



Groups & Special Interests Newsletter Issue 4: Summer 2009

Dear Partners,

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter especially created for organisers of groups and special interest tours.

Summer has arrived bringing with it a whole host of events and activities and we will be focussing on some of the most interesting in this issue.

We will also be talking about some recent company events and introducing some new concepts for 2009 and beyond.

We hope you find our newsletter both enjoyable and informative and look forward to receiving your comments and feedback.

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Santa Marina Incentive Challenge

On Saturday 9th May, a team from the Aeolos Groups & Special Products Department participated in the Incentive Challenge at Santa Marina Retreat in Limassol. The event, the first of its kind invited teams from the island's key Incentive organisers to take a taste of their own medicine as they undertook a series of challenging activities to find the winning team. After trying their hands at archery and golf and testing their skills on horseback, on the climbing wall and at a blindfolded obstacle course, Aeolos was judged as the most enthusiastic team. The event ended with lunch and an awards ceremony at the Retreats' terrace café.



Troodos Cleaning Campaign



As part of its ongoing campaign for a clean rural Cyprus, the Cyprus Sustainable Tourism Initiative in cooperation with local communities, the CTO and others in the tourism industry organised a cleaning event in Galata village on Sunday May 10th.

An enthusiastic team of Aeolos volunteers took part and Aeolos also sponsored a bus for any participants from Limassol. As well as collecting litter from around the village, the event also included an exhibition of

local products and photography, a presentation about recycling, lunch with live music and then a walk to a UNESCO listed Byzantine church in the area.

An excellent day out combining fresh mountain air, environmental awareness and rural culture was enjoyed by all.

Wellness

Capo Bay Oneiro Spa

The Capo Bay Hotel in Protaras has just reopened following a complete renovation project that has transformed the hotel into the epitome of contemporary chic and modern comfort. All 225 rooms and suites have been redesigned and upgraded and feature a relaxing décor of pure lines and tranquil colours. New features also include satellite flat screen TVs, Wi-Fi connection, private balcony and bathrooms with whirlpool or jets as standard.

The jewel in the crown though has to be the new Oneiro Spa Centre in exclusive partnership with Payot, Paris. Created by architect and sculptor Joseph Caspari, the new spa centre makes use of stone and other natural materials in calm neutral shades to form a minimalist oasis of tranquillity and indulgence. As well as a wide range of luxuriant treatments for the face and body, the spa features a stunning Hammam, steam bath and sauna, a fully equipped gym and a 15-metre heated indoor pool.



Kouyiouka Watermill



Located close to Giolou village in the Paphos area, this listed building and working watermill has been totally renovated with the help of European funds to create a folkloric and cultural multi-centre.

The centre aims to promote traditional values, respect for local crafts and customs and provide an insight into rural life and traditions.

The mill is in full working order and visitors can sample bread made on site in the traditional way. A perfect venue for special interest

groups, the mill houses a small museum featuring video displays and can also offer wine tasting and cookery workshops where guests can have a go at preparing traditional local fare.

Eleouthkia Traditional & Botanical Park

Recently opened in Amarita village outside Paphos, the Eleouthkia Park is an innovative concept that combines folk tradition and specialist botany. Covering an area of 20,000 m² the park boasts more than 50,000 plants and flowers of 1800 varieties within 15



thematic gardens. Visitors can enjoy guided tours of the parks exceptional gardens as well as the chance to visit a traditional village house, enjoy authentic Cypriot hospitality at the taverna and even try their hand a preparing typical local dishes. The park also features an art gallery and holds exhibitions and special events throughout the year.

Upcoming Sports & Leisure Events

The Great Ballet Festival: July

This ballet festival taking place in the Limassol Municipal Garden Theatre is one of the most important cultural events of the year attracting visitors from home and abroad.

Cyprus FIVB Challenger: July

International Beach Volley Championship at the CTO Tourist Beach in Geroskipou, Paphos

Upcoming Cultural Events

International Music Festival Kourion Theatre: July

In the magical setting of the ancient Kourion theatre, the festival comprises performances by world renowned musicians



Troodos Mountains Traditional Festival "Natural Environment": July

Organised by the communities of Kato Platres and Moniatis villages the festival includes cultural demonstrations and performances of traditional dance and music, as well as hiking and cycling tours, lectures on the environment and other events

13th International Theatre Festival Ancient Greek Drama: July-August

An annual theatre festival that hosts professional productions of ancient Greek drama from different cultures around the world; venues for performances include the Paphos ancient Odeon, Kourion ancient theatre and Makarios III amphitheatre in Nicosia.

Limassol Wine Festival: August 28th-September 6th

One of the most popular events in the Cyprus calendar the wine festival attracts thousands of visitors to the Limassol Municipal Gardens each year. All of the islands main wine producers attend and visitors can sample select wines at their stands. Free wine is also given out by the municipality and guests can also enjoy a huge variety of local food, live music and dancing and even have a go at crushing grapes the traditional way!

Paphos Aphrodite Festival 4th-6th September

This annual operatic event takes place in the open air in front of the medieval castle in Paphos. This year's performance by the National Opera of Sofia will be of Delibes "Lakmé".

