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EU STILL WANTS TO 'RULE' BRITAIN

BRUSSELS bosses have issued an "outrageous" new demand over Brexit. They want to continue to rule Britain after we leave by

By **David Maddox**
Political Correspondent
subjecting us to European Court of Justice rules. Prime Minister Theresa

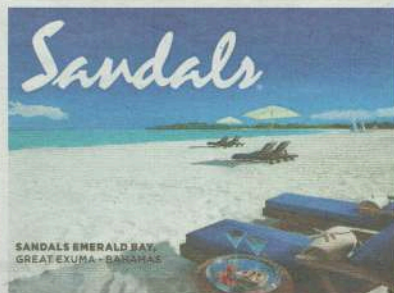
May yesterday hit back at the idea of back-door control by Brussels and rejected it out of hand. Yesterday EU
TURN TO PAGE 4



'Diana deserves a place in history' says proud brother

Earl Spencer pays tribute to Princess who would have been 56 today

SEE PAGE 7



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Travel

Edited by Jane Memmler

Have I got views for you



IT WAS a first for us as a family, in more ways than one.

Firstly, we had never been to Cyprus and we'd never taken a holiday purely in hotels. With two young daughters aged seven and five my wife Katie and I had, up until now, always plumped for a villa a couple of hours away by plane. Now they're a bit older we thought we'd go the distance, all four-and-a-half hours of it, and it was seamless.

The sunshine was breaking through as we took the short taxi trip to the hotel. I noticed the Hoghead Pub and Grill en route though British-style pubs aren't necessarily our cup of tea when we're abroad. Years of heading off to places such as Ethiopia, Haiti and Afghanistan as a journalist means that even on comfortable family holidays, I'm always in search of the authentic wherever I'm staying.

Walking into the large reception at the Almyra though, it was apparent it would be hard to leave. It reminded me of a hotel on Miami Beach with its sleek, white theme. My wife zoned straight in on the new 25m lap pool.

But the hotel also has three other pools more suited to children or for

MATT BARBET takes a relaxing break from presenting Channel 5 News Tonight on a family trip to Paphos

adults relaxing on the copious loungers. It's just as well as the beach directly in front of the hotel – the other side of quite a busy boardwalk – was quite rocky and not so easily accessible. The seaside gets prettier a short walk away and the more we explored the Almyra the more we relaxed.

Most of the rooms are housed in two, three-storey buildings and there are a few more private apartments dotted around the well-groomed grounds.

The hotel's sleek, minimalist design and its impressive spa lend the place a calming air of serenity, even though it's in a bustling town. I spied a ping-pong table, tennis courts and decent playground, too, so plenty to do.

Our adjoining rooms overlooked the sea, close enough for the sound of the

waves to be relaxing but not so that any other noise was a distraction. They were decorated in white and as we opened up the floor-to-ceiling windows, we tackled the potentially tricky subject with the girls of their trying out the kids club the following day.

Now, I cannot recall eating a buffet outside of a wedding but the food was very good and different every day. If the salads or fresh sushi, or choice of curries didn't suit, there was always a chef on hand to rustle up some quick pasta or noodles on the spot.

A healthy mix of Britons, Germans and a smattering of Scandinavians all blended well enough to make things run smoothly. The dining room reminded me a bit of the one in the film Dirty Dancing, albeit with a Cypriot twist. I liked it even if on one occasion the staff were so efficient they cleared our table of drinks when we'd only gone to get dessert. It was rectified without fuss.

On that first night, within moments of walking in, my wife was recognised by an old university friend who she hadn't seen for years. Rachel was staying with

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



MATT FINISH: Stunning sea views from the Almyra Hotel, top. Paphos Castle and harbour, above. Matt chills out, left, and one of the modern pools at the Almyra Hotel



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Travel



STEPPING OUT: The Odeon in the archaeological park is now used as a theatre

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

her husband and two daughters exactly the same age as ours, who, of course, promptly became great friends. The four of them excitedly headed to Voyagers Club the next day, which was very well run by experienced staff.

This year Paphos (along with Aarhus in Denmark) is a European Capital of Culture and has plenty going on. But then it has had plenty going on for thousands of years.

There aren't many seaside towns which are Unesco World Heritage sites, where you can simply wander out of your hotel for five minutes to an archaeological park and see artefacts hidden for centuries.

The girls were fascinated by the House of Dionysos with its Greco-Roman mosaics that are 1,800 years old. They also enjoyed sitting on the steps of the uncovered Odeon, a

Modern resort, ancient history

perfectly-preserved crescent-shaped theatre from the same period. After a few hours their minds turned to the modern pleasures of ice cream. We recommend Gelamo Gelato on the harbour, in the shadow of the castle.

As does the Almyra. I think we're converts to this kind of holiday as it ended up being just so easy. Most others were in a similar boat – busy parents with children. One of them was actor and writer Sharon Horgan, with her family. If you're relaxing in the same place as the woman who penned Channel 4 sitcom *Catastrophe*, about the rigours of juggling modern life, then I guess you

are probably doing something right.

● **Matt Barbet presents 5 News Tonight every weekday on Channel 5 at 6.30pm.**

THE KNOWLEDGE

Western and Oriental (0203 588 6130/westernoriental.com) offers seven nights in Cyprus from £1,355 (two sharing), B&B. Price includes four nights at Almyra, three nights at Anassa, return flights from London Gatwick to Paphos and private transfers, Cyprus tourist board: visitcyprus.com

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A taste of the suite life at sister hotel



ALMYRA'S sister hotel, the Anassa, (anassa.com) is an hour's drive away overlooking Chrysochou Bay. It is more secluded, with only the small village of Latsi nearby so it's more of a resort.

It was certainly higher-end, too, with opulent decor and a sprawling layout that meant we were driven to our room in a golf buggy.

Despite the luxurious vibe it was still family-friendly. While we had adjoining rooms before, here we had a suite bigger than some flats I've lived in and the staff/patron ratio felt one-to-one.

The Anassa offers everything

you need without leaving – several pools, its own beach with watersports and at least four restaurants. Dinner at the French-Mediterranean Helios restaurant lived up to its fine dining proclamations but it still offered a separate menu for the little ones.

A harpist playing as we ate one evening proved a real winner with the girls, as was a boat trip to the nearby Blue Lagoon. The water was blue but it wasn't exactly secluded, with three other boats there before us and it was early season. The girls liked it but it was left to daddy to snorkel in the still bracing early summer waters. ●

celebrity traveller

TV presenter and broadcaster *Emma Forbes, 52, shot to fame in the 1990s hosting Live & Kicking. Happily married to banker Graham Clempson for almost 30 years, Emma divides her time between London and the States. She is mother to Lily, 21, and Sam, 18.*

WHAT IS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE HOLIDAY?

A houseboat holiday on Lake Powell in Utah. It's like taking a floating caravan out on a lake in the middle of nowhere.

It was a real Huckleberry Finn-type holiday. It feels like you've landed on the moon with nothing around but rocks and mountains.

The scenery is extraordinary and there are these blue-water lakes and you're captain of your own

boat. It was so out of my comfort zone, that's why it was memorable.

AND YOUR WORST?

When I decided to take 12 teenagers, my children and their friends to Mykonos.

It was the most overwhelming responsibility. Mykonos is an island with no road signs. I was a mixture of a really bad Uber driver and therapist as everyone had issues.

I'd never been to Mykonos before and I had visions of it being like the film *Mamma Mia!* But it was deeply unrelaxing, an epic stress.

They all had a ball though.

BEST SOUVENIR?

Stationery from Venice. They have all these amazing little paper shops that do beautiful marbled paper