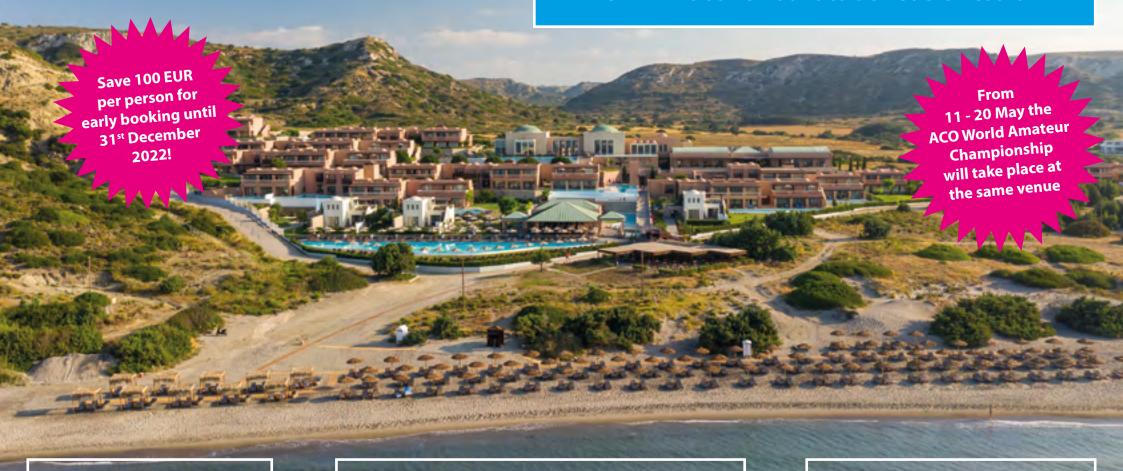


2023 ACO SUPER SENIOR (65+) CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

2nd - 11th May, 2023 / Kos (Greece) 5* All-Inclusive Atlantica Belvedere Resort



The event is limited to around 100 players

Hotel booking without risk!

No deposit payment upon booking Free cancellation up to 14 days prior to arrival

Questions? Contact us:

supersenior@amateurchess.com +49 178 6746167

Back to Kos!

Dear participants,

we are relieved that we managed to keep our long-time venue on the island of Kos also for the year 2023. After both the ACO World Super Seniors (65+) Championship and the ACO World Amateur Championship were held here on Kos again in 2022 with great success, everyone was very hopeful that we would be able to stay here with our tournaments. Unfortunately, due to the extremely strong demand for Greece in general and this hotel complex in particular, the organization of the tournament was uncertain for a long time and the chances were unfortunately high that no ACO tournaments would take place in 2023.

Fortunately, we were able to find a possibility after all and are therefore very happy about the chance to meet with you again in 2023 on the island of Kos. The number of players is limited to about 100. For the reasons mentioned at the beginning, there are significantly fewer rooms available for our group in the main hotel, the 5-star Atlantica Belvedere Hotel. However, accommodation is available in the sister hotel, the 5-star Atlantica Beach Hotel, which is located directly next to the main hotel.

Last year, the event was fully booked months in advance. For 2023, too, a large number of players have already pre-registered. The anticipation is great for everyone! We are looking forward to the best playing conditions during the sporting competition for the world championship titles, delicious Greek cuisine, all-inclusive catering with everything your heart desires, wonderful sunsets directly on the sea and of course - to seeing you again!

GM Falko Bindrich & IM Tobias Hirneise Organizers



The ACO World Super Senior (65+) Chess Championship 2023 will take place from 2 - 11 May 2023 on Kos. Any player who reaches the age of 65 by 31st December 2023 can represent his or her country and become World Senior Champion in his or her rating group!

Venue:

5* Atlantica Belvedere Resort on Kos. The hotel was formely known as Helona Resort and the venue for the ACO events 2015-2018 and 2022. The playing hall is located inside the hotel, lifts are available. ACO will arrange the accommodation for all participants at the hotel.

The hotel is an Adults-only hotel, which means that only participants aged 16 and above can attend the chess tournament.

Players and accompanying persons can also stay in the sister hotel, the 5* Atlantica Beach Resort which is just a few hundred metres away and is open to guests below 16 years. More information on pages 26+27.

Division of rating groups (groups play separately)

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 (no rating) - 1200

Each group plays separately meaning you only play opponents of similar playing strength in your group. For the division of groups we will use your ELO/national rating at the time of registration. For players having both an ELO rating and a national rating, the higher rating counts. Exceptions can be made by the organizers in case there is a big difference in these ratings or one of the ratings has been inactive for a longer period.

Players without rating:

Players without a national or international rating can only participate in group G (0 - 1200). For exceptions, see next point.

Playing in a higher group (voluntary):

Possible if a rating is achieved between the time of registration and the tournament which corresponds to the rating of a higher group.

Mode and time control:

9 rounds, Swiss-System / 90 minutes for 40 moves + 15 min. with an increment of 30 sec. per move starting from move 1. Default time: 30 min. Tiebreaks in case of a tie:

- 1. Buchholz score (number of points of your opponents added)
- 2. Buchholz sum score (number of buchholz scores of your opponents)
- 3. Direct encounter

Hotel booking:

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

Starting fee (for players only):

50 EUR

Prizes: EUR 5.000 (based on a minimum of 100 players)

Group A

2201-2400

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

The winners of each group become **ACO World Super Senior Chess Champion** 2023. Places 1-3 receive trophies. All players receive diplomas.

Group B

2001 – 2200 1st place: 400 EUR 1st place: 400 EUR 2nd place: 200 EUR 2nd place: 200 EUR 3rd place: 100 EUR 3rd place: 100 EUR 3rd place: 100 EUR

Group C Group D 1801 – 2000

1601 – 1800		
1st place:	400 EUR	
2 nd place:	200 EUR	

Group	Ε
	_

1401 – 1600	1201 – 1400
1st place: 400 EUR	1st place: 400 EU
2 nd place: 200 EUR	2 nd place: 200 EU
3 rd place: 100 EUR	3 rd place: 100 EU

Group F 1201 – 1400 JR 1st place: 400 EU

	0-1200
UR	1st place: 400 EUR
UR	2 nd place: 200 EUR
UR	3 rd place: 100 EUR

Group G







The first ACO World Super Senior (65+) Chess Championship 2022 on Kos

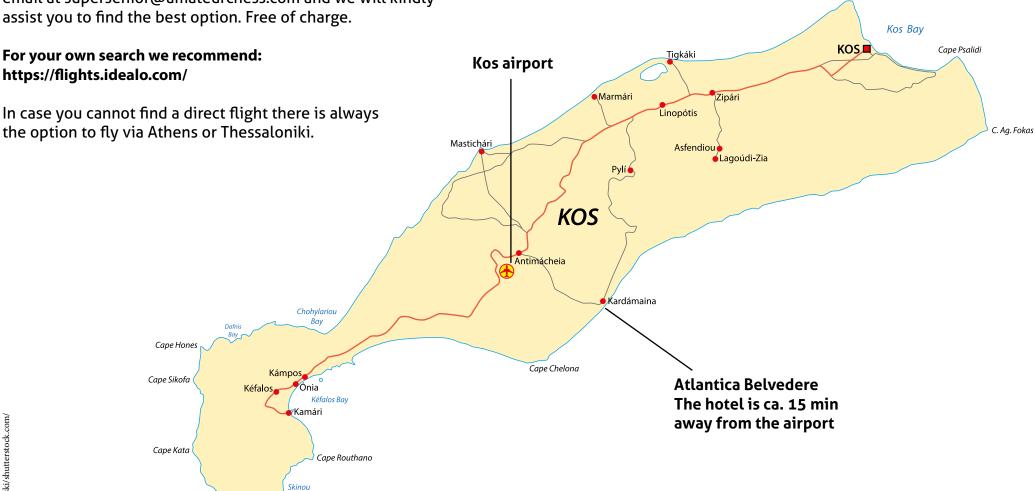
For the very first time, an ACO tournament was held exclusively for seniors aged 65 and over. We would like to thank to all the players and accompanying persons who took part in May 2022 on Kos!

How to get to Kos?

From all European countries there are direct flights to Kos.

If you need help with your flight search you can send us an email at supersenior@amateurchess.com and we will kindly assist you to find the best option. Free of charge.

Cape Krikelos



Cape Skandari



Playing halls

There are 3 playing halls, all with carpet and lots of space for the players. During the games all players (and their accompanying persons) can enjoy free coffee, water, tea, cake and cookies.

Due to a limited number of available hotel rooms the tournament is limited to around 150 players.







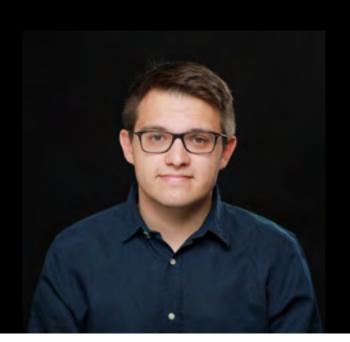






The organizers

GM Falko Bindrich and IM Tobias
Hirneise have been responsible for the
organisation of all ACO tournaments
since 2012. They are personally on site
at all events and are happy to answer
all questions you may have.



GM Falko Bindrich (Germany)

learned chess at the age of six from his older brother and was coached by his father Oswald Bindrich at the beginning of his career. He was German Champion U12, U14, U16 and European Champion U18 with the German youth national team. At 12, he was the youngest German ever to win the FM title. At 16, he became Germany's youngest grandmaster at the time, after which he became an honorary citizen of his hometown of Zittau. He took part in the 2008 and 2010 Chess Olympiads as a member of the German national team and trained with former world champion Anatoli Karpov in preparation. During his career Bindrich took part in more than 20 European and World Youth Championships, in which he drew against Magnus Carlsen and won against World Championship challenger Ian Nepomniachtchi, among others. In 2008 he won the largest German Open in Deizisau with more than 700 participants. In 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009 Bindrich was voted "Player of the Year" by the German Chess Youth, making him one of the players with the most awards. Bindrich played for years in the Swiss Team Championship for SG Luzern and with his Austrian team SK Hohenems and with his Belgian team Cercle d'Échecs Fontainois he became Austrian and Belgian team champion respectively. In 2017 Bindrich won the German Masters ahead of the best German players. His highest elo rating is 2610. In addition to chess, Bindrich completed a master's degree in psychology and works as a psychologist.

IM Tobias Hirneise (Germany)

comes from Stuttgart (Germany), learned chess from his grandfather and played his first chess tournament at the age of 11. After several state championship titles in the youth field, he became the Men's State Champion of Baden in 2008. Since 2009 Hirneise has held the title of International Chess Champion (IM) and played for many years in the German Chess Bundesliga for the team of SV Wattenscheid. His highest rating is 2481. In 2016, he achieved his first grandmaster norm. He was trained by the coaches IM Valeri Bronznik from Ukraine, GM and ACO coach Zigurds Lanka from Latvia, GM Boris Avrukh from Israel and GM Ognjen Cvitan from Croatia. In Switzerland he played for the clubs Reti Zurich and Herrliberg, in Austria first for the chess club Vöcklabruck and later in the Bundesliga for SK Götzis. As a trainer, he worked mainly with talented children from southern Germany. Several of his students achieved medal places in German championships and qualified for youth world championships. As a player and trainer, Hirneise took part in chess tournaments in more than 30 countries. He is a publishing merchant, graphic designer and former editor-in-chief of the German chess magazine Rochade Europa. Since 2018 he has been the publisher of the children's chess magazine Rochade Kids, which is used by more than 35 000 children. The magazines have been translated into Swedish, Norwegian and English language.



Get to know (y)our chess trainers on site

Zigurds Lanka from Latvia (left) is considered one of the best-known chess coaches in the world. Lanka is a multiple Latvian master and the author of several chess books. He is known above all for his extraordinarily broad opening knowledge, which he understands better than anyone else how to make accessible to amateur players. For Latvia, Lanka took part in three Chess Olympiads and several European and World Team Championships. His best-known students include the grandmasters Alexei Shirov, Viktor Bologan and Falko Bindrich.

Spyridon Skembris from Greece (right) finished third in the World Junior Championship in 1977. In the following years he won the Greek championship four times and in 1990 he was awarded the grandmaster title. Skembris is one of the most respected team coaches. He is the national coach of Greece and also coached the national team of Cyprus. Skembris represented Greece in a total of eight Chess Olympiads. In 1992 he won the gold medal on the second board at the European Team Championship in Debrecen.



Train with world-class trainers

GM Zigurds Lanka, GM Spyridon Skembris

Get personalized advice from our grandmasters on site and analyze your games with them.

The following services are included in the tournament entry fee:

- ✓ Participation in the ACO World Amateur Chess Championship
- ✓ Free game analysis with a grandmaster
 After your game, you can analyse it with a grandmaster

Planned grandmasters: GM Zigurds Lanka, GM Spyridon Skembris

✓ Free grandmaster lectures
In the afternoon of each day with a single round.

- ✓ Free chess side programme
 Blitz tournaments (single or team), GM simuls etc.
- ✓ English speaking organizing team
- ✓ **Support**We will support you at any time and in a timely manner with all questions regarding the tournament and your hotel booking, such as rebookings or changes of travel dates.
- Flight search support
 We will be happy to help you find the most convenient and cheapest flight connection for your flight to Kos.

Schedule ACO World Super Senior (65+) Chess Championship 2023

Tuesday	2 May		Arrival day
		18 - 20:00	Welcome-Drink
Wednesday	3 May	09:30	Pairings
		09:45	Opening ceremony
		10:00	Round 1
		16:00	Grandmaster lecture
		18:00	Blitz tournament
Thursday	4 May	10:00	Round 2
		16:00	Round 3
Friday	5 May	10:00	Round 4
		16:00	Grandmaster lecture
		18:00	Team Blitz

Saturday	6 May	10:00	Round 5
		16:00	Round 6
Sunday	7 May		Free day
Monday	8 May	10:00	Round 7
		16:00	Grandmaster lecture
		18:00	Grandmaster simul
Tuesday	9 May	10:00	Round 8
		16:00	Grandmaster lecture
		18:00	Blitz tournament
Wednesday	10 May	10:00	Round 9
		18:00	Prize-giving
Thursday	11 May		Departure

Participation in the side programme is voluntary. Schedule subject to change.



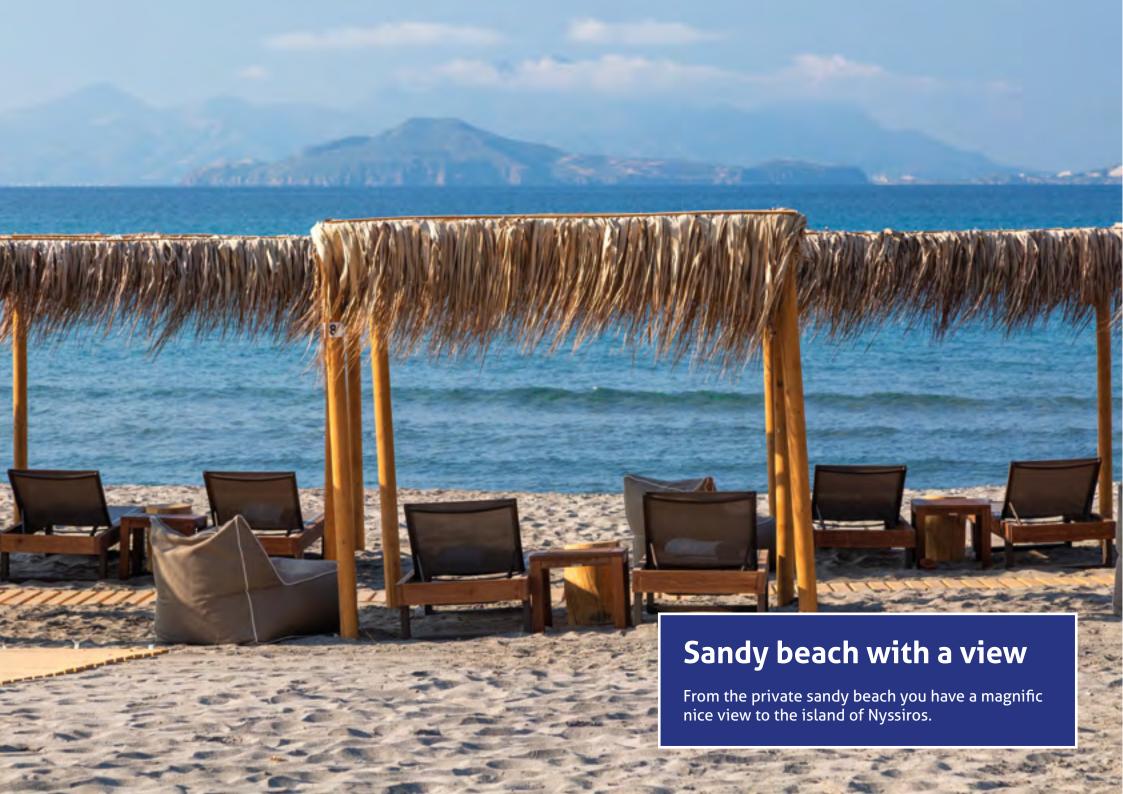


Main pool

At the main pool you can relax before or after the games. Right by the pool is the pool bar, so a drink is always within reach. Same applies for the Ammos Beach Bar, where you can get drinks, snacks, coffee, cakes and ice cream.













In between the chess games you can relax in the indoor pool, use the gym or make use of the Spa.





Holiday feeling

21 pools and Mediterranean flair.



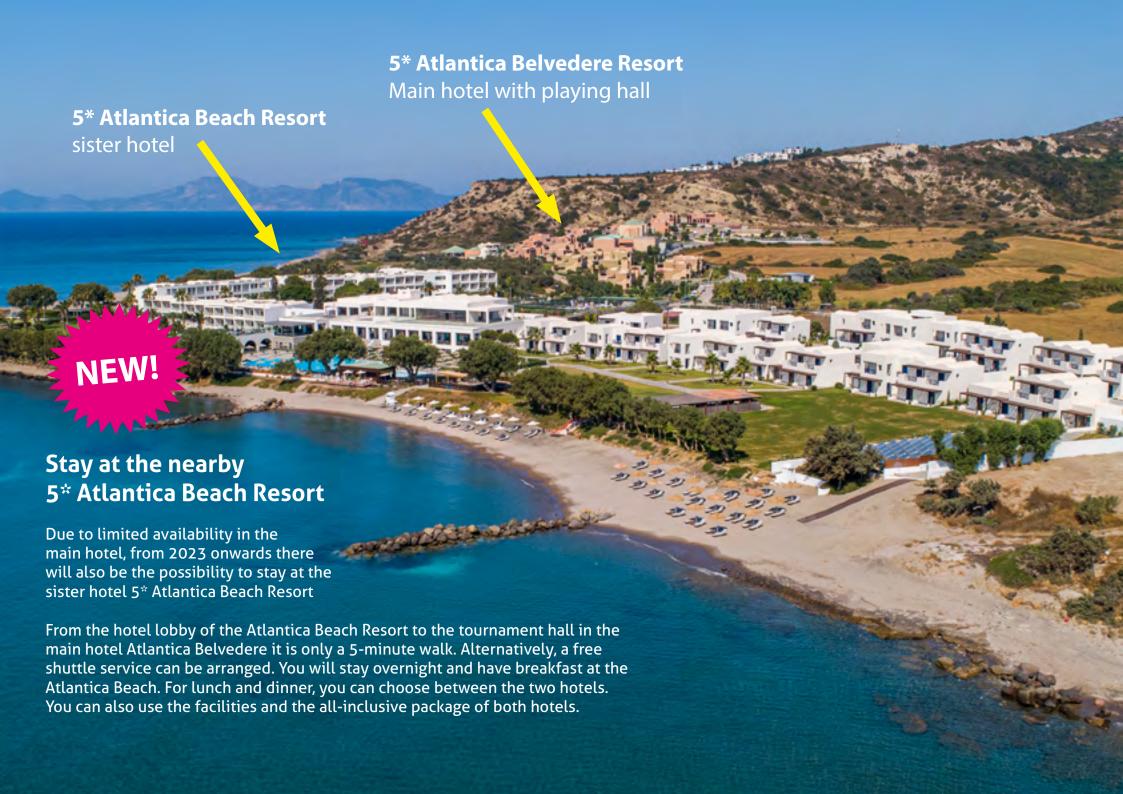
















5* Atlantica Beach













Chess, chess, chess! Our side programme

Blitz chess:

The many highlights of ACO Championships include our blitz tournaments with five minutes per player. Our Welcome Blitz tournament always takes place in the evening after the first round. There is always a good atmosphere and it is very easy to make contacts. All participants play together in a single group.

Team blitz:

Equally popular is our Team Blitz tournament, where teams of 2 (on two boards) compete against each other. You may choose your partner, everybody is involved, from beginner to grandmaster!

Simultaneous exhibition:

There is always a big crowd at the simultaneous exhibition, too.

Over 80 players competed against our team of title holders in 2019.



Break guaranteed! The bye rule

At the ACO World Super Senior Chess Championship there will be 2 days with double rounds (days on which one round is played in the morning and one round in the afternoon). A few of our past participants have told us that they were quite exhausted after the double round. So we offer the opportunity to take 1 or 2 "breaks".

This is not mandatory, it is completely voluntary!

These breaks are called "byes". A "bye" is when you as a player tell the arbiter before the next round that you do not wish to play in the next round. This means you will not be included in the pairings for the next round, but you will still receive half a point. So you can relax, and not slip down the table.

It is only possible to take a "bye" on days when a double round is played, meaning either in round 2 or 3 and in round 5 or 6.





Enjoying chess - the ACO experience

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

Our team consists, among others, of Grandmasters and International Masters with huge tournament experience, so we know what matters at a chess tournament.

Beside you will find an overview of all previous ACO tournaments. Many more will follow!

2012 ACO WACC: Dubai 72 participants / 25 nations

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



2013 ACO WACC: Crete 168 participants / 26 nations

The 2nd ACO WACC took place on the Greek island of Crete in 2013. Compared to 2012, the number of participants more than doubled. The venue was 4-star Aquis Arina Sand Hotel with a beautiful hall with direct sea view.



2014 ACO WACC: Rhodes 240 participants / 26 nations

Our 3rd tournament took place on the "sun island" of Rhodes in 2014. The playing hall stretched of over 1000 m² where 240 players from 26 countries fought for the titles. Players were accommodated in 4 & 5 star hotels.





ACO WACC 2015 to 2018 and 2022 on Kos (1200+ players)

Between 2015-18 and 2022 the ACO WACC took place on Kos. Venue was the 5* Atlantica Belvedere Resort (former Helona Resort). In 2017 + 2018 more than 300 players took part.

ACO World Super Senior (65+) Chess Championship

Our first Championship for players aged 65 and above took place beginning of May 2022 with around 50 players from 15 countries.



ACO World Senior Championships 2018 + 2019 + 2021: Crete

In 2018, 2019 and 2021, the first ACO Senior World Championships were held on the island of Crete. The venue was the 5* all-inclusive hotel Fodele Beach Resort. In total, over 500 players from 30 countries took part.

ACO WACC 2019 + 2021: Rhodes

366 participants / 29 nations

The 5* Sheraton Rhodes Resort was the venue and offered perfect playing conditions for more than 350 players players from 29 countries.





































What participants say about the 1st ACO Super Senior Chess Championship

I participated in an ACO tournament for the second time. I enjoyed this first Super Senior tournament very much. Apart from the usual good accommodation, catering and organisation, I particularly liked the friendly atmosphere between the participants. The social programme and the extensive opportunities for analysis with the friendly grandmasters also contributed significantly to the success. I am already looking forward to the next event.

Alexander Stuhlmann (Germany)

My first experience with ACO was in Kos in 2015. I had actually come "only" for the chess tournament. But already the first time made me not only an ACO fan, but also a lover for Greece. In the next few years, I went to Rhodes and Crete and the Super Seniors World Championship was already the fifth tournament on Kos in the same hotel. Whether alone, with a girlfriend or, as last October on Crete, additionally with daughter and granddaughter, it was always an experience. The chess tournament with opponents at eye level, the beach and the accommodation. Plus the supporting programme with the blitz tournaments, the simultaneous event and the grandmaster lectures (here the explanation of the Ukrainian defence against the Russian attack by GM Lanka was particularly interesting and amusing). The organisers Falko Bindrich and Tobias Hirneise and their team also did a super job from registration to the award ceremony. I am already looking forward to the next tournament to meet old acquaintances and make new ones. In this atmosphere, the ranking is almost a minor matter.

The ACO Super Seniors (65+) World Championship was held again on Kos from 27 April to 6 May, in the well-known hotel under the new name "Atlantica Belvedere Resort". Both the organisation of the tournament and the accommodation and catering were excellent. The Mediterranean Sea was already warm enough for swimming, the sun strong enough for tanning and sunburn and spring expressed itself in happy colours. The free day in the middle of the tournament could be used for private explorations or as an organised sightseeing tour.

Due to the manageable number of participants, the contact between the players and with the grandmasters became more intensive. They met several times a day, all had space on the terrace for meals and so chess-free conversations were also possible. As in previous years, the three well-known grandmasters were present and were available to analyse the games, conduct serminars and organise a simultaneous tournament. Here too, the more intimate atmosphere meant that players from the G group found the courage to approach the GM for an analysis.

Conclusion: A chess event of a special class for all those who also include the surroundings.

Karin Tast-Mendez + Ulrich Kremser (Germany)

Paul Schmitz (Germany)

As the former commercial director of the LGA Landesgewerbeanstalt Bayern, organiser of the LGA Premium Chess Cup from 2004 to 2013, I was eager to see how this chess tournament, my first abroad, would go. My expectations were not disappointed. I travelled from Munich. The flight and the taxi ride from the airport to the hotel went smoothly. When I was greeted, there was a welcome drink. The luggage was taken to the room. The room was spacious and tastefully furnished.

The evening meal was buffet style, and on one occasion you could eat à la carte in the beach restaurant as part of the all-inclusive offer at no extra cost. From my point of view, every guest found something to his or her taste (salads, various starters, fish, meat and vegetarian dishes as main courses, a variety of desserts. During the evening walk, I was able to explore the extensive hotel grounds. A beautiful complex with direct access to the sea, a nice beach restaurant and a beach bar near the beach. As the hotel had just opened that week, you hardly met any other guests. There was the possibility to visit the sauna or to get a massage. I also took advantage of these offers, I felt very comfortable here.

On 28 April, the first round took place in the spacious tournament room. On the second day, a double round was played. On the day without play, a tour of the island was offered, which was gladly accepted by many tournament participants. The tour was conducted bilingually. The German guide was very competent and was able to impart a lot of knowledge about the island and its historical development. The afternoon and evening chess events were very enjoyable. Game analyses with one of the three grandmasters present, lectures, blitz tournaments and a simultaneous tournament were offered. There was something for everyone. I was able to analyse eight of my games with a grandmaster. This was very interesting for me, as other ideas were conjured up on the board.

The time until the last round flew by. Then the award ceremony took place in bright weather. The first three winners of each rating group each received a trophy. My conclusion: A nice tournament with very pleasant conditions. I will come again.

Hans-Jürgen Zeitler (Germany)

I recently participated in the ACO World Super Senior Chess Championship on the Greek island of Kos between April 27 - May 5, 2022. Situated in the 5-star Atlantica Belvedere Beach Resort, it was everything a chess player could ask for in a tournament. A well-organised event, but an arbitrator was present in case of straying of rules. The playing hall was well ventilated, and there were plenty of soft drinks and snacks so that the players didn't get dehydrated or hungry. Two grandmasters gave a free lecture late afternoon, followed by several friendly blitz games. The organisers arranged a simul against two of the Grandmasters on Thursday night. We were lucky enough to have Grandmasters from three different nationalities on hand to analyse our games when we finished. The rooms were luxurious, clean and comfortable with a large flat-screen TV. Some rooms had a balcony or even a pool outside your room. If you like to swim, the beach is a short walk from the hotel, or if you prefer, you can use the numerous pools within the hotel compound. The hotel staff were friendly and went out of their way to help in case of problems and were great hosts. The organisers arrange a thought-provoking tour of part of the island on our free day. Included in the package were the meals, which were plentiful and nutritious, especially the Greek cakes.

Peter Merrifield (Wales)

Testimonials about ACO World Amateur Championship and the hotel

This year was my third time at an ACO World Championship. The first time in Kos. It's a wonderful combination of chess and a holiday. Whether alone or with a companion, everyone gets their money's worth. We can only pay a big compliment to the ACO team. Everything is excellently organised. With Greece, a country was chosen that offers constant summer temperatures over a longer period of time and where there is definitely a holiday feeling. The hotel in Kos stands out from the other well-known hotels, which can be seen in the construction and architecture of the entire complex. You are pampered with an all-round carefree package.

Now to the chess tournament itself. Every participant has the chance to play for the world championship title in his or her group, which is not easy, as the competition is very strong and international. It's a challenging tournament, and you meet old faces and get to know new ones when you take part. You exchange ideas and look forward to seeing each other again. The social programme is also great.



Besides analyses with well-known grandmasters, seminars, blitz tournaments and simultaneous play, there is something for every chess enthusiast. Culinary delights are also well catered for. In conclusion, you can enjoy chess and a relaxed holiday in a great atmosphere. So, come to Kos, it's worth it!

Jens Wehrmann (GER) about the 2022 ACO World Amateur Chess Championship In my experience, ACO chess tournaments take the concept "play chess while being on holidays" to a very high standard. I like the tournament formula of playing games in groups with players of broadly equal strength. The conditions in the playing hall are nearly perfect. And after the games there is the possibility to analyze your game with a GM or go to one of their insightful lectures. If that isn't enough, you can also participate in blitz tournaments or a simultaneous game with



one of the GMs. So the chess is serious, but so is the relaxing. In Kos, the 5 star hotel is beautifully located near the sea, has nice pools and a good restaurant, and there is much more to enjoy. On the "free day" I participated in a tour of the island passing by some of the highlights that Kos has to offer.

Bert Talloen (Belgium) about the 2022 ACO World Amateur Chess Championship on Kos

As a newcomer to your ACO tournaments, I would like to thank you very much: Perfect organisation regarding hotel and tournament, organisation team always present and yet discreetly in the background. Interesting chess social programme, family atmosphere, well-organised island tour and close GM analyses of one's own games. Great anticipation, also on the part of my partner, for the ACO tournament in October 22 on Crete!

Dr. Guntram Hilbenz (Germany) about the 2022 ACO World Amateur Chess Championship on Kos

The Wimbledon of Chess

An experience report by Uwe Ritter (Germany) about the ACO World Amateur Chess Championship 2018 on Kos



It is May and it already has a good tradition, embedded between two holidays and two weekends the chess players meet for **the most beautiful amateur event of the year.**

Like every year when the ACO calls, one travels from all over the world to the beautiful Mediterranean island KOS to meet at the 5-star Hotel Helona Resort. 307 participants

from 30 countries followed the call of the organizers and travelled with their wives and accompanying persons, in some cases the children were there as well.

As every year, the official reception with a glass of sparkling wine or wine on the eve of the tournament was very popular, as one always meets many good old friends again. Even if the last participants did not arrive until after midnight due to flight delays, all chess players sat on the board punctually the next morning at 10.00 a.m. 9 rounds were played, in 7 rating groups, A to G. The rating groups were formed starting with the group A Elo 2201 - 2400, downwards.

The time control was 90 minutes for 40 moves and 15 minutes for the rest. There is also a bonus of 30 seconds per move. There were no disputes due to the always very fair interaction between the players.

Similar to the legendary tennis event, many things here are already good old tradition. In addition to a full board wellness program, there is free catering during the game in a beautiful playing hall equipped with carpets.

Present grandmasters, with whom one can analyze one's own game, a free day, which is always used for an island excursion in the group or on one's own initiative and ends with a Greek evening in the hotel.

Simultaneous exhibition events of master players present and various Blitz events were also an integral part of the supporting program this time. All this always takes place in a very familiar atmosphere.

Even before the tournament started, world chess star Alexei Schirow was a guest and prepared 8 chess players from all rating groups for this tournament for 3 days. Furthermore he was a star to touch, who was not afraid to play a blitz match against other amateurs. The also present grandmasters Spyridon Skembris and Zigurds Lanka were always sought-after analysis partners, some amateurs could be helped with tips and tricks. Both grandmasters also gave chess lectures in German and English, an offer which enjoyed great popularity.

In the 8th round at the best lunchtime, many chess players were already at the table, the remaining participants in the tournament hall temporarily did not believe their eyes and some even suspected a "Hungarian mirage" when surprisingly the best female chess player of all times appeared in the playing hall.

Judit Polgar, now 41 years old and long since retired from active tournament chess, visited her friend Maria in the tournament hall to keep her fingers crossed for her personally. Maria had only scored a modest three points last year, now she dominated her group for 8 rounds, was equal on points with Simon Faber from Germany before the final round and in the end, due to an unfortunate defeat, was only second behind Simon Faber, who won the F-group with 7.5 points. I can't prove it, but let's assume that Judit Polgar plays a not inconsiderable part in this positive development.

The highlight of the prize-giving ceremony with guest of honour Judit Polgar, was, as last year, the mini free concert of the Chilean artist Maria Jose Yurar Rescaglio, who is well known as an artist in South America, thus far beyond her own national borders, and performs under the artist name Juga de Prima. Even before the start of the 9th round, the artist gave all participants a little surprise. We heard and saw a music video with the title "Oh my dear Capablanca" which she had recorded.

The concluding remarks were made by participants who were there for the first time.

"The participants are all very relaxed. Nothing is missing. A beautiful Holiday tournament in an ambience of a World Championship, plus a great prize performance ratio". (Peter Trzaska, Group B)

"A perfect organization" (Marco Siebarth, Group C)

"All very well if only the defeats weren't." (Barbara Kroll, Group E)

"It was my first holiday in Greece and my first participation in an World Amateur Chess Championship and I was looking forward to it for months. My expectations of a wonderful time were exceeded in every respect. 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 rounded the thing off and one could really enjoy the stay in a wonderful feel-good 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 evaluation 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 Falko Bindrich and the Hirneise family!

As a subscriber to the german chess magazine "Rochade Europa", I have been following the tournament for years and have now decided to participate. I can highly recommend it to every chess friend 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 even 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 about the ACO World Amateur Chess Championship 2018 on Kos



"A big thank you to the ACO team for the organization of the World Amateur Chess Amateur Championship on the Greek island of Kos.

The tournament, its realization, the complete side 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.

Also worth mentioning is the Mediterranean weather on Kos, which will

remain positively in your memory with many hours of sunshine.

I am already looking forward to next year to participate in this great tournament, to meet the Greek sun as well as the food and the nice people I met".

Marco Siebarth about the ACO World Amateur Chess Championship 2018 on Kos



Spring, sun, sea, wine and chess

An experience report by Dr. Jürgen Kraft (Germany) about the ACO World Amateur Chess World Championship 2017

Dear chess friends, this was a really successful holiday!

Admittedly, the "Amateur Chess World Championship" is somewhat bombastic. But: 314 players from all over the world had come, including Chile and Australia making the longest journey. My opponents came from India, the Netherlands, England, Poland, Norway, France, Switzerland, and Germany. A member of the regional chess club Kosstadt was also there. The youngest player of the tournament was 6 years old, the oldest one was a whopping 92 years old! The Helona Resort, a beach hotel complex on the south coast of the island, was were the tournament was held. Rightly 5 stars. 9 rounds Swiss system, usual reflection time, rating groups staggered according to ELO 200. 7 game days, one day off, to explore the island in the spring bloom.

In the evening flashing tournaments - very recommended for imitation - teamblitz: A strong and a weaker player fight together. Enjoy! Who of you now thinks we have been playing holiday coffee house chess, has gotten quite another idea: Since we had all the time in the world - apart from the time of reflection – were the fighting was fierce: accepting a draw? Only with a Queen and a tower less ... A typical chess day: 7.30 getting up, at 8.30 Anne and I want to have breakfast. Since I have to swim in the sea before. After breakfast, a short walk along the sea, at 10 am it starts. Excitement ... After the game, Anne and I had arrangements for lunch at 13.30 - it was several times later. I had never played so many final games. In the evening: There are chess games in the hotel bar. But with the English people, one can also talk about music: Are Deep Purple or the Dire Straits the better band? If you have lost, you can comfort yourself with a glass of red wine and the Rolling Stones: "You can not always get what you want"; If you win, you can listen to Freddy Mercury at the pool bar... "We are the Champions!"

The off day was very nice: Bus trips over the island are offered. In addition to tourism, Kos-Stadt has a beautiful ancient market square in the middle of the city and a Kreuzritterburg. Two beautiful old mosques built peacefully next to orthodox churches.

A visit to the ancient hippocrates sanctuary is a much just like the journey to the mountain villages over narrow serpentines: flowers, forest and a wonderful view of the deep blue Aegean.

Back to Chess: 5,5 out of 9, Rank 19 of 88 in my rating group. Despite many mistakes I am satisfied. The most beautiful part was a black victory in the English four-knight game. Thanks to Bernd's English tutoring course, the opening was clearly in my favor, and I had an opportunity for polychrome for the first time in my chess career, despite a mistake in the middle game: two black ladies were too much for my opponent. Thanks to the good hotelesses (Oh these calamares with garlic and capernmayonnaise!) My belly unfortunately icreased more than my ELO. Now I have to switch to lettuce! My wife has now enjoyed the beach life and has become really tanned - perhaps the only disadvantage of the air-conditioned playroom.

We will be back next year! Highly recommended!

Dear Organizers,

I was there for the first time. And I'm thrilled. So many possibilities, as banal amateur chess to play and to experience, with free water, coffee and cake on the board, to exchange with so many from other countries, in such a beautiful place, with a super tour on the off day, with best and ample kitchen, and all this in a pleasant atmosphere that you can work with. A big big thank you!

Greetings from Switzerland

Ruth Huber (Group E)



Constantine Ananiadis, (USA, Group D) about the World Amateur Chess Championship Rhodes 2014

"I was fortunate enough to have the chance to participate in the 2014 ACO World Championship in Rhodes, Greece and I can easily say that it was the best organized event I have ever participated in!

The organizers made sure every detail was taken care of and made the players feel very special. The venue was great with ample space and good lighting.

I also enjoyed the side events (blitz tournament etc) that they made available to us and was able to participate in one of them.

The schedule of the games was well thought-out and allowed for family time as well as time to explore the island of Rhodes itself. The hotel was also great and considering that it was "all-inclusive" it was very affordable.

All in all, a great event and great initiative by the organizers! Bravo!

I really hope I can make this an annual event for myself and my family and I hope that more and more people will support ACO and participate in future championships!"



Mikael Svensson, (Sweden, Group B) about the World Amateur Chess Championship Crete 2013

Hats off and a big round of applause to the entire ACO team for yet another brilliant performance! ACO is a young organization, now with its second World Championship organized for chess amateurs from around the world. Being a participant in both Dubai and Crete, it's natural for me to compare the two tournaments. Playing in Dubai was certainly a privilege. With the luxurious resort as both accommodation and playing hall for the participants, and with the prize giving ceremony in Burj Al Arab, it was truly a once in a lifetime experience. All things considered the tournament on Crete took the tournament one step further, even surpassing the experience in Dubai. While the hotel in Dubai was great, the climate on Crete was strongly preferable. While a decent amount of players around the world gathered in Dubai, the number of participants more than doubled on Crete. While I was having a good time in Dubai, the friendly atmosphere in the tournament on Crete reached a level that I have never experienced before in any chess tournament. Ever. That the organizers recognized me from last year was perhaps not that surprising. But that they all seemed to know everybody by name was truly impressive, and helped to make everybody feel part of the ACO family.



Harry Wubs, (Netherlands, Group D) about the World Amateur Chess Championship Dubai 2012

"For me the tournament in Dubai was great. Although I did not know what to expect, I would say that it succeeded all my expectations.

The group of participants was small, what gives an intimate atmosphere. After a few days you knew all players by face and most of them by name.

Despite the heat outside, there was warmth and friendliness inside the hotel. This friendliness was very strongly present in the persons who organized the tournament.

A great compliment for ACO for their ideas, their hard working, their friendliness and their professionality.

The whole organizationwas just perfect. Their were no incidents, the sportsmanship was of a high level and there were a lot of contacts between the organizers and between the players.

These contacts continued even after the tournament in some cases. I personally will surely meet several players in Crete, Greece again next year in May."

Four players from the Einsiedel (Switzerland) chess club at the World Amateur Chess Championship on Kos

The amateurs chose their new titleholder in Greece – away from the sport, the event was marked by a relaxed atmosphere.

The Einsiedler quartet returned from the World Amateur Chess Championship without a cup but with many experiences and memories. Peter Telser, Hans Forster, Meinrad Bettschart and Victor Kälin together have about 150 years of experience of competitions. But they had never before participated in such a tournament as this, of the Amateur Chess Organization (ACO). There were 250 chess players from 30 countries competing from 7 to 15 May on Kos for the crown of the amateur world championship. There were exactly 7 crowns, one per group. The programme was intense, with 9 rounds. It offered, however, enough time to relax.

The players' passion was inexhaustible. That can be said for Meinrad Bettschart (Brunnen/Einsiedeln), who was second oldest person at 82 years and who sat for a further 3 hours with his 14 years old opponent to analyse the game. One typical image for the occasion. "Chess is more than competition", said prudent ACO-president Lothar Hirneise (Germany) during the announcement of the rankings. Chess is also education and friendship, and encourages the Olympic spirit at such amateur championships, according to which taking part is more important than winning.

Very relaxed atmosphere

The four members of the Einsiedeln chess club were competing in three different groups. Hans Forster had the best performance, with 5.5 points from 9 games, which was excellent for rank 14. Peter Telser nevertheless succeeded in finishing the tournament without defeat. As well as the sport, the event had a relaxed atmosphere, a great hotel just by the sea, mild temperature as well as an organization, which translated the motto of World Chess Federation «Gens una sumus» (We are a family) perfectly from theory to practice.

World Amateur Chess Championship 2016 on Kos

A report by the participants Rafael and Kevin Jaussi (Switzerland)

On Saturday May 7, our journey from home to Kos began. When we arrived there, we had already been overwhelmed by Greek hospitality. A small aperitif was organized in the five-star hotel Helona Resort. When it was over, we were desperately looking for our suitcases until someone from the hotel told us that they had already been taken to our room. Later we went to have dinner and we were astonished to see the big selection at the buffet. In the beginning we were as if paralysed.

The food was delicious and we didn't need to fear being hungry for these 10 days. On Sunday the first round began.

It was difficult to be focus on chess with the panoramic view and beautiful weather. After 2/3 of the tournament, Rafael Jaussi had started really comfortably in category E with 3 points from 6 rounds. With me, it did not run according to desire with 1.5 from 6 rounds in category C, the start was very modest. On Thursday May 12 a day trip was planned with a touring bus, which enabled us to learn a lot about the island, its history and attractions. Half the time the guide was telling us everything about olives, which were very delicious. There were theory evenings and blitz tournaments, where we both got 3 out of 7 and there was a blitz team where the brothers Jaussi also gained 3 points out of 7. Which was very strong for our ELO rating. The last round was on Sunday May 15 and Rafael ended the tournament at 22nd place, with 4.5 out of 9 points, of 36 participants in category E. I finished the tournament with 3 out of 9 points, 53rd out of 56 participants in category C. The tournament ended with a small aperitif and the announcement of the rankings. On Monday after breakfast, we began our trip home.

This was a great chess event, with great impressions of the trip and we can only recommend the 2017 tournament on Kos and give our thanks to tournament directors for the great organization.

Victor Kälin, (Switzerland, Elo 1876) participant group C

Kevin Jaussi, (Switzerland, Elo 1833) participant group C

"What a great idea. Combining a beach holiday with chess. Don't you just love them both. And the ACO putting that package together in the top-class Helona Resort in Kos was pure genius! As always the chess was tremendous. But we were on holiday too, so universally having a good time. It was a chance to meet new friends. Language isn't a barrier. The conversation is conducted primarily in English. However, I spent a few minutes analysing my game with a Russian opponent, he pointed in Russian and I generally waved my arms in English. Perfectly understood on both sides! One of the nice little extras was having a genial Grand Master on hand to help with the after game post-mortem, that was a real boon for all the players. Let's just say a word about the Helona Resort. "Brilliant!". We were treated like Kings and Queens. The rooms are top of the range, bright, spacious and clean. My party was blown away by the food, and the desserts especially were a triumph! We were not alone in our praise. On the evening of the awards presentation the Chef took as much applause as all the winners put together. Even those on the strictest diet would surrender to his delights! Overall Kos 2015 was a glittering success. These are the Friendly Amateur World Chess Championships.





"World Amateur Chess Championship 2015 on Kos was organised at the highest level and left only the most pleasant memories. I am very happy with this tournament, especially with the result. There was a lot of chess experience, a lot of fun and new friends. First of all I would like to say thank you to GM Falko Bindrich and Hirneise's family for the organization of this really perfect tournament. Because of them everyone is getting a chance to play living chess with a different opponents from all over the world, and even become a chess world champion, as me. Secondly I would like to thanks all my opponents and participants for the friendly atmosphere during all period of the tournament. And finally I would like to wish all previous and future participants of the ACO tournament the success at the chessboard as well as in all life."

Nikolay Gutsulyak, (RUS, 0, Group G) about the tournament on Kos 2015

Lovely atmosphere with ideal playing conditions, lots of interesting chess offers such as single blitz, team blitz, seminars, simultaneous exhibitions and excursions... in a nutshell: Kos forever!



If you love chess, warm sun and good food, come and play. / David Gilbert, (ENG, 1899, Group D)





I allow myself to express my feelings and my comments about your tournament Kos 2015 and its hotel, it's not my habit to throw with flowers, but it's true that I have never seen anything like this before, your team has not left any wishes open, at any time the team was there and everyone desired to play chess. The big playing hall, lots of space for the chess games, free cold drinks and coffee, cookies and several large screens for the seminars not to forget. This tournament and the 5 Star Hotel Helona Resort was the BEST TOURNAMENT in my amateur chess career, the place and the infrastructure was nice and clean, a warm welcome at the hotel reception and all the players and their acommpanying persons had the same benefits. I cannot find enough words to express our satisfaction and to summarize it I would say it was just ABSOLUTELY AMAZING, AND EVEN MORE!!! WILL WE BE THERE NEXT YEAR? YES!! OF COURSE!

Arezki Bouchelaghem, (SUI, 1770, Group D) about the tournament on Kos

Prices 5* Atlantica Belvedere Resort 9 nights All-Inclusive: 2 - 11 May, 2023



All prices per person on All-Inclusive Basis	Booking till 31st December 2022	Booking from 1st January 2023	Availability
Villa (120m²) + private pool (36m²) for 2 persons	3499 EUR	3599 EUR	very low
Villa (120m²) + private pool (36m²) for 3 persons	2999 EUR	3099 EUR	very low
Villa (120m²) + private pool (36m²) for 4 persons	2499 EUR	2599 EUR	very low
Suite (63 m²) + private pool for 2 persons	2499 EUR	2599 EUR	very low
Junior Suite for 2 persons	1499 EUR	1599 EUR	very low
Single room Standard	1799 EUR	1899 EUR	low
Single room Sea view	1999 EUR	2099 EUR	low
Double room Sea view with Shared Pool	1699 EUR	1799 EUR	very low
Double room Standard with Shared Pool	1499 EUR	1599 EUR	very low
Double room Sea view	1299 EUR	1399 EUR	medium
Double room Standard	1199 EUR	1299 EUR	medium

ACO is the organizer of the chess tournament ACO Amateur Chess Championship 2023 and arranges accommodation for all participants in the host hotel 5-star Atlantica Belveder Resort. Contractual partner for accommodation is the hotel (Atlantica Hotels & Resorts, P.O. Box 52001, Potamos Yermasoyias, 4060 Limassol, Cyprus). The registration for the chess tournament is done separately after booking the accommodation via ACO, see procedure on the next pages.

Note: Since 2018 Greece has introduced a tourist tax for all hotels in the country. For 5 star hotels this tax is EUR 4 per room per night. The tax has to be paid directly at the hotel reception.

The following services are included in the arranged hotel booking:

- 9 overnight stays on All-Inclusive basis
- Drinks and snacks during the games
- Private hotel beach
- Access to the gym
- Free internet in the guest rooms
- Extra nights before or after the tournament are bookable at the same conditions.

Important note:

The number of participants for the chess tournament is limited due to capacity reasons. In the the last few years, the tournament at Kos was fully booked many months in advance! For this reason, we recommend early registration to be able to guarantee a place.

Prices 5* Atlantica Beach Resort 9 nights All-Inclusive: 2 - 11 May, 2023



All prices per person on All-Inclusive Basis	Booking till 31st December 2022	Booking from 1st January 2023	Availability
Single room Standard	1599 EUR	1699 EUR	medium
Single room Sea view	1799 EUR	1899 EUR	medium
Double room Standard	1099 EUR	1199 EUR	medium
Double room Sea view	1199 EUR	1299 EUR	medium

Due to the limited room availability in the main hotel Atlantica Belvedere (where the tournament hall is located) you also have the option to stay in the sister hotel 5* Atlantica Beach Resort which is just a 5 minutes walk away from the tournament hall. It is also possible to arrange a shuttle service between the hotels without extra costs.

- You sleep in Atlantica Beach Resort and have breakfast there.
- For lunch and dinner you can choose between Atlantica Beach and Atlantica Belvedere (tournament hotel).
- You can use all facilities and the All-Inclusive packages of both hotels, Atlantica Beach and Atlantica Belvedere!
- In Atlantica Beach guests below 16 years are welcome so feel free to bring your family and kids with you. Please note that Atlantica Belvedere is an adults-only hotel in which only guests from 16 years of age are allowed.

ACO is the organizer of the chess tournament ACO Amateur Chess Championship 2023 and arranges accommodation for all participants in the 5-star hotels Atlantica Belvedere Resort and Atlantica Beach Resort. Contractual partner for accommodation is only the hotel (Atlantica Hotels & Resorts, P.O. Box 52001, Potamos Yermasoyias, 4060 Limassol, Cyprus). The registration for the chess tournament is done separately after booking the accommodation via ACO, see procedure on the next page.

Note: Since 2018 Greece has introduced a tourist tax for all hotels in the country. For 5 star hotels this tax is EUR 4 per room per night. The tax has to be paid directly at the hotel reception.

The following services are included in the arranged hotel booking:

- 9 overnight stays on All-Inclusive basis
- Drinks and snacks during the games
- Private hotel beach
- Access to the gym
- Free internet in the guest rooms
- Extra nights before or after the tournament are bookable at the same conditions.

Important note:

The number of participants for the chess tournament is limited due to capacity reasons. In the the last few years, the tournament at Kos was fully booked many months in advance! For this reason, we recommend early registration to be able to guarantee a place.

Registration & booking

ACO is the organizer of the chess tournament ACO World Amateur Chess Championship 2023 and arranges accommodation for all participants in the 5-star Atlantica Belvedere Resort (or Atlantica Beach Resort) in Kos. Contractual partner of the booking is only the hotel.

The arranged hotel booking and the registration for the chess tournament take place in two separate steps:

Step 1: Hotel booking

You choose your desired room type through the ACO online booking form, see the following link:

https://booking.amateurchess.com/supersenior23



Immediately after your hotel booking you will receive a booking confirmation by email on behalf of the hotel.

Step 2: Tournament registration

After your hotel booking you will receive a separate email from us with the link for the payment of the starting fee.



In the event that you need to cancel your participation, regardless of the timing, you will receive a 100% refund of your starting fee.

Hotel booking without risk!



No hotel deposit is required upon booking. Free cancellation of the hotel booking up to 14 days prior to arrival date!



If you test positive for Covid in the days prior to arrival, you may cancel your booking free of charge if you provide a proof of your test.

Hotel payment procedure

- ✓ 20% of the total amount need to be paid latest 14 days prior to arrival by bank transfer directly to the hotel.
- ✓ If the payment is not made on time, the hotel keeps the option to cancel your booking.
- ✓ You will receive a reminder of the payment one month prior to the due date.
- The remaining 80% need to be paid either by bank transfer prior to arrival or upon check-in by credit card or cash. You can also pay the total amount in one bank transfer 14 days prior to arrival.
- In case of no-show, you will be charged 100% of the total amount the hotel.



Further information

Rooms with shared pool and rooms with sea view (limited) are particularly popular and often booked out early.

Room booking for accompanying persons:

The booking of rooms for accompanying persons who are not taking part in the tournament tournament is also possible.

Weather on Kos:

The weather in May is mild and sunny with temperatures up to 25 degrees. May is considered one of the most attractive months.

Transfer from the airport

The hotel is 15 minutes from the airport. Taxis run at a fixed price (22 EUR).

Arrive earlier

Would you like to extend your stay on Kos? You are welcome to book as many days as you like at the hotel prior or after the event at the same conditions. The prices depend on the type of room you choose. Sometimes it is cheaper to book extra nights in exchange for better or cheaper flight connections. Contact us for free support.

Please note that extra nights in the main hotel are only possible BEFORE the start of the tournament, not after as all rooms are needed for the World Amateur Championships taking place afterwards! Extra nights after the tournament are possible at the Atlantica Beach Resort.

Tip:

When you register using the online form, the costs for extra nights are automatically calculated and displayed.

REGISTRATION & BOOKING

ACO WORLD SUPER SENIOR (65+) CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2023

2nd - 11th May, 2023 Kos / Greece





For hotel booking please use the ACO online booking form



https://booking.amateurchess.com/supersenior23

