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MALAGA CF REVEAL NEW KIT WITH AN OLD TOUCH

The vertical stripes on the first team's shirts are reminiscent of their strips in the nineties **P37**



British developers unveil 100m-euro shopping centre plan for Marbella

The mall project in the Plaza de Toros area of the main town could be open by Christmas 2023 if deadlines are met

A shopping complex scheme being developed by Citygrove and Burlington for the Plaza de Toros (bullring) district of Marbella town is expected to involve an investment of 100 million euros.

The New York architecture studio KPF has been hired to create a project concept for the open-air centre with state-of-the-art materials and respect for the environment at its core.

The project involves an area of underutilised land covering 30,000 square metres and includes a large car park and improved road access.

The developers say they hope to have the centre open by Christmas 2023 if all goes according to plan. **P3**



Police put their find on display this week.

SALVADOR SALAS

Biggest drug transporting drone in Spain found in Axarquía village

Police searching premises in Almáchar came across the aircraft with a wingspan of 4.35 metres that was used to carry marijuana from Morocco to Spain. **P4**

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Costa travel industry hopeful as UK 'Freedom Day' approaches **P2**

Summer ailments can be avoided with some easy-to-follow-tips **P34-35**

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Ryanair and easyJet get ready for more British visitors from 19 July

The leading airlines at Malaga Airport have announced their future plans amid more optimism for the rest of the season

PILAR MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. Two leading airlines at Malaga Airport have announced what plans they have in place for flights as international travel gradually returns to normal, especially as vaccinated UK tourists can visit Spain from Monday, 19 July, without quarantining on return.

Ryanair, the biggest airline by passenger numbers at Malaga Airport, has said it will link 77 destinations to the Costa del Sol this summer, with new routes to Belfast, Fez, Menorca, Rabat, Pisa and Sofia.

The Irish budget airline believes that it will fly some five million passengers to and from Malaga this year.

Jason McGuinness, Ryanair's commercial director, was in Malaga this week to announce the com-

pany's schedule for the next winter season.

"As the number one airline in Spain, we are delighted to contribute to the reactivating and growth of tourism in Malaga despite the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic," he said.

McGuinness said he was "very happy with the demand in Malaga" and believes air traffic will recover strongly this summer on the Costa del Sol where the airline has eleven aircraft based.

Ryanair's winter programme from October will include new flights to Aarhus in Denmark; Lanzarote; Paris Beauvais; Kaunas in Lithuania; Stockholm Arlanda; Agadir, Riga and Turin.

EasyJet positive too

In a statement issued last Friday after the UK government announced the 19 July quarantine rule easing, easyJet reported a 400 per cent increase in flight reservations and a 440 per cent increase in holiday bookings compared to the previous week for countries on the UK's amber list.

To meet this demand, the com-



Takeoff at last for Malaga Airport flight levels? NITO SALAS (FILE PHOTO)

pany has put an 11,916 additional seats on sale to connect UK airports with Malaga. EasyJet is one of the main operators connecting the British market with the Costa del Sol and has, since June, had an operations base in the city.

The general director of easyJet for the southern area of Europe, Javier Gándara, said,

"We are delighted to see the response to the elimination of [UK] quarantine for fully vaccinated residents returning from the countries on the amber list."

In further optimistic news this week, the Port of Malaga received its first cruise ship with international passengers since March last year. Over 1,400 passengers came in on the Aida Perla.

Relief as Costa stays on UK amber list while Balearics go amber again

P. MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. There was relief among the Costa del Sol travel industry on Wednesday when the UK government confirmed it was keeping mainland Spain on its amber list.

There had been some fears that Spain could go onto the red list, with much tighter quarantine restrictions when holidaymakers return home to Britain, as Spain has seen a surge in cases, especially among young people, in the last couple of weeks.

The Balearic Islands - Menorca, Mallorca, Ibiza - move back to amber again from Monday after just two weeks on the green list, throwing tour operators' programmes and people's holidays into chaos.

José Luque of the Costa del Sol hoteliers' association said the important thing was to work to stay on the UK's amber list despite the rapidly increasing local case rates.

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Tourists in Malaga on their way to their accommodation. S. SALAS

Costa hotels are predicting they will be over 60% full in August

While countries like German and France are getting tougher on travel to Spain, the UK's 'Freedom Day' relaxation is having a positive effect

P. MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. A surge in bookings in the last few weeks has left Costa hoteliers optimistic that they will reach 63 per cent occupancy in August and almost 60 per cent in July. The analysis comes from Aehcos, the local hotel operators' association, which has re-

vised its forecasts upwards.

So far, setbacks for the travel trade this week from some countries that are now advising against travel to Spain, such as Germany or France, or putting in place more restrictive measures, such as Morocco, are being offset by the decision by the UK to relax travel rules for double-vaccinated British tourists from Monday.

President of Aehcos, José Luque, said, "We foresee an improvement in reservations and an increase in demand for the Costa del Sol, which could go up further in the coming days."

Embassy tells Brits in Spain simpler vaccine travel rules 'are on the way'

SUR IN ENGLISH

MALAGA. The British Embassy responded this week to the many UK expats expressing their unhappiness that their Spain-issued EU vaccination certificates would not be valid to go to the UK and skip quarantine this summer.

Spain is on the UK's amber list, but only those people vaccinated in the UK's NHS health system, effectively only people living in Britain, can avoid quarantine on coming from Spain.

The Embassy said on its Brits in Spain Facebook page, "The [UK] government is taking a phased approach to amending requirements and is already exploring plans to remove quarantine for vaccinated non-UK residents arriving from amber countries later this summer, when it is safe to do so."

The Embassy added that British expats can opt for the Test and Release scheme which allows UK quarantine to be reduced from 10 to five days.

British developers behind 100-million-euro Marbella shopping complex plan

Currently in the development and planning phase, it could be open by Christmas 2023 if deadlines are met

J. DUEÑAS / N. HESKETH

MARBELLA. British developers Citygrove and Burlington are behind plans to create a shopping complex in the Plaza de Toros (bullring) area of Marbella town with a total investment of 100 million euros.

At the moment they are “immersed in the development and planning phase that we hope to be able to conclude this year,” explained Manuel Gonzalo de Ligne, Citygrove’s director of development in Spain.

The prestigious New York architecture studio KPF, which holds several international awards, has been hired to cre-

ate a project concept with state-of-the-art materials and with “respect for the environment” as an architectural cornerstone.

De Ligne said, “It will be a mixture of several concepts: with an open-air shopping centre, public areas and car parking.”

“In a place like Marbella and the Costa del Sol you have to make the most of the wonderful climate,” he emphasised.

Interest already

Some potential business clients have already expressed their interest in the project and the development director has confirmed, “Some of them do not yet have a presence in Spain but they are interested in Marbella because of its international image.”

“Our goal is to be able to open by Christmas 2023 but it de-



An artist's impression of how the new futuristic complex may look. SUR

The prestigious New York architecture studio KPF, which holds several international awards, has been hired to create a project concept

pends not only on us, but also on third parties. I believe that we must make an effort to meet that deadline because it will benefit all,” he added.

The Plaza de Toros area in Marbella - not to be confused with the bullring in nearby Puerto Banús - is in a key location at the gateway to the town

and close to La Cañada mall. The area has been underutilised for some time and, among its plans, the council also wants to add a large public car park and improved road access.

Architects KPF are behind much of the eye-catching new building in inner London, including the City’s Heron Tower.

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112 REPORTS

MALAGA

Arrested for providing rental vehicles to criminals

Á. FRÍAS / J. CANO. A gang, which allegedly specialised in providing rental vehicles to other criminal organisations, has been uncovered after an investigation. National Police officers took over the case after Local Police officers in Malaga stopped a vehicle and found its occupants were carrying 99,940 euros in cash. They discovered it was a rented and suspicions were raised that it was provided by an organised gang supplying them to other alleged criminals.

TORRE DEL MAR

Rider tests positive after hitting a policeman

E. CABEZAS. A Local Police officer in Torre del Mar was injured after an 18-year-old moped rider refused to stop and smashed into the policeman.

Officers had spotted the moped travelling fast and without lights but when the foot patrol tried to pull the rider over, he allegedly ignored their orders, accelerated and headed straight towards them. After the incident, he tested positive for cocaine, cannabis, amphetamines and methamphetamines.



The seized drone was put on display by police in Malaga this week. **SALVADOR SALAS**



Investigators at the scene in the Huelin district. **SALVADOR SALAS**

MALAGA

Suspected shotgun murder and suicide at the door of a central Malaga school

Á. FRÍAS / J. CANO. National Police were investigating a crime on Thursday in Malaga city that had all the signs of being a new case of gender violence. Initial inquiries indicated that a man had killed his partner with a shotgun and immediately afterwards taken his own life with the same weapon.

The incident happened a few minutes before 9am close to the main train station on Calle Fernán

Núñez, at the door of San Manuel school, where it is believed the woman worked as a cleaner and cook.

According to witnesses, the 55-year-old Spanish man was waiting for his partner - also Spanish and 46 - at the door of the school. According to the first police investigations, the man killed the woman and then turned the weapon on himself at the scene.

Huge drug-trafficking drone seized in Axarquía village

National Police said four arrests have been made and revealed the gang had a base in Almáchar, from where they shipped the drugs to France

SUR

MALAGA. Officers from Spain's National Police force have helped dismantle an alleged international criminal organisation, made up of French nationals of Northwest African origin, which was based, in part, in the Axarquía district.

During Operation Piñas, the police arrested a member of the network in the Malaga village of Almáchar, where it is alleged

the gang handled and stored consignments of hashish and marijuana bound for France.

During a search of one of the houses allegedly used as a drug storage place in Almáchar, officers found a 4.35-metre wingspan drone that was used for the transport of hashish and marijuana between Morocco and Spain, according to the National Police.

In the same property, numerous tools used to handle, pre-

During a search of a house allegedly used as a drug storage place, officers found a 4.35-metre wingspan drone

pare and ship drugs and various items of computer equipment were also seized.

The person was taken into custody in Almáchar under a European arrest warrant and three other people were detained in France.

Torremolinos

The Civil Guard have also opened an inquiry after 200 kilos of hashish was found in a helicopter that was located in Torremolinos.

The discovery was on 2 July in the mountains behind the Costa del Sol town.

The helicopter was loaded with the drug and the Civil Guard agents deployed in the area arrested a man in the operation.

One dead after Costa helicopter chase ends in disaster thirty miles east of Sotogrande

J. CANO / F. TORRES

MALAGA. The fight against drug trafficking along the south coast of Spain claimed the life of a member of the Customs Surveillance Service at the weekend.

José Luis Domínguez Iborra, from Algeciras, died in a helicopter accident while the aircraft was following a suspected drug-trafficking boat in the Strait of Gibraltar, thirty miles east of Sotogrande, and close to the border between Cadiz and Malaga provinces.

The customs official who lost his life served as an aerial observer,

and was accompanied by the pilot and co-pilot, who survived the accident. The flight crew managed to rescue the officer from the helicopter and revive him. However, when he reached land, the man's heart stopped again. More resuscitation manoeuvres were attempted by a mobile intensive care unit in Sotogrande port, but the man did not recover.

On Sunday, the Salvamento Marítimo coastguard service located the crashed helicopter and it was refloated using inflatable balloons by the Clara Campoamor recovery craft, at around 6.30pm.

Woman is arrested for beating her children in a bar

Á. FRÍAS / J. CANO. The events took place several weeks ago in an establishment in the Ciudad Jardín neighborhood of Malaga. At around 12.45 am, emergency services received several calls in which it was reported that a woman who was in a drunken state was hitting her children in full view of the customers. As soon as they arrived, the officer were called over by a group of people who had surrounded the 37-year-old woman of Spanish nationality in the street, keeping her separated from her two children.



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How to retire to Spain with financial peace of mind

By David Bowers, Partner, Blevins Franks

Anyone recently retired or approaching retirement is entering a new and exciting phase in life. While some worry retirement will be boring, many embrace the freedom it offers. If you have chosen to retire in Spain, you probably fall into the latter category!

Spain certainly offers a beneficial lifestyle for retired expatriates, but long-term financial security is crucial to help you enjoy your retirement years. To achieve this, you need to take a good look at your finances and the way you hold your assets. Your situation is totally different now from your working days in the UK, so be prepared to make some adjustments.

Savings and investments

You may have built up a successful portfolio of savings and investments over your working life, but your circumstances and objectives were different then.

Many retirees are looking for income; whether it is receiving regular payments or taking ad hoc withdrawals. Besides planning for that, you need to protect the capital that generates the income, so be careful about managing risk. Aim to

earn at least enough capital growth to keep pace with inflation over time to help maintain your spending power throughout retirement.

It's a fine balance. The starting point is to obtain an objective assessment of your risk tolerance. Together with a good understanding of your aims, circumstances, needs and time horizon, this is key to ensuring your portfolio is suitable for you. In any case, diversification is central to managing risk within your defined tolerance.

Taxation

All that free time in retirement costs money! You can help maximise your income through strategic tax planning. While tax mitigation opportunities are limited on employment income, how you hold savings and investments can make a significant difference to retirement income.

Note that UK tax planning is unlikely to be effective in Spain. ISAs and UK bank interest, for example, become fully taxable for Spanish residents. Once resident in Spain, you gain access to investment opportunities that might provide much better

tax-efficiency alongside other advantages.

Locally compliant arrangements can combine your investment, tax and estate planning in one exercise, grouping different investments together under one tax-efficient roof.

Pension plans

This is the time you get to benefit from those years of pension contributions; instead of paying money in each month, you can start taking it out.

There is no one-size-fits-all solution for expatriates, but once you are no longer UK resident it may become less beneficial to leave UK pensions where they are.

If your key spending is in euros, this invites exchange rate risk. UK pensions also remain subject to UK regulations.

Many expatriates choose to transfer UK pensions to a Qualifying Regulated Overseas Pension Scheme (QROPS) or reinvest funds into more tax-efficient arrangements for Spain. As well as reducing taxation, this can offer benefits such as greater access

to funds and more flexibility to choose how it is invested and in what currency to take income.

To protect your long-term financial security, research your pension options and understand the various implications. You need to take care here, so professional, regulated advice is essential.

Estate planning

None of us like to think about our departure from this world, but there is no denying that reaching retirement age does bring it closer to home.

The key message here is not to risk leaving it too late. Decide who you want to leave your assets to, how much and when. Then research the most effective way to achieve this, in the most tax-efficient way, taking the Spanish and UK rules into account. Succession law in Spain is quite different from the UK's, with restrictions on how you can divide up your estate. If the local rules don't suit your family situation and wishes, you'll need to plan ahead.

But don't ignore your own needs in the process – look for arrangements

that provide tax-efficiency for you today as well as your heirs in future.

An integrated financial planning approach produces better results than just focusing on one element at a time. For example, the way you hold your investments and pensions can affect how much tax you and your heirs pay and how the assets are passed to heirs.

While some try a DIY approach, cross-border tax, wealth management, pensions and estate planning is complex and it is difficult to objectively assess your own situation. For peace of mind, talk to a specialist adviser who will take time to understand your circumstances, needs and goals to help you secure a prosperous retirement in Spain.

The tax rates, scope and reliefs may change. Any statements concerning taxation are based upon our understanding of current taxation laws and practices which are subject to change. Tax information has been summarised; individuals should seek personalised advice.

Recently become resident in Spain? Looking for financial advice?

If you are new to Spain, you need to understand how the local tax and succession regime affects you and your family, as well as what opportunities are available to improve your situation and protect your wealth. Blevins Franks has been providing effective tax and estate planning solutions to British expatriates for 45 years, along with investment and pensions advice.

Our local advisers have a wealth of experience advising expatriates in Spain. To benefit from their expertise, simply contact your local office to arrange a consultation (which can be by phone or video conference), and we can help you adjust your financial planning for your new life in Spain.

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Most Covid patients over 50 in intensive care rejected a vaccine

Last weekend there were 102 hospital admissions in Andalucía and 64 per cent of them had not been vaccinated. The rest had received their first dose of a vaccine

H. BARBOTTA / SUR

SEVILLE / MALAGA. Seventy-two per cent of the Covid-19 patients admitted to intensive care units (ICUs) in Andalusian hospitals are people aged between 50 and 60 who refused to be vaccinated against the virus.

This was revealed this week by the Vice-President of the Junta de Andalucía, Juan Marín, who said that the data reveals the effectiveness of vaccination against coronavirus.

Last weekend there were 102 hospital admissions in Andalucía and 64 per cent of them were patients who had not been vaccinated. The remaining 36 per cent had received their first dose of a vaccine. A person can become infected after receiving



Vaccines are effective. EFE

a first dose because it doesn't offer maximum protection and, also, because several days must elapse for antibodies to be generated.

At the moment, the Junta's spokesman Elías Bendodo, said there have been no patients admitted who have been fully vaccinated, that is, with two doses of Pfizer, AstraZeneca or Moderna or with a single jab of Janssen.

Bendodo explained that the age of people who are admitted with Covid-19 to Andalusian hospitals is falling and that 40

per cent are under 40 years of age. Of those, 85 per cent are not vaccinated.

Jabs reach 25 year olds

Andalucía tried to slow down the increase in cases among those under 30 this week. On Wednesday, the regional Health ministry announced that it was widening the age of those who could be vaccinated to those born in 1996 - that is who are aged 25. Those with that age and above can ask for an appointment online or via the health service app.

The Junta regional government has also said it has stepped up its efforts to reach all those over 40 who have still to be vaccinated. Data shows that 10 per cent of those aged 40 to 69 have still not been vaccinated. Large scale, drop-in vaccination clinics without a prior appointment are planned in all provinces, with attendees getting the one dose Janssen jab.

On Wednesday this week, 47.4 per cent of people in Spain had had the full dose of Covid-19 vaccinations. The government wants to reach 70 per cent by the end of August.

Case rates in Andalucía reach levels last seen in February but intensive care levels stay low

In Malaga province, the Junta has said it will take into account that in the coastal resorts the case rates are artificially high and give a false picture

SUR

MALAGA. The Andalucía region recorded the biggest number of new Covid-19 cases since February in 24 hours on Thursday this week (15 July), with 3,561 new cases. This pushed the region's rolling case rate up by 20 to 335 per 100,000 people in the last 14 days.

On a local level, in Malaga province, including the Costa del Sol, the rate had shot up to 543 per 100,000, the highest figure of the Andalusian provinces.

Numbers in hospital in Malaga province had climbed from 118 to 208 in a week on Thursday, however those in intensive care locally had risen from 24 to 31, a rate of increase much lower than the same point in the last, third wave.

This week, the Junta de An-

dalucía regional government promised to take into account an anomaly in the case data.

The busy coastal resorts, which see their population double in some cases this time of year, have inflated 14-day rates as the total cases are divided by the much lower year-round population figure. This particularly affects Malaga province.

For example, a virtual shut-down will not be ordered in Marbella, where 'official' cases rates are close to 1,000, as the rate is considered as inflated.

More districts move to Level 2

This week, however, the Junta did decide to change the level of the Axarquía and Vega (Antequera) health districts from 1 to 2, which principally means capacities in venues and at tables are reduced again. This happened last week in the Costa del Sol, Malaga and Guadalhorce.

The Junta has said it doesn't see a reason to return to a curfew, seeing that hospital rates are staying low this time round, but it has not ruled out other tightening measures.

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Spain's first coronavirus home lockdown was illegal, rules top court

The restriction on movement was introduced to try and stem the spread of Covid-19 during the state of alarm

MELCHOR SÁIZ-PARDO

MADRID. The strict home lockdown, ordered to control the spread of coronavirus during Spain's first state of alarm, was unconstitutional a top court has ruled - by six votes in favour and five against.

In a historic judgement the Constitutional Court has decided that the government of Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez suspended fundamental rights rather than just bringing in a limitation of them, as allowed by the state of alarm.

In March 2020, the PM declared an "estado de alarma", which is a milder form of state of emergency within the Spanish Constitution.

The strict lockdown, when people were only allowed to leave their homes for essential reasons for several weeks, would only have been legal under the umbrella of the higher level of emergency, known as an "estado de excepción", said the court on Wednesday.

The court ruling could open the door to a wave of possible lawsuits and the annulment of many of the 1.2 million fines issued during the time that the order lasted.

After three weeks of intense deliberations, it was the vote of the vice-president of the court, Encarnación Roca, that swung the balance.



The Royal Family arrive at the ceremony in Madrid. REUTERS

King Felipe pays tribute to the victims of Covid-19

MIGUEL Á. ALFONSO. King Felipe and Queen Letizia took part on Thursday in a tribute to victims of the Covid pandemic that has, so far, claimed almost 100,000 lives in the country - among

them, more than 100 health workers. Spain's Grand Cross for Civil Merit was posthumously awarded to more than 120 doctors, nurses or orderlies who lost their lives doing their job.

Spain set to authorise the sale of coronavirus self-diagnosis tests

M. S.-P.

MADRID. Spain will, next week, approve the sale of Covid-19 self-diagnosis kits in pharmacies - without the need for a medical prescription. It represents a radical change in the strategy of the Ministry of Health which, until now, had refused to allow the distribution of these tests because it alleged that they gave a false sense of security, apart from the fact that it did not consider them entirely reliable.

Head of the ministry Carolina Darias has said that the authorisation for the sale in pharmacies will be for an "in vitro diagnostic" test.

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Plan to transform Malaga city centre alongside the port is unveiled in detail

The scheme, which could cost 442m and take eight years, will see main roads put into tunnels, two new underground bus stations and extra green space

JESÚS HINOJOSA

MALAGA. The mayor of Malaga has been giving more details of the city's plan for a major new landscaping and pedestrianisation scheme to link the port to the tropical gardens on the edge of the historic old town.

The plan would see the busy

road which runs along the edge of the port placed in tunnels from Avenida Manuel Agustín Heredia in the west along Paseo de los Curas to the Paseo Marítimo in the east, close to the Gran Miramar hotel. Much of the area above would be turned into gardens and public spaces. In addition, the wide Paseo del Parque avenue, which runs past the city hall, would be partly closed to traffic.

Major new underground bus interchanges would be built at the Plaza de la Marina, across from the port, and under the front of the city's main railway station.

Francisco de la Torre, Mayor



An artist's impression of how the newly pedestrianised Paseo de los Curas road, by the port, would look. SUR

City planning experts believe that a good part of the funding could be raised from the private sector

of Malaga, said this week that the scheme would cost 442 million euros and funding will be sought from regional government, national government, EU funds and private firms.

City planning experts believe that a good part of the funding can be raised from the private sector because of planned new bus station facilities, extra shopping areas, car parks and land sale.

"It's a project to make you fall in love with the city," De la Torre said, adding that it was "a revolutionary operation", but "viable" at the same time.

The council believes it will take eight years to see the light of day, including the planning and construction phases.

All change at bus stations

The idea for the scheme started as a way to update the bus stations in the city.

The Plaza de la Marina, that lies between Calle Larios and the port, would see an underground bus station of local and longer-distance buses and an international competition will be organised to design the new, much enlarged,

square above it.

New, extra car parking would be put under the quays of the working port across the road to replace that lost at Plaza de La Marina.

Across the city centre, within a new, main bus station beneath the esplanade of the AVE train station would be a shopping area and relocated taxi ranks for both rail and bus travellers. Pedestrian access would be through one of the historic station entrance buildings still standing.

The existing, large bus station alongside the main railway station would be sold and developed to generate an estimated 40m in funds towards the overall plan.

Paseo del Parque

The new underground road along the port will be built as two wide tunnels, one on top of the other for each direction of travel.

This would divert enough traffic to also mean that the Paseo del Parque main avenue from the town hall towards the Alameda could also be pedestrianised, merging in with the surrounding tropical gardens with access just for public transport.

Uber invites Malaga taxi drivers onto its ride-hailing app

FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ

MALAGA. Barely a month after expanding its coverage along Costa del Sol, from Nerja to Manilva, Uber, the multinational ride-hailing service, is offering to integrate Malaga's taxi drivers onto its platform.

From last Tuesday, 13 July, Malaga will be the third city in Spain to offer this service after Madrid and Barcelona.

The company is making its platform available to the 1,432 taxi drivers in the city to allow them to complement their usual activity

with the provision of services through Uber.

When the client requests a trip through the 'app', the vehicle closest to their location will pick up the passengers, regardless of whether it is Uber vehicle or taxi, although customers will also be offered the choice.

For now, this service will only be valid for urban routes and if the journey is carried out by a taxi, it must adhere to municipal rates.

Taxi drivers who sign up to the service will pay a 12 per cent commission to the multinational company, compared to the 25 per cent that Uber charges to self-employed drivers. As an incentive, during the first two months of launch there will be no commission to pay for the drivers.

The ride-hailing service hopes between 200 and 300 taxis will sign up this summer.



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'In Marbella we need to catalogue our heritage before doing the Urban Plan'

Francisco Javier Moreno
Doctor of Art History

Moreno talks about the rich heritage of Marbella and what can be done in order to protect and preserve its historical remains

JOAQUINA DUEÑAS

MARBELLA. It is now 25 years since Francisco Javier Moreno brought together a group of people who were concerned that the local heritage was being neglected and founded the Cilniana association. He was its first president and a quarter of a century later he is still studying, defending and providing information about Marbella's wealth of history, which for many goes completely unnoticed. At the moment the town's new Urban Plan (PGOU) is in the process of being drawn up and he sees this as a golden opportunity for Marbella to protect its heritage.

–What are the main examples of the heritage of Marbella?
–Our heritage is dispersed all over the municipality. That from

the Roman era is very important, with the villa at Río Verde, the paleochristian basilica and the Roman baths. Then we have the castle in the Old Town centre, which is from the caliphal period and is still very well preserved, and our other major heritage, which sadly has been abandoned, is the industrial one, especially mining. There are some good remains left from that era, but unfortunately nothing has ever been done to revitalise and preserve them. Most are in private hands and have been completely neglected. While other places are clearly committed to their industrial heritage, like the Río Tinto basin, for example, Marbella has turned its back on it and has yet to do anything about it.

–What opportunities for improvement does the new PGOU bring?

–We have the precedent of the last Urban Plan, which established three types of protection: integral, exterior and the surrounding area, depending on the way each site is classified for pro-



Francisco Javier Moreno is a Doctor of Art History. JOSELE

tection. That would be an important starting point, but I would go further and say we need to create a catalogue, drawn up by a multidisciplinary team and with scientific criteria for contemporary architecture, archaeological sites and monuments, as well as historical spaces. That type of heritage catalogue would need to be drawn up before the PGOU is finished, and then incorporated into the document.

–And where are we with this protection at the moment?

–They had made good progress in the most recent plan, which created protection not only for archaeological sites but also contemporary architecture. However, when that plan was annulled they all ended up unprotected. A huge heritage, with no protection whatsoever. Everything concerning the archaeological sites needs to be reviewed because a lot of things are new, there are a lot of different classifications now. Not everything can be protected in the same way.

–Why include contemporary architecture?

–In the 1960s in Marbella there was possibly the best architecture in Spain, it was vacational architecture, the work of the best Spanish and international architects of the time. Marbella was a place for creativity and free expression, freed from the corsets that had previously restricted architects and they created fantastic buildings which have been neglected or destroyed, often through ignorance. That's why we need a specific catalogue of contemporary ar-

QUOTES

TOWN CENTRE

“The Old Town needs a special protection plan because it is very fragile”

CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE

“In the 1960s Marbella as a town was freed from the corsets that had restricted architects”

chitecture.

–I'm sure we must pass emblematic buildings every day without noticing them.

–There are so many! For example, the Guadalmina urbanisation was largely built by architect Luis Gutiérrez Soto, and is a top quality example. His famous Aldeas de las Águilas are often referred to in architectural manuals. And the houses built by Robert Byron Keeller Mosher, too. They are in urbanisations and go completely unnoticed. Only an expert eye can spot them. We also had very good examples by Casto Fernández Shaw, one of the top architects of the 20th century, and they have all disappeared now. There is a huge list. There are some very good works by Fernando Higuera, who was an exceptional architect with works such as the

Jardines del Mar, in front of the Don Pepe hotel, and Terrazas de las Lomas del Marbella Club, which is a fabulous complex. There's La Virginia urbanisation, which is beautiful, and the Residencia de Tiempo Libre which is the only example of 1960s architecture which is protected because it is a Site of Cultural Interest.

–Could they have learned from the Old Town and all the problems there have been there?

–The degradation of the Old Town mainly started in the time of GIL, when they started to indiscriminately demolish buildings and modernise them without any criteria and we lost so many of the historical buildings. When the town hall set up its management committee, which I served on for 13 months, we approved a transitory regulation to protect the Old Town, to save what was left of it. Since then it has protected the area, but when the new plan comes into force that will be annulled. We hope that, at least, the regulation will be incorporated into the new plan with the same parameters as it has at present.

–What could be done to improve the situation of the Old Town?

–For many years we have been talking about special protection. It needs to be cared for down to the last millimetre, looked after in a different way to the rest of the town, because it is very fragile. It is a permeable historical complex that is very open to all kinds of aggressions. It can't just be considered as separate buildings, it needs an overall protection plan.



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Cala del Plomo (Almería). Andalucía Tourism

A WARM AND WELCOMING WORLD

Andalucía, Spain's largest and most diverse region, is the ideal destination for a beach holiday and there is good news for international travellers

MÁLAGA

SUR. Summer is here and the majority of people are longing for a holiday now, a chance to escape from routine and relax somewhere completely different. Spain has always been a favourite destination for international travellers, and Andalucía especially so, because it really is 'completely different'. As the largest region in the country it is like a world in itself, with so many contrasts and types of attractions.

Many people from other parts of Spain are already planning to visit Andalucía this year, but if anyone abroad is feeling hesitant about travelling because of the coronavirus pandemic, there is good news: anyone who is not resident in Spain and who comes to Andalucía from another coun-

try is provided with free Covid insurance when they stay at any type of regulated establishment in the region during 2021.

What does this mean? It means if you are an international visitor, no matter what your age, any medical, surgical and hospitalisation costs arising from Covid-19 are automatically covered, together with related prescription charges, transportation and repatriation, extended hotel stays after hospitalisation, and quarantine. You don't have to do a thing. No contract, nothing to be signed. More information: andalucia.org.

This means you can come and enjoy Andalucía with complete peace of mind, secure in the knowledge that it is also a safe destination to visit because the pandemic is very closely monitored and there are strict controls over preventive measures in regulated accommodation.

So what are you longing for? What sort of holiday would you like? Warm sunshine and sandy beaches? Andalucía has almost 1,000 kilometres of sun-drenched coastline and a little-known underwater world just waiting to be discovered. The beaches are outstanding, whether you want to tuck yourself away in a tiny rocky cove, stretch out on a sunbed on an expanse of golden sand with



Gruta de las Maravillas (Huelva). Andalucía Tourism

waiter service from a nearby 'chirringuito' beach bar, or anything in-between. There are rugged cliffs, salt marshes to explore, and some of Europe's best kitesurfing and sailing opportunities.

If your idea of paradise is a beautiful beach, then Andalucía is your type of paradise and, thanks to the wonderful climate of southern Spain, sunbathing and swimming are not only restricted to summer. You can come later and still find it warm enough to spend days on the beach – and don't forget, the automatic Covid insurance covers you until the end of the year.

Maybe you are someone who likes rather wild, natural beaches,

with fewer people in sight, in which case you are spoilt for choice. Cádiz province, for example, has some of the best beaches in Europe, including some with views of Africa. Try Bolonia beach, near Tarifa, with its immense sand dune and the fascinating Roman town of Baelo Claudia alongside, or the vast La Barrosa beach in Chiclana de la Frontera. This whole stretch of coast could almost have been designed for beach lovers – and history buffs, too, shouldn't miss the chance to visit Cabo Trafalgar, because it was just off there that Horatio Nelson defeated Napoleon's combined Spanish and French fleet in the battle of the same name in 1805.

You can come and enjoy Andalucía with complete peace of mind, secure in the knowledge that it is also a safe destination to visit because the pandemic is very closely monitored and there are strict controls over preventive measures in regulated accommodation

But perhaps you are thinking of a visit to the eastern side of Andalucía, in which case Almería would be an ideal choice, especially the fabulous Cabo de Gata Natural Park, which was the first maritime-terrestrial park in Andalucía and one of the first in Spain. This is something completely different: nature has been whimsical here, creating places of volcanic origin that makes this one of the largest protected reserves in Europe. It covers 50 kms of rugged coast with breathtaking landscapes, dotted with a succession of beautiful coves and small beaches.

You can take your choice in Almería, from urban beaches like those of San José or Aguamarga to wonderful, virgin, natural, sand beaches such as Mónsul and Los Genoveses and tiny coves which are not easily accessible, such as Plomo and Cala de Enmedio.

For visitors who have a fondness for western films, head for the Tabernas desert in Almería. Some of it may seem familiar as many 'spaghetti western' movies were shot here, and some of the film sets still remain. There is also a western film festival in October every year.

However, to find the ideal destination for your Andalusian beach holiday, check out all the coastal provinces of Huelva, Cádiz, Málaga (home to the world-famous Costa del Sol), Granada and Almería and see what they each have to offer. They all have a wide variety of other attractions too, which is why this region always has something to suit everybody, at every time of year. It is a world in itself, and well worth exploring, in the knowledge that Andalucía cares about your safety and will be looking after you. It's a place you will want to return to, time after time.



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Junta says regulations will be rigidly enforced for solar projects

GUADALHORCE

The regional government representative told local mayors that the green economy is "compatible" with preserving the natural environment

ANDREA JIMÉNEZ

COÍN. Mayors of towns and villages in the Guadalhorce Valley and the Sierra de las Nieves attended a meeting in Coin at the end of last week with the Junta de Andalucía's delegate for Malaga, Patricia Navarro, to discuss the issue of the solar energy mega-parks being planned in both areas.

Navarro said that the environmental and planning regulations "are being applied and will be applied rigidly, as they always are". She stressed that the aim is to "make these projects that generate a green economy compatible with the conservation of the areas

of most value in the municipalities".

The meeting was attended by the mayors of Almogía, Álora, Ardales, Carratraca, Cártama, Casarabonela, Monda, Ojén, Pizarra, Yunquera and Coin.

They stressed their "concerns" about these projects and called once again for a moratorium in the granting of permits to be able to regulate and plan this type of plant.

"We need an informative map where the Junta explains how many park projects in the province of Malaga are being processed," said Francisco Martínez, Mayor of Álora and spokesperson for the mayors. He stressed the need for a three-way meeting with the representative of the central government in Malaga as well as local and regional authorities.

Self-supply

Navarro said that the Junta de Andalucía would offer aid with a total value of 142 million euros over the next two years, in the form of

incentives to encourage self-supply of solar energy, "which could save an average household up to 60 per cent on its electricity bills".

Martínez said that this would be a "good alternative" to avoid the installation of solar parks. "Self-supply facilities can benefit users and produce up to 27 per cent of the required energy, and so we would avoid having to resort to more mega-parks," said the mayor.

The mayor called for new locations to be sought for the solar farms. "There are municipalities interested in having them as the impact would be minimal," he added.

Almogía

Residents in Almogía have been able this week to register their official complaints against solar parks planned in the municipality. These can be handed in to the town hall today, Friday, during the extended hours of 8.30am to 3pm and 4pm to 7pm or online with a digital certificate.



Navarro, Mula and officials. SUR

Authorities work on project to improve Fuengirola's sewer network

FUENGIROLA

A. JIMÉNEZ. The Junta de Andalucía and the Western Costa del Sol's water board Acosol have announced the latest progress on the plan to renew the Costa's waste water drainage system. The project will be carried out gradually, starting with the infrastructure in Fuengirola, one of the key areas for the project.

Considered a priority is the replacement of the sewer pipe in the Torreblanca area, which is expected to cost 2.5 million euros. Acosol is currently drawing up the plans for the work which will be carried out "as soon as possible", said the regional government's delegate in Malaga province, Patricia Navarro, who met with the mayor Ana Mula in Fuengirola on Wednesday.

With regard to the wider project to renew the entire mains sewer that runs along the Costa, so far the Junta has put the draft project contract out to tender for 400,000 euros, with the plans to be completed within a year.

The aim is to define a path for the new sewer that is compatible with the coastline itself, with road and rail infrastructure and the urban surroundings.

Karl Lagerfeld will design five villas on the Golden Mile next to Sierra Blanca Estates

MARBELLA

JOAQUINA DUEÑAS. The Karl Lagerfeld firm arrives in Marbella at the hands of Sierra Blanca Estates with the design of five villas on the Golden Mile. It is the exclusive design company's first residential project in Spain.

The mansions will be built on a 9,000-square-metre plot in the exclusive few kilometres that separate the urban centre of Marbella from prestigious Puerto Banús.

The luxury residential complex will be made up of five unique villas whose individual size will range between 500 and 900m², all of them built with environmentally friendly materials.

Marbella adds fifty cameras to its video surveillance system

MARBELLA

J. DUEÑAS. Marbella town council has decided to expand the municipality's video and sensor network. It has now started the process for the second phase of the project. This includes 19 video surveillance points with 29 cameras and another 19 RLM (Licence Plate Reading Network): a total of 48 devices with five kilometres of fiber optic network attached to them. This is a project for which 1,645,675 euros are allocated to control security in those areas of the town centre with the greatest influx of population and visitors. Until now, the town had around 85 cameras.

British Consul shows support for Cudeca with Benalmádena hospice visit

BENALMÁDENA

SUR. Charmaine Arboin, the British Consul in Andalucía and the Canary Islands, visited Cudeca on Tuesday this week and was shown round the hospice by board members Susan Hannam, Vice-President of Cudeca, and Rafael Olalla, the Deputy Chief Executive.

A long-standing supporter of Cudeca, Arboin had helped the Sunflower Effect campaign to raise funds for a home care team by making a personal appeal on video, and also made a generous donation to the hospice from the Consular Project Fund adminis-



Liz Parry, Cudeca trustee, Hannam, Arboin and Olalla. SUR

tered by the Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office.

Commenting that Cudeca's "special kind of caring" has been more needed than ever during the past year, when the pandemic

has increased the problems of isolation, she thanked the Cudeca staff and volunteers for their dedication and pledged to continue to do everything she could to support them.

Charity skydive challenge for daredevil brothers

Ben and Sam Mattin will do the daring challenge in Seville to raise funds for The Hannah Edwards Star of Hope bowel cancer fund

TONY BRYANT

coin. Two daredevil brothers have decided to take to the sky to raise money and awareness for Bowel Cancer UK's Never Too Young campaign. Ben (19) and Sam (22) Mattin were inspired to do a skydive challenge after a local singer who performs in their mother's bar lost his fiancée to bowel cancer last August.

Hannah Edwards, a 37-year-old British expat, died from the disease just three weeks after being diagnosed. Following her death, Hannah's family, along with fiancée Tony Whitehouse, launched the Star of Hope fund and awareness campaign in her name to help raise money for Bowel Cancer UK. The campaign

has been supported by local expats and entertainers, and now The Olive Tree, where the brothers work as waiters, has also got behind the campaign.

"We decided to raise money for the bowel cancer charity because a local singer who is a good friend lost his fiancée to the disease. We wanted to do something for charity, and so we thought this would be a really good idea," Ben told SUR in English.

Originally from Norwich, Ben and Sam will travel to Seville on Friday 23 July to do the jump, although Ben says that he is a little nervous at the thought of it, seeing as he has never attempted anything like this.

"Neither of us have ever done anything like this before. We are not nervous at the moment, but I imagine once we get there, the nerves will start to kick in. Once we get up there though, there will not be much choice, so we will just have to jump," Ben explained.

The daring brothers, who are



Daring brothers Sam and Ben Mattin in Coin earlier this week. SUR

described by their mother as "total nutcases for jumping out of a plane", have not set a target figure, but they are hoping to raise as much money and awareness for the campaign as possible.

"We have set up a GoFundMe

page and we are also getting lots of support, donations and sponsors from the regular customers who use the bar, so I hope we will raise a lot of money for this worthy cause," Ben said.

www.gofund.me/4de6a27e

OBITUARY

Bill Blevins, joint founder of Blevins Franks, dies after long illness

Bill Blevins, the joint founder of Blevins Franks, sadly passed away recently after a long illness.

Bill worked closely with David Franks to build Blevins Franks into the leading international tax and wealth management advisers to UK nationals living in, moving to and returning from Europe.



"His lively personality, insight and generosity made a big impact on staff and clients alike. He will be sadly missed by all at Blevins Franks and many clients and business partners who met him over the years.

"The sympathies of all Bill's colleagues at Blevins Franks are with his wife and family at this sad time," said the company in a statement.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE:
 Our centres in Torremolinos, Mijas, Fuengirola and Estepona **WILL REMAIN OPEN ON SUNDAY THE 18TH OF JULY.** We also inform you that all our centres will be open on the 16th of July, which is a local holiday in some places

Offers valid for the Carrefour centres in Valle del Guadalhorce, Torremolinos, Mijas, Fuengirola and Estepona until the 22nd of July, 2021.

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ALOHA COLLEGE

Aloha College Marbella achieves its highest average score ever in IB exams

The school has an excellent record of students achieving places at their first-choice universities

MARBELLA

SUR. Congratulations to the Aloha College Class of 2021 on their exceptional IB results. They have achieved a 100% pass rate with an outstanding average of 37.4 points, the highest in the history of the school.

Students from more than 150 countries take the IB Diploma every year. The current world average grade points for the May 2021 session is 33.02 points, while the worldwide diploma pass rate has been 88.96%.

One third of Aloha students attained 40 points or above, including Aloha College's Head Student, who obtained the maximum score of 45 points.

In a year of disruption, the students' dedication was phenomenal, and made their parents and teachers extremely proud of their inquisitive nature and committed approach to their IB studies. This set of excellent results will enable them to proceed to the world's best universities.

School leavers of 2021 are responsible, knowledgeable and caring young people who will help to create a better and more respectful world.

Aloha College Marbella is a leading British International School, for pupils aged 3 to 18

Aloha College Marbella now has a reputation worldwide both for the excellence of its teaching and learning, and for its recognition that enabling a child's physical, emotional and personal growth with care and affection is just as important. We aim to create school memories full of inspirational learning, new experiences, and fun.



Aloha College

The most recent external School Inspection recognised and published a report stating the outstanding education provided in all areas of school life.

As well as asking official Inspectors to evaluate the school, the management firmly believes in the importance of listening to pupils in their quest to make the school continually improve.

Student councils meet regularly with the Head Students and talk with honesty and sincerity, putting forward their ideas.

Founded in 1982, Aloha College Marbella is a not-for-profit educational foundation

When asking Caio Simon, Head Student from the graduating class of 2021 what makes Aloha College unique, he answers with

passion and pride:

"We are the only school here on the coast that offers both the IB Diploma and the A-level programme to our students. This enables each and every one of us to choose the most appropriate path to our future.

The most recent 100 % pass rate in IB and my close friend achieving the maximum of 45 points makes all my class so proud.

There was a mix of surprise, relief and joy. Many did not expect some of the great scores they attained. A lot of ecstatic hugs and congratulations were shared as we learned about each others' successful performance in the IB exams.

The teachers, the facilities, and all of the extracurricular opportunities that help us develop as people are key ingredients to the Aloha experience.

The memories we will keep from this wonderful school will remain in our hearts."

Ms Elaine McGirl, Head of Key

Stage 5 at the college, stated: "I am extremely proud of our students' achievements particularly in a year where they have experienced so much uncertainty and disruption in their learning.

These outstanding results come as a result of commitment, sacrifice and hard work. I am confident that the skills and experiences gained over the years will help them navigate the next stage of their life and make the most of any opportunity that arises. I am very excited for these students as their results enable them to go on and study in the world's best universities and I wish them continued success and every happiness in the future!

You have done us proud!"

So, what does the future hold for Aloha College Marbella?

This year has been a challenging one, which children have come through with flying colours. They have all appreciated having face-to-face learning with minimal interruption.

In 2020-2021 the children were unable to enjoy co-curricular activities after school, so Aloha College has already prepared a stunning programme for them so they can have new sporting and creative experiences from Monday to Friday.

We are also refreshing our charity plan, which will have more input from parents and students when we show our solidarity with local and international associations.

Mrs Elizabeth Batchelor, long-standing Principal of the school, says: "We are going to continue to provide the best education for all our children; upgrade our already outstanding facilities; keep recruiting, training and retaining the best staff and - never relax!"

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King Felipe VI poses with Pedro Sánchez and the new ministers. EFE

Sánchez announces major Cabinet reshuffle for a 'new phase'

The prime minister has attacked the core of his government, removing heavyweights Carmen Calvo, José Luis Ábalos and Iván Redondo

PAULA DE LAS HERAS

MADRID. Spain's prime minister, Pedro Sánchez has launched what he describes as a "new phase" for his government with a thorough reshuffle of his Cabinet.

Rather than repeating the minor moves he has made in the past, last Saturday Sánchez announced changes that affect the core of his government.

Out go his first Deputy PM, Carmen Calvo, and his chief of staff, Iván Redondo, thought to have been until now one of the biggest influences on Sánchez's decisions.

The PM has also got rid of the PSOE Socialist party's secretary of organisation and Transport Minister, José Luis Ábalos, who leaves both jobs. The new Transport minister is Raquel Sánchez, until now mayor of the Catalan town of Gavá.

The five ministers belonging to the Socialists' coalition partners, left-wing Unidas Podemos, remain in their posts, as agreed with the now second Deputy PM Yolanda Díaz.

The first Deputy PM position left by Calvo will be occupied by until now second deputy and Finance Minister Nadia Calviño, a move interpreted as a sign to Brussels that Spain is serious about meeting its EU responsibilities.

The Defence and Interior ministers, Margarita Robles and Fernando Grande-Marlaska keep their jobs, while Justice minis-

ter Juan Carlos Campo will be replaced by Pilar Llop, a judge who currently has the role of 'speaker' in the Senado (upper house).

There are also changes at the helm of the ministries of Foreign Affairs (out goes González Laya to be replaced by Sánchez's adviser José Manuel Albares); Science and Innovation (out goes former astronaut Pedro Duque and in comes Diana Morant, currently mayor of Gandía); and Education and Professional Training (out Isabel Celáa, in Pilar Alegría). The new minister for the prime minister's office is Félix Bolaños, and Isabel Rodríguez takes over as government spokesperson and minister of Territorial Policy.

The new arrivals to the cabinet, explained Sánchez on Saturday, bring the average age of the government ministers down from 55 to 50.

THE EURO ZONE
MARK NAYLER

Found guilty



Suspendisse potenti. Is suspension of freedom and movement by a central government justified by the outbreak of a virus? If, like me, you were tormented by this question during last spring's quarantine, and if you experienced powerless anger at the way Spain's government was behaving, convinced that the legality of suspending fundamental liberties must be very shaky, whatever the context, there was something to celebrate this week: vindication.

The retrospective enormity of this week's ruling by Spain's Constitutional Court - that last spring's government-enforced lockdown was illegal - takes a few minutes to absorb. Think back to March and April 2020, when police presence on empty streets made one wonder why a health problem was turning into a quasi-criminal affair. It was also hard to avoid suspicion that the blurring of that distinction, by both the government and law enforcement authorities, was surely verging on criminal itself.

During all of those days that police officers scoured Spain's cities, towns and villages, handing out over a million fines to people caught doing anything other than food shopping, none of their actions had a legal foundation. If, last spring, it was impossible to believe that any such behaviour COULD have its basis and defence in the Spanish Constitution, it turns out that that was for very good reason - because none of it did.

Pedro Sánchez's government

says that it had no time to introduce a more serious "state of exception", which may have permitted lockdown but which would have required prior parliamentary consent to introduce. A state of alarm doesn't need approval in advance by parliament, precisely because it's the least serious of three states of emergency outlined in the Spanish Constitution - it can be activated first and debated later. Sánchez is thus ensnared in a paradox: the situation last March wasn't serious enough to impose a state of exception, but it was serious enough to enforce an unprecedented suspension of liberties.

Even claiming lack of time begs a hard question, though. Arguably, because the Spanish government's actions last March had a direct impact on the lives of every person in the country - unlike most of the time - it should have been subject to tighter procedures and parliamentary approval, rather than allowed to act in the absence of such checks. If more time was required to attempt to proceed properly, running the "risk" that lockdown would be blocked by congress, then it should have been taken.

Other fascinating and important questions are raised by this week's ruling, but at least it's answered one viscerally-felt one, a nagging question that dominated the thoughts of lockdown sceptics in Spain last spring: "Is this right? Is this... OK?" Over a year later, the verdict's finally been returned: no, it isn't.



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European Commission to put forward a mandate for negotiations next week

GIBRALTAR

The agreement in principle at the end of last year will serve as the framework for a treaty regarding Gibraltar's future relationship with EU

DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. The negotiations for a treaty on Gibraltar's future relationship with the EU will begin very soon, as the European Commission has indicated that it will put forward a mandate for them next week. It has taken the Commission much longer than expected to do this, as the Gibraltar and UK governments had originally hoped everything could have been finalised by the end of last month.

The first step in this process was what has become known as the 'New Year's Eve Agreement', which was completed in the early hours of 31 December last year, after months of hard negotiations between Gibraltar, Spain and the

UK. The treaty will cover many different aspects, but the point of this agreement in principle which attracted the most attention was the proposal that Gibraltar should have a tailor-made Schengen-style agreement which would remove the existing land border and make the airport and port Schengen entry and exit points. This external Schengen border would under normal circumstances be controlled by Spain, but that was not acceptable to Gibraltar, so the suggested solution was for the EU's Frontex force to do so instead.

If this does come into effect, it will initially be for a period of four years and then reviewed. However, there is no guarantee that a treaty can be agreed, and the chief minister of Gibraltar, Fabian Picardo, has stressed on a number of occasions that he will not agree to anything that is not in Gibraltar's interests. Earlier this week he also warned about speculation and media posturing regarding the negotiations, saying that all that matters in the end is what is finally agreed.



Gibraltar is seeing an increase in positive cases again. SUR

Covid cases rise again and ERS visits temporarily suspended

GIBRALTAR

D.B. The number of positive cases of Covid-19 in Gibraltar has been rising steadily recently, among vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals.

The government announced this week that visits to Mount Alvernia and John Mackintosh House, both of which are residences for the elderly, were being temporarily suspended because a patient in the former and a member of staff in the latter had tested positive for coronavirus.

On Monday, the number of

active cases was 79 (73 residents and 6 visitors) including one in Elderly Residential Services, but nobody was in the hospital Covid ward.

On Tuesday there were 21 new cases, bringing the total to 84 residents and 8 visitors.

On Wednesday a further 23 cases were registered, and the total number was 115 (104 residents and 11 visitors). One person was admitted to the Covid ward.

On Thursday the figures had risen again to a total of 138: 127 residents and 11 visitors. One person remains in hospital.

IN BRIEF

CULTURE

New website for Ministry for Heritage

D. B. Those interested in Gibraltar's heritage can now find full details on the new website www.ministryforheritage.gi, which has just been launched after two years of work. The site includes information and photographs on listed structures, post boxes, street names, Admiralty anchors, surveys, reports and maps, with links to other sources of information.

TOURISM

Wizz Air summer rescheduling

D. B. Gibraltar's tourism minister, Vijay Daryanani, says Wizz Air's decision to cancel its flights during August was the result of the change of UK government policy, whereby people who have been vaccinated no longer have to quarantine when returning to UK from amber list countries. The airline has rescheduled flights to cover demand to other destinations during the summer.

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'We need help - car rental companies can't keep on selling vehicles to survive'

Yolanda Collado Head of AESVA, the association representing local car hire firms

The sector, comprising about 200 companies, depends almost entirely on international tourism, which accounts for nearly 90 per cent of its business

FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ



MALAGA. The hire car sector is starting to pick up again after more than a year of the pandemic, although its strong dependence on international tourists (90 per cent of its customers) means the recovery is slow and many companies have had to sell part of their fleets in order to survive. "Most vehicle rental firms are small or medium-sized businesses," says Yolanda Collado, head of AESVA, the association that represents local car hire firms. They are calling on the authorities to provide "oxygen" in the form of specific assistance.

-How are things looking for the sector this summer?
-We're starting to see a bit more movement in terms of tourism



Yolanda Collado explained the problems faced in her industry. **M. FERNÁNDEZ**

and there are bookings not only for July and August but also in September and October. That is making us quite optimistic, but moderately so because it depends how this crisis evolves, on vaccination and the measures taken by other countries, because our business is fundamentally linked to the international market.

-How important are foreign tourists for the rent-a-car sector?

-Extremely important. On the Costa del Sol they account for nearly 90 per cent of our business.

-I suppose you are watching closely to see what the British do?

-Yes, absolutely, because that has always been our biggest market. Germans, Belgians and Scandinavians as well, of course, but right

now we are missing the British the most because they are the majority of our clients.

-This season, are you just trying to survive?

-We have had 14 months with no work, and the companies have had to make tremendous efforts to keep going. How? By selling their assets, in other words their cars; we have had the furloughs and the ICO credits, but those are still debts which will have to be repaid. Business is improving, but not enough to make a lot of difference. We still need several months of work to be able to breathe and feel less financial strain. Let's not forget that of the 200 rental businesses there are, the vast majority are small or medium-sized or even family businesses, which have had to work miracles in order to keep going.

-How much does a fleet at a standstill cost?

-It's very expensive to have vehicles which aren't out on hire. The companies have had to continue paying insurance, taxes and financing, so they have all made losses because they have had zero income. The vehicles have to keep moving. First to cover expenses, and then to keep the company afloat. That's why we need help from the authorities.

-What about the government assistance?

-The companies need money in order to continue. They have made tremendous efforts so far but can't carry on selling vehicles to survive. We need help. When people talk about tourism they only think about really important sectors like hotels and restaurants; car hire firms are forgotten, as being somewhere between tourism and transport. The work the companies are getting just isn't enough. That's why we are calling on the government, the Junta and local authorities to remember us, because we are the mobility aspect of tourism.

-There seem to be a lot of announcements about assistance, but does it not happen?

-There is help for tourism and catering, but that's not us. There has been some assistance for the self-employed, but very little. The hire car businesses have been very badly hit because for 14 months we have had to keep paying out despite having no income, so we need a breathing space. Just as other businesses like hotels and restaurants receive specific help, so should we.

-Are you able to foresee how this summer season will go?

-There are a lot of variables in play and too much uncertainty. Obviously we're not going to see the level of business in 2019 or anything like it, but we do hope it will be around 50 per cent. We do want to be optimistic, but there is still so much uncertainty.

-Like driving with the handbrake on.

-Well yes, because the uncertainty means you can't predict anything and buy more cars. We don't know if demand will increase, so we can't make big decisions about investment, and that's why the fleets are smaller than in other years.

-By how much?

-We don't have exact figures, but quite a lot because the companies have had to sell so many vehicles in order to keep going. In fact, some couldn't carry on and have closed down. And those who want to buy new vehicles are having financing problems, and, to make things worse, not as many are being produced because of the lack of microchips, so fewer new cars are available.

-Are there enough cars to meet demand if there are suddenly a lot more clients?

-Well, demand is increasing and there aren't as many cars for hire now, so we recommend that people book in advance.

-You do seem optimistic.

-It's our attitude. We have all been through a really difficult situation and we have advanced with the vaccinations and the Covid passport. If the government facilitates safe travel and the private sector continues to make the efforts as it has done till now, I am convinced that bit by bit we can move forward again.





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LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR

Tourism and youth

When one of those affected by the Mallorca outbreak was asked why they had decided to celebrate the end of high school with a trip to the island, she replied that they did so “because it was allowed.” Everything is open. We welcome tourists as they come and however they come, we offer smiles and reopen nightclubs, restaurants, concerts. And then, tearing our hair out, we asked these recent high school graduates if they really celebrated parties without masks, if they took them off for longer than just to drink or maybe it was a huge drink that left nobody able to measure distances, except with the arms with which they embraced their friends. It is a farce to tell them that they have not been mature or to put the responsibility on the owners of the premises where the party was. And, at the height of cynicism, knowing that the virus flies among young people just for living without vaccination, not the slightest effort is made to vaccinate those who, due to chronic diseases or other circumstances, are at risk, not just of a series of days of confinement or the remorse of bringing the virus home, but also their lives.

TERESA RIVERA

Is it too much to ask for a little civility?

Throwing a piece of paper or a cigarette butt on the ground may seem like a minor action. But it happens. And a lot. I don't know if it's a coincidence, but lately I've seen many people doing it. Thus it is very difficult to keep a city clean. Because

surely many of those who throw away those papers later are the first to complain. Is it too much to ask for a little civility? We live in a beautiful place and we like to show it off. Together we can make sure that we continue to have reasons to do so. We want to continue to shine in the world.

MARY GONZAGA

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THE MUSIC MAKER
PETER EDGERTONwww.e-peter.com

Hotter than July

As the relentless summer heat bears down mercilessly on our poor, benighted bonces, I thought I might offer readers a handy cut-out-and-keep guide to surviving the unforgiving Andalusian summer. Here goes.

First, venture out of your house as little as is humanly possible. If you must set foot on the burning asphalt, do so when the wantonly malicious sun has finally taken his hat off and thus slightly increased your chances of not drowning in a puddle of your own sweat at the merest hint of any limb movement. This tactic means stocking up on the essentials (beer and crisps) and whimpering plaintively from the shelter of your own abode for the next six or seven weeks. In view of the fact that you won't have enough energy to do anything remotely productive during this time, your conscience

can rest easy as you exist on a perma-loop of sleeping, siestas (no, they're not the same thing) and watching rubbish series on Netflix.

Secondly, don't be distracted by any lost souls trying to tempt you to the beach on the premise that it's cooler down there. Any benefit of a miniscule change in temperature is immediately negated by the fact that the deceptive, whispering breeze prevents you from noticing that your skin is being scorched to a crisp in spite of the factor 346 sun cream you've applied. You're sleeping/siesta rotation system will consequently be severely disrupted by your inability to lie down on anything that isn't a mix of cotton wool and talcum powder.

Next, avoid air conditioning, even if you have it available. This may seem counter intuitive but that particular method of getting cooler comes at a heavy price i.e.

your throat turns to sandpaper overnight and being able to start a Joe Cocker tribute band in your spare time doesn't really compensate in the long run. A better option is to wrap yourself in wet towels and lie by an electric fan. This way of doing things offers the added joy of making you feel like Paul Newman in Cool Hand Luke after he's eaten all those boiled eggs. Now, that really is cool.

It's also very important to put your beer glasses in the freezer. This is doubly beneficial in that your drink, of course, tastes much colder, plus the visual image of the iced glass brimful of the thinking man's nectar gives you a psychological boost that, with any luck, will tide you over until September's cooling kiss comes to our rescue in a couple of months' time.

Still too hot? They say Scarborough's nice this time of year.

IDÍGORAS



SUR in English

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Director General: ANTONIO GONZÁLEZEditor-in-Chief
MANUEL CASTILLO
Publications Director
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Rachel Haynes
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Oasis of taste to taste

With shelves cluttered with same brands, same boxes, same products, it is hard to find anything that is entirely unique. In numerous supermarkets you will hardly ever come across local specialities either. However, now, if you really want to go off the beaten track and look at local options, then you can head directly to Torremolinos that boasts a new 'gastromarket'.

The only permanent foodie market under the auspices of 'Sabor a Málaga' (Taste of Malaga) has opened its doors to the public in Plaza de la Independencia. However, the ambitious Torremolinos project seems to have been dependent upon many factors.

Otherwise, why did it take more than two years to establish this gastronomic venue in the town?

Apparently, such delay made this year's opening inauguration coincide with the 10th anniversary of the brand 'Sabor a Málaga'. It was in 2011 that the Diputación de Malaga launched the brand for agri-food products of the province with an aim to promote locally grown agricultural and food produce and at the same time highlight the wealth of Malaga flavours and aromas.

Not to worry, as the proverb states, 'good things come to those who wait'. And over recent years, 'Sabor a Málaga' has become a synonym for something good and unique,

and typical of the region. The most important thing is that finally, locals and tourists have access (by definition) to properly cultivated produce and products made according to authentic recipes. So now, 14 market stalls in Torremolinos offer, among other items, cheeses, wine, honey, olive oil, coffee, artisan sweets and desserts. But not the edible flowers that have been a sort of special pride of 'Sabor a Málaga', and actually a good example how foreign residents could contribute to local agriculture.

About two hundred different varieties of flowers had been cultivated in the Axarquía by two expats from Germany, Peter Knacke and Til Runge. Their business named 'Sabor y Salud' (Taste and Health) focused on the exclusive growing of edible flowers and aromatic herbs. Their produce was exported to France, for haute cuisine and restaurants of legendary Spanish chefs - from the Roca brothers to Arzak and Ferran Adrià. These two adopted Malaga sons considered themselves more than just gardeners, but "lov-

ers of culinary experiences, taste, aesthetics and health". It is a pity the pandemic situation forced the Germans to shut down their business last year, thereby decreasing the diverse taste/flavour of Malaga.

Otherwise, local artisan providers have to compromise in order to make their products locally affordable long-term, and of course more attractive. Therefore, some classical products are often altered from their natural states to prolong their shelf life. Some artisan products look already more appealing by adding some colouring and aromas to classical ingredients, or they are just covered with chocolate and colourful icing sugar, or 'lightened' to reduce calories. All these factors definitely modify the genuine taste.

The products in the Torremolinos gastromarket are supposedly protected by the official branding, therefore it means we can congratulate ourselves on having an oasis on the Costa del Sol of taste and flavour, as well as health and quality.

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IN THE FRAME

'I adore what I do - I'm probably a little too passionate about it'

Pete Jackson MBE talks to SUR in English about his passion for exploring the tunnels and caves in Gibraltar

ASH MAER



If you've ever had a tour of the tunnels or caves in Gibraltar, there is a very good chance your guide was Pete Jackson.

Since he arrived in Gibraltar in 1989, he has shown more than 3,000 people around some of the Rock's most mysterious sights - including members of the Royal Family.

But how did this 60-year-old man from the North of England come to call Gibraltar his home?

Born in 1961, Pete grew up in Scarborough and as a schoolboy would explore the caves in North Yorkshire and Derbyshire.

Pete, who now works as a freelance guide in Gibraltar, explained: "My Environmental Studies teacher was really into caving, so we had some great trips away. Some of his friends were in the Cave Rescue Team, and, when it was safe to do so, they would take kids from our school with them."

Then at the age of 15, Pete joined the army as a Junior Gunner in the Royal Artillery.

And after two years of intense basic training that "turned me into a soldier", he went off to serve the Queen in the German cities of Paderborn and Dortmund, also serving tours in Northern Ireland.

Pete met the love of his life Lesley while on leave in Scarborough in 1981. They married in 1983 and have three children: Peter, Rachael and Georgina.

After 12 years in the British Army, Pete, who learned to speak reasonable German during this time, came to Gibraltar in 1989, to instruct on an Air Defence Missile system to the Gibraltar Regiment.

But it was also love at first

sight for Pete when he first saw Gibraltar.

"My mind was blown away during the landing," he recalled.

"The aircraft circled the Rock twice and I fell in love with it before it touched down.

"I tell everyone, you can't step in a puddle here without it oozing military history through your toes - and I got caught up in it."

Shortly after leaving the Royal Artillery in 1991, he joined the Gibraltar Regiment (as it was then called) at age 30.

"During the first Mess Dinner, I was sat next to a Sergeant called Tito Vallejo (a very prominent cave and tunnel guide). We got talking and he invited me to a tour of Lower St Michael's Cave the next morning. I was mesmerised."

In 1994, Tito left the regiment, and Pete took over from him as Chief Tunnel Guide for the Ministry of Defence, a position that he held for the next 17 years.

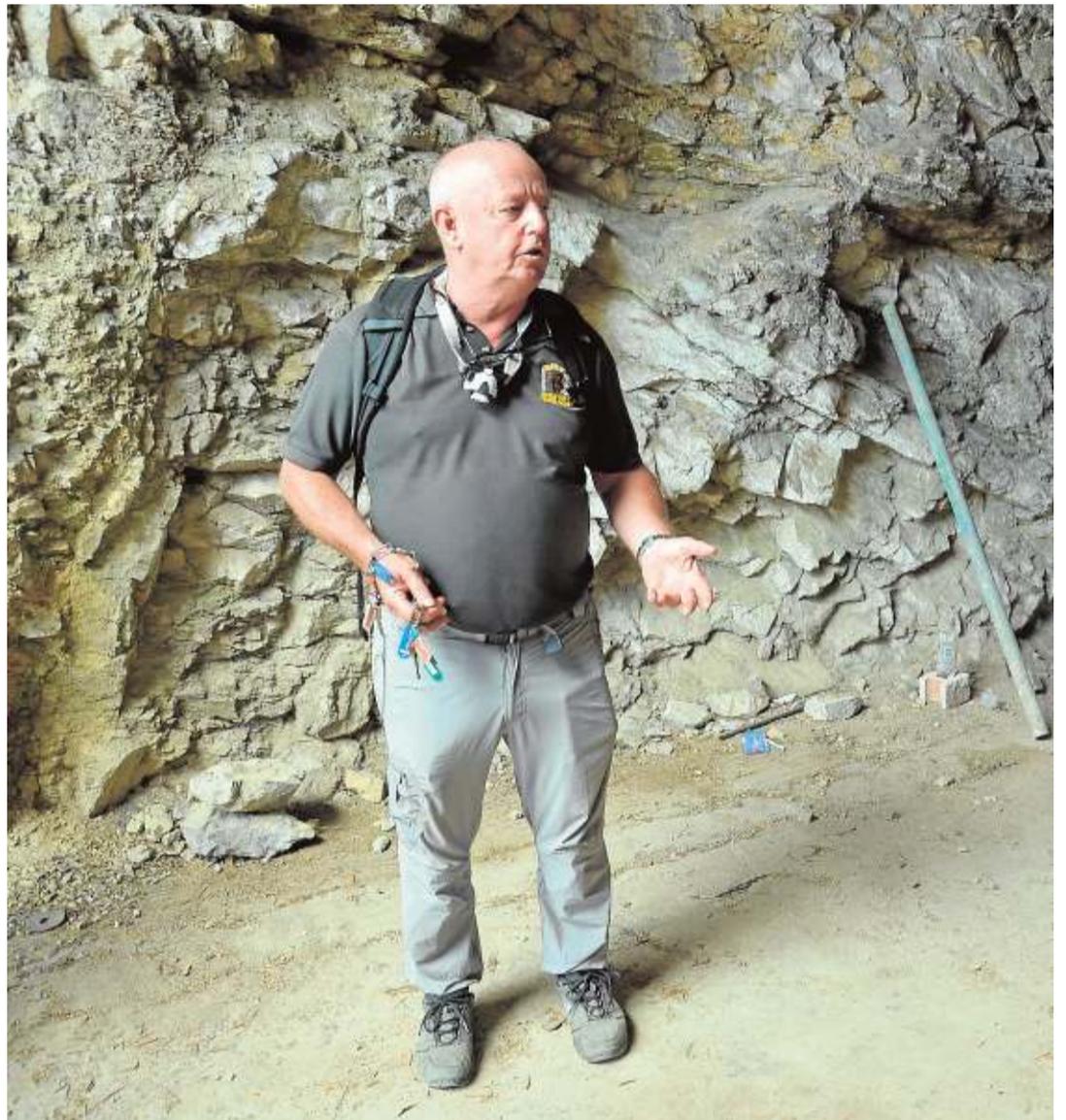
He continued: "It was not my main role though; it was a second hat, something I did for the love of it.

"I adore what I do; I'm probably a little too passionate about it; it does give me a lump in my throat."

So what is it exactly that Pete loves about his job?

He replied: "A lot of it, especially the military history side of it, is the sacrifice that's gone on here. The number of people that have laid down their lives in the defence of the Rock, and to try and win it. It's important to those servicemen who have fallen in battle that that is recognised and understood by the present generation. That's what keeps me motivated to do what I do."

When asked what was his fa-



Pete Jackson during one of his many tours inside the Rock. SUR

avourite location to show people around, Pete replied without hesitation: "The Northern Defences."

As to why, he said: "Because it's been manned on a military footing since the Moors carried spears. This is a serious defensive location, you can stand in a position and know that a Moorish soldier stood there in 1309 defending it against the Spanish, followed by Spanish soldiers, who stood there in 1333 defending it against the Moors. In 1704 the Anglo-Dutch came and they took it. Soldiers have been manning the same positions from 711. By World War II you've got the Brits covering the same arcs with a machine gun rather than a musket."

Pete does have spare time for other interests, however: he has a passion for motorbikes, which he has three of.

He's also on the board of trustees for the Gibraltar Heritage Trust and spends many weekends restoring artillery pieces around the Rock - the latest being Lord Airey's Battery, which, according to Pete, is in dire need of attention.

The artillery battery, which

'You can stand in a position and know that a Moorish soldier stood there in 1309 defending it against the Spanish'

was completed in 1891, is found in the Upper Rock Nature Reserve and has commanding views over the Straits and the waters surrounding Gibraltar.

As for famous faces he's shown the inside of the Rock, Pete recalls Princess Anne being one of the most interesting.

"She was very astute," he said.

"She asked more questions than you can imagine and was interested in tunnel warfare and how you could clear a tunnel system of an enemy. She wanted to know every little piece of information."

His encounter with the member of the Royal Family was the precursor to a funny anecdote with Prince Charles, who presented Pete with his Member

of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 2005.

Pete, said: "When it was my turn, I was chatting with Prince Charles, and he made me feel very comfortable in his company. He asked me if we were keeping the Rock in British hands? And I replied: 'Just about Sir.' He then asked me if I was still conducting tunnel tours, to which I replied: 'I am Sir, ooh and I took your sister in there last year!'

"I suddenly thought, 'Oh sh*t, I shouldn't have said that, I should have called her the Princess Royal!' He replied 'Really? Nice to meet you.'

And that was it! He made the gesture for me to leave! Looking back I was so embarrassed, but I suppose it was a funny moment."

Pete added that he received his MBE for Services to Gibraltar.

He explained: "I have worked with a lot of veterans and helped to show them where they used to work. I have also helped in finding where people's relatives have died in some cases placing memorial plaques at the spot. It is very rewarding."



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The List Río Real also boasts an unbeatable location. Located on the Ronda de Nbreasa Oeste, to the east Marbella, The List is positioned in one of the most exclusive enclaves, in a quiet area surrounded by countryside and with all the services you need close-by. The ideal place to call home.



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◀ A girl embraces her dog as she sunbathes

Summer fun and exercise for our pooches

Pet-friendly spaces. The Costa del Sol offers a selection of beaches and recreational areas designed especially for our four-legged friends to cool off during the summer

TONY BRYANT



The Costa del Sol is fast becoming popular as a pet-friendly destination. Along with dozens of animal charities, pet-friendly hotels and numerous specialised salons where pets can be pampered, the coast also offers a selection of designated beaches and parks for our canine friends.

Many of the town halls along the coast have reserved areas on its beaches where dogs are allowed. However, the size and breed of the animal will determine if it can roam freely, or whether it must be kept on a lead. The owners must also remember to clean up after their animals, or face fines of up to 500 euros.

The dogs must also be accompanied by a person of legal age to monitor them at all times.

Despite the June 2015 ban by the Junta de Andalucía on spaces where bathing with pets is allowed in summer, many canine beaches are still operational because their waters are not suitable for swimming, a fundamental requirement for a dog beach in Andalucía. Because Malaga is a tourist destination, almost its entire coastline is considered an area where human bathing prevails over animal bathing. When a municipality wants to promote a beach for dogs, it has to present a plan to the authorities to exclude people from swimming on that particular stretch of beach.

These beaches will vary in size, as will the services available.

Torre del Mar

The Playa El Montero in Torre del

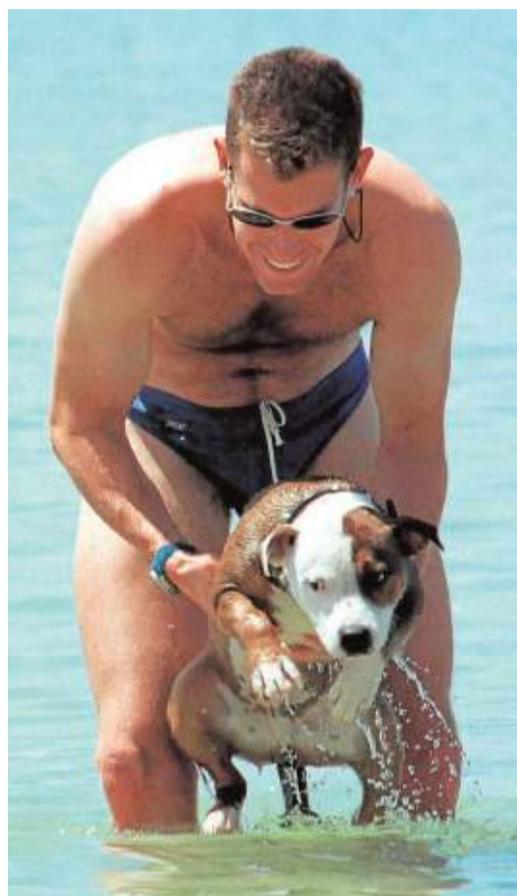
Mar was inaugurated in 2016 and has a 250 m² fun zone, with a swing, tunnels and ramps and many other apparatuses for dogs to enjoy. The beach is also equipped with specially designed fountains and a canine toilet area with specific bins to dispose of excrement.

Malaga

The Arroyo Totalán canine beach is located between Malaga and La Cala del Moral, near the cement factory.

The PPP breeds, dogs that are considered potentially dangerous as a result of their physical attributes, are allowed access to this beach as long as their owners adopt the appropriate precautions and ensure that their dogs are muzzled.

▶ A man bathes his dog in the sea.



over 20 kilos must wear a muzzle.

Marbella

Marbella has two dog beaches: Playa Canina del Pinillo and the Playa Canina Ventura del Mar.

The Pinillo dog beach is a 250-meter stretch of coastline located on the outskirts of the town. Because the beach is made up of pebbles, it is one of the less used during the summer, which is why it has been chosen to provide an area suitable for dogs.

Earlier this year, the beach was improved and new adapted fountains and showers have been installed.

The Ventura del Mar beach is located in San Pedro and it offers similar facilities to the neighbouring dog-friendly beach.

Recreational spaces

Aside from the beaches, the Costa also has several specially designed dog parks and recreational areas. Each park will have an information board informing of the opening hours and the regulations, which are a standard set of rules concerning general hygiene.

Torremolinos has two canine parks that are located in areas on the outskirts of the town to ensure minimum disturbance to the local residents.

The Parque Canino El Olivar is a large fenced off piece of land in El Pinillo and it offers plenty of exercise apparatuses, including ramps, tunnels and ring hoops. There are also shaded areas and fountains where the dogs can cool off, along with pergolas and picnic-style tables for their owners to relax.

The town's second park is in La Colina, just a few hundred metres from the beaches of Playamar. This area also offers a sectioned off space with numerous structures for exercise.

Fuengirola, however, is a pioneer in canine recreational areas. The town now offers six dog parks distributed among the different neighbourhoods to facilitate access to all residents. The most recent addition is the 750 square meter Parque del Sol, which opened at the end of 2020 at a cost of 16,000 euros. The other spaces are the Parque Guau Guau de Los Pacos; Guau Guau 2 de Miramar, along with those in Calle Lanzarote; the fairground in Los Boliches and the 700 m² park in Torreblanca,

Alhaurín de la Torre will open its new 3,000 m² metre canine park later this summer. 120,000 euros has been invested in the project, which will be divided into sections for larger and smaller dogs.

Benalmádena

The new Benalcán dog beach in Benalmádena is due to open this summer. The dog-friendly beach was previously located on the Tajo de la Soga beach, but it was closed in 2020. The Benalcán beach, which is 400 metres in length and 20 metres wide, was chosen as the new location and it is being fitted with specific equipment and services to cater for our four-legged friends.

Fuengirola

The Fuengirola dog beach is located on the Playa de Castillo, which is dominated by the Sohail Castle. The beach has a length of 800 metres, so is perfect for the energetic pooch. However, breeds classified as potentially dangerous are not permitted; while dogs

How to travel safely with a dog in the car and also avoid fines

Use a travelling box, harness or dog guard to protect your pet and comply with the law, and stop for a break every couple of hours

S.M.

MADRID. Many people want to take their dog with them when they go away in the summer, but it is vital to make sure they are as safe and comfortable as possible when travelling.

The golden rule when travelling with your pet is never to leave it alone in the car, even with the air conditioning on. Although in general dogs are more resistant than we are to weather conditions, they are also more sensitive to high temperatures so hot weather is very dangerous for a dog in a car.

Even if you stop in a cool place for a break, the dog needs to be outside in the air, and in the shade. It is also best not to tie

the dog up in hot weather, because if it were to suffer heatstroke it would not be able to find a way to cool itself down.

Dogs must never be loose in a car when travelling, not even on the back seat, because they could be thrown forward and injured or killed if there is an accident, and this is also dangerous to the driver. The law says dogs must be restrained so they cannot interfere with the driving or stability of the vehicle.

For the journey, if the dog is small, it should travel in a carrying box on the floor of the vehicle. If it is big, it is better to put the carrier in the boot, sideways to the direction of travel. The Traffic Department says that even if a dog is in a carrier, it is best to have a partition to separate it from the rest of the vehicle as well.

If the animal is not properly restrained while travelling, the driver can be fined 80 euros, and if it is on the driver's lap or loose inside the car, this can incur a



Dogs must never be loose in a car when travelling. JOSÉ LUIS NOCITO

fine of 500 euros and loss of six points, or 200 euros respectively.

There are other things to take into account when travelling with a dog in the car.

For example, you must carry its up-to-date documentation with you. To drive in Spain, you must take the official health card, stamped by a registered vet, and if you are travelling within the European Union you will need a valid pet passport. It is also important that your pet is microchipped, in case it gets

lost or has an accident.

Some dogs become anxious when travelling, or suffer from travel sickness. It is a good idea to take your pet for a check-up by a vet before you go.

Also, "the dog shouldn't be given anything to eat in the two hours before you set off on the journey. You should just give it fresh water and an antiemetic to prevent sickness and dizziness," says Dr Armand Tabernerero, who is a vet. For those whose dogs become nervous and

anxious in the car, he suggests giving them natural medications like valerian and passionflower, which do not produce any side effects.

It is a good idea to put covers on the car seats and in the boot, because dogs moult and pant a lot when they are stressed or hot. "You can buy special covers to protect the upholstery and the boot of the car and keep them clean," says Miquel Contijoch, the head of accessories at Seat.

While travelling, open the windows of the vehicle occasionally to let fresh air in, even if you are using the air conditioning. However, dogs should not be allowed to stick their heads out of the window as this can cause otitis or conjunctivitis.

Every now and then, find somewhere to park in the shade and let the dog get out and stretch its legs. Experts advise drivers to stop every couple of hours to take a break and have a drink, and this applies to dogs as well. While doing so, leave the windows open to freshen the air in the car.

When you reach your destination, the dog will need a chance to familiarise itself with its new surrounding, have something to eat, get some fresh air and play with its owners. This is also the time to reward it with some favourite treats, after the journey.

"Dogs are our link to paradise" Milan Kundera

TINY DOG HOTEL

The motive many owners seek only the best for their beloved pets whilst away. The five-star Tiny Dog Hotel, a luxury daycare, hotel and spa for small dogs located in the heart of Marbella (Malaga), is an oasis of canine happiness where tiny dogs have the opportunity to socialize and play under the watchful eye of our caretaking staff in a homely cage-free environment in which dogs are not only safe and happy but also enjoy the same comforts as at home.

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YORKSHIRE LINEN



Stephanie and the team at the Mijas Costa Store. sur

“I THINK, TOUCH WOOD, THAT 2021 WILL BE THE BEST YEAR EVER FOR YORKSHIRE LINEN”

Customer Service, Product Knowledge and Hard Work are core to Yorkshire Linen Beds & More's Success

MIJAS COSTA

SUR. Stephanie Smith and Julie Law are the driving force behind Yorkshire Linen Beds & More. From their stores in Mijas Costa and Marbella, the two businesswomen and their teams offer expert advice on linen, furnishings and beds to thousands of clients on the Costa del Sol and, via their webpage, to mainland Spain and the Balearics.

Stephanie, who is originally from Wolverhampton, came to Spain over thirty years ago. Working in tourism, firstly in Tenerife and then on the Costa del Sol, Stephanie applied for a job as a store manager at Yorkshire Linen thirteen years ago. Julie, who hails from Liverpool, moved to the Coast 25 years ago. Before Yorkshire Linen, Julie and her husband ran a successful, second-hand furniture business in Fuengirola.

The company was originally part of a household linen company, based in Harrogate (Yorkshire), with shops in Málaga and Alicante and it was there that Julie and Stephanie met. When the original owners decided to focus more on the Costa Brava, 12 years ago, Stephanie and Julie pooled their resources and decided to continue with the business.

How has the company changed since 2008?

The first Yorkshire Linen shop started in Mijas Costa. We launched the webpage a couple of years later. We opened our Prestige shop in Marbella, on the Golden Mile, five years ago. It's a common misconception that Yorkshire Linen Prestige, Marbella, is more expensive than our Mijas Costa store. We have exactly the same prices in both premises; we just hold some higher ranges in Marbella: thousand thread-count sheets and our exclusive Hypnos bed range. Just before lockdown, in Mijas, we combined our Beds & More and Yorkshire Linen businesses into one store.

What are your most popular products?

On the linen side, people come looking for bedding and curtains and then we have the clients interested in our beds. We're find-

ing that more and more people are looking to furnish a complete apartment, either because they are new owners or because they want to rent their property out. People usually come into the shop for a couple of hours and go through colour schemes, measurements and budget, with the help of our staff and the display beds. It can be very complicated with different bed sizes in Spain, the UK and the Scandinavian countries; but our expert team is always on hand to advise and explain what works best for each person. That said, we are finding more and more people are buying via our webpage, on the phone or via Whatsapp.

It also depends on the time of the year. In summer, we find that people are buying to rent out their properties. They want hotel-quality white linen or mattress protectors. In the winter, they are trying to make their homes more comfortable. They are looking at warmer and cosier fabrics, curtains to keep out drafts and those items which turn a house into a home.

How would you describe a typical Yorkshire Linen client?

It's difficult to generalise, but I would say that a lot of our clients are between 45 and 60 years old

and home owners. Although we have a lot of people throughout Spain who buy on our website, we find that a lot of foreign residents on the Costa del Sol still like to come into our shop and browse. In Spain, everyone seems to have more time and enjoys spending a morning looking for the right product, style or combination. It's just a different kind of lifestyle here.

What has the last year been like for Yorkshire Linen?

Lockdown was frightening. It was terrifying not knowing what was going to happen to a business that you had worked so hard to build up. Before the lockdown, the company had a healthy bank balance and a wonderful, dedicated team. In the first weeks, we really didn't know what was going to happen. We just sat at home watching bills going out of our account and no money coming in. We are very close to all our staff; it's like one big family, with some of our staff having their whole family working with us. We just didn't know whether we would be able to keep people on, maintain the shops, etc.

In September 2019, we had booked our spring/summer collection and, just as we went into the lockdown, eight pallets of merchandise left the UK and everything was stuck in Madrid for a

«We're finding that more and more people are looking to furnish a complete apartment, either because they are new owners or because they want to rent their property out»

month. We decided to update our webpage, offer special discounts and post information on social media. The response was amazing. We got e-mails,Whatsapps and calls from all over Spain. I think, as people were confined to their house, they had more time to shop and were thinking more about their home and how to improve it. Four weeks into lockdown, Julie and I came back into the Mijas Shop, unloaded the pallets and started sending out the orders. There were just so many orders to deal with. The following month, we were able to bring back one of our colleagues from furlough and we have slowly been able to bring everyone back. We have actually got to the point where we need to take on more staff.

How has Brexit affected your business?

It has taken six months to get some kind of system in place. Nobody knew what paperwork was needed and the procedures. Companies from the UK were sending pallets to Spain and having them returned. We didn't receive our first order until the end of March 2021. With more costs and taxes, it only works out financially if you bring over very large quantities. We are going to be offering on our website gift options for families in the UK who want to send a present to someone in Spain, as it's just so costly to send things from Great Britain to the European Union.

How are things now?

I think, touch wood, that 2021 will be the best year ever for Yorkshire Linen. Everyone has been very supportive of local businesses. We have all tried to go out and spend money in the community. People are buying and furnishing properties. I think people just want to get on with their lives. The future is looking good. We have been here for a long time, we spend a lot of time sourcing products and we follow the trends. We know what we are talking about and have researched and discovered what our clients need. I am really proud of all our team. I hope people leave the stores with a smile on their face (from our cheeky banter); and a feeling that they have been listened to and have received professional and friendly advice and that they have the product they want at a competitive price.



WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

16 JULY 1212

Christian forces triumph at the Battle of Las Navas de Tolosa

The overwhelming defeat of the Almohads gave a further boost to the Christian reconquest

The Battle of Las Navas de Tolosa, a strategic turning point in the Christian reconquest of Spain, took place in the small town of Las Navas (Jaen) on 16 July 1212. The overwhelming defeat of the Muslim Almohads gave further impulse to the Christian reconquest and hastened the Moors' decline in the Iberian Peninsula.

Known as the Battle of Al-Uqab in Arab history, the conflict was fought by the forces of King Alfonso VIII of Castile, who were joined by the armies of his arch-

rivals, Sancho VII of Navarra and Pedro II of Aragon.

King Alfonso had suffered a severe defeat at the hands of the Almohads in 1195, during the Disaster of Alarcos, a battle that shook the stability of the Kingdom of Castile for several years.

In 1211, a powerful army led by the Caliph Muhammad al-Nasir crossed the Strait of Gibraltar and invaded Christian territory. The Almohads captured the Salvatierra Castle, the stronghold of the knights of the Order of Calatrava, a fortification located on a hill at the foot of Mount Atalaya.

The Almohad threat to the Christian kingdoms was so severe that Pope Innocent III called Christian knights to a crusade, bringing King Alfonso together with his adversaries to quash the



A 19th century oil painting of the Battle of Las Navas de Tolosa. **SUR**

invasion.

On the night prior to the battle, the Christian forces crossed the mountain range that defended the Almohad camp, advancing through the Despeñaperros mountain pass with the assistance of a local shepherd who was familiar with the area.

The coalition forces caught the Almohad army off guard, smashing through the defensive line of slave-warriors that surrounded the caliph's encampment.

The battle began in the early hours of the morning with a charge from the first line of Christian troops, which put the Muslim vanguard to flight. The Arabic troops suffered severe casualties and the battle ended with a decisive victory for King Alfonso VIII. The victorious Christians seized several war trophies, including Muhammad al-Nasir's tent, which was delivered to Pope Innocent III.

The battle ended with the total defeat of the 24,000-strong

Muslim armies, while the Christians are said to have lost around 2,000 soldiers. However, legend claims that the Christian casualties were far fewer.

The caliph escaped the battlefield and managed to make his way back to Rabat. He was assassinated by his courtiers at his palace in Marrakech the following year.

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Fuerzas	Forces
Reconquista	Reconquest
Musulmán	Muslim
Cristiano	Christian
Declive	Decline
Batalla	Battle
Luchar	To fight
Ejército	Army
Derrota	Defeat
Estabilidad	Stability
Poderoso	Powerful
Caballero	Knight
Soldado	Soldier
Esclavo	Slave
Arzobispo	Archbishop
Guerrero	Warrior
Reino	Kingdom
Cruzar	To cross

Bilingual crossword inside back page

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DENISE BUSH



GARDENING

Mexican weeping bamboo

Native to central and southern Mexico, *Otatea acuminata aztecorum* is a graceful, clumping bamboo with light green foliage cascading from dark stems.

The *Otatea* genus has ten species, nine of which are native to Mexico. It is a member of the Poaceae family and, unlike some bamboos, does not send out invasive runners.

Once established, Mexican weeping bamboo is fairly drought resistant although frequent watering will keep it healthy, especially in extreme heat. It can also withstand short periods of frost.

In Mexico, stands of this bamboo can reach up to seven metres tall but in less optimum conditions,

grown in the ground, they can reach 4.6 metres. In a large container it may only grow to three metres and if that is still too big, there are dwarf cultivars.

The weight of the long, slender leaves cause the stems to bend and sway in the breeze and unlike other bamboo species, the leaves do not turn brown at the tips.

It is fast growing and good for creating a living screen which allows dappled light and air through.

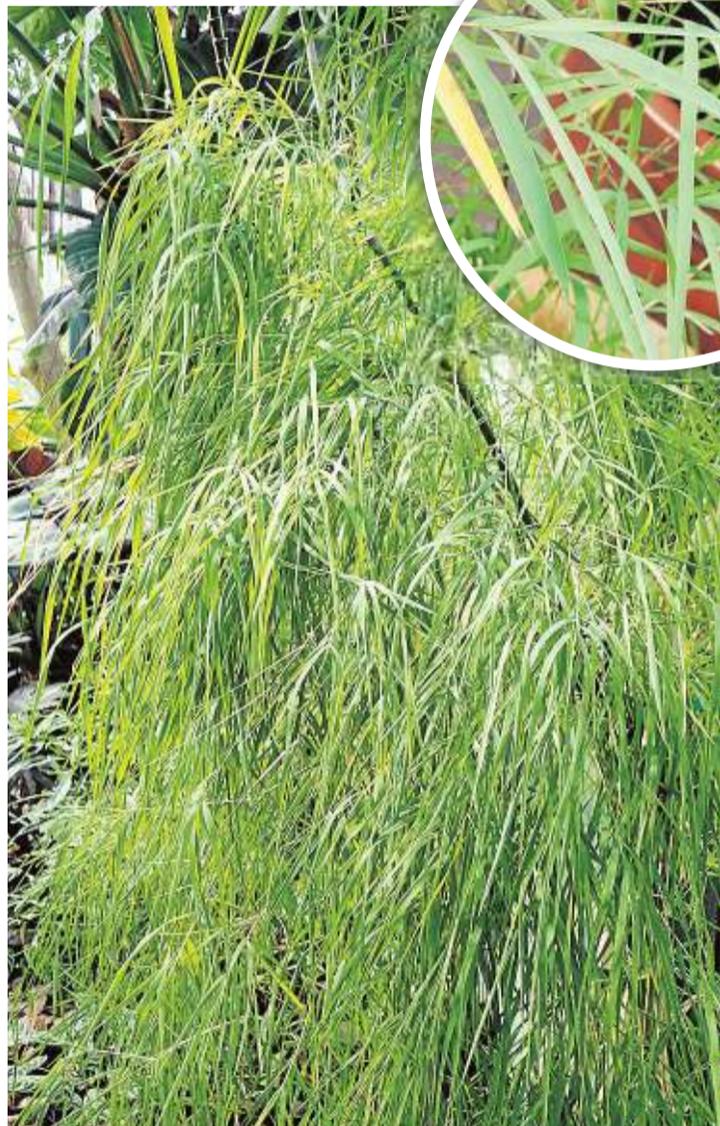
The soft appearance of the leaves are an ideal backdrop to architectural plants, garden statuary and water features and it can also be used as a statement plant in a large pot.

Propagation can be carried out easily by lifting the whole root ball and dividing it into sections with the edge of a spade before replanting and watering in well.

Mexican weeping bamboo will create a thick screen and for a lighter effect, the dense growth can be thinned out to allow sunlight to filter through.

Not many species of this bamboo are available but look for *Otatea glauca* Mayan Silver which has silvery blue culms and is more upright and the dwarf variety *Otatea acuminata aztecorum* Chica which reaches about 1.8 metres tall.

A particularly fine example of this bamboo can be seen in the La Concepción Jardín Botánico-Historico de Málaga.



Otatea acuminata aztecorum with close up of leaves (inset). WIKIMEDIA

READERS' PHOTOS

The stress of a hot summer

This photo of *Aloe elgonica* was sent in by Andrew Sloan who says, "a bit stressed after 41°C temperatures last week but, along with my other succulent plants, it gets by with a watering every three weeks in the summer and recovers from the stress when the rains arrive in the autumn." Succulents are excellent at withstanding drought and extreme heat but are not totally impervious; they show distress by developing a reddish tinge but usually revive completely with watering and the arrival of cooler weather.



ANDREW SLOAN



MARIA HILLEN

Bougainvillea bounty

A common sight across Andalucía in the summer, Bougainvillea spills out of gardens and patios everywhere. This photo was sent in by Maria Hillen.

PHOTOS

Calling all gardeners

We know many of our readers have lovely gardens, or enjoy growing plants on their terraces or balconies and some like to take photos of plants they see when out and about. Why not share them with others? Email

your photos to english@diariosures.es or send them to SUR in English, Avda Dr Marañón 48, 29009 Málaga, with a caption and a few words of explanation. Alternatively, you can send them to us via Facebook ([@surenglish](https://www.facebook.com/surenglish)) or Twitter ([@SUR_English](https://twitter.com/SUR_English)).

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Francisco Núñez, the last 'albardonero' of the Axarquía

TORROX

For more than six decades, this 82-year-old made tack by hand for mules, donkeys and horses, a profession that has practically died out

EUGENIO CABEZAS

Francisco Núñez, who everyone in Torrox knows as Paco 'el albardonero', becomes emotional when he talks about what the street in which he has lived and worked for over 60 years used to be like. "All the animals would come down here on their way to Granada, loaded up with fish, cereals and fruit," says the 82-year-old, whose family have been in Torrox for generations.

Although he retired over 15 years ago, he is still very proud to have been the last great 'albardonero' of La Axarquía. This refers to the craft of making by hand

the tack worn by mules, donkeys and horses. The profession has practically died out now and only persists in a couple of places, thanks to Carlos and Antonio "who I taught some years ago," says Paco, proudly.

Despite his age he has a prodigious memory and his hands, which have crafted so much leather and worked so much fabric and threads over the years, are still strong and firm.

"Absolutely everything used to be made by hand," he says, indicating some of the pieces he still has in his workshop, which is now used by his son Roque, 53, for his upholstery and awning business. Sometimes his other son, Sergio, who is 47, helps out in his spare time.

"Neither of them wanted to learn from me, they used to say there was no future in it and in a way that was true. When more people started driving cars the animals weren't needed as much as they were before," he says.



Francisco Núñez, in his workshop in Calle Baja, Torrox. E. CABEZAS

The items he used to make are now only of interest to horse lovers who want to "dress them up" when they take part in a festival or similar event.

First sewing machine

"Nowadays it's much quicker to make a saddle; we used to have to make them from scratch, and the bridle, the reins, the chaps, the esparto baskets for the goods, because I was a saddler as well," he tells us.

Paco Núñez learned his trade from his father. "He bought me my first sewing machine when I was eight years old, and although at first this wasn't what I wanted to do, later on he bought me a calf, so I used to spend all my time between the workshop and the field," he says.

When he looks back, he becomes emotional again, remembering all the clients he has had during more than six decades of dedicated work.

"Things are very quiet now, especially with the works going on at the Casa de la Moneda (the council is restoring a building near his workshop and is going to turn it into a museum), there are practically no cars down here in the mornings," he says. Nevertheless, as tourism gradually starts to return, the last albardonero in the east of Malaga province hopes he will once again be able to show visitors the items he keeps in his own small museum.

ANDALUSIAN BIRD WATCH PETER JONES

The fading colours of summer

The Andalucía Bird Society recommends looking out for the hawfinch and common crossbill

The season's flicked her switch and as if by magic a patchwork of greens and vibrant colours have been transformed into golden browns. High summer and high temperatures conspire against those of us who enjoy outdoor pursuits; walking boots are replaced by sandals and my out-

door activities consist of searching for birds from the comfort of an air-conditioned vehicle or finding shaded areas to explore, ideally close to a water source. Like us, birds feel the heat and avoid open exposed places in the middle of the day; they seek shade and of course an area with a reliable

source for water.

At this time of year, I like to visit mixed woodlands, areas where conifers are joined by the many oak tree species and where both combine to provide dense shade and respite from high temperatures. It is a time I search for some elusive and wonderfully bizarre small birds such as common crossbill, with its crossed bill adapted for extracting seeds from pinecones; and the amazing hawfinch with its heavy and strong bill that can crack open a cherry stone. Both birds are common in suitable habitat, but both are also elusive as they blend into the leafed canopies of woodland. And so, a water source becomes more important in tracking down these two birds.

Most commonly I visit the mixed woodlands in the national park of the Sierra de las Nieves, but I also love to visit the typical Mediterranean forest at Algaba near Ronda. I am fortunate to have many areas of mixed woodland in my local region and some have the bonus of water troughs. Some of these troughs are well over a hundred

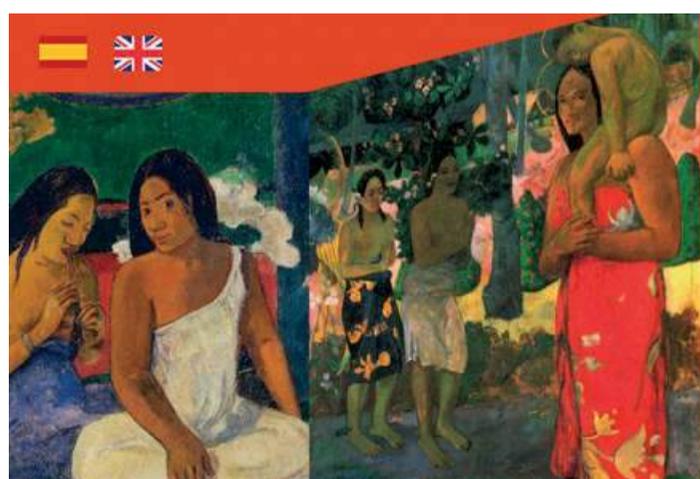


The hawfinch. P. JONES

years old, having been sited by drovers for their wandering herds of livestock. These old troughs have become traditional places for many birds to visit during hot summer months, especially when other water sources have run dry. It is here I settle to spend time waiting for hawfinch and crossbill to appear and, although sometimes I am forced to wait for an hour or two, their eventual appearance is inevitable.

Have you seen a hawfinch? Well, if you have you will understand my summer madness of enduring extreme heat to see them.

www.andaluciabirdsociety.org



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EXHIBITIONS**Alejandra Menzaquen**

ESTEPONA. Until 22 July. *Casa de Las Tejerinas, Plaza de las Flores.* La Locura es No Permitirse Ser Diferente is the name of this colourful exhibition by Argentinian artist Alejandra Menzaquen.

Manuela Beltrán

ESTEPONA. From 22 July until 5 August. *Casa de Las Tejerinas, Plaza de las Flores.* The exhibition consists of 21 works of a medium sized format in crayon by self-taught artist Manuela Beltrán.

Paco Canto

ESTEPONA. Until 29 July. *Casa de Las Tejerinas, Plaza de las Flores.* Exhibition of works by Seville artist Francisco Canto.



Paco Canto, Estepona.

Idowu Oluwaseun

MARBELLA. Until 30 July, 6-9pm. *Reiners Contemporary Art, Centro Comercial Camoján Corner, Local 9.* Revolutions Per Minute. Side B, is the title of Idowu Oluwaseun's exhibition. In large format acrylics on canvas, the Lagos-born, Houston-based artist records his interpretations of the men and women of his homeland as brief, but pungent, indelible encounters.

Sholeh Abghari Gallery

MARBELLA. Until 31 August. *Sholeh Abghari Gallery, Avda Ricardo Soriano, 72A.* The art gallery is exhibiting a Summer Art Show with works by a selection of artists.

Daniel Tamayo Peña

MIJAS. Until 2 August. *Casa Museo de Mijas.* Mijas artist Daniel Tamayo Peña is exhibiting a selection of his works entitled *Dos Vidas En Una*.

Festival of Contemporary Art

MÁLAGA. Until 31 July. *Ateneo de Málaga.* The Viaje de Ulises (Ulysses' journey) is the theme for the fourth edition of Estival, a festival of Contemporary Art organised by La Casa Amarilla with the support of the Ateneo de Málaga. It includes the work of eight artists Ismael Kachtihi del Moral, Marta O Nilsson, Eryk Pall, Cristina Savage, Javier Roz, Yolanda Dorda, David Burbano and Cristina Peralta, who have been heroes in their lives for different reasons.

Top blues performers take to the stage at Mijas one-night festival

MIJAS

The blues festival stars Gisele Jackson and Vanesa Harbek, along with Malaga band El Trio del Saco

TONY BRYANT

Two of today's top female blues performers will appear at the Noche de Blues festival in Mijas on Friday 24 July. Organised by the town hall, the event presents Gisele Jackson and The Shu Shu's, and the Vanesa Harbek Blues Band.

Gisele Jackson is an American gospel influenced blues singer who has toured all over the world with artists such as Ray Charles and James Brown. Originally from Baltimore, she grew up listening to blues music on the jukebox in her father's bar, where customers included some of the era's top blues performers: these included John Lee Hooker and Aretha Franklin, good friends of her father.

She has been described as a "force of nature", and her

Malaga band El Trio del Saco will perform in Mijas next week. **SUR**

incredible vocal talent has cemented her in the power diva pantheon. She will stop off in Malaga for one performance, before continuing with her tour of Europe.

Vanesa Harbek is a talented musician and singer who earned a music degree at the Argentine Catholic University. Now based in Berlin, her repertoire includes blues, swing, jazz and soul. Harbek has performed in some of Europe's top clubs and festivals, building a reputation for

her virtuosity with the guitar and trumpet, along with her powerful and versatile voice.

Local blues outfit El Trio del Saco will also perform at the festival. Celebrated for their powerful blues rock style, the group, which was formed 1996, has built its reputation performing at venues along the Costa del Sol.

The event, which begins at 9pm, is free, but reservations must be made at the tourist office in Mijas Pueblo or La Cala, or call: 952589034.

Carmen Thyssen Museum

MÁLAGA. C/ Compañía, 10. 10am - 8pm Tuesday to Sunday.

Giovanni Battista Piranesi. Until 25 July. The Italian's artist's work may seem at first glance like a selection of 14 of his very obscure and detailed engravings which the Thyssen has received from the Museo de Bellas Artes de Valencia. However, he is considered the precursor of the nightmares of reason that later influenced Goya. The legacy of the Italian artist is now on display and demonstrates in great detail his imaginary prisons. Created in a feverish moment, the painter has recreated a convoluted world, dark and full of staircases.

Museo Revello de Toro

MÁLAGA. C/Afligidos.

Bankers and businessmen. Until 25



Daniel Tamayo, Mijas

July. The exhibition consists of eight portraits created between 1980 and 2009 of important Spanish figures in banking and businesses.

LIVE CONCERTS AND MUSIC**Theatre and musicals festival**

BENALMÁDENA. 8 July - 29 August. *Municipal auditorium. www.audito*

16 - 18 July. The Marvellous Wizard of Oz.

20 - 21 July. Abba tribute - Abba Live TV.

23 - 25 July. Jekyll & Hyde the musical.

Noches de Gibralfaro 2021

MÁLAGA. Plaza del Armas, Castillo Gibralfaro. 10pm. *www.malaga.eu*

17 July. Proyecto Veinte Veinte.

22 July. Concerto 1700: Follia! Sones y danzas de la España antigua.

23 July. Si Alguien me hubiera dicho.

24 July. Insostenible Big Band, Duke Ellington: Retratos en jazz.

The Hall

MÁLAGA. Calle Héroe de Sostoa, 65. 10€.

16 July, 9pm. The Gon Navarro Quartet.

#ESTIVAL LCAmálaga

MÁLAGA. 16 July, 7.30pm. *Ateneo de Málaga.*

German artist, musician and photographer Irene Cruz is performing a video and music set in the patio of the Ateneo. Call: 952214674 or email: lacasa@lcamalaga.com

The Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

MÁLAGA. Various venues.

16 July, 8pm. At the Palacio de Ferias y Congresos, the OFM and the Fernando Dance Company will be performing *The Four Seasons* by Vivaldi. The music will be accompanied by theatrical interpretation, dance and narrative (in Spanish). Tickets 10€ from *www.mientrada.net*

17 July, 8pm. The tenth anniversary of the Joven Orquesta Barroca de Andalucía in the Auditorio Edgar Neville.

More information: *www.orquestafilarmonicademalaga.com* Twitter: @filarmonimalaga or Facebook: *www.facebook.com/Filarmonica-Malaga.*

La Cochera Cabaret

MÁLAGA. Avda de los Guindos.

16 July, 9pm. Seville musician Rafael Ruíz El Bomba presents his work entitled *Tesoros Prestados*.

17 July, 8pm. Madrid pop band MÄBU in concert.

https://lacocheraentra-
das.com/shows/list

Música y Museos

MÁLAGA. Until 22 July. *Museo de Málaga, Palacio de Aduanas. 10pm.*

20 July. Pony Bravo (pop, rock).

21 July. Antilopez.

22 July. Soleá Morente (flamenco). Tickets: *https://tickets.janto.es/*

La Costa de la Música

MARBELLA. Until 28 August, 10pm.

Parque de la Constitución auditorium.

17 July. Juan de Juan, flamenco dancer.

Tickets from *www.mientrada.net* or from the ticket office from 7pm.

Jazz Nights

TORREMOLINOS. Until 3 September, 9pm. *Parque de la Batería.*

16 July. Daniel Amat Cuban Connection.

30 July. Belle MC Quartet.

https://www.torremolinoscultura.es/

A Night Of Jazz

MÁLAGA. 30 July, 9pm. *St George's Church.*

With the Jitterbug Jazz Band.

www.jazzparaeventos.com Tickets call: 638339691

Concert Music Festival

CHICLANA DE LA FRONTERA. Until 23 August.

The festival includes concerts by David Bisbal, Ara Malikian, Oreja de Van Gogh, Pablo Alborán, Miguel Poveda, Melendi, Sara Baras, Raphael, Vanessa Martín, Manuel Carrasco and tribute acts God Save The Queen and Abba Mania among others. Tickets from *www.ticketmaster* or *El Corte Inglés*. More information: *https://concertmusicfestival.com/*



Irene Cruz, La Casa Amarilla

Música en el Patio

MÁLAGA. Until 24 July, 9.30pm. *Museo Carmen Thyssen.*

17 July. Pianist and composer José Carra with trombonist Rita Payés. Jazz, rock and pop.

24 July. Flamenco singer Maui de Utrera, 'the Lady Gaga' of flamenco *entradas.carmenthyssenmalaga.org*

Terral Festival

MÁLAGA. Until 31 July. *Teatro Cervantes.*

The Terral festival starts on 5 July and will present a varied programme of concerts and shows. More information: *https://www.teatrocervantes.com/*

Jazz and flamenco

ALMUÑÉCAR. *Parque el Majuelo*

16 July, 10pm. Costa Jazz Quartet.

19 July, 8.30pm. Pasacalles de Jazz in the Centro Commercial.

30 July, 10pm. Musical Chicago.

31 July, 10pm. Principes flamenco.

The Rob Sas Band

ESTEPONA. 23 July, 11.45pm. *Louie Louie Bar, Estepona Port.*

The Rob Sas Band plays some

of the best in classic rock with tunes from Led Zeppelin, Free, Jimi Hendrix, Deep Purple, ZZ Top, ACDC, Black Sabbath and much more.

Jazz en la Costa

ALMUÑECAR. 20 - 25 July, 10pm.

Parque El Majuelo.

20 July. Juan Perro Sexteto, Cantos de Ultramar.

21 July. Kenny Barron All Star Quartet.

22 July. Cyrille Aimée.

23 July. Richard Bona and Alfredo Rodríguez Dúo.

More information: www.jazzgranada.es Tickets: www.ticketmaster.es

Night of Jazz

LA HERRADURA. 18 July, 10pm.

Plaza Independencia.

Sophie Newick and band.

Funky Town

TORREMOLINOS. 23 July, 8pm.

Plaza de Toros.

International names performing at the festival include Martha High and Madeline Bell as well as Javier Ojeda, Gordo Master, Julia Martín, Suzette Moncrieff and Noelia Sakura with the Big Band Funk Allstars.

Sister Sledge

MARBELLA. 30 July. Marbella Arena.

Sister Sledge 2021 We Are Family will be performing with family members Debbie Sledge, Camille Sledge, Thaddeus Sledge, David Sledge, Tanya Tiet, and Sister Sledge's long-time Musical Director, renowned jazz saxo-

phonist Dominic Amato. Tickets: 629056720. www.heatwavepromotions.com

FLAMENCO

Peña Flamenca

ESTEPONA. 16 July, 8pm. Plaza Fuerzas Armadas.

José Manuel Fernández (vocals), Gaspar Rodríguez (percussion), Eliza González and José Franco (dance) with special guest dancer Guadalupe Torres. Information and reservations: 952803183 / 683141136

Flamenco

LA HERRADURA. 16, 17 July, 10pm. Plaza Independencia.

With dancer Ivor Vargas on 16th and singer Kiki Morente on 17th.

Paseo Flamenco

MALAGA. Sundays, 9.30 - 11am. 10€.

18 July. Flamenco en El Perchel.

25 July. Plaza de la Merced.

Reservations call 687607526 or email: flamencamalaga@hotmail.com

Ciclo Flamenco

TORREMOLINOS. Various venues.

10pm. Free with invitation: cultura@torremolinos.es

21 July. Compañía Manuel Roldán.

Cantarranas

24 July. Compañía Manuel Roldán.

Plaza San Miguel.

THEATRE AND DANCE



Esperanto Ballet, Estepona.

Swan Lake

MARBELLA. 23 July, 10pm. Auditorio Starlite Festival.

Irina Kolesnikova and the St Petersburg ballet perform Swan Lake. Tickets: <https://starlitemarbella.koobin.com/irinakolesnikova>

Mijas Theatre Festival

MIJAS PUEBLO. Until 18 July, 10.30pm. Auditorio Municipal Miguel González Berral. Free.

The theatre has scheduled four plays (in Spanish) for the annual festival held in memory of Juan Moreno García. More information: email cultura@mijas.es or call 952590380

Zarzuela Los Gavilanes

ESTEPONA. 17 July, 10pm. Plaza de Toros. 10-12€

The Teatro Lírico Andaluz presents an

adaptation of the three act Spanish opera Los Gavilanes by Maestro Jacinto Guerrero. Tickets: www.ticketentradas.com or from the box office at the bull ring.

Esperanto Ballet

ESTEPONA. 16 July, 7pm. Teatro Auditorio Felipe VI. 10€

The Esperanto Ballet company has members from various countries and perform flamenco, ballet, contemporary and Gregorian dance as well as acrobatics etc. Tickets: <https://taf-estepona.entradas.plus/>

The Season of Dance

ESTEPONA. Until 4 September, 9.30pm. various venues.

20 July. Ballroom - Flamenco with Monica Peña. Plaza ABC.

FIESTAS AND FERIAS

Fiestas Marineras

MALAGA. Until 18 July. The Carretera de Cádiz district.

Workshops, parades, concerts, puppet show etc situated in the Parque de Huelin.

Virgen del Carmen

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA. Until 18 July.

The feria will take place in the Plaza Ál-Andalus and the Plaza de la Constitución between 8pm and midnight.

CHARITY

Fashion Show

MARBELLA. 29 July, 8pm. Centro Plaza shopping centre.

A fashion show to raise funds for Todos con Adán, a charity that investigates ethylmalonic encephalopathy. 10€ donation entry.

TAPAS Summer Fair

COÍN. 16 July, 11am - 3pm. Venta Las Palmeras.

Lots of stalls selling plants, crafts, homemade jams etc. To book a stall: 693104060

MORE IDEAS

Verano Joven 2021

TORREMOLINOS. Free classes and workshops. 12-35 year olds.

Paddlesurf and volleyball. 22 July 10am-2pm. Playamar.

Get on stage (talent contest). 17, 24, 31 July, 7, 12 August. 9pm. Plaza San Miguel.

Create a Comic Character 20 July, 7.30-9pm. Casa de la Juventud.

Talent Competition

FUENGIROLA. 13, 14, 15 August, Salon Varietés Theatre.

All singers, dancers, jugglers, comedians, magicians, choirs, drag artists etc are welcome to take part (all ages and abilities welcome). Submit a one minute audition video (can be recorded on a phone) to fundraising@salonvarietes.com or send it by Whatsapp: 604135860 Applicants will need to be available for short performances during the weekend of the 13-15 August.

23/7 IRINA KOLESNIKOVA EL LAGO DE LOS CISNES	24/7 NOTAS DE CINE Colaboración especial: Antonio Banderas	26/7 PABLO LÓPEZ		2/8 27/8 MORAT	
3/8 DAVID OTERO, DESPISTAOS & JAULA DE GRILLOS	5/8 25/8 RAPHAEL	9/8 ESTRELLA MORENTE & JOSÉ MERCÉ	13/8 TOMATITO Artistas invitados: Duquende, Israel Fernández & Antonio Reyes	14/8 BONNIE TYLER	16/8 Surrounded By Time TOM JONES
21/8 ANTONIO JOSÉ	23/8 DAVID BISBAL	26/8 ROZALÉN	28/8 ARA MALIKIAN	1/9 THE BOOTLEG BEATLES	3/9 LOLA ÍNDIGO

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MORE IDEAS

Dance and choreography workshops

MÁLAGA. 19-24 July and 26-30 July. Málaga Circo LOOM, Polígono Industrial La Estrella. C/Cuevas San Marcos. 60€ each course.

The Fernando Hurtado Dance Company will be holding two, week-long classes for dance and choreography. More information and registration: ciafernandohurtado@gmail.com



Dance workshops, Malaga

O. V. FILMS

SUR in English advises calling cinemas to check for any last-minute time changes. Lunchtime and late night screenings weekends only.

Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor
MÁLAGA. Centro de Ocio, Plaza

La Casa Amarilla gallery brings artwork to the street

MÁLAGA

TONY BRYANT

The colourful works of 30 local artists are featured in an outdoor exhibition currently on show in Calle Alcazabilla in Malaga. Off Yellow Summer is organised by the La Casa Amarilla art galley and Malaga city hall and presents the artwork of popular artists such as David Burbano, whose work symbolises the end of life through Catholic iconography. The force and visual violence of his photographs represents the inevitable path to death through a constant rebirth, and the powerful force of eternal youth.

Also participating in the project, part of the Estival artistic initiative Let Art Find You, is Dublin artist Pigsy,



The exhibition presents works by 30 Malaga-based artists. T. BRYANT

whose piece, I've Given Enough, questions the art of bullfighting; and La Rulla, an artist renowned for her life-like portraits of dancers, musicians and everyday people.

Since its inception in 2008, La Casa Amarilla has focused on three fundamental pillars: the artists, their needs and their inclusion in art and cultural projects.

Mayor, Avda Alfonso Ponce León. Tel: 902902103. www.yelmocines.es.

Cruella: 18.10 (Tues).

In The Heights: 12.35 (Sun).

Fast and Furious 9: 14.10 (Sun), 19.55 (Tues); 20.50 (every day).

The Forever Purge: 21.40 (Tues).

Peter Rabbit 2: The Runaway: 19.00 (Tues).

Black Widow: 12.40 (Sun); 18.00 (every day).

Yelmo Cines, Rincón

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA. C/ Arroyo Totalán. Tel: 902220922. www.yelmocines.es

The Forever Purge: 21.45 (Tues).

Black Widow: 19.15 (Tues).

Yelmo Cines, Vialia

MÁLAGA. Centro Comercial Vialia.

Tel: 902220922

Black Widow: 19.15 (Tues).

Cinesur Miramar

FUENGIROLA. Avda de la Encarnación. Tel: 952198600.

Fast and Furious 9: 16.50 (from Monday to Thursday).

Black Widow: 18.45, 20.00 (every day).

Peter Rabbit 2: 17.00 (every day).

The Purge: 22.00 (every day).

Cinesur Ingenio

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA. Avda Juan Carlos, 1. Tel: 667773187.

Fast & Furious 9: 16.50 (Monday, Tuesday and Friday).

Black Widow: 17.30 (Monday, Tuesday and Friday).

Cine Albéniz

MÁLAGA. C/ Alcazaba, 4. Tel:

902360295. www.cinealbeniz.com

Summer of soul: 21.05 (every day)

Twin Peaks: Fire walk with me:

20.30 (22 July).



Twin Peaks, cinemas

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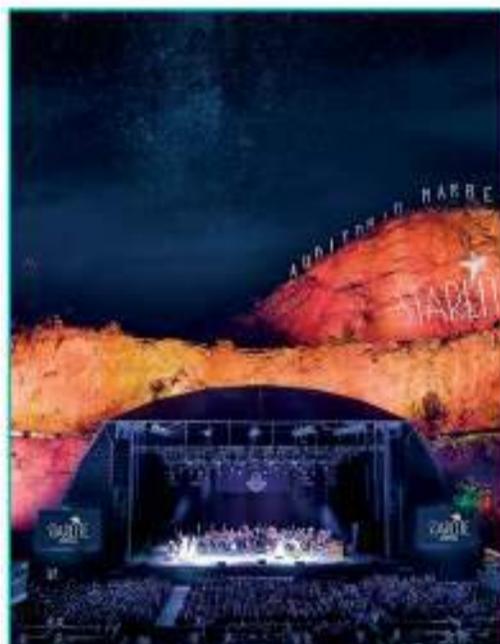
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C/ Albornó, 29602, Marbella, Málaga



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Low blood pressure

Raise legs to oxygenate the brain

In the summer months, the risk of suffering a drop in blood pressure (hypotension) increases. This occurs when the brain and other parts of the body do not receive enough blood, and it is mainly due to the combination of high temperatures and certain behaviours (higher alcohol consumption, large meals, getting up quickly after sitting or lying down by the swimming pool or on the beach, dehydration through perspiring so much or not drinking enough water...).

To prevent it, the ideal is to drink water regularly, avoid the hottest times of day and drink as little alcohol as possible. Salt can help to raise blood pressure, but should be consumed with caution. If someone starts to look pale, feels nauseous or dizzy, Cruz Roja recommends that they lie down in the shade and raise their legs 45 degrees to help oxygenate the brain. If they are able to, they should drink some water or a sugary drink, or even suck a sweet. If they don't stabilise, seek medical help as quickly as possible.



Bites and stings

Wasps, jellyfish, mosquitos etc

We can try to avoid insect bites and stings by using mosquito repellent sprays. "The basic treatment for a sting is to remove it if it is still in the wound (for example, a wasp sting), wash the area with soap and water and apply ice to prevent inflammation. In some highly symptomatic cases, topical corticosteroids, antihistamines and oral analgesics may be necessary. If the person is allergic to the insect they will need to go to A&E, because they could suffer an anaphylactic reaction, says Cristina Ferrero of Cruz Roja.

If someone is stung by a jellyfish the skin will react by causing pain, burning and reddening. "To treat that, wash the area with saline solution or salt water (never fresh water or urine), remove the pieces attached to the skin with tweezers or a double glove, apply something cold to the area for 10 or 15 minutes, and if it doesn't improve or the symptoms get worse, go to the first aid post or a health centre," says Concha Flores of the Emergencies Working group of the SEMG.

Heatstroke

What we commonly refer to as sunstroke

"When it is hot, the body tries to regulate its temperature through perspiration and vasodilation of the veins, but some people have difficulty in achieving this, for example those with chronic illnesses, the elderly, children under the age of four, people with disabilities and those dependent on others, says Cristina Ferrero. The most common symptoms are dizziness, cramps, headache, lack of appetite, high body temperature (fever), dry and reddened skin (but not sweaty), fatigue, loss of consciousness and rapid pulse.

Prevention is simple: "Drink water often, don't abuse drinks with caffeine, alcohol or sugar, eat light meals, stay in cool, shady places, avoid physical activity at the hottest times of day (between 11am and 6pm) and wear transpirable clothing and accessories such as a hat or cap," she says. Indoors, she says we should "close the blinds at the hottest times of day and open the windows at the coolest times". And if travelling, "ventilate the vehicle well and drink plenty of water".



Sunburn

Careful with moles and drops of water

Exposure to the rays of the sun brings with it the risk of burning, but if this happens frequently to the same parts of the body, the probabilities of developing skin cancer increase. People who are pale-skinned and those with a lot of moles should take special care.

Sunburn is the consequence of the ultraviolet light exceeding the capacity of the melanin to protect the skin. That's why "it is important to use sun creams and barriers such as hats and sunglasses, especially in the middle of the day," says Laura Quintas, a member of the Emergencies Group of the Spanish Society of GPs and Family Doctors (SEMG). Cristina Ferrero, a specialist from Cruz Roja's health department, adds that "sun cream should be applied at least 30 minutes before you go into the sun and reapplied frequently, and especially after swimming". Other recommendations are: sunbathe progressively and dry yourself well after getting out of the water to prevent the drops acting like a magnifying glass.





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Summer ailments and how to avoid them

Holiday. Otitis, stings, fungal infections, cystitis, heatstroke... How to prevent and treat common problems which occur in the summer

When summer arrives everyone starts making plans, such as going to the beach or the swimming pool, sunbathing, enjoying some tourism, reading, sleeping and eating, but nobody ever thinks about making a trip to an Emergency Department. Nevertheless, summer brings with it a number of risks which can occur if no measures are taken to prevent them. For example, ear infections, insect bites, jellyfish stings, sunburn, low blood pressure, heatstroke, cystitis, food poisoning, dehydration and plantar warts. In most cases these can be avoided, but how do we do that? Here, experts give us some simple and practical advice so that none of these problems can ruin our valuable leisure time and summer relaxation.



Cystitis

Don't keep a wet swimsuit on

This is usually caused by the bacteria *Escherichia coli* (E. coli), which occurs naturally in the large intestine and can reach the bladder in some circumstances. These include damp, cold, lack of hygiene and hydration or wearing a wet swimsuit for too long.

According to figures from the Cystitis Information Centre, this infection accounts for 90 per cent of all urinary infections that affect women. The most common symptoms are itching and stinging when urinating, a need to urinate frequently and, on occasions, a low volume of urine or the feeling of not having completely emptied the bladder.

To prevent it, change your swimsuit immediately after swimming, use cotton underwear, avoid tight clothing, wash with neutral soap, clean from front to back - 80 per cent of bacteria that cause urinary infections come from faeces - drink at least a litre and a half of water a day and urinate every two or three hours, especially before and after sexual relations.



Food poisoning

The threat of salmonellosis

This is more common in the summer because food goes off quicker in the heat. The main complications, for example salmonellosis - caused by a bacteria that contaminates eggs or products made with them - are dehydration and gastroenteritis (diarrhoea, stomach pains, nausea). If this happens, the Consumers and Users Organisation (OCU) says rehydration is very important. "Take bought saline solution or make an alkaline preparation with a litre of water, 1/2 teaspoon of salt and 1/2 teaspoon of bicarbonate of soda, two spoonfuls of sugar and the juice of a lemon," they suggest. "If it affects someone at risk (children, the elderly, etc.) and there is no improvement after 12 hours, go to the doctor. When the vomiting stops, eat a bland, astringent diet (rice, boiled potatoes, broths, etc.). If tolerated, introduce other foods gradually.

Prevention involves washing hands before handling food, refrigerating leftovers as soon as possible, using food covers, keeping food in the refrigerator and drinking bottled water.

ILLUSTRATION FELIP ARIZA

Otitis externa and conjunctivitis

Common infections from the swimming pool

"Otitis externa develops when there is a moist environment in the ear canal. The ear itches or hurts, especially when pressed," says Juan Jurado Moreno, the head of the SEMG's Dermatology Working Group. To prevent it, he recommends using ear plugs and 'emptying' water from the ear canal by inclining the head to one side, never with cotton buds. The condition is usually treated with antibiotics and topical medications.

Conjunctivitis "causes red, irritated, watery eyes, and the blood vessels become more visible. This occurs from contact with untreated water (rivers, lakes, beaches), chlorine in pools and other external agents such as sand and pollen," says Javier Araiz, scientific director of the Clinical Surgical Institute of Ophthalmology. It can be prevented by wearing goggles and not wearing contact lenses in the water. If the symptoms persist more than two days, he recommends seeking medical advice.



Fungal infections

Plantar warts and athlete's foot

One of the conditions caused by fungus is athlete's foot, an infection which affects the spaces between the toes and looks like a red, scaly rash. "It usually occurs from walking barefoot on damp, contaminated floors, causing maceration with inflammation and forming painful cracks," says Dr Jurado of the SEMG. It is usually treated with antibiotic cream or powder.

"Another recurring infection is common viral warts, also known as plantar warts, which are caused by walking barefoot. They are very long-lasting and uncomfortable," he says. They are very common among children, whose skin is finer, and especially in the summer, when heat and humidity combine to make an ideal environment for these viruses. However, wounds, fatigue or poor hygiene can also cause this problem. Most plantar warts disappear by themselves (although it can take over a year), but if they are very uncomfortable they can be treated with salicylic acid solutions, formic acid applicators or surgery.

Dehydration

Drink water, eat fruit and vegetables

This is one of the most common causes of hospitalisation for over-65s, and especially in summer when the heat causes greater perspiration. One reason is that "as people get older, they gradually lose the feeling of thirst," says Cristina Ferrero of Cruz Roja. "That's why it is important to drink water regularly, six to eight glasses a day, even when you don't feel like it". Otherwise, the symptoms can include dry or sticky mouth, fatigue, weakness, irritability, dizziness or lightheadedness, nausea, vomiting, headache, constipation and dry skin, among others.

Another way to consume water is to eat fruit and veg which are high in it, like watermelon, melon, cucumber, raspberries and celery. It is best to eat them raw, because they lose some of their water content when cooked. Salads and soups are another alternative. "Try to avoid sugary drinks, alcohol and caffeine," says Ferrero. She says others at risk of dehydration are children under the age of four and people with chronic illnesses.

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Shampanskoye

ANDREW J. LINN

Isn't it about time that politicians stopped telling us what to eat and drink? None of them are competent to do so, and certainly no Spanish MP has the qualifications to recommend we consume less meat, as happened recently. Perhaps the level of political inter-

vention reached a new level when Vladimir Putin announced to the world that French champagne cannot be sold in Russia. A new law rules that only home-produced sparkling wine can be referred to as champagne. This presents the hordes of champagne-lo-

ving Russians with a dilemma. They can still serve Mœt and Crystal at their parties, but the labels must refer to 'shampanskoye' - sparkling wine. The whole thing is typical of a mad dictator. There is no benefit to anyone, except possibly some sparkling winemakers in the Crimea who will now be struggling to churn out more of their almost undrinkable product. The situation opens the door to the unprecedented scenario of Russian sparkling wine being labelled as 'champagne' and the real imported stuff as 'sparkling wine'.

The issue that is worrying winemakers worldwide is that they could be at the mercy of any mad dictator whose priorities are more patriotic than practical. Names like champagne, cognac, claret, etc, have been hard won after multiple court battles, and are not to be surrendered easily. Imagine some secondary wine-producing country deciding to call its red wine 'Rioja', like for example, 'Rumanian Rioja'. Following Russia's example this is a technical possibility, just showing that power is often in the wrong hands. Putin claims to have never let a drop of alcohol pass his lips.

WINE OF THE WEEK**Pago de Carraovejas 2018**

It is the first Ribera del Duero to have Cabernet Sauvignon blended in with the usual Tempranillo, and the winery was an early adopter of French Oak. When I visited the bodega 27 years ago it was just a shed in the middle of a vineyard with one employee and his dog. I recommended it then when the price was a giveaway but even today's price of around 32 euros is good value.



In search of the best sardines on the Costa del Sol

Forty-three local restaurants are competing to see who makes the best 'espeto', sardines threaded onto skewers and roasted over charcoal in the open air

CARMEN ALCARAZ

MALAGA. Almost 140 years ago Miguel Martínez Soler, known as 'Migué el de las sardinas', became, by chance, 'the father of the espetos'. This fisherman from El Palo was the first to skewer sardines on a piece of reed and roast them over a fire on the sand next to his famous bar La Gran Parada. He not only established a way of cooking the fish that intensifies its flavour and preserves its properties, but his humble restaurant was the precursor of chiringuitos (beach bars) on the Costa del Sol, one of the gastronomic icons of the province.

Despite the simplicity of the method, achieving a good sardine

espetero is not an easy task. The espetero - who appears to be a kind of superior being capable of withstanding the high temperatures even in the most intense summer months - must invest time, "listen" to the product and keep the embers at the right point to achieve a perfect end result. It is an art that every year conquers and reconquers diners from all over the world.

There are different basic principles that every self-respecting espetero should know, such as that the spine of the sardine should always be below the skewer, otherwise, when turning it over the meat of the loin would soften and fall. It is also important to control the intensity of the embers so that the fish do not remain raw or become dry, a sacrilege.

These and other issues are those that are taken into account in the IV Route of the Espeto by SUR and Málaga en la Mesa, which hopes to find the best espetos in the province. The initiative is sponsored by the Sabor a Málaga brand with the collaboration of Cruzcampo and

A row of the traditional espetos being cooked on the beach. **D. MALDONADO**

the Asociación de Chiringuitos de la Costa del Sol. It aims to draw attention to this local speciality and support its bid to be declared Intangible Cultural Heritage by Unesco.

Forty-three restaurants along the Costa del Sol are taking part in the event, which runs until 25 July. Customers will be able to enjoy an espetero and a drink for between five and seven euros in each establishment. They will then be able to vote for their favourite.

The restaurant with the most votes will win 1,000 euros' worth of advertising in Málaga en la Mesa. The judging panel, which includes SUR's gastronomy critic Enrique Bellver, will select five finalists to prepare and cook an espetero in 15 minutes. The winner of the Mejor Espetero will be awarded 3,000 euros' worth of advertising.

For a list of participating restaurant visit: <https://rutadelEspeto.diariosur.es/>

Chef Xanty Elías awarded for his work to teach little ones to eat well at school

G. ELEJABEITIA

MADRID. Chef Xanty Elías has received the prestigious Basque Culinary World Prize for working so that children learn to eat well at school.

Through his project 'Children eat the future', the Huelva-born chef has managed to reach nearly 15,000 schoolchildren in Andalucía from more than a hundred centres who are already taking the subject of Solidarity Gastronomic Culture in their classrooms.

With this important award, considered the 'Nobel' in gastronomy, they want to "recognise the potential of cooking to build a healthier society."

Xanty Elías has presided over the Prenauta Foundation since 2018, which seeks to promote tourism, innovation and entrepreneurship in the restaurant sector, but above all to promote food education and conscious eating among school-age children.

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Ismael Gutiérrez, youth for Malaga's midfield

At the age of 20, this "powerful footballer" arrived at La Rosaleda from Atlético de Madrid

BORJA GUTIÉRREZ

MALAGA. Malaga have brought in a young footballer to improve their midfield with the loan of Seville-born Ismael Gutiérrez. At the age of 20, he comes to La Rosaleda from Atlético de Madrid. Because of his age, he will occupy a place on the second team, although he will play with the first team.

His goal is to take another leap in his career by accumulating as many games as possible after several seasons without much continuity, having been kept in the background as part of the strategy of the first teams of Betis, Alavés and Atlético de Madrid.

Malaga have presented him as "a powerful midfielder with excellent positioning and great ability to create play."

And they add that "the young midfielder has chosen Malaga to settle in professional football and play the game that has made him a benchmark of Andalusian football of his generation."

The Blue and Whites have gone one step further in the loan deal with Atlético de Madrid, including a purchase option that could be an interesting alternative if his performance meets expectations and the club is able to pay transfers again.

"I define myself as a complete player; I can attack and defend,"

said Gutiérrez at his previous presentation at Alavés, where he went on loan from Betis in January 2020 but did not find his place in the first team.

It was last season with Atlético de Madrid that he recovered a regular pace in competition matches: he played fifteen games with the second team, although

his day-to-day routine was training with the first team under coach Cholo Simeone.

As a result of these recent seasons rubbing shoulders with top-level players, Gutiérrez can boast a multitude of experi-

ences.

He is also advised by his second cousin, Fabián Ruiz, who was also with Betis and is now a Naples player and an international with Spain (he recently played the European Championship and is considered one of the best Spanish football players).

Ismael Gutiérrez also coincided with the previous Malaga signing, Paulino de la Fuente. Both were part of Alavés in the 19-20 season and they also share representatives.

And in both cases, these representatives have seen Malaga as the ideal springboard for their careers.



Ismael Gutiérrez

Six Blue & Whites footballers in coronavirus quarantine

B. GUTIÉRREZ

MALAGA. The number of Malaga CF players in coronavirus quarantine is growing. In just a couple of days the number of footballers in home isolation has doubled, from three to six.

The players withdrawn from training for this reason are Benkhemassa, Hicham, Iván Calero, Paulino, Gonzalo and Andrés Caro.

It has, however, not been confirmed whether they have tested positive for Covid-19 - so far. They may just be in preventative isolation after being in contact with someone who has tested positive for the virus.

Three of the group began isolating on 8 July, shortly after the players returned to the La Rosaleda stadium for pre-season preparations.

Those affected are believed not to be suffering any symptoms, and they are carrying out a series of adapted training sessions in their homes.

This setback presents a problem for the coaching staff at the club, which has already had to adapt the preseason training due to the loss of Chavarría and Ramón, who are recovering from injuries. Right now, only 22 of the 30 players listed to begin preparations for the new season are available for training seasons at the La Rosaleda club.

For the affected players it will mean a delay in their preparations for the season and they could even miss the first friendly matches with the first scheduled for 21 July.



SALVADOR SALAS

Malaga go back to vertical stripes on their new shirt

Malaga recovers a traditional format for the club's new shirt for the 2021-2022 season. The vertical stripes and the intense blue colour are back, reminiscent of the way the team dressed in the 90s. The club thus wants to show a return to its origins. The second and third shirts also feature classic designs. The new kit will go on sale when in stock.

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A LOOK AT LA LIGA
ROB PALMER
Commentator, Sky Sports

Fantasy Football President

Real Madrid and Barcelona are vying for the news headlines and it has little to do with what happens on the football field

It's a high-stakes game of Fantasy Football Manager or Fantasy Football President to be accurate.

With a month to go before the start of the season, Real Madrid and Barcelona are vying for the news headlines and it has little to do with what happens on the football field.

The talk is all about balance. Not the balletic balance of a world-class footballer but the balancing of books. The real stars of both clubs this season will be the accountants and public relations directors.

The major news for Barcelona - and maybe the whole of La Liga - is Lionel Messi staying.

On the field, Barça need him to inspire a new look team. Off the field, the marketing team are delighted to have the icon signed up as they work to get fans back inside the stadia and watching the games around the globe.

After a year of "will he stay, or will he go?" speculation, he's set to sign a five-year deal on half of his previous wages.

This is where it gets complicated.

Frankly, FC Barcelona can't afford Messi or most of the other players. It's like shopping in an upmarket store. Previously, they'd get to the checkout and wham everything on the credit card. Buy now and worry about the consequences later.

The problem was the wage bill rocketed to around €600 million per year. That was fine when 80,000 fans were packing the Camp Nou and buying merchandise from the club megastore.

Post-pandemic, they have been told to trim the wage bill to €160m and live within their means.

It means that none of the new recruits can be registered. Sergio Aguero, Memphis Depay, Eric Garcia and Emerson must wait until pegs are cleared in the changing room.

They've had to sacrifice half-a-dozen promising young players. Antoine Griezmann returning to Atlético de Madrid would also help. If they could



Barcelona's Argentinian forward Lionel Messi. VLADIMIR RODAS / AFP

move Ousmane Dembele and Philippe Coutinho, then the pressure may be lifted. Nobody at the club is assured, apart from Messi, who is signed up until he's 39.

Over at the Bernabéu, it's the media department which is working hardest.

The accountants worked their magic over the past year. The club remarkably posted a profit of €300,000. No players were signed last season, many were loaned out to lighten the costs, those who stayed took a 15% cut and didn't claim any bonuses. Income was down €300 million, and they are renovating the stadium. There are still issues to be addressed - like how to shed 10 players and what should be done with Gareth Bale - but the president has a financial grip. The issue at Real Madrid has become the PR.

Old "off the record" recordings of Florentino Pérez have surfaced and made news. Calling Jose Mourinho and Cristiano Ronaldo "egotistical" isn't exactly ground-breaking. The embarrassment surrounds remarks about Iker Casillas and Raúl when they left the club as players. Now both are back on the payroll. Raúl is 'B' team coach and Casillas is VP of the club's foundation.

The fun has begun and that is before we talk about proposed Liga games on foreign soil and who Kylian Mbappé will sign for?

Watch this space. I'm going to need more of it to keep up with the crazy developments.

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Covid-19
Regular Updates

Miraflores Golf Tournament raises 6,000 euros for Cudeca

More than 6,000 euros was raised during the first edition of the Cudeca Miraflores Golf Tournament, a charity match coordinated by the family of Sue O'Sullivan. Sue's husband John and son Ross organised the event in her name, and numerous friends and relatives participated to raise funds for the hospice, where Sue is currently receiving treatment. Sue was able to watch the event from her bed, and even made an appearance at the charity auction at Biddy Mulligans in Mijas that followed the match. Sue's family is hoping the tournament will be a regular event to help "highlight the great work that Cudeca does". "I was so moved by seeing so many people and lifelong friends coming together for Sue," John explained.





Sole López and Marta López. MIGUE FERNÁNDEZ

Sole and Marta López complete the cast of Malaga Olympians

The wingers, as well as the Costa del Sol Málaga goalkeeper, Merche Castellanos, will be in Tokyo

MARINA RIVAS

MALAGA. Two Malaga women will soon be on their way to the Tokyo Olympic Games after being selected for the Spanish handball team.

Sole López and Marta López were among the 16 names announced this week by coach Carlos Viver to form the 'Guerreras' (Warriors), as the women's national handball side is known.

Also called up to represent Spain is the goalkeeper Merche Castellanos, who is from Castilla-La Mancha but plays with the Costa del Sol Málaga club, alongside Sole López.

For both Sole and Merche this

will be their first time at the Olympic Games.

Meanwhile, Marta López, who moves to play for Rapid of Bucharest next season, joins the select group of Spaniards to have represented their country in three Olympic Games. She won bronze with the Guerreras in London 2012 and reached sixth place in Rio 2016.

Silver winners

All three players formed part of the Spanish side that came away with a silver medal from the Women's Handball World Cup in Japan in 2019.

With this latest call-up, Sole and Marta López complete the group of athletes from Malaga province with a ticket to the Olympics.

The other locals to qualify are Damián Quintero (karate), Alejandro Davidovich (tennis), Paula Ruiz (open-water swimming) and Azahara Muñoz (golf).



EFE

Davidovich trains with Nadal

Alejandro Davidovich is preparing at the Rafa Nadal Academy his presence in the Olympic Games, whose tennis tournament begins on the 24th of this month. The Malaga tennis player trained last Monday morning with Rafa Nadal.

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◀ One of the earliest photos of Recreativo de Huelva in 1906. **SUR**

From the Brits in Huelva to the first Malaga football club

Following the disappointing loss of England to Italy in the Euro 2020 final, how about a trip back in time to recall the role of England in bringing football to Europe?

ALEKK M. SAANDERS

▶ Blessing of La Rosaleda stadium in Malaga in 1941. **SUR**



▶ Junior players of Riotinto Balompié (founded in 1914) training at the old mines in 2006. **EFE**



England came so close to a European title last Sunday losing on penalties to Italy. It's little consolation but still not too late to go back on a trip through history to see the contribution the British made to bringing football to Spain and the rest of Europe.

1170

The first written evidence of a football match in Europe originates from around 1170. That year the cleric William Fitzstephen described his visit to London: "After dinner all the youths of the city go out into the fields for the very popular game of ball." Another of one of the earliest known references to football is in Shakespeare's *King Lear*, written in 1605.

1870

The very first game between England and Scotland took place on 5 March 1870. Played at The Oval stadium, this was the first encounter of five matches between teams

representing the two nations. However, the matches are not recognised as official internationals by FIFA, as the Scottish players were all London-based and as such were not fully representative of Scotland as a nation. The first official international, Scotland vs England, was played two years later, on 30 November 1872.

1890

By the 19th century football had spread all over Europe and even to other continents. It was thanks to workers who came from England to the Huelva copper mine, that the game started to spread around Spain. Huelva played a very special role in promoting and developing football. The cradle of the game can be found in the small village of Riotinto, which was a dusty industrial place a century ago. The village's English neighbourhood, Barrio Inglés or Bella Vista was built to house distinguished and wealthy people of the

Rio Tinto mining company after a British consortium bought the rights to mine the area from the Spanish government in 1873. Five years later, they built the English Club de Minas de Riotinto, where the workers played football.

A team at the English Club was established in 1873 and had the name Club Inglés de Río Tinto, or Rio Tinto FC. A bullfighting report described a ball game, or 'juego de pelota', taking place in the Riotinto bullring on 3 October, 1880.

However, the oldest football club that still exists today in Spain appeared in Huelva in 1889 - 'Recreativo de Huelva' - established by a British worker. In 1890, Recreativo played against Colonia Inglesa (apparently referring to the Rio Tinto team), and this match is considered the first official football match in Spain.

In 1890 neighbouring Seville also had its team. The Seville football club was sponsored by The Seville Water Works Company Ltd,

established in 1883 with British capital. So, in 1890, Recreativo de Huelva played against Sevilla Fútbol Club or Club Inglés de Sevilla.

That match on 8 March became the first official game in Spain. The players of both teams, except two Spanish players representing the Huelva team, were British. The team from Seville won.

1903

The first football club in Malaga was established in 1903, with the formation of the Málaga Foot-Ball Club. According to other sources, the birth of Malaga club dates to 1904. Their first rivals were small teams formed by crews of foreign ships arriving in the local harbour, and they played in the La Malagueta Bullring.

1912

In 1912, Malaga got its second football club, named FC Malagueño. It was a main rival for Málaga FC until 1933 when the

both clubs merged to become Club Deportivo Malacitano. However, it appears that it wasn't a real merging, and just a name change of the FC Malagueño, which had economic wealth and a better squad than Málaga FC.

1920

A football tournament was contested for the first time at the Summer Olympics in London in 1908. The national team of Spain was formed especially for the Olympic Games in Antwerp in 1920. After defeating Denmark, Sweden, Italy and the Netherlands, the Spaniards left the Olympic tournament with silver medals.

It was a success that later boosted the popularity of football in Spain. Enthusiasm for the sport was increased thanks to the monarch too. King Alfonso XIII even issued a Royal decree announcing that regimental football clubs were to be formed in all branches of the armed forces. Moreover, under the influence of the King of Spain, youth was taking an interest in football.

1922

In 1922 the first football field of Malaga opened in El Balneario, known as Los Baños del Carmen. The day of 23 August was rainy, but the opening match went ahead against Real España from Granada. The Malagueños won 11-1.

1941

In 1941 the club changed their name to the Club Deportivo Málaga when the new La Rosaleda stadium was inaugurated. When the football at the Baños del Carmen flooded, the stadium built at the 'rose garden' had to be used for the first time on 13 April 1941. However, the official inauguration took place on 14 September 1941, with a friendly match between the CD Málaga and Sevilla. In this match, Club Deportivo Malacitano premiered its new name CD Málaga.

1955

In the Olympic Games in Antwerp in 1920 the United Kingdom participated as the Great Britain Olympic football team. One of the players in the UK football team was Charles Robert Julian, born on 26 June 1897. This forward represented clubs such as the Old Westminsters, Casuals and Corinthians between 1919 and 1926.

But he also played for the football team Rio Tinto. He worked as a general manager of Rio Tinto mines and in 1923 he was awarded the 1st Class Diploma Royal School of Mines. Charles Robert Julian lived in Huelva province till his death on 7 Sept 1955.

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Taxi Service	952774488
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Taxi	952478288
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900 400 061

Coronavirus information
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Other emergencies For general health emergencies. **Avoid using this if not urgent**
061 / 112

THE STARS

- 

Aquarius
January 21st - February 19th
As the Sun moves into Leo, the focus shifts to co-operation and teamwork. Don't struggle alone when there is a wealth of support to assist you.
- 

Pisces
February 20th - March 20th
As Venus moves into Virgo, her presence can help resolve any issues by encouraging patience and compromise. Regarding your wellbeing, you'll be keen to get out and about.
- 

Aries
March 21st - April 20th
Venus's move into your wellness zone could find you switching to healthier foods and watching your diet. How long this will last is hard to say.
- 

Taurus
April 21st - May 21st
With Mars in the final segment of Leo, this is a good time for finishing off DIY projects. As Venus enters Virgo you'll be ready to party!
- 

Gemini
May 22nd - June 21st
Have an internet business, website or blog? The work you put in now can bring fresh opportunities in the future. Your social media efforts could net you new friends too.
- 

Cancer
June 22nd - July 23rd
Finances are important at the moment and from this week you'll benefit from finalizing money goals, but also enjoying a chance to splurge.
- 

Leo
July 24th - August 23rd
With fresh inspiration this is a great time to get started on any projects that have been on the back burner. The call of new clothes or a few luxuries could send you on a shopping spree.
- 

Virgo
August 24th - September 23rd
Venus in your sign triggers a positive aspect. An encounter this week could coincide with an opportunity that is perfect for you, and that might enhance your income.
- 

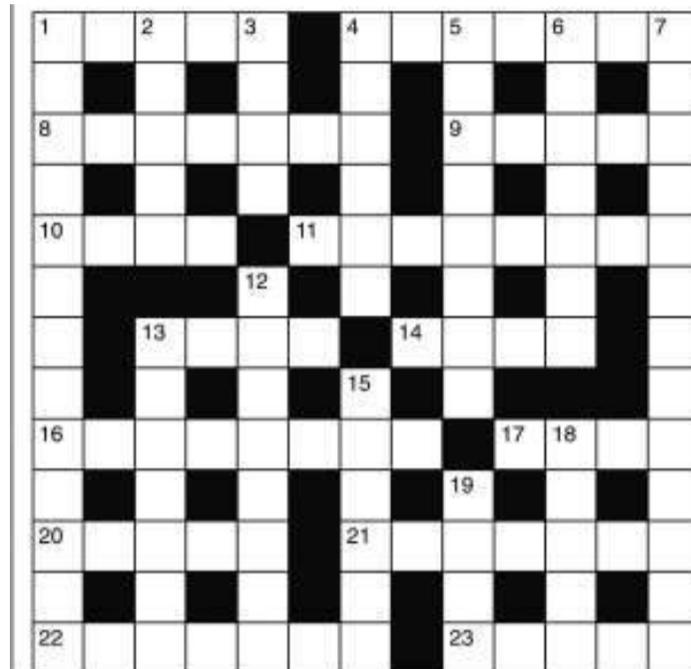
Libra
September 24th - October 23rd
Your social life will be at its annual peak, so you may be busy with meetings and events. Don't let this overtake your life though, as you need a break, take time to relax and recharge.
- 

Scorpio
October 24th - November 22nd
Keen to make progress on the job front? Promote your work and send out your CV. Flaunt your charisma and leadership skills, and you will stand out from the crowd.
- 

Sagittarius
November 23rd - December 21st
This is the time to take on board new opportunities and challenges, especially those that require a leap of faith. Exciting times lie ahead, so make the most of them.
- 

Capricorn
December 22nd - January 20th
Need a money makeover? As the Sun moves into a financial sector, it's time to take stock and see if you can enhance your income or savings, or both.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11470



Across

- 1 Stick and continue to play strokes (5)
- 4 Exercise for some time? (7)
- 8 Heard that I observed something ugly (7)
- 9 Contemptuously reject a Tottenham player at the end of the season (5)
- 10 Retain part of the castle (4)
- 11 Press into service in Chinese port (8)
- 13 Disadvantages of tricks (4)
- 14 Soon without a name (4)
- 16 Pit shown up in urban settlement (8)
- 17 With due deference to speed (4)
- 20 Whitehouse? (5)
- 21 Gets boats in for renovation (7)
- 22 Say it's a train (7)
- 23 Sort of light indication that it's time to go (5)

Down

- 1 It shows quick running after a rest in the morning (9,4)
- 2 Article about the Queen in that place (5)
- 3 Time of day that turned out the same (4)
- 4 Observe the boil (6)
- 5 Sounding as though notes ran out (8)
- 6 Reinforce when not huge perhaps (7)
- 7 Killing time in the countryside? (7,6)
- 12 Weight of a pebble? (3,5)
- 13 Flower making an animal fall (7)
- 15 Airmen one found involved in schemes (6)
- 18 Girl upsetting Celia (5)
- 19 Guns down an animal (4)

SUDOKU BY HANZO

Instructions
Complete the square making sure that every row of nine numbers includes all digits from 1 to 9, every column includes all digits from 1 to 9 and every 3 by 3 subsection includes all digits from 1 to 9

6	3							
		8	9	6				7
				2		4		5
					4		9	
	2	4			7			3
9				1				5
	7		1	2				
		9	3					1
5								

THE WORDPUZZLER



Can you identify the words that may precede 'belt' from the clues listed below?

- 1. Security
- 2. Chair
- 3. Gloomy
- 4. Adherent
- 5. Naive
- 6. Prison term
- 7. Tan
- 8. Tempest
- 9. Holy book
- 10. Sabre

THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



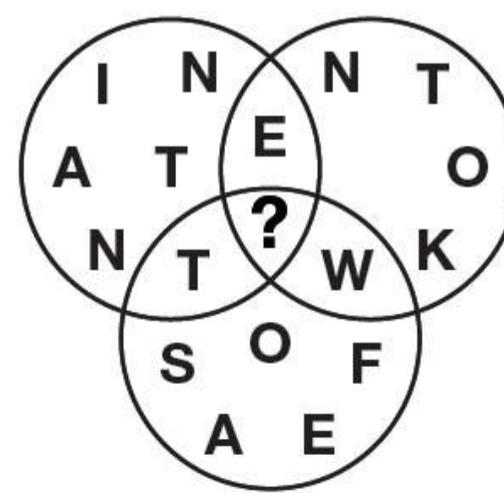
BATTLESHIPS

Instructions Find where the fleet of ships (1 battleship, 2 cruisers, 3 destroyers, 4 submarines) are hidden in the grid. The numbers to the right of and below the grid indicate how many of the squares in that row are filled in with ships or parts of ships. The ships do not touch each other, even diagonally. Some have been filled in to start you off.

-  Battleship
-  Cruiser
-  Destroyer
-  Submarines

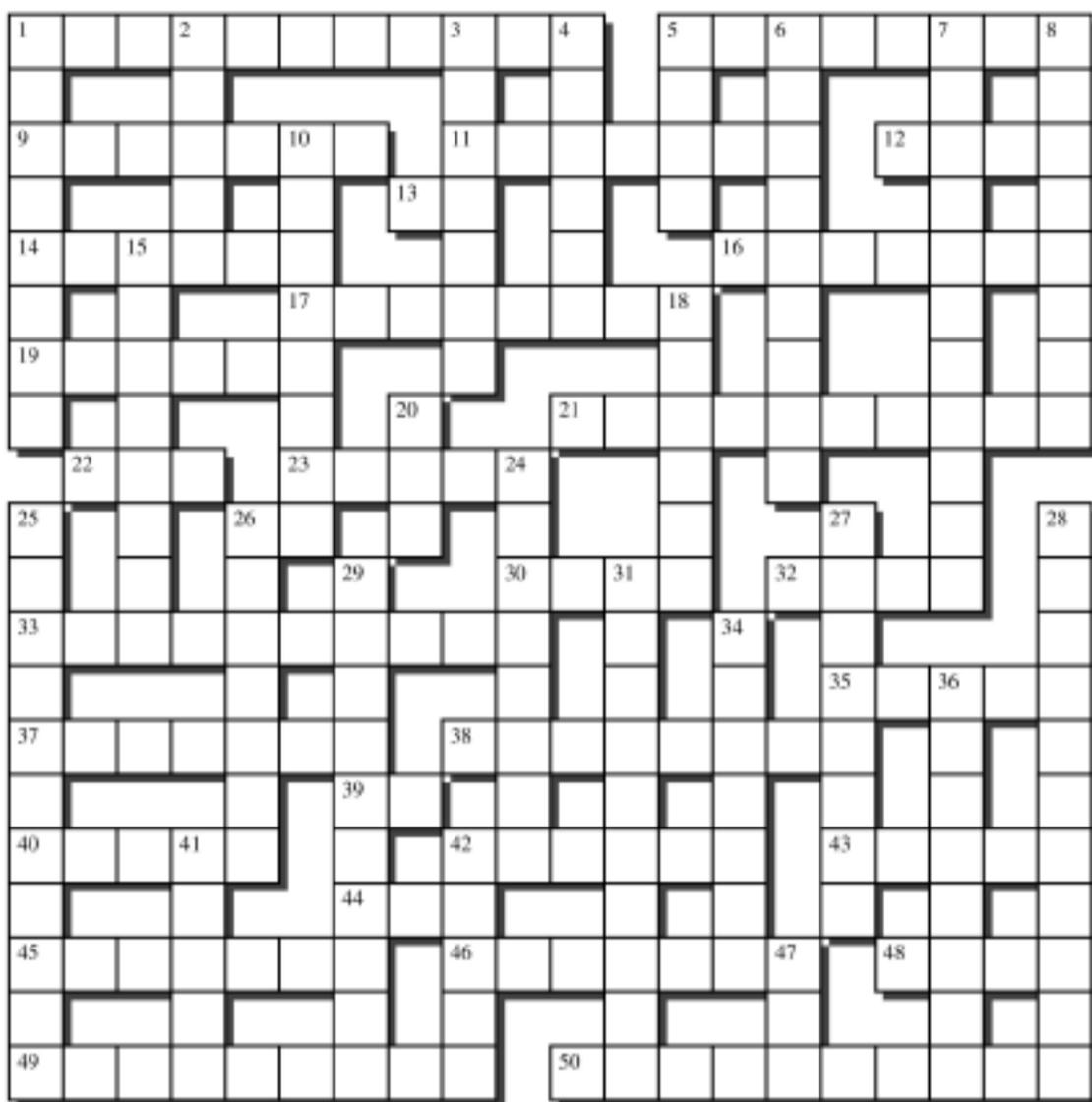
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
A										●	2
B											3
C											1
D											3
E										●	1
F											0
G										●	4
H											1
I											3
J										●	2
	2	2	1	3	2	1	2	4	2	1	

CIRCLEGRAM



Instructions
Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters in each circle can be arranged to form words, names or terms on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?

LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD



Across

- 1) Stability (11)
- 5) Slaves (8)
- 9) Back (7)
- 11) They count (7)
- 12) Front crawl (4)
- 13) To the (2)
- 14) Classes (6)
- 16) Defeat (7)
- 17) To guess (8)
- 19) Troops (6)
- 21) Muslims (10)
- 22) Eye (3)
- 23) She breaks (5)
- 26) Baa (2)
- 30) Geese (4)
- 32) Six (4)
- 33) Christians (10)
- 35) Mobile (5)
- 37) Heifer (7)
- 38) Powerful (m) (8)
- 39) The (f) (2)
- 40) Unique (f) (5)
- 42) Sauces (6)
- 43) Oyster (5)
- 44) Emu (3)
- 45) To smile (7)
- 46) Forces (7)
- 48) I believed (4)
- 49) Archbishop (9)
- 50) Located (m) (10)

Down

- 1) Army (8)
- 2) You love (pl) (5)
- 3) Decline (7)
- 4) They gave (6)
- 5) This (4)
- 6) I contemplate (9)
- 7) Diverse (m.pl) (11)
- 8) Soldiers (8)
- 10) Disaster (8)
- 15) Sesame (8)
- 18) Remains (6)
- 20) I love (3)
- 24) It erodes (8)
- 25) Reconquest (11)
- 26) Battle (7)
- 27) Beautiful (m.pl) (8)
- 28) Diplomat (m) (11)
- 29) Knights (10)
- 31) Opponent (m) (10)
- 34) Selfish (7)
- 36) Victory (8)
- 41) Short (m) (5)
- 42) I suffer (5)
- 47) Sun (3)

QUIZ

Steve McQueen and James Coburn were pall bearers at which man's funeral?

- 1. J F Kennedy 2. Bruce Lee
- 3. Jimi Hendrix 4. John Belushi



After English and Spanish, what is the most spoken language in Washington DC?

- 1. French 2. Korean
- 3. German 4. Italian

Which breathtaking sight is found in Sagarmatha National Park?

- 1. Mount Everest 2. Ha Long Bay
- 3. Petra ruins 4. Taj mahal

THE SUR IN ENGLISH COLUMN

Tell us your news!

At SUR in English we are proud of our reputation for publishing a wide variety of Spanish news of interest to our readers, and as part of the SUR media group we have access to all the best and most reliable sources. Another part of our remit is to publish all the local news concerning the English-speaking community in Andalucía, and for that, we have several sources including our team of roving reporters and you, the reader!

We often get calls asking the question "Can you mention this in SUR in English?" The "this" can be anything from an art exhibition to an event in aid of charity, a change in church service times, or a dolphin washed up on the beach. The answer to all of these is "yes". If it is of interest to our readers we can mention it, and if it is a big story we can send one of our team of journalists to write about it. Contact us at surinenglish.su@diariosur.es or on Twitter at @SUR_English or Facebook @SURenglish

ANSWERS

Quiz answers

Answer: Bruce Lee
Of interest: Steve McQueen, James Coburn, Chuck Norris and James Lazenby were all pall bearers at the funeral of martial arts expert Bruce Lee in 1973.
Answer: Korean
Of interest: Apart from English and Spanish, the languages most commonly spoken in Washington DC are Korean, Vietnamese, Chinese, French, Arabic, and Amharic (in that order).
Answer: Mount Everest
Of interest: Sagarmatha National Park in Nepal is an exceptional area with dramatic mountains, glaciers and deep valleys, dominated by Mount Everest.

Circlegram

The letter represented by the question mark is R. Intranet, computing terms, all network, software, all

Cryptic Crossword

Solutions: Across: 1 Bator; 4 Sketch; 8 Eyecore; 9 Spurr; 10 Keep; 11 Shanghai; 13 Cons; 14 Anon; 16 Townshp; 17 Pace; 20 Igloo; 21 Oxtans; 22 Express; 23 Green; Down: 1 Breakfast time; 2 There; 3 Noor; 4 Beebe; 5 Resonant; 6 Toughen; 7 Hunting season; 12 One stone; 13 Cowslip; 15 Piles; 16 Alice; 19 Stag.

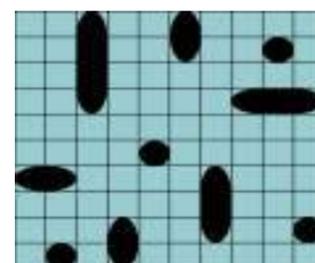
Wordpuzler solution



Language Crossword



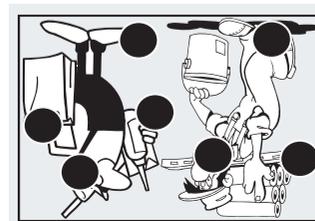
Battleships



Sudoku solution

5	1	2	8	4	9	3	7	6
4	8	9	7	3	6	5	2	1
3	7	6	1	5	2	9	4	8
9	6	7	2	1	3	8	5	4
8	2	4	5	9	7	6	1	3
1	3	5	6	8	4	7	9	2
7	9	1	3	2	8	4	6	5
2	4	8	9	6	5	1	3	7
6	5	3	4	7	1	2	8	9

The seven differences



British journalist and CNN anchorman Richard Quest arrived on the Costa del Sol this week to record an episode of his popular travel series, Quest's World of Wonders. The globe trotter and ever-curious journalist travels to different destinations in an attempt to discover its DNA - its very essence.

The popular presenter interviews larger-than-life characters on his journeys in order to experience the soul of the destination in an attempt to uncover a side that tourists rarely get to see.

Born in Liverpool in 1962, Quest, who is now based in New York, is no stranger to the coast. His parents bought an apartment in Fuengirola more than 40 years ago and he has visited the area many times over the years, which is one of the reasons he chose it for his latest travel documentary.

CNN researchers had lined up a string of local artisans, bar and business owners and knowledgeable people who live in the area to participate in the production. SUR in English reporter Tony Bryant, who is considered an authority on orthodox flamenco, also participated in the documentary. His involvement included taking Quest to see an authentic flamenco performance and arranging some dance lessons at a local flamenco academy, during which the characteristic presenter attempted to understand the essence of the 'bulería'. Bryant was



Richard Quest in Marbella with Prince Hubertus von Hohenlohe. CNN

Globe-trotting CNN journalist visits the Costa

Richard Quest. The ever-curious presenter arrived in Malaga to record an episode of Quest's World of Wonder

SUR IN ENGLISH



▲ Richard Quest in Mijas on Monday recording part of the documentary, Quest's World of Wonder. T.B.

also tasked with taking Quest shopping to kit him out in suitable attire in order for him to look the part, which Bryant claimed "proved to be an interesting and highly amusing task".

Filming began in Mijas on Monday, when the presenter and his film crew visited the La Boveda de Flamenco, a bar that made an impression on the journalist, especially seeing as it is the central meeting place of the village's stereotypical characters.

He took time out to visit local shops, where he admitted that he is "addicted" to purchasing colourful ceramics and artisan goods. This was confirmed during his stroll around the village.

Other parts of the documentary were shot in Fuengirola, and La Cala de Mijas, where he interviewed the owner of the Snack Attack bar, one of the area's longest serving British pubs.

Royal encounter

One of the highlights of the production arose when Quest arrived in Marbella, where he enjoyed churros and chocolate with Prince Hubertus von Hohenlohe, son of Prince Alfonso, the tourism pioneer who founded the Marbella Club Hotel.

Once filming was over, Quest headed back to Fuengirola to meet up with his sister, who is visiting the town on vacation.

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