



# Famagusta (Mağusa) & the Karpas (Kırpaşa) Peninsula

## Includes ➔

Famagusta (Mağusa) .....	182
Ancient Salamis .....	188
Boğaz (Bogazi) .....	192
Sipahi (Agia Triada) .....	195
Dipkarpaz (Rizokarpaso) .....	197
Zafer Burnu (Cape Apostolos Andreas) ..	197

## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Petek Confectioner (p186)
- ➔ Ginkgo (p186)
- ➔ Oasis Restaurant (p197)
- ➔ Aspava Restaurant (p187)

## Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Nitovikla Garden (p213)
- ➔ Seabird (p213)
- ➔ Oasis at Ayfion (p214)
- ➔ Club Malibu (p214)

## Why Go?

The thin finger of the Karpas (Kırpaşa) Peninsula is all rolling meadows, craggy cliffs and wild beaches with a handful of snoozy villages thrown in. It's a taste of old-style Cyprus that can't be beaten. Despite new roads and development efforts, it still feels like someone stopped the clocks here a few decades back.

When you've recharged your batteries with the Karpas' serene wilderness, turn back west to visit Ancient Salamis. This enigmatic window into the Hellenic world is the island's most impressive archaeological site.

Just to the south is the fortified city of Famagusta. Climb up to the ramparts to walk the city walls. Then wander through lanes where gently dilapidated houses sit beside crumbling ruins of once majestic churches and breathe in the ambience of faded long-lost grandeur.

Brimming with history and full of mesmerising natural beauty, this is by far the island's most rewarding region to explore.

## When to Go

- ➔ From March to May wild orchids and wildflowers come into bloom on the Karpas Peninsula and a variety of bird life can be spotted in the sky. It's a showcase of Cyprus at it's prettiest – nature-lover's won't want to miss it.
- ➔ The International Famagusta Art & Culture Festival takes centre stage in the city during June and July with performances held in the Old Town and amid the ancient ruins of Salamis.
- ➔ During August and September the Karpas' wild beaches are home to both green and loggerhead (*caretta caretta*) turtles that nest and hatch their eggs in the sand along the coast.

## MEDITERRANEAN SEA



## Famagusta & the Karpas Peninsula Highlights

- 1 Exploring one of the most important cities of Cypriot antiquity at **Ancient Salamis** (p188).
- 2 Savouring the spectacular coastal views from the well-

- preserved ruins of **Kantara Castle** (p193).
- 3 Tuning out from the wired world for a couple of days, and enjoying the silence and solitude at one of the remote

- rural hotels on the **Karpas (Kırpaşa) Peninsula** (p193).
- 4 Imagining the glory of days-gone-by while viewing the gated city of **Famagusta** (p182) from its