



Hole of the

■ No. 18

**Marbella Club Golf Resort
Marbella, Spain**

Month

Who Wants to Golf When There's a View Like This?

Sometimes, the golfers would rather look around them than in front of them when on the tees to hit their balls. That's what Marbella Club Golf Resort in Marbella, Spain, does to you. The course's beauty – its several 100-year-old olive trees, steep slopes and a waterfall – is breathtaking. The view from the 18th hole (pictured here) is of another continent – Africa – and one of the great natural wonders of the world – The Rock of Gibraltar. The course, which opened in 1999, was designed by Dave Thomas, architect of The Belfry in England. It was designed for the player with a high handicap in mind.

Marbella's head greenkeeper, Alberto Bustamante, says golfing is secondary for most people who play. "They just want to watch the view," he says.

The course is well-known for its A-4 greens, and Bustamante and his crew provide the surfaces with plenty of attention and care. They verticut and topdress the greens regularly. As a result, they're free of *Poa annua* and as smooth as the view is beautiful at Marbella.

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