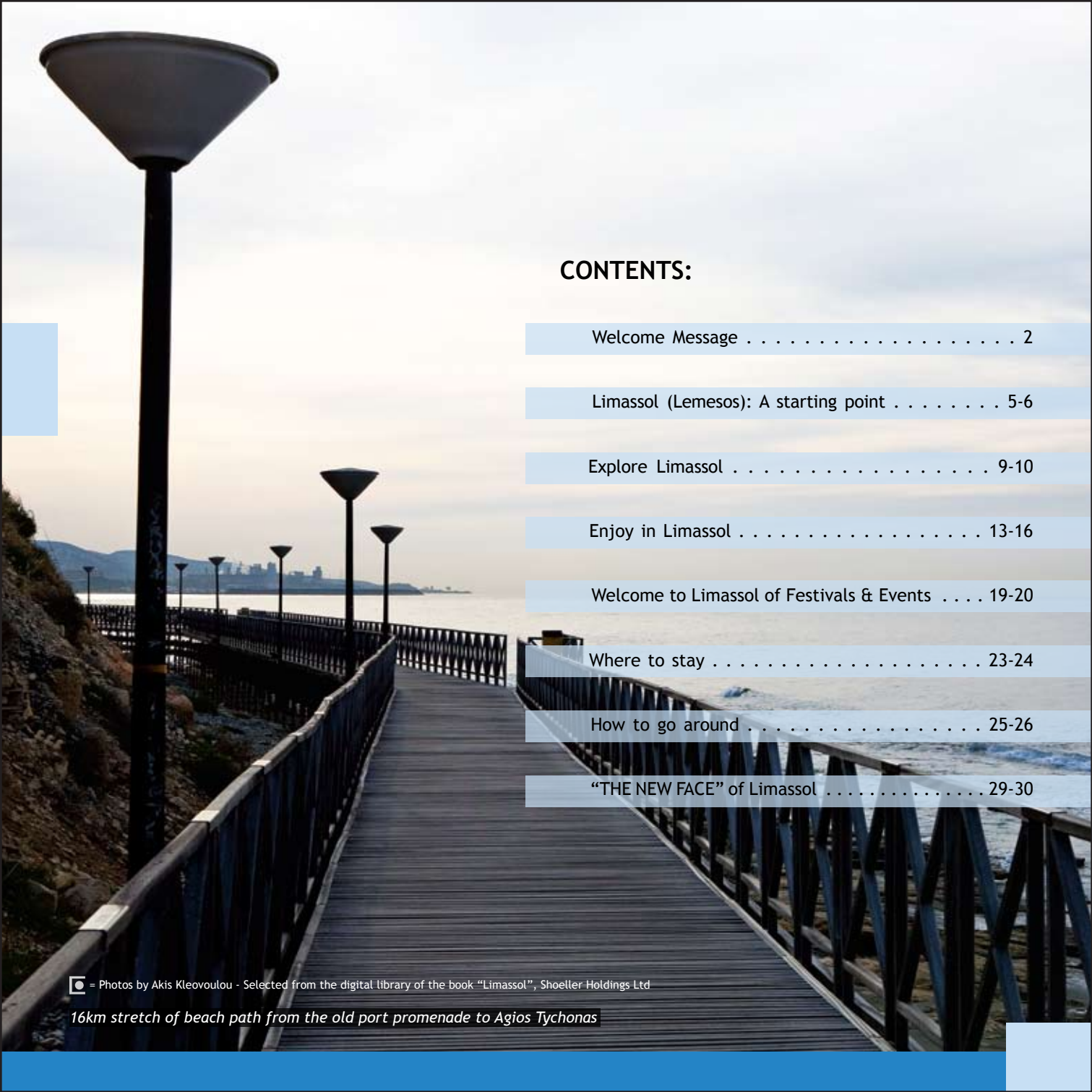




Visit Limassol. Explore Cyprus.



www.limassoltourism.com



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 = Photos by Akis Kleovoulou - Selected from the digital library of the book “Limassol”, Shoeller Holdings Ltd

16km stretch of beach path from the old port promenade to Agios Tychonas

Dear Traveller,

Limassol with its unique fusion of influences is a fascinating and exciting destination. It is a land where the traditional and modern co-exist offering desirable contemporary facilities yet still extending the local warm hospitality which characterises Cyprus.

The Limassol Tourism Development and Promotion Company Ltd has been created to promote the further development of the basic and tourist infrastructure of the Limassol region and market the area as the distinct cosmopolitan seaside destination it is. Its unique identity is based on its rich history and culture, its inviting characteristics and its convenient location, both within the island and on the map, which makes exploring easy, whether it be island wide or nearby destinations.

Limassol is a safe destination which has much to share, with its beautiful seafronts, countless cultural, recreational and leisure activities, vibrant events and festivals, as well as being a centre for conferences and incentive travel programmes.

We look forward to welcoming you soon.



Tony Antoniou
Chairman of the Board

Limassol Tourism Development and Promotion Co. Ltd.

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Tranquil setting on a beach in Limassol



*“Men who wish to know about
the world must learn about it
in its particular details”.*

-Heraclitus





Limassol (Lemesos): A starting point

Cyprus, Europe's Eastern Mediterranean isle, lies at the crossroads of Europe, Asia and Africa. In addition to its privileged geographical position, Cyprus is a country strong in tradition and rich in culture.

Located on the southern coast of the island, Limassol (Lemesos), is geographically the largest city in Cyprus and the second largest in population after Lefkosia. Its central position offers easy access to all major cities as well as Troodos Mountains within a 35 to 45 minute drive. It is also conveniently situated only 35 minutes away from both Larnaka and Pafos airports.

It is a fascinating area with a diversified character which caters to a variety of tastes and preferences: A sunlover's haven with its 16 kilometers of sandy beaches, this cosmopolitan destination also boasts high quality accommodation options, countless activities and a wide array of vibrant events and festivals throughout the year. In the midst of its lively nightlife and entertainment, one can still appreciate the cultural aspect with visits to archaeological sites and colourful wine villages.



ISLAND OF CYPRUS





Waterpark, Limassol



“Live in the sunshine, swim the sea, drink the wild air...”

-Ralph Waldo Emerson





Explore Limassol

The city of Limassol is situated between the ancient cities of Amathous to the east and Kourion to the west, two of the most spectacular archaeological sites on the island. A significant number of other interesting sites are also found through out the Limassol region.

Limassol Castle: Situated in the centre of old Limassol, is a remnant from the presence of Crusaders on the island. It was built in the 13th century on the site of an earlier Byzantine castle and has been converted today into the Cyprus Medieval Museum.

The old city: The heart of Limassol where its narrow radial streets lead outside the old fishing harbour.

Municipal Market: The atmosphere, the abundance of fruit and vegetables, the traditional merchants and the customers that arrive there from surrounding villages, all draw an exciting picture.



Kolossi Medieval Castle: Situated in the village of Kolossi, 11 km west of Limassol. It was built in the 15th century and belonged to the Knights of Saint John of Jerusalem and was the base of the most significant Commanders of each period.

Kourion Archaeological Site: The Greek-Roman Theatre is remarkable, while the stately villas discovered there with their exceptional mosaic floors and early Christian basilica are also noteworthy, amongst other treasures.

Amathous Archaeological Site: Situated approximately 10 km east of Limassol, was according to mythology founded by King Kinyras and this is where Theseus left the pregnant Ariadne to be cared for after the battle with the Minotaur.

Limassol is also known for its age-long tradition in cultural issues. It offers visitors a large variety not only of activities, but also of museums and galleries such as the Folk Art Museum, the Lemesos District Archaeological Museum, the Cyprus Wine Museum, the Carob Mill Museum and the Municipal Art Gallery.



Kourion Greco-Roman theater in western Limassol



“A people without knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots”.

-Marcus Garvey





Enjoy in Limassol

Something for everyone: Much more than a sun and sea destination, Limassol possesses a copious range of activities and pastimes for all. From sports, nature lovers, entertainment and leisure seekers to those who wish to attend an international conference to meet like minds or those who would much prefer to delve into the island's rich culture, the possibilities seem endless.

Sports & Water fun: An appealing destination for sports enthusiasts, there is an abundant selection of activities on both land and sea. Aside from relaxing under the year-round sunshine and swimming in certified Blue Flag beaches, the sun-kissed beachfronts host a wide variety of water sports including diving, snorkelling, surfing, water-skiing, catamaran trips and yachting in the clear Mediterranean waters. For more family fun a visit to the Waterpark is sure to be exciting with some of the largest rides in Europe, numerous slides and pools.

Shopping: As a shopping centre, Limassol offers the full gamut from ultra contemporary to the traditional and handmade.



Nightlife: The bustling nightlife with its clubs, bars and discothèques elevate the spirit. A cornucopia of restaurants, tavernas and cafés, many with outdoor seating in beautiful settings, form a culinary extravaganza with tastes of local and international cuisines.

Special interests: Limassol presents a myriad of options to embrace the island's culture and history with its archaeological sites, museums and galleries. A number of Wine routes and Byzantine church routes are also in place to make the visitor's planning easier. Helpful details and maps can be obtained from any Cyprus Tourism Organisation Information Centre or the website: www.visitcyprus.com.

Outdoor athletics: Outdoor athletics encompass cycling (with many designated routes), hiking, mountain biking, bird-watching, sightseeing, wall climbing, horse-riding, safari trips, off-road buggy tours and many other opportunities to appreciate the scenic natural beauty. Golf lovers can find clubs within only a 30 to 40 minute drive.



16 km stretch Beach Path: A point of reference in Limassol, thoroughly enjoyed both by locals and visitors. Take a seaside stroll at the beach path (or use the bicycle trail) which spreads from the old port promenade, passes by the Sculpture Park and continues towards the tourist area, down a path of several recently developed cafés by the sea.

Cruises: Cruises towards Greece, the Greek islands, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon and Syria take place from the harbour of Limassol that has developed into one of the largest Mediterranean harbours for both transit of goods and transportation of passengers.

Gastronomy & Wine: Fresh Mediterranean flavours can be enjoyed at numerous restaurants featuring both local and international cuisine. Don't miss the chance to try Cyprus wine produced at the nearby wine villages.

Country side: A short drive out into the surrounding countryside will take you through vineyards and quaint wine producing villages.





Limassol Carnival Festival

Photo by: Michel-K



*“Just living is not enough.
One must have sunshine,
freedom and a little flower”.*

-Hans Christian Andersen





Welcome to Limassol of Festivals & Events

Limassol's carefree holiday ambience is matched by the friendly and lively character of its people. With its fun-loving reputation it is fitting that this region hosts some of the island's best known annual events and festivals which create a vibrant, colourful atmosphere throughout the year.

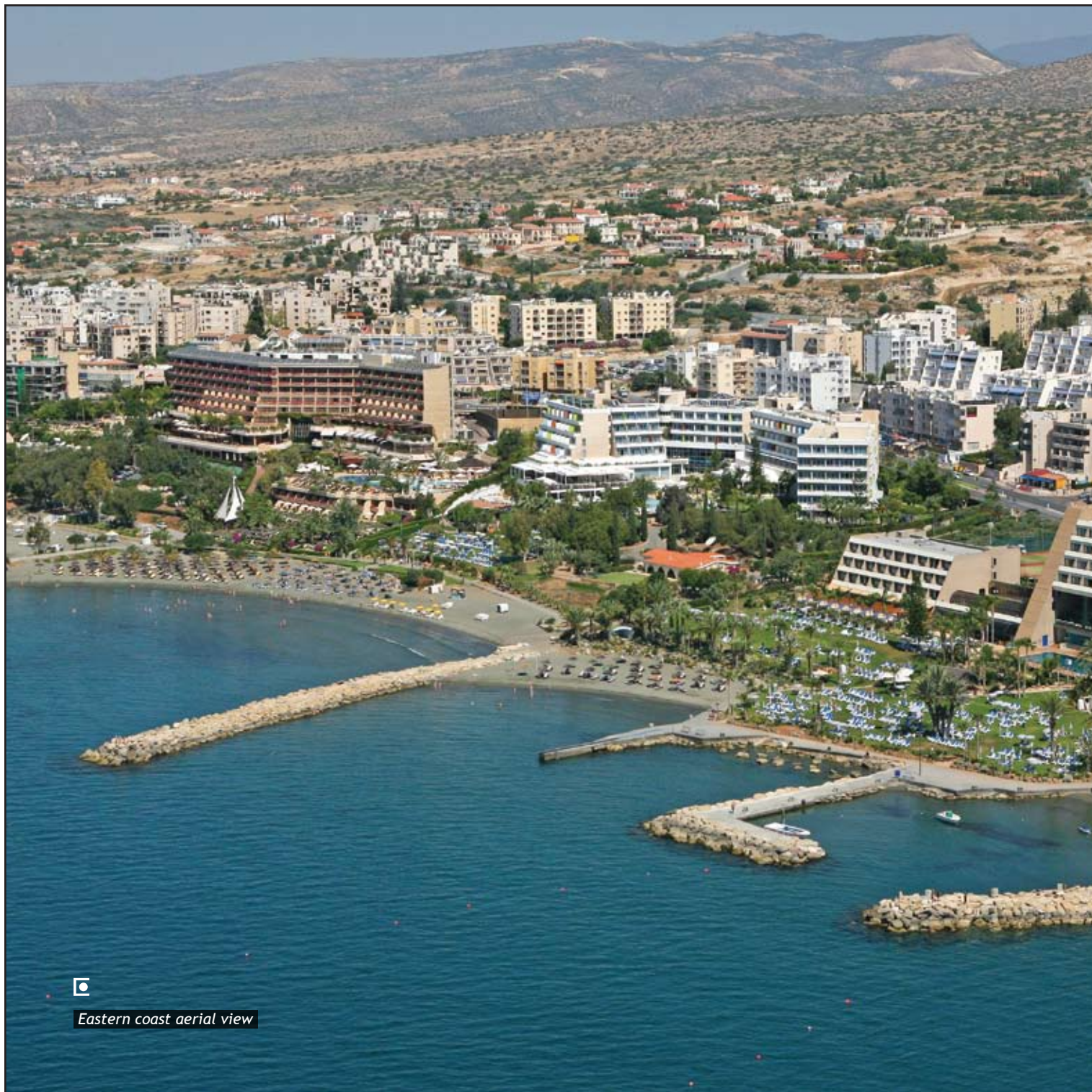
One of the brightest events is the 10-day pre-Lenten **Carnival** (usually in February/March), with masquerade parties, balls and grand parades of colourful floats and groups of fancy-dressed participants, singing and dancing along the streets of Limassol. At the beginning of May, the **Flower Festival** celebrates the beauty of spring with a floral exhibition boasting the rich variety of Cyprus' authentic wild flora. Perhaps the most popular is the 12-day **Wine Festival** at the end of August - early September, held since 1961, inspired by the ancient festivals dedicated to the god of wine Dionysus and honouring the island's long tradition of winemaking. This lively event, which takes place in the Municipal Gardens, offers free wine alongside theatre presentations, dancing and stands with various traditional food specialties.



Throughout the year, **Music, Dance and Theatre Festivals** enrich Limassol's cultural calendar.

Limassol is also equipped to offer an exhilarating experience to sports lovers. Whether as spectators or as participants the range of events is incredible and sure to be uplifting for all who embrace it. Athletic events such as the **New Year Regatta**, the **Cyprus Sunshine Cup** with mountain bike and cycling races, the **Cyprus Rally** which is one of the world's most exciting motor sports events and part of the official World Racing Championship, the **GSO International Open Marathon, Lemesia**, a 10-day international sporting event with competitions in boxing, karate, triathlon, marathon, shooting, rhythmic gymnastics and cycling are just a few of the annual athletic events that take place in Limassol.

More information is available on www.limassolmunicipal.com.cy, www.yermasoyia.org, www.cya.org.cy, www.cyprusrally.com.cy, www.wrc.com, www.mtbcyprus.com, www.gsomathon.com, www.rialto.com.cy, www.lanitisfoundation.org
For the list of Annual Major Events please visit www.visitcyprus.com



Eastern coast aerial view



“To myself I am only a child playing on the beach, while vast oceans of truth lie undiscovered before me”.

-Isaac Newton





Where to stay

Limassol provides every type of accommodation to suit a wide variety of tastes and budgets. Hotels operate all year-round and the majority of the 4 and 5 star hotels in Cyprus are found in Limassol. Other than the luxurious hotels on the beach with every amenity, including indoor and outdoor swimming pools, Wi-Fi services, health centers and spas for the most discerning guests, private villas with pools and self-catering apartments are available for those who prefer independent flexibility. Small hotels and accommodations in villages provide yet another option for those who favour tranquility and the picturesque.

Many hotels have exceptional conference facilities equipped with advanced technologies and associated with professionals who can organise every last detail to ensure a successful business event or private function. What more magical place to plan a wedding than the birthplace of the goddess of love.

No matter what the preference, Limassol, with its friendly service and welcoming atmosphere, is the ideal quality destination outfitted to suit all needs.



More information is available on:

www.cyprusshotelassociation.org

www.acte.com

www.agrotourism.com.cy





How to go around

Due to Limassol's centralised location, other cities and towns are relatively short distances away. There are three kinds of public bus services: **inter-urban bus services** connecting major towns on a daily basis with frequent routes, **rural buses** connecting smaller villages to their nearest town with limited frequency once or twice daily except Sundays and **urban buses**, which run within towns and tourist centres, operating frequently during the day and often with extended routes till late evening during the summer period. There is also a scheduled bus service based at Larnaca Airport which provides transfers to and from the airport.

Taxi services are widely used and easily accessible in tourist areas, hotels and airports. Inter-city taxi service in shared 4-8 seater minibuses provide an alternative method of transport with connection service between all major towns at a fixed rate (runs every half hour, Monday to Friday from 06:00 to 18:00, Saturday and Sunday from 07:00 to 17:00, no service on public holidays). Limousine service for transfers in style is also available.



There are plenty of private and internationally recognized car rental companies in Cyprus, some of which also have bases at the airport. Aside from the economical benefits, it is a fascinating way to explore the island at your own leisure; maps are usually supplied and easy to follow. Note that traffic in Cyprus circulates on the left.





View of a magical sunset from Enaerios Pier in Limassol



“In all things of nature there is something of the marvelous”.

-Aristotle





“THE NEW FACE” of Limassol

Several projects which are currently planned or are already under development in Limassol will contribute to an upgrading and significant transformation of this area within the next few years. Along with its unique identity, convenient location, cosmopolitan character and the richness in history and culture, the new face of Limassol will strengthen and enhance its role as a distinct prime sea side destination for business and leisure.

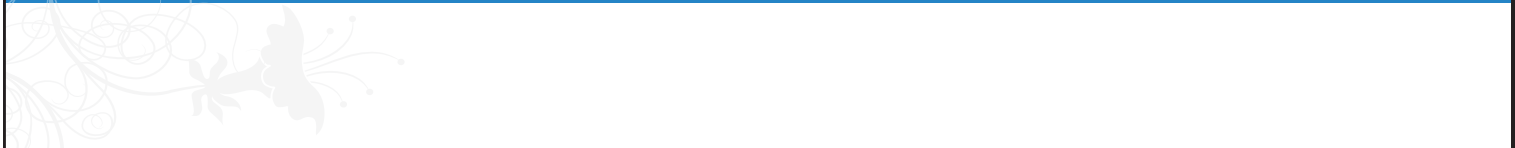
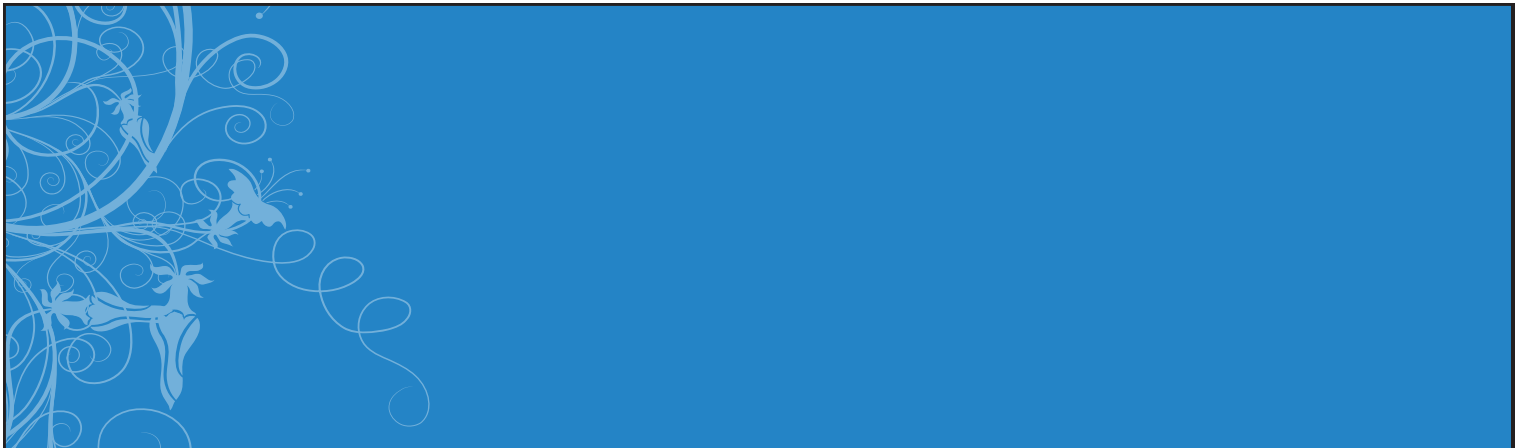
The projects planned include the construction of the **Limassol Marina**, in addition to the existing marina located on the east side of Limassol, to provide for the mooring of yachts at sea and on shore, the **Limassol Conference Centre** to host large international events throughout the year, a new passengers' reception area at the Limassol Port and the redesigning of the Old Port area to include coffee shops, restaurants and a Nautical Museum. In appreciation of the crafts, an **Artists' Neighborhood** is currently being developed to host local art workshops and to exhibit mosaics, icons, pottery and other pieces of traditional Cypriot art. Recently completed are the multifunctional “**GSO**” **Athletic Centre** and the



Limassol Olympic Swimming Pool which can cater to international swimming teams that wish to train in Limassol and enjoy the mild weather of the island.

These are just the stepping stones leading to many more items on the agenda which will enhance what Limassol has to offer to locals and visitors.





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Love Cyprus

The year-round island