



## REFER A FRIEND TO THE VILLAGE

Cut out the vouchers below and give to a friend so they can find out more about The Village. If they go on to purchase an apartment, as a special thanks from us, you will receive a FREE holiday for four people, including flights and seven nights luxury accommodation plus £1,000 spending money.



## VOUCHER ONE

has recommended you to discover The Village for yourself.  
For more information call: 08000 111 424 or visit: [www.TheVillageSpain.com](http://www.TheVillageSpain.com)



## VOUCHER TWO

has recommended you to discover The Village for yourself.  
For more information call: 08000 111 424 or visit: [www.TheVillageSpain.com](http://www.TheVillageSpain.com)



## VOUCHER THREE

has recommended you to discover The Village for yourself.  
For more information call: 08000 111 424 or visit: [www.TheVillageSpain.com](http://www.TheVillageSpain.com)

# THE VILLAGE IN THE NEWS

With several celebrity purchasers and football club endorsements, The Village is one of the most talked about property developments in Europe. Here's just some of what the media has been saying over the past couple of months...

"...Valle Romano, an exclusive development near Estepona, which is proving popular with Spanish footballers like Raul, Iker Casillas and Ivan Helguera. Golfing legend Seve Ballesteros and Rafael Nadal also have villas there

"[and] The Village counts footballers Paul Robinson and David Bentley as owners, as well as Sky Sports presenter Clare Tomlinson and 'I'm a Celebrity' winner, Nell McAndrew."

The Olive Press

"The Village at Valle Romano is a unique development within the Costa del Sol...[it] offers buyers a great location, top quality, fully furnished properties and a unique affiliation with some of Europe's leading football clubs.

"We were impressed by the easy access to some great areas in southern Spain and the quality of the operation."

Index Magazine

"More than just a haven for golfers, The Village has been designed to become a complete sports and leisure destination...with spas and sports facilities, and a fine position midway between Marbella and Gibraltar within touching distance of some of Europe's finest beaches."

Jet2.com Magazine

"The Village boasts some of the most extensive fitness, sports and leisure facilities in Europe and has attracted a long list of celebrity purchasers from the world of sport."

My Home in the Sunshine

## HAVE YOUR SAY

If you have any feedback about 'Village Life' - what you like, what you don't like, what you'd like to see in future issues - please email us at [Villagelife@TheVillageSpain.com](mailto:Villagelife@TheVillageSpain.com)



# VILLAGELIFE

Issue 03 2008

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

## LA QUINTA GOLF COURSE REVIEW

VILLAGELIFE TAKES A LOOK  
AT ANOTHER TOP COURSE

## EATING OUT!

WE TAKE A LOOK AT TWO TOP  
LOCAL RESTAURANTS

# MATT TAYLOR

WANDERERS' NEW BOY TALKS TO VILLAGELIFE



EUROPE'S ALLSTAR RESORT

## WELCOME TO THE LATEST EDITION OF VILLAGELIFE

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE VILLAGE.

Following a hugely exciting end to 2007 for The Village – including apartment sales hitting record highs – 2008 has started with just as much action. In this issue you can check out photos from Premier League side Bolton Wanderers' recent trip to Spain, where they spent four days in the sun training, golfing, and checking out The Village, as well as an exclusive interview with their latest signing, Matt Taylor.

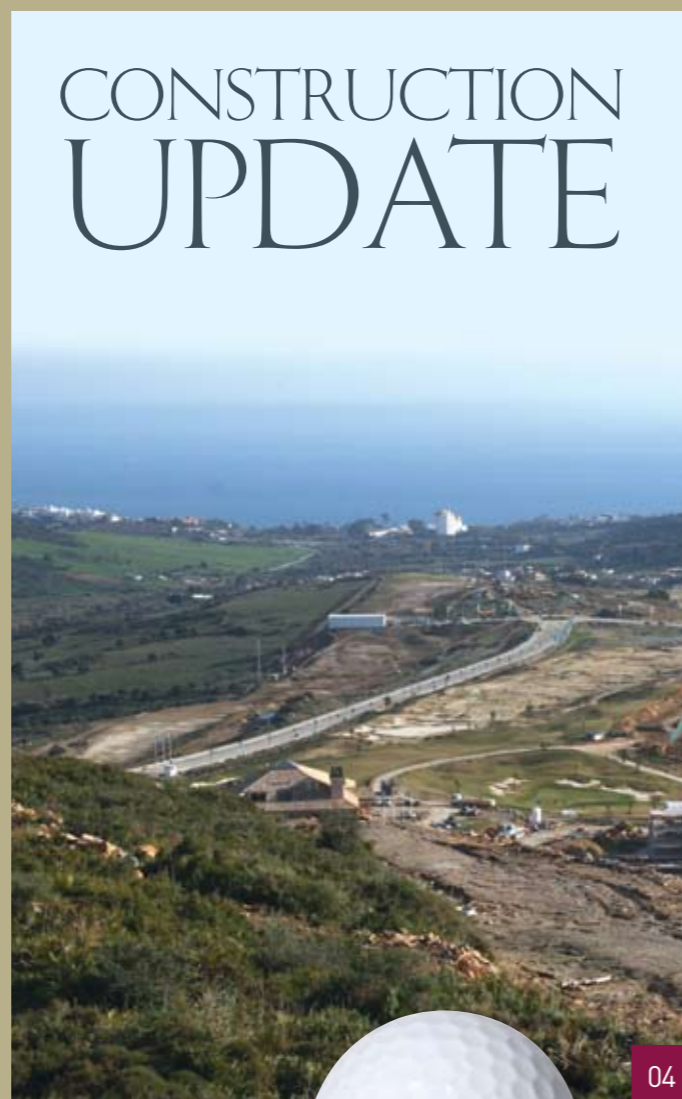
We also speak to former footballer, Gary Hobson, who – as the mastermind behind HI-Sports, The Village's official sports and travel partner – is the man responsible for organising foreign training camps for professional football clubs, and has Aston Villa and Portsmouth over this month.

There's also news of The Village's latest initiative at Málaga airport, and plenty of recent photographs taken up at the site to feast your eyes on.

We hope you enjoy the issue.

## INSIDE THIS MONTH'S VILLAGELIFE

### CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



04



### FORE!

VillageLife takes a look at another outstanding golf course

06

### HI GROUP

08

#### COVER STORY

VillageLife gets up close and personal with wanderers' new signing

### MATT TAYLOR

10

### EATING OUT

VillageLife takes a look at 2 mouth watering, taste bud tantalising restaurants.



15

#### THE VILLAGE BY NUMBERS 12

A closer look at what The Village has to offer

#### NEW ARRIVALS 14

The Village stands out at Málaga Airport

#### MAKING LIFE EASIER 16

Purchasing overseas has never been so easy

#### THE VILLAGE USA 18

The Village goes stateside

#### WHAT OUR CLIENTS SAY 19

Interview with Paul Young, Purchaser at The Village

#### IN THE NEWS 20

The Village in the limelight again



# CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The glorious weather on the Costa del Sol has meant that construction has continued steadily throughout the winter months, with progress being made in every area of the development.



The road network that runs throughout the Valle Romano resort is taking clear shape, and the golf driving range is just about complete. You'll be sure to improve your swing on the range, just as long as you are able to avoid the distraction of the mountain views, which are impressive to say the least.

The majority of the championship golf course is now starting to resemble the truly world class course that it will ultimately become. The artificial lake that will be one of the most beautiful but also challenging features of the course is also in place.

Ground-level preparation is expected to commence shortly for The Village apartments themselves and we hope to provide a more comprehensive update on this in the next issue of VillageLife.

In the meantime, enjoy the latest batch of photos, taken mid-January 2008.

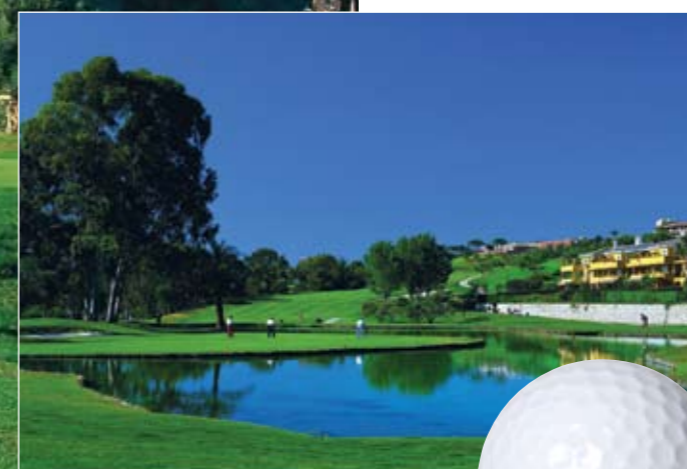


When complete, The Village will be home to some of the finest golf to be found in southern Spain but owners at The Village will also find themselves in the perfect location from which to explore the countless courses dotted along the coast.

In each issue of VillageLife we will try to point you in the direction of what we believe are some of the best courses in the area to check out.

## LA QUINTA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB REVIEW

# FORE!



**La Quinta** lies just five minutes from the centre of Marbella in the heart of the 'Golf Valley' - the area with the most golf courses of the Costa del Sol - and is a course we are only too happy to recommend, having hosted The Village's very own celebrity golf tournament there during last year's launch celebrations, with the likes of Paul Robinson, Jeff Stelling, Mark Hateley, Tom Boyd, and many more famous faces taking part.

An 18 hole round is made up by combining any two of the three nine-hole courses (simply called 'A', 'B' and 'C') that are subtly integrated into the natural surroundings and which provide fantastic views of both the Mediterranean and the mountains overlooking Marbella.

It is a relatively straightforward course that is enjoyable for all abilities, but the challenges presented by sloping fairways and deep bunkers mean that it will provide a test for everyone who plays there.

No matter which combination of courses you go for, you'll be looking at a manageable total distance of between 5,600 and 5,900 metres, though we'd still recommend hiring a buggy - not least so you can enjoy the fantastic GPS systems that all buggies feature. These high-tech installations keep you updated with details such as how far your last shot was, your position on the hole, and your precise distance from the green.

The course was designed in 1990 by Manolo Piñero, a former PGA tour professional and Ryder Cup veteran who also directs the La Quinta golf academy - the first of its kind in Marbella - which offers weekend or five-day courses, together with private lessons throughout the week. The academy staff are all professional golfers themselves and use a digital swing analysis system to help improve your game, alongside more traditional methods.

There is also a well-stocked pro shop and a thriving club house that includes a restaurant and bar, both of which benefit from a fantastic terrace which allows you to relax in the sun whilst enjoying spectacular views of both the sea and the valley.

Par:	70-71
Length:	5,602-5,915 metres
Green Fees:	High season €85
	Low season €68
Web	<a href="http://www.laquintagolf.com">www.laquintagolf.com</a>



# INTRODUCING HI GROUP

## SPORTS AND TRAVEL DIVISION

With facilities including two grass football pitches, a state-of-the-art health and fitness centre and two luxury spas, The Village will be fantastically well-equipped to accommodate professional football teams looking for a warm weather training camp.



The man responsible for arranging such trips is Gary Hobson, Manager of H.I. Group – Sports and Travel Division, the official sports and travel partner to The Village.

H.I. Group is the perfect partner for The Village in this area as both companies are headed up by the same man - Managing Director, Ian Radford – so there is no company better positioned to promote The Village to the footballing world.

For almost twenty years H.I. Sports & Travel have organised training camps for some of Europe's most high profile clubs and as a former professional footballer himself, Hobson shares his thoughts on what makes the ideal training venue, what a typical training camp entails and why he has such big plans for The Village.



### On H.I. Sports & Travel...

We specialise in organising overseas training camps for professional sports clubs – essentially connecting the best teams in Europe with the best training destinations – but we also put together trips for families, individuals or corporate groups.

### On what a training camp involves...

It varies from club to club, but typically the emphasis is on training, which means that the football pitches need to be of the highest standard. They will also include a combination of fitness work and some non-football related activities such as golf and tennis, all of which are important for team bonding and building morale within the team.

We provide the opportunity to organise friendly matches against local opposition. So, let's say a team is training at The Village, we might arrange a game against the likes of Sevilla F.C, Real Betis, Málaga C.F and Marbella FC, or against other travelling professional teams, who are also on a training break.

Some clubs might grant the players more 'free' time to explore the local towns or to go shopping for example, but the focus is always on the football first and foremost.

### On what clubs are looking for...

As a former player (Hobson retired in 2003 following a fifteen year career at clubs including Hull City, Brighton & Hove Albion and York City) I understand exactly what it is that clubs require from a training camp.

Obviously top quality pitches with all the appropriate training and fitness facilities are a priority. However, just as important is a high standard of accommodation at a place that understands the needs of a modern, professional football team. Factors such as privacy, diet and entertainment facilities must be considered.

### On Spain as a destination...

We get a lot of clubs wanting to train in Spain and specifically on the Costa del Sol. British clubs especially favour the area because it's relatively close and the climate means they can go anytime of year and are virtually guaranteed warm, dry conditions.

From the players point of view, we find they are always happy to return to the Costa del Sol for the golf alone!

### On The Village as a training venue...

From what we've seen so far, there is nothing currently out there that is going to compare with what The Village will be able to offer.

Some other venues have great training facilities in a decent location but don't offer much for the players outside their training. Like wise there are places where there is lots to keep the players entertained but the training facilities themselves might not come up to par.

What sets The Village apart is that it combines world class training facilities with everything a modern day footballer could wish for in their spare time, and the location is as close to perfect as you could hope for.

We're already aware of a huge amount of interest in The Village from Premier League, Serie A, and even La Liga clubs and I'm confident it will become one of – if not the – top training location in Europe.

For more information on HI Group - Sports and Travel Division visit [www.sport-and-travel.com](http://www.sport-and-travel.com) or contact Gary Hobson at [gary@sport-and-travel.com](mailto:gary@sport-and-travel.com) or 07841 166 241.



“I WAS  
**IMPRESSED** WITH WHAT I SAW.  
IT DEFINITELY LOOKS LIKE IT WILL BE A  
**TOP CLASS TRAINING FACILITY**  
AND ALSO A **TOP CLASS RESORT** FULL STOP.”

It's been a busy start to 2008 for Bolton Wanderers new boy Matt Taylor. Following a transfer window move from Premier League rivals Portsmouth, Taylor made his Wanderers debut just two days later, and then jetted out with his new team-mates for a mid-season Spanish training camp and a visit to The Village. Batteries recharged, the squad returned to England and Premier League action with two crucial games in the space of just five days.

# MATT TAYLOR

IS GOING PLACES

Despite his hectic schedule, Matt – a former England U21 international and a scorer of spectacular goals – was only too happy to take some time out and discuss how he is settling in at his new club, the importance of warm-weather training camps, and what he thought of The Village.



How are you settling into life at Bolton Wanderers?

It's been non-stop since I arrived but I'm loving every minute so far, except maybe for the weather! The team is performing well and everybody has been really welcoming, it's a good group of lads and, on a personal note, I'm happy to be back playing regular football again.

Why did you move to Bolton from Portsmouth?

I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Portsmouth but Bolton are a big club with a big history and, like I say, the chance to get back to playing week in week out with some top players really appealed.

Plus Bolton is still in the UEFA Cup and we have some absolutely massive games coming up, one of which is against Atletico Madrid.

Can you tell us a little bit about the team's recent trip to Spain?

We had a free weekend after the Newcastle match so the gaffer took us all out to Spain for four days and it was fantastic. It gave all the new faces, myself included, the chance to get to know the rest of the squad and training in the sun was a real bonus. We managed to squeeze a couple of rounds of golf in and we also went up to The Village to take a good look at where we could be training when we come out to Spain in future.

As a professional footballer, what is the benefit of a foreign training camp at this time of year?

The most important thing is that, after the busy Christmas period, a few days training in the sun gives everyone a chance to recharge their batteries – mentally and physically – and obviously the team bonds really well on these trips, which is great for morale.

I think the benefit of this trip has been evident in our performances since we've come back. All the new players have gelled into the team quite quickly, we haven't lost a game or even conceded a goal since I've been at Bolton, and we've started to move up the table. Long may it continue!

What are your thoughts on the Costa del Sol?

It's just fantastic. I mean to be able to find somewhere that's warm and sunny in January, and yet only a couple of hours flight away is amazing really. Plus, like most footballers, I'm a keen golfer and there aren't too many better places to golf. The sheer number of top quality courses is staggering.

And what did you make of The Village?

I was impressed with what I saw. It definitely looks like it will be a top class training facility and also a top class resort full stop.

You only need to look at some of the other clubs that are involved to know it's the real deal and I think it's something all the lads are excited and happy that Bolton is among them. Hopefully it won't be too long before we have the opportunity to come out and experience it for ourselves!



# THE VILLAGE BY NUMBERS

24

hour security throughout the entire Valle Romano development

60

golf courses on the 'Costa del Golf'...at last count!

320

days sunshine every year on the Costa del Sol

3

airports within a 1 hour drive

27

championship-standard golf holes are available to owners at The Village

336,000

m<sup>2</sup> of green zones within the Valle Romano development

3

swimming pools exclusively available to homeowners at The Village

6

minutes drive to Estepona Town

2

luxuriously appointed spas available to homeowners at The Village

14

professional football clubs currently endorse The Village. They are Arsenal, Aston Villa, Birmingham City, Blackburn Rovers, Bolton Wanderers, Celtic, Derby County, Newcastle United, Rangers, Sunderland AFC, Tottenham Hotspur, West Bromwich Albion, West Ham United, AGF Aarhus.





# NEW ARRIVAL

Last year, The Village unveiled an eye-catching stand at Málaga airport. It has since become an important sales and marketing tool and has even had its fair share of celebrity visitors!

Over 13 and a half million passengers passed through Málaga airport in 2007, with a whopping estimated 20,000 visitors arriving each day – the majority of whom are arriving for a holiday in the sun but many of whom arrive with the intention of looking for a place to buy.

For most of these new arrivals, one of the first things they will see upon entering Spain is The Village's new presentation stand, prominently positioned as you enter the baggage hall.

The stand is a visual feast, designed to give visitors a glimpse into the apartments, facilities and lifestyle on offer at The Village and includes plasma screens showcasing the many teams and celebrities involved in the project.

In fact, many of the famous faces that can be seen on the screen have stopped by themselves, including Jeff Stelling, Nell McAndrew and most recently, the entire Bolton Wanderers squad.

The stand has been tremendously successful in attracting many new clients and with members of The Village's sales team on hand to provide information, answer questions and make viewing appointments, be sure to stop by and say hello next time you visit.

# EATING OUT

One of several additional benefits to homeowners at The Village is the number of top quality restaurants to be found right on your doorstep. Home to some of the best restaurants on the Costa del Sol - from traditional tapas and authentic paella to international cuisine from India, China, Thailand and Italy – Estepona is equipped to deal with all tastes and all budgets. And for those of you who like to venture a little further afield, there are a few hidden gems to be found within just a short drive of The Village.

## Los Abanicos

Benahavis

If you're looking for something off the beaten trail then make your way up the mountains to Los Abanicos in Benahavis, which is just a 15-20 minute drive through some spectacular scenery.

Hidden away on a quiet, pedestrianised village street, the restaurant offers excellent traditional Spanish food, from tapas style appetizers and a fantastic gazpacho to phenomenal entrees including one of the best lamb dishes you could hope to try, slow roasted throughout the day in preparation, and their best-selling roast suckling pig that is hugely popular with the locals and tourists alike.

For a completely authentic Spanish dining experience in a fantastic setting, we would highly recommend Los Abanicos, but it is the busiest restaurant in Benahavis so we would always advise booking a table in advance.

Tel: +34 952 855 022

## Robbie's

Estepona

A cosy & very popular restaurant, Robbie's may have a slightly American feel – thanks in no small part to the Hollywood décor - but actually offers a superb range of both local and international cuisine, with original dishes made using fresh local produce.

The service is always friendly and professional and there is always a pleasant atmosphere in the restaurant. As you would expect from a restaurant so close to the coast, we recommend the seafood dishes which are made with the freshest ingredients straight from the Mediterranean.

The restaurant is open only for dinner and closes every Monday. Reservations are recommended as this is a very popular place.

Tel: +34 952 802 121



# MAKING YOUR MOVE EASIER

We know buying a new home can be a stressful time so this is why we have assembled an expert team of trusted partners to make purchasing a home at The Village as simple and reassuring as possible.

## Finance



### What can Green Independent do for me?

As specialists in Spanish home mortgages and finance, Green Independent offers a range of services to assist you in your purchase of a property at The Village, including:

- Help raise finance for your deposit
- Provide free financial advice
- Tailor-made mortgages
- Competitive insurance packages

### Why Green Independent?

Green Independent's team of independent financial advisors offer a comprehensive range of finance packages tailor-made to suit your property purchase...and their professional advice is absolutely FREE of charge.

Also, financing your new property purchase couldn't be easier or more affordable, thanks to the new finance package that Green Independent has developed specifically for property owners at The Village.

### Contact Green Independent?

To arrange a no-obligation consultation with one of Green Independent's expert advisors,

call (+34) 952 833 490 or email [info@greenindependent.com](mailto:info@greenindependent.com)

## Currency

Travelex

worldwide money

### Why is it important to use a currency exchange specialist?

Currency exchange companies are experts in transferring money between different countries.

They offer better rates than banks, typically saving you 1-2% vs. the rate you would be offered by a high street bank.

### What can Travelex do for me?

Travelex can ensure your funds are transferred in a prompt and secure manner, saving you time and money.

To set up any account with Travelex you can register online at

[www.overseaspayments.co.uk](http://www.overseaspayments.co.uk)

Once you have an account, you can transfer money into the Travelex client account in the UK and then they will forward your money in Euros to your lawyer's account in Spain.

Your funds need to be cleared in your lawyer's Spanish bank account for 7 days before you are able to exchange contracts.

### Why Travelex?

Travelex is a foreign exchange specialist that offers the very best international currency transfer service available. It is a service that is focused on your needs and offering better exchange rates than High Street banks.

Fluctuating exchange rates can dramatically affect the price of your dream property but with Travelex you can lock in today's exchange rate for future payments, and fix the price of your property in pounds sterling.

### Contact Travelex

For more information on Travelex's international currency exchange service,

call **0870 010 0095** or visit [www.overseaspayments.co.uk](http://www.overseaspayments.co.uk)

## Legal

**LEXLAND**  
ABOGADOS



### Why do I need a Spanish lawyer?

Buying property in Spain is different to buying in the UK, with different rules and regulations and some specialised knowledge is required.

A Spanish lawyer can not only handle all legal and tax issues on your behalf but can also provide insight and advice to make completing your purchase a smooth and worry-free process.

### When do I need to engage a Spanish lawyer?

We recommend that you engage a Spanish lawyer before you exchange contracts and finalise your purchase, so that you can ask in confidence questions about any legal issues, have your contracts reviewed etc.

If you choose to use Lexland Abogados, you will be given the opportunity to meet with them during your inspection visit to Spain to get the process underway.

### What can Lexland do for me?

Lexland provides a comprehensive legal service to cover every aspect of your purchase, from advising you on the best way to own your property based

on your preferences and personal circumstances, to helping arrange the best mortgage loan, if required.

If power of attorney is granted, Lexland can also handle all procedures related to taxes, banking and contracts on your behalf.

### Why Lexland?

Lexland Abogados is the trusted legal partner of The Village.

With offices in Marbella and London, Lexland specialises in providing services for UK-based corporate or individual clients investing in Spanish property and is one of the largest and best known Spanish law firms.

Having carried out an independent due diligence exercise, Lexland is already familiar with all legal and tax issues associated with the project and can guarantee certain tax and financial solutions, such as a VAT reimbursement based on the classification of The Village as "Apartamento en Regime Turístico".

### Contact Lexland Marbella:

To arrange a consultation call **(+34) 952 778899** or email [dcuesta@lexland.es](mailto:dcuesta@lexland.es). Alternatively, visit [www.lexland.es](http://www.lexland.es) for more information.



EUROPE'S ALL STAR RESORT

[www.TheVillageGinn.Com](http://www.TheVillageGinn.Com)



# THE VILLAGE USA

We are delighted to announce that The Village has teamed up with Ginn Resorts on an exciting new development, 'The Village at Ginn Reunion' - a luxury and exclusive resort in Orlando, Florida, with on-site amenities including a personal concierge; restaurants; larger-than-life accommodations; three championship golf courses, world-class dining, luxurious spa, tennis courts, 5 pools, and a water park.

With a number of outstanding resorts already to its name, Ginn is a major U.S. based developer and makes the perfect partner for The Village because of both the quality of the properties they offer and their ethical sales processes.

To kick-off the partnership we have amazing deals on just 12 units that we are offering exclusively to our buyers at The Village at Valle Romano, including: Significant price discounts, with prices for three bed, three bath apartments starting at £300k / \$6,000 per month rental guaranteed for two years. Plus an inclusive \$60,000 furniture and technology package.

And with the recent drop in U.S. interest rates, this is the best time in years to invest in a property across the Atlantic.

For more information on The Village at Ginn Reunion, visit [www.TheVillageGinn.com](http://www.TheVillageGinn.com) or call 08000 111 566.



EUROPE'S ALLSTAR RESORT

## WHAT OUR CLIENTS SAY

Lifelong Sunderland fan, Paul Young, recently purchased an apartment at The Village with his brother Alan... a Newcastle United fan! Here's what Paul had to say about buying at The Village.



### On the Endorsement of Sunderland AFC...

"My brother and I had been looking to invest in a foreign property that we could rent out, but that we'd also like to holiday in ourselves with our families.

Being a huge Sunderland fan, I felt completely reassured about The Village's credentials because I know there's no way the club would recommend the place to its fans if it wasn't of the highest quality.

And when I heard that Roy Keane would consider taking the team out to The Village for future training camps, I was convinced this was the real deal."

### On the Presentation Evening...

"The event we attended was crucial in confirming that we were making the right decision to buy an apartment at The Village.

The presentation was extremely thorough and professional and we learned that the club had carried out all the necessary background checks and due diligence on our behalf, so we felt that we could invest without having to worry.

As my brother and I are both married and have young kids, it was also fantastic to learn that The Village has sports and entertainment facilities to keep the whole family happy."

### On Buying at The Village...

"I think what appeals most about The Village to me is that, being so close to Estepona and all the major transport links, it's the perfect jumping off point for exploring the other towns and cities in southern Spain and beyond.

I'm also looking to take up golf and I can't think of anywhere better to start than with top quality golf under the Spanish sun. And my youngest son has already decided he's going to enrol at the Paul Robinson Football Academy that will be on the site."