Cyprus
at a glance

Drakos
Destination Management Co.
CYPRUS
Est. 1982
Cyprus at a glance

- Blessed with 326 days of sunshine
- Lavish 5* hotels, resorts and facilities
- State of the art infrastructure for meetings and conferences
- 11,000 years of history and culture
- Unmatched natural beauty in rural mountain villages and clear blue beaches
- At the crossroad of three continents with excellent flight connections

Since the beginning of time, people have chosen Cyprus as a meeting place due to its location at the crossroads of Europe, Asia and Africa. Our ancestors used our amphitheatres and castles to welcome their guests and forge alliances. Millennia later, the island remains an ideal place to meet, talk, exchange ideas and above all have fun!

Cyprus is the third largest island in the Mediterranean, with spectacular scenery and an enviable climate. An island of beauty and a country of contrasts with its cool, pine-clad mountains forming a complete scene-change compared to the golden sun-kissed beaches. Its tranquil timeless villages are also in striking contrast to the modern cosmopolitan towns, luxurious beachside hotels and large areas of natural unspoiled countryside. Cyprus may be a small country, but it is a large island with a big heart; an island that gives its visitors a genuine welcome and treats them as friends.

Strategically located, Cyprus is a natural meeting place. It has two International Airports in Larnaca and Paphos that are served by all major international airlines, with worldwide connections.
Blessed with year-round sunshine, Cyprus offers such a wide range of attractions for the conference and incentive planner, that you could be forgiven for not knowing where to start. Sunshine, beaches, mountains, history, tradition, food, wine, hospitality, modern cities, bustling resorts, ancient sites, timeless villages, leisure, sport, entertainment, top-quality hotels, high-tech communications, international meeting facilities and creative incentive companies.

An island drenched in sun and mythology at the crossroads of ancient civilizations, had numerous visitors through the years, all of whom left their mark. Some built temples to their Gods, others castles to their Kings, while the Crusaders used Cyprus as a staging post and the pirates for a plunder. Storytellers refer to the magnificent royal weddings and incomparable works of art created by its artists. Those who visited Cyprus were enchanted by its splendour since the island’s beauty is the legacy of Aphrodite, Goddess of beauty and love.

Aphrodite, one of the most ancient goddesses in the Olympian Pantheon, emerged from the gentle jade-coloured sea foam at Petra tou Romiou, a boulder that juts up from the south coast of Cyprus as majestically today as it did then. The island counts more than 11,000 years of history, yet remains eternally young.

Καλώς ορίσατε! Welcome!
Limassol is the island’s largest seaside resort. Since the middle ages, Limassol has been known to traders for its wine and sugar cane. Now, the second largest city of Cyprus, with a population of 300,000, it is the island’s most important commercial and tourist centre.

The town’s carefree atmosphere, wide seafront promenade and bustling little shopping streets, trendy restaurants and bars, are matched by the lively character of its people. With its fun-loving reputation and the best nightlife on the island, Limassol stages some of the island’s best-known festivals: the annual Wine Festival in September, the pre-Lenten Carnival; with masquerade parties, balls and grand parades, the Limassol Festival during summer and the ancient Drama Festival at Kourion theatre.

Limassol today is the ideal location for incentives, conferences and leisure visits. Only 35 minutes away from each of the island’s two international airports, it has the facilities, capacity and service mindedness to host your ideal event.
Paphos

- One of the island’s ancient city kingdoms
- A leading Mediterranean holiday resort

The charming west coast town of Paphos focuses around an attractive quaint harbour, whose picturesque open air fish restaurants overlook the harbour and the Byzantine Castle.

With a population of just 100,000, Paphos is nestled in the Western Troodos Mountains, which adds another dimension to this area of scenic beauty. The resort town is graced with luxury hotels along its coastline.

Paphos has an air of holiday charm combined with history, while olden-day elegance is lent to the town by its classical style buildings in the upper part of the town which leads to the shopping area. The lower part of the town, known as Kato Paphos, has a life of its own near the sea. It is home of the harbour, fish taverns, souvenir shops and several beautiful hotels with important archaeological sites scattered around them.

Paphos is entwined with Greek mythology, and the legendary birth of Aphrodite on its shores brought fame and worshippers there to follow the cult of the Goddess. Landmarks associated with Aphrodite are the chunky, rugged rocks of her beautiful birth shore known as the Aphrodite Rock or Petra tou Romiou, the evocative sanctuary of Aphrodite at Kouklia Village, once a shrine and scene of pagan festivals for thousands of years, the Baths of Aphrodite at Polis, as legend has it, the source of fertility and the Fountain of Love, or Fontana Amorosa at the tip of the Akamas peninsula.

What to see

- Paphos Harbour and castle
- House of Dionysus, Paphos mosaics and archaeological park
- Aphrodite’s rock
- Coral bay
- Aphrodite’s Baths and Blue Lagoon
- Tombs of the Kings
- Kouklia and Aphrodite Sanctuary
Nicosia (or Lefkosia) is the capital of Cyprus, a status it has enjoyed for 1000 years, though its beginnings date back 5000 years to the Bronze Age. It lies roughly in the centre of the island in the Mesaoria Plain, flanked by the beautiful northern range of Pentadaktylos.

Seat of Government, Diplomatic headquarters and cultural centre of Cyprus, the capital presents two distinct faces: the old, original part of the city, surrounded by sturdy Venetian walls over 400 years old, and a busy modern metropolis which has a population of 350,000 including the surrounding metropolitan area.

Within the large area encircled by the strong bastion walls that served to protect the town for centuries, are many places of great historic interest. The central Eleftheria Square links old Nicosia with the elegant modern city that has grown up outside the walls, where hotels, offices, restaurants and gardens blend happily with the fine old houses and colonial buildings of this cosmopolitan city.

What to see
- Venetian walled city
- Famagusta Gate and Kyrenia Gate
- Ledras Street
- Cyprus Museum
- Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia
- Zampelas Contemporary art museum
Larnaca

- Third largest city and home of the island’s largest airport
- Ancient city kingdom of Kition
- Hub for exploring Cyprus’ eastern coastline

On the edge of Larnaca Bay the palm-lined seafront of Larnaca town bustles with cafes, tavernas, shops and bars. Historic charm is lent to the scene by its fortress castle, now used as the town’s summer cultural centre. Larnaca is an excellent base from which to get to know the central and eastern section of Cyprus, its proximity to the International Airport and a number of luxury hotels along its beautiful sandy beaches make this a popular holiday choice.

Larnaca has a population of 150,000 and has managed to retain a relaxed, leisurely atmosphere. Its main shopping area is Zenon Kitieos Street, a typically busy road of small shops, with a wonderfully colourful fruit and vegetable market at the far end.

Larnaca was originally known as Kition. The town’s heyday was as an ancient city kingdom established by the Mycenean Greeks in the 13th century BC, when it enjoyed the dual position of rich sea port and major centre of the copper trade. Remains of that period excavated in recent years can be seen in its Cyclopean walls and a complex of Mycenean temples at the ancient Kition site.

Birthplace of the stoic philosopher Zeno, Larnaca was also the second home of St. Lazarus, who arrived there after his resurrection and later became its first Bishop.

What to see

- St Lazarus Church
- Diving wreck of Zenobia
- Finikoudes promenade and Larnaca Marina
- Hala Sultan Tekke and Larnaca salt lake
- Lefkara Village
- Chirokoitia Neolithic settlement
- Ancient Kition
- Angeloktistos church
- Pierides museum
Ayia Napa & Protaras

• Excellent five and four star accommodation
• Golden beaches and crystal clear waters
• Summer party capital and autumn retreat

With its superb golden sandy beaches, this area has become homeland to the sun seekers. Ayia Napa, once a small fishing village, boasts a superb Venetian decorated monastery with a central octagonal fountain.

The focal point of the resort is the small harbour, where the tavernas specialise in fresh fish harvested by the colourful fishing vessels. Cape Greco, on the very tip, has its own share of beaches and coves. With its contrasting rugged countryside, the dramatic fiery glow of sunsets from this spot is unique.

What to see
• Ayia Napa Harbour
• Konnos bay
• Sea Caves
• Ayia Napa square
• Nissi beach
• Fig tree bay
• Konnos Bay
Troodos and Rural Cyprus

- Troodos peak at 1,952 meters
- Pine and cedar forests
- Scattered villages, monasteries and churches
- Home to the island’s wine making region
- Agro-touristic lodging and small boutique properties
- Nature trails

The island’s largest mountain range, Troodos, reaches 1,952 meters at Olympus peak. Dense pine and cedar stretches from the Paphos forest all the way to the Macheras monastery outside Nicosia.

Rural Cyprus is scattered with small and picturesque villages, each with its own character and local legends. From the wine producing villages outside north of Limassol and Paphos to the forest encircled communities of Platres and Kakopetria, Troodos is home to hundreds of churches, monasteries and heritage sites as well as leading wineries, restaurants and tavernas that give the visitor a taste of the real Cyprus.

In the winter, ski slopes can be snow filled by late November to early March while the distance from the slopes to the Limassol coast is less than forty minutes making it an urban legend among Cypriots that one can ski in the morning and surf in the evening all in the same day.

What to see
- Mount Olympus
- Kykkos Monastery
- Caledonia waterfalls
- Kakopetria
- Byzantine churches protected by Unesco
- Platres
- Omodhos village
- Paphos forest
- Cedar Valley
- Mouflon reserve
General Information

AREA: 9,251 km²

POPULATION: 870,000

POPULATION OF MAIN TOWNS:
Nicosia: 314,400
Limassol: 228,000
Larnaca: 140,300
Paphos: 66,364

GOVERNMENT AND REGIME:
Cyprus is an Independent Sovereign Republic with a Presidential system of government. Member of the European Union

CAPITAL: Nicosia (Lefkosia)

LANGUAGES:
Greek is the main language.
English is spoken almost everywhere.
French, German, and Russian are also spoken widely.

RELIGION: Christian Orthodox majority

ENTRY FORMALITIES: Valid passport, for EU citizens also ID card

TIME DIFFERENCE: GMT + 2

ELECTRICAL CURRENT: 220/240 volts. Sockets are usually 3-pin square.

CURRENCY: EURO – €

CLIMATE:
Cyprus has a typically Mediterranean climate, with long dry summers, from mid-May to mid-October, and with mild winters from December to February, which are separated by short autumn and spring seasons. Summer is a season of high temperatures, with cloudless skies and the sea breeze creating a pleasant atmosphere in the coastal areas. Winters are mild with some rain and snow in Troodos Mountains. In Cyprus, there is abundant sunshine, and even in December and January there is an average of six hours of bright sunshine per day. About 325 days per year are sunny!

CUISINE:
Greek and oriental influences. Discover new tastes and sample the many traditional dishes, the specialty of the local cuisine are the famous Meze, a real feast of about twenty dishes!
Entry Requirements

TRAVELLING DOCUMENTS
Travelling to Cyprus is very easy. The documentation required varies, depending on your nationality. A valid passport is required for a stay of up to 90 days for all bonafide tourists except citizens of European Union countries, Switzerland, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway who may enter Cyprus with their national identity card provided it bears a photo. Some non-EU third country nationals require a visa. Further detailed information can be obtained from the

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

VISA REQUIREMENTS
Detailed information about Visa requirements for Cyprus you can find on website: http://www.cyprusvisa.eu/
Drakos Travel- DMC can provide you with all necessary documentation from our side for the Visa purposes (letter of confirmation and hotel confirmation for the participant requiring visa, etc.)

POINTS OF ENTRY
The legal ports of entry into the Republic of Cyprus are the airports of Larnaca and Pafos and the ports of Larnaca, Lemesos, Latsi and Pafos, which are situated in the area under the effective control of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus.

HEALTH CARE SYSTEM
Medical treatment and assistance in Cyprus is offered free of charge to international tourists in cases of emergency at the Accident and Emergency Department of Government Hospitals and Health Institutions. EU citizens must produce an E111 form issued by their country’s health care authorities. Holiday makers can also use their health insurance towards their medical expenses, provided the policy covers the length of their stay on the island. In case you need more detailed information please let us know and we would be more than happy to provide you with more details.

SAFETY IN CYPRUS
Cyprus has an excellent reputation for being a safe and friendly place.

CLIMATE AND WEATHER GENERAL OVERVIEW
Cyprus enjoys an intense Mediterranean climate of hot dry summers - starting in mid-May and lasting until mid-October - and rainy, quite mild winters from November to mid-March. Spring and autumn are effectively short intervals in between, characterized by smooth weather. With almost year-round clear skies and sunshine, daylight length ranges from 9.8 hours in December to 14.5 hours in June. September to October see quite a few warm days and cool evenings. Light apparel for the day and long sleeves for the evenings in October is recommended.

Average Yearly Weather Conditions in Cyprus

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## Distances between Major Cities in Cyprus

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