

CYPRUS NEARING SCHENGEN ENTRY & US VISA-FREE TRAVEL



Recent developments suggest that Cyprus is on the verge of two major milestones: joining the Schengen Area and gaining access to the United States Visa Waiver Program (VWP). These advancements could significantly enhance international mobility for Cypriots and strengthen the country's global connectivity.

Progress Towards Schengen Membership

- Cyprus aims to finalize Schengen technical requirements by 2025, according to the government.
- Political concerns, including those related to the ceasefire line, have been resolved.
- Schengen membership would eliminate internal border checks, making travel across Europe smoother for Cypriot citizens.
- This move is expected to boost tourism, investment, and business opportunities.
- The Schengen Area now includes 29 countries, with Bulgaria and Romania joining in 2025.

Advancements in US Visa Waiver Program

- Cyprus is closer than ever to joining the US Visa Waiver Program.
- The rejection rate for US visa applications from Cypriots dropped to 2.16%, meeting the required threshold.
- Technical discussions between Cyprus and the US have progressed over the past year.
- If approved, Cypriots could travel visa-free to the US for tourism or business for stays of up to 90 days.
- The government is optimistic about inclusion in early 2025.

CYPRUS NEARING SCHENGEN ENTRY & US VISA-FREE TRAVEL



What This Means for Travelers

- Faster and easier travel within Europe and to the US.
- More opportunities for business, tourism, and international cooperation.
- Strengthened Cyprus-EU and Cyprus-US ties.
- Potential cost savings by eliminating visa application fees and related expenses.
- Reduced airport wait times with smoother border control procedures.

These anticipated changes mark a significant step forward for Cyprus on the global stage.

Our firm will continue keeping up with updates on the matter. For more information please contact us at info@americanoslaw.com