

bowls holiday guide

PEACOCK'S PASSION FOR PAPHOS



CONSTANTINOU Bros Hotels was pleased to hear feedback on why former English Bowling Association president and European Bowls Union official Roy Peacock chooses to come back to the hotels in Paphos and why he would recommend it to other bowls clubs in the UK. Georgina Bray, Sales & Marketing Executive at Constantinou Bros Hotels in the UK, met up with Roy for this brief interview for the readers of Bowls International.

Firstly Roy, can you just tell us a bit about yourself and your background in bowls?

I have been playing bowls since 1963 and it is my passion. I was a regular at my local bowling club in Soham, Cambridgeshire, and later also became a member of Newmarket BC. I was elected as county president of Cambridgeshire in 1986 and went on to be president of the English Bowls Association in 1993. A couple of years later the European Bowls Union was formed and I held the position of Chairman and subsequently President. I now hold the position of Development Officer for the European Bowls Union.

In February, you will be bringing your third group to stay at the Athena Royal Beach in Paphos. Why do you choose the hotel for your bowls holiday?

I chose to bring my bowls party to the Athena Royal Beach Hotel as it had come highly recommended to me by other bowlers that had visited Constantinou Bros Hotels, which have proved to me that they deserve their exceptional reputation due to the first class service, accommodation and the bowls facilities they have to offer their guests.

How do you rate the facilities at the hotel?

There is one word to describe the facilities and that is 'excellent.' They really do cater for every individual's needs.

Above: **Bowling at the Athena Royal Beach Hotel in Paphos.**

Right: **Former EBA president Roy Peacock, now development officer for the European Bowls Union, has a passion for Cyprus as well as bowls.**

What is your fondest memory of your stay with Constantinou Bros Hotels?

I have to say that the welcome you receive from the management and staff is something that will stick in my mind. The Hotel Manager came to greet me personally and this type of service is rare to receive. This is one of the hotel's many attributes which stands them apart from their competitors. The staff in Cyprus certainly understand how to provide first class hospitality.

What other excursions or activities did your group participate in during their stay?

Cyprus, and particularly Paphos, has a lot to offer. When our group was there we visited many attractions, such as a typical Cyprus wine village, where we walked through the vineyards and got to taste the locally grown wine. The group also discovered the untouched wilderness of Akamas, with its unique flora and fauna. The walk set off from the famous Baths of Aphrodite and along the way we saw the natural side to Cyprus that still to this day remains relatively untouched. You are not short of things to do and see in Paphos.

Why would you recommend Constantinou Bros Hotels to other bowlers looking for an overseas holiday?

Constantinou Bros Hotels would be one of my favourite recommendations for any bowls group wishing to take an overseas trip. The standards and service of the hotels cannot fail to meet your expectations.

What advice would you give to others arranging a bowls holiday to Paphos?

Contact the company's UK Sales and Marketing office, who are experts in handling

all sizes of groups and making arrangements for individual travellers. Shannon O'Connor and his team are aware of what the travelling bowler requires and can offer both the full range of tour operator holidays as well as tailor-made packages through all the major airlines operating to Cyprus. They really do fall over backwards to do what they can for you. This seamless service does not stop at the booking process, but extends throughout your stay at the hotels.

The sixth European Bowls Championships are being held at the Athena Beach and the Athena Royal Beach next year which you have had a great deal of involvement in arranging. Why were our hotels chosen for this prestigious event?

One of the main requirements for choosing a location for the European Championships is that the venue needs to have 12 rinks. Constantinou Bros Hotels boast 14 rinks and from our initial meetings with them it was obvious that it would be an ideal location to host the event. I was also impressed by the attitude and the enthusiasm towards the event shown by the management.

What benefits will this bring to the game with it being held in Cyprus?

The main aim is to promote and develop the game of bowls in Cyprus and around Europe and encourage more people to take up the sport.

Are there a lot of supporters of the game planning to travel to Cyprus for the event?

The response has been tremendous and we are still getting a lot of enquiries from individuals intending to travel to Cyprus to support the event. As many people as possible should take the chance to attend and have a nice holiday.

So what's your top tip for who will win the championships?

Well, that's tricky one! In the past Ireland, Scotland, Wales and England have all won. I personally would like to see a less established team who are supporting their country take home the trophy, but all will be revealed in March 2007.

information

If you are interested in visiting the championships taking place in Cyprus from February 25 to March 2, 2007, or require further information on the hotels, please do not hesitate to contact the UK Sales & Marketing office of Constantinou Bros Hotels on 0870 850 3801 or log onto our website for more information at www.cbh-cyprus.com.