

TRAVEL TRADE

Cyprus

Monthly Edition

JULY 2017 - ISSUE 53

... Fresh, daily, up-to-date travel news



TRAVEL TRADE

Daily

traveltradedaily.com



Ride the wave
to growth

directoryoffers.traveltradedaily.com

Add your business today! **2 months FREE**

TRAVEL TRADE

Cyprus

Monthly Edition

JULY 2017 - ISSUE 53

12

CYPRUS AIRWAYS AND S7
PARTNER UP

13

POLIS TO WELCOME
NEW ARTIFICIAL REEF

07 GENERAL

CTO AND ANET
PROMOTE
MOUNTAIN TOURISM

12 Air

13 Nautical

15 Rendezvous

TRAVEL TRADE PUBLICATIONS

MANAGING EDITOR

Mary Kammitis
mary@traveltradeweekly.travel

SENIOR JOURNALIST

Ellen Petty

JOURNALISTS

Maria Sabova
Panayiotis Karanicholas
Anna Spyrou

CONTRIBUTOR

Dominique Christou

DESIGN & LAYOUT

Elena Stylianou

WEB & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Savvas Kammitis

DIRECTORS

Andreas Constantinides
Mary Kammitis

HEADQUARTERS

T.T.W. Travel Trade Weekly LTD
P.O. Box 25255, Nicosia 1308 Cyprus
Tel: +357 22 021607, Fax: +357 22 103670

WEBSITE

www.traveltradecyprus.travel

EMAILS

info@traveltradeweekly.travel
sales@traveltradeweekly.travel
editorial@traveltradeweekly.travel

PRINTED IN CYPRUS

Cyprinters Ltd
P.O. Box 58300, CY-3732, Limassol, Cyprus
Tel: +357 25 720035, Fax: +357 25 720123
Email: info@cyprinters.com

WORLDWIDE REPRESENTATIVES

Representative for North, South & Central America, and the Caribbean:
Neil Strickland
GlobeTM
Tel: +19542969515
neil@globetm.com

Representative for Indian subcontinent:
Fareed Kuka
RMA Media
Tel: +912229253735
kuka@rmamedia.com

Representative for UK & Ireland and Scandinavia:
David Simpson
Simpson Media
Tel: +447900885456
david@simpson-media.com

EXCHANGE RATES

as of **04.7.2017**

COUNTRY	CURRENCY	EUR1=
US (USD)	Dollar	1.13
UK (GBP)	Pound	0.87
Switzerland (CHF)	Franc	1.09
Japan (JPY)	Yen	128.44



Pafos International Airport

Milestone May for Cyprus' Tourism

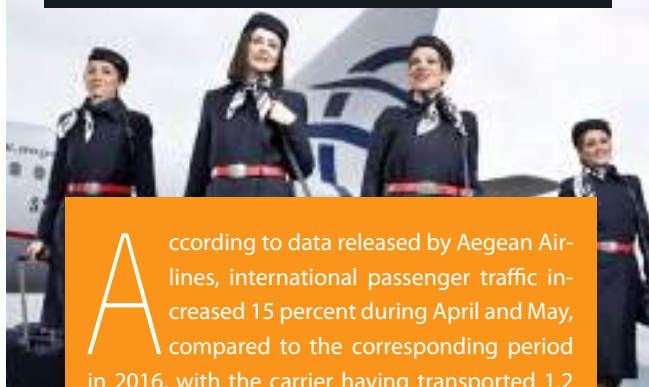
According to Cyprus' *Passengers Survey*, the number of tourists in May reached 418,732, a 14.7 percent year-on-year increase and the highest volume of arrivals ever recorded during the specific month.

During the first five months of the year, 990,756 travellers visited the island, showing a 17.6 percent growth over the corresponding period in 2016, a new record of arrivals for the period January – May.

Visitors from the UK, representing 37 percent of all tourists, rose 19.5 percent, while increases from Germany, Israel and Russia were also observed, up 54.9 percent, 92.9 percent and 0.3 percent, respectively.

The majority of arrivals, 84.5 percent, visited for leisure, while 6.6 percent travelled for business and 8.7 percent were seeing friends or relatives.

Aegean Airlines Registered Passenger Growth



According to data released by Aegean Airlines, international passenger traffic increased 15 percent during April and May, compared to the corresponding period in 2016, with the carrier having transported 1.2 million passengers. The contribution and maturity of destinations launched in 2015 and 2016, as well the increased demand for travel to Greece have contributed to higher growth rates and improved load factors.

Commenting on the positive figures, Dimitrios Gerogiannis, managing director, Aegean Airlines, stated, "The significant investment in the Athens network, which we have been implementing in recent years, in combination with the maturity of destinations and the strong demand for Greece this year, provided us with a very good start for this year's summer season [...]"

Larnaca Hub Third Fastest Growing

According to Airports Council International Europe's *Airport Traffic Report*, in the first quarter (Q1), Larnaca International Airport was ranked third in terms of passenger growth in the category of European hubs that welcome between five and 10 million passengers annually.

During Q1, the gateway saw 26.9 percent increase in passengers, behind Keflavik International Airport and Boryspil International Airport, which achieved passenger growth of 53.7 percent and 32.2 percent, respectively.

Commenting on the figures, Maria Kouroupi, director, marketing & communications, Hermes Airports, stated, "We are very pleased with the path of passenger traffic which continues its upward course for the second consecutive year. The results of Q1 also confirm increase in the winter months, which is a priority for us."

Ayia Napa Municipality Goes Digital



Ayia Napa Municipality has recently launched an innovative e-meetings application enabling members of the municipal council to easily and immediately access documents relevant to committee meetings.

This solution, according to Yiannis Karousos, mayor, Ayia Napa, is the municipality's first step into the digital era. Karousos pointed out that the application will save a tremendous amount of human resources from time-consuming and unproductive procedures while also reducing the expenditure of consumables such as paper and ink.

The municipality aims to function fully through the e-government system and will soon launch e-katoikos, a program allowing its residents to be fully updated about the city's events and happenings electronically.

Hermes Airports Celebrates New Achievements

Hermes Airports has been recently accredited with three leading international awards in the fields of occupational health and safety along with the environment, confirming the company's leading position in the aviation scene.

The three new certifications obtained by Larnaka International Airport include, Environmental Management (ISO 14001:2015), Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) as well as Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series (OHSAS 18001).

Commenting on the achievements, Eleni Kaloyirou, CEO, Hermes Airports, stated, "[...] The new certifications we have achieved, acknowledge our continuous efforts and confirm in the most clear and utter manner, the correctness of our actions, our responsible behaviour as a company and our unquestionable will to protect the environment."



CTO Ensures Seamless Holidays



Aiming to ensure that tourists receive the best possible service from hotels, Cyprus Tourism Organisation (CTO) has published a list of relevant legislation.

According to CTO, enterprises can request payment up to three nights in advance during the summer season and only one during the winter season. Additionally, customers are entitled to a refund of their deposit as long as they cancel the reservation at least seven days before the date of their arrival. Guests are allowed to use all common spaces without any extra charges while hoteliers have the right to ask visitors for a minimum length of stay. Accommodation featuring swimming pools are obliged to employ a lifeguard and all hotels need to display a list of the minimum and maximum rates in public spaces.

Information under
+357 25 312345
leasing@sixt.com.cy

SIXT leasing



From Van to Limo, tailor-made mobility solutions.

(Sixt Leasing your fleet partner)

sixt.com.cy

feel the motion.

Paphos Prioritises Safety for Bathers



Aiming to increase safety for swimmers, Pafos Municipality has recently unveiled plans to hire additional lifeguards over the summer period in some of the region's most popular beaches.

Pafos Regional Board of Tourism welcomed the municipality's initiative and raised the need to extend lifeguard services from March to November, readjust lifeguards' daily working schedule from morning to evening and further enhance lifeguard equipment along with the construction of additional lifeboat towers.

With these additional measures, Paphos is on the right track of becoming an all-year round safe destination for bathers.

Larnaca Introduces Eco-Ashtrays



Eco-Ashtrays

In a bid to keep its beaches free of cigarettes while also improving cleanliness and hygiene in the city, Larnaka Tourism Board has recently collaborated with Cyprus Tourism Organisation, Larnaca Municipality and other local authorities to acquire dozens of eco-ashtrays.

Designed to be reused by multiple visitors, the biodegradable, cone-shaped ashtrays will be offered for free on selected beaches including those with Blue Flag labels.

Visitors will be able pick up the eco-ashtrays from special stands, located in strategic points and are expected to empty them in special bins located close to the stands.

In the long term, the initiative is expected to improve the quality of beaches and help Larnaca's tourism product stay competitive.

Ayia Napa Upgrades Wedding Offerings



Aiming to offer more choices to prospective couples, Ayia Napa Municipality has recently launched four new wedding venues including Agioi Anargyroi Blue Lagoon Venue, Coralli Blue Lagoon Venue, Agia Thekla Rock Venue and Agia Thekla Beach Venue.

Located in idyllic natural landscapes, overlooking the sea, the destinations are nicely decorated for ceremonies, creating unique and unforgettable experiences.

Few days ago Christos Zanettos, deputy mayor, Ayia Napa, committed the first wedding at Agia Thekla Beach Venue. Yiannis Karousos, mayor, Ayia Napa, stated that the municipality will keep upgrading its wedding offerings which are expected to boost the country's economy.

Leptos Showcased at BIPF

Leptos Estates successfully participated in Beirut International Property Fair (BIPF), which took place on May 12 — 14 at Hilton Beirut Habtoor Grand.

A large number of buyers and investors were attracted by the company's latest coastal projects, including Adonis Beach Villas and Coral Seas Villas in Paphos as well as the luxurious Limassol Delmar.

Commenting on the event, Marios Pashiardis, regional manager, GCC, Leptos Estates, pinpointed that Cyprus is a popular destination for the Lebanese market. He further added that the majority of visitors and existing clients were enquiring about holiday homes as well as the island's immigration schemes through real estate investment.



Adonis Beach Villas

Ayia Napa Welcomed The Cupule

On April 21, Yiannis Karousos, mayor, Ayia Napa Municipality, inaugurated The Cupule, a fully-integrated resort for weddings, events, parties and other grand celebrations.

Situated in Cape Greco National Forest Park, the new addition to the destination's hospitality scene offers views of the Mediterranean Sea and promises to provide tailor-made experiences for its guests.

Featuring two separate ceremonial and two wedding venue areas, a private pool, a Jacuzzi, along with a bridal preparation room the new venue also offers a wide range of dining choices.



CHA Welcomed Ukrainian Ambassador

On May 05, a meeting was held between Borys Humeniuk, ambassador to Ukraine, Cyprus, Zacharias Ioannidis, director general, Cyprus Hotel Association (CHA), and Charis Loizides, president, CHA, at CHA offices in Nicosia.

The purpose of the event was to discuss the prospects of the tourism industry on the island with significant emphasis on the strategic plan for tourism development, which aims to upgrade the tourism sector and its offerings. Lozides expressed his gratitude to Humeniuk for visiting the island and his satisfaction for the high number of Ukrainian tourists that visited Cyprus in 2016, more than 60,000, a number that has increased fivefold in the last five years.

Delegates also discussed the prospects of cooperation between the two countries.



From left: Loizides, Humeniuk and Ioannidis



CENTRAL LOCATION **CORPORATE SEMINARS**



PASS YOUR MESSAGE FORWARD

**MAKE IT PROFESSIONAL.
BOOK A SEMINAR.**

10 Petraki Giallourou Str, Nicosia, 1077, Cyprus
T: 22 45 2121 | W: www.semelihotel.com.cy | E: hotel@semelihotel.com.cy







Cyprus to Offer a Tribute to Museums



In celebration of International Museum Day and European Night of Museums, on May 18 and May 20, respectively, the Department of Antiquities, Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works, together with the Cyprus committee of the International Council of Museums launched a programme of engaging events for the family, themed *Museums and Contested Histories: Saying the Unspeakable in Museum*.

Aiming to raise public awareness on the crucial role of museums for cultural exchange, cooperation and peace among people the events included a wide range of engaging activities including workshops, educational programmes for families and children, informal social discussions, guided tours and live music shows in Cypriot museums' gardens.

Cyprus Enhances Links with Georgia



On the occasion of celebrating the Restoration of Independence of Georgia as well as the 25 years of diplomatic relations between Georgia and Cyprus, Nicos Kouyialis, agriculture, rural development and environment minister, Cyprus, spoke at an event in Georgia.

Noting that the day presented the opportunity to reaffirm the good level of bilateral relations between the two countries, Kouyialis said, "Our countries have managed to establish a comprehensive, close and time-tested cooperation in various policy fields, which is reflected at the political level, the economic interaction, as well as through tourism and people-to-people contacts."

Georgia

CTO and ANET Promote Mountain Tourism

Aiming to increase awareness of the potential of mountain tourism, Cyprus Tourism Organisation (CTO), in collaboration with Troodos Development Company (ANET), recently organised a seminar in Kyperounta.

Themed *How I care for my community for local and foreign visitors*, the workshop welcomed representatives of community councils based in the island's mountainous regions.

Kyriakos Kyriakou, tourism officer, quality assurance department, CTO, welcomed the attendees and highlighted that with the high numbers of visitors expected this summer, attempts to upgrade the infrastructure of the mountainous area should be made.

In addition, Michael Demosthenous, managing director, Elpis Tourism & Hospitality Seminars, stressed the importance of the sector while also advising attendees how to improve the image of their communities.

Kyperounta

Ayia Napa Promotes Cultural Awareness

Aiming to increase awareness about cultural heritage and promote Cypriot customs and traditions to both local and foreign visitors, Ayia Napa Municipality launched *The Revival of the Cypriot tradition* festival for the second consecutive year.

Running from June 16 – September 15, the event offers a unique opportunity for guests to enjoy a rich culturally engaging programme, including traditional dances by Ayia Napa Dancing Club performed in almost every neighborhood of the city.

The initiative is a part of local authorities' attempts to diversify Cyprus' tourism offerings, showing that the island is more than a beach destination and has a unique cultural heritage that is worth exploring.

Cyprus Coasts Among the Cleanest in the EU

A study by European Environment Agency (EEA) and European Commission, which assesses the cleanliness of bathing waters across European Union (EU) countries, indicated that Cyprus holds the second position, after Luxembourg, regarding the cleanliness of its waters.

According to the report, 99 percent of Cyprus' sites have been certified as excellent, well above the EU average of 85 percent.

Hans Bruyninckx, executive director, EEA, commented, "It is encouraging to see that more and more bathing water sites across Europe are meeting the highest quality standards. [...] It also shows the effectiveness of our environmental policies and the practical benefits to human health protection and our daily lives when excellent data collection and analysis are conducted."



Fig Tree Bay

AGROS SAFARI
WILD MOUNTAIN SAFARI
 IN THE HEART OF CYPRUS
 НЕЗАБЫВАЕМОЕ ПРЮДЛОЖЕНИЕ
 В САМОМ СЕРДЦЕ КИПРА

tel. 99 43 48 84
 95 11 38 36
 www.agrossafari.com

ARCTIC CAT
 SUPPLIER OF ATV
 LEFT TO RIDE
 INC. W 911 8246

Ayia Napa to Expand Hospitality Offerings



In a bid to expand hospitality offerings in Ayia Napa as well as attracting quality tourism, Cyprus Department of Environment has recently approved the construction of two new hotels.

The first of which is a four-star property covering 1.3ha, located in Vatheia Gonia-Asprovounos and to be constructed by T&E Tifinis Estates. The address is expected to feature 584-beds along with bars, restaurants, swimming pools and fitness centres.

Meanwhile, Tsokkos Hotels & Resorts have unveiled plans to convert an existing tourist village into a four-star resort with 238 rooms and 12 suites, including five accessible units for guests with disabilities. The new development will also boast swimming pools, bars and a wide range of dining options.

Tsokkos Paradise Village

CSO Launched Charity Cycling Route



Beyond Bike for a Euro - For a World Without Leukaemia

Organised by Cyprus Sports Organisation (CSO) in cooperation with Office of Volunteer Commissioner and non-governmental organisations, the Pancyprian Cycling Route of Marina Theodorou took place on May 29 – June 02 under the theme *Beyond Bike for a Euro - For a World Without Leukaemia*.

The funds raised from the five-day, 700km cycling route were handed over to Karaiskakio Foundation, a non-profit organisation serving the needs of patients with hematological malignancies. During the competition, individuals aged 18 – 45 were also able to register as volunteers of bone marrow donors.

Acknowledging the social role that sport has to play, CSO launched the course in an effort to send the message that sport is an important tool for caring for the community.

Cyprus' Real Estate Shows Recovery



According to data provided by Central Bank of Cyprus' Real Estate Unit, part of the Economic Research Department, Residential Property Price Index (RPPI) saw a quarterly rise of 0.3 percent during the fourth quarter of 2016, reflecting recovery in the real estate sector in Cyprus.

More specifically, apartment prices posted a quarter-on-quarter increase of 1.3 percent, while house prices dropped marginally, down 0.1 percent. During the period under review, RPPI recorded a 0.9 percent year-on-year decline.

The small fluctuations in RPPI prices suggest a relevant stabilisation amid positive prospects for the sector, also evident by other economic indicators.

CHA Highlighted Importance of Tourism

Held on June 19 at Hilton Park Nicosia, Cyprus Hotel Association's (CHA) annual general meeting focussed on discussing recent developments in Cyprus' tourism sector.

During his speech, Haris Loizidis, president, CHA, highlighted the key role of tourism in transforming the economic crisis into an opportunity. He stated, "2016 was a milestone year. While global tourism grew four percent, the increase of tourism in Cyprus reached 20 percent."

Loizides described the industry's current targets, including the improvement of the competitiveness of the tourism product, while also extending the tourist season to make Cyprus an all-year round destination.

Lastly, Loizides disclosed that despite 2016's positive figures there is still a long way to go, and not let opportunities slip away.

Pafilia Invests in Minthis Hills

Cyprus-based property developer Pafilia has recently announced the progression of the final stage of its EUR30 million infrastructure project at Minthis Hills, a resort close to Tsada village in Paphos.

The facilities will be completed in 2019 and include a wellness centre providing a holistic experience. Pafilia has already invested a total of EUR75 million to improve the destination's infrastructure including residential neighbourhoods and road networks.

Commenting on the ongoing project, Demetris Ashiotis, executive director, Pafilia, explained, "Minthis Hills is a development of great strategic importance. The innovative development is playing a major role in the rejuvenation of the construction industry and the local economy as it is one of just a few large-scale developments under construction in Cyprus."



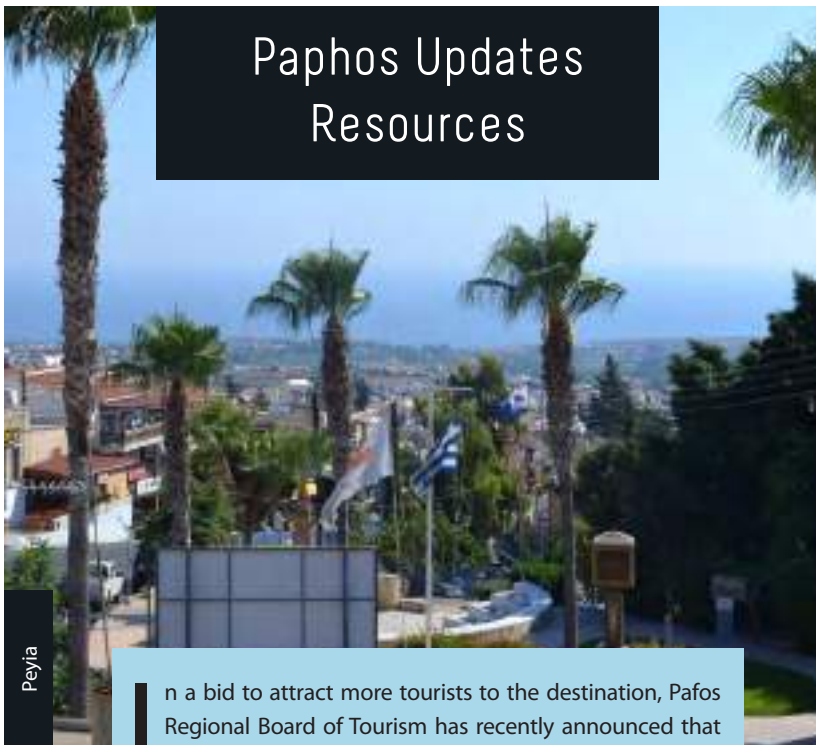
Minthis Hills

Paphos Updates Resources

In a bid to attract more tourists to the destination, Pafos Regional Board of Tourism has recently announced that significant developments have been made in order to upgrade the city's online resources.

The authority also informed that tourist maps of Paphos and Paphos – Geroskipou districts have now been completed while planning for a Peyia – Polis map is underway and will be completed by the end of June. In addition, a three minute promotional film featuring the destination's most appealing attractions will soon be released.

Along with the implementation of the above, the promotional campaign will be accompanied with an upgrade of the authority's official website while future plans include the creation of new applications.



Peyia

Celestyal Cruises
The Authentic Greek Holiday

See the authentic Greece.

Sea more.

Ready for a short-break in Greece?
Up to two authentic destinations per day are waiting for you!
Just pick your favorite ones and cruise on a 3, 4 or any combination of those into a 7day trip with Celestyal Cruises!
Experience the world-famous Greek hospitality, ashore and on board, sit back and let us take care of you. All included in a unique journey, bringing you to places where others cannot take you, with amazing excursions, great enogastionomy, drinks, entertainment and... more!

Celestyal Cruises, the most convenient way to experience your dream holidays.

22413500
www.celestyalcruises.com

Leptos Supports Local Communities



Organised by Leptos Kamares Club and In Any Event, Kamares Festival took place on May 27 at Leptos Kamares Village, an international award-winning development, known for its traditional houses, located near Tala village in Paphos.

The annual festival offers visitors the opportunity to spend a great day out while supporting local charities. Along with entertainment, guests had the chance to walk through the traditional houses made of local stones and enjoy colourful stands displaying many unusual and unique handmade arts and crafts, local wineries offering free wine tasting and games. All the funds raised at the festival went to local charities, including the Cancer Patients Support Group.

Kamares Festival

Limassol Hosts Casino Operation Seminars



On May 30, the opening ceremony for the casino operation and management educational programme was held at Limassol Chamber of Commerce and Industry, under the auspices of Limassol Tourism Development and Promotion Company.

Organised by the Global Center of Independent Studies, the 20 day initiative offers high school and university graduates the opportunity to be trained by world renowned guest lecturers from the US.

Commenting on the occasion, Tony Antoniou, chairman, Limassol Tourism Board, stated, "This is an excellent opportunity for young people to enter an exciting field, [...] and pursue a promising career in a project that will be a jewel for Limassol and will set the pace for the region's development as a tourist destination in the future."

Atlantica Hotels Wins 10 Awards



Hotel Atlantica Sancta Napa

Atlantica Hotels & Resorts, hailed as one of the biggest hotel chain companies in Cyprus, has received 10 major awards during TUI Nordic's Annual Award Ceremony, recently held at TUI SENSATORI Resort Aphrodite Hills by Atlantica.

TUI SENSATORI Resort Aphrodite Hills by Atlantica, Atlantica Golden Beach, TUI SENSIMAR Bay Hotel by Atlantica, Hotel Atlantica Sancta Napa and TUI SENSIMAR Sea Breeze by Atlantica all achieved success at the event.

The brand, which is the only Cypriot hospitality company that is member of TUI Travel, continues to grow and strives to offer high quality facilities and services to its customers.

Ayia Napa Hosted Flood Festival

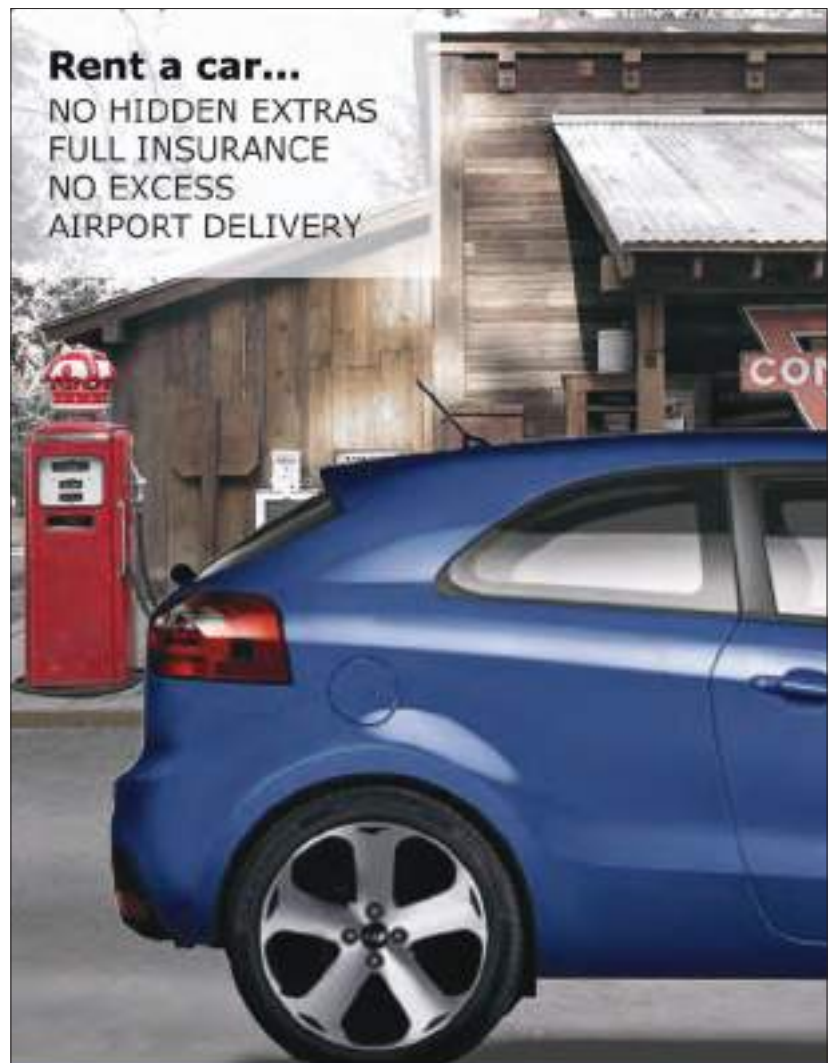


Aiming to promote and preserve the customs of the island, Ayia Napa Municipality successfully organised the annual *Flooding, Fish and Water Festival*, on June 02 – 05, which took place at the city's graphic port.

The festival featured a rich cultural programme, including concerts by the renowned artist Babis Stokas and traditional dances performed by Ayia Napa Dancing Club, while fish meze was prepared by the fish taverns of the surrounding area. On the final day of the celebration, a Holy Liturgy took place in Agios Georgios Chapel.

Celebrated each year, 50 days after Orthodox Easter, flooding or Kataklysmos, as it is known in Greek, is a religious and popular festival that attracts the interest of thousands of local and foreign visitors.

Rent a car...
NO HIDDEN EXTRAS
FULL INSURANCE
NO EXCESS
AIRPORT DELIVERY



Phelena
Rent a Car

www.phelenarentals.com

Tel: 357 23 832292, 357 99 577771

Cyprus Airways and S7 Partner Up

Cyprus Airways and S7 Airlines have announced a codeshare agreement on the Saint Petersburg – Larnaca itinerary, operating three times weekly as of June 08.

Responding to a higher demand for travel between the destination during the summer season, the flights on board the Cypriot carrier's Airbus A319 will take-off from Saint Petersburg's Pulkovo Airport on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, while from Larnaca International Airport the route will be served on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The agreement will also enable Russian travellers to seamlessly connect to the Greek islands of Rhodes and Crete with a connection in Larnaca.

Blue Air Hosted Partners in Thessaloniki

In collaboration with Orthodoxou Aviation and People of the World Travel Group, Blue Air organised a familiarisation trip to Thessaloniki for its partners and associates on May 09.

Following a welcoming reception by the airline's team, the participants of the three-day trip had an opportunity to explore the destination and experience the hospitality of the organisers through leisure and educational programme. As a part of the trip's agenda, the facilitators, including Capsis Hotel Thessaloniki, also presented corporate developments and the latest product and services, including the airline's new advertising campaign.

Cyprus Airways Launched Saint Petersburg Route

On June 01, Cyprus Airways took to the skies with the launch of its inaugural flight from Larnaca International Airport to Pulkovo International Airport in Saint Petersburg.

Commenting on the occasion, George Mavrocostas, chief operations officer, Cyprus Airways, stated, "Today marks a significant milestone for the local aviation sector and the country as a whole. We are extremely happy that Cyprus Airways is flying, and we would like to thank travellers for their great support, as since we announced our launch, we had a very warm and moving response. From our side, we will do our best to offer our passengers relaxing and pleasant flights."

Within the next few months the carrier will announce its revised and extended flight schedule for 2018.



Jet2.com Celebrated Inaugural Flight to Halkidiki



Halkidiki

In response to soaring demand for flights and package holidays to Greece, Jet2.com launched its first flight from East Midlands Airport to Halkidiki on May 25, with services from Manchester and Edinburgh due to follow.

As well as boasting a high number of Blue Flag labelled beaches and white-washed villages, Halkidiki offers a whole range of activities and historical sights.

With the destination becoming very popular among holidaymakers, the carrier is aiming to increase its service capacity for 2018, by adding more seats, while also launching additional flights from Birmingham, Glasgow, Leeds Bradford, Newcastle and London hubs.



THE DONKEY SANCTUARY

REACHING MORE DONKEYS IN CYPRUS

Every year we treat more and more donkeys on island and 2016 was no exception with 274 visited! Many of them were receiving their first vet and farrier treatments and we were extremely pleased that their owners were keen to learn about how to take care of their donkeys.

We also met a lot of very young foals that were born this year; one born only three days before we arrived. Several of the owners had already contacted us asking for advice of feeding the mare and taking good care of mother and baby. They were very grateful that we could go and check the foals, give further advice and show them how to get the foal used to being handled.



Unfortunately there continue to be donkeys living in terrible conditions without the basic care they require. Plastic, general rubbish, dangerous string, wire and metal, filthy water (if there is any), rotting vegetables and other inappropriate food are sights we still come across.

The majority of owners will take notice of our requests and advice, particularly if they see us picking up some of the rubbish in front of them. However, some do not and over the winter we will be collecting evidence of the type of situations we come across to present to the authorities.



As most of you know, we do not have any legal jurisdiction and cannot force people to take better care of their animals. Without support from the authorities the lives of these donkeys will continue to be unacceptable. The Animal Welfare Act is quite clear about causing suffering and we will push to get the Law upheld. It's a painfully slow process but with your support, not only would we be able to try our hardest to do this but also continue to visit and treat more donkeys and improve their lives.

You may help us continue our work on the island, by visiting our website and making any donation you wish, Adopt A Donkey, or even Shop from our online Gift Shop just with a few clicks.

THE DONKEY SANCTUARY (CYPRUS)
 206 Agiou Pavloumou Street, 4713 Pano Kleres Village, Larnaca, Cyprus
 T [357] 2994 4451 F [357] 2994 2385 E info@donkeysanctuarycyprus.org
 www.donkeysanctuarycyprus.org

The Donkey Sanctuary is a registered charity in the United Kingdom (1042944) and in Cyprus (2007000000). Registered in Greece (2006000000) 017 Kifissou, 11527 Athens.

Polis to Welcome New Artificial Reef



Following a deal between Polis of Chrysochus Municipality and Cyprus Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, it has been decided that the area stretching from Latchi all the way to Anassa will become an artificial reef.

Pafos Regional Board of Tourism and local hoteliers expressed their satisfaction towards the decision.

Nikos Kougielis, agriculture, rural development and environment minister, Cyprus, welcomed the initiative and stated that the new project will further boost marine biodiversity and life, while also providing a welcome attraction for tourists and visitors interested in deep sea diving. Kougielis added that alternative solutions and measures will be offered to fishermen in the area where the reef will be constructed.

Cyprus Defines Land and Sea Zones

On June 16, Cyprus Department of Environment, presented the first completed phase of its study regarding the management of the island's coastal and terrestrial zones.

The presentation took place in Ayia Napa with the participation of local authorities and environmental specialists.

Carried out as part of its obligations to *The Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean*, the research aims to define Cyprus' land and sea parts so that they can be easily managed and protected.

Costas Hadjipanayiotou, director, Department of Environment, Cyprus, stated that the department will continue protecting Cyprus' coastal and terrestrial zone, whilst promoting regional and national plans contributing to sustainable development.



Cyprus Department of Environment's representatives

Limassol Welcomes Maritime Discovery Bus

As a part of its Cyprus tour, the Maritime Archaeology Outreach Bus has arrived to Limassol Marina, giving visitors a rare opportunity to explore important aspects of Cyprus maritime archaeology through a bespoke programme running June 09 – 10.

The tour offers educational activities and informative materials enabling visitors to learn about archaeological underwater work, different types of maritime and marine archaeological sites, the maritime links with the ancient Mediterranean region, the history of ancient ports and associated sites in Cyprus, ships in antiquity and the process of analysing and exporting marine findings, among other information. In addition, the bus also visited various cities around the island, bringing an innovative educational attraction to the residents and visitors alike.

Cyprus Maritime Sector to Grow

Marios Demetriades, transport minister, Cyprus has revealed the island's latest shipping developments at BEST INVEST, the third international investment conference and exhibition held in Limassol on May 14 – 15.

Highlighting that Cyprus is an important and competitive player in the international shipping industry, Demetriades presented some of the island's incentives for shipping entrepreneurs, such as competitive ship registration costs and annual tonnage taxes, along with the benefits related to double taxation treaties. He described a positive prognosis for the sector on the back of efforts to enhance the maritime cluster with new services and activities. Among already implemented initiatives, he mentioned the launch of local marine academies, new insurance companies and the entrance of two Cypriot banks to the ship finance market.

Limassol Marina Launches Boat Parking Packages

Limassol Marina has introduced new year-round trailer boat parking and marina berth packages for owners of vessels up to 12m.

Offering winter parking solution in a specially designed area along with a berth in the marina during the summer season, the scheme also boasts all additional benefits and services related to leasing a berth. Among others, these include launch and recovery assistance, access to and personal use of the slipway, berth-holder parking and assistance and other first class services and facilities exclusively available at the marina.



Limassol Boat Show Concluded With Success

Limassol Boat Show

Held on May 05 – 07 at Limassol Marina, this year's Limassol Boat Show welcomed more than 20,000 visitors from all over the world, opening new opportunities for business ventures and potential for new collaborations.

The event saw 100 exhibitors showcase their products and services from the yachting industry, including recreational fishing, water sports and small boats.

Andreas Christodoulides, CEO, Limassol Marina, enthused, "The turnout, the quality of the exhibitors and interest expressed throughout the past weekend prove how rapidly the Limassol Boat Show is growing. Our aim is for this annual event to evolve into an international boat show in the coming years [...]."



Cyprus, Greece and Egypt Set Environmental Policies

From left: Famellos, Fahmy, Kouyialis

On May 29, Nicos Kouyialis, agriculture, rural development and environment minister, Cyprus, met with Khaled Fahmy, environment minister, Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, and Socrates Famellos, environment and energy minister, Greece, in Cairo to share views on environmental policies in their countries.

During the meeting, the delegates adopted a joint statement and agreed on the implementation of specific measures in five priority areas, including the protection of the Mediterranean Sea and the readiness to handle an undesired pollution incident from the intense exploratory activity for hydrocarbons.

Additionally, actions to be adopted in the fields of the management of domestic solid waste were also discussed. Kouyialis invited his counterparts to hold the next meeting in Nicosia in September.

Paphos Hosted Athletic Symposium

Organised by Petridion Foundation and Cyprus Sports Organisation (CSO) on June 10, the 2nd Athletic Symposium took place in Paphos under the theme *The Championship Through the Eyes of Leaders*.

The event welcomed renowned Greek and Cypriot athletes including Olympic gold medallists Voula Patoulidou and Lefteris Petounias as well as skeet shooting world record holder and Olympian Giorgos Achilleos, who shared insights into their sporting careers. Among other things the athletes discussed their experiences at the Olympics and highlighted the important sacrifices and difficulties that a champion needs to deal with on a daily basis.

The event concluded with an awards ceremony, during which athletes from Paphos' local clubs received souvenirs from the professionals.



Cyprus Spreads Awareness of HD

In May, archaeological and historic buildings across Cyprus were lit blue and purple as part of a public awareness campaign for Huntington's Disease (HD).

The initiative, implemented by Cyprus Department of Antiquities and Cyprus Ministry of Transport, Communications and Work, aims to increase awareness and support the newly established Huntington's Disease Association of Cyprus which, in collaboration with the Cyprus Institute of Neurology & Genetics, support individuals and families affected by the disease.

HD is an inherited progressive neurodegenerative disorder that leads to physical, emotional and cognitive dysfunction.

With this participation, Cyprus Department of Antiquities aims to highlight the significance of cultural heritage in constructing a healthier and more humanistic present.

Q & A with



PIERIS GEORGIADIS

OWNER, GOLDEN DONKEYS FARM

STELLA GEORGIADOU

MARKETING EXECUTIVE, GOLDEN DONKEYS FARM

LOCATED IN SKARINOU VILLAGE, HALFWAY BETWEEN LARNACA AND LIMASSOL, GOLDEN DONKEYS FARM IS HOME TO AROUND 170 DONKEYS.

PIERIS GEORGIADIS, OWNER, GOLDEN DONKEYS FARM, AND STELLA GEORGIADOU, MARKETING EXECUTIVE, GOLDEN DONKEYS FARM, EXPLAIN HOW THEIR LAND ASSISTS IN PROMOTING CYPRUS' RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE.

TRAVEL TRADE CYPRUS: Today your farm is the biggest of its kind in Cyprus and one of the biggest in Europe. How did you come up with the idea of creating Golden Donkeys Farm?

GEORGIADIS & GEORGIADOU: We come from a rural family and we grew up in a beautiful village in Mesaoria Plain. Donkeys were part of our everyday life, assisting us in every single activity. We wanted to create something that would remind us our village. With the creation of Golden Donkeys Farm we believe that we are offering a tribute to these beautiful animals.

TRAVEL TRADE CYPRUS: For many centuries, donkeys were the main mean of transportation for Cypriots and the main tool for most economic activities. How does your farm contribute to the preservation of cultural heritage and promote it to foreign visitors?

GEORGIADIS & GEORGIADOU: Donkeys are an integral part of Cyprus' rich history and the backbone of the country's farming industry before technology made them redundant. Donkeys were indeed an important part of both commercial and rural activities and therefore deserve a significant place in our cultural heritage. They are resilient animals, made for difficult environments. They can go to the toughest places with patience, making long journeys in the cold and in the heat. In our farm we show visitors how hard donkeys work, helping in the production of olive oil, turning the heavy millstones, as well as carrying grapes from the mountains and helping in wine making.

TRAVEL TRADE CYPRUS: Which are your main target groups and through which activities do you try to further engage them?

GEORGIADIS & GEORGIADOU: We are targeting a wide spectrum of visitors including children, adults and families. During summer we organise family activities at the farm as well as outdoor excursions including nature walks and donkey riding. In addition, we offer visitors the opportunity to experience traditional nights accompanied by traditional Cypriot food, music and dances. In winter, we host school educational

trips where children come into contact with the donkeys, learning how the animals served Cypriots for thousands of years.

TRAVEL TRADE CYPRUS: From which countries do most of your visitors come from and what are their expectations?

GEORGIADIS & GEORGIADOU: Most of our visitors come from Russia as they are willing to learn more about the true side of the island's past. We offer tours of the farm, during, among other interesting things, tourists can visit our recently launched wax museum and a traditional house featuring hand-made furniture. Guests also have the opportunity to see an ancient olive press, a small botanical garden, and an old amphitheater.

Furthermore, they will get the chance to see one of the oldest olive trees in the island. The visit ends with homemade Cypriot dishes that our guests can enjoy at Dihoro, our restaurant which features distinct flavours from the island.

TRAVEL TRADE CYPRUS: In your opinion, why should someone visiting Cyprus for the first time make a stop at Golden Donkeys Farm?

GEORGIADIS & GEORGIADOU: Cyprus is a beautiful island with many natural beauties. In addition to its blue waters and sandy beaches, it offers unique beautiful nature all-year round including scenic villages, inland exploration routes, accompanied by spontaneous hospitality. Our farm is an expression of the island's hospitality which we try to offer generously to those visiting our farm.

TRAVEL TRADE CYPRUS: Can you share with us some of your future plans?

GEORGIADIS & GEORGIADOU: Our plans for the future are focussed on increasing milk production as there is a high demand from visitors. At the same time we are going to create more products made of donkey's milk and promote them beyond local boundaries. In addition, we are planning to extend the farm and offer our guests additional activities including a special spa area with donkey's milk as well as guesthouses for agrotourism.

EVENTS

LARNAKA ANNUAL SUMMER FESTIVAL

Larnaka Fort and Pattichion Municipal Theatre
July

Throughout the month, Larnaca Municipality hosts a festival of music, dance and theatrical performances.

**INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ANCIENT GREEK DRAMA 2017**

Kourion Ancient Theatre, Makarios III Amphitheatre, Pafos Ancient Odeon
July

A month-long series of events celebrating ancient Greek drama from cultures across the world.

**FENGAROS MUSIC VILLAGE 2017**

Kato Drys
July 27 – August 01

Artists from around the world will run music, storytelling and architecture workshops in the fourth year of the event.

Paphos Joined CHRISTA

Pafos Regional Board of Tourism has recently joined Culture and Heritage for Responsible, Innovative and Sustainable Tourism Actions (CHRISTA), a new European Union (EU) programme concerning cultural tourism.

Launched by Interreg Europe, EU's framework for the implementation of joint actions and policy exchanges, the project aims to protect and preserve natural and cultural heritage assets while also promoting innovative, sustainable and responsible tourism strategies.

The first partner meeting was held on June 14 – 16 in Venice, where participating countries had the opportunity to learn about Venice's best practices and discuss intangible cultural heritage, innovation and digitisation.

Funded by European Regional Development Fund, the budget for Paphos is estimated to reach EUR295,000.

Greece Gets Ready for EUROPEANMOBILITYWEEK 2017

On May 30, more than 100 key representatives from Greece gathered together in order to exchange views on the organisation of the EUROPEANMOBILITYWEEK 2017 which will take place on September 16 – 22.

Focussing on how shared forms of transport can reduce expenses and lower carbon footprint while making journeys more sociable, this year's EUROPEANMOBILITYWEEK will be celebrated under the theme *Clean, shared and intelligent mobility*, using the call-to-action *Sharing gets you further*. Sostrates Famelos, environment and energy minister, Greece, opened the meeting and highlighted the role of cities that first invested in the development of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans.

Participation in the event has remarkably increased in Greece over the past years, growing from only eight municipalities in 2013 to 86 in 2016.

OPAP Presented its CSR 2016 Report

The Greek Organisation of Football Prognostics (OPAP Cyprus), recently presented its Corporate Social Responsibility Report (CSR) for 2016 at Olympic Hall in Nicosia in the presence of political figures, sport and cultural stakeholders, as well representatives of charity institutions.

An entertaining programme followed, with members of the cultural club Diastasi and Dionysos performing on stage.

Spyros Fokas, vice president, OPAP Cyprus, expressed his sincere satisfaction about OPAP Cyprus' social contribution and elaborated, "People of Cyprus and their well-being are our top priorities. We support the local society through our elaborated CSR action plan, based on an impeccable collaboration with the state, and we will continue to do so, both in Cyprus and Greece."

Aegean Promotes Sports Tourism

In 2018 and for the fourth consecutive year, Aegean Airlines will support the OPAP Limassol Marathon GSO as a gold sponsor.

Taking place on March 18, the marathon is expected to welcome more than 15,000 participants from all over the world.

Representing one of the most significant athletic events in Cyprus, the marathon consists of a flat route with the longest distance travelled along the coastal road of Limassol.

With this initiative, the airline helps to promote sports tourism in Cyprus, showing also that the destination is able to support tourism all-year round.