

# Living in Mijas



## FOREIGNERS DEPARTMENT MIJAS TOWN HALL

SINCE 1985

The Foreigners Department was founded by the Mijas Town Hall in 1985, being the first department of this nature in Spain, turning this year 35 years old.

The main idea of this Department is to help and inform the large foreign community in Mijas Municipality, approx.43% of the registered inhabitants are foreigners of over a hundred different nationalities, also many foreigners are owners of holiday homes here and spend a part of the year in Mijas.

The consultations are of many varied matters, but are usually related to having moved to Spain from another country, the fact that they do not speak the language and are unfamiliar with the system here.

*We are here to help you!*

The Department can clarify their doubts, help resolve the problems that arise, and in all cases inform them of the steps to take also when their problem is not directly connected with the Town Hall.

The office is situated in the Town Hall Branch in La Cala, Mijas Costa and attends the public Monday to Friday: 9.00am - 2.00pm upon prior appointment system on [www.mijas.es](http://www.mijas.es)

### SERVICES

The Foreigners Department offers a general **FREE** daily information and advice service at the office in various languages: **English, German, French and Spanish.**

Specific information is given on all municipal matters: Registration on the Padron / Inhabitant List, Local taxes and fees, application for licences etc. and general information on other public administrative procedures such as at the National Police, Traffic Head Quarters, Social Security, Inland Revenue and more. The Foreigners Department staff does also assist foreigners and help out with verbal translation at any of the municipal offices in Mijas.

### REGISTERING ON THE PADRON

It is important for the Town Hall that foreign residents register on the municipal inhabitants list "Padron". The department is regularly informing the foreign population of the importance to do so and the need to regularly re-confirm the registration.

### HELPFUL INFORMATION SHEETS

The Foreigners Department is constantly updating a large variety of English and German **Information Sheets**. They are available in digital and paper format on topics such as: Municipal and National Taxes and Fees, NIE-numbers and Residence Certificates,

Social Security and Andalusian Health Service, Pensioner Cards, Digital Certificates, Civil Weddings, Procedures at the Traffic Department, Recycling and Waste Collection, Consumers Rights, and lots more.

### NEWS BY MAILING LIST

The Department sends out municipal information of interest and the local newspaper Mijas Semanal: Spanish and English section through a mailing list weekly.

If you would like to receive information - Please send an email to: [frd@mijas.es](mailto:frd@mijas.es) and we will include you in our mailing list.

Information is published on our Facebook page: **mijas foreigners department - frd** and in a column in the English section of the weekly local newspaper Mijas Semanal.

### ACTIVITIES

The Mijas Foreigners Department organise a wide range of integration activities and programmes in our municipality such as:

- Informative Talks and Seminars in English, German.
- Friendship Days with different Countries (10 editions so far)
- Activities and collaborations with Social Clubs and Associations.
- Organisation of Municipal Campaigns as well as collaboration with other institutions.
- Coordination of the Domestic Violence work group VIOGENEX
- Activities in collaborations with Consulates, Universities, Provincial Government bodies etc.
- Organisation of weekly language exchange Workshops and language
- International Christmas Concerts.

### COLLABORATION WITH THE MALAGA CONSULAR BODY

The Foreigners Department is regularly collaborating throughout the year with the consulates of the Málaga province. A

meeting is held once a year to discuss current topics, update information and collaborate in programmes.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WORK GROUP - VIOGENEX

VIOGENEX is a work group established by the Foreigners Department to help Spanish and specially foreign women victims of gender violence in Mijas. A pioneer initiative in Spain set up by the this department in collaboration with the Equality and welfare Department of the Mijas Town Hall, Civil Guard, SIMA Local Police, the Red Cross, Soroptimist International Costa del Sol, La Cala Lions Club and Age Care. The VIOGENEX work Group is collaborating in the campaign "YOU ARE NOT ALONE!" (in five languages) and promotes the Free 24 hours Helpline in 46 Languages: 900 200 999 which has been set up by the Malaga Women's Institute of the Andalusian Government.

### COLLABORATION WITH THE SKIN CANCER PREVENTION CAMPAIGN



The Foreigners Department has been collaborating with the Hospital Costa del Sol in an International Skin Cancer Campaign since 2017 – A pioneer programme in several languages to inform foreign visitors to Mijas of the necessary precautions to take to avoid sunburns and to prevent Skin Cancer in general. The Foreigners Department has in two occasions won prizes for their work carried out during these annual campaigns.

**Mijas**

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