



Practical information

URBACT City Festival

Nicosia, 31 March - 01 April 2026

#URBACTfest

urbact.eu/city-festival-2026



The venues

The 2026 URBACT City Festival will take place across two main locations in Nicosia:



Royal Hall



[Visit website](#)



[See map](#)



Eleftheria Square

(under the bridge)



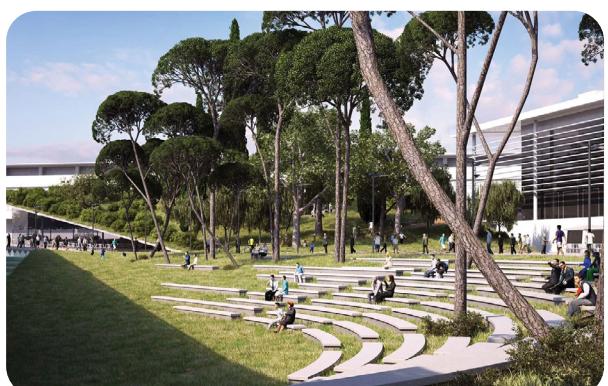
[See map](#)

In addition,
the Nicosia After Dark Party
on 1 April will be held at:

Old GSP Square



[See map](#)



For the exact location of each URBACT City Festival session,
consult the [programme](#).

Plan your trip



Pack your bag

Sunny skies are expected at the 2026 URBACT City Festival in Nicosia. By late March, the weather is usually mild and temperatures can go up to 20° for the day and down to 8-9° for the night. Rain is rare, but possible.

When packing your bag, please don't forget:

- **Sunglasses**
- **Hat**
- **Sun screen**
- **water bottle**
- **Comfortable shoes**
- **A raincoat** and an **umbrella** in the event of bad weather
- **Your passport**

EU citizens don't need a passport to travel to Cyprus. However, **carrying one is recommended**, since it often makes airport check-in and flight connections faster and easier.

- **A plug convertor**

Electric plugs in Cyprus follow the **British three-pin format (Type G)**. Make sure to bring a suitable adapter to charge your electric devices.



Land to Larnaca International Airport (LCA)



Important information on travelling to Cyprus!

The legally-recognised points of entry into the Republic of Cyprus are:

- the **international airports of Larnaca and Paphos**, and
- the ports of Larnaca, Limassol, Latsi and Paphos

These are situated in the area under the actual control of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus. **Entering the country through any other ports or airports located in the Turkish occupied area is considered illegal.**

Participants of the 2026 URBACT City Festival are strongly recommended to land to Larnaca International Airport (LCA).

This is the closest major airport to Nicosia, located in the Republic of Cyprus. Direct flights connect Larnaca with most major European cities (London, Berlin, Frankfurt, Paris, Warsaw, Athens, etc.).

When planning your trip, please **double-check the airport code to make sure not to use airports located in the northern part of the island**, which are **not legally recognized as points of entry into the Republic of Cyprus**.

Typical flight times:

- London → LCA: 4.5–5 hrs
- Berlin → LCA: 4.5 hrs
- Frankfurt → LCA: 3.5–4 hrs
- Paris → LCA: 4 hrs 15 min
- Athens → LCA: 1.5 hrs
- Warsaw → LCA: 3.5 hrs

You can also travel to Cyprus by boat.

During the spring and summer season, ferries connect Piraeus (Athens) and sometimes Thessaloniki with the Limassol or Larnaca ports. Crossing time is 30–40 hours depending on route and operator.

From the Limassol or Larnaca ports, travelers can reach Nicosia by Intercity bus (approx. 1 hour from Limassol, 45 minutes from Larnaca).



Get to Nicosia from the Larnaca International Airport (LCA)

The airport is located approximately 40.4 km from the city centre of Nicosia. It is well connected to the capital through several options:



Airport Shuttle (Kapnos Airport Shuttle)

- Direct, non-stop service between the airport and Nicosia central bus station (Solomou Square).
- Journey time: approximately 40 minutes.
- Runs frequently throughout the day, with timetables coordinated with major flight arrivals and departures.
- Tickets cost around €9, available online or at the airport kiosk.



Taxi

- Readily available outside the arrival's terminal 24h/7.
- Journey time: approximately 40–50 minutes to Nicosia.
- Cost: €40–60 (depending on time of day and operator).
- Ideal for late-night or early-morning arrivals when shuttle frequency is reduced.
- For more information on taxi companies, please see under **"Get to (and around) the venues"**



Public bus

- Budget-friendly but less direct.
- Requires taking a local Larnaca bus into the city centre (Foinikoudes) and then an intercity bus to Nicosia (Solomou Square).
- Journey time: 70–110 minutes.
- Cost: €4–8 total.



Rental car

- Car hire desks are available at the airport arrivals hall.
- The drive to Nicosia takes 40–50 minutes via the A2 motorway.

Get to (and around) the venues



Nicosia is a compact and walkable city, especially in the Old Town (within the Venetian Walls), where the two main venues of the 2026 URBACT City Festival are located. For longer distances—like getting to the Former GSP Stadium—there are multiple transport options.

On foot



Walking is often the fastest way. Streets in Old Nicosia are narrow and pedestrian-friendly, lined with cafés, shops, and cultural sites.

Royal Hall and Eleftheria Square:

- **around 10 minutes (700m)** apart on foot from one another.
- **less than 15 minutes (1 km)** from the central bus station located in Solomou Square (Πλ. Σολωμού), the main public transportation hub.

Old GSP Square:

- **20 minutes (1.4 km)** from the Royal Hall
- **8 minutes (550m)** from the central bus station in Solomou Sq.

By bus



Municipal buses

Buses typically run from 06:30 to 23:00, with limited service at night. Tickets can be purchased on board from the driver (cash only). The main bus hub is Solomou Square (Πλ. Σολωμού) in the city centre.

Intercity Buses (if arriving from outside Nicosia)

Daily services connect Nicosia with Larnaca, Limassol, Paphos, and Ayia Napa/Protaras. They usually stop at the Central Bus Station (Solomou Square), making transfers easy.

Royal Hall and Eleftheria Square:

- Closest bus stop: Platia Tillyrias (Πλατεία Τηλλυρίας), around 3 minutes (165m) away, served by bus lines L1 and 2.
- Alternatively, take any bus stopping in Solomou Square, then walk around 15 min.

Old GSP Square:

- Served by buses heading towards Strovolos and other southern districts (approx. 10 min ride from Solomou Square).
- Closest bus stops: Stadium GSP (Στάδιο Γ.Σ.Π.) or Stadium GSP 1 (Στάδιο Γ.Σ.Π. 1), served by bus lines 2, 29 and 48.

By taxi or rideshare

Taxis in Nicosia are plentiful, especially around Eleftheria Square, Ledra Street, and major hotels. Fares are metered, though it's common to agree on a price before starting.

Several reputable taxi companies operate in the city. Here are a few options:

- Finlandia taxi office, +357 22 666000
- Pallas taxi office, +357 22 316400
- New Royal taxi office, +357 22 676063
- Euro taxi, +357 22 513000

If you prefer booking via smartphone apps, these are two reliable platforms commonly used in Nicosia:

- [**CABCY Taxi App**](#) (or phone: +357 22 269806)
- [**nTaxi**](#)

Ridesharing companies operating in Nicosia (get the apps to use them):

- Bolt
- Electra

By bicycle

Nicosia is cycling-friendly, especially in the Old Town and along dedicated cycle paths that connect central areas.

A public bike-sharing system called "Nextbike" operates across the city:

- [**info@nextbike.com.cy**](mailto:info@nextbike.com.cy)
- phone +357 99408094 or +357 77788323

Both standard and electric bikes can be rented via the app, with pickup/drop-off stations near Solomou Square, Ledra Street, and close to the Old Town.

Book your accommodation in Nicosia



Please find below some suggestions of hotels located near the venues, or well connected with them by public transportation from Nicosia's city centre.

Madama Residence

Walking distance to Royal Hall: 8 minutes (600m)

[More information](#)

Gate Twenty Two Boutique Hotel

Walking distance to Royal Hall: 10 minutes (800m)

[More information](#)

Castelli Hotel

Walking distance to Royal Hall: 11 minutes (960m)

[More information](#)

MAP Boutique Hotel

Walking distance to Royal Hall: 12 minutes (1 km)

Public transport: Bus 2 to Eleftheria Square; then a short walk to the Royal Hall. Journey time: 4–6 minutes.

[More information](#)

Hypnos Boutique Hotel

Walking distance to Royal Hall: 20 minutes (1.5 km)

Public transport: Bus 3 to Eleftheria Square; then a short walk to the Royal Hall. Journey time: 6–8 minutes

[More information](#)

Altius Boutique Hotel

Walking distance to Royal Hall: approx. 26 minutes (2.2 km)

Public transport: Bus 41 to Omirou Avenue. Journey time: 3–4 minutes.

[More information](#)

Accessibility



All venues are wheelchair accessible. If you need special assistance, please mention that in the dedicated section of your application form.

About Nicosia



First time in Nicosia? Keen to explore the city? Here are some great resources. These sites include general information on attractions, events, and guided tours, along with suggestions for dining,

- www.nicosia.org.cy
- visitnicosia.com.cy

Languages



The official language of the event is English.

For your daily communication with the locals, the following Greek words can be handy:

- **Yassou** (pronounced "ya-SSOU") for a person that you know, or **Yassass** (pronounced "ya-SSASS") for one or more people you do not know → Hello! These words can be used for goodbye too.
- **Kaliméra** (pronounced "ka-lee-ME-ra") → Good morning
- **Adío** (pronounced "a-DEE-o") → Goodbye
- **Parakaló** (pronounced "pa-ra-ka-LO") → Please
- **Efcharistó** (pronounced "ef-cha-ris-TO") → Thank you
- **Stin ygelá mas!** (pronounced "stin ee-YA mas") → Cheers!

Contact



For any questions related to your participation, please send an e-mail to:

city.festival@urbact.eu.