

## Talayotic Menorca, a cyclopean island odyssey



Talayotic Menorca is the living testimony of an exceptional prehistoric insular culture, characterised by unique cyclopean arquitecture that lives, on harmoniously integrated in Menorca's landscape. The island houses examples of constructions found nowhere else on Earth such as burial navetas, the circular homes and taula sanctuaries. These monuments, alongside the talayots, can be seen in all their splendour in their original surroundings, and still showing to this day their particular relationship with the firmament. This is one of the richest and most singular archaeological landscapes on the planet, shaped by generations of Menorcans that, with great care, have protected the impressive legacy that Talayotic culture left behind, as is evidenced by the more than

11,000 kilometres of dry stone wall that surrounds the monuments and most of the island.

Menorca is the island with the highest density of registered prehistoric sites in the world. An open window into the lives of ancient Mediterranean cultures and a symbol of insular identity. Talayotic Menorca shows the most authentic expressions of a differentiated culture that evolved on this small island during 1,500 years, trapped between the sky and the sea. The unique and exceptional value of these monuments and landscapes have earned it a place on UNESCO's World Heritage List during the 45th World Heritage Committee.

#### WHAT MAKES MENORCA EXCEPTIONAL?

Menorca represents a singular case in the world of a living archeological and monumental landscapes where prehistoric sites can be observed in their original surroundings, still similar to how they were in the past, thanks to 3,000 years of harmonious coexistence with its inhabitants. The works left behind by prehistoric Menorcans show a living past that has stayed present in the making of Menorca's history.

The monuments and archeological sites are inserted in a well preserved Mediterranean mosaic landscape that still possesses very similar traits to those of prehistoric times.

The extraordinary diversity and density of prehistoric sites: with an inventory of 1,568 to date.

No island in the world has ever recorded more sites.

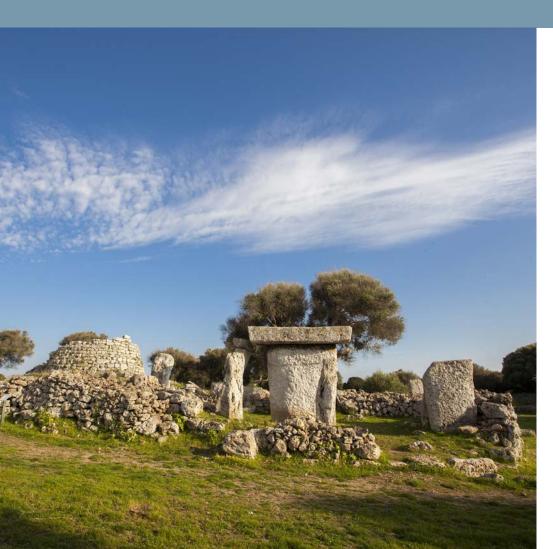
Menorca embodies unique expressions of cyclopean architecture of great diversity with settlements, burial spaces, sanctuaries and large constructions like the *talayots*. Furthermore, there are **unique edifications** not found anywhere else in the world, such as the burial *navetas*, circular houses and *taula* sanctuaries.

The exceptional state of conservation of the vestiges of Talayotic culture make Menorca a **symbol of insular identity** and a window into the lives of ancient Mediterranean and island cultures around the world.

The orientation of the most representative prehistoric monuments in Menorca, especially the taula enclosures, indicate an intimate relationship between astronomy, architecture and the landscape in Talayotic culture.

The pioneering studies carried out in Menorca helped to establish Archaeoastronomy as a discipline.

## UNESCO World Heritage Site

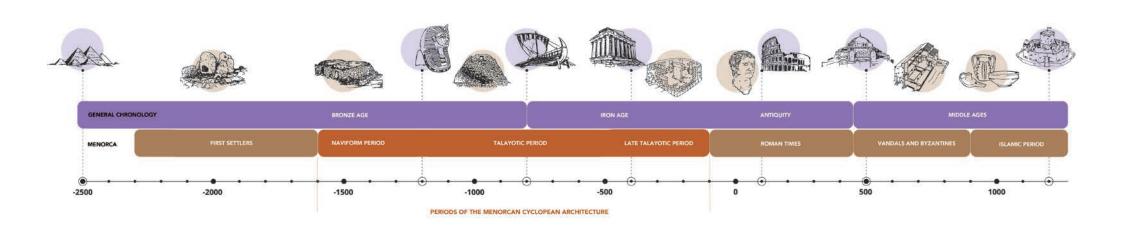


"A cyclopean island odyssey" is Talayotic Menorca's slogan. It tells the tale of a culture that, with titanic efforts, managed to lift a multitude of cyclopean constructions in a reduced island territory of the Mediterranean. It is the testimony of an insular culture trapped between the sky and the sea that still shines in the constellation of Mediterranean islands.

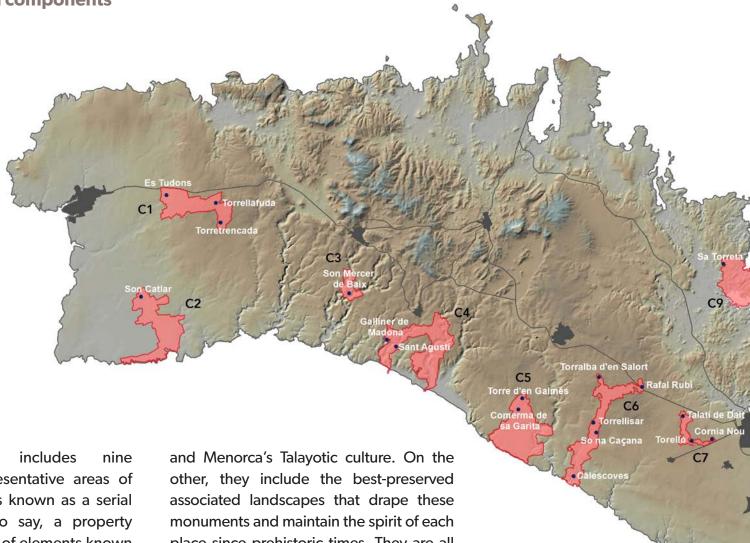
Talayotic Menorca is divided into nine components or territorial areas that englobe 280 sites from the prehistoric age with their evocative landscapes, and gathers the most outstanding vestiges that illustrate the genesis, evolution and twilight of a powerful, original and imaginative island culture. The Talayotic Menorca timeline starts at the emergence of cyclopean constructions, around 1600 BC, up until the decline of Talayotic culture and the beginning of the island's Romanisation in 123 BC.

#### **Prehistoric Menorcan periods**

# The evolution of a prehistoric insular culture trapped between the sky and the sea



#### **Talayotic Menorca components**



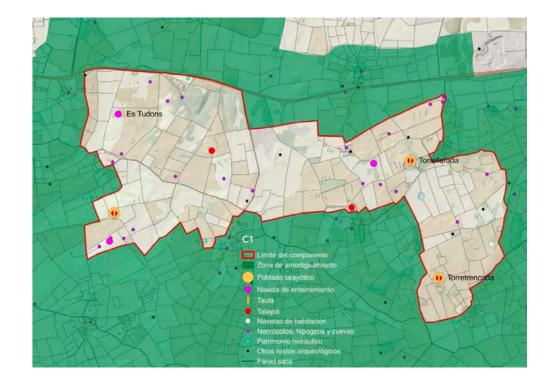
Talayotic Menorca includes nine components or representative areas of Menorca. It is what is known as a serial property, which is to say, a property comprised by a series of elements known as components.

The components have been selected primarily with two criteria in mind: on the one hand, they house the best representations of cyclopean architecture

and Menorca's Talayotic culture. On the other, they include the best-preserved associated landscapes that drape these monuments and maintain the spirit of each place since prehistoric times. They are all examples of remarkable archeological and monumental living landscapes. However, it must be underscored that the exceptional and universal value of the property can only be expressed when considering all the components as a whole.

### Component 1 Llanos de Ciutadella

Naveta des Tudons, Torretrencada and Torrellafuda



This area situated on the east side of Menorca houses, since prehistoric times, the most sought-after lands for farming and grazing. It is a place with an extremely high density of archeological sites with 36 sites recorded in an area of 440 ha.

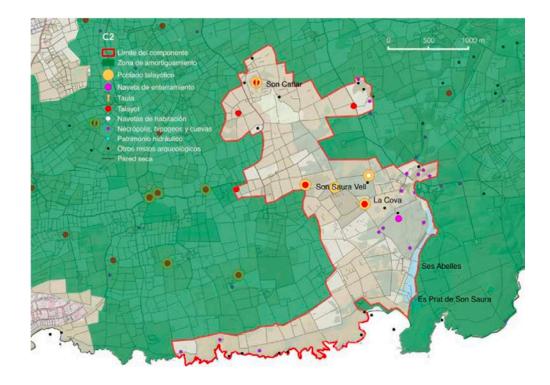
Found here is the **Naveta des Tudons**, the most representative and best conserved monument of this type of burial constructions, and also

includes the vestiges of two important settlements: **Torrellafuda and Torretrencada.** 

The archeological vestiges here articulate an exceptional monumental prehistoric landscape that is totally integrated in the living agricultural landscape. A true example of the harmonious coexistence of the monuments with tradition throughout history.

# Component 2 Southwest area

Son Catlar, Son Saura Wetland and south coast cliffs



This component presents a well preserved landscape that illustrates settlement patterns and the prehistoric uses given to the land. It is also home to wetlands and costal cliffs. Distinguished by the singular and high ecological value of the Prat de Son Saura wetland, a natural space that has been in use since prehistoric times for agropastoral purposes and the obtainment of basic resources.

34 different archeological sites have been registered in this 546 ha area, including eight *talayots*. The vestiges of eight different prehistoric settlements are also found here, two of them from the

Naviform period (Son Saura and La Cova). However, the prehistoric settlement that presides over this component is **Son Catlar**, one of the most emblematic prehistoric monumental ensembles of Menorca. Known for the spectacular wall that surrounds it, built in the Late Talayotic period, its towers evidence a process of Punic-Talayotic cultural hybridisation. With two entrances, Son Catlar has the largest *taula* enclosure known in Menorca. The ensamble provides us with multiple material traces evidencing the customs of its former inhabitants, providing an exceptional window into the lives of these prehistoric communities.

# Component 3 Western Migjorn area

Son Mercer de Baix and Cova des Pas



This component, with its exceptional interior cliffs and caves, used by its prehistoric inhabitants as burial grounds, is spread among the ravines of Trebalúger and Son Fideu in the central zone of the Menorcan Migjorn. A magnificent example of an archeological and natural landscape that constitutes a singular laboratory for cultural evolution.

Cova des Pas stands out among the 24 registered sites in this 107 ha area. Multiple material remains have been located here (some of them unique and exclusive to Menorca) and have been

associated with collective burial rituals practiced between 1200 and 800 BC.

Component 3 houses exceptional samples of dwelling navetas that marked the emergence of cyclopean architecture on the island and the abandonment of megalithic techniques, thus making it a referential enclave in the genesis of this prehistoric island culture. Standing out among these is **Son Mercer de Baix**, where we find the **Cova d'es Moro**, the only registered dwelling naveta that has conserved its stone roof-cover.

# Component 4 Central-south area of ravines

Sant Agustí, Galliner de Madona and Prat de Son Bou



This component extends between the Torrevella and Son Boter ravines, in the central zone of the Menorcan Migjorn, an area with extremely high values of geographical and biological diversity and examples of the traditional Menorcan agricultural ecosystem. Between the ravines that mark the limits of the component we find more than 40 burial caves of different typologies and periods. Among them, **Cova de Coloms** stands out, where excavations conducted at the beginning of the XX century provided large amounts of material from the Talayotic period, including the well-known bronze ox horns.

This space is dense both in terms of archaeological sites and Talayotic

settlements, with 63 registered areas in a space of 667 ha. The main Talayotic settlements found here are Sant Agustí Vell, Torrenova d'en Jordi Marc, Santa Clara and Binicodrell de Baix.

This is the component with the largest number, diversity and originality of *talayots*, and it is one of the areas of the island that best exemplifies the leading role played by this type of constructions in monumentalising and organising the prehistoric landscape. The most famous is the *talayot* de **Ses Bigues de Mata of Sant Agustí**, that still conserves its original 3.000 year old olive wood beams.

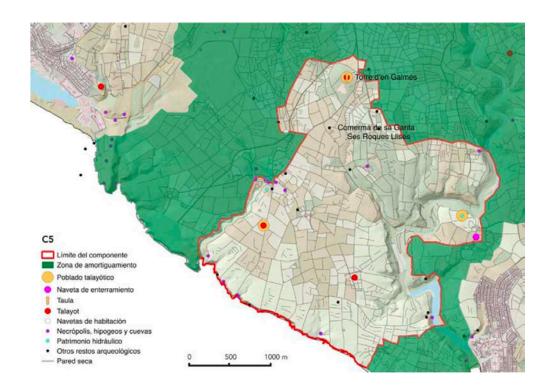
### Component 5

### Area between the ravines of Torrevella and Cala en Porter

Torre d'en Galmés, Na Comerma de Sa Garita, Ses Roques Llises

Presided by the large village of Torre d'en Galmés, the whole area of the component falls within the municipality of Alaior, between the ravine of Torrevella and the ravine of Cala en Porter. With 25 registered in an area of 632 ha, this component is also dense in archaeological sites, and its landscape has hardly been altered since prehistoric times.

**Torre d'en Galmés** is the best-preserved prehistoric village in Menorca and, there is certainty that it was inhabited from the beginnings of the Naviform period (1600 BC) until medieval times. It is one of the great Talayotic villages with the best and most bountiful representations of the monumental circular houses. Furthermore, this village possesses three spectacular *talayots*, four hypogea, the best examples of the unique water culture associated with Talayotic culture and an exceptional *taula* 



enclosure. This last precinct is one of the best preserved on the island and the panoramic view from the *taula* recreates the landscape and skyscape that the Late Talayotic period settlers would have seen from here during the celebration of their rituals. This is where the close ties between Talayotic culture and the firmament are most clearly expressed.

The megalithic burial mound of **Ses Roques Llises** is the best-preserved in the Balearic Islands and is the most important funeral element of this component. It is one of the most remarkable and well preserved pieces of evidence of the first documented built structures prior to the appearance of cyclopean architecture on the island. Even though it is chronologically prior to cyclopean architecture, its astronomical orientation reveals the same pattern as the burial *navetas*.

# Component 6 South-east area - Alaior

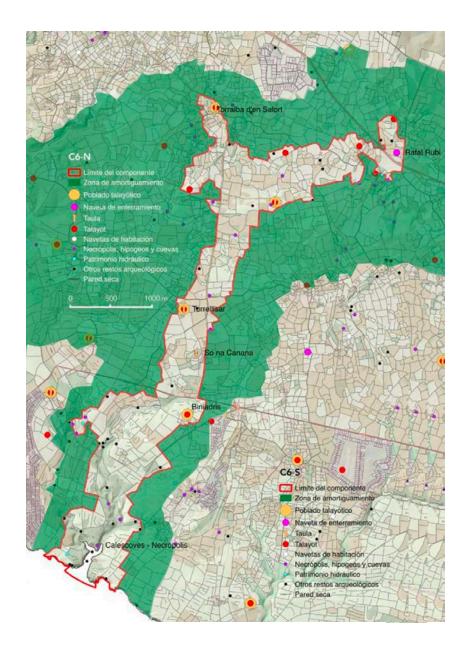
Calescoves, Torralba d'en Salort, So na Caçana, Rafal Rubí

This component unfolds from the mouth of the ravines that converge on Calescoves (Biniedrís and Son Domingo) and reaches the smooth limestone plain of the south-east of the Menorcan Migjorn. In this area of 502 ha, 57 archaeological sites have been registered, with four Talayotic villages and the remains of another five smaller settlements. **Calescoves, Torralba d'en Salort, So na Caçana** and **Rafal Rubí** are the spots that stand out the most.

In Torralba d'en Salort we find the best-preserved and most spectacular *taula* site on the island, it also boasts two circular *talayots*, a hypostyle hall, a unique circular cabin and an ensemble of artificial burial caves. This is one of the few places where three kinds of cyclopean constructions coexist, each representative of a different period: Naviform, Talayotic and Late Talayotic.

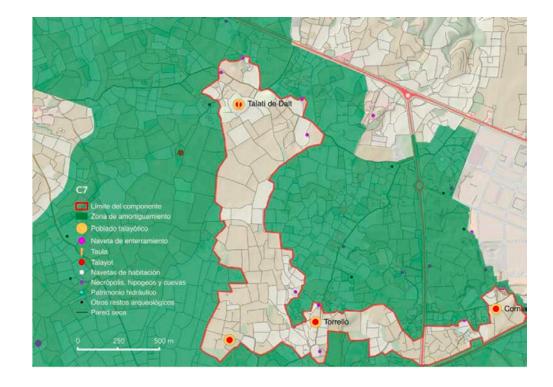
The So Na Caçana site is an exceptional settlement. It is the only one known in all of Menorca with two taula enclosures. Keeping in mind its two highly unorthodox *talayots*, researchers have concluded that the enclave was a sanctuary, and yet, a village with circular houses from the Late Talayotic period.

With regards the world of the dead, this component is home to Calescoves, the largest necropolis on the island. With its more than 90 artificial caves, Calescoves was the stage for the funeral rituals of the prehistoric communities of Menorca for almost 1,500 years. On the other hand you have Rafal Rubí, one of the few places that is home to two burrial *navetas*.



### Component 7 South-east Area - Maó

Talatí de Dalt, Torelló, Cornia Nou



This component is located very near to the urban area of Maó, in the southwest of the municipality. Regardless of its proximity to an urban area, it constitutes a representative space of the traditional Menorcan agroforest mosaic. 13 sites have been catalogued here in an area of 104 ha, **Talatí de Dalt, Torelló and Cornia Nou** stand out among them.

The large settlement of Talatí, with its two *talayots*, a singular *taula* enclosure, and a unique taula with a toppled pilaster that rests against the lintel of the *taula* has become one of the icons of the island. The diverse circles, exclusive to Menorca, and the best-preserved representation of a paved space make this village unique.

Cornia Nou is home to two *talayots* from the beginning of the Talayotic period. This period is characterised by the appearance of these buildings, just when they reached the peak of their monumental nature. Abundant evidence of the customs of Talayotic societies has been found here and of how they managed their water and agricultural production.

The monumental *talayots* of this component, like the one in Torelló, are the best examples of the initial stages of these types of constructions. They are the most spectacular and outstanding testimonies of the colosal efforts carried out by the Talayotic people to lift them.

# Component 8 Trepucó prehistoric village

Trepucó



The smallest of all the components, covering an area of almost 5 ha, is circumscribed to the archaeological zone that contains the vestiges of the great Talayotic village of Trepucó in the zone of Maó-Es Castell.

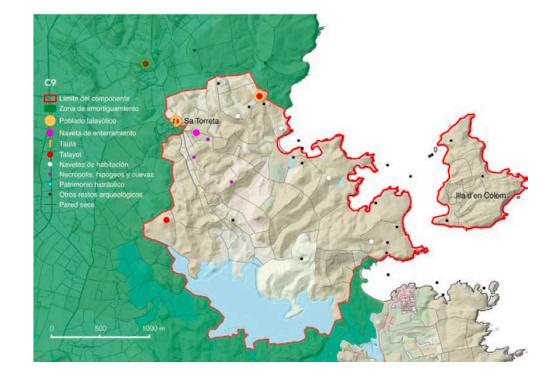
Trepucó was one of the most important settlements in Menorca, similar in extension to Torre d'en Galmés. The village includes two *talayots*, one of them being **the broadest on the Balearic Islands**, and a monumental *taula* enclosure. Margaret Murray's excavations in 1930 revealed **the** 

first evidence of the religious and functional uses of these unique constructions. Being almost 5 meters high, the Taula of Trepucó is the tallest and most spectacular in Menorca. The settlement is also intergrated by an interesting group of Talayotic circular houses.

An obligated visit during the XIX century for local scholars and illustrious travellers, this village is **the first site to be excavated scientifically in modern times** and opened up prehistoric Menorca to archeology.

# Component 9 North-west area of Tamuntana

Sa Torreta, Albufera des Grau, Illa d'en Colom



This component encompasses part of the north-east of the island and the islet known as Illa d'en Colom, located in an extraordinarily interesting place ecologically, as is the Albufera des Grau. There are 28 prehistoric sites registered in this area of 524 ha. Two Talayotic settlements (Sa Torreta de Tramuntana and Morellet) stand out, as well as the prehistoric copper mine of Sa Mitja Lluna in the Illa d'en Colom.

Sa Mitja Lluna is currently the only prehistoric mine known in the Balearic Islands, and one of the few that have been conserved, with practically no man-made alterations, in southern Europe.

An exceptional case for studying Bronze Age societies in the Mediterranean, it illustrates an extraordinary example of prehistoric mining technology.

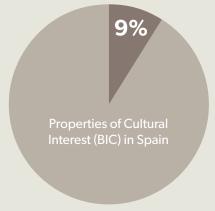
Sa Torreta de Tramuntana is the referential Talayotic settlement in the north of the island. It boasts a *talayot*, a *taula* enclosure and vestiges of a range of circular houses; to the south-east, there are remains of a burrial *naveta*, several hypogea and natural burial caves. Sa Torreta offers an exceptional testimony of the process of human occupation and adaptation to a territory with extreme conditions.

# Talayotic Menorca in numbers

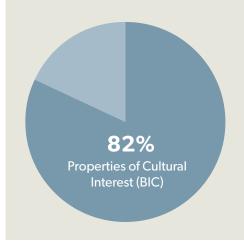
Menorca, with 702 km², is the island with the highest density of prehistoric sites on Earth: to this moment, a total of **1,568** have been registered, accounting for an average density of 2.3 sites per Km².



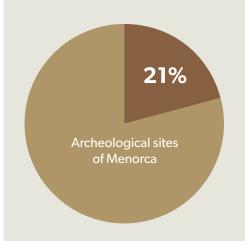
Menorca is home to **9%** of all Properties of Cultural Interest (*Bienes de Interés Cultural*, BIC) in Spain, the highest level of legal protection afforded by state law. The island represents 0.13% of Spanish territory.



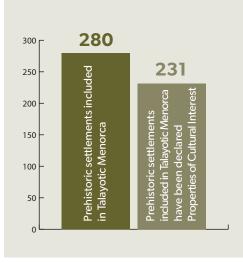
**82%** of all Menorcan prehistoric sites, concretely **1,298**, have been declared Properties of Cultural Interest.



Talayotic Menorca includes
280 prehistoric settlements,
representing 21% of all
archeological sites on the island,
housing the best examples of
the monuments of Talayotic
Menorcan culture.



**231** of the prehistoric settlements included in Talayotic Menorca have been declared Properties of Cultural Interest (BIC).

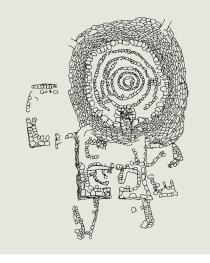


Total length of dry stone wall in Menorca: **11,119.365 m** 

(Source: MTB 1:5000 of the Balearic Government). With this length, if we place the stone walls in a straight line starting at the Plaça del Born in Ciutadella, we would reach Santiago de Chile.



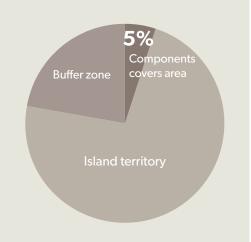
In all of Menorca, there are **393** registered talayots. When constructed around 1200 AC, they changed Menorcan landscape forever.



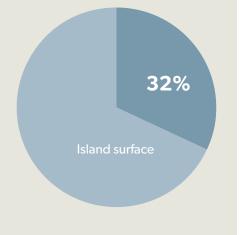
The tallest taula in Menorca is in Torralba d'en Salort. It is **5.10 m** high.



The total surface of Talayotic
Menorca's nine components
covers an area of
3,527 ha, representing
5% of the islands territory.
The buffer zone surrounding the
components covers an area
of 19,014 ha.

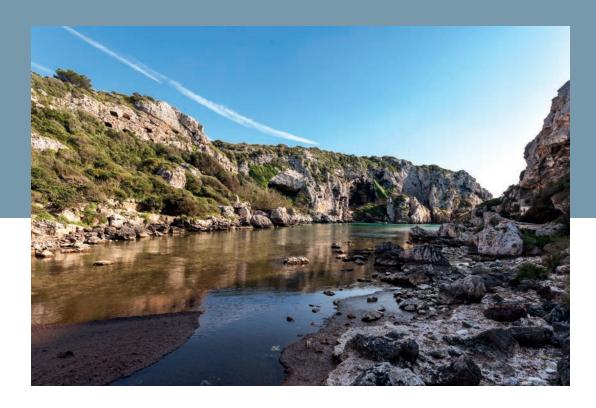


The total surface area of
Talayotic Menorca (components
and buffer zones) occupy
32% of the islands territory:
22,541 ha.



## Talayotic Menorca, a future challenge

Being declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site is not an end in itself but one more step in the road to preserving and protecting the exceptional legacy left to us by the Talayotic culture for present and future generations. A road that began in 2010 when the Consell Insular de Menorca set the Talayotic Menorca candidacy in motion, and which in 2020, reached a milestone by being nominated as Spain's official candidate for 2022. Since 2017 the candidacy has undergone a profound transformation by adhering to the recommendations given on that year by ICOMOS. The result: "A cyclopean island odyssey", a sample of the different methods of occupation of a territory and construction of the landscape in Talayotic times.



### **Candidacy Timeline**



#### August, 2009

Agreement at the Institut Menorquí d'Estudis to launch the candidacy.

#### April 14th, 2010

The Plenary session of the Consell Insular de Menorca (CIMe) unanimously approves initiating due-diligence to formalise the candidacy.



#### **January 29th, 2013**

Inscription in the indicative list of the Ministerio de Cultura.



#### March, 2015

Official Spanish Candidate.



#### February, 2016

First nomination file delivered to UNESCO.

2009

2010

2013

2015



#### October, 2020

The new nomination file is presented to the CIMe.



#### September, 2020

Delivery of the first draft of the new file to UNESCO.



#### November, 2017

Reformulation of the first nomination file begins.



#### July 9th, 2017

41st World Heritage Committee in Cracovia (Poland). UNESCO decides that to inscribe the candidacy, the issues raised by ICOMOS in May must be first resolved.



#### May, 2017

Final ICOMOS report on the first delivered file.



#### January, 2017

ICOMOS makes amendments to the first file.





#### November 20th, 2020 Official Spanish

Candidate.

#### January 30th, 2021

Delivery of the new nomination file at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris.



#### October, 2021

ICOMOS evaluation mission.



#### January, 2022

Intermediate report by ICOMOS.



#### **April 21st, 2022**

45th UNESCO World Heritage Committee postponed.



#### May 10, 2023

Final report by ICOMOS.



### **September 10 - 25th, 2023**

World Heritage Committee in Riyadh (Saudi Arabia). Talayotic Menorca is inscribed on the World Heritage List.

2021

2022

2023

#### **Intervening institutions**



**CIMe:** The Consell Insular de Menorca is the island's self-government body. It was created in 1978 and is the maximum administrative institution of the island.



**GOVERNMENT OF THE BALEARIC ISLANDS:** The Government of the Balearic Islands is the entity that exercises executive power in the Balearic Islands. It was created in 1983. It has financially supported the Consell Insular in the candidature process.



**UNESCO:** International organisation created in 1946 by the United Nations, with 193 Member States and 11 Associate Members that gather periodically and whose goals include promoting intercultural dialog through education, science, culture, communication and information.



WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE: The intergovernmental body in charge of enforcing the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage signed in Paris on November 16th, 1972. It is tasked with elaborating, updating and publishing a list with the cultural properties that hold unique and exceptional universal value. The committee is formed by 21 member states or States Parties that are renewed periodically.

**STATES PARTIES:** All 195 countries (Spain included) that, to this date, have ratified the World Heritage Convention. Each state identifies the properties susceptible of being included in the World Heritage List, verifies the state of preservation of the inscribed properties and propose a property from their territories to be included in the list, as the Spanish state has done with our candidacy.

**ADVISORY BODIES**: Bodies that give support to the World Heritage Committee to fulfill its functions. They evaluate new applications and monitor the state of conservation of declared properties.



• **ICCROM**: The International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property is an intergovernmental organisation dedicated to the preservation of cultural heritage worldwide through training, information, research, cooperation and advocacy programmes.



• ICOMOS: The International Council on Monuments and Sites is a non-governmental international organisation, associated with UNESCO, that is dedicated to promoting the doctrine and the techniques for the conservation, protection and enhancement of the world's monuments and sites. Provides the World Heritage Committee with assessments of properties with cultural value proposed for inscription on the World Heritage List.



• **IUCN:** The International Union for Conservation of Nature is an international, non-governmental organisation working in the field of nature conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. Advises the World Heritage Committee on the inscription of properties with natural values.



- **HISTORICAL HERITAGE COUNCIL:** This is a collaborative body between the Spanish central Government and the Autonomous Community administrations. Its essential purpose is to facilitate the communication and exchange of action programmes and information related to Spanish historical heritage.
- **MEETING OF WORLD HERITAGE MANAGERS:** A consolidated annual forum whose main purpose is to gather, analyse and debate about the day to day problems that the managers of the sites on the World Heritage List face.

## FAQs



### WHAT IS THE 1972 CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE?

An agreement adopted by countries in the UNESCO General Conference of 1972. The goal is to identify, protect, preserve, enhance and transmit to future generations the Outstanding Universal Value of natural and cultural heritage.

Thanks to the ratification of the 195 States Parties (Spain included), it is currently the most recognised convention on earth dealing with heritage.

It is the most effective and outstanding tool of international cooperation dedicated to the protection of cultural and natural heritage that possesses outstanding value. Thanks to this agreement, it has been possible to protect sites with important value that otherwise would have deteriorated or disappeared due to lack of resources for their preservation.

#### WHAT DOES OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE MEAN?

When a property possesses Outstanding Universal Value it means

that it has an extraordinary cultural and/or natural importance that transcends national borders and thus matters to present and future generations of humanity. Therefore, permanent protection of this heritage is of capital importance for the whole of the international community.

#### WHAT IS THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST?

A list of cultural and natural properties from around the globe that, from the point of view of history, the arts, landscapes, technique, science and geology, have Outstanding Universal Value. Properties are inscribed on the World Heritage List by decision of the World Heritage Committee, who gather once a year, and base themselves on reports elaborated by advisory bodies. The list is made up of 1,121 sites and monuments. At present, 869 cultural properties, 213 natural properties and 39 mixed have been declared.

Up until 2019, a total of 908 properties of cultural and mixed character had been inscribed on the World Heritage List, of which only 75 are on islands. It must be said, however, that of those 75

insular properties, 30 or so are on large islands. Of those 75, only 15 date back to prehistoric insular times, with a high percentage of the inscribed properties being in the Pacific region. This infra representation of island prehistory is one more argument in favor of Talayotic Menorca's inscription in the list, considering that Talayotic patrimony is an exceptional witness to the inheritance of the island cultures of the world.

### WHAT TYPES OF PROPERTIES DOES THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION RECOGNISE?

The World Heritage Convention recognises three types of properties:

<u>Cultural Properties:</u> These correspond to monuments or properties that include groups of structures whose architecture, unity and integration in the landscape give them Outstanding Universal Value from a historical, artistic or scientific point of view. Currently, there are 869 cultural properties inscribed on the World Heritage List. Observing these characteristics, Talayotic Menorca presents itself as a cultural property.

<u>Natural Properties:</u> These are natural monuments, geological formations or natural sites that have Outstanding Universal Value from the point of view of aesthetics, science, conservation and natural beauty. Currently, there are 213 natural properties inscribed.

<u>Mixed Properties:</u> those that possess cultural and natural elements of Outstanding Universal Value. Currently there are 39 mixed properties.

#### WHAT DOES THE INSCRIPTION AS A WORLD HERITAGE SITE MEAN?

It is a recognition to the universality of these properties whose enjoyment, protection and care becomes responsibility of all the worlds people, independently of the territory where they are located and without prejudice to sovereignty and national ownership.

#### WHAT CRITERIA DOES TALAYOTIC MENORCA COMPLY WITH?

The World Heritage Committee considers that a property holds Outstanding Universal Value if it complies with one or more of the ten established criteria. It is thought that Talayotic Menorca complies with two of them:

#### Criterion (iii)

Bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilisation which is living or which has disappeared.

#### Criterion (iv)

Be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history.

#### WHAT ARE THE COMPONENTS?

The nine territorial areas that make up the Talayotic Menorca nomination file. They show the most excellent material vestiges of the island's prehistory and their associated landscapes, corresponding to the period between the irruption of cyclopean constructions (1600 BC) until the decline of Talayotic culture, at the dawn of the first century BC.

#### WHAT IS A CYCLOPEAN CONSTRUCTION?

These are constructions made with large stone blocks, generally forming horizontal rows which use no form of mortar, that appear around the year 2500 BC. In Menorca we find a large representation of outstanding cyclopean constructions such as talayots, burial navetas, monumental circular houses and the taula enclosures, these last three being unique and exclusive to the island.

## **FAQS**

#### WHAT IS THE TALAYOTIC MENORCA AGENCY?

It is the participatory and unified management body created to ensure effective and integrated management of the nominated property as a whole and to guarantee its continued enjoyment by present and future generations. It is responsible for the implementation and coordination of the Talayotic Menorca Management Plan.

The Talayotic Menorca Agency's main functions include elaborating proposals, promoting management, conservation and dissemination of architectural heritage values, carrying out the management plan and fomenting participation and social cooperation.



## Participants and Candidacy Team

More than a hundred people have participated in the elaboration of the Talayotic Menorca candidacy, including local, national and international experts in all the disciplines and subjects covered by this ambitious project. The main entities, associations and representatives of the island's civil society have also actively participated in the project.

#### **Talayotic Menorca Agency**

Currently, the body that manages the properties inscribed on the World Heritage List is the Menorca Talayotic Agency, which depends on the Consell Insular de Menorca (CIM). This agency was created in 2022, and its functioning is based on several internal bodies:



#### **Presidency: Joan Pons Torres.**

This position corresponds to the person who holds the Presidency of the Consell Insular de Menorca or, by delegation, to the conseller responsible for historical heritage, as is currently the case.

#### Vice-presidency: Jaime Reurer Morlà.

This position corresponds to the competent conseller in matters of historical heritage or to the corresponding island director of Cultural Affairs, if the conseller occupies the presidency, as is the current case.

#### **Governing Council:**

This is the body responsible for approving the actions of the Talayotic Menorca Agency and is made up of its internal officers, institutional representatives, technical officers and representatives of the Scientific Council and the Social Council of the Talayotic Menorca Agency.

#### **Executive Commission:**

It is in charge of the ordinary administration and is formed by the internal officers of the Talayotic Menorca Agency, the head of the Historical Heritage Service of the CIM and the person in charge of the management of the Biosphere Reserve Agency.

#### **Scientific Council:**

It is an advisory body, formed by the internal officers of the Talayotic Menorca Agency and a large number of people linked to the scientific field.

#### **Social Council:**

It is a consultative body formed by the internal officers of the Talayotic Menorca Agency and representatives of political parties, civil organizations, companies, associations of economic interest, business or trade unions and educational and cultural institutions.

#### Management: Antoni Ferrer Rotger.

The director is elected for a maximum period of ten years, through a selection process that takes into account the work experience and academic training of the candidates. The director is the person who proposes the actions of the Talayotic Menorca Agency, but the agency's bylaws establish that he/she does not have the right to vote on the Governing Council or the Executive Commission.





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