



The Govern Balear's Directorate General of Public Health and Community Involvement performs periodic quality checks of swimming areas in the Balearic Islands.

Formentera has got seven local spots that are reviewed as part of the quality tests: Migjorn (eastern and western zones), Cala Saona, Illetes, Llevant, Sa Roqueta and Es Pujols. Water samples are collected from each spot for analysis and notes are taken regarding the visible conditions of cleanliness at each beach.

Results from the most recent of these quality checks certify not only the cleanliness of the beaches, but also the fact that swimming conditions in Formentera outscore those in the Eivissa and the entire rest of the Balearic Islands. In 2013, 100% of the samples obtained from Formentera waters received a score of 'excellent', whereas this same qualification was only applied to 95% of the samples taken from Eivissa, 94% of those from Menorca and 84% from Mallorca.

This year, sampling was performed on a weekly basis starting 18 May and continuing through today. All of the samples – available for review on the Directorate General's website – were qualified as 'excellent'.

Silvia Tur, councillor of the environment of the Formentera Council, agreed the results were positive, but insisted “it is extremely important that we remain vigilant. Bilge water run-off from recreational watercraft continues to be a serious issue. We must continue reminding boat-owners of the free bilge water and blackwater disposal services available at Formentera ports and at their ports of origin.”