

Cyprus

July 2018: After independence from the United Kingdom in 1960 and following years of ethnic violence and war Cyprus today finds itself divided between its Greek majority in the South and Turkish minority in the North.

The capital Nicosia lies along the United Nations Buffer Zone and is the last divided capital city in the world. Two small pieces of land on the island are still United Kingdom Sovereign territory with military bases. There are three places to cross the buffer zone, including the Ledra Street crossing in Nicosia. Crossings requires passport checks by both the Greek Cypriots and the Turkish Cypriots.

The Greek government is recognized as the de jure government of the entire island by the United Nations and is a part of the European Union. Only Turkey recognizes the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus as a separate sovereign country.

Archaeological finding indicates humans have been on the island since 10,000 BCE. In addition to its modern conquerors Cyprus has been occupied by the Assyrians, Egyptians, Persians, Romans and Ottomans. Cyprus also holds an important place in Greek Mythology as the birthplace of Aphrodite and Adonis.



Greek Ledras Border Crossing



Turkish Ledras Border Crossing



Ledra Palace Hotel



UN Zone Abandoned Street



Barricade



Greek Border Fortification



Girne Kapısı



Paphos Waterfront



Apollo Hylates's Temple



Aphrodite's Birthplace



Kantara Castle



Kyrenia Harbor