

# Celebrating Gibraltar National Day

Vol. 9 Issue 221 www.theolivepress.es

September 3rd - September 16th 2015

**GIBRALTAR**  
VISITGIBRALTAR.GI  
DISCOVER A WEALTH  
OF EXPERIENCES.

GIBRALTAR TOURIST BOARD  
United Kingdom  
e: info@gibraltar.gov.uk  
t: +44 (0) 207 836 0777

@visit\_gibraltar  
facebook.com/visitgibraltar

# Red, white and wonderful

*Gibraltar National Day - always a celebration of sovereignty and self-determination - takes on an added importance this year, writes Rob Horgan*



**ROCK ON:** Casemates Square is set to be awash with a sea of red and white on National Day, next Thursday

**F**IREWORKS, balloons and beers at the ready... The Rock is set to rumble as Gibraltar prepares for its National Day celebrations.

Almost 50 years on from the referendum that gave it such a unique appeal, the Rock is standing taller than ever.

An abundance of local pride means that the former one-day event now spills over into a week of celebrations - including music of all genres, arts, food, photography, competitions, a rally - plenty to bring locals and tourists alike into the street and onto their feet.

It's a chance to show the world that there really is nowhere quite like Gibraltar, and there is no group of people quite like Gibraltarians. This year, it's a statement as well as a celebration; because it's a tense time politically, that only fuels the fire of the locals.

For just as the Rock is a symbol of the country's strength and unity, the people are a reflection of its charm and character and stand up as one of Europe's most recognisable landmarks.

Passion truly makes this party... and organisers expect more than 30,000 revellers - not to mention the monkeys (Barbary macaques, if we are being pedantic) - to join the celebra-

tions.

For outsiders, September 10 is officially Gibraltar's National Day, but this year the festivities truly begin five days earlier with the Gibraltar Music Festival (GMF).

For the first time spanning two days, the event on September 5 and 6 marks the start of the festivities with internationally renowned acts, including Duran Duran and Kings of Leon, kicking off the party in style.

"There is always a real buzz around Gibraltar in the build up to national day," explains 25-year-old Brit Michael Hayes, who commutes in daily from La Linea.

"I love working here and as always am really looking forward to National Day.

"It really is the highlight of the year and is a time all of us can really show off how proud we are."

The festival is a mix of looking back at Gibraltar's proud history; and looking forward, celebrating the business opportunities, innovation and building plans for this very modern peninsula.

Organised by the Self Determination for Gibraltar Group in conjunction with the Ministry

of Culture, the annual celebration commemorates one of the most important moments in Gibraltar's history: the referendum of 1967, when citizens had a say on their sovereignty for the very first time.

On that day, an overwhelming 99% of Gibraltarians voted to remain British and, 48 years later, they are just as, if not more, impassioned - largely due to the ever-volatile relationship with their Spanish neighbours.

Last month, Britain accused Spain of violating its sovereignty by allowing a coastguard patrol boat to enter disputed waters off Gibraltar pursuing suspected drug traffickers.

Spain in turn insists Gibraltar is not taking smuggling seriously and that the Rock is hindering its law enforcement agencies, claims the enclave denies.

And while Gibraltar is red and white all the way through, there is still a hint of blue, too. It is important to remember that Gibraltar is very much part - and proud to be a part of - the UK and has been for more than 300 years in one way or another.

The Queen may not have made an appear-

ance since 1954 but, two years ago, with the Gibraltar flag flying over the Foreign Office in London, Prime Minister David Cameron joined the celebrations in spirit, rallying his loyal troops from a giant screen in Casemates.

"For 300 years we have stood together, as one with our shared sovereign. Let me assure you that the British people and my Government stand with you now. Our relationship is solid, sure and enduring," he proclaimed to roars of approval.

These sentiments are increasingly important to Gibraltar in the light of the recent international tensions, played out through the media. But Gibraltar has said 'enough is enough' to one-sided Spanish news reports. Three high-profile defamation cases against TV channel *Telecinco*, Spanish newspaper *ABC* and trade union *Manos Limpias* have been launched in Spain as the Rock fights back against years of 'slandorous' comments.

As lawyer Charles Gomez says, if the rabid right-wing Spanish press is to be believed then Gibraltar is 'a cocaine-fuelled, money-laundering playground run by the barbary apes'.

He adds: "Enough is enough, the government has finally had enough of the lies, untruths and complete propaganda. It is time for the

**While Gibraltar is red and white all the way through, there is still a hint of blue, too**

## Solid as the Rock

### From previous Page

Rock to stand up for itself and be proud."

And what better day to do so than on National Day? It's about a party, not a political party, but it sends a message, loud and clear, in the best possible way.

The day itself kicks off with a political rally at midday followed by the mass release of 30,000 balloons in Casemates Square - one to represent every citizen on the Rock. It's even visible from Spain's southern coastline, so the perfect way to kick off proceedings with a beautiful, yet symbolic, display.

After a summer of stunning weather, an open-air concert was a no-brainer for organisers. Reggae legend Maxi Priest will get the crowds in Casemates Square dancing, before a performance by the Rock's most-loved groover and *Britain's Got Talent* semi-finalist Jonathan Lutwyche.

Children's activities, live music and DJs will also keep the crowds entertained at other locations, including King's Bastion Leisure Centre, Victoria Park and John Mackintosh Hall. But stick around for the grand finale at midnight when fireworks light up Casemates, before older visitors party the night away in the bars and clubs surrounding the square.

So that's the day itself - what about the rest of the week?

Kicking off with the Gibraltar Music



PLACE TO BE: Party time in Casemates Square and (right) party goes in red and white



Festival (GMF) on September 5 and 6, this year's celebrations are set to blow any previous event out of the water.

The first-ever two-day event plays host to the likes of Madness, Kings of Leon and Paloma Faith. Not to mention Duran Duran and the Kaiser Chiefs.

Symbolically, it's going to be held at the national football stadium, Victoria Park - yet another example of Gibraltar doing things bigger and better, as the national team takes part in its first major tournament.

The line-up is receiving international attention and regarded by many as the finale to the global summer festival programme.

But Gibraltar certainly deserves a

bigger platform in the global arena. As well as showing off the aforementioned football stadium (which is due for a revamp; if a UEFA-approved new arena at Europa Point doesn't beat them to it), the festival gives Gibraltar a chance to show off its ever-evolving education system, a twist on the best of British in beautiful surroundings.

### Booming

Plans are already in motion for a university - due to open at Europa Point in 2016 - and there will also be a school to rival the UK's best, as top private school Prior Park opens in the same year.

Quality schools are a priority as booming business means Gibraltar is attracting top talent from around the world for a new life in the sun.

The Sunborn, the world's first five-star superyacht hotel, is going from strength-to-strength with popular bar La Sala its latest flagship edition. The boat symbolises all that's great about Gibraltar business: innovation, inspiration and sublime customer service plus attention to detail.

The gaming industry, one of Gibraltar's most lucrative, is also pushing on, with the Rank Group announcing it will double its workforce in the coming months.

While the World Trade Center is a

project that has cost tens of millions of pounds and will be unveiled, next to Victoria Stadium, at the end of the year - yet another example of Gibraltar's refusal to rest on its laurels as it continues to innovate.

Indeed, it is expected to become the hub of Gibraltar's working sectors, with a focus on finance, transport, banking and internet gaming already mooted.

So while National Day has history at its roots, it is also a celebration of the peninsula's future: if there was ever a time to stand up and be proud of Gibraltar, it really is now.

Like the 30,000 balloons that will be released on September 10, Gibraltar really is moving on up.



## MOVING, SHIPPING & STORAGE

Our dedicated branches in Spain and Gibraltar provide door-to-door moving services all over Europe and the World.

+350 200 445 00

[gibraltar@bishopsmove.com](mailto:gibraltar@bishopsmove.com)

+34 956 698154

[spain@bishopsmove.com](mailto:spain@bishopsmove.com)





“World Trade Centers have become the pre-eminent real estate developments in their host cities... with the highest identity in their local marketplaces... attracting businesses that are leaders in international trade”

C. H. Johnson Consulting 2012

World Trade Center Gibraltar will provide the first truly world-class working environment for Gibraltar businesses.

The World Trade Center organisation inspires local and international partnerships and is home to over 3.2 million companies in more than 100 countries, including some of the worlds biggest brands such as **Apple, MasterCard, JP Morgan, Citi, Ford, Vodafone, KPMG, Deloitte** and **Shell**.

World Trade Center Gibraltar will be the prestigious, state-of-the-art office building in Gibraltar with the needs of the user at the heart of its development.

Your choice of office and its location is a physical expression of your company's brand and its aspirations for future growth and development. By choosing World Trade Center Gibraltar you will be making a powerful statement of intent both in Gibraltar and across the World Trade Center network.



**WORLD TRADE CENTER GIBRALTAR**

The Signature Corporate Address

[www.worldtradecenter.gi](http://www.worldtradecenter.gi) • Tel: (00) 350 200 74724 • email: [enquiries@worldtradecenter.gi](mailto:enquiries@worldtradecenter.gi)

## Talk of t



**Gill Welland** "There's meant to be 30,000 balloons released, one for every Gibraltarian. Right before they release them, they have political speeches on the main stage in Casemates, and I'm not one for politics and all that rubbish, but when they let the balloons go and sing the national anthem, I get quite emotional! It makes you feel very patriotic."



### Gibraltarians young and of parties and patriotism

**W**ITH Gibraltar's National Day activities fast approaching, the Rock is buzzing with excitement. For residents of the British Overseas Territory, the September 10 holiday — celebrating the anniversary of Gibraltar's first self-determination referendum of 1967 — represents a day of national pride. With a fair amount of hedonism...

**Polka Dot**  
11 Mackintosh Square  
Gibraltar

Nicky James  
Dogeared JEWELS & GIFTS  
Hallmark  
Steiff  
Zatchels  
Cath Kidston

oria kiely  
Tyrrell Katz London



**Thomas Wink** "I'm disabled, and I prefer to relax at home and watch it all on TV. It's a real sight to see, everyone out in their white shirts and red trousers and skirts. There are speeches and performances, and of course the balloons, and events for the kids. All in all, it's a lovely day. It's nice to see so much Gibraltar pride."



**Steven Enriles** "Whenever you get a day off from work, it's nice. And National Day is great because it's a huge party from very early in the morning to very late at night. They have activities for all ages — barbecues on the beach, and dance shows, and concerts. You get together with the whole family and just have fun."



**Tammy Garcia** "When they release the balloons, everyone feels very Gibraltarian and there's a lot of pride and emotion. We're really proud of being from Gibraltar, and of course we're happy to be British, too. We make it a point of saying that we're British, even though obviously Spain is so close."

All you need is **gbc**

'Bringing music to your ears, and Gibraltar to your screen'

### NATIONAL DAY

Radio Gibraltar Breakfast live from Casemates Square  
Political Rally live on GBC TV, Radio Gibraltar and Online  
GBC TV on air throughout the afternoon and evening with:

- Miss Gibraltar 2015
- Gibraltar International Song Festival 2015
- Project Choir Gala 2015
- National Day Concert from Casemates Square
- Fireworks Display from Detached Mole

#### GBC TELEVISION

Available on:  
Gibraltar Freeview  
& Online

#### RADIO GIBRALTAR

91.3, 92.6  
& 100.5FM  
1458AM, DAB+,  
Gibraltar Freeview  
& Online

#### GBC ONLINE

GBC TV Live  
GBC TV Player  
Radio Gibraltar Live  
Radio Gibraltar  
On Demand  
Latest local news



#### Julia Zelazo

"My favourite thing about National Day is the feria. I love the rides, especially the roller coasters. They have food like popcorn and doughnuts. All the kids go and we all have so much fun. I love National Day!"



#### Jonathan Lutwyche

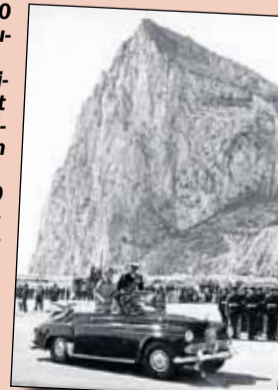
"I'm performing in the morning just such a special day because everyone is so happy. We're a big family."



**CLOSED DOWN:**  
Franco shut border in 1969

## Did you know?

- The height of the Rock is approximately 426 metres or 1,400 feet
- The distance between Gibraltar and the coast of Africa is 24 kilometres or 15 miles
- The Rock was formed approximately 200 million years ago and is composed of Jurassic Limestone
- The UK pound can be used freely in Gibraltar, so there is no need to convert UK notes to Gibraltar ones. However, Gibraltar banknotes are not legal tender in the UK and will not be accepted there
- In recent referendums the nearly 30,000 Gibraltarians who live on the Rock voted overwhelmingly to reject any involvement by Spain in their government
- Queen Elizabeth II last visited Gibraltar in 1954 (see right)
- The border was closed by Franco in 1969 and was shut for 13 years, only reopened partially for pedestrians in 1982 before being reopened fully in 1985



# The Rock

and old await their annual festival  
ism, writes Caitlin Quinn

al Day fes-  
g, the entire  
citement.  
ish territory,  
celebrated on  
st sovereign-  
ents historic  
onistic party-

ing thrown in for equal measure.  
And whether it's fun at the *feria*, a day of dancing or a barbecue on the beach, there's something for everyone at the celebrations. One thing is certain: If the enthusiasm of these Gibraltarians is any indication, the patriotic tunes and red balloons are sure to soar higher than ever at this year's celebrations.



**Samantha Yeo** "On National Day, the Rock is packed. You can't move. It used to be just one day, but now with the music festival, and the Rock concert, and the fair, it's become a week-long celebration. We're becoming a bit Spanish with all the festivities, really. People get so excited and patriotic."



**Sue Kennedy** "It gives you a very good community spirit. You really need to experience it to know exactly how it feels. It's something I've certainly never experienced in the UK. There's a huge amount of patriotism. It's just nice to see everyone – young to elderly – celebrating their National Day."



**Samey Bonfante** "On National Day, we celebrate 300-plus years of being British. Of course, we all have some connection to Spain, too. Most of our ancestors only spoke Spanish. But now we embrace being British, because that's our nationality, even though we have Spanish heritage. So National Day isn't just about being Gibraltarian, but also about being British."



**Hannah Asquez Mauro**

"Everyone goes into town wearing red and white, the colours on Gibraltar's flag, and we just celebrate our nationality. It's a day to embrace being Gibraltarian. We appreciate being British, too, but National Day is when we celebrate being Gibraltarian."

## FINISHING TOUCHES

HOME FURNISHING • DECOR & FABRICS  
SOFT FURNISHINGS • WALLPAPER



HANDMADE  
ENGLISH-STYLE CURTAINS  
VAST RANGE IN POLES &  
MADE TO MEASURE BLINDS  
NOW AVAILABLE HOME DECO

53 GOVERNORS STREET, GIBRALTAR  
+350 200 45623  
+350 5400 5710



so excited for the National Day celebra-  
ugh now that I'm a bit older I go with my  
ust before they release the balloons. It's  
so proud of being Gibraltarian and it's like

**Dennis Cruz**

"Probably 90% of Gibraltar goes to the celebrations and everyone is in red and white. Some of us wear T-shirts that say '100% Llanito.' There's so much patriotism. The thing is, now we get more Spanish people coming into Gib and marrying locals, so now there's some Spanish influence, too."



ADVERTORIAL

### Put your faith in Bishop's Move

THE team at Bishops move Gibraltar is on hand to offer a professional yet personalised service. Gibraltar is a special place, manager, Richard Smith maintains, that his team can respond to calls promptly and offer the tailor made service customers require. We do all we can to fit in with our customers needs, its all about reputation here and we have

peoples trust. With Gibraltarian, English and Spanish staff, the small but efficient team has a strong relationship with the military in Gibraltar. Bishops move was established in 1854 and is the largest family owned removal firm in the UK. Is it time to make your move? Get in contact with Richard and or Sarah on gibraltar@bishopsmove.

### New and Improved Paul Auto Respray Co Ltd

(New Management, New Facilities)  
40 Year's Experience

Specialists in...

- Free Estimates
- Bodywork Repairs
- Chassis Repair Work
- Full Service & MOT
- General Spares & Accessories

We Offer Our Customers...

- Free Pick Up & Delivery
- Free Towing Service
- 3 Month Guarantee



Unit G19 Europa Business Centre  
Dock Yard Road - Gibraltar  
Tel: + 350 200 72766 Fax: + 350 200 45779

# COUNTDOWN TO LAUNCH OF NEW EDITION



Dont miss your **FREE** copy available from September 16 at distribution points throughout Gibraltar

**FOR EDITORIAL OR ADVERTISING CONTACT:**  
**(+34) 951 273 575**



## Liftoff looming

NINE years, 221 issues and the Olive Press is ready for a new venture. Gibraltar's Olive Press is set to become the territory's newest - and most popular - free paper when it launches next issue, on September 16. Already established as the go-to paper for expats in Spain, the Olive Press is ready to hit the Rock in a big way. Aimed at both locals and ex-

### Fourteen days and counting. Wheels in motion for the launch of the Olive Press Gibraltar

patriates working and living in Gibraltar and nearby surrounding areas, *The Gibraltar Olive Press* will have a varied and detailed editorial content with local, regional and national news. In addition, there will be in-

vestigative reports, special features, plus regular articles on food and dining, business, motoring, education, golf and much more besides, guaranteeing its popularity with the most discerning of readers. It will be a newspaper which looks beyond the press releases and asks the difficult questions other publications turn a blind eye to. And it is not a shot in the dark. *The Gibraltar Olive Press* is being launched by Luke Stewart Media SL, publishers of southern Spain's most popular English-language newspaper which has been published since 2006. It is recognised as the leading investigative newspaper covering Andalusia with a widespread cosmopolitan readership. Exciting times lie ahead for *the Olive Press* and for our participation on the Rock. In the words of Fabian Picardo himself, 'Times they are a-changing'... and they are changing for the best!



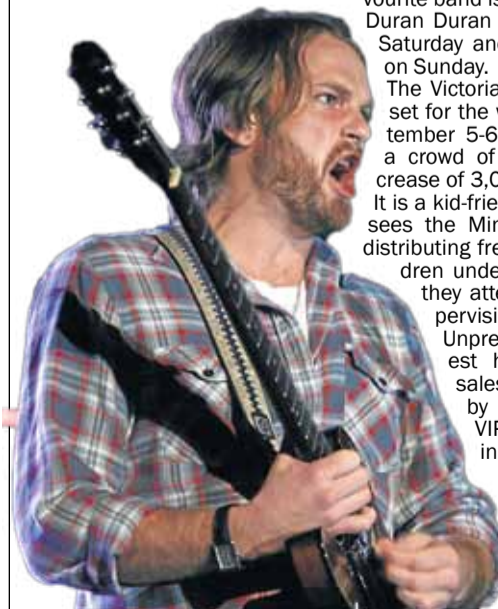
ROCK KINGS: Kings of Leon stars to headline

## World-class wonders at Gib fest

IT'S back, and it's bigger and better than ever before. And the line-up for Gibraltar Music Festival 2015 is shockingly good. The two-day event will feature world-class greats such as Kings of Leon, the Kaiser Chiefs, and Duran Duran. And that's not all... Paloma Faith, Madness, Tom Odell, The Feeling, Ella Henderson and Spanish band Estopa as well as a number of international DJs will also feature. And organisers have just confirmed that girl band Little Mix and reggae star OMI who, sings recent number one hit *Cheerleader* will join the stellar crew.

Chief Minister Fabian Picardo, in particular, will be on fire as his favourite band is Kings of Leon. Duran Duran will headline on Saturday and Kings of Leon on Sunday. The Victoria Stadium event, set for the weekend of September 5-6, is set to draw a crowd of 15,000, an increase of 3,000 on last year. It is a kid-friendly festival that sees the Ministry of Culture distributing free tickets to children under 12 as long as they attended under supervision. Unprecedented interest has seen ticket sales up on last year by over 75% and VIP tickets sold out in July.

Visit [www.gibraltar-musicfestival.com](http://www.gibraltar-musicfestival.com) for more information.



ON FIRE: Caleb leads band to Gib

## Reggae reverence



MAXI: Reggae

THE priest of reggae will headline Gibraltar's National Day celebrations. Maxi Priest, famous for his take on reggae fusion, a mix between reggae and R&B, will perform in the National Day Concert accompanied by his band Kings of Lover's Rock. Priest, born in London to Jamaican parents, was one of nine siblings brought up on a mix of gospel and reggae by his parents, who were Pentecostal missionaries. His song *Close to You* hit the American Billboard's number one spot in 1990. Other bands that will join Priest onstage are Beniton the Menace, Heritage and Jetstream. Karl Zanders, known by his stage name Beniton the Menace, is a Jamaican-American rapper, singer and songwriter who has often performed with Priest. Heritage and Jet Stream are two local bands that will open for the collaboration between Priest and Zanders. Heritage specialises in reggae and Jetstream are a young local band.

**Environmentalists raise concerns about Gibraltar's National Day balloons**

By Caitlin Quinn

A SYMBOL of national pride or a sinister threat to the environment? That's the question many are asking ahead of Gibraltar National Day, when 30,000 red and white balloons – one for each resident of the British territory – are set to fly over the crowd in Casemates Square. The release of the balloons is a much beloved tradition dating back to the early years of National Day celebrations. But in recent years, the custom has come under fire for its ecological implications, particularly for marine life.

### Minority

The Gibraltar Ornithological and Natural History Society (GONHS) is one of several groups calling for a ban on the balloons. In a statement, the GONHS emphasized the balloons' impact on marine life, especially turtles, saying, "Once balloons have been eaten they can block digestive systems and cause animals to starve." Even though the balloons are made out of biodegradable material, the GONHS asserts

# Pop goes the Rock



**SPECTACULAR: The balloon release**

they can take years to decay and in the meantime litter cities, fields and the sea. However, the anti-balloonists seem to be in the minority, as the balloons inspire feelings of pride and solidarity across the Gibraltar community.

"I think they have a lot of symbolic value," said Britain's Got Talent star Jonathan Lutwyche, 15. "I know they're controversial now, but it's something we always do. It's just once a year and it means so much to Gibraltarians."



**PARTY TIME: All night long at Dusk nightclub in Gibraltar**

# Dusk 'til dawn

**When the sun dips behind the Rock of Gibraltar, Dusk is the one place that keeps on rocking**

WHEN the last balloon has floated out of sight and the final firework has gone off with a bang, there's only one place to keep the Gibraltar National Day party going... Dusk champagne and cocktail bar. Featuring top local rock band JetStream as well as DJ Lazy Daiz it really is the place to be come National Day... or any other day for that matter. Kicking off at 1pm, Dusk nightclub in Ocean Village will come alive and as manager Nicola Copeland explains 'the party never ends'. "Gibraltar National Day is a date everyone looks forward to," she adds. "We are excited to be hosting one of the Rock's best bands and expect it to be a great night."

And it will be a busy month for the team at Dusk, as the team also gears up to host the Gibraltar Music Festival's official after party on September 5 and 6. Last year the likes of the Script, Jon Newman and Rita Ora all made an appearance so don't be surprised to see Suggs, Kings of Leon or Paloma Faith gracing the Dusk dancefloor this time round. The Dusk team also have a pop-up bar inside Victoria Park for the festival so be sure to pop along for a well-deserved drinks break. And that's not all... a total refurbishment has just been completed and a new-look Dusk was unveiled in August, just in time to celebrate the venue's three-year anniversary. For more information email [nicola@dusk.gi](mailto:nicola@dusk.gi)

**DUSK**  
NIGHTCLUB & COCKTAIL TERRACE

Limited VIP Tables  
Book Now to  
Avoid Disappointment

**GIBRALTAR NATIONAL DAY PARTY**  
10th September from 1pm, Cocktail Terrace

**JetStream**  
DJ LAZY DAIZ & guests

# Bigger on the **inside.**

Visit Gibraltar and you'll find so much to smile about.

Spend time dining al fresco, or merely enjoying a coffee or a drink, watching the world go by, and you'll know you've left your world behind you.

Feeling adventurous? Explore the heritage of the Rock – there really is so much to discover. And with world class concerts and festivals, and a full calendar of events, you'll have more than enough to keep you happy.



GIBRALTAR TOURIST BOARD

United Kingdom

e: [info@gibraltar.gov.uk](mailto:info@gibraltar.gov.uk)

t: +44 (0) 207 836 0777

 @visit\_gibraltar

 [facebook.com/visitgibraltar](https://facebook.com/visitgibraltar)

DISCOVER A WEALTH  
OF EXPERIENCES.

**GIBRALTAR**  
VISITGIBRALTAR.GI