



Dear Bahia Blanca Members

2018 has been another year of considerable development for Bahia Blanca. This picture shows the new ramp and entrance to reception. Other developments include enhanced bathroom facilities in the pool area for guests and staff, new staff offices, a lift to the first floor and complete modernisation of the supermarket.



BUILDING PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2018

Two main projects were planned for 2018. Firstly the total re-design of the entrance and reception. These alterations have greatly improved access and security as well as created a much enhanced first impression for all visitors to Bahia Blanca. Access has been made much easier for people with disabilities by the installation of a ramp leading from the street to the front door and now all members, guests and visitors must enter through reception. Whilst carrying out the reception changes the admin and sales offices were renovated and other staff areas improved.

The second project was to give better access to all first-floor apartments. In the past the only access was via the spiral staircase. Various designs and ideas were looked at and it was decided to build a lift to take guests from the swimming pool terrace directly to the first floor. One apartment has been altered to make it totally step free and options are being considered to make others more accessible. The new lift also gives easy access to the first-floor terrace and loungers. It is hoped that those members who would perhaps like a quieter place to relax and sunbathe will use this area more often. Due to the refurbishment of pool side toilets and showers there was no option but to reduce the size of the supermarket. Although smaller it has been totally modernised with a new layout and extended refrigeration and still supplies all the general groceries you may need on holiday.



CLIFF FACE WATER PROBLEM



There is a problem with water seeping through the cliff face below Bahia Blanca. Some months ago, a major landslide near Puerto Mogan covered the coastal road. As the new motorway to Puerto Mogan is complete, the government decided not to clear the landslide and have now officially closed the road. Understandably this landslide has made the local authority very nervous as to the possibility of further collapses and prompted a full inspection of other potential rock face landslides. As you know Bahia Blanca sits on a hillside and cliff inspectors are concerned that water from Bahia Blanca may be eroding the rock and instructed us to carry out a full geological survey and act upon the findings. The Government inspector's belief is that some of the water from the apartments immediately above the cliff is seeping through the rock. We know that no waste water from these apartments is the cause as it is all taken away by the drains, but as a preventative measure we have stopped watering the gardens of these apartments. We believe that the water appearing below the cliff is natural water seeping through the whole hillside, however it is the Holiday Club's responsibility to

make the cliff face safe and this will require extensive construction to strengthen and reinforce it. At present the apartments on the cliff top are still open although we have fenced off part of the gardens. Once the reinforcement to safeguard the cliff face is completed the intention is to remove the fencing and refurbish the gardens, replacing the grass and shrubs with natural stone paving and stone planters.



THE EVANS FAMILY

We always like to hear from our members. Recently we received this Photo from the Evans family from the South West of England, In October. Four generations of the Evans family stayed at Bahia Blanca. David and Maureen have been members since 2005. They visit Bahia Blanca 3 or 4 times a year and especially enjoy having New Year in Gran Canaria. This recent visit was for a special occasion as all flew in to celebrate their son Gavin's 50th birthday. It looks like they all had a good time.



FABADA ASTURIANA - Spanish Ham and Bean

With cold winter nights here, what is better than some hot Spanish comfort food. Fabada Asturiana, often simply known as fabada, is a rich Spanish Ham, chorizo and bean dish. originally from the autonomous community of the Principality of Asturias. This dish is simple to make and certain to be enjoyed by all the family.

In a large cast iron casserole pan add the olive oil and sweat a finely chopped onion. When the onions are nearly soft and translucent add the chopped garlic, a crushed pinch of saffron and a tablespoon of smoked paprika. Slice the chorizo sausage and black blood sausage (if using) into 1 cm slices. Add to the pan and fry for a short time. Keep stirring so it doesn't burn. When happy that the chorizo and blood sausage are partly cooked add 750ml of water, season with salt and pepper and simmer for 45 minutes or until the sauce has reduced. Finally add the drained tin of cannellini beans and simmer for a further 15 minutes. The sauce can now be put to one side and reheated when ready to serve with the joint of smoked ham.

To cook the ham - Chop the second onion coarsely and place in large pan with the joint of smoked ham and 3/4 fill with water. Add some pepper and bring to the boil, then simmer for approx. 1 1/2 hours. Remove the ham from the pan and let it rest covered in tin foil for 1/2 hour. When ready to serve, slice the ham and ladle over the reheated chorizo and bean sauce. Serve with mashed or jacket potatoes



- 1 kg Joint of smoked ham
- 2 gloves of garlic
- Tin of cannellini beans
- Pinch of saffron
- 75g black blood sausage
- Two onions
- A glug or two of Olive oil
- Smoked paprika
- 150g chorizo sausage
- Salt and pepper