

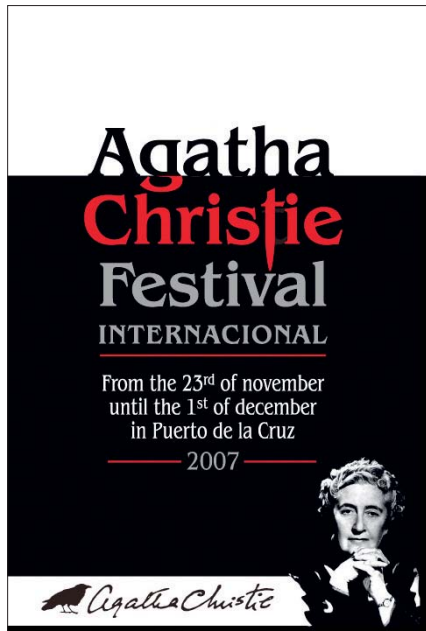
Agatha Christie Festival

Mystery, memorabilia and Miss Marple

▲ Don't miss the first International Agatha Christie Festival which takes place from 23 November to 1 December in Puerto de la Cruz.

Events include a talk by the writer's official researcher, John Curran, concerts, screening of films of Agatha Christie classics in Spanish and English, book and documentary launchings, a bust of the writer is to be unveiled and a street named in her honour. There are theatre presentations in Spanish and English, a vintage car exhibition and a daily musical tea time, Miss Marple style in the lovely old Hotel Marquesa. In addition Agatha Christie's grandson will be present for a question and answer session on the evening of 25 November at 7pm in the Castillo San Felipe and he has brought some of his own collection of memorabilia of his famous Grandmother with him for an exhibition to be shown daily in the same Castillo from 5pm to 8pm.

This wonderful event, has been inspired by the 80th anniversary of Agatha Christie's visit to the town. She described the area as, "an enchanting place, with a great mountain dominating



everything and those marvellous flowers growing everywhere". She found there, the peace of mind she had been searching for and wrote incessantly in the gardens of the Taoro Hotel, next to the British All Saints Church, whilst her daughter

played around her. It was during one of her strolls along the cliff top at La Paz that she imagined one of her best short stories and Mr Satterthwaite in *The Mysterious Mr. Quin*, which she set at the mansion that still belongs to the Cologan family. Indeed in

A must for mystery and murder fiction fans

between fashionable fancy dress parties and descriptions of Puerto de la Cruz she also conjured up many of her Miss Marple problems.

There is no doubt this prolific writer found not only solace in Puerto de la Cruz, but inspiration and characters with which her intriguing mind unravelled tales that still hold readers in suspense to the very end. She visited the Canaries over a spell of thirty years and many of her visits also took her to Gran Canaria, where she stayed at the Metropole Hotel, another setting for numerous crimes often solved by Monsieur Hercule Poirot.

A must for mystery and murder fiction fans, the full programme is available on www.agathachristie.es.

Nothern tapas

HMS Pinafore

▲ All out to prove that the North is no sinking ship, the crew at Puerto de la Cruz recently ran a successful tapas route and competition. Organised by the Puerto de la Cruz council, Chamber of Commerce, local tourist initiative centre (CIT) and local business associations, the first tapas route, I Ruta Gastronómica ¡Déjate Guiar!, was held in September among 22 local restaurants.



The winning restaurants were Restaurante Régulo, Ébano Café and Restaurante Babajet, with participants prizes going to Thomas Doering, Nicolás Barroso and Ana Padrón Castañeda. It was such a smash hit with clients and restaurants alike that a second edition is already being planned. Watch this space.

Dressed for success in Puerto de la Cruz

CIT Phone

Skype tourist service

▲ The Santa Cruz Tourist Initiative Centre, CIT, is the first organisation in Europe to offer a free tourist information service by Skype. Over the last 15 years of its existence, the CIT have attended over

a million tourists and one of the things they seem to want most is impartial information from someone in the resort. Who better than the CIT to man this innovative new service. Two operators

speaking four languages will be available seven hours a day, six days a week. The system is very easy to use and anyone anywhere in the world will be able to access the information they need.

* * * * *

Christmas

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1 December - 5 January Plaza de Ocio

Christmas crib.
1 December - 5 January, Plaza de Ocio

Father Christmas.
1 December - 24 December, Plaza de Ocio

Three Kings.
26 December - 5 January, Plaza de Ocio

Free gift wrapping service.
8 December - 5 January, Main entrances

Open on.

Sunday 2nd December
Saturday 8th December
Sunday 16th December
Sunday 23rd December
Sunday 30th December

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