**Education in North Cyprus as an investment to your future.**

Almost everyone nowadays has heard about North Cyprus. The island is known for its picturesque sightseen, welcoming Mediterranean Sea and the sun all year long. But only few visitors know that education in North Cyprus is highly supported by the government and only in the northern part of the island operate 15 international universities that teach more than 93,000 students from 80 countries. The number of foreign students here is constantly goes up.

*The certain advantages of choosing university of North Cyprus for international students are:*

- High level of safety. Cyprus is a peaceful touristic island, where unlike other countries, almost never emergency situations occur;

- World standards of education abroad and affordable fees;

- In the Northern Cyprus University you can get a diploma, which is quoted and recognized in EU and US;

- Government support for higher education in Cyprus;

- Most of the North Cyprus universities are using the American system.

*The list of universities in North Cyprus for international students.*

Higher education in North Cyprus is represented by numerous international universities with large campuses, developed infrastructure and technical facilities and excellent multinational teaching staff. Foreign students should know the English language well, or accomplish advanced training or intensive courses at the university.

* *American University of Girne* – founded in 1985 in Girne; based on the American system; provides education on the faculties of medicine, political skills, law, engineering, communication and humanitarian skills. The university has bachelors, doctors degree as well as the summer English language school and the exchange program with the universities of Great Britain. Approximate fee per year is 3000 euro.
* *Middle East Technical University* – founded in 1988 near small city Guzelurt; first known as a united project of Turkish government and the government of Northern Cyprus; now presents a great number of technical programs for international students such as oil and gas engineering, phycology, medicine and the rest, making full selection of the technical disciplines; approximate fee per year is 3500 euro.
* *Cyprus International University* – founded in 1997; is innovational organization, providing education of a World level; from the moment of its founding, it has been providing knowledge in modern and practical professions; famous for 100% employment of its graduates; approximate fee per year is 3000 euro.
* *East-Mediterranean University* – is the oldest one, founded in 1979 in Famagusta; educates international students in different magister, bachelor and masters programs as pharmacy, medicine, law, architecture, business, economy, IT, tourism; the university offers selection of discounts and pre-entering courses for international students; approximate fee per year is 3500 euro.

The fee for international students in various universities in Northern Cyprus is not much of a difference and depends on both - the level of education (bachelor, master) and faculty (civil engineering, pharmaceutical faculty). For example, at the Cyprus International University, the annual tuition fee for foreign students receiving a bachelor's degree is approximately € 3,600 per year, but the cost of some faculties, for example those studying for pharmacists, reaches up to € 7,000 per year. Tuition fees for postgraduate education programs (Master, PhD) range between € 2000 and € 2500, depending on the program.

**Places to visit in The North Cyprus for the travelers and kids.**

The Turkish republic of Northern Cyrus has been founded in 1983 with the capital in Lefkosha ( Nicosia). At the moment the only city in the world divided in two parts, belongs to two different states – Greece and Turkey. (and one can get from one part to another via a checkpoint in the city). To reach North Cyprus nowadays is only possible by air it by air previously landed in Turkey. The official language of Northern Cyprus - Turkish, mobile operators and currency - are also Turkish, the state religion - Islam.

The nice places in North Cyprus remains popular destinations for tourists from all over the world: there are many beaches, affordable and expensive hotels, restaurants with traditional Mediterranean food, and resorts for family vacation. In addition – the only European area, where the casinos are legal and are located in every touristic place, fascinates with their beauty and magnificent architecture.

*For the fans of the architecture the following places are must see in North Cyprus:*

- *Kyrenia Castle* (or the Kyrenia Fortress) - was built by the Byzantines in the 16th century in the harbor of Kyrenia. Later the buildings were expanded under the Lusignans, who completed the Byzantine chapel, the main entrance, the angular towers and the royal residence, and the Venetians, which strengthened the towers and adapted the walls to accommodate modern weapons to protect the fortress. In the history of the fortress's existence, it has never been stormed. However, in 1570 the garrison surrendered without a fight to the Ottoman army (the Turks used the castle solely as a military base). During the reign of the British government, police station has been located in the castle, and since 1974 it houses a museum in which you can see various archaeological findings and icons.

- *The ancient city of Salamis* - located 6 kilometers from Famagusta. It is an architectural monument, representing the ruins of a Hellenistic city. Its excavations are still going on since the middle of the 20th century. Also on the territory of the museum you can see the ruins of a huge ancient theater built in the 1st century AD, and Roman baths, the ruins of the temple of Zeus and the early Christian basilica, the remaining of the market square of the ancient city and the ruins of the wall protecting the city from the land.

- *The Belapais Abbey* – it is located in the picturesque mountain village, few kilometers from Kyrenia. On the territory of the abbey art exhibitions and musical festivals take place. The abbey has been built in the gothic style in 1198 by the Palestinian ascites. In the 13th century it has been expanded by the Augustine monks. For a few years it has been under the Greek Orthodox Church that is why you can still see the collection of icons, represented there. The abbey never has been used as a religious center, though Greek nobles were using it as a residence from time to time.

- *Ghost Town of Varosha* – is not an attraction for those, who is interested in architecture, but is a very fascinating place. Varosha is a tourist district of Famagusta, which in the late 1960s was a very famous entertainment center. However, in 1974, when the Turkish army entered Cyprus and occupied Famagusta, the Greeks were evacuated from the city, and the city’s quarter has been fenced. And, despite the fact that the Greeks were sure that they will return very soon, leaving all the furniture and objects in their places, the part of the city was never re-settled: neither by Greeks nor by Turks

*For those who travel with family and kids the following places to visit might be interesting:*

- *Beaches* - In Northern Cyprus, mostly sandy beaches, pebble beaches are much less common. There are both public and private, with a paid entrance (3 euros). For this money you will get a beach equipped with sun loungers with umbrellas from the sun, shower and toilet. A big selection of water activities - water skiing and motorcycles, boat rental, diving, windsurfing is available. Different beaches are recommended for different categories of tourists. For example, Escape (Beach Escape) is suitable for young people and fans of night entertainment (there are clubs and discos in the open air). For families with children, good options are Acapulco Beach, Deniz-Kizi (DenizKizi), Camelot (Camelot Beach). They have a gentle entrance to the water (a shallow sea in the beginning) and a lot of entertainment for the child.

- *Parks and reservations* – for the flora and fauna lovers the nice places to go in North Cyprus are Green heights Park, Taskent doga parki, Ancient olive forest, Flowers paradise in Lapta, botanic garden of Babel, where tourists not only observe, but also interact with the animals and can earn a lot about flowers and nature of Northers Cyprus.

**The details of car hire and driving rules in North Cyprus.**

The travelers are normally facing such a situation, when renting of a car in North Cyprus is simply necessary. The island has a lot of sightseen, and it's impossible to see everything without personal transport. That is why it is favorable to choose renting a car, especially since short distances and intuitive routes are available for short sightseeing trips.

*Features of driving in Cyprus:*

The driving in the Island is left-handed, the maximum speed allowed is 100 km / h along the highway and 55- 65 km / h in the city, video cameras are installed on the roads, poles, crossings and traffic lights.

Car rental in Northern Cyprus is possible with an international driving license. The rental price depends on the class, brand, equipment, seasonality and period. You can get any car - from Kia to Mercedes.

Most of the roads are open for driving. When you get a car for a rent – the official car number has a red color, so the local authorities or citizens are more than happy to show, which way is better to drive. Some of the areas are closed for driving, as these re used by the military.

Any driver should be careful on the roads of North Cyprus, while driving through the mountain area. To switch on the car lights is recommended only during evening hours.

*The rules of car rent:*

The car has to be taken for at least three days.

The company guarantees delivery of the car to the right place throughout the territory of Northern Cyprus.

Persons under 21 years of age are not provided with cars.

Full insurance is included.

Car insurance does not cover damage to headlights and mirrors, crankcase and tires, if not associated with a traffic accident.

The insurance is valid only in the territory of Northern Cyprus.

The movement is controlled by police and cameras.

The insurance does not apply to the intoxicated drivers.

In case of violation of driving rules, speeding, etc. Is necessary to pay a fine to the police station. The police can be located on the roads not so often. In case if your violation has been noted and it was not paid, it can be recovered, while passing the border in the airport.

Most of the companies will provide you with a car with a full tank, but you will have to return it with a full tank as well.

Rent payment will be collected in advance and is made in cash or with the help of international credit cards. The model choices are various and depend on a rental salon.

If you are going to pay with a credit card, the name of the owner of the credit card has to be the same with the name of the main driver, whose name will be in the insurance.

Some of the official companies will take the extra pay for the “young” drivers – from 21 to 23 years old 10 euro per day.

The insurance is valid only in the Northern Cyprus – if you will be crossing the border, you will have to buy a new insurance.

Official and international companies normally will freeze curtain amount of money on your credit card as a pledge, if you will be booking a car on line in advance. The money will be returned, after the rent will be accomplished or canceled.

*Approximate prices of the cars to hire in North Cyprus:*

- The models like Fiat Ford and Kia will cost 30 euro per day

- Nissan and Toyota will cost 45 euro per day

- The models like Nissan Serena and Mercedes will cost 70 to 150 euro per day

Now we will speak a little about the web-sites where you can rent a car in advance.

Rentalcars – is an international web service of car hire. They have a big amount of models in their park. Also they will offer you free booking. RentacarForMe – will find a car for a very good price. But they will take a little pledge. And a rent with a Skyscanner, even though they normally look for the airline tickets, offers you a selection of companies, where you can rent a car and will send you to their web sites.

*The cost of car hire in North Cyprus includes:*

- Taxes.

- Incomplete compulsory insurance.

- Unlimited mileage.

- Seat belts.

- Radio.

- Road maps (optional).

- Baby seat (optional).

- Maintenance.

*Current rules of driving.*

The driver and the passenger on the front seat must be fastened with a seatbelt. Children from 5 years old can be seated only on the back seats. It is not allowed to use cell phone, while driving. The North Cyprus drink drive limit is 0.9 ppm, which is 1 liter of beer or 2 glasses of wine.