

SAVE THE DATE TO TEE OFF WITH GOALKEEPING LEGEND IN MESSINIA PRO-AM

The fourth annual Messinia Pro-Am, which takes place at Costa Navarino, from February 19-22, is in safe hands after German goalkeeping legend Sepp Maier joined the list of celebrities taking part.

There is only a handful of places left for what will be the largest field yet in the pro-am, which has come to be regarded as the unofficial launch pad for the European golfing season, and will be played over three rounds on Costa Navarino's two courses, The Bay and The Dunes.

Now 75, Maier – who won three European Cups with Bayern Munich and a European Championship and World Cup during his distinguished footballing career – remains a very keen golfer in his retirement.

Maier, as an amateur, will be competing for a great line up of prizes, while the professionals will battle it out for a share of the €50,000 prize pot. Last year's event was won by the PGA of Italy's Alessandro Tadini, who will return next month to defend his title.

Also in attendance will be the revered designer of the destination's The Bay Course, Robert Trent Jones Jnr, one of the world's foremost golf architects, with in excess of 300 courses to his name, in more than 40 countries.

Players and their guests will be accommodated at the <u>Westin Resort Costa Navarino</u>, a multi-award-winning five-star resort and will enjoy the pristine coastal location of one of Europe's leading multi-sport destinations, as well as the region of Messinia's natural beauty and mild climate.

Over the past few years, the social side of the Messinia Pro-Am has established itself as a big as part as the golf and, this year, participants will also enjoy a 'Speakeasy' welcome reception and dinner, a 'Let's Roll' social event, including a charity bowling game for SOS Children's Villages – 'A good cause to STRIKE' – and, on the final evening, a 'La Fiesta' Mexican dinner and prizegiving ceremony.

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Information for journalists

ABOUT COSTA NAVARINO

Costa Navarino is the prime, sustainable destination in the Mediterranean, located in the Greek region of Messinia in the southwest Peloponnese. One of the most unspoiled and breathtaking seaside Mediterranean landscapes, this area has been shaped by 4,500 years of history.

Its philosophy is driven by a genuine desire to promote Messinia, while protecting and preserving its natural beauty and heritage. It will comprise a number of distinct sites featuring five-star deluxe hotels, luxury private residences, conference facilities, spa and thalassotherapy centres, signature golf courses, as well as a wide range of unique year-round activities for adults and children.

Navarino Dunes, the first area, is home to two luxury five-star hotels, The Romanos, a Luxury Collection Resort, and The Westin Resort Costa Navarino; Navarino Residences, a collection of luxury villas for private ownership; and The Residences at The Westin Resort Costa Navarino – fully furnished resort apartments for sale; the signature golf course The Dunes Course; Anazoe Spa, a 4,000m² spa and thalassotherapy centre; the state-of-the-art conference centre House of Events; specially designed facilities for children; and a variety of gastronomy venues, sports, outdoor and cultural activities.

Navarino Bay, the second area, is home to the signature golf course, The Bay Course and to the earth-sheltered Bay Clubhouse, while an ultra-luxury, all suite and pool villas resort is currently under construction, alongside an upscale, vibrant, lifestyle resort at the nearby site Navarino Waterfront.



At Navarino Hills, two new 18-hole signature golf courses are also being constructed.

High-resolution images of Costa Navarino may be downloaded from http://bit.ly/AZ_CN.

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