

The Front Desk



May 2009

Dear Clients,

This news letter will reach you a day or two earlier than usual since Friday 1st May is a public holiday here and the office will be closed

I am pleased that so many of you were able to visit last month – apart from the occasional April shower, the weather has been very pleasant and is warming up. I have been looking at the temperatures in Greece in anticipation of our holiday and so far so good.

Revised Office Hours (May)

As a reminder our last day in the office before our holiday will be Monday 4th May and we will be back at our desks on Wednesday 13th. Thank you all for letting me know your arrangements for this period, so that I can leave the office in good order for Michael. If you have any last minute plans (definite or provisional) please let me know.

During our absence the plan will be for Michael to operate the office in the morning between 9.00 and 13.00 Spanish time (Monday to Friday). However, there may be occasions when he is called out to deal with emergencies. At all other times you will be able to contact the emergency helpline, which is **606975833**.

Anyone for Tennis

The Davis Cup quarter finals (Germany vs Spain) are being hosted by Marbella town council between 10th and 12th July at the bull ring in Puerto Banus (currently being refurbished). The Mayor is convinced that the event will be a financial success. Let's hope so – the council is funding one million euro which represent 50% of the cost of the tournament.

Aer Lingus

For UK visitors able to travel from Gatwick, Aer Lingus have inaugurated three daily low cost flights to Malaga at a quoted price of 29.99 €. Clients who have already used Aer Lingus have spoken very highly of the service.

Red Menace

The arrival of the so-called “red tide” has led to a temporary ban on the harvesting of shell fish along the Costa del Sol. This colourful algae produces a toxic discharge which affects molluscs. However, this does not mean that you will not be able to enjoy your favourite mejillones – supermarkets and restaurants will just have to source them from other locations.

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), Urb. El Alto N° 16, Los Arqueros Golf, Benahavís, 29679, (Málaga), España.

CIF N° B - 92606953

Reservoir Levels

Water reserves are reported as being at a four-year high. So, whilst reservoirs are not full, indications are that we should generally have trouble-free summer, assuming that everyone in Malaga province continues to exercise restraint in the use of water.

San Pedro Road Closure

At last the moment we have all been dreading has arrived – the A7 coast road (previously N340) will be closed in the Malaga direction from 4th May through San Pedro de Alcántara. This will herald the first phase of the project to build the underground tunnel, scheduled to take 18 months to complete.

The second phase of the project will start on 25th May when the A7 will be closed in both directions!! It will come as no surprise to learn that huge traffic jams are expected. Through traffic will be diverted via the “by pass” which goes through Nueva Alcántara on the coast side of the A7. Needless to say everyone will need to allow more time for their journeys and there may be an impact on our response times for emergencies – although we are familiar with the back roads and short cuts.

Spanish Lawyer

Over the past couple of years a number of our clients have been working with a long-established firm of lawyers – Martinez, Echevarria, Perez & Ferrero – in connection with their property purchase. Now clients are beginning to enquire about legal representation in commercial disputes, preparation of Spanish wills, court representation if involved with the police, etc.

You may not have a specific issue in mind at present. However, if you would like to be introduced to our local contact, Felipe Martinez, during a future visit, please let me know.

Bank Accounts

Many of you already operate your bank account in Spain via the internet and this way you can keep a regular eye on what is happening. Recently some clients have experienced problems because they have not been monitoring expenditure taken by direct debit, principally by the utility companies. The result has been the disconnection of electricity and/or telephone services.

Restoring these can be difficult. Depending upon the whim of the person we speak to in the call centres, we may be able to arrange reconnection using a credit card to pay; on other occasions we need to call into the utility office in person with cash. So the message is – keep a regular eye on your bank account in Spain, to prevent any problems occurring in the future.

Until we meet again next month.

Kind regards y Hasta Luego,

Beverley

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