Ludolf von Sudheim, De Terra Sancta, 1336

Shrouded in mystery and legend, Famagusta's turbulent history reveals how a minor Byzantine fishing port grew into one of the richest and most important cities of the later Middles Ages.

Welcome to an outdoor museum where visitors can walk amongst the noble and majestic ruins of historic Cyprus! Here is a place where medieval Gothic art survives in an impossibly romantic setting where palm trees, bougainvillea and the Mediterranean Sea provide a backdrop for some of the finest Frankish and Medieval architecture that survives in the region.

Here is a city where, in their battle to secure Christendom in the Near East, kings, crusaders, mercenaries and saints shaped the history of Europe. Left by dominant powers of different times, Famagusta's ruins and monuments make it one of the most historically diverse and visually enticing walled cities of Europe.



Trace the steps of heroes and villains... Learn the lessons of history... Explore a multicultural past...



Photos by: William Remsen, Müge Şevketoğlu, Hüseyin Küçüksu, Ahmet Aslıer, Patrick Godeau, Hasan Bilgehan, Jaana Loring, Curt Cottle and Allan Langdale

In 1960, Cyprus became an independent state.

initiating the first antiquities laws protecting Cyprus' fragile cultural heritage. szones, as well as precious antiquities were looted from the island during this period, principal concern and interest in the region. Indeed, a vast quantity of pre-made and shipped off to Egypt to be used in the construction of the Suez Canal, Britain's around the town since the Ottomans had taken over 300 years before - was collected accommodate traffic. Ancient and medieval stonework - which had been piled up of new gates were cut through the ancient walls in order to access the port and dramatic alterations needed to be made to Famagusta's medieval fabric. A number to Nicosia and Morphou. Sadly, the railway was short-lived and industrialization meant into a modern industrial port – and constructing Cyprus' first railway linking Famagusta way from British investments in reviving the city's ancient harbor - indeed turning it However, it is a matter of opinion as to whether historic Famagusta benefited in any health and welfare, an increase in life expectancy, and new opportunities for education. the Ottomans. Modernization brought important social changes, such as improved becoming a Crown Colony in 1925.) Most Cypriots preferred Western rule to that of Russian encroachment in eastern Anatolia. (The island was officially annexed in 1914, over to British control as a diplomatic move in exchange for their support against The history of modern Cyprus begins in 1878, the year the Ottomans gave the island

British Colonial Rule (1878-1960)

Turkish nationalist poet Namik Kemal to be exiled and imprisoned there in 1878. either in commerce or government. Indeed, it was considered remote enough for the appears for the most part to have been left quietly to decay, serving no significant purpose distribution to Famagusta's now overwhelmingly Muslim residents. However, the city facilities - most notably the efforts of Ağa Cafer Paşa aimed at improving freshwater number of public works projects were initiated early on to improve the city's communal made to the fortifications in order to rectify damage sustained during the siege, and a Famagusta within the walls, however, was closed to non-Muslims. Some repairs were

desperately poor and in ruin, with most of its leaders and the educated class gone for long run, this enabled some upward mobility, though Cyprus' countryside was now with limited personal rights for the lower classes who could own and sell property, in the which had kept common Cypriots tied to serfdom for centuries, was abolished and replaced the Orthodox Church was granted back their confiscated property. The feudal system, the Latin Church was dissolved, with many of its buildings being converted into mosques, an Ottoman one, who made efforts to accommodate the Orthodox community. Whereas Thus began Ottoman rule for the local Cypriots. The Venetian governor was replaced by

most of the remaining inhabitants either slaughtered or hauled off into slavery. sacked-the looting and destruction far exceeded anything that had come before with finally flayed alive in front of a crowd gathered at the cathedral. Famagusta was then were instead duped. Their brave captain, Marcantonio Bragadino, was tortured and that Ottoman prisoners were killed. Promised fair terms upon surrender, the Venetians it is said that the Ottoman General Mustafa Paşa became enraged when he found out entering the surrendered city and realizing the diminutive size of the party of its defenders, as many as twenty to one and to have endured over 100,000 Ottoman cannonballs. Upon It was a legendarily heroic defense. The Venetians were rumored to be outnumbered by

exploded after being bombarded. The once splendid royal palace was reduced to rubble. - which may have been used as a storage depot for munitions - is thought to have to which the vaulting was thrown away from the foundations, St. George of the Latins have collapsed a century or so later during an earthquake. Judging from the distance Ottoman Turks' main position of assault - was terminally weakened, and is believed to George of the Greeks- in direct line of fire from the Canbulat bastion, which marked the which time scores of historic buildings were damaged or destroyed. The Church of St. seven weeks. Famagusta withstood a year of siege and incessant bombardment, during The Ottomans arrived in 1570 and had conquered all of Cyprus by 1571. Nicosia fell within

Ottoman Period (1571-1878)





Appreciating Cyprus' multicultural past is one way of ensuring a more peaceful future. This brochure was developed to highlight Famagusta's unique place in the region's history and to increase the awareness of residents and visitors alike regarding the importance of preserving its rich cultural heritage for future generations. It was developed by the Supporting Activities that Value the Environment (SAVE) project. SAVE works to build local capacity to better protect and manage Cyprus' cultural and natural resources. SAVE is implemented by International Resources Group (IRG) and funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).





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 Venice also understood the importance of maintaining the general prosperity of the was clearly necessary for increasing agricultural production and revenues from taxation were to increase the profitability of her newly acquired colony – population expansion outbreaks of the plague in the 15th century. Although the principal motives for this policy which had been devastated not only by the Black Death of 1348, but also by recurrent Cyprus. It is well documented that Venice made great efforts to repopulate the island, Appearances aside, the Venetian presence marks an important period of recovery for

Yet, within the walls, the overall appearance of the city remained essentially Lusignan. royal palace was substantially remodeled, and certain churches were enlarged or altered. occurred within Famagusta itself during this period. Some houses were certainly built, the However, despite this major undertaking, it does not appear as if any significant development

job. Rumor has it that even Leonardo da Vinci may have lent his expertise. thought that no less than twenty Renaissance military architects were brought in for the and artillery. Thus commenced the seemingly overwhelming task of modernization – it is introduced in Europe in the intervening years, and the old walls were no match for cannon medieval fortifications were in need of repairs and updating. Gunpowder had been improving its defenses against the inevitable aggression of competitors, Indeed, Famagusta's Venice soon recognized the dual imperative of reviving the island's economy while providing a much-needed harbor for the Venetian fleet in the eastern Mediterranean. over time, Cyprus surpassed Crete as Venice's largest overseas colony, with Famagusta Sea, in southern Greece, and even within Ottoman-controlled Constantinople. However, due to its possession of a large number of territories along the east coast of the Adriatic part of trade between Europe and the Near East. This was mainly (although, not exclusively) At the close of the 15th century, Venice was a massive maritime power controlling a major

from the Middle Ages into the Early Modern period. dynasty had come to an end and Cyprus was in Venetian hands as Europe moved forward 5t. Nicholas Cathedral - marked Venice's official assumption of power. The Lusignan Venetian protectorate. Her peaceful abdication in 1489 - undertaken in Famagusta III (1473-1474) were dead, Caterina became a figurehead queen, and Cyprus was made a marriage, however, was ill-fated-within the span of a year James and his infant son James in 1453 and taking Egypt, Syria and Rhodes by 1522. James II and Caterina Cornaros' At the time, the Ottomans had already conquered most of Byzantium, sacking Constantinople a powerful ally against the Genoese Republic and the rapidly expanding Ottoman empire. last monarch – was, like most royal marriages, a purely diplomatic tactic intended to gain subsequent marriage to Caterina Cornaro (1474-1489) – a Venetian, and the kingdom's Famagusta in 1464, nearly a century of occupation had taken its toll. Indeed, James' Although the Lusignan James II (1460-1473) succeeded in expelling the Genoese from

(1789-1571) Sin Colonial Rule

Republic of Venice – deterred most Western merchants from reinvesting in the city. aggressive attitude towards its neighbors and rival trading partners – in particular the merchant class alike, forcing a drastic decline in non-Genoese trade. Moreover, Genoa's The invaders destroyed the personal property and wealth of the town's nobility and quickly as it had begun, Famagusta's brief but spectacular Golden Age came to an end. the once magnificent city succumbed to dereliction and relative impoverishment. As The Genoese occupation of Famagusta marked a period of swift decline during which

valuable port remained in Genoese hands until 1464. although the Lusignans managed to hold on to the rest of Cyprus, the island's most destruction, looting and loss of life. Famagusta was mercilessly ransacked and in the end, antagonizing the island for several months. During this time there was widespread hearing, Genoa responded by sending an invasion fleet of close to fifty galleys to Cyprus, proposed an initially peaceful, though expensive, compensation plan. Denied a sympathetic the occasion of Peter II's (1369-1382) coronation as king of Jerusalem, the Genoese and the death of many of their merchants during a riot that took place in Famagusta on Cyprus' debilitating war with Genoa (1373-74). Seeking reprisals for losses of property A century of relative peace and prosperity ended in 1372 with the events that led to

Genoese Occupation (1373-1464)



Famagusta Explore an outdoor museum...



Walking Tour of Famagusta

Church and St. George of the Latins). built to pious ends – define Famagusta's landscape to this day (see the Nestorian most successful of these groups were the Syrians and the Genoese, whose monuments Armenians, Italians, Greeks and Jews, all procuring extraordinary profits. Two of the it aspired to emulate. Indeed, included among the numerous traders were Syrians, munificence had become legendary, often outshining even that of the European courts owing to the phenomenal success of its merchant class, Famagusta's wealth and from both Western Europe and the Holy Land sprang up by the dozen. By the 1330s, In its wake, churches, convents and monasteries built in a regional Gothic style originating a new Latin cathedral dedicated, as was its predecessor, to St. Nicholas the Confessor.

strengthened. Master masons were imported from the West to begin construction on went up around the burgeoning center and the existing castle was redesigned and The 1300s witnessed Famagusta's medieval fortification by Henry II (1285-1324): a wall Christendom in the Mediterranean, and riches derived from trade with the East poured

cunsader stronghold: Famagusta had thus become the most easterly outpost of Latin period of spectacular development for the town as a commercial center and new en masse to Cyprus, settling mainly in Famagusta. This influx of refugees initiated a now dispossessed Latin nobles, merchant class, and various knights and clergy – relocated and Palestine to the Muslims. Those surviving Christians who remained in the East - the began in 1291 with the fall of Acre, and with it the last crusader possessions in Syria documents. However, its importance as a fortress city and first-rate port effectively Dating as far back as 1196, the town of Famagusta is mentioned repeatedly in written

of the new Kingdom of Cyprus. Paphos, Limassol and Famagusta. Aimery was then crowned as the first ruling monarch Greek Orthodox Church and an archbishop was installed in Nicosia with bishops in to secure the legitimacy of his reign. A Latin Catholic hierarchy was installed over the Jerusalem. With Guy's death in 1194, his older brother and successor Aimery was quick The island was then sold to the French crusader Guy de Lusignan, former King of

Lusignan Kingdom (1192-1489)

population, gave it back in 1192. of the Knights Templar who, lacking in funds and far outnumbered by an unruly the Byzantine province in a matter of weeks. Moving on, he then sold it to the order to their rescue, defeating the rogue emperor in a near-bloodless battle and conquering harassed by the island's self-appointed ruler, Isaac Comnenus, Richard famously came Joan and fiancé, Berengaria of Navarre, was forced ashore by a storm. Snubbed and by sea to the Holy Land during the Third Crusade when the ship of his younger sister 1 (1157-1199), better known as the Lionheart. As the story goes, Richard was traveling

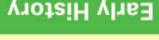
Latin rule in Cyprus begins in 191 with the arrival on the island of England's Richard

Early Frankish Period (1191-1192)

Chapel possibly stands on earlier foundations dating to the Byzantine period. survived. However, the small, much-altered Franco-Byzantine church known as St. Symeon a fishing port of the eastern coast. No monuments or churches from this early period - as the island's only natural deep-water harbor-the area of Famagusta would have been name in the 7th century. Although the material evidence is lacking, it seems likely that Ammochostos, which means "buried in the sand" in Greek, is first mentioned as a place

Byzantine Period (AD 324-1191)

activity before 1191 within the old walls. of Egypt around 285 BC. At present, there is no archaeological evidence of urban village that became Famagusta may have been founded by Ptolemy Philadelphus Built on or near the settlement known in antiquity as Arsinoe, the small fishing







1. Venetian Fortifications: Land Gate and Ravelin

- 2. Kızıl Hamam (Scarlet Bath)
- 3. Kuru Ceşme (Dry Fountain)
- 4. Nestorian Church
- 5. Church of St. Anne
- 6. Tanners' Mosque 7. Carmelite Church
- 8. Armenian Church
- 9. Martinengo Bastion
- 10. Kertikli Hamam (Notched Bath)
- 11. Diamante Bastion
- 12. Church of St. Fotu
- Church of St. George of the Latins
- 14. Citadel / Othello's Tower
- 15. Sea Gate
- 16. Hospital of St. Anthony

17. Canbulat Gate and Bastion

- 18. Church of St. Zoni
- 19. St. Nikolaos Church
- 20. Church of St. George of the Greeks
- 21. St. Nicholas Cathedral / Lala Mustafa Pasa Mosque
- 22. Namik Kemal Square
- 23. Venetian House
- 24. Twin Churches
- 25. Ağa Cafer Paşa Hamam
- 26. Franciscan Church & Monastery
- 27. Venetian Palace
- 28. Ağa Cafer Paşa Çesme (Ağa Cafer Paşa Fountain)
- 29. Namik Kemal Prison & Museum
- 30. Church of Sts. Peter and Paul
- 31. Venetian / Chimney House
- 32. Unknown churches

Venetian Fortifications: Land Gate and Ravelin



the historic town are a superlative example of Renaissance military architecture. They were built between 1495-1564, incorporating the existing medieval Lusignan walls and towers, which were dramatically reduced in height, remodeled and strengthened. The great bastion of the Land Gate - also known as Limassol Gate - was one of two original entrances to the walled city (the other. the Sea Gate to the northeast, offers access from the port). It is protected by the impressive ravelin. inside which is a labyrinth of ramps, steps and rooms. The Land Gate was renamed Akkule or the 'White Bastion' by the Ottomans, as it was from here that the Venetians waved the white flag of surrender at the end of the siege of 1570-

The Venetian walls and fortifications that surrou

It is said that in 1571, after weeks of battling and tunneling under the walls, the Ottomans finally managed to gain access to the ravelin. The Venetians, determined to withstand the advance, blew up their own secret passage under the walls, burying a thousand Ottoman soldiers in the rubble, as well as 100 of their own men.

Visitor info: The tourist information office is housed in the masjid (Muslims often refer to the mosque by its Arabic name, masfid).

2. Kızıl Hamam (Scarlet Bath)



The foundations of this 16th century Ottoman bathhouse or hamam, are visible to the right at the corner of Suphi Ezel Street, on the way to the Carmelite and Armenian Churches.

3. Kuru Çesme (Dry Fountain)



This unrestored 17th-century Ottoman fountain is incorporated into the Venetian walling, just down from the Kızıl Hamam on the opposite side of Kuru Cesme Street.

A short detour off the main road and across the small parking lot

to the right, leads to the so-called Nestorian Church. The

identification of this building as such is based solely on medieval

sources which testify to the extraordinary wealth of the Nestorian

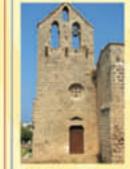
merchant community of Famagusta. Syriac inscriptions associated

with the church's remaining wall paintings would appear to

support this. However, no surviving document directly identifies

the edifice as belonging specifically to the Nestorian community.

4. Nestorian Church



enter of the Eastern

The church was built in the mid-14th century and greatly enlarged not long after by the addition of two side aisles and apses to the north and south. Note on the northwest side the rather Europeanooking belfry arcade. Although structurally enhanced in the 1930s, the church has remained intact throughout the centuries. The building appears to have been little used throughout the

Ottoman period which may partly account for its present fine Mediterranean condition. During the British period the church was given over to the Orthodox community and re-dedicated to St. George the Exiler (Agios Giorgios Exorinos). The celebration of the liturgy was held once a year as was permitted. However, on all other days the medieval building served as a camel barn. Today, it is used as a cultural center.

5. Church of St. Anne



The small and well-proportioned Church of St. Anne presents a number of distinctly Gothic lements. It closely resembles the armelite Church in style and, therefore, probably dates from the same period of the 1300s. Due to its location in what is thought to have been the sector of the city inhabited by Oriental

Christians, it may well have been a Maronite church. However, it is well documented that there was also a Benedictine nunnery of this name in medieval Famagusta, and so it is also very possible that this is the remains of their church.

6. Tanners' Mosque



This 15th century former hurch is known today as he Tanners' Mosque. dging from its location the Oriental sector, it ely originally belonged one of the groups of ental Christians, such as e Melkites or Jacobites.

was converted into a mosque by the Ottomans. It presents a mixture of local Gothic (Cypriot) and regional Crusader styles.

7. Carmelite Church



In a field across the road from the Tanners' Mosque are the ruins of the Carmelite Church. It is here that St. Peter Thomas, Carmelite Friar. Patriarch of Constantinople and papal legate

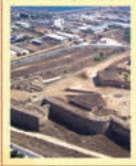
to the East, was buried in 1366. Fragments of the church's medieval paintings are still visible, showing, where discernible, Latin rather than Orthodox influences. The earliest sections of the church are believed to date from the second quarter of the 14th century.

8. Armenian Church



Adjacent to the Carmelite Church is the smaller, better preserved Armenian Church. Judging by style, it appears to date rom the 1360s. Little emains of its interior fecoration, but Armenian inscriptions can still be made out on the reinforced by the Venetians. Entrance exterior walls.

9. Martinengo Bastion



A short walk up the ampart just behind the Armenian Church takes isitors to the top of the Martinengo Bastion, Here one obtains a weeping view of the dry moat and modern

10. Kertikli Hamam (Notched Bath)



Heading back to town, along Nami fendi street, one passes through a sidential area. The Kertikli Hamam is a 6th-century bathhouse which was built by the Ottomans not long after their

arrival. Evidence suggests that it was built on the foundations of a medieval structure. Although ruinous, its six well-proportioned domes are still intact.

11. Diamante Bastion



The Diamante Bastion is situated at the northern corner of the town, where the walls of Famagusta turn to face the sea. Climb here - with caution - for a view of the harbor.

12. Church of St. Fotu



irkish legend calls this e St. Fotu, a name associated with 'light'. The name suggests a reference to the Church of St. Clare, which was tied to a convent of Franciscan

nuns known as 'Poor Clares' which existed in Famagusta in the 14th century.

15. Sea Gate 13. Church of St. George of the

above the nave at the east end.

Although now in ruins, some of the

finest medieval carved stone

ornamentation in Cyprus can be found

at St. George of the Latins. The church

dates back to the first decade of the

14th century (between 1302 and 1307)

and the superb quality of the masonry

and workmanship suggests that it was

built by master masons of the cathedral

workshop who were trained in the

Cologne tradition. Note the intricately

carved capitals and remains of the

church's once elegant vaulting. It is

likely that this was a Genoese church,

belonging to the influential Genoese

merchant community of Famagusta,

which had established itself in the

town at an early date, and thrived

tower of the Citadel came to be

tian captain and Moor, station

Famagusta's medieval castle or Citadel

occupies a strategic position

overlooking the harbor. Built first by

the Lusignans during the reign of

Henry II (1285-1324), it was later

enlarged, altered and greatly

is at the southwest corner through an

arched gate adjacent to what is known

today as Othello's Tower, so-named

for Shakespeare's tragic hero.

Encased within the distinctly Venetian-

looking exterior is the original

surviving Lusignan building in

Famagusta. Its main features include

a rectangular plan with a large, central

court and, on the north side, a series

of five high vaulted chambers that

make up the Great Hall. In an adjacent

chamber to the southeast, note the

low arched passage at the back that

leads into the depths of the northeast

Climb to the upper levels of the

embattlements for fine views of the

city and harbor. From the northeast

tower you can catch a glimpse of the

modern port below and the ventilation

shafts - designed to carry away smoke

from cannon and artillery - that drop

down to medieval passages.

It is rumored that the Venetians filled

many of the Citadel's ventilation shafts

with earth and rubble to prevent

cannon balls from penetrating them.

Legends persist to this day that these

buried chambers may contain hidden

treasure, left behind by the Venetians

when they surrendered to the

Be sure to see the marble plague above

carved relief the winged lion of St. Mark symbol of the Venetian Republic -

ling adjacent to one of the origin

or to the Venetian fortifications.

as enlarged and remodeled and name

the then prefect of Famagusta, Nicola

Visitor info: There is a small fee for

an towers that protected the tow

emorates 1492, the year the Citade

sea-side bastion.

Ottomans.

medieval fortress. This is the oldest

after the fall of Acre in 1291

14. Citadel / Othello's Tower



ili, decorates the Sea Gate's exterio The Sea Gate is one of two original

entrances to the walled city (also see the Land Gate). Although medieval in its origins, it gets its distinctive appearance from the Venetians, have been remodeled together with the Citadel and city walls in the 16th century.

The present iron-clad wooden gate is an Ottoman replacement, whereas the heavy iron portcullis, which could be raised and lowered by chains, is original and dates back to the Venetian period.



Visitor info: Climb here for sweeping views of the harbour.

r side of the Sea

16. Hospital of St. Anthony



17. Canbulat Gate and Bastion

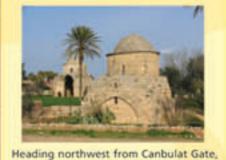


Contained in the massive long half that leads t e tower is a copy of the famous 1571 engrav

This gate is named after Canbulat, the Bey of Kilis, one of the heroes of the Ottoman siege of Famagusta. It houses the hero's entombed remains and has become a place of pilgrimage for modern-day Turks visiting Cyprus. Legend maintains that a fig tree grew up over the tomb, the fruits of which were believed to promote fertility in the women who visited. The gate also houses a small museum with displays of artillery, traditional costumes, Ottoman tiles and Venetian pottery.

fisitor info: The museum is open to visitors during office hours: a small fee is charged for admission.

18 & 19. Church of St. Zoni & St. Nikolaos Church



on the way back to the center of town are two small and closely situated Franco-Byzantine-style churches. To the north are the ruins of St. Nikolaos Church; to the west is the better-preserved St. Zoni. Both are typical of Orthodox churches built in the later medieval period, incorporating elements of regional Gothic architecture into their otherwise Byzantine forms. Note, for example, the pointed arch of the south door of St. Zoni. Both churches may well stand on earlier foundations, though archaeological evidence confirming this has yet to be uncovered. It is very likely that these sites were abandoned or used for other purposes in Ottoman times, as contemporary authors tell us that Christians were excluded from the walled town during this period. However, the Greek Cathedral and the chapel of St. Symeon continued to be owned by the Greek

20. Church of St. George of the Greeks



s location at the ior of the apse has

Built in the 1360s, this once magnificent cathedral presents a rare example in the East of an Orthodox church built in the 'Cypriot' Gothic style of the Lusignans. However, by virtue of its functioning as the Orthodox cathedral of the town, it also incorporates some minor functional elements borrowed from local Byzantine architecture. Moreover, incorporated, relic-like into its south aisle is an older and much smaller Franco-Byzantine church. This is widely assumed to be St. Symeon's Chapel, due to the number of 16th century sources that refer to the existence of a church of that name in connection with the larger cathedral of St. George. It is also thought by some to be the original Greek cathedral and the medieval seat of Famagusta's Orthodox bishopric, possibly having once contained the tomb of St. Epiphanios.

Visitor info: The site is now gated and a car park is situated adjacent to the west end.

21. St. Nicholas Cathedral / Lala Mustafa Paşa Mosque



main door is an East ight to have bee built in the early 14th nagusta's former Latin

thedral of St. Nicholas

videly agreed to be one the most splendid and beautiful of the Frankish buildings that survives in the Near East. It was here, between the years 1291 and 1373, and after having first been crowned as kings of Cyprus in the capital, that the coronation of the Lusignan rulers as kings of Jerusalem took place. And it was here that the island's last monarch, Queen Caterina Cornaro, yielded to the monopolizing powers of the Venetian Republic and abdicated peacefully in 1489.

The cathedral's construction began around 1300, on the site of its predecessor of the same name. Of the remaining Gothic-style churches in Famagusta, it is the one most closely related to the most innovative and interesting architectural developments that were at that time taking place in the West - particularly in the Rhineland.



ner and more so la Cathedral a ectural standard o

ing which was followed throughout the Island from

Although heavily bombarded by Ottoman cannon on the exterior, the building nevertheless retains much of its original style and elegance, as is exemplified by its west facade. Three elaborately carved portals with tracery-filled, openwork gables face the town's main square and former royal palace. To the left of the facade are a small Ottoman tomb dating to 1700 and a small shrine. The old Venetian loggia, which faces the ancient fig tree, is now used by the faithful for ritual

The mosque is commonly called Agia Sophia, like the great Semeliye mosque of Nicosia (formerly the Latin Cathedral of St. Sophia), having received the dedication to Lala Mustafa Paşa.

Visitor info: Visitors are allowed inside the mosque between times of prayer. There is a small charge for foreign visitors



is became a source i on for Mustafa Kem der of the Turkis dic of Turkey.

Famagusta's picturesque central square has witnessed much history. Here, during an outbreak of the plague in 1362, the papal legate, Peter Thomas, led his procession of barefooted followers from the cathedral into the town. In 1372, a large number of Genoese were killed in a riot that took place at the coronation of Peter II - an incident that ultimately led to Cyprus' war with Genoa. That same year, St. Bridget cursed first the Latins for their excesses, and then the Greeks for remaining outside the Catholic faith. And in 1571 when the Ottoman general, Lala Mustafa, finally took Famagusta, the Venetian Captain Marcantonic Bragadino was tortured and flayed alive before a crowd gathered before the cathedral

Turkish poet Namik Kemal (1840-1888), considered by many to be the Shakespeare of Turkish literature.

23. Venetian House



This house is one of the few domestic buildings in Famagusta that retains sections dating from the Venetian period. Its north-facing entrance and facade present a solid and

y side, it has been

aditionally

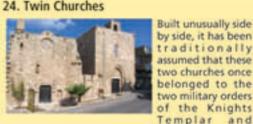
umed that these

vo churches once

longed to the

vo military orders

orderly appearance typical of the Italian Renaissance. It has been known in the past as the Queen's house as it is believed that the last Queen of Cyprus, Caterina Cornaro, lived here just prior to her abdication in 1489.



Knights Hospitaller. Their identification is based on the singular evidence of a coat of arms - a shield with a cross resembling the heraldic device of the knights of St. John - which has been added above the south door of the smaller of the two buildings. This identification however, has recently been called into question, as the churches could be assigned to one or more of several Latin nunneries or other churches in the city, or possibly to a private Genoese family.

The larger of the two buildings to the north appear to be earlier; the smaller, a single-celled chapel to the south, is probably late 14th century.

25. Ağa Cafer Paşa Hamam



the changing-room is part of an earlier medieval building, distinguished from the later construction by a distinctly Frankish cross-

26. Franciscan Church and Monastery



from the late 13th century are the ruins of the Franciscan Church, one of the earliest of the Latin Famagusta. The site,

Dating with some certainty

This early Ottoman haman

was built by Ağa Cafer Pasa

in 1601 within the grounds

of the Franciscan monastery,

immediately north of the Venetian Palace, was once a substantial complex of buildings, which together comprised a monastery covering a generous area within the city. The plan of the present church resembles that of the slightly later Carmelites, with its three-sided apse and later added side chapels that extend north and south from the central bay of the nave. Note the medieval stonework piled up outside the west door.

The Franciscans formed one of the oldest and most important Latin religious orders in Cyprus. It is believed that they were already established in Nicosia by about 1230, St. Francis himself visited Cyprus on his voyage to the Holy Land during the Fifth Crusade (1217-1221).

27. Venetian Palace



ree rounded arches are flanked by four massive gran olumns taken from Salamis. Over the central arch is Captain of Cyprus in 1552

Only the grand east facade and back walls of the

courtyard remain today of the Venetian Palace. Originally a royal palace of the Lusignans, this site became the official residence of the acting Venetian governor - the Palazzo del Provveditore beginning in 1489. In the 16th century, the palace was substantially remodeled, its Gothic features being replaced with the simple and solid forms of the Italian Renaissance. Inside the courtyard are several contemporary cannon, a neatly piled collection of cannon balls, and pieces of a large granite column. The architectural remnants were taken from Salamis.

Although its central sections were completely destroyed during the Ottoman siege, its facade nonetheless survives as a very rare example in Cyprus of 16th century Venetian architecture.

28. Ağa Cafer Paşa Çeşme (Ağa Cafer Paşa Fountain)



Namik Kemal Square, to the right of the Venetian facade, is the Ağa Cafer Paşa Fountain, one of the many Ottoman fountains that still adorn Famagusta. It is believed to have been

installed in 1597. Ağa Cafer Paşa was a well-known,

29. Namık Kemal Prison & Museum



Known as the Shakespeare of Turkish literature, Namik Kemal was exiled to Cyprus after offending the Turkish Sultan in his memorable work, Vatan Yahut Silistre. He was imprisoned n the present building from 1873-1876. Today, the house adjacent to the prison is a museum dedicated to Kemal's life and works.

sitor info: Opening hours ar oughly from 9 am to 4:45 pm daily a small fee is charged for admissio

30. Church of Sts. Peter & Paul



kish diplomat who died in 1732

Across a narrow street parallel to the south side of the royal palace, is the site historically known as the Church of Sts. Peter and Paul. Although theories abound, a positive identification of this building has so far eluded scholars.

It is one of the largest, and best

preserved of the regional Gothic style churches in Famagusta, closely resembling the Greek Cathedral in plan, and dating with a high degree of certainty from the same decade of the 14th century (c.1360). The north portal to the nave is clearly from an earlier building, and possesses some positively splendid 13thcentury carved stone ornamen tation. Although the east-end enclosure wall is contemporary with the church's original construction, the south-wall buttressing appears to have been added at a later date. Two elegantly carved, white marble Ottoman tombs can be found on

the building's south side. These are 18th-century. Overall, the church's architecture is simple, yet elegant. Its interior plan consists of a nave with two aisles leading to a central apse

and two apsidal chapels. The aisles are divided into five bays each. t appears that this church was already out of use during Venetian times, which is thought to have contributed to its fine state of preservation, having been spared from destruction by the conquering Ottoman militia.

It was the second church after the cathedral to be taken over, becoming the Sinan Pasha Mosque in 1572. In British and more recent times it has been used as a storage depot and even a

31. Venetian / Chimney House This site is

House. Although its exterior walls

are Venetian, its interior is



distinctly Turkish. Within the spacious courtyard is a renovated Turkish hamam.

32. Unnamed Churches



nunneries, each of which would have possessed a small Gothic church. Very little is known about

these unnamed churches, but it is very probable that one or more are linked to the Cistercian or Benedictine convents that are known to have been active in the city during the medieval period. Beautiful Gothic details still remain, and a quick glance is well worth it.

22. Namık Kemal Square



Today, the square is named after the 19th century

n the northwest corner o



16/17th century Ottoman governor who set out to improve freshwater distribution to the inhabitants of Famagusta. The Roman sarcophagus is thought to have come from Paphos, moved to the palace by the Venetians.



Note: Visitor information is subject to change without notice, please verify all hours of operation and admission fees with the local tourism offices for confirmation.

admission to the site.