

# OPTION 1: PAPHOS ANCIENT SITES TOUR

WEDNESDAY 27 MARCH 2019 | 09:00-15:30



The **Tombs of the Kings** is a large necropolis lying about 2 km north of Paphos harbor and it is a UNESCO World Heritage site. The underground tombs, many of which date back to the 4th century BC, are carved out of solid rock. They are thought to have been the burial sites of Paphitic aristocrats and high officials until the 3rd century AD. Some of the tombs feature Doric columns and frescoed walls.



Saint Paul visited Paphos in 45 AD in an attempt to convert the ruler of the time to Christianity. He was successful in his efforts, but not before being tied and whipped to this otherwise unremarkable lump of stone. The **Pillar of Saint Paul** is one of several popular stops for pilgrims who come to see the religious sites of this early bastion of the Christian faith. Paul received 40 lashes for evangelizing on the island.

**Ayia Paraskevi Church** in Yeroskipou is considered to be an extremely significant example of Byzantine architecture dated to the 9th century. It has not yet been established whether the church stands on the ruins of an ancient temple dedicated to the goddess Aphrodite. The church's architectural plan belongs to the type of the five-domed, three-aisled, barrel-vaulted basilica.



The **Paphos Mosaics** are one of the most ancient sites on the island of Cyprus, and considered to be the finest mosaics in the Eastern Mediterranean. They date from the 2nd century through to the 5th century and many are still in remarkably good condition. These mosaics would have originally been the floors of Roman villas belonging to nobles. Many of these sites are still being excavated today

## Paphos ancient sites tour itinerary:

08:30 Gather in the hotel reception

09:00 Leave the hotel to visit the Tombs of the Kings, St. Paul's Pillar, Ayia Paraskevi church in Yeroskipou, the Mosaics in Paphos.

13:15 Lunch at Hondros Restaurant, Paphos (traditional Cypriot 3 course menu)

15:10 Return to the hotel

**COST PER PERSON: €60 (includes transportation, English speaking tourist guide and lunch with drink)**