

# WELCOME TO LA NEBLINA

## Water

Please be water conscious. This is a water shortage area and the house is not mains connected. We politely ask that you keep showers short and to a minimum; don't leave taps running; fill the dishwasher before using it; and choose the 'half' toilet flush.

We recommend that you **don't drink the water from the taps**. There's a water cooler in the kitchen and refills in the utility room. The small tap on the kitchen sink pours filtered water for tea or coffee and you can fill bottles for brushing your teeth.

## Sanitation

Once again, the house is not connected to mains sanitation so please **do not put ANYTHING in the toilets**, use the bins. If the system is blocked by failing to do so, it will disrupt your stay and you will be charged.

## Safety

Fire risk is high, particularly as the summer wears on. Please **smoke on the terrace only** and make sure your butt is safely out. There's a bbq oven for your use next to the kitchen, but **supervise it constantly and do not use any other cooking device or naked flame** anywhere on the property.

**The pool is extremely deep (8ft)** at the far end and too shallow to dive at the near end. Please exercise caution and keep an eye on everyone in your party: especially children.



## Have a wonderful stay!

We hope the house has everything you need for a happy and relaxing visit. Please feel free to explore the grounds – beyond the sun terrace and pool, you'll find plenty of quiet spots through the olive groves and in the slopes above the house to reflect and escape. The lemon and lime trees bear fruit most of the year, so please help yourselves (you're also welcome to try the oranges, but you may find them a bit bitter).

Inside the house, we've provided bathroom and pool towels, spare bedding, shampoo and shower gel. The kitchen is stocked with pots, pans, glassware, crockery and cutlery as well as some common essentials like condiments, herbs and spices.

Should you find anything missing, please don't hesitate to contact us on 00 34 689 019 448.

Note: **there is a security camera on the pool terrace**, you may take it down if you wish – just keep it safe and return it at the end of your visit.





## The kitchen

The hob is gas powered from a tank located away from the house. Be extremely careful around open flames and make sure all the knobs are turned off when you have finished cooking.

A fire extinguisher is mounted on the wall next to the fridge.

The dual oven and toaster is electric and there is a microwave in the utility room.

As a reminder, the small tap on the sink provides filtered water which can be used for tea and coffee. The cooler at the far end of the kitchen is drinking water.

Please collect any unused cooking oil in the container provided and leave it with the general waste at the end of your stay. Do not pour oil into the sink.

There's a bean-to-cup coffee machine in the corner next to the sink or a coffee percolator in the opposite corner for making jugs. There are two kettles for boiling water (and two more in the furthest rooms).

Please try to put everything back in the same place you found it - this makes checking the inventory at the end of your stay much easier, and therefore speeds up the return of your deposit.

## The rooms

There are six rooms in total – three doubles and a twin in the main house, one double down the stairs next to the padel court, and another twin under the house, which you can get to by turning right out of the kitchen door and following the short path. Three of the rooms also have sofa beds, which you will find bedding for in the room.

If you need any extra blankets or bedding, they're all in the bedrooms, either in cupboards or in hampers. If you can't find what you're looking for, there's more in the hall cupboard behind the lounge or in the main closet.

All rooms are en-suite and there are bath tubs in the middle bathrooms of each wing, as well as in the studio. Towels are provided in-room. Additionally, there's a wc in the hallway next to the kitchen.



## Temperature control

This style of house was designed to stay cool in a time before aircon existed, so the best way to keep the climate at bay is to open the doors and windows and close the shutters – that way a breeze flows through the house and it stays shaded from the sun. If you do want to use the air conditioning, make sure you close the windows first, or it won't have any effect. There is a temperature gauge on the wall that you can set to your preference. Obviously, if you go out for the day, switch the aircon off before you go.

At night, we recommend you close the windows (to keep out the insects) and turn on the ceiling fans using the remote controls. There are also some additional fan units in the main closet, which you're welcome to use.

By contrast, if you need to heat the house, there is underfloor and air blown heating; switch the wall gauges from cool to heat and set your preferred temperature. There's a fan-assisted wood fire in the lounge (fan switch at the bottom) and logs are in the store outside the kitchen door.

## At your leisure

There is a **padel court and basketball hoop** down the stairs in front of the orange grove. You'll find rackets and balls in the garage; please make sure you retrieve any balls that go out of bounds and return everything at the end of your stay; you'll be charged for excessive losses.

The court is floodlit if you want to play after dark, but the lights consume a huge amount of energy and cause light pollution for our neighbours so, please, **not too late and make absolutely certain you have turned them off** after play!

Also in the garage, you'll find **gym equipment**, which you're welcome to use, but please note: **you do so at your own risk**, so read the instruction manuals provided beforehand. There is a work bench, elliptic and rowing machine as well as some free weights, tension bands etc.

The infrared **sauna** is in a corner of the studio next to the padel court. It's fairly straightforward but, again, please consult the manual before use and make sure you switch it off when you're finished.

The area under the pergolas can be used as a **yoga terrace** if you move the chairs to one side. You'll find a limited number of mats in the garage among the gym equipment.



## Drinks, dining and entertainment

You'll find a range of spaces to enjoy inside and out.

As well as individual sitting areas in most of the bedrooms, the sofas in the lounge seat 10 comfortably – 13 if you're happy to huddle up. There's an outdoor lounge set for six, and seating for a further 12 on the yoga terrace. In addition, there's lots of little benches and cafe tables scattered about the place.

For sun-worshippers, there are eight sun beds and three hammocks around the pool area. And, when it's time to dine, there's space for 10 at the indoor dining table and a further six on the patio if you want to open the windows and combine them. We can seat up to 20 under the vines for an outdoor dining experience.

All we ask is that you're mindful of whatever space you're in. Please, **no glass or breakables outside, especially not in the pool area**. If broken glass gets into the pool, please tell us immediately so we can prevent damage to the filter. We provide a full outdoor dining set, including cutlery and acrylic wine cups for you to enjoy a drink or a meal outside the house. Please restrict the pottery and glassware to indoors only.

Similarly, we provide external pool towels in addition to the internal bathroom towels, so please use them accordingly.

## In general...

### Power

The house is primarily solar powered but the power will occasionally surge or cut out. You will hear a click and a beep if it happens. Most often, it turns back on in a second or two. If it doesn't, please contact us and we will get it seen to; **don't try to fix it** or flick the fuses yourself.

### Lights

Most light switches are labelled or self explanatory. **Don't leave the outside lights on overnight** as there is always a risk of fire with electrical equipment, particularly when hot or left unattended. In general, turning all the lights off at night will keep insects away.

### Rubbish

There are three bins in the kitchen – one for glass, one for plastics and tetrapaks and the last for general waste. If they get full, there are back ups in the utility room and an extra bin for cardboard, plus a bin outside for general (smelly!) waste – just make sure the lid is on securely. There is no rubbish collection from the house, so these must be **taken to recycling areas** outside each of the nearby towns. The nearest to La Neblina is either at the Venta Acacia on the road to San Pablo (5 mins; turn left out of the estate) or on the right hand side just after the petrol station in Gaucin (15 mins; turn right out of the estate).



### The jacuzzi

The **jacuzzi** is located off the farthest bedroom on the right hand side of the house. If you want to heat it, the switch is behind the curtain on the inside wall just before the door. It needs a few hours to heat up, so be sure to switch it on well in advance.

The water is kept chlorinated and automatically filtered each day, but this can be affected by excess suntan lotion, which causes a film to form on the surface. So, if you're heavily lotioned, please take a quick shower before getting in.

The jet buttons are embedded in the wall on the left hand side and the water can be topped up from the tap (please mind your head around the tap - it has sharp edges!).

### Insects & animals

Out here, there are more animals than people, but there's nothing that will do you any harm. You will notice the incessant frog chorus from the pond but, while they're noisy, they're extremely good at keeping the mosquito population in check.

You'll also notice a few bats flying around as the sun goes down. The species and habitat is protected, so they're long term tenants but, again, they're very good at eating insects.

The only thing to watch out for is the stripy-legged **funnel web spider** which make its distinctive funnel-shaped home in the grounds (not in the house). It's never happened to us, but they have a nasty bite if disturbed.



## The local area

**Gaucin, 9km** Go for: white village, stunning views to Africa, good restaurants

**Jimena de la Frontera, 14km** Go for: nice square for dining, ancient castle, Alcornocales National Park

**Casares, 29km** Go for: cliff-edge white village, championship golf course (Axl Rose's favourite hotel)

**Castellar de la Frontera, 33km** Go for: castle, butterfly walk, gastrokook bakery

**Ronda 41km** Go for: jaw-dropping gorge bridge, bull ring, arabic ruins

**Sotogrande, 42km** Go for: championship golf course, polo grounds, marina, Sunday market, brunch

**Estepona, 50km** Go for: floral boardwalk, beach town, old town, great food

**Gibraltar, 60km** Go for: The Rock, monkeys, gin

**Tarifa, 76km** Go for: kitesurfing, white beach, ferry to Tangier

**Bolonia, 80km** Go for: Roman ruins, nice beach

**Marbella, 80km** Go for: beach, high-end shopping and dining

**Malaga, 130km** Go for: theatre, shopping, restaurants, nightlife

**Cadiz, 150km** Go for: Columbus, sherry (Jerez de la Frontera)

**Seville, 165km** Go for: alcazar, architecture, flamenco

**Granada, 250km** Go for: Alhambra, architecture

## Super/markets all closed on Sunday

**Ruiz Galan**, San Pablo, small/local

**Ruiz Galan**, Gaucin, small/local

**Carrefour**, Los Barrios, hypermarket in retail park

**Carrefour**, Estepona, large supermarket

**Morrisons**, Gibraltar, British supermarket



## Restaurants and tapas bars

**Venta Acacia**, San Pablo. Local fare, fairly low quality, but cheerful and close

**Los Cachollas**, San Pablo. Mid range local fare; ask for the specials

**La Estacion**, San Pablo. Excellent local/fusion, book ahead

**El Atico**, Gaucin. Friendly, international fare

**Azulejo**, Gaucin. Superb international fare, booking essential

**Paco Pepe's**, Gaucin. Nice square, Spanish

**Platero**, Gaucin. Book ahead

**La Fructuosa**, Gaucin. New management

**Cuenca**, Jimena. Ok Spanish fare, no need to book

**Venta Valdivia**, Algatocin (20k). Unmissable steak house, wise to book

**Sarmiento**, Casares. Exceptional views, good food and wine. Book

**Arroyo de la Honda**, Casares. Good Spanish fare. Wise to book

**The Forge**, Casares. Nice little South African. Book ahead

**Finca Cortesin**, Casares. Michelin star sushi, Italian and others. Need to book

**La Casa de Maria**, Ronda. Awesome traditional Spanish, no menu. Book ahead

## In an emergency **dial 112**

### Medical

There is a doctor's clinic in Gaucin, just before the Ruiz Galan supermarket. The nearest hospital is on the way in to Jimena (turn left out of the estate and right in 14km, the hospital is on the left after the roundabout).

Gaucin doctor: (00 34) 952 15 10 15

Gaucin dentist: (00 34) 744 62 28 38

Jimena hospital: (00 34) 600 16 74 46

Humanline Private clinic, Jimena: (00 34) 956 64 13 59

### Fire

The nearest fire station is in Jimena (15 mins away). In the event of a fire **Dial 112 immediately, evacuate everyone to a safe location and don't take any unnecessary risks.** In the event of forest fires, we have included evacuation and safety details at the end of this guide. La Neblina and the whole estate has fire break corridors to halt the spread of fires; these are constantly maintained and inspected annually for compliance. If there is a large scale fire in the area, helicopters are permitted to take water from the house's water deposits and even the swimming pool. It's highly unlikely, but just in case.

- No fires or naked flames anywhere outside, except the (bricked in) barbecue oven
- No machinery that can cause sparks and turn off outside lights at night
- Smoking only on the pool terrace, use the ashtrays provided and extinguish carefully
- Dial 112 in emergencies

### Police

The property falls under the jurisdiction of the Guardia Civil in Gaucin, located at Calle Ana Toval 5 (turn right after the petrol station and it's the last building before the road splits). Call them directly or dial 112 in any emergencies.

The house has barred windows and locks on all the doors, as well additional metal security shutters for the large glass doors (the controls are on the wall in front of each one – it's up to you whether you want to use them or not when you go out).

**There is a security camera on the pool terrace** in the corner nearest the house. You may take this down for privacy if you wish; we just ask that you put it somewhere safe and return it at the end of your visit.

Guardia Civil, Gaucín: (00 34) 952 15 10 10

### Contact

Andy (00 34) 689 019 448

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