

The background of the page is a photograph of a modern interior space. It features several large, curved, white architectural elements that create a sense of depth and movement. The lighting is soft and even, highlighting the smooth surfaces of the walls and ceiling. The overall aesthetic is clean, minimalist, and contemporary.

Easter

celebrations at Anassa

Easter is the most important religious festival in Cyprus — it is a celebration of Christ's crucifixion and resurrection and of the joyous renewal of Spring. Though the Orthodox and Catholic traditions follow different liturgical calendars, this year their celebrations of Easter coincide. Anassa invites people of all faiths to participate in the festivities, to enjoy holiday favourites, and to honour Cypriot traditions. Religious services will be provided on-site in our Ayia Athanasia Chapel. We've also planned special meals and a full slate of activities for children. Please join us for a weekend of reflection, fellowship, and celebration.

Good Friday—14th April

Preparations for the Orthodox celebration of Easter will take place throughout the day. Our pastry chef Savvas will be baking Flaounes, Cypriot pastries stuffed with local cheeses, semolina, sultanas, and mint. Our cooks will be boiling and dyeing eggs. And in the chapel, florists will be preparing the Epitafios, a representation of Christ's bier featuring spring flowers (on display from 12:00). As many Christians abstain from eating meat on Good Friday in honour of Christ's sacrifice on the cross, Amphora restaurant will offer a Seafood Buffet Dinner (from 19:00; €65 per person; €15 for children ages 2 to 12; no charge for children under 2). The Procession of the Epitafios, a somber and colourful religious ceremony in the Village Square and Chapel, begins at 19:00.

Holy Saturday—15th April

The Orthodox celebration of Holy Saturday begins with a Holy Mass in the Chapel (8:00). This mass celebrates the time when rumours of Christ's resurrection began to circulate. The icons in the Chapel have been covered since Thursday with black cloths as a sign of mourning, and now the cloths are removed. The priest and congregants knock the chairs in the chapel in resounding celebration of the good news. Late in the evening, celebrants gather in the Village Square for the Lambradja, a bonfire where an effigy of Judas is burned for his betrayal of Jesus (22:00). Midnight Mass begins at 23:00 in the Chapel. Congregants gather around the chapel as the priest performs a service for Christ. Just before midnight, the lights in the chapel are dramatically turned off. Then the lights are restored to symbolise the resurrection, and the priest calls the congregation to take from his candle "the light that never dies" as each congregant receives a lit candle. After the service, guests are invited to Amorosa Bar for a Traditional Midnight Supper (€18 per person) featuring Flaounes and Magiritsa, a lemony lamb stew made especially for Easter. Hard-boiled eggs, dyed red, will be cracked to symbolise Christ's emergence from the tomb.



Easter Sunday—16th April

Begin the day with our Easter Buffet Breakfast (7:00-10:00) in Amphora. It includes holiday favourites like hot cross buns and colourful cupcakes. Morning Mass (11:00) in the Chapel celebrates the resurrection of Christ. Afterwards, Pelagos restaurant offers al fresco Fish and Meat Meze (12:30-16:00; set menu €45 per person; two-person minimum per table; à la carte menu for children) featuring lamb roasted on an open fire (weather permitting). In the evening, those with a taste for local cuisine will enjoy a Cypriot Buffet Dinner (from 19:00; €80 per person; €20 for children ages 2 to 12; no charge for children under 2) with Cypriot music and dancing in the Village Square (weather permitting). Helios and Basiliko restaurants will also open for dinner with their regular menus. Throughout the day, children will enjoy many Kids' Holiday Activities—including the big Easter egg hunt in the gardens, a bouncy castle, and a roaming balloon man.

Kids' Club

Our youngest guests (ages 4 months to 11 years) are invited to join in the fun at the Kids' Club. We have planned all manner of age-appropriate activities involving eggs and chocolate throughout the weekend. We will have bunny races, Easter mosaics, Easter hat making, basket weaving, a cooking demonstration, scavenger hunts, and many other events.

Celebrations in Neo Chorio

The nearby village of Neo Chorio is a good place to see Cypriot Easter traditions in action. The streets of the town are decorated with Easter bunnies and colourful banners. The Church of St. Minas, on the Village Square, holds the traditional services. On Easter Sunday afternoon, the entire village gathers at the Cultural Centre for traditional Cypriot games, donkey races, fireworks, live music, and a feast. Anassa's guests are welcome to participate; contact Guest Services for details.

We look forward to welcoming you during your holiday! Contact Guest Services on 26 888 000 for enquiries and reservations.





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