

## A Guide to Paphos, Cyprus

### Introduction to Paphos

Alleged to have been built on the site of Aphrodite's birth, Paphos is a vibrant town founded in around 1400BC and situated on the southwest coast of Cyprus. Reminders of the area's long history are abundant, with numerous archaeological sites in and around Paphos waiting to be explored.

Paphos today is a popular holiday destination divided into an upper zone, Ktima, serving as a commercial centre and a lower area known as Kato Paphos, which is built around the medieval port and is home to a multitude of bars and restaurants. The apartments that we offer in Paphos cater for family holidays as well as romantic retreats. Paphos has all the ingredients for the perfect Mediterranean holiday: sun, sea, sand and sights.

### What to do

#### [Tombs of the Kings](#)

A fascinating ancient necropolis and a UNESCO World Heritage site



#### [The Paphos Mosaics](#)

A stunning series of Roman mosaics close to Paphos harbour.



#### [Paphos Bird Park](#)

This is home to a huge collection of exotic birds and animals and great for kids.



### **Other things to do in Paphos**

The Paphos area boasts many sandy beaches, including two which have been awarded the prestigious Blue Flag, which are ideal for soaking up the sun or trying out a range of exciting watersports such as jet skiing and scuba diving. For a fun day out for all the family, the Aphrodite Waterpark in the Kato Paphos area claims to offer the largest number of attractions in Cyprus and caters for non-swimmers as well as having a huge range of thrilling water-based activities for young and old alike.

If you're in search of the area's fascinating past there are many important and impressive archaeological sites to discover, notably the Acropolis, which is home to a number of ancient buildings including a 2nd century AD Roman Odeon, occasionally the venue for concerts and plays during the summer months. ; There are also several interesting museums in Paphos, including the Byzantine Museum in the Ktima area, which houses what is said to be the oldest icon in Cyprus.

For great views over the harbour, go up onto the roof of the Fort of Paphos, and if you feel like venturing further afield, the beautiful, undeveloped beach of Kissonerga Bay to the north of Paphos is well worth a visit for some beachside relaxation.

### **Eating and drinking in Paphos**

As a popular tourist centre, Paphos has an infinite selection of restaurants serving cuisine ranging from fast food to gourmet. The must-try local dish is the Cypriot meze, which is a selection of small and delicious appetisers such as olives, grilled cheese, calamari and salads. The most authentic are to be found in the traditional tavernas of the smaller villages outside Paphos, and are best enjoyed with some local Cypriot wine.

### **Paphos climate**

With a sunny Mediterranean climate, Paphos enjoys hot, dry summers and mild winters. July and August can be uncomfortably humid, and it can be chillier in

January and February, but in general the weather is extremely pleasant. Rainfall is rare except during the autumn and winter months.

### **When to go to Paphos**

Paphos is essentially a year-round destination, with a warm climate and fiestas taking place throughout the year. It is best avoided in August, which is peak tourist season, when accommodation is at its most expensive and resorts are more crowded. Music lovers should visit in early September to enjoy the superb opera of the Paphos Aphrodite Festival.

### **Flying to Paphos**

Flights to Paphos arrive at Paphos International Airport, which is located 15km to the southeast of Paphos and receives both charter and scheduled flights from numerous European airports. Car hire and taxis are readily available at the airport for the easy journey into Paphos itself.