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Introducing Cyprus

Cyprus is the third largest island in the Mediterranean Sea being at the south-easternmost corner of Europe where East meets West. Cyprus' strategic position at the crossroads between Europe, Africa and Asia, has resulted in a fascinating history and one of the oldest civilisations of the world dating back 10,000 years. The island is like a large open-air museum where you can see evidence of its chequered past, creating a charismatic mosaic of different civilisations and periods.

Here you can wonder at Greek temples where the cult of Aphrodite, the ancient Greek Goddess of beauty and love flourished, or discover the forest-hidden painted Byzantine churches with their colourful frescoes on walls and apses; ten of which have been placed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. You can taste Commandaria, one of the oldest wines in the world and savour fresh Mediterranean flavours at numerous restaurants featuring both local and international cuisine. You can always leave all this behind though and dance the night away to the latest sounds, or join in a more traditional Greek Sirtaki dance.

>> Cyprus Fast Facts

Official Name: Republic of Cyprus Capital: Lefkosia (Nicosia)

Other towns: Lemesos (Limassol), Larnaka, Pafos, Paralim

Languages: Greek and Turkish are the official languages. English is widely spoken.

French and German are also spoken within the

International Airports: Larnaka & Pafos

. Currency: Euro (€)

Having the warmest climate in Europe and a wealth of beaches to choose from, you are bound to find one that suits your taste anytime. There are fine white sandy beaches with shallow turquoise waters, or deep water bays with rocky outcrops, perfect for snorkelling or diving. Cyprus is one of the few places in the Mediterranean where sea turtles come ashore to breed on the island's beaches and are strictly protected, as is the elusive mouflon, a rare wild mountain sheep found roaming the Troodos pine scented mountain sides.

Having such beautiful and diverse scenery and enjoying the traditional Cypriot hospitality at any time of the year, is the perfect excuse for you to explore and experience this magical country. One thing is for certain, you will never be bored here!

Choose Cyprus!

Apart from having excellent weather and a variety of attractions and activities to experience, Cyprus is a very safe destination and has excellent flight connections to Europe, the Middle East and Far East. Being part of the vast British Empire in the past, anyone coming here has the opportunity to study and practise English in a country where English is a widely spoken language and most of the time coexists with Greek on road signs, shops, the media and so on. Besides, you can always practise together with the thousands of native English speakers that come to visit or have made their homes here. And don't forget, like the British, we drive on the left side of the road.





Types of courses!

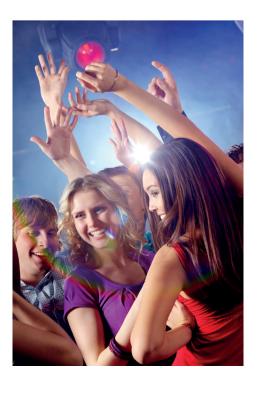
There is a variety of courses to choose from!

Cyprus schools provide general courses ranging from Basic English to Advanced level, focusing on all four skills; speaking, reading, writing and listening that help the student develop effective communication and fluency in the language. Another option is the Intensive English course that prepares the student for the IELTS exam for the purposes of higher education, immigration and employment, or a Business English course which is aimed at professionals who make use of English in their work and who want to increase their fluency and confidence in speaking for social and day to day business activities. Alongside the above, one can choose from a variety of courses which were designed for professionals in specific careers who want to increase their knowledge of terminology in their fields. Some examples include English for sports, actors, photographers, agrotourism, or the hotel industry.



The quality of an English language school here is high, as all schools must be accredited by the Ministry of Education and Culture of Cyprus. Teaching staff are of a high standard and consist of qualified native English speakers. Moreover the English Language Schools Association of Cyprus (ELSAC) is the regulatory body overseeing the provision of lessons and ensuring that all language schools provide tuition of the highest standard. As a general rule classes usually start around 9 in the morning and finish around 13.00 in the afternoon. After lunch, your school can arrange activities or field trips in the local area, or all over Cyprus. Weekends depending on the school, can be spent freely, or could include more activities and field trips.





Learning, Accommodation & Fun

In some schools you have the option to choose the family programme where parents can learn English at the same time as their children, or choose the individual programme where you can opt to stay in a hotel, apartments, or a lovely agrotouristic house in a traditional village. Juniors can join one of the island's international residential summer camps that combine English language studies with a fun packed activity schedule and cultural excursions. The most important fact is that you will combine holidays with learning, communicating in English together with people from around the world, in a place chosen by the Gods as their playground.



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