XIPHIAS Immigration

PROGRAMME BROCHURE



RESIDENCY BY INVESTMENT | CYPRUS

Cyprus Golden Visa – Business Investment Route

Obtain Cyprus permanent residency through investment in a local company employing Cypriot or EU nationals.

XIPHIAS Immigration DMCC
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At a glance

COUNTRY	ROUTE
Cyprus	**Residency by Investment**

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Two facts to know before anything else

Cyprus is not in Schengen. It is an EU member state, which is not the same thing. A Cypriot residence permit does not give you Schengen travel rights. It is the single most common misunderstanding about Cyprus.

There is no Cypriot citizenship by investment. The Cyprus Investment Programme was terminated on **1 November 2020**, by decision of the Council of Ministers dated 13 October 2020. What remains is **permanent residence** by investment — a different product with a different outcome.

Investment criteria

Permanent residence by investment is granted under Regulation 6(2) of the Aliens and Immigration Regulations. **XIPHIAS confirms the current criteria — the investment threshold, the income requirement and the qualifying investment categories — in writing with the Civil Registry and Migration Department before filing, and before any client commits funds.**

Citizenship is a separate matter. Naturalisation for non-EU nationals requires **8 years of legal residence within the previous 11**, plus 12 months of continuous residence immediately before the application.

One thing to settle before you start

These are **residency** programmes, not citizenship. That distinction matters more for an Indian passport holder than for most, because **India does not permit dual citizenship**: under Section 9(1) of the Citizenship Act 1955, voluntarily acquiring another citizenship ends your Indian citizenship automatically.

Holding European **residency** does not affect your Indian citizenship at all. Only naturalising would. So the residence permit is the safe part; the decision point comes years later, if and when you choose to naturalise.

Key benefits

- Permanent residence in Cyprus, an EU member state (Cyprus is not in the Schengen area).
- Spouse and dependent children can be included in the application.
- Access to healthcare and education in Cyprus.
- Freedom to own shares and receive dividends in Cyprus companies.

Requirements

- Invest in a Cyprus-based business that meets the current criteria, which XIPHIAS confirms with the Civil Registry and Migration Department before filing.
- Maintain a clean criminal record for all adult applicants.
- Provide proof of a secure annual income from legal sources abroad.
- Official declaration confirming no employment in Cyprus, except as a director of the invested company.

When this route may not fit

- Applicants with serious criminal convictions.
- Failure to maintain investment or company activity.
- Submission of false or incomplete documents.

How the process works

1. **Preliminary Eligibility Check**
   Initial verification of documents and eligibility.
2. **Select and Sign Investment Agreement**
   Choose a qualifying Cyprus-based company and agree the investment; XIPHIAS confirms the current threshold first.
3. **Transfer Investment Funds**
   Transfer the required funds from abroad following Cypriot banking regulations.
4. **Submit Residency Application**
   Application is submitted to the Civil Registry & Migration Department.
5. **Biometric Submission in Cyprus**
   Applicants visit Cyprus for biometric registration.
6. **Approval & Residence Card Issuance**
   Receive your permanent residence permit and residence cards.

Questions clients ask

How much do I need to invest?

XIPHIAS confirms the current investment threshold for a Cyprus business with the Civil Registry and Migration Department before filing, and in writing before you commit funds.

Can dependents be included in the application?

Yes. The spouse and dependent children can be included; XIPHIAS confirms the current rules for children's ages and for parents before filing.

Is employment allowed?

Only as a company director of the invested business.

Is Cyprus in the Schengen area?

No. Cyprus is an EU member state but not part of Schengen, so a Cypriot residence permit does not give Schengen travel rights.

Does this lead to Cypriot citizenship?

Not automatically. Citizenship by investment ended on 1 November 2020. Naturalisation requires 8 years of legal residence within the previous 11, plus 12 months of continuous residence immediately before applying.

Important notes

- Cyprus is not a Schengen member. A Cypriot residence permit does not give Schengen travel rights. Cyprus is an EU member state, which is a different thing.
- The Cyprus Investment Programme — citizenship by investment — was terminated on 1 November 2020 by decision of the Council of Ministers dated 13 October 2020. There is no Cypriot citizenship-by-investment route.
- XIPHIAS confirms the current permanent residence criteria — investment threshold, income requirement and qualifying categories — in writing with the Civil Registry and Migration Department before filing, and before any client commits funds.

Compliance

- Citizenship by investment terminated 1 November 2020, per the Cyprus Ministry of Finance.
- Cyprus is an EU member state but is not in the Schengen area.
- Permanent residence by investment is granted under Regulation 6(2) of the Aliens and Immigration Regulations. XIPHIAS confirms the current criteria with the Civil Registry and Migration Department before filing.
- Naturalisation for non-EU nationals requires 8 years of legal residence within the previous 11, plus 12 months of continuous residence immediately before applying.

Official sources: Republic of Cyprus — Cyprus Investment Programme registry (scheme terminated 1 November 2020); Republic of Cyprus — Civil Registry and Migration Department.



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NEXT STEP

Plan your Cyprus application with our Dubai team

Tell us about your profile, family and timeline. We will confirm whether **Cyprus Golden Visa – Business Investment Route** fits, set out the full cost in writing and manage the application with you from start to finish.

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CREDENTIALS

- Advising clients on global mobility since 2009; XIPHIAS Immigration DMCC in Dubai since 2017.
- Named Best Immigration Consultant by The Times of India in 2022.
- Canada files handled by a CICC-licensed Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant, licence R516194.
- Australia files handled by a registered migration agent, MARA 1680615.

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