

Glide your way to treasure

It's not often that something really new and fun appears on the local tourism scene, but late last year was an exception, when Professor Loizos Heracleous brought the Segway Station to Nicosia. Sightseeing with a difference, forget tour buses, bikes or cars or even walking; this mode of transportation is new: the Segway. Some of you may have spotted this two-wheeled contraption before, resembling something like a vacuum cleaner with two big wheels, with a standing rider holding the handlebars and zipping around town.

The latest craze in modern travelling is undoubtedly a city tour by Segway. To see all these key attractions within half a day and in a fun relaxing manner (no tour groups with guides herding you around like cattle into souvenir shops), your best bet had to be via a Segway tour. In fact, Segway tours proved to be so popular last year; they needed their own category for travel awards.

This zero-emission, environmentally friendly, noiseless electric personal transporter enables you to take in over two hours of sights that could otherwise take one or two days to see. The all terrain tyres used means that Segways can take people on tarmac footpaths, grass or even muddy tracks. Of course, expert riders are on hand to show you how to control the thing, which, despite looking tricky, is pretty easy to master. Most people over the age of 14 years can operate a Segway, but anyone below 16 years old must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Once in control; you will delight in exploring the culture and history of city.

Segway Station tours in Nicosia run seven days a week, three times a day and will continue throughout the winter and summer periods. During a winter shower riders are given protective anoraks and gloves to wear in addition to their safety helmet. In the summer, riders can look forward to



a quick way to see the city and a tanning opportunity for sun worshipping tourists. If you're looking for a unique team building event, or perhaps you want to add a competitive element to your Segway tour then the treasure hunt taking place this Saturday is just right for you.

On your Segway tour you will get the chance to see Old Nicosia as you have never seen it before, with its magnificent architecture, traditional alleys and workshops, the haunting green line, and nooks and crannies known only to locals.

Groups will be divided into multiple teams, with a maximum crew of three people, accompanied by one of the experienced tour guides. The treasure hunt will challenge each team with clues to be deciphered and solved. Strategic thinking is required in deciding how best to address the clues in order to score the most points.

There are only eight spaces available so booking is necessary and winners of the treasure hunt will receive awesome prize hampers, including a free tour for your

crew members on a day of your choice, a delicious serving of melted chocolate and marshmallows and Segway Station merchandise.

Make your way to the Segway Station this Saturday, located at the corner of Aischylou Street and prepare for a fun day out, off the beaten track. Segway Station includes a relaxing cafe/lounge area where you can chill out before and after your tour. It also includes free WiFi, for those of you who cannot wait to upload your photos on your Facebook account, and Tweet about the day's events.

Segway Treasure Hunt

Rummage through old Nicosia to find the loot. January 14. Segway, 77A Aischylou Street, Nicosia. 2.30pm-5.30pm. The winners of the treasure hunt will receive awesome prize hampers. There are only 8 spaces available so booking is necessary. Crew of max three people. €35 per person. Tel: 22-763736. www.segway-stationcyprus.com

By Ledha Socratous