

NICOSIA



TAKE THE QUIZZ



HOW MUCH OF A NICOSIAN ARE YOU?

- 1 You are out, eating with friends. The food keeps coming in huge quantities and you realise you are just halfway in what you've ordered when your tummy is already full. Do you:
 - A) do what common sense suggests and stop eating
 - B) take a break with the intention to have some more later
 - C) in a much-practiced maneuver, undo your jeans button and keep going
- 2 You feel like having a soda. The kiosk is 200 meters from your house. Do you:
 - A) take your car and park it right in (front of) the entrance of the kiosk
 - B) walk there
 - C) cycle there
- 3 You are in your car driving. You see someone you know in the car coming from the opposite direction. Do you:
 - A) do nothing, you might text them later
 - B) wave or nod at them in case they saw you too
 - C) honk and perform big gestures until you get their attention, you both roll down your windows and start chatting until someone behind you gets impatient and starts honking
- 4 You have arranged to meet friends at 21:00. What time do you get to the meeting point?
 - A) 21:20
 - B) 21:05

1 A BEEHIVE OF PEACE
(Mon-Fri 09:00-21:00, Sat 09:00-18:00) In the Buffer Zone (see *5 Minutes of History*), a space dedicated to fostering peace and cooperation has found its place. **HOME FOR COOPERATION (H4C)** is a hub for collaborative initiatives and projects involving Greek-Cypriots, Turkish-Cypriots and anyone interested in peace-building and civil society efforts. Something's always cooking (festivals, live gigs or workshops) including budget-friendly walking or bike tours. Intrigued? Head to the cosy **HOME CAFE** (Mon-Fri 09:00-21:00, Sat 09:00-18:30) to get acquainted with this busy and colourful crowd or to get some work done away from the urban bustle.



2 SANDSTONE PALACE

"Ever since it was caught in 'no man's land' aka the Buffer Zone (see *5 Minutes of History*), **LEDRA PALACE** has been serving the UN peacekeeping force. It has also played a key role in the peace-building process in Cyprus as the meeting place for negotiations and bicommunal initiatives. Built 1967-1969, this grand, five-story sandstone hotel with arched windows introduced the Cypriot elite to a cosmopolitan lifestyle. It featured one of the first swimming pools in the island, hosted beauty pageants and dance competitions and served signature cocktails to foreign royalty and world-famous celebrities. Bullet holes mark its facade today in the same way violence and pain has scarred this city but, you only need to turn around to see seeds of hope sprouting."

Antonis | 24 | Law student

3 THE FORTIFIED CITY • TOURIST CLASSIC

Overlooked for many years, the impressive star-shaped fortification that runs around the nucleus of the city is now a focal part of city-branding campaigns. But still, few know that the **VENETIAN WALLS OF NICOSIA** are the archetype of renaissance bastion forts (see *Urban Travel*) and that each one of the eleven bastions was named after the noble family that funded its construction. Don't miss a chance to admire the impressive interior of the sublime Farnagusta Gate when open for an event, art exhibition, lecture or festival.

4 STARCHITECT SQUARE

ELFETHERAS SQUARE (Freedom Square), connects the old with the modern part of the city and lies where the first opening on the Renaissance fortification by the British in 1882. The historic centre, was established by the British in 1882. The revamped, designed-by-Zaha (Hadid), central square of Nicosia has been a work in progress for more than a decade now. The slow-moving working piece has been a source of frustration, debate and criticism. Great progress has been made since 2018 though and part of the square has been opened to the public recently. Looks like we will be able to enjoy our starchitect square by the end of this year.

5 URBAN LEGEND

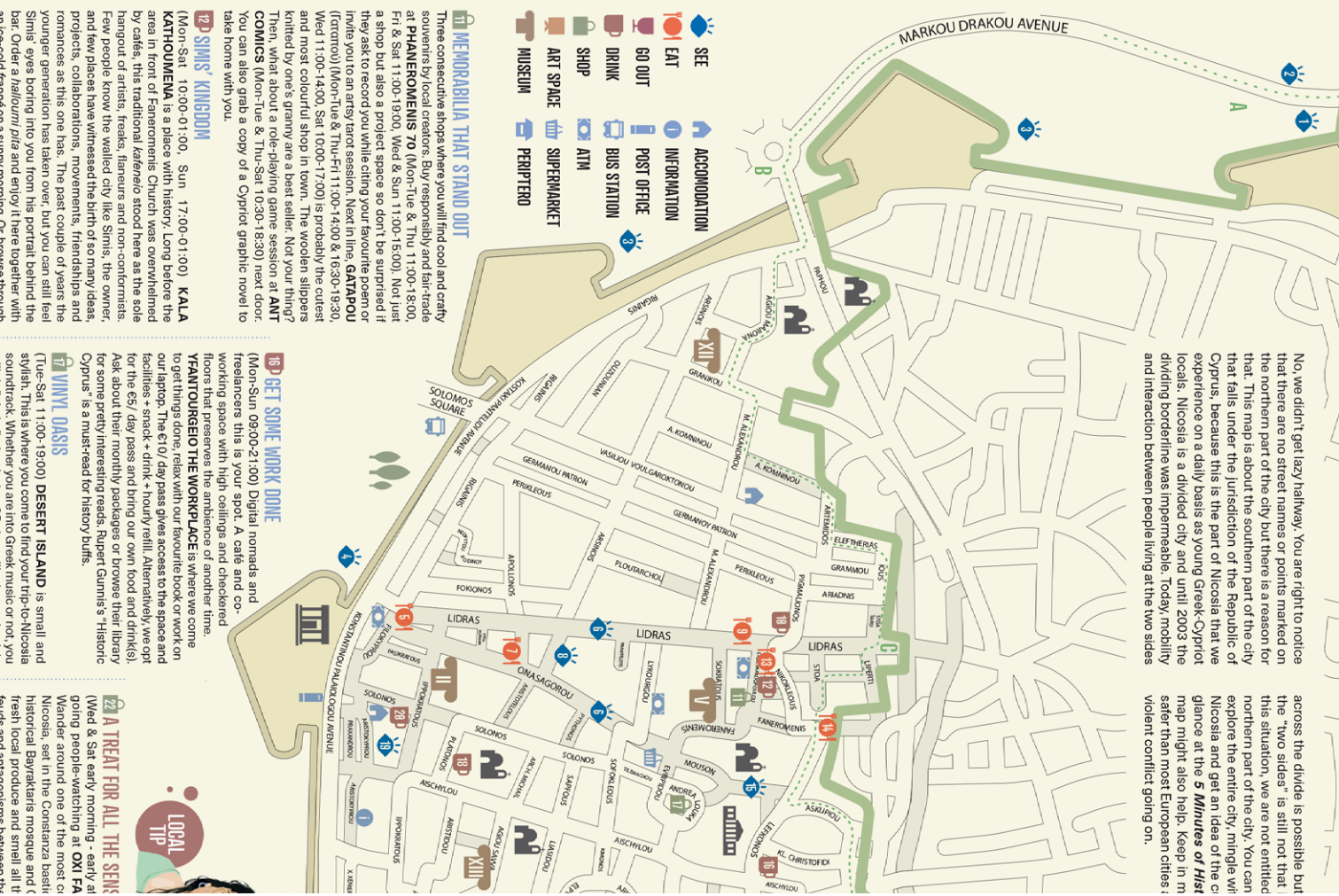
Drunk munchies? **ELIAS** has got you covered. Look for his trailer car where Ledras and Chassagorou streets meet. Grab a pizza and a boiled egg on your way back to your bed after a long night out and a few too many drinks. Most interesting and surreal conversations might occur next to the cheese pies.

6 UP AND DOWN • TOURIST CLASSIC

LEDRAS and **ONASAGOROU** were the two main commercial streets of Nicosia for many years before falling from grace. In the early 2000's, around 2010 they became, once again, the beating heart of the city, only to start shriveling up again a decade later. Still, you simply can't leave Nicosia not having strolled up and down these two paved streets, like locals do. At Ledras you can taste favourite local ice cream brands (**Pantice**, **Heraklis**). **Rejis** browse collections of authentic vintage sunglasses in three capsule shops or cross the checkpoint to visit the "other side". Onasagorou is home to many fabric shops like

No, we didn't get lazy halfway. You are right to notice that there are no street names or points marked on the northern part of the city, but there is a reason for that. This map is about the southern part of the city that falls under the jurisdiction of the Republic of Cyprus, because this is the part of Nicosia that we experience on a daily basis as young Greek-Cypriot locals. Nicosia is a divided city and until 2003 the dividing borderline was impermeable. Today, mobility and interaction between people living at the two sides

across the divide is possible but the "two sides" is still not that situation, we are not entirely northern part of the city. You can explore the entire city, mingle with Nicosia and get an idea of the city glance at the *5 Minutes of History* map might also help. Keep in mind that the most European cities: safer than most European cities: violent conflict going on.



MEMORABILIA THAT STAND OUT
Three consecutive shops where you will find cool and crafty souvenirs by local creators. Buy responsibly and fair-trade at **PHAEKOMENIS 70** (Mon-Tue & Thu 11:00-18:00, Fri & Sat 11:00-19:00, Wed & Sun 11:00-15:00). Not just a shop but also a project space so don't be surprised if they ask to record you while citing your favourite poem or invite you to an artsy, raw session. Next in line, **GATAROU** (Tues-Fri 11:00-14:00, Sat 10:00-17:00) is probably the coolest and most colourful shop in town. The wooden shelves knitted by one's granny are a best seller. Not your thing? Then, what about a role-playing game session at **ANT COMICS** (Mon-Tue & Thu-Sat 10:30-8:30) next door. You can also grab a copy of a Cypriot graphic novel to take home with you.

SINIS' KINGDOM
(Mon-Sat 10:00-01:00, Sun 17:00-01:00) **KALA KATHOUMENA** is a place with history. Long before the area in front of Farnagusta Church was overwhelmed by cafes, this traditional *kafeneio* stood here as the sole hangout of artists, freaks, flamers and non-conformists. Few people know the wild city like Sinis, the owner, and few places have witnessed the birth of so many ideas, projects, collaborations, movements, friendships and romances as this one has. The past couple of years the younger generation has taken over, but you can still feel Sinis' eyes boring into you from his portrait behind the bar. Order a *halloumi pizza* and enjoy it here together with an *aperitif* friend or a *simon simonion*. Or, browse through

GET SOME WORK DONE
(Mon-Sun 09:00-21:00) Digital nomads and freelancers this is your spot. A café and co-working space with high ceilings and checkered floors that preserves the ambience of another time.

YFANTOURGEO THE WORKPLACE is where we come to get things done, relax with our favourite book or work on our laptop. The €10/day pass gives access to the space and facilities + snack + drink + hourly rent. Alternatively, we opt for the €5/day pass and bring our own food and drink(s). Ask about their monthly packages or browse their library for some pretty interesting reads. Rupert Gunnis's "Historic Cyprus" is a must-read for history buffs.

WINY OASIS
(Tue-Sat 11:00-19:00) **DESERT ISLAND** is small and stylish. This is where you come to find your trip-to-Nicosia soundtrack. Whether you are into Greek music or not, you

A TREAT FOR ALL THE SENS
(Wed & Sat early morning - early afternoon) Wander around one of the most historical Bayraktaris mosque and fresh local produce and smell all it's favorite and aromatics between the



LOCAL TIP

zy hallway. You are right to notice
freet names or points marked on
the city but there is a reason for
out the southern part of the city
e jurisdiction of the Republic of
Nicosia is the part of Nicosia that
all basis as young Greek-Cypriot
divided city and until 2003 the
was impermeable. Today, mobility
mean people living at the two sides

across the divide is possible but, the population of
the "two sides" is still not that integrated. Due to
this situation, we are not entitled to write about the
northern part of the city. You can of course visit and
explore the entire city, mingle with locals all around
Nicosia and get an idea of the current condition. A
glance at the **5 Minutes of History** section of this
map might also help. Keep in mind that Nicosia is
safer than most European cities and that there is no
violent conflict going on.

RK DONE Digital nomads and
00) sport. A cafe and co-
high collages and checkered
the ambience of another time.
EMORPLACE is where we come
ask with our favourite book or work on
ny pass gives access to the space and
nk + hourly refill. Alternatively, we opt
thy packages or browse their library
sing reads. Rupert Gunn's "Historic
id for history buffs.

22 A TREAT FOR ALL THE SENSES
(Wed & Sat early morning - early afternoon) "I just love
going people-watching at OXI FARMERS' MARKET!
Wander around one of the most colourful spots in old
Nicosia, set in the Constantza bastion parking lot by the
historical Bayraktars mosque and OXI square. Feast on
fresh local produce and smell all the smells, watch the
fauna and savor the serene landscape between the first waves and if

27 LISTEN TO THE PAST
(Tue-Sun 10:30-14:30 & 17:30-01:00) "KAREMEMIO 11 gives
you the feeling of time travel to a long-gone romantic era.
At the end of a week full of obligations, I very often retire in
its colourful courtyard in the summer or next to the warm
of the fireplace in the winter. It is one of the few authentic
places where you can feel the mystic atmosphere and
enjoy unplugged *rebetiko* tunes, the early 20th century
historical Bayraktars mosque and OXI square. Feast on
fresh local produce and smell all the smells, watch the
fauna and savor the serene landscape between the first waves and if

32 LOVE BIRDS
(Mon-Sat 7:30-00:00) What made us all fall for this place?
A tasteful industrial cosy space, state-of-the-art coffees,
homemade cordials, yummy nutritious snacks. Helplessly
enlured classic or signature cocktails and two lovely ladies
behind the counter. Since it serves its first table a year ago,
SWIMMING BIRDS became a destination. Pick a spot inside
the light-filled interior or at the secret backyard during the
day, or join the cool crowd in the evening and sip your drink
to the sound of lovingly put together compilations. PS, we
are in love with the quirky toilet signs brought all the way
from Venice and the custom-made retro foldable chairs.

33 ART CIRCUITS
(Tue-Sat 10:00-21:00) Whether you are an art lover or
a lost artistic soul, come pay a visit at NIMMAC (Nicosia
Municipal Arts Center). A renovated former powerhouse
hosting temporary modern and contemporary art shows.
Even if you are not the artsy type, it's still worth a visit for
the industrial architecture of the building and the lovely
courtyard. Here you will find THE OLD POWERHOUSE
CHILL BAR (PALLA ELEKTRIKI) that recently became a
pole of attraction for a youthful, tussy mob.

34 LOST BOYS' (AND GIRLS') ROCKTOPIA
(Sun-Thu 20:00-03:00, Fri-Sat 20:00-04:00) Fun fact: Peter
Pan and the lost boys were rock fans. NEVERLAND is their
church and rock is their religion. Equal your adventures with



38 MUNCH ANTICIPATED
STATE GALLERY OF CONTEMPORARY ART - SPFL is
a recently inaugurated annex of the State Gallery of
Contemporary Art, housed in a restored and renovated
industrial modernist building of the 1960s. It is rather vague
when the permanent collection, with works spanning from
the second half of the 20th century to today, is going to be
installed and open to the public. In the meantime it is worth
if there are any free tours available and sign up for one.

**40 YOU WHO WANTS TO LIVE
IN THE OLD CITY? • TOURIST CLASSIC •**
Wander around **CHRYSALINIOTISSA**, the last purely
residential neighbourhood of the old city and enjoy the
renovated architecture, spot the construction year of each building
on their facade and stop to smell the jasmine. The
neighbourhood, built in the medieval times, was named
after the principal church devoted to *Panayia* (Virgin
Mary) which you can still visit. In recent years it was left
undeveloped due to its proximity to the Buffer Zone.
However, it was renovated during the 80s and 90s and
today the municipality aims to revitalise it through a social
housing program. Pass by the restored **Chrysaliniotissa
Arts & Crafts Centre** to admire the work of local artists
and find that special gift/souvenir you wanted to take
back home with you. When you are done, pick a spot at
Big's Veggie Heaven (Tue-Sat 08:30-17:00), Nicosia's first
exclusively vegetarian restaurant. Ms Niga came all the
way from Iceland to build her artisan meat-free paradise
in the land of devoted carnivores. Both the place and the
are adorable.

39 SHUWAKI HUB
ORPHEUS' SOULAKI and **KIPOTIS CHRYSALINIOTIS-
SAS** at Trouliss Park across the street are both favoured
by the locals during summer. Taste spellbinding *souvlaki*
or fascinating *meze* and ice cold beer under the Nicosian
summer starry sky. Both open late in the afternoon and
stay open until midnight.

41 NICOSIA IN A WITSHIEL
This is probably the most creative representation
of Nicosia's ubiquitous fortification. The iconic
CONSTRUCTING THE PAST mural by Farhad Nariou-
O'Neill summarises, in a mesmerising way, aspects,
influences and elements that have shaped the face of
the city and its history. Created in 2004, it was badly
deepening until a local artist decided to restore it. Extra
perk, the gigantic cactus and the cute garden hiding
in the courtyard around the corner.

42 CUTE SECRET SPOT
(Wed-Mon 10:00-23:00) We love this remote (as its name
suggests) traditional *kafenio*. Located along one of the most
beautiful narrow streets of Agios Kassianos neighbourhood,
APOWERO has its loyal crowd. We come here for the
peaceful and cosy atmosphere, the extensive list of local
herbs and of course the freshly made traditional pies
and sweets prepared by Ms Androulla (the owner). If you
happen to be here during summer don't leave without
tasting the *malabati*. We can't guarantee that you'll
like it but it will definitely cool you down - plus, it's very
instagrammable.

43 A FRESH PERSPECTIVE
Anna Maria, a young visual artist, envisioned a space
hosting workshops and cultural events, performances,
art shows and other creative initiatives by emerging local
artists. Since she established **GARAGE (TRAPAZI)**, at this
elegant oval building, we have had the chance to attend
numerous artistic events involving both young and pioneer
Cypriot artists re-introduced in a fresh way.

44 BACK IN TIME
At **TAHTAKALA** area people still like to sit on their
doorsteps chatting with their neighbours while children
are playing and cats are taking a nap in the flowerpots.
The mosque and the Turkish name of the area alludes
to the Turkish-Cypriot inhabitants who were living here
until 1963. It was re-habitated only after 1974 and then
renovated during the 90s and 90s under the Nicosia
Master Plan, a bi-communal project for the revival
of several areas within the walled city. Lose yourself
around Antigonus and Tritou streets and seize the
numerous photo opportunities.

45 WALK THE LINE
Take a walk across the Green Line, the artificial border
dividing our city in two. It is actually more of a hand line
than a line, also called the Buffer Zone, and the only
zone entitled to reside and move around this part of the
city are the Blue Berets of the UN peace-keeping force.

46 WALK TOWARDS PAFOS GATE One of the three gates of
Nicosia's Venetian wall. The surrounding area
used to be an aristocratic neighbourhood, mostly
inhabited by rich minorities, which explains the
Catholic and Maronite churches and the Embassy
of the Vatican. This is the least touristy part of the
old town - definitely worth exploring.

47 HEARD TO REMOU STREET, once the flourishing
commercial heart of the town and now partially
abandoned in the Buffer Zone. After decades of
abandonment, it has recently undergone some
serious renovations and it's busy once again. Grab
a drink or a Cypriot coffee at one of the lively cafe-
bars and choose a gift for someone special at one
of the crafty design shops that flourish in the area.

48 AT TALOU STREET spot the "old man" on your right
and approach the barricade. Someone has thought
of a creative way to repurpose the barricade barrels.
Head to **ERMOU STREET**, once the flourishing
commercial heart of the town and now partially
abandoned in the Buffer Zone. After decades of
abandonment, it has recently undergone some
serious renovations and it's busy once again. Grab
a drink or a Cypriot coffee at one of the lively cafe-
bars and choose a gift for someone special at one
of the crafty design shops that flourish in the area.

49 MANSION today housing the University of Cyprus
Cultural Centre. Live performances take place here
under the starry sky in summer and in autumn.

50 CHECK OUT THE FOOTBALL MATCH AT OREAS STADIUM
before you make a stop to chill under the trees and
play with the cats at **TOUFEKIS PARK** right next to

51 Keep walking towards **LIDINIS STREET** spotting the
outposts, sandbags, barricades and graffiti on the
walls. Pass by the workshops and salute the owner
of the Sleep Hotel across the street - a place for urban
explorers! Order a homemade *empanada* at **Haretsi**
and contemplate listening to the church bells and
muzzetzi's call to prayer dominating the soundscape.

52 Continue to **LEDRAS CHECKPOINT**. It's the busiest
crossing point right in the heart of the walled city.
Since it opened in 2007 it gave a boost to the local
market and urban development. Every day thousands
of people show their passport in order to cross and
visit the "other side".

53 Walk towards **PAFOS GATE**, one of the three gates of
Nicosia's Venetian wall. The surrounding area
used to be an aristocratic neighbourhood, mostly
inhabited by rich minorities, which explains the
Catholic and Maronite churches and the Embassy
of the Vatican. This is the least touristy part of the
old town - definitely worth exploring.

54 Step into the Zorn at **LEDRA PALACE CHECKPOINT**.
Spot the once glamorous **LEDRA PALACE HOTEL** - the
public art interventions and the fancy event venues
that often host wedding receptions. Allow yourself
a moment to embrace the paradox before checking
out **HAC'S** events while devouring a *halvarti*
wrap at their home cafe.

55 Keep walking towards **LIDINIS STREET** spotting the
outposts, sandbags, barricades and graffiti on the
walls. Pass by the workshops and salute the owner
of the Sleep Hotel across the street - a place for urban
explorers! Order a homemade *empanada* at **Haretsi**
and contemplate listening to the church bells and
muzzetzi's call to prayer dominating the soundscape.

56 Continue to **LEDRAS CHECKPOINT**. It's the busiest
crossing point right in the heart of the walled city.
Since it opened in 2007 it gave a boost to the local
market and urban development. Every day thousands
of people show their passport in order to cross and
visit the "other side".

- V. **BOGGS**
Archaeology and Money
- VI. **PANCPRIAN GYMNASIUM MUSEUMS**
Bones of Pygmy Hippo and science school equipment from the 50s
- VII. **BZANTINE MUSEUM**
Art in the service of religion
- XI. **LEVENTIS GALLERY**
Cypriot, Greek and European art (17th - 20th century)
- XII. **CYPRUS CLASSIC MOTORCYCLE MUSEUM**
Must-see for bikers and war-history nerds
- XIII. **POSTAL MUSEUM**
Cyprus-themed philately and paraphernalia

WWW.USE-IT.TRAVEL

USE-IT is tourist info for young people, made by locals, no-nonsense and up-to-date. Like www.facebook.com/USE-IT and be the first to know about our new maps.



ABOUT THIS MAP: Nobody paid to be featured on this map. The choice of locations was made by young people living in Nicosia. This publication reflects only the point of view and the opinion of the authors. The supporters of the project cannot be held responsible for any type of misuse of the information contained in it.

Design by: Philippos Kasselides
Illustration by: Daphne Christodou
Printed in Nicosia (Cyprus)
December 2020
© All rights reserved



Α.Ο.Γ. ΤΟΜΗΤΙΣΤΙΚΟ ΔΙΑΡΥΜΑ
ΝΕΥΤΕΡΗ ΟΙΚΟΝΟΜΙΑ

partly. Artworks, street musicians and documentaries all gather here on Friday nights to kick-start the weekend. Local DJs might be on deck but don't expect them to do their best to impress you! They get drunk, they mix up with the crowd and they have fun. In the summer a bar pops up in the garden and live gigs happen occasionally throughout the year.

51 CONTEMPORARY COOKERY

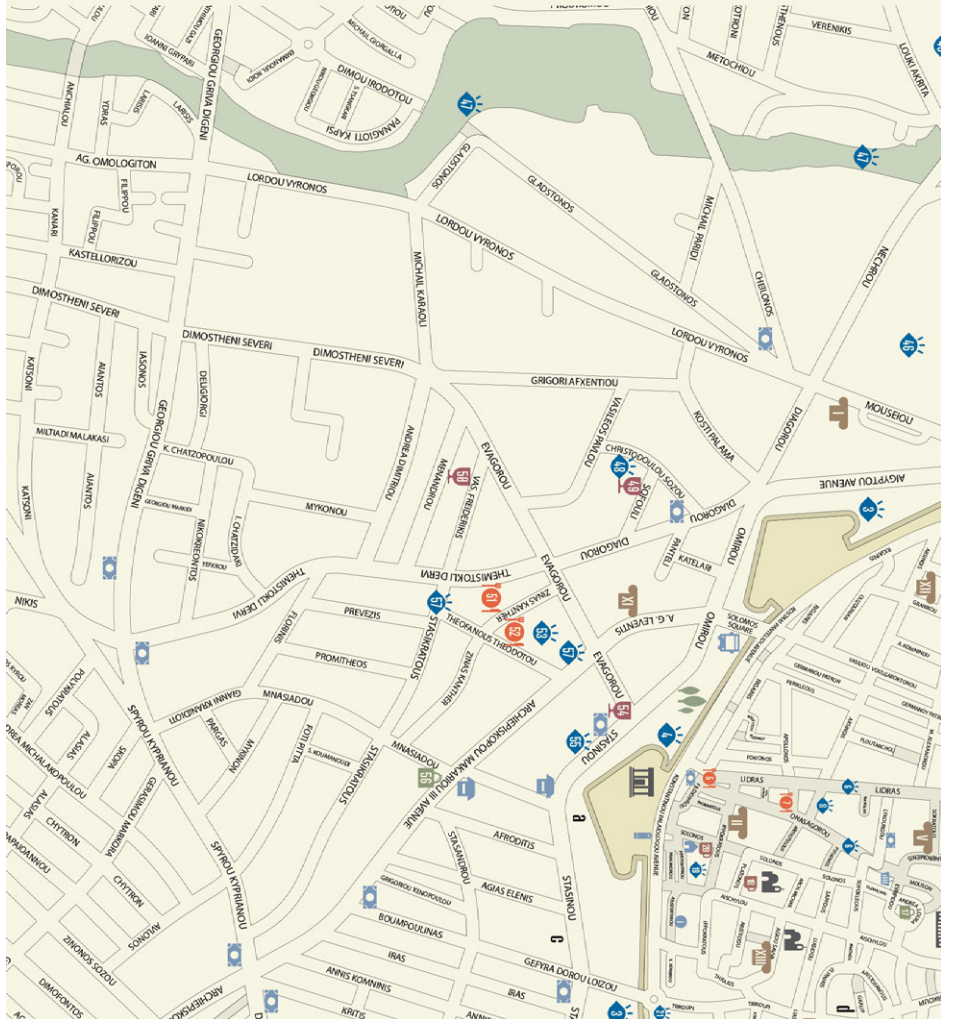
(Mon-Fri 8:00-16:00, Sat-Sun 10:00-17:00) This cute, cosy little space is fuelled exclusively with girl power and is one of the most popular spots for breakfast, lunch break or weekend brunch. **SILVER POT** offers a small but mouth-watering selection of salads and fusion or traditional dishes with a twist, prepared with handpicked fresh ingredients according to the owners' daily inspiration. Accountants and businessmen mingle with artists and university professors to enjoy their meal here while gossiping or discussing their next project. Expect to pay 10-15€ and to leave with a happy tummy. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options are included in the menu.

52 THE BREAKFAST FOOD YOU CAN EAT IN THE YELLOW SUBMARINE

(Mon-Sun 12:00-04:00) The **YELLOW SUBMARINE** is like a frame from Jim Jarmusch's movie *Coffee and Cigarettes*. It is extremely kitsch and the food is very greasy but tastes dreamy before or after a few drinks. Go for one of the gigantic submarines and don't forget the fries.

- SEE
- ACCOMMODATION
- EAT
- INFORMATION
- GO OUT
- POST OFFICE
- DRINK
- BUS STATION
- SHOP
- ATM
- ART SPACE
- SUPERMARKET
- MUSEUM
- PERIPTERO

Did you love this map? Did you spot a mistake? Did we miss anything? Drop us a line at: nicosia@use-it.travel [@useitnicosia](https://www.instagram.com/useitnicosia)



WILD SHEEP

9p.30-8.30, Wed & Sat. 09.00-1.700) Drama, art, cooking, travel guides, maps, anything Cyprus-related that you'd like. A lot of books + not just FICTION, a bookstore that has become the savvy owner, recently relocated from the city centre to a more central location. She can tell you everything wild sheep only found on the Cyprus. In more, in her gentle, low-pitched

HE DESERTED SHOPPING

STASIKOUSTOS, the two main of us and domms. From being the food drink, shopping or weekend and busy when the centre of the popular fashionable meeting place askarakos dotted with many high-end life options, recently re-launched as a cafe, Makarou was undergoing a beautiful process. We're rewarding since it's not a pretty sight then, urban explorers might enjoy a shopping-malls, Capital Centre and a pen, but nearby deserted. Funny thing at a tattoo at both of them! Tip: take Stasarakou/Pinarou Street where 4-hour coffee shops and restaurants

BUDGET FRIENDLY

Great quality Lebanese-american-baked in the clay oven and wait! I'd say more about BAKE 'N' TAKE? led bulgur shells stuffed with minced considered the best in Nicosia by a few. pizza and oregano pie a to your stomach and wash them all

Sat.08.30-15.00) For those who really do drink "muddy" Cypriot coffee and vegetable or filter coffee, don't despair! get as far as Cyprios and Nicosia. IJECT they serve masterful brewed ed cappuccino or flat white made of ground coffee beans. Make yourself the coffee-roaster or occupy a table watch the traffic go by.

ANTIQUE PRESSANT

(Mon-Sat. 16.00-23.00) PROZAK (Tropicki) is one of the coffee shops that seems to be blessed with a long life. you can easily spend a couple of hours getting lost in the many books or admiring the interior and exterior that is tastefully put together by the owner, Orestis. Various local hot and cold drinks are served in glazed ceramics created by his mother. If you like *mesfin*, go for an Anna Banana cocktail. If you're in need of something to warm you up, try *zavranovic znanina* with honey and herbs. Check their Facebook page for upcoming live gigs and exhibitions by young local artists.

DOUBLE FACE MARKET

During daylight AGIOS ANTONIOS MARKET (Mon-Sat 06.00-18.00) looks like another Nicosian municipal market with crates full of fruit, piles of fresh eggs and salamis with loud voices. But at night, it transforms to a foodie destination where you might taste some of the best pizza and burgers in town.

FOOD OVERDOSE

(Mon-Sat. 12.00-16.00 & 19.30-23.30) If you want to experience "eating like a local" at STOA TON DIMITRI you'll face the ultimate challenge. It's food, friendly, hospitable and a little bit chaotic. This unpretentious Cypriot taverna literally goes all the way when it comes to traditional delicacies and even its menu is written in Cypriot Greek. Go for the casseroles and cooked dishes at noon but make sure not to pass the mezze at night. Uncountable small plates with traditional delicacies keep coming way after you have unbuttoned your jeans (see the Quiz on this map). If you'd like to survive the procedure, start slowly and don't eat too much bread. End with a shot of heartwarming *zavranica*, and roll yourself back home.

24/7 FOOD PARADISE

(24/7) Once you have opened this box, you definitely can't close it again. Only when you enter a local bakery you completely understand what food means to us. The most popular ones are PANDORA and ZORBA, but it's a never-ending discussion which one is the best. You can decide for yourself as they appear here side by side, fighting for the customers day and night. It's here you have to be for your breakfast, lunch, 4 o'clock tea, dinner, after-party and hangover cure. Grab a *faldhizola* (thin pie) at Zorbas or an *elofiti* (olive bread) at Pandora and embrace our obsession with food.

HIGHLY VEGETARIAN UNFRIENDLY

(May-Oct. Mon-Sat. 18.00-00.30) There is nothing more Cypriot than sitting on a plastic chair at the street side enjoying an *afiti* serving and an ice-cold glass of beer under the wire on a late summer evening. This is where you can have this experience. OTTON KYRIAKOS serves just one thing so it has to be good: It's all about a mouth-melting dish of goat or lamb with potatoes slowly cooked in the meat's fat for several hours in a traditional wood-fired clay oven. Accompany it with salad, *pourkouri* (bulgur), *kappari* (caper leaves in vinegar), *yoghurt* and cold KEO beer for a 100% Nicosian summer dine-out evening.

CINEMA UNDER THE STARS

(Jul-Sep. Wed-Sun. 21.00) On a late summer evening, when most people have left the city, head to CONSTANTIA open air cinema to experience watching a great selection of international and/or cult films under the starry sky. If you want a small bite during the break, buy some *gardenakia* from the canteen. Their taste takes us back to our childhood, since it was a very popular snack for children in the 90s.

SWEET ESSENTIALISM

(Mon-Sun. 17.00-22.30) The unapologetic, restricted to the essential setting and the typography on the sign indicate that this is a place from another era where the product was all that mattered. For 31 years MICHALAKIS (Miyokaki) family affectionately prepares a national favourite. *Loukoumades* are deep-fried, flour-based sweet spheres dipped in syrup, traditionally consumed on 6th January, available here throughout the year.

LOCAL TIP

ART REGULARS

No visit to Nicosia is complete without a stop at THIKO PALLES, one of the few spaces showing contemporary art on the regular. Away from the golden triangle of commercial galleries, in an industrial space, here you can engage with the art scene in an immediate way. Peter and Stelios, who run the space, are both active artists and have created a sense of community, hosting both visual and sound art events. Check their Instagram for events and shows updates.

Evgoras | 32 | connoisseur



A VILLAGE WITHIN THE CITY

OLD KAIMAKLI still preserves the allure of a small village while being inescapably close to the city centre. Traditionally a working class neighbourhood with cobble streets and yellow sandstone houses, it has attracted an unusual blend of residents. From well-known architects and lawyers to young artists, musicians, Syrian refugees and Filipino immigrants. Take a walk on this less touristy side of the city where the sense of community is still present.

Join the Saturday collective-kitchen at SOCIAL SPACE KAYMAKLI and seize the opportunity to mingle with Nicosia's radical political movements and alternative culture advocates. Their weekly agenda features screenings, discussions and more. Among other things they organise and host the yearly festival *Gender's and Power*.

Stop to admire ANIA VARVARA CHURCH's exquisite bell tower crafted in the early 20th c. by local stonemasons. Kaimakli was home to some of the most famed construction crews of the island, particularly skilled in stone carving. Some of them achieved a somewhat international career having worked in i.e. Zimbabwe.

Step in JULIA ASTREOU MOVEN TEXTILES where you can observe traditional looms in use and wander around the showroom to admire Julia's creations. If you are up for the challenge she also offers courses. Have a sit at traditional KAFENEIO PLATEIA KAIMAKLI (Kafeveio Thaxeta Kidiakou) and order a cup of coffee before switching to *zavranica*. Observe the molyde crew that cuts across the small square.

Walk across VASILIOS PAILOU STR to admire the loom but enable sandstone residences and peek into the pinning interiors through the open doors. Let the smell of the food being prepared and the scent of the flowers growing in pots and backyards seduce you and appreciate why all these people choose this to be their neighbourhood.

Before you head there check their Facebook page for opening times updates.

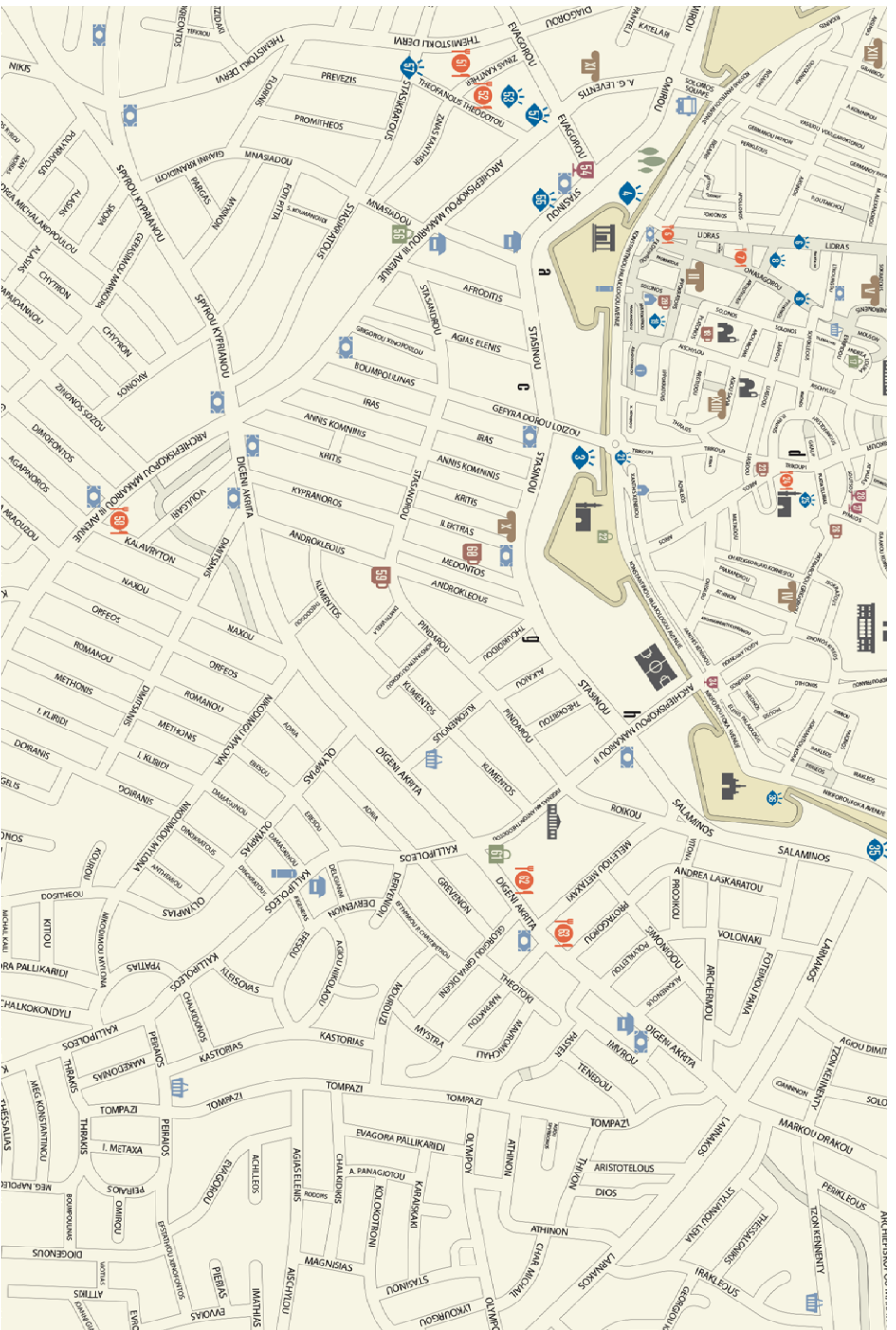


URBAN TRIVIA

Daze and dazzle your newly acquainted Nicosian friends by casually bringing up these fun facts about their city:

- We believe that our city is like no other, but Nicosia actually has two Doppelgänger, Nicosia in Sicily bears the exact same name while Palmarosa, a town in southwestern Italy, is surrounded by a wall with arrow shaped bastions, pretty identical to the one of our Nicosia. Both FORTIFICATIONS were designed by the Venetian engineer and architect Giulio Savorgnato.
- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8! We bet you would never notice that there are only eight out of the eleven bastions of the emblematic circular fortification of the city represented in the official LOGO OF NICOSIA MUNICIPALITY. If you don't believe us check the back cover of this map.
- One would expect that the first Bishop and patron saint of Nicosia would have at least a lofty church dedicated to his grace. There is a sole tiny AYOVI THAFLOS CHAPEL on the whole island - and probably in the whole world. It only popped up in the courtyard of the emblematic Eleno Primary school in 1992!
- GALIP STREET is a tiny street that bears the name of the Turkish doctor who once resided here. It's the only street that escaped the change in street names post 1963 (see 5 Minutes of History).
- You will spot a wooden door on the semi-degraded stone wall. Open it and you will encounter the pint-sized CHAPEL OF AYIOS NICOLAOS. But, wait! There is more. Check out the framed ART PIECE BY TWENTY THREE on the adjacent wall. Both the picture and the frame look like they were cut in half. Feeling curious? The other half is to be found on the other side of the

- If you are an old-school soul who insists on sending postcards back home, then you can't miss the yellow pillar tube boxes around the city. The iconic case from COLONIAL MAIL BOXES are a legacy of the British rule, still bearing the initials of the British monarch indicating their period of birth. Originally red, they were painted yellow in the post-independence era when additional lesser steel imitations, lacking the
- Wondering what a Cypriot National Hero has to do with Nicosia? Well it gave you a hint. The star shaped JOSE MARTI MONUMENT was put there to commemorate the similar struggle for independence that both countries fought. Che Guevara's daughter Aleida came by and paid her respects in 2017. Will you?
- If you are an old-school soul who insists on sending postcards back home, then you can't miss the yellow pillar tube boxes around the city. The iconic case from COLONIAL MAIL BOXES are a legacy of the British rule, still bearing the initials of the British monarch indicating their period of birth. Originally red, they were painted yellow in the post-independence era when additional lesser steel imitations, lacking the



1963 (see a *minutes* or *History*).
 e. You will spot a wooden door on the semi-derelict stone wall. Open it and you will encounter – the print-sized **CHAPEL OF AYIOS NICOLAOS**. But, wait! There is more. Check out the framed **ART PIECE BY TWENTY THREE** on the adjacent wall. Both the picture and the frame look like they were cut in half. Feeling curious? The other half is to be found on the other side of the border.

TOURIST INFO



Tourist Information Office:
 Mon-Fri 8:30-16:00 & Sat 8:30-14:30

FREE GUIDED TOURS

Visit Nicosia's *LeftKos* and *RightKos*!
 Mon-Fri 10:00-13:00 & Sat 8:30-14:30

Discover the old Nicosia and its walls (Thu 10:00-13:00)
 The past restored, **Palaiofossas and Kaimati!**

Starting point: Tourist Information Office
 Check out www.visitnicosia.com.cy and its Facebook page for more free tours, bike tours and events


PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Nicosia's Mini Buses run daily 07:30-23:50 and will take you anywhere inside and around the walls free of charge. www.nicosiaminibuses.eu
City Buses cover the broader area of the city and its suburbs
Tickets sold only on the bus: 1.50€ / 0.75€ one way, 5€ / 2.50€ day pass, 2.50€ / 1.25€ night routes
 Ask for the schedule and timetables at the central bus station at Solomon Square

TAXI

Call for a taxi or catch one in taxi stations (not while they are on the go). Average price: about 4km / 10mins
 Shuttle terminal to city centre, about 4km / 10mins
 Without train, costs approx. 8€ during daytime
 they are quite expensive!

RENT A BIKE

You can rent one at HHC  from Monday to Friday, 9:00-18:00
 5€ (1-5h) | 8€ (6-24h)
 Deposit: 70€
 More options and weekend offers here:
www.homeofcooperation.info/rent-a-bike

f. If you are an old-school soul who insists on sending postcards back home, then you can't miss the yellow pillar tube boxes around the city. The iconic cast iron, **COLONIAL MAIL BOXES** are a legacy of the British rule, still bearing the initials of the British monarch indicating their 'period of birth'. Originally red, they were painted yellow in the post-independence era when additional lesser steel imitations, lacking the royal demarcation, made their appearance.

FROM/TO THE AIRPORT

Option A: Karpas Airport Shuttle
Larnaca airport: ca. 40 mins | 8€
Paphos airport: ca. 1h30 | 15€
Pick up / drop off point: Kyrenias Avenue, opposite Police Head Quarters
 Online reservation recommended
 Bus 158 or 160 links Karpas Terminal with the town center (Solomon Square)
www.karpasairportshuttle.com
Option B: Travel Express

This shared intercity taxi service will pick you up at any given address (home / hotel / airport)
Larnaca airport: 50 mins / ca. 11€ (Mon-Sat) - 13€ (Sun)
Paphos airport: 2 hrs (including a stop at Limassol) / ca. 23€ (Mon-Sat) - 25€ (Sun)
 Reservation necessary online or by phone
www.travelexpress.com.cy

OPENING HOURS

Public services: 8:00-16:00
Banks: different for each bank but all are open between 8:00-14:00
Most shops within the walls: Mon-Sun 9:00-19:00
Shops out of the walls: Mon-Sat 9:00-13:00 & 15:00-19:00 (closed on Wed afternoons)
Museums: most Museums are closed on either Monday or Sunday

WHERE NEXT

Intercity buses
 Central Bus Station (Solomon Square) to LARNACA / LEMESOS / PAFOS / AMMOCHOSTOS
 One way: 4-7€ | Return: 7-15€
www.intercity-buses.com

COME PREPARED

Drinking: We arrive on the left side of the road - former British colony reminder? Keep that in mind when you are about to cross the street.
Power plugs and sockets: we use British plugs. If you need to buy an adaptor, you can get one at a local store / kiosk.