LARNAKA

Inhabited region of Cyprus, with a history of 4.000 years. It is rich in ancient culture but is also a thriving modern European city.





The nearby marina is a favorite hang-out for a friendly community of local yacht owners as well as yachtsmen from all over the world.

The Zenobia Wreck is in the top ten places to visit worldwide when it comes down to diving. It sunk in June 1980 with its entire cargo.





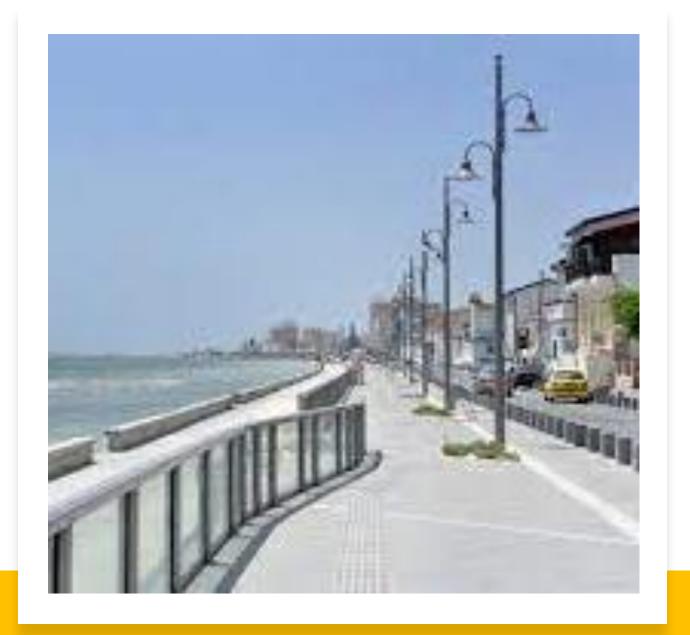
One of its most popular spots is the beautiful promenade of Foinikoudes, which is lined with palm trees, the beach and a variety of restaurants.





Located at the end of the Foinikoudes promenade, the Medieval Castle of Larnaka (also referred to as Larnaka Fort) is believed to have been originally built during the Middle Ages and took its present form during the Ottoman rule. After the end of the Ottoman era in Cyprus, the British converted it into a prison, and it was used during the first years of their rule.

Its coast joins with the sea walkway of Piale Pasha - with old charming neighbourhoods and fresh fish taverns.



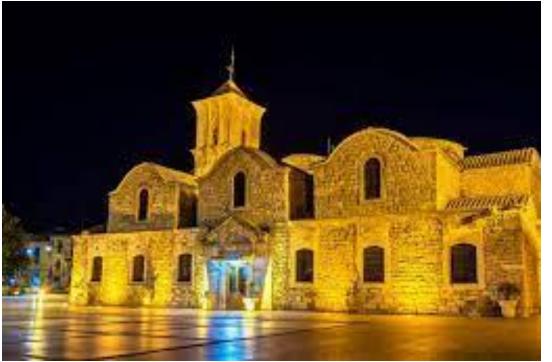


Aliki - Salt Lake is known for its walking trails and the flamingoes who gather in the center. Besides its picturesque beauty, the lake is the host of 85 migrating species of water-birds with estimated populations between 20,000-38,000. 2,000-12,000 flamingoes spend the winter months there feeding off populations of the brine shrimp Artemia salina.

Hala Sultan Tekke is a Muslim shrine on the west bank of Larnaka Salt Lake.







The grand cathedral church of Agios Lazaros is a unique monument. As the town's Patron Saint, the story and monument of Saint Lazarus serve as an enduring symbol of Larnaca's significant religious history.



At Pieridis Museum the visitor can watch the panorama of 9000 years of Cypriot civilization, starting from the Neolitic period, the Bronze Age, the Geometric, the Archaic, the Hellenistic, the Roman, and Byzantine-Medieval era



Larnaka District Museum has displays that show the historical development of the city of Kition and the District of Larnaka in general.





One of the finest examples of Byzantine art of the Justinian period - a rare 6th century mosaic of the Virgin and Child between two archangels - can be found in the region at **Angeloktisti Church** in Kiti village.

The mountainous areas of Larnaka trail up the Troodos range, which is dotted with charming villages of narrow streets, where traditions and skilled handicrafts are still practiced. Of the most famous is the handmade lace embroidery of Lefkara. A common sight is groups of women who sit in the narrow village streets working on their fine embroidery, as they have for centuries.





The region is also rich in significant archaeological sites, including 'Choirokoitia' - one of the best-preserved sites of a prehistoric settlement in the Eastern Mediterranean - and 'Kalavasos Tenta', located in the rural areas.