Discover the Best Places to Live in Estepona: An Expat's Guide

06/08/2024

Company News, Spanish Real Estate News, Spanish News



Have you ever wondered how a sleepy fishing village became one of Spain's hottest property markets? Welcome to Estepona, the Costa del Sol's rising star. Let's dive into how this town went from casting nets to casting a spell on property investors worldwide.

IS ESTEPONA A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE: MORE THAN JUST SUN AND SAND

Remember when Estepona was just another dot on the map? Those days are long gone. Now, it's giving Marbella a run for its money. But why? What's changed?

- 1. Location, Location: Nestled between Marbella and Sotogrande, Estepona's prime real estate written all over it. It's close to the action but far enough for peace and quiet. Perfect, right?
- 2. Investment in Infrastructure: The town's not just sitting pretty. It's been working hard. New roads, improved utilities, and even a hospital. They're not messing about.
- 3. Cultural Renaissance: Estepona is not content with being a pretty face. It's got brains, too. The Old Town's transformation into an open-air art gallery is genius

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. It's like walking through a living, breathing museum.

4. Quality of Life: Low crime rates, clean streets, and a family-friendly vibe. It's the kind of place where you can imagine living, not just holidaying.

TEEING OFF: ESTEPONA'S GOLF LOVERS PARADISE

Let's face it, for many, the Costa del Sol is synonymous with golf. And Estepona? It's no exception. It's a golfer's paradise. Here's why:

1. VALLE ROMANO GOLF & RESORT

- 18-hole course designed by Cabell Robinson
- Why it's special: Challenging layout with stunning sea views
- Insider tip: The 19th hole (the clubhouse) is almost as good as the other 18

2. ESTEPONA GOLF

- Par 72 course with views of the Mediterranean and mountains
- Why it's special: One of the most affordable quality courses in the area
- Insider tip: The twilight rates are a steal

3. EL PARAÍSO GOLF CLUB

- Designed by golf legend Gary Player
- Why it's special: Wide fairways make it friendly for all skill levels
- Insider tip: Book an early tee time to catch the sunrise over La Concha mountain

4. ATALAYA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

- Two 18-hole courses: The Old Course and The New Course
- Why it's special: The Old Course is a classic parkland layout
- Insider tip: Take a lesson at their renowned golf academy

5. FINCA CORTESIN GOLF CLUB

- Host of the Volvo World Match Play Championship
- Why it's special: Consistently ranked among Spain's best courses
- Insider tip: The course is tough, but the caddies are excellent. Use one!

But here's the kicker: Estepona's golf scene isn't just about the courses. It's about the lifestyle. Imagine waking up to views of manicured greens, the Mediterranean shimmering in the distance. That's not a holiday. That's everyday life for many Estepona residents.

And for property investors? Golf course views can add serious value to a property. We recently sold a villa overlooking El Paraíso Golf Club for 20% above the initial asking price. The buyer? A golf enthusiast from Sweden who'd fallen in love with Estepona's laid-back vibe and world-class golfing.

So whether you're a scratch golfer or a complete novice, Estepona's golfing scene has something for everyone. And who knows? With year-round sunshine and courses like these, you might discover your inner Tiger Woods.

Remember, in Estepona, golf isn't just a game. It's a way of life. And for many, it's why they call this slice of Spanish paradise home. Start your new home search by viewing our <u>Top New Developments In Estepona for 2024</u>.

HIDDEN GEMS: ESTEPONA'S BEST-KEPT SECRETS

Now, let's get to the juicy bits. Where are the best places to live in Estepona? Buckle up because we're going on a tour.

CASCO ANTIGUO: THE HEART OF IT ALL

Picture this: narrow cobblestone streets, whitewashed houses with flower pots bursting with colour. That's Casco Antiguo for you. It's like stepping into a postcard.

- Why it's hot: Authentic Spanish living with a modern twist
- Who it's for Culture vultures and those who love a bustling atmosphere
- Insider tip: Check out Plaza de las Flores. It's the social hub where locals gather for tapas and gossip
- Discover Estepona's Old Town

SEGHERS: VIEWS FOR DAYS

Seghers is your spot if you're all about those Instagram-worthy sea views. Perched on a hill, it's got panoramas that'll make your followers green with envy.

- Why it's hot: Tranquility meets breathtaking vistas
- Who it's for: Peace-seekers who don't want to be too far from the action
- Insider tip: Playa del Cristo is nearby. It's a local favourite and much calmer than the main beaches
- Some great New Developments in Estepona centre

LA GALERA: MODERN LIVING BY THE SEA

Want that new-build smell? La Galera's got you covered. It's where contemporary design meets coastal living.

- Why it's hot: State-of-the-art amenities and easy beach access
- Who it's for: Families and professionals who want convenience
- Insider tip: Golf enthusiasts, rejoice! World-class courses surround you
- Top Property: <u>Finca Cortesin Resort Townhouses and Villas</u>

BEL-AIR: LUXURY IN NATURE'S EMBRACE

Fancy rubbing shoulders with the elite? Bel-Air's where it's at. It's exclusive, it's lush, and it's oh-so-luxurious.

- Why it's hot: Privacy and prestige in equal measure
- Who it's for: Those who want the finer things in life
- Insider tip: The Bel-Air Tennis Club is more than just a sports venue. It's a social hub

ATALAYA: THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

Can't decide between traditional and modern? Atalaya says, "Why choose?" It's got a bit of everything.

- Why it's hot: Diverse housing options and great amenities
- Who it's for: Families, especially expats (thanks to nearby international schools)
- Insider tip: Atalaya Golf & Country Club is a gem. Even if you don't golf, the views are worth a visit
- Best Development: Nava Residences

EL PARAÍSO: LIVING UP TO ITS NAME

They call it Paradise for a reason. El Paraíso is all about luxurious, laid-back living.

- Why it's hot: Beautiful landscaping and a serene atmosphere
- Who it's for: Those seeking a high-end, relaxed lifestyle
- Insider tip: The El Paraíso Golf Club, designed by Gary Player, is a must-play
- Are you looking for a key ready property in El Paraiso?

LOS FLAMINGOS: THE CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

If Estepona is the jewel of the Costa del Sol, Los Flamingos is its crown. It's luxury dialled up to eleven.

- Why it's hot: Some of the most prestigious properties on the coast
- Who it's for: Those for whom money is no object
- Insider tip: Villa Padierna Palace Hotel. Even if you're not staying, pop in for a drink. The people-watching is epic

REAL ESTATE IN ESTEPONA: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Now, let's talk brass tacks. What's the property market like in Estepona?

- Prices: They're on the up, but still more affordable than Marbella
- Demand: High, especially for new developments and renovated properties in the Old Town
- Rental potential: Strong, particularly in the summer months

Recent sales? We've seen a surge in interest for properties in La Galera and Atalaya. Families love the modern amenities and proximity to international schools. One recent client snagged a villa in Seghers for a cool €1.2 million. The sea views sealed the deal.

WHY ESTEPONA? WHY NOW?

- 1. It's still on the up: Unlike some overexposed Costa del Sol spots, Estepona's still got room to grow.
- 2. Quality of life: It's not just about the property. It's about the lifestyle.
- 3. Investment potential: Whether for rental or resale, Estepona properties are holding their value

But don't just take my word for it. María, a recent buyer from Madrid, put it best: "Estepona gives us the best of both worlds. It's got the charm of a small town but with all the amenities of a bigger city. And the property prices? Let's say we got a lot more bang for our buck than in Marbella."

THE FUTURE OF ESTEPONA: WHAT'S NEXT?

So, where's Estepona headed? I'd be on a yacht in Bali if I had a crystal ball. But based on what we're seeing:

- More sustainable development: Estepona's growth is planned, not haphazard
- Continued cultural investment: The town's committed to being more than just a pretty face
- Improved transport links: There's talk of better connections to Málaga and beyond

FREQUENT ASKED QUESTIONS ESTEPONA: YOUR BURNING QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q: IS ESTEPONA MORE AFFORDABLE THAN MARBELLA?

A: Generally, yes. You'll get more square footage for your euro in Estepona.

Q: WHAT'S THE BEST AREA FOR FAMILIES?

A: Atalaya and New Golden Mile are popular choices, thanks to their amenities and proximity to international schools.

Q: IS ESTEPONA GOOD FOR YEAR-ROUND LIVING?

A: Absolutely. It's got a proper town feel, not just a holiday vibe.

Q: WHAT ABOUT RENTAL POTENTIAL?

A: Strong, especially in summer. But Estepona's year-round appeal means winter rentals are picking up too.

THE BOTTOM LINE: IS ESTEPONA RIGHT FOR YOU?

Estepona's not just a rising star in real estate. It's a place where you can envision a life. Whether you're after a holiday home, an investment property, or a place to put down roots, Estepona's got something for everyone.

But here's the kicker: it's not for everyone. You might want to look elsewhere if you're after non-stop nightlife or a completely international vibe. Estepona's charm lies in its blend of traditional Spanish life with modern amenities.

So, is Estepona the next big thing on the Costa del Sol? From where I'm standing (probably on a balcony in Seghers with a glass of Rioja), the answer is a resounding yes. But don't take too long to decide. This fish isn't staying in the sea forever.

Remember, in real estate, timing is everything. And in Estepona? The time is now.