



## **COSTA DEL SOL – COSTA DEL GOLF OPENS 90% OF ITS GOLF CLUBS DURING THE INITIAL PHASE OF RETURN TO BUSINESS**

Costa del Sol, May 18th, 2020

- The golf clubs of Costa del Sol open the courses in compliance with the newly established safety measures
- Costa Del Sol Tourist Board, RFGA (Royal Andalusian Golf Federation) and IAGTO (International Golf Tour Operator Association) reach a new agreement on booking flexibility

Golf is back on the Costa del Sol and golfers are heading to the first tee, with more enthusiasm than ever. The leading golf destination in southern Europe, with the highest density of golf courses in continental Europe, will be opening its doors, and its fairways, during this important first phase.

Costa del Sol Tourist Board and RFGA are delighted to announce that, as of 18th May, ninety per cent of the golf clubs on the Costa del Golf are now taking bookings and have incorporated all the aspects required in the official protocol for golf course re-opening, as prescribed by the Spanish government, which allows golfers to enjoy their game, with a guarantee of health and safety.

During these weeks of uncertainty, the golf course managers, greenkeepers, and other maintenance staff, have continued working, whilst observing the appropriate security measures, and with a reduction in staff, all with the aim of ensuring that the courses are kept in great condition, and that the returning players can enjoy golf to the full.

The managers of the golf courses, in cooperation with RFGA and IAGTO, and under the tutelage of the Costa del Sol Tourist Board, have worked together on establishing common policies with regards to flexibility on re-booking and cancellation, with the aim of encouraging our Spanish and overseas golfers to reserve their golf break in this most popular golf destination, just as soon as conditions permit easy access, by plane, train or car.

In the meantime, the golfers on the Costa del Sol are dusting off their clubs in anticipation of playing all their favourite golf courses, amongst the 70 on offer in the destination. The golf clubs will also be able to offer services on the terraces of the clubhouses, albeit with certain limitations, amidst the fabulous scenery, with views over the Mediterranean, allowing their guests to be in the open air and enjoy the brilliant sunshine.

Golfers and their families will once again be able to enjoy exercise, and all the other healthy aspects of golf, whilst observing the logical requirements of social distancing, and other measures which are in place, to ensure the safety of the player, and the golf clubs' staff.



The President of the Costa del Sol Tourist Board, Francis Salado, has underlined the importance of the return of this key sector which is fundamental for the recuperation of the tourism industry, given the role it plays in the local economy and employment, both directly and indirectly.

The President also highlighted the fact that golf is, by its very nature, a sport which can more easily adapt to the new safety protocols, and has praised the proactivity and professionalism of the golf industry of the Costa del Sol in adopting the new regulations.

In this respect, the Royal Spanish Golf Federation (RFEG) in cooperation with the Andalusian Golf Federation (RFGA), the Professional Golf Association (PGA), the Spanish Golf Course Association (AECG), the Spanish Association of Greenkeepers (AE dG) and the Spanish Association of Golf Managers (AEGG), published "[The Game of Golf, Opening Protocol](#)", which outlines guidelines for safe recreational golf.

### **Costa del Sol – Costa del Golf**

The [Costa del Sol](#), in the province of Malaga in southern Spain, is the leading destination for golfers who seek a wide variety of quality golf courses and ideal golfing weather through 12 months of the year. With over [seventy golf courses](#), many of which were conceived by masters of golf course design, the Costa del Sol enjoys worldwide prestige.

Many top-level championships have provided unforgettable days of competition on its courses: the Ryder Cup, the World Golf Championship, the Estrella Damm Masters and the Ladies European Tour Andalucía Costa del Sol Open de España.

In 2020 the Costa Del Sol Tourist Board became an official partner of the Ladies European Tour by sponsoring the Order of Merit, which is named "[Race to Costa del Sol](#)", underlining the fact that Costa del Sol is considered a champion for women's golf.

Costa del Sol, on the Mediterranean coast of Andalusia, enjoys a pleasant climate all year round, and offers a wealth of entertainment and leisure activities, and a wide selection of [accommodation possibilities](#).

The Costa del Sol has been recognised as [a top European Golf Destination by IAGTO](#) and is the exclusive destination in continental Europe of PGA Germany.

Costa del Sol Tourist Board is dedicated to the promotion of Costa del Golf and provides advice and support to its partners throughout the golf industry.