



DARYL HANNAH, GODMOTHER AT THE INAUGURATION OF GRAN CASINO COSTA MELONERAS

Dunes at Maspalomas



Gran Hotel Costa Meloneras, home to Gran Casino Costa Meloner



On 26 November last, the Orenes-Franco Group, owner of several Casinos in Croatia and Spain, inaugurated Gran Casino Costa Meloneras on the Spanish Island of Gran Canaria.

Like the rest of the Canary archipelago, of which it is part, the island is a place of many contrasts, home to rough volcanic landscapes, lush vegetation and deserts of sand dunes.

The coastal strip is home to important tourist resorts such as Maspalomas, Playa del Inglés and San Agustín, all of which offer immense possibilities for sea and land sports, amongst many other leisure options. The excellent climate all year round makes the area one of the busiest tourist destinations in Europe. All these factors have contributed to the development of a huge variety of leisure areas in Meloner, Playa del Ingles and Maspalomas.

This offer has recently been added to with the recent inauguration of Gran Casino Costa Meloner in San



Bartolomé de Tirajana, the third Casino on Gran Canaria. This new Casino has created 256 jobs, with an investment of almost 7 million euro. It is located in the Hotel Costa Meloneras and occupies an area of over 3,000 m², on two floors. On the first floor there is a large round gaming room with 100 slots, a Mystery Jackpot with great prizes, and 17 tables: 2 French Roulette, 6 American Roulette, 4 Black Jack, 1 Punto y Banca and 4 Stud Poker, all with plasma



Daryl Hannah arrives at the Casino



Daryl Hannah is welcomed by Jesús Franco, President of Recreativos Franco, with Eliseo Orenes and Ángel Orenes from the Orenes Group



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Jesús Marín, Casino Costa Cálida, Spain and Juan Ramón Pérez Alcarria, Casino Gran Madrid, Spain



Concepción Narváez, Mayor of San Bartolomé de Tirajana, during her speech



Eliseo Orenes, president of the Orenes Group during his speech



Daryl Hannah cuts the ribbon, in the company of Joaquín Franco, President of Recreativos Franco

screens to follow the games.
The slots were supplied by Recreativos Franco, Atronic, Unidesa and IGT; the cylinders and chips by Gaming Partners



Francisca Sánchez de Orenes; and Joaquín Franco with his wife Lucía Burgos

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Some of the 1.000 guests at the inauguration party



Fernando Monzón, manager Gran Casino Costa Meloneras; José Luis Iniesta, Partner Gran Casino de Extremadura; and Antonio Martínez Alcázar, General Casinos Manager, Orenes Group

International (GPI); the layouts and tables by Hispania Casino Equipment; TCSJohnHuxley supplies the Chipper Champ Plus; Alfastreet, the multiplayer electronic roulette, and Mikhon Sign Perú, the displays.
The leisure offer at the Casino also includes the "Black & Red

Casino Show" nightclub, with its large versatile hydraulic stage, the scene for international class acts; the "La Cúpula del Casino" restaurant, with its excellent cuisine, and a conference centre.
The project is the work of architects Julio L. Redondo and José R. Fernández. One of the most eye-catching features is the large



David Charnock, TCS General Manager for Europe, with his wife and executives from Casinos de Tenerife and Casino Las Palmas

Manuel G. Blesa, Recreativos Franco; Alberto López Orenes, Gran Casino Murcia; Javier Blasco, Gran Casino Mallorca; and Lander Letemendía, Manager, Gran Casino Kursaal with his wife

dome, decorated with 8 figures who, like giant Fairies of Fortune, pour luck on the gaming tables from their cornucopias.

The inauguration party was a great success with over 1,000 guests packing the Casino.

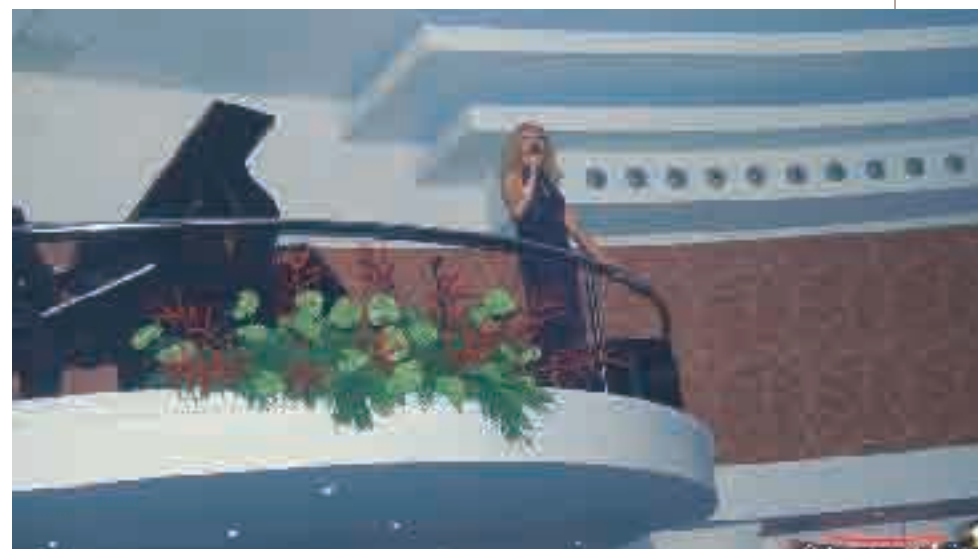
In addition to the municipal and provincial authorities, the most famous face was that of US actress Daryl Hannah, who acted as godmother to the new Casino.

In her speech, the Mayor of San Bartolomé de Tirajana, Concepción Narváez, praised the important role the new Casino will play both in the number of jobs it has created and in its contribution to furthering tourism in the Islands. Eliseo Orenes, Chairman of the Orenes Group, emphasised the great economic and human effort expended by the Casino's partner companies to bring the project to fruition, and the support received from the authorities to make it possible.

The speeches were followed by the traditional ribbon cutting and first roulette ball. These ceremonies were charmingly performed by Daryl Hannah, accompanied by the authorities and the Casino owners.

Several musical acts entertained guests throughout the evening.

Antonio Martínez Alcázar, General Casinos Manager of the Orenes Group, spoke to this magazine, "This new Casino is a further step in the growth of our Company. We estimate that the Casino will see some 100,000 visitors each year. We hope to welcome both locals and tourists, mainly German, English and Scandinavian, who visit the island all year round. The staff are highly qualified. The croupiers, for example, have been attending training courses for almost a year, and can deal with any client situation".



One of the shows



Text: Carlos García

Photos: EUROPEAN CASINOS-The Elite

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BLACK & RED CASINO SHOW

Gran Casino Costa Meloneras