



## Real Club de Valderrama

What can you write about Valderrama that has not already been written? It is perhaps the most famous course in Europe having hosted numerous Volvo Masters events, the American Express championship and the 1997 Ryder Cup.

The course was originally known as "Las Aves" and designed by Robert Trent Jones. The present owner and president, Jaime Ortiz-Patino, took over in 1987 and given more land, invited Trent Jones back to transform the course, which he did successfully to create Valderrama as we know it today.

As for the course itself it is set amongst a cork oak forest on the foothills of the Sierra Bermeja. The fairways are fairly flat and tree lined while the greens are elevated and well protected by bunkers. It is challenging and many words have been used to describe it such as daring, dramatic, demanding etc. When the course is presented to television it looks immaculate and perfectly manicured - we can honestly say it is like this twelve months of the year. It is a great spectator course allowing plenty of room to walk the fairways and follow your favourite star.

Valderrama has plenty of tales to tell and many a golfing star has succumbed to the difficulties of various holes on the course. Ask Tiger Woods about the seventeenth which must rank as one of the most famous golfing holes in the world. During the various championships, spectators sit on the bank at the back of the green to watch the pros try and reach the green in two. They love it when the ball goes in the lake! There is the fourth where a pond, a waterfall and lake protect the green even though it is difficult to hit anyway. Every hole has its own little quirk and even when you reach the putting surface the greens are slick and devious.

Valderrama is such a beautiful course and has to be ranked as one of the best in the world of golf. The setting is peaceful and tranquil and is clearly the pride and joy of Jaime Ortiz-Patino.

Med Golf have a very close working relationship with Valderrama and as there are restrictions on the number and when visitors can play, you should contact us to book your tee time. Mobile phones are not allowed and should be left in the car. There are also very strict local rules as far dress code and handicap is concerned which should be checked prior to your visit. Soft spikes must be worn.

On arrival the majestic clubhouse and the facilities it has to offer will immediately impress you. Admire the large practice area and imagine you are there alongside Tiger Woods. After your round enjoy a drink or lunch on the terrace at the Masters bar and breathe in the history that is Valderrama. Browse around the well-stocked pro shop or visit the museum if it is open.

If you have the chance to play Valderrama you have to take it. It is a once in a lifetime experience not to be forgotten.

**Directions:** from both Marbella or Algeciras, turn off the N-340 at km. 133 and take the exit marked Sotogrande-Guadiaro-Castellar.

**Address:** : Avda. de Los Cortijos, s/n. 11310 Sotogrande, San Roque, Cádiz.

**Pro:** Miguel Sederic Periañez

**Designer and date of opening:** Robert Trent Jones in 1974

**Number of holes and par:** 18 hole par 71

**Length off white tees:** 5883m (6472y)

**Length off yellow tee:** 5539m (6093y)

**Cancellations:**15 days before or fu charge will be made

**Soft spikes:** required

**Dress code** Proper golf attire is required. Denim jeans and collarless t-shirts are not acceptable. No dogs allowed. Mobile phone not permitted on course.

**Handicap certificates** are required with maximum of 24 for men and 32 for ladies

Players must be at the golf course at least 20 minutes prior to the tee-off time. Players arriving late may not be permitted to play and are not entitled to refund. It is the responsibility of the players to arrive punctually to their teetime.

Groups of one or two pax are not permitted at Valderrama. Players may be paired together in groups of 3 or 4 players

The official Golf Rules and "Etiquette" must be respected on the golf course. Failure to comply with golf rules may result in players being told to leave the golf course

Players must be in possession of their handicap certificate which may be requested by the staff

**To make your booking all you need to do is complete our booking form and we'll send you your quote**