
Nice things about Spain

Posted by Mighty Mudhsuden - 08-05-2008 14:22

- paella
 - you can get 24 beers for about a Euro in some supermarkets there
 - chorizo
 - la sagrada familia in Barcelona is very pretty from the outside
- =====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Wyatt Earp - 08-05-2008 18:17

tapas
building of democracy on embers of vile fascist dictatorship
child-friendly (now let's see you support them, SR)
the Alhambra
their crisps
their oranges
their tomatoes
their ham
their seafood
that salty sheep's milk cheese
the fact that it's the best country on Earth, and that nobody can seriously dispute this

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Tony C - 08-05-2008 18:28

That they are even more reliably useless at big football tournaments than England.

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Spearmint Rhino - 08-05-2008 18:30

Wyatt Earp wrote:

tapas
building of democracy on embers of vile fascist dictatorship
child-friendly (now let's see you support them, SR)
the Alhambra
their crisps
their oranges
their tomatoes
their ham
their seafood
that salty sheep's milk cheese
the fact that it's the best country on Earth, and that nobody can seriously dispute this

Oi!

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Antonio Gramsci - 08-05-2008 18:34

...the massive re-write of several centuries of history to pretend that medieval Spain was some lovely place of religious tolerance and multi-culturalism in order to bolster their present-day Euro credentials...

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by E10 Rifle - 08-05-2008 18:38

I love Spain to bits but, after 14 years of flushing tenners down the khazi in their cause, they can fuck right off this year. I'm betting on someone else.

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Spearmint Rhino - 08-05-2008 18:39

E10 Rifle wrote:

I love Spain to bits but, after 14 years of flushing tenners down the khazi in their cause, they can fuck right off this year. I'm betting on someone else.

I'm going to flush another tenner on them, I expect.

=====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by gerontophile - 08-05-2008 18:40

they wear nice colours
they smoke in their stadia
they invented tapas (although not sure about that one)
Cesc Fabregas plays for them
they got rolled over for South Korea
Malaga is there
Picasso is a meatball
The countryside is stunning
and
everyone has a mustache (including some men)

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by hobbes - 08-05-2008 21:59

*It's often hot
*They seem to like us British, despite us invading every summer
*If you try to speak a bit of Spanish, they'll be really nice to you, even if they're Catalan
*Fernando Torres, Xabi Alonso, Pepe Reina, Sanz Luis Garcia, Rafa Benitez
*Chorizo
*Patatas Bravas
*Aguila, San Miguel
*Andalucia

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by erwin - 08-05-2008 22:17

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Asunción
Juana

Mahou
Bocadillo de jamón
Lots of other things, naturally
My mate Miguel
and
He swears by Casillas

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Wyatt Earp - 09-05-2008 10:10

This praise for Spanish beer has got to stop, mind. It's swill. Even San Miguel 1516 seems to have gone downhill recently. That's why everyone's second team, at least, has got to be the Czech Republic.

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by You never take Gibraltar - 10-05-2008 13:48

Comedy defending to long balls bouncing in their area?

Can't comment on the cerveza connoisseur stakes, but after two or three Staropramens I'll support anybody.

PS Morning Gonzo ;)

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Tony C - 10-05-2008 13:55

"If you try to speak a bit of Spanish, they'll be really nice to you..."

Yes, that's a trademark Spanish characteristic in my experience, as recent visits to Valencia and Seville bore out.

I don't know if we were just lucky or it's a recognised regional trait but we have never been anywhere in the world with friendlier locals than Seville.

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by dances with sheep - 10-05-2008 14:57

San Sebastian is the loveliest town I have ever been to.

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Jorge Porbillas - 13-05-2008 19:25

dances with sheep wrote:

San Sebastian is the loveliest town I have ever been to.

But that's not in Spain

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by The_Liquidator - 14-05-2008 00:07

Rubbish things about Spain;

- * Barcelona
 - * Real Madrid
 - * Raul
 - * Liverpool
 - * The fact it's riven with deep-seated regional hatreds and that no-one considers themselves Spanish, or speaks the goddamn language.
 - * Their beer
 - * English tourists and second homers.
 - * Their national team, who are jelly-spined chokers that only Arsene Wenger could love.
- =====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by imp - 14-05-2008 00:56

The siesta - how civilized is that? I'm pretty much good for nothing between 1 and 4pm and would much rather live in a culture where I could have a fat lunch and sleep it off before spending the rest of the day in a rejuvenated state.

A bit of an anarchist tradition.

Bethesda Over 35s' goalie 'Toro', who's a great bloke (and keeper) despite believing that Franco made the trains run on time.

Flamenco.

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by chasbo - 14-05-2008 14:37

Nice things:

- * The Neptune Bar in Puerto Pollensa
 - * Ivan Campo (ok, he is Basque)
 - * The 'Vamos Sevilla' song
 - * Watching Sevilla play at home (football and atmosphere) Only watched on TV, must be awesome live
 - * Cruzcampo beer
 - * The noise Spanish crowds make after a near miss - hooiii!!
- =====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by King Mob - 14-05-2008 14:53

The fact that I spread a little bit of Spain on my toast every morning. How many countries can you say that about?

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by loose cannon - 14-05-2008 15:15

Fat bottomed girls - woo hoo.

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by And I am the Life - 14-05-2008 15:19

* The fact it's riven with deep-seated regional hatreds and that no-one considers themselves Spanish, or speaks the goddamn language.

heh, you should go to manchester or liverpool sometime.

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by stefan - 14-05-2008 16:16

Girona Airport, which makes it so easy to go to southern France

=====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Lodzubelieveit - 14-05-2008 17:26

Hi chasbo - good to welcome a new sevellista! I was a season ticket holder at the Sanchez Pizjuan for a few years either side of their last promotion, and indeed it was a great place to watch football. The Sevilla-Betis derbies in particular were electric stuff ... Enjoy the following: El himno delcentenario ... the hated Don Manuel, something a bit more mellow, the traditional anthem and remembering Antonio Puerta ...

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by chasbo - 14-05-2008 17:40

Thanks for the links - the traditional anthem is a jaunty little number! Must confess i am a bit of a La Liga tart. My affections are shared between Atletico and Sevilla plus a few longing looks towards Bilbao.

The Pizjuan looks to be a magical place to watch football, a far cry from the sterile Premier league experience. A lusty rendition of vamos mi sevilla is probably one of the best chants you can hear

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Eggchaser - 14-05-2008 19:33

Sorry, Spain lovers, but all of the good stuff is washed away by that balding bastard who flogs holiday homes in that bloody awful advert they always run on Sky, leering at us from a backdrop of swimming pools, golf courses and huge villa complexes. Git.

=====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by SpanglyPrincess - 14-05-2008 22:26

" The fact it's riven with deep-seated regional hatreds and that no-one considers themselves Spanish, or speaks the goddamn language."

um... Liq... you might want to think a bit about the country you're shortly to be moving to, in this regard?

=====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Lyra - 14-05-2008 22:33

The trouble with Spain

It's boiling bastard hot
They have no concept of vegetarianism

It's a shame cos so many bits of it look so pretty, but I couldn't exist in those temperatures.

=====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by ursus arctos - 14-05-2008 22:44

You could try Galicia or the Basque Country for the heat (assuming you don't mind rain).

You don't eat cheese, do you? That's a rather more serious problem.

PS to Spangles: thanks for telling him; I couldn't bring myself to do so.

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Wyatt Earp - 14-05-2008 22:46

Lyra wrote:

It's boiling bastard hot. Not for most of the year. In fact, the middle bit gets well brass-monkeys in the winter.

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Wyatt Earp - 14-05-2008 22:53

True about the vegetarian thing, though. Ad hoc's lived there, and he must have coped--though he was in Valencia, I think, where at least they do eat a lot of (very good) veg, and can probably leave the meat out if you ask nicely.

Other bits of Spain: not so good. Andalucians are only interested in veg they can put in cold soup, and as for Castilians, they seem to occasionally use them to add flavour to their beloved roast tiny-baby-animal limbs, but otherwise not really bother.

=====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Lodzubelieveit - 14-05-2008 22:54

It always vaguely mystifies me when people go on about the temperature in places as a reason not to live there ... I'm sure others can top this, but my personal extremes are (1) 47C in a Seville summer - solution = walk slowly in the shade and shower a couple more times a day ... (2) -30C in a Lodz winter - solution = wrap up well and don't leave any food near the window ... No problem ...

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Bombanero - 14-05-2008 23:10

Why wouldn't you leave food near the window when it's really cold?

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Lodzubelieveit - 14-05-2008 23:14

It freezes

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Bombanero - 14-05-2008 23:53

What are polish windows made of? How many sheets of glass? I didn't conduct exhaustive testing when it was that cold here, but it didn't feel like anywhere inside the flat was below freezing.

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by ursus arctos - 15-05-2008 07:55

Not to interfere with a football-related post, but do any of our resident Spaniards have some background on Bojan's apparent request to Aragones that he not be included in the Euro squad for "personal reasons"?

Has Raul paid him off?

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Lodzubelieveit - 15-05-2008 08:30

Apparently, they are reporting that Bojan asked not to be selected, alleging personal problems, ie anxiety attacks. Curious that it should happen to him and also Jesus Navas. The other thing with Bojan is that I think he's still eligible for Serbia ...

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by ursus arctos - 15-05-2008 09:14

The latter is what I was wondering about.

Bojan has played several times for Spain U-21, but never been in a full Spanish squad (and, I think, is therefore eligible to switch countries). Aragones called him up once, but he was injured at the time.

There's definitely something going on here.

=====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by The_Liquidator - 15-05-2008 10:08

um... Liq... you might want to think a bit about the country you're shortly to be moving to, in this regard?

Yes dear, I' not moving to Italy for the politics.

=====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Felicity, I guess so - 15-05-2008 14:23

Sorry, Spain lovers, but all of the good stuff is washed away by that balding bastard who flogs holiday homes in that bloody awful advert they always run on Sky, leering at us from a backdrop of swimming pools, golf courses and huge villa complexes. Git.

Yes, but he's a git in deep shit, as the half-built complex that used to be advertised by Jack Nicklaus is now touted in his increasingly desperate/discounted ads, as Spain's credit crunch hit at least 6 months before 'ours'.

I've got a brilliant anti-property speculators poster from Murcia with him caricatured as Mr Burns

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by SamLKelly - 18-05-2008 03:57

The only major problem I've got with Spain is that the customer service - waiters, people in bus and train stations, at tourist sights, everywhere - is absolutely fucking appalling to the extent where you're often not sure whether to burst out laughing, or start hitting people. Hungarians are spectacularly bad at it, but the Spanish really are something else entirely.

And bear in mind that I speak the language pretty well.

Good things about it (I'm illustrating my list, hope no-one minds. If you do mind... just don't click the links. Simple.):

- I like the regions / nations business. Of course I would say that, having Catalán cousins
- Beautiful women who, unlike the ones in England, will stare at you all the way down the street if you're six feet tall and have blond hair
- The language (although the Andaluz accent is noticeably more pleasant than, in particular, the Madrileño, to an Argentine-speaker)
- The price of everything, especially in Salamanca
- Patatas bravas
- Barcelona
- Valencia
- Seville
- Granada as a whole, not just the Alhambra
- The Mezquita in Córdoba
- Salamanca
- The ease and price of getting tickets to watch top-flight football
- Lionel Messi (he's not Spanish, sure, but he plays there)
- The toy soldier museum in Valencia
- Don Quixote
- Lorca
- The Palacios Reales in Madrid, which really are stunning, much as I only went inside because I had nothing else to do on a Sunday afternoon
- The Prado and the Reina Sofia art museums

And, more than anything else:

- Cádiz
- =====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by ad hoc - 18-05-2008 08:10

It's easy to be vegetarian in Spain. In addition to the various tapas/racions which are veggie, the cheaper "worker" restaurants have loads of options (including various things involving chick peas or lentils). If all else fails you go tell them

you have a problem with your liver and that your doctor told you not to touch any meat, and they will rustle up a delicious plate of veg and various sundries (this trick also applies in Portugal - in other countries you just have to work out which is the organ-which-everyone-worries-about and substitute it - in France for example it is the kidneys)

In cities with sizeable tourist populations (Madrid, Barcelona, etc) you can always get a vegetarian paella too, which may not be authentic, but is delicious. Plus of course, you can always eat north African food and falafel and the like.

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Rogin the Armchair Fan - 18-05-2008 08:18

Those little raffia donkeys wearing straw hats

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Lodzubelieveit - 18-05-2008 11:14

Marca's front cover today is rather interesting - the Finals squad done up in 1808-14 Spanish military gear, reflecting what part of the country they're from (except for British Cesc and Portuguese Senna) ...

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by mnb098mnb - 18-05-2008 21:57

http://www.footballshirtculture.com/images/stories/fsc05/spain-3rd-08-09-shirt-euro_2008.jpg

An allegedly leaked third kit for Spain from the everyone's favourite kit-fetish site: footballshirtculture.

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by TonTon - 18-05-2008 22:04

Spain's great. I mean, yeah, it's too hot when it's too hot, but lots of places are, and what with climate change, you ain't gonna get away from that really. And they have chorizo, which is one of the greatest things in the world ever. And double-decker trains. What more could anyone want?

Oh yeah, the greatest festival of all time, being the rather wonderfully amazing Fallas in Valencia. A city with its own song. And Princess Leia costume. I mean, really...

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by gerontofiel - 18-05-2008 22:56

I WANT THAT SHIRT.

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Mighty Mudhsuden - 19-05-2008 11:49

A thread I started has reached three pages. I'm so chuffed.

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by The Moral Animal - 19-05-2008 16:53

That's a lovely shirt.

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Rogin the Armchair Fan - 19-05-2008 17:04

That shirt is very nice indeed.

=====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Tactical Genius - 26-05-2008 17:54

Racist manager, monkey chanting fans.

Hope they lose.

=====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Lodzubelievit - 26-05-2008 19:49

Racist manager, monkey chanting fans, 'Spanish Liverpool', no Arteta, childish whingeing press.

Hope they lose.

=====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Tactical Genius - 26-05-2008 23:17

Plus the women aint all that either, massively overrated.

=====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Eggchaser - 27-05-2008 11:17

Felicity, I guess so wrote:

Sorry, Spain lovers, but all of the good stuff is washed away by that balding bastard who flogs holiday homes in that bloody awful advert they always run on Sky, leering at us from a backdrop of swimming pools, golf courses and huge villa complexes. Git.

Yes, but he's a git in deep shit, as the half-built complex that used to be advertised by Jack Nicklaus is now touted in his increasingly desperate/discounted ads, as Spain's credit crunch hit at least 6 months before 'ours'.

I've got a brilliant anti-property speculators poster from Murcia with him charicatured as Mr Burns

There may be a God after all. I'd also love to see that poster.

=====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Mighty Mudhsuden - 27-05-2008 11:53

Tactical Genius wrote:

Plus the women aint all that either, massively overrated.

<http://www.hollywood-celebrity-pictures.com/Celebrities/Penelope-Cruz/Penelope-Cruz-9.JPG>

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Tactical Genius - 29-05-2008 08:38

She is abit square-jawed for my liking.

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by blameless - 29-05-2008 13:50

Can't agree with you on the Spanish Women thing, TG (any nation which can produce the lovely Elena Anaya cannot possibly be overrated), but I'm wholeheartedly in agreement with you in wanting the team to fail as long as they've got that poisonous old bastard Aragones in charge.

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Wyatt Earp - 29-05-2008 13:53

Yeah, there is that.

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Wyatt Earp - 29-05-2008 13:56

TonTon wrote:

Spain's great. I mean, yeah, it's too hot when it's too hot, but lots of places are, and what with climate change, you ain't gonna get away from that really. And they have chorizo, which is one of the greatest things in the world ever. And double-decker trains. What more could anyone want?

Oh yeah, the greatest festival of all time, being the rather wonderfully amazing Fallas in Valencia. A city with its own song. And Princess Leia costume. I mean, really...Loads of countries have double-decker trains, man. Dead right on the chorizo though.

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by SamLKelly - 31-05-2008 18:46

Lodzubelieveit wrote:

Marca's front cover today is rather interesting - the Finals squad done up in 1808-14 Spanish military gear, reflecting what part of the country they're from (except for British Cesc and Portuguese Senna) ...

Is that really a Portugese uniform they've put on Senna?

He's Brazilian!

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Lodzubelieveit - 31-05-2008 18:48

Yeah, it was a Portuguese uniform they put on him ... A classic Marca front cover, it has to be said, despite the error with Senna ...

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by You never take Gibraltar - 31-05-2008 20:03

<http://zigalpha.net/admin/images/spain.jpg>

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by EIM - 31-05-2008 20:08

What manner of photoshop wizardry is that? It looks so, so real

=====

Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by You never take Gibraltar - 31-05-2008 20:25

Gracias senior. Y otra vez...

<http://zigalpha.net/admin/images/ronaldo.jpg>

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by rick derris - 31-05-2008 22:14

good link of spains game against peru. 1-0 currently. villa

<http://www.justin.tv/perucho320>

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Jon - 31-05-2008 23:41

With photoshopping skills like that, YNTG, it's only a matter of time before you're headhunted by Marca.

Spain won in the last minute, Capdevila making it 2-1.

This Euro 2008 mallarkey would be so much easier for them if Aragonese saw the error of his ways:

<http://www.raulseleccion.com/imagenes/portadav2.jpg>

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Rinoceronte Mentaverde - 09-06-2008 09:28

So, reporting for duty with my new themed user name for the duration of the tournament... (testing, testing)

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Re:Nice things about Spain

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 09-06-2008 09:43

That's a crap name, Duncan.

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