

The Front Desk

June 2006



Dear Clients,

Beverley is in the middle of a well earned break with Jamie somewhere between New York and Montreal – so, this month's Front Desk is coming from the sub-editor.

No Sol on the Costa

During May the Costa del Sol did not live up to its reputation of having 330 days of sunshine annually. In fact it was uncharacteristically overcast, wet and cool. However, things are looking up for June with the 10 day weather forecast predicting plenty of sunshine and warm temperatures. Records show that the weather in the Marbella area in June is mild with daytime temperatures reaching an average of 26°C and falling to 17°C at night. However, the same records show that it might rain, so come equipped accordingly!!!

Monday 12th June

Our offices will be closed on 12th June to celebrate the Fiesta of San Bernabé, the patron saint of Marbella. This marks the start of a week of festivities, music, dancing and general fun and partying.

The feria begins in the Paseo Marítimo in the historic centre of the town with a fireworks display. During the rest of the week the squares and plazas of the old town are filled with music, dancing, locals in typical dress, outdoor bars and traditional food. In the evening the party really gets going with bullfighting, flamenco dress, dancing and music.

The last day of the fiesta is the most important, with a procession in the morning to commemorate the *Reconquista*, or Reconquest. This was led by the Spanish monarchs Isabel and Ferdinand, known as *Los Reyes Católicos*, who expelled the Arabs in 1485 and regained control of Andalucía. In the afternoon, there is another procession in honour of San Bernabé.

Flying Doctor

Recently a couple of our clients have needed urgent medical attention and would have benefited from membership of Helicopteros Sanitarios. They will deal with anything from minor ailments to major incidents, either in their clinic or by call out. Their clinic is near El Corte Inglés. The annual rates are 115 € (individual), 225 € (couple), 260 € (family). We are not agents for them, by the way, but we are members and have information about their services in the office. Payment is by direct debit from your Spanish Bank account. Call Sonia on 00 34 952 66 72 11.

Tel: (0034) 952 78 49 83 (3 Lines), Fax: 952 78 34 08

Emergency Helpline: 00 34 606 97 58 33

Web site: www.spanishrentalholidays.com E-mail: enquiries@spanishrentalholidays.com

Head Office Address: HPS Property Services Siglo XXI (SL), C/ Dr.Esteban San Mateo, Nº 10, Local E, 29670, San Pedro de Alcántara, (Málaga), España.

CIF Nº B - 92606953

Air Conditioning Service

As we approach the heat of the summer, here is my regular reminder to have your air conditioning system serviced. As you know, we are able to organise this for you for a basic cost of 65 € plus IVA (120€ plus IVA if regassing needed). Any additional repairs or maintenance will be chargeable on a time and materials basis. Please let me know if you would like us to organise a service for you.

Los Arqueros Commercial Centre

Los Arqueros owners may be interested in the following link, recently published on the LA community website - http://www.losarqueros.com/documents/losarquerosshoppingvillage1_English_pdf.pdf. It is a prospectus outlining the proposal to build a hotel, supermarket, restaurant and general offices and shops. I understand that Taylor Woodrow are currently in discussion with a "major Spanish retailer" and that some more news might become available in the summer.

Home and Contents Insurance

If you do not already insure your home and contents in Spain via San Pedro Insurance Services, it is very worthwhile contacting them for a competitive quote when your current policy comes up for renewal. All my company and personal insurance is conducted via this company and it has saved hundreds of euros in premium payments annually, compared with major players like Direct Line. There is also the advantage that San Pedro Insurance Services, which has been established for seven years, are neighbours of HPS in San Pedro. If you would like more information, please let me know or contact Pauline or Macarena direct on 00 34 952780102 or sanpedroinsurances@telefonica.net.

Emergency! Emergency!

The last thing you want to think about when relaxing in Spain is what to do in an emergency. But emergencies can happen and it's much better to know what to do or where to call should they happen to you. Dialling 902 102 112 will get you through to the national control centre of the Policia Nacional where you will be able to ask to speak to someone in English. The national centre is open 24hours a day and you will be able to report many of the most common incidents, e.g. loss of documents, burglary, and bag snatching. One of our clients even used the service when one of his party went missing overnight (returning safely the following morning, I am pleased to say!). However, some incidents need to be reported in person at a police station and the control centre will advise you about this.

Let's hope your visits are trouble free. See you soon

Kind regards

Michael

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