

Words Behiye Hassan

The other side of Ibiza

Director discovers a hotel haven for the traveller more interested in Balearic beauty than booming basslines

Ibiza may not be the obvious choice for business leaders seeking a pulse-lowering getaway. But the island truly does become a destination of breezy tranquillity if you put a little distance between yourself and its nightlife hotspots. One such retreat is the shiny new OD Talamanca, an elegant five-star hotel 20 minutes' drive from the centre of that capital of club culture, Ibiza Town.

One of a family of four boutique OD hotels in Spain, it's located at the eastern end of Talamanca Bay, a five-minute walk from the pretty beach. From here guests can take a seaside stroll, or invigorating jog, to the swish Marina Botafoch and the Unesco world heritage site of the Old Town beyond. But, of course, there's no obligation to head closer to civilisation at all.

The hotel has 117 rooms in all, providing wonderful sea views. Guests staying in one of the five junior suites or two duplex apartment suites have access to their own Smart car to explore the island's myriad other sights. The duplexes offer two bedrooms, a large roof terrace and even a private swimming pool. *Director* stayed in a deluxe room, featuring a lovely balcony and fresh modern decor incorporating Mediterranean influences and hints to the glamorous art deco themes of the wider hotel, conceived by architect Rahola Vidal and interior designer Mayte Matutes.

The OD has three swimming pools for all guests to enjoy, but there will be another

once the new rooftop sun deck opens this summer, offering you panoramic views of the Med and the Old Town while you recline on a sun lounger and enjoy a cocktail.

The well-equipped gym will enable you to earn some valuable space for calories. You'll certainly need that, as great eating options abound here: the hotel's excellent à la carte restaurant – open for breakfast, lunch and dinner – serves mouthwatering cuisine with both European and Asian influences. Head chef Silvia Nicolini, a recent addition to the hotel, prides herself on using fresh local ingredients.

For lunch, *Director* was lucky enough to try her cured salmon with quinoa three ways, followed by lobster ravioli with greens and a rocket salad. If you're feeling particularly indulgent, finish your meal with the tiramisu. Made with Nutella, milk and dark chocolate, and topped off with popping candy, it's hard to beat.

If your visit isn't entirely about rest and relaxation, the OD also has ample business facilities, including three connectable meeting rooms for up to 90 guests. The hotel's dedicated events team – the staff were consistently excellent during *Director*'s visit – can create bespoke conference and event packages for you.

Work or leisure, long weekend or a full holiday, peace or partying, the OD Talamanca lets you be gleefully flexible about your plans while remaining in the lap of luxury all the way. **D**



Accommodation

Standard rooms range from €270 (£237) to €420 per night, depending on the season, including breakfast, Wi-Fi access, soft drinks minibar (first refill), service charges and VAT.

odtalamanca.com
[@ODHotels](https://twitter.com/ODHotels)

Getting there

Director flew with British Airways from London City to Ibiza and with Jet2 Airways from Ibiza to London Stansted.

ba.com jet2.com

From top: guests will have a choice of four pools by the end of summer; the OD's à la carte restaurant; a view from the hotel across Talamanca Bay