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IBIZA HIKE STATION

BREATHE, RELAX, HIKE: DISCOVER THE HIDDEN IBIZA

"Travelling by foot, you discover the best views," says Manuel Ehrensperger, founder of Ibiza Hike Station, the private experience company that allows visitors and locals to explore and see sides of Ibiza they never even knew existed, and whose adventures regularly carry him off-road and off-map.

"There's so much to unveil: caves, hidden coves, natural pools, the underworld... The north is where you'll find the secret forests", he says, but the goal of Manuel's guided tours has as much to do with self-discovery and awareness as spotting snapshots for Instagram. Tours are tailor-made and personalized and can include mindfulness hiking meditation, a hiking tour with sound healing in a cave, or breathwork sessions in some of the island's most magical settings.

It's a far cry from the Ibiza of the nightclubs and the urbanism of the island's south coast that literally takes you in a different direction, with nature as the new luxury and hiking as a way to find yourself, to release, and recharge that mirrors Manuel's personal story.

"Becoming a Hiker Coach (guide) was never the plan," he explains. After originally graduating from the prestigious EHL Hospitality Business School in Switzerland and following a successful career in top-tier management for luxury fashion companies for over 20 years, today he's a fully licensed guide with Red Cross First Aid Certificate operating with a Professional Civil Liability Insurance: "But in a way, management is another form of offering guidance" he adds.

"When I resigned from my position as a CEO, it was to reconnect with myself. I hiked 800km on the Camino de Santiago de Compostela, alone, in silence... What did I learn? To go far in life, you must go lightly. I needed to slow down. This career step felt natural, despite being unplanned".

– To fully appreciate it, you have to hike it –

"I came to Ibiza to discover the power of nature, the beauty of the island, and to live in the present. I started hiking all day, every day four years ago. The local farmers showed me everything. They told me stories of the land, showed me the old fishermen's trails, taught me about the ancestral arts of fishing, hunting, farming... Thanks to them I began to understand the authentic Ibiza and what makes it such a treasure".

"Taking friends with me - international DJs, expats, anyone I knew - I realised that not many people had experienced what is actually the most powerful version of the island. To fully appreciate it, you have to hike it".

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