



The dreamed
business climate



BEST IN GRAN CANARIA

Gran Canaria is one of the Canary Islands, an autonomous region of Spain. It is also an outermost region of the European Union, therefore, subject to the legal systems of both Spain and the EU.

The right balance between quality of life & professional ventures requires the right location: an island that is connected, safe, stable and welcoming.

Gran Canaria offers a unique environment for investment, entrepreneurship and the development of business and commercial activities, including one of the most competitive tax regimes in Europe.

It is a global island where professional and personal opportunities go hand in hand. A place worth staying in: a destination where business and quality of life naturally coexist.



European Union
Territory



Strategic location and
proximity to the African market



International
Connectivity



Competitive
taxation



Quality of life



Local and
international talent



Growing R&D
ecosystem

TAX AND INVESTMENT: A UNIQUE SET-UP WITHIN THE EU

The Canary Islands enjoy a special Economic and Fiscal Regime (REF), **in full compliance** with European regulations. This regime is aimed at economic diversification and investment attraction, offering a low tax burden on corporate profits, reduced consumption taxes, as well as other investment incentives.

Any company located in Gran Canaria could benefit from a combination of incentives, deductions and tax breaks, according to the business case and the project cycle.

REF incentives are fully compatible with one another and can be combined with other state or EU grants. The overall accumulation is subject to the EU regional aid map limits, offering some of the highest public support intensities in Europe for investment and job creation.

KEY TAX INCENTIVES

- **Canary Islands Special Zone (ZEC):** a tax regime that allows companies to apply a **reduced corporate tax rate of 4%**, subject to investment and job creation requirements. This regime is particularly attractive to investors from third countries as no withholding tax is levied to the repatriation of dividends or on interest payments to the parent company.
- **Canary Islands Investment Reserve (RIC):** It allows companies to reduce their corporate taxable income (**up to 90% of undistributed profits** generated in the Canary Islands), provided that the amount is reinvested in the company's local growth plans, especially in new fixed assets, new jobs and R&D.
- **Deduction for investment in fixed assets:** 25% of the amount invested in new fixed assets, excluding land, may be deducted from the tax quota.
- **Deduction for the production of physical goods (agriculture, livestock, fishing, industrial):** This incentive offers a 50% deduction in the gross tax liability to income generated from goods produced in the Canary Islands, i.e., the effective tax rate goes from 25% to 12.5% for said income or 2% for ZEC-entities.

**REDUCED TAXATION
AND FUNDING**

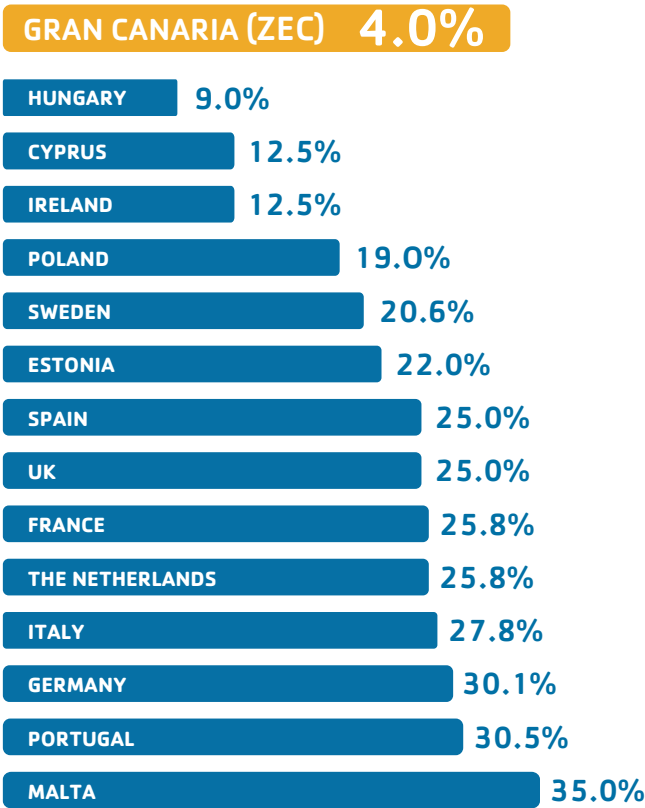


- **Deduction for investments in R&D and audiovisual production** which can be transformed into a cash rebate.
 - **Technological Innovation: Up to 45%** of your expenditure in the innovation/improvement of products or processes
 - **Up to 75%** when it comes to **Research & Development activities**
 - National and international **audiovisual productions: 54%–45%**
- **Gran Canaria Free Trade Zone (FTZ):** Located in its two main ports, the Gran Canaria FTZs are areas where the storage, transformation, and distribution of goods are fully exempt from customs duties and taxes.
- **Indirect Canary Islands Tax (IGIC).** The Canary Islands' equivalent to VAT is significantly lower than in mainland Spain and Europe (standard rate stands at 7%).

FINANCING & SUBSIDIES

Investments made in Gran Canaria are eligible for subsidies and other national and regional financial instruments aimed at financing industrial investment, R&D and innovation, environmental improvements and international freight transport. Most importantly, subsidies strongly support local training and recruitment.

NOMINAL CORPORATE TAX RATE ACROSS EUROPE 2025



Compilation based on information supplied by Economic Cooperation and Development, 12/2025.

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Thanks to its connectivity, qualified workforce and competitive tax framework, Gran Canaria is an attractive location for professional and corporate ventures.

Several factors explain why Gran Canaria is positioned as a Global Business Island: a relevant regional market, strong tourism-driven demand, access to qualified professionals and the role of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria as the economic capital of the Canary Islands.

A REGIONAL BUSINESS & TALENT HUB

Gran Canaria is home to slightly more than 880,000 inhabitants and is the preferred travel destination to some other 350,000 tourists per month, on average. It is also the chosen home-base for many professionals arriving from mainland Spain, Europe, the Americas and the Far East. Most of them are involved in tourism, offshore energies, audiovisual production, start-ups and digital innovation. As a matter of fact, **the island has a reputation as an ideal destination for remote workers and expats**, frequently ranked among leading global destinations for remote workers.

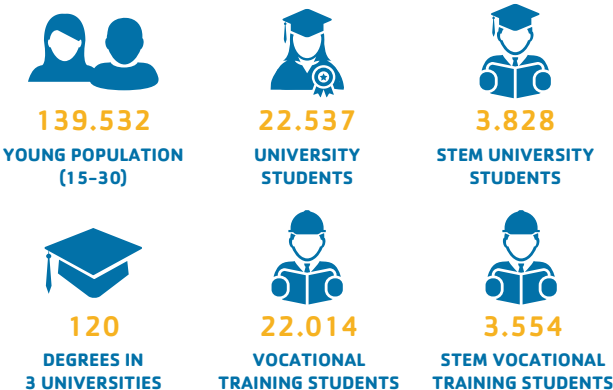
The multiple opportunities are to be activated not only in the Island, but also looking beyond our immediate reach. **Gran Canaria is indeed a relevant base for Africa-oriented companies.**

The **high proportion of skilled young people constitute the very heart of the island's value proposition**, including university and technical degrees. Gran Canaria is particularly associated with STEM studies (most notably, IT, industrial and data engineering, Maritime/Blue Sciences).

Local Market Data 2025



Talent Pool 2025



DIGITAL GATEWAY TO THE WORLD

Gran Canaria is connected to several subsea cables crossing the Atlantic and is therefore a full-scale digital node. **Companies can rely on cost effective, high quality and secure connectivity via local and international providers, matching Western European standards.**

A vast fiber network (including dark fiber) is available. **Broadband access up to 1Gbps is guaranteed** in all major towns with ADSL coverage in the remote areas, while mobile broadband up to 300/30Mbps is secured in 98% of the island's territory. Meanwhile, the 5G network covers all urban areas. Private initiative and the public neutral telecommunications operator are equally involved in expanding the local network.

TECHNOLOGY PARK AND BUSINESS CENTERS

Companies can choose from a multitude of locations to establish their base, with **different economic zones strategically positioned across the island, all located less than 30 minutes apart.**

There are industrial and logistics premises in or around the main ports and airport, and several other private and publicly-managed commercial and industrial parks (eg. the 7 million+ sqm Industrial Area of Arinaga in the South East).

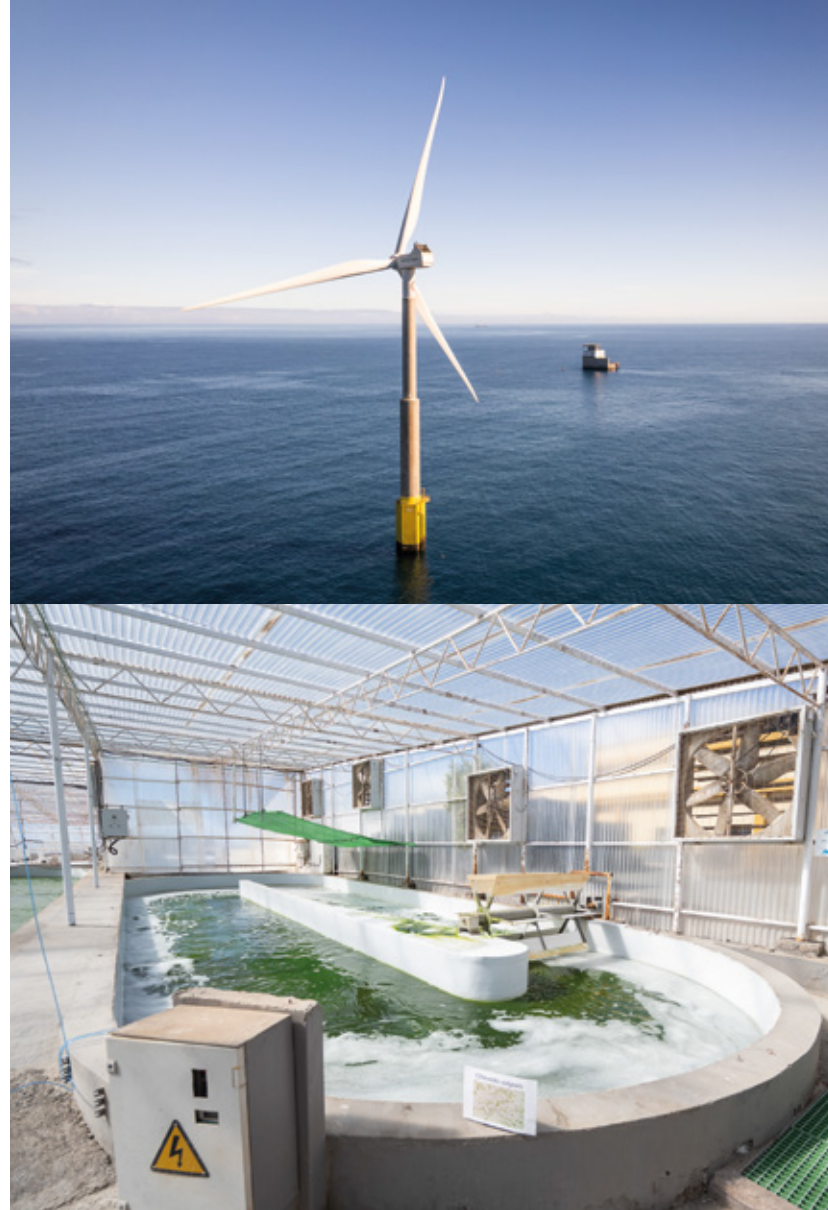
Similarly, the **Gran Canaria Technology Park** provides flexible options for emerging and expanding companies developing innovative technologies.

In addition, the island offers a wide range of coworking spaces, traditional office spaces, services and infrastructure.

R&D RESOURCES

R&D resources are mostly linked to the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, home to, 117 research groups and more than 1,000 researchers, spread among 11 research institutes. Complementing this academic foundation is the **Canary Islands Technology Institute (ITC)**, a key drive of regional innovation and technological development.

Gran Canaria hosts Spain's prime maritime test-bed and research station for offshore energies and aquaculture at **PLOCAN (Canary Islands Oceanic Platform)**. Furthermore, the island is home to two national High Tech Incubators specialising in Marine Biotechnology and Aquaculture and in Artificial Intelligence in the maritime sector. Driven by these assets, the island's core research focus is on offshore energies, IT & communications and Biotechnology, alongside national leadership in the BlueEconomy, Desalination and Agri-research.



ADVANCED CONNECTIVITY

Gran Canaria benefits from a key geostrategic position and receives around 4.8 million tourists per year, strengthening its role as a major connectivity node in the region.

Gran Canaria has developed excellent communications infrastructures (Airport, Port, submarine cables), which allow for a fully connected business experience.

AIR CONNECTIVITY

The Airport of Gran Canaria (LPA) links the island with over 154 destinations in Spain, Europe and Africa. It is widely connected not only to international hubs, but also to nearly all mid-sized airports of Western and Northern Europe (17xGermany, 18xUK, 35xScandinavia). It is also the gate to 9 destinations in 4 West African nations

AIRPORT DATA 2025



15,8 M

TRAVELLERS
#6 Spain



154

DIRECT
DESTINATIONS



29

COUNTRIES DIRECTLY
CONNECTED



18,6 M

CARGO
TONNAGE



52

OPERATING
AIRLINES



MARITIME CONNECTIVITY AND PORT SERVICES

Gran Canaria is a historical stop in the Atlantic and a major gateway to West Africa. Today, this geo-strategic position makes the island a leading hub for the shipping, logistics, and oil & gas sectors.

It is home to the Port of Las Palmas, a logistics and service centre, covering the whole scope of maritime activities (ship repairs & supplies, bunkering & blending, cargo transits, passenger and cruise traffic, etc.). It is a global O&G base, a Port transit station

and the distribution base for the UN World Food Programme and the International Red Cross.

On top of hosting the busiest port in the Mid Atlantic, Gran Canaria has an extended network of 11 smaller ports, including a fully dedicated oil-transit port, a multipurpose offshore and dry-bulk port, a R&D-focused facility and 5 marinas.

Port data 2025



2,726,019
TRAVELLERS
#5 Spain



994,954
CRUISE TRAVELLERS
#3 Spain



#4
PORT OF SPAIN
Total cargo



1,412,598
CONTAINERS (TEU)
#4 Spain



2,855,534
BUNKERS
DELIVERED (TM)
#2 Spain



SHIP REPAIRS/
O&G/OFFSHORE ENERGIES



FULLY CONNECTED
TO GLOBAL MARKETS

QUALITY OF LIFE

Gran Canaria has been an internationally recognised destination for decades. Its climate, natural landscapes, local cuisine, historical heritage, cultural and sports activities are complemented by strong health services, safety, cosmopolitan character and hospitality. This hard-to-find combination is both a magnet for tourists and year-round residents, making Gran Canaria an ideal place to live and work.

HEALTH AND EDUCATION SERVICES

The quality of the health services available in Gran Canaria equals those of any large European city. Citizens of the European Union have the right to healthcare and treatment in the public health centres and hospitals of the island. They may also use private health facilities via insurers, allowing for total health coverage for expats and remote workers.

Plenty of options are available for every level of education, including a wide array of international schools, especially, English schools. Gran Canaria has

been traditionally linked with other maritime nations, thus explaining the presence of the King Sejong Institute, for Korean and the Confucius Institute for Chinese.

CLIMATE AND NATURAL SCENERIES

An average temperature of 23°C with more than 4,800 hours of sunshine a year and rare extreme weather conditions consistently place Gran Canaria at the top of international pleasant-weather rankings.

Services 2025



4 PUBLIC HOSPITALS
9 PRIVATE HOSPITALS



1.949
HOSPITAL BEDS



53
PUBLIC
HEALTH CENTERS



245
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOLS



118
SECONDARY
SCHOOLS



14
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOLS



217
BILINGUAL PUBLIC
EDUCATIONAL CENTERS
(CLIL)





THE CITY OF LAS PALMAS DE GRAN CANARIA: A MAJOR REFERENCE POINT

The city of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, with a population of over 380,000, provides an excellent urban environment in which to live, work and enjoy oneself.

Its cosmopolitan atmosphere, legacy of a varied cultural influx, digital connectivity and wide range of shopping and recreational areas, together with its urban beaches, have made the island a magnet for global talent. It is one of the region's main cultural and live event hubs.

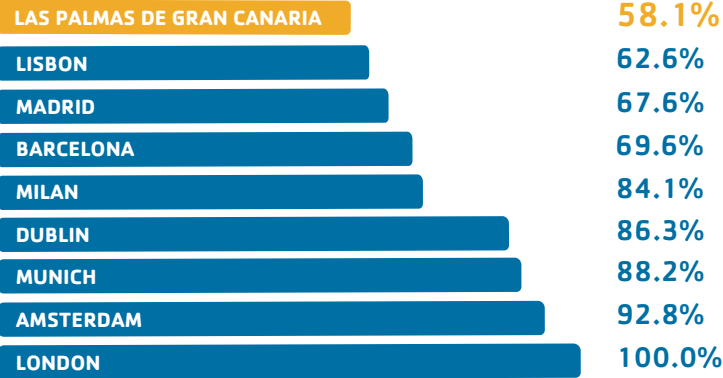
A VARIETY OF LEISURE ACTIVITIES

Gran Canaria is an open-air destination for sports & leisure throughout the year. Mild climate, healthy lifestyle and the islanders' natural care for the environment (World Biosphere Reserve) set the basics of an outdoor playground, equally available for the sports elite, the amateur golf-player with 7 grounds, the yacht-lover with 5 marinas and the regular bike enthusiast.

At the same time, Gran Canaria is brimming with historical and archaeological sites, most of them dating back to the pre-Hispanic era. A World Heritage Site at 'Risco Caído and the Sacred Mountains' and the Painted Cave of Galdar are some of the key cultural and heritage attractions.

All these activities are **best combined with a taste of the local gastronomy**. From tropical plantations, high-mountain cheeseries and volcanic-land vineries to the only coffee producing area of Europe, the landscape already reveals a local likeness for the sheer simplicity in cooking and the uttermost delivery of flavour and quality.

Cost of living index 2025



Compilation based on information supplied by Numbeo; 'Cost of Living', 12/2025

BEST IN GRAN CANARIA



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MORE INFO/DOWNLOADS

More information:
www.bestingrancanaria.com
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CONTACT