



Coronavirus crisis - Mijas reactivates its economy

Mijas works to guarantee SAFETY ON THE BEACHES

The Local Council has requested the 'Safe Tourism Certified' seal, which promotes safe tourism ensuring the hygiene and health of bathers



Councillor for Beaches, José Carlos Martín, with a technician from the department / Prensa Mijas.

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The Local Government at the Mijas Town Hall will promote the 'Safe Tourism Certified' seal against COVID-19 on its beaches. This was announced last Monday the 18th by the councillor in charge of the Department for Beaches, **José Carlos Martín** (C's), who highlighted "the utmost importance in this health crisis of guaranteeing the hygiene and health of beachgoers" to which he added that "the local administration is going to put all its resources and efforts into achieving this".

The seal also benefits companies on the beaches and beach bar entrepreneurs

In order to continue on this line, the department is already working to obtain the certification launched by the Institute for Spanish Tourist Quality (ICTE) that offers guarantees to residents and visitors.

"We are going to promote safe tourism in our municipality. This industry is essential for the local economy and the best way to reactivate it is by working to safeguard the health of visitors who come to Mijas at all times and in all areas", assured Martín.

The 'Safe Tourism Certified' seal for the Mijas coast not only benefits coastal users but also entrepreneurs who have beach bars or kiosks near the beaches. "The establishments on the beaches form

TOURISM WITH SAFETY 'Safe tourism certified'

The Spanish Tourist Quality Institute (ICTE) has created this seal as a guarantee, which certifies the implementation of the Health Risk Prevention System against COVID-19.

AUDITS

How to obtain the certificate

Both companies and tourism managers may choose to incorporate it into their quality certifications. The audit companies that have been working with the Spanish Tourist Quality System, represented by the 'Q' brand, will be in charge of evaluating the interested companies and institutions based on protocols endorsed by the Ministry of Health.

part of the initial audit to request the certificate so that their businesses are promptly covered by it. This generates confidence in visitors who, in addition to enjoying a safe swim, can consume with the same peace of mind in these restaurants", explained the councillor for Beaches.

In addition to this seal, the local council is working on other certifications to verify the good conditions of the coastline. Mijas already has 9 'Q for Quality' flags, one ISO



OBJECTIVE

To generate visitor's trust

The distinction is intended to generate trust among national and international clients and tour operators. Up to 21 tourism sub-sectors, including golf courses, spas, amusement parks, camping sites, catering services, hotels, and active tourism companies, will be eligible for this seal.

14001 certificate, 3 blue flags, the blue trail seal, and four beaches which offer 'Universal Accessibility' for persons with reduced mobility.

"Every year we work hard to obtain these types of certifications and this year we need them more than ever. We have to stand out from the rest of the destinations and make our potential tourists see, not only the quality of our beaches, but also the safety measures that we have put in place", concluded Martín.

Hygiene & social distance

Measures to follow on the beach

The government has included the opening of these public spaces in phase 2 of the de-escalation

According to the 'Plan for the transition to a new normality', the enjoyment of the beaches will be subject to a series of rules aimed at guaranteeing the safety and health of bathers:

- Hygiene and prevention regulations will be reminded to users of swimming pools and beaches by means of visible signage or public address messages, as well as the need to leave the facility in the event of any symptoms compatible with COVID-19.
- You can access the beaches in the same province, island, or territorial unit of reference established in the de-escalation plan.
- Locker room showers and public water sources cannot be used.



- Bathers must make responsible use of the beach, both from an environmental and sanitary point of view.
- Sports, professional or recreational activities are allowed on the beach, provided they can be carried out individually and without physical contact, allowing a minimum distance of two metres to be maintained between the participants.

IN ANDALUSIA:

The autonomous administration is also working so that the reopening of the beaches is done in the safest way. The provinces that enter phase 2 on the 25th may make use of the coastline beyond walking and exercising. In the case of Malaga and Granada, entry into phase 2 could be delayed until June 1st. Among the recommendations that the 'Junta' has made to the coastal municipalities are:

- Four-hour stays with the sand areas marked out in order to guarantee the safety distance.
- Opening and closing times
- Disinfection of the beaches before opening to the public
- The use of lilos and other inflatable elements should not be allowed.
- No use of showers / locker rooms
- The toilets should only be used in "strictly necessary" cases.
- Towels will have to be placed with a separation of two metres between them.
- The beaches will be classified according to the different risk criteria into three categories: free (suitable), dangerous (with limited access), or prohibited access.

