

# Activities

## Golf in Cyprus

The TSADA GOLF CLUB, the island's first golf club lies 15 minutes drive from Paphos, in the gentle hills above the town close to Tsadha village. The course, designed by leading architect Donald Steel, is arranged in two loops of 9 to make the most of the natural surroundings. It is full of variety, not excessively long, and in an elevated position which enjoys cooling breezes from the coast for much of the year. Clubs and trolleys may be hired, and handicap certificates must be shown. In 1997, a second 18 hole course opened near Aphrodite's Rock. SECRET VALLEY is a 25 minute drive from Paphos. The Aphrodite Hills (next to Secret Valley) opened in 2003 and is part of one of the most sophisticated and up-market developments on the island. It is a world class 18 hole, par 71 course. The ELEA GOLF CLUB, a challenging par 71 golf course designed by the legendary Sir Nick Faldo was opened in 2010. It is located just south of Paphos near Geroskipou and incorporates numerous natural features as well as views over the Mediterranean. More courses are currently being constructed.

We cannot pre-book your requirements in the UK and fees must be paid in Cyprus. Most hotels in the Paphos area have arrangements with the golf courses.

## Latchi Diving

The coastline off the Akamas is widely regarded as the most exciting diving area on the island, with sites like St. George's Island, The Blue Lagoon, Aphrodite's Reef and the Garden of Eden. There are virtually no tides and currents, and the sea is comfortably warm all year (average temperature 62°F in January to 82°F in August). The centre offers a wide range of professionally taught courses and was recently awarded the prestigious 5 Star Gold Palm Resort designation by PADI. Tuition is available up to Assistant Instructor level.

For qualified divers, daily dives are organised in small groups to a variety of superb sites. Night dives and scooter-assisted dives to view the once almost extinct, but now recovering, Mediterranean turtle are also available. Diving equipment is available for hire.

**Note:** Our insurance provides cover for dives up to 40m at an additional 35% of the standard premium but does not cover any injuries caused by flying within 24 hours of diving or solo cave diving. Divers under 12 or over 65 are not covered. However, Latchi Watersports have additional accident cover (enquire locally).

## Watersports

Small boat hire to explore the Akamas coastline is also available as is waterskiing, wakeboarding, windsurfing, sailing, parasailing, banana and tube rides. Tuition is available where necessary.

## Excursions on the island

Even for those of our clients who have been to Cyprus many times there are always excursions that will add to the appreciation of what the island has to offer.

Our representatives will be able to book these for you locally. Some are only available in particular villages where an old lady will demonstrate how to make 'Halloumi', the traditional Cyprus cheese or 'Soujouko' a mixture of almonds and walnuts covered with layers of crystallised grape juice.

There are coach excursions from both the Paphos and Limassol areas to the mountain villages and monasteries and also to the interesting village of Lefkara and the much underrated capital Nicosia. Those who know Cyprus well will tell you that it is the very heavily forested mountains and their villages which give the true flavour of the island. Cyprus has one of the most respected forestry departments in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East.

Many of our clients hire a car and explore the island on their own, but sometimes it is interesting to have a guide take you through the history and places which have created the modern Cyprus.

Then of course Cyprus is an ideal place from which to visit Cairo on a one two or three night stay. Prices include the return air fare, accommodation, transfers, a guided tour of the pyramids and the Cairo museum and start at a little under £300 per person for a one night stay. There are several optional excursions that can be added. Lebanon, Jordan, and Israel are also available on a similar basis and make an interesting side trip to a two week stay in a villa on the island. All flights are with Cyprus Airways, Egypt Air or Royal Jordanian.

There are also some excursions by land rover organised by very environmentally conscious operators that will take you to mountain areas and river valleys that cannot easily be reached by normal excursions. These, often geologically themed, trips are extremely interesting and will show a side of the island than no amount of individual exploring can provide.

## Calendar of Events 2012

The information given below may well not be 100% accurate as when going to press full details were not yet available. If holidays are planned specifically around any event listed below then please check (with us first) that the dates are correct.

Each month the Cyprus Tourism Organisation publishes an events leaflet which can be obtained from their information offices and hotels. We will endeavour to send further information with your tickets.

### Year Round Events

**Every Monday:** Kaimakli bus and walking tour – Nicosia (free participation)

**Every Tuesday:** Medieval walking tour – Nicosia (free participation)

**Every Wednesday:** Larnaca walking tour – past and present (free participation)

**Every Thursday:** Nicosia walking tour (free participation)

**Every Friday:** Larnaca – its craftsmen (free participation)

**Every Sunday and most Wednesdays (October – April):** Horse racing – Nicosia

**Musical Sundays:** October to April in Larnaca, Limassol & Paphos (entrance free)

**November – April:** European Limassol Festival

**November – March:** Cultural Winter – Ayia Napa

Date	Event	Location
November	Autumn Sundays at the Castle	Limassol Castle
30/11	Cyprus Aphrodite Half Marathon	Amathounda, Limassol
23/12 – 26/12	Christmas Festivities	Celebrations throughout the island
31/12 – 01/1	New Year Celebrations	Celebrations throughout the island
06/1	Epiphany Celebrations	Celebrations throughout the island
Jan	Larnaca Cultural Winter	Larnaca
16/2 – 26/2	Carnival	Celebrations throughout the island but best in Limassol
27/2	Green Monday (50 days before Easter)	Celebrations throughout the island
Feb	Cyprus Race "Cyprus Sunshine Cup #1"	Ammoch Ostos
25/3	Greek National Day Celebrations and Students Parades	Celebrations throughout the island
27/3	Feast of St Lazarus	Larnaca
01/4	Greek Cypriot National Day Celebrations and Students Parades	Celebrations throughout the island
13/4 – 16/4	Easter Festivities	Celebrations throughout the island
1/5	Labour Day Celebrations	Celebrations throughout the island
May	Spring Flower Festivals	Various towns
May (end)	12th Pharos Chamber Music Festival	Nicosia
14/6	Pentecost – Kataklysmos, Festival of the Flood Celebrations	Celebrations throughout the island
June	Shakespeare Festival	Curium Theatre – Limassol area
July	The Great Ballet Companies	Limassol
July	Koumandaria Festival	Mountain Villages
July/Aug	Ancient Greek Drama Festival	Nicosia, Paphos, Limassol
14/8 – 15/8	Traditional Fairs (Assumption)	Most main monasteries
31/8 – 2/9	Paphos Aphrodite Festival/Opera	Paphos
Sept	Very popular and lively Wine Festival with free wine	Limassol
Sept/Oct	Kypria Festival	Celebrations throughout the island
1/10	Cyprus Independence Day Celebrations	Celebrations throughout the island (Military Parade Nicosia)
October	Various Village Grape Festivals	Koilani and Arsos (Limassol area), Kalopanagiotis (Troodos Mountains), Korakou (Troodos Mountains), Kolossi (Limassol area), Aradippou (Larnaca area)
28/10	Greek National Day	Student Parades in all towns