MINTHIS HILLS | newsletter

MINTHIS HILLS; GLOBAL APPEAL

Set in a beautiful rural area amongst rolling hills, an extraordinary resort is coming to life. From the outset the master planners of Minthis Hills envisaged an exclusive retreat, where a community of like-minded individuals come together to enjoy recreational open space and tranquility. The fact that it is nestled in the hills with panoramic views of the locally acclaimed wine producing region, and spans millions of square meters with a mere 2% building density, adds further benefits to the privacy and natural heritage.

The contemporary residences integrate into the landscape, almost camouflaged by the natural contours of the land, protecting the hilltops and ridges. The properties have been designed to create a harmonious balance between contemporary design, the latest modern technology and the environment. The Mediterranean architecture captures a picture of unparalleled views of the mountainous surroundings and shimmering Mediterranean Sea. Inside you will find all the modern comforts and high quality you would expect in a home of this caliber.

The elegant clubhouse forms the heart of the community, where there is a restaurant, café and bar. The passion for hospitality and food is evident everywhere, from the comfortable surroundings to the authentic menu produced by a team of internationally trained chefs who pride themselves on using the finest quality local ingredients to produce culinary delights. The future village square will further extend and enhance these facilities bringing more options to choose from and convenience to your front door.

As far as relaxing leisure time goes, there will be a range of options. You may wish to explore the many nature trails or in the future rejuvenate in the luxurious spa, visit the equestrian center or take the opportunity to produce your own wine with one of the vineyard allotments.

As you would expect in a village atmosphere, there is lively cosmopolitan social scene with the inhabitants, the golf club members and guests coming together from all over the world. Guests travel from far and wide to experience the golf course that encircles a 12th century monastery; others come for the culinary experience and some to enjoy the peaceful natural environment. These people along with the families that live here, are all united by their desire for an environment that offers all the important elements of a well-balanced life; a perfect combination of history, nature, social activities and convenience.

The fact that people come here from a range of cultures to experience, enjoy and appreciate this new way of living, endorses the global appeal of Minthis Hills.













STABILITY OF CYPRUS REAL ESTATE MARKET

The real estate market in Cyprus is on the road to recovery and recent signs indicate that the market has stabilized well ahead of the forecasted timescale. Key indicators that support the sectors growing strength include:

- April 2015 saw a 23% increase in unit sales compared with the same period last year
- According to official land registry statistics, unit sales increased by 20% in 2014 compared to 2013
- In 2014 the economy contracted at a slower pace than expected, while projections from the Government indicate that 2015 will exceed their expectations
- The government also recently announced that from January to March there was 1.6% increase in the economy

"The economy has done considerably better than initially anticipated as a result of a confluence of factors," the Bank of Cyprus economist said. "I note in this regard the remarkable flexibility of the economy, the resilience of the services sectors, particularly tourism and business services, the relatively quick recapitalisation and stabilisation of the banking sector, and the strong commitment of the government and the country at large to programme implementation and fiscal responsibility".

So whilst the economic recession is not over, it is looking more promising with industry experts continuing to predict that real estate sales will steadily increase for remainder the year and into 2016. The Government has taken significant steps in stimulating the property industry, such as the Citizenship program and promotion of large scale projects, including the much awaited resort based casino license due in the forthcoming months. In addition, the recent agreement between Cyprus and Egypt in the field of gas and oil also enhances the overall outlook. These key elements will help to boost the real estate market which is now on track to follow the projected economic growth during 2015.

CYPRUS, THE ROLLS ROYCE OF CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT PROGRAMS

Introduced in March 2014, the Cyprus citizenship by investment program has taken the second citizenship market by storm. It is the only direct EU citizenship program on the market, enabling high net worth individuals to acquire European citizenship in just 90 days with absolutely no obligation on their time and a very high approval rate. The key motivators for obtaining a second citizenship are personal freedom, privacy and security, which are more than fulfilled by the Cyprus program as applicants do not just acquire Cyprus citizenship but EU citizenship as well. EU citizenship gives the right of settlement in any of the 28 EU member states. It offers a lifetime guarantee to live and work in any EU country; by virtue of this citizenship you can for example study in England, work in Germany and settle in France! What's more Cyprus enjoys a very powerful passport enabling visa-free travel to 158 countries. The program has no residency requirement whatsoever, no language or medical exams and very straightforward application criteria, it includes all dependent children up to age 28, and citizenship is passed on by descent. It is without doubt the best and simplest program on the market for those fortunate enough to meet the investment requirement. The Cyprus program requires a real estate investment of €2.5M which has to be maintained for a period of 3 years. Although a considerable sum, it is a pure investment, which means that the funds will be fully recovered and there is also scope for capital appreciation should prime real estate be selected. It is a very attractive proposition considering the current real estate market potential and many clients have chosen to invest considerably more than the required amount due to the current market attractiveness. Like most of the world, the Cyprus real estate market is correcting itself following the global economic meltdown; however unlike most of the world, the Cyprus real estate market outlook is very positive. Several factors are influencing this growth forecast,

the most notable of which is the discovery of vast oil and gas reserves in Cyprus' exclusive economic zone which has attracted major international firms including Noble, Eni Kogas, Total and Halliburton to the island. These are exciting times for the island as a shift is being made from exploration to exploitation and direct benefits of this sector are expected to be reaped by 2019, while indirect benefits are already being felt. Another important factor when choosing a citizenship program is tax implications. It is important to note that non-resident Cypriot citizens are not subject to taxation on their worldwide income. In fact, Cyprus is one of the most favourable tax jurisdictions in the EU thus offers substantial tax advantages. The Cyprus citizenship program ticks all boxes; it enables total personal freedom and is also a business savvy strategy as well.





KMPG RELEASE THE RESULTS OF THEIR GOLF PARTICIPATION SURVEY IN EUROPE

The survey covers the trends and outlook of the golf industry in Europe, covering supply and demand for 2015. It shows positive insights, despite any economic woes, that golf continues to be popular and maintains its growth amongst the European countries. In 2013 when the report was last published golf was suffering but the report shows that in 2014 recorded a stabilization of golf participation as well as the number of golf courses operating in Europe.

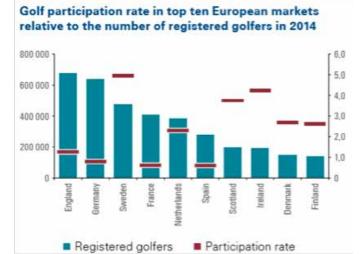
The composition of golfers in Cyprus is typical with the majority being men, 69%, women 23% and juniors 8%. Considerable growth can be achieved by targeting more women and children to the game the report suggests.

It's also interesting to see the number of registered golfers against the participation rate. In advanced mature markets such as England, Germany, France and Spain the number of registered golfers against the participating rate is dramatically different. This could show that golf or having a golf membership is still seen as a 'status symbol' in these countries or that modern busy lives are overtaking leaving less time for recreational activities. Countries with high participation rates such as Sweden, Ireland, Scotland, Denmark and Finland show the sports' popularity as more of a lifestyle rather than just a hobby or past time.

The KMPG report suggests that the industry embraces new technology, where for example tracking performances, and also companionship and competition, can be further developed to help attract new members and players to the sport.

Overall there are 4,178,754 registered golfers throughout Europe

with an estimated 3.5 million non-registered golfers in Europe (not affiliated to a particular club or association), the majority of which are based in England and Ireland. Various initiatives to attract new members, especially juniors, to the game have been introduced in more mature markets such as Asia, Germany, Switzerland, Austria and Netherland with great success, giving the rest of Europe guidance on how to popularise the game further.



CYPRUS HAS SOME OF THE BEST BEACHES AND CLEANEST WATERS IN EU

In a recent survey conducted about Europe's Cleanest Waters, which includes beaches as well, Cyprus and Luxemboug were rated as excellent with a 100% record year on year. The swimming sites deemed "excellent" rose by 3.6 percentage points to 82.6 percent as Luxembourg and Cyprus, with 112 coastal swimming spots, got the best marks.

Blue Flag has also awarded 57 of Cyprus' beaches with the prestigious accolade, ranking the island on the top of the EU for ten consecutive years, according to Agriculture and Environment minister Nicos Kouyialis. The Blue Flag is a certification by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) that a beach or marina meets its standards in water quality, safety, environmental education and information, the provision of services and general environmental management criteria.

Kouyialis said that keeping beaches to high environmental standard is a top priority for his ministry. "Our goal is growth, creating new jobs, improving our tourist product and expanding into diving and fishing tourism by creating more artificial reefs like the one in Polis Chrysochous," said the minister, adding that he is optimistic that it will "improve the income of people near the sea and attract more visitors."

Kouyialis noted that Cyprus is the first EU country that complied 100 per cent with the strictest criteria for water quality.



BANKS LOWER INTEREST RATES ADDING FURTHER OPTIMISM TO THE 2015 PROPERTY MARKET

During March the island's major financial institutions lowered their interest rates significantly by 2 per cent. This reduction will encourage new loan applications that wish to secure these very affordable rates. It is also good news for existing customers who may see their repayments decrease and it will help with restructuring of non-performing loans.

By lowering the rates banks are also sending a clear message to the European banking sector that the Cyprus banks are now much healthier and are well within their recovery period. This is also a huge confidence boost for a property buyer where it is has been suggested that the lower interest rates will inject an extra €300 million in market liquidity.



CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS: MINTHIS HILLS

The first phase of the Minthis Hills exclusive properties is almost complete and has been highly praised by both new property owners and the general public. With over 14 nationalities having already purchased a private residence at Minthis Hills, the resort is proving to have truly global appeal.

The combination of incredible timeless architecture with an extraordinary setting and breath-taking views captures the hearts of all that visit. Currently the resort consists of 3, 4 and 5 bedroom villas or bungalows that are situated around the golf course, each one adding a new dimension to modern Mediterranean living.



MINTHIS HILLS GOLF CLUB ANNUAL MEMBERS MEET AND GREET COCKTAIL PARTY

On the evening of 11 May, Minthis Hills Golf Club held their annual 'meet and greet' evening where over 70 golf club members gathered in the Clubhouse for drinks.

Executive Director of Minthis Hills, Demetris Ashiotis, started the evening with a speech to thank the 2015 members for their continued support and for choosing Minthis Hills as their home golf club. Mr Ashiotis introduced this year's captain, Steve Mitchelle who with his turn thanked all the members and introduced the new committee:

Steve Mitchell, Captain and Treasurer | Neil Stores, Vice Captain and Competitions Secretary | Roy Peach, Greens Secretary | Gill Cackett, Committee Secretary | Sue l'Anson, Social Secretary | Terry Holt, Committee Member. The team at Minthis Hills would like to thank all members, old and new, and wish them a successful year in their golfing achievements.



▶ FRIDAY NIGHTS AT MINTHIS HILLS CLUBHOUSE

Starting from June, the Clubhouse restaurant will be open every Friday evening hosting a different theme each week. Enjoy the beautiful long summer evenings in our comfortable and luxurious Clubhouse, taking in the magnificent golf and mountain views, and experience something new each week.

Monthly	July
Week 1 Wine & Dine	3rd July Wine & Dine with complimentary wine tasting hosted by Kolios Winery and Live Piano Music by Elena Ivanova,
Week 2 Italian Night	10th July Italian Cuisine Inspired by the Famous Chef Fausto Carrara,
Week 3 Summer Á La Carte Menu	17th July Minthis Hills summer Á La Carte menu
Week 4 French Night	24th st July French Cuisine inspired by celebrity Chef Alain Ducasse, 2 Course Set Menu €23 p.p. (excluding drinks)
Week 5 Salsa Latin Night	31st July With live music by Andreas & Elsa and themed buffet menu

For more information please visit our Facebook page.



MINTHIS CLOSE UP: AMALTHIA VILLA

The Amalthia villa is an exquisite design where detail is evident from the first step into the main entrance, which is upstairs via an elegant footbridge over the large private courtyard garden.

The spacious 4-bedroom villa, which starts from 242sq.m, has floor to ceiling glass windows that provide natural light and picture portrait mountain views the length of the house. A large open plan dining room, lounge and kitchen continue the light and spacious feel maximizing the views from all angles, with the master suite incorporating a walkthrough wardrobe and huge bathroom.

Downstairs, there are three further bedrooms, one with en-suite, connected via a glass corridor and patio that runs through the centre of the house and can be opened up to the pool and garden, turning inside into outside. The landscaped gardens around the large overflow pool have stunning scenery and the naturally fresh climate means that you can enjoy the outside as much as the inside.

As with all the residences at Minthis Hills, the design, quality and finishes are exemplary, every detail has been considered to ensure they compliment the surrounding natural environment and lifestyle of the residents.



INTRODUCING GOLF TO PAPHOS HOTELS

At the beginning of every tourist season Minthis Hills Golf Club invites the local hotel's Guest Services, Concierge Front Office Managers, Receptionists and other members of front house or PR teams to come and experience Minthis Hills for themselves. On the 5th and 12th May, Minthis welcomed employees from some the top 4 and 5 start hotels in Paphos including Elysium, Anassa, Alymyra, Annabelle and Anemi Hotel Apartments.

The day consisted of a presentation about Minthis Hills, the golf resort and development, before they had a tour of the resort and a go at golf for themselves, many swinging a club for the first time. The resident PGA Professional at Minthis, David McKibben, gave a group lesson (pictured) showing them the basics before taking them to the driving range to hit some balls. This was followed by lunch at the clubhouse restaurant. The hotel staff had a fun day as well as learning about golf and all that Minthis has to offer.



MINTHIS HILLS GOLF CLUB HOSTS CYPRUS AMATEUR MEN'S OPEN COMPETITION

On Friday 22 May 2015 the Cyprus Amateur Men's Open started, hosted by Minthis Hills Golf Club, organized by the Cyprus Golf Federation (CGF) and sponsored by the Cyprus Tourism Organisation, it promised to be an exciting tournament.

Participants came from Israel, Lebanon, Austria, Bulgaria, Switzerland, England, Germany, Italy, Scotland, USA, Russia, France, Sweden, along with players from local clubs in Cyprus. This prestigious event is also a World Amateur Golf Ranking event, and the fourteenth year of its existence.

The course was extremely well presented by Minthis Hills staff and attracted positive comments from the players. The strong winds made playing conditions difficult although several very creditable scores were still recorded. Unfortunately nobody managed a hole in one at the 13th island green hole, where a 10,000 Euro prize (sponsored by CGF) awaited any winner.

The closing holes on the final day lived up to expectations and were very exciting as Alessandro Noseda from Switzerland and Yair Thaler from Israel was level until the penultimate hole. On the last hole, with a play-off being a distinct possibility, Alessandro managed a birdie to win with a three round score of 223.

In his acceptance speech Alessandro thanked CGF and Minthis Hills GC for organizing and hosting this Open, and made special mention of the Volunteers from local golf clubs that help the players so much in spotting their golf balls during play.

We'd like to say well done to all the players (winners pictured) and thank all of those that attended, supported or helped to organise the event and made it so successful.



SUMMER RENOVATION OF THE GREENS

All garden lovers know just how much love, patience and even knowledge needs to be dedicated to maintain a meticulously wellkept lawn, with each blade of grass seeming to demand extra special attention. Well, imagine how much devotion an area of one hectare of the finest Creeping Bentgrass cut at a height of just 4mm requires at Minthis Hills.

The importance of perfect greens for a successful game of golf should never be underestimated. And as a living creature, grass needs a period of rest and a bit of pampering from time to time, as we all do.

After the botanically exciting spring time in Cyprus, lush growth is overwhelming the greens on our golf course. They can become 'thatchy' if not kept properly, which can lead to poor root growth and soft spongy playing surfaces in the hot and humid summer months. Minthis Hills Course Manager, Chris Furneaux, is therefore has to maintenance the greens on a regular basis to ensure that they are kept in prime condition year round.

Twice a year the maintence is schedule and it starts off with hollowtining, this process aims to reduce the build-up of thatch, improve soil drainage, promote beneficial gas exchange, enhance the soil profile to promote root growth and reduce soil compaction. A lavish peeling is achieved by the core-harvester and leaves the greens rejuvenated before the finest Egyptian sand is gently brushed into the holes. The greens are then nurtured with ample water and fertilized. For the following 10 to 14 days, the greenkeepers are going an extra mile ensuring that the right dose of rolling, irrigation and fertilizer is given to the greens.

Full recovery of the playing surface is usually achieved within two weeks. This whole treatment enables the greens to remain healthy and to provide a top quality surface for a smooth play throughout the summer golf season. Passionate golfers, no matter whether they are professionals or amateurs, appreciate the importance of this operation and patiently take the short-term interruption of their play into account - having the long-term quality of the course in mind.

This maintenance is necessary and routine for any quality golf course; the greens at Minths Hills have now come to the end of their intensive treatment and should be in optimal condition for the forth coming months.



demonstrating the lush Spring growth of the greens.



MINTHIS HOSTS JUNIOR ORDER OF MERIT COMPETITION

MINTHIS HILLS

touch the sky

The Cyprus Golf Federation Junior Committee have introduced a series of competitions called the Junior Order Of Merit (JOOM) for 2015. Minthis Hills Golf Club will host 3 of the competitions and had the honor of hosting the first competition on Saturday 30th May.

All juniors who are advanced enough to play 18 holes have been invited to Minthis to test their skills against one another.

The format will be individual Stableford and points will be given to the juniors depending on their finishing position. This ranking will be helpful; when the national team selection is being chosen for home and away competitions.



▶ NEW STOCK INSTORE AT THE MINTHIS HILLS PRO-SHOP

Located in the clubhouse, the Minthis Hills Pro Shop offers the latest golf fashion, apparel and equipment from leading golf and designer brands.

In store now there is new selection of Hilfiger Golf as well as Fairway and Greene men's clothing including a range of t-shirts, trousers and shorts. For the ladies there is a new summer collection from Callaway featuring the latest on trend styles and colours for summer 2015. Arriving in store soon will be a range of Footjoy products for both and the gentleman and ladies and with new stock arriving all the time, be sure to pass by and take a look.



