

#visitcyprus

www.visitcyprus.com

**DEPUTY MINISTRY OF TOURISM BEPUBLIC OF CYPRUS** 



A GUIDE TO THE CITY







Lemesos (Limassol) is the second largest urban area in Cyprus with a metropolitan population of 260.000. The city is situated on the southern coast of the island, built amphitheatrically on the Akrotiri bay, between two ancient cities: Amathous to the east and Kourion to the west.

The city's historical centre is located around its medieval Castle and the Old Fishing Port. Today the city spreads along the Mediterranean coast and has extended much farther than the castle and port, with its suburbs stretching along the coast. Modern day Lemesos is becoming more cosmopolitan with its sprawling cityscape. The city is famed for its thriving cultural scene and dynamic modern life. Buzzing cafes sit alongside candlelit bistros, modern architecture and old colonial mansions vie for attention, while small galleries are tucked away near larger art centres. Then, there is an ultramodern marina that adds a dazzling new dimension to the area, complementing the array of luxury hotels and gourmet restaurants lining the water's edge.

### Arriving on a cruise ship

Lemesos New Port is the largest port on the island and one of the largest in the Eastern Mediterranean, offering state of the art modern amenities. The port is an important transit hub for goods and a preferred port-of-call for cruise ships visiting the area. If you have arrived on a cruise ship, there is a city bus (Nr. 30) that will take you near the Limassol Marina, which is a good starting point to explore the city centre

### Lemesos - most interesting historical facts

Ancient graves found in Lemesos date back as far as the 8 th century BC and suggest that the city has been inhabited since the ancient times. However, Lemesos is largely known by the events that took place in 1191 during the Third Crusade. The King of England, Richard the Lionheart, recognized the strategic importance of Cyprus as a base for providing supplies to his troops and conquered the island, bringing the long Byzantine dominion of Cyprus to an end. Cyprus was then sold to the Templars, rich monks and soldiers whose aim was the protection of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. However, shortly afterwards Richard found a new purchaser for the island: Guy de Lusignan and Cyprus was handed over to the French dynasty of the house of Lusignan, thus establishing the medieval Kingdom of Cyprus. For a period of about three centuries 1175-1489, Lemesos enjoyed remarkable prosperity. Latin battalions established monasteries and settled down here. The settlement of merchants in Cyprus and particularly in Lemesos in the 13th century led to the financial welfare of its inhabitants. Even then, the city's port as a centre of transportation and commerce, contributed greatly to its financial and cultural development.

Lemesos has an intense Mediterranean climate with a hot, dry

summer which begins in mid May and lasts until mid September and

with a rainy, but very moderate winter from November until mid

very good weather. The duration of the day, with a very clear sky

and sunshine throughout the year, ranges from 9.8 hours in

The temperature during the day in summer ranges between 22 and

6 degrees Celsius, while in winter it ranges between 1 and 18

degrees Celsius depending on the altitude of the area. The sea

emperature is approximately 15.5 degrees Celsius and 24 degrees

December to 14.5 hours in June.

Celsius in winter, in August and September

So swimming is enjoyable throughout the year.

### Useful Information

Lemesos' New Port is connected with the city of Lemesos with buses and private taxis. For intercity buses please visit: https://intercity-buses.com/en/

No. 30: connects the New Port of Lemesos with the centre of the city and the touristic area of Lemesos that expands to the east towards the archaeological site of Amathous. The ticket costs €1.50 one way.

Useful Telephone Numbers:

Just outside the port passenger areas, private taxis offer service

### on a 24hour basis. Taxis must have taximeters and the charge commences from the minute the passengers board the tax

prus Ports Authority	22817200	First Aid	112
IEL – Urban Buses	25352111	Hospitals	1400
mesos Hospital	25801100	Airports / Flight Information	77778833
lice Station	112/199	Pharmacies (all night / all day)	90901415
e Station	112	Lemesos Tourist Information Office	25362756

Choose your experience and follow the numbers on the map to make the most out of your visit at Limassol! Audio Guides available











# **Explore the City**

#### 1. Old Port

The repurposed **Old Port** is a project that transformed the area into a trendy meeting point. Walk the picturesque wooden pier, which was first built in 1880 and enjoy the view and the fresh sea breeze.



#### 2. Limassol Marina

Adjacent, to the west of the Old Port is the Limassol Marina. Exuding an air of cosmopolitan sophistication, the Marina combines elegant residencies and a full service blue flag marina with an enticing mix of restaurants and shops. It offers a wide range of amenities on site such as shops, spa, fitness and cultural facilities and there is always something exciting happening (check what's on at



#### 3. Multi- Functional Park / Open Air Sculpture Park

To the east of the pier on the seafront you can find the Multi-Functional Park, which the locals call Molos. Here beats the heart of Lemesos for both locals and visitors alike. People take a stroll, ride their bicycles, socialize, have a drink or a coffee and enjoy spectacular views and sunsets. If you feel like exercising there is an open air exercise area on the east end of the Park. If you wish for something more artistic the Park features a remarkable collection of sculptures.



#### 4. Seafront Beaches

Bus Nr. 30 (direction east towards the Park Lane Hotel) operates along the almost 17 km long **seafront promenade**. If you feel like swimming and sunbathing, visit one of the blue flag seafront beaches, which offer amenities like showers, sun beds and umbrellas, watersports and kiosks selling refreshments and Blue Flag beaches are Akti Olympion B Beach, inviting restaurants and cafes.

Miami Beach, Dassoudi Beach, Armonia Beach, Vouppa Beach, Loures Beach and Parekklisia Community Beach.



#### 5. Lemesos Castle and Medieval Museum of Cyprus

The Castle was built in the 13 th century on the site of an earlier Byzantine Castle near the Old Port. According to legend, the marriage of Richard the Lionheard, king of England and Berengaria of Navarre took place here in 1191. The castle is situated within a beautiful vibrant, pedestrian zone and houses the Medieval Museum of Cyprus.



#### 6. Old Carob Mill and Museum of **Industrial Pharmacy**

Situated near the Castle is the Old Carob Mill, which was built in 1900, at a time when carobs were a major export of the island, and were used to make a wide variety of products such as photographic film plates, medicines, sweets and chocolates. Divided into a complex of two distinct areas, the first area consists of the restored Carob Mill - where the machinery used in processing the carobs is preserved and displayed - and the second area houses the Evagoras Lanitis Centre - an arts and exhibition area. The Museum of Industrial Pharmacy was established in 2022 by the Charalambos & Elena Pattihis Foundation. The museum hosts a selection of scientific exhibits related to pharmaceutical manufacturing.



#### 7. Enjoy the old Quarter on foot

The city's historical centre is spread around the Medieval Castle and the Old Port. Stroll the narrow streets of the old quarter full of tiny shops, ice parlours (in the high summer months some offer unique traditional flavours snacks. Some of the most popular seafront like Cyprus halloumi and KEO Beer) and



#### 8. Shopping in Lemesos

Near the old Quarter pedestrian zone to the east is Agiou Andreou and Anexartisias Streets, and a bit further inland Makariou Avenue, where you can have not only a modern shopping experience you would expect from a European city, but also discover unique, locally made items. With a rich history and many local handicrafts still practiced today, you can choose an authentic piece of the island's heritage, like intricate lace tablecloths and rustic pottery. The island is also popular for its custom-made silver and gold jewellery and clothing, including leather and tailoring, making it easy and cost-effective to have a one-off piece of garment created specially to your specifications, taste and personality. And the art of handmade continues with food and drink, such as carefully prepared sweets, bottles of olive oil and Commandaria the world's most historic wine.

If you enjoy more shopping in a Mall you can take a taxi or bus Nr. 30 (direction west towards the New Port) to the Mall of **Lemesos**, which is located about 7km to the west of the city centre.

#### 9. Agia Napa Cathedral

Don't miss the **Agia Napa Cathedral** which is situated on Agiou Andreou Street. The church was completed in 1903 and has elements of old traditional Byzantine architecture. The church is dedicated to Virgin Mary and legend has it that it took its name from an icon of the Virgin Mary that was discovered in a wooded area (Napa in Latin means forest)



#### 10. Enjoying a meal in the old town

Andreou Street and Heroe's square are areas full of restaurants, traditional eateries, bars and coffee shops. For lunch, you can taste a traditional dish such as fasolada (kidney beens), fakes (lentils), revithia (chickpeas), kupepia (stuffed vine leaves), kokkinista (any meat cooked with green beens or peas or orcra in tomato sauce), stifado (beef slow cooked with onions). By night, you can have something on the go, souvlaki stin pitta (small pieces of meat grilled on a skewer served with salad in pitta bread) or enjoy a more gourmet dinner in the area of the Medieval Castle. For a night out the Lemesos Old town is vibrant and many venues have music.



#### 11. Archaeological Museum of the **Lemesos District**

The Archaeological Museum of the Lemesos District houses a rich and notable collection of antiquities from the Neolithic age to the Roman period, originating from excavations at various archaeological sites in the Lemesos region. The exhibits are housed in three rooms and are divided into three main categories. The first room contains pottery from different historical periods; the middle room exhibits coins, jewellery, lamps and a variety of copper

tools and objects, whilst the third presents sculptures, tombstones, capitals, inscriptions and other marble and limestone artefacts.



#### 12. Cyprus Theatre Museum

The Cyprus Theatre Museum is located in the Panos Solomonides Cultural Centre. Printed material, costumes, scale models, props, set and costume designs, as well as photographs and posters constitute the exhibits of the permanent collection of the museum, giving visitors the opportunity to take a visual tour in the island's history of theatre.



### Lemesos **Outskirts**

### 13. Lemesos Shopping Mall

Saripolou square, Eleftheria's street, Agiou The Lemesos Shopping Mall is a shopping centre in Zakaki (Bus Nr. 30 direction west towards the New Port), a western suburb of Lemesos. It hosts many elegant shops. The Lemesos Shopping Mall is also an entertainment hub with restaurants, an ice rink, a bowling alley, an arcade, 6D Cinema and a small play area for children, located at the mall's lower level.

#### 14. Cyprus Historic and Classic Motor Museum

At this spacious 3.000 square meters exhibition, you can admire more than 120 Classic. Historic and Collectible Cars. This privately owned museum highlights the cultural importance of the automobile industry and includes a Ford 'T' roadster from 1912 the armored presidential Cadillac, built especially for President Makarios III in 1977 and an officially certified - green Mini from the popular 'Mr



#### 15. Lady's Mile beach

Lady's Mile beach is one of the most popular beaches of Lemesos, known for its crystal clear, shallow waters and dark volcanic sands. During British rule the governor frequently rode his horse, Lady, on the beach for a mile hence the name "Lady's Mile". The restaurants situated near the beach are known for always serving fresh fish, as well as other traditional dishes.



#### 16. Feeling lucky - Lemesos Casino

The Casino of Lemesos is located near Lady's Mile beach. Designed to host the most extravagant and exceptional gaming entertainment, this casino is packed with the world's most exciting table games and slot machines. From private salons to a majestic open casino, a designated Poker area, great food and entertainment, all available 24/7.

Entrance is free but you must be 21+. Regulated by the Cyprus Gaming and Casino



#### 17. Water Park in Fasouri

If you are looking to have some cool fun, consider visiting the Water Park in Fasouri, which is located to the west of Lemesos. Sprawling over an area of over 100.000 square meters, it offers many attractions and facilities (with 30 different slides for all ages, two restaurants and three snack bars).



### 18. Kolossi Medieval Castle

The Kolossi Medieval Castle is located 15 km to the west of Lemesos. Serving as a fine example of military architecture, Kolossi castle was originally built in the 13th century, and rebuilt in its present form in the 15th century. It served as the Grand Commandery of the Knights of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. During their stay in Cyprus, the Knights produced and exported a sweet wine, which became known as the 'vin de Commanderie'.

Today, Commandaria wine is one of the island's traditional wines and one of the oldest named wines in the world, having had the same name for eight centuries.



#### 19. Kourion Archaeological Site

The Kourion Archaeological Site is located 20 km to the west of Lemesos. The archaeological remains of Kourion - which was one of the island's most important city-kingdoms in antiquity - are some of the most impressive on the island, and excavations have unearthed many significant finds including the magnificent Greco-Roman theatre, a roman Agora (market place), private houses with mosaic floors and a bath complex



#### 20. Sanctuary of Apollon Hylates

The Sanctuary is located about 3km west of the Kourion Archaeological Site and 20 km west of the Lemesos centre. Apollon Hylates, God of the Woodland, was the protector of Kourion and it is believed that he was worshipped at this site from the 8th century BC to the 4th century AD. His sanctuary was an important religious centre and underwent many extensions and alterations during different periods.



#### 21. Amathous Archaeological Site

Amathous, located 11 km to the east of

Lemesos centre, is one of the ancient city-kingdoms of Cyprus where, according to mythology, Greek hero Theseus left the pregnant Ariadne to be taken care of by local women. Amathous was an important site of worship of the goddess Aphrodite-Astarte. The finds date from the archaic period up to the Roman and Christian period. A pair of enormous stone vases, the largest ever discovered, were found here, one of which is now at the Louvre Museum in Paris. The site is also linked to the Aphrodite Cultural Route.



## Legend





Place of Interest

## Main sites to visit



Old Port



Limassol Marina



Multi-functional Park - Open air Sculpture Park



Seafront Beaches



Lemesos Castle and Medieval Museum of Cyprus Old Carob Mill -



Old Quarter



Shopping



Agia Napa Cathedral



Saripolou Square, Eleftheria's street, Agiou Andreou street, Heroe's Square



Lemesos District Archaeological Museum



Cyprus Theatre Museum



Lemesos Shopping Mall Cyprus Historic and Classic



Motor Museum Lady's Mile beach



Lemesos Casino



Kolossi Medieval Castle

Water Park



Sanctuary of Apollon Hylates

Kourion Archaeological Site



Amathous Archaeological Site



 Number
 GridName
 Name

 1
 E6
 Tourist Information Office

 2
 G1
 Deputy Ministry Inspector's Office

PUBLIC BUILDINGS - UTILITY SERVICES mber GridName Name
3 D4 Central Post Office

Citizen's Office Cyprus Handicraft Service Cyprus University of Technology (TEPAK) Cyprus University of Technology - Library Cyprus University of Technology -Senate Building

"ENA" Theatre Holy Bishopric Offices District Court Lemesos District Administration Fire Brigade Station
Old Hospital (Outpatients

Lemesos Water Board Limassol Marina
"Marios Tokas" Municipal Open Air Theatre Patticheion Municipal Theatre
Central Police Station
Rialto Theatre
Telecommunications - CY.T.A.

HISTORIC AND OTHER PLACES OF INTEREST Cyprus Theatre Museum Holy Bishopric Church of Panagia Katholiki Castle of Lemesos - Cyprus Medieval Museum District Archaeological Museum Lemesos (Limassol) Municipal Art Gallery Old Municipal Market Building -Limassol Agora Multifunctional Seaside Park -Sculpture Park Municipal University Library Municipal Folk Art Museum

Old Water Tower (1930) Patticheion, Historical Archive -Water Museum

Lemesos Municipal Art Center- Papadakis Museum of Industrial Pharmacy

Alasia Hotel

Kapetanios Odysseia Hotel Old Port Hotel Pefkos Hotel Le Vi**ll**age Traditional City Hotel

Lordos Pier Beach

PLACES OF WORSHIP OTHER THAN GREEK ORTHODOX

Anglican Church (St.Barnabas) Great Mosque (Kebir)
Greek Evangelical Church of Cyprus





