



CYPRUS

Capital



NICOSIA

Language

Α	Β	Γ	Δ	Ε	Ζ
ALPHA	BETA	GAMMA	DELTA	EPSILON	ZETA
Η	Θ	Ι	Κ	Λ	Μ
ETA	THETA	IOTA	KAPPA	LAMBDA	MU
Ν	Ξ	Ο	Π	Ρ	Σ
NU	XI	OMICRON	PI	RHO	SIGMA
Τ	Υ	Φ	Χ	Ψ	Ω
TAU	UPSILON	PHI	CHI	PSI	OMEGA

GREEK

Currency



EURO (€)

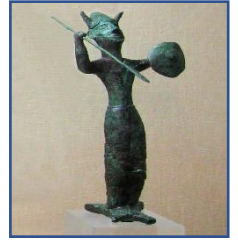
POSITION ON THE MAP

Cyprus is located in the Middle East, east of Greece, south of Turkey, west of Syria and north of Egypt. It has a population of 933,505. The Republic of Cyprus joined the EU in 2004.



History of Cyprus that you should know!

- In the Mycenaean era, Greek Mycenaean colonists settled on the island and spread Greek culture.
- Christianity was introduced to the island by the Apostle Paul and Barnabas in the 1st century.
- In 1191, Richard the Lionheart conquered Cyprus during the 3rd Crusade. In 1192, Guy de Lusignan founded the Kingdom of Cyprus. In 1489, Cyprus came under the rule of Venice.
- The island is administered by the Ottoman Empire and the Greek population of Cyprus maintains its national identity under the leadership of the Church.
- The flag of Cyprus has 2 olive branches below it, symbolizing peace.



- In 1878, Britain takes over the administration of Cyprus from the Ottoman Empire
- In 1914, Cyprus was officially annexed by Britain.
- In 1955-1959, EOKA (National Organization of Cypriot Fighters) waged a struggle for union with Greece.
- In 1960, Cyprus becomes an independent republic with Greece, Turkey, and Britain as guarantor powers.
- In 1963-64, intercommunal conflicts broke out between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots.
- In 1974, a coup was carried out with the support of the Athens junta and a Turkish invasion followed, thus Cyprus was divided, with Turkey occupying the northern part.



Famous Personalities

1. **Archbishop Makarios III:** He was the first President of the Republic of Cyprus and a leading figure in the Cypriot Struggle for independence from Britain.
2. **George Seferis:** Greek poet, diplomat and writer, winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1963. He was originally from Cyprus.
3. **Grigoris Afxentiou:** Hero of the Cypriot Revolution and EOKA.
4. **Andreas Georgiou:** Cypriot actor and screenwriter



Interesting Festivals and Events

1. **Wine Festival:** It is a celebration of Cypriot wine and traditional local products, with numerous events, tastings and musical performances.
2. **Limassol Carnival:** It is a festive event full of parades, dances, music, and traditional costumes.
3. **Kypria Festival:** includes events in various fields of art, such as theater, music, dance and opera.



Famous monuments and sites



Ancient Kourion Theater: It is the stage where many cultural activities and theatrical performances take place.

Salamis was one of the most important cities of antiquity, and its ruins include temples, a theater, and impressive mosaics.



The Castle of Paphos was a Byzantine fortress built to protect the city's harbor and the surrounding area from attacks.

Traditional Food and Drinks

Halloumi: It is the most famous Cypriot cheese, made from sheep's and goat's milk.



Koupepia: They are stuffed grape leaves containing a mixture of minced meat, rice and herbs.

Zivania: It is the most famous Cypriot drink, a strong alcoholic beverage made from grape distillate and alcoholic lees.



Cultural Traditions

1. Traditional Music and Dance:

- Crawling
- Zeibekiko
- Dance of the goblets
- Lute
- Taboutsia



LUTE



TAMBOUTSIA

1. Traditional costume:

- The traditional women's costume consists of: an open striped dress, an inner white cotton dress, cotton trousers, a waist scarf and coins, and an embroidered head scarf.
- The traditional men's costume consists of: an embroidered felt vest, a cotton shirt, breeches, a belt, a scarf and boots.



ZIMBEKIKO



SYRTOS



DANCE OF THE CUPBOARDS

Sources: History of Cyprus, UNESCO, Cyprus Museum, General Archives of the State of Cyprus, wikipedia