

MALTESE ISLANDS

Malta and Gozo go beyond just being a sun, sea and sand destination - it is far more fitting to dub them as the islands of baroque, beauty, bastions and battles. From possessing the oldest temples in the world, to receiving the highest number of bombs during the Second World War, it's amazing to think that such small islands have so many rich layers of history. The food culture offers an authentic Mediterranean fusion, the grapevines are blissfully sun-ripened and the locals have a well-known reputation for their generous hospitality. For this reason we say Merhba, Welcome, to your personally curated itinerary which will take you through an incredible storyline to satisfy your tastes and interests. Who knows? Malta might just become your next favourite destination...



DAY 1 - ARRIVAL IN MALTA



IMPORTANT INFO

Flight details and other important arrival information will be displayed here.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

Welcome to Malta! Upon retrieving your luggage, one of our representatives will warmly welcome you right outside the exit hall. From there, you'll enjoy a seamless private transfer directly to your accommodation, ensuring a smooth start to your Maltese adventure.

DAY 2 - THE CAPITAL CITY



IMPORTANT INFO

INCLUDED MEALS: L

Today's touring will start at 09:00 and end at 17:00. Your dedicated guide will meet you in the hotel lobby.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

Embark on a captivating exploration of Valletta, starting at the Archaeology Museum, followed by a thrilling Saluting Battery Gun Fire. Enjoy lunch at the iconic King's Own Band Club, then explore the grandeur of St. John's Co-Cathedral. Conclude your journey at the majestic Grand Master's Palace, where Malta's rich history unfolds in opulent halls.

VALLETTA EXPLORATION

Valletta, a peninsular masterpiece crafted by the Knights of St John after the Great Siege of 1565, stands as a UNESCO-graded capital city. An enchanting journey through time awaits you, with its vibrant blend of history and contemporary culture, gridded street pattern, beautiful baroque architecture, and panoramic vistas from its gardens.



ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM

Nestled within the historic capital of Valletta, the archaeology museum serves as a guardian of the island's prehistoric heritage. Here you will embark on a captivating journey through time, exploring artifacts from the UNESCO temples to those of the Phoenician and Roman periods. With the help of your guide, you will truly connect with the echoes of Malta's past.



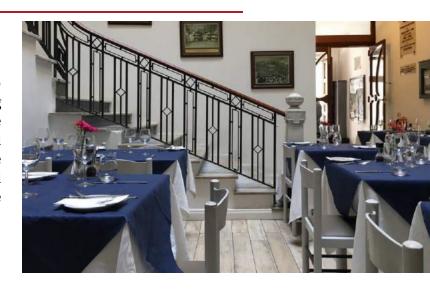
SALUTING BATTERY GUN FIRING

The Saluting Battery in the Upper Barrakka Gardens is located on one of the best vantage points, overlooking the Grand Harbour. Gun salutes were fired to greet dignitaries or ships visiting the island and to mark national and religious occasions. Today you will have the exciting opportunity to witness a blank cannon firing up close.



LUNCH AT KING'S OWN BAND CLUB

Named after George, the Prince of Wales, who became King in 1937, this band club holds living memories of British rule in Malta. Indulge your taste buds with a delightful Maltese delicacy lunch and local wine. As you dine, your guide will unravel the unique purposes and rivalries that characterize band clubs, providing a richer understanding of the cultural context.



ST JOHN'S CO-CATHEDRAL

Built in the 16th century, this baroque jewel is more than just a place of worship; it is a visual symphony of art and architecture. The austere exterior of the cathedral gives way to a breathtaking interior adorned with ornate gilded embellishments, as well as Caravaggio's largest and only signed masterpiece - The Beheading of St John the Baptist.



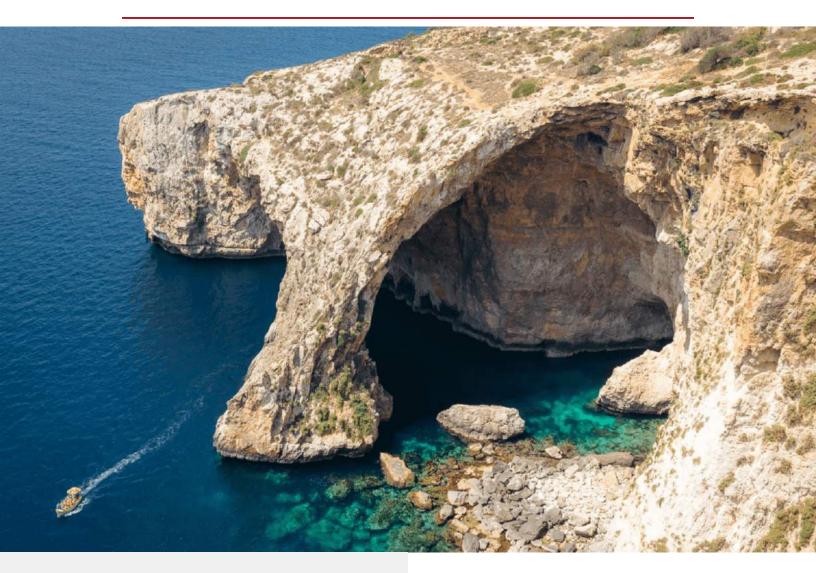
GRAND MASTER'S PALACE

Newly restored and proudly dominating St George's Square in the heart of Valletta, the Grand Master's Palace invites you to wander along its 450-year history as a centre of power and the symbol of a nation.

The Palace stands in the very heart of Valletta - the World Heritage City founded by the Sovereign Hospitaller Military Order of St. John after the Great Siege of Malta in 1565. Besides being the Office of The President, The Palace also serves as the House of Representatives and boasts of, an armoury which symbolises the past glories of the Order.



DAY 3 - ANCIENT AND SOUTHERN MALTA



IMPORTANT INFO

Today's touring will start at 09:00 and end at 17:00. Your dedicated guide will meet you in the hotel lobby.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

Begin your day with a Sea Salt Harvesting Experience followed by a captivating Falconry Display. Enjoy a delectable lunch at The Coast before venturing on a serene Blue Grotto Private Boat ride. Conclude your journey with a visit to the ancient wonders of Hagar Qim and Mnajdra Temples, delving into Malta's rich history and natural beauty in one unforgettable day.

SEA SALT HARVESTING

The tradition of harvesting salt from salt pans occurs during the warmest months of the year. This is because the Maltese sun can naturally dry out the salt in just 4 days! Today you will have the opportunity to join a local family who will guide you through the ancient process of extracting salt from the crystal clear Mediterranean waters.



FALCONRY DISPLAY

Introducing Lawrence - the man who revived falconry in Malta. He fell in love with birds the first moment he cradled one given to him by his neighbour at the age of 4. Among his growing collection, he is a proud owner of the Maltese Peregrine Falcon. Enjoy the unique opportunity to hold it yourself, and observe the immense speed at which it can swoop for its prey.



LUNCH RESERVATIONS AT THE COAST

The Coast has an upper terrace which will allow you to enjoy stunning seascape views. Whether you're in the mood for a prime cut of meat or some succulent seafood, being both a butcher's son and a keen amateur fisherman, Chef Patron Shawn Borg is committed to sourcing the finest and freshest ingredients locally and from abroad to craft the perfect meal.



BLUE GROTTO - PRIVATE BOAT

The Blue Grotto is a complex of sea caves that comprises a large and very impressive main arch, as well as a system of 6 other caves, among which you will find the Honeymoon Cave, the Cat's Cave and the beautiful Reflection Cave. This boat trip to the caves is the best way to experience the true beauty of the area and the stunning clear blue waters.



HAGAR QIM & MNAJDRA TEMPLES

Hagar Qim and Mnajdra are UNESCO prehistoric temples thought to have been built to worship the fertility goddess. To put their age into perspective, they are around 1000 years older than the pyramids of Giza, and even Stonehenge. Through this visit, you will have the opportunity to say you visited the oldest, free-standing temples in the world!



DAY 4 - THE THREE CITIES



IMPORTANT INFO

Today's touring will start at 09:00 and end at 16:30. Your dedicated guide will meet you in the hotel lobby.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

Embark on a captivating exploration of Birgu before visiting the Malta at War Museum to delve into the island's wartime history. Then, indulge in a delectable lunch experience at the renowned Don Berto restaurant, known for its Mediterranean cuisine and picturesque waterfront views. Conclude your day with an exhilarating Regatta Experience, witnessing the competitive spirit and rowing prowess that defines Malta's coastal culture.

BIRGU EXPLORATION

Birgu, or Citta Vittoriosa, has a position of great importance in the Grand Harbour, and several military leaders wanted to take it over. Therefore, the Phoenicians, Romans, Arabs, and Aragonese, all shaped and developed the area. Yet, no one did more for the city than the Knights of St John, who arrived in Malta in 1530 and made Birgu their main base.



MALTA AT WAR MUSEUM

The Malta at War Museum stands as a poignant tribute to the resilience and courage of the Maltese people during World War II. The exhibits preserve the memories of a challenging era and honour the island's strategic importance, the relentless bombing campaigns it endured, and the indomitable spirit of its inhabitants.



LUNCH RESERVATIONS AT DON BERTO

As a fast-casual dining destination, Don Berto caters to food enthusiasts and provides a warm and welcoming atmosphere that invites patrons to indulge in an unforgettable culinary experience. Positioned along the scenic Birgu waterfront, the restaurant boasts panoramic views of the tranquil sea, creating a picturesque backdrop that enhances every dining moment.



FAMILY REGATTA EXPERIENCE

Regatta challenges hold great significance in Malta, where coastal city and village clubs vie for supremacy. It's a thrilling opportunity to witness the best rowing skills, and perhaps even discover your family's prowess in the sport. Joining the Birgu Regatta club promises not only a fun-filled experience but also insights into the rich history of this esteemed institution.



DAY 5 - THE OLD CAPITAL REGION



IMPORTANT INFO

INCLUDED MEALS: L

Today's touring will start at 09:30 and end at 17:00. Your dedicated guide will meet you in the hotel lobby.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

Embark on a cultural and culinary journey in Malta, starting with a visit to a Sheep Farm and then diving into Maltese culinary traditions with a hands-on Pastizzi Making Experience. Explore the medieval streets of Mdina and discover the art of Pipe Organ Restoration, delving into Malta's musical heritage. Conclude your day with a fascinating exploration of Medieval Weaponry, immersing yourself in the island's rich history and craftsmanship.

SHEEP FARM & CHEESE TASTING

Enjoy the opportunity to visit a rustic sheep farm to see how the prized Maltese gbejna cheese is made. Gbejna is characterized by its mild, slightly salty flavor, and firm yet creamy texture. The cheeses are often enjoyed fresh, showcasing the purity of the milk, but can also be sun-dried to intensify its flavors and create a delightful chewy texture.



PASTIZZI MAKING EXPERIENCE

The most renowned street food item in Malta is the hot, flaky pastizzi. This diamond-shaped savory snack consists of around 50 paper-thin layers of pastry filled with curried peas or ricotta cheese. Today you will not only have the opportunity to taste them, but actually make them yourself. Which side will you take? Team pea, or team cheese?



MDINA EXPLORATION

Often referred to as the "Silent City," Mdina is a hilltop fortress which served as Malta's old capital city. You will feel the power as you enter its honey-coloured limestone walls and navigate its winding roads. Its panoramic views and range of architecture will undoubtedly captivate you as much as the noble families who continue to live here.



PIPE ORGAN RESTORER

Pipe organ restoration involves the careful revival of these majestic instruments, often with centuries of stories woven into their pipes and keys. Today, Robert, a skilled organ builder, will invite you on a behind the scenes journey to understand the meticulous preservation and harmonious celebration of a timeless, musical beauty within a Maltese Church.



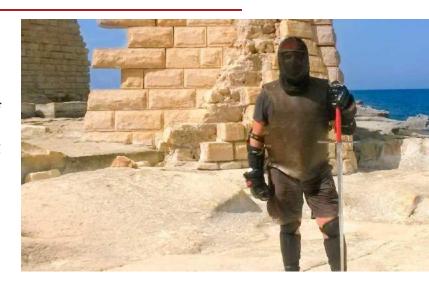
MQARET TASTING

Mqaret, or Date Squares, are sweet pastries that boast a golden, crispy exterior that gives way to a luscious filling of dates, infused with hints of spice and citrus. The artistry lies in their preparation, where skilled hands meticulously fold and seal the dough, creating a delightful contrast between the crunchy shell and the soft, syrupy center.

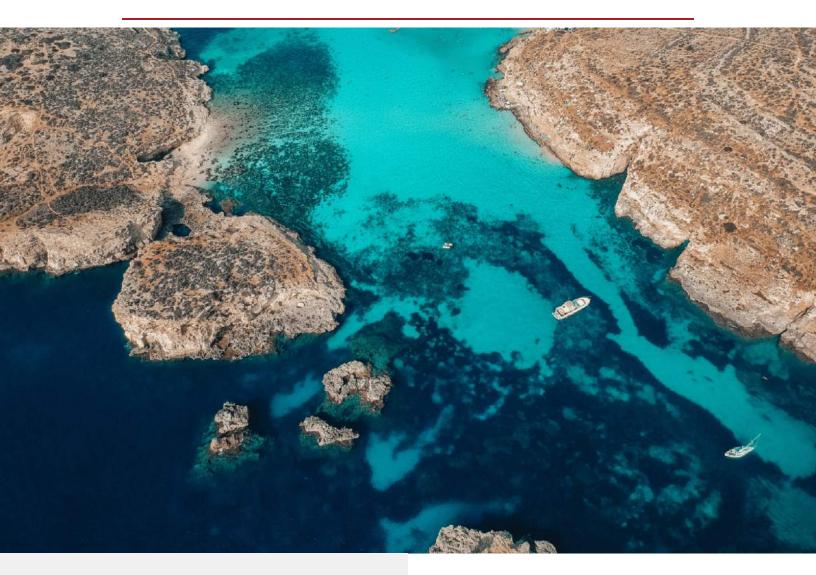


MEDIEVAL WEAPONRY

The strategic location of the island made it a coveted prize for various powers, leading to a rich history of military conflict. The weaponry employed during this period reflected the influences of the various ruling entities, such as the Knights of St. John, who were known for utilising formidable weapons such as longswords, battle axes, and halberds.



DAY 6 - SAILING ON THE MEDITERRANEAN



IMPORTANT INFO

INCLUDED MEALS: L

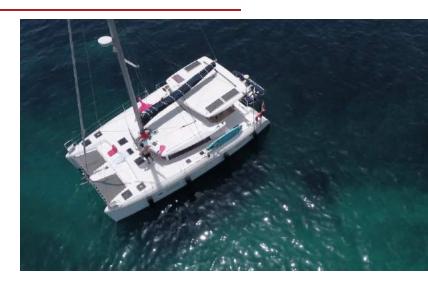
Today's touring will start at 09:00 and end at 16:00. Your dedicated driver will meet you outside the hotel.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

Embarking on a sailing day in Malta promises an enchanting experience, where azure waters and gentle breezes set the stage for adventure and relaxation. As the sails catch the wind, the coastline unfolds in a breathtaking panorama of cliffs, coves, and historic landmarks. Amidst this maritime splendor, a leisurely lunch on board becomes a culinary delight, offering a feast of local flavors and Mediterranean delights.

SAILING ADVENTURE WITH LUNCH

Set sail on the crystal waters of the Mediterranean with your private sail boat. With numerous bays, anchorages, and hidden coves, Malta offers a sailor's dream, where each journey becomes a voyage through time and natural beauty, seamlessly merging the thrill of the open sea with the rich maritime heritage of the Maltese islands.



DAY 7 - GOZO - THE SISTER ISLAND



IMPORTANT INFO

INCLUDED MEALS: L

Today's touring will start at 09:00 and end at 18:00. Your dedicated guide will meet you in the hotel lobby.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

Embark on a dynamic journey to Gozo Island, starting with a swift ride aboard a Fast Ferry. Engage in an exhilarating E-Bike Adventure through the island's scenic landscapes before indulging in a Private Family Picnic amidst nature's embrace. Unleash your creativity with Painting using Natural Pigments before concluding your day at the Dreams of Horses Farm, where you can connect with these majestic animals.

FAST FERRY TO GOZO

Enjoy a 45 minute crossing on board the Gozo Fast Ferry which leaves from the Grand Harbour in the capital city of Valletta. Gozo is a more laid back island than Malta, full of sleepy villages, agricultural land and scenic hills. In fact, its nickname has long been "The Three Hills", representing the vantage points of the Cittadella, Xaghra and Nadur. Enjoy your time here as you discover the neat little gems and differences it has to offer from her sister island of Malta.



E-BIKE ADVENTURE

Immerse yourself in Gozo's captivating landscapes on this eco-conscious E-Bike adventure. Traverse rugged valleys, winding backroads, and coastal trails at a relaxed pace while soaking up the beauty of charming villages. Top attractions include: Dwejra and Fungus Rock, Wied il-Ghasri, Xwejni Salt Pans and Marsalforn Bay.



PRIVATE FAMILY PICNIC

A private picnic along the Gozitan cliff-side, salt pans or beach is a wow experience in itself. A meal will be hand-crafted to include local products. All you need to do is sit back, relax and enjoy the serenity of the carefully chosen environment. Bonus: the luxury picnic organiser avoids single-use plastic at all costs, making this a very sustainable experience too!



PAINTING WITH NATURAL PIGMENTS

Painting with natural pigments is a captivating journey back to the roots of artistic expression, embracing the earth's rich color palette in its purest form. After a short orientation of your area, you will venture out into nature to collect some natural pigments. These will be used in your private workshop to create your own keepsake of this wonderful island.



DREAMS OF HORSES FARM

Enjoy a fun interactive workshop where you will experience what working on a farm is really like. Meet and feed all the animals at Dreams of Horse's Farm - horses, ponies, donkeys, sheep, goats, chickens, pigs, ducks, rabbits, pigeons, geese and more. Learn how to groom and walk the horses, milk the sheep and goats and join in with all the farming activities.



DAY 8 - RURAL MALTA



IMPORTANT INFO

INCLUDED MEALS: L

Today's touring will start at 09:00 and end at 16:00. Your dedicated guide will meet you in the hotel lobby.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

Embark on a day of cultural immersion and natural exploration in Malta by starting with a traditional Bocci game. Delve into the intricate art of carpet weaving with a skilled artisan before taking a leisurely stroll along the Victoria Lines and tracing the island's historic defense network. Indulge in a rustic farm lunch amidst the tranquility of a private olive grove and conclude your journey with a visit from an instrument artisan, where the melodies of Malta come to life through traditional craftsmanship.

TRADITIONAL BOCCI GAME

Bocci is a popular game in Malta that shares roots with Petanque, English Bowls, and Italian Bocce. In Malta, nearly every village boasts a Bocci Club. Whether played by seasoned competitors or casual enthusiasts, Bocci has woven itself into the fabric of Maltese leisure, providing a delightful way for locals and visitors alike to engage in friendly competition.



CARPET WEAVER ARTISAN

Weaving is one of the world's oldest trades that hasn't changed in over 9,000 years. Here in Malta, the first known piece of weaving dates back to around 800 BC, when the Phoenicians ruled the island. Today you will meet Antoine, who will show you how he has embraced this tradition by producing colourful carpets through medieval methods.



VICTORIA LINES

The Victoria Lines, often referred to as the Great Wall of Malta, are a defensive fortification system running across the width of the island. Built by the British in the late 19th century, it features a series of forts, walls, and defensive structures. This architectural marvel not only offers a glimpse into Malta's military history, but also provides stunning countryside vistas.



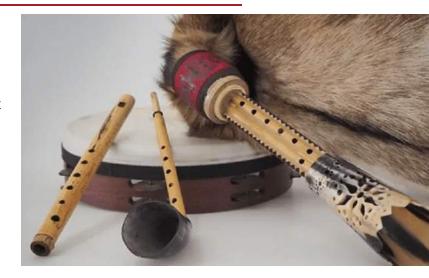
RUSTIC FARM LUNCH

Direct from the farmers and straight to your plate. Indulge in a delightful farm lunch amidst the serene ambiance of a private olive grove. This experience not only tantalises your taste buds, but also supports a network of local artisans, from bakers to beekeepers, offering you a genuine connection to Malta's thriving rural communities.



INSTRUMENT ARTISAN

Traditional Maltese instruments are a rarity these days. Thankfully, there are a few individuals that took a personal interest in safeguarding this heritage. One such person is Francesco, who is particularly proud of making the traditional bagpipe - literally made from a whole goat! You'll love hearing his story and the fascinating history behind these instruments.



DAY 9 - DEPARTURE DAY



IMPORTANT INFO

Flight details and other important departure information will be displayed here.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

As you bid farewell to our enchanting islands today, we've arranged a transfer to the airport for your convenience. We sincerely hope that Malta has surpassed your expectations, leaving you with cherished memories to treasure. We eagerly anticipate the day we can welcome you back to our shores once again.

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