

An investment paradise  
**Tenerife Free Zone**



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## **Presentation of the Tenerife Free Zone**

The Tenerife Free Zone - a strategic location

The Tenerife Free Zone has an attractive regulatory, tariff and tax framework and is an ideal geostrategic location for companies from across Spain and around the globe to set up operations.

The Tenerife Free Zone is well positioned for international investors, acting as a gateway between three continents: Africa, Europe and the Americas.

Tenerife also boasts a magnificent climate that contributes to the great quality of life enjoyed by its inhabitants, making it an ideal place to live and work.

If you are looking for a new strategic location from which to expand your business, we invite you to discover, within these pages, the main benefits offered by the Tenerife Free Zone.

We would therefore recommend that you consider locating your business in our Free Zone, and set your sights on the internationalisation of your operations from a strategic hub offering unrivalled benefits and advantages.

Best regards,



**Carlos E. González**

Chairman  
Tenerife Free Zone



**Margarita Pena**

Special Spanish  
State Representative  
Tenerife Free Zone

# Why choose the Tenerife Free Zone?

## Principal assets and benefits of Tenerife Free Zone

Tenerife Free Zone offers a series of conditions and benefits that are considered to be a major attraction for companies wishing to set up business in our facilities. These include most notably the following:

*Tenerife Free Zone offers numerous advantages , in addition to those enjoyed due to its location in the island's capital, Santa Cruz de Tenerife*

-  **Strategic location:** situated in the island of Tenerife, in the Atlantic Ocean, linking Africa, the Americas and Europe.
-  **Specific advantages of the Free Zone:** benefits such as 100% exemption from import and export tariffs and unlimited storage time, among others.
-  **Tax and economic benefits:** in addition to being a Free Zone, it is compatible with the economic instruments and incentives of the Canary Islands Economic and Tax Regime (REF).
-  **Connectivity and infrastructure:** due to the large-scale development of Tenerife's main economic driver, tourism, the island is equipped with an excellent level of connectivity in terms of both transport infrastructure and telecommunications.
-  **Human capital:** Tenerife is characteristically a multicultural territory; a hospitable and cosmopolitan society. It also boasts universities which are a benchmark at Spanish and international level.
-  **Quality of life:** Tenerife enjoys an exceptional climate and a hospitable, multicultural environment which, together with the island's guarantees of legal certainty and stability, ensure a great quality of life for the professionals who set up business here.
-  **Economic and investment ecosystem:** the economic ecosystem in Tenerife includes various agencies engaged in boosting the economy and investment in the island.

## Principal assets and benefits of Tenerife Free Zone

Free Zones are **delimited areas within the customs territory** of the European Union, **all types of goods can be introduced** within these spaces, regardless of their nature, amount, origin and destination, and in which such goods are **exempt from customs duties on imports and exports, indirect tax and, where applicable, excise taxes.**

They are tools for the **promotion of international trade activities**, facilitating free international goods traffic, thanks to the associated cost savings. A **Free Zone** enjoys a series of **benefits** that prove highly attractive to the companies located within it. The characteristics of a Free Zone include most notably the following:

- ✓ **All types of activities** (industrial, commercial and service-related) can be carried on within the free zone.
- ✓ **100% exemption from duties and taxes** on goods originating from, and with destination in, third countries outside the European Union customs territory.
- ✓ The **duty and tax obligations** for the goods are suspended until they are used or released for free circulation in the territory of the EU.

- ✓ They enjoy **simplified customs procedures.**
- ✓ **Unlimited storage of goods, usual handling procedures and substantial transformation** are permitted, subject to express authorisation by the competent customs body.

*Setting up a company in the Tenerife Free Zone can amount as much as a 100% exemption from duties and taxes, suspension of duty and tax obligations, simplification of customs procedures and unlimited storage time, among others*

## Principal assets and benefits of Tenerife Free Zone

Another high-added-value benefit attributable to the Tenerife Free Zone (TFZ), which distinguish it from other European Free Zones, is its compatibility with the economic instruments and incentives of the **Economic and Tax Regime (REF)** applicable to the Canary Islands as one of the European Union's outermost regions.

*In addition to the advantages of belonging to the Free Zone, businesses should also consider those gained by forming part of the Canary Islands economic and tax zone*

### Canary Islands Special Zone ("ZEC")

The Canary Islands are a low taxation zone for companies authorised and registered in the Official Register of ZEC Entities. ZEC entities are taxed for income tax purposes at **a reduced rate of 4%**. In this way, companies that meet the requirements and opt to set up in the archipelago will pay income tax at the **lowest rate in Europe**.

Similarly, **dividends** paid by the **subsidiaries of ZEC entities** to their **parent companies resident** in countries **outside the European Union** are **tax exempt** due to the application of provisions similar to those of the Parent-Subsidiary Directive.

Furthermore the goods and services delivered between ZEC entities and the imports they perform are exempt from the **Canary Islands General Indirect Tax ("IGIC"**, the Canary Islands' equivalent of VAT).

Companies are exempt from **transfer and stamp tax** on acquisitions subject to this tax.

The requirements to qualify for these benefits are as follows:

- Make an **initial investment of at least EUR 100,000**.
- Create **at least five new jobs within the first six months following the company's registration** and maintain that average for the years in which the company belongs to the "ZEC".
- **Carry on authorised activities in the "ZEC"**, which in the Tenerife Free Zone (TFZ) should ideally be transformation and manufacturing-related activities that involve the import of items or raw materials from third countries with the subsequent intention of reexporting the final product.

## Principal assets and benefits of Tenerife Free Zone

*The Canary Islands were recognised as one of the ten most attractive European regions for investment in 2018, according to the fDi Strategy Awards*

### Canary Islands Investment Reserve ("RIC")

The legislation regulating the RIC makes it possible for establishments located in the Canary Islands to **reduce the tax base for income tax purposes** by the amount of profits they appropriate to the Canary Islands Investment Reserve, **up to a limit of 90% of non-distributed profit**.

In order to do so, the company must be established in the Canary Islands, regardless of the location of its main office. Furthermore, the reserve must be used to acquire fixed assets, in one of the following circumstances:

- ✓ **Assets** (property, plant and equipment or intangible assets) that constitute an initial investment.
- ✓ **Job creation**.
- ✓ Acquisition of **assets** that do not constitute an initial investment.
- ✓ **Subscription of shares or other equity interests** in companies, on their incorporation or in a capital increase, and subscription of Canary Island government debt securities.
- ✓ **Subscription of financial instruments** issued by banks when the funds raised are used to finance private projects in the Canary Islands.

### Other benefits

In the Tenerife Free Zone there is no limitation on the trade policies and/or economic conditions of the European Union. This guarantees the free access to the international goods market.

Other EU Free Zones impede or limit the supply of commodities, raw materials and components from third countries to carry out transformation processes under the inward processing system. However, companies located in the Tenerife Free Zone **may access the international market for their supplies without any limitation, provided that the final output is re-exported to a third country**.

The Canary Islands is one of the ten most attractive European regions for investment in 2018, according to the fDi Strategy Awards 2018.



The Fishing Dock of the Tenerife Free Zone in Santa Cruz de Tenerife



# Connectivity and infrastructure

## Principal existing infrastructure in Tenerife

The Free Zone is located in the port of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, on the island's north-eastern coast. The city has a population of more than **200,000 inhabitants** and is considered a key point in the **sea network** that links Europe, Africa and the Americas.

The main elements underpinning the **connectivity and infrastructure** enjoyed by the Tenerife Free Zone are presented below.

### Air transport

The island has **two international airports**, one in the north, in San Cristóbal de La Laguna, and the other is in the south, in Granadilla de Abona.

#### *Tenerife North ("Tenerife Norte") airport*

Ranked among the **world's ten best airports** and **first in Spain** according to the 2019 AirHelp Score for air passenger rights, this airport has **11 airlines** operating for 4 countries and has **24 different destinations**. However, the airport is noted for its regional flights, Binter Canarias with the highest annual **passenger** traffic volume, having handled 2,299,759 of the **5,839,638 passengers** served in 2019.

**6.5 million+**  
passenger capacity



-  Neutral Access Point (NAP)
-  Tenerife's ports
-  Tenerife Free Zone
-  Tenerife's airports

#### *Tenerife South ("Tenerife Sur") airport*

The airport located in the municipality of Granadilla de Abona offers **connections with 27 countries**, and 133 destinations. In 2019, the airport recorded a traffic volume of **11,168,707 passengers**, with the United Kingdom standing out as the main destination country (4.5 million passengers).

**Airport ranked 7th**  
in Spain in terms of passenger  
traffic volume in 2019

The airport received the **ONCE Canary Islands Solidarity Award** for offering appropriate service quality to people with reduced mobility in 2018.

*The island has two international  
airports with more than 150  
destinations*

Principal existing infrastructure in Tenerife

*In Tenerife has three of the main ports in the Canary Islands, with routes to more than 270 ports worldwide*

Tenerife port system

The island of Tenerife has two major ports, the Port of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, the capital's facility for international maritime traffic, complemented by the Granadilla dock, and the Port of Los Cristianos, an infrastructure which stands out among Spain's most important passenger transport

Port of Santa Cruz de Tenerife

The Port of Santa Cruz de Tenerife connects with more than 278 ports worldwide, ranking as Spain's third cruise destination, with an average of 500 cruise ships docking here per year.



**730,000+**  
cruise passengers

These ports are key strategic points on several sea routes between Europe, Africa and the Americas. They cover a surface area of 1.7 million m<sup>2</sup>, of which 25 hectares are dedicated to container terminals. The port's Free Zone provides unbeatable tax incentives, it is a springboard for foreign trade barely 300 km from the African continent.



**11,260,000+**  
tonnes of freight

Granadilla dock

Freight movements and renewable energies at this facility are turning Tenerife into an storage and, above all, for freight re-distribution HUB. Its proximity to an industrial estate measuring six million m<sup>2</sup> is main for attractor of investment in the port.

Port of Los Cristianos

The Port of Los Cristianos, located in the south-west of the island, is the centre of operations for vessels connecting Tenerife with the western islands of Santa Cruz de Tenerife province. In addition to providing services for a substantial number of passengers and their vehicles, it is the departure point for the ships that chiefly supply these western islands, thereby constituting a key node of the inter-island transport network.



**700,000+**  
passengers on scheduled routes

The Port of Los Cristianos is of major importance to the to the transport of passengers and goods within the Canary Islands. In 2019 almost two million passengers went through this port. It also has a marina with 200 moorings, with a draft of 6 metres at low tide, for vessels up to 11 metres long.

Principal existing infrastructure in Tenerife

*Work is underway to join the TF-1 and TF-5 motorways on the eastern side of the island, to complete what is known as the island ring road.*

Land transport

The island has a surface area of **2,034 km<sup>2</sup>** and a vehicle population of **710,869** according to data published by the Canary Islands Statistics Institute (ISTAC) in 2017.

Road transport is basically carried out using the island's two most important motorways, the **South Tenerife motorway (TF-1)** and the **North Tenerife Motorway (TF-5)**.

**710,000+**  
vehicles

Island's surface area of  
**2,000+** km<sup>2</sup>

*South Tenerife motorway (TF-1)*

**80.85 km** in length, the South Tenerife motorway connects the island's capital, Santa Cruz, with the southern municipality of Adeje. In total it runs through **11** of Tenerife's 31 municipalities.

**80+**  
kilometres of motorway  
**11**  
municipalities connected

*North Tenerife motorway (TF-5)*

The North Tenerife motorway or TF-5 is **39.5 km** long and runs northeast-northwest.

The motorway connects San Cristóbal de La Laguna with Puerto de la Cruz and passes the Tenerife North airport (Los Rodeos). In total, the TF-5 runs through **ten municipalities**.

**39+**  
kilometres of motorway  
**10**  
municipalities connected

*North-South interconnecting motorway (TF-2)*

This **5.1 km** section of motorway links the TF1 and the TF 5.

**5+**  
kilometres of motorway

Work is underway to complete the section that will link TF-1 and TF-5 on the western side of the island, completing what is known as the island ring road making it possible to drive around the whole island by motorway.



## Principal existing infrastructure in Tenerife

### Tram

The island's tram, the Canary Islands' only rail transport system, provides a **direct connection** between the municipality of **Santa Cruz de Tenerife** and **San Cristóbal de La Laguna**.



### Telecommunications

In a world of ever-increasing **connections and telecommunications networks**, ensuring the

*The island is connected by means of various submarine cables guaranteeing telecommunications*

territory's connectivity is vital. There are several different networks that **connect the Canary Islands** with the **rest of the world**, guaranteeing data flow and social and economic growth.

### Submarine cable

Tenerife has several Submarine communications cable:

- ✓ **Inter-island:** Telefónica's cables connect Tenerife with the islands of La Palma, La Gomera and Gran Canaria. Moreover, the Canary Islands submarine cable by Canalink connect Tenerife with Gran Canaria and with La Palma.
- ✓ **International:** Telefónica's and Canalink's cables connect Tenerife with Cádiz and Morocco. The Africa Coast to Europe (ACE) system also is connected to the island.
- ✓ **Neutral Access Point (NAP):** Tenerife is the site of a world class data peering centre which serves as a neutral nexus of telecommunications aggregation and distribution for the traffic of three continents (Europe, Africa and the Americas).

The TFZ, currently under expansion, offers companies **238,590 square metres** of space for the location of their facilities, in two zones:

- The Tenerife Free Zone currently harbours the following business activities, distributed throughout its two main zones:

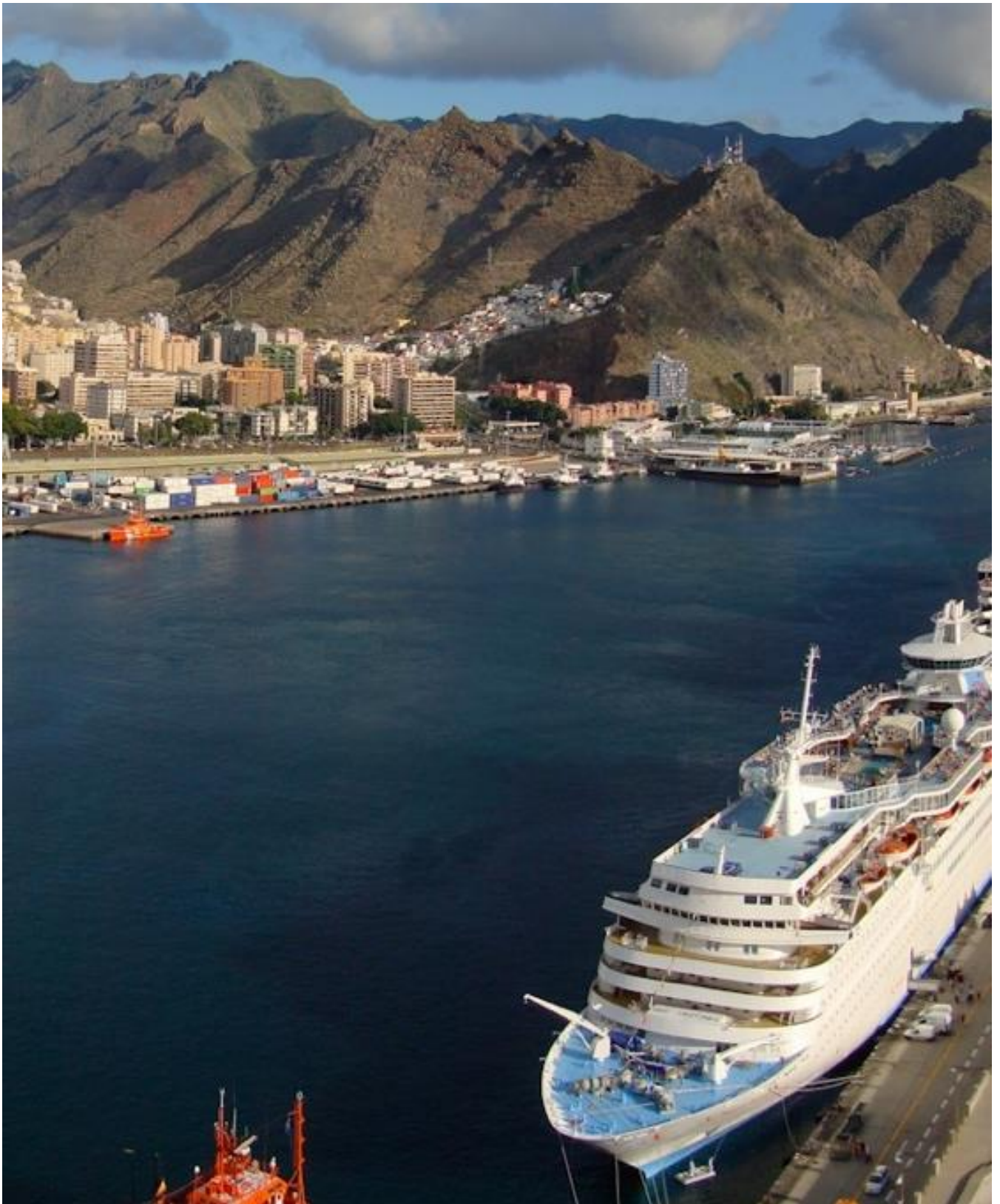
The companies installed in the TFZ's Cabo Llanos Zone engage in the following **lines of business**:

- 

As for the Fishing Dock Zone, the TFZ has **companies** in the following lines of business:

-

Port of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Santa  
Cruz de Tenerife



# Human capital

Main data on the island's human capital

The island of Tenerife is home to a group of top professionals with high degrees of training, skills and qualifications in various fields, which enables the provision of a wide range of services on the island.

The island also has an extensive spectrum of training opportunities thanks to a complete system of public and private universities, and business centres.

*The island of Tenerife has a young population, 13.7% of whom are foreign residents*

## Population

According to data provided by the Canary Islands Statistics Institute (ISTAC), the island has a population of **917,841**, **125,717** of whom are foreign residents, which, account for **13.7%**.The population´s **average age** of is **41.9 years**, making it a youthful population.

Furthermore, according to Spanish National Statistics Institute (INE) data (2020), the Autonomous Community of the Canary Islands has the **lowest gross labour cost per worker** in all of Spain at EUR 1,950.07 a month -compared with the national average of EUR 2,525.41-, far lower than the figure for the Basque Country, which is the Autonomous Community with the highest monthly labour cost per worker at EUR 3,081.42.

**917,000+**  
inhabitants on  
the island of  
Tenerife

**163,000+**  
young people  
between the  
ages of 15 and  
30

**466,000+**  
women on the  
island of  
Tenerife

**450,000+**  
men on the  
island of  
Tenerife

**13.7%**  
of the  
population are  
foreign  
residents  
**483,000+**  
people in the  
working  
population



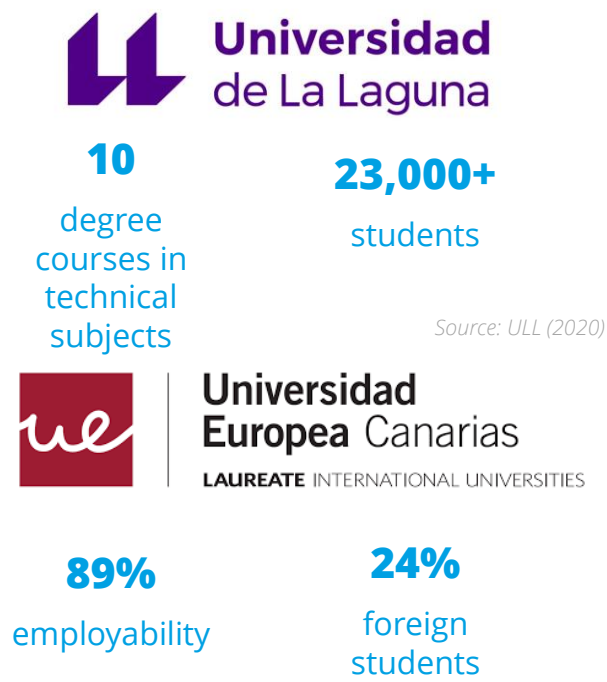
Main data on the island's human capital

*The island has an extensive training offering providing skilled professionals in various fields*

Education

The island boasts a **quality education system**, with public and private schools and centres covering every stage in the education process.

There are currently two universities In Tenerife, the public **University of La Laguna (ULL)**, and the private **European University of the Canary Islands (UEC)**, ranked third for teaching at the national level and first in the Canary Islands according to the U-Ranking of Spanish universities, which offer a wide range of possibilities for the training of the island's future workforce.



The island also has various **business schools** spread across its different municipalities, which provide professionals aiming to take a step further in their careers with an opportunity to complete their training:

- ✓ AICAD Business School.
- ✓ Canary Islands Business School (ENIC).
- ✓ European School of Management (ESM).
- ✓ Canary Islands School of Business.
- ✓ Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Shipping of Santa Cruz de Tenerife.



Also worthy of note is the work of the Tenerife island council to promote training on the island.





# Science and innovation capital

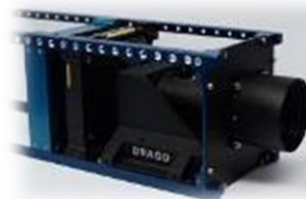
Agents driving innovation on the island

A large number of agents promote **scientific development and innovation** in the Island of Tenerife, which encourages the companies setting up operations on the island.

## Institute of Astrophysics of the Canary Islands

The Institute of Astrophysics of the Canary Islands (IAC), located in the island of Tenerife, is a public research body responsible for management of two of the **most important international observatories** in the world (the Teide Observatory and the Roque de los Muchachos Observatory on the island of La Palma). Recently, an infrared space camera developed through IACTEC -headquarters of the Space, Medical Technology and Large Telescopes teams- was launched into space by SpaceX.

*The island's science and innovation ecosystem boost companies located in the island of Tenerife*



*Drago, which stands for Demonstrator of Remote Analysis of Ground Observations, is the first instrument developed entirely by the IACTEC - Space team of the Institute of Astrophysics of the Canary Islands for the company SpaceX, and is a shortwave infrared space camera for Earth observation.*



*The Special Spanish State Representative for the Free Zone of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Margarita Pena, together with the Director of the IAC, Rafael Rebolledo (2021)*

Agents driving innovation on the island

*There are various institutions driving innovation on the island of Tenerife*

### INtech Tenerife

Is a Tenerife based company with the mission of **improving the competitiveness and economic development of the island's business fabric through innovation**. In order to do so Intech Tenerife aims to **provide a boost for all innovative and technology-based companies**, and for companies engaged in **research, development or production of applied technology**, through the promotion of knowledge transfer and the hiring of specialist talent.



**Technology Institute of the Canary Islands**

An entity belonging to the Government of the Canary Islands which fosters the promotion of research and innovation that can be applied to the production sector. It also participates in collaborative projects and international cooperation projects.



### Scientific community

**These centres under** University of La Laguna **aegis** program promote research and provide a framework for the island's scientific community, including most notably the following centres:

*The University Institute of Tropical Diseases and Public Health of the Canary Islands*

Is a **multidisciplinary institution** in which lecturers, researchers and professionals in the **fields of Public Health and Biotechnology** engage in **research, the development of initiatives and innovation**. This centre has been awarded the Gold Medal of the Canary Islands.



*General Foundation of the ULL*

With the mission to **promote talent**, this foundation's role includes the provision of **specialist training, knowledge transfer and research, innovation management, promotion of entrepreneurship and labour market integration**.



## Agents driving innovation on the island

### *The Office for the Transfer of Research Results of the University of La Laguna*

The Vice-Rector for Research at the university is charged with establishing **channels for collaboration and cooperation** between the **research** carried out at the university and the **socio-economic and business environment** on the island. It is also responsible with the promotion and the provision of advice to potential customers and research staff in order to generate synergies, thus facilitating the start-up of projects.



### *SEGAI*

The General Research Support Service (SEGAI) of the ULL is an entity whose mission is to **provide scientific, instrumental and technical support** for research groups at the university and for external researchers.



### *The Antonio González Bioorganic University Institute (IUBO-AG)*

A centre dedicated to researching Bioactive Natural Products. Its objectives currently include isolating compounds; biosynthesis; cultivating microorganisms; biotechnology and the synthesis of entire pharmacologically active substances from natural sources.

*The University of La Laguna has various entities that promote the scientific community and business fabric of the island*

Agents driving innovation on the island

*There are Institutions on Tenerife that are committed to research to further the socio-economic development of the island*

**Technology and Renewable Energies Institute (ITER)**

An entity created by the island council of Tenerife in 1990 to promote sustainable development and innovation on the island. It is an internationally renowned research centre in the field of renewable energies, engineering, telecommunications and the environment.



**INVOLCAN**

The Volcanology Institute of the Canary Islands aims to improve and optimise the management of volcanic risk in Spain and other at-risk regions, through scientific development, cooperation and training and dissemination. It also strives to improve the management of volcanically active regions to strengthen the economic and business fabric associated with the tourism, energy and environment industries, by promoting geo-tourism, geothermal energy and other geological resources.



**IPNA - CSIC**

The Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) delegation in the Canary Islands is located in San Cristóbal de La Laguna, at the headquarters of the Institute of Natural Products and Agrobiology (IPNA).

Its main objective is to coordinate and strengthen relations between the Spanish National Research Council and the various public and private institutions in the Autonomous Community.



**Canary Islands Oceanography Centre**

Located at the Fishing Dock in Santa Cruz de Tenerife, this is one of the nine Oceanography Centres of the Spanish Oceanography Institute. Its facilities include:

- ✓ Biology, microscopy, genetics, physics and chemistry laboratories.
- ✓ Biological sample and collections rooms, material warehouses and cold storage chambers.





# Economic and investment ecosystem

Identification of the key economic players located on the island of Tenerife

Based in Tenerife island council data, the manufacturing industry has several business opportunities, since it is currently focussed primarily on the agri-food transformation and tobacco industries.

Regarding the primary sector, 10% of the land surface of the island is currently cultivated, mainly through dryland farming (vines and potatoes), and only a minority of the land is irrigated (principally banana and tomato crops).

By contrast, the tertiary sector stands out clearly as the star performer, since it accounts for 74.6% of the total economy, primarily as a result of tourism.

**74%+**

of GDP relates to the services industry in Tenerife

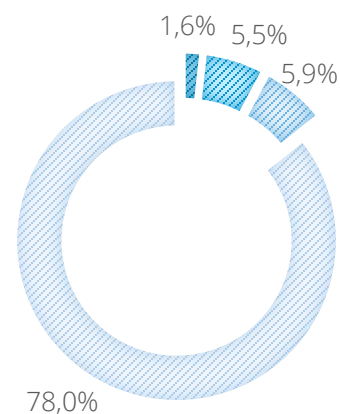
Observing the figures for the Canary Islands as a whole, the services industry is once again in a far better position than the others, accounting for 78% of GDP in 2019 according to ISTAC data.

It should be noted that the GDP of the Canary Islands totals EUR 47,164 million, which makes this Autonomous Community the eighth largest economy in Spain in terms of GDP volume. Also, per capita GDP in the Canary Islands stands at EUR 21,244, compared with per capita GDP of EUR 23,640 in Spain as a whole.

*The services industry stands out above the others in the island's economy, due to the importance of its economic powerhouse - tourism*

## 2019 GVA structure in the Canary Islands

■ Agricultura ■ Industria ■ Construcción ■ Servicios



Source: ISTAC (2019)

**EUR 47,164 M**

annual GDP in the Canary Islands

**EUR 21,244**

per capita GDP in the Canary Islands

Source: Datosmacro (2019)



Identification of the key economic players located on the island of Tenerife

*The business fabric of the island is backed by various associations and clusters on which it can rely to promote its growth*

Economic ecosystem

Tenerife has a group of entities that promote the growth of the island's companies through various **associations and clusters** on which they can rely for support:



Conference Centres

It should also be noted that the island has several centres for the organisation of conferences, which have hosted international events such as the Starmus festival attended by Stephen Hawking in 2014.

- ✓ Magma Art and Conference Centre, in Adeje.
- ✓ Tenerife International Trade Fair and Conference Centre, in Santa Cruz de Tenerife.
- ✓ Puerto de la Cruz Conference Centre.
- ✓ Arona Pyramid Conference Centre.

Port of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, in Santa Cruz de Tenerife



# Quality of life

Main data on the distinguishing features of life in Tenerife

The island is proud of its **excellent quality of life**, which is the result of magnificent weather, outstanding healthcare and a highly-varied leisure offering.

## Weather

The island of Tenerife has a climate characterised by **mild temperatures** in both summer and winter, with a wealth of sunshine and temperatures ranging between 17°C and 25°C throughout the year.

Also, thanks to the topography of the island, climates vary from place to place, which affords the island a **value setting it apart from other locations**. The island's **rich landscape** allows nature lovers to enjoy every corner of Tenerife.



**21.5°C**

average annual  
temperature



**18.9 mm**

average monthly  
precipitation



**240.6  
hours**

average monthly  
sunshine

*The Tenerife Free Zone is located on an island with exceptional conditions that ensure its inhabitants enjoy an excellent quality of life*

## Healthcare services

The island has first class healthcare infrastructure, making it possible to cover the needs of its inhabitants at the hospitals of the **Canary Islands Health Service and at private healthcare centres**. the Canary Islands Health Service has several hospitals located in the island:

- ✓ **Hospital Universitario de Canarias**, located in the municipality of San Cristóbal de La Laguna in the north of the island, has 826 beds and is the referral hospital for the island of La Palma. It has the following dependent hospital:

✧ *Hospital del Norte de Tenerife*, located in Icod de los Vinos.

- ✓ **Hospital Universitario Nuestra Señora de Candelaria**, located in the capital of the island, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, has 1,066 beds and is the referral hospital for La Gomera and El Hierro, with its respective dependent hospitals:

✧ *Hospital del Sur de Tenerife*, in Arona.

✧ *Hospital de Ofra*, in San Cristóbal de La Laguna.



**38** healthcare centres



**1,892** hospital beds



Main data on the distinguishing features of life in Tenerife

*The leisure offering par excellence of the island of Tenerife is its Carnival, especially the Carnival held in Santa Cruz de Tenerife.*

Leisure offering

A wide variety of leisure and cultural events are held on the island of Tenerife, bringing great enjoyment to the lives of the island's inhabitants.

Carnival

Carnival is one of the **biggest festivals** held on the island of Tenerife, and is especially important in Santa Cruz de Tenerife, the island's capital. Over several days and nights the city is filled with the **vivid colours** of the costumes and the joy of the inhabitants taking part in the festival in the streets of the capital.



35

million euros in economic impact



1,000,000+

participants

Baile de magos (Peasants' dance)

One of the big festivals held in Santa Cruz, which begins with the floral offering to the virgin of Candelaria. People in traditional dress then gather around the musicians to share *gofio amasado* (rolled toasted flour), local wine and the best typical Canary island fare. The whole celebration is also accompanied by the traditional *Taifas* dance, at which various folkloric groups perform.

Romerías

Each municipality has its own *romerías* or **festive processions**. Tenerife's villages are the stage for these **traditional festivals**, at which the inhabitants wear traditional dress, bring colourfully decorated wagons onto the streets and serve **traditional food** to visitors while music is played on unique local instruments.

One of the most popular is the **Romería of San Marcos**, in the municipality of Tegueste, which in 2018 was attended by more than 80,000 people, according to the Tenerife Tourism website. Another notable example is the **Romería of San Benito**, which is held on the second Sunday of July, although the celebration traditionally starts on June 30. This festival has been declared a **Festival of National Tourist Interest**.

80,000+

participants at the Romería of Tegueste

Main data on the distinguishing features of life in Tenerife

*Teide Peak is the highest point on the island, in the Autonomous Community and in Spain*

#### *Teide National Park*

This is the largest and oldest national park in the Canary Islands and has been declared a **World Heritage Site by UNESCO**. **Teide Peak**, which at 3,718 metres is the highest peak in Spain, is to be found in the park.

**4,327,000+**

visitors in 2017

*Source: ISTAC (2017)*

#### *World Heritage City*

The city of San Cristóbal de La Laguna was declared a **World Heritage Site** by UNESCO in 1999 due to its universal and exceptional value. It is considered to be the ideal 'city-territory', and was the first example of a non-fortified city conceived and built according to a plan inspired by navigation.

**500+ years of history**  
**600+ original façades**

and dozens of courtyards

#### *Holy Week in San Cristóbal de la Laguna*

Holy Week in the city of San Cristobal de La Laguna is famous for the large number of processional floats carried through the streets, which are renowned for their meticulous gold work decorating the thrones.

One of the biggest attractions are the processions that take place on Good Friday: the Magna Procession and the Procession of Silence, in which the Dead Christ is carried at night to the Parish of Santo Domingo in complete silence. The streets of the town remain in total darkness as the procession passes by, with no musical accompaniment, so that only the footsteps and chains of the penitents can be heard.

**25 Brotherhoods and Guilds**

in charge of the Holy Week processions

Main data on the distinguishing features of life in Tenerife

More than 360,000 people visited museums on the island in 2019

Cultural offering

In addition, Tenerife has an extensive cultural offering composed of funds, collections, exhibitions and activities, affording a broader and richer view of the history and culture of the island.

There are therefore various areas to be discovered: from the Museum of Natural History and Archaeology (MUNA), through the Museum of Science and the Cosmos, to Casa Lercaro, home to the Museum of History and Anthropology, and also including the Cueva del Viento (Wind Cave). Another of the most visited museums on the island is the Cristino de Vera Foundation, showcasing one of the greatest exponents of twentieth-century art.

Numerous activities are organized in these museums, including evening events and museum nights.

Also of particular note is the music of Tenerife: the **Canary Islands International Music Festival (FIMC)** and the **Tenerife Opera Festival**.

In the municipality of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, where the Tenerife Free Zone (TFZ) is located, cultural activities abound thanks to the efforts of the **Autonomous Cultural Body (OAC)**. In this respect, it has the following facilities and activities:



360,000+

visitors and users visited Tenerife's museums in 2019

The island also hosts several international festivals, including most notably the **Tenerife International Film Music Festival (FIMUCITÉ)** and the **International Documentary Film Festival** held in Guía de Isora, called **MiradasDoc**.

Main data on the distinguishing features of life in Tenerife

*The Tenerife Auditorium in Santa Cruz is an emblem of the city due to its immense architectural appeal*

Other notable cultural buildings also in the city of Santa Cruz de Tenerife include:

- ✓ The Tenerife Arts Space (TEA) is a contemporary art centre managed by the Tenerife island council, which holds a range of exhibitions, workshops, guided tours and cultural activities for its visitors.
- ✓

The building, wh  
together with th  
architecture.



erre de Meuron  
tractive piece of



Adán Martín Tenerife Auditorium, Santa  
Cruz de Tenerife





# Contact details



+34 922 100 988



[Info@zonafrancatenerife.es](mailto:Info@zonafrancatenerife.es)



[www.zonafrancatenerife.es](http://www.zonafrancatenerife.es)

Tenerife Free Zone  
(ZFT)

Avenida Francisco La Roche, 49  
38001  
Santa Cruz de Tenerife

