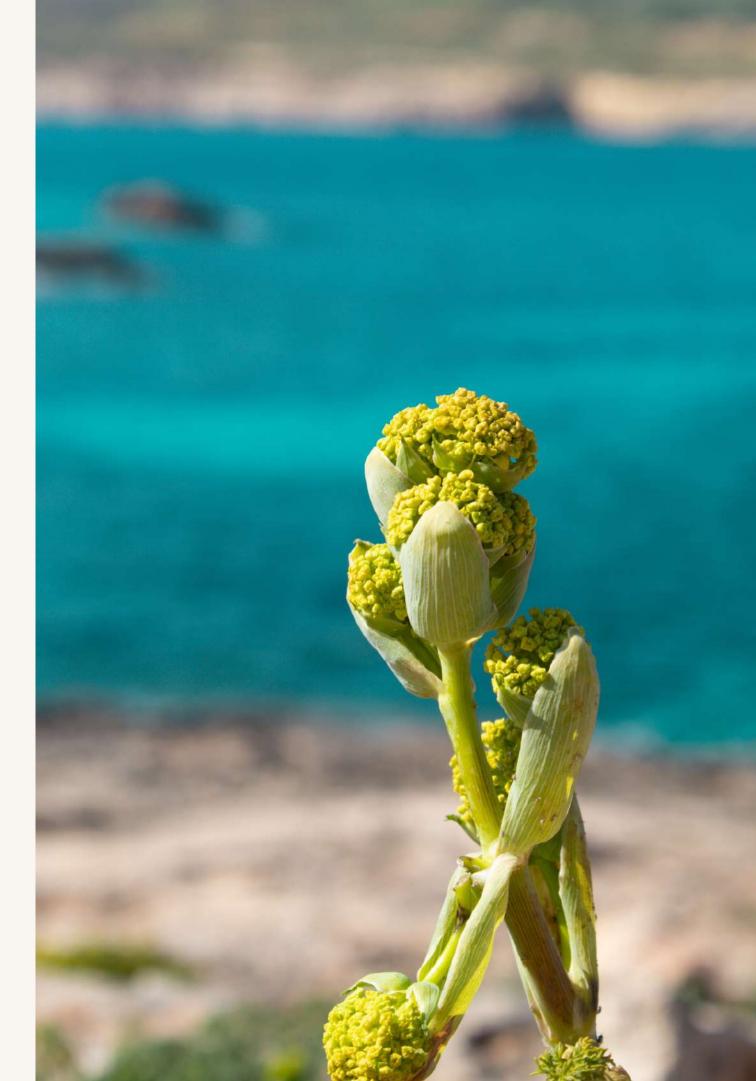


MALTA - THE GEM OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

Weather & Climate

Malta in October is mild, a mixed month for the weather, if it does rain it is short-lived. The average temperature is 22°C with highs of 25°C and lows of 21°C. The average sea temperature is 24°C, which is perfectly good for swimming. Malta has a pleasant nine hours of sunshine each day.Sunrise is at 07:15hrs and sunset is at 18:15hrs. Due to the one-hour time change on October 29, sunrise and sunset will change to 06:15 and 17:15, respectively.



Language & Currency

Malta has two official languages, Maltese, and English therefore you won't encounter any communication issues as most people are bilingual. Malta's currency is the Euro.When dining out, it is traditional to leave a 10% gratuity, though this is not compulsory. Rounding up your cab fare to the nearest Euro is also nice. The Phoenicians, Carthaginians, Romans, Arabs, Normans, Sicilians, the Knights, the French, and the British, who at various times occupied Malta, have all had an impact on the evolution of Maltese cuisine through thousands of years. Each of these left their mark and as a result led to the emergence of a delectable fusion of culinary customs.

Food

LOCAL CUISINE



Gbejna - Small round cheese made from sheep or goats' milk and come in a variety of forms such as fresh, sundried, salt cured or peppered. Pastizzi - Savoury pastry filled with either ricotta cheese or mushy peas. Fenek - Rabbit stew cooked in wine, garlic, and herbs. **Bragoli** – Beef Olives, thinly sliced beef steak filled with bread, bacon, parsley, garlic, and hard-boiled eggs; then cooked in red wine and garnished in sautéed onions, carrots, and bay leaves. Qaghaq tal-Ghasel: Honey Rings made from marmalade, orange & lemon peel, black treacle, spices, and semolina flour. **Imgaret:** Date filled party, deep fried and infused with aniseed and bay leaves. Aljotta: Fish soup (fish broth) including garlic, bay leaves, onions, lemons juice, white rice, and tomatoes. **Kinnie:** A bittersweet fizzy soft drink made from bitter oranges & aromatic herbs. Lampuki Pie: White fish pie. **Timpana:** Baked pasta with mincemeat, bacon, and hard-boiled eggs covered in pastry. Hobza tal-Malti: Maltese Bread Crusty sourdough bread. A popular local snack is Hobz biz-zejt which is a thick slice of bread rubbed with ripe tomatoes and dipped in olive oil, salt, and pepper.



Emergency Service

112 is the number to dial when in urgent need of police, fire service or ambulance.

Electricity

Electricity is reliable, with a three-pin rectangular plug G system, like the United Kingdom.

Travel Visa

You may check the Identity Malta website <u>https://www.identitymalta.com/unit/central-visa-unit/</u> or speak with your local Maltese Embassy or other diplomatic officials before traveling to learn whether you need a visa to visit the Maltese Islands and how to apply for one.

Renting A Car

Driving in Malta is on the left, and the posted speed limits are, unless otherwise noted, 60–80 km/h on open roads and 30–50 km/h in villages. You must be over the age of 21 and under 70 to rent a car; drivers under 25 may be charged an additional fee. Car hiring is simple because to the abundance of rental car agencies in Malta and Gozo such as Avis, Budget, Europcar, Hertz and may others.

Taxi Services

Taxi services to any destination are available 24 hours a day. You may download the taxi app services available on both google play or app store.Recommend and renowned taxi companies are eCabs <u>www.ecabs.com.mt</u>, Uber <u>www.uber.com/mt</u> or Bolt <u>www.bolt.eu</u>.

Public Transport

Bus tickets can be purchased on all buses alternatively you may opt to purchase travel cards. The daytime fare for a bus ticket is \in 2 and the night-time fare is \in 3. These cash tickets are Single Journey tickets valid for travel to any location within two hours, including transfers. Depending on your travel needs, you can choose from a variety of bus cards called 'tallinja cards' that offer discounted tickets and added value visit their website <u>www.publictransport.com.mt</u>

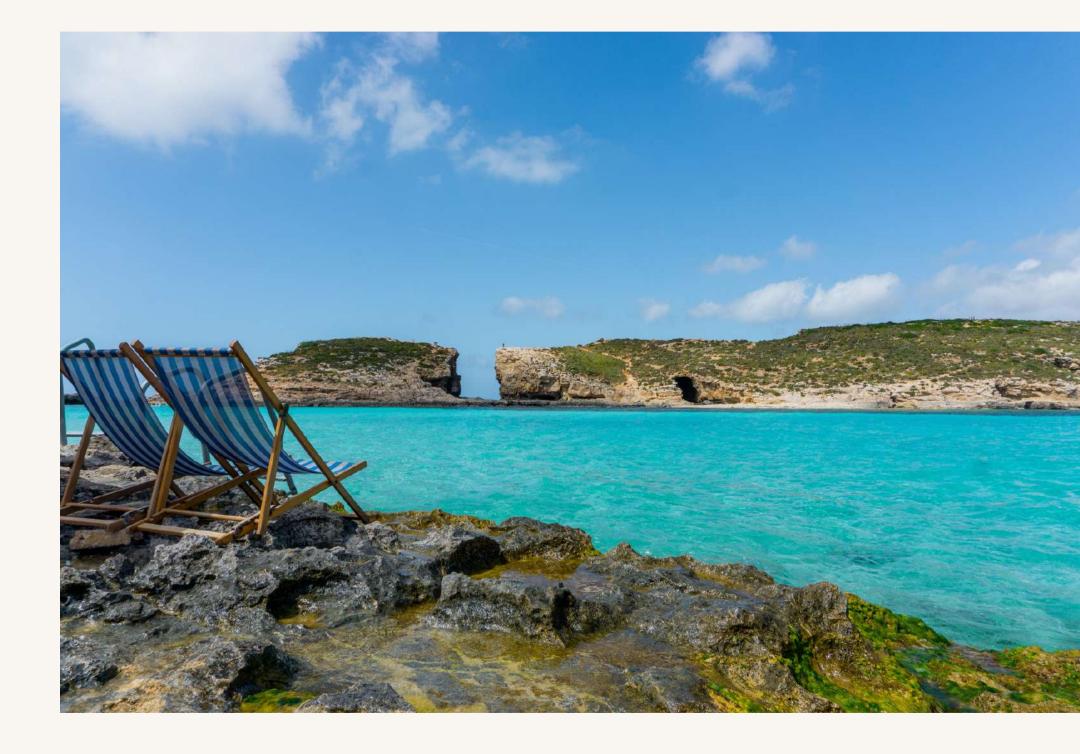


Top 3 Swimming Spots

Mellieha Bay: or Għadira, as the locals know it, is the largest sandy beach in Malta, found at the very northern tip of the island with blue shallow water.

Golden Bay: Sandy beach, located on the northwest coast of Malta.

Comino Blue Lagoon: Small Island located between Malta & Gozo and accessible only by boat/ferry. It is known for its crystal clear turquoise blue waters.



Places Of Interest Worth a Visit

St. John's Co-Cathedral, Valletta: Malta's most popular and magnificent church constructed in the 1570s.Here you will find the works of Mattia Preti and the cathedral's centrepiece Caravaggio's Beheading of St. John.

Grandmasters Palace Armoury & State Rooms: Visitors can admire its magnificent collection of swords, rapiers, crossbows, pistols, and cannons, since it placed a great focus on weapons since the Knights of St John prided themselves in the splendour of their military outfits. The Grandmaster's Palace was built during the 1570s by Maltese architect Girolamo Cassar. The impressive Staterooms are truly a sight to behold.



Places Of Interest Worth a Visit

Tarxien Temples, Tarxien: This UNESCO World Heritage site is the largest prehistoric site on the island dating back to the Neolithic times.

Hagar Qim & Mnajdra Temples, Qrendi:UNESCO World Heritage Site, Ħaġar Qim dates to 3600 - 3200 B.C (known as the Ġgantija phase) and Mnajdra which is right next to it consists of three structures built within different prehistoric periods.

Ggantija Temples, Gozo: UNESCO World Heritage Site dating back over 5,500 years and is located on the sister island of Gozo.

Hal Saflieni Hypogeum, Paola (Rahal Gdid): Prehistoric cemetery hidden deep underground also a UNESCO World Heritage Site.PREBOOKING is a must since only a certain number of visitors are permitted each day and at a given time.

Ferries

Gozo Fast Ferry

This ferry takes you from Valletta to Gozo in less than 45 minutes.You can get the ferry from Lascaris Wharf Terminal in the Grand Harbour in Valletta and from Mgarr Harbour Terminal in Gozo. Ferry costs €7.50 per person one way . Tickets may be purchased before boarding the ferry or online <u>www.gozofastferry.com</u> or by downloading the Gozo Fast Ferry app on your smartphone.

Valletta Ferry Services

There are scheduled catamaran ferry services from Valletta to Sliema to Valletta and from Valletta to Three Cities (Bormla) to Valletta. One Way Ticket is €1.50 whereas a return ticket is €2.80. The schedule runs every 30 minutes starting from 06:45hrs up until midnight. Visit website <u>www.vallettaferryservice.com</u>

