

Historical Malta



TRIP OVERVIEW

Malta and Gozo are brimming with baroque churches, prehistoric temples and breath-taking waterfront vistas. Discover Valletta's magnificent Cathedral, the 'silent' walled city of Mdina and the apricot sands of Gozo's beaches.

ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information that you require for a smooth and comfortable trip to Malta & Gozo. Please take the time to read this dossier to familiarise yourself with all the aspects of our tour. It includes important information such as flight details, visa requirements and travel insurance.

Your included meal guide:

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

DAY 1: UK to Malta

Depart London on a scheduled flight to Malta Airport. Upon arrival meet your guides and transfer to your hotel on the Sliema seafront.

DAY 2: Valletta B

Discover Malta's magnetic charm on a morning tour of the fortified city of Valletta. Boasting some of the most opulent churches and palaces in Europe, Valletta's quaint narrow streets exude a timeless ambience, and effortlessly transport you back to a bygone era. Soak in extraordinary scenery from the Upper Barrakka Gardens, delighting in breath-taking panoramas of the Grand Harbour, before continuing to the richly ornamented St John's Co-Cathedral in which Caravaggio's masterpiece, 'The beheading of John the Baptist' is lavishly displayed.

DAY 3: Rabat, Mdina and Mosta B

Today begins at the renowned Rotunda Church of Mosta, whose famed unsupported dome is the third largest in Europe. Later, protected by impressive city ramparts, the quiet streets of Mdina, lined with ornate buildings and palaces, are characteristic of this picturesque silent city. Dominating a landscape of narrow avenues, uncover the prominent baroque façade and towering bell towers of St Paul's Cathedral, before visiting an extensive complex of underground tombs at St Paul's Catacombs; these mystifying discoveries are considered to be the earliest archaeological indication of Christianity in Malta.

DAY 4: Day at leisure B

Enjoy a day at leisure today or embark on an optional excursion to the small fishing village of Marsaxlokk. Framed by a harbour teeming with brightly coloured boats, browse the vibrant market stalls and feast your

eyes upon a plethora of local goods including fresh fish, honey and wine.

DAY 5: Gozo B/L

Discover Victoria's imposing citadel, winding streets and bustling market squares on a full-day tour of Malta's sister island, Gozo. From the capital city, travel towards the 'Inland Sea' of Dwejra to admire its breath-taking coastal formations and crystal-clear waters, before visiting the megalithic limestone temples of Ggantija; translating as the 'Place of Giants', according to local legend, this remarkable temple was constructed single-handedly by a giantess between the years of 3600-2500BC. En route to the seaside resort of Xlendi, enjoy an opportunity to shop for authentic handmade lace and knitwear items, which have long since characterised Gozo's craft trade

DAY 6: Three Cities and Harbour Cruise B

Collectively named Cottonera, explore the three fortified cities of Vittoriosa, Cospicua and Senglea, founded by the Knights of Malta in the 16th and 17th centuries. Begin this morning's walking tour in the oldest city of Vittoriosa, where the majestic former Palace of the General of the Galleys & Order of St John's Treasury can be seen from its affluent waterfront. Next, from the verge of Senglea point, delight in spectacular views of the Grand Harbour before cruising upon its azure waters. Step ashore for the chance to wander around an assortment of local shops before returning to your hotel.

DAY 7: Day at leisure B

Following a day at leisure, you may choose to embark on an optional excursion this evening. Bathed in a golden hue, explore some of Malta's most iconic landmarks, whose floodlit appearances present an entirely different display at night. Alternatively, immerse yourself in an energetic Maltese celebration, feasting on a delectable 4 course meal, followed by a traditional evening of folklore dance.

DAY 8: Malta to the UK or Extension B

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your return flight back to the UK or continue on to your extension.



ACCOMMODATION DETAILS & MAP



Accommodation

Your accommodation is selected for convenience, location, comfort or character. Hotel accommodation is generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note there is no international classification system for hotels, and differences in facilities and quality do exist between the UK and Malta. All group tours hotels have private bathroom facilities and air-conditioning, where needed.

Rest assured that all accommodation used by Mercury Holidays is regularly inspected by our staff and partners to ensure that standards meet your needs. If you have booked a triple share please note that your room will be a twin room with an extra bed added. This may limit the floor space in the room.



Please note the hotels listed on our website and brochure are provided for guidance only and final confirmation of your accommodation will be sent in a document, along with your final flight information, approximately 10 days before you travel.

Meals

Breakfast is always western style and served in the hotel each morning.

ON YOUR ARRIVAL

On your arrival in Malta you will be met by a representative from our local agent, holding a sign displaying: "Mercury Holidays". The Mercury Holidays representative will show you to your transfer vehicle and will be taken to your hotel. If you need to contact your representative during your stay the details are:

Mercury Holidays

97, Nicolo Isouard Street
Sliema
SLM 2080
Malta
Telephone: 00356 2133 0941
E-mail: maltabookings@sunspotmalta.com

Emergency contact information

Please find below the emergency contact details for Mercury Holidays
Telephone number 00356 7970 5885 or 00356 2137 5543

WHAT TO PACK

- Sunglasses, Sunscreen and hat in summer
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Camera and charger
- A plug adaptor - the electricity in Malta is 230 V. The three-pin

rectangular plug system is used, as in the UK.

- Waterproof, lightweight jacket
- Lightweight clothing
- Sweater and jacket for the cooler months

WHAT YOU NEED FOR YOUR TOUR

Visas

A visa is not required for your trip to Malta. Further advice should be sought from the applicable tourist authority for other nationalities and for general queries. We strongly advise you check your destinations' Tourist Board or Embassy for the most up-to-date guidelines regarding passport validity.

Insurance

We strongly recommend that you and all members of your party are suitably insured as soon as you book your holiday. It is a condition of booking that you must have suitable travel insurance. It is important that you purchase travel insurance that suitably covers your participation in whatever activities you may undertake at the time that you make your booking. To assist you with this, we have arranged travel insurance in partnership with Holiday Extras. To arrange your travel insurance with Holiday Extras, please call 0800 781 4237 and quote 'WK830' for preferential rates. Please ensure you provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24-hour emergency contact number as soon as possible. Mercury Holidays will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

Tour Guides

This is a fully escorted tour with local guides throughout ensuring that you always have first-hand knowledge at all times. Your guide will accompany you on all days when you have excursions, they will not accompany you on free days.

Private Tour

If you have booked a private tour then you will be accompanied by a Driver Guide or a Driver and Local Guides. These will be available to you during all scheduled sightseeing. Private Tours can depart on any day of the week depending on flight and train schedules and the opening days of the attractions. They will follow the itinerary as described in the brochure unless you have been advised otherwise and you will still have all of the same meals, sightseeing and local excursions included.

Tipping

It is customary/at your discretion to tip both your driver and guide. We would recommend to tip approximately 2 Euros per person per day. This is a total of €12 per person to budget for tips on your trip. Tips will be collected at the beginning/end of your tour. Tips are accepted in the local currency.

Health and Vaccinations

It is your responsibility to check any health and vaccination requirements applicable to your booked arrangements. We can only provide general information about this. Health and hygiene facilities and disease risks vary from country to country. You should take health advice about your own needs as early as possible and in good time before your departure. Sources of information include; www.fco.gov.uk, www.travelhealthpro.org.uk, www.hpa.org.uk, your General Practitioner or a specialist clinic.

Physical Accessibility

All our tours feature a "Tour Pace" to help find the right holiday for you. To travel on any of our tours requires unaided mobility and the ability to stroll around the sights, climb stairs and get on and off coaches and boats. The tour pace for Historical Malta is Easy-Going. A reasonable level of fitness is required as you will be spending some time on your feet each day though there are no large distances to cover. You will be walking around the sights at a leisurely pace, and may be getting on and off coaches and boats and climbing some steps. Our guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

Group Size

The maximum number of passengers on your tour will be 35 passengers. If in the unlikely event we are not able to operate your departure date then you may be asked to change to a different date and a full refund will be made available to you should this alternative not be suitable.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

IMPORTANT: Please note that final flight details, including terminal, airline and baggage allowance, will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure. A printed E-ticket is no longer required at check-in, all you need to do is present your passport to the staff at the desk and your boarding pass will be given to you.

Airport Extras

If you wish to arrange Airport car parking, lounges or accommodation at preferential rates, we recommend you book this in advance with Holiday Extras Tel. 0871 360 2000, quoting HX313.

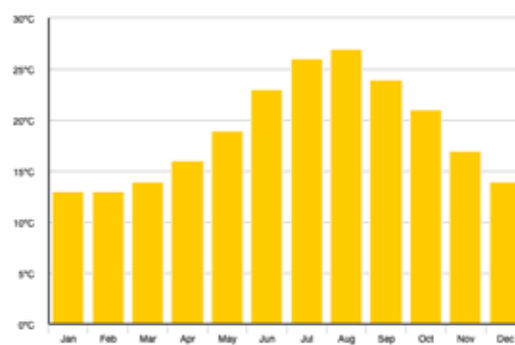
WEATHER AND CLIMATE

Weather can vary quite considerably throughout the year, so please familiarise yourself with the climate charts below.

Average temperature: **Valletta**



Average temperature: **Gozo**



Malta Extension

If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0333 003 0522



TRIP OVERVIEW

Extend your stay in historic Malta with this 3-night add-on. Explore more of Malta's fascinating history in Valletta, go shopping in Sliema's many boutiques or simply relax, the choice is yours.

ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your extension in Malta

Malta (3 nights)

Hotel Information

Your 3 night stay in Malta will take place at one of the following hotels:

4★ Preluna Hotel and Spa on Bed and Breakfast. With elevated views over Sliema to one side and the dazzling blue Mediterranean to the other, the Preluna Hotel is situated in a peerless spot from which to gaze out over Malta's most popular holiday destination. Offering excellent guest facilities, unwind in the heated pool, jacuzzi and sauna, or dine in a selection of on-site restaurants and bars.

5★ Grand Hotel Excelsior on Bed and Breakfast. This luxurious hotel boasts superb views across Marsamxett Harbour and Monoel Island and offers a high standard of service and comfort with a selection of excellent guest facilities, ranging from exemplary spa and leisure facilities to renowned cuisine at its Stellar Valletta Restaurants.

Meals

Your stay will be on a Bed and Breakfast basis.

Hotel details:

4★ Preluna Hotel and Spa

Address: 124 Tower Road, Sliema SLM 1605, Malta

Contact number: 00356 2133 4001

5★ Grand Hotel Excelsior

Address: Great Siege Road, Floriana FRN 1810, Malta

Contact number: 00356 2125 0520

Any alternative hotels or board basis will have been confirmed at booking. Please speak to our reservations department if you are unsure.

Personal Expenses

You will need to take money with you to cover any lunches, as well as personal purchases, such as souvenirs and drinks.

Tour Guides

Your stay in Qawra is not escorted by a tour guide and your time will be free to explore the area at your own pace. Transfers are included.



4★ Preluna Hotel & Spa



5★ Grand Hotel Excelsior

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Please note: Final hotel and flight details will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.

For any further enquiries or for more information call us on **0333 003 0522**