

## ~ Formentera in evolution ~ Gecko Hotel & Beach Club emerges after a major refurbishment in April 2017

February 2017 – With a well-established reputation as Formentera's most compelling hotel, Gecko Hotel & Beach Club is a true Balearic classic. April 2017 sees the hotel emerge from a winter evolution, following a major redesign and upgrade at the hands of Pablo Carrington's Marugal Distinctive Hotel Management (Cap Rocat, Mallorca, Torralbenc, Menorca, Urso Hotel, Madrid) – bringing a new wave of casual sophistication to the island.

Set on the island's most beautiful beach – overlooking a vast 10km stretch of white sand – Gecko Hotel is set to become the Balearic hotspot for summer 2017 - more than ever before. The new look for the hotel will take inspiration from the seaside elegance of the 1950s – when the international jet-set started enjoying summers on Spanish shores. The laid-back atmosphere will be retained and refined, revealing the new, grown-up Gecko.

The redesign is being masterminded by Mallorcan designer Antonio Obrador, known for his work at Cap Rocat and Urso Hotel, Madrid, as well on private homes for European movers and shakers. The design will bring Obrador's characteristic balancing of tradition and modernity to Formentera.

Elegance will be key throughout – in the bright, neutral colour scheme, with splashes of Mediterranean cobalt blue, in the breezy, laid-back public spaces and through the newly designed restaurant and terraces, overlooking the gardens and opening on to the beach. This will be *the* place for lazy lunches in the shade, light suppers as the sun sets and long dinners under the stars. Staying true to its Mediterranean roots, food will be deliciously fresh and seasonal, with plenty of just-caught seafood and irresistible dishes.

The beach club will have the feeling of a private coastal club, with a refined atmosphere for discerning guests; house DJs spinning bossa nova, cocktails delivered to sunbed and beach cabanas, and all of Formentera's laid-back energy in one place.

Breezy bedrooms will make the most of balconies for prime sunrise or sunset views, while ground-floor rooms will have private patios, with pergolas and plunge pools for outdoor living. The star bedroom, the Gecko Loft, will have floor-to-ceiling windows framing an unbeatable view over the water – whether seen from bed or the bath! This room will also have the largest private terrace of all, for moments of calm in the sunshine or under the stars – and definitely away from it all.

Guests will be whisked to this Balearic paradise by private boat transfer from Ibiza to start every stay in style – and as it means to go on.

Bookings open on 10 January 2017. Rates from €235 per room per night based on two sharing a Gecko Double room on a B&B basis. www.geckobeachclub.com.

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About Marugal Distinctive Hotel Management – Marugal Distinctive Hotel Management specialises in the development, launch and management of independent, one-off hotels. Established by Pablo Carrington in 2003, Gecko Hotel & Beach Club will be the newest addition to the portfolio, joining Totem (opened July 2016) and URSO Hotel & Spa in Madrid (September 2014), Torralbenc in Menorca (May 2013), Cap Rocat in Mallorca (2010), and Hotel Viura in La Rioja (2010).