



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

OFFICE OF IONIAN VILLAGE

Ionian Village Spiritual Odyssey 2012 Cyprus and Constantinople Tentative Schedule

Wednesday, May 30
Depart JFK Airport, New York

Thursday, May 31
Arrive in Cyprus

Friday, June 1 – Saturday June 2
Limassol, Akrotiri, Paphos, and Kykkos Monastery
(Commandaria winery, Downtown Limassol, Downtown Akrotiri, Monastery of St. Neophytos, Historical Paphos Museum (UNESCO World Heritage Site), Holy Monastery at Byzantine Museum at Kykkos, Local Beaches)

Sunday, June 3
Pentecost and Kataklysmos Celebration in Limassol
A Greek Orthodox festival with strong pagan roots focusing primarily on water, Kataklysmos or Festival of the Flood marks the day of the Holy Spirit.

Coastal cities make the most of the opportunity, staging concerts and games near the waterfront, but even inhabitants of inland towns and particularly children – their water guns a necessary accessory, enjoy a good ‘splash’. The feast of the Pentecost or Whitsun is marked 50 days after Greek Orthodox Easter. It is known also as the day of the Holy Spirit as it celebrates the descent of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles.

In Cyprus, the celebrations also hark back to the Old Testament tale of Noah’s Ark, the Greek myth of Deukalion and ancient ceremonies in honor of Aphrodite and Adonis. The sea front promenade takes on the appearance of an open-air fair with scores of stalls selling toys and traditional food.

Monday, June 4
Lefkosia
(Archdiocese of Cyprus, Cyprus Archeological Museum, Famagusta Gate, Eleftheria Monument, Local Shopping)

Tuesday, June 5
Larnaca and Agia Napa
Marble bust of Zeno, Church of Saint Lazarus, Thalassa Municipal Museum of the Sea, Agia Napa Monastery, Local Beaches)

Wednesday, June 6
Travel to Istanbul

Thursday, June 7
Ecumenical Patriarchate, Agia Sophia, and Blue Mosque

Friday, June 8
Halki Theological School and Grand Bazaar

Saturday, June 9
Depart Athens for JFK