airline Iberia will let social media users choose an additional destination for its summer flights, the company said, as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to shroud air traffic forecasts and schedules in deep uncertainty. IAG-owned Iberia has so far announced 112 summer destinations and yesterday invited the public to pick another from seven options:

Ljubljana in Slovenia; Bastia in France; three Greek cities; Portugal's the Azores; or Fez in Morocco. The unusual move underscores the uncertainties surrounding the peak season, with the European Commission promising a digital vaccine passport in time to save the summer, but tourism-dependent economies fearing a repeat of last year's weak business. As early-bird bookings give way to last-minute

deals, travel firms are looking for creative ways to reassure passengers and gauge interest as they struggle to plan schedules. Spain and France are among countries that have increased travel restrictions and postponed key immunisation milestones in response to spreading virus variants and disruption to vaccine campaigns, further blurring the outlook for an already battered airline sector.

Billionaire British brothers in Majorca spending spree

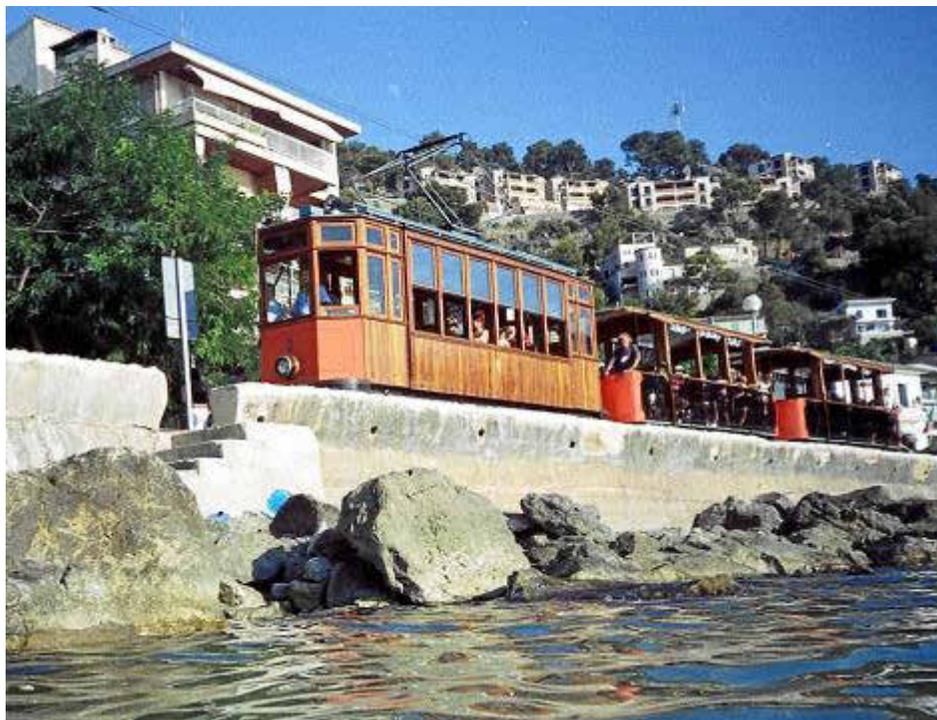


British billionaire brothers, David and Simon Reuben have spent part of their reported 16 billion pound fortune on buy-

ing two plots of land in Andratx and Pollensa. The first plot is around 165 hectares and is close to Pollensa with 3.5km of sea frontage, whilst the second one is

270 hectares close to Andratx also with 3.5km of sea frontage. The new deals take the brother's land holding on the island to about 1,335 hectares. The two

brothers have also made investments in Ibiza. The *Sunday Times* reported last year that the Reubens are Britain's second richest family.



109 years young and still going strong: See Inside Today

Madrid may shut down mass vaccination centres unless more shots arrive

A shortage of coronavirus shots may force the Madrid region to close down mass vaccination centres next week, the regional public health chief said yesterday, as infections in the Spanish capital outpace the national average. Madrid, whose administration has long been at loggerheads with the central government on the pandemic response, administers around 275,000 shots per week, but is due to receive just 157,900 doses of the Pfizer and BioNTech vaccine next week, Antonio Zapatero told reporters.

"If this situation continues we'll have to close the mass vaccination centres,"

he said. "Without vaccines, there is no point in having such a big operation." A health ministry spokeswoman said batches of AstraZeneca and Moderna vaccines due next week should avoid any such situations.

Health officials in the northeastern region of Catalonia, which is yet to start mass vaccinations at large venues, said the pace of its inoculation campaign depended on deliv-

eries and called for a larger number of Astrazeneca shots.

Like other European cities, Madrid has converted big venues such as Atletico Madrid's Wanda football stadium into injection points in an effort to speed up a sluggish vaccination campaign.

But senior Madrid health official Elena Andradas complained the region had been receiving less than its fair share.

