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Santa Cruz de Tenerife

Santa Cruz de Tenerife (commonly abbreviated as **Santa Cruz** (/ˌsæntɑːˈkruːz/, Spanish: [ˈsantaˈkruθ, -ˈkrus], locally [ˈsantaˈkru]) is a global city (with Sufficiency status) and capital (jointly with Las Palmas) of the Canary Islands, the capital of Province of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, and of the island of Tenerife. Santa Cruz has a population of 206,593 (2013) within its administrative limits.^[4] The urban zone of Santa Cruz extends beyond the city limits with a population of 507,306^[5] and 538,000^[3] within urban area. It is the second largest city in the Canary Islands and the main city on the island of Tenerife, with nearly half the island population living in or around it.

Santa Cruz is located in northeast quadrant of Tenerife, about 210 kilometres (130 mi) off the northwestern coast of Africa within the Atlantic Ocean. The distance to the nearest point of mainland Spain is about 1,300 kilometres (810 mi). Between the 1833 territorial division of Spain and 1927 Santa Cruz de Tenerife was the sole capital of the Canary Islands, until 1927 when a decree ordered that the capital of the Canary Islands be shared, as it remains at present.^{[6][7]} The port is of great importance and is the communications hub between Europe, Africa and Americas, with cruise ships arriving from many nations. The city is the focus for domestic and inter-island communications in the Canary Islands.^[8]

The city is home to the Parliament of the Canary Islands, the Canarian Ministry of the Presidency (shared on a four-year cycle with Las Palmas), one half of the Ministries and Boards of the Canarian Government, (the other half being located in Gran Canaria), the Tenerife Provincial Courts and two courts of the Superior Court of Justice of the Canary Islands. There are several faculties of the La Laguna University in Santa Cruz, including the Fine Arts School and the Naval Sciences Faculty. Its harbour is one of Spain's busiest; it comprises three sectors. It is important for commercial and passenger traffic, as well as for being a major stopover for cruisers en route from Europe to the Caribbean. The city also has one of the world's largest carnivals. The Carnival of Santa Cruz de Tenerife now aspires to become a World Heritage Site, and is the most important of Spain and the second largest in the world.^[9]

The main landmarks of the city include the Auditorio de Tenerife (Auditorium of Tenerife), the Santa Cruz Towers (Torres de Santa Cruz) and the Iglesia de la Concepción. Santa Cruz de Tenerife hosts the first headquarters of the Center UNESCO in the Canary Islands. In recent years the city of Santa Cruz de Tenerife has seen the construction of a significant number of modern structures and the city's skyline is the sixth in height across the country, only behind Madrid, Benidorm, Barcelona, Valencia and Bilbao.^[10]

In 2012, the British newspaper *The Guardian* included Santa Cruz de Tenerife in the list of the five best places in the world to live.^[11]

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Coordinates: 28°28′N 16°15′W

Santa Cruz de Tenerife	
<div>Municipality</div>	
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<div>From the top, left to right: Iglesia Matriz de la Concepción, Mercado Nuestra Señora de África, Puente Serrador, Torres de Santa Cruz, Panoramic city, Auditorio de Tenerife, Playa de Las Teresitas and Plaza de España.</div>	
<div> <div><div><div>Flag</div></div></div> <div><div><div>Coat of arms</div></div></div> </div>	
Nickname(s): "<i>La Capital Chicharrera</i>", "<i>La Capital Tinerfeña</i>", "<i>La Capital Santacruceira</i>", "<i>The Sydney of the Atlantic</i>".^[1]	
<div><div></div></div> <div><div><div><div></div><div>Santa Cruz de Tenerife</div></div></div></div>	
Coordinates: 28°28′N 16°15′W	
Country	 Spain
Autonomous community	 Canary Islands
Province	 Santa Cruz de Tenerife
Island	 Tenerife
Founded	3 May 1494, founded as " <i>Real de la Santa Cruz</i> "
Government <div></div>	
 • Alcalde	Excmo. Sr. Don José Manuel Bermúdez Esparza (CC-PNC-CCN)
Area <div>^[2]</div>	
 • Municipality	150.56 km ² (58.13 sq mi)
Elevation <div></div>	4 m (13 ft)
Population (2013) ^[4]	
 • Municipality	206,593
 • Density	1,400/km ² (3,600/sq mi)
 • Urban	538,000 ^[3]
Demonym(s)	Santacruceiro , ra Chicharrero , ra
Time zone	WET
 • Summer (DST)	WEST (UTC)
Postal code	38001-38010
Dialing code	+34 922
Language	Spanish
Website	Official website (http://www.santacruzdetenerife.es/)

See also

References

External links

Etymology

The area where Santa Cruz currently lies belonged to Menceyato Guanche *Anaga*, which was the most easterly of the island. The city that is now Santa Cruz had a few names throughout its history: **Añazo** (Guanche name), **Puerto de Santiago Santa Cruz de Tenerife**, **Santa Cruz de Santiago de Tenerife**,^[12] and **Santa Cruz de Tenerife** (current), which means: "holy cross of Tenerife," in memory of the foundation of the city, when a Christian cross was planted in the place that is now the center of town.

History

The area on which now stands the city and the municipality of Santa Cruz de Tenerife has been the subject of human occupation since the time of the Guanches, approximately 2000 years ago, as attested by the archaeological sites found. The area was known to the Guanches, the first inhabitants of the island, as *Añazo*. The famous *Mummy of San Andrés* is one of the most important archaeological remains of the aboriginal past of the region. Besides caves with some remains of mummified animals and stones with engravings ruprestres. This area belonged to the *Menceyato de Anaga* (aboriginal Guanche kingdom of Anaga), one of nine in which the island was divided.

On 3 May 1494 Castilian troops under the control of the conqueror *Alonso Fernández de Lugo* disembarked on the beaches of the present city and founded a military camp that would eventually develop into the city.^[13] From this place began the conquest of the island of Tenerife. During the foundation, Alonso Fernández de Lugo placed a large wooden cross in reference to the day of disembarkation, during the Catholic festivity of the *Invention of the Cross* (May 3). After the conquest and defeat of the Guanche aborigines, the capital of the island was initially established in the city of *San Cristóbal de La Laguna*, which was founded in the same year of the conquest of the island in 1496.^[13]

Later, it became one of the most important ports of the Atlantic and the Canary Islands, a status it retains to this day. This former fishermen's village rose to prominence after a Volcano destroyed the port of *Garachico* in the 18th century. Santa Cruz became the major port on the Island. It first won its independence from La Laguna and, in the 19th century, was awarded the status of Capital of the *Province of Canary Islands* by King *Ferdinand VII*.

Between 1833 and 1927 Santa Cruz de Tenerife was the sole capital of the Canary Islands. In 1927 a Royal *decre*e ordered that the status of capital city of the Canary Islands would be shared with Las Palmas in Gran Canaria. This arrangement remains in place today.^{[6][7]}

In recent years, it has become clear that there exists a *de facto* union with neighbouring city *San Cristóbal de La Laguna* (141,627 inhabitants as in 2005 census) due to the rapid population growth and reduction in undeveloped space between the cities, as their suburbs merged, forming a metropolitan area with 420,198 inhabitants (including the nearby municipalities of Tegueste, Candelaria and El Rosario). Regarding this situation, the mayor of Santa Cruz, *Miguel Zerolo Aguilar* and his La Laguna counterpart, Ana María Oramas Moro, both belonging to the *Canarian Coalition*, stated several times to local media that they shared a willingness to proceed to a full political union between their municipalities, even though the decision was postponed to a date after the local elections in 2007. As of 2012 the merger is no longer part of the political agenda.^[14]

Administrative divisions



Administrative divisions of Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz is divided administratively into five districts, which in turn are subdivided into districts, not necessarily consistent with the traditional neighborhoods.

No	District	Population ^[15]
1	Anaga	14,135
2	Centro-Ifara	53,652
3	La Salud-La Salle	70,120
4	Ofra-Costa Sur	47,977
5	Distrito Suroeste	41,136

Demographics

In 1990, the population peaked above the 200,000 mark. Santa Cruz de Tenerife and the city of *San Cristóbal de La Laguna* form a continuous urban area, with a combined population of over 380,000 inhabitants.^{[16][17]}

Ethnically, the population is mainly from the Spanish Peninsula, primarily from Málaga and Granada, with some mix of the island's original inhabitants, the *Guanches*. There has been some Latin American immigration (especially from Cuba and Venezuela) as well as from both Northern and Sub-Saharan Africa. There are also important historical minorities such as Indians (*Sindhi*), Koreans (see *Koreans in Spain*) and, more recently, *Russians*. The majority of the population professes the *Catholic* religion, but there are also small communities of *Hindus* and *Muslims*. In Santa Cruz de Tenerife, crime has decreased in recent years and the city has gained a reputation for tolerance among its inhabitants. In fact, Santa Cruz de Tenerife was the first city of the Canary Islands to display the *rainbow flag* alongside the flag of the City Council, in June 2008.^[18]



Map of Santa Cruz de Tenerife in 1701



Ruins of the Castle of San Cristóbal, underground of the Plaza de España



Castle of St John the Baptist, also known as *Castillo Negro*



Population



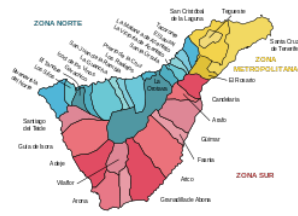
Panoramic view of city

Year	Population
1991	200,172
1996	203,787
2001	188,477
2002	217,414
2003	220,022
2004	219,466
2006	221,956
2007	220,902
2008	226,232
2013	206,593



The city as seen from San Andres' Industrial Estate, and in the background the Auditorio and the skyscrapers.

Metropolitan area



Map of Tenerife, in yellow note of Metropolitan Area

The Santa Cruz de Tenerife-La Laguna Metropolitan Area forms the second largest city and metropolitan area of the European Union outside Europe. According to data provided by the Canary Islands Government and Cabildo de Tenerife the metropolitan area of Santa Cruz de Tenerife is composed of the municipalities of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, San Cristobal de La Laguna, El Rosario and Tegueste with a population of 404,913 inhabitants in 2008, 322.13 km², and a population density of 1,156.33 inhabitants/km².^[19]

According to AUDES5 this conurbation also comprises the municipalities of Tacoronte and El Sauzal, bringing the total population of the urban population would reach 581.947 (2008).^[20]

The cities of Santa Cruz and San Cristobal de La Laguna and urban are physically linked, so that together have a population of over 382,331 inhabitants, making them the largest urban area in the Canaries (independent of municipal lines).^{[16][17][21]}

Infrastructure

As the centre of the Tenerife Metropolitan Area, Santa Cruz is the hub for the island's motorway network. The 85 km. long Autopista TF-1 links the south of the island, including Playa de las Américas and other southern resorts and towns, with its capital. The motorway itself starts near the Auditorio and gives access to Santa Cruz and La Laguna by three different routes.

Autopista TF-5 links Santa Cruz with the Puerto de la Cruz, La Orotava and the northern side of the island, passing right through La Laguna before entering Santa Cruz.

The Santa Cruz harbour is one of the busiest in Spain; three quays host regular ferries, fast ferries, cruise ships and merchant ships.

Tenerife North Airport, formerly Los Rodeos Airport, is adjacent to Autopista TF-5 on the western outskirts of the city.

The mostly tourist Tenerife South Airport, formerly Reina Sofia Airport, ranks 7th in Spain and is located next to the Autopista TF-1, 75 km. south of Santa Cruz. There are plans to link this airport to the capital with a railway network.

The Intercambiador public transport/mass transit terminal is in the Avenida 3 de Mayo, and is the hub for all TITSA bus lines, the new Tenerife Tram service, and is a major car-parking area.

The first tram line (opened in 2007) line 1, starts at the Intercambiador, and ends at La Laguna's Avenida Trinidad, with a planned extension to Tenerife North Airport A second line between La Cuesta and Tíncer opened in 2009 (connecting with Line 1 at Hospital Universitario and El Cardonal). Main article Tenerife Tram.

Cabo-Llanos (south of downtown) is the location of new expansion. This area is undergoing a major building boom which has been nicknamed "Manhattanization", where tall, modern buildings and street layouts imitate American cities.

Economy

The economy of Santa Cruz relies mainly on services. Trade, tourism, import-export, the seaport and the presence of the major political and financial institutions, as well as the most important companies, guarantee a strong economic activity and development. The building sector is important, while industry, apart from the oil refinery and food processing, is relatively minor. Santa Cruz has regenerated many areas of the city and modernised its infrastructure, built brand new areas, malls, high buildings and some charismatic structures, such as Calatrava's Auditorio or the Congress Hall, César Manrique's Marina and the not-yet-completed Óscar Domínguez Museum of Modern Art and Culture (IODACC) and the new Plaza de España layout, both by Basel-based Pritzker Prize winner studio Herzog & de Meuron. Work to renew the man-made Las Teresitas Beach is ongoing under the direction of French architect Dominique Perrault.

Cultural areas

- **Auditorio de Tenerife:** the work of Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava. Is an emblematic building of Spanish architecture. The Tenerife Auditorium stands northeast of the Marine Park. Their great sailing boat simulating has become a symbol of the city, island and archipelago.^[22] The auditorium has two rooms and a chamber symphony. It is the seat of Orquesta Sinfónica de Tenerife and it holds, among other acts, the Festival de Ópera de Tenerife, the Classical Music Festival of the Canary Islands, the Tenerife International Film Music Festival and the delivery of awards Cadena Dial.
- **Guimerá Theater:** Opened on 25 July 1851. Great 19th century building located in the central street of Angel Guimerá, is the oldest theater in the Canary Islands.^[23]
- **Museum of Fine Arts:** This museum has, in addition to a fund with a deposit of works from the Prado Museum. Outstanding paintings by artists such as Peter Coeck, Ribera, Madrazo and Sorolla. As a fixed background, artists such as canaries Gaspar de Quevedo, Cristóbal Hernández de Quintana, and Juan Miranda González Méndez, among others.
- **Museum of Nature and Man:** history, through pictures and objects, the Guanches. There is a room where is the formation of the Canary Islands. Among the archaeological finds shown are several Guanche mummies, including two mummified fetuses. There are a lot of Guanche skulls and reproductions of works of Africa and the pre-Columbian America among many other samples. It is a museum of international reputation since it has participated in international meetings on archeology.
- **Circulo de Bellas Artes:** Founded in 1926 and based in Castle Street 43, is a cultural center that program of events, such as art exhibitions of painting and photography in the courtroom on the ground floor, directly accessible from the street. It has a cafeteria on the first floor.
- **Espacio Cultural El Tanque:** In 1997 a former container tank at the refinery, there becomes exhibitions, dance and audio, alternative music, theater, classical music, new technologies and multimedia, among other productions.



Auditorio de Tenerife, icon of architecture in Canary Islands

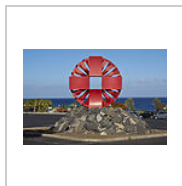


Autopista TF-5 passing by the Guajara Commercial Area and the Central Campus

- **Centro de Fotografía Isla de Tenerife:** It has areas suitable for exhibition and study of traditional and contemporary photography.
- **The Art Room Recova:** The Recova the Art Room is located in the old market town. Do not have a permanent collection, but are rotating exhibitions throughout the year.
- **TEA – Tenerife Espacio de las Artes:** work of Herzog & de Meuron opened in 2008.

Urban sculptures

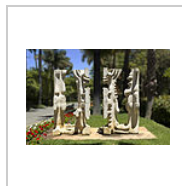
The city contains many pieces of sculpture, as well as the Exhibition of Outdoor Sculpture in Santa Cruz de Tenerife. Situated along the Ramblas and the Parque Garcia Sanabria, the exhibition contains works by artists such as Henry Moore, Andreu Alfaro, Martin Chirino, Joan Miró and Oscar Domínguez, among others.



Sol Rojo by Edgar Negret



Homenaje a Millares by Claude Viseux



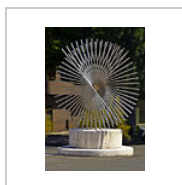
Sin título by Federico Assler



Monumento al Gato by Óscar Domínguez



Femme Bouteille by Joan Miró



Sin título by Andreu Alfaro



Statues in the entrance of the Masonic Temple of Santa Cruz de Tenerife



Museo de la Naturaleza y el Hombre



Plaza de España



Iglesia de la Concepción (Church of Concepción)

Cultural events

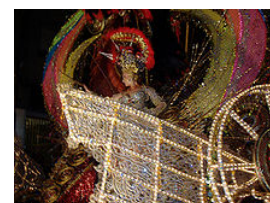
- Festival de Música Clásica de Canarias.
- Festival de Ópera de Tenerife.
- Tenerife International Film Music Festival
- Festival de Zarzuela de Canarias.
- Festival Santa Blues de Tenerife.
- Plátano Rock Festival.
- MUMES. Mestizo Music Festival.
- Festival de Salsa del Atlántico.
- Carnival of Santa Cruz de Tenerife
- Día de la Cruz
- Rock Coast Festival
- Premios Cadena Dial

Nightlife

Santa Cruz has not been characterized by an intense night life, in contrast to the nearby university town of La Laguna. Nevertheless, there are several clubs and pubs spread across the city. The best known are in the Parque Marítimo César Manrique, 3 May Avenue and back, and in La Noria street Residencial Anaga. Moreover, in the area of Industrial Mayorazgo, three new clubs have opened. There are also pubs that have survived without belonging to a particular location for leisure, as the platform, near the Bullring, which opened its doors in 1991.

It has recently gained importance as a leisure street Antonio Dominguez Alfonso (popularly known as Calle La Noria) and adjacent in the vicinity of the Church of the Conception. After several years of neglect, all the houses in this area has been recovered by the local hotel as tapas, light dinner and drinks. This street also hosts the headquarters of several murgas, music groups linked to Carnival, and independent organ of Events and Recreation.

Popularly known as the Avenida de Anaga (as known to all roads adjacent to the port) is in his section of Avenida Francisco la Roche a classic dinner and drinks first. During the 90s was the nerve center of nightlife, the best known local focus of the city. Although many of them closed down because of licenses and noise, attempt to regain its glory today. To that end, the City will undertake various initiatives through 2009.



Queen of the Carnival of Santa Cruz de Tenerife. This carnival is one of the largest in the world.

In 2007, as decided by the City Council and managed by the Society for Development, is set in motion an ambitious plan for revitalization of the city under the brand name "Santa Cruz + Viva ", in accordance with [Cabildo Insular de Tenerife](#) and [Government of the Canary Islands](#).^[24]

Media

In Santa Cruz de Tenerife have drafted the three provincial newspapers (*Diario de Avisos*, *La Opinión de Tenerife* and *El Día*), as well as editors of newspapers regional *La Gaceta de Canarias*. Also located in the city the headquarters of various TV channels, most of which broadcast on the island: [Spanish Television](#) in the Canary Islands, [Television Canaria](#), [Antena 3 TV Canary Islands](#), [Television Day](#), [Canal 7 Atlantic](#), [Channel 4 Tenerife](#), [Channel 8](#), etc. Most radio stations are also located in the city. [Radio Club Tenerife](#) (Cadena SER), [RNE](#), [Teide Radio-Onda Cero](#), [Radio Day](#), [Radio ECCA](#) etc.. In the city is the headquarters of the [TV Canaria](#).

Tourist sites

- Auditorio de Tenerife** (Auditorium of Tenerife): Designed by [Santiago Calatrava](#), the Auditorium of Tenerife was constructed in 2003. The building has an organic and famous structure in the shape of 'sails' with white blue rollers. The auditorium has a big room for concerts, a room for opera and other smaller rooms. It is an emblem of the city and is one of the more photographed buildings. This building is in the [Port of Santa Cruz de Tenerife](#) close to the sea. It was inaugurated on 26 September 2003 with the presence of [Felipe de Borbón](#), Prince of Asturias, and was also visited by former U.S. President [Bill Clinton](#). The profile of the famous and majestic auditorium has become a symbol of the city of Santa Cruz de Tenerife. It is one of the main attractions of Tenerife and the Canary Islands.
- Torres de Santa Cruz** (Towers of Santa Cruz): Twin towers finished in 2006 are the highest skyscrapers of the city and the Canary Islands, was the tallest residential building in Spain until 2010. The Torres de Santa Cruz are also the tallest twin towers in Spain.
- Plaza de España** (Spain Square): is the largest square in the city of Santa Cruz de Tenerife and the Canary Islands. The square is located in the center of town, just meters north of the [Auditorio de Tenerife](#). It is the heart of the city, stands the great artificial lake source or work of [Swiss architects Herzog & de Meuron](#).
- Tenerife Espacio de las Artes** (Tenerife Space of Arts – TEA): Building designed by the Swiss firm of architects [Herzog & de Meuron](#) and directed by the Canary architect [Virgilio Gutierrez Herreros](#). The building houses the contemporary museum [Óscar Domínguez Institute](#), the [Alejandro Cioranescu Island Library](#) and the [Center for Photography Island of Tenerife](#). In addition, the property has a hall, a restaurant, a shop, a public plaza, offices.
- Parque García Sanabria**: is a public urban park in the heart of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, it was inaugurated in 1926. It is a large garden area, combined with fountains and architectural groups. It is the largest urban park in the Canary Islands. It has an area of 67,230 m² (723,658 sq ft).
- Centro Internacional de Ferias y Congresos de Tenerife** (Tenerife International Centre for Trade Fairs and Congresses): The complex was designed by architect and engineer [Santiago Calatrava](#) is configured as a multipurpose building that can host major fairs, exhibitions and conferences that take place on the island of Tenerife. The [Great Hall](#), located on the top floor, took a total of 12,000 square meters, making it the largest covered space in the Canary Islands.
- Playa de Las Teresitas**: is a beach in the village of [San Andrés](#) municipality of Santa Cruz de Tenerife. It is one of the most important beaches of the Tenerife and the Canary Islands.
- Museo de la Naturaleza y el Hombre** (Museum of Nature and Man) is a museum of archeology and biology that has participated in international meetings on archeology, but his fame is mainly due to its formidable collection of [Guanche mummies](#). For this reason, the Museum of Nature and Man is a world reference in regard to preservation of mummies.^[25]
- Masonic Temple of Santa Cruz de Tenerife**: Is a masonic temple located in the on San Lucas street. It is considered the finest example of Masonic Temple in Spain.^[26] Similarly was even greater in Spain Masonic Center before it was occupied by [Franco's military](#).^[27]



Tenerife Opera House (Auditorio de Tenerife)



Torres de Santa Cruz (Santa Cruz Towers), the tallest twin towers in Spain

Naval history

Due to the strategic location of Tenerife on the route between the Mediterranean and the Americas, it was attacked a number of times by the English and the Dutch. In particular, Santa Cruz Bay was the scene of two notable naval engagements involving two of the most famous British admirals.

In 1656, Admiral [Robert Blake](#) totally destroyed a Spanish silver fleet of 16 ships for the loss of none of his own, despite being under fire from shore batteries and attacking and withdrawing on the tide. 50 years later, the British under [John Jennings](#) were defeated when they attacked the island on 6 November 1706 during the [War of the Spanish Succession](#).

In 1797 Admiral [Horatio Nelson](#) met with bloody defeat in an attempt to storm the harbour. It was at this battle that Nelson lost his right arm having been hit before he had stepped off the ship's boat. It was on Santiago's day and that is the reason for having Santiago's sword cutting the lion's head as a symbol of the British defeat.

Symbols of Santa Cruz de Tenerife

Seal

The seal of Santa Cruz de Tenerife has the characteristic features of the Loyal, Noble, Invicta and very beneficial Town, Port and Plaza de Santa Cruz de Santiago de Tenerife. Curiously, it is not square or shield-shaped, but oval. In a blue background with anchors and castles have a green cross, the symbol of the Foundation Cross, which gave the city its name. Behind the cross is a sword of Santiago in red, reminiscent of the day in which the city of Santiago defeated [Horatio Nelson](#). Under this sword are three lion heads facing right (the shield), which symbolizes the victories of the city over Nelson's English privateers, Blake and Jennings. It has castles, anchors and an island of silver. Also holds the Medal of Charity and the Crown. The crown of laurel and olive trees surrounding the shield is the symbol of victory for the city to each and every one of the attacks.



Flag

The flag of Santa Cruz de Tenerife is all white with the municipal shield in the center. Granted by Royal Warrant of King [Charles IV](#) of 28 August 1803. On a white cloth, coat of arms of the city. The white, the characteristic of the [Bourbon dynasty](#), refers to fidelity to the city of Santa Cruz de Tenerife in the [Royal House of Spain](#).



Port of Santa Cruz de Tenerife

The [Port of Santa Cruz de Tenerife](#) is a fishing port, commercial, passenger and sports from the city of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, capital of the island, located in the Atlantic Ocean. It is managed by the Port Authority of Santa Cruz de Tenerife.

It is the first fishing port in the [Canary Islands](#) with approximately 7,500 tons of fish caught, according to the Statistical Yearbook of the State Ports 2006 (the latest of which is changing). Following this report is the largest port number of passengers recorded.

Climate

Santa Cruz has a tropical semi-arid climate (Köppen climate classification *BSh*), with less precipitation in the summer than in the winter. Its average annual temperature is 25 °C (77 °F) during the day and 18 °C (64 °F) at night. In the coolest month – January, the typical day temperature ranges from 19–23 °C (66–73 °F), to around 15–16 °C (59–61 °F) at night, the average sea temperature is 20 °C (68 °F). In the warmest month, August, the typical day temperature ranges from 26–32 °C (79–90 °F), to above 21 °C (70 °F) at night, whilst the average sea temperature is 23–24 °C (73–75 °F).

Sunshine hours average at 2,887 per year, from 168 in December and to 337 in July and August.^[28] Precipitation per year is only 226 millimetres (8.9 in), concentrated heavily between November and March: May to September are normally mostly dry.^[29] Precipitation patterns closely resemble those of the Mediterranean climates found in mainland Spain and up the hill in La Laguna, but generally with less precipitation during winter months.



Panoramic view of the port of Santa Cruz de Tenerife

Climate data for Santa Cruz (1981–2010), Extremes (1920–2016)													
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Record high °C (°F)	28.4 (83.1)	31.2 (88.2)	35.4 (95.7)	35.2 (95.4)	36.4 (97.5)	37.1 (98.8)	42.6 (108.7)	40.4 (104.7)	39.3 (102.7)	38.1 (100.6)	34.0 (93.2)	28.2 (82.8)	42.6 (108.7)
Mean maximum °C (°F)	22.6 (72.7)	24.3 (75.7)	24.9 (76.8)	25.0 (77)	26.3 (79.3)	28.5 (83.3)	31.1 (88)	31.4 (88.5)	29.7 (85.5)	28.0 (82.4)	26.0 (78.8)	24.1 (75.4)	31.4 (88.5)
Average high °C (°F)	21.0 (69.8)	21.2 (70.2)	22.1 (71.8)	22.7 (72.9)	24.1 (75.4)	26.2 (79.2)	28.7 (83.7)	29.0 (84.2)	28.1 (82.6)	26.3 (79.3)	24.1 (75.4)	22.1 (71.8)	24.6 (76.3)
Daily mean °C (°F)	18.2 (64.8)	18.3 (64.9)	19.0 (66.2)	19.7 (67.5)	21.0 (69.8)	22.9 (73.2)	25.0 (77)	25.5 (77.9)	24.9 (76.8)	23.4 (74.1)	21.3 (70.3)	19.4 (66.9)	21.5 (70.7)
Average low °C (°F)	15.4 (59.7)	15.3 (59.5)	15.9 (60.6)	16.5 (61.7)	17.8 (64)	19.5 (67.1)	21.2 (70.2)	21.9 (71.4)	21.7 (71.1)	20.3 (68.5)	18.4 (65.1)	16.6 (61.9)	18.4 (65.1)
Mean minimum °C (°F)	14.2 (57.6)	14.0 (57.2)	14.8 (58.6)	15.2 (59.4)	16.4 (61.5)	18.2 (64.8)	19.8 (67.6)	20.6 (69.1)	20.3 (68.5)	18.9 (66)	16.3 (61.3)	15.3 (59.5)	14.0 (57.2)
Record low °C (°F)	9.4 (48.9)	8.1 (46.6)	9.5 (49.1)	9.7 (49.5)	12.0 (53.6)	13.4 (56.1)	16.5 (61.7)	17.0 (62.6)	16.8 (62.2)	14.6 (58.3)	10.1 (50.2)	10.0 (50)	8.1 (46.6)
Average rainfall mm (inches)	31.5 (1.24)	35.4 (1.394)	37.8 (1.488)	11.6 (0.457)	3.6 (0.142)	0.9 (0.035)	0.1 (0.004)	2.0 (0.079)	6.8 (0.268)	18.7 (0.736)	34.1 (1.343)	43.2 (1.701)	225.7 (8.887)
Average rainy days (≥ 1.0 mm)	4.2	3.8	3.8	2.4	0.9	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.9	3.1	4.7	5.4	29.7
Average relative humidity (%) (daily average)	64	63	62	61	61	61	58	61	65	65	64	67	63
Mean monthly sunshine hours	178	186	221	237	282	306	337	319	253	222	178	168	2,913
Percent possible sunshine	52	60	59	61	65	73	78	79	70	65	54	54	64
Source #1: Agencia Estatal de Meteorología ^{[30][31]}													
Source #2: Weatherbase, ^[32] Weather Atlas (possible sunshine) ^[33]													

Climate data for Santa Cruz de Tenerife													
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Average sea temperature °C (°F)	20.1 (68.3)	19.4 (66.8)	19.3 (66.7)	19.5 (67.2)	20.1 (68.3)	21.1 (70.1)	22.0 (71.5)	22.8 (73.1)	23.7 (74.6)	23.6 (74.4)	22.3 (72.1)	20.8 (69.4)	21.2 (70.2)
Mean daily daylight hours	11.0	11.0	12.0	13.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	13.0	12.0	11.0	11.0	10.0	12.2
Average Ultraviolet index	4	6	8	9	10	11	11	11	9	7	5	4	7.9
Source: seatemperature.org (sea temperature) ^[34]													
Source: Weather Atlas ^[33]													

Carnival

During the Carnival of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, thousands of people take to the streets each year for over a week. On 18 January 1980 it was declared a Fiesta of International Tourist Interest by the Secretary of State for Tourism, and is one of the world's largest carnivals.^{[35][36]} At present, the Carnival of Santa Cruz hopes to become a World Heritage Site.^[9]

Sites of interest

Attractions

- Calle de la Noria
- Macizo de Anaga
 - Iguste de San Andrés
 - Taganana
 - San Andrés

- [Palmetum of Santa Cruz de Tenerife](#)
- [Museo de la Naturaleza y el Hombre](#)
- [Parque Marítimo César Manrique](#)
- [Playa de Las Teresitas](#)
- [Auditorio de Tenerife](#)
- [Teatro Guimerá](#)
- [Museo Municipal de Bellas Artes de Santa Cruz de Tenerife](#)
- [Palacio Insular de Tenerife](#)
- [Casa del Carnaval](#) (*Carnival House of Santa Cruz de Tenerife*)

Skyscrapers

- [Torres de Santa Cruz](#)
- [Rascacielos de la avenida Tres de Mayo](#)
- [Edificio Olimpo](#)
- [Edificio Juan Amador](#)

Parks and squares

- [Parque García Sanabria](#)
- [Parque de La Granja](#)
- [Plaza de 25 de julio](#) (de los Patos)
- [Plaza de España](#)
- [Plaza de la Candelaria](#)
- [Plaza del Príncipe](#)
- [Plaza de Weyler](#)
- [Plaza del Chicharro](#)

Churches and historical monuments

- [Iglesia de La Concepción](#) (church)
- [Iglesia de San Francisco de Asís](#) (church)
- [Iglesia de Nuestra Señora del Pilar](#) (church)
- [Iglesia de San José](#) (church)
- [Cabildo Insular de Tenerife](#) (governing body of the island)
- [Castle of St John the Baptist](#) or *Castillo Negro*
- [Castle of San Cristóbal](#)
- [Castle of San Andrés](#)
- [Parlamento de Canarias](#) (Parliament of the Canary Islands)
- [Masonic Temple of Santa Cruz de Tenerife](#)

Commercial areas

Santa Cruz is popular for its wide commercial offerings, including zona Centro (Central part) – Pedestrian calle Castillo, San José, del Pilar, Viera y Clavijo Zona Rambla (Rambla area) or Rambla de Pulido, calle Ramón y Cajal, and the big shopping centres and **department stores** in Avenida de 3 Mayo, plus the big malls in Añaza on the southern suburbs. The most upmarket and high street shopping is located along Calle del Pilar and nearby Parque Bulevar Shopping Centre, where many designer shops can be found. International and local brands of shops and restaurants, such as [Zara](#), [Mango](#), [H&M](#), [El Corte Inglés](#), [IKEA](#), [C&A](#), [McDonald's](#) and [Burger King](#) are much present on the island. Not only the wide range of shops makes the city attractive but the **lower prices** found in many items, such as tobacco, alcohol, electronic devices, beauty products, sunglasses or even food or coffee. They are indeed much lower than in most cities of Western Europe including Spain, due to the very special and much lighter taxation on goods enjoyed on the Canary Islands.

Sports

- CD Tenerife**: Founded in 1912, it currently plays in [Segunda División](#), holding home matches at the Estadio Heliodoro Rodríguez López, with a 21,732-seat capacity.

Honours: In 1991, Argentine [Jorge Valdano](#) took charge of the club as manager, and would help rob former side Real Madrid of two consecutive league titles in the last round, to the benefit of [FC Barcelona](#); in the first season, the Canary Islands outfit barely avoided relegation, but would finish in a best-ever fifth position in the following year, eventually reaching the round of 16 in the subsequent [UEFA Cup](#), losing to [Juventus](#) 2–4 on aggregate. CF Tenerife has finished in fifth position in [La Liga](#) on two occasions, in [1992–93](#) and [1995–96](#). It is the only Canary team that has played a European competition.

- CV Tenerife**: Volleyball is one of the island's most successful sports, particularly in women's volleyball where CV Tenerife were European champions and participate in the Spanish Super League.[9] Two other teams are the women's CV Aguere 2009/2010 Super League champions[10] and the men's Arona Playa de las Américas which competes in the Spanish Super League. There is a growing interest in this sport in Tenerife.
- Isla Tenerife Canarias**: is a professional basketball team based in [San Cristóbal de La Laguna](#), [Tenerife](#), Canary Islands, and plays in the [Pabellón Insular Santiago Martín](#), in [Liga ACB](#) league.

Education

International schools:

- [Lycée Français de Tenerife "Jules Verne"](#) (French school)
- [Deutsche Schule Santa Cruz de Tenerife](#) (German school) in nearby [El Rosario](#)^[37]
- [Svenska Skolan Teneriffa](#) (Swedish school) in nearby [Arona](#)^[38]
- [British School of Tenerife](#) with campuses in [La Orotava](#), [Los Realejos](#), and [Puerto de la Cruz](#)^[39]



Per Adriano, (1993), sculpture by Igor Mitoraj in front of Guimerá Theatre.



The parliament of the Canary Islands



Fountain at the Plaza Weyler



Aerial view



Estadio Heliodoro Rodríguez López, the stadium of CD Tenerife.

- [Wingate School](#) (British school) in Arona^[40]

Celebrations of the city

- 27 January anniversary of the appointment of Santa Cruz de Tenerife of the Canary Islands as the capital.
- February, [Carnival of Santa Cruz de Tenerife](#) (of International Tourist Interest).
- May 3, May festivities. Día de la Cruz (Day of the City of Santa Cruz de Tenerife).
- 25 July, the day of [Saint James the Great](#) (patron saint of Santa Cruz de Tenerife) and defeat of Admiral [Nelson](#). This festival is part of the acts of the [Recreation Gesta July 25](#).

Consulates

The consulates located in Santa Cruz de Tenerife are:

- [Austria](#)
- [Argentina](#)
- [Belgium](#)
- [Bolivia](#)
- [Brazil](#)
- [Chile](#)
- [Colombia](#)
- [Costa Rica](#)
- [Denmark](#)
- [Ecuador](#)
- [Finland](#)
- [France](#)
- [Germany](#)
- [Guatemala](#)
- [Honduras](#)
- [India](#)
- [Ireland](#)
- [Italy](#)
- [Liberia](#)
- [Mexico](#)
- [Monaco](#)
- [Netherlands](#)
- [Nicaragua](#)
- [Norway](#)
- [Peru](#)
- [Philippines](#)
- [Portugal](#)
- [Sri Lanka](#)
- [Sweden](#)
- [Turkey](#)
- [United Kingdom](#)
- [Uruguay](#)
- [Venezuela](#)



Palmetum of Santa Cruz



Roques de Anaga



Playa de Las Teresitas

International relations

Twin towns – Sister cities

Santa Cruz de Tenerife is [twinned](#) with:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aranda de Duero, Spain ▪ San Antonio, USA^[41] ▪ Santa Cruz, California, USA ▪ Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia ▪ Caracas, Venezuela ▪ Cádiz, Spain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rio de Janeiro, Brazil ▪ Nice, France^[42] ▪ Santa Cruz del Norte, Cuba ▪ Guatemala City, Guatemala
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Santacruceros

- [Juan de Abreu](#), painter and sculptor
- [V́ctor Añino Bermúdez](#), footballer
- [Carlos Armas](#), singer
- [Rafael Arozarena](#), (1923-2009), writer
- [Fernando Fernández Martín](#) (born 1943), politician
- [Juan Carlos Fresnadillo](#) (born 1967), film director
- [Maria Rozman](#) (1971-), news director of [Telemundo Washington DC](#) and [Telemundo Denver](#) and [Univisión Denver](#).
- [Ángel Guimerà](#) (1845-1924), writer
- [Adán Martín Menis](#) (1943-2010), politician
- [Luis Molowny](#) (1925-2010), football player
- [Leopoldo O'Donnell](#) (1809-1867), politician

- Ayoze Pérez** (born 1993), football player
- Pedro**, (born 1987), footballer
- Alberto Vázquez-Figueroa**, (born 1936), writer
- Eduardo Westerdahl** (1902-1983), art critic and author

In popular culture

- In the 2016 film, the opening part of the movie "Jason Bourne" was filmed in this city. To do this, the city of Santa Cruz de Tenerife was especially set to simulate the Greek cities of **Athens** and **Piraeus**. The **Plaza de España** which is the main square of city of Santa Cruz, was set to represent **Syntagma Square**.^[43]



Leopoldo O'Donnell

See also

- List of municipalities in Santa Cruz de Tenerife (province)
- San Andrés

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