



Here on the Costa del Sol, we are blessed with one of the greatest climates, allowing us to enjoy beachside living, terrace dining and the luxury of outdoor sporting games all year round. Bollywood Indian Restaurant in Nueva Andalucia are currently sponsoring a local cricket team in the Southern Spanish League, and we travelled down to Cartama in Malaga to watch the teams play and find out more about cricket on the coast.

What is the Southern Spanish Cricket League?

The Southern Spanish Cricket League is run by local cricketers who live and play on the Costa del Sol. Four teams compete together, with a fifth currently being formed. We are fortunate that with our excellent Mediterranean weather we are able to play cricket all year round.

How long has the cricket scene been prominent here in Marbella?

The cricket scene has been present on the Costa del Sol since the 1980s, the oldest registered club being the Com-



bined Colleges Cricket Club, founded in 1986, which will celebrate its 25th anniversary later this year.

How important do you think cricket is to local communities?

It's imperative because it helps unite different communities from all over the Costa del Sol. People originate from different backgrounds and lifestyles, so we have found that Cricket is one of the perfect ways to connect with people you wouldn't necessarily have the opportunity of meeting.

How did you end up sponsoring one of the teams?

Four of the staff from Bollywood are actually members of the club, so it seemed natural for us to sponsor one of the cricket teams.

What does sponsoring a cricket team involve?

Sponsorship of the Spanish Southern Cricket League involves many of factors required of sponsorship on a professional level. This includes paying for kit, clothing and providing the necessary publicity when your team is playing in their various tournaments.

How often do the teams play?

Cricket is played every weekend at the ground in Cartama, just 30 minutes from Fuengirola or 10 minutes from Malaga. There is also a bar serving hot and cold drinks, with families and children welcome to watch from the Pavilion. We host touring teams arriving for pre or post season matches, so if you are part of a team that is interested, please contact us via the website at spanishcrickettours.com.

How can people get involved?

We are always looking for new players, umpires and even spectators, so if you are interested in involvement, contact Previn Menon on 606 526 618 or email info@spanishcrickettours.com.

