

Americas Briefing

Madrid 09 de Enero de 2006

MEXICO

HOTELS STILL CLOSED AFTER HURRICANE

Sol Melia SA, one of the largest hoteliers in the Caribbean, is keeping five Mexican properties closed longer than planned to repair damage caused by Hurricane Wilma.

The company won't open three five-star hotels in Cancun and two resorts on the island of Cozumel on Jan. 10 as it planned in November, according to Palma de Majorca, Spain-based Sol Melia's website.

The five hotels, which account for more than half of Sol Melia's 3,500 Mexican hotel rooms, have been closed since November.

Concern about travel safety after more than 20 tropical storms last year is leading some tourists to travel to destinations such as Spain for their beach holidays, Exceltur, a Spanish tourism trade group, said.