



Malta

Photo: In Green/Shutterstock.com



liseykina/Shutterstock.com

The sun shines almost all year in Malta, hence the island boasts some of the fairest temperatures in the world. Add to that the fantastic beaches and superb Mediterranean cuisine, and there is barely a destination to compete. Why not try a new sport, laze on an island cruise or tour the most important historic sites? The choice is entirely yours! Together with its neighbouring islands, relaxing beach- and vibrant nightlife, Malta is a wonderful island to visit.



Rob Wilson/Shutterstock.com



In Green/Shutterstock.com

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5 Off the Beaten Track
Destinations in Asia

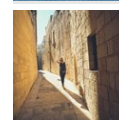
ArrivalGuides

Foto: WhitefoxChen / Shutterstock

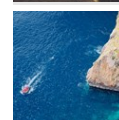
Top 5



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Valletta, the capital of Malta, was built by the Knights of St John in the 1...



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Mdina, the old capital of Malta, is a typical medieval town situated on one ...



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Marsaxlokk is the main fishing village of Malta, known for its famous fish m...



THE ISLAND



Leonid Andronov/Shutterstock.com

The Island of Malta is an archipelago in the warm Mediterranean waters, some 93 km south of Sicily. Only the three largest islands Malta, Gozo (Għawdex), and Comino (Kemmuna) are inhabited. Numerous bays along the indented coastline of the islands provide good harbours while the landscape is characterized by low hills with terraced fields.

Malta is not just sun and beaches: historical Malta offers unique megalithic temples, fortified cities and other unique monuments. Valletta, the capital of Malta, has been listed as a UNESCO world heritage site due to the various monumental buildings. It is a baroque city which has often been described as an open-air museum due to the amount of historic buildings it packs. As a consequence of the strong historic and cultural links to Britain, Malta is bilingual, so the great majority of the Maltese can communicate in English.

If you plan your visit for special times like summer Festa season, Easter and carnival, be assured you won't be stuck for what to do - simply join the crowd for some incredible fun.

DO & SEE



Nadezhda1906/Shutterstock.com

There are various places of interest in Malta, and most locations are easily reachable by public transport via Valletta. Plenty of different events are continuously held around the island, especially during the summer months. One of the most spectacular ones is the annual Malta Fireworks Festival in Valletta in the end of April - for three days, different countries and firework suppliers compete in putting on the best firework show; almost every weekend, the different villages hosts religious Festas. For an entire week, they celebrate their saint with church bells, processions, confetti and (at the weekend) they end the folk festival with an outstanding firework show.

Valletta - The Capital of Malta



Valletta, the capital of Malta, was built by the Knights of St John in the 16th-century. It is a baroque city which has often been described as an open-air museum due to the amount of historic buildings concentrated in the area, such as St John's Co-Cathedral and the Grand Harbour, all built by the Knights as well as the over 25 churches all concentrated in an area of 900m x 630m. The city is officially recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Photo: Yuriy Biryukov/Shutterstock.com

Address: Valletta, Malta

Internet: www.cityofvalletta.org

Email: valletta.lc@gov.mt

Mdina

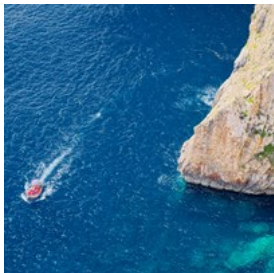


Mdina, the old capital of Malta, is a typical medieval town situated on one of the highest hills of the island. The "Silent City," as it is known, commands a magnificent view of the island. It is one of the few remaining fortified Renaissance cities in Europe.

Photo: Calin Stan/Shutterstock.com

Address: Mdina, Malta

Wied Iz-Zurrieq



Here one can have a swim or visit the Blue Grotto and the surrounding coastline by a trip on the "dghajsa," a traditional Maltese fishing boat. The Blue Grotto is famous for the clarity of the water and the brilliant colours around the rocks and in the caves.

Photo: vidalgo/Shutterstock.com

Address: Wied Iz- Zurrieq, Malta

The Three Cities of Cottonera



Across the Grand Harbour, to the south of Valletta, are the historic fortified towns of Vittoriosa, Cospicua and Senglea, commonly referred to as the three cities of Cottonera. If you only have time for one of them, Vittoriosa is the one most worth a visit. Here you find Fort St

Angelo, the Inquisitor's Palace and the Vittoriosa Waterfront was refurbished in the early 2000's to once again reach up to its former glory.

Photo: Valery Bareta/Shutterstock.com

Address: Cottonera, Malta

Marsaxlokk



Marsaxlokk is the main fishing village of Malta, known for its famous fish market held on the docks every Sunday morning. It's a true spectacle and something you shouldn't miss. It isn't just fish that's on sale here - souvenirs and handicrafts are up for grabs at decent prices too. There are, naturally, a multitude of seafood restaurants in the vicinity.

Photo: Calin Stan/Shutterstock.com

Address: Marsaxlokk, Malta

Phone: +356 2165 2525

Internet: en.marsaxlokk.lc.com/village

Email: marsaxlokk.lc@gov.mt

Megalithic Temples



The remains of temples erected in the fourth and third millennium B.C. are a unique sighting. Stone idols, animal representations carved in relief, stone tablets, altars and screens decorated with spirals and other patterns enhance the attraction of these magnificent sanctuaries. Some of the places worth a visit are Hagar Qim in Qrendi, Tarxien Temples in Tarxien and Ggantija in Gozo.

Photo: mary416/Shutterstock.com

Internet: whc.unesco.org/en/list/132

Diving



Malta is famous for its clear blue water and the perfect conditions for diving. Plenty of reefs, caves and remains of old shipwrecks make it an

unforgettable experience. Make use of the chance to go on a boat cruise to one of the many fenced ponds with giant tuna. Swimming among these 2-meter long and 500-kg heavy fish is absolutely fascinating.

Photo: UnderTheSea/Shutterstock.com

Gozo



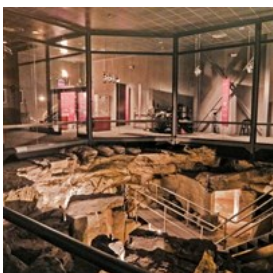
The sister island, Gozo, is well worth a visit on its own. Hire a car or book one of the day jeep safari trips that are offered by multiple tour operators.

Upon disembarking, you will immediately notice the difference between the islands. Gozo has a more tranquil atmosphere and is packed with lush farms. While you are here don't miss the Citadel in Victoria, the Saltpans, the Inland Sea and the cliff where the Azure Window (formerly one of the most famous landmarks of Malta) once stood before its collapse in early 2017.

Photo: View Apart/Shutterstock.com

Address: Gozo Island

Hal Saflieni Hypogeum



This is a unique pre-historic site, accidentally discovered in 1902. Over 500 square metres of chambers, halls and passages date back

to the period between 3600 and 2500 BC. To

conserve the stone precaution must be taken, and the number of visitors per day is therefore limited.

Photo: xiquinhosilva/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Burial Street, Paola

Phone: +356 21 805 019

Internet:

www.heritagemalta.org/museums-sites/hal-saflieni-hypogeum

More Info: Bookings are recommended to be made ahead via the website.

Mediterraneo Marine Park



Just a short ride from St. Julian's is the marine park, a fun attraction for both children and adults. The park offers shows with sea lions, parrots

and dolphins (it is even possible to book a swim with the dolphins). Snakes, turtles, frogs and spiders - among others - also call the park home.

Photo: legenda/Shutterstock.com

Address: Tul il-kosta, Bahar ic-Caghaq

Opening hours: Mon-Sun: 9am-5:30pm

Phone: +356 2137 2218

Internet: www.mediterraneopark.com

Email: info@mediterraneopark.com

St. John's Co-Cathedral and Museum



St. John's Co-Cathedral is known as the home of knights and Grand Masters of Malta. The cathedral's golden, elaborate interior and

Baroque exterior count as one of Europe's finest.

The adjacent museum contains works of art, among which "The Beheading of St John the Baptist" by Caravaggio.

Photo: McCarthy's PhotoWorks/Shutterstock.com

Address: St John Street, Valletta

Opening hours: Mon-Fri: 9:30am-4:30pm, Sat:
9:30am-12:30pm
Phone: +356 2248 0400
Internet: www.stjohnscocathedral.com
Email: info@stjohnscocathedral.com

Hastings Garden



Just outside the city gate of Valletta lies the Hastings public garden. From here majestic views over Sliema, Floriana and Manoel Island unfold. The name of the garden comes from Marquis of Hastings, who was a governor of Malta. He died in 1827 and is buried in the garden.

Photo: Jean-Pierre Dalbéra/Flickr (image cropped)
Address: Hastings Garden, Valletta

Manoel Theatre



This beautiful theatre from 1732, a contribution to Malta's cultural scene, is well worth a visit. António Manoel de Vilhena himself

sponsored the construction, which was done in an incredibly short time span of 10 months. There is an adjacent museum inside.

Photo: [aerogondo2/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com)
Address: 115 Old Theatre Street, Valletta
Opening hours: Mon-Fri: 10am-1pm, 5pm-7pm, Sat:
10am-1pm
Phone: +356 212 463 89
Internet: www.teatrumanoel.com.mt
Email: bookings@teatrumanoel.com.mt

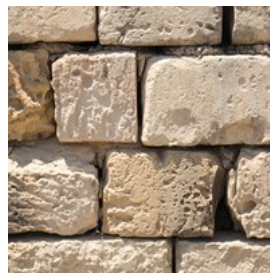
Fort Rinella



This fort was built by the the British to support Malta in the resistance against Italy. To make it extra safe, a 100 ton gun, designed to be the world's biggest, was placed at its entry (fortunately, never to be used). Do not miss the on-site museum to learn more about military history of Malta.

Photo: [arkanto/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com)
Address: St. Rocco Road, Kalkara
Opening hours: Mon-Sat: 10am-5pm
Phone: +356 2180 9713
Internet: www.fortrinella.com
Email: wirtartna@gmail.com
More Info: www.wirtartna.org

Limestone Heritage



The name Malta comes from Italian "Melita", or "honey". The reason for that is quite banal - when sailors first saw Malta, the islands' limestone silhouette appeared dark yellow, not dissimilar to the colour of honey. Limestone Heritage Park & Gardens outline the stone's 22,000,000 year history.

Photo: [TheLiftCreativeServices/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com)
Address: Mons. M. Azzopardi Street, Siggiewi
Opening hours: Mon-Fri: 9am-4pm, Sat: 9am-12pm
Phone: +356 21 464 931
Internet: www.limestoneheritage.com
Email: info@limestoneheritage.com

BEACH LIFE



telesniuk/Shutterstock.com

Maltese beaches are predominantly safe and rather well-kept. Good beaches are to be found both in the south and in the north of Malta, so wherever you're staying a nice beach is most probably just few minutes away.

Golden Bay



This beautiful sandy bay is one of the most popular on the Maltese Islands. It attracts large numbers of local and international vacationers annually. The area is excellent walking country, and a perfect venue for those interested in water sports such as windsurfing.

Photo: MEDIANA/Shutterstock.com

Address: Golden Bay, Malta

Mellieha Bay



This is Malta's largest and most popular sandy beach. There are no undercurrents here so the bay offers safe bathing and the shallow waters make it ideal for children. There is a pleasant choice of activities, from banana boat rides to pedalo hire, windsurfing and water skiing.

Photo: Zoltan Gabor/Shutterstock.com

Address: Mellieha Bay, Malta

Blue Lagoon



This small beach is located on Comino and to get here you either must have your own boat or book one of the many boat trips going here or

around the islands. The sandy beach is really tiny so most people bathe from their boats. The water is crystal clear and it's a perfect place for snorkelling.

Photo: Jaroslav Moravcik/Shutterstock.com

Address: Blue Lagoon, Comino

Bugibba



The shore here is rather rocky, which has not barred the resorts' appeal in the least. The flat rocks provide plenty of spots for sunbathing and there

are access points for swimmers. The water is clear, deep, and safe for bathing. Located in the north of Malta island.

Photo: Olga Tselik/Shutterstock.com

Address: Bugibba, Malta

Pretty Bay



Pretty Bay is a flourishing seaside resort in the south of Malta. It lies right in the town centre of Birzebbugia so there are plenty of shops and

restaurants along the coastline. The resort is rather popular with local holiday-makers thanks to its beautiful sandy beach.

Photo: Renata Apanaviciene/Shutterstock.com
Address: Birzebbugia, Malta

Gnejna Bay



Close to the town Mgarr is the beautiful Gnejna Bay. It is mostly frequented by locals, which makes it less crowded with tourists

than many of the other Maltese beaches.

Because the waters are so shallow, this is also a great place to come with your entire family.

Photo: lenisecalleja.photography/Shutterstock.com
Address: Gnejna Bay, Malta

Ghajn Tuffieha



Tucked in between Golden Bay and Gnejna Bay is the smaller and quieter sandy beach, Ghajn Tuffieha. The long stairway down to the

beach makes it not the easiest to reach, but it is certainly well-worth the climb down. There is a sunbed rental and a small snack bar.

Photo: Balashnikoff/Shutterstock.com
Address: Ghajn Tuffieha, Malta

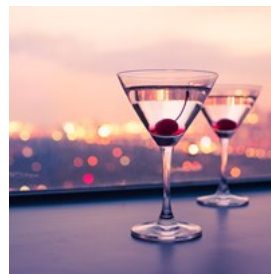
DINING



Nadezhda1906/Shutterstock.com

Eating in Malta is an exuberant experience - take a pick from different dishes ranging from fish and seafood to the traditional rabbit stew. Maltese cuisine reflects the rich cultural heritage of the country, with clearly traceable English and Sicilian (as well as other Mediterranean) influences. Most restaurants offer very good wine lists featuring both local and foreign wines.

Dinner In The Sky Malta



Dinner In The Sky is a once-in-lifetime kind of a experience, an evening of dining on a suspended construction floating above the Maltese capital. This one is not for the faint of heart, but absolutely safe - the set up is sturdy, and guests are required to buckle up prior to "departure."

Photo: KieferPix/Shutterstock.com
Address: Hal Ferh Golden Bay, Valetta
Opening hours: Daily 7pm-8:30pm, 9:30pm-11pm
Phone: +356 99988835
Internet: www.dinnerintheskymalta.com
Email: reservations@dinnerintheskymalta.com

Medina Restaurant



Set in one of the old Mdina's windy alleys, the Medina Restaurant brings guests a selection of local Maltese (with some French and Italian) dishes

in an enchanting, romantic setting. Service is above par, and seating is offered in an airy, majestic outdoor space.

Photo: funkyfrogstock/Shutterstock.com

Address: 7 Holy Cross Street, Mdina

Opening hours: Mon-Sat: 7pm-10:30pm

Phone: +356 2145 4004

Internet: www.medinarestaurantmalta.com

Email: info@medinarestaurant.com

Tmun



Venturing out to the island of Gozo, do consider the (arguably) finest establishment here, the Tmun Mgarr restaurant set by the

water, right next to the docked fishing boats.

Both the menu and the restaurant's interior are marine-themed, and the menu overwhelms with seafood variety.

Photo: norikko/Shutterstock.com

Address: Martino Garces Street, Mgarr, Island of Gozo

Opening hours: Sat-Mon: 12pm-2pm, 6:30pm-10pm, Wed-Fri: 6:30pm-10pm

Phone: +356 2156 6276

Internet: www.tmunmgarr.com

Email: info@tmunmgarr.com

Osteria.Ve



The Osteria is run by a Venetian couple, who bring rich Italian flavors to the varied menu of meat, fish, and vegetarian dishes. Try the

intriguing-sounding tagliatelle with sea bream and asparagus with a tuna carpaccio as antipasti, and be advised on suitable Venetian wine to pair it with.

Photo: Kzenon/Shutterstock.com

Address: 24 Triq Il Papa Alessandru Vii, Birgu

Opening hours: Mon, Wed-Fri: 5pm-11:45pm, Sat-Sun:

12pm-5pm, 6pm-11:45pm

Phone: +356 7734 7136

Internet: www.osteriave.com

Email: info@osteriave.com

The Cliffs



The elegant, modern restaurant is set on the cliffs of Dingli, with incredible views of the sunset unfolding from its beautiful, airy terrace.

Food served is made with locally-sourced, fresh ingredients - and very skillfully. One visit here is almost guaranteed to turn you into a return customer.

Photo: marco mayer/Shutterstock.com

Address: Panoramic Road, Dingli Cliffs, Dingli

Opening hours: Wed-Mon: 11am-4pm, 7pm- 10:30pm

Phone: +356 2145 5470

Internet: www.thecliffs.com.mt

Email: thecliffsdingli@gmail.com

Blue Creek Bar & Restaurant



The Blue Creek Restaurant warmly welcomes diners, whether for a light snack, a relaxing lunch or a sumptuous dinner. With its location not far from Blue Grotto and Dingli Cliffs, it is a perfect place to have a meal after a visit to one or both of these sights. Serves Mediterranean food with a view.

Photo: wrangler/Shutterstock.com
Address: Ghar Lapsi, Siggiewi
Opening hours: Tue-Sun: 11am-11pm
Phone: +356 21 462 800
Internet: www.bluecreekmalta.com
Email: info@bluecreekmalta.com

D'Office



D'Office Bistro and Wine Bar lies in the city centre of Valletta. The menu consists of Mediterranean and European dishes - all artistically presented.

The restaurant's interior is decorated with collectibles and curiosities, enough to keep diners occupied in anticipation of the arriving order.

Photo: andreacastro/Shutterstock.com
Address: 132 Arch Bishop Street / 1 & 2 Fredrick Street, Valletta
Opening hours: Mon-Sun: 11:30am-onwards
Phone: +356 2722 1475
Internet: www.d-officevalletta.com
Email: info@d-officevalletta.com

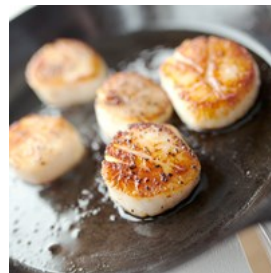
Palazzo Preca



Palazzo Preca is an elegant restaurant, offering an appealing ambience combined with exquisite food. The establishment specializes in fresh fish and seafood, with menu items ranging from fresh Scottish oysters and scallops to a wide selection of fish dishes.

Photo: Shebeko/Shutterstock.com
Address: 54 Strait Street, Valletta
Opening hours: Daily: Lunch: 12pm-3pm, Dinner: 6:30pm-10:30pm
Phone: +356 2122 6777
Internet: www.palazzoprecavalletta.com
Email: info@palazzoprecarestaurant.com

Tarragon Restaurant



Restaurant Tarragon is a classy fine dining restaurant. Do not be surprised if the chef comes to your table to say hi and make sure you are happy with your meal. The gorgeous surroundings and the great views over St. Paul's Bay combined with the delicious food create one unforgettable experience.

Photo: RBerger/Shutterstock.com
Address: Church Street, St. Paul's Bay
Opening hours: Mon-Fri: 6:30pm-11pm, Sat: 6:30pm-11:30pm, Sun: 12pm-3:30pm
Phone: +356 21 573 759
Internet: www.tarragonmalta.com
Email: inform@tarragonmalta.com

Zeri's



At a luxurious location in the Portomaso Marina with all its yachts is located the warm and welcoming Zeri's restaurant. The staff is service-minded, and the chef is known to make some excellent fish and seafood dishes. The staff are trained to offer advice on wine pairings.

Photo: DonLand/Shutterstock.com

Address: Portomaso, St.Julian's

Opening hours: Daily: 7pm-11pm

Phone: +356 21 359 559

Internet: zerisrestaurant.com

Email: info@zerisrestaurant.com

Blue Elephant



Blue Elephant is set directly by the harbour, with some seating overlooking the shipyard. In 2008 the restaurant was awarded "Most

Romantic", perhaps at least partly due to its beautiful interior with orchids and waterfalls. The menu features top quality Asian and Thai food.

Photo: jutamas/Shutterstock.com

Address: St.Julian's, Valletta

Opening hours: Daily: 7pm-11pm

Phone: +356 21 383 383

Internet: www.blueelephant.com/malta

Email: malta@blueelephant.com

More Info: Hilton Hotel Portomaso

Bacchus Restaurant



Hidden away in one of the small alleys of the ancient Mdina is the fine dining Bacchus Restaurant. Under historic vaults, traditional Maltese dishes are served. There is a "secret garden" on the rooftop terrace, where most diners head during the summer months. Serves Mediterranean cuisine.

Photo: Kris Wiktor/Shutterstock.com

Address: 1 Inguanez Alley, Mdina

Opening hours: Daily: 9am-12am

Phone: +356 21 454981

Internet: www.bacchus.com.mt

Email: reservations@bacchus.com.mt

Zest



The elegant Zest restaurant offers Asian and European fusion cuisine in a chic decor. The menu features an eclectic mix of dishes

with influences traceable to multiple Asian and European countries. Book a table overlooking the bay and indulge in some scrumptious creations.

Photo: Joshua Resnick/Shutterstock.com

Address: 25 St. George's Road St. Julian's

Opening hours: Mon-Sun: 7pm-11pm

Phone: +356 2138 7600

Internet: www.zestflavours.com

Email: info@zestflavours.com

More Info: Hotel Juliani

Barracuda



In one of the beautiful limestone buildings along the promenade from Sliema to St. Julian's you'll find the elegant, award-winning Barracuda

restaurant. It is one of the island's top restaurants that has served consistently high-quality dishes for over 30 years. Cuisine served is Mediterranean.

Photo: Mikhail_Kayl/Shutterstock.com

Address: 194 Main Street, St. Julians

Opening hours: Daily: 7pm-10:30pm

Phone: +356 21 331817

Internet: www.barracudarestaurant.com

Email: enquiries@barracudarestaurant.com

Trattoria da Pippo



Trattoria da Pippo is a charming and rustic restaurant in the city centre of Valletta, mostly visited by locals. They are only open for lunch,

which makes it perfect place for a mid-day stop on a sightseeing tour of the Maltese capital. Serves Italian and European cuisine. Advanced booking is recommended.

Photo: Francesco83/Shutterstock.com

Address: 136 Melita Street, Valletta

Opening hours: Daily: 11:30am-3:30pm

Phone: +356 21 248029

Piccolo Padre



Enjoy a delicious freshly-baked pizza at this family-run pizzeria and trattoria. Housed inside an 18th century Maltese villa with a fantastic view

over Balluta Bay, the restaurant is ideal for a romantic dining experience. Serves a wide selection of incredible dishes, from seafood to steak.

Photo: Marian Weyo/Shutterstock.com

Address: 195 Main Street, St. Julian's

Opening hours: Mon-Thu: 6:15pm-10:30pm, Fri-Sat:

6:15pm-11pm, Sun: 12pm-3pm, 6:15pm-11pm

Phone: +356 21 344875

Internet: www.piccolopadre.com

Email: enquiries@piccolopadre.com

Hugo's Lounge



If you want to be close to some of the island's busiest nightlife venues, Hugo's Lounge is the right spot for you. In the heart of Paceville, the

party area in St. Julian's, lies the Asian restaurant and bar Hugo's Lounge. The menu features sushi, Indian and Thai food.

Photo: funkyfrogstock/Shutterstock.com

Address: St. George's Road, Paceville

Opening hours: Mon-Sun: 11pm-late

Phone: +356 7777 2192

Internet: www.hugosloungemalta.com

Email: info@hugosloungemalta.com

Ristorante Dolce Vita



Dolce Vita is an upscale dining venue with seating available on the balcony overlooking the magical Spinola Bay. The elegant dining room is serviced

by professional waiters. The restaurant serves a selection of fish and seafood dishes cooked to perfection.

Photo: Elena Elisseeva/Shutterstock.com

Address: 159 St George's Road, St. Julians

Opening hours: Mon-Sun: 12pm-3pm, 6:45pm-11:30pm

Phone: +356 2138 8600

Email: info@rrcompany.com.mt

CAFES



Curioso/Shutterstock.com

Within the walls of the historic Mdina or by the beautiful seafront dominated by colorful Maltese boats, cafes can be easily found throughout the area. Prices are normally very reasonable, and most of the cafeterias on the island offer a good choice of light snacks.

Mint



Perhaps a rather unexpected find in Malta, the Mint cafe is a New Zealand-themed establishment that serves excellent seasonal food

(vegan and vegetarian options available) and decadent desserts in the inviting outdoor seating area. Delicious muffins and home-made cookies are simply not to be missed.

Photo: Family Business/Shutterstock.com

Address: 30/39 Luzio Junction/Stella Maris St, Sliema

Opening hours: Wed-Sun: 8am-4pm

Phone: +356 2133 7177

Internet: www.mintmalta.com

Email: info@mintmalta.com

67 Kapitali



With its impressive selection of craft beers and tapas-style foods 67 Kapitali is nearly unbeatable in Valetta for a quick lunch or

afternoon break in a very modern, yet somewhat rustic atmosphere. Food served includes cheeses and meats, savory pastries, sandwiches, as well as coffee and dessert.

Photo: mavo/Shutterstock.com

Address: 67 Old Bakery Street, Valetta

Opening hours: Mon-Wed: 9am-8pm, Thu-Sat: 9am-12am,

Sun: 9am-4pm

Phone: +356 27380010

Internet: www.67kapitali.com

Email: info@kapitali.com

Café Cuba



Café Cuba enjoys a presence in three different locations throughout Malta. They serve food and drink of rather high quality - from

filling mains and pizzas to lighter snacks and salads, as well as specialty coffees and even alcoholic drinks. Salsa nights are held every once in a while.

Photo: Denizo71/Shutterstock.com

Address: Triq Ix-Xatt Ta', Tigne, Sliema

Opening hours: Mon-Sun: 8am-11pm

Phone: +356 2010 1313

Internet: www.cafecuba.com.mt

Email: info@cafecuba.com.mt

Fontanella Tea Garden



Fontanella Tea Garden has indoor and outdoor seating, and offers breathtaking views of the picturesque island of Malta. They are famous

for their home-made cakes (especially the chocolate cake) and pastries. It is, perhaps, one of the cafes best fit for a mid-day break.

Photo: Coffee Lover/Shutterstock.com

Address: 1 Bastion Street, Mdina

Opening hours: Daily: 10am-12am

Phone: +356 21454 264

Internet: www.fontanellateagarden.com

Email: fontanellateagarden@gmail.com

Caffè Portomaso



Caffè Portomaso is a great place for a snack, a cup of coffee, tea (herbal or other), a bite to eat or a hot chocolate. The latter comes in sixteen

different flavours - hazelnut, coconut, mint, you name it. In- and outdoor seating on the airy terrace, with free WiFi.

Photo: Coffee Lover/Shutterstock.com

Address: Portomaso Business Tower, Saint Julian's

Opening hours: Mon-Sun: 8:30am-10:45pm

Phone: +356 2137 1238

Internet: www.themarinarestaurants.com/outlets/Caff%C3%A8Portomaso/tabid/1208/Default.aspx

Email: info@marinarestaurants.com.mt

Opera Caffelounge



A beautiful waterside cafe overlooking the colorful Maltese boats in Marsaxlokk, Opera serves very decent food and drink at rather

reasonable prices. Serves salads, pizza, sandwiches, steaks, marvellous fish and seafood dishes, as well as a selection of decadent desserts.

Photo: Luca Lorenzelli/Shutterstock.com

Address: 74 Xatt Is - Sajjieda, Marsaxlokk

Opening hours: Mon-Fri: 8am-5pm, Sat-Sun: 8am-5:30pm

Phone: +356 7930 4873

Piadina Caffè



A cosy little Italian cafe, Piadina serves a pleasant selection of focaccia, toasts and salads, as well as set breakfast menus and desserts. The

atmosphere is casually authentic - sit down on one of the cushions at the entrance and imbibe as you watch the world go by.

Photo: Timolina/Shutterstock.com

Address: 24 Triq Santa Lucija, Valetta

Opening hours: Mon-Sat: 7:30am-4pm

Phone: +356 21225983

Internet: www.piadinacaffe.com

Email: info@piadinacaffe.com

Kantina Cafe & Wine



The refreshing outdoor cafe looks incredibly inviting with its sidewalk seating area, and delivers on its silent promises via a well thought-out menu

with unusual takes on menu items featured in

many local cafe menus. Serves drinks and quality cocktails with just the right amount of ice.

Photo: Mikhail_Kayl/Shutterstock.com

Address: 103 St John Street, Valletta

Opening hours: Mon-Sat: 8am-11.30pm, Sun: 9am-4:30pm

Phone: +356 27230096

Email: kantinacafe@gmail.com

Caffe Cordina



A longstanding local institution with an ornate and, perhaps, slightly pompous interior, the Cordina Caffe is a visitor must - for both the

atmosphere and the succulent food and desserts selection. Seating available in- and outdoors; some choose to simply stay at the bar.

Photo: rnl/Shutterstock.com

Address: 244 Republic Street, Valletta

Opening hours: Mon: 8am-7pm, Tue: 8am-10:30pm,

Wed-Thu: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-10:30pm, Sun: 8am-3pm

Phone: +356 2123 4385

Internet: www.caffecordina.com

Email: info@caffecordina.com

BARS & NIGHTLIFE

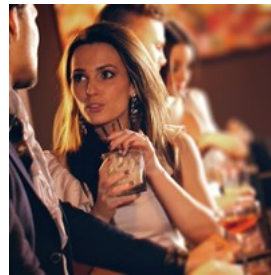


Olga Tselik/Shutterstock.com

The nightlife in Malta is lively, with Paceville, Bugibba and Sliema known as some of the hot spots that offer a wide range of pubs, clubs and discos to suit all tastes. The largest clubs often

enjoy appearances of world-famous DJ's. During the weekend, pubs and discos normally stay open till four o'clock in the morning.

Electro Lobster Project



The establishment is one of its kind on the island - a combination of seafood restaurant and bar/club-type venue in the basement, where live gigs and parties are far from being a rare occurrence. Serves Sicilian cuisine (with seafood as focus) and some very decent cocktails.

Photo: Jacob Lund/Shutterstock.com

Address: 32 Main Street, Saint Julian's

Opening hours: Mon-Sun: 5pm-late

Phone: +356 2735 7357

Internet: www.electrolobsterproject.com

Email: info@electrolobsterproject.com

Fuego



Housed in atmospheric venues, the skilled Fuego DJ's run the music formula whilst animation helps uplift the crowd. Free salsa classes are

taught to traditional Latin music. The two clubs are located in the most popular tourist areas of St. Julian's and Qawra.

Photo: ARENA Creative/Shutterstock.com

Address: Triq Santu Wistin, St. George's Bay, Saint Julian's

Opening hours: Mon-Wed: 8:30pm-4am, Thu: 9:30pm-4am,

Fri: 8:30pm-4am, Sat-Sun: 9:30pm-4am

Phone: +356 7940 0888

Internet: www.fuego.com.mt

Email: info@fuego.com.mt

Trabuxu



Trabuxu was once Malta's first authentic wine bar. The establishment is located in a 400-year-old wine cellar, which sets the mood to the night and creates a fantastic atmosphere. It is a rather spot for a low-key evening drink in Valletta. Serves cheese and fruit platters to accompany wines.

Photo: Delpixel/Shutterstock.com

Address: 2 Strait Street, Valletta

Opening hours: Tue-Sat: 7pm-late

Phone: +356 2122 3036

Internet: www.trabuxu.com.mt

Email: winebar@trabuxu.com.mt

Gianpula Village



Gianpula is an old farmhouse (occupying some 30 acres of land) that has been transformed into one amazing nightclub, consisting of several smaller venues. The main room has been Malta's number one open air night club during the summer months for more than 20 years.

Photo: Maxim Blinkov/Shutterstock.com

Address: Gianpula, Limits of Ħaż-Żebbuġ

Phone: +356 9947 2133

Internet: www.gianpula.com

Email: info@gianpula.com

Hard Rock Cafe



The Hard Rock Cafe chain know the world over is a restaurant and bar with decor centered around (primarily rock) music, with memorabilia

displayed all over the walls. Service is casual in the typical Hard Rock Cafe fashion, food is American steaks and burgers, drinks come in a variety.

Photo: Nitr/Shutterstock.com

Address: 17 St. Julian's/Vault, Valletta

Opening hours: Daily: 9am-late

Phone: +356 2123 3346

Internet: [www.hardrock.com/cafes/malta-bar-\(valletta\)](http://www.hardrock.com/cafes/malta-bar-(valletta))

Email: customer_care@hardrock.com

More Info: Bay Street Tourist Complex

Twenty Two



This stylish lounge, located on the 22nd floor of the Portomaso Business Tower, attracts a rather exclusive crowd. In the early hours of the evening, sip on a cocktail while taking in the view. After dark, the designer lounge transforms into a hip club with patrons filling up the dance floor.

Photo: Yeko Photo Studio/Shutterstock.com

Address: Portomaso Business Tower, Portomaso

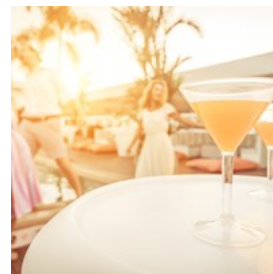
Opening hours: Wed-Sun: 9:30pm-4am

Phone: +356 7969 6222

Internet: www.22.com.mt

Email: party@twentytwomalta.com

Baia Beach Club



At Baia Beach Club, with a location in one of Malta's most hidden bays, their restaurant is a perfect choice for a culinary experience on a day out in the sun. It holds a casual feeling but serves excellent food and drinks. They also provide the Beach Club with lighter snacks.

Photo: oneinchpunch/Shutterstock.com

Address: Mellieha
 Phone: +356 21 570942
 Internet: www.baiabeachclub.com
 Email: sarah@baiabeachclub.com

The Jack of All Trades



With its famously welcoming owner, dim lights, and a great selection of beer, the Jack of All Trades is a pub with personality and a very

magnetic atmosphere, where guests are welcome to play board games and socialize to classic rock and legendary bands upsides with Pink Floyd.

Photo: BlueSkyImage/Shutterstock.com
 Address: Depiro Street, Sliema
 Opening hours: Tue-Sun: 8:30pm-1am
 Phone: +356 7925 6792

The Elvis Tribute Bar



For all Elvis fans, the Elvis Tribute Bar bar offers prime entertainment in the form of the "rock and roll king" impersonators

performing for eager crowds. The bar is quite a local hit, so do book a table in advance to ensure being seated. Drinks are priced more than reasonably.

Photo: Sinelev/Shutterstock.com
 Address: Tourist Street Malta, Qawra
 Opening hours: Mon-Sun: 10am-2am
 Phone: +356 99240634
 Email: simonelvistributebar@outlook.com

Plush

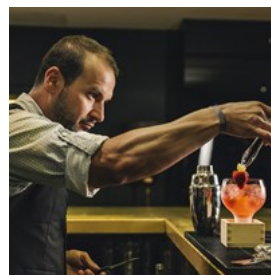


With four bars and a terrace, Plush is a spacious nightlife establishment idea; for those looking to dance the night away to tunes

spun by professional DJs. The establishment boasts a high-quality sound system, in- and outdoor seating areas, as well as VIP "purple room" (open weekends 10pm-3am).

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com
 Address: St George's Rd, St Julian's
 Phone: +356 2738 4300
 Internet: www.plush-lounge.com

Gugar Hangout & Bar

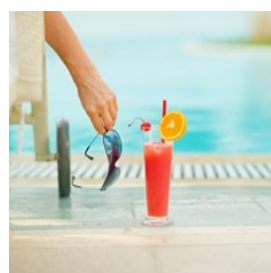


The establishment is a heaven for plant-based eaters in Malta, a place where the menu is dominated with vegan and vegetarian foods of

superb quality. It's great for an evening out on the town for meat-eaters just as much - food is universally delicious, complemented by a nice selection of drinks.

Photo: santypan/Shutterstock.com
 Address: 89A Republic Street, Valletta
 Opening hours: Tue: 6pm-1am, Wed-Sat: 10am-1am, Sun: 6pm-1am
 Phone: +356 27032837

Cafe del Mar



With its white sunbed mattresses and infinity pool, Cafe del Mar breathes luxury. It is a day- and night-time venue for stylish

twenty-something socialites, who flock here to

parade designer swim suits and savour elegant cocktails to lounge music and some of the best sunsets on the island.

Photo: Alliance/Shutterstock.com

Address: Malta National Aquarium, St. Paul's Bay

Opening hours: Mon-Sun: 10am-late

Phone: +356 22588143

Internet: www.cafedelmar.com.mt

Email: info@aquarium.com.mt

The Bridge Bar



The bar is known for its famous jazz night, held every Friday between 8pm and midnight. At that time, guests are welcome to grab a (fairly priced) drink, find a spot on the cushions of the stairway leading up to the bar, and imbibe the magical atmosphere created by dim lighting and beautiful jazz.

Photo: Geoff Goldswain/Shutterstock.com

Address: 258, Saint Ursula Street, Valletta

Phone: +356 7947 4227

Ryan's Irish Pub



A lively Irish pub in the early hours of the evening, Ryan's beats turn dancier as the night progresses, when DJs start spinning tunes.

Serves food (ribs and burgers are some of the highlights), broadcasts live sports, and is a place fit for a social evening as much as a night of partying.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com

Address: Triq Wied L-Ghomor, Spinola Bay, Saint Julian's

Opening hours: Tue-Thu: 12:30pm-3:30pm, 7pm-11pm, Fri:

7pm-4am, Sat: 1pm-4am, Sun: 4:30pm-12am

Phone: +356 2713 9173

Internet: www.ryanspubmalta.com

Email: info@ryanspub.com

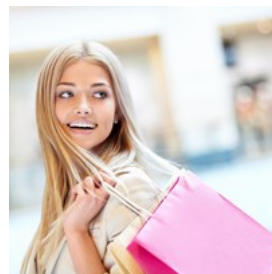
SHOPPING



Ollyy/Shutterstock.com

For all your shopping needs the capital city Valletta is the ideal destination. This is where most shops and stores are located, with both local and international brands represented. For those looking to shop for fresh produce, the daily market at 8am is a good place to be. Sliema is another good destination to go shopping. Shops are normally open from 09.00 till 13.00 in the afternoon, and then open again at 16.00 till 19.00. Note that on the following public holidays most of the shops are closed: February 10, March 31, June 7, June 29, August 15, September 21 and December 13.

Shopping in Silema



Sliema is a good shopping destination, much due to the fact this is the place where the largest shopping center in Malta - the Plaza Shopping

Centre - is located. Shops are open from 09.00 till 13.00 in the afternoon, and then open again at 16.00, to stay open till 19.00.

Photo: LuckyImages/Shutterstock.com

Address: Silema, Malta

Ta' Qali Crafts Village



At Ta' Qali you will find lace, pottery, silver filigree jewellery, ironwork, woodwork and leather-work. Check out for bargain "seconds" in

the glassware - some products are greatly reduced in price for very minor blemishes. Other areas to check out for crafts include Bugibba, Sliema and Valletta.

Photo: Krzysztof_Jankowski/Shutterstock.com

Address: Attard, Ta' Qali

Opening hours: Sat: 8am-3pm

Phone: +356 2141 5786

The Point Shopping Mall



In the newly developed Tigne Point is located The Point Shopping Mall, a relatively recent addition to the Maltese shopping scene that packs a punch

with its abundant stores that sell everything from latest fashions to electronics. There are a few cafes and a supermarket inside.

Photo: Andresr/Shutterstock.com

Address: Tigne Point, Malta

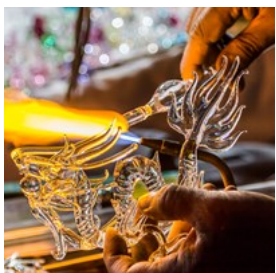
Opening hours: Mon-Sat: 9:30am-7:30pm

Phone: +356 2247 0300

Internet: www.thepointmalta.com

Email: info@thepointmalta.com

Mdina Glass



To marvel at typically Maltese craft creations, drop into the Mdina Glass outlet and see the unique glass creations made by local craftsmen. Glass is

blown into a plethora of shapes and comes in

many different colors - take your pick or visit the factory and watch the process of their creation.

Photo: sirichai chinprayoon/Shutterstock.com

Address: 12 Mdina Rbt, Ta' Qali

Opening hours: January-May: Mon-Fri: 9am-4:30pm, Sat:

9am-3pm, July-September: Mon-Fri: 8:30am-6pm, Sat:

9am-3pm, October-June: Mon-Fri: 8:30am-5pm, Sat:

9am-3pm

Phone: +356 2141 5786

Internet: www.mdinaglass.com.mt

Email: info@mdinaglass.com.mt

Soap Cafe



Enticing aromas fill the air at this boutique, where it's all about artisan, ecological soaps. These come in all the different shapes and sizes

- from cake slices to slates with a message (tongue-in-cheek quotes by well-regarded authors), all equally well-suited as gifts and useful souvenirs.

Photo: HalynaBahlyk/Shutterstock.com

Address: 46 St. Mary Street, Sliema

Opening hours: Mon-Fri: 4:30pm-7:30pm, Sat: 10am-2pm

Phone: +356 27883675

Internet: www.soapcafemalta.com

Email: info@soapcafemalta.com

The Silversmith's Shop



For authentic Maltese silver jewellery, visit the well-regarded Silversmith's Shop, where items are made directly on-site - if you're lucky,

you might even get to watch the jeweler in action. Pieces come in various shapes and sizes, and span various price ranges.

Photo: Luba V Nel/Shutterstock.com

Address: 218 Republic Street, Valletta
Phone: +356 2123 1416

Souvenirs That Don't Suck - Prints of Wales



The shop's name says it all - Prints of Wales is where the savvy traveler goes to stock up on custom-made, Malta-themed souvenirs

that are a world of a difference away from your typical mass-produced magnets and post cards. Pick from magnets, mugs, buttons, T-shirts and other quirky designer items.

Photo: elwynn/Shutterstock.com

Address: 108 Manwel Dimech Street, Sliema

Opening hours: Mon-Fri: 10m-7pm, Sat: 11am-5pm

Phone: +356 7907 2313

Internet: www.prints-of-wales.com

Email: hello@prints-of-wales.com

Vittoriosa Market



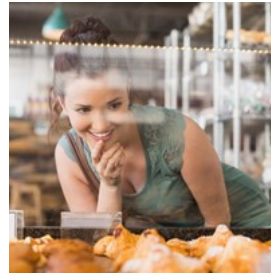
Every Tuesday, Vittoriosa comes alive with busy vendors' stalls selling all manner of fresh produce and local items. Shop for meats and cheeses,

honey, jams, freshly grown, organic produce, and even traditional clothing and souvenirs (the Sunday flea market is even better for non-edible items).

Photo: Photology1971/Shutterstock.com

Address: Triq it-8 ta' Dicembru, Birgu

Publius Cutajar Parruccan Confectionery



This hole-in-the-wall sweet and pastry shop is a good place to come for Maltese dessert delights - perfect for both to have on the spot and possibly even bring home and savour later. Pick and choose from the cakes in the glass display, and do try the traditional local nougat.

Photo: wavebreakmedia/Shutterstock.com

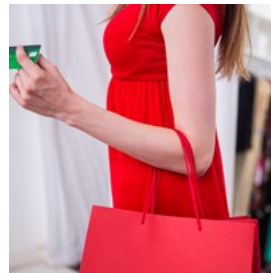
Address: 3 St. Cataldus Street, Rabat

Opening hours: Mon-Sat: 10am-5pm

Phone: +356 9982 5852

Email: parruccan@hotmail.com

Bay Street Shopping Centre



Bay Street Shopping Centre is an open-air mall, with shops that remain open till 10pm (in pleasant contrast to much of the island, with most shops calling it quits as early 7.30pm). Multiple local and international brand stores are represented, and there are quite a few great eateries.

Photo: wavebreakmedia/Shutterstock.com

Address: Triq Sqaq Lourdes, San Giljan, Saint Julian's

Opening hours: Daily: 10am-10pm

Phone: +356 2138 4421

Internet: www.baystreet.com.mt

Email: marketing@baystreet.com.mt

The Plaza Shopping Center



One of the biggest shopping malls on the island of Malta, the Plaza Shopping Center offers visitors an array of stores and boutiques, as well as

quite a selection of cafes perfectly fit for a daytime break. Items on sale range from clothing to beauty and household products.

Photo: michaeljung/Shutterstock.com

Address: Bisazza Street, Sliema

Opening hours: Mon-Sat: 9:30am-7pm

Phone: +356 2134 3832

Internet: www.plaza-shopping.com

Email: plazasliema@gmail.com

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION



Konstantin Aksenov/Shutterstock.com

Passport/Visa



Malta can be visited visa-free for up to 90 days by citizens of Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Malaysia, Israel, UAE and

most countries in America. If you are unsure whether or not you need to apply for a visa, we recommend contacting the embassy or consulate in your country. International (non-Schengen) travelers need a passport that is valid for at least 3 months after the end of their intended trip in order to enter the Schengen zone. Citizens of Schengen countries can travel without a passport, but must have a valid ID with them during their stay.

Photo: TukTuk Design/Shutterstock.com

Malta International Airport



Malta International Airport is located between the villages of Luqa and Gudja, 10 kilometres away from Valletta. The Airport is

only about 40 minutes away from popular tourist destinations such as Sliema and Bugibba.

The most viable form of transport on the island are buses. Special express lines X1, X2, X3 and X4 run to and from the airport. Taxis can be found at the airport entrance.

Photo: Juan Garces

Address: Malta International Airport, Malta

Phone: +356 21249 600

Internet: www.maltairport.com

Email: info@maltairport.com

Best time to Visit



The weather in Malta is generally warm all year round. The months of June and July are characterized by high temperatures. Spring,

autumn and winter are warm and it is the best time to enjoy the numerous outdoor activities.

Photo: VectorA/Shutterstock.com

Public Transport



Distances on the island are very short and getting about by bus is very cheap and easy. There is a good transport network and most places of

interest are accessible by local transport.

Malta bus transportation is operated by Malta Public Transport, prices and more information can be found on their website. Tickets may be purchased directly from bus drivers on board.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

Phone: +356 21 22 2000

Internet: www.publictransport.com.mt

Taxi



There are plenty of taxis, especially in the most popular tourist resorts. White taxis can be flagged down from anywhere in the island.

Malta Taxi Online
+356 9997 7761

hicabs Malta
+356 2137 2137

GREENR Cabs
+356 2738 3838

Post



Malta has an efficient postal service. Most towns and villages have post or sub-post offices. They are open Monday to Saturday from around

08.00 to 13.00 and in Valletta there is one post office that is open longer on week days. Stamps are available from hotels and souvenir shops.

Photo: Andy Fuchs

Internet: www.maltapost.com

Pharmacy



Pharmacies are generally open from 9.00 to 13.00 and from 16.00 to 19.00. The Pharmacy at the airport is open daily, including Sundays &

public holidays between 07.30-22.00.

Round-the-clock pharmacies operate on a rota basis.

St Julians Pharmacy
George Borg Olivier St, St Julian's
+356 2136 9426

Chemimart Pharmacy
Floriana, Malta
+356 2123 9310

Photo: Gemma Garner

Telephone

Country Code: +356



Photo: Jardson Almeida

Electricity

230 V/50 Hz. Three-pin plugs.



Photo: Stirling Tschan

Population
420,000

Currency

EURO €1 = 100 cents

Opening hours

Shops are generally open from 09.00 till 13.00 and from 16.00 till 19.00. Some shops in the tourist areas might not close in the afternoon.

Newspapers

The Malta Independent

Malta Today

In-Nazzjon

Emergency numbers

112 for Police, Fire Brigade & Ambulance service

Tourist information

229 Merchants Street

Valletta

+356 22 91 54 40 2



Mediterranean Sea

Mediterranean Sea

0 8 km

