

# Welcome to Pafos



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DEPUTY MINISTER OF TOURISM



A GUIDE TO THE CITY

# Pafos CYPRUS



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## Explore the City

### City center

Pafos is built on a hill with fantastic panoramic views to the sea and the lower part of the city. Almost all public and municipal institutions are based here, as are the offices of innovative companies, banks and shopping malls. In the heart of the city there is a beautiful area, with lovely squares, early 20th century neoclassical buildings.

Every Thursday from March to May and October to December the "Old town walking tour" is organized. It starts at 09:30 from the Pafos Market bus stop and is free of charge.



### 1. Hani tou Ibrahim (Ibrahim's Inn) Multi-purpose centre

Ibrahim's Inn (Khan) is basically a historical inn with an inner courtyard, which was built during the Ottoman era. Such inns served merchants, craftsmen and other individuals, when travelling from district to district. The buildings were recently restored and now house several artisans' workshops and a theatre.



### 2. Ethnographical Museum of Pafos

The Ethnographical Museum is a private museum belonging to the Eliades Family. Situated at the heart of Pafos and housed in one of the area's oldest and finest heritage buildings. The exhibits include amongst other items: representative costumes, carved wooden furniture, Venetian mirrors, farming tools, kitchen utensils, as well as archaeological finds that date mainly from the Chalcolithic period.



### 3. Municipal Art Gallery

The Pafos Municipal Gallery exhibits paintings, sculptures and other artefacts donated by local artists.



### 4. Archaeological Museum of the Pafos District (free entrance)

The Archaeological Museum of the Pafos District houses a rich and notable collection of antiquities originating from excavations at various archaeological sites in the Pafos region. The collection is housed across five rooms and includes finds dating from the Neolithic Age up to the 17th century AD. Of special interest are a set of surgical instruments and a rare sculpture of warrior Aphrodite.



### 5. Enjoying a meal in the city center

To taste the traditional cuisine, the town center is the best spot. The market area is the perfect spot where there is a panoramic view to the sea and a beautiful sunset during the afternoon. Restaurants, taverns serving traditional food and cafeterias are located in this area. Try local products and traditional meals to expand your gastronomic knowledge and discover new local delicacies.

### 6. Shopping in Pafos

In the old city of Pafos in the pedestrian zone (Makarios Avenue and Agoras Street) one can find unique locally made items such as icons, mosaics, jewelry, pottery and other handicrafts. There are also many shops selling local food products such as carob syrup, olive oil and Cyprus herbs and spices. If you enjoy more shopping in a mall you can visit Kings Avenue Mall which is located 500 hundred meters from Pafos Old Port.

## Kato Pafos

Kato Pafos is built almost on top of the ancient city that dates back to the Hellenistic period. Here is where most ancient monuments are located, including the Pafos Archaeological Park. Sites listed below and marked with (P) are part of the Archaeological Park. The entire area is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

### 7. Pafos Castle – Pafos Old Port

The Castle was originally a Byzantine fort built to protect the port, and was rebuilt by the Lusignans in the 13th century, but then demolished by the Venetians. The Ottomans rebuilt it in the 16th century when they conquered the island. What survives today is the 1592 Ottoman restoration of the western Frankish tower with its Venetian additions. An inscription above the only entrance of the castle bears witness to this restoration.



### 8. Pafos Mosaics – Roman Villas (P)

Marvelous mosaic floors were discovered at the ruins of four lavishly decorated Roman villas. The mosaic floors date from the 2nd to the 5th century AD and are considered among the finest in the Eastern Mediterranean. They depict scenes from Greek mythology and are considered masterpieces of mosaic art. The villas were named after the scenes depicted in the mosaics: The House of Dionysos, the House of Theseus, the House of Aeon and the House of Orpheus.



### 9. Pafos Odeon (P)

The Odeon was part of the ancient city's Roman Agora buildings and dates back to the 2nd century AD and is built entirely from perfectly hewn limestone rocks. To the south of the Odeon are the remains of the Roman temple of Asclepius, God of Medicine and to the north are remains of ancient city walls. The Odeon is partly restored and is still used for various cultural events.



### 10. "Saranta Kolones" Castle (P)

The Byzantine castle known as Saranta Kolones (Forty Columns) is located just north of Pafos Port, and takes its name from the large number of granite columns that were found on the site. The castle is believed to have been built at the end of the 7th century AD to protect the port and the city from Arab raids, and was later remodeled by the Lusignans. Destroyed by an earthquake in 1223, the castle was subsequently abandoned.



### 11. Tombs of the Kings (P)

A complex of monumental underground tombs that are carved out of solid rock and date back to the Hellenistic and Roman periods. Rather than kings, it is actually high-ranking officials and aristocracy that were buried here, but the size and splendor of the tombs gave this site its grand name. Some of the tombs imitate the houses of the living, with the burial chambers opening onto a peristyle atrium.



### 12. Chrysolitissa /Agia Kyriaki Church and St. Paul's Pillar (P) (free entrance)

The Panagia Chrysolitissa /Agia Kyriaki Church were built in the 13th century over the ruins of the largest Early Christian Basilica on the island. Within the compound is St. Paul's Pillar, where according to a folktale, Saint Paul was flogged before the Roman Governor Sergius Paulus converted to Christianity.



### 13. Agia Solomoni Christian Catacomb (P)(free entrance)

Agia Solomoni Church is a chapel that forms part of a small underground complex of chamber tombs from the Hellenistic period. Above the catacombs stands a sacred tree, believed to have curative powers, with its branches adorned by colorful rags and bits of clothing left by the faithful as offerings to the saint.



### 14. Seafront Beaches

If you feel like swimming and sunbathing, visit one of the blue flag beach front beaches that are located literally in the heart of Kato Pafos near the port. Some of the most popular seafront blue flag beaches that offer amenities like showers, sun beds, umbrellas etc are: Municipal baths, Alykes, Vrysoudia A, Vrysoudia B, and Faros Beach.



## Pafos Outskirts

### 15. Pre- Historic Settlement of Lemba (free entrance)

Excavations near the village of Lemba, which is located 5 km north of Pafos, unearthed an important settlement of the Chalcolithic Age. Near the site, replicas of five houses from this period have been reconstructed using the same materials and the same building methods that were used in Chalcolithic times (3900-2500BC). Linked to the Aphrodite Cultural Route.



### 16. "Petra tou Romiou" - Birthplace of Aphrodite

The 'Petra tou Romiou' is a beautiful beach, easily accessible from the Pafos - Lemesos motorway, 25 km from Pafos. Here according to mythology, Aphrodite emerged from the waves. The Greek name, Petra tou Romiou means the Rock of the Greek man, referring to the Byzantine hero Digenis Akritas, who kept the marauding Saracen Arabs (7th - 10th centuries) at bay with his superhuman strength. According to legend he heaved the huge rock seen today on this beach and tossed it into the sea crushing a Saracen ship, which was trying to dock.

Linked to the Aphrodite Cultural Route.



### 17. Sanctuary of Aphrodite and Palaipafos Museum

Palaipafos is located near Kouklia village, 14km east of Pafos and was one of the most celebrated pilgrimage centres of the classical Greek world and an important city-kingdom. Here lie the ruins of the famous sanctuary of Aphrodite that date back to the 12th century BC. The sanctuary continued to be a place of worship until the 3rd or 4th century AD. A dedicated museum is housed in a nearby Lusignan manor and its collection includes impressive finds, dating from the Chalcolithic up to the Middle Ages. It depicts how the cult of the Goddess of fertility developed into the cult of Aphrodite. Linked to the Aphrodite Cultural Route.



### 18. Agios (Saint) Neofytos Monastery

The Monastery is located 9 km north of Pafos and was founded around 1200 by a Cypriot hermit, which was later recognized as Saint

Neofytos. A nearby cave, called "Enkleistra", is where the hermit lived and is covered with some of the finest examples of Byzantine frescoes that date back to the 12th and 15th centuries.



### 19. Agia (Saint) Paraskevi Church and Ecclesiastical Museum of Pafos

This is one of the most interesting and beautiful churches in Cyprus. It is located in Geroskipou village, 5 km east of Pafos and it dates back to the 9th century. Architecturally it is a three-aisled five domed Basilica and it is decorated with beautiful frescoes that date from the 9th and the 15th century. The Byzantine Museum of Pafos, also located in Geroskipou village, has an important collection of artefacts from the Byzantine period.



### 20. Loukoumi (Cyprus Delights)

Opposite Geroskipou village Square, there is a workshop producing Loukoumi a traditional sweet that is known as Cyprus Delight. The workshop, which operates continuously since the 19th century, is producing traditional Loukoumi in a variety of flavors such as rose, bergamot, vanilla etc. The workshop is open for visits. Loukoumi Geroskipou is a product that bears a Protected Geographical Indication.

### 21. Coral Bay / Sea Caves

Coral Bay is a popular tourist destination near the village of Peyia, 11 km north of the city of Pafos. The coast to the north and to the south of Coral Bay is characterized by rocky headlands and beautiful sea caves. Coral Bay Beach itself is a 600m crescent of soft white sand that offers amenities like showers, sun beds, umbrellas etc.



### 22. Family friendly activities

Have a fun day out at Pafos Aphrodite Waterpark, in Kato Pafos. Plunge 50 feet down on the Free Fall ride, have a friendly race on the tube water slides, or relax on the lazy river and in the wave pool here. Special rides for kids are also available. <https://aphroditewaterpark.com/en>

The Island Cove mini golf near the Geroskipou village is a small American-style golf club, with 18 holes and surrounded by picturesque nature. The Coral bay GO karting track is located just a few minutes from Coral Bay Beach, featuring modern facilities. For kids there are special go karts and a playground. <https://coral-bay-karting-center.business.site/>

### Legend

- Church
- Monument
- Museum
- Place of Interest

### Main sites to visit

- 1 Hani tou Ibrahim
- 2 Ethnographical Museum
- 3 Municipal Art Gallery
- 4 Archaeological Museum of the Pafos District
- 5 City Center
- 6 Shopping
- 7 Pafos Castle  
Pafos Old Port
- 8 Pafos Mosaics  
Roman Villas
- 9 Pafos Odeon
- 10 "Saranta Kolones" Castle
- 11 Tombs of the Kings
- 12 Chrysopolitissa/Agia Kyriaki Church and St. Paul's Pillar
- 13 Agia Solomoni Christian Catacomb
- 14 Seafront Beaches
- 15 Pre- Historic Settlement of Lemba
- 16 "Petra tou Romiou" - Birthplace of Aphrodite
- 17 Sanctuary of Aphrodite and Palaipafos Museum
- 18 Agios Neofytos Monastery
- 19 Agia Paraskevi Church and Ecclesiastical Museum of Pafos
- 20 Loukoumi
- 21 Coral Bay / Sea Caves
- 22 Family friendly activities



**AUDIO GUIDES**  
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REFERENCE	
	Main Road
	Secondary Road
	Minor Road
	Footway
	Pedestrian zone
	Cycling Path
	Aphrodite's Cultural Route
	Important Building
	Places of Interest
	Shared Taxi
	Accommodation
	Church
	Mosque
	Post Office
	Hospital
	Parking Place
	Tourist Information Office
	Organized Beach
	Wheelchair Access To Water
	Wheelchair Access

### INDEX

DEPUTY MINISTRY OF TOURISM OFFICES		
Number	Grid Name	Name
1	D1	Tourist Information Office
2	E2	Pafos Inspectors Office

  

PUBLIC BUILDINGS - UTILITY SERVICES		
Number	Grid Name	Name
3	G3	Stelios Kyriakides Multifunctional Sports Center
4	F3	Aphrodite's Sports Center
5	D1	Markeidio Theatre
6	D2	Pafos Municipal Gallery
7	D2	Municipal Library
8	D2	Town Hall - Civil marriage office
9	E2	Government services
10	D2	Holy Bishopric of Pafos
11	D1	Atkinson multi purpose cultural centre
12	F3	Fire Brigade station
13	F3	Police Station (Div.H.Q.)
14	B6	Port Authorities
15	D1	Post Office
16	D5	Post Office

  

HISTORIC AND OTHER PLACES OF INTEREST		
Number	Grid Name	Name
17	D1	Palaia Ilektriki cultural center
18	F2	District officer's Residence
19	D2	Ethnographical Museum
20	E2	Pafos District Archaeological Museum
21	D1	Laki Gonias traditional Pedestrian quarter
22	D1	Imbrahim's Khan
23	D1	Loutra Ottoman Hammam
24	D1	Agia Sofia - Muslim mosque
25	C5	Early Christian Basilica - St Pauls Pillar Chrysopolitissa
26	B6	Medieval Fort of Pafos
27	C4	Fabrica (old quarry -caves)
28	C4	Agios Lambrinos (Rock cut chamber)
29	C4	Ruins of ancient theatre
30	C4	Agia Solomoni Christian Catacomb
31	C5	Frankish Baths
32	B6	Ruins of the Ancient Harbour Fort and Quay
33	C6	Base of Ancient Breakwater
34	C4	Agios Agapitos (Rock cut Chambers)
35	C5	Theoskepasti Church

  

KATO PAFOS ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK		
Number	Grid Name	Name
36	B1	Tombs of the Kings
37	B4	Pafos Odeon
38	B5	Saranta Kolones (Forty columns) Fortress
39	B5	The Mosaics of Pafos House of Dionysos
40	B5	The Mosaics of Pafos House of Theseus
41	B5	The Mosaics of Pafos House of Aion
42	B5	Limenitissa ruins of early Christian Basilica
43	B4	Agora Asklepieio

  

ACCOMMODATION, HOTELS			
Number	Grid Name	Name	Class
44	D5	Almyra	****
45	D6	Amavi	****
46	C5	Annabelle	****
47	B2	Elysium	****
48	D6	Alexander the Great	****
49	B1	Avidia	****
50	C5	Dionysos Central	***
51	B2	Kissos	***
52	D6	Leptos Paphos Gardens	***
53	D3	Mayfair	***
54	C5	Nereus	***
55	D4	Paphiessa	***
56	C4	Roman	***
57	C4	Roman II	***
58	E6	Veronica	***
59	D2	Axiothea	**
60	C3	Kings	**
61	C5	Pyramos	*
62	D1	Kinyras	Traditional City Hotel

  

HOTEL APARTMENTS			
Number	Grid Name	Name	Class
63	D5	Anemi	A
64	C3	Kefalos Damon	A
65	C5	Daphne	A
66	C2	Kefalonitis	A
67	D4	King Jason	A
68	C5	Soflianna	A
69	C2	Fernandis	B
70	C3	New York	C
71	D5	Pagona	C
72	D6	Pafos Gardens Narkisus	C

  

TOURIST APARTMENTS			
Number	Grid Name	Name	Class
73	B2	Angela	
74	C5	Basilica Gardens	
75	C4	Crystallo	
76	B2	Georgia	
77	D4	Lefki	
78	C1	Pankitios	

  

TOURIST APARTMENTS			
Number	Grid Name	Name	Class
79	B2	Kefalos Beach	A

  

TRANSPORTATION		
Number	Grid Name	Name
80	D1	Karavella main Bus Station (Urban and Intercity Buses)
81	C2	Tombs of the Kings Bus station
82	C5	Pafos Harbour Bus Station



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