



Palladium Hotel
Costa del Sol,
Spain



CLOCKWISE
FROM ABOVE:
the hotel's pool;
a Junior Suite;
Chang Thai
restaurant



Tried & Tested

THE FACTS: Located in Benalmadena on the Andalusia coast, the four-star Palladium Hotel Costa del Sol reopened in July following an extensive renovation. The beachfront property is 30 minutes from Malaga airport and perfectly placed for exploring the area's attractions, from Malaga's Alcazaba and Picasso Museum to the buzzy nightlife of Puerto Banus. While primarily aimed at couples, the hotel has excellent children's facilities, plus premium all-inclusive and half-board options.

BOOK IT: Seven nights' all-inclusive starts at £721 per person with Jet2holidays, flying from Manchester on October 19. The price includes flights and transfers. palladiumhotelgroup.com
jet2holidays.com

ACCOMMODATION: The hotel's 336 rooms and suites offer guests a choice of Deluxe, Deluxe Superior and Junior Suites. My spacious Deluxe room was decorated in mellow hues of blue and white, and exuded a sense of calm and tranquility. Boasting dreamy ocean views, the hotel's decor is inspired by the Mediterranean Sea, and that colour palette continues throughout the hotel. Mornings began with coffee on my balcony looking over the water, something all guests will be able to enjoy as every room features a sea view or partial sea view. USB charging points and good Wi-Fi came in handy, while the well-stocked bathroom was a generous size. For families or groups, Deluxe rooms can also include a sofa bed making space for three, and Deluxe Superior rooms come with a living room and enough space for four.

FACILITIES: Guests have three options for dining. Pintarroja features show-cooking and themed self-service stations, and Chang Thai cooks up southeast Asian flavours. Poseidon Beach Club offers shore-side dining, and as a vegetarian, I was well catered for in all three. The impressive Nix Sky Lounge presents a romantic spot for indulging in vast seascapes, while sipping a post-dinner cocktail. By day, guests can relax on its luxurious day beds and get lost in a book, or unwind in the hydromassage bath.

WELLNESS: The hotel offers direct access to the beach, where I enjoyed a restorative yoga session before heading to the adult-only infinity pool. There is also a children's pool, mini-golf and kids' club. My final indulgence of the weekend came in the shape of a luxurious facial at the hotel's Zensations spa. Further wellness opportunities are provided at the gym, indoor swimming pool and sauna. Guests looking to practise their swing will find no fewer than 70 golf courses in the area, and the hotel offers exclusive services and special rates for guests at them all. **TW**

REVIEWED by Clare Walsh