

Majorca Daily Bulletin

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Spain to let regions decide COVID-19 restrictions from May

Madrid.—Spain's government will pass responsibility for coronavirus restrictions on to the country's 17 regions after a state of emergency expires next week, Deputy Prime Minister Carmen Calvo said yesterday.

The six-month emergency decree, which provides a legal framework for the most restrictive COVID-19 measures, expires on on Sunday.

Regional authorities will then be able to set up curfews and lock down areas but must secure the support of local courts, Calvo said.

"Regions can justify, argue, propose measures to tribunals curfews or lockdowns that

limit rights and freedoms, but they need a judicial authorisation," she told a news conference.

If a local court strikes down measures proposed by a regional government, it could appeal to the Supreme Court, which would then set up precedents applicable to all regions.

Without the state of emergency, Spanish authorities do not have the prerogative to suspend civil liberties like freedom of movement or assembly. Regions with high infection rates, such as the Basque Country, have asked the government to extend it.

Twenty million reasons to buy a home on Majorca

● Leading local estate agency says that average price of home sales was 1.6 million in 2020 but more expensive properties are very much in demand,

Leading local estate agents, Engel Volkers said yesterday that they sell an average of two properties per year for more than 20 million euros on Majorca with the Andratx area proving to be exceptionally popular. Infact, the high end of

the property market continues to grow with developers more than willing to build homes worth many millions.

Florian Hofer, Managing Director of Engel & Volkers in the Balearics, said yesterday that on average the sale prices last year was 1.6 million euros, up from

1.5 million in 2019. The company is confident that Majorca will continue to prosper this year with the premium end of the market especially bouyant with prices ranging from eight to 12 million, according to Hans Lenz, Managing Director the company in the Southwest of

the island. The biggest buyers continue to be Germans with a market share with Engel & Volkers of 63 percent followed by the British with 12 percent. Majorca's percent climate is the principal reason why the island is so popular with international buyers.



FAITH IN MAJORCA

The luxury super yacht *Faith* dropped anchor in Camp de Mar this week. She is a 62 metre luxury superyacht owned by fashion magnate Lawrence Stroll. Previously known as *Cakewalk*, the yacht was originally built for Charles Gallagher of Gallagher Industries. Gallagher sold her to Frank Fertitta who renamed her to *Fortunato*. She was then named *Faith* when she was sold to Lawrence. She is valued at 200 million dollars.