

THE NICOSIA MUNICIPALITY'S ORIGINAL GUIDE

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2013

nicosia this month

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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Dear Reader,

Welcome to our capital,

It is always a pleasure to greet our residents and to welcome our visitors. Nicosia this month, our monthly magazine will help you discover what our capital has to offer. Your visit to our city should start from its historic centre. The impressive Venetian walls that surround the Old Town and our historic centre are naturally the most prominent sights that a visitor should visit. Within these walls you will find traces of the island's past, Byzantine chapels and churches next to neo-classical architecture thematic museums next to art galleries and various music stages that feature young as well as established talents. Small boutiques showcase the work of local designers, artisans work diligently in their workshops, farmers markets tempt you with fresh produce and local delights. And when you're ready for a break, traditional coffee shops and tavernas are around the corner. Leave the Old Town and you will enter into the cosmopolitan world of a European capital. High street shopping at Makarios Avenue, trendy cafés and the sophistication of the contemporary corporate environment.

Sadly, Nicosia and its historical centre are divided with the so called Green- Line. Our city is still the last divided capital of Europe and the continued division of Nicosia casts a shadow over our capital.

Nevertheless as citizens of a proud city we look toward the future and the development of our capital. Our efforts to achieve reunification is one of our main targets for the benefit of all our citizens and for our country.

Dear visitor, whether you are visiting for business or pleasure, we hope you will experience and enjoy the hospitality and diversity of Nicosia!

Enjoy your stay in our beautiful city !

Constantinos Yiorkadjis

Mayor of Nicosia

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Cover Photo: Ria Petridou



**MONTHLY TOURIST
& SHOPPING GUIDE**

PUBLISHED BY THE NICOSIA
MUNICIPALITY SINCE 1983

NICOSIA



Nicosia emerged from the sea 1,8 – 5 million years ago. During the first millennium BC, Nicosia enjoyed neither the power nor the prosperity of other City-Kingdoms, most of which lay on the coastline. The first traces of its current name appeared in the 3rd century BC, when Lefcus, the son of Ptolemy rebuilt Ledra, renaming it Lefkothea (“white goddess”).

Built as a fortress, it has weathered a long list of conquerors. Phoenicians, Assyrians, Persians, Egyptians, Romans, Arabs, the Templars, the Frankish Lusignan dynasty, Venetians and Ottomans all held sway over Cyprus before British colonial rule in the 19th century. All, and to varying degrees, have left their mark on the city.

The most significant influences on modern Nicosia date from the 15th and 16th centuries. Under the Lusignans, the capital saw the construction of a number of palaces, mansions, churches and monasteries. The first Lusignan castle was built during the reign of King Henry I, in 1211 and later Peter II fortified the entire city. The Venetians ruled the island from 1489 –1571 with Nicosia as the seat of the Venetian Governor. Faced with the threat of an Ottoman invasion, the Venetians decided to withdraw from the Lusignan military fortifications and created a defensive line around the city. The buildings standing outside this line, including most of the inheritance from the Lusignan period, were torn down and the stones were used for the new defensive wall. Julio Savorgnano, a Venetian architect and engineer, designed the new walls of Nicosia which are considered as the prototype of the renaissance military architecture.

Impressive as Nicosia’s defenses were, however, they were unable to keep out the Ottomans. After a siege of seven weeks Mustafa Pasha entered the city on September 9, 1570 and a period of Ottoman rule followed lasting until the arrival of the British in 1878.

After a liberation struggle in 1955-59, Cyprus gained its independence in 1960 and Nicosia officially became capital of the Republic of Cyprus. Since then Nicosia has grown into a bustling cosmopolitan European city yet it remains compact enough to be explored on foot.

Since the Turkish invasion of 1974, Nicosia has been a divided capital, with the Buffer Zone patrolled by UN troops, the infamous “Green Line”, disrupting its cohesion and continuity.

Ο Καλύτερος Φορολογικός Οίκος στην Κύπρο

Winning is a state of mind



Στην 9η τελετή βράβευσης του International Tax Review (ITR) European Tax Awards, η Deloitte εξασφάλισε το βραβείο του καλύτερου Φορολογικού Οίκου στην Κύπρο (Cyprus Tax Firm of the Year) για το 2013.



WHERE TO GO

The Old City of Nicosia is surrounded by a complete star-shape of walls (referred to as 'The Walls') built by the Venetians in 1567 in their effort to fortify the city against a threatened Ottoman invasion. The Walls have eleven heart-shaped bastions and three gates. Famagusta Gate or Porta Julia, the biggest and most elaborate of the three is since 1982 the Cultural Centre of the Municipality of Nicosia. The other two gates are The Paphos Gate at the West situated by the Green Line and Kerynia Gate to the North, today in the occupied area of the city. The Nicosia Town Hall (15, K. Papaeologou Avenue, Tel: 22797000) is built on one of the bastions, the Bastion Davila, overlooking Eleftheria Square.

Recent excavations on the bastion of Podocataro have revealed the remains of the siege of the city by the Turks in 1570. Mud brick embrasures, parts of armoury and weapons as well as two skeletons, decapitated by the Ottomans, verify the descriptions of contemporary writers describing the fall of Nicosia. The Old City is fascinating to stroll through for shopping or for dining with its narrow streets, small shops, carved balconies, inner yards, churches, mosques, and Byzantine arches.

CHRYSALINIOTISSA AREA

Near the Famagusta Gate, the quarter takes its name from the oldest Byzantine church in Nicosia, dedicated to "Our Lady of the Golden Flax". Built in 1463 by the Greek-origin Lusignan Queen Eleni Paleologina. Following the signs near the church you will find the Chrysaliniotissa Crafts Centre. Numerous taverns and bars are also to be found near this area.

ARCHBISHOP KYPRIANOS SQUARE

The square in front of the Archbishopric, where monuments and buildings of historical and religious interest abound, including the Ethnographic Museum of Cyprus, the National Struggle Museum and Agios Ioannis Cathedral as well as The Pancyprian Gymnasium Museum.

LAIKI YITONIA (FOLK NEIGHBOURHOOD)

Restored pedestrian area within the walled city, East of Eleftheria Square. Charming winding alleys with traditional houses and shops, restaurants, galleries, all lovingly restored as typical examples of Cypriot urban architecture of a bygone, more graceful age.

MUSEUMS



THE CYPRUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

1, Museum Str, Tel: 22865864

The Cyprus Museum is the main museum presenting the civilization of the island from its very beginnings, in the 9th Millennium B.C. to the early Byzantine period. Exhibits range from the Pre-Pottery and Neolithic period comprising tools of stone or bone, idols and vessels of stone, to the pottery of the ceramic Neolithic and the elaborate, richly decorated pottery of the later periods, sculpture of stone or clay, bronze weapons, tools, figurines and ornaments, the coinage of the island as well as the jewelry and works of art in media such as glass, alabaster and ivory. Funerary architecture and funerary customs are also presented while a special room is devoted to the scripts of the island, from its earliest form, the Cypro-Minoan, to the use of the Greek alphabet.

Opening hours: Monday: Closed, Tuesday,

Thursday & Friday: 08:00-16:00,

Wednesday 08:00-17:00, Saturday: 09:00-16:00

Sunday 10:00-13:00

MAKARIOS III CULTURAL FOUNDATION

Within the Archbishopric, Arch. Kyprianos Square, Tel: 22430008

Comprising of:

THE BYZANTINE MUSEUM

Houses the largest collection of icons in Cyprus with 220 pieces covering several periods from 5th to the 19th century. Among the master-pieces are: the icons of "Christ and the Virgin Mary" (12th century) from the Church of the Virgin Mary of Aracas at Laghoudera, and "The Resurrection" (13th century) from the Church of St. John Lam-

badistis Monastery at Kalopanayiotis. There are also six pieces of Kanakaria Mosaics.

THE EUROPEAN ART GALLERY

Houses 120 oil paintings of various European Schools of Art from the 16th until the 19th century, with mainly religious themes, among others by Van Dyck, Rubens, Tintoretto, Lorrain and Delacroix.

THE GREEK INDEPENDENCE WAR GALLERY

Houses maps, copper engravings and paintings featuring persons and events from the Greek Independence War, as well as paintings by Greek artists with subjects derived from Greek mythology.

Opening hours: Monday-Friday 9:00am-16:30

Saturday 9:00am-13:00

CYPRUS CLASSIC MOTORCYCLE MUSEUM

44, Granikou Str (in the old city), Tel: 99543215
www.agrino.org/motormuseum

One of the largest collections in the world, presenting 150 unique classical motorcycles. Among them BSAs from 1927, AJS from 1938, Matchless from 1939, Triumph from 1946 and an MV Agusta. Enthusiasts will be able to enjoy a journey through classic motorcycle history.

Opening hours: Daily 9:00am-13:00, 15:00-19:00

Saturday 9:00-14:00



CYPRUS FOLK ART MUSEUM

The main Folk Art Museum in Cyprus, is housed in the Old Archbishopric at Archbishop Kyprianos Square. A historic building dating back to the 15th century with later additions. Presents masterpieces of weaving embroidery, lace, costumes, pottery, metalwork, basketry, folk painting, leatherwork and woodcarving. What is also remarkable is the 19th century door of Saint Mamas church that the Nobel prize-winning poet Georgios Seferis mentions

in his poem "Little Things of Cyprus", which he dedicated to his friend the painter and first Director of the Cyprus Folk Art Museum, Adamantios Diamantis.

Opening hours: Tuesday – Friday: 9:30-16:00

and Saturday 9:00-13:00

Contact: Tel: 22432578, Fax 22343439,

Email: cystudiessociety@yahoo.gr

CYPRUS POSTAL MUSEUM

(Department of Postal Services)

3B Agiou Sava Str, Tel: 22304711

Collection of Cyprus stamps from 1800 onwards. With numerous awards Cyprus stamps are considered among the best in world philately. The museum hosts also memorabilia such as scales, old letter boxes, approximately 400 seals and other historical items.

LEDRA MUSEUM – OBSERVATORY

Corner Ledras and Arsinoes Str, Tel: 22128157

A specially designed and equipped museum-observatory on the top of Shacolas Tower where you can get the best views of the old and modern city. Use the telescope to see various monuments and churches throughout the city and learn about their history. In the heart of the old city of Nicosia.

Opening hours:

May-September: Monday-Sunday 10:00-20:00pm,

October-April: Monday-Saturday 9:30-17:00

THE GEORGE & NEFELI GIABRA PIERIDES

ARCHEAOLOGICAL MUSEUM

86-88-90 Phaneromenis Str, Tel: 22128157

The mezzanine floor of the refurbished building of the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation, at Phaneromeni in Old Nicosia, houses the Museum of the George and Nefeli Giabra Pierides Collection (donated by Clio and Solon Triantafyllides). The Collection, which includes over 600 items, has been described by experts as one of the richest in the world in Mycenaean pottery. It includes representative samples of pottery from the Geometric, Archaic, Roman and Medieval periods, terracotta figurines, an important collection of stone sculptures and seals, jewelry and bronze objects.

Opening hours: Daily 10:00-19:00

WHERE TO GO



THE LEVENTIS MUNICIPAL MUSEUM OF NICOSIA **EUROPEAN MUSEUM OF THE YEAR AWARD, 1991**

**17 Hippocrates Str (Laiki Yitonia),
Tel: 22661475, 22671997**

The city's award winning historical museum hosts the history of Nicosia from its origins around 4.000 B.C. up until today. The Museum is named after its benefactor the Anastasios G. Leventis Foundation. All the exhibits were collected after the establishment of the Museum in 1984. Periodical exhibitions, special educational programs and many other events are held regularly in the Museum. The Association of The Friends of The Museum runs "The Shop" selling books, replicas and other gifts.

Opening hours: Tuesday-Sunday 10:00-16:30

THE LOUKIA AND MICHAEL ZAPPELAS ART MUSEUM

**27 Arch. Makarios III Avenue (Pentadromos),
Kaimakli, tel: 22456098**

The new Art Museum aspires to play a pivotal role in the cultural and social happenings of the city. Apart from its permanent collection of works by Cypriot artists, the Gallery hosts temporary exhibitions by Cypriot and foreign artists. The Museum aims to highlight the works of all Cypriot artists and organise events promoting arts and culture. It also offers original educational programmes for families and students of all ages. Located in one of Nicosia's oldest suburbs, the Museum is an oasis of culture, and an educational as well as recreational destination for young and old.

*Opening hours: Tuesday-Friday: 10:00-13:00, 16:00-20:00
Saturday-Sunday: 10:00-16:00*

Monday: Closed.

MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF CYPRIOT COINAGE

86-88-90 Phaneromenis Str. Tel: 22128157

The history of Cyprus from the time coins were first minted, 2600 years ago to the present is brought to life by more than 500 coins arranged into nine historical periods exhibited in twenty-three display cases. The presentation begins with coinage from the Cyprus City Kingdoms (6th-4th centuries B.C.) and ends with the Republic of Cyprus (1960).

Opening hours: Daily 10:00-19:00

MUSEUMS OF THE PANCYPRIAN GYMNASIUM

Agiou Ioannou and Thiseos Streets, Old Nicosia

The Museums of The Pancyprian Gymnasium are open to visitors of all ages and interests.

*Opening Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
09:00 – 15:30*

Wednesday 09:00am – 17:00 Saturday 09:00 – 13:00

Tel: 22466014, E-Mail: pgmuseum@cytanet.com.cy

Free Entrance

THE NATIONAL STRUGGLE (EOKA) MUSEUM

Arch. Kyprianos Square, Tel: 22305878

The Museum is located in the square near the Archbishopric. The museum displays documents, photographic material, personal belongings of the heroes and other memorabilia related to the struggle against British Rule. Publications available at the museum include "A Brief History of the liberation struggle of EOKA (1955-1959)" by Andreas Varnavas, Nicosia 2000, 100 pages. The same publication is also available in Spanish.

*Opening hours: Monday-Friday 8:00-14:00, Thursday
15:30-17:30*

(no afternoons in July & August)

THE HOUSE OF HADJIGEORGAKIS KORNESIOS – ETHNOLOGICAL MUSEUM

20 Patriarchou Grigoriou, Tel: 22305316

A most imposing example of traditional urban architecture of the 18th century. It was the residence of Hadjigeorgakis, the Dragoman to the Ottoman Port. The successful restoration won the 1988 Europa Nostra Award.

Opening hours: Tuesday-Saturday 8:30-15:30

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WHERE TO GO

CULTURAL CENTRES & ART GALLERIES

BANK OF CYPRUS CULTURAL FOUNDATION

86-88-90, Phaneromenis Str.
Tel: 22128157, www.boccf.org

The Cultural Foundation is permanently housed in the old administrative headquarters of the Bank of Cyprus, near the Phaneromeni Church, in the old town of Nicosia, within the Venetian walls. It houses the Museum of the George and Nefeli Giabra Pierides Collection (donated by Clio and Solon Triantafyllides), the Agora (the Foundation's shop) and the Cultural Foundation's lecture hall. In the courtyard of the building, there is an open air theatre where musical and theatrical performances are staged.

Opening hours: Daily 10:00-19:00

CHRYSALINIOTISSA MULTICRAFT CENTRE

2, Demonaktos Str. Tel: 22347465

The Centre is located in a particularly attractive area of traditional character – in the walled city. Eight workshops and a coffee shop are placed around a central courtyard in a building which follows the design of a traditional Inn.

Opening hours: Monday-Friday 10:00-13:00, 15:00-18:00

CYPRUS HANDICRAFT CENTRE

186, Athalassa Avenue. Tel: 22305024

The Cyprus Handicraft Centre on Athalassa Avenue (at the entrance of the new part of the city) provides items of all kinds of traditional handicrafts. An excellent opportunity not only to buy Cypriot handicrafts, but also to watch the traditional skills and techniques of the artisans.

Opening hours:

Summer (15/6-15/9): Monday-Friday 7:30-14:00, 17:00-19:30,

Wednesday 7:30-14:00, Saturday 8:00-13:00

Winter: Monday-Friday 7:30-17:30, Wednesday 7:30-14:00,

Saturday 8:00-13:00

FAMAGUSTA GATE

THE MUNICIPAL CULTURAL CENTRE

Athion Avenue. Tel: 22430877



Once known as "Porta Guliana" in honour of the architect of the city-wall project, it was the strongest and most elaborate, but also the lowest of the three gates. The unique feature of this structure was restored by the Municipality of Nicosia, as a Cultural Centre, and was awarded the prestigious "Europa Nostra" medal by the International Federation of Associations for the Protection of European Culture and Natural Heritage. The Centre hosts exhibitions, conferences, lectures, music events, dance and theatre performances.

Opening hours: Monday-Sunday 10:00-13:00 - 16:00-19:00

THE MUNICIPAL ARTS CENTER

ASSOCIATED WITH THE PIERIDES MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

19, Apostolou Varnava Str. Tel: 22797400

The old Power House has been transformed into Cyprus' most avantgarde centre for contemporary art. It hosts prestigious exhibitions from home and abroad. It houses an Art Library, a restaurant, a coffee shop and a gift shop selling books, posters, replicas, souvenirs, crafts and artworks.

Opening hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10:00-3:00, 17:00-23:00

Sunday 10:00-16:00

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www.nicosia.org.cy



Δήμος Λευκωσίας
Nicosia Municipality

USEFUL INFORMATION



EMERGENCIES

POLICE/FIRE BRIGADE/FIRST AID/AMBULANCE	112
FOREST FIRE REPORTS	1407

SERVICES

GENERAL HOSPITAL	22603000
MAKARIOS HOSPITAL	22405000
APOLLONIO PRIVATE HOSPITAL LTD	22469000
EVANGELISTRIA MEDICAL CENTRE	22410100
ARETAIEION HOSPITAL	22200300
ADVISORY BUREAU ON AIDS	22305155
SUPPORT AGAINST DRUGS ABUSE	1410
OVERNIGHT PHARMACIES	90901412
DOCTORS ON CALL	90901432
POLICE	22802020/1460
ELECTRICITY FAULTS	1800

USEFUL TELEPHONES

CYPRUS TOURISM ORGANIZATION-CTO	
Head Office: 19, Limassol Avenue	22691100
TOURIST INFORMATION, Laiki Yitonia	22674264
NICOSIA MUNICIPALITY, Eleftheria Square.....	22797000
IMMIGRATION OFFICE,	
Government-Complex Bldg	22305458
CYPRUS BROADCASTING CORPORATION,	
Aglandjia.....	22422231

TELEPHONE SERVICES

NATIONAL DIRECTORY ENQUIRIES	11892
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY ENQUIRIES	
(country codes, trunk codes, rates)	11894
INTERNATIONAL CALLS (through operator)....	80000198
EXACT TIME	English 1893 / Greek 1895
TELEGRAMS BY PHONE	80000196
FAULTS REPORT	80000197
CUSTOMER CARE CALL CENTRE	132

AIRPORTS

LARNAKA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	77778833
(49km from Nicosia)	
PAPHOS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.....	77778833
(146km from Nicosia)	

PORTS

LIMASSOL	25819200
LARNAKA	24815225
PAPHOS	26946840

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

77 77 77 55

The bus terminal is at Solomos Square, in the centre of the city. Buses run to all destinations in the city and the suburbs from 5.30 to 18.15, every half an hour. They are more frequent at peak hours (7.15 last itinerary).

There are also the Yellow Buses of Nicosia Municipality with regular itineraries in the centre of the city. Starting point: Solomos Square. The service is free.



COUNTRY BUS SERVICES

Timed to bring rural residents and their produce to the market early in the morning returning about midday when business is done.

Intercity Service Taxi operate regularly and frequently (every half an hour) between the main towns. The first taxi leaves at 6.00 and the last at 18.00 (Sat. & Sun. at 7.00 until 17.00). The last taxi leaves at 6.00. Seats may be booked in advance. Taxis run on time, pick you up at your hotel or private address, and take you to your destination, along with other passengers.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

TRAVEL EXPRESS	22767600, 7777474
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INTERCITY BUSES

NICOSIA-LARNAKA AIRPORT

Kyrenias Ave., behind Melconian – Opposite Police Headquarters

For information please Tel: 77771477 or 24008718.

NICOSIA-LIMASSOL

NICOSIA (from Solomos Square)

LIMASSOL (from Municipality Market Parking Place)

ROUTE: Limassol Municipality Market Parking Place Sea front, Road up to Saint Raphael Hotel, Chirokitia, Kofinou, Mosfiloti, Nisou, Latsia, Nicosia, Makarios Avenue, Solomos Square.

For information concerning timetables and fees please contact: Tel: 22665814

NICOSIA-Larnaka Please contact Tel: 24643492

BANKS

Banking Hours for the public

MONDAY: 08:30-13:30 15:15-16:45

TUESDAY-FRIDAY: 08:30-13:30

No afternoon service is provided in May, June, July, August and September except in centrally located branches.

SHOPPING HOURS

Winter Period (1 November – 31 March)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday until 7:00pm / Wednesday until 14:00 / Saturday until 15:00, Sunday closed.

Summer Period (1 April – 31 October)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, until 20:00 / Wednesday until 15:00 / Saturday until 19:30, Sunday closed.

Most shops in the walled city are open on Sundays as well.



SHOPPING IN NICOSIA

The main shopping areas in Nicosia are Arch. Makarios Avenue, parallel to it Stasikratous Street, and the area around the Ledra Street in the old city, including the well know Laiki Yitonia (Folk Neighbourhood). In addition to shopping for handicrafts, embroidery, pottery and other local made items, visitors to Nicosia might like to take advantage of the capital's modern commercial centres to buy such items as the latest design fashions, prescription eye wear, perfumes and liqueurs, many of which are less costly here than in Europe.

Spend a day window shopping at any of the numerous international brand stores and local boutiques on Makarios Avenue or visit one of the local shopping centres such as Galaxias, City Plaza and Capital.

Also take the time to visit Stasikratous Street, a prime location of Nicosia which is probably the most exclusive and stylish street in Cyprus, a haven for top fashion brand stores and exclusive boutiques. With over 60 stores on Stasikratous and an additional 30 on its adjacent Mnasiadou Street, you can spend an entire day here and shop till you drop. And if you get tired from shopping or suddenly feel hungry, you can relax at one of the numerous trendy cafes, bars and restaurants on the two streets.

If you follow Makarios Avenue until the end and then turn right, you will get to Eleftheria Square (under construction) which leads to the old town centre. Most of the shopping area in the old part of Nicosia is now pedestrianised so it is easy to ramble through its zigzag streets, especially in Laiki Yitonia which is of particular interest to travelers who want a taste of Cypriot culture. Laiki Yitonia is a renovated eighteenth century enclave where local artisans and craftsmen display their wares along cobblestone lanes. Here too bougainvillea laced restaurants beckon with the aroma of roast lamb and Greek coffee.

It is a good idea to shop around before buying and once you begin you will realise just how much there is to see. Take your time and relax while shopping. From shoes to spectacles to clothes, you are bound to find something to suit your taste and pocket and at the same time you will discover a little of the daily life in the capital.

WALKING AROUND THE VENETIAN WALLS

2 km route from the Flatro Bastion in the eastern part of the city to the Ledra Palace Crossing in the western part (along the Green Line).

WALKING TOURS OF NICOSIA

GET TO KNOW THE CAPITAL BY WALKING

Within the framework of wider efforts to get foreign visitors better acquainted with the old city within the walls, the Lefkosia (Nicosia) Municipality established a series of thematic walking tours which date back to 1987. These tours have been reorganized to present various new aspects of the old city, as well as the city outside the walls. All tours are guided and in English. A city like Lefkosia (Nicosia) with its 5000 year-long history has much to offer. By walking, one gets a better feel for the place and its atmosphere, then and now, and a better understanding of its continual cultural development. This is the philosophy upon which these walking tours of Nicosia are based.

KAIMAKLI AND PALLOURIOTISSA: THE PAST RESTORED

BUS AND WALKING TOUR ... AND IT'S WELL WORTH THE EXPERIENCE!

Every Monday

Visitors are taken to discover the scenic "village" within the Nicosia Municipality, Kaimakli, as well as the Pallouriotissa community. In both places the old nucleus is well-known for its listed buildings, some of the most distinctive examples of late 19th century and early 20th century domestic architecture, built by the renowned master craftsmen of Nicosia.

Throughout the tour, visitors have the opportunity to visit the Loukia & Michael Zambelas Art Museum, the traditional listed houses along Vassileos Pavlou Street, the Agia Barbara Church, as well as the renovated cultural centre in an old mill at Myloi. A walk around the brick-paved roads of Pallouriotissa is also included.





DISCOVER THE OLD TOWN AND ITS WALLS

(tour within the walls)

Every Thursday

The Nicosia Walking Tour aims to provide an overall picture of the city within the walls and how it has evolved with the passing of time and historical events, especially its development from the Medieval times to the present, through architecture. Visitors also have the chance to visit workshops and shops, where craftsmen still fabricate products the traditional way: candle makers, blacksmiths, chair makers, cobblers, coppersmiths and tailors, are just a few of the many disappearing trades covered by the tour.

Visitors also witness the ongoing efforts to revitalize the Chrysaliniotissa neighbourhood under the Nicosia Master Plan: the renovation of the old and the construction of new buildings; young families moving in, breathing new life into an area that had lain derelict after the Turkish invasion of 1974.

These guided tours are offered free of charge by the Municipality of Nicosia and are organised in association with the Cyprus Tourism Organisation and the Cyprus Tourist Guides Association. The starting and ending point of the walks is the: Cyprus Tourism Organisation (CTO) Information Office, Aristokyprou 11, Laiki Yitonia, (East of Eleftheria Square), tel.: 22674264.

Each tour lasts not more than two hours and 45 minutes, including a half-hour break for refreshments. Participants are advised to wear comfortable walking shoes and light clothes for all walking tours. A hat is also recommended during summer months.

THE WALLS

In Nicosia, the capital of Cyprus, we can still see a fine example of a medieval wall, encircling the older part of the City with a periphery of about three miles.

The wall, designed by the military engineer Julio Savorgnano, was built between 1567 and 1570, when the Venetians expected a Turkish invasion of Cyprus to occur after a holy vow was taken by the Ottoman Sultan Selim, to fulfill what he saw as his duty to capture the island.

A more fragile circuit of walls built by the Lusignan rulers of Cyprus was torn down, to be replaced by Savorgnano's construction, providing a shortened defence perimeter of just one mile. This involved destroying most of the Lusignan city, a sacrifice that was clearly considered worthwhile.

The new wall contained eleven bastions, named after Venetian officials and Cypriot nobles, and three gates. Despite the warning served by the Sultan, the walls were still incomplete by the time the invading force landed. The base of the wall was constructed in stone, but the upper part of the wall was a little more than glorified earthworks. A planned moat was also abandoned, the replacement trench was not deep enough, and the walls also lacked essential internal support. The Venetians boasted that the wall could withstand a two year siege. In fact, it survived less than fifty days of assault.

A Turkish force of ten thousand assembled in the plain surrounding Nicosia on July 24, 1570, and started hurling artillery shells at the shaky edifice. An all night bombardment, followed by a coordinated assault on four of the bastions, precipitated the end on September 9. Over twenty thousand people were slaughtered in the ensuing bloodbath and the Turkish troops were allowed to loot for three days.

Eighty years of Venetian rule were at an end, to be replaced by a Turkish occupation destined to survive more than two centuries. Today the walls are in a fairly good condition and the three gates preserved, especially the one which in the old days connected the city with the eastern part of the island.

EXCURSIONS BY CAR

ALONA VILLAGE

The village of Alona is situated on the slopes of a beautiful Troodos valley between the hilltops of Madari and Papoutsas, at a height of 1,100 metres. The timeless charm of the little cobbled streets and the traditional stone-built houses so typical of local folk architecture awaken nostalgia for the past.

AGIA VARVARA VILLAGE

PROTO-INDUSTRIAL MUSEUM

To arrange a visit please contact: Tel: 22521715

The early industrial workshop of Agia Varvara is unique in Cyprus. It combines the traditional house with the place of work. The ingenuity of the owner led to the establishment of a pioneering workshop using the primitive means of the 1920s.

DALI

About 20km south of Nicosia, off the Nicosia - Larnaca / Limassol motorway. Excavations of Ancient Idalion, one of the ancient city-kingdoms of Cyprus are currently taking place in the town of Dali.

PANAGIA CHRYSOSPILIOTISSA

Near Deftera village, 11 km southwest of Nicosia. Church dedicated to "Our Lady of the Golden Cave" dating back to early Christian period. Religious fair near the church on 15th August, name day of the Virgin Mary.

TAMASSOS

Politiko village, 20 km southwest of Nicosia. A rich city-kingdom in ancient Cyprus, renowned for its copper mines. Excavations have brought to light the Royal Tombs and copper workshops associated with Aphrodite-Astarte.

AGIOS IRAKLIDIOS CONVENT

Nearby Tamassos (0.5 km from Royal Tombs) allows organised groups to visit on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 to 12:00. Individuals can visit every day.

MACHERAS MONASTERY

41 km south of Nicosia, through Deftera and Pera villages. Founded by two monks in 1148, when an icon of the Virgin Mary was found in a nearby cave.



PHIKARDOU VILLAGE

The whole village has been declared an ancient monument in order to preserve architecture of the 19th to early 20th century houses.

KAKOPETRIA VILLAGE

Nicosia to Troodos Road. Kakopetria lies in the Solea valley 700m above sea-level amongst orchards and groves of poplars. Parts of the old village have been restored.

PEDOULAS

An excellent destination, sitting at an altitude of 1200m, ideal for all ages and for all seasons. The village boasts ten churches including the Church of Archangel Michael which has been designated as an UNESCO site. Also hosted in the village are two excellent museum collections – the Byzantine and the Folk Museums.

THE CHURCH OF AGIOS NIKOLAOS TIS STEGIS

Lies about 5 km to the north of Kakopetria. It is covered with murals dating from the 11th to the 17th century and is considered one of the most interesting Byzantine churches on the island.

STAVROVOUNI MONASTERY

Perched on a rocky peak 750m above sea-level. Stavrovouni means Mountain of the Cross. Women are not allowed in the monastery, though men may visit daily, except on Green Monday and the following day.

KALOPANAYIOTIS, MOUTOULAS

These villages are famous for their table-water and sulphur springs and also the cherry orchards in which they nestle. The church of Saint John Lampadistis, in Kalopanayiotis has excellent frescoes of the 13th and 15th centuries.

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σύστημα στάθμευσης**

CULTURAL EVENTS



24 SEPTEMBER - 28 OCTOBER

POP-UP 2013

For an entire month, Project Nicosia, the Municipality of Nicosia's new cultural initiative, is turning empty shops on Makarios Avenue into pop-up shops, filling them with some of the most talented young Cypriot creators, artists, designers, animators, photographers, musicians and producers. In addition to its fixed opening hours, each pop-up shop will host exhibitions, workshops, concerts, projections, theatrical shows and other interactive events, in a bid to revitalise one of the town's biggest – yet unfortunately most deserted – commercial streets, offering people the chance to become acquainted with the work of the town's young, talented, cultural creators. From Tuesday 24 September until Monday 28 October 2013, all pop-up shops will be open from 5 pm until 9 pm, Tuesday to Sunday, while on Saturdays, they will be open in the morning as well, from 11 am until 2 pm.

Furthermore, each pop-up shop will host a plethora of special events. Makarios Avenue will be bursting with life, day and night!

The festival will be launched with a big street party on Makarios Avenue, curated by Afro Banana Republic, on Sunday 29 September!

2-17 OCTOBER 19.30

40 years of architecture Athos Dikaïos and Associates 1973-2013

Zmart Gallery at the Loukia and Michael Zambela Art Museum presents the retrospective exhibition and presentation of a collective book by the Athos Dikaïos and Associates Architectural Firm. The exhibition and book presentation ('Beyond the Ordinary, 40 years of Architecture') will be opened on 2 October at 19.30 by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ioannis Kasoulides.

The exhibits include architectural models and designs, sketches and photographs spanning from the 1970s until today.

Through this retrospective exhibition, the public can experience a journey through time, visually absorbing historical information.

Zmart Gallery, 27 Arch. Makarios III Avenue (Pentadromos), Kaimakli. Monday-Thursday: 10:00-13:00 & 16:00-19:00, Friday: 10:00-13:00 & 16:00-20:00, Saturday 10:00-19:00.



4 AND 5 OCTOBER 18.30-1.00

The Avant Garden Festival II

The Avant Garden Festival is back! Two evenings, eight Cypriot bands. The Festival offers Cypriot bands the chance to promote their music and talent, while festival-goers get to dance, sing and enjoy themselves! Bands: Zilla Project / Neon Knights / Handmade / Sandy brouer / Nebadrud / Archi-dia tou Rempetikou / Trio Frisson/ The Touch Response Band.

Nicosia Municipal Gardens (2 Nechrou Street). Entry: 10€ (two days) + 1 free drink, 7€ for one day. Information: 99870053 / www.facebook.com/avant.garde.press.

6 OCTOBER

5th International Pharos Contemporary Music Festival

Having established itself as one of the most cutting-edge and innovative annual events in the Eastern Mediterranean, the International Pharos Contemporary Music Festival will be held until 6 October for the fifth consecutive year. The Festival is dedicated to the promotion of new music. Under the artistic direction of acclaimed Cypriot composer Evis Sammoutis, the 5th Festival includes a broad range of activities and events: lectures by eminent scholars, documentary projections, dance, educational workshops and concerts with internationally acclaimed solo artists and ensembles, such as Ensemble Transmission from Canada, the impressive "a capella" ensemble Neue Vocalsolisten from German and pianist Hayk Melikyan.

The Shoe Factory, 304 Ermou Street, Nicosia. Information on the programme: www.pharosartsfoundation.org.

14-18 OCTOBER

Agia Skepi Mosaic Exhibition

The Art Workshop of the Agia Skepi therapeutic community is exhibiting its first collection of mosaics made at Agia Skepi, as part of the treatment programme. Impressive works by remarkable human beings, who experienced intense situations and human pain in all its glory. Today rehabilitated, they exhibit their pieces and prove that detoxification is possible. They give out the message that each human being has amazing content and if it is patiently

used well, then life becomes more serene and beautiful. The exhibition will be opened on 14 October, 19:30, by Volunteering and NGO Commissioner Yiannis Yiannakis. On the same day, at 20:45, a documentary will be presented entitled "Ypo tin Skepi Sou" (Under your Shelter), projecting the true life stories of people being treated at the Agia Skepi shelter. On Thursday 17 October, 19:30, the documentary will be shown again, followed by an open discussion.

Exhibition's opening hours, 15-18 October, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00 – 13:00 and 16:00 – 20:00, Thursday 10:00- 13:00 and 16:00 – 22:00. Farnagusta Gate (Athinson Avenue).

19 OCTOBER 18:00-23:00

"Nicosia supports Cypriot wine"

The Nicosia within the Walls Lions Club, in cooperation with the Municipality of Nicosia and with the support of Wine Club Cyprus, are organising a Cypriot wine-tasting event, with the slogan: "Nicosia supports Cypriot wine". The aim is:

- To promote Cypriot wine, offering wineries the chance to present their wines, but also the public the chance to get to taste them
- To develop tourist flow in Nicosia and especially within the Venetian walls
- To support the pupils of the Agios Kassianos primary school, which the Nicosia Lions Club supports, and the less fortunate fellow citizens.

Nicosia Municipal Palace – Eleftheria Square. Free entry. Information: 99582009, xenides@cytanet.com.cy.

4-5 OCTOBER

4th Dance Waves Festival

There is no braver or truer way for an annual artistic institution to mature, than by showing trust in the new generation of artists. The 4th Dance Waves Festival, hosted on 4 October at Pallas Theatre (20:00 - on the corner of Rigenis and Arsinoes Streets) and 5 October at the Department of Town Planning and Housing (19:00) and Pallas Theatre (20:00), offers the conscious ability to young and emerging contemporary dance artists – from Cyprus and not only – to seek their place in the field of influence and recognition. The works presented at the 4th Dance Waves Festival were choreographed by: Hamilton Monteiro (from Cape Verde), Eliza Kapodistria (Cyprus), Stella Eftychiou and Ekin Bernay (Cyprus/Turkey), Antonis Antoniou (Cyprus), Fotini Perdikaki (Aelion, Cyprus) and Ofra Idel (Israel). The Festival is sponsored by the Ministry of Education and Culture and supported by the Municipality of Nicosia and the Embassy of Israel.

Entry: €10/ €7. Information: 22781104.



CULTURAL EVENTS

18-28 OCTOBER

8th Cyprus International Film Festival

The Cyprus International Film Festival is considered the biggest, in regards to artistic value, independent film event in the broader area, with entries for participation going way beyond Cyprus' geographical borders and arriving from 95 countries!

The Cyprus International Film Festival has been placed under the Auspices of the Municipality of Nicosia and is supported, among others, by the University of Nicosia, Friends of Cinema Society, the CTO and the foreign embassies in Cyprus. Non-profit cultural organisation CINE @ ART is the festival's main organiser, with a network of international events, such as film festivals in Cyprus, the Peloponnese and the Young Talents Festival.

This year's festival will see projection of Cypriot director Steven Georgiou's feature film *Dead Cat* (2013), as well as the short films *Auftact* (2013) by Ioanna Tsilidou, *Cookies* (2013) by Andreas Sheittanis and *Swinger* (2013) by Nicholas Papademetriou.

In total, 80 feature and short films, independent productions from 26 countries, will be projected.

The parallel festival programme includes a Master Class by acclaimed Head of Photography Olympia Mytilinaiou (Strella, *Miss Violence*) on Saturday 26/10, 10am-12pm; and a round table discussion with the topic "Abilities and Weaknesses of European Contemporary Film" with the members of the judging committee. Both events are open to the public.

The awards will be given on 28 October, when the Festival wraps.

The UNESCO halls (17:00-20:00 – Free entry) and CINE STUDIO (20:00 and 22:00 – Entry €5) at the University of Nicosia. The General Entry Card costs €25. Information: www.cineartfestival.eu, 99798112.

19 AND 20 OCTOBER 20:30

MIND GAME: The paralytic alibi of the Cypriot crisis

The dance theatre performance *MIND GAME* by AM-PHIDROMO CHOROTHEATRO delivers the Cypriot microcosm's violent passage from a long period of bliss and complacency (also known as the Cypriot miracle) into a new era, strongly characterised by uncertainty and the resulting insecurities.

Curating – Idea – Choreography: Elena Christodoulidou, starring: Vicky Kala, Luciana Papadaki, Oded Ronen, Robin Kain and in a critical role, Anna Yiangiozi.

Pallas Cinema-Theatre, on the corner of Rigenis and Arsinoes Streets at Paphos Gate, Nicosia. Entry: €8/ €5. Information: 22781104/ 99771797.

22 OCTOBER 18:00

Feeling the hands with Art

Using materials such as acrylic on canvas, pastel colours and coal on paper, the works in artist Ermioni Zachariadou's new series tell everyday short stories, taking inspiration from the hands that pull the strings of life through their actions. The exhibition will be opened by the Archbishop of Cyprus Chrysostomos II, on 22 October at 18:00. It will remain open until 9 November.

Zmart Gallery, 27 Arch. Makarios III Avenue (Pentadromos), Kaimakli. Monday-Thursday: 10:00-13:00 & 16:00-19:00. Friday: 10:00-13:00 & 16:00-20:00. Saturday 10:00-19:00.

26 OCTOBER 19:30

The complete works of Beethoven for Violin and Piano

Ledra Music Soloists present a concert with the complete works of Beethoven for violin and piano, by two talented soloists: Nicos Pittas and Nicholas Constantinou. The show will include the three sonatas Opus 12 and the Rondo WoO 41.

Pallas Cinema-Theatre, on the corner of Rigenis and Arsinoes Streets at Paphos Gate, Nicosia. Entry: €15 / €12. Information: 22352355, www.ledramusic.org.

LEVENTIS MUNICIPAL MUSEUM OF NICOSIA

1-6 OCTOBER

“The World of Cyprus”

Adamantios Diamantis’ monumental painting composition “The World of Cyprus” is in Nicosia and being exhibited at the Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia, before being taken to the Leventis Gallery.



15 OCTOBER - 15 DECEMBER

“From the world of Cyprus’ birdlife”

The Leventis Museum, in cooperation with BirdLife Cyprus which is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, are organising an exhibition entitled: From the world of Cyprus’ birdlife. The exhibition presents photos of Cyprus’ birds in their natural habitat. Bird depictions and objects in the form of birds from the Museum’s collection will also be exhibited. The exhibition helps visitors become acquainted with Cyprus’ birdlife and proves how impor-

tant and timeless the presence of birds has been in the various forms of art.

Leventis Museum’s House of Educational Programmes.

Thematic tours

• Hall of Ancient Nicosia

The Hall of Nicosia, situated on the ground floor of the Museum, has been launched. On the occasion of the opening, the Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia is inviting the public to a journey through the town’s history, from its “genesis” up until the Roman Period, through organised tours: 4, 11, & 25 October, at 10:30 am, 19 October, 11:00 am.

• “Recycling Heritage”

The special tours take visitors through the buildings that house the Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia. They were built in the late 19th century on the Tripiotis estate, in the core of Nicosia within Walls and are amazing samples of the era’s urban architecture. They functioned as homes to Nicosia’s well-known families and personalities, and “marked” its history. The presentation also touches on how the three buildings were joined and the contemporary architectural interventions that took place to serve the museum’s needs and to help it function better as a municipal building. Thursday, 3 October, 10:30 am.

For participation: 22661475 or info@leventismuseum.org.cy.

Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia, 15-17 Hyppocratis Street, Laiki Gitionia. www.leventismuseum.org.cy / Tel.: +35722661475.

24 OCTOBER - 16 NOVEMBER

“Trasngression”

Deepti Barth presents a series of photographs and videos entitled “Trasngression”. The material was taken in November 2012, at Nicosia International Airport, which has remained closed since the 1974 invasion. The lens follows the movements of a Greek Cypriot paraplegic man through the airport; an area within the buffer zone that is controlled by the United Nations. The launch will take place at Phytorio – Visual Artists on Thursday 24 October, 19:00.

Phytorio – Visual Artists (Municipal Gardens, 2 Nechrou Street) and the Office (32 Kleanthis Christofides Street), in parallel. Opening hours: from Tuesday to Saturday 17:00 – 20:00. Information: 22681088, 99848495.

