



Malta

Residency Schemes & Lifestyle



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To Make the Difference

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Why Malta?

Described as one of the best places to reside worldwide, Malta is reputed to be an ideal choice for prospective investors seeking to do business in Malta.

Lying in the centre of the Mediterranean, Malta is part of the European Union, offering various incentives for businesses.

The island has been a member state of the EU since 2004 and was admitted to the United Nations in 1964.

Malta lies at the centre of the Mediterranean, 288 km north of Africa and 93 km south of Sicily. Boasting political stability, a sound banking system, and a very low crime rate, Malta is an ideal European financial hub with strong connections in both North Africa and the Middle East. The country enjoys over 300 days of sunshine, attractive beaches, and 7,000 years of history.

Malta also boasts a strong presence of foreign direct investment (FDI) thanks to its efforts in creating an ideal environment for foreign investors.



Capital City

Valletta - UNESCO World Heritage Site & European Capital of Culture for 2018



Language

Malta is a bi-lingual country, with both Maltese and English being the official languages. Italian is also spoken by the majority of the locals



Safety

According to the 2019 Global Wealth Migration Review, published by the New World Health, Malta ranked 2nd globally and first in Europe



Accessibility

Direct flights to & from all major cities in Europe & beyond. Mediterranean cruise liners regularly include Valletta as one of the ports on their itinerary



Currency

Apart from being a member of the EU, Malta also holds the Euro as its official currency



EU

Malta is part of the EU, Schengen Area, Eurozone and Commonwealth



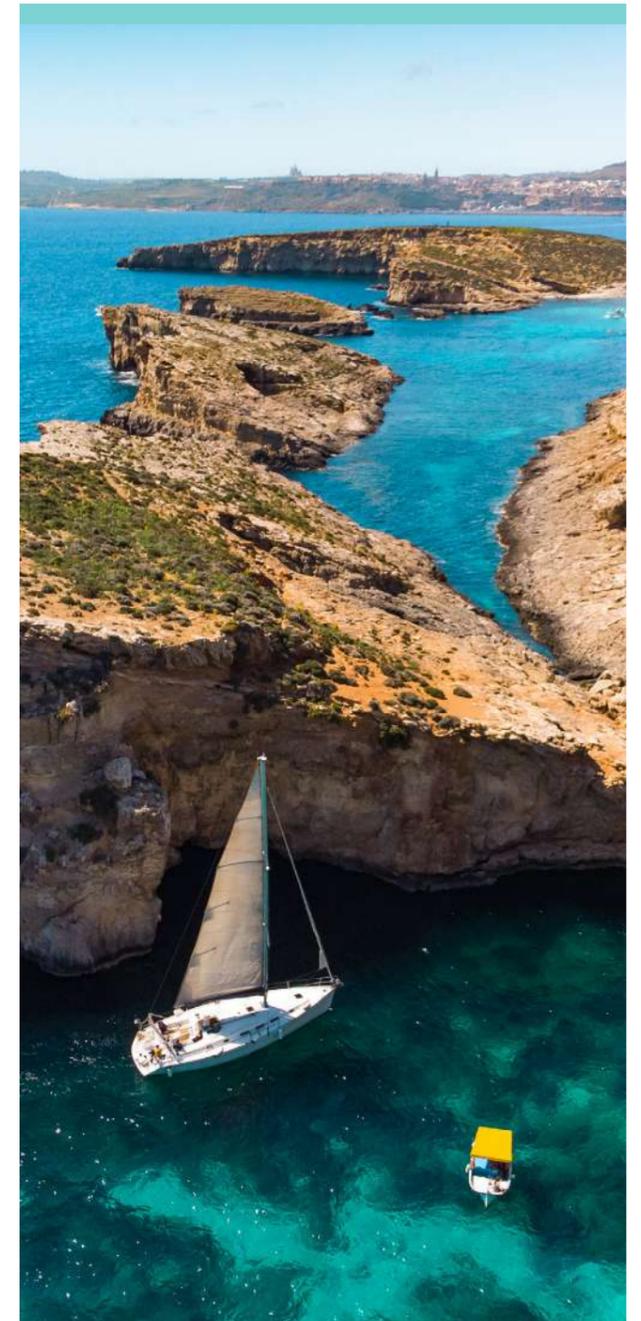
Economy

Malta's economy is among the strongest in Europe with minimal unemployment levels (according to Moody's, S&P and Fitch)



Education

The country's high level education system is highly praised and recognised internationally



Obtaining Maltese Residence or Citizenship

The main benefits

- ▶ Visa free travelling to the 26 Schengen States when granted Maltese Permanent Residence
- ▶ Inclusion of children and parents
- ▶ Guarantee of top quality healthcare and education
- ▶ Certificates obtained are lifelong as long as Programme requirements are maintained.

The Malta Permanent Residence Programme (MPRP)

The Main Benefits

- ▶ Residence in an EU member state that is neutral, stable and highly respected
- ▶ The right to reside, settle and stay indefinitely in Malta
- ▶ A very straightforward application process
- ▶ Freedom of movement within Europe's Schengen Area and security within its social and legal system
- ▶ Family members can be included as long as the Programme requirements are maintained

What is the programme?

The granting of a Maltese residence certificate and residence card.

Applies to:

Third country nationals, excluding EU, EEA and Switzerland and nationals from sanctioned countries, which list is reviewed from time to time.

Who is eligible?

Main applicant should be at least 18 years of age and:

- Be in receipt of stable and regular resources which are sufficient to maintain himself/herself and his/her dependants without recourse to the social assistance system of Malta
- Must have assets amounting to at least €500,000, out of which a minimum of €150,000 must be in the form of financial assets OR have assets amounting to at least €650,000, out of which a minimum of €75,000 must be in the form of financial assets
- Be in possession of a valid travel document (same requisite applicable for all dependants)
- Possess clean criminal records (same requisite applicable for dependants)
- Demonstrate that s/he does not suffer from a contagious disease or a health condition that could become a significant burden on the Maltese health system (same requisite applicable for all dependants)

Dependents:

In addition to the main applicant, the programme also covers the:

- Spouse
- Children less than 18 years of age
- Unmarried children between 18 and 29 years of age who are still dependant on the main applicant
- Parents or grandparents of main applicant or spouse who are still dependent on the main applicant
- Children over 18 years of age who are certified by a recognised medical professional or authority as having a disability in terms of the Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act

Commitments necessary:

- Payment of a non-refundable administrative fee of €60,000 covering all involved parties
- Payment of a Government contribution fee of €37,000 if purchasing or leasing a property in Malta
- Acquisition of property in Malta or Gozo worth at least €375,000. Rather than acquired, property could be rented at a minimum of €14,000 annually
- A donation of €2,000 to a registered Voluntary Organisation in Malta
- Health Insurance Policy covering all risks across Malta
- €7,500 for each dependant included within the MPRP application (except for spouse dependant)

Other Fees under the MPRP:

A processing fee applies when a residence card is issued or renewed. The fee is currently that of €500 per person for the initial 5 years. Additional fees apply for card renewals or replacements in cases such as loss, theft, damage, or amendments to personal details (eg. change of address).

Cost of Living

Housing and Domestic Expenses

	Description	Estimated Cost (EUR)
Housing	1-bedroom apartment in city center	€944.00 (Range: €700-1,234)
	1-bedroom apartment outside center	€782.32 (Range: €600-1,000)
	3-bedroom apartment in city center	€1,635.06 (Range: €1,200-2,500)
	3-bedroom apartment outside center	€1,227.11 (Range: €900-1,800)
Utilities (Monthly)	Electricity, heating, cooling, water, garbage (85m ²)	€91.40 (Range: €60-170)
	Mobile phone plan with calls and 10GB+ data	€24.26 (Range: €13-30)
	Internet (60 Mbps or more, unlimited data)	€29.87 (Range: €25-42)
Buy Apartment Price	Price per square meter to buy apartment in city center	€3,653.34 (Range: €2,250-6,000)
	Per square meter to buy apartment outside center	€2,858.81 (Range: €1,847-5,000)
Salaries & Financing	Average monthly net salary (after tax)	€1,443.39
	Mortgage interest rate (% , yearly, for 20 years fixed)	4.74% (Range: 3.00-5.43)

Food (Markets)

	Description	Estimated Cost (EUR)
Food (Markets)	Milk (1L)	€1.10 (Range: €0.94-1.53)
	Fresh white bread (500g)	€1.14 (Range: €0.75-2.00)
	Eggs (12)	€3.02 (Range: €1.32-4.32)
	Local cheese (1kg)	€8.61 (Range: €4.00-15.90)
	Chicken fillets (1kg)	€7.98 (Range: €4.00-10.00)
	Apples (1kg)	€2.70 (Range: €1.80-4.00)
	Water (1.5 liter bottle)	€0.79 (Range: €0.40-1.50)

Food (Restaurants)

	Description	Estimated Cost (EUR)
Food (Restaurants)	Meal at inexpensive restaurant	€15.00 (Range: €10-30)
	Meal for 2 at mid-range restaurant (3 courses)	€70.00 (Range: €45-110)
	McMeal at McDonald's	€9.95 (Range: €8.90-10.50)
	Domestic beer (0.5 liter draught)	€3.50 (Range: €2.00-5.00)
	Imported beer (0.33 liter bottle)	€4.00 (Range: €2.75-5.00)
	Cappuccino (regular)	€2.40 (Range: €1.50-4.00)
	Coke/Pepsi (0.33 liter bottle)	€2.13 (Range: €1.50-3.00)

Sports & Leisure

	Description	Estimated Cost (EUR)
Sports & Leisure	Fitness club, monthly fee for 1 adult	€57.09 (Range: €30-80)
	Tennis court rent (1 hour on weekend)	€21.50 (Range: €14-30)
	Cinema, international release, 1 seat	€9.00 (Range: €8.00-15.00)

Transportation and Miscellaneous

	Description	Estimated Cost (EUR)
Transportation	One-way ticket (local transport)	€2.00 (€1.50-2.50)
	Monthly pass (regular price)	€15.00 (€0-26)
	Taxi start (normal tariff)	€5.00 (€4.00-10.00)
	Gasoline (1 liter)	€1.34 (€1.30-1.39)
Childcare	Preschool (private, monthly for 1 child)	€493.03 (€250-750)
	International primary school, yearly for 1 child	€8,400.51 (€6,000-10,500)
Clothing & Shoes	1 pair of jeans (Levi's 501 or similar)	€90.38 (Range: €25-136)
	1 summer dress in a chain store (Zara, H&M, etc.)	€36.48 (Range: €20-70)
	1 pair of Nike running shoes (mid-range)	€84.24 (Range: €50-130)
	1 pair of men's leather business shoes	€100.58 (Range: €55-150)

Need to Know

High Season (June - August)

Daytime temperatures in July and August can reach more than 35°C.

Main season for village festas (feast days) and music festivals.

Low Season (November - February)

November and December temperatures average 12°C to 18°C.

January and February are coldest; northeasterly wind (grigal) occasionally disrupts Gozo ferry service.

Christmas to New Year is a mini-high season.

Other Months

Warm and sunny; occasional rainfall or hot and humid wind.

Sea is warmer in autumn than in spring.

Holy week is one of the highlights of this period.



Visas

Malta is in the Schengen area. Visas are also not required for citizens of EU and EEA countries. Other nationalities should check www.foreign.gov.mt



Money

ATMs are widespread. Credit cards are used in larger hotels and upmarket restaurants



Mobile Phones

Malta uses the GSM900 mobile network (not compatible with the USA's and Canada's GSM1900)



Time

Central European Time Zone (GMT/UTC plus one hour)

Useful Websites

Malta Tourism Authority (www.visitmalta.com)

Official site with lots of useful information.

Gozo (www.gozo.com)

All about Gozo

Restaurants Malta (www.restaurantsmalta.com)

Helpful, reliable survey-based restaurant guide.

What's on Malta (www.whatson.com.mt)

Music, art, festivals, theatre and clubbing listings.

Opening Hours

We've provided high-season opening hours; hours are sometimes shorter in the low season.

Banks

8.30am–12.30pm Mon–Fri, sometimes to 2pm Fri, 8.30am–noon Sat

Restaurants

noon–3pm & 7–11pm (sometimes closed on Mondays)

Cafes

9am–10pm

Bars

8pm–4am

Shops

9am–1pm & 4–7pm Mon–Sat

If You Like



Beaches

Golden Bay: Living up to its name, with golden sand.

Għajn Tuffieħa Bay: Even more beautiful than neighbouring Golden Bay.

Ramla Bay: One of Gozo's prettiest beaches, with red-gold sand, backed by rolling hills.

San Blas Bay: A gorgeous little Gozitan bay with rust-coloured sand and a steep approach.

Paradise Bay: A sandy beach looking over Gozo.



Watersports

Malta, Gozo and Comino offer some of the world's best diving, parasailing, kayaking, water-skiing and SUP (stand-up paddle boarding).

Dive sites: Dive wrecks, caves and reefs for beginners, experts and everyone in between.

Golden Bay: Take a speedboat trip, windsurf, etc.

Mellieħa Bay: Watersports such as windsurfing, kiteboarding, water-skiing and more.

Kayaking: Take a kayak tour around Gozo / Comino.



Historic Towns

Malta has beautifully preserved towns from the time of the Knights of Malta.

Valletta, the island's capital city, is crammed with emblems of the island's history, from St John's Co-Cathedral to the National War Museum.

Mdina's evocative walled city sits alongside an excavated Roman villa and Rabat's catacombs and necropolises.

Vittoriosa: The original home of the Knights, with Fort St Angelo, the Inquisitor's Palace and the Malta at War Museum.



Prehistoric Relics

Malta has a wealth of prehistoric temples and necropolises, constructed a millennium before the Egyptian pyramids. Some include:

Hal Saflieni Hypogeum: A 5000-year-old subterranean necropolis masterfully carved out of the rock.

Haġar Qim & Mnajdra: Cliff-top temples in an extraordinary setting.

National Museum of Archaeology: Malta's most dazzling and refined prehistoric relics.



Family Fun

Comino: Take boat trips, swim and explore at this tower-topped island.

Popeye Village: Sweethaven is a village-style film set turned theme park.

Valletta: Choreographed fountains, the National War Museum, gardens and forts.

Buġibba & Qawra: Glass-bottomed boat trips, Buġibba Water Park, and the Malta National Aquarium.



Views

Upper Barrakka Gardens: Valletta's finest viewpoint.

Dingli Cliffs: Soaring views over blue horizons and the islet of Filfla.

Level 22: This bar on the 22nd floor in Portomaso is ideal for cocktails.

Dwejra Otherworldly: Vistas over the Azure Window and Fungus Rock.

Il-Kastell: Walk around the ramparts for bird's-eye views of Gozo.



Local Cuisine

Malta and Gozo's cuisine is an enticing mix of influences, including Italian, French, British and Arabic flavours.

Valletta: Everything from gourmet burgers to Maltese tapas.

Sliema & St Julian's: Head for its happening buzz to eat out where locals do.

Dingli: Eat fresh-from-the-farm and locally sourced produce.

Marsaxlokk: This fishing village is the place to dine on seafood for Sunday lunch.



Architecture

Malta has some extraordinary built structures, from ancient to modern.

Parliament of Malta: Renzo Piano's state-of-the-art masterpiece, inaugurated in 2015.

Maltese balconies: Seen particularly on the 16th- and 17th-century buildings of Valletta and Rabat.

St John's Co-Cathedral: A stern fortress-style exterior hides a frenzy of Maltese baroque.

Month by Month

Top Events

- Carnival** - February
- Holy Week** - March/April
- Malta Arts Festival** - July
- BirguFest** - October
- Christmas** - December

February

As winter draws to a close, the islands celebrate Carnival with notable verve.

Carnival

A week of celebrations preceding Lent, with traditional processions of floats, fancy dress and grotesque masks. Carnival (www.visitmalta.com/carnival) is celebrated throughout the islands but with particular flair in Valletta and Nadur.

March

Holy Week sees Malta's most spectacular and important celebrations.

Good Friday

Life-size statues depicting scenes from the Passion of the Christ are carried shoulder high in processions through towns and villages.

Easter Sunday

Early in the morning, processions bear the statue of the Risen Christ – in the 3 harbour towns of Vittoriosa, Senglea and Cospicua, the statue bearers run with the statue.

July

A fun time of year packed with festivals.

Malta Music Week & the Isle of MTV

A week of gigs in Gozo all lead up to the Isle of MTV in Floriana, starring international acts.

Malta Jazz Festival

Outdoor shows beneath the bastions of Valletta (www.maltajazzfestival.org).

Farsons Great Beer Festival

10 days of free gigs at Ta' Qali with Maltese artists performing, food stalls, and local and international beer.

Malta Arts Festival

For 3 weeks from July, the Malta Arts Festival

August

Temperatures reach their height and crowds flop onto the beaches.

Feast of the Transfiguration

Lija's feast is one of Malta's most popular, marked by spectacular fireworks on the eve of 5 August.

Feast of Santa Marija

Also known as the Feast of the Assumption, 15 August marks the ascent into heaven of the Virgin Mary and is celebrated in Ghaxaq, Gudja, H'Attard, Mosta, Mqabba and Qrendi in Malta, and Victoria in Gozo.

September

In autumn the crowds ebb and temperatures cool; the sea has been warmed over the summer, so it's still good for swimming.

Malta International Air Show

Visiting aircraft and aerial displays at the Luqa airfield in late September (www.maltairshow.com).

April

Temperatures begin to warm and wild flowers carpet the countryside. It's too cold to swim for all but the hardiest, but spring is a glorious time to be in Malta.

Fireworks Festival

A noisy, colourful festival of fireworks, folk music and entertainment (www.visitmalta.com/malta-fireworks-festival), with awesome Grand Harbour views.

Medieval Mdina

A weekend of medieval events, including human chess, birds of prey, archery and cookery at the Medieval Mdina Festival.

May

Malta's weather reaches a lovely pitch in May, with warm sunshine making the occasional dip inviting. Sights remain uncrowded.

Village Festas

Every village has a festa (feast day) celebrating its patron saint. From May to September there'll be something on almost every weekend.

Lejlet Lapsi - Notte Gozitana

The run-up to the feast of the Ascension of Our Lord is celebrated with a weekend of music, arts, tours and craft events on Gozo.

June

Early summer is the perfect time for piercing blue skies and beaches.

Valletta Film Festival

An international competition with films showing at St James' Cavalier and at Pjazza Teatru Rjal, Fort St Elmo and Pjazza San Gorg.

L-Imnarja

Harvest festival with an agricultural show and horse races; festivities are in Rabat.

Ghanafest

Traditional Maltese folk songs are celebrated with 3 days of live music in Floriana's Argotti Gardens.

October

Notte Bianca

On 1 October, Valletta's museums, historical and cultural institutions are open for free.

BirguFest

3 days of music, dance and pageantry in Vittoriosa, culminating in 'Birgu by Candlelight'.

Mediterranea

A 10-day festival in Gozo celebrates history, art, crafts, opera and music.

Mdina Grand Prix

A classic car race in Mdina and Rabat.

Malta Military Tattoo

Marching, gymnastics and music at Ta'Qali.

November

There tends to be more rain in late autumn, but it's still a great time of year for some guaranteed sunshine, few crowds and low prices.

Mdina Cathedral Contemporary Art Biennale

From November to January every 2 years (2017/18, 2019/20), this festival (www.mdinabiennale.org) exhibits works by international artists in Mdina.

December

Although it's cold and damp at this time of year, the Christmas period is an enchanting time to visit.

Christmas

Christmas is celebrated with fervour. Nativity scenes are set up most spectacularly in Ghajnsielem (<http://ghajnsielem.com/bethlehem/about.html>) in Gozo, which has a 150-strong living nativity.



Food and Drink

Specialties



Pastizzi

A small parcel of flaky pastry with different fillings.



Qagħaq tal-Għasel

Traditionally Christmas biscuits, these are now enjoyed year-round.



Ftira

A traditional Maltese bread baked in a flat disc, stuffed with olives, capers and anchovies



Ġbejniet

A small, hard, white cheese made from unpasteurised goat's milk.



Fried or Stewed Rabbit

Traditionally eaten with potatoes and carrots.



Imqaret

Date-filled pastries that are deep fried.

Top 20 Restaurants

(according to Michelin Guide)

- ✿✿ ION Harbour by Simon Rogan Brijū
- ✿ Rosamì Zest
- ✿ Fernandõ Gastrotheque KuYa
- ✿ Bahia Guzé
- ✿ Under Grain Leglign
- ✿ Noni AKI
- ✿ De Mondion 59 Republic
- AYU The Harbour Club
- Rubino Commando
- Grain Street Terrone

Regions at a Glance

Valletta, Malta's beautiful little capital, is rich in history and culture, and has some of Malta's best restaurants and bars. Nearby lie Sliema, St Julian's and Paceville, seafront settlements that together form Malta's gastronomic and nightlife capital. To the northwest are Malta's best beaches and the island's major resorts. Central Malta is the most

traditional-feeling area of the main island, home to the historically fascinating towns of Mdina and Rabat. The southeast has more gorgeous coast, a vibrant fish market and some of Malta's finest prehistoric temples. To slow down, head to Gozo and Comino for epic scenery, walks, outdoor activities and relaxation.



Sliema, St Julian's & Paceville

Food, Nightlife & Boat Trips

Maltese, Italian & Fusion

Buzzing Sliema and St Julian's are packed full of restaurants and sleek bars.

Bars & Clubs

A fiesta-style atmosphere on summer nights.

Yachting & Cruising

Explore the harbours by boat – or go further afield, encircling the entire island or taking a trip to Gozo and Comino.

Valletta

Food, History & Prehistory

Knights & Fortresses

Valletta was built by the Knights of St John in 1565. The city's narrow grid of baroque streets and fortifications intact.

Creative Dining

Dine in Malta's capital, serving a range of cuisines from Maltese tapas to earthy Roman cooking.

Mysterious Temples

The Hal Saflieni Hypogeum and Tarxien Temples, a 5000-year-old necropolis and a temple complex.



Northwest

Beaches, Views & Food

Golden Sands

Malta's finest beach on the northwestern coast. The beaches here may not be huge but they are beautiful.

Remote Clifftops

A short drive or walk along the headland to Ras il-Qammieh will leave you feeling like you've reached the end of the world.

Contemporary Maltese

The elegant resort town of Mellieħa has escaped the rampant development seen on other parts of the coast. you can dine on Maltese haute cuisine at some local restaurants.

Central

Adventure & Scenery

Roman Knights & Catacombs

One can find the silent city of Mdina, the Roman villa excavated at Rabat, and Rabat's intriguing catacombs.

Medieval Meets Baroque

Mdina, Rabat, or the great dome at Mosta, central Malta yields some illustrious architectural splendours.

Dizzying Cliffs

The Dingli Cliffs feature some of the islands' most sumptuous scenery. The 60m cliffs drop into royal-blue sea, and their heights offer endless views over the Mediterranean.

Southeast

Food & Coastline

Seaside Food

The sea-front at Marsaxlokk is lined by restaurants overlooking boats, while Marsaskala is a favourite of foodie locals.

Clifftop Temples

Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra temples have the most thrilling location of Malta's prehistoric sites. The great ruins are perched on cliffs overlooking the islet of Filfla.

Natural Pools

Take a trip to the Blue Grotto, swim in the natural pool of Ghar Lapsi and seek out St Peter's Pool.

Gozo & Comino

Activities & Scenery

Red Sand & Rocky Bays

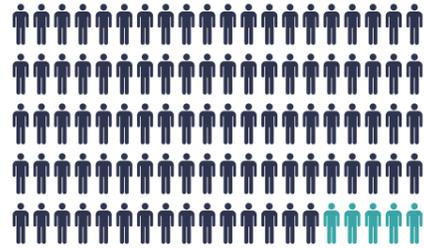
As well as its distinctive red-sand beaches on the northeast coast, Gozo has some glorious rocky bays to swim in, including Mgarr ix-Xini and Wied il-Ghasri. Comino's Blue Lagoon can't be missed.

Diving, Horse Riding & Boating

Gozo is a particularly beguiling destination for underwater exploration, and also yields fantastic horse riding, boat trips and other watersports opportunities.

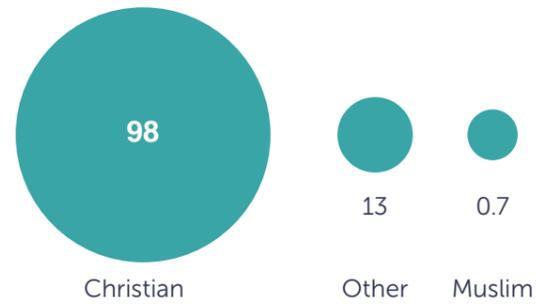
Malta & Gozo Today

If Malta were 100 people



95 would live in cities
5 would live in rural areas

Belief system (% of population)



Population per sq km

= 200 people



Malta

Gozo

Italy



Population: 502,653

Area: 316 SQ KM

Best in Print

The Great Siege: Malta 1565 (Ernie Bradford) Rip-roaring read about the epic battle between the Ottoman Turks and the Knights of Malta.

Fortress Malta: An Island Under Siege 1940–1943 (James Holland) Evocative account of Malta's fascinating and essential role in WWII.

Earthly Powers (Anthony Burgess) Set in a fictionalised Malta and written while the author lived here in the 1960s.

Best on Film

Malta Story (1953) WWII epic about the embattled island starring Sir Alec Guinness.

Simshar (2014) Critically acclaimed Maltese movie about migrants and a Maltese family shipwreck.

By the Sea (2015) Angelina Jolie writes and directs, and stars alongside Brad Pitt. Shot in Gozo.

A History of a Nation



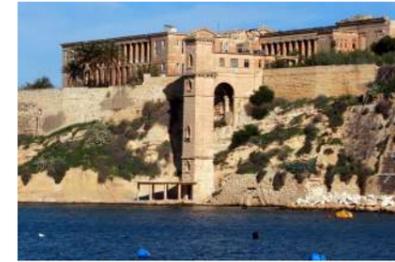
St Paul's Island - North-east off Selmun



Roman Baths - Sliema



Victoria Gate - Valletta's old entrance



World War II Royal Navy Hospital - Kalkara



Flags of the member states of the European Union including Malta's

5200 BC

Arrival of first inhabitants, by primitive boats or rafts from Sicily. The Maltese Islands are more wooded, fertile and richer in animal life at this time.

3600-2500 BC

Megalithic temples are built.

2000 BC

Bronze Age culture develops.

800-480 BC

Malta is occupied by the Phoenicians, a sea-faring people based in present-day Lebanon.

480-218 BC

Malta is controlled by the Carthaginian Empire, based in present-day Tunisia.

218 BC-395 AD

The Romans take over Malta, having destroyed Carthage in the Punic Wars.

41 BC

The Romans make Malta a municipium (free town). The islands prosper through trade, as an outpost of Roman Sicily.

60 AD

St Paul is ship-wrecked on Malta and introduces Christianity to the population.

395-870

After the Roman Empire split in AD 395, Malta is believed to have fallen under Byzantine rule.

870-1090

North African Arabs occupy Malta, introducing irrigation and the cultivation of cotton and citrus fruits.

1090-1530

Normans take over. During their rule, a Maltese aristocracy is established, and the architectural style referred to as Siculo norman developed.

1530

The Knights of St John arrive in Malta, having been gifted the islands by Emperor Charles V.

1565

The Knights defeat Turkish invaders in the Great Siege of Malta.

1566

Valletta is founded, and is the first planned city in Europe.

1798

Napoleon's fleet calls at Malta and captures the island with hardly a fight.

1800

The Maltese rebel against the French garrison and ask the British for assistance. Following a naval blockade, the French surrender in September.

1814

Malta becomes a prosperous trading port and entrepôt; after the 1814 Treaty of Paris it is formally recognised as a Crown Colony of the British Empire.

1814-1964

The British rule Malta, allowing varying levels of Maltese self-government.

1914-18

Malta serves as a military hospital during WWI.

1940

Mussolini's Italy enters WWII on 10 June. Italian bombers strike at Malta's grand Harbour. Ageing biplanes defend the islands.

1942

King George VI awards the George Cross, Britain's highest award for civilian bravery, to the entire population of Malta.

1964

On 21 September, Malta gains its independence from Britain, but Queen Elizabeth II remains the head of state.

1974

Malta becomes a republic, with a parliament-appointed president now the head of state.

1989

Neutral Malta hosts a summit between Mikhail Gorbachev and George Bush Sr, marking the end of the Cold War.

2003-8

In a 2003 referendum, the electorate votes to join the EU. On 1 May 2004 Malta joins the EU and adopts the euro, becoming part of the Eurozone.

Maltese Society: A Brief

The Maltese have many passions: Roman Catholicism, band clubs, sport, cars, fireworks, swimming, sailing, food and family. And almost as many cultural influences from the nation's string of occupiers: the Phoenicians, Carthaginians, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Normans, Sicilians, Knights of St John, French and British.



Music

The Maltese are great music lovers and the ghana (folk song) is Maltese folk music at its most individual and traditional. A tribute to Malta's geographic location, ghana verses are a mixture of the Sicilian ballad and the rhythmic wail of an Arabic tune, and were traditionally viewed as music of the farmers, labourers and working classes.

Traditional band music is one of the most popular traditions on the islands, with bands playing a vital role in the village festa and other open-air events. Every town and village has at least one band club and they are often engaged in strong rivalry.



Sport

The Maltese are staunch, passionate football fans and follow the fortunes of local sides and international teams (especially British and Italian) with equal fervour – countless bars televise matches. The local and Maltese Premier League season runs from October till May; league and international matches are held at the 20,000-seat Ta' Qali National Stadium.



Waterpolo

As the heat of summer increases, football gives way to the waterpolo season between July and September.



Racing

Another of Malta's much-loved spectator sports is horse racing. Race meetings are held at the Marsa Racecourse (part of the Marsa Sports Club outside Valletta) every Sunday, and sometimes on Friday and Saturday, from January and July.



Crafts

Malta is noted for its fine crafts, especially its handmade lace, hand woven fabrics and silver filigree.



Education in Malta: A Brief

The educational system in Malta is linked to the British system. The standards for education in Malta are high and are comparable to other Western countries. At the State level, education is fully funded and textbooks are provided to children. Official curriculum lasts for six years and mainly includes the following subjects: Maltese, English, Math, Social Studies, and Religion. Education in Malta is compulsory from ages 5 to 16 and is structured in 3 stages; Primary (ages 3-11), Secondary (ages 11-18) and Post-Secondary/ Tertiary (ages 18+). Secondary Education Certificate (SEC) exams are taken at age 16. Students who continue their studies take matriculation examinations (International Baccalaureate) at age 18 to determine university entrance eligibility.

International Schools

International schools can be the solution for an expat student (multinational corporation executives, children of diplomats, NGO staff). International schools provide similar standards of schooling around the globe, an easy transition between schools.

There is usually local population, as well as an international student body. Schools may follow a curriculum model from the US, UK, France, etc. Primary instruction may be in any language but it is usually in English. Schools also provide internationally accepted accreditation such as the international baccalaureate.



Registering Expat Children for School

To register your child at a State run school, you may be required to present some of the following documentation. Registration procedures vary by school, therefore it is highly recommended to contact schools individually to obtain specific enrollment procedures.

- A passport and/or ID card
- Original birth certificates of the child children in English, or a legal English translation
- A letter from you indicating your request to enroll your child/children at the school

International School in Cottonera

St. Edward's College

Address: Birgu (Citta Vittoriosa) Cottonera - CSP 09 Malta

Tel: (356) 27881199

Tuition Rates: €410 - €1,797 per term

A Catholic Boys's College modeled on the lines of an English Public School. The language of instruction is English and boarding is also available.

International School in Pembroke

Verdala International School

Address: Fort Pembroke, Pembroke PBK1641, Malta

Tel: (356) 21375133

Tuition Rates: €3,230 - €7,686 per year

This English language school offers a fully accredited American Kindergarten through Grade 12 curriculum. It is a co-educational school with a boarding option. They provide testing for the International Baccalaureate Diploma, International General Certificate in Secondary Education (IGCSE), European Computer Driving License (ECDL) and USA's Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).

Post Graduate Education:

University of Malta (UM)

Address: University of Malta, Msida MSD 2080, Malta
www.um.edu.mt | +356 23402340 | info@um.edu.mt

The UM is the leading higher education institution in Malta. Its structures are in line with the Bologna Process and the European Higher Education area. The courses are designed to produce qualified professionals in multiple disciplines. The University's alumni community is growing: well over 3,500 students graduate in various disciplines annually. The UM is composed of fourteen faculties, interdisciplinary institutes and centres, three schools and a junior college.

The American University of Malta

Address: Triq Dom Mintoff, Bormla, BML 1013
www.aum.edu.mt | +356 2169 6970 | info@aum.edu.mt

American University of Malta is a private, American-style university dedicated to higher education and research for an international community at the highest standard.

MCAST

Address: MCAST Main Campus, Triq Kordin, Paola PLA 9032

www.mcast.edu.mt | +356 23987100 | information@mcast.edu.mt

Established in 2001, the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology is the country's leading vocational education and training institution. Six Institutes in Malta and the Gozo Campus, MCAST offers 180 full-time and over 300 part-time vocational courses ranging from certificates to Master's degrees (MQF Level 1 to Level 7).

Institute of Tourism Studies

Address: Aviation Park, Aviation Avenue, Hal Luqa Malta LQA 9023 Malta

www.its.edu.mt | info@its.edu.mt | +356 23793100

Established in 1987 and acting as Malta's main Tourism and Hospitality educational institution, the Institute of Tourism Studies (ITS) offers a vast selection of programmes taught by dedicated lecturers. The campus offers multiple specialised labs and kitchens to assure that students receive the essential theoretical and practical education required.

Health

High-standard health and dental care is readily available in Malta. For minor illnesses, pharmacists can give valuable advice and sell over-the-counter medication.

General practitioner service is available at a network of health centres (at Floriana, Gzira, Qormi, Paola, Cospicua, Mosta, Rabat and on Gozo) as well as some pharmacies.

Medical Insurance

Citizens of the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland receive free or reduced-cost state-provided health care with the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) for medical treatment that becomes necessary while in Malta. The EHIC will not provide cover for non-emergencies or emergency repatriation home. Each family member will need a separate card. The EHIC is free; full details are online at www.ehic.org.uk.

Malta has reciprocal health agreements with Australia and the UK. Australians are eligible for subsidised health care for up to six months from their date of arrival in Malta; UK residents for up to 30 days. Details of these arrangements and various health services can be found on the website of the Maltese Ministry of Health (<http://health.gov.mt>).

Pharmacies

Generally open from 9am - 1pm & 4pm - 7pm Monday to Saturday. On Sundays and public holidays they open by roster in the morning.

Online Pharmacies schedule:
www.pharmacy.com.mt

Malta's Public General Hospital - Mater Dei Hospital

2km southwest of Sliema
Telephone: 2545 0000
Emergency: 112
Website: www.ehealth.gov.mt

Gozo's General Hospital

700m from Gozo's capital city, Victoria
Telephone: 2210 6000
Emergency: 112
Website: www.ehealth.gov.mt



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