

The Front Desk

December 2006



Dear Clients and Friends,

Only 18 shopping days to Christmas! Each year I keep saying that I will purchase pressies throughout the year, so there is no last minute panic buying. Well here I am again, in "left it too late again" mode, as we move into December. I am sure it will all come together in the end and as you will see, we have a break in Spain between the 6th and the 8th of December, so there's still a chance of success!

New Clients

I would like to welcome the many new clients who have joined us in recent weeks. We are spreading our wings further afield and are now providing our services to clients from La Cala in the east to Alcaidesa in the west.

Christmas and New Year and Other Public Holidays

There are several public holidays arising over the next few weeks. Over the Christmas and New Year period itself, we shall operate the usual 24 x7 out-of-hours service, but will only operate a "skeleton" staffing of the office.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Office Opening Hours</u>
6th December (Constitution Day)	Closed
7th December (Puente)	Closed
8th December (Immaculate Conception)	Closed
22nd December	9a.m. until noon
25th & 26th December (Christmas & Boxing Day)	Closed
27, 28, 29 & 30th December	9 a.m. until 2.p.m.
1st January 2007	Closed
2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th January 2007	8a.m. until 2.p.m.

Helicopteros Sanitarios

Another client has benefited from the services of Helicopteros Sanitarios. On this occasion we made a call on behalf of the client and an English-speaking doctor was on site within one hour to attend to his sick children. Unfortunately the client was not a member and had to pay full call out charge, which was almost the same as full family membership for a year. Our neighbours, San Pedro Insurance Service, are now agents for this service, so a visit to them when you are next in town may be time well spent. Alternatively, contact Pauline Walkinton at sanpedroinsurances@telefonica.net or on 00 34 952 78 01 02. The annual charges are 140 € (single), 260 € (couple) and 300 € (family).

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

Emergency Helpline: 00 34 606 97 58 33

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

Head Office Address: HPS Property Services Siglo XXI (SL), C/ Dr.Esteban San Mateo, N° 10, Local E, 29670, San Pedro de Alcántara, (Málaga), España.

CIF N° B - 92606953

Website

We are making a couple of changes to our website (www.spanishrentalholidays.com). The Home page has now been redesigned to present more clearly the services provided by HPS Spanish Rental Holidays. We are also introducing a "snagging" service for new home buyers and developers. This service is already proving very popular and it will soon have its own page in the Management section of our site.

The Rain in Spain

After the October deluge, we thought that it could not get worse, but it did. On 7th November we saw the heaviest rainfall in Malaga province since 1989 with 134 litres of rain per square metre (about 5 inches) falling in a single day in Marbella. Cars were swept into rivers and many shops, businesses and homes were flooded.

The rain has helped to replenish water stocks in the regions reservoirs, with reserves having risen for the first time in six months and standing at slightly higher levels than for the same period last year. However, in some areas of Andalucia drought restrictions remain in place.

Revised Invoicing Arrangements

Michael has received many supportive comments about the revised simplified invoicing arrangements. So, it looks as though this is the way to go for the future. We will be sending invoices and statements out earlier, i.e. around the 15th December, so that you do not get any surprises when you are preparing to go out on New Year's Eve. Direct debits will be taken at the beginning of January as usual. We are grateful to those customers who have changed from payment by cheque to payment by bank transfer. The post continues to be terrible and it will probably grind to a halt for Christmas and New Year

Strike at Fuel Stations

Queues formed at service stations on 6th November in anticipation of the strike planned for 7th and 8th, with police keeping order and controlling traffic while customers waited for as long as 30 minutes to fill their tanks. However, in uniquely Spanish style the Industry Ministry stepped in at the last minute and ordered one in four stations to remain open. Panic over!!!

Finally, I am delighted that we have been able to look after you, your family and your guests during the past year and look forward to being of service to you in 2007.

A Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year: Feliz Navidad y un año prospero

Kind regards

Beverley

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