

HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR Ministry of Tourism, Public Transport and the Port Suite 631 Europort Gibraltar

PRESS RELEASE

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TOURISM PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT

The Government's programme to carry out improvements to the tourism product is well under way. Works have already been completed at Waterport Fountain. The works have included the replacement of all plumbing and electrical fittings, repairs to the cracks at the base of the fountain along with the fitting of a new pump. To make the fountain more attractive, a new LED lighting system has also been installed. In addition, the water jets have different pressure settings so that the fountain can continue to operate in high wind conditions.

Works have also started at the toilet facilities at the 100 Ton Gun exhibition, the viewing platform outside the Great Siege Tunnels and at St Michael's Cave.

In particular, works at St Michael's Cave, one of the most visited attractions in Gibraltar, are progressing in earnest. The improvements to the Cave will include the refurbishment of the toilets including the provision of a second toilet for the disabled, the widening of the bridge inside the Cave, a new ticket office, the widening of the present exit which will become the Cave's new entrance, new turnstiles, widening of the steps within the Cave, a specialised lift at the new entrance to enable guests with disabilities to view the Cave from the first landing and general improvements to the exterior of the site. These works are expected to be completed by March 2013.

Commenting on the improvements, The Hon Neil Costa MP, Minister for Tourism, Commercial Affairs, Public Transport and the Port said, "Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar is committed to investing in the tourism attractions in an unprecedented manner. The Government has, in our first year in office, committed the sum of one million pounds to carry out improvements to the visitor attractions and this level of investment is set to continue over the next three years. The projects are well under way and we are confident that these will all be completed before the busier tourism season starts in the spring. These works will begin the process of offering an improved visitor experience to all those who visit this marvellous destination and is only the start of the Government's injection of capital investment in tourism, running parallel to the work of the GTB to improve on our product offerings."