



HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
MINISTRY OF TOURISM,
COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS, PUBLIC
TRANSPORT & THE PORT
SUITE 631, EUROPORT
GIBRALTAR

HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
MINISTRY FOR SPORTS, CULTURE,
HERITAGE AND YOUTH
310 MAIN STREET
GIBRALTAR

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Christmas Extravaganza: Town hit by Great Shopping Monday ‘Bug’

A seasonal ‘bug’ has hit the town although the fever it produces is quite harmless and simply induces people to go on a merry spending spree.

As a result Gibraltar will have a late night Christmas shopping experience on Monday December 23rd to culminate a three day festive extravaganza organised by the Ministry for Commercial Affairs in conjunction with the Ministry for Culture, GFSB and Chamber of Commerce.

The fun starts on Saturday 21st with free fair rides for children at John Mackintosh Square from 10am to 7pm which will continue on Sunday 22nd.

For the ‘Great Shopping Monday’ various events and activities have been lined up throughout the day.

There will be an arts and crafts market at Casemates Square from 1pm to 8pm, and free Jumping Castles as from 5pm-8pm.

The Calpe Band will also be providing musical entertainment with a performance at the Piazza from 6pm-8pm.

Minister for Tourism, Commercial Affairs, Public Transport and the Port Neil Costa MP, said he looked forward to the Christmas extravaganza which would pick up where the recent ‘Small Business Saturday’ left off.

Mr Costa declared that both these initiatives are part of a broader Government drive to encourage domestic economic activity and boost small traders at a time of difficulty.

“I am confident that the public will support this venture as they did with the previous one and take good advantage of the momentum that has already been created.”

He added: “Gibraltar is now well into the festive spirit and this shopping opportunity will serve a dual purpose.

"On the one hand it will create a community atmosphere as families come together to buy presents and enjoy themselves at this very special time of the year, and on a purely economic level, is an effective measure to stimulate business activity for small traders and shops."

For his part Minister for Culture Steven Linares echoed Mr Costa's words and declared his ministry will continue to provide entertainment at these type of events.

"We are always glad to support community occasions and all the more so in the run up to Christmas," he said.