**ASTOR ESTEPONA - PUERTO**

WELCOME & INFORMATION BOOK



**www.astorestepona.com**

Dear Guest,

Please accept a warmest welcome to The Astor Estepona – Puerto. We hope you have an AMAZING time in beautiful Estepona. The apartment is situated right on Estepona Marina and all the wonderful bars and restaurants it offers, as well as being a stones throw from the lovely Playa Del Cristo.

Please take a seat on the balcony, put your feet up and take your time to read all the information in this book as it contains useful information about the apartment and more importantly, information about the surrounding area.

If something isn’t right with your stay, please contact us as soon as you can and let us know and we will do our very best to help.

Warmest wishes,

David and Laura

A person and person holding a baby

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**If you have any questions regarding your stay**

**please contact us via WhatsApp:**

David +44 7968796194

Laura +44 7881793347

For emergencies only contact:

Jessie Lever

Tel / WhatsApp: +34 638 233 041

Email: jessie.lever@yahoo.co.uk

**Your address whilst staying with us:**

**WIFI**

Network:

Password:

For the most up-to-date information check our website: [www.astorestepona.com](http://www.astorestepona.com)

If you have enjoyed your stay and would like to come again next year (or would like to stay in our sister apartment in central Estepona old town, please get in touch ([astorestepona@hotmail.com](mailto:astorestepona@hotmail.com)) – our best rates are available by booking direct.

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# GENERAL INFORMATION

Welcome to the Astor Estepona. We are delighted you have chosen to spend your holiday with us and sincerely hope you will enjoy your time in Spain.

CHECK IN & OUT

Check in is from 4pm and check out is 10am. If you would like a late check out please contact us using the details in this book and we will do our best to accommodate any requests. Please empty all bins and ensure the dishwasher is empty on vacating the apartment.

KEYS[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwi-q5bVn8TRAhXL0RoKHUmwBT0QjRwIBw&url=http://www.ajphilpott.co.uk/other-services/key-cutting&psig=AFQjCNHttAasW5p6F4gsSOzrk6FUVPRHNg&ust=1484573025226658)

You have two sets of keys that open all of the doors for the apartment, pool, garage etc. You will also have 1 garage fob to allow access to the carpark. Please look after these as any loss will be deducted from your deposit.

HOUSE RULES

Please be mindful of the amount of noise you make, especially during the evenings. The community have quiet times between 2-4pm and after 10pm. The Astor Estepona is strictly no smoking. Please be aware that additional cleaning charges will be deducted from your deposit should this occur. BBQ’s are not allowed in the urbanization, including on the balcony. While in the apartment please make sure that the main front door is locked at all times. When you leave all doors should be locked, including those accessing the balcony.

AIR CON / HEATING

We have brand new air con devices throughout the apartment. Please consider the environment: Turn the units off when you are out and shut all external doors and windows when you are using the air con. The units can also be used as heaters in the winter. There is a remote for each unit in the respective rooms. Use the remotes to turn on/off and change settings. Please ensure that you open the door shutters during the day when you are not resting otherwise the units will turn off automatically. To switch on the air con, press ‘start/stop’ then choose ‘cool’ on mode setting and set temp up and down. Or heating in the winter choose the ‘heat’ mode.

SHOWERS

PLEASE BE CAREFUL THE HOT WATER IS VERY HOT! There are showers in both bathrooms. The taps are a bit tricky to use at first! In the main bathroom, turn the left hand tap away from you for the bath tap and towards you for the shower. You then switch the shower on by tilting the right hand tap away from the window. Twisting the knob forwards and backwards changes the temperature. You can toggle between the overhead shower and the handheld shower head using the circular knob halfway up the shower upright. The en-suite shower is plumbed in the wrong way (!), so for hot water turn it towards the cold. The right-hand knob again needs to be tilted out (away from the wall, towards the shower screen) to switch on. It’s an odd design….this is shown in the welcome video ([www.astorestepona.com](http://www.astorestepona.com)).

SWIMMING POOL

The swimming pool is open for use between 11am and 9pm. There is a main pool and a children’s pool. Please do not take glasses to the pool area. Plastic drinking glasses are available for your use and this will avoid any breakages and possible accidents.

Please do not take the bathroom towels to the pool or beach. Deck chaors which can be taken to the pool can be found in the main bedroom wardrobe.

LINEN

All bed linen and bath/hand towels are provided. Please let us know if you will be using the sofabed as extra linen can be provided. If you are using the sofabed there is a mattress topper provided for improved comfort. Please remove your make-up, sun tan lotion and any fake tan before getting into bed. Some products stain the sheets and cannot be removed. Bedspreads can be found in the wardrobe if required.

KITCHEN

The apartment has a fully fitted kitchen, including induction hob, electric oven, extractor, fridge, freezer, dishwasher, microwave, blender, coffee machine and dishwasher. The coffee machine takes Dolce Gusto capsules. If the dishwasher isn’t getting the items clean, it may need topping up with rinse aid and salt which is provided. We provide all cleaning supplies which can be found under the sink or in the utility cupboard.

PARKING

Parking is located under the apartment block, entry via garage fob on the keys. Our parking space is 81, please only park in our spot.

BINS

Please ensure that all rubbish bags are taken to the bins outside the urbanization on a regular basis. ***This must only be done after 8pm.*** Due to the warm climate ants and rats will appear very quickly if refuse is not disposed of correctly.

SUPERMARKETS / SHOPPING

The Carrefour express supermarket is a good size and is 3 mins walk from the apartment, straight over the main road. It is open 9am - 9.30pm Monday to Saturday. SuperCor supermarket is slightly smaller and can be found in the marina. There is a Lidl on Avenida Puerto Del Mar and a large Carrefour Hypermarket on Avenda Litoral. Most shops open from 10am - 2pm then close for Siesta and re-open again 5pm - 8pm Monday to Saturday. Some shops in the busy summer season will remain open until 10pm. The majority of shops will be closed on Sunday. Banks are generally open from 8.30am - 2pm Monday to Friday. They all have an ATM outside if you wish to make cash withdrawals.

POWER

The power supply can be a bit unreliable in Spain and it is not unusual to experience power cuts particularly during peak holiday times. These normally don’t last longer than an hour. Please check all fuse switches are in the ‘Up’ position if the power cuts out – Board on the right by the apartment door.

WATER

It is safe to drink tap water in Spain however many don’t find the taste palatable therefore choose to drink bottled water instead.

Please note our water pressure is very good but the Spanish drainage is not! To prevent a foot bath, you can reduce the power output of the shower.

RESTAURANTS

The Spanish tend to eat late, so traditionally restaurants usually don't open until 1.30pm for lunch and 8pm for dinner. However in the busy summer months and tourist areas you might find restaurants remain open all day. **See later on for our recommended restaurants.**

BEACH

There is beach equipment available under the bed nearest the wardrobe in the second bedroom. Please feel free to use this; all we ask is that you throw away any broken items and return useable items in a clean state with the sand brushed off them. If you have any unwanted beach items please feel free to add to the collection when you leave for future guests to enjoy.

CHILDRENS EQUIPMENT

We have lots of equipment to make your stay as family friendly as possible. We have a travel cot available on request. A high chair, child step and potty are all available under the single bed. Please clean these after use and return prior to leaving for use by the next guest. There are board games and toys in the sideboard and children’s tableware in the kitchen.

DRIVING / TAXIS

Driving and alcohol: The legal limit here is lower than the UK and is being enforced with high fines, driving bans and possible imprisonment. Taxis are around €7 if you don’t fancy the walk into the old town along beach front. Turn right out of the apartment block and walk 100m down the main road to find the taxi rank (outside the Petit Paris restaurant / Alvarez estate agent)

WIFI

A picture containing text, clipart

Description automatically generatedWe offer FAST FREE FIBRE OPTIC WIFI during your stay.

The WIFI code is:

NETWORK: PASSWORD:

# APPLIANCE INSTRUCTIONS

**TV**

We have IPTV with English Freeview channels, Sky Sports and Movies in multiple languages.

PLEASE NOTE WHEN IT IS VERY SUNNY THE REMOTES MIGHT NOT WORK – TRY AGAIN AFTER CLOSING THE CURTAINS!!

To switch on the TV:

Switch the red ‘on’ power button on the grey ‘Sharp’ TV remote

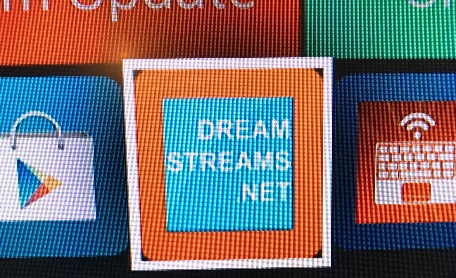
Press the ‘source’ button on the grey ‘Sharp’ TV remote and ensure ‘HDMI 2’ is selected, press ‘OK’

Switch on the Android Box using the small black remote by pressing the red on button once (you will see a blue light come on the small black box below the TV – its sometimes slow so just wait up to a minute rather than pressing more buttons). If after a minute nothing happens then press once more (please also note sometimes it works better if you point the remote from an angle rather than directly at the box).

Choose dreamstreams.net icon and press OK

Select either ‘Live TV’ for news, sports, BBC etc

Select ‘movies’ for movies

****

**DVD**

Ensure the android box and Nintendo Wii are switched off. Using the grey ‘Sharp’ TV remote, press ‘source’ and choose ‘SCART’. Press OK. Then switch the DVD player on using the black ‘Sony’ DVD remote.

**NINTENDO WII**

Switch the Nintendo on using the ‘power’ button on the front of the console. Ensure android box and DVD player switched off. Using the grey ‘Sharp’ TV remote, press ‘source’ and choose ‘SCART’. Press OK.

**WASHING MACHINE**

Washing machine instructions can be found on our website under ‘useful documents’ in ‘the apartment’ tab. Choose your cycle using the left-hand dial (the daily express wash works fine for most lightly soiled items, turn the dial to 3 ‘o’ clock position with the clock icon. The temperature and spin speed of the cycle can be seen on the right hand panel, use the ‘C and spin buttons to change the temperature and spin speed respectively.

Graphical user interface

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**HOB**

**A screenshot of a computer

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**OVEN**

A diagram of a temperature control

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A white and black sheet of paper with text

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**DISHWASHER**

**A screen shot of a computer program

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**A screenshot of a chart

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**COFFEE MACHINE**

Fill the reservoir at the back of the machine with water

Lift up top compartment (labelled ‘Dolce Gusto)

Pull out capsule drawer, insert capsule and close drawer, close compartment

Wait until you see a green light on the left of the machine

Place cup in tray, turn lever to right and hold lever to dispense

Once desired amount of coffee in cup, move lever back to centre to stop water dispensing

Only operate the machine with water in the tank otherwise it will break.

WASHING MACHINE

BEKO WITV8612XW0 INT

**A diagram of a program

Description automatically generated**

**A table of programs and consumption

Description automatically generated**

**A diagram of a house

Description automatically generated**

**A screenshot of a document

Description automatically generated**

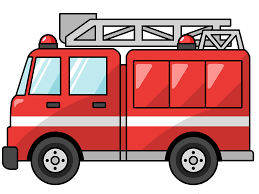
# EMERGENCY NUMBERS

**In case of an emergency within the apartment please call us on 0034 638 23 30 41**

In case of general emergency (Servicios de Urgencies)



**Spanish Police English Helpline (9am-9pm) (**0034) 902 102 112



**Fire** (0034) 080

**Ambulance** (0034) 061

**Police**  (0034) 091

**Local Police** (0034) 092



**Hospital**  (0034) 951 519 340

**Cenyt emergencias**

**Maternity – Hospital Costa del Sol** (0034) 951 976 669

# OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

**From a non-Spanish phone all Spanish telephone numbers will need 0034 first**

**Taxis**

(0034) 952 802 900

Also try using Bolt and Uber apps on your phone which both cover Estepona

**Malaga Airport** (0034) 913211000

**Country Codes**

To ring the UK, dial 0044 then the area code (without 0) then the number

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Spain to USA 00 1 | Spain to Italy 00 39 |
| Spain to Canada 00 1 | Spain to Finland 00 358 |
| Spain to France 00 33 | Spain to Sweden 00 46 |
| Spain to Germany 00 49 | Spain to Switzerland 00 41 |
| Spain to Denmark 00 45 | Spain to Austria 00 43 |

# MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

In the event that you should require medical attention and need to visit a hospital, general doctor, dentist or pharmacy please see the information below.

**Please note if you are ringing from a UK mobile you will need to add the country code for Spain 00 34 before dialling the local number.**

**If you require an ambulance and urgent medical treatment, dial 061.**

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**HOSPITAL**

The nearest public hospital is the Costa del Sol Hospital; this is located on the main A-7 coast road in the direction of Malaga exit 187.

You will need to present your E111 European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) or GHIC in order to receive treatment, or a valid private travel/ health insurance.

**Costa del Sol Hospital – Public**

**Tel:** (0034) 951 97 66 69

**Address:** Autovia A-7, Km 187, 29603 Marbella.

If you have private travel/health insurance there are several private hospitals located very near. They will only accept private insurance and you will need to show them this first before receiving any treatment. Please check that your insurance is valid and recognised by them.

**Hospiten Estepona – Private**

**Tel:** (0034) 952 76 06 00

www.hospiten.com

**Address:** Carretera Nacional 340, 277, 29680 Estepona.

Cenyt Hospital Estepona – Private

Brand new Hospital in central Estepona with 24 hour A&E and over 40 Medical Specialties.

[www.cenythospital.com](http://www.cenythospital.com)

Tel: (0034) 952 80 81 00

Address: Avenida Andalucia 2, 29680 Estepona

**FAMILY DOCTOR / GP**

****If you need to consult a general doctor, there are several private English-speaking GPs in the area. These will usually require immediate payment for any consultation, however many do work with the leading travel/private health insurance companies, so please check their fees first.

**Dr. Peter Furness** – 952 802 907 – Avenido del Carmen, Bajo G – charges approximately €60 per consultation.

**PHARMACY / FARMACIA**

Indicated by a green cross. Leave the apartment building, turn right and the Pharmacy is on your left, 5 mins walk down the main road. Usually the pharmacist speaks reasonable English and will be able to advise you regarding any minor complaints.

**DENTIST**

****All dentists are private and you will have to pay to receive any treatment. However you may find the cost is considerably cheaper than in the UK and urgent appointments can be made quickly.

**Clinica Dental Estepona**

**Tel:** +34 952 80 67 15

**Address:** Calle Real, 99, 29680 Estepona,

**Pearl White Dentist**

**Tel:** +34 952 93 65 52

**Address:** Urb. Coto La Serena 7A, A7, km 163,5 (between San Pedro y Estepona), 29680 Estepona

# DEPARTURE CHECKLIST

Empty the fridge of all perishable items.



Dispose of all rubbish and recycling items in the bins outside the Urbanization.

Turn off all electrical equipment including air con.

Ensure all that all crockery, pans etc. are washed and put away. Please empty the dishwasher.

Close and lock all windows and doors.

An additional cleaning charge may be levied if the above items are not completed.

# PLACES TO VISIT AND THINGS TO DO

**BEACH**

Del Cristo is the nicest beach and fortunately also the closest! Turn left out of the apartment building, walk down the main road (you’ll see the beach) to the second roundabout and turn left. It takes 5 mins.

**WATERSPORTS / STAND UP PADDLEBOARDING**

You can hire stand up paddleboards on Del Cristo Beach during the summer. SUP and Kayak hire can also be arranged via Costa Bikes on Avenida de Espana, 10 mins walk from the apartment (<https://www.costa.bike/sups/> +34 952 806 120 English spoken)

**BIKE / SCOOTER / MOBILITY SCOOTERS**

Single speed, road, mountain and electric bikes can be hired from Costa Bikes. They also provide electric cars which are great fun for the kids on the promenade and are suitable from 18 months as can be radio controlled. Electric scooters and mobility scooters can also be hired here ([www.costa.bike](http://www.costa.bike), Plaza ABC 2 just off Avenida de Espana on the sea front, 10 mins walk, +34 952 806 120 English spoken)

**PLAYPARKS**

There are several playparks in Estepona. The best of these is on the seafront / promenade on Avenida de Espana just before the roundabout with Avenida de Juan Carlos I. There are three parks here catering for toddlers to older children. There is also an adults gym on the beach further towards the Marina. Nearer to the apartment (but up a big hill!) there is a large childrens park in ‘parque de los ninos’ in a corner of parque de las mesa at the top of Avenida Reina Sofia. This park also hosts the weekly market on a Wednesday morning.

**SHOPPING CENTRES**

The three main shopping centres along the Costa del Sol are large and modern and have a large wide variety of different types of shops, including hypermarkets, cafés, restaurants, amusement arcade, cinemas and ten pin bowling.

They also have the added advantage that you can find everything you need under one roof and if you are unfamiliar with the Spanish language you can walk about freely and you do not require a phrase book.

All of the shopping centres provide large free car parking and the opening times are normally 10.00 – 22.00 Monday to Saturday and they remain open at lunchtime.

**La Canada**

Marbella

(Mega Bowl - Ten Pin Bowling Alley)

Has lots of high street Spanish shops including Mango, Zara, Berskha etc. Even has a M&S and Primark!

**Parque Miramar**

Fuengirola

(Cinema showing original English films)

**Plaza Mayor,** Near Malaga Airport

(Cinema showing original English films)

**MARKETS**

Markets are a common sight in towns and villages and are an essential part of Spanish life, largely unaffected by competition from supermarkets and hypermarkets. They are colourful, noisy and entertaining and an experience not to be missed, whether you plan to buy anything or not. A variety of goods are commonly sold in markets, including food, flowers, plants, clothes, shoes, ironmongery, crockery, hardware, linen, ceramics, cassettes, carpets, and leather goods. Markets usually operate from 9.00 am until 14.00 pm

**Market Days:**

**Wednesday**

Estepona (Avenida Reina Sofia, near Parque las Mesas)

**Friday**

Benalmadena - by Tivoli World and Plaza San Pedro

**Saturday**

La Cala de Mijas

Nueva Andalucía - Centro Plaza Shopping Centre and Bullring opposite

Fuengirola - Car boot sale in the fairground

**Sunday**

Arroyo de la Miel - At Tivoli World

Sabanillas

Estepona Marina

**WATER PARKS**

The Costa del Sol has several fantastic water parks that cater to visitors of all ages. Here's some information about the prominent water parks in the region:

Aqualand Torremolinos:

Location: Located in the heart of Torremolinos, Aqualand is one of the oldest and most renowned water parks on the Costa del Sol.

Attractions: Aqualand offers a wide range of water attractions, including numerous water slides, wave pools, lazy rivers, and children's play areas. The Kamikaze slide, Boomerang slide, and Rapids are among the park's popular rides.

Facilities: The park has various restaurants, picnic areas, and shops to make your visit enjoyable and convenient.

Aquavelis Water Park:

Location: Situated in Torre del Mar, a short drive from the city of Malaga, Aquavelis is a family-friendly water park.

Attractions: Aquavelis features exciting water slides, a children's pool, a lazy river, and a wave pool. The Black Hole slide is a favorite among thrill-seekers.

Facilities: The park offers dining options, sun loungers, and shaded areas for relaxation.

Mijas Water Park (Parque Acuático Mijas):

Location: Found in the charming town of Mijas Costa, this water park is easily accessible from popular coastal towns like Fuengirola and Marbella.

Attractions: Mijas Water Park boasts a variety of slides, including the Kamikaze, Labyrinth, and Wave Pool. There are also dedicated areas for younger children.

Facilities: The park has restaurants, picnic areas, and ample space for sunbathing.

Bahía Park Algeciras:

Location: Located in Algeciras, on the western end of the Costa del Sol near Gibraltar, Bahía Park is another option for water park fun.

Attractions: This park features slides, a lazy river, a wave pool, and a dedicated area for younger visitors.

Facilities: Bahía Park has cafeterias and picnic areas for a leisurely day out.

Costa Water Park:

Location: If you're in Marbella, you can visit Costa Water Park, a unique inflatable water park located right off the beach.

Attractions: Costa Water Park offers inflatable obstacle courses, slides, and trampolines in the sea. It's a fantastic option for both kids and adults.

Facilities: You'll find facilities on the beach, including sunbeds and a beach bar.

Before planning your visit to any of these water parks, make sure to check their official websites or contact them directly for the most up-to-date information on opening hours, ticket prices, and any special safety guidelines or restrictions in place. Enjoy your time splashing and sliding at the water parks of the Costa del Sol!

Fun Beach Park Estepona

Playa De La Rada in Estepona has a giant inflatable ‘aqua fun park’ in the sea during the summer months – great fun for older kids! Find them on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/Funbeachpark/

**CINEMAS**

Marbella, has a few cinemas that screens English-speaking films, particularly major Hollywood releases. However, it's important to note that film schedules can change, and availability may vary. To find the most up-to-date information on English-speaking films and showtimes in Marbella, consider checking the following cinemas:

Cines Teatro Goya:

Location: Cines Teatro Goya is located in Puerto Banús, Marbella.

Information: This cinema occasionally screens English-language movies, especially popular blockbusters. They may have dedicated showtimes for films in their original language (usually with Spanish subtitles).

Website: You can check their website or contact them directly for the latest film listings and showtimes.

Cinesa La Cañada:

Location: Cinesa La Cañada is situated in the La Cañada Shopping Centre, which is just a short drive from central Marbella.

Information: This multiplex cinema occasionally screens English-language films as well. They typically offer movies in their original language with Spanish subtitles.

Website: Check their official website or contact them for current listings.

Multicines Gran Marbella:

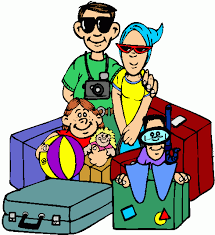
Location: Multicines Gran Marbella is centrally located in Marbella.

Information: This cinema occasionally screens English-language films and may have showtimes for films in their original language with Spanish subtitles.

Website: You can visit their website or get in touch for the latest movie schedules

**OTHER ATTRACTIONS**

There is so much to see and do it is not possible to cover everything, however we have listed just a few more places that we love, especially if you have children.

****

Its worth using the search function on the Facebook page ‘Estepona info & chat’ which has lots of up to date suggestions of things to do.

Bloqueria Play & Build Lego centre

Central Estepona old town – children can be left for sessions if required. Make sure you take socks!

Calle Zaragoza 24, Estepona

www.bloqueria.com

Adventura Amazonia Marbella - Tree Top Adventure

www.aventura-amazonia.com

Zoo de Castellar Cadiz - Animal Rescue Centre for Endangered Species

Animal Sanctuary with rescued tigers, lions and snakes

[www.zoodecastellar.es](http://www.zoodecastellar.es)

Selwo Aventura Estepona – Zoo with Zebras, Lions, Elephants etc

Free for under 3’s

www.selwo.es

Superjump Estepona Trampoline Park – situated in Estepona Industrial Estate

www.superjumpestepona.com

Canyoning - Great adventure activity, travel through canyons in the foothills of the mountains of Benahavis, Marbella.

www.canyoningbenahavis.com

Rangers Safari - Jeep Safari, explore The Real Andalucía

[www.rangerssafaritours.com](http://www.rangerssafaritours.com)

Sail and power charters

Dolphin watching trips and boat tours from Estepona marina

Sailandpowercharters.es

+34644053656

For a higher chance of seeing dolphins then consider travelling further afield and departing from Gibraltar or Tarifa

# BARS AND RESTAURANTS

Here are some of our favourites. Please let us know of any other gems you find!

**Beach Clubs and Chiringuitos**

Chiringuito Palm Beach is the most well known ‘beach bar’ in Estepona, on Rada beach as you walk towards Carrefour. Recently renovated, the beach club is a true Estepona ‘classic’ serving a range of International food at reasonable prices.

Bikini Beach Bar – located at the large roundabout at the end of Avenida Espana. Has Bali Beds for hire and live music on Sundays. A fun but relaxed vibe.

Chiringuito Paco – A new kid on the block. Beautiful fresh fish and seafood eaten with your toes in the sand. Excellent service.

Central Beach – Great happy hour!

**Trocadero Estepona Restaurant – just past Carrefour, brand new Adults only beach bar with access to the beach and a pool. Quite expensive (more like Marbella prices) with stunning venue – sunbeds 40 euro per day – perhaps worth it for a special occasion or for those Instagram worthy shots and if you love killer sushi……**

On Del Cristo beach there are two great Chiringuitos, Havana Beach and Lolailo. You can chill out watching the sun set, have a few drinks. They also serve food so you really have no reason to move! Lolailo usually has live music in the afternoon / early evening whilst you enjoy the sunset.

**Bars and Restaurants**

You have two options when you want to go for a drink and/or something to eat:

The **Old Town** is a 20 min walk – Turn right out of the apartment building and walk down the main road. For a more scenic stroll walk along the beach.

There are some great little places on the **Marina**, it takes 3 mins to walk down. Head right out of the apartment block and turn right at the first roundabout.

**Old Town:**

**Taberna Miguel:** Traditional Spanish, great steaks! Calle Caridad, 30.

La Manduca: No frills tapas on the square opposite the apartment. Good for a quick meal at (virtually) any hour. Don’t miss the freshly squeezed Zumo de Naranja! Plaza Antonia Guerrero.

Heladeria Ambrosia: The best ice cream in Estepona, in every flavour imaginable! Next to Ale-Hop on the beach front.

Darcy’s Restaurant: Lovely Tapas bar, gourmet cheese and meats. Calle de San Antonio.

Arroz Bar. Cheap and cheerful Chinese in the Old Town. Calle Los Reyes.

**Pizzería Da Merco:** Eat in, take out or delivery pizza. Plazoleta Ortiz.

**Restaurante La Casa del Rey:** The best tapas in Estepona, hangout of the coolest kids in town. Calle Raphael, 7. Book in advance as usually fully booked.

**La Esquina del Arte:** Gorgeous tapas in very relaxed surroundings. Good value lunch menu. Calle Villa, 8.

**Restaurante El Pescador:** Unbelievable seafood and paella. Av. España, 1

**Sabores Gourmet:** A little family run restaurant on the main street. Does a fantastic ‘Menu Del Dia’ for 12 Euro – small selection and simple food but beautiful fresh fish and great steak. Sit overlooking the beach or on the pedestrianised main street. Avenida Espana 168.

**El Galeon:** A lovely quirky little restaurant very near to Sabores Gourmet. The owner catches the fish in his day job as a fisherman.

**Hotel El Pilar**: Brand new Hotel in the Centre of Estepona overlooking Plaza Del Flores. The rooftop bar is fab for cocktails with a view. Sushi served on the terraces. The pinchos bar on the right hand alley as you look at the hotel serves free pinxos when you buy a drink.

La Cocina, Calle Blas Ortega. Great Paella and seafood in a lovely Old Town setting.

MaduBar Fusion. Plaza Dr Arce. Just a few steps from the apartment, this new fusion restaurant offers fabulous brunches and all-day dining with vegan and veggie options in a lovely setting of an old town square.

**Marina:**

**Rosatti’s Italian Restaurante**: Great food, great views over the Marina. Its upstairs.

**Cafe - Bar Reinaldo:** Great for a drink, always busy. They also do simple food for a quick snack. On the left as you enter the Marina through the main entrance.

**Pato de Pekin:** Fantastic Chinese food and great value. Downstairs, towards the far right of the Marina.

**La Escollera**: Locals favourite. Situated in the heart of the working port. Super fresh fish. This place is always packed so get there early! Walk down to the marina and then left towards Estepona town, this place is just near the entrance to the boardwalk in the working part of the port.

Petit Paris: Highly recommended for a ‘special’ experience. Typical French cuisine.

Tapa Thai: Authentic Thai Cuisine which is recommended by many guests.

Plan B; Great service. International dishes. A sun trap in the afternoon! Ribs highly recommended if you are a meat lover.

La Taberno del Puerto: One of the few tapas bars on the Marina if you fancy a bit of Andalucian cooking!

Knahia: Not quite on the port but a short stroll away. Delicious Japanese / sushi and cocktails.

**Further afield**

**Restaurante El Higuerón*:*** This place is sensational. You need a car to get there but they do have suckling pig and lamb! Phone in advance to get a table.

Carretera Benalmádena a Mijas, Km 3.1, 29640 Fuengirola, Málaga. Tel: +34 952 119 163.

# DAY TRIPS

**Caminito del Rey - El Chorro Ardales**

Approximately 1 hour by car

El Caminito del Rey is a walkway, pinned along the steep walls of a narrow gorge in El Chorro, near Ardales in the province of Malaga, Spain. The name is often shortened to Camino del Rey.

Please see their website for more detailed information and booking is essential.

www.caminitodelrey.info

**Benahavis**

Approximately 20 minutes by car



Take the A7 towards Estepona and exit at Benahavis. The road is one continuous road approximately 7kms into the mountainous village.

Benahavis is a quaint, whitewashed village with narrow streets offering many shops and bars and is famous for having the highest concentration of high-class restaurants in the region.

***PERSONAL RECOMMENDATION:* Los Abanicos – Benahavis**: If you like to eat traditionally when on holiday this is a must, typical Spanish menu at its best, you must try the Leg of Lamb or Suckling Pig. No need to book, you may have to enjoy a jug of Sangria whilst waiting for your table, it’s all part of the experience!

**Gibraltar**

Approximately 40 minutes by car

Take the AP7 (toll road) towards Algeciras/Cadiz. Follow the signs for La Linea and continue along the coast towards Gibraltar.

You are advised to park your car on the Spanish side of the boarder and walk across. The walk into the centre is approximately 10-15 minutes and buses are available. However, if you wish to drive, look for the parking signs and high rise multi storey car parks.

Once across the border you will find a host of guides that can take you on tours of the 'Rock', which normally includes a drive up to the top of the mountain to encounter the Barbary apes. There is also St. Michael's cave where you can see beautiful rock formations.

There are numerous shops located along the High Street and they are tax-free and offer great prices for Jewellery and perfume.

Please be aware that there are customs when re-entering Spain. There are limits to the amount of tobacco/cigarettes and alcohol you are allowed to bring back into Spain. The Spanish border Police are very strict and often carry out rigorous searches.

Remember you will need your passport and the currency is GBP.

**Granada**

Approximately 2 hours by car

Take either the A7 or AP7 towards Malaga, following the signs to GRANADA.

Granada is one of Spain's crowning glories. Its attractions range from the stately Cathedral and the remarkable building of the university quarter to fashionable streets and traditional tapas restaurants. A visit would not be complete without a visit the famous Alhambra palace with its Moorish architecture. If you wish to visit the Alhambra, you must book this in advance as tickets are strictly limited each day and sell out very quickly.

The backdrop to the city of Granada is spectacular with the snowy mountain peaks of Sierra Nevada. The skiing season starts in November and ends in April and out of these months there are numerous other activities including hiking.



**Malaga**

Approximately 1 hour by car

Follow either the AP7 of A7 towards Malaga. Follow the signs towards the city centre. Alternatively you can reach Malaga by train, the nearest train station is in Fuengirola that takes you directly into the city. There are regular buses that run to and from Fuengirola should you not have a car or wish to drive.

There is plenty to see and do in Malaga, you can choose to explore the city either by bike, or a fun guided segway tour or open top bus. The main shopping area is Calle Larios and from here you can explore the narrow twisting streets to the beautiful Cathedral and interesting shops and tearooms. Other areas of particular interest are The Picasso Museum, Alcazaba the best-preserved Moorish fortress in Spain and the new contemporary marina, which has numerous restaurants and bars.

**Marbella**

Approximately 25 mins by car. Park up then walk to the beautiful Orange Square in the Old Town or beachfront in 10 mins.

Marbella is one of the ritziest resorts on the Costa del Sol and the playground of the rich and famous.

The town's attractions include a thriving commercial centre, the coastal promenade where you can now walk to Puerto Banus and beyond or hire bikes, lovely beaches, yacht harbour and the Old Town.

A must see is the 'Plaza de Los Naranjos' (Orange Square) in the Old Town. Cross over the main road from the beachside to find the picturesque maze of streets, pretty squares and whitewashed buildings. A delightful area to browse the many interesting shops, enjoy a fabulous drink and meal al fresco in a vibrant atmosphere.

If you still have some Euros left, there is also a large indoor commercial centre 'La Canada' approximately 10 minute drive away. Here you will find numerous high street shops and restaurants.

**Mijas**

Approximately 30 minutes by car

Follow the AP7 toll road towards Malaga, through the tollbooths and take the exit road signposted Mijas. You

will arrive at a traffic island; follow the signs that make a left turn towards Mijas. You remain on this road all the way and it is a windy mountain road.

With its attractive mountain setting, picturesque little streets and white washed houses, Mijas is a popular excursion from the coast.

While obviously catering to tourists, Mijas has still retained much of it traditional Spanish charm. It has breath taking views of the surrounding mountains and amazing sea views probably the best on the coast.

**Puerto Banus**

Approximately 15 minutes by car

Follow the A7 towards Malaga, taking the road signposted for Puerto Banus. There is plenty of underground parking if you are travelling by car, or you can go by bus, or if you fancy seeing the coast from a different view you can take a boat from Marbella marina to Puerto Banus Port.

The dazzling marina of Puerto Banus with its luxury yachts, trendy restaurants and bars is a magnet for visitors to the Costa del Sol.

Around the Port are cafes, bars, restaurants and a string of luxury boutiques featuring every designer you could wish for. While restaurants along the quayside are the place to be seen, you will sometimes get better value from the small restaurants tucked away up flights of stairs in the back streets. A great place for people watching and spotting celebrities.

At night the Port comes alive and the smart restaurants, bars and clubs are filled with people all having a fabulous time.

On Saturday there is street market, which is located near the bullring in Nueva Andalucía a short stroll from the Port. The market gets very busy and it starts early in the morning until 2pm.

**Ronda – PERSONAL FAVOURITE!!!**

Approximately 45 minutes by car

From the main San Pedro roundabout on the A7 you will see signs for Ronda. This is a straight road up the mountain, all the way to the town.

Ronda is renowned for its spectacular setting, Moorish influence and the oldest bullring in Spain, built in 1785. The beautiful town has wonderful shops and restaurants, all serving excellent Spanish cuisine.

**Seville**

Approximately 2.5 hours by car

Take the A7 towards Algeciras/Cadiz until you see the signs for Seville. Follow these all the way.

Seville generates a style of romance all of its own. Andalusia's capital and most fashionable city, it is home to great art and magnificent monuments, as well as streets filled with restaurants and bars. The minaret tower of La Giralda and the great Cathedral it adjoins dominates it.

Seville is a city best to explore on foot and the Cathedral is a good starting point. The medieval quarter of Barrio de Santa Cruz nearby is a delightful maze of narrow streets and whitewashed houses adorned with wrought iron balconies, decked with flowers. The royal palaces of Seville are a marvel. The centrepiece is the Palace Mudejar del Rey Don Pedro and is a superb example of Mudejar art.

If you have children the theme park Isla Magica is well worth a visit. The park was constructed on the former grounds of the Expo 92 World's Fair and opened in 1997. Opening times do vary and depend on the time of year so it is best to check.

# MAPS

Location of the Astor Estepona

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Beach

Astor Estepona

Estepona



Old Town

Astor Estepona