

The Formentera office of trade reports that the start of sales tomorrow, Wednesday 24 June, at the La Savina market signals the return of artisans and artists to seasonal bazaars across the island, as vendors in Es Pujols and Sant Francesc start their season on 28 June, and still others follow soon after — on 1 July in La Mola and a day later in Sant Ferran.

Marketplaces will remain open until October, while local government has pledged to reimburse 100% of the fees street-side merchants pay to ply their trades on the public thoroughfare.

Crowds will be kept at three quarters capacity this year amid the Covid-19 public health crisis. And, though the most recent decree from the Balearic administration requires a minimum safe distance between stands, trade consellera Ana Juan highlighted work between the department and sellers to maximise space whenever possible. Marketgoers in La Mola will notice stalls have spilled over into an additional lot and onto the town's main arterial, while shoppers in Es Pujols will find vendors have inched into nearby Carrer Cartagena in an effort to allow physical distancing.

Other pre-season tweaks included revamping worse for wear stalls in Sant Ferran, and electrical work around the market in Es Pujols.

The consellera said that in recent weeks artisans of the island had been contacted one by one as organisers teed up the coming season, which she predicted would be unique. "Our markets are among Formentera's biggest tourist draws, not to mention a remarkable source of dynamism in summer", confided Juan, who trusted that, even given the atypical state of play in summer 2020, bustling marketplaces would slowly work to rouse the island from slumber.

Markets will open as follows:

La Savina market

From 24 June, Monday to Sunday from 10.00am to 10.00pm.

Es Pujols market

From 28 June, Monday to Sunday from 7.00pm to 12 midnight. In 2020 stalls additionally occupy Carrer Cartagena.

Sant Francesc market

From 28 June, Monday to Sunday from 10.00am to 12 midnight.

La Mola craft market

From 1 July, Wednesdays and Sundays from 5.00pm to 10.00pm. In 2020 stalls additionally occupy adjacent lot and Avinguda de la Mola.

Sant Ferran craft and art market

From 2 July, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 8.00pm to 12 midnight.

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