

## GREEK ORTHODOX EASTER CELEBRATIONS AT ALION BEACH HOTEL

Easter is the biggest Greek Orthodox religious feast, which is celebrated in Cyprus with great solemnity and hope for mankind's resurrection. And it coincides with the rebirth of nature. Eggs and candles are symbolic for Greek Easter. The egg stands as a symbol of rebirth and is usually painted red. It is often used to decorate a rich sweet bread called 'tsoureki'. The candle symbolizes life and it is long and elaborately decorated.

At the midnight Mass on Easter Saturday, priests will pass out the light of life to the Easter candles held by churchgoers to signify the Resurrection of Jesus. Churchgoers will carefully transport home the holy candle light to bless the home with happiness and longevity.

As the Easter is traditionally preceded by fifty days of fasting, the family's return to a normal meat-based diet starts by the Easter soup "Mageritsa", which is served upon return from the midnight Mass. This ceremonial soup, accented by an egg and lemon sauce, arouses the appetite and prepares us for the splendours of the Easter lunch feast.

At the Alion Beach Hotel, we enjoy following the tradition and invite our guests to the following happenings:

## HOLY SATURDAY 4th of May 2024 – MEDITERRANEAN FLAVOURS FOLLOWED BY MIDNIGHT MASS

**19:00 hrs Mediterranean Night** – a selection of Mediterranean specialties prepared for you by our Chef and his team. Served in the tranquil atmosphere of the Symposion Restaurant.

20:30 hrs.: Live music at the Amethystos Bar

**23:00 hrs.:** Meet at the reception to join the Midnight Mass of Easter at the Ayia Napa church. All our hotel guests will be provided with a candle for the church ceremony. Upon our return, the traditional Easter soup "mageritsa" will be served at the Symposion Restaurant. This festive supper will also be accompanied by traditional 'flaounes' (home made buns filled with cheese, egg, spices and topped with sesame seeds), red Easter eggs and plenty of Kokinelli, a special red wine served traditionally as a compliment to the Easter soup.

Price for adults 20.00 euro and for children (2 - 11 years old) 10.00 euro.

## EASTER SUNDAY 5th of May 2024 – EASTER LUNCH

07:00-11:00 hrs Champagne Breakfast at the Kalimera Restaurant & Terrace

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**13.00 hrs.: Easter Sunday BBQ buffet** enjoy an extensive buffet with a rich selection of dishes, including traditional "kokoretsi", souvla and other Greek Easter specialities served at the Akti Pool Bar & Restaurant. Live music with Eleni and Lefteris Moscovias will make sure your Easter Sunday will be lively, happy and enjoyable.

Price for bed & breakfast guests: adults 55.00 euro and for children (2 - 11 years old) 25.00 euro.

20:30 hrs Live music at the Amethystos Bar & Verandah

PLEASE CONTACT THE FRONT DESK FOR YOUR RESERVATIONS.

