

# COWORKING SPACES IN NORTH CYPRUS



#### To Dear Sir or Madame,

Northern Cyprus – with its warm climate, affordable living costs, and improving internet infrastructure – is emerging as a new hotspot for remote workers. In recent years, several coworking spaces have opened across the region (particularly in Kyrenia/Girne, the Famagusta area, and North Nicosia), providing reliable work environments for freelancers, digital nomads, and startups. These spaces typically offer high-speed internet (often 100–200 Mbps), comfortable workstations, and amenities like free coffee/tea and meeting rooms. Many also cultivate a sense of community through networking events and mentorship programs.

This document highlights key topics across five main categories:

- A) Major Coworking Spaces by Region
- B) Comparison of Coworking Spaces
- C) Amenities, Networking & Community Perks
- D) Recommendations for Different Remote Work Profiles
- E) Conclusion

Overall, the coworking landscape in Northern Cyprus is still small but growing.

Remote workers can now find modern facilities and supportive professional communities in the north of the island, comparable to those in more established digital nomad destinations. Below is an overview of the major coworking spaces in Northern Cyprus, followed by a comparison of their offerings and recommendations for different types of users.

### A) Major Coworking Spaces by Region

### A.1) Kyrenia (Girne) – Expanding Coworking Hub

Kyrenia (Girne) is the main hub for coworking in Northern Cyprus, hosting several of the region's prominent spaces:

- QWork.Space (Girne) A modern coworking space located just outside Kyrenia town, on the road toward Bellapais (offering a sea view from the workspace).

  QWork markets itself as more than just a workplace it's a community of professionals where networking and knowledge-sharing are encouraged. The facility features open-plan desks, a conference hall, and even a rooftop work area.

  Amenities include 24/7 access for members, high-speed internet (billed as the fastest on the island), a kitchen and free coffee/tea, and lockers. A unique perk is QWork's continual Free Day promotion essentially every newcomer's first day can be used free of charge to experience the space. This makes it very inviting for digital nomads passing through. Daily or weekly passes can be arranged, though one would likely discuss details with QWork's staff after the free trial day.
- Pojo Digital Space (Girne) A established premium coworking space in central Kyrenia. Located in a modern high-rise near the main roundabout (convenient for those coming from the highway), Dojo offers a polished workspace with a limited

number of spots (to ensure it never feels overcrowded). The interior is geared toward professionals: there's a dedicated meeting room for client meetings, a private office for those needing solitude, and even a special studio room for live broadcasts or photo shoots. High-speed internet up to 200 Mbps keeps everything running smoothly. Dojo also provides all necessary office equipment (printing facilities, plenty of charging outlets) and a refreshment area with coffee, tea, and snacks. Being part of a larger digital marketing agency, Dojo comes with built-in business community perks: members can join initiatives like a Financial Literacy School (with expert-led workshops) and a Women Entrepreneurs Club that connects female business owners for mentorship. Pricing: Dojo Digital Space offers tiered plans (Basic, Standard, Premium) and flexible passes. Standard hours are 9am–8pm, though individual 24/7 arrangements can be made for dedicated members.

Popen Space Coworking (Girne) – Open Space is another coworking center in Kyrenia, notable for its community-driven approach. Conveniently located in the heart of Girne, it was created by a team with a background in international real estate and services. The atmosphere is described as comfortable and productive – a place "you want to return to" – with a well-thought-out concept to attract a loyal community. Open Space offers the usual coworking amenities (desks, Wi-Fi, etc.) alongside some one-stop services (the founders integrate things like relocation assistance, likely as part of their real estate business). They have hosted casual networking events such as flea markets ("Open Space Market") and other social gatherings, making the space a hub for expats to mingle. They offer daily and monthly plans similar to other spaces in town. They have advertised promotions as well, and like others in Girne, they encourage interested workers to claim a free first visit pass. Open Space is a great example of the growing Russian and international entrepreneurial community in North Cyprus coming together – signage and events are often bilingual (English/Russian), reflecting the diverse clientele.

# A.2) Famagusta / İskele Region - Quiet Coastal Option

Outside of Kyrenia, coworking choices are fewer, but one pioneering space serves the eastern coast:

\* Workiş (Yeni İskele) – Workiş (pronounced "Workish") holds the distinction of being the first coworking space in Northern Cyprus. It opened in early 2023 in Yeni iskele (Trikomo), near the developing Long Beach area of iskele and not far from Famagusta. Unlike the larger spaces in Girne, Workiş is a small and quiet facility, described as a "quiet place for freelancers" - essentially a step up from a typical internet café, providing a focused work environment. The coworking consists of two rooms: one is a silent hall with about 9-11 individual desks (and a round table for group work); the other is a networking/conference room that can host 15-20 people for events or meetings. Workiş offers spacious desks, internet up to 100 Mbit, and of course the essential Turkish coffee on the house. Amenities are simple but sufficient: there's a small kitchen, free coffee/tea/snacks, air conditioning, lockers, and even an outdoor terrace for breaks. What Workiş lacks in glitz, it makes up for in affordability and calm atmosphere - the owners emphasize "comfort, silence and reasonable prices". This makes Workiş very attractive for students of the nearby Eastern Mediterranean University or freelancers living on the East Coast who need a low-cost workspace with reliable internet. While it may not offer daily networking events, its no-frills approach hits the mark for productivity.

# A.3) North Nicosia (Lefkoşa) – Entrepreneurship Hub

As the capital of Northern Cyprus (Lefkoşa) is primarily a governmental and educational center, it has fewer dedicated coworking offices. However, a notable initiative has launched:

• Cyprus Entrepreneurship Station (CES) – Based in North Nicosia, CES is a hybrid facility combining co-working spaces, a startup accelerator, and an investor hub. It was established as the first of its kind in the northern part of Cyprus, with support from local business organizations and EU funding. CES provides a range of workspaces: open coworking desk areas for individuals, private offices for small startup teams, meeting rooms and training/seminar rooms for workshops. The station's goal is not only to offer workspace but also to foster entrepreneurship in the Turkish Cypriot community – bridging resources for new businesses. Members of CES

coworking can tap into mentorship programs, networking events, and even EU-backed programs (for example, CES has hosted a Women Leadership Academy and other startup training events). The community is a mix of local entrepreneurs and international professionals based in Nicosia. Pricing: CES offers flexible plans similar to other coworking spaces, including daily passes and monthly memberships. The value-add at CES is the ecosystem: on any given week, you might attend a startup pitching event or find information on grant programs while working from the space. For anyone in North Nicosia, especially involved in tech or startups, CES is the go-to spot for co-working and networking.

**Tip:** Explore real estate listings at <u>cyprops.com</u> and find your ideal living space near coworking spaces to stay connected with the community.

Beyond their unique atmospheres and amenities, each space offers distinct advantages in terms of internet speed, pricing, and community engagement. The next section (B) provides a detailed comparison to help you decide which workspace best suits your remote work lifestyle.

# B) Comparison of Coworking Spaces

To help prospective users scan the differences, the table below compares key features of the major Northern Cyprus coworking spaces:

Space	Location	Day Pass	Month Pass	Amenities & Perks	Community/Events
QWork. Space	Girne	€15-€20	€200	24/7 Access; Sea-view Rooftop; Fast Wi-Fi; Kitchen, Coffee/Tea; Lockers; Conference Hall	Networking Focus; Frequent Talks; Masterclasses; Mentoring Sessions; Highly Social Vibe
Dojo Digital	Girne	€25	€250	Premium Space; 200 Mbps Internet; Meeting Room; Private Office; Studio Space; Free Snacks/Drinks	Business Community; Financial Workshops and Women Entrepreneurs Club; Professional Networking
Open Space	Girne	€15	€200	Cozy Central Hub; High-speed Wi-Fi; Printing; On-site Café Partnership; "One-stop" services (e.g. Relocation Help)	Community Events; Social Gatherings; Markets; Meetups; Expat Friendly; Informal Network
Workiş	Yeni İskele	€10-€15	€190	Quiet 2-Room Setup; 100 Mbps Internet; Free Turkish Coffee/Tea; A/C; Small Outdoor Terrace	No-frills; Occasional Small Meetups; but generally a Peaceful, Focused Freelancer Environment
CES	Nicosia	€15	€200	Modern Offices + Accelerator; Meeting & Training Rooms; Access to Startup Support Services; Print/Scan; 24/7 Security	Entrepreneurial Events; Startup Pitch Nights, Trainings (EU-funded Programs). Mix of Local and International Professionals

Prices are date of 21st March 2025 (14:46 MESZ)

**Tip:** Weigh your options! Visit <u>cyprops.com</u> to select a living space that complements your work style and community preferences.

While we focused on the tangible differences in pricing and features, it's also crucial to consider the softer, yet equally important, aspects like community events, networking opportunities, and other amenities that enrich your work experience. The next section (C) dives into these perks, detailing how each coworking space fosters a vibrant, supportive community.

#### C) Amenities, Networking & Community Perks

- One common thread across Northern Cyprus coworking spaces is an emphasis on community. Many cater not just to providing a desk and Wi-Fi, but to creating networks where remote workers can meet, learn, and collaborate. For example, QWork.Space explicitly fosters "a community of successful individuals" and promotes knowledge exchange through masterclasses, lectures, and events that "broaden your horizons". Similarly, Dojo Digital Space leverages its connection to a marketing agency to involve members in workshops like the Financial Literacy School and a Women Entrepreneurs Club, providing valuable networking and professional growth opportunities on-site
- Even the more casual Open Space Coworking organizes community gatherings an example is the Open Space Market, a kind of garage sale event for Girne expats. Such events make the coworking space double as a social venue where members can build relationships. CES in Nicosia, being part of an entrepreneurship initiative, regularly hosts talks, mentorship programs, and even hackathon-style competitions under various funded projects, which naturally benefit its co-working users as well (they get to participate or at least mingle with attendees). Workiş, while smaller, has served as a meetup point for freelancers in the İskele area and could host periodic tech talks or group work sessions given its conference room though it is more oriented toward providing a quiet work zone than frequent events.
- Networking opportunities are therefore plentiful, especially in Kyrenia and Nicosia. In these spaces you can expect to meet a mix of local entrepreneurs, foreign remote workers, and startup founders. The language of communication is almost always English (even though Turkish is the local tongue, the international nature of these coworking spots means English is the common ground). This makes it easy for newcomers from abroad to integrate and feel comfortable.
- Another perk worth noting is that many coworking spaces in Northern Cyprus offer additional business services or partnerships. For instance, Open Space's concept of a "one-stop shop" means you might find help with things like registering a residence permit or getting insurance through their partner services (useful for a newcomer setting up life in Cyprus). CES provides virtual office services as well (for those who

need a business address in Nicosia). Meanwhile, the more traditional coworking amenities – printing/scanning, locker storage, videoconferencing rooms, etc. – are available at virtually all the spaces listed. High-speed internet is a given at each venue, often with redundant connections to avoid downtime. Coffee, tea and water are complimentary everywhere (with some, like QWork and Dojo, also providing snacks). Access hours vary: 24/7 access is offered to monthly members at places like QWork (and likely Open Space and CES), while others like Dojo have extended business hours with after-hours access on request.

Importantly, the atmosphere in these coworking spots can differ: some are lively and collaborative (QWork, Open Space) while others are more focused and serene (Workiş, or even Dojo during working hours). Remote workers can choose what suits their working style. The good news is that with the free trial days and day-pass options, you can easily try out multiple coworking spaces when you arrive, to see where you fit best in terms of ambiance and community.

**Tip:** Elevate your lifestyle! Explore <u>cyprops.com</u> to find homes near coworking spaces that offer top-notch amenities, networking events, and community perks tailored for you.

While the previous section highlighted the rich amenities and networking opportunities, finding the right environment also means matching the space to your individual needs. Whether you're a digital nomad seeking flexibility, a freelancer in search of community, or an entrepreneur needing robust support, the next section (D) offers targeted recommendations for different remote work profiles.

## D) Recommendations for Different Remote Work Profiles

Different coworking spaces in Northern Cyprus may appeal to different types of remote workers. Here are some recommendations tailored to various audiences:

Freelancers: If you're a solo freelancer seeking a quiet, affordable place to focus, Workiş in İskele is ideal – it offers a distraction-free environment and low rates, perfect if you don't need daily networking. For freelancers based near Kyrenia, QWork.Space is excellent: it provides structure and community without feeling corporate. QWork's balance of collaborative vibe and personal workspace means you can grind on your projects, then chat with others over coffee when you need a break. Its free trial day offer is a big plus for independent professionals to test the waters. Freelancers who occasionally meet clients might also consider Dojo Digital for its professional meeting room and prestigious setting – you can always buy a day pass at Dojo on days you need to impress a client, even if you work elsewhere most of the time.

Remote Employees (Corporate Remote Workers): If you work full-time for a company back home and need a reliable "office" environment, Dojo Digital Space is highly recommended. Its premium facilities (ergonomic desks, very fast internet, private areas) ensure you won't miss a beat during important Zoom calls or deadlines. Dojo's quieter, limited-capacity setup means a more office-like atmosphere conducive to 9-to-5 schedules. Likewise, QWork.Space can suit remote employees, especially those who crave some after-hours access – QWork's 24/7 availability lets you accommodate odd meeting hours across time zones. Additionally, CES in Nicosia is a good option if you're based in the capital; it provides a professional setting and the opportunity to network with other professionals during breaks (useful for staying motivated). Remote workers with families might like that these spaces are in central locations (easy commute) and offer amenities like dedicated phone booths or stable power backup. Overall, for day-to-day productivity and infrastructure, Dojo and CES stand out for their corporate feel, while QWork gives a mix of structure and socializing.

Estartups and Entrepreneurial Teams: If you're a startup founder or part of a small team, Cyprus Entrepreneurship Station (CES) in Nicosia should be on top of your list. Beyond just desk space, CES plugs you into an accelerator-like environment with potential access to mentors, investors, and training programs. The fact that it's an "Entrepreneurship Station" means you'll be working alongside other startups and can easily find collaborators or advice. Meanwhile, in Kyrenia, Dojo Digital offers private

office options and after-hours flexibility, which could be useful if your team needs a room to brainstorm or work late. Dojo's community events (like the financial literacy workshops) could also benefit founders looking to sharpen business skills.

QWork.Space is another great choice for startups or tech entrepreneurs – it has a creative energy and hosts events that might spark new ideas or partnerships.

QWork's community is described as full of "like-minded individuals ready to support your ideas", which is exactly what a budding startup needs. Finally, don't overlook Open Space Coworking in Girne if your startup could use connections in the expat community; many consultants and specialists frequent Open Space, and you might find a marketing guru or developer for hire over a cup of coffee there. In short, startups in Northern Cyprus should leverage these coworking hubs not only for workspace but as platforms to accelerate their business through networking.

Digital Nomads: For globetrotting remote workers who might only be in Northern Cyprus for a few weeks or months, the priority is often a mix of good facilities and a chance to meet fellow travelers. QWork.Space is a top pick for digital nomads – its daily and weekly passes are convenient, the staff is welcoming to newcomers, and they explicitly encourage trying the space for free initially. The vibe at QWork is inspirational and social, which helps if you're new in town and want to make connections quickly. Open Space is another attractive spot for nomads, especially those coming from communities of Russian-speaking or Eastern European nomads you'll find a familiar community feel and likely hear a mix of languages (English, Russian, Turkish) being spoken. Open Space's events can introduce you to local culture (e.g., a little market day or workshop). Nomads who prefer a structured environment might gravitate to Dojo Digital for daytime work (quiet focus) and then hop to social events at other venues in the evenings. Also, since nomads often tour the whole island, note that coworking spaces in the Republic of Cyprus (south) are just a border-cross away – but within the north, the listed spaces in Girne and Nicosia will cover your needs. Many digital nomads in North Cyprus choose to base in Kyrenia because of the beach-town lifestyle combined with these coworking options. If that's you, try out QWork and Open Space to see which community clicks, and know that you can't go wrong with either for a productive yet enjoyable stay.

**Tip:** Whether you're a digital nomad, freelancer, or entrepreneur, <u>cyprops.com</u> helps you to discover your ideal property near the coworking spaces that fit your needs!

Having explored tailored advice for freelancers, corporate remote workers, startups, and digital nomads, you're now equipped with a comprehensive understanding of how to choose the coworking space that best suits your professional lifestyle. The next section (E) offers a concise conclusion that ties all these insights together, providing final thoughts on the evolving coworking landscape in Northern Cyprus.

#### E) Conclusion

Northern Cyprus may still be a budding destination on the digital nomad map, but its coworking offerings are quickly maturing. With several well-equipped coworking spaces now available – each with its own character – remote professionals can find a suitable "home office" whether they prefer a tranquil coastal hideaway or a buzzing entrepreneurial hub. The region's low living costs, sunny Mediterranean lifestyle, and friendly, English-speaking community make it especially appealing for those who want to balance work with quality of life.

In summary, coworking in Northern Cyprus currently ranges from the quiet Workiş space catering to focused freelancers, to vibrant communities like QWork. Space and Open Space in Kyrenia that double as innovation labs and social circles. Dojo Digital Space adds a touch of luxury and structure for those needing a high-end office-away-from-office, while the Cyprus Entrepreneurship Station (CES) in Lefkoşa connects remote workers with the local startup ecosystem. All provide the essentials – fast internet, comfy desks, coffee – but each also brings something extra, be it a rooftop view, a professional workshop, or a built-in network of business contacts.

For individuals planning to live in Northern Cyprus and work remotely, the combination of these coworking options and the relatively easy visa/residency process creates a welcoming environment. You can join a co-working community to stay productive and combat loneliness, attend networking events to integrate with locals and expats, and

enjoy the island's beaches and history in your off-time – all while legally residing via a low-hassle permit system. Northern Cyprus offers a unique blend of east and west, where you might start your morning with Turkish coffee and end your workday watching the sunset over the Mediterranean – laptop in hand, but far from the usual office grind. It's an enticing proposition, and as the coworking scene grows, it's only getting better for remote workers in this corner of the world.

■ Northern Cyprus beckons – a destination where state-of-the-art coworking spaces and vibrant professional communities converge to spark innovation, foster valuable connections, and pave the way for both career success and a balanced Mediterranean lifestyle.

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