

The Formentera Culture Department and the Three Kings Association report that the Three Wise Men of the East have confirmed plans to visit the island on 5 January, tailoring the "cavalcada" to facilitate full compliance with public health protocol.

Scheduled route

Setting out from La Mola lighthouse at 4.00pm, the Magi will continue on a tour of Formentera towns along PM 820-2, forgoing traditional stops in order to ensure respect for hygiene and safety rules in place. The cavalcade's estimated passage in El Pilar de la Mola (and along the stretch of highway known as avinguda de la Mola) is 4.15pm. Next the cortege cuts through Es Caló de Sant Agustí approximately 15 minutes later, reaching Sant Ferran de ses Roques (where the highway becomes carrer Joan Castelló Guasch) at roughly 4.45pm. Immediately afterward the procession will enter the roundabout and turn onto carrer Universitat toward Es Pujols. The parade will stop just short of town, turning onto the ring road (carrer Barcelona) at about 5.00pm, and carrying on along PM 820-2 until La Savina. There, the Magi will descend avinguda de la Mediterrània, then carrer s'Almadrava and at last avinguda de la Mediterrània again, leaving town at roughly 5.15pm. The procession will mount PM 820-2 towards Sant Francesc and enter town at 5.30pm via carrer Pla del Rei, staying on the Es Cap highway until reaching the municipal football pitch roughly 15 minutes later. The final leg of the route will see processionists advance on the Sant Frances ring road, carrer de sa Tanca Vella, with the estimated conclusion of the cavalcade's run at 6.00pm.

The Consell de Formentera has printed a map of the parade route for revellers. Organisers hope to discourage islanders from crowding at greeting points, recommending instead that children catch the procession from whichever spot along the Kings' route is closest to home. Due to the epidemiological situation, the Consell is urging islanders to limit groups to children and parents or guardians — or namely, stable family units. Acutely vulnerable individuals and adults not accompanying children are encouraged not to stop along the procession route so that children can enjoy the event with the highest possible level of safety.

Since crowds are expected to be particularly large in Sant Francesc and Sant Ferran, additional Consell staff will be deployed to these areas to ensure compliance with capacity limitations and safe two-metre distancing between separate family units. Masks must be worn at all times.

Culture and festivities councillor Susana Labrador highlighted the effort that has gone into ensuring local youngsters could continue to enjoy the magic of the Three Wise Men of the East amid scarcely typical circumstances. She also asked all islanders to eschew crowds and social contact with people outside their stable bubble. "We're asking all of Formentera to be responsible. Whether in a town or on the roadside, take children only as far from home as necessary to see the cavalcade. Respect safe distancing and other public health protocol. If we do these things, we'll be able to enjoy Their Majesties' visit without endangering our own health or that of our neighbour." Labrador praised Three Kings Association's hard work and dedication in making the cavalcade's historic visit a reality once again.

The Magi's visit may be canceled if the epidemiological situation requires.

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Communications Department
Consell de Formentera