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DÉCOR & DESIGN

- 08 The Timeless Appeal of Marble
- 14 The Heart Of Modern Homes
- 16 Top 3 Winter Accessories
- 20 Tidy Solutions
- 24 Elevate Your Indoor Garden
- 28 Pet-Friendly
- 38 Statement Furniture

RELIGION

- 29 Wellspring Victory Church

LEISURE

- 30-32 What's On?
- 33 Helping Hands

FOOD

- 34-35 Recipes

SPORTS

- 22 Golf In Style

NEWS

- 17 Flooding Advice 4 Cars
- 18 N332
- 40 TV News
- 42 Pals Solicitors
- 43 Did You Know
- 46 Martinez Architects

INFORMATION

- 44-45 Charity Directory
- 48-49 Business Directory

PROPERTY

- 10 Home Value

OUTDOOR

- 12 Blurring The Lines Between Spaces
- 26 Ecocorp Solar
- 55 Joel's Corner

KITCHEN

- 36 Kitchen Revelations

TRAVEL

- 37 Dave's Travels

CONTENTS

H&L

EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the all-new Home & Living magazine!

It's with great excitement and pride that we present to you our fresh, redesigned publication, filled with inspiration, creativity, and practical tips to help you improve the place that matters most: your home. As we embark on this new chapter, we want to take a moment to reflect on what this magazine represents and why we're so thrilled to share it with you.

At Home & Living, we believe that your home is more than just a place to live—it's an expression of who you are, a space that tells your story, and a sanctuary where you can unwind, recharge, and be your truest self. Our mission is to bring you thoughtful content that not only celebrates the beauty of home design but also equips you with the knowledge, tools, and inspiration you need to create a home that is both functional and meaningful.

This magazine is for anyone who wants to create a space that reflects their personality, enhances their lifestyle, and supports their well-being. Whether you're renovating a single room, redecorating your entire home, or simply looking for ways to make your everyday living more enjoyable, we've got you covered. We've dedicated this issue—and every issue to come—to bringing you practical advice on everything from design trends and DIY projects to organizational hacks and expert tips on how to maintain a home that works for you.

What's new in Home & Living? Along with our vibrant new look, we've curated content that's more diverse, more accessible, and more relevant to today's homeowners, renters, and design enthusiasts. You'll find in-depth features on sustainable living, space-saving ideas, and tips on how to create a home that adapts to your lifestyle needs, whether you're living in a small apartment or a spacious house. We're also excited to showcase stories of real people and their homes—because the best ideas often come from those who've rolled up their sleeves and made their spaces truly their own.

This issue is just the beginning, and we're so excited to have you along for the ride. As you flip through these pages, we hope you find inspiration to rethink your living spaces, explore new possibilities, and discover innovative ways to make your home a reflection of your unique taste and values. Our goal is simple: to make the art of home living something everyone can enjoy and feel empowered to improve.

We are incredibly grateful for your support as we launch this new era of Home & Living, and we hope this magazine becomes a trusted resource and source of inspiration as you embark on your own home improvement journey. Thank you for being part of this exciting new chapter—we can't wait to share more with you in the months ahead.

Here's to transforming spaces, creating memories, and making your home the best place it can be.

Warmly,
The Home & Living Team

p.s. Remember you can re-cycle your Christmas Cards at the Post Office and Best Wishes on Sector B and the Post Room on Sector A, Camposol. Also at Noah's Arc in Pto de Mazarrón.



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THE TIMELESS APPEAL OF MARBLE

Marble has long been a symbol of luxury and sophistication, renowned for its beauty, history, and durability. From the majestic columns of ancient Greek temples to the lavish interiors of Renaissance palaces, marble has graced the world's most prestigious spaces. Despite the introduction of newer materials and design trends, marble remains a beloved choice in luxury interiors, offering a timeless elegance that few materials can match.

What makes marble so captivating is its unique veining, texture, and colour variations. No two slabs of marble are ever identical, which gives each piece a sense of rarity and exclusivity. Whether the surface is a soft white with delicate grey veins or a rich, dark hue with bold, contrasting streaks, marble brings a natural beauty to any room. This inherent uniqueness gives it an almost magical quality, transforming even the simplest of spaces into something extraordinary.

Beyond its stunning appearance, marble is incredibly versatile. It can be used in a wide range of applications, from floors and countertops to walls and backsplashes. Its sleek, polished finish works equally well in both modern and traditional interiors. In contemporary spaces, marble is often paired with materials like wood, glass, and metal, creating striking contrasts that add depth and visual interest. Whether as a grand kitchen island, a marble-tiled bathroom, or a feature wall in a living room, marble brings a refined, luxurious touch to any room.

The durability of marble further contributes to its lasting appeal. Though it requires care to prevent staining and etching, the material is incredibly long-lasting. Marble's resilience and timeless beauty make it a smart investment, one that stands the test of time both in terms of style and function. It's a material that only improves with age, developing a patina that adds character and depth.

Marble's historical significance also plays a role in its continued prominence in luxury interiors. From ancient sculptures to iconic architectural masterpieces, marble has been associated with artistry, craftsmanship, and elegance for centuries. Incorporating marble into a home or commercial space adds a layer of cultural depth, connecting modern interiors with a rich legacy of artistic excellence.

In conclusion, marble remains a staple in luxury interior design for its beauty, versatility, and enduring appeal. Whether used as a statement piece or in subtle accents, marble's ability to elevate a space with sophistication and timeless elegance ensures its place as a beloved material in high-end design.



HOME VALUE

Maximising the value of your property is essential whether you're preparing to sell or looking to enhance its long-term investment potential. While large-scale renovations can be costly, there are several affordable and effective strategies that can significantly boost both appeal and value.

Begin with the kitchen and bathroom, two areas that often influence buyer decisions the most. You don't need to undertake a full remodel, but simple upgrades can go a long way. Consider installing modern, energy-efficient appliances, replacing worn-out fixtures, or updating countertops with more contemporary materials. In the bathroom, replacing dated taps, regrouting tiles, or adding a fresh coat of paint can make the space feel more modern and inviting.

Curb appeal is another area to focus on. The exterior of your property is the first impression potential buyers will have, so it's important to make it look well-maintained. Simple tasks like painting the front door, cleaning windows, tidying the garden, or adding a few plants can immediately enhance the property's attractiveness. A well-kept exterior suggests the home has been cared for and may encourage higher offers.

Energy efficiency is also an important consideration. Buyers are increasingly looking for homes that will save them money in the long term, so installing double glazing, improving insulation, or adding smart home technology like energy-efficient thermostats can make your home more attractive.

Finally, declutter and stage the interior. A clean, neutral space allows buyers to envision themselves in the property, which can lead to a quicker and more profitable sale. These relatively simple changes can make a big difference in maximising your property's value.



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BLURRING THE LINES BETWEEN SPACES

In the world of interior design, the boundaries between indoor and outdoor spaces are becoming increasingly fluid. Gone are the days when patios and gardens were treated as separate entities. Today, homeowners are embracing the art of blurring these lines, creating seamless transitions between the indoors and outdoors to maximise living space and enhance the overall experience of home life. It's all about connection, flow, and harmony – and it's a trend that's taking the design world by storm.

The key to this transition is often the furniture. No longer relegated to distinct “outdoor” pieces, furniture that works both inside and out is becoming more popular. Think comfortable outdoor sofas made from durable, weather-resistant fabrics that could just as easily sit in a living room as they would on a terrace. Materials such as rattan, teak, and powder-coated metal have evolved to offer both style and durability, while cushions and throws add the same softness and cosiness typically found indoors.

Another essential element in blurring the lines is the clever use of colour, texture, and decor. Just as you would accessorise your interior with stylish rugs, vases, and artwork, outdoor spaces are now being adorned with outdoor-friendly decor that feels just as curated as any indoor room. Bold throw pillows, potted plants, and decorative lighting help create a cohesive look that ties the two areas together, whether you're inside or outside.

Sliding glass doors and expansive windows are also a game-changer, creating an open, airy feel that brings the garden right into your living space. A glass partition or retractable walls allow you to control the level of separation, giving you flexibility depending on the season or occasion.

By blending the best of both worlds, you can create an outdoor oasis that feels like an extension of your home – an inviting space that feels equally at home inside and out.



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THE HEART OF MODERN HOMES



A kitchen island is no longer just a luxury feature reserved for spacious, high-end homes. In today's design world, it has become a practical and stylish addition to kitchens of all sizes, transforming the heart of the home into a hub for cooking, socialising, and even working. Whether you're renovating or building your dream kitchen, here's why you should consider installing a kitchen island.

At its core, a kitchen island offers additional counter space. In busy kitchens, this extra worktop area is invaluable for meal preparation, baking, and even placing groceries as you unpack them. With the rise of open-plan living, islands have become essential for integrating the kitchen into the rest of the home. They serve as a focal point that enhances both form and function. A kitchen island also allows for a more efficient workflow in the kitchen. The classic kitchen triangle – where the stove, sink, and fridge are strategically placed – is complemented by the island, which offers a central location to perform various tasks. Whether you're chopping vegetables, assembling dishes, or serving a meal, everything is within reach, making cooking more enjoyable and less of a chore.

A kitchen island also creates the perfect setting for casual dining or entertaining guests. With seating on one side, it transforms from a cooking surface to a gathering spot. Whether you're hosting a dinner party or simply having a cup of coffee, the island offers a relaxed space for guests to sit and interact with the cook. It fosters a more inclusive atmosphere, allowing friends and family to engage while you prepare meals, rather than being relegated to another room.

Another key benefit of kitchen islands is their storage potential. With cabinets, drawers, and shelves built into the island, you can store everything from pots and pans to small appliances, keeping your kitchen organised and clutter-free. This added storage is especially important in smaller kitchens, where every bit of space counts. A well-designed island can house pull-out drawers for utensils, built-in wine racks, or even a small sink for added convenience.

Beyond its practicality, a kitchen island also elevates the aesthetic appeal of your space. With countless design options, from sleek modern islands with clean lines to rustic wood islands with a farmhouse feel, you can choose a style that complements your kitchen. Islands also provide an opportunity to incorporate high-end materials like marble, granite, or wood, creating a stunning focal point that enhances the overall look of your kitchen.

In conclusion, a kitchen island is more than just a trendy addition – it's a highly functional, versatile, and stylish element that enhances both the practicality and beauty of your home. Whether for cooking, storage, or socialising, it's a feature that no modern kitchen should be without.

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TOP 3 WINTER ACCESSORIES

As winter sets in, it's the perfect time to update your home with accessories that bring warmth, comfort, and a touch of luxury. This season, the focus is on creating cosy, inviting spaces that offer both style and functionality. The top three trendy home accessories for winter are faux fur throws and cushions, statement candles, and heavyweight rugs.

Faux fur is a standout trend this winter. Luxurious faux fur throws and cushions instantly elevate any room, adding both warmth and texture. These indulgent accessories create a snug, inviting atmosphere, ideal for those cold, dark evenings. Whether draped over a sofa, across the foot of a bed, or piled on a chair, faux fur provides an opulent touch without the need for real fur. Neutral tones like ivory, grey, or taupe offer a sophisticated, understated look, while jewel colours like emerald green or deep burgundy add rich warmth to your decor.

Candles are another essential winter accessory. Large pillar candles in comforting scents like cinnamon, pine, or clove not only provide a soft, warm glow but also infuse your home with festive fragrances. Paired with elegant candleholders in materials like brass or stone, candles create a relaxed, inviting ambiance. Grouping them together can make a stunning feature on a mantel or dining table.

Finally, heavyweight rugs are perfect for adding both warmth and style to your home. Plush wool or shaggy rugs create a sense of comfort and luxury while keeping floors warm. Deep, rich colours like charcoal, navy, or rust complement the season's tones and make your space feel inviting.

These accessories bring both warmth and sophistication, ensuring your home feels like a cosy retreat this winter.

FLOODING ADVICE 4 CARS

Flooding - Practical Advice for Motorists
by Car Registrations Spain

Flood conditions can change rapidly, turning a routine drive into a risky situation. Here are ten top tips to stay safe and protect your vehicle in flood-prone areas:

1. Avoid Underground and Low-Lying Parking Areas

Floodwaters can rise quickly, especially in underground car parks or areas below street level. Avoid parking in these spaces, even if water hasn't started pooling, as it can become a trap within minutes.

2. Never Drive Through Moving Water

Fast-moving water can sweep vehicles off the road, even if it's as shallow as 15-30 cm. Don't take chances with fast-flowing water; it's best to find an alternative route.

3. Gauge Water Depth Carefully

If you're unsure of the depth, don't risk it. Even seemingly shallow puddles can have hidden potholes or debris that might cause damage to your vehicle or make you lose control.

4. Slow Down and Maintain a Stead Speed

Driving too fast through water can cause a wave effect that splashes back into your engine, increasing the risk of

stalling. Keeping a steady, low speed reduces the likelihood of water getting into critical parts of your car.

5. Use Low Gear and Keep the Revs High

Shift to a lower gear and keep your revs higher than usual. This helps prevent water from entering the exhaust pipe and stalling your engine. Avoid shifting gears while driving through water.

6. Stay in the Centre of the Road Where Possible

Roads are usually crowned, meaning the highest point is in the centre. By staying close to this area, you're more likely to avoid the deepest water on the road edges.

7. Test Your Brakes After Exiting Water

After passing through water, gently press on your brakes to check that they're working correctly. This helps dry them out and ensures they'll be reliable if you need to stop suddenly.

8. Avoid Distractions and Remain Alert

Focus on the road and avoid distractions. Look out for other vehicles, debris, or changing conditions ahead. Stay vigilant, as flood conditions can worsen quickly.

9. Watch Out for Hidden Debris and Washed-Out Sections

Floodwater can conceal hazards like branches, rocks, or damaged road surfaces. Drive slowly, keep an eye out for anything unusual and be prepared to stop if necessary.

10. Know When to Abandon Your Vehicle

If you find yourself trapped, don't stay in the vehicle if water levels are rising quickly. Call for help and move to higher ground if it's safe to exit the car. Safety is more important than the vehicle.

Remember, there's no journey worth jeopardising your safety. Whether it's waiting for the water to recede or seeking alternative routes, taking extra time to make safe choices is always worth it. Stay vigilant, stay informed, and let's all look out for each other on the road. Stay safe!

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N332

Following the highly successful **'Road Trip to Spain'** event, organised by Mazarrón Policia Local and presented by **N332**, held at Mariano's Restaurante at Camposol on 30th October, we thought it would be of interest to our readers to give you an overview on the conference. The presentation was highly informative and interesting and presented in a clear and concise way, aided by audience participation.

Elliott from A Place in the Sun Currency and Jenny from Car Registrations Spain took to the stage first to thank everyone for their attendance and to highlight that, in addition to those that would be introducing themselves later, there was someone in attendance from La Hita ITV Centre, Mazarrón, who would be pleased to answer any queries at the end of the presentation. They understand that some may be nervous if not having taken a car for a Spanish ITV before, especially if there is a language barrier, but they are a friendly team and are more than happy to take your keys and paperwork from you and take it through the test whilst you go for a coffee, if you don't feel confident enough to do it yourself.

Elliott then introduced Sarah, the Vice Consul of Spain, based in Alicante, but who also covers Murcia region. The two messages Sarah wanted to convey to the audience was firstly to support your local community **charities**. Sarah has visited many on Camposol on previous occasions and has seen first hand how much help they need in order for them to help those that need it. Secondly, for any UK citizens that are resident in Spain, a reminder about the importance of changing a green residence card for the new TIE. In 2025 the entry/exit system comes in to force and without the TIE, it will be extremely time consuming and difficult for non EU nationals to cross borders in to EU countries.

The next introduction was to Francisco Javier Morales, a traffic police officer from Torre Vieja and creator of the **N332 Group**. Francisco set up the group in 2015 to help the British people in the



area to understand traffic laws and regulations. The group now has 260,000 followers and last year the group reached more than 47m people. The aim of the conferences (this was the first to be held in English) is to reduce accidents due to lack of knowledge of the traffic rules in Spain.

Carmen Navarro, Councillor for Camposol, then spoke and thanked everyone for taking the time to attend, as events like these are fantastic and well received, as they unite the community and brings people together.

Next to be introduced was Jesus Garcia, First Deputy Mayor and Councillor of Mazarrón Policia Local, who extended his delight at being a part of the presentation and explained that, under leadership of the Ayuntamiento, they are doing everything they can to "be more present" within the British community and gave remembrance and thanks to the previous Councillor for Camposol, Silvana Buxton. The presentation then took place, covering:-

DGT Website. This is a highly informative website which gives information on accidents and road closures and is updated regularly. It is recommended, particularly when setting off on a long journey, to check this before departure to avoid delays.

In case of accidents, you must immediately put on a high vis jacket, take photographs and only then move the vehicle to a safe place (if possible). Place warning

triangles and call 112.

From 1 January 2026 all vehicles must carry a homologated V16 emergency flashing light. These will replace the warning triangles, which at that stage are no longer to be used. Emergency flashing lights are available now but from the date mentioned above it must be an approved one, that connects to the DGT, giving warning to other users.

A video presentation then took place showing the correct way of navigating roundabouts in Spain.

Documents that must be carried whilst driving in Spain

Driving License (original or a notarised copy)

If you have a digital signature, you can download your license to your phone via the DGT app

Log Book

Valid Insurance Policy

Green ITV card and the latest ITV report

If someone else is regularly driving your vehicle, it is recommended you download from the DGT app a form giving permission for them to do so. It must be accompanied by a copy of their driving license.

See our January issue for part 2 which includes Myths on appropriate dress for driving, general advice and rules, information on an interactive demo on how drugs and drink affect ones abilities and an overview of the amazing demo from the Canine unit of Mazarrón Policia Local.

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Generali has strengthened its commitment to expatriate customers in Spain with a strategic move that consolidates its position as one of Europe's leading insurers. As part of this transition, expat services are now seamlessly integrated under the trusted Generali brand with the new website generalixpatriates.es. More than skin deep, it is part of a broader approach to guarantee that expats in Spain continue receiving the highest levels of service and gradually access to a wider range of insurance options suited specifically for them.

At generalixpatriates.es, expats can find all the essential information they need about Generali's comprehensive range of insurance products, designed specifically to protect their assets and secure their peace of mind. Whether it is car, home, pet, business or life insurance, at generalixpatriates.es customers can make direct use of the comprehensive range of products and services available to them and also gain an insight into the Company.

On top of this, at generalixpatriates.es, customers have access to more than 200 agents and brokers who are highly qualified and speak different languages, providing the kind of personalised service that makes all the difference when living abroad. These local experts are keen to help expats feel at home in Spain

and are dedicated to ensuring that you are well informed and well protected.

The transition to Generali's iconic branding brings with it more than just a new look. The website now reflects Generali's bold red identity—a powerful symbol of the passion and commitment that drives the company. Generali is synonymous with reliability, trust, and innovation, and this new chapter in its journey with expats reinforces that value proposition. The vibrant red is more than just a corporate colour; it represents Generali's commitment to helping people secure their future, protect what matters most, and support their dreams. Whether you're building a new life in Spain, starting a business, or simply enjoying the lifestyle that retirement brings, Generali is your lifetime partner.

Generali prioritise the peace of mind of its more than 150,000 expat clients in Spain. The quality of service, the reliability of the policies, and the comprehensive coverage remain as strong as ever. Policyholders will now benefit from being part of one of Europe's most established insurance groups, renowned for its wide range of products and strong distribution network.

Find your nearest broker/agent or request a quote now at generalixpatriates.es

TIDY SOLUTIONS

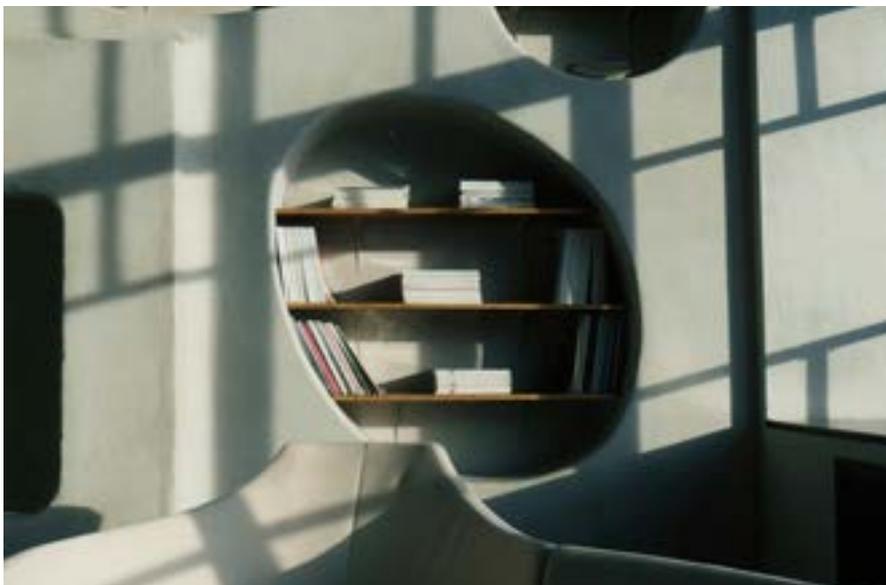
Let's face it – clutter sneaks in like an uninvited guest, turning even the most beautiful interiors into a jumbled mess. But fear not! Mastering the art of decluttering can be both effective and stylish, transforming your space into a serene, luxurious haven. Stylish storage solutions not only keep the clutter out of sight but add sophistication to any room.

Start with chic storage baskets – woven seagrass, rattan, or velvet-lined options add a textured elegance while concealing all those unsightly odds and ends. Place these under coffee tables, by the sofa, or even on open shelves to keep essential items close yet hidden. Another space-saving trick? Opt for nesting tables with hidden compartments. These clever pieces allow you to store books, remote controls, and other essentials discreetly without sacrificing your room's aesthetic.

For a truly luxe feel, consider investing in stylish built-ins or fitted wardrobes. These create a polished look and offer abundant space to stash away seasonal items, bulky coats, or those endless shoe collections. Built-ins with closed doors keep things looking sleek and seamless, while glass-fronted cabinets are perfect for showcasing beautiful items – think favourite books, collectibles, or unique pottery.

Need a spot for small, precious items? Velvet-lined jewellery boxes or vintage trunks add a touch of sophistication and glamour, elevating your room's look while keeping valuables neatly stored. And if you're going for a high-end vibe, incorporate mirrored cabinets or ottomans with hidden storage – they add function without disrupting style.

Finally, embrace the mantra "less is more." Carefully curate your belongings and keep only what truly adds value or beauty to your life. Giving each item a designated spot brings peace, clarity, and a sense of luxury, making your home feel like an oasis rather than a storage battleground. Cheers to clutter-free, elegant living? Enhancing your decor's aesthetic appeal, making any space feel more refined and tailored to your unique taste.



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In golf, it's not just about swinging with style – it's about wearing it, too. The right outfit can make you feel like a pro, even if you're still struggling to keep the ball on the fairway. So, let's talk golf attire: a blend of sophistication, comfort, and a dash of personality that keeps you looking the part while feeling fabulous on the green.

First things first, let's address the polo shirt. It's a staple of the golfing wardrobe, but gone are the days of stiff, plain tops! Today's golf shirts come in lightweight, breathable fabrics with a rainbow of colours to choose from. Go classic with a crisp white, or add a bit of flair with pastels, stripes, or even a bold pop of colour. Just make sure it's stretchy enough to accommodate that winning swing (or not-so-winning swing – no judgement here).

Now onto trousers or shorts. The key here is movement. Chinos or tailored golf trousers are both stylish and functional, allowing you to bend, swing, and walk 18 holes without a hitch. If the sun's out, a good pair of golf shorts will keep you cool and comfortable – just ensure they're knee-length to keep within the traditional golf look.

And, of course, the shoes. Golf shoes are where style meets serious function. You'll want a pair with good grip for those morning tee-offs when the grass is a bit damp. And if you're feeling fancy, there are plenty of sleek designs with spikeless soles that can take you straight from the green to the clubhouse.

Finally, top off your look with a classic cap or visor. Not only does it shield you from the sun, but it adds that professional touch – and keeps the hair in check during those breezy backswings. So, with comfort and style on point, you'll be ready to turn heads, even if your game isn't quite there yet.



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ELEVATE YOUR INDOOR GARDEN

In a world of fast-paced routines and constant digital noise, taking care of plants offers a luxurious retreat into nature – right within the comfort of your home. Houseplants not only elevate the aesthetics of your space but also provide a calming presence, purifying the air and creating a fresh, revitalising atmosphere. Caring for them, therefore, becomes more than a chore; it's a mindful ritual and an investment in a lush, serene sanctuary.

Start by choosing the right plants for your lifestyle. For those who enjoy a low-maintenance approach, opt for resilient beauties like snake plants, ZZ plants, and pothos, which require minimal care and thrive even with low light. If you're willing to indulge in a bit more attention, perhaps orchids or fiddle leaf figs could bring an elegant touch to your home. Each plant has its personality and needs, so understanding these is the first step to creating a thriving indoor garden.

Watering is key, but it's important to remember that different plants have different needs. A common mistake is overwatering, which can lead to root rot and cause your plants to wilt. Invest in a moisture meter, a simple tool that will help you determine when each plant actually needs water. As a rule of thumb, allow the top inch of soil to dry out for most houseplants before re-watering. Consider using distilled or rainwater if you're feeling indulgent – tap water can contain minerals that build up in the soil over time.

Lighting is another crucial aspect. Position your plants based on their light preferences, keeping sun-loving plants like cacti and succulents near a bright window, while ferns and peace lilies enjoy lower, indirect light. For homes with limited natural light, LED grow lights are a fantastic luxury investment, allowing you to create an ideal environment even in darker corners.

Feeding your plants is another way to pamper them. High-quality, organic plant food will keep them nourished and looking vibrant. Feed most plants every month during their active growing season, and let them rest during winter when their growth naturally slows.

Finally, dedicate time to grooming your plants. Dusting their leaves, pruning dead leaves, and rotating them to ensure even growth can make a remarkable difference. This not only keeps them healthy but also adds to the ritual of care, making it a relaxing and satisfying activity.



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As we enter 2025, there's no better time to embrace the power of the sun. Going **solar** isn't just an eco-friendly decision—it's a smart financial move that brings long-term savings to your household. With electricity costs continuing to rise, investing in solar energy allows you to take control of your bills and start saving immediately.

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But **solar** isn't just for powering your home. Pair your **solar** system with an **electric car charger** and enjoy the convenience and savings of charging your EV with clean, renewable energy. Whether you're commuting or heading on a road trip, you'll drive into 2025 knowing you're reducing both your carbon footprint and your running costs.

For those with swimming pools, why not make every swim comfortable with our advanced **pool heating systems**? Our energy-efficient solutions keep your pool at the perfect temperature year-round, giving you more time to enjoy it without worrying about high heating bills.

Simple Ways to Save More in 2025

In addition to going **solar**, small changes at home can lead to significant savings in the **New Year**:



Switch to energy-efficient LED lighting.

Unplug devices when not in use to reduce standby power consumption.

Use appliances like washing machines and dishwashers during off-peak hours to save on electricity.

This **Christmas**, give yourself the

gift of savings, sustainability, and peace of mind. With **Ecocorp Solar**, you're investing in a brighter, more energy-efficient future. Visit our showroom in Parque El Real Antas, call us at **671 716 597**, or learn more at www.ecocorp.solar.

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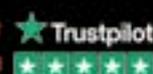
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PET - FRIENDLY

Designing a home for both style and pets might sound impossible, but with a few creative tricks, you can create a space that's as posh as it is pet-proof – without looking like a kennel!

Let's start with the water bowl station. You're probably used to seeing a sad little dish shoved in the corner, right? Give it an upgrade! Find a chic, vintage tray (think ornate brass or rustic wood) and set your pet's water bowl on top. The tray catches any dribbles, adds a bit of flair, and stops bowls from skidding across the floor every time your pet takes a gulp. Extra points if you find a tray that complements your decor!

Now, here's a quirky idea: pet-friendly wallpaper! Yes, it exists. Some wallpapers are wipeable and scratch-resistant, so if your pets brush against it or get a bit too curious with their claws, it can withstand the love. Opt for a stylish, wipeable pattern behind your pet's bed or in their favourite room to make their space look thought-out without worrying about damage.

Cat owners – forget those hideous scratching posts. Consider a wall-mounted scratcher in a cool geometric shape, or even a scratch pad that doubles as a piece of abstract art. It'll keep your cat's claws off the furniture and look like something out of an interior design magazine.

Let's talk about the fur. Instead of constantly trying to battle pet hair, why not lean in? If you have a white cat, choose light-coloured throws for your sofa so hair blends in. Darker pet? Dark cushions are your friend. It's a cheeky way to keep your home looking pristine without wrestling with the vacuum every five minutes.

Here's a wild one – pet beds that match your decor. Rather than a garish, paw-print monstrosity, why not source a stylish dog bed that fits your aesthetic? You can even DIY it with a vintage suitcase or an upcycled crate lined with soft fabric. Now, your pet's bed will look like part of the decor instead of a random blob on the floor.

And finally, let's tackle the smell without resorting to chemical sprays. Try natural charcoal sachets, which absorb odours and can be tucked subtly into pet zones without disrupting the look or scent of your home. Elegant and effective, they keep things fresh without the dreaded "eau de kennel."

With a few quirky, sophisticated touches, you can make your home a true haven for both you and your furry friend. Because let's be honest – a house isn't truly a home without a few whiskers and paw prints in the mix!



WELLSPRING

As **Christmas** is approaching, we at **Well-spring** would like to wish you all a very **Merry Christmas**.

The real reason for this season is sadly overlooked in this modern-day world so we at **Wellspring** would love for you to get to know the real reason for **Christ-mas**. As we know it's a special time for families and friends to come together, but the meaning of **Christmas** can vary for different people and cultures. For us it's celebrated as a Christian holiday that commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ. **Christmas** is a time to reflect on the significance of Jesus' birth, emphasising love, peace and goodwill to all. The **Christmas** story is recorded in the Bible in Luke 2:4-19.



Christmas is a time of spiritual reflection and celebration on the important foundations of the Christian faith. It's when we celebrate God's love for the world through the birth of Jesus Christ. The Bible tells of His birth hundreds of years before, fulfilling prophecies. For Christians, the true meaning of **Christmas** is the celebration of the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. We know that through belief in Christ, we are daughters and sons of God and Heaven will one day be our home.

With all the hustle and bustle of preparations, festivities and shopping, it's easy to overlook the greatest gift we've been given. Jesus is the true meaning to **Christ-mas**. This is how God showed his love among us, He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. (1 John 4:9-10). Perhaps this will help you look at the **Christmas** season differently this year when you are preparing for your own

festivities.

We will once again be out celebrating this special time of the year with you all in our local communities with our **Carol Concerts** that are listed in the poster. We do hope you will come along and join us to share the Love and Joy that **Christmas** time brings.

Please don't just join the festivities, join us in our Sunday morning services to see what a life changer it can be when we get to know Jesus.



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WHAT'S ON?

Events

- Every Day** **Noah's Arc Dog Walking @ Mazarrón**
- Every Mon** **Market @ Alhama, San Pedro del Pinatar, Caravaca & Huerca Overa**
Camposol Walking Football Club @ Pto de Mazarrón 10am-11am
- Forget Me Not Respite Care @ The Social Centre, Camposol B 10.15am**
Friends of Mazarrón Animals Collection @ Camposol B Lower Car Park 10.30am- 11am
- Andrea's Animal Rescue Collection @ Camposol B Car Park 11am-1pm**
- Every Tues** **Market @ Alhama, La Union, Los Alcazares, Bullas, Jumilla & Los Gallardos**
Los Bandidos Cycle Ride from Mojácar Playa Tourist Office 9.25am
Qi Gong & Tai Chi on the beach. Meet at Samsara, Mojácar Playa 11am Proceeds to Donkey Charity
- Helping the Perra Dogs Volunteering @ Mazarrón Perra 9am**
Helping the Perra Cats Volunteering @ Mazarrón Perra 9am
Noah's Arc available for donations @ Spar, Mazarrón Country Club 10am-2pm
GoMad available for collections @ Camposol A Car Park 10.30am-12pm
- Every Wed** **Market @ Totana, Cartagena, San Javier, Santiago de Ribera, Cehegín, Yecla & Mojácar**
Los Bandidos Run/Walk/Jog from Best Indalo Hotel, Mojácar Playa 8.55am
Los Bandidos Sea Swimming Club @ Boracay Beach, Garrucha 1.15pm
Climbing Workshop-Mothers & Children @ Mojácar 5.15pm & 6.30pm
- Every Thurs** **Market @ San Javier, Lo Pagan & Lorca**
Los Bandidos Cycle Ride from Mojácar Playa Tourist Office 9.25am
Camposol Walking Football Club @ Pto de Mazarrón 10am-11am
Los Amigos de Mazarrón FC Meeting @ Camposol A 4pm
Over 60's Memory Workshop @ Centro de Usos Múltiples, Mojácar Pueblo 5pm
- Friends of Mazarrón Animals available for donations @ Pto de Mazarrón 10-10.30am**
Forget Me Not Respite Care @ The Social Centre, Camposol B 10.15am
Mazarrón AA Meeting @ Cañadas de Gallego 5.30pm (Call 646 290 420)
- Every Fri** **Market @ El Pareton, Calasparra, Garrucha & Puerto Lumbreras**
Camposol D Bucket Collection @ The Hut, 9.30am-12pm
Los Palacios Gardening Group Library @ Camposol A 10am-12.30pm
Climbing Workshop-Mothers & Children @ Mojácar 5.15pm & 6.30pm
- Line Dancing @ Centro de Usos Múltiples, Mojácar 5€ 4-8pm (proceeds to Charity)**
- Helping the Perra Dogs Volunteering @ Mazarrón Perra 9am**
Helping the Perra Cats Volunteering @ Mazarrón Perra 9am
Noah's Arc Stall @ Camposol B Commercial Centre 9.30am-1pm
Friends of Mazarrón Animals Collection @ Isla Plana Social Centre 1-1.30pm
- Every Sat** **Market @ Fuente Alamo, Mazarrón, Los Narejos, Torre Pacheco, Moratalla, Mula, Aguilas & Vera**
Los Bandidos Run/Walk/Jog from Best Indalo Hotel, Mojácar Playa 8.55am
Eco Park 'Coto de las Maravillas' open @ Cehegín 10am-5pm
Guided Visit @ La Bastida, Totana 10am/12pm from 2.50€

Every Sun

Harlequin Rock Choir Rehearsals @ The Social Centre, Camposol B 1.30pm

Market @ Cabo de Palos and Pto de Mazarrón
Antique and Second Hand Market @ Cañadas del Romero 8am-1pm
Beach Dog Club Meeting @ Bolnuevo Beach 9am
Beach Dog Club Meeting opposite Pueblo Best Indalo, Mojácar 9.30am
Car Boot Sale @ Camposol A
Los Bandidos Cycle Ride from Mojácar Playa Tourist Office 9.25am
Rastro Market @ Centro de Usos Múltiples, Mojácar Pueblo
Eco Park 'Coto de las Maravillas' open @ Cehegín 10am-5pm
Guided Visit @ La Bastida, Totana 10am/12pm from 2.50€
Free Yoga Session @ Playa del Descargador, Mojácar 11am-12.30pm
Free Roller Skating @ Car Park by Playa del Descargador, Mojácar 11am-12.30pm (until May)

DECEMBER

Sun 1

World Aid's Day

St Nicholas Church Carol Service @ Camposol D20 C/Sobrija 11am

Trex Andalucía Sanctuary Christmas Fair @ Trex Andalucía, Turre 10.30am-2.30pm
Noah's ARC Mini Golf Fun Day @ Cabo del Palas, La Manga 11€ 11am

Mon 2

Fuente Old Guards Golf Society Competition

Tues 3

Monthly 'B' Clean Meeting @ Camposol B 4pm

Friends of Mazarrón Animals Ladies Night @ Camposol B
Friends of Mazarrón Animals Christmas Quiz @ Pto de Mazarrón 7.30pm

Thurs 5

Pto de Mazarrón Ladies Circle Christmas Fayre @ Pto de Mazarrón 2pm
Ladies Chatterbox Meeting Christmas Jumper/Sarah's Crafts @ Camposol B 2-4pm

Fri 6

Día de la Constitución

Wellspring Victory Church-Carol's by Candlelight @ Condado de Alhama 6-8pm

MABS Mazarrón Craft Sale/Christmas Raffle/Carols/Coffee/Mince Pies @ MABS Respite Centre, Camposol B
2€ 10am-1pm

Sat 7

Friends of Mazarrón Animals Pop Up Market @ Isla Plana Social Centre 10am-2pm

Sun 8

Día de la Inmaculada Concepción

St Nicholas Church Holy Communion @ Camposol D20 C/Sobrija 11am

Tues 10

Paws Patas Book Sale @ Mojácar Playa 10.30am-1pm
Friends of Mazarrón Animals Christmas Party feat Jersey Boys @ Mazarrón Country Club 10€ 7pm

Weds 11

SWARM Walk @ Bullas
St Nicholas Church Community Coffee Morning/Carols @ Camposol D20 C/Sobrija 9.30am-12pm

Thurs 12

Ladies Chatterbox Christmas Party @ Camposol A
Pto de Mazarrón Ladies Circle Christmas Lunch
Los Palacios Pre Christmas Lunch @ Hacienda del Alamo 20€ inc coach

Friends of Mazarrón Animals Pop Up Market @ Camposol A 10am

Fri 13

Wellspring Victory Church/St Nicholas Church Carol Concert feat Harlequin Rock Choir @ Camposol A 3.30-5pm

Sat 14

WARM Christmas Walk @ Cehegín
Kids & Teens Reading Club @ Municipal Library, Mojácar 10-11.30am (7-9yrs), 11.30am-1pm (10-13yrs)

Andrea's Animal Fundraiser feat Harlequin Rock Choir @ Camposol A 11am

Helping Hands Michael J/Lady Gaga Tribute @ Senator Aguilas 22€ 9pm (pre-dinner 3 course buffet available 18€)

- Sun 15** St Nicholas Church Morning Prayer @ Camposol D20 C/Sobrija 11am
- Mon 16** Wellspring Victory Church **Carol Concert @** Camposol D 6.30-7.30pm
- Weds 18** Wellspring Victory Church **Carol Concert @** Condado de Alhama 6.30-7.30pm
- Thurs 19** Pto de Mazarrón Ladies Circle Trip to Lorca/**Christmas Shopping/Lights**
Age Concern Trip to Cartagena/Christmas Lights 20€ 5pm
- Fri 20** Wellspring Victory Church **Carol Concert @** Camposol B 6-7pm
- Sat 21** Artisan Market @ Paseo de las Comunidades, Pto de Mazarrón 10am
- Sun 22** St Nicholas Church Holy Communion @ Camposol D20 C/Sobrija 11am
- Tues 24** **Christmas Eve**
- Weds 25** **Christmas Day**
St Nicholas Church **Christmas Story/Carols @** Camposol D20 C/Sobrija 11am
- Thurs 26** **Boxing Day (UK)**
- Sat 28** Ladies Chatterbox Trip to Cartagena **Christmas Lights**
- Sun 29** St Nicholas Church Holy Communion @ Camposol D20 C/Sobrija 11am
- Mon 30** **SWARM Walk/Social at Juangos @** Mula
- Tues 31** **New Year's Eve**

| NAME | PHONE | EMAIL |
|--|-------------|-------------------------------------|
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| ANDREA'S ANIMAL RESCUE | 690 906 565 | andreasanimalrescuemurciaotmail.com |
| B CLEAN | | bleangardening@gmail.com |
| CAMPOSOL D GARDENING/COMM GROUP | 634 103 668 | sectordphone@mail.com |
| CAMPOSOL WALKING FOOTBALL CLUB | 634 103 668 | sectordphone@mail.com |
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| FORGET ME NOT | 603 121 416 | |
| FRIENDS OF MAZARRÓN ANIMALS | 711 032 574 | fma.murcia@gmail.com |
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| HARLEQUIN ROCK CHOIR | | randcjackson56@gmail.com |
| HELPING HANDS | 634 456 701 | |
| KIDS & TEENS READING CLUB, MOJÁCAR | 666 962 529 | mireiagarcia38@gmail.com |
| LA BASTIDA, TOTANA | 968 418 153 | turismo@totana.es |
| LADIES CHATTERBOX | | onlyforsue23@gmail.com |
| LINE DANCING, MOJÁCAR | 648 217 503 | |
| LOS AMIGOS DE MAZARRÓN | | d.c.greenfield@hotmail.co.uk |
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| VERA & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB | 711 005 682 | lionsshopturre@gmail.com |
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FINE DINING

Recipes

Mediterranean Whole Fish

Preheat your oven to 200°C/gas 400°F Take a whole fish, such as sea bass or red snapper, and ensure it's cleaned and gutted. Pat the fish dry, then season the inside and outside with salt and pepper. Stuff the cavity with lemon wedges and a few fresh basil leaves to infuse it with flavour as it cooks.

In a baking dish, arrange thinly sliced potatoes in a layer around the fish. Scatter halved cherry tomatoes, black olives, and capers over the fish and potatoes. Drizzle everything generously with olive oil, and sprinkle with a pinch of dried oregano or thyme for an extra Mediterranean touch.

Roast in the preheated oven for 25-30 minutes, or until the fish flakes easily and the potatoes are golden and tender. Check halfway through and spoon some of the juices over the fish to keep it moist.

Once cooked, garnish with more fresh basil leaves for a burst of colour and freshness. Serve the fish straight from the baking dish for a rustic, flavourful Mediterranean meal.



Ricotta-Filled Pasta Parcels

Prepare a ricotta filling by mixing ricotta, chopped basil, parsley, salt, pepper, and lemon zest. Place small dollops on a sheet of pasta, cover with another sheet, and seal, twisting the ends to form candy-shaped parcels.

For the sauce, sauté shallots and garlic in butter, add white wine and reduce, then blend in roasted red peppers with stock until smooth. Cook the pasta parcels in boiling water until tender, plate with the sauce, and garnish with herbed crème

Salmon and Citrus Carpaccio

This elegant salmon and citrus carpaccio makes for a refreshing, sophisticated starter. Begin with high-quality, sushi-grade salmon. Slice the salmon as thinly as possible and arrange the slices in a single layer on a chilled plate to keep the fish fresh and firm.

Next, prepare the citrus. Peel an orange and a grapefruit, then carefully cut out the segments, removing all white pith and membrane for clean, juicy pieces. Arrange the citrus segments over the salmon, adding a burst of colour and a refreshing acidity.

Add pomegranate seeds for sweetness and crunch, scattering them evenly across the plate. Garnish with a few coriander leaves and thin strips of lemon zest for a hint of herbal flavour and brightness, enhancing both taste and presentation.

Finish with a simple dressing. Drizzle the carpaccio with olive oil, a squeeze of lemon juice, and a sprinkle of sea salt and black pepper. Serve immediately on the chilled plate to enjoy this vibrant, delicate dish at its best.



KITCHEN REVELATIONS

For those who think they have every kitchen gadget, think again. There's a world of unusual appliances out there, ready to make you feel like a culinary genius with far less effort than you'd imagine. These quirky, lesser-known items are designed to elevate your kitchen game and add a touch of intrigue to your cooking routine.

First up, meet the flameless smoke infuser. Ever wanted to add a hint of smoky flavour to your food without firing up a barbecue or dealing with outdoor smoke? This nifty gadget allows you to infuse dishes with rich, smoky aromas – perfect for giving cheeses, cocktails, or even chocolate desserts a unique twist. Just pop some wood chips into the infuser, turn it on, and watch it fill your dish with a light, aromatic smoke.

Next, there's the automatic pan stirrer. Picture this: you're making a creamy risotto or a delicate sauce that demands constant stirring, but your arms are aching. Enter the automatic stirrer, a battery-operated tool that fits in your pan and stirs for you, leaving you free to multitask like a pro. It's an absolute game-changer for hands-free cooking.

For the bread enthusiasts, the proofing drawer is a revelation. Traditionally seen on professional baking shows, this drawer keeps dough at the perfect temperature and humidity for proofing. No more trying to find a warm corner in the house; this appliance ensures your bread rises beautifully every time, with a professional finish that's hard to beat.

And for the indulgent among us, there's the frozen fruit dessert maker. This curious gadget lets you turn frozen fruits into a silky, ice-cream-like dessert without any added sugar or dairy. Simply pop in frozen bananas, berries, or mango, and out comes a creamy treat that's as healthy as it is delicious.

These unexpected appliances may not be standard, but they bring a touch of magic to the kitchen. Whether you're crafting smoky cocktails or perfecting artisan bread, these quirky gadgets ensure that cooking at home is anything but ordinary.



DAVES TRAVELS

To get around we were provided with a beat up Renault that was just about road worthy. It got us the monthly six hour journey to and from Lusaka down to Chirundu but no further. A four wheel off road vehicle was required to negotiate the remaining 60km so we arranged to leave our car at a safari lodge on the banks of the river and then hitched a boat ride up to our camp. We became quite friendly with several of the staff from the up-market lodges and it was usually one of these guys who gave us a lift. In return for leaving our vehicle at the safari lodge we agreed to stay one night once a month on a negotiated bed breakfast and evening meal rate. The owners were great people and we enjoyed some good times there.



At the beginning of our stay in Lower Zambezi we were visited every day by three bull elephants which often chased us out of the camp. After a week or so they started to get used to us being around and tolerated our presence there. Two of the elephants visited less and less frequently but the third came every day. We named him Nelson because he was blind in one eye and had a floppy ear. We learned that Nelson acquired his injuries after being shot by poachers and yet he was so tolerant of us. If he came at lunch times, Louise, who might be baking bread in the fire or preparing a sandwich, would talk quietly to him and he would stop for a while before taking a drink from the river and then disappearing quietly into the bush. Each time he came to camp Nelson stood closer to Louise whilst she spoke to him and he lingered a little longer, sniffing her scent with his trunk. After a few months he would get so close he could easily have whacked her with his trunk, but he never once acted threateningly. I'm convinced that had we stayed for a few more months they would have touched one another. For Louise it was an amazing experience and she says she was never scared. Nelson would surely have picked up on that if she was. I just looked on in amazement and even our builders, who had many encounters with elephants, couldn't believe their eyes.

We spent our time between the two camps, leaving Lower Zambezi roughly once a month when supplies ran out and when we could hitch a ride to our vehicle. We would drive to Lusaka, stock up with supplies, stay overnight, and then drive the five hours on a terrible road to Chunga camp. We used the same routine when heading back to Lower Zambezi. Not only was the road to Chunga in a bad state, but it also went through an area infested with Tse-Tse flies which were extremely vicious. Every time we made the journey we would stop just before Tse-Tse territory, block up every air vent, close all the windows and drive as fast as we could until clear. Even then these very intelligent flies would manage to get into the vehicle. They were as tough as old boots, extremely difficult to kill and very clever at diving into nooks and crannies we couldn't reach. We would always get bitten and would come out in huge wheals which would take days to subside. Louise, who reacts very badly to insect bites, was once bitten six times on her backside. By the time we reached camp she was in agony and despite taking anti-histamines couldn't sleep on her back for days. Believe me it was not a pretty sight!!

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Statement furniture is like the superstar of your room—it doesn't just sit there; it owns the space! Take this fabulous curved sofa, for example. Its creamy, cloud-like shape invites you to sink in, adding a modern, sculptural vibe that's hard to ignore. And then there's that coffee table, with its sleek white top perched on a golden, cage-like base—a touch of glamour and edge rolled into one. It's a perfect pairing, blending elegance with a dash of fun. Add in the fresh greenery, and this setup transforms any space into a chic, stylish haven.



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Condado Club, Condado
18:00-20:00

Friday 13th December
Mariano's, Camposol Sector A.
A Joint Celebration with
St Nicholas Ecumenical Church
15:30-17:00

Monday 16th December
Camposol Sector D (The Triangle).
18:30-19:30

Wednesday 18th December
Clover Bar, Condado.
18.30-19.30

Friday 20th December
Compusurf, Camposol Sector B.
18:00-19:00



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TV NEWS

Well the rain certainly came for a few days – the Valencia region was just devastated. Many other places had minor floods but here at Casa Rainbow we had very little. Hopefully no more to come – although a few days of steady rain would be welcome.

The **charity** we support, **Friends of Mazarrón Animals**, wanted to support the “SOS Podenco Rescue” whose kennels were almost completely wiped flat with the torrent of flood water in Valencia. We contacted them to see what was needed, rather than just send arbitrary items, and a request was made for plastic kennels and beds. Not for the long term but to give the dogs some winter shelter whilst the kennels are rebuilt. Anyway **FMA** and Bob’s fundraiser purchased 10 kennels and 10 beds, costing close to 1000€, being delivered as I write this.

TV NEWS With internet TV being the way the majority of us watch TV now, everyone will have to move to internet TV in the not too distant future. We all need good stable fast internet which, up until now, has not been available to all, especially many out in the countryside and even some town prop-

erties cannot get fibre.

As we at Rainbow informed a year ago, Movistar are now installing Starlink at any Spanish property with no access to fast internet – by law it must be available to all by 2025. The system directly from Starlink has always been excellent in quality and speed but has been expensive, especially the installation. We do not yet have the full Movistar details, but the law says charges must be similar to fibre installations which would mean free installs and a ‘reasonable’ monthly rate. We do not know if Movistar are using the standard Starlink equipment or if they have their own.

One problem with Starlink is that the IP address constantly changes and sometimes you can get a UK IP and any decent IPTV system will block UK IP’s as is required by law. Therefore, a VPN is recommended with Starlink; we don’t know if this is necessary with Movistar Starlink which, being Spanish, they may have an arrangement for Spanish only IP Addresses.

We at Rainbow would like to hear from anyone getting Movistar Starlink about

your experience, but also maybe we could do a couple of tests.

Satellite TV news is ITV1 has stopped transmitting its SD version which makes ITV1 generally impossible to get on satellite in Southern Spain as are BBC channels. Some clients have told us that some have come back with the stronger winter signals but we know they will go again in the Spring. UK Satellite TV is generally finished down here – get a free no obligation IPTV demonstration and a weeks free trial to see what internet TV is all about. Just contact RAINBOW.

That’s it for December – The next edition will be 2025! See you in January. We at Rainbow wish all readers all the best for the **Christmas** Season, along with the **New Year**.

This article is sponsored by RAINBOW SATELLITES SL - the company for all your TV needs in the Murcia region of Spain.

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We will welcome all existing clients along with any new clients that wish to use our services. As usual we can deal with House Conveyancing For Buying And Selling, Wills, Rental Contracts, Rental Taxes, Tourist Licences, Resident Taxes, Non Resident Taxes and many other issues you may need help with.

Our Pto de Mazarrón office remains the main office, also where we have multi-lingual staff available to meet your needs including English, Dutch, French, Spanish and Scandinavian.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Salvation (Part 2)

Did you know that Salvation is open to all? Continuing from last month we will ascertain who can have salvation. Its benefits? Is it free? Is it relevant today? Let's explore the Scriptures further.

Part (1) made it clear that salvation was for all who would believe. Paul the apostle, in Acts chapter 13 and verses 47 and 48 says "For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth. And when the gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord, and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed". Acts chapter 28 and verse 28 states "Be it known, therefore, that the salvation of God is sent unto the gentiles and that they will hear it".

Paul in Romans chapter 1 and verses 13 to 17 puts it nicely "Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other gentiles. I am a debtor both to the Greeks and to the Barbarians, both to the wise and to the unwise. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are in Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith, as it is written, the just shall live by faith".

To believe, one must accept the truth of salvation in the heart and then confess it with the mouth that others may know the power of God unto our salvation. Romans chapter 10 and verses 8 to 13 explains "But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth and in thy heart that is the word of faith, which we preach. That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture saith, whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the

Jew and the Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved".

The main issue why people find it difficult to believe Gods word is that they cannot comprehend what the Scriptures is saying to them. Romans chapter 10 and verses 14 and 15 highlights the following "How then shall they call on him whom they have not believed? How shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? How shall they hear without a preacher? How shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, how beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace and bring glad tidings of good things".

But many who hear the word preached to them refuse to listen. For in this same book of Romans chapter 10 and verses 16 and 17 it says "But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God". This quote was taken from the book of Isaiah chapter 53 and verse 1 "Who hath believed our report? And to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?".

Some christians believe that the good news (or the good tidings or the gospel) is first mentioned in the New Testament, but this is far from the truth. (Part 1 illustrates this). The good news is mentioned throughout the Torah (the first 5 books of the Scriptures) and the rest of the Old Testament. It is important to note that during the time that Yeshua (Jesus) was carrying out his ministry, the New Testament did not exist. Yeshua only spoke from the Torah and the Old Testament. The New Testament was written between 60 to 100 years after his death and resurrection.

I think it is important to share the words written in Isaiah chapter 53 from verses 2 to 12. It describes Yeshua and his mission for the salvation of people.

"For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant and as a root out of a dry ground. He hath no form nor comeliness and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. He is

despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. We hid as it were our faces from him. He was despised and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows, yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement of our peace was upon him and with his stripes we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned everyone to his own way and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth. He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgement and who shall declare his generation? He was cut off out of the land of the living, for the transgression of my people was he stricken. He made his grave with the wicked and with the rich in his death, because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him, he hath put him to grief. When thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied. By his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many, for he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore, will I divide him a portion with the great and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he hath poured out his soul unto death. He was numbered with the transgressors and he bear the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors".

Yehovah (Jehovah) wants us to be saved through faith in his son. Proverbs chapter 28 and verse 18 says "Whoso walketh uprightly shall be saved...". Choose today whom you shall serve.

I hope you have learned more about the Scriptures. Next month I will continue with Salvation (Part 3).

If you would like to know more, contact **Sandra 602 466 534**.

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H & L

MARTINEZ ARCHITECTS

Comprehensive Guide To Retrospective Licences For Beginners: A Crucial Read for Unlicensed Building Work

Consequences of Unlicensed Building Work and Fines

Unlicensed Building Work faces fines and potential demolition orders if detected by Spanish authorities. Fines, varying based on factors like town halls and project size, can exceed 300€ per square metre. For instance, a 10 square metre shed might incur a 3,000€ fine. Unlicensed Work could also lead to legal proceedings and negatively impact property value if discovered during marketing.

Obligatory Building Licences and Available Retrospective Options

Currently, all building work in Spain requires a licence, whether minor tasks like rendering or major projects such as extensions and pools. Retrospective Licences are applicable to significant work like house extensions, garages, carports, glazed areas, underbuilds, pools, workshops and storage areas. Property owners with unauthorized work can still obtain Retrospective Licences after Brexit, provided certain conditions are met.

Conditions for Obtaining a Retrospective Licence

Requirements for a Retrospective Licence differ by region. For instance, in Murcia, the completed building work must be at least 4 years old. In Almeria, the work needs to be over 6 years old and in Alicante, it must have been completed before August 2010. Extensions that have received fines are ineligible for Retrospective Licences.

Retrospective Licences After Brexit: Possibility and Potential Changes

While law changes can impact conditions for obtaining a Retrospective Licence, they are currently available after Brexit. Martinez de la Casa Architects will inform the public if any future law changes affect the availability of these licences. Once issued, a Retrospective Licence shields against future legal objections, regardless of law changes.

Obtaining a Retrospective Licence: Cost and Procedure

The process of obtaining a Retrospective Licence is straightforward and can only be managed by Spanish architects. Martinez de la Casa Architects will schedule an appointment to survey the pool or extension, requiring your NIE and current Title Deeds. The Retrospective Licence/Certificate of Antiquity is stamped by the Official College of Architects or notarized and delivered within 10 working days.

Cost-wise, a Pool Retrospective Licence (Certificate of Antiquity) is 326.70€ IVA incl, and Extensions cost 363€ IVA incl, (covering all extensions on the property).

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Martinez de la Casa Architects excels in Architectural Certification in Southern Spain, offering Energy Performance Certificates (121€ inc IVA) and Habitation/Occupation Licences (prices vary by Town Hall), alongside Retrospective Licences.

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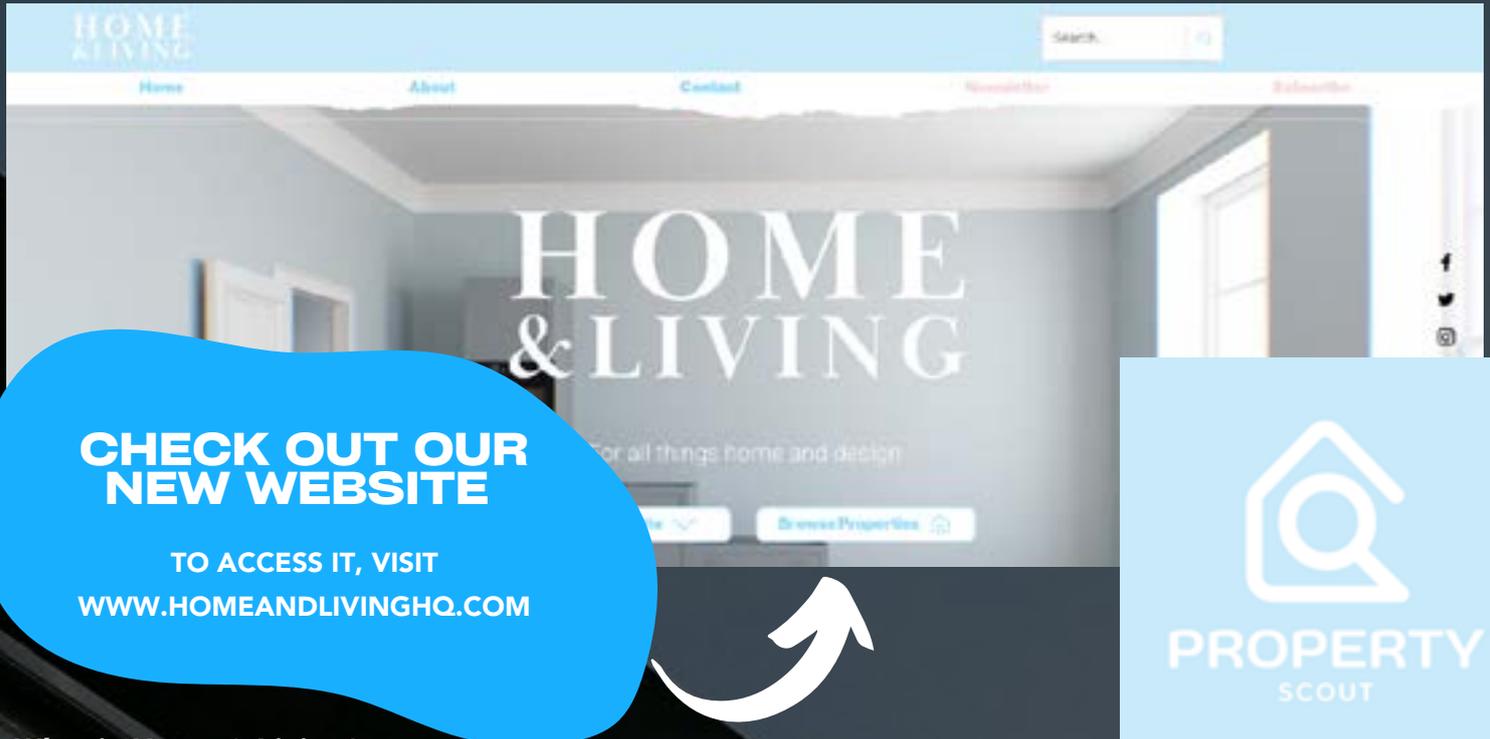
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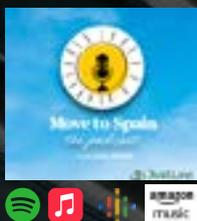
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Ref 2604: Vera Playa



349,950€

Magnificent residence on 3 levels and a basement, with a large private garage and access from 2 roads. The property is set in the heart of the historic part of Vera Town. Current accommodation comprises 3 beds, 3 baths, living room, separate dining room, cloakroom, office and fully fitted kitchen. However, this property offers huge scope for additional rooms due to its vast basement - an independent apartment, business premises, cinema/games room, wine cellar for example. The property has numerous installations and additions.

Ref 2058: Mojácar Playa



790,000€

Luxurious brand new villa with private pool and garage set on an elevated position with amazing sea and mountain views and within walking distance to all amenities. In total the accommodation comprises 4 beds, 3 baths (1 ensuite and with dressing room), 2 living/dining rooms (1 with open plan kitchen), further kitchen, laundry/utility area, cloakroom, wine/store room, plant room and ample parking. Many additional features complete this truly beautiful property.

Ref 2603: Cabrera



490,000€

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Ref 2078: Vera



995,000€

This opulent residence is a luxuriously and authentically restored country mansion. Its colonnaded terrace is approached by a country lane. Built in a classical Spanish style, this mansion sits in the middle of lush gardens which provide organic fruit and vegetables and is where you'll find the poolside pavilion, bbq and outside shower. Accommodation comprises master bedroom with large dressing room and spectacular bathroom, 3 suites with bedroom, bathroom and sitting room, spectacular tower sitting room, separate dining room, study/office, an interior terrace seating 35-40, large kitchen with beamed ceiling and wood burning oven, utility space, wine making area and cellar, store room, garage for 4 cars, food store, gardening tool store and 2 further extra large store rooms.



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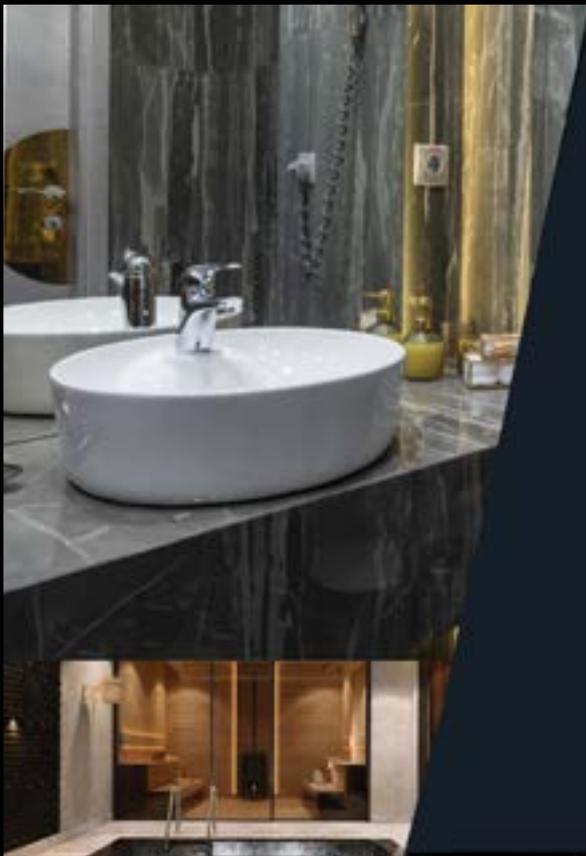
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