



Spain is one of the world's most popular golf destinations and, with more than 300 courses to choose from, it is little wonder.

The country basks in sunshine for most of the year and is easily accessible for people travelling from the UK and Ireland.

Some of the airlines currently operating flights to the Murcia region - which is particularly popular with golf enthusiasts - include easyJet, Jet2.com, bmibaby, Ryanair, Monarch and Flybe.

It was reported recently by Typically Spanish that despite the current economic downturn, the number of people taking holidays in Spain has remained steady.

The 116 courses in the Andalucia region helped to generate € 500 million (£421 million) during 2009, drawing around 360,000 people to the area.

One place where players can enjoy a round of golf during their break is at the Hacienda Riquelme Golf Resort, which is located close to the town of Los Riquelme and within easy reach of Murcia city centre.

The 18-hole par-72 course forms part of a Polaris World complex and is open all year round.

Designed by the legendary Jack Nicklaus, it is one of the region's most popular golfing hotspots.

The impressive course is surrounded by stunning scenery and players can enjoy spectacular views of the coast throughout their game.

According to Club Murcia, the course at the Hacienda Riquelme Golf Resort is challenging and compliments others in the Murcia area.

“The course is not long but the use of the terrain and the combination of water hazards, links style grassy areas and steep bunkers makes the course appeal to golfers looking for a stern test of golf,” it noted.

It noted that the resort is likely to become a popular tournament venue in the future.

Players can also make use of the extensive practice facilities, which include a driving range, chipping green, putting green and buggy rental service.

In addition, the Hacienda Riquelme is home to an impressive clubhouse where guests can enjoy a bite to eat or a refreshing drink while admiring the stunning views of the course. There is also a pro shop where players can stock up on clothing, shoes, tees, balls and accessories.

Players hoping to improve their technique while on holiday in Spain may wish to consider enlisting the help of a golf professional.

The resort's school offers tuition throughout the year, as well as a number of intensive courses, which are ideal for beginners.

Holidaymakers planning to take a golfing break in Murcia will also find a number of other places to play during their stay.

These include the Mar Menor Resort, which is home to an impressive 18-hole course that is suitable for players of any level.

With softly-contoured land, good recovery areas and a number of bunkers and water hazards, it is a delightful place to enjoy a round of golf.

The course forms part of the Jack Nicklaus trail and is a popular destination for enthusiasts of the game.

Professional tuition is also on offer here, with players of all abilities well catered for.

Beginners can sign up for the initiation programme, which is ideal for people who want to master the basics of the game and do not currently have a federation licence.

Alternatively, those with a little more experience can book a place on the advanced programme, which builds on existing skills and is perfect for players needing to sharpen their technique in preparation for the summer.

Individual lessons and group sessions are also available for those who are unable to commit for a full four-day course.

Would you like a quote for your La Manga Club Resort Holiday.

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