# The Tenerife Property & Business Guide

July 2025 Issue 249

Tel: 0034 609 714 276 ● george.thetpg@gmail.com ● thetenerifepropertyguide.com





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# TENERIFE PROPERTY SHOP S.L.

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# 1 BEDROOM APARTMENT - AMARILLA GOLF



This well presented one bedroom property has views that will not be bettered. If it is watching the boats out at sea, the golfers at play, or enjoying dining al fresco whilst watching the sun setting over the mountains, then you have found your perfect property. This top floor apartment has been refurbished to a high standard, including new flooring throughout. The complex is well maintained with a pool area surrounded by gardens, palm trees and an onsite bar/restaurant.

Ref: AMG00643 Price: **€200,000** (approx. £170,000)

# 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT - AMARILLA GOLF



If you are looking for a good quality, affordable, two bedroom property, this should be on your list. A top floor apartment with views of the ocean, golf course & Mount Teide, and offering all day sunshine, this will be close to, if not top of, the list. The property has been refurbished, including the floor, to a high standard throughout the apartment and terraces: no need to be searching for builders' phone numbers with this property.

Ref: AMG00644 Price: **€260,000** (approx. £220,000)

# 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT - GOLF DEL SUR



A rare opportunity to become the proud new owner of a wonderful apartment that offers an impressive balance of square metres both internally and externally. As you enter the property you are greeted by the open plan kitchen and lounge. The terrace is semi-enclosed, so provides shade and offers the perfect location for dining al fresco, or for the sun-seekers amongst you. Underground parking space included.

Ref: GOLF01857 Price: €275,000 (approx. £233,000)

# STUDIO APARTMENT - PLAYA FAÑABE



This spacious studio property has been cleverly converted to make a separate sleeping area, so could be classed as a one bedroom apartment. Located in one of THE most sought after complexes in Costa Adeje, right on the beachfront of the beautiful Playa Fañabe. Recently refurbished throughout to a very high standard, with modern decor and furnishings, making this a great find. This is an opportunity to own in an excellent location.



Buyers contact us EVERYDAY... Call 922 714 700 Register your property For Sale NOW! 681 331 355



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A Company with more than 38 years experience in the property industry offering Service and Security in your purchase, Professional Indemnity Insurance, and with a Team of people ready and waiting to look after you.

**OUR OFFICE LOCATIONS:** CC San Blas - Golf del Sur Las Adelfas I - Golf del Sur CC Puerto Colon - Playa de Las Américas

#### 1 BEDROOM APARTMENT - AMARILLA GOLF



Sit back, relax, and take in the stunning views from this wonderful apartment with two bedrooms, one bathroom, and one en-suite W/C, overlooking the Amarilla Golf Course, the San Miguel Marina and out to the Atlantic Ocean, with the iconic Red Rock making an appearance in the background. The property is top floor of a two storey building, that is very traditionally Spanish, with whitewashed walls and terracotta rooftops.

Ref: AMG00642 Price: **€320,000** (approx. £271,000)

#### 1 BED CONVERSION TO 2 X STUDIOS - PLAYA DE LAS AMERICAS



This one bedroom duplex apartment has been converted into two separate private studios, each with their own private, locked entrance just inside the main door. Located on the popular Parque Santiago 3 complex in the heart of the tourist area of Las Americas, with everything on your doorstep you could want for your holidays. If two separate apartments is not what you want it can be returned to its original layout of a one bed duplex top floor apartment.

Ref: LA01975 Price: **€495,000** (approx. £419,500)

# **SEE WHAT OUR CLIENTS SAY ABOUT US**





When I was looking to buy a property everyone I spoke to directed me to the ife Property Shop and I am so glad I took the advice. Buying a property abroad was made so easy and such an

.. the process was totally stress free.



Really helpful from start to finish highly recommend them for buying a prop and were always on hand to help.

Really helpful from start to

Andrew G - April 2025





I would just like to put pen to paper and extend our thanks to the team at Tenerife Property Shop. Going back to last summer we made the decision to purchase a property at Golf Del Sur. Having already been ..

They guided us through everything in a very professional manner ...

Norman and Kathleen -April 2025

\*\*\*\*



It has been incredibly refreshing to have bought a property with such ease and ess customer service. Lee Roberts went beyond the call of duty to ensure that we received an exceptional service, his non pushy sales stance and calm ...

... bought a property with such ease and flawless customer service.

lan & Sarah - March 2025

\*\*\*\*





They just know what they're doing 👍

They just know what they're doing 👍





VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO VIEW MORE TESTIMONIALS FROM OUR HAPPY VENDORS & PURCHASERS!



# We don't make promises. We give GUARANTEES!





















# SELLING YOUR PROPERTY?

Our director, Adam Keddy is proud to say that Island Prime Property is built on relationships and every day this is proven from our many referrals and let's face it, you can't beat "word of mouth" advertising.

# HOW DO WE MARKET YOUR PROPERTY?

We are known for our marketing strategy which includes a number of major property platforms, social media, traditional marketing, collaborating partners, international advertising and many other channels that are tried and tested therefore we are confident that we will sell your property at the right price for the market

# CORRECT PRICING

If you just want to test the water, you can hit the market with your property on your own. Or are you really serious about selling? This is where Island Prime Property come into play...

First things first and that's pricing your property correctly and realistically this means involving you, yes you the owner together with Adam to make it sell sooner rather than never.

This is one of the most important things that's often overlooked or simply priced out of the market, we set the correct expectations at the start therefore making sure you're happy and hits the overall objective which is getting it sold at the right price.

# **ADVERTISING**

Once we have all the marketing materials done at our cost and we work on a " no sale, no fee basis" and DO NOT require a marketing contribution before we even get started.

We work with other reputable agents that will advertise your properties based in Tenerife, Mallorca, Mainland Spain, Italy and the UK.

Its very important to have good relationships with reliable and trustworthy, professional partners that have been vetted and legal contracts are in place.

# AFTER THE SALES

As soon as the signing at the Notary is complete it is time to say congratulations but in many cases theres still work to be done and Island Prime Property will always carry on our professional service finalising any further details, we don't just forget you!... remember Island Prime Property is built on relationships.

# PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY

The smartphones these days are making some great pictures however to have a professional eye taking the picture combined with a detailed technical understanding is a formula for complete success that's where Peter comes into his own, our very own dedicated photographer.

Professional pictures are a must to showcase your property in the most effective way. We are proud not only of our brand but the properties we are advertising to sell, so let's engage with the potential buyers and not turn them away at one of the first hurdles.

# **VIDEO**

Pictures is the first step so what's next?

To sell a property in this day and age you must use a video which comes apart of our full marketing package. Videography is key.

When you choose Island Prime Property to sell your property, we will make a professional video presentation and add this to the property listing page.





# **FLOORPLANS**

Correct measurements and key information is a must and now expected by many buyers. Only one thing gives us this – a superb floorplan. When we sell your property, we will make a floorplan. This will again help us show your property perfectly and give a fantastic representation of your property.

# 360° VIRTUAL TOUR

The virtual tour helps the buyer see exactly what they're buying and some buyers are now buying from this tool and it's becoming more and more, the new normal when purchasing real estate.

This method will cut out the time wasters and let's face it we're not looking to mess about just simply meet your expectations and sell.

We use the Matterport system which is a leading, state of the art software in its own right.

# CONTACT US TODAY!





adam@islandprimeproperty.com
(0034) 645 142 144
www.islandprimeproperty.com/sell-my-property



# PALM MAR SALES & RENTALS

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#### PALM MAR, LA ARENITA









#### €265,000

We are pleased to present this lovely, fully furnished, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom apartment on this great complex with a rooftop swimming pool located in the heart of all of the amenities that Palm Mar has to offer, as well as being within a short stroll of the sea front with its Chiringuito and Beach Club. The property is bright and spacious, with fantastic views from the terrace, including sunrise and sunset most of the year, and, included in the sale price, is a private underground storage room.

T: (0034) 922 732862 M:(0034) 683 190 977 info@rdpropertiestenerife.com



Calle Luis Alvarez Cruz, nº6, Edf Bahia Azul, Local 8C Las Galletas - Next to post office









#### Costa del Silencio, Amarilla Bay

Stunning, exclusive, fully furnished penthouse duplex in sought after sea front complex with its breathtaking sea views. The property has an open kitchen, spacious, bright living room, and a beautiful terrace with great sea and mountain views., plus an additional room, currently used a storeroom. Gated community parking area. Holiday rentals are permitted. Great investment!

€276,000

Ref: CDS-AB294

#### Costa del Silencio, La Baraca

Cosy 1 bed, 1 bath ground floor apartment with spacious private terrace, semi openplan kitchen/living area plus an extra room. Located in a peaceful and well-connected area, close to all essential services, this popular complex has a communal pool and tennis court.



Ref: CDS-B298













#### Costa del Silencio, La Hacienda

Lovely south-west-facing 1 bed, 1 bath property in much sought after complex with beautiful pool area. The apartment has a cozy, yet spacious interior with an open plan fully fitted kitchen with breakfast bar and a very bright living room that leads out to a nice sunny terrace and car parking. Close to all local amenities. A turn-key property which must be viewed.

€229,000

Ref: CDS-H229

#### Guargacho, Lovely 1 bed apt

Lovely, fully furnished 1 bed, 1 bath ground floor apartment. Ideal investment or family home. The property features an open-plan living-dining area with a fitted kitchen, a spacious bedroom with a built-in wardrobe, and a full bathroom, it also has an additional room. Extras include electric shutters and a separate laundry room. Although there is no outdoor space, its ground floor location offers easy access. Close to amenities and public transport.

€158,000

Ref: G-A160











rdpropertiestenerife.com



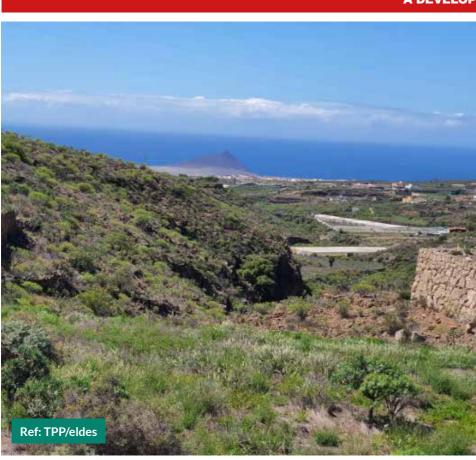
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# TENERIFE PRIME PROPERTY

#### A DEVELOPER'S DREAM!

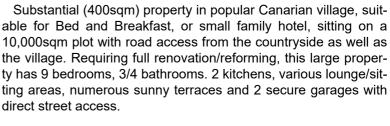




## EL DESIERTO, 9 Bedroom house with 10,000sqm land OFFERS IN THE REGION OF €360,000

















# Inmobiliaria Estate Agent Immobilien



#### BEAUTIFUL STUDIO IN EXCLUSIVE SEA FRONT COMPLEX





#### PLAYA DE LAS AMERICAS, PARQUE SANTIAGO 3 Ref: 81-305 €370.000,=

#### **Property details**

Property space: 50m2 Living space: 33m2 17m2 • Terrace: Elevator: Yes

#### **Characteristics**

 Wheelchair-friendly: Yes Sun all day: Yes Level: 2 5 Floor:





VIEWING BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

#### SALES OFFICE

C.C. Parque Cristobal, local 1, Avda. Rafael Puig Lluvina 15 Playa de Las Américas, E-38660, Arona, S/C de Tenerife, Islas Canarias CORSTIAAN JOHN BOS: +34 649 957 267



SILVIU COSTEA: +34 639 135 818



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# TENERIFE PRIME PROPERTY





Stunning, fully furnished, 5 bed, 3 bath (master en suite) detached villa with heated pool on 2,000sqm plot. This spacious property has a huge terrace to the front which can accommodate up to 8 cars, and a private garden / terrace with lovely sea views to the rear with pool, BBQ/chill out area, jacuzzi and orchard (this significant area is eminently suitable for subdivision to create an excellent-sized plot

suitable for the construction of a separate independent villa with pool, parking and lovely sea views.) There is a large lounge/ dining area, a fully equipped fitted kitchen and garage for 4 cars with direct access. Extras include aircon and central heating throughout, and solar panel heating for hot water and the pool. Eminently suited as an investment property (sleeps 14!) or family home.



Lovely fully furnished and equipped 3 bedroom apartment in popular seaside village a short drive from Los Cristianos and Las Americas.



Very nice, fully furnished, 2 bedroom apartment with nice views from sunny terrace in complex with pool.



Fully furnished and equipped 2 bedroom property in complex with pool. Close to sea front and all amenities



Well-located fully furnished and equipped 1 bedroom apartment in complex with pool. Sunny terrace.



Spacious, modern 1 bed, 1 bath apartment in complex with pool close to new shopping centre. The property has a lounge/dining room, open plan kitchen, sunny terrace and secute, private parking.



Lovely 3.5 bed, 2 bath penthouse, fully furnished and recently refurbished. The property has a large lounge/dining area, brand new kitchen, utility room, office/3rd bed and huge 65sqm roof terrace with panoramic sea and mountain views. Community pool and parking.



Amazing, fully furnished. 3 bed, 2 bath detached villa with pool in quiet residential area close to all amenities and the sea front. The property has a lounge/diner, semi-independent kitchen and lots of outside space.



Stunning 4 bed, 2 bath villa (master en suite) with the ocean-front walkway on your doorstep. The property has a large lounge, dining room plus private outside dining area, and an amazing roof terrace with panoramic sea and mountain views.





Establshed

# Tenerife Properties ()





# The Original British Estate Agency Established in 1979

#### ENGLISH / ESPAÑOL / FRANÇAIS / ITALIANO - 608 573 443

#### Holiday Valley, San Eugenio Alto





A fantastic 2 bedroom bungalow in this popular complex in Costa Adeje. This property is incredibly well-presented, bright and spacious with a large living room that flows onto the terrace. An elevated kitchen of American style that looks over the living room, fully fitted and equipped. Both bedrooms are of good size, sleek and welcoming. The bathroom is fully refurbished, luxurious, and modern. An immense terrace that's part covered and a brilliant communal pool on site!

€395,000 Ref: T1400

#### Club Atlantis, San Eugenio Bajo





We are thrilled to present this lovely 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom apartment in the frontline complex of Club Atlantis. The living room is bright, spacious and opens onto the terrace with a large, fitted kitchen of American style overlooking the space. The bedroom is situated towards the back of the property, of good size with natural light pouring in. The terrace is spacious with outdoor furniture, views over the communal pool and sea. Club Atlantis is a popular complex in Costa Adeje with a large communal pool, bar, and reception.

£425 000 Ref: N1646

#### Montesol, San Eugenio Alto





Fantastic 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom apartment. Recently refurblished to a high standard with a bright, open image from that flows onto the terrace. The kitchen is set towards the back, open, fitted and of American style with modern finishes. The bedroom is of good size with fitted wardrobes and private access onto the terrace. The double terrace is immense with views over the communal pool and towards the seat There is an additional terrace at the front of the apartment, large and fitted with storage. Montesoi has a fantastic communal pool lift and partition.

€269,000 Ref: N1647



ed, spacious studio, Refutbished to a €229,000 Ref: A503



Lovely 1 bed, 1 bath apartment with sea views parking, and a pool.

€250,000 Ref: N1644



clusive complex, com, pool and garage space €360,000 Ref: T1333



Spacious Canarian house. 5 bedrooms, roof ter



ous and bright 6 bed villa with beautifu



Modern 1 bed apartment fully refurbished. Sunn

€280,000 Ref: N1645



Spacious 1 bed apartment with sunny double



2 bed apartment with a large double terrace, sea views and 2 communal pools.

€310.000 Ref: T1339



mense 3 bed apartment. Well-presented, Co terrace. Stunning communal pool.



€1,995,000



Terrace overlooks the communal pool and sea.

Translators available for any other languages.



Tel: 922 724 110 Sales: Lynne: 699 250 870 Rachel: 608 573 443 www.tenerifeproperties.net lynne@tenerifeproperties.net



Local 3, C.C. Palo Blanco, San Eugenio, Adeje 38660, Playa de las Americas



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## www.tenerifeprimeproperty.com



#### Residencial Paraiso 5 – PLAYA PARAISO - 225.000€



Modern and spacious, one bedroom apartment located next to the new shopping center in a well located quiet residential community. This quality construction offers one large bedroom with private balcony, bathroom, open plan fitted kitchen and lounge / dining room with terrace. This apartment comes with private secure parking and the community facilities include elevator, gardens and swimming pool. Rare opportunity.

#### Los Cristianos, Port Royale 195.000€





Recently refurbished (new kitchen, bathroom and all-new aluminium doors), fully furnished and equipped studio with sunny terrace in sought after complex with lovely pool area in hugely popular Los Cristianos. Close to all amenities.

#### Sueño Azul - CALLAO SALVAJE - 595.000€



Amazing three bedroom private villa with pool. With direct road access this bungalow offers three bedrooms, two bathrooms, semi separate kitchen, and lounge / dining room. Plenty of outside space and additional storeroom. Ample street parking, in this quiet secure, residential area. Close to bars and restaurants and easy walking distance to the beach. An excellent opportunity to own this detached property that also has great letting potential.

#### Private Villa, LA CALETA 1.595.000€



A truly unbeatable location. This stunning villa is located in the perfect spot, right in the heart of La Caleta, with the ocean front walkway just on your door step. This spacious property offers four double bedrooms, the master en-suite. Bathroom, independent kitchen, utility room, dining room, large lounge leading to a private outside dining area with sea views. Amazing roof terrace with panoramic sea and mountain views. Front and back garden and direct access to the beautiful community swimming pool.

Tel: 922 719 643 Fax: 922 781523 Mobile: 607 933 052 Mobile: 625 950 517





Calle Tagara, Jardin Botanico Local 8 ADEJE

#### **OPPORTUNITIES OF THE MONTH!**

#### PLAYA SAN JUAN



Unique property with lots of potential. 13,000sqm plot with olive trees and gardens with a 120sqm 3 bed main house and a small (30sqm) charming cottage.

#### SANTIAGO DEL TEIDE



Exclusive holiday home in great location with stunning sea, mountain and La Gomera views. Plot of 411sqm with possibility of expanding by 200 m². Property with 12 rooms with bathrooms, accommodating up to 28 quests.

#### **GUIA DE ISORA**



5,000sqm plot with 220sqm house on 2 floors (6 beds and 2 baths), private pool, cozy garden, stunning sea and mountain views, and garage.

ADE.IE



6,000 sqm plot in Las Moraditas with panoramic sea views. Main house (183sqm with 3 beds, 1 bath + WC), 2 independent houses, each 50sqm (1 bed, 1 bath), plus 75sqm garage, gardens, terraces, and a greenhouse..

Ref: 1310

€600,000

Ref: 1355

€990,000

Ref: 1339

€1,150,000

Ref: 1350

€1,150,000

We specialise in farms (fincas) and rural houses/properties.

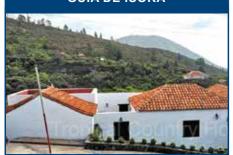
Wouldn't you like your own

piece of land with space to enjoy!

#### PROPERTIES WANTED FOR RENT

#### **CLIENTS WAITING!**

#### **GUIA DE ISORA**



Canarian bungalow in Aripe on 3,000sqm plot. 3 beds, 2 baths, office, living room with open kitchen, bright patio, and fitness room.

Ref: 1328 €546,000

#### **GUIA DE ISORA**



Wonderful rustic farm (4,924sqm plot) with cozy, 100sqm 2 bed, 2 bath home, surrounded by a beautiful terrace and garden with fruit trees and garage. In addition, it has an avocado orchard suitable for an agri-food project.

Ref: 1329 €470,000

#### TIJOCO BAJO



Beautiful 3 bed, 2 bath family home with spacious garage and a sunny terrace enjoying breathtaking sea views. A fantastic opportunity!

Ref: 1342 €415,000

#### **SANTIAGO DE TEIDE**



3 bed, 3 bath home on 300sqm plot with lots of potential to develop. The garage ensures convenience, while the private pool, small garden, and terraces offer breathtaking views.

Ref: 1317 €350,000

#### **GUIA DE ISORA**



Rustic Property – 56sqm building on a 3,441sqm plot. Ideal for renovation or project. No car access, but road possible. Includes water tank for irrigation. South-facing, bright, and peaceful. A hidden gem!

Ref: 1332 €76,000

#### **GUIA DE ISORA**



Located in Playa San Juan surrounded by natural beauty. 11,000sqm plot suitable for development.

Ref: 532 €298,000

#### **GUIA DE ISORA**



10,000sqm vineyard with 96sqm (1 bed, 1 bath, kitchen, living room, storage room), irrigation system, generator, 1,000-pipe water tank, and fruit trees. Barbecue area with sea and mountain views.

Ref: 1185 €250,000

#### **GUIA DE ISORA**



Agricultural paradise! 6,831sqm plot growing avocados, mangoes, and passionfruit, plus an olive oil production business. The property has a 30sqm operations centre with bathroom and sitting room, 75,000 litre water tank + 3 additional tanks to ensure constant irrigation.

Ref: 1290

€300,000

www.tropicalcountryhouse.com · info@tropicalcountryhouse.com

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# TENERIFE PRIME PROPERTY







#### **Oroteanda Baja**

Luxury 5 bedroom villa with pool and parking on huge plot. Suitable for subdivision. Included in the Sale Price is a Project to build two one bedroom apartments in and above the garage.

€P.O.A.





Stunning, fully furnished and equipped, 5 bed, 3 bath (master en suite) detached villa with heated pool on 2,000sqm plot. This spacious property has a huge terrace to the front which can accommodate up to 8 cars, and a private garden/ terrace with lovely sea views to the rear with BBQ area, jacuzzi, orchard and various seating areas (this significant area is eminently suitable for subdivision to create an excellent-sized plot suitable for the construction of a separate independent villa with pool, parking and lovely sea views.) There is a large lounge/ dining area, an open plan, fully equipped fitted kitchen and garage for 3 cars with direct access. One

of the bedrooms is situated in such a way that it could easily be converted into a separate studio, or granny flat. Extras include aircon and central heating throughout, and solar panel heating for hot water and the pool. This large Villa is very well situated in a small, very central village, located between the airport and the southern resorts of Los Cristianos and Playa de las Américas. With nearby property very popular as exclusive holiday let's this property has fantastic potential as a letting investment. It's rare to find such a large property on a very large plot with sea views in such an excellent location. Call now, come see for yourself!







## **Beautiful Country House in Adeje**



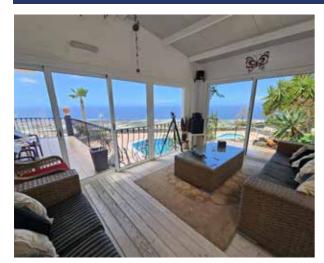




We are delighted to present this magnificent 5 bedroomed property om a 5,000sqm plot of land with its own swimming pool, vast gardens, and panoramic sea and mountain views.

This immaculate, fully furnished home enjoys absolute privacy, and is complemented with a separate private apartment, a 1 bedroom villa with jacuzzi, and large garage.

A wonderful family home and great investment set in a luxurious oasis!







Tel: 620 694 498 / 620 932 713



info@acthabit.com

€1,750,000 Ref: OUT904



#### What is a Branded Residence?

Branded residences are luxury residential properties that are designed to reflect a brand's distinctive style and service standards, allowing investors to buy into the luxury and status associated therein. Hospitality-branded residences offer a unique blend of hotel-quality facilities with the space and freedom of your own holiday home, making them an attractive option for those seeking a lucrative investment opportunity. The guarantee of a global hotel brand ensures that investors enjoy the same level of quality and service they would expect from a stay at one of their world-renowned hotels, as well as benefit from their extensive hospitality marketing and management capabilities.

Globally, the concept is showing rapid growth, with savvy investors eager to acquire holiday properties from renowned brands like Wyndham and Ramada, ensuring that their property is meticulously managed and marketed to the highest standard.

This booming market is set to grow by 55% from 2022 to 2026.

# Why invest in a branded residence?

Brand recognition and loyalty: Investing in a branded residence means leveraging the reputation, experience and expertise of a globally recognised hotel brand. This attracts discerning buyers and renters who seek the quality and prestige associated with these names. The brand's extensive marketing reach further ensures high visibility and demand for your property.

**Unmatched standards and services:** From design to maintenance, branded residences boast superior standards. Owners and guests benefit from access to premium hotel facilities, such as concierge services, housekeeping, spas, gyms, and fine dining. This level of service enhances both lifestyle and convenience, making these properties highly desirable.

Higher rental income: Branded residences typically command a premium in both average daily rate and occupancy compared to non-branded properties. With a reported 30% premium on global branded residences, investors can expect higher rental yields and increased property value appreciation, making these homes a resilient choice in fluctuating markets.

#### Branded residences in Tenerife

Owning a branded residence in Tenerife provides ultimate flexibility - enjoy your property when you are using it, and benefit from a professionally serviced investment when you're not. With a guaranteed fixed rental income for the first year offering hassle free management the shared revenue scheme offers long-term commitment to your investment.

#### Wyndham Residences Golf del Sur – from €190,000

- Studio, 1 & 2 bedroom resort-based apartments
- fully furnished, Turnkey
- private terraces or balconies

On-site restaurant, poolside lounges, a kids club, complimentary high-speed WiFi, reception, housekeeping and laundry services.

5% guaranteed rental returns in year 1, with a shared revenue model in subsequent years.



#### Ramada Residences Costa Adeje - from €265,000



- 1 & 2 bedroom resort based apartments
- Newly renovated
- Fully furnished, turnkey ready
- private terraces or balconies with sea views

On-site restaurant, bar, swimming pools, kids club, complimentary high-speed WiFi, access to the concierge team, airport transfers, housekeeping and laundry services.

5% guaranteed rental returns in year 1, with a shared revenue model in subsequent years.

#### TENERIFE PROPERTY SHOP S.L.













If stunning sea views are high on the priority list, then make sure you view this 7th floor, front-line, penthouse property. This top floor, two bedroom apartment, has a massive private roof terrace, where you can enjoy all day sun and relaxing. A feeling of being on a cruise ship, whilst looking out to sea and watching the whales & dolphins! Sold fully furnished, as seen, and comes complete with its own underground parking space and store room. Ref: GOLF01821 **Price: €570,000** (approx. £483,000)

#### info@tenerifepropertyshop.com



(0034) 922 714 700 / From UK: 0845 862 1634

#### 2-Floor Penthouse in Dinastia, Los Cristianos



Modern 2-bed, 2-bath duplex penthouse in Los Cristianos with stunning sea and mountain views. Features include two spacious terraces, a fully equipped kitchen, and stylish high-quality furnishings. Located in a well-kept, secure complex with communal pools.

Ref.: D1353 Price: 525,000€



#### 4-Bedroom Duplex in El Paso, Los Cristianos



Modern duplex penthouse only 200 M. from Las Vistas Beach, with heated pools and green areas. Features 3 bedrooms, an office (easily a 4th bedroom), 2 bathrooms, a modern kitchen, pantry, and 35m² terraces with sea views. Includes a covered terrace and solarium.

Ref.: D1343 Price: 645,000€



#### 2-Bedroom in Balcon de Atlantico, Torviscas Alto



Stylish ground-floor apartment in Balcón del Atlántico, featuring 58 m² of modern living space, a large terrace with sea views, and a bright open-plan layout. Includes a 45 m² garage, partially converted into a self-contained guest studio with bathroom, plus space for storage.

Price: 300,000€ Ref.: D1350





#### **Modern Town House Centrally in San Isidro**



Modern, fully renovated semi-detached house in San Isidro with 155 m2 over two floors, featuring a living room, open-plan kitchen, 3 bedrooms and two bathrooms Includes a furnished outdoor terrace, garage, and storage room. Close to shopping and sold fully furnished.

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# What every buyer should know about transferring funds to purchase a Spanish property



For many of us, buying a property in Spain is the culmination of years of planning and a long-held dream. Whether you're relocating permanently, buying a holiday home, or investing for the future, the excitement of house-hunting in the sun can sometimes overshadow the practicalities and hidden costs that come with purchasing an international property.

But with the right planning, you can make the most of your money and avoid unnecessary expenses. Here's how to keep more euros in your pocket when buying property in Spain.

Don't overlook currency exchange

One of the most overlooked aspects of buying abroad is how exchange rates can impact your budget. If you're purchasing with funds from the UK or another noneuro country, you'll need to convert your money. Even minor fluctuations in the exchange rate can make a significant difference to the final cost of your property.

Many buyers make the mistake of relying on their bank to transfer funds. While this might seem convenient, banks often charge additional transfer fees and offer less competitive exchange rates. Over the course of a property transaction, this could cost you thousands. Working with a specialist currency provider instead can help you secure a better exchange rate and minimise transfer costs. Services such as rate alerts and forward contracts (which allow you to fix a rate for future payments) can also offer protection from volatility and give you greater control over your budget.

#### Take a strategic approach to timing

The timing of your transfer can be just as important as the rate you receive. Currency markets are in constant flux in response to global events, economic data, and central bank decisions. A good provider can keep you informed of key market movements and help you identify the best times to exchange your funds.

Rather than transferring everything in one go, some buyers choose to stagger their payments or fix their rate in advance to avoid being caught out by an unexpected dip in the exchange rate just before completion.

## Make the most of expert guidance

Buying abroad is a complex process, but you don't have to navigate it alone. Choosing the right partners to work with, from estate agents and solicitors to currency specialists, can make all the difference.

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# 'We were just trying to get it to work': The failure that started the internet

By Scott Nover, Media Reporter, The Washington Post



The first message sent over Arpanet was an inauspicious start to what would grow into the internet

n 29 October | 1969, two scientists established a connection between computers some 350 miles away and started typing a message.

Halfway through, it crashed. They sat down with the BBC 55 years later

At the height of the Cold War, Charley Kline and Bill Duvall were two bright-eyed engineers on the front lines of one of technology's most ambitious experiments. Kline, a 21-year-old graduate student at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and Duvall, a 29-year-old systems programmer at Stanford Research Institute (SRI), were working on a system called Arpanet, short for the Advanced Research Projects Agency Network. Funded by the US Department of Defense, the project aimed to create a network that could directly share data without relying on telephone lines. Instead, this system used a method of data delivery called "packet switching" that would later form the basis for the modern internet.

It was the first test of a technology that would change almost every facet of human life. But before it could work, you had to log in.

Kline sat at his keyboard between the limegreen walls of UCLA's Boelter Hall Room 3420, prepared to connect with Duvall, who was working a computer halfway across the state of California. But Kline didn't even make it all the way through the word "L-O-G-I-N" before Duvall told him over the phone that his system crashed. Thanks to that error, the first "message" that Kline sent Duvall on that autumn day in 1969 was simply the let-

They got their connection up and running about an hour later after some tweaks, and that initial crash was just a blip in an otherwise monumental achievement. But neither man realised the significance of the moment. "I certainly didn't at that time," Kline says. "We were just trying to get it to work."

The BBC spoke to Kline and Duvall for the 55th anniversary of the occasion. Half a century later, the internet has shrunk the whole world down to a small black box that fits in your pocket, one that dominates our attention and touches the furthest reaches of lived experience. But it all started with two men, experiencing just how frustrating it is when you can't get online for the very first time.

This interview has been edited for clarity and length.

Can you describe the computers that enabled Arpanet? Were these massive, noisy machines?

Kline: They were small computers - by standards of that time - about the size of a refrigerator. They were somewhat noisy from the cooling fans, but quiet compared with the sounds from all the fans in our Sigma 7 computer. There were lights on the front that would blink, switches that could control the IMP (Interface Message Processor), and a paper tape reader that could be used to load the software.

**Duvall:** They were in a rack big enough to hold a complete set of sound equipment for a large show today. And they were thousands if not millions or billions of times

less powerful than the processor in an Apple Watch.
These were the old days!

Take us inside that moment when you started typing L-O.

Kline: Unlike websites and other systems to-day, when you connected a terminal to the SRI system nothing happened until you typed something. If you wanted to run a programme, you first needed to login – by typing the word "login" – and the system would ask for your user name and password.

As I typed a character on my terminal - a teletype model 33 - it would get sent from my terminal to the programme I wrote for the SDS Sigma 7 computer. That programme would take the character, format it into a message and send it to the Interface Message Processor. When it was received by SRI's system, [it] would treat [the message] as if it came from a local terminal and would process it. It would "echo" the character [replicate it on the terminal]. In this case, Bill's code would take that character and format it into a message and send it to the IMP to go back to UCLA. When I received it, I would print it on my terminal.

I was on the phone with Bill when we tried this. I told him I typed the letter L. He told me he had received the letter L and echoed it back. I told him that it printed. Then I typed the letter O. Again, it worked fine. I typed the letter G. Bill told me his system had crashed, and he would call me back.

**Duvall:** The UCLA system did not anticipate that it would receive G-I-N after Charlie had typed L-O, so it sent an error message to the SRI computer. I don't recall exactly what the message was, but what happened next was due to the fact that the network connection was much faster than anything seen before.

The normal connection speed was 10 characters per second whereas the Arpanet could transmit characters at up to 5,000 characters per second. The result of this message being sent from UCLA to the SRI computer flooded the input buffer which only expected 10 characters per second. It was like filling a glass with a fire hose. I quickly discov-



Charley Kline, pictured in the center smiling at the camera, was the first to

ered what had happened, changed the buffer size and rebuilt the system, which took about an hour.

Did you realise this could be a historic moment?

**Kline:** No, I certainly didn't at that time.

**Duvall:** Not really. It was another step forward in the larger context of the work we were doing at SRI which we did believe would have a large impact.

When Samuel Morse sent the first telegraph message in 1844, he had an eye for drama, tapping out "What hath God wrought" on a line from Washington, DC to Baltimore, Maryland, US. If you could go back, would you have typed something more memorable?

**Kline:** Of course, if I had realised its importance. But we were just trying to get it to work.

**Duvall:** No. This was the first test of a very complicated system with a lot of moving parts. To have something this complex work in the very first test was dramatic in and of itself.

What was the atmosphere like when the message was sent?

Duvall: We were each alone in our respective computer laboratories at night. We were both happy to have had such a successful first test as the culmination of a lot of work. I went to a local "watering hole" and had a burger and a beer.

**Kline:** I was happy that it worked and went home to get some sleep.

What did you expect Arpanet to become?

**Duvall:** I saw the work we were doing at SRI as a critical part of a larger vision, that of information workers connected to each other and sharing problems, observations, documents and solutions.

What we did not see was the commercial adoption nor did we anticipate the phenomenon of social media and the associated disinformation plague. Although, it should be noted, that in [SRI computer scientist] Douglas Engelbart's 1962 treatise describing the overall vision, he notes that the capabilities we were creating would trigger profound change in our society, and it would be necessary to simultaneously use and adapt the tools we were creating to address the problems which would arise from their use in society.

They were thousands if not millions or billions of times less powerful than the processor in an Apple Watch. These were the old days!

- Bill Duvall

What aspects of the internet today remind you of Arpanet?

**Duvall:** Referring to the larger vision which was being created in Engelbart's group (the mouse, full screen editing, links, etc.), the internet today is a logical evolution of those ideas enhanced, of course, by the contributions of many bright and innovative people and organisations.

Kline: The ability to use resources from others. That's what we do when we use a website. We are using the facilities of the website and its programmes, features, etc. And, of course, email.

The Arpanet pretty much created the concept of routing and multi-

Continued on page 28





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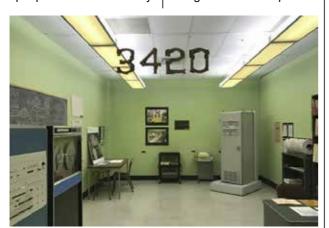




The Interface Message Processor (IMP) functioned as the internet's first

ple paths from one site to another. That got reliability in case a communication line failed. It also allowed increases in communication speeds by using multiple paths simultaneously. Those concepts have carried over to the internet.

As we developed the communications protocols for the Arpanet, we discovered problems, redesigned and improved



Today, the site of the first internet transmission at UCLA's Boetler Hally Room 3420 functions as a monument to technology history

the protocols and learned many lessons that carried over to the Internet. TCP/IP [the basic standard for internet connection] was developed both to interconnect networks, in particular the Arpanet with other networks, and also to improve performance, reliability and more.

## How do you feel about this anniversary?

Kline: That's a mix. Personally, I feel it is important, but a little overblown. The Arpanet and what sprang from it are very important. This particular anniversary to me is just one of many events. I find somewhat more important than this particular anniversary were the decisions by Arpa to build the Network and continue to support its development.

Duvall: It's nice to remember the origin of something like the internet, but the most important thing is the enormous amount of work that has been done since that time to turn it into what is a major part of societies worldwide.

The modern web is dominated not by government or academic researchers, but by some of the largest companies in the world. How do you feel about what the internet has become? What are you most concerned about?

Kline: We use it in our daily lives, and it is very important. It's hard to imagine ever not having it again. One of the benefits of it being so open and not controlled by a government is that new ideas can get developed, such as online shopping, banking, video streaming, news sites, social media,

and more. But because it has become so important to our lives it is a target for malicious activity.

We hear constantly about how things have been compromised. There is a tremendous loss of privacy. And the big companies (Google, Meta, Amazon and internet service providers such as Comcast and AT&T) have too much power in my opinion. But I am not sure of the right remedy.

**Duvall:** I think that there is great danger in the domination by any single entity. We have seen the power of disinformation in directing policy and elections. We have also seen the power of companies in influencing the direction of social norms and the formation of adults and young adults.

Kline: One of my biggest fears has been about the spread of false information. How many times have you heard someone say, "I saw it on the internet". It was always possible to spread false information, but it would cost money to send out mailers, put up a billboard or take out a TV ad. Now it is cheap and easy. And as it reaches millions of people, it gets repeated and treated as fact.

Another fear is that as more and more critical systems have moved onto the internet it becomes easier to cause a serious disruption if those systems are taken down or compromised. For example, not only communications systems but banking, utilities, transportation, etc.

**Duvall:** It has great power but, not heeding Engelbart's warning in 1962, we have not effectively used



The first message sent over what would become the internet consisted of just two letters - L  $\,$  O  $\,$ 

the power of the internet to manage the social impact.

Are there any lessons from your time at Arpanet that could make it a better place for everyone?

Kline: While the openness of the internet allows experimentation and new uses, the lack of control can lead to compromises. Arpa kept some control of the Arpanet. That way they could make sure that everything worked, make decisions about which protocols were required, deal with issues such as site names and other issues

While Icann [the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers] still manages some of that, there have been international disagreements about how to move

forward and whether the US has too much control, etc. But we still need some controls to keep the network functional. Also, since the Arpanet was relatively small, we could experiment with major changes in design, protocols, and more. That would be extremely hard now.

**Duvall:** We are standing on the edge of a precipice with AI and the reflexive access it has to everyone who graces the internet. The internet had explosive growth and development some of it socially damaging - in the early days. Al now stands at that threshold and is inseparable from the internet. And it is not unreasonable to call Al an existential threat. The time to recognise the dangers as well as the promise is now.



By December 1969, Arpanet connected a few computer hubs dotting the US, compared to the estimated 50 billion nodes that make up the modern internet





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# Two forgotten men brought down the Berlin Wall

By William Cook, Author, The Spectator



A man looks into East Berlin though a hole in the Berlin Wall (Getty Images)

Here in Berlin, 35 years ago today, at a dull press conference in a dreary conference room a short walk from my hotel, an East German politician made a rookie error which brought about the fall of the Berlin Wall. Half a lifetime later, it's easy to forget that this seismic shift was the result of a bizarre accident - the unlikely collision of two snap decisions by two men whose names are now almost forgotten. As Berlin throws a party to celebrate the 35th anniversary of what Germans call the 'Friedliche Revolution', how many of these revellers are aware that their 'Peaceful Revolution' was shaped (or even caused) by the impulsive actions of two relatively unknown individuals: a Stasi officer called Harald Jäger and a politburo apparatchik called Günter Schabowski?

Like Run Lola Run, the German movie which replays several versions of the same robbery, showing how the smallest deviations can lead to entirely different outcomes, the story of the Mauerfall (as Germans call the fall of the Berlin Wall) shows how the coincidental choices of two ordinary men had extraordinary consequences which still shape the world we live in. In our godless age it can be comforting to think that momentous events like these are the inevitable result of irresistible geopolitical and macroeconomic forces, rather than chance and human error. The story of the Mauerfall shows it ain't necessarily so.

Hungary had opened its border with Austria, breaching the Iron Curtain

With the benefit of hindsight, the fall of the Berlin Wall and the consequent collapse of communist East Germany seems like the logical conclusion of a project which was always doomed to fail: an artificial state cobbled together from the remnants of Hitler's Reich shackled to an economic system so useless it even made Germans lazy, so deficient in every aspect that it had to imprison its own citizens within its borders to stop them fleeing to the west. And yet we all thought East Germany was here to stay.

In October 1989, Michael Simmons, Eastern Europe correspondent of The Guardian, published a book called The Unloved Country – A Portrait of East Germany Today. Timed to coincide with the 40th birthday of the German 'Democratic'

Republic, this fascinating tome dealt frankly with the repressive nature of the regime, but it contained no indication whatsoever that the GDR faced imminent extinction. 'In 40 extraordinary years a country with less than nothing after the war has produced within the confines of communist planning an economic miracle to rival that of its western sister,' gushed the blurb on the dustjacket. Barely a month later, the Berlin Wall came tumbling down.

East Germany's zialistische Einheitspartei Deutschlands (the 'socialist unity' party which ruled this tyrannical one-party state) marked the 40th birthday of the GDR with a flurry of parades and marches, but this pomp and circumstance was a hollow sham. The country was broke, reduced to penury by 40 years of communism, dependent on loans from West Germany. And thanks to Glasnost and Perestroika, the natives were growing restless.

Since 1961, when the East German government had built the Berlin Wall (or the 'anti-fascist protection barrier' as they preferred to call it), blocking off access between East and West Berlin, hundreds of East Germans had been killed while trying to reach West Germany.

Now, galvanised by Gorbachev's reforms, Hungary had opened its border with Austria, breaching the Iron

Curtain, giving East Germans an escape route into western Europe. So many East Germans flooded into Czechoslovakia, en route to Hungary, that the Czechoslovaks closed the border, prompting massive protests in East Germany. These demonstrations grew so big that the East German politburo feared they might lose control. They decided some sort of concession was required to pacify the protestors, and they decided their new secretary for information, Günter Schabowski, was the right man to announce it.

When Schabowski convened that fateful press conference, at 6pm on 9 November 1989, to announce new travel regulations for East German citizens, his task seemed fairly simple. He merely had to read out a statement which had been written for him by his colleagues, explaining that East Germans could now travel to West Germany, so long as they had passports. This sounded like a major climbdown. Actually, it was nothing of the

Few East Germans had passports and the application process (like virtually every other bureaucratic procedure in East Germany) was painfully slow. It would be easy for the government to make it even slower, blocking any applications they didn't like and delaying others indefinitely. Technically, East Germans were now allowed to travel. Practically, for the vast majority, it would remain virtually impossible. The heat would go out of the protests and migration would shrink to a trickle. It was a clever ruse, a brilliant piece of PR. Unfortunately, Schabowski (literally) hadn't read the script.

For western governmental spokesman, schooled in the dark arts of political PR, it would have been inconceivable to read out a press release without even perusing it beforehand. But this was East Germany, where journalists took dictation and didn't answer back. In a normal East German press conference, Schabowski's lack of preparation might have given him no problems, but the protests had piqued the interest of the western media, so there were lots of western correspondents there that day, including Peter Brinkmann, a journalist with Bild Zeitung, West Germa-



Günter Schabowski

ny's equivalent of the Sun.
I met up with Brinkmann

in Berlin five years ago, on the 30th anniversary of the Mauerfall. He told me what happened. Schabowski had only been in the job three days, so this was new and unfamiliar territory. Rather than reading out the entire press release he merely gave reporters an incomplete precis, skipping the crucial detail about passports. He might still have got away with it if Brinkmann hadn't been bold enough to ask a direct question, the only question worth asking. When would these new regulations take effect, he asked. Schabowski was bamboozled. The statement he'd been given didn't provide a date. However rather than stonewalling, as he should have done, he panicked. 'As far as I know,' he blustered, 'immediately.'

'It was a great mistake,' Brinkmann told me. Schabowski's answer to his question gave the western media the perfect story. 'The gates in the Wall stand wide open!', announced West German TV that evening (an illegal yet vital news source for East Germans) prompting thousands of Fast Berliners to rush out to the border crossings between East and West Berlin. In fact, as they soon found out, all the gates were still slammed shut. The border crossings that had been earmarked for some future date were all located in inaccessible rural areas. The East German politburo never planned to open up the Berlin Wall.

Schabowski's bumbling ineptitude was only one half of the story. The other half was the bravery of East German border guard Harald Jäger, commanding officer at Bornholmer Strasse, one of six border crossings in Berlin. Jäger knew nothing about the press conference, and he hadn't seen the West

German bulletins, so when hordes of East Berliners turned up, demanding entry into West Berlin, he was completely taken by surprise.

Jäger's orders were quite clear: 'capture or eliminate all trespassers.' He telephoned his superiors for clarification. 'You know your orders,' came the reply. 'Nichts neues.' Nothing new. 'Should I give the order to open fire?' he wondered. 'Shooting was not an option, but nor was doing nothing. Doing nothing would have been the same as shooting, because it would have led to a riot.' A riot would have led to casualties, so he opened the gates

For the crowd it was an ecstatic moment, but not for Jäger. 'My life's philosophy was shattered,' he recalled. He'd devoted his entire life to the GDR. Now he'd disobeyed an emphatic order, and he knew the consequences would be colossal. By opening those gates, he'd ended his career, and potentially landed himself in prison. He'd also prevented a bloodbath, a Teutonic Tiananmen Square. If he'd given the order to open fire. the Cold War could have turned red hot that night. and then - who knows? Instead he ensured this uprising remained entirely bloodless.

An even more intriguing 'what if?' is: what if Schabowski hadn't bungled that press conference? What if he'd outlined the passport requirements and told reporters that the border would open at some subsequent, unspecified date? For sure, the days of the old regime would still have been numbered. But without the media spectacle of the Mauerfall, would the Peaceful Revolution have led to a reunited Germany? It was those iconic, euphoric images of East and West Berliners cele-

Continued on page 32

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#### Continued from page 30

brating on the Berlin Wall, transmitted all around the world, which provided the momentum for reunification, cementing the idea in the public imagination, making it feel like a natural, unstoppable process.

A Peaceful Revolution without the Mauerfall might well have been a slower. smoother evolution, leading to a democratic yet independent East Germany - maybe more akin to Austria, inside the EU but outside Nato. As a citizen of the Bundesrepublik, with family roots in the former GDR, I'm delighted that my East German Heimat is now part of a reunited Germany, but with so many East Germans voting for Alternative für Deutschland, in far greater numbers than in West Germany, I'm painfully aware that for many Germans, this is still a nation divided between east and west.

Will it remain so? Will that rift grow ever wider and deeper? Certainly, the mood here in Berlin feels pessimistic on the 35th anniversary of the Mauerfall, a lot more downbeat than it was in 2019, when I met up with Peter Brinkmann on the 30th anniversary. Germany's coalition government has collapsed, leaving Olaf Scholz as the beleaguered chancellor of a minority SPD-Green alliance, making a spring election a racing certainty.

From my bedroom in the Orania Hotel, in Kreuzberg, I can see over the old bor-

der

Against a barrage of bad economic news, that snap election couldn't come at a worse time for Scholz's centre-left SPD, which has been polling at pitifully low levels. With no financial upturn in sight, defeat for his Social Democrats looks certain, and at the forthcoming election all eyes will be on AfD. How far can they go? None of Germany's mainstream parties will work with them, locking them out of any coalition government, but the more votes they win the harder it becomes to maintain that cordon sanitaire.

Yet despite the doom and gloom, I remain indefatigably optimistic about Germany. For all its faults and all its woes, it remains a country of boundless ener-

gy, with a can-do mentality reminiscent of the USA. And despite the rise and rise of AfD, I remain confident that the old order will prevail. Spooked by the popularity of AfD, Germany's conservative Christian Democrats have shifted further to the right and will surely form the next government. Their sharper stance on immigration will spike the guns of AfD.

And although the East German economy still lags behind West Germany, the gap is closing steadily: from less than half of West German GDP per capita 30 years ago to around three-quarters today. East German GDP now outstrips many parts of Britain, not bad going in a place where, for 40 years, private enterprise of any sort was practi-

cally impossible. Sure, East Germany has its problems, but thanks to the Mauerfall and the Peaceful Revolution they're now capitalist problems rather than communist problems – lack of money rather than lack of liberty, a much easier headache to solve.

From my bedroom in the Orania Hotel, in Kreuzberg, I can see over the old border into Mitte, where Schabowski held that press conference Mitte used to be a grey place, a melancholy maze of empty streets and ruined buildings. Now it's brash and hectic, full of glitzy shops and restaurants. Kreuzberg used to be a cul-desac in the Iron Curtain, a dead-end at the end of a one-way street, surrounded on three sides by the Wall. Now it's a grungy nirvana, the trendiest part of town. The Death Strip which used to separate them, with its searchlights and watchtowers, is now invisible. Today I walked across it without even knowing it was ever there

Hardly any of the Wall remains, merely a few sanitised memorials. Its zigzag route across the city is marked by a meandering footpath. Each time I come here I walk along it. marvelling at how much has changed. The first time I came here, in 1991, Berlin was still two cities. Now there's scarcely any difference. In other, bleaker areas of Eastern Germany, it's another story altogether but here in Berlin, at least. after 35 years the wound has healed.

# 'Eldest daughter syndrome' to the rebellious youngest sibling: Does your birth order shape your personality?

By Molly Gorman, Editorial Producer, BBC Future



The question of whether siblings' birth order shapes their personality has puzzled families and psychologists for

years

But the evidence isn't as straightforward as you might think.

As the eldest daughter of two, I often identify with the traits stereotypically associated with being the oldest sibling: responsible, conscientious, a perfectionist. My mum is an eldest daughter, too, and also shares those traits. My younger sister, on the other hand, is a bit more carefree – even though she and I grew up in the same house-

hold with the same parents, and are close, our personalities are quite different.

I wondered whether that difference could be due to our birth order – is there any science to the idea that being the oldest, the youngest, or an only child, shapes who we are, and how we navigate the world?

#### A century-long mystery

Despite fascinating the scientific community and public for more than 100 years, the question of whether our birth order amongst siblings shapes our personalities is very much still up for debate.

Historically, research has produced inconsistent findings. There are several reasons why this is, though to put it simply: it's hard to measure. Rodica Damian, an associate professor in psychology at the University of Houston, Texas, in the US, explains that previous studies have often included small sample sizes. In addition, since personality tests are often self-reported, they may be affected by bias.

#### "The Big Five"

The five-factor model of personality is used to determine general personality structure. Psychologists researching birth order measure siblings on the following traits:

- Extraversion (or introversion)
- Agreeableness
- Conscientiousness (or intelligence)
- Neuroticism (or emotional stability)
- Openness to experi-



Primogeniture refers to the birthright of the eldest child to inherit family wealth, estate or titles

ence

Recent studies point out that a number of confounding variables can make it hard to investigate if birth order is systematic, meaning that it affects every person in the same way. The total number of siblings may be a factor, for example: one would expect the overall dynamics to be different in a family with two siblings compared to a family with seven siblings. Being the eldest or youngest child in these differently-sized families might be a very different experience, and not directly comparable.

Family size and the experience of being a child in any given family may in turn be entangled with many other factors, such as a family's socioeconomic status (wealthier families with higher socioeconomic status tend to have fewer children, for example). And then there is a person's age and gender, which could influence their experience within the family and bevond.

Within this context, researchers have not been able to conclude that birth order has any consistent, universal impacts on our personalities. But that

doesn't mean birth order is irrelevant. It could play a role within certain families, or cultures.

"I think people have a lot of beliefs that are kind of outdated, or that were never well supported in the first place," says Julia Rohrer, a personality researcher at Leipzig University in Germany. "For example, the 'eldest daughter syndrome' thing is a big one of course, women often still have different roles and are expected to provide more care. And then, first-borns are expected to take care of younger siblings," she says. "For some women, this might perfectly match their experience but for others it doesn't because every family is different." In other words, not every eldest daughter will be responsible and caring - but for some, the idea of an "eldest daughter syndrome" may ring true because they really did grow up having to look after their younger siblings and feel that this experience shaped them.

Rohrer and her colleagues have found that birth order "does not have a lasting effect on broad per-

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### **MOTORWORLD** What to do if you break down

With thanks to Emma Swain, Motorworld, Las Chafiras

You are the best person to judge your own safety if you have a breakdown.

However, the following points should be borne in mind when deciding what action to take. Remember - prevention is always better than a cure. Ensure your vehicle is regularly serviced, carry out checks yourself from your manufacturers handbook and make sure you have sufficient fuel for each journey.

Don't ignore warning lights - keep an eye on your dashboard and always stop at a safe place to carry out basic checks (consult your handbook if you are not sure what is wrong).

Use your senses : listen for unusual noises, or feel for strange vibrations. If you think something is abnormal, slow down until you find a safe place to stop, before seeking advice.

If you have to stop - don't panic! Use the hard shoulder or a lay-by where possible, away from moving traffic. If you are unable to exit the traffic, stop as far to the right as you can, switch on your hazard lights and place your warning triangles behind and



in front of your vehicle.

When exiting the car, do so from the passenger side, away from moving traffic and ensure all other occupants do so also. Make sure that the driver and each passenger are wearing their reflective jacket.

Consider your pets; in most circumstances it is safer to leave animals in the car

- but make sure windows are open wide enough for ventilation but not enough to allow them to escape. Where possible, ensure drinking water is available.

Find a safe spot for your passengers - ideally behind a barrier and away from mov-





er provider or call a recovery

Leave the passenger door unlocked so you can quickly access the vehicle if you feel unsafe, and please remember that being hit by moving traffic is the most significant risk at a breakdown. So only return to the vehicle if you feel threatened, returning to a place of safety outside as soon as you can. If you can't get to a safe place, call the police. If there is nowhere safe outside the vehicle for passengers to wait, and there is a strong chance your vehicle could be struck, then call the police straight away with your location. If you have to remain in the vehicle keep your seatbelt on.

For more The TPG online:

Motorworld content, visit



#### Continued from page 32

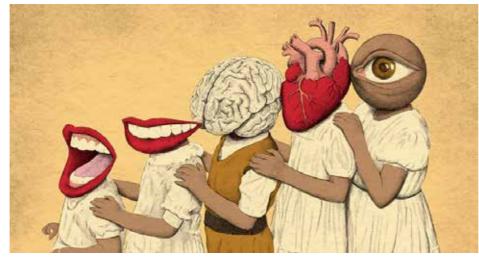
sonality traits" after examining three large datasets from surveys in the UK, US and after examining three large datasets from surveys in the UK, US and Germany, each comprising data from several thousand people. However, the study did confirm previous findings on the impact of birth order on one specific trait: intelligence.

Intelligence is a complex phenomenon and the study only measures it in the form of performance in intelligence tests, and self-reported intellect. "We confirmed the effect that firstborns score higher on objectively measured intelligence and additionally found a similar effect on self-reported intellect," Rohrer and her colleagues wrote in the study. Previous research had documented that performances in intelligence tests "decline slightly from firstborns to later-borns".

#### Firstborns score higher in intelligence tests - but the reasons for that are complex

As for birth order and other personality traits, Rohrer says reflecting on one's experience can still be meaninaful, even if there is no universal pattern: "It does provide a label where you can find other people who grew up in a similar situation, and you can exchange experiences and so on,' she says of terms such as "eldest daughter syndrome". There is nothing wrong with framing your experience that way, "as long as you don't assume that this experience is universal," she says.

Damian echoes this: "While we don't find differences in personality that are systematic, that doesn't mean that there aren't so-



Birth order research suggests that patterns around the characteristics, intelligence and careers of siblings aren't replicated globally

cial processes within each family or within each culture that can lead to different outcomes based on birth order."

For example, the UK has a historically (male-preferring) primogeniture culture, meaning the eldest child would be the first in line to inherit family wealth, estate or titles. Only in 2013, with the passing of the Succession to the Crown Act did primogeniture within the monarchy end, removing the power of a male heir to displace an elder daughter in their right to the Crown. The idea of primogeniture is surprisingly widespread and persistent: in Succession, the HBO satirical comedy-drama, about a family's fight to take over a media empire, one character shouts "I'm the eldest boy!" in the finale. He believes his birth position should give him the right to take over his father's position of CEO. (He is actually the second-eldest son, but we won't get into that).

"If the social practice is based on birth order, then yes, birth order will impact your outcomes," says Damian.

#### Age is just a number?

Age-related experiences can easily be mistaken for a personality trait or behaviour influenced by birth order, the researchers explain. Take the older, "re-

sponsible" sibling as an example: "As people grow older, they become more responsible, more self-controlled. So, the firstborn is always going to be older than the later born, and as you observe your children grow, the firstborn will always be more responsible," says Damian.

"Another thing is that people become more self-conscious as they grow older," she adds. "So the second-born might appear more sociable and less neurotic, because a 10-year-old is much more happy and full of themselves... compared to the 14-year-old, who's freaking out about everything. That's because they have different challenges.

Factors such as children's friendship circles also matter. Multiple studies suggest a link between delinquent peers and delinquent behaviour, for example, so an older child could be more of a rule-breaker depending on the people with whom they surround themselves.

#### **Smart siblings**

As aforementioned, one consistent finding that crops up in birth order research is the link between birth order and intelligence, with firstborns averaging slightly higher in intellect-related traits than younger-borns. "[The intel-

ligence link] mostly shows up in verbal intelligence test results, and it has a very small effect," says Damian. Also, "if you took a test twice, you'll probably score depending on the day or mood, [or] whatever you ate that morning, [or] how long you slept."

It may also be explained by cognitive stimulation in the early years of life. Damian points out that the more adults per child you have in a family, the more exposed they are to mature language and vocabulary. But when there are more siblings born into a family, levels of intellectual stimulation might decrease. "So it's not so much that they're genetically smarter or that they have more potential it's more that they translate into a higher verbal IQ score on the test which could be due to knowing more words, because more adults versus children spoke to them," she says. "With two children, maybe some of that reading time is taken by managing sibling interactions where the verbal input is a little bit less elevated." There are also suggestions that as older siblings tutor younger siblings, or explain things to them, they use "more cognitive resources".

Interestingly, these patterns of intelligence aren't replicated globally. Data from developing countries differs to data from developed countries, for example. In Indonesia, later-born siblings are likely to have better educational opportunities than their older siblings, potentially due to financial constraints, easing only when older siblings begin contributing to family income.

According to Damian and her colleague, birth order has "negligible effects" on careers, too. In the past, there an idea prevalent among scientists was that the older sibling would enter a more academic or scientific career, and the vounger a more creative one. But Damian found the opposite: in her longitudinal study, which looked at a sample of US high students in 1960 and then the same participants 60 years later, first-borns ended up in more creative careers.

#### 'Selfish' only children?

Only children often face the stereotype of being more selfish than children born with siblings, supposedly because they do not have to compete for a parents' attention. Recent studies, however, have shown that this is not the case, and that growing up without siblings does not lead to increased selfishness or narcissism. Other research suggests that the social behaviours of only children compared to children with siblings are not large or pervasive, and "may grow smaller with age".

Birth order research has typically not included only children on the grounds that they cannot be fairly compared to children who have grown up with siblings. However, it is possible to compare the personality traits of siblings and only children, according to a 2025 paper by Michael Ashton, a professor of psychology at Brock University, Canada, and Kibeom Lee, a professor of psychology at the University of Calgary, Canada.

Their study presented

some new and fascinating results. It examined the association between personality, birth order, and number of siblings, in 700,000 adults online in one sample and more than 70,000 in another, separate sample. Middle-born and last-born siblings averaged higher on the "Honesty-Humility" and "Agreeableness" scales than first-born siblings. "Honesty-Humility" measures how honest and humble a person is, meaning, a high-scoring person is unlikely to manipulate others, break rules, or feel entitled. A low-scoring person may be more inclined to break rules and may feel a strong sense of self-importance. On the agreeableness scale, a high-scoring person tends to be forgiving, lenient in judging others, even-tempered and willing to compromise, while a low-scoring person may hold grudges, be stubborn, be quick to feel anger, and be critical of others. "These differences were quite small in size, particularly when the comparisons involve people from families having the same number of children," Ashton and Lee say in an email. "In contrast, the differences in these dimensions between persons from a one-child family (i.e., only children) and persons from a sixor-more-child family were considerably larger, some-

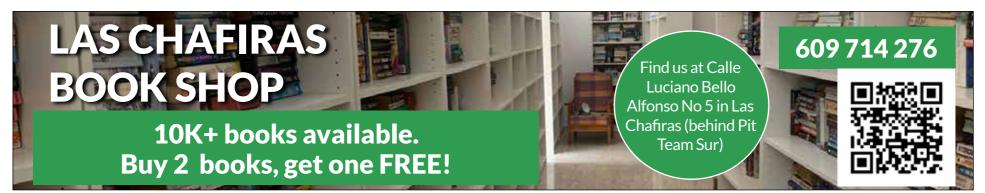
So, I ask, is the influence of birth order just a zombie theory — a concept that is wrong but which refuses to die? Rohrer disagrees. "I'm not sure whether I would call it a zombie theory," she says. "From the scientific perspective, I think the literature is progressing quite productively."

where between the sizes

that social scientists would

call 'small' and 'medium'."

So we may, one day, have a clearer answer as to what it means to be an eldest daughter. Until then, I'll keep letting my younger sister believe I'm inherently smarter than her.





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# In History: Martin Luther King Jr, a misunderstood icon of US history

By Riley Farrell, Features correspondent, BBC



Dr Martin Luther King Jr speaking before crowd of 25,000 in front of Montgomery, Alabama state capital building on 25 March 1965 in Montgomery, Alabai

tempt to say to America that you have a marvellous ideal, and that you should live up to it," said Martin Luther King Jr in an exclusive 1961 BBC interview. What is the truth behind the mythology that surrounds the civil rights leader?

"It is never easy for one to accept the role of symbolism without going through constant moments of self-examination," the Reverend Dr Martin Luther King Jr told the BBC's Face to Face programme in

The BBC's interview took place between two milestones in the civil rights movement. It was recorded six vears after King led the 381-day boycott of Montgomery's buses fol-

"My work is simply an at- | lowing Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her bus seat to a white man, and two vears before he made his I Have a Dream speech at the 1963 March on Washington. John Freeman's interview explores the early experiences that helped to form King's political and ethical outlook.

Martin Luther King Jr is known as the face of the mid-20th Century fight for civil rights, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate and the only non-president whose birthday is a US holiday.

Born in a deeply segregated Atlanta, Georgia, on 15 January 1929, he was initially named Michael after his father Rev Michael King, who was senior pastor at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. How-



MLK describes a rigid system of segregation during his childhood in Atlanta.

ever, on a trip to Germany, King Sr was inspired to change his name and his son's name to Martin, after the leader of the Protestant Reformation

#### In History

In History is a series which uses the BBC's unique audio and video archive to explore historical events that still resonate to-

Growing up in the church and experiencing a "relatively strict" upbringing, King Jr enrolled in Morehouse College at the age of 15 and joined his family's long line of pastors, earning a degree in divinity from Crozer Theological Seminary. Later, at Boston University, King earned a doctorate in systematic the-

"I had no idea that I would be catapulted into a position of leadership and the civil rights struggle," says Kina.

MLK's legacy plays a principal role in the messy project of the United States. Even his most famous speech. I Have a Dream. is quintessentially American: inspired by the Bible, the Declaration of Inde-



Martin Luther King Jr. faced moments of loneliness and fear during his

pendence, the US Constitution, and Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation and the Gettysburg Ad-

"My work is simply an attempt to say to America that you have a marvellous ideal, and that you should live up to it," says Martin Luther King in the BBC interview.

"This problem can be solved in the United States if enough people give themselves to it; if they devote their lives to breaking down all of the barriers that separate men from men on the basis of race or colour," he

Yet that was still a long way off. "The vast majority [of Black Americans] still confront problems of economic insecurity and social isolation," King told the BBC in 1961

Today, his daughter, Dr Bernice King, tends to agree with her father's assessment. Bernice King tells the BBC that "token integration" remains pervasive and perfunctory.

"You'll see a little bit more than one token chosen, but it's still not a true representation across the board, especially in places of significant influence."

Legacy is top of mind for Bernice King: the legacy of her family, herself and the greater mission of nonviolent resistance. Her father represents a "vast yet comprehensive" inspiration for her work as a lawyer and

"He had this great capacity to understand humanity and to speak in a way that pierced through and awakened people to a greater sense," she says.

Bernice King is MLK's youngest child, now the CEO of the King Center, a non-profit education site founded by her mother Coretta Scott King.

As a child, "I knew that I would have influence in some arena related to serving humanity," Bernice King says. She was five years old when her father was killed by a white supremacist in Memphis, Tennes-

Remembering Dr Martin Luther King's memory "is a powerful political tool" in the story of the US, says Dr Hajar Yazdiha, a sociology scholar who wrote The Struggle for the People's King: How Politics Transforms the Memory of the Civil Rights Movement, which traced 40 years of the misuses of King's legacy (such as using MLK quotes to oppose the Obama presidency). The sanitisation of Dr King's life story has "dangerous consequences for democracy", says Dr Yazdiha, who believes that the stakes of misrepresenting such a key figure in US history are

The politics of revisionist history is not just about keeping us from understanding the past. It's about ensuring we cannot understand the present - Dr Hajar Yazdiha

"Our collective memories are the stories that make up our national identity. our understandings of who we are as a nation and as a people," Dr Yazdiha tells the BBC. "The way we tell the story teaches us who the heroes and villains are. both in the past and today."

Warning against the danger of "crafting a comfortable and quotable King" at the 2023 commemorative service for her father, Bernice King says that she "constantly studies and discovers" the complexities of Kingian non-violent resistance. "There's a great misunderstanding of my father

because we've just studied a little portion of him that fits or aligns with the work we're doing."

#### The dangers of becoming a symbol

There is a risk of skewing history when a person becomes a symbol of a continuing movement, argues Dr Yazdiha. "The politics of revisionist history is not just about keeping us from understanding the past. It's about ensuring we cannot understand the present, because if we were to understand the roots of our present-day problems, we might be moved to come together and mobilise for deeper systemic change."

Both Bernice King and Dr Yazdiha point to the misreading of King in the US education system, especially the neatly tied and rose-tinted tales of the civil rights movement in textbooks. King's own remarks have been used in recent years to restrict education in the US, with laws passed in 44 states prohibiting racial education. There are even bans against books about MLK."It's been a consistent problem, the issue from the education standpoint," Bernice says. "I feel that is the place where we ought to discuss, to dialogue. That's the whole purpose of education."

It's a deep and dangerous irony that King, today one of the most celebrated figures in US history, is misunderstood, says Dr Yazdiha - emphasising that he was a fierce campaigner against militarism, poverty and racism, which he called the "three evils of society".

"I turn to the legacies of the civil rights movement as guidance, because they remind us that this messy work is not about pitting one group against another or reversing the power structure to dominate other people." says Dr Yazdiha.

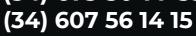
For those who knew and studied King, "the long and bitter – but beautiful – struggle for a new world" is still worth fighting for. "I'm his daughter, and I do a lot of self-examination in light of the things that he's saying," says Bernice. "How do we work through the complexity of these issues? How do we create a coexistence that doesn't suppress, silence or sideline?"







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# Is an apple a day really good for your health?

By Jessica Bradley, Freelance Journalist



We're told an apple a day keeps the doctor away, but does this humble fruit really have an outsized positive effect on our health?

The world loves apples. Every year, almost 100 million tonnes of apples are produced globally. These fruits, which comes in a wide range of colours and flavours, have long had a reputation for helping us stay healthy.

The popular phrase "an apple a day keeps the doctor away" originates from a slightly wordier Welsh proverb written in 1866: "Eat an apple on going to bed and you'll keep the doctor from earning his bread."

But is there any truth at the core of this longstanding maxim? And are apples especially healthy compared with other fruit?

First, let's think about the nutrients that apples contain. For one thing, they are a rich source of phytochemicals, including flavanols. These compounds have been linked to numerous health benefits, such as maintaining a healthy weight and lowering your heart disease risk.

### Why apples are so healthy

Apples also contain various polyphenols, including anthocyanins, which help give some apple peel

its red colour and are associated with improved heart health. Another polyphenol you'll find in apples is phloridzin. It has been found to help control blood glucose.

There's also lots of fibre in apples, largely pectin, which reduces the amount of low-density lipoproteins (LDLs) – the unhealthy form of cholesterol – in our blood. Pectin also lowers the amount of sugar and fat we absorb from food, helping to stabilise our blood sugar levels.

These nutrients in apples do seem to offer health benefits. A 2017 review of five studies reported that eating apples is associated with an 18% reduction in the risk of developing type 2 diabetes. Another review from 2022, which analysed 18 studies, found that eating more apples, or apple-derived foods such as apple juice, can reduce cholesterol, if you sustain the habit for more than one week.

Having a healthy diet in general can lower your risk of cancer by up to 40%, largely thanks to bioactive compounds, phytochemicals, that are common in apples. Some studies have even linked apple consumption to having a lower risk of developing certain cancers.

Regularly eating apples appears to be associated with various health benefits – and we know they're packed with healthy compounds. But are apples, specifically, any more effective than other plant-based

foods at keeping the doctor away?

"Apples don't have much vitamin C, and they have no iron or calcium, but they have so many other ingredients that promote health and do wonderful things for the body," says Janet Colson, professor of nutrition and food science at Middle Tennessee State University in the US.

Some researchers say apples have the 'second highest level of antioxidant power among all fruits'

Apples contain compounds that are common to many fruits and vegetables, including those helpful polyphenols, says Flavia Guzzo, associate professor of plant biology at the University of Verona in Italy.

Polyphenols are strong antioxidant molecules. They help to balance the ratio of antioxidants to free

inflammation.

Some researchers say apples have the "second highest level of antioxidant power among all fruits".

Apples also contain the

Apples also contain the polyphenol phloridzin, which is much less common within the other fruits in your fruit bowl. Like pectin, phloridzin appears to lessen the amount of sugar we absorb into our blood from food.

Apples are also a good source of phenolic compounds, which are another form of phytochemical. We get one study found that people living in the US get around one fifth of their total phenolic intake from apples. Research suggests that apple phenolic compounds are associated with a lower risk of heart disease, cancer, asthma, diabetes and obesity.

But it isn't just the powerful polyphenols and antioxidant punch that has led some scientists to recommend apples over other fruit. In several papers, scientists recommend regular apple-eating because the fruits are simply so widely available. That means that eating them regularly is something that is relatively achievable for many people.

It's clear that apples have the potential to improve our health. But it's quite a big claim to say that eating one every day will prevent us from having to go to the GP.

Thankfully, one 2015 study took on this exact question. Researchers analysed a survey of nearly 9,000 people, which the participants stated what they ate during one 24-hour period, which they said was indicative of their typical daily diet.

They found that ap-



People who eat apples, studies suggest, are overall healthier



Eating apples appears to be associated with various health benefits

ple-eaters were more likely than apple-avoiders to keep the doctor away, however, this result wasn't statistically significant when taking into account that apple-eaters are more likely to be more educated and were less likely to smoke.

"The main finding, that there isn't much of an association between people who regularly consume an apple a day and the likelihood of visiting a physician, is because it's complex," says lead researcher Matthew Davis, adjunct associate professor of epidemiology at Dartmouth Geisel School of Medicine in New Hampshire, US.

A more pertinent saying might be: 'An apple a day keeps the pharmacist away'

"People who consume apples, based on our analyses, are healthier in general."

But they also found that daily apple-eaters were less likely to be reliant on prescription medication — and this was still a significant finding when adjusting for socioeconomic differences between participants who ate one apple per day and those who didn't.

Therefore, the paper concludes, a more pertinent saying might be: "An apple a day keeps the pharmacist away."

But Davis has issues with the apple-a-day phrase, and says there may be another reason why he and colleagues didn't find a connection between daily apple consumption and going to the doctor.

"The underlying assumption is that you only visit the doctor when you're sick, but people visit the doctor for annual check-ups and other prevention-type things," he says. This is why Davis also analysed the data around the likelihood of using prescription medication,

too

"This implies that apples reduce the likelihood of having a chronic illness," he says.

But ultimately, he says, apples alone aren't enough to stop you having to visit the GP, and that the most impactful thing is having a healthy diet overall. "Which, really, is what the saying is getting at," he says.

Colson agrees that the apple-a-day phrase alludes to regularly eating plant-based foods. Apples are a good example because they're so readily available, affordable, have a long shelf-life.

"Before fridges, you could put apples in the cellar and they would last a long time, and they don't attract mould," she says.

Other studies have found health benefits relating to daily apple-eating – but only when people consume more than one per day.

Another study found that eating three apples daily stimulated statistically significant weight loss

In one study published in

2020, researchers split 40 participants (who all had mildly elevated cholesterol levels) into two groups. One of those groups ate two apples per day while the other had an apple drink with similar calories. The experiment lasted eight weeks and, apart from the apple products, the participants didn't make any other changes to their diets. The researchers found that the apple-eaters had a clinically significant lower level of cholesterol, at the end of the study. However, one weakness of this study it its small size; 40 participants is a relatively low sample size from which to draw any

Continued on page 40

# **DOG OF THE MONTH**



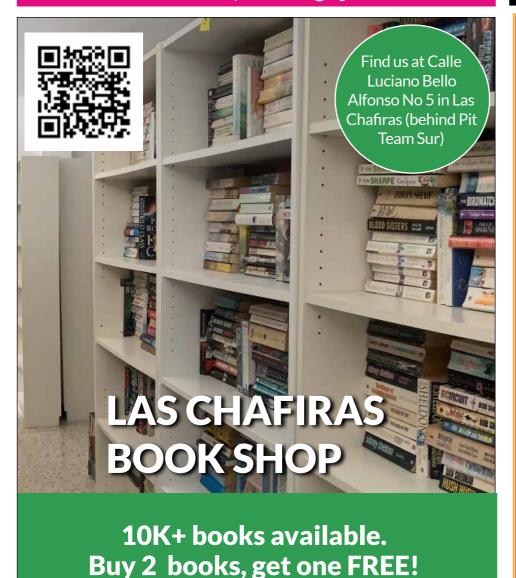
This is Kenny. He is a small dog who is not having a nice time at the Refuge. There are many big, noisy barking dogs there that he does get very scared of and we feel that he needs to urgently find a home where he can feel safe and get his confidence back. He gets on well with other

dogs, males and females. but he finds it very scary to go out on a walk so it would be great if he can be re-homed by someone with experience and a lot of patience to help him gain trust and confidence in people and the world in general. As a small dog he would be just fine in an apartment and we

really believe that, given a bit of time, he will make a great addition to any family.

If you think you could be the right person for Kenny, you can meet him at the Tierra Blanca Refuge, located near the Fasnia turn off on the TF1, just above the motorway.

Contact Rachel on 629 031 273 or cpa.tierrablanca@tragsa.es for more information





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### **TEACH YOUR CHILD** TO PLAY PIANO!

A Tenerife piano teacher has created an engaging children's piano book designed for young beginners. This delightful course not only makes learning easy and fun for kids but also encourages parents to join in on the musical journey!

The "Learn piano with Magical Middle C" book is beautifully illustrated, packed full of easy, popular songs and has fun games and activities which students can play with parents/teachers and friends. The songs in the book use a simple, easy to use colour-coded keyboard chart which corresponds to the keys on the student's piano or keyboard. The book is suitable for ages 3 to 9 and has been written by Louise Attaway, a piano teacher based in the south of Tenerife

Louise has been teaching piano on the island to children and adults for over 15 years and also teaches singing and music theory.

The price for the Learn piano with Magical Middle C book is €16.00. If you would like to buy a copy, pop in to Las Chafiras Book Shop, 5 Calle Luciano Bello Alfonso, Las Chafiras (call 609 714 276 to check opening times), or call Louise on 686 014 355 to reserve your copy.

#### Continued from page 38

big conclusions.

Another study found that eating three apples daily stimulated statistically significant weight loss and improved blood glucose levels (which wasn't statistically significant when followed up) in 40 overweight women

As for how best to eat apples to get the greatest benefit from them, Guzzo advises against removing the skin first.

"We should eat the peel of apples, as this is where most of the apple's polyphenols can be found," she savs.

And ancient varieties are preferable to new varieties of apple, says Guzzo.

In 2021, she and colleagues published a paper looking at the nutritional value of the Pom Prussian apple, an ancient apple from northern Italy, which she found was richer in polyphenols than more modern apple varieties.

"When breeders select new varieties, they look to other traits, including size and taste and robustness of the trees," she says.

"And when they select these traits, rather than polyphenol content, the variety becomes poorer [from a health point of view]."

She says some polyphenols can produce a bitter taste, and that sweeter varieties probably contain a lower proportion of these compounds.

As for colour, Guzzo says this doesn't matter so much. Both the polyphenols that cause apple skin to be red or green are both good for us.

Ultimately, while eating an apple a day may not mean you visit the doctor less often, it could impact your overall health or your reliance on long-term medication. But, as is always the case, the bigger picture is complicated.

Eating an apple a day

It doesn't have to be whole apples - apple juice and puree can be just as

is great, says Guzzo - but | only if that is part of a diet rich in various other plant- | a key driver of good health.

based foods, since that is

# 'Not just smut': Why it's happily ever after for romance books

By Maia Davies, BBC News



Inside London's first romance-only bookshop, Sarah Maxwell stands in the "smut hut" – a section dedicated to her store's more erotic titles.

**C**urrounded Shelves stacked with brightly colourpaperbacks with titles including Just For the Summer, Swept Away and The Friendship Fling - young women are milling around, chatting and flicking through books.

Sarah says she wants

 $\ensuremath{b_{V}}\xspace\mid$  to challenge the critics of romance fiction - often men - who diminish what she describes as "really high-quality writing" by saying "it's just smut".

"A lot of these books have strong world-building, amazing character development and a really good plot," Sarah says.

A surge in romance and fantasy sales last year pushed UK fiction revenue above £1bn for the first time, according to a report released last week.

As its popularity grows,

some readers and industry experts say attitudes towards romance are changing for the better, but others believe sexism keeps the genre from the mainstream.

Romantasy - a blend of romance and fantasy - has become a reliable fixture on best-seller lists, largely due to the cult-like following it has gained among TikTok's reading community, Book-

Major series like Fourth Wing and A Court of Thorns and Roses see female protagonists enter high-stakes

relationships set against magical, fantastic worlds.

Many readers pick what to read based on tropes such as "enemies to lovers" and "second-chance romance" with books marketed under these banners.

A book's "spice level" or how much sex can be found between the covers is also a major factor, often focused on female pleasure, power and emotional connection.

"I'm into cowboys at the moment," says Sky, 23 from London - a reference to "cowboy romances", a growing sub-genre whose books take place in a western setting - often the American frontier.

Sky and another fan, Chantelle, 24 describe themselves as "very proud romance readers". They trace their love of the genre to reading fanfiction under their desks at school, and now get their recommendations through BookTok.

But Sky and Chantelle admit not everyone reacts positively when they talk about their favourite books. "Some people do turn their nose up, roll their eyes sometimes," says Chantelle. "but I iust don't really care". Caroline, 29, admits she "sneered a bit" at romance in her early twenties. "I used to read romances when I was a teenager," she recalls, "but I got away from it and started reading stuff I thought



Romance fiction spans a dizzying range of sub-genres and moods, all centred around heady love stories with a guaranteed happily ever after – or HEA to fans - lending the books a comforting, cosy atmosphere.

was really smart." Then last year, Caroline picked up Emily Henry's bestseller Book Lovers - an "enemies to lovers" story about a literary agent and a book editor, set in a picturesque small town.

"I realised I hadn't consumed something guilt-free in my reading for a really long time," Caroline says, "and it was just really fun". She's since devoured the entire series of A Court of Thorns and Roses, a stalwart of bestseller lists and many readers' first taste of romantasv.

"It's nice to feel all the feelings with something that's just going to really entertain you," Caroline savs.

Victoria, 31, has long read both romance and fantasy for much-needed escapism: "Sometimes I think we all need a little bit of a happily ever after in life."

She says "chick-lit" stigma is still strong, but thinks attitudes are starting to change as people speak openly about their love of the genre online.

"We're talking about it in a different way," Victoria says. "Guilty pleasures? Do I need to feel guilty for loving something?"

'These are the Swifties' Both romance and fan-

tasy saw record sales last year, according to data gathered from more than 7.000 UK booksellers.

Romance & Sagas, as they are officially categorised, increased from £62m in 2023 to £69m in 2024, while Science Fiction & Fantasy saw an even bigger bump - from £59m to £83m.

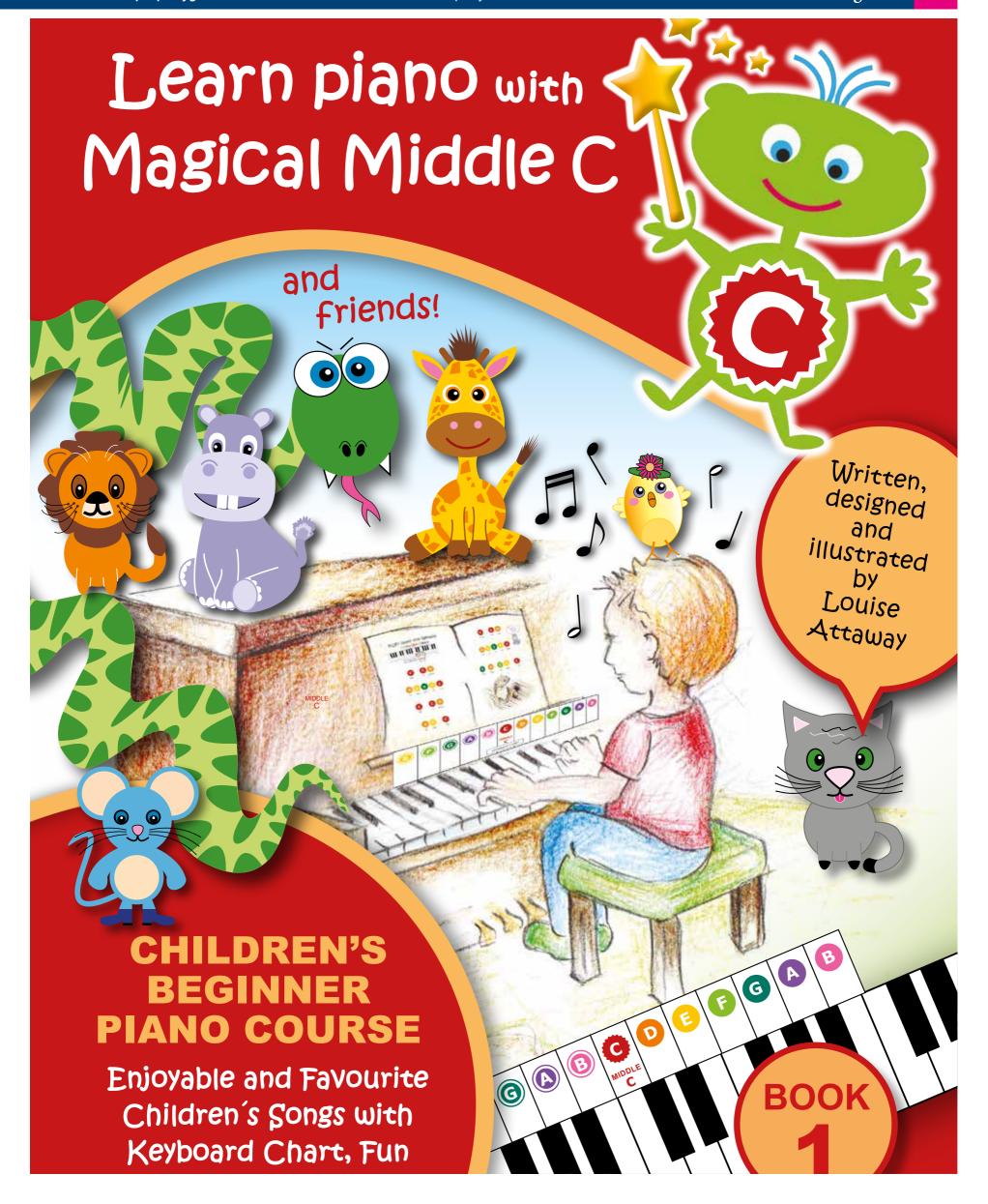
Both categories have seen these numbers skyrocket since the pandemic, growing year-on-year back in 2019, romance's sales sat at £24m, and fantasy at £29m.

Women under 35 years old make up more than half of romantasy purchases, figures show.

Literary agent Rebeka Finch, 28, says the "voracious" appetite among this demographic, largely driven by BookTok, reflects

Continued on page 42





#### Continued from page 40

broader consumer habits.

She likens romance readers to Swifties - Taylor Swift fans - known for owning multiple copies of the same album and wanting to feel a tangible connection to their favourite artist.

"They are the people that are so obsessive about books that they will buy a Kindle edition, they will have a hard back edition, they will have a paperback edition.

"They will have so many different volumes of the same book because they love it so much."

Bookshop owner Sarah Maxwell says the demographic gave her the confidence to open Saucy Books in the middle of a high street downturn that has seen many independent bookshops suffer.

"People have this perception that it's not good business," Sarah says, but the community is "strong" and the authors prolific, providing plenty of stock.

"Millennial women have the most disposable in-

come," she adds. "Romance is serious business."

Despite this commercial growth, Rebeka says broader attitudes remain derisive - particularly when it comes to "spicy" titles.

"'That's fairy porn' - the amount of times that I have heard that!" Rebeka exclaims.

"Part of me wants to be like, 'So what?' This industry has been made for the male gaze for so long.

"It's such a small percentage of the book and actually... it's largely portraying fairly healthy sexual rela-

tionships."

'It boils down to money'
Within the publishing industry, attitudes are changing but mainly for commercial reasons, according to Katie Fraser, who writes for publishing magazine, The Bookseller.

Romance has been a "maligned genre" within the industry that "some people just didn't want to be associated with," she says. But as romance readers become an "economic force," publishers have had to take it more seriously and invest.

"Publishing is an industry, so that's what it ultimately

boils down to," Katie says.

Author Bea Fitzgerald, 28, says she benefitted from this commercial shift, selling her young adult fantasy rom-com Girl Goddess Queen at the peak of the romance boom.

"That sort of space opening up is what allowed me to move into the market," she says.

Bea previously worked in publishing, and recalls seeing "a lot of books that could have been published as romance [instead] published in other literary genres because they think that it will not appeal to a certain type of



'Some people turn their nose up'

audience".

The genre is nothing new, she quips, having long been "championed" by publishers such as Mills & Boon. The difference now is that young people "like things really unapologetically".

"They won't just read a romance, they'll go shout about it online, and then they'll go to a romance convention, and they'll talk to their friends about it."

While the community has grown, Bea thinks critical appraisal of the genre is still lacking.

"Do we see broadsheets reviewing romance books? No. And they are just as important, literary books."

Bea believes this is both because "the good majority" of the readers are women, and simply because the stories are happy.

"It goes in line with this sort of academic elitism that for something to be serious, it has to be a Shakespearean tragedy," she says. "Whereas if it's happy, it's not serious, it hasn't got literary merit. It obviously does - of course it does "



Caroline in the 'Smut Hut'

# What's the difference between a Physiotherapist, a Chiropractor and an Osteopath?

To the average person, an osteopath, a physiotherapist, and a chiropractor may seem like more or less the same job. All deal with musculoskeletal pain, require a university degree, and certification from an accredited course.

While they may seem similar at a glance, the three professions take very different approaches to health, so it is important to understand what sets each one apart from the others before deciding which of these professionals is best for you.

#### Physiotherapist

Probably the most well-known of the three job titles, it is worth starting off by drawing a distinction between a physiotherapist and the similar-but-distinct title of physical therapist. While both can be legitimate careers, it is important to know that only physiotherapists require a university degree, while physical therapists receive a narrower range of train-

ing over a shorter period of time.

In comparison to osteopaths and chiropractors, one of the primary distinctions of physiotherapy is its use of an all-encompassing approach that looks beyond the purely physical elements of an issue. also taking both psychological and social factors into account when treating patients. This means that if a patient were to present themselves to a physiotherapist complaining of back pain, rather than simply identifying the problem area and treating the symptoms, a physiotherapist will attempt to identify why the problem manifested in the first place, and prevent it from recurring in the future. This means looking at the physical side of things, such as posture and movement patterns, as well as psychological aspects such as stress or anxiety, and social factors such as work habits and hobbies.

Chiropractor

Of the three job titles, chiropractors are definitely the most commonly associated with back problems, although some claim it can help with issues such as asthma or sexual dvsfunction. But at the same time, chiropractors are also among the most controversial in medical circles. The main feature of chiropractic treatment that sets it apart from physiotherapy and osteopathy is its focus on manipulation, which is when joints are pushed and pulled to their farthest possible range of motion. The belief is that physical pain can be resolved by getting a chiropractor to manually put everything "back in the right place".

Chiropractors are somewhat controversial for a number of reasons. Firstly, their techniques are seen as unnecessarily risky, with chiropractors having some of the highest instances of adverse patient reactions. They are also looked down upon from a scientific perspective, with one of their main theories having no evidence to even support its existence. "Chiropractic subluxation" is claimed to cause organ problems by disrupting the nerves along the spine, but this has never been shown to actually exist, meaning their attempts to treat it for both back pain and organ prob-

tle. The prevailing theory of osteopathy is that the body is at its best when all of its tissues are moving how they are supposed to. Osteopaths therefore assess a patient's health by feeling their tissues, and attempting to stimulate movement where they believe it is lacking.

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lems is viewed by many as not only ineffective, but meaningless and irresponsible.

#### Osteopath

Osteopaths are quite similar to chiropractors in that they also place a lot of importance on manual manipulation, although they tend to be a lot more gen-

As osteopathic manipulation is so much more gentle than chiropractic manipulation. Many see it as harmless, or even beneficial when combined with other medical treatment. However, some studies have shown osteopathy to be ineffective in achieving its claims, while others show evidence to support it. The

general consensus is that while osteopathy may have science to back up some of its claims, other claims are simply not true, and further research is needed to separate fact from fiction.

Although these jobs may seem similar, and usually have similar goals, it is clear to see that there is a distinct difference between physiotherapists, chiropractors, and osteopaths. To the average person, these titles may appear interchangeable, but many people will make a different choice when presented with the facts.

While there is a clear frontrunner from a scientific perspective, the key takeaway here should not be to learn the technical difference between these roles, but to realise the importance of researching medical professionals before seeing them. Only then can you make a truly informed decision.









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# KENDEL DEVELOPMENTS S.L.

Providers of Guaranteed\* Damp Solutions throughout the Canary Islands since 1985



Following the successful treatment of 230 linear meters of rising damp in the walls of their factory (restored in 2013), Kendel Developments S.L. were delighted to receive an additional order from Arehucas Rum to treat a further 250 linear meters of walls on another section of the firm's old buildings due to

be restored shortly.

Damp in properties has long been a scourge of the construction industry in the Canary Islands - due in no small part to constructors' poor building practices. When the Savills came to Tenerife in 1985, they weren't sure what to focus on, but Derek Savill quickly decided to use his many years in construction in the

UK to specialise in Damp Proofing, Stair Lifts, Wheelchair Lifts and Small Home lifts where experienced firms were noticeably hard

#### **Damp Proofing**

After several years of carrying out tests with various products from the UK Derek (Dell) discovered that the only guaranteed

solution to Rising Damp in Canarian Type Constructions was the Electro Osmotic System coupled with the use of quality bonding and rendering mortars (all products produced by the Wykamol Group in the U.K,). Kendel have been sole importers and installers of Wykamol Products since 1995 throughout the Archipelago.

# DAMP PROOFING

Rising damp occurs when unprotected, porous materials (blocks, bricks, stone, wood etc) are in contact with damp earth:

- The result is unsightly and causes damage to decoration, manifesting itself in large patches of white, snowy flakes (see picture), which need constant removal, re-painting and eventual re-patching
- It can be a health hazard due to the increase in fungi and mould growth spores
- It often leads to timber decay or discoloration, particularly with unprotected
- It causes damage to plaster and rendering
- It affects ALL unprotected walls, whether internal or external

So, what can be done to cure the problem (as the insertion of a Damp Proof Course is virtually impossible in a typical Canarian construction)? Contact us NOW to discuss your options, without obligation. All our work carries a 20 year Guarantee!





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# RINA Tenerife

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#### Rural Vv with 10 Rooms



Turnkey rural Vv house with rental 10 units, sea views, pool, and 14,000 m² of tranquil grounds with potential for growth through a café, retreat, or campsite. Fully licensed, strong reviews, 15 years lease and just 2,100€ monthly

Price: 210,000€ Ref.: 2894

#### Restaurant In Las Galletas



Cozy restaurant for sale in the heart of Las Galletas with 70m² modern interior, a large, well-equipped kitchen, and seating for 30 guests including a terrace. Located in a busy area with loyal clientele. Monthly rent: 1,200€

Ref.: 2883 Price: 42,000€

#### Well Established Workshop



Established for over 25 years, this fully equipped 180 m² car garage offers high visibility, space for 10 cars, and a loyal client base. Located just minutes from the TF-1, it includes 3 lifts, essential tools, and low rent of: 1,200€

Price: 80,000€ Ref.: 2887

#### Irish Music Bar For Sale



Thriving live music bar in central Los Cristianos with seating for 60, nightly entertainment, and strong local and tourist following. Fully staffed - ideal turnkey opportunity for investors or operators. Monthly rent: 2,500€

Ref.: 2908 Price from: 85,000€

#### Wine, Cocktail & Tapas Bar



Fully licensed and refurbished Wine & Tapas Bar in Fanabe, just minutes from the beach, with a cozy terrace two floors, strong evening trade and amazing reviews. Ideal for a couple or small team and ready to operate.

Price: 95,000€ Ref.: 2901

#### Freehold Printing Business



A rare chance to acquire a fully equipped, long-established embroidery and garment customisation business with 30+ years of success and a loyal client base. Includes freehold commercial unit in Las Americas.

Price: 150,000€ Ref.: 2895

#### Freehold Cafe-Bar Premises



Prime freehold bar-café in Torviscas Bajo, just 2 minutes from the beach, featuring 60m² interior and 20m² terrace in a high-footfall tourist area. Recently refurbished and ready to operate or lease—ideal for hospitality use or investment.

Ref.: 2906 Price: 180,000€

#### Kitchen Store for Sale



A turnkey opportunity - kitchen store with 8 years of solid reputation, known for quality and competitive prices. Spacious 525 m² premises include showroom, storage, and office in busy Las Chafiras. Monthly rent: 2,300€

Ref.: 2891 Price: 290,000€

#### Freehold Pool Bar



Freehold pool bar in busy holiday complex, fully refurbished with new kitchen, bar, and license. Ideal for an owner-operator or couple. Prime poolside location with high foot traffic, seating for 25, and potential to expand the hours.

Price: 180,000€ Ref.: 2905



fully refurbished modern bar-café in prime San Telmo location with two terraces, sea views, and restaurant license - ideal for dine-in or takeaway concepts. Currently closed but all ready to reopen. Monthly rent: 2,500€

Ref.: 2882 Price: 75.000€

#### Prime Bar/Restaurant Space



This property in Aqua Mall includes two combined units with a 200m² terrace. Fully pre-installed for a bar, café, or restaurant, it features renovated restrooms, a kitchen extraction, and new electricity. Monthly rent: 5,500€

Ref.: 2876 Price: 20.000€

#### Freehold Central in Las Americas



Freehold commercial unit in the heart of Las Américas with 104 m² interior and 25 m² terrace, currently rented as storage for €742/month - ideal hands-off investment. High foot traffic, central location, and flexible layout for a business.

Ref.: 2900 Price: 125.000€

#### Large Local In Las Americas



Spacious 130 m² premises in the heart of Las Americas is ideal for a shop, bar, or restaurant. It also features a 20 m² terrace and a 100 m² storage area. Perfectly situated on a busy street surrounded by hotels. Monthly rent: 12,000€.

Price: 5,000€ Ref.: 2873

#### **Profitable Excursion Businesses**



Chance to acquire two thriving excursion shops in prime ocations - 1 near the beach and 1 facing a busy street in San Eugenio Bajo. Fully staffed, equipped, and turnkey, business with immediate returns. Monthly rent: 1,825€

Ref.: 2896 Price: 145,000€

#### **Unique Finca & Businesses**



This unique traspaso offers two successful businesses - a renowned restaurant and a busy dog kennel - on a 5,000m² finca. The property also includes a 2-bedroom private house. A perfect home-business setup. Monthly rent ONLY: 1,580€.

Price: 185,000€ Ref.: 2871

#### Popular Music Bar in Los Cris.



Thriving live music bar in central Los Cristianos with seating for 110 guests, prime location near the market and beach promenade. Fully staffed, high turnover, and open daily with a vibrant atmosphere. Monthly rent: 2,500€

Ref.: 2889 Price: 150,000€

#### Tacos Bar In Los Cristianos



Well-located tacos bar for sale in central Los Cristianos with a 50m² space, fully equipped kitchen, and strong takeaway potential on a busy street. Ideal for 1–2 people and ready to operate immediately. Monthly rent: 1,100€

Price: 45,000€ Ref.: 2884

#### Freehold Investment Opportunity



This freehold of 150m2 in Puerto Santiago is just minutes from the frontline. It is located in a complex and commercial centre. It can be used commercially or even converted into 1 or 2 residential properties to rent.

Price: 180,000€ Ref.: 2825

#### Sea View Bar Cafe



Bar-café in Puerto Colón with panoramic harbour views, a spacious 55-seat terrace, and a loyal clientele. Fully equipped and licensed, this bar offers strong year-round traffic and flexible operating hours in a prime tourist location.

Price: 85,000€ Ref.: 2904

#### **British Bar with Music License**



Rare chance to acquire a top-performing British bar in Los Cristianos, established since 1998 with Bar Musical license for live entertainment. Fully equipped with 110m² interior, 2 terraces and drinks-led revenue. Monthly rent: 4,000€

Ref.: 2903 Price: 299,000€







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