

### A GUIDE TO THE ROMANTIC





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Legends of love, magnificent mosaics, archaeological awes and captivating coasts make the small town of Pafos an interesting focal point to explore and savour. Pafos was originally the island's capital in ancient times, but can now call itself the capital of culture, thanks to its significant historical sites and monuments - many of which are linked to the Ancient Greek goddess of Love and Beauty - Aphrodite. It is no wonder then that, due to its sheer wealth of ancient remnants, Katos Pafos as a whole has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Pafos is comprised of its old and new towns. Centered around the quaint harbour and impressive Medieval Castle, an air of romance and history carries through the naturally abundant and culturally rich region of Pafos.

Although small in size, Pafos is big on the experiences it offers; a fascinating tapestry of modern tourist accommodation, shopping options and entertainment, woven with aspects that are immersed in antiquity and myth... which is why it was Aphrodite's sanctuary then, and that of international visitors nowadays.

Enjoy a cool drink, a hot Cypriot coffee, or a meal of just-caught seafood in one of the tavernas that dot the scenic harbour of Pafos. Hotels to satisfy all tastes and budgets can be found in town as well as in the surrounding areas, ideal as a home base to discover and savour the richness of the region.

## Economy

Pafos has evolved from an agricultural town and region into a fast developing, bustling and safe tourist resort and has the island's second international airport. The economy of Pafos has rapidly developed and it mainly depends on tourism. Pafos boasts a remarkable tourist infrastructure with thousands of hotel rooms and a vast variety of restaurants, cafes and bars.

Home to an eye-catching fishing harbour, adjacent to the Medieval Castle, it serves as a small Marina and a fisherman's shelter. While the historic area of Kato Pafos is a major tourist hub and most of the hotels and entertainment centres are located there, the area of Ktima is also engulfed with remnants of the recent history of the island.

The Government concentrated on investing in irrigation dams and water distribution works and the building of the Pafos airport, the second largest international airport of Cyprus, fast gaining importance as a tourist and commercial centre, from which international airlines operate regular scheduled and charter flights. The private sector invested in first class hotels, luxury villas and entertainment centres. Beautiful and picturesque Pafos is steadily becoming the attraction for the majority of European and non-European entrepreneurs.



# The Pafos Harbour

The Pafos' Harbour is one of the oldest ports of Cyprus and is adjacent to the UNESCO archaeological site of Kato Pafos. It is situated in the same area where King Nikokles constructed the first port facilities, a little while after the death of Alexander the Great and it is where Saint Paul set sail from to continue his travel for the propagation of Christianity to the western world. The older parts of the harbour are well preserved under water, under the modern construction site of Pafos' Port.



### Cruises

The old port pier, was reconstructed to its previous form and a floating pier was added, significantly increasing the port's mooring capacity. The southern side of the port is used for the mooring of boats and as a station for the Nautical Police Force. Boats for short cruises moor at the western side of the port. The Customs and Excise Offices and those of the Fisheries Department and Marine Research as well as those of the Port and Nautical Police are situated at the port area. The depth of the port varies from 2 to 4 metres. Throughout the year, most international cruise ships, arriving in the area, include Pafos in their itineraries. A large variety of sightseeing places are situated near the harbor, which travelers may visit throughout the duration of their short stopover or overnights. Visitors are also invited to explore the uniquely rich region of Pafos. Specialised tours are on offer throughout the year.

# Culture

The town of Pafos spreads over the hill, which dominates a small valley stretching green all the way down to the sea. It enjoys the cool and fragrant air of the sea, passes from the Mousallas area and the cathedral, to the market area and squares, bringing with it the voice of bygone centuries. The entrance to the town, with the memorial to the fallen, Solomos Square, the Public Garden, the row of the neo-classical buildings, the Kostis Palamas Square and the 28th October Square, the Town Hall and the Public Library, are reminiscent of a town of classical Greece transferred to a modern period centuries later. One can trace but was dismantled by the Venetians. It was rebuilt the history of this town in its structures, which have survived time and a variety of conquerors.

The charm of the goddess Aphrodite can still be felt in the Pafos region, especially the coastline. Inland and in the mountainous regions lay superb monasteries, tranquil villages and quaint vineyards, where old traditions and customs have been kept alive since time immemorial. The region is ideal for a sedate and colourful break, the countryside is dotted with small villages where time seems to have stood still, the old folk still sit outside coffee shops watching the world go by and folkloric arts are alive.

Cypriots are renowned for being both outgoing and hospitable. Always ready to have a good time, Cypriots like nothing more than enjoying themselves in company along with plenty of food and drink. Many life-long riendships were forged from a meeting in a local tavern or coffee shop.

most significant events of the region



### History

Legend has it that Cyprus was the playground of the Gods and it is easy to see why. It is out of the seas of Pafos that Aphrodite, the Greek Olympian goddess of Love and Beauty is said to have risen, and it was in Pafos that the worship of the goddess flourished.

Cyprus has a long, colourful history and has been ruled, at various times, by the Phoenicians, Assyrians, Egyptians, Persians, Romans, French, Venetians, Ottomans, and British. Each ruler has left behind something of their culture, making Cyprus the unique blend that it is today.

Pafos is well known for its stunning monuments and landmarks. Numerous archaeological sites can be seen from the centre of the modern town, down to its picturesque harbour, as well as all along the coast. Pafos was the capital of Cyprus for a long period of time in antiquity and today is a disarmingly enchanting town in the west of Cyprus

The entire town of ancient Pafos is a serial archaeological property that consists of three different parts: Kato Pafos with the famous mosaics, Kouklia with the temple of Aphrodite and the Necropolis with the Tombs of the Kings. All three sites compose ancient Pafos which is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage farmer in 1962. The villas belonged to noblemen

# **Useful Information**

### Fransportatior

Pafos' harbour is connected with the town of Pafos with buses and private taxis

### Busses:

area of the town

No. 610: connects the Harbour of Pafos with the Pafos has an intense Mediterranean climate with a town centre, the market and the coastal tourist hot, dry summer, which begins in mid-May and lasts until mid-September and with a moderate winter from November until mid-March. Spring and autumn Operation schedule: are very brief periods, characterised by very good Monday - Friday (September - May) weather. The duration of the day, with a very clear 06:25, 06:50, 07:20, 08:05 - 13:20 (every 15 minutes), sky and sunshine throughout the year, ranges from 13:50, 14:20 - 16:35 (every 15 minutes), 17:05 - 23:35 9.8 hours in December to 14.5 hours in June. every 30 minutes)

# + Sundays + School Holidays

The temperature during the day in summer ranges between 22 and 36 degrees Celsius, while in winter Monday - Friday (June - August) + Saturdays it ranges between 1 and 18 degrees Celsius depending on the altitude of the area. The sea 06:25, 06:50, 07:20, 08:05 - 14:20 (every 15 minutes), temperature is approximately 15.5 degrees Celsius 14:40 - 16:20 (every 20 minutes), 16:35 - 23:35 (every and 24 degrees Celsius in winter, in August and 30 minutes) The ticket costs €1.50 for each route. September. These specific temperatures allow for vww.pafosbuses.com swimming throughout the year.

### Jseful Telephone Numbers:

Syprus Ports Authority	22817200	First Aid	112
Osypa Ltd (buses)	26934252	Hospitals	1400
afos Hospital	26 803100	Airports / Flight Information	7777883
Police Station	112/199	Pharmacies (all night / all day)	9090140
ire Station	112 Pafos	Visitors Information Office	26 932 8



Numerous events and happenings take place throughout the year like the annual opera festival, which takes place every September at the square of the medieval Castle in Pafos and is undoubtedly one of the

Private taxis Just outside the passenger area, private taxis offer immediate service to the public. The urban service is offered on a 24hour basis towards all the cities. The urban taxis are obligated to have taximeters

and the charge commences from the minute the passengers boards the taxi. Climate and Weather



# **Interesting Sites**

The Medieval Fort of Kato Pafos in the Pafos Harbour Was originally built during the Byzantine era to protect the harbour. The fort was rebuilt later on by the Lusignans in the 13th century, by the Ottomans in the 16th century when they conquered the island.



The Kato Pafos Archaeological Park is found in Kato Pafos, near the harbour. Kato Pafos archaeological Park includes sites and monuments from its foundation in the 4th century B.C. up to the Middle Ages, while most remains date to the Roman period. The marvelous mosaic floors of four Roman villas form the impressive epicentre of the finds. The complex includes other important monuments, such as the Asklepieion, the Odeon, the Agora, the "Saranta Kolones" (Forty Columns) Fortress, the "Limeniotissa" Ruins of early Christian Basilica and the "Tombs of the Kings"



The Pafos Mosaics are housed in the House of Dionysos, House of Theseus, House of Aeon, House of Orpheus. The mosaic floors of these Houses, date from the 2nd to the 5th century AD. The first house was discovered accidentally by a some of the most stunning areas of natural beauty and the mosaics are considered among the finest in the Eastern Mediterranean. They depict scenes from Greek mythology and are considered masterpieces of mosaic art. Some of the mosaics at the House of Dionysos depict the god of wine, while that of Theseus depicts the classical Greek mythology hero brandishing his club at the



The Pafos Odeon in Kato Pafos, is dated back to the 2nd century and is used in the summer months for music and theatre performances. Nearby, the remains of the ancient city walls and the Roman Agora frame the site.



### The Basilica-St. Pau's Pillar -Chrysopolitissa / Agia Kyriaki Church

and the are found in Kato Pafos. The church was built in the 13th century over the ruins of the largest Early Byzantine Basilica on the island. St. Paul's is an unspoilt paradise for bird watchers, animal and Pillar is situated in the church courtyard, where according to legend the Apostle was flogged before converting, the then Roman governor, Sergius Paulus to Christianity.

#### The Agia Solomoni Christian Catacomb is small underground complex of chamber tombs from the Hellenistic period, once called the Chapel

of the Seven Sleepers, or the Seven Maccabees, to which almost every medieval pilgrim paid a visit. The complex was first used as a Christian catacomb in the 2nd century and may have served as a synagogue before that. It has 12th century frescoes and among them, carved into the plaster, are the names of 13th century Crusaders. A "sacred" tree grows above the catacomb, which according to tradition, is believed to cure whoever cities. Marion and Arsinoe, dating back to almost hangs a personal votive offering on its branches.

The site of Saranta Kolones is found in Kato Pafos, near the harbour. The site was built by the Lusignans in the 13th-century on top of a previous Byzantine castle. It was later destroyed by an earthquake in 1222.



The Tombs of the Kings are found in Kato Pafos. These 4th-century BC underground tombs of Hellenistic and Roman high ranking officials and aristocrats, are carved out of solid rock, some decorated with splendid Doric pillars. Its magnificent context gives the locality its name



#### Pafos District

Comprised of its old and new towns, rural villages and picturesque resorts, the region is home to on the island

Whilst visiting the area, pass by the Baths of Aphrodite, which is located near Polis. Greek mythology tells that the goddess of Love and Beauty bathed here with her lover Adonis, and it is one of the enticing sites in the region that trace her story. Her connection with Cyprus begins at the landmark rock formation of Petra tou Romiou where she rose from the waves. From there, make a pilgrimage stop to her sanctuary at Kouklia.

Further out, the monastery of Agios Neofytos, ocated in a secluded valley, was founded by the Cypriot ascetic Saint Neofytos around 1200. The nonastery of Panagia Chrysorogiatissa, next to Panagia village, is also of significance due to its natural cavern features a caved shallow pool well-preserved buildings dating back to the 18th century.

Pafos' environs stretch to incorporate the tourist resort of Polis Chrysochous. The pretty and tranguil area, known simply as Polis encompasses the beautiful Akamas National Park, Lara beach and the Avakas Gorge: Found on the western tip of the traditional fishing shelter of Latchi. The area is filled Akamas Peninsula, this impressive gorge lies with quaint villages with varving degrees of charm. particular points of interest and a delightful rural settings, perfect for relaxation and long walks. The beautiful surroundings and marvellous sunsets and sunrises make this area a special place for holidays. The best sunset experiences are found in narrowest point being 10 feet wide. Deep inside the areas such as the Akamas Peninsula, Latchi Beach, gorge you will encounter rare plants and flowers, Argaka Beach, Droushia village and Neo Chorio village. Another favourite for a sunset view is the goats. coastal area of Pomos and Pachyammos villages. Comprised of its old and new towns, rural villages and picturesque resorts, the region is home to some of the most stunning areas of natural beauty on the island, whilst its many archaeological sites are historically invaluable. The area is also perfect for indulging in all kinds of water sports in the warm waters of the Mediterranean; water skiing, wakeboarding, scuba, sea kayaking, SUP, and paragliding. The steady predictable westerly winds make it a great place for windsurfing, sailing and kitesurfing.

A myriad of outdoor and sports pursuits can also Akamas Nature Trails: Located in the Akamas be enjoyed. The weather in the region plays a huge Peninsula there are three official nature trails: the part in allowing visitors and locals alike to venture year round onto nature trails and tracks ideal for keen walkers, cyclist and trekking groups. The area plant lovers who want to take a glimpse of Cyprus' unique fauna and flora species. The adventure pursuits can easily be combined with golf rounds at cliffs, and intriguingly shaped boulders. Akamas is the internationally acclaimed recognised golf resorts, visits to years old religious monuments, wineries and museums, making the Pafos region a haven of nature, history and culture buffs.

### Polis Town

overlooks the beautiful bay, with its warm, clear and around a pedestrianised town centre with its restaurants, bars and souvenir shops, it is a delightful place to hang out.

Modern Polis is built on the ruins of two ancient 3000 years ago. Evidence of each ancient history are found in the local excavations. Polis is a 45 minute drive from Pafos airport and just over two hours from Lefkosia

### atchi Harbour and Latchi Municipal Beach

The small harbour of Latchi is located about three kilometers from Polis. Many fish restaurants, bars and cafes abound in the area. Just next to the harbour is the organsed municipal beach, a wonderful place for a swim, rest and recuperate. The Latchi municipal beach is a disabled - friendly beach, with a purposed built ramp which helps persons with mobility problems to enter easily and safely into the sea. In the past few years due to its ever-growing facilities and amenities, Latchi has become a favorite stopping point after the Greek sles. Latchi is a small port in Cyprus where the fishermen bring in the fresh catch in the morning hours. Taverns are sprawled on the dockside offering the local specialty "Fish Meze" at affordable prices



### The Akamas peninsula

The Akamas National Park lies on the west coast of Cyprus, a truly pictorial part of the island. It has an area coverage of 230 square kilometres with valleys, gorges and wide sandy bays. The Park is the perfect haven for wildlife and flora. The wildlife diversity is crucial for the ecology in the Mediterranean. In this spectacular environment, there are 168 varieties of birds, 20 different reptiles, 16 species of butterflies and 12 different mammals, not to mention its very rich variety of flora. The European Council has included it in its Mediterranean Protection Programme. This virgin coastal area in Cyprus, is a must for any keen walker or mountain biker.

The Park is also linked to the Myth of Aphrodite, according to which Aphrodite, the goddess of beauty and love used to meet her lover, Adonis in the idyllic Baths of Aphrodite (Loutra tis Afroditis) located next to the town of Polis; a very popular place to visit, among locals and visitors alike. The encompassed by ferns and a large fig tree which caters for the shade. A natural spring supplies the water to the pool. The waters here are said to hold special rejuvenating powers.

approximately 18 kilometres from the coastal town both sides reaching up to 260 feet in height, the reptiles, immense cliffs and even wild mountain



ecology

Lara Beach: Easily accessible form Pegia (Agios Georgios), this golden sand beach with clear Located within a rich fertile plain in the foothills of waters is essential to visit. A 4X4 vehicle is the Troodos mountains, the small town of Polis, necessary to reach this expansive and virtually deserted beach. Lara Bay is the breeding ground of safe seas. With its quaint sandstone buildings the Green Turtle and Hawk's Bill turtle; both being endangered species.

> Blue Lagoon: The Blue lagoon is the most popular place of Akamas and thousands of people have visited it by private boat or organised boat trips. The crystal blue waters in this small bay are so clear and inviting for swimming, snorkelling and diving.

# neia, Drouseia, Polis, Pegeia)

Cyprus is known as one of the oldest wine making countries in history. "Cyprus Nama" was used in celebrations by worshippers of goddess Aphrodite Visitors to the island may tour various, well signposted and fascinating wineries and taste their varied and individualistic wines, of red and white varieties, in combination with the tasty specialities of Cypriot food in one of the many tavernas residing in the area



Pafos Forest

which represent 96% of the site.

Cedar Valley: Nestled within the Pafos Forest is the breathtaking mountain locality of Cedar Valley A must for nature lovers, Cedar Valley in Tilliryan Troodos is a thing of beauty. However, the cedars in this secluded valley are no ordinary trees, but the indigenous Cyprus cedar - Cedrus brevifolia, a close relative of the famous cedars of Lebanon, which number in the thousands here

Stavros tis Psokas (Cyprus Mouflon): This mountain locality is home to the rare and shy Mouflon (a wild sheep, Ovis musimon, inhabiting the mountainous regions of Sardinia and Corsica, the of Pafos. The trail leading through the gorge is male of which has large curving horns considered roughly 2,5 kilometres long with sheer rocks on native and unique to Cyprus). Near the Stavros tis Psokas Forest Station, lies the Moufflon enclosure.

Visitors can walk up to Tripylos from the picnic site in Cedar valley for the speactacular views or make short stops at the Chrysorrogiatissa or Avia Moni monasteries to sample their "home brew" wine.



Adonis Trail, the Aphrodite Trail, and the Smigles Trail. Interwoven with rocky hiking trails, these three nature trails offer people walking through them stunning views of various sized gorges and valleys amazing rock formations, the curved coastline famed for its breathtaking beauty and precious

### Wine Route 1 (Laona Akamas - Pafos, Nesogi, Tsada, Stroumbi, Kathikas, Akourdaleia, Pano Arodes, Kato Arodes

The route, mainly located on the Akamas peninsula in the north-western part of Cyprus, is a unique area with a remarkable and rare variety of geology growth and wildlife. The relatively untouched environment, astounding vistas and charm of the local communities, make it a joy for the walker hiker and nature lover. The area is also rich i viniculture and vast areas are covered by vineyards. Along the route, there are four wineries worth visiting, located in quaint villages and astonishing landscapes of the Laona Akamas Wine Route, the Vouni Panagias - Ambelitis Wine Route and the Kilada Diarizou Wine Boute. The wine and gourmet lover is sure not to be disappointed.

#### Cedar Valley & Stavros tis Psokas

The area is located in the northwest part of the Troodos mountain region. Its boundaries overlap with the boundaries of the Main Forest of Pafos

# Legend

### Main sites to visit

Æ

Sea sports

Organised Beaches

Golf courses/ Resorts











 
 TRANSPURIME

 BUSES

 Number GridName Name

 112
 D3

 112
 D3

 C7
 OSYPA: To Polis

 \*\*\*3
 C7

 C7
 OSYPA: Bus Station Urban and Intercity buses:

 \*\*\*1 emesos(Limassol), Lamaka Airport, "Lefkosi
To Lemesos(Limassol), Larnaka Airport, 'Lefkosia (Nicosia)

TOURIST APARTMENTS NumberGridNameName110C7Pafinia111C3Panklit

TRANSPORTATION

60 E8

61 B3 62 F9 63 F9

F10 E9

Panklitos

	IC CENTRES GridNam		
114	F4	"Aphroditi" Sports Centr	7 <b>0</b>
115	G4	"Pafiako" Athletic Centr	e e
116	G9	Geroskipou Municipal A	
117	G9	Olympic Swimming Poo	
PLACES	OF WORS	HIP OTHER THAN GREEP	CORTHODOX
	r GridNam		
118	C6		atholic Masses, German
			Chrysopolitissa/Agia Kyriaki churc
	PARTMENT GridName		Class
	D6	Paphiessa	A
	C6	Sofianna	A
92	B1	Hilltop Gardens	В
	E8	Pandream	В
	C4	Tasmaria	В
	D7 C4	Evelyn New York	C C
	D6	Pagona	c
98	D7	Paphos Gardens Narkiss	
TOUDIET	VILLAGES		
	GridName		Class
		Aliathon	A
	E8	Avanti	A
101	B4	Kefalos Beach	A
	APARTME		
	GridName		
	C4	Angela Avra	
	E8 C6	Basilica Complex	
104	C6	Crystalo	
	B4	Geoargia	
	C4	Kings Annex	
	D6	Lefki	
	D5	Mayfair	
	MODATION,		Class
	GridName D3	Agapinor	3*
		Dionysos Central	3*
69		Kissos	3*
		Leptos Paphos Gardens	3*
		Louis Phaethon Beach	3*
	D5 D6	Mayfair Nereus	3* 3*
		Paphiessa	3*
		Roman	3*
76		Roman II	3*
		Veronica	3*
78		Axiothea	2* 2*
79 80	C4 C6	Kings Pyramos	2" 1*
81	D3	Kinyras	Traditional City Hotel
		-	
	APARTMEN GridName		Class
		Anemi	A
		Capital Coast	A
84	C4	Damon	A
85		Daphne	A
86	C4	Kefalonitis	A
87 88	D6 D5	Louis King Jason Mayfair	A A
	E8	Panareti Pafos	A
		AEOLOGICAL PARK	
Number	GridName	Name	
44	B6	The Mosaics of Pafos: He	
45 46	B7 B6	"Limeniotissa" Ruins of E Agora, Asklipieio	any Christian Basilica
	MODATION,		Clas
Number 47	GridName		Clas 5*
47	D7 D7	Almyra Annabelle	5* 5*
40	F10	Asimina	5*
50	B4	Elysium Beach Resort	5*
51		King Evelthon	5*
52	E8	Olympic Lagoon Paphos	5*
53	B2	Venus Beach	5* 4*
54 55	D7 D8	Alexander The Great Aloe	4* 4*
55 56	00	Anoe Amphora	4* 4*

Aloe	4*
Amphora	4*
Aquamare Beach	4*
Athena Beach	4*
Athena Royal Beach	4*
Avanti	4*
Avlida	4*
Cypria Bay	4*
Cypria Maris	4*
Ledra Beach	4*