



ChiFRA AGE CONCERN NEWSLETTER

June 2024

Welcome to ChiFRA's summer newsletter. I hope you like our new logo and that you might find some items here that interest you as members. The group would welcome any feedback or suggestions regarding things people would like to see included in this newsletter that you can't pick up from the website or Facebook page. A quick reminder where to find us:

Website: <https://chifra-ageconcern.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100071300016978>

Keith Adamson

THE EES SYSTEM

(The EU's Entry/Exit System, to be introduced on 6th October)

The purpose of this new system at immigration control is to record details of anyone who is a citizen of a third country entering or leaving the EU, and, since Brexit, that includes anyone with a UK passport. The system is electronic, replacing the old rubber-stamps, and comprises fingerprints and facial scans, which inevitably add to the time spent in queues at Passport Control. Airlines may also request more personal details when booking a flight, such as "Country of Residence." Although the electronic records have to be made only the first time such a journey is undertaken, prints and scans will still be required on subsequent journeys in order to provide a match, although no such checks are required when crossing borders within the EU or Schengen area.

The system appears to be already in force in some airports, where they are running it "under test." Personal information such as the "reason for travel" may also be requested, and this latter has already caused a bit of consternation as some passengers have been asked to provide evidence of where they are staying during their sojourn in EU territory. Some travellers are now carrying copies of hotel bookings, or even letters from friends with whom they are staying to prove that they have somewhere to go, so don't be surprised if your summer guests ask you for such confirmation.

SUMMER IS HERE

Like last year, we seem to be in for a hot June, which will be nice if the Levante would be a little more considerate. It can be surprising how local the Levante actually is, and when it's really bad you don't have to go that far to escape it. Jerez can be quite peaceful in comparison to Chiclana.

Along with the summer come the tourists, of course, and we should resist calling them nicknames since didn't we all start out that way ourselves? But it's hard not to complain about the increased traffic on the roads leading to the beaches. Will the new roundabouts, traffic lanes and speed restrictions help or hinder? Work started a few months ago on the *Tres Caminos* junction, as well as Junction 3 nearer to Chiclana, but it was inevitable that neither would have been completed in time for the summer rush. How much the ongoing work will exacerbate the already notorious bottleneck remains to be seen. Perhaps we should observe the recommended diversion and go to Jerez or Seville via Medina Sidonia, but it's also worth noting that you can get to Puerto Real via El Marquesado, saving not only 2.5 kilometres, but also potentially quite a bit of time.

A CHANCE TO BECOME REGULARIZED

For those of us who have lived and worked in Spain for a number of years, but have never managed to become regularized", there is good news on the horizon. The Spanish government is planning to institute a process that it calls "extraordinary regularization" whereby residence and work permits may be acquired more efficiently than through traditional methods, with a degree of flexibility built into the system. This may come into force in late 2024 or early 2025, and it will be accompanied by a reform of the Immigration Regulation Law of 2000. Although full details are not yet known, it is likely that the requirements of the new regulation will include proof having stayed in Spain for a continuous period of at least 6 months, a job offer or pre-contract, and no criminal record in Spain or in the country of origin.



(Picture from *Diario de Cadiz*)

...AND, OF COURSE, FERIA!

The importance of feria in the local calendar cannot be over-estimated. Chiclana's Feria de San Antonio is from the 12th - 16th June, so excitement is already mounting at the start of this month as the entrance archway is being erected and it's possible to get a flavour of this year's design. The local police make a huge effort to ensure that the traffic continues to run smoothly over the five days, with parking available at La Longuera.. It's worth noting that anyone with reduced mobility stickers can park nearer the fairground in the streets to the side and rear of the Domino Pizza (Calles Galileo and Juan Sebastián Elcano). San Fernando's feria is from 11th - 16th July, while Conil's is from 5th - 8th August.

DOG-FRIENDLY BEACH



Anyone who may have been concerned that they wouldn't be allowed to share a walk on a beach with their four-legged friends, can now avail themselves of the new *Playa Canina*, part of the Lavaculos beach at Sancti Petri. Work has been carried out on the access walkway, with perimeter fencing and an information signboard, so families can now enjoy this new space along with their pets. Dogs must have identity chips, but don't require to be kept on the leash, providing they don't disturb other users.

CUTS OF MEAT IN SPAIN

You may already be aware that the cuts of meat and their names differ across the UK from those that you grew up with. Naturally, this cultural divergence is amplified when you cross the Channel, and many of us have suffered confusion when trying not only to cope with the language difference, but also to work out what part of the animal we're buying in one of the markets or a supermarket.

The following list can't be taken as gospel, as the definition of cuts vary internationally, and what a Scottish person understands as Brisket is necessarily what an English person expects. But you can treat it as a guide.

Aguja	Chuck
Aleta	Bavette
Babilla	Tail of Rump / Thick Flank
Cadera	Rump
Carillada	Cheek
Chuleta de Lomo Bajo con Solomillo	T-bone steak
Chuletón	Rib Roast / Large End
Contra	Silverside
Costillar	Rib
Entraña	Thin Skirt

Falda	Flank
Lomo Bajo	Sirloin / Striploin
Lomo Alto	Prime Rib
Morcillo	Shank
Pecho	Brisket
Pescuezo	Neck
Pez	Chuck Tender
Rabo	Oxtail / tail
Redondo	Eye of Round
Solomillo	Fillet Mignon / Tenderloin
Tapa	Thin Skirt

Categories by age:

TERNERA:

AÑOJO:

VACUNO MAYOR

(Heifer calves): males and females younger than 12 months

(Yearlings): calves between 12 and 24 months of age.

(Adult bovine): males and females older than 24 months.

ChiFRA'S WHEELCHAIR FLEET

One of the main activities of ChiFRA Age Concern is that of lending mobility equipment to anyone who may have a temporary need for some kind of mechanical assistance. We have just had an addition to our fleet of seven wheelchairs, all of which were already on loan, which demonstrates how valuable this service is to members. As well as wheelchairs we have various types of walker, toilet seat raisers, toilet and shower frames, commodes, bed pans, urinals, bath boards, shower stool, and inflatable orthopedic mattress for preventing bed sores. There are also folding bed rests, blocks to raise a bed or chair, a cycle exerciser and assorted crutches and walking sticks. We ask for a deposit of 20 € for a maximum period of 3 months. ChiFRA would like to extend thanks to all those who have donated equipment, as well as to the volunteers who make this service possible.

Please bear in mind that this facility is only available to members. Membership is currently free and members receive this newsletter quarterly by email. To join, please contact the secretary at the link above.

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