



ACO

Amateur Chess Organization

WORLD AMATEUR CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2020

16th - 25th May 2020 Rhodes / Greece

In many countries 21st of May 2020 is a public holiday



Sheraton®

RHODES RESORT

Contact and registration:
rhodes@amateurchess.com

The ACO World Amateur Chess Championship 2020 takes place from 16th - 25th May 2020 on the island of Rhodes (Greece) as an open tournament. Any player with a rating below 2400 can represent his country and become ACO World Champion in his rating group!

Accommodation for all players and accompanying persons:

The event takes place in the luxurious ambience of the award-winning 5-star Sheraton Rhodes Resort beach hotel. The hotel belongs to the international Sheraton Group, which exclusively comprises 5-star hotels. The playing hall is located in the hotel. More information and impressions will follow on the following pages.

Division of groups:

Group A: 2201 – 2400
Group B: 2001 – 2200
Group C: 1801 – 2000
Group D: 1601 – 1800
Group E: 1401 – 1600
Group F: 1201 – 1400
Group G: 0 (unrated) – 1200

Every group plays separately meaning you only play opponents of similar playing strength in your group. For the division of groups we consider your ELO/national rating at the moment of registration. For players having both an ELO-rating and a national rating, the higher rating counts. Players without rating or other players may only play in a different group upon written application to the organizers.

Mode and time control:

9 rounds Swiss System.

Rate of play: 90 minutes for 40 moves + 15 minutes with an increment of 30 sec. per move starting from move 1. Default time: 30 minutes. In case of a tie, the Buchholz decides the winner, otherwise prizes will be shared.

Starting fee (only for players): 50 EUR

Prizes: 5.000 EUR

Group A

2201 – 2400

1st place: 500 EUR
2nd place: 200 EUR
3rd place: 100 EUR

Group B

2001 – 2200

1st place: 400 EUR
2nd place: 200 EUR
3rd place: 100 EUR

Group C

1801 – 2000

1st place: 400 EUR
2nd place: 200 EUR
3rd place: 100 EUR

Group D

1601 – 1800

1st place: 400 EUR
2nd place: 200 EUR
3rd place: 100 EUR

Group E

1401 – 1600

1st place: 400 EUR
2nd place: 200 EUR
3rd place: 100 EUR

Group F

1201 – 1400

1st place: 400 EUR
2nd place: 200 EUR
3rd place: 100 EUR

Group G

0 – 1200

1st place: 400 EUR
2nd place: 200 EUR
3rd place: 100 EUR

**1st place of each rating group
becomes ACO World Champion.
Places 1-3 receive trophies.**

Prizes are based on 100 participants.

Tournament Rules and Regulations:

All players and accompanying persons are obliged to stay in the official hotel. All booking must be made directly through the ACO.

Weather on Rhodes:

The weather in May is sunny with temperatures up to 28 degrees and the sea is warm.

Transfer from the airport:

The hotel is 20 minutes away from the airport. The costs for a taxi are ca. 25 EUR, the costs for a busticket ca. 3 EUR.

Note:

From 2018, Greece has introduced a tourist tax for all hotels in the country. For 4 and 5 star hotels this tax is 4 EUR per room per night.

The playing venue

The 5***** beach hotel Sheraton Rhodes Resort was built by the Sheraton Group and has 4 large pool areas. The playing hall is on the same level as the lobby. The elevators to the rooms are also nearby, so no long walkways are necessary. From the playing hall there is a direct path to the private beach of the hotel. The hotel is only a 10 minute drive from the city centre of Rhodes, ideal conditions for accompanying persons who want to explore the old town during chess games.



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In 2020 the tournament will take place from 16 - 25 May. The weather in May is sunny with temperatures up to 28 degrees. During this time there is hardly any rain and the sea is warm. In addition, there is a holiday in May, with Ascension Day on 21 May 2020.



Schedule ACO World Amateur Chess Championship 2020

16th - 25th May 2020 Sheraton Resort Rhodes

Saturday	16.05.		Arrival
		From 6:00 PM	Registration
Sunday	17.05.	9:00 AM	Draw of pairings for Round 1
		9:30 AM	Opening ceremony
		10:00 AM	Round 1
		6:30 PM	Blitz tournament (Individual)
Monday	18.05.	10:00 AM	Round 2
		4:00 PM	Round 3
Tuesday	19.05.	10:00 AM	Round 4
		4:00 PM	Grandmaster lecture
		6:00 PM	Blitz tournament (Team)

Wednesday	20.05.	10:00 AM	Round 5
		4:00 PM	Round 6
Thursday	21.05.		Free day
Friday	22.05.	10:00 AM	Round 7
		6:30 PM	Simultaneous exhibition
		10:00 AM	Round 8
Saturday	23.05.	6:30 PM	Blitz tournament (Individual)
		10:00 AM	Round 9
Sunday	24.05.	6:00 PM	Prize-giving ceremony
		7:00 PM	Gala dinner
Monday	25.05.		Departure

The participation at the side program like for example blitz tournaments, lectures or simultaneous exhibition is voluntary.

The ACO chess package - chess and holidays

The following services are included for all players & accompanying persons:

- ✓ **9 overnight stays in 5-star Sheraton Rhodes Resort**
- ✓ **Full board**
Breakfast, light lunch (see page 10), dinner
- ✓ **Drinks included (non-alcoholic) during the meals (value 150 EUR)**
Free water and 1 soft drink per person per meal (lunch & dinner)
- ✓ **Free drinks during the chess games (value 150 EUR)**
Unlimited free water, tea and coffee during the chess games
- ✓ **ACO drinks coupon** (see page 11)
Exclusively for ACO guests there is a selection of alcoholic (beer, wine, cocktails) and non-alcoholic beverages with up to 70% discount.
- ✓ **Daily 2 free bottles of mineral water in the room**
- ✓ **Prize-giving ceremony with gala dinner** (see page 18)
- ✓ **Free game analysis with GM Spyridon Skembris & GM Zigurds Lanka**
After the end of your games, you can analyze them with the Greek national coach Spyridon Skembris and world famous coach Zigurds Lanka
- ✓ **Free grandmaster chess lectures**
The grandmasters Skembris and Lanka will hold two lectures during the tournament about different chess topics (Duration about 1,5h each).
- ✓ **Free chess side program (participation is voluntary)**
Each evening there will be a different chess event. For example blitz tournaments (Individual or teamblitz), grandmaster simultaneous exhibition etc.
- ✓ **Free access to the gym (24h)**
- ✓ **Private hotel beach**
- ✓ **Free internet access**



How to get to Rhodes?

From all European countries there are direct flights to Rhodes.

You can find our current flight recommendations under: www.amateurchess.com/rhodes

For your own search we recommend:
<https://flights.ideal.com/>

In case you cannot find a direct flight there is always the option to fly via Athens or Thessaloniki.

If you need help with flight search send an email to rhodes@amateurchess.com

Return trips (flight to Rhodes and back) are available from the following airports. Price per person are approximately between 170 EUR and 320 EUR.

Berlin	Hannover	Salzburg
Munich	Leipzig	Paris
Stuttgart	Erfurt	Prague
Frankfurt	Bremen	London
Hamburg	Zurich	Stockholm
Düsseldorf	Basel	Oslo
Köln-Bonn	Geneva	
Dresden	Vienna	



Relaxation

Enjoy the wonderful
atmosphere of the 5-star
Luxury resorts right by the sea.



Cool down

The Sheraton Resort has
4 large pool areas.



Recreation

Before or after the games, guests can relax by the pool or on the hotel's private beach.



Castellania - the main restaurant

In the Castellania (one floor below the lobby) all meals are served as a buffet. There is both indoor and outdoor seating.

Dinner times

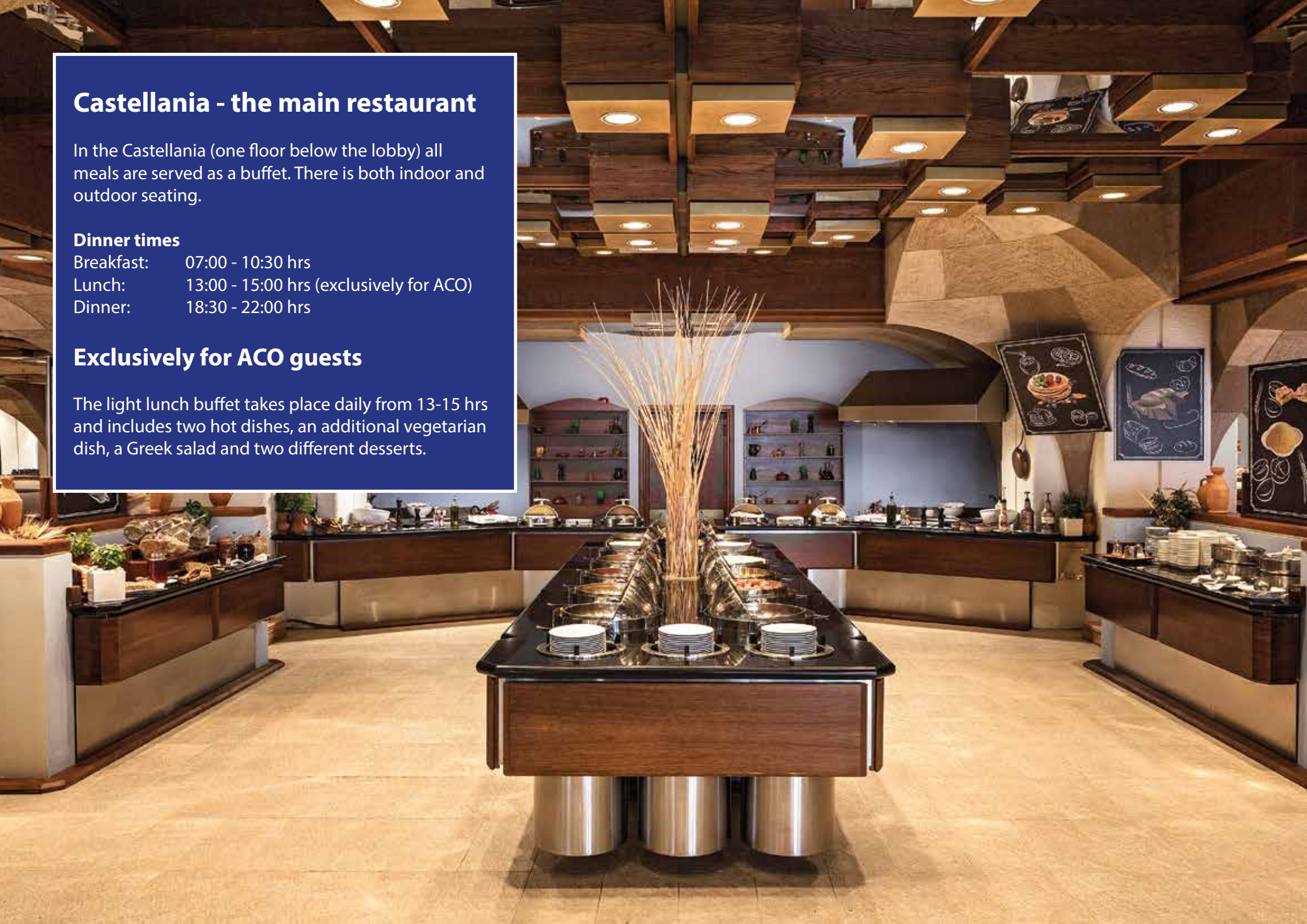
Breakfast: 07:00 - 10:30 hrs

Lunch: 13:00 - 15:00 hrs (exclusively for ACO)

Dinner: 18:30 - 22:00 hrs

Exclusively for ACO guests

The light lunch buffet takes place daily from 13-15 hrs and includes two hot dishes, an additional vegetarian dish, a Greek salad and two different desserts.





drink coupon

X	X								
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Valid for 10 alcoholic or non-alcoholic drinks.



Exclusively only for participants & accompanying persons!

For alcoholic drinks during or outside the normal meal times you can purchase as many drink coupons as you like at the hotel reception.

A coupon costs 30 EUR and entitles you to 10 alcoholic (or non-alcoholic) drinks. **(3 EUR per drink)**

For ACO guests this means a discount of up to 70% on the regular prices!

You can choose from the following drinks. For every ordered drink the waiter makes a cross on the coupon.

Alcoholic drinks:

- beer
- red wine
(2 different sorts)
- white wine
(2 different sorts)
- shandy

Alcoholic cocktails:

- Mojito
- Cosmopolitan

Non-alcoholic cocktails:

- Virgin Mojito
- Fruit Punch

Non-alcoholic beverages:

- Cola
- Fanta
- Sprite
- orange juice
- apple juice
- coffee, cappuccino

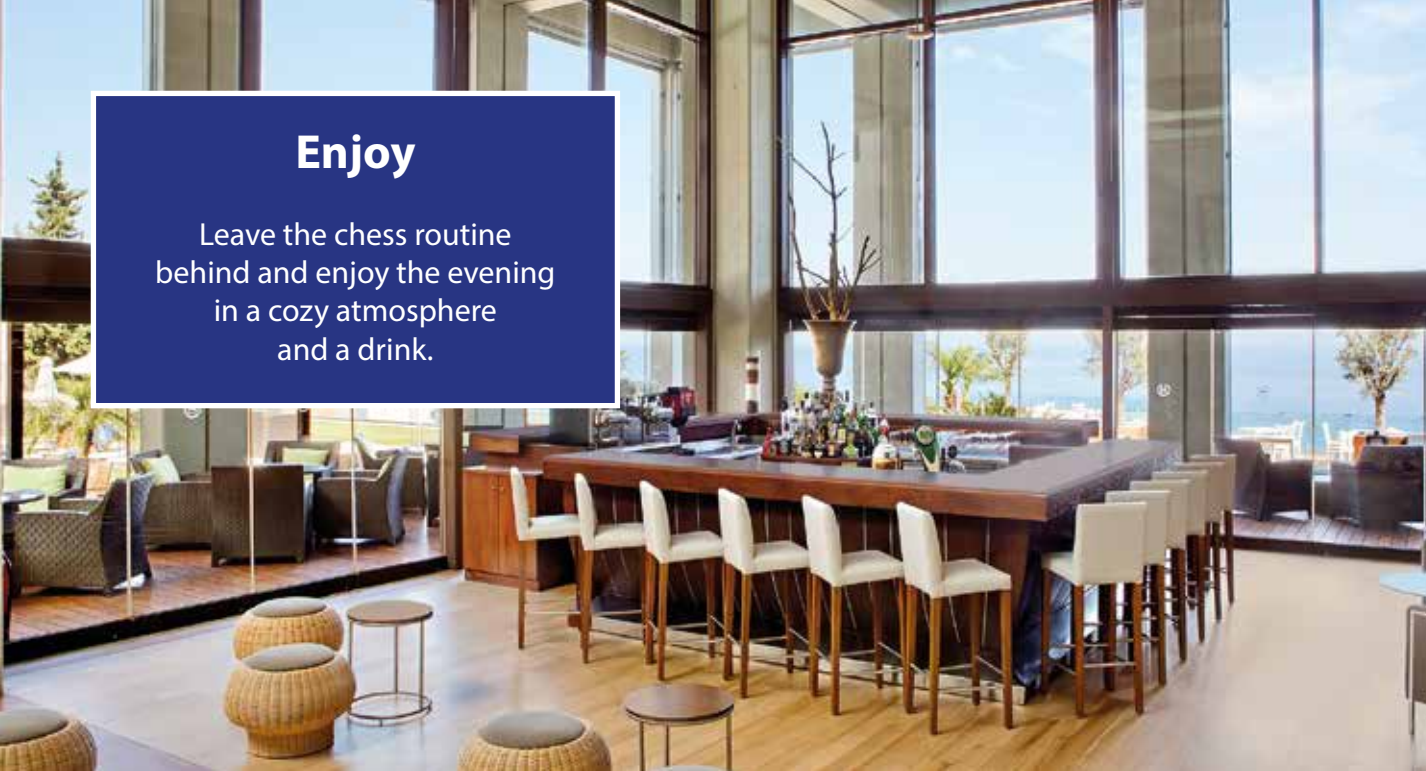
The coupon can be used anywhere in the hotel (except room service).

Information on non-alcoholic drinks:

Lunch and dinner include a free non-alcoholic soft drink and unlimited water. Please therefore use the coupon for non-alcoholic drinks only if you want to order an additional drink or outside meal times.

Enjoy

Leave the chess routine behind and enjoy the evening in a cozy atmosphere and a drink.



Best playing conditions in Imperial Ballroom

The famous Greek ballroom has already hosted numerous important international congresses and events.

Due to its soft carpet, there is hardly any background noise, which means best conditions for chess players. The playing hall is on the same level as the hotel lobby and close to elevators leading to the hotel rooms. This means short walking distances.

Video of the playing hall

Click on the link to open the video:

<https://youtu.be/0erYc39wq2g>



Unlimited free drinks during chess games

The ACO chess package includes unlimited free drinks (coffee, tea, water) during the chess games.



Support of Grandmasters included!

- **Game analysis • Lectures**
- **Simultaneous exhibition**

Every year our participants are supported by grandmasters. After completing your game, you can analyze it with the help of a Grandmasters.

Zigurds Lanka: Latvian coaching legend from Riga, best students: Shirov & Bologan
Spyridon Skembris: National coach of Greece

In addition to the game analysis, both coaches will hold seminars (in German and English) on various topics and compete with you in a simultaneous or blitz tournament.

Videos of seminars 2019

Click on the link to open the video:

Video GM Lanka (short version / German):
<https://youtu.be/tWvmIDVMXa0>

Video GM Skembris (short version / English):
<https://youtu.be/zMJ3ShXTDb0>

Video GM Lanka (long version / German):
<https://youtu.be/03hmExgtKVw>

Video GM Skembris (long version / English):
<https://youtu.be/pfiaZhygb4w>



GM Zigurds Lanka (left) and
GM Spyridon Skembris (right)



Chess side program: Blitz - Teamblitz - Simultaneous

One of the many highlights of the ACO World Amateur Chess Championships are blitz tournaments with five minutes time per player. Our Welcome Blitz Tournament always takes place the evening after the first round. There is always a great atmosphere and it's easy to socialize. Also GMs, IMs and FMs from our team take part in the Blitz tournaments (out of competition). All players play together in one group.

**In 2019 more than 140 players took part!
For sure one of the biggest blitz chess tournaments for amateurs worldwide!**

Equally popular is our team blitz, in which teams of 2 (on two boards) compete against each other. You are free to choose your partner. From beginners to grandmasters, everybody plays along!

At our simultaneous exhibition there is always a big interest. Over 80 players compete against our team of title holders.

Videos

(Click on the link to open the video)

Video of the Simultaneous exhibition:
<https://youtu.be/HhFn39lOxTM>

Video of the Team Blitz event:
<https://youtu.be/Xa1NpUKks0>



Break guaranteed

At the World Championship we will have 2 double rounds (days with one round in the morning and one round in the afternoon). A few of our past participants have informed us that they were quite exhausted after the double round. So we offer all participants the opportunity to 1 or 2 „breaks“. This is not mandatory for any participant, it is a choice! These breaks are called „BYE“s in chess language.

A „BYE“ is when you as a player tell the arbiter before the next round that you want to pause the next round. Then you will not be included in the pairings for the next round, but still get half a point. So you can relax, yet not slip off in the table. 25% of the players make use of it.

It is possible to take a „BYE“ exclusively at the two match days when a double round is played. So you can come after the morning round to the arbiter and tell him that you want to take a „BYE“ for the next round, which is played in the afternoon.

Then you are not included in the pairings and get half a point. The next rounds you will be paired regularly. The possibility of a „BYE“ is only possible twice, only at the 2 match days with double rounds.

A „BYE“ gives you a break which you can use to relax and recharge your batteries. At the same time you get half a point for the missed round. This leads to an even more relaxed tournament for many players.

Questions?

Send an email to: rhodes@amateurchess.com

A typical day at the ACO World Amateur Chess Championship

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 08.00 hrs: | The alarm clock is ringing, soon it starts! Get up relaxed and rested for breakfast. |
| 09.00 hrs: | Enjoy the breakfast buffet. Large selection and wonderful weather. |
| 09.55 hrs: | The round's about to start. As always, there will be a song before the game. Once the music stops, the round is started! |
| 10.00 hrs: | Here we go! |
| 13.30 hrs: | Done, after an exciting game I was able to decide the game in my favor. Together with my opponent and a GM we have a look at the game. No need to hurry, lunch is served until 15:00 hrs. |
| 14.00 hrs: | Lunch. But not too much, I still need energy for the evening program! |
| 15.30 hrs: | Time for beach. Or the pools, as the case may be. There are chess friends everywhere with plenty of opportunities to play chess, sunbathe and relax after the rounds. |
| 18.30 hrs: | Blitz tournament with free entry and way over 100 players. The ACO team with the GMs Bindrich and Lanka, IM Tobias Hirneise, FM Jens Hirneise and ACO president Lothar Hirneise also take part, but out of competition. Around 20:00 hrs the tournament is over. |
| 20.00 hrs: | Dinner time, highly deserved! Important question: one or two scoops of ice cream? |
| 22.00 hrs: | It's not too late for a drink at the bar with some chess friends. In case you still don't have enough of chess, you can also play a game of at the bar. Chess boards are everywhere in the hotel! |



Prize-giving with gala dinner around the pool

After our prize-giving ceremony the gala dinner with Greek theme evening will take place as highlight of the ACO World Amateur Chess Championship. Look forward to an extraordinary evening!

Video of the gala dinner 2019

(Click on the link to open the video)

<https://youtu.be/CqKuHFm7GkA>

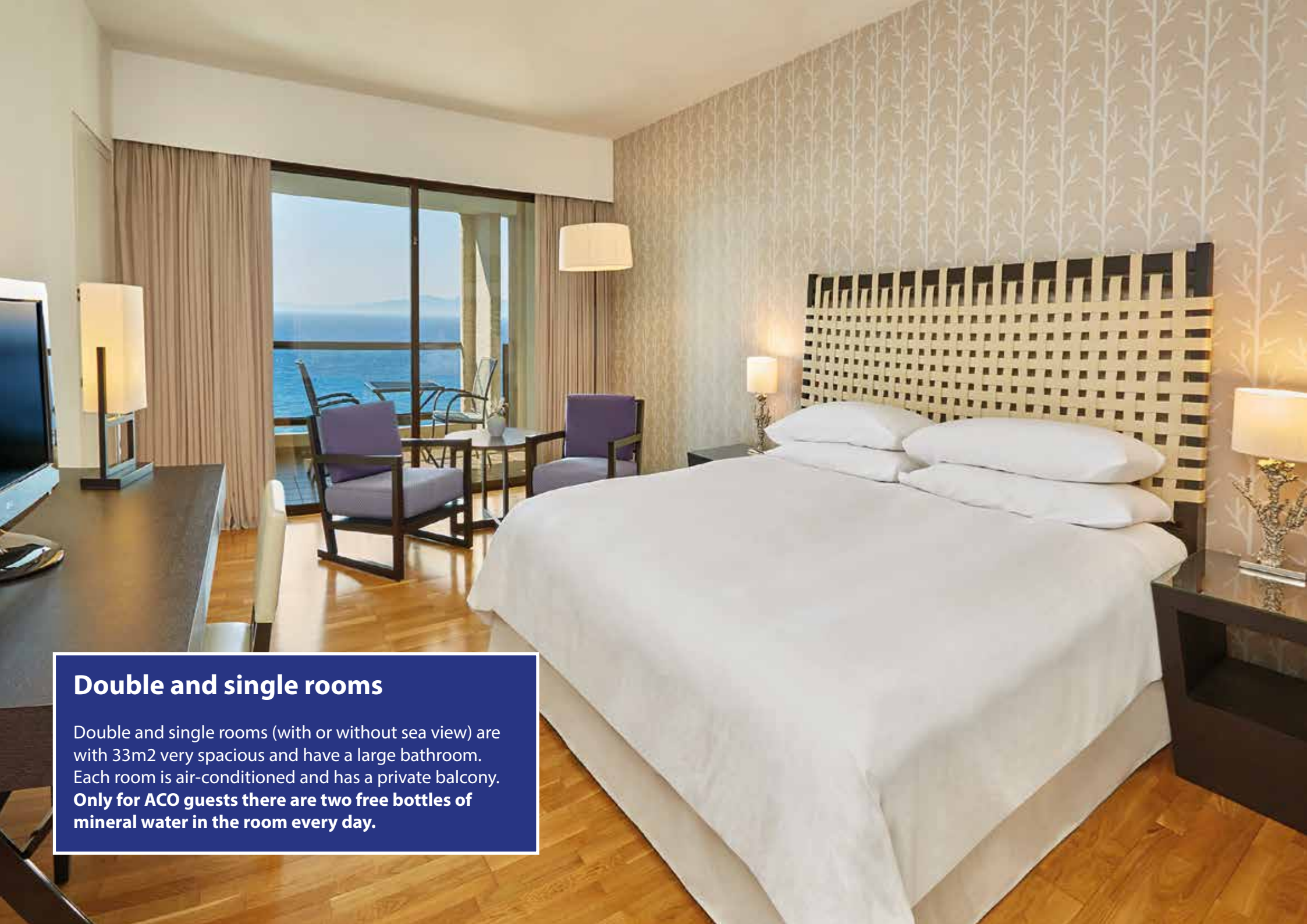




Prize-giving with gala dinner

During the prize-giving a professional photographer will be present who will be more than glad to take a picture of you or including your partner, friends or your whole family (no extra costs)!

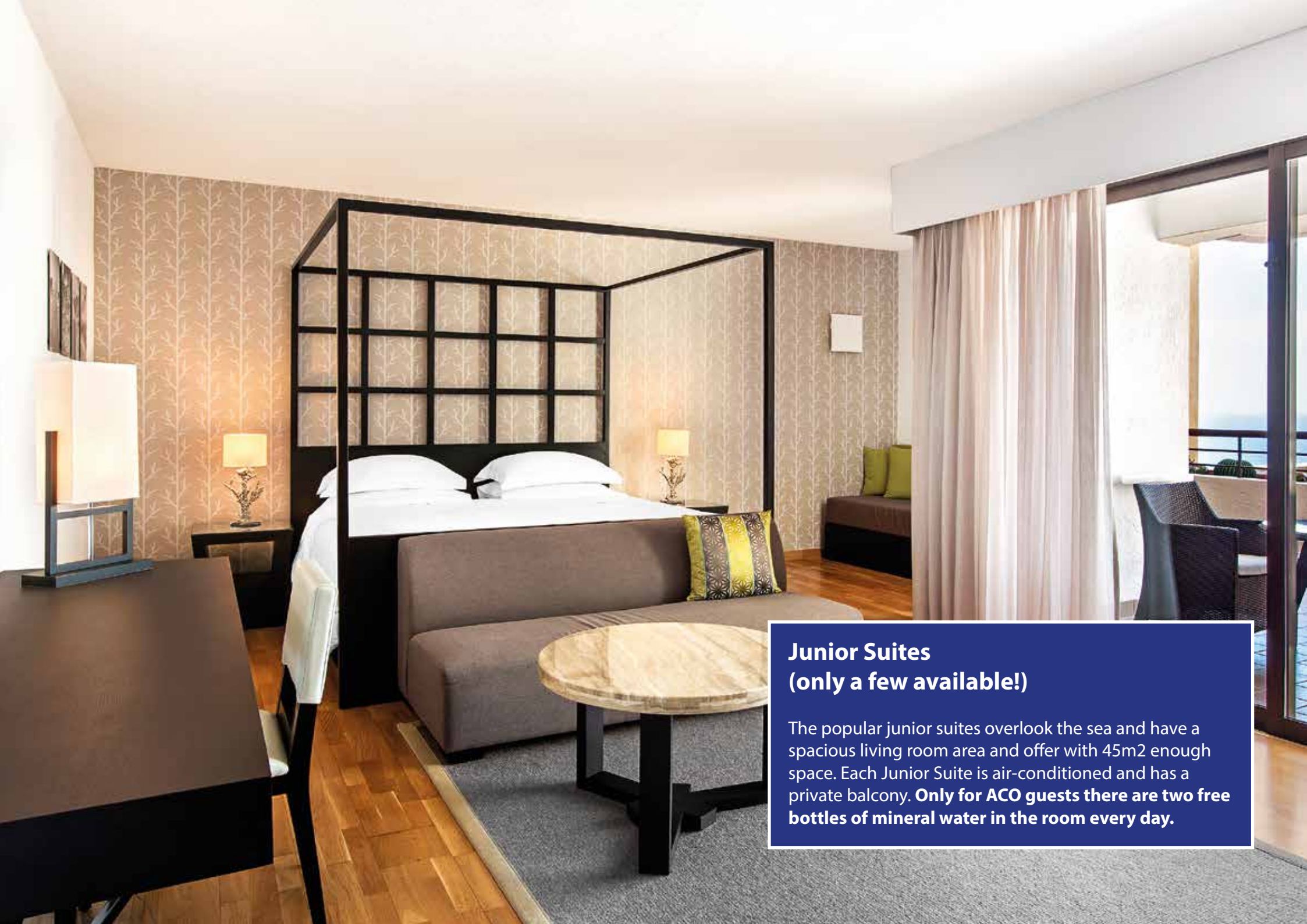




Double and single rooms

Double and single rooms (with or without sea view) are with 33m² very spacious and have a large bathroom. Each room is air-conditioned and has a private balcony.

Only for ACO guests there are two free bottles of mineral water in the room every day.



Junior Suites (only a few available!)

The popular junior suites overlook the sea and have a spacious living room area and offer with 45m2 enough space. Each Junior Suite is air-conditioned and has a private balcony. **Only for ACO guests there are two free bottles of mineral water in the room every day.**



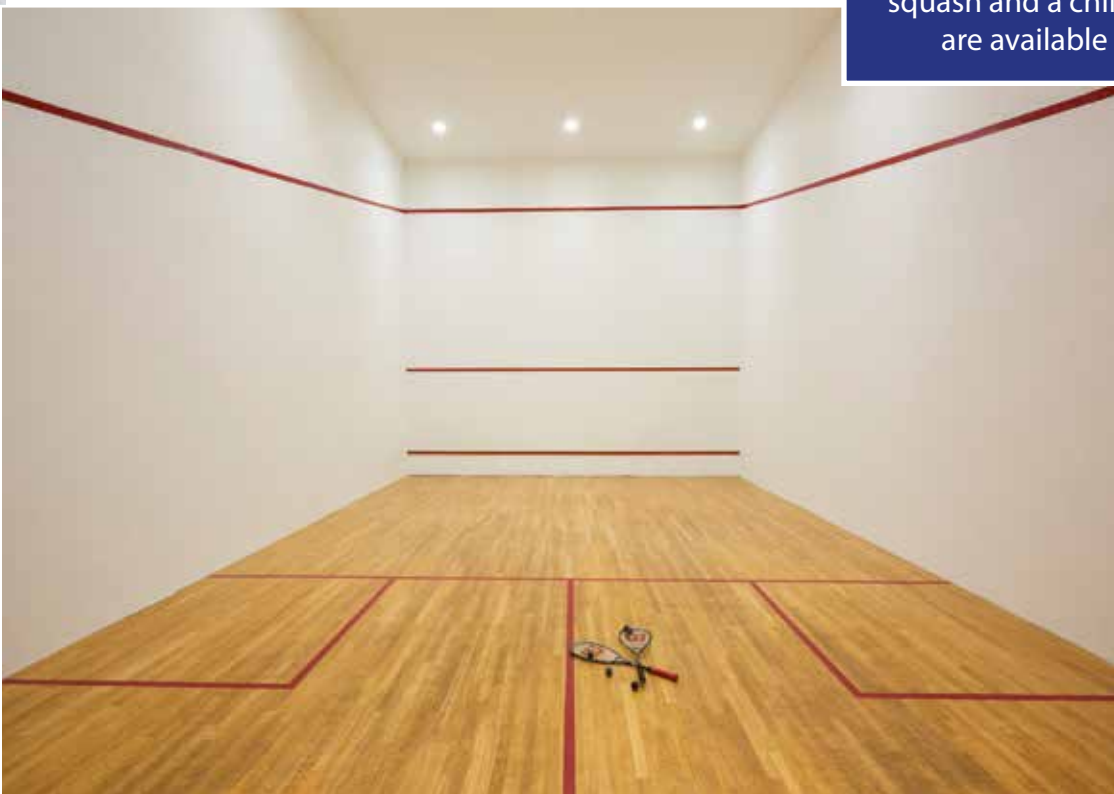
Aegean Suite (only 5 available!)

The Aegean Suites (60m²) are luxurious and very spacious units with a master bedroom, living room and a fantastic sea view. Each Aegean Suite is air-conditioned and has a private balcony.

Only for ACO guests there are two free bottles of mineral water in the room every day.

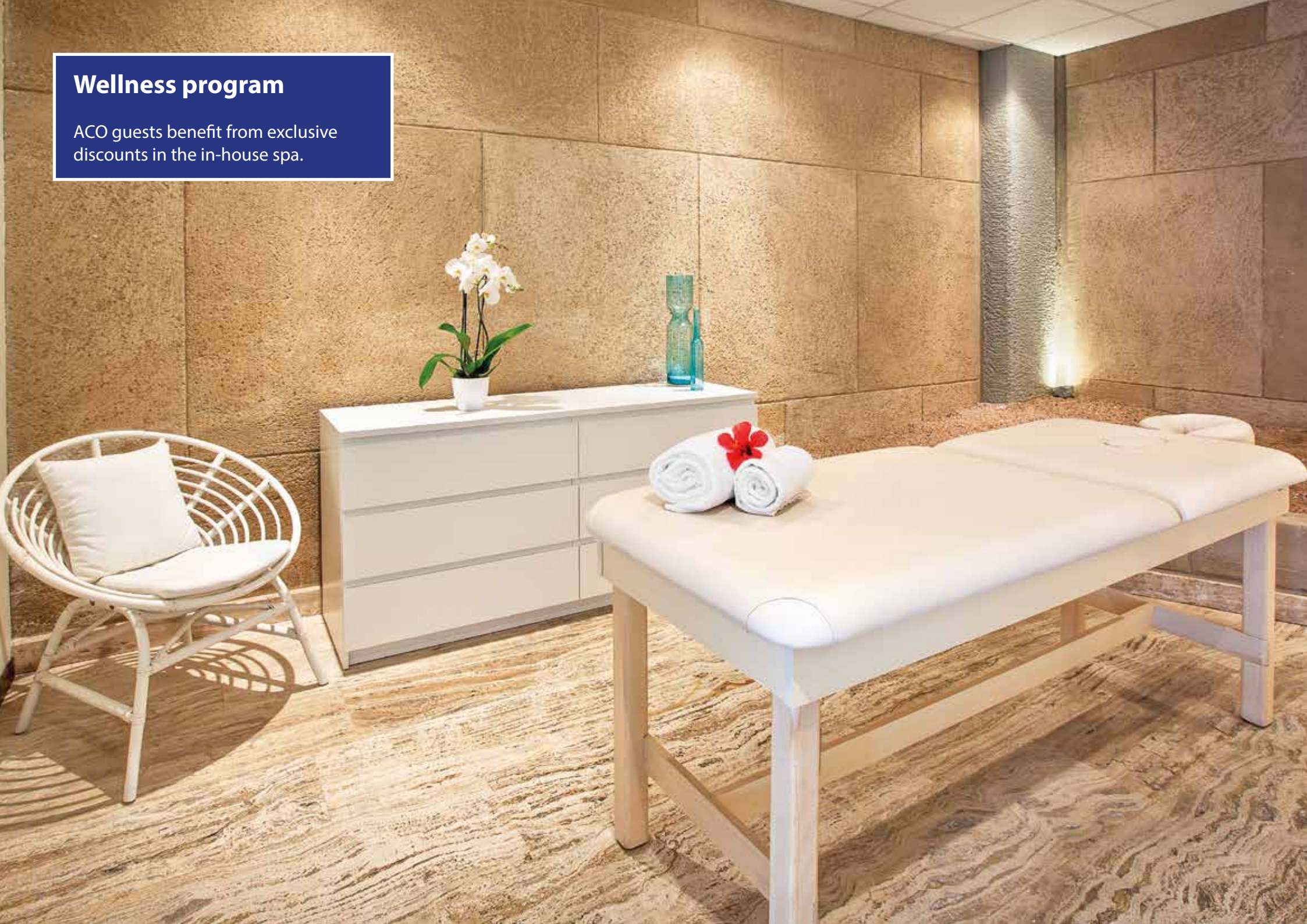


Fitness centre (24h), indoor pool, squash and a children's playground are available free of charge.



Wellness program

ACO guests benefit from exclusive discounts in the in-house spa.



Tennis court

Tennis lovers can use the hotel's own tennis court, which is also equipped with floodlights, free of charge!





List of activities

At the 5***** beach hotel Sheraton Rhodes Resort numerous activities are offered. A small except of the activies are below. In case of questions please send us an email to rhodes@amateurchess.com

- Jogging/Fitness trail
- Sauna
- Squash
- Tennis (with floodlights)
- Volleyball
- Table tennis
- Bike rental (extra charges)
- Mini supermarket

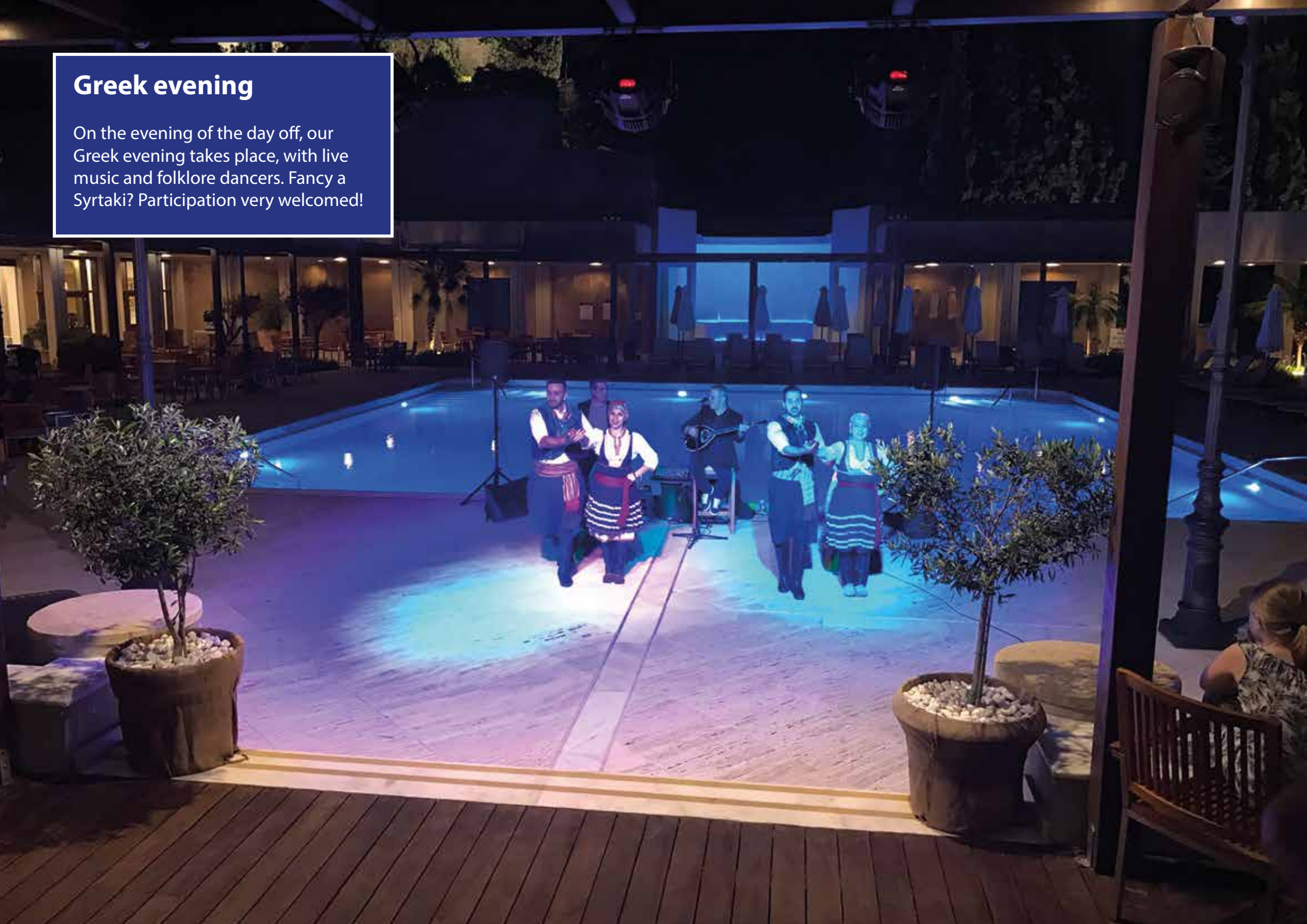
Sunny island Rhodes: Free day

The play-free day offers enough time to explore the whole island. Visit the historical sights of the island and enjoy the typical Greek flair in Rhodes city and surroundings.



Greek evening

On the evening of the day off, our Greek evening takes place, with live music and folklore dancers. Fancy a Syrtaki? Participation very welcomed!





Organizing team

The experienced organisation team has been organizing the ACO World Amateur Championships since 2012 and is also very attached to the game of chess:

from left to right:

GM Falko Bindrich:

Germany's youngest GM of all time

FM Jens Hirneise:

Editor-in-chief of Rochade Chess Magazine

Lothar Hirneise:

ACO President & Publisher of Rochade

IM Tobias Hirneise:

Publisher of Rochade Kids Chess Magazine



Enjoying chess - the ACO experience

Our goal is to offer you a chess tournament of a special kind. Of course the tournament has priority, but we also want you and your companions to enjoy the tournament in the truest sense of the word. Therefore, we only select interesting locations and beautiful hotels with high 4 and 5 star standards for our tournament.

Our team consists, among others, of GMs, IMs and FMs with huge tournament experience, so we know what matters at a chess tournament.

In addition to the Amateur Championship, since 2018 we also organize the ACO Senior World Chess Championship for players over 50 years, which takes place in October on Crete.

www.amateurchess.com/senior

ACO WACC 2012: Dubai **72 participants from 25 nations**

Our first tournament took place in sunny Dubai in 2012. The venue was 5-star hotel Jebel Ali. The highlight of the event was the prize-giving ceremony in the ballroom of the famous 7-star hotel Burj-Al-Arab (photo) at 220 meters height.



ACO WACC 2013: Crete **168 participants from 26 nations**

The second ACO World Amateur Chess Championship took place on the Greek island Crete in 2013. Compared to 2012, the number of participants more than doubled. The venue was 4-star Aquis Arina Sand with a beautiful playing hall, with direct sea view.



ACO WACC 2014: Rhodes **240 participants from 26 nations**

Our third tournament took place on the Greek „Sun Island“ Rhodes in 2014. The playing hall had a size of over 1000 square meters where 240 players from 26 countries fought for the titles. Players were accommodated in 4 & 5 star hotels of Esperia Group.



ACO World Amateur Chess Championships 2015 - 2018 / 5*****Helona Resort Kos

2015:	2016:	2017:	2018:
240 players	249 players	314 players	307 players
27 nations	29 nations	30 nations	30 nations

Between 2015 and 2018, the ACO Amateur World Championships took place on the Greek island of Kos. The venue was the 5***** Helona Resort. In 2017, more than 300 players took part for the first time.

At Easter time 2019 the ACO Amateur World Championship took place for the first time at the 5-star Sheraton Resort on Rhodes. A total of 284 players from 28 countries took part.



Rk.	Group A (2200+)	FED	Pt.
1	FM Nasshan, Dennis	GER	6
2	Svensk, Ingemar	SWE	5,5
3	Kuipers Eelco	NED	5

Rk.	Group B (2001-2200)	FED	Pt.
1	Masio, Andreas	GER	7,5
2	CM Ochedzan, Tymon	POL	7
3	Bak, Christopher	ENG	6

Rk.	Group C (1801-2000)	FED	Pt.
1	Anand, Tushar	IND	8
2	Ng Chun, Hei	HKG	6,5
3	Siebarth, Marco	GER	6,5

Rk.	Group D (1601-1800)	FED	Pt.
1	Wood, John	ENG	7,5
2	Lin, Yi	GER	7
3	Lachausse, Bruno	SUI	7

Rk.	Group E (1401-1600)	FED	Pt.
1	Faber, Simon	GER	7,5
2	Graber, Olivier	SUI	7
3	Wood, Tal	ENG	6,5

Rk.	Group F (1201-1400)	FED	Pt.
1	Kaemmerling, Ulrich	GER	7
2	Fernandez-Greschner, Th.	GER	6,5
3	Ochedzan, Filip	POL	6,5

Rk.	Group G (0-1200)	FED	Pt.
1	Bender, Jakob	GER	8
2	Mejlvang, Nikolaj Lowing	DEN	7,5
3	Topf, Robin	GER	6,5

The ACO Amateur World Champions 2019

A total of 284 players from 28 countries took part in the 2019 tournament.

from left to right: Jakob Bender (GER), Andreas Masio (GER), John Wood (ENG), Tushar Anand (IND), Simon Faber (GER), Ulrich Kämmerling (GER). Dennis Nasshan (GER), who celebrated his victory in the pool, is missing, see the following video. Click on the link to open the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uVWQQgiXXBw>





Superstars visiting: Judit Polgar & Alexei Shirov

At the Amateur World Championship 2018 guest of honour and best female chess player of all times, Grandmaster Judit Polgar, presented the winners with their trophies. For an exclusive group of chess enthusiasts the former Vice World Champion, Grandmaster Alexei Shirov offered a preparatory seminar in a private setting before the World Amateur Championship 2018.

Picture below: GM Alexei Shirov (center) with the organizers team (from left to right): FM Jens Hirneise, IM Tobias Hirneise, GM Falko Bindrich and ACO president Lothar Hirneise



What participants say about previous ACO World Championships

“The participants are all very relaxed. Nothing is missing. A beautiful holiday tournament in a world-class atmosphere, with a great price-performance ratio.”

Peter Trzaska



„A big thank you to the ACO-Team for the organization of the World Amateur Chess Championship. **The tournament, its realization, the complete supporting program as well as the entire hotel (team) had to show an enormously high quality, which absolutely lived up to the claim of a world championship.** I’m looking forward to participating in this great tournament next year, to enjoying the Greek sun and the food and meeting the nice people I met again”

Marco Siebarth



„I was there for the first time. And I am thrilled. So many opportunities to play and experience chess as a simple amateur, with free water, coffee and tea on the board, to talk to so many people from other countries, in such a beautiful place, with a great tour on a day off, with the best and more than abundant cuisine, **and all this in a pleasant atmosphere that you spread. Thank you very, very much!** Best regards from Switzerland”

Ruth Huber



“It was my first holiday in Greece and my first participation in a World Amateur Championship and I was looking forward to it for months.

My expectations of a great time were exceeded in all areas. The fantastic hotel complex with the best conditions for such an event left nothing to be desired; the good service of the staff, the excellent kitchen as well as the hotel’s own sandy beach made it perfect and you could really enjoy your stay in a wonderful climate.

At this point I would like to praise the organizers, who had the preparation, management and execution of the tournament (including the side tournaments) up to the pairings and the festive award ceremony completely under control and ensured a perfect and smooth process, this was also confirmed by the other participants! Many thanks to GM Falko Bindrich and family Hirneise!

As a subscriber to Rochade Europa, I have been following the tournament for years and have now decided to participate. I can highly recommend it to any chess lover who wants to play a tournament in a relaxed atmosphere (Chess and Beach) in combination with a holiday feeling. Even my personally worst tournament result (there’s such a thing as that) will not cloud my memory of this beautiful time. Professionally and family-wise it fits with me with a participation at the earliest again in two years, but I can look forward to it already now.”

Andreas Borchert



"I was lucky to have the chance to take part in the ACO Amateur Chess World Championship and I can simply say that it was the best organised event I have ever taken part in! The organizers took care of every detail and made all the players feel special. The venue was great, with lots of space and good lighting. I also liked the side events (blitz tournament etc.) provided free of charge by the organizers. The schedule of the championship was well thought out and there was enough time for family and friends and to explore the island. All in all a great event and great initiative of the organizers! Bravo! I really hope that I can make the tournament an integral part of my family's calendar and I hope that more and more people will support ACO and participate in future championships!"

Constantine Ananiadis 

"Hats off and a big round of applause for the whole ACO team for another brilliant achievement! The friendly atmosphere at the tournament reached a level I have never experienced before at a chess tournament. Ever. That the organisers recognised me directly from last year may not have been so surprising, but the fact that they all seemed to know the players by name after just a few days was really impressive and contributed greatly to everyone feeling they were part of the ACO family"

Mikael Svensson 

"Although I did not know exactly what to expect, I would say that all my expectations were exceeded. Despite the heat outside, there was a lot of warmth and friendliness in the hotel. This friendliness came very strongly from the people who hosted the tournament.

A big compliment to the ACO team for their ideas, hard work, friendliness and professionalism. **The whole organisation was simply perfect.** There were no incidents, the sportiness was of a high level and there was a lot of contact between the organizers and the players. These contacts continued after the tournament.

Harry Wubs 

"Dear chess friends. I am very happy about the nine days at the World Amateur Championship! **A great chess atmosphere, great chess players, great people and great friends.** Thank you for organizing this perfect event and also for the blitz tournaments! I really liked them! **Thanks again for so much chess, chess and even more chess on Greek islands!**

Antonio Maset 

"A big praise to the ACO team, which took care of all participants with a lot of dedication. It was my first participation and I will never forget it not only because of the final result. **Everything was well organized,** the tables and boards were very well prepared, and despite the large number of participants there was enough room to move freely around the hall and watch the other games. On the match-free evenings, the ACO team organised either blitz tournaments or interesting lectures by the great and very humorous Latvian Grand Master Lanka, who speaks excellent German. **I take my hat off to the organizers, who tirelessly provided a great atmosphere every single day. I look forward to next time!"**

David Moreno Rivilla 

„The participants thanked the organizers for an extraordinary, outstanding organizational achievement at the closing event with long lasting applause, which already has cult status after only a few years. Analogous to the Olympic motto, here too, it is more important to be part of it than to win. With this in mind I would like to thank the organizers for a top organization that is unique in this form.”

Uwe Ritter



„What a great idea to combine a beach vacation with chess. Two things you love. As always, chess was fun. But we are also on holiday and had a great time. It was a great chance to make new friends. Language is not a barrier. For a few minutes I analyzed our game together with my Russian opponent, he in Russian and I in English, both with hand and foot. And we both understood it! One of the many little extras was to have a brilliant grandmaster at hand to help you with game analysis. A real blessing for all participants. **We were treated like kings and queens.**”

David Gilbert



“The ACO World Amateur Chess Championship was organized at the highest level and leaves me with many very good memories. I am very happy about the tournament, especially with my result. There was a lot of chess, a lot of fun and new friendships were made. First of all I would like to thank GM Falko Bindrich and the Hirneise family for organizing this really perfect tournament. Thanks to you everyone gets the chance to play with

different opponents from all over the world, in addition even the chance to become world champion like me. I would also like to thank all my opponents and participants for the friendly atmosphere during the whole tournament. Finally, I would like to wish all past and future participants in ACO tournaments every success on the chessboard and in life.

Nikolay Gutsulyak



“Great atmosphere with ideal playing conditions, many interesting chess tournaments such as single blitz, team blitz, seminars, simultaneous exhibitions and excursions”

Vladimir Paleologu



It’s not usually my way of praising everything - but it’s true that I’ve never seen anything like this tournament before. The ACO team left nothing to be desired, they were always responsive. The big playing hall, lots of space during the games, free cold drinks and coffee, and not to forget the seminars and the blitz tournaments, it was great. **The ACO World Amateur Championship was therefore the best tournament for me in my amateur chess career.** The hotel was clean and the players were warmly welcomed at the hotel reception. Players and accompanying persons had the same advantages. **I don’t have the words to express our satisfaction.** All in all, it was absolutely incredible, and even better!! Will we be there next year? Yes! Of course!

Arezki Bouchelaghem



Price list 5***** Sheraton Rhodes Resort

All prices per person (except Family rooms)	Registration until 30.09.2019	Registration until 15.11.2019	Registration until 31.12.2019	Registration from 01.01.2020
Double room Standard	899 EUR	949 EUR	999 EUR	1049 EUR
Double room sea view	999 EUR	1049 EUR	1099 EUR	1149 EUR
Single room Standard	1299 EUR	1349 EUR	1399 EUR	1449 EUR
Single room sea view	1499 EUR	1549 EUR	1599 EUR	1649 EUR
Triple room Standard	799 EUR	849 EUR	899 EUR	949 EUR
Triple room sea view	899 EUR	949 EUR	999 EUR	1049 EUR
Family room (2 adults + 1 child up to 14 years)	2199 EUR (Total price)	2299 EUR (Total price)	2399 EUR (Total price)	2499 EUR (Total price)
Family room (2 adults + 2 children up to 14 years)	2599 EUR (Total price)	2699 EUR (Total price)	2799 EUR (Total price)	2899 EUR (Total price)
Junior Suite for 2 persons	1599 EUR	1649 EUR	1699 EUR	1749 EUR
Aegean Suite für 2 persons	1999 EUR	2049 EUR	2099 EUR	2149 EUR

The following services are included for all players & accompanying persons:

- ✓ **9 overnight stays in 5 stars hotel Sheraton Rhodes Resort**
- ✓ **Full board:** Breakfast, light lunch, dinner
- ✓ **Drinks included (non-alc.) during the meals (value 150 EUR)**
Unlimited free water and 1 soft drink per meal
- ✓ **Free drinks during the chess games (value 150 EUR)**
Free water, tea and coffee exklusive for ACO guests
- ✓ **Daily 2 free bottles of mineral water in the room**

✓ **ACO drinks coupon - exclusively for ACO guests!**

There is a selection of alcoholic (beer, wine, cocktails) and non-alcoholic beverages with up to 70% discount.

- ✓ **Prize-giving ceremony with gala dinner**
- ✓ **Free game analysis with GM Lanka & GM Skembris**
- ✓ **Chess program: Blitz tournaments, Grandmaster simul etc.**
- ✓ **Private hotel beach and free access to fitness centre (24h)**
- ✓ **Free internet access at the entire hotel**



Notes on registration 5***** Sheraton Resort

- Out of experience, the ACO World Amateur Chess Championships are fully booked weeks before the first deadline. The hotel recommends a timely registration in order to guarantee a place.
- Experience has shown that rooms with sea views are particularly popular and therefore often booked out early.
- For booking extra nights before or after the tournament, please contact rhodes@amateurchess.com by email.
- Extra nights can be booked for the same conditions like during the event

• The booking of rooms for accompanying persons who don't take part in the tournament is also possible.

• It is possible to have a few more days of vacation after the event and to bring an accompanying person.

• Chess teachers or chess clubs who arrive with groups of 10 or more persons may get special conditions.

In case of any questions about the hotel, tournament, registration, extra nights or anything else please do not hesitate to contact us:

Contact and registration:
rhodes@amateurchess.com

Registration

ACO WORLD AMATEUR CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2020

16th - 25th May 2020 Rhodes / Greece



ACO
Amateur Chess Organization



To register for the ACO World Amateur Chess Championship 2020 in Sheraton Rhodes Resort please **click on the below link**. There you can fill out the online registration form and choose your accommodation. If you have difficulties with the online registration form, please send an email to: rhodes@amateurchess.com



<https://amateurchess.com/registration-rhodes>

General Business Terms For Travel Contracts

The following terms will come into effect when agreed upon the content of this travel contract between the client and us (the tour operator). They will add the lawful clauses of §§ 651a-m BGB (Civil Law Code) as well as the information guidelines for tour operators according to §§ 4-11 BGB-InfoV (regulations for information and obligation to produce proof according to civil law code) and fill those in.

1. Conclusion of travel contract / Client obligations

1.1 By booking (registering) the client offers us binding conclusion of the travel contract. The basis of this offer are the travel tender as well as our additional information for each respective tour as far as this is available to the client.

1.2 Travel agent (such as tourist office and service provider (such as hotels, shipping company) are not entitled to make agreements, disclose information or issue warranties which change the agreed upon content of this travel contract or to offer additional services outside those agreed upon or in disagreement with this tour tender.

1.3 We are not bound by place and hotel brochures, as well as internet tenders which were not issued by us, unless they were expressly declared to be agreed upon by the client, or became the content of our duty to perform.

1.4 The booking may be made orally, in writing, via phone, via telefax or via digital means (e-mail, internet). We will immediately confirm reception of booking with electronic bookings. This confirmation of receipt does not constitute acceptance of booking agreements yet.

1.5 The client is bound by all contract duties for those travelling with him, if he has issued booking for them. He is also bound by all contract duties for himself, as long as he has expressly and separately declared his duty to do so.

1.6 The contract becomes binding once access to our declaration of acceptance has been made possible. This is not bound by any particular form. During or right after completion of contract, we will send written confirmation to the client. We are not bound by this if the booking by the client was made less than 7 days prior to the start of the tour. Special wishes and registrations are only valid if they are confirmed by the host in written form.

1.7 If the content of our declaration of acceptance deviates from the content of the booking, then this is considered a new offer by us, to which we are bound for the duration of 10 days. The contract will be based on the basis of this new offer, if the client issues acceptance through express declaration, deposit or final payment.

2. Payment

2.1 To secure client money insolvency insurance will be made.

2.2 After completing the contract, a deposit of 20% of the travel price will become due. The deposit will be redounded to the cost of the tour. The rest of the payment must be made at least 28 days prior to the beginning of the tour (declaration of reception of payment), as long as the insurance certificate has been handed over and the journey can no longer be cancelled due to the reason stated in Nr.7. Payments have to be made based on the bill number stated on the travel confirmation agreement.

2.3 If the client fails to make deposit or payment until the agreed upon payment dates, then we are entitled to step back from the travel contract after admonition and to debit the client with any associated costs according to Nr. 5.2 Sentence 2 until 5.5. Without full payment of the tour price, there is no claim for a fulfilment of the tour services.

3. Changes Of Service

3.1 Changes of essential tour services of the agreed upon content of the travel contract, which become necessary after making the conclusion of contract and are not brought about against belief or faith are only permitted if the changes are not severe and they do not inhibit the overall terms of the tour.

3.2 Eventual warranty demands remain untouched, as long as the changed services are not subject to deficiencies.

3.3 We are bound to inform the client about essential changes of services immediately after determining the reason of change.

3.4 In the case of a severe change of any essential tour services, the client is able to step back from the tour contract or to demand participation in a tour of at least the same value, if we are able to offer such a tour without additional cost to the client from a selection of our offers. The client has to make these claims immediately after our declaration of changing the tour services or cancellation of the tour.

4. Client Resignation prior to begin of tour / Cancellation costs

4.1 The client can resign from the tour at any given time. The resignation has to be made in written form at our business address of Cannstatter Straße 13, 71394 Kernen, Germany. It is recommended to make this declaration in written form.

4.2 If the client resigns prior to the beginning of the tour, or if he does not enter the tour, then we will lose claim over the price of the tour. If the resignation cannot be justified or is a case of an act of nature, we may demand appropriate compensation for all travel preparations or expenses in connection with the tour costs prior to the tour.

4.3 We have tiered compensation claims in a chronological way, according to consideration of the proximity of date of the resignation compared to the agreed upon tour start. This is done in percentual relation compared to the cost of the journey. During the calculation of the compensation possible additional usage of the travel services will be taken into account. The compensation is calculated after the date of reception of the declaration agreement. This occurs in the following way:

Until 31 days prior to tour start 25%
starting from 30 to 25 days prior to tour start 40%
starting from 24 to 18 days prior to tour start 50%
starting from 17 to 11 days prior to tour start 60%
starting from 10 to 4 days prior to tour start 80%
starting from the 3rd day prior to tour start up until the start of tour or if tour is not entered 90% of the price of the tour.

4.4

Under these circumstances, the client has to prove, that no damage or less damage than expected came about than the flat fee that was demanded by him. We remain the right to demand higher and concrete compensation as long as we can prove that the damage incurred was higher than the respective and applicable flat fee. In this case we are bound to make available the demanded compensation with consideration of the saved expenses as well as other usage of the travel services. The lawful right of the client, to find a suitable replacement according to § 651 b BGB is not touched due to these terms.

5. Change Of Reservation

5.1 Client claims after completion of contract concerning the tour date, tour destination, the accommodation and type of transportation will not go into effect. If a client chooses to change their reservation, we will demand a EUR 50.00 fee in order to process the change.

5.2 Changes of reservation by the client which are made more than 30 days prior to start of the tour may only be carried out after stepping back from the travel contract according to Nr.4.2 to 4.4 and according to the terms mentioned there. In addition the client would need to register again for these changes to take effect if indeed they are plausible to make. This does not apply for changes of reservation which only cause minor costs.

6. Undrawn Services

If the client chooses not to utilize individual services which were offered to him, especially if this is due to reasons that were produced by him (such as premature return journey) then he will not be able to file claims on partial reimbursement of the tour cost. This duty is not applicable if the services concerned are irrelevant or if lawful or regulatory provisions have been made against them.

7. Resignation due to non achievement of a minimum number of participants

The minimum number of persons for the World Amateur Chess Championship 2020 on Rhodes (16th-25th May 2020) is 300 persons (sum of players and accompanying persons until 1st of March 2020)

We may only resign from the travel contract due to not achieving a minimum number of participants if:

- a) we specifically defined a minimum number of participants in our travel brochure as well as the date until which the client has to forward a declaration prior to the beginning of tours.
 - b) if the travel confirmation document specifically mentions the minimum amount of participants as well as the latest date for return, and reference is made to the appropriate data inside the tour announcement.
- Resignation has to be made apparent to the client at least 5 weeks prior to the agreed upon date of the tour. If at an earlier date it becomes apparent that the minimum number of participants will not be reached, then we will immediately be forced to utilize our right to resign. If the tour is not being carried out due to this reason, the client shall receive back all the tour payments he has thus far made. Any additional claims for compensation are ruled out.

8.Cancellation based on behavioral reasons

We may cancel the travel contract in compliance with our terms, if the client continues to disturb or if he decides to act against the terms issued in this document in such a way, that our cancellation can be justified. If we decide to cancel, we remain the right to keep the amount of the tour price; we must however calculate the value of any saved expenses, as well as those advantages which were not utilized as part of any alternative usage, including the amounts made by service providers.

9.Contribution duties of the client

9.1 Announcement of deficiencies

If the tour is not being delivered according to our terms, the client may demand remedy. The client is however bound to announce any deficiencies concerning the tour immediately. If the client fails to do so it becomes impossible to lower his tour price. This does not apply when the announcement is apparently pointless or is unacceptable for any other reasons. The client is bound to make his announcement to tour guides immediately upon arriving at destination. The client will be instructed on our description of services through our tour documents. The tour guides are instructed to ensure remedy if possible. They are however not entitled to recognize any claims filed by the client.

9.2 Setting deadlines and cancellations

If a client decides to cancel his travel contract due to important, recognizable or unreasonable circumstances, he must set an appropriate deadline to receive remedy according to § 615 c BGB. This does not apply when remedy is impossible or is being denied by us or the immediate cancellation of the contract becomes appropriate due to a recognizable client interest.

9.3 Travel documents

The client is bound to inform us, if the appropriate travel documents (such as hotel vouchers) are not received within the date range specified by us.

10.Limitation of liability

10.1

Our contractual liability for damages, excluding bodily harm, is limited to triple the tour price.

- a) as long as harm to the client was not caused on purpose or due to negligence or
- b) as long as the damages incurred to the client were merely due to the service provider.

10.2

Our delictual liability for damages which are not based on purposeful destruction or negligence, is limited to triple the tour price. This highest amount of liability always accounts for client and journey. Any additional potential claims in connection with travel luggage are based on the treaty of Montreal and remain untouched by the limitations.

10.3

We are not responsible for disturbances of service, personnel or property damage, in connection with the service, which are merely being referred (such as tours, theater visits, exhibits) if these services are not expressly made apparent in the travel ad as well as the bookings confirmation and are not declared specifically as foreign services so that the client may recognize that they were not a part of our tour services. We are liable for

- a) services which concern the transport of the client from the stated beginning of the journey to the point of destination. Intermediate transportation during the tour as well as accommodation during the tour.
- b) if and as far as any damages of the client become apparent due to hints, investigation or organizational duties.

11.Exclusion from claims

Claims due to not receiving the tour as described in the contract must be filed within a month after the contractual start date of the end of the tour. The assertion can be made only towards us through our business address at Cannstatter Straße 13, 71394 Kernen. After expiration of deadline, the client may only make claims if he was not responsible for not being able to file the claims within the necessary time frame.

12.Lapse of time

12.1

Claims by the client according to §§ 651 c-f BGB based on injury of life, the body or health or such which are based on purposeful or negligent violation of duties through us or a lawful representative lapse within two years. This also concerns claims for the replacement of any additional damages, which are based on purposeful or negligent violations of duty caused by us or a lawful representative.

12.2

All other claims according to § 651 c-f BGB expire after one year.

12.3

Lapse of time according to Nr.12.1 and 12.2 starts on the day which follows the day of the start of the tour.

12.4

If legal cases between us and the client exist due to claims being filed based on reasonable circumstances, then the usual lapse of time is inhibited until we or the client refuse the continuation of the legal case. The lapse of time occurs at the earliest date of 3 months after the inhibition.

13.Passport, visa and health regulations

13.1

We will instruct EU members within the respective country in which the tour is being offered, about any terms concerning passport, visa and health guidelines prior to completion of contract as well as any eventual changes prior to the start of the tour. For members of other nations the respective consulate is available for information. We are assuming that no oddities are apparent with regards to the client (such as double passports, statelessness).

13.2

The client is responsible for purchasing and carrying the lawfully required travel documents, any necessary vaccinations as well as adherence to any customs and currency laws. Disadvantages which result from now obeying these terms, such as the payment of resignation costs, must be paid by the client. This is not the case, if we have failed to inform the client appropriately.

13.3

We are not responsible for timely issuance and reception of the required visa through the respective diplomatic representatives, if the client has commissioned us with the purchase, unless we have violated our duties on purpose.

14.Choice of law and jurisdiction

14.1

The lawful relationship between us and the client is solely based on German law. This also accounts for all of the legal proceedings. Therefore only the Original German Version of this General Business Terms For Travel Contracts is legally binding.

14.2

If a client files claims or legal cases concerning the liability of the tour host against us abroad, this must be done based on German laws. Especially in regards to legal consequences, and particularly in the way, the amount and the size of the claims filed by the client, German law is applicable.

14.3

The client may only sue us within our jurisdiction.

14.4

For claims filed by us against the client, his current residence is decisive. For claims against our clients or contractual partners, entrepreneurs, lawful person of the public or private sector, who have their main residence abroad, or whose residence and usual residence during the time of the lawsuit is not know, our jurisdiction will be used.

14.5

The following terms about the choice of law and jurisdiction do not apply,

- a) if and insofar as contractual or negotiable terms based on international treaties, which are based on a travel contract between the client and the tour host, anything else results in favor of the client or
- b) if and insofar as may be applied to the travel contract, negotiable terms within the Eu state the client belongs to, are more favorable than the regulations within these terms or the applicable German laws.

Notification of cancellation due to acts of nature:

Cancellation of travel contracts must be referred to regulations within the BGB, which are as follows:

„§ 651 j:

(1) If the journey is made severely difficult or impossible due to unforeseeable circumstances, the tour host as well as the participants may cancel the contract based on these terms.

(2) If the contract is cancelled based on paragraph 1, then regulations from § 651 e paragraph 3 sentences 1 and 2, paragraph 4 sentence 1 is applicable. Additional charges for travelling back are to be half shared by each party. In addition all additional charges are to be made by the participant.”

15. photo and film shoots

Upon registration, the organizer is granted permission to take photographs and films during the event and to use these photographs in connection with the event for public relations, advertising and documentation, both analogue and digital.