

# KARPAZ TIMES

## Northern Cyprus to gain first major marina and 'Yacht Hotel'



## Marina to provide berths for 300 yachts of various sizes and due to open in early 2011

The Karpaz Peninsula of Northern Cyprus is one of the Mediterranean's last undiscovered yachting areas. Completely free of industry and pollution, Karpaz stretches into the sea like a narrow finger pointing to the North East and is home to rolling countryside, wild donkeys, ancient Byzantine churches and mile upon mile of empty sandy beaches, bays, coves and inlets.

This stunning location will soon play host to the Karpaz Gate Marina – the world's first 'Yacht Hotel'. Designed sensitively to complement the area's unique natural beauty, the new development will open up this undiscovered corner of the Mediterranean to yacht owners and charter companies alike while providing Northern Cyprus with its first ever modern marina.



## Currently under construction and project managed by Sea Alliance Group Ltd, a maritime services operation specialising in marina developments, the Karpaz Gate Marina will be a place apart.

It will be part of a tourist complex that comprises a 'marina village' of shops, cafés, restaurants, chandlery, car hire and travel services. As the world's first 'Yacht Hotel', the Karpaz Gate Marina will offer, on an optional basis, a five-star boutique service, including meals delivered to the yacht, laundry and dry-cleaning, full tourist arrangements and golf carts for residents' use. It will be exceptionally luxurious by Mediterranean standards, let alone for this stretch of the sea, and the very first establishment to offer this service to marina clients.

The Karpaz Gate Marina will also enjoy duty-free status which will cover berthing fees, fuel, maintenance and repair costs. This will make it the only comprehensive duty-free marina in the Mediterranean.

Six pontoons at the marina will provide berths for 300 yachts of various sizes, including superyachts of 60 metres plus, and will be supported by a 180 ton crane and 11,000sqm of dry dock area with all technical facilities on offer. All berths will have water and an electricity supply at both 230v and 400v.



## A new cruising paradise



**While cruising in the Mediterranean in the summer months can provide magical experiences, these can, all too often, be marred by congestion and a shortage of berths. If this sounds familiar, does the sound of a beautiful, virgin and virtually private coastline appeal to you?**

The Paradise Coast of Karpaz in north eastern Cyprus is just such a coast. It is empty, rugged and as yet undiscovered by the yachting fraternity as it was, until comparatively recently, a prohibited area. There are absolutely no marinas on this coast and when the Karpaz Gate Marina is completed by the beginning of 2011, it will still be the only facility in this area.

The coastline, which culminates at the north eastern extremity in the very scenic Cape Andreas, boasts beautiful scenery and numerous bays and coves. At present, you can sail the entire length of this coast and not see another yacht. Clearly this will change when the Karpaz Gate Marina is open, but it will still be one of the loveliest unspoilt stretches of Mediterranean coastline. And, crucially, very different to the congested areas of the western Mediterranean – and even neighbouring Turkey and Greece.

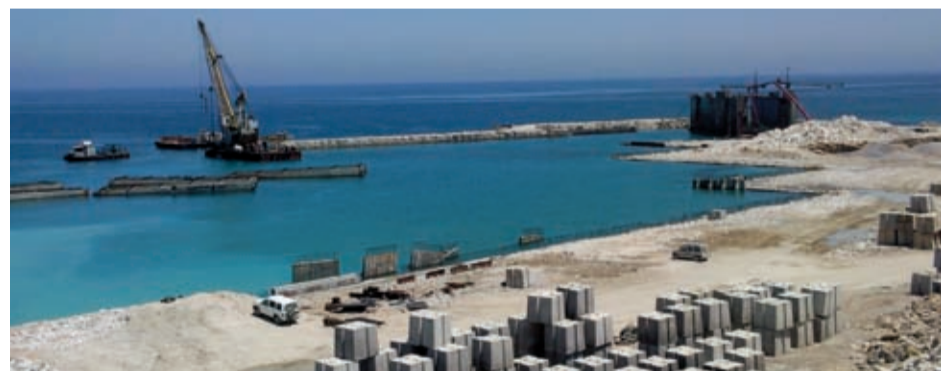
While the area may feel distant from the noise and bustle of urban civilisation, it's surprisingly well connected.

The popular yacht cruising areas of southern and south western Turkey are nearby while the international airports of Larnaca and Erchan are under an hour's drive away.

For the convenience of arriving and departing yachtsmen, the Karpaz Gate Marina will be a Port of Entry, with the Immigration and Customs Office next to the Harbour Office.



## Work progressing at Karpaz Gate Marina



As can be seen from these pictures, work is progressing well at the Karpaz Gate Marina. The top picture shows the caissons stored in the water which will form the main breakwater wall. Caissons were chosen as the preferred method of construction because the vertical sides will give very suitable alongside berthing for superyachts. These caissons are not only massive but also 10 metres wide, giving very comfortable road access to the yachts berthed alongside. Once the process of assembling the caissons starts, the breakwater will progress very fast. The caissons are much too heavy to be lifted by crane so they will be floated and towed into position before being sunk.

Every yacht owner and captain, in deciding where to moor his boat over the winter, will be considering the effect of the odd winter storm. This was another reason for choosing a caisson method of construction. The size and mass of the caissons, plus a substantial belt of natural rock and antifer cubes on the outside, provide berthing which is almost impervious to external sea conditions. Given northern Cyprus's overall fine weather, this is preparation that goes above and beyond what can be expected, even in the winter.

**For press enquiries please call the Karpaz Gate Marina press office on Tel: 00 44 (0)1202 315555. For more detailed information please visit [www.karpazbay.com](http://www.karpazbay.com)**