



H.M. GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
Ministry of Sports, Culture, Heritage and Youth
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Picardo inaugurates new bathing pavilion at GASA

A new sea-water bathing pavilion at GASA which includes swimming pools for adults and toddlers plus exercise facilities for all ages was inaugurated today by Chief Minister Fabian Picardo.

The joint project has involved close coordination between the Ministries for Tourism, Sport and Social Services in a common aim to enhance swimming facilities for the general public in Gibraltar.

With shaded areas, attractive greenery and hardwood decking or Safeguard finish throughout, the amenities available include a fully equipped exercise park with sun canopy for senior citizens, a play area for children, a shower building, information desk and an outdoor bar in the upper deck zone.

A lifeguard tower to ensure the safety of bathers has also been provided.

As in other local beaches, persons with mobility difficulties will be guaranteed access to all areas by means of the same specialised equipment that will be available for this purpose.

The adult swimming pool measures 25 x 12 metres and has a depth of 1.7 x 5 metres, while the toddler's pool dimensions are 8.39 x 7.59 metres and a depth of 59 x 4 centimetres.

The GASA Bathing Pavilion project has been carried out by the Finnish company Marinetek.

On opening the facility, the Chief Minister, Hon Fabian Picardo MP, said, "This is an excellent facility for the whole community, in particular for those who live in the area who will be able to bathe safely and in some style!"

Minister for Tourism, Commercial Affairs, Public Transport and the Port, Neil Costa MP said he was delighted that additional bathing facilities were now available to the public.

Mr Costa said: "This new bathing pavilion adds to the very extensive and enhanced beach and swimming facilities which the Government has worked hard to provide over the past two years. We are confident that this will now become a popular spot for Gibraltarians as the Montagu Pavilion with all its treasured memories used to be in the old days, and that we will recover that same community atmosphere."

Minister for Equality, Social Services and the Elderly, Samantha Sacramento MP also welcomed the new bathing pavilion.

She said: "We are pleased that this project has now come to fruition. Gibraltarians enjoy their beach time and from my perspective it was important that the necessary infrastructural modifications and measures were incorporated from the outset to ensure that all members of the community regardless of their physical condition could have equal access to the new facilities."

For his part the Minister for Sports, Culture, Heritage, Youth, Utilities, Postal Services, Fire Brigade and Refuse, Steven Linares MP said: "We are extremely happy to have an additional bathing facility in Gibraltar for use by everyone. It will no doubt also complement our facilities for some water-based sports as well, which is something our keen swimming fraternity will warmly welcome."