



# Malta

Photo: CALIN STAN/Unsplash



In Green/Shutterstock.com

Nestled between Sicily and North Africa, Malta is an enchanting island nation that offers a unique blend of history, culture, and natural beauty. Beyond its historical wonders, which include ancient temples and medieval fortresses, Malta boasts stunning coastlines, crystal-clear waters, and picturesque beaches, which combined with nearly uninterrupted sunshine year-round and some of the mildest temperatures worldwide, make the island a delightful escape for travellers in any season.



Ferenc Horvath/Unsplash



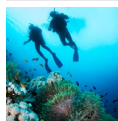
Rob Wilson/Shutterstock.com

## Featured



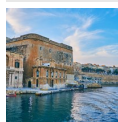
### Hastings Garden

Just outside the city gate of Valletta lies the Hastings public garden. From...



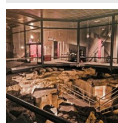
### Diving

Malta is famous for its clear blue water and the perfect conditions for diving...



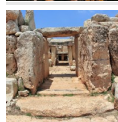
### Lascaris War Rooms

The hidden Lascaris War Rooms were Malta's best-kept secret during World War...



### Hal Saflieni Hypogeum

The Hypogeum of Hal Saflieni is a Neolithic subterranean structure, accident...



### Megalithic Temples

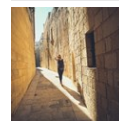
The remains of temples erected in the fourth and third millennium B.C. are a...

## Top 5



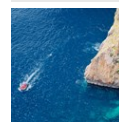
### Valletta — the Capital of ...

Valletta, the capital of Malta, was ingeniously constructed in the 16th cent...



### Mdina

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



### Wied iż-Żurriq

Wied iż-Żurriq is a small village situated on the southern coast of Malta. ...



### Three Cities of Cottonera

Across the Grand Harbour, to the south of Valletta, are the historic fortifi...



### Marsaxlokk

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 characterised 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 its various historical buildings.

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

Whether you're a history enthusiast, nature lover, or simply looking to unwind, Malta has something special to offer everyone. Immerse yourself in the ancient charm of Valletta, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and explore its impressive fortifications, cathedrals, and museums. Dive into the crystal-clear waters to uncover fascinating marine life, or bask in the sun on the idyllic beaches. Unearth the mysteries of the Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum, a prehistoric underground temple, and wander through the quaint villages with their charming architecture and bustling local markets.

### Valletta — the Capital of Malta



Valletta, the capital of Malta, was ingeniously constructed in the 16th century by the Knights of St John. Exuding baroque elegance, it is rightfully

hailed as an open-air museum due to the number of historic buildings concentrated in the area like St John's Co-Cathedral and the Grand Harbour, masterfully crafted by the Knights. Within a mere 900m x 630m area, over 25 churches grace the landscape. This remarkable city is an esteemed UNESCO World Heritage Site, a testament to its cultural significance and architectural splendour.

Photo: Yuriy Biryukov/Shutterstock.com

Address: Valletta, Malta

### Mdina



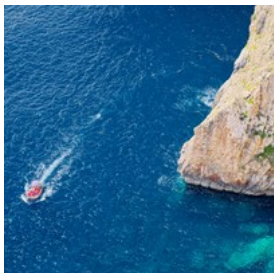
Mdina, the old capital of Malta, is a typical medieval town situated on one of the highest hills of the island. Known as the "Silent City", Mdina is

one of the few remaining fortified Renaissance cities in Europe. Climb to the top for magnificent views of the island.

Photo: Calin Stan/Shutterstock.com

Address: Mdina, Malta

### Wied iż-Żurrieq



Wied iż-Żurrieq is a small village situated on the southern coast of Malta. Here visitors can have a swim or visit the Blue Grotto and the

surrounding coastline on 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 iż-Żurrieq, Malta

### 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'll find Fort St Angelo, the Inquisitor's Palace, and the Vittoriosa waterfront, which was refurbished in the early 2000s 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

### 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

### 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 and head towards one of these spots.

Photo: UnderTheSea/Shutterstock.com

### Gozo



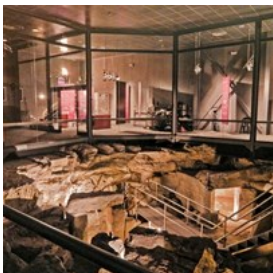
The sister island, Gozo, is well worth a visit on its own. Hire a car or book one-of-the-day jeep safari trips that are offered by multiple tour operators.

Upon disembarking, you'll immediately notice the difference between the islands. Gozo has a more serene atmosphere and is packed with lush farms. While you're 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



The Hypogeum of Hal Saflieni is a Neolithic subterranean structure, 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/CC BY 2.0/Flickr(image cropped)

Address: Burial Street, Paola

Opening hours: Daily 10am-6pm

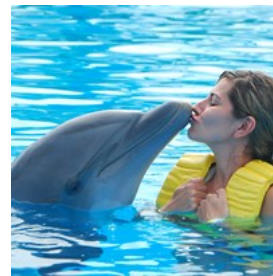
Phone: +356 2180 50 19

Internet: [heritagemalta.mt/explore/hal-saflieni-hypogeum](http://heritagemalta.mt/explore/hal-saflieni-hypogeum)

Email: [info@heritagemalta.com](mailto:info@heritagemalta.com)

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 Mediterraneo Marine Park, a fun attraction for both children and adults. The park offers shows

with sea lions and the chance to swim with dolphins. Snakes, turtles, frogs, and spiders — among others — also call the park home.

Photo: legenda/Shutterstock.com

Address: Bahar ic-Caghaq Coast, Malta

Opening hours: Daily 9am-5pm

Phone: +356 2137 2218

Internet: [mediterraneopark.com](http://mediterraneopark.com)

Email: [info@mediterraneopark.com](mailto:info@mediterraneopark.com)

### St John's Co-Cathedral



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 is "The Beheading of St John the Baptist" by Caravaggio.

Photo: McCarthy's PhotoWorks/Shutterstock.com

Address: Republic Street, Valletta

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

Phone: +356 2122 0536



Internet: [www.stjohnscocathedral.com](http://www.stjohnscocathedral.com)  
Email: [info@stjohnscocathedral.com](mailto: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 the Marquis of Hastings, who was a governor of Malta. He died in 1827 and is buried in the garden.

Photo: Jean-Pierre Dalbéra/CC BY 2.0/Flickr(image cropped)  
Address: Hastings Garden, Valletta

### Teatru Manoel



Known simply as “The Manoel”, Teatru Manoel is a beautiful theatre and an important performing arts venue in Malta. It was named after António

Manoel de Vilhena, Grand Master of the Knights Hospitaller, who sponsored the construction, which was done in an incredibly short time span of 10 months.

Photo: [aerogondo2/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/aerogondo2)  
Address: Old Theatre Street, Valletta  
Phone: +356 2124 63 89  
Internet: [www.teatrumanoel.com.mt](http://www.teatrumanoel.com.mt)  
Email: [bookings.mt@teatrumanoel.mt](mailto:bookings.mt@teatrumanoel.mt)

### Fort Rinella

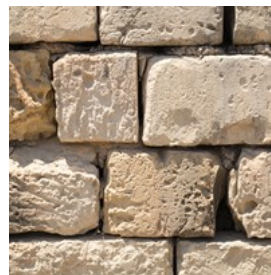


Fort Rinella is a Victorian fort, built by the British to support Malta in the resistance against Italy. To make it extra safe, a 100-ton gun, designed to be the world's biggest, was placed at its entry

(fortunately, never to be used). Do not miss the on-site museum to learn more about the military history of Malta.

Photo: [arkanto/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/arkanto)  
Address: Kalkara, Malta  
Opening hours: Thu-Sat 10am-4:30pm  
Phone: +356 2180 09 92  
Internet: [www.fortrinella.com](http://www.fortrinella.com)  
Email: [info@wirtartna.org](mailto:info@wirtartna.org)

### Limestone Heritage

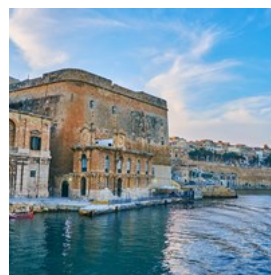


The name Malta comes from the Italian word “melita” or “honey”. The reason for that is quite banal — when sailors first saw Malta, the islands'

limestone silhouette appeared dark yellow, similar to the colour of honey. The Limestone Heritage, Park and Gardens is a former quarry, where you can explore the island's limestone history through its exhibits and sculpting demonstrations.

Photo: [TheLiftCreativeServices/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/TheLiftCreativeServices)  
Address: Limestone Heritage Siggiewi, Malta  
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-4pm, Sat 9am-noon, Sun closed  
Phone: +356 2146 49 31  
Internet: [limestoneheritage.com](http://limestoneheritage.com)  
Email: [info@limestoneheritage.com](mailto:info@limestoneheritage.com)

### Lascaris War Rooms



The hidden Lascaris War Rooms were Malta's best-kept secret during World War II. British troops used the underground tunnels and chambers as their headquarters to coordinate their fight against the Axis powers. Pay a visit to this fascinating museum to gain deep historical

insight into Malta's role in WWII.

Photo: eFesenko/Shutterstock.com

Address: Lascaris Ditch, Valletta

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-4:30pm, Sun closed

Phone: +356 2123 4717

Internet: [www.lascariswarrooms.com](http://www.lascariswarrooms.com)

Email: [info@wirtartna.org](mailto:info@wirtartna.org)

## 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 a few minutes away.

### Golden Bay



Blessed with its exquisite sandy bay, this destination ranks among the most sought-after on the Maltese Islands, luring a considerable

influx of local and international vacationers each year. Besides its undeniable allure, the area offers splendid opportunities for leisurely walks and serves as a perfect playground for water sports aficionados, especially those eager to indulge in windsurfing.

Photo: MEDIANA/Shutterstock.com

Address: Golden Bay, Malta

### Mellieħa 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: Mellieħa Bay, Malta

### Blue Lagoon



Tucked away on the picturesque island of Comino, this small beach is a hidden gem accessible only through booking one of the

numerous boat trips that traverse these enchanting waters and the neighbouring islands. Though the sandy beach may be small, it doesn't deter visitors, as most choose to bask in its beauty from the comfort of their boats. The allure lies in the crystal-clear waters, creating a perfect haven for snorkelling enthusiasts to explore the vibrant marine life beneath the surface.

Photo: Jaroslav Moravcik/Shutterstock.com

Address: Blue Lagoon, Malta

### Bugibba



Nestled in the northern region of Malta island, this scenic shore boasts a flat, rocky landscape offering sunbathing havens while also

granting easy access points for swimmers to

explore the clear, deep, and safe waters.

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

### Ġnejna Bay



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

than many of the other Maltese beaches.

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

Photo: lenisecalleja.photography/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ġnejna Bay, Malta

### Għajn Tuffieħa



Tucked in between Golden Bay and Ġnejna Bay is the smaller and quieter sandy beach, Għajn Tuffieħa. 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: Għajn Tuffieħa, Malta

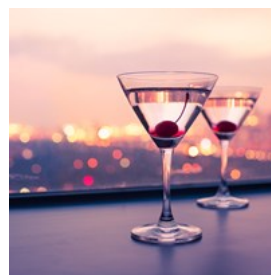
## DINING



Nadezhda1906/Shutterstock.com

Eating in Malta is an exuberant experience — take your 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 great wine lists featuring both local and foreign wines.

### Dinner in The Sky Malta



Dinner in the Sky Malta takes dining to new heights, quite literally, as it elevates 22 guests to 40 metres above the rooftops of the island. This

extraordinary experience blends fine dining, fun, excitement, and theatre into one unforgettable adventure. Suspended in the air, guests can savour their meals while enjoying breathtaking views of Malta. Although not for the faint of heart, Dinner in the Sky Malta ensures absolute safety for all its daring patrons, making it an extraordinary and secure gastronomic journey.

Photo: KieferPix/Shutterstock.com



Address: Hal Ferh Golden Bay, Valletta  
Opening hours: Fri-Sun 6pm-midnight  
Phone: +356 9998 8835  
Internet: [dinnerintheskymalta.com](http://dinnerintheskymalta.com)  
Email: [reservations@dinnerintheskymalta.com](mailto: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 6pm-10pm, Sun closed  
Phone: +356 2145 0587  
Internet: [medinarestaurant.xaracollection.com](http://medinarestaurant.xaracollection.com)  
Email: [medina@xaracollection.com](mailto:medina@xaracollection.com)

### Tmun



If you eventually venture out to the island of Gozo, do consider dining in one of the finest establishments there, Tmun. Nestled behind a

row of colourful fishing boats in the fishing village of Mgarr, Tmun is a family-run restaurant which has been in operation for over 30 years. Its marine-themed interior perfectly complements the overwhelming seafood variety on the menu, often inspired by the freshest fish caught that day. Favourites among diners include prawn tartare, fish soup, and crispy panko tempura monkfish.

Photo: [norikko/Shutterstock.com](#)  
Address: Martino Garces Street, Mgarr Harbour, Gozo  
Opening hours: Mon, Wed-Sat 7pm-10pm; Sun noon-2pm /

7pm-10pm; Tue closed  
Phone: +356 2156 6276  
Internet: [tmunrestaurant.com](http://tmunrestaurant.com)  
Email: [hello@tmunrestaurant.com](mailto:hello@tmunrestaurant.com)

### The Cliffs



Perched on the cliffs of Dingli, the elegant and modern restaurant, The Cliffs offers an unforgettable dining experience on the highest

point of the Maltese Islands. From its beautiful and airy terrace, guests can indulge in a meal accompanied by incredible views of the sunset over green valleys and the blue sea. The food served at The Cliffs is a testament to the rich culinary traditions of the Mediterranean, as it skillfully incorporates locally-sourced and fresh ingredients. Embracing the heritage of the region, the restaurant preserves the use of wild edible plants, a practice fading away in the surrounding rural village of Dingli. Most dishes served here pay homage to traditional aspects that are either lost or at the brink of being forgotten, making The Cliffs a place of both culinary delight and cultural significance.

Photo: [marco mayer/Shutterstock.com](#)  
Address: Panoramika Road, Dingli  
Phone: +356 2145 54 70  
Internet: [thecliffs.com.mt](http://thecliffs.com.mt)  
Email: [eat@thecliffs.com.mt](mailto:eat@thecliffs.com.mt)

### D'Office



D'Office Bistro offers a delightful dining experience with its menu of artfully presented Mediterranean and European dishes. As diners await their orders, they can admire the restaurant's unique interior adorned with



collectables and curiosities. The dishes, prepared with the very best ingredients from the Mediterranean, showcase the culinary excellence of the region. To complement the flavours, D'Office also serves the finest Maltese vine.

Photo: andrecaastro/Shutterstock.com

Address: 132 Arch Bishop Street C/W 1 & 2 Fredrick Street, Valletta

Opening hours: Daily 9am-11:30pm

Phone: +356 2722 1475

Internet: [www.dofficebistro.com](http://www.dofficebistro.com)

Email: [info@d-officevalletta.com](mailto:info@d-officevalletta.com)

### Palazzo Preca



Palazzo Preca is an elegant, family-owned restaurant, offering an appealing ambience combined with exquisite food. The establishment specialises 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

Phone: +356 2122 6777

Internet: [www.palazzoprecavalletta.com](http://www.palazzoprecavalletta.com)

Email: [info@palazzoprecarestaurant.eu](mailto:info@palazzoprecarestaurant.eu)

### Tarragon Restaurant



Sole by Tarragon is an elegant, award-winning fine-dining restaurant situated by the water's edge, where the sweeping waves of the Mediterranean Sea meet the shores of the Maltese Islands. Offering exquisite cuisine influenced by Mediterranean seafood and fresh local ingredients, this restaurant promises an unparalleled dining experience. Don't be

surprised if the chef pays a visit to your table, ensuring your satisfaction with the delightful meal.

Photo: RBerger/Shutterstock.com

Address: Saint Georges Bay, Saint Julian's

Opening hours: Daily 6pm-11pm

Phone: +356 215 737 59

Internet: [solebytarragon.com](http://solebytarragon.com)

Email: [experience@tarragonmalta.com](mailto:experience@tarragonmalta.com)

### Zeri's



With a prime location in the stunning Portomaso Marina, Zeri's offers delectable offerings of fresh Mediterranean cuisine along with an

extensive wine list in luxurious surroundings and the picturesque view of yachts. The impeccable service provided by the staff adds to the overall allure of Zeri's, making it a must-visit destination for those seeking an exceptional dining experience.

Photo: DonLand/Shutterstock.com

Address: Church Street, Saint Julian's

Opening hours: Daily 7pm-11pm

Phone: +356 2135 9559

Internet: [zerisrestaurant.com](http://zerisrestaurant.com)

Email: [zerisrestaurant@gmail.com](mailto:zerisrestaurant@gmail.com)

### Blue Elephant



Blue Elephant, an award-winning restaurant in Malta, offers an enchanting dining experience directly by the harbour, with some

seating overlooking the shipyard. The restaurant is designed like a traditional Thai village, transporting guests to an oasis of waterfalls, lush greenery, and vibrant colours. Delight in the

authentic flavours of Thai cuisine, from dim sum to sweet and sour emerald chicken, while sipping on Mai Tais and enjoying the picturesque view of the marina.

Photo: jutamas/Shutterstock.com

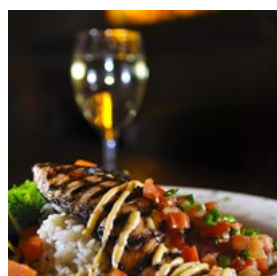
Address: Portomaso, Saint Julian's

Opening hours: Daily 6:30pm-10:30pm

Phone: +356 2138 3383

Internet: [hiltonmaltaexperience.com/explore/blue-elephant](https://hiltonmaltaexperience.com/explore/blue-elephant)

### 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 and Mediterranean dishes are served. There is a "secret garden" on the rooftop terrace, where most diners head during the summer months.

Photo: Kris Wiktor/Shutterstock.com

Address: 1 Inguanez Alley, Mdina

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

Phone: +356 2145 4981

Internet: [bacchus.com.mt](https://bacchus.com.mt)

### Zest



Discover culinary excellence at Zest, Malta's first Asian fusion restaurant. Book a table overlooking the romantic Spinola Bay and relish the finest Asian and Japanese-Peruvian Nikkei cuisine on the Maltese Islands.

Photo: Joshua Resnick/Shutterstock.com

Address: 25 Saint George's Road, Saint Julian's

Opening hours: Daily 6:30pm-11pm

Phone: +356 2138 7600

Internet: [www.zestflavours.com](https://www.zestflavours.com)

Email: [info@zestflavours.com](mailto:info@zestflavours.com)

### Trattoria da Pippo



Trattoria da Pippo, a charming and rustic restaurant located in Valletta's city centre, has been a favourite among locals for almost 40

years. Open exclusively for lunch, it offers the perfect spot for a mid-day break during a sightseeing tour of the Maltese capital. Unlike traditional menus, da Pippo prides itself on sourcing the freshest ingredients daily, allowing the chef to create a variety of Italian and European dishes for that afternoon's service. From local meat cuts to freshly caught fish, shellfish, and crustaceans, their cuisine bursts with flavours and is cooked to perfection. Advanced booking is highly recommended.

Photo: Francesco83/Shutterstock.com

Address: 136 Melita Street, Valletta

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 11:30am-3:30pm, Sun closed

Phone: +356 2124 80 29

Internet: [www.instagram.com/da\\_pippo\\_trattoria](https://www.instagram.com/da_pippo_trattoria)

More Info: Only open for lunch

### 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 fusion restaurant and bar Hugo's Lounge. The menu features sushi, Indian, and Thai food, plus an assortment of expertly-crafted cocktails.

Photo: funkyfrogstock/Shutterstock.com

Address: Saint George's Road, Saint Julian's

Opening hours: Daily noon-2am

Phone: +356 2742 1217

Internet: [www.instagram.com/hugosloungemalta](https://www.instagram.com/hugosloungemalta)



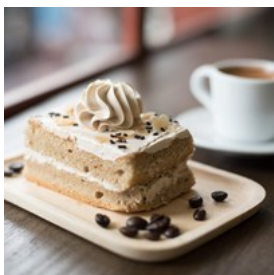
## CAFÉS



Curioso/Shutterstock.com

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

### Fontanella Tea Garden



In the heart of Mdina, Fontanella Tea Garden offers a captivating oasis with panoramic vistas that sweep across half the island, providing an

awe-inspiring backdrop to your visit. This charming café is celebrated for its homemade cakes, particularly the luscious chocolate masterpiece, and an array of delightful pastries. Beyond its renowned sweets, Fontanella also tempts with a diverse selection of mouth-watering snacks and daily homemade specialities, including the beloved Maltese ftira and oven-baked lasagna.

Photo: Coffee Lover/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 1 Bastion Street, Mdina  
Opening hours: Daily 10am-11:30pm  
Phone: +356 2145 4264  
Internet: [www.fontanellateagarden.com.mt/home](http://www.fontanellateagarden.com.mt/home)  
Email: [fontanellateagarden@gmail.com](mailto:fontanellateagarden@gmail.com)

### Piadina Caffè



A cosy little Italian café, Piadina serves a nice selection of focaccia, toasts and salads, as well as 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 Saint Lucia Street, Valletta  
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 2pm-midnight, Sun 6pm-midnight  
Phone: +356 2122 5983  
Internet: [www.instagram.com/piadina\\_caffe](https://www.instagram.com/piadina_caffe)  
Email: [info@piadinacaffe.com](mailto:info@piadinacaffe.com)

### Kantina Café & Wine



Nestled conveniently near the iconic Saint John's Co-Cathedral, Kantina Café is a beloved destination for locals and visitors alike. This

popular café offers an ideal spot for a quick bite, a leisurely lunch, or a delightful dinner. With charming outdoor seating in a picturesque square, it's the perfect setting to unwind and savour the moment. Indulge in a diverse array of beverages, from wines and cocktails to frozen delights, coffees, beers, and invigorating smoothies, all complemented by delectable pasta, risottos, salads, and much more. Elevating the experience, live music adds a touch of enchantment to your time at Kantina Café, ensuring that every visit is filled with delight and relaxation.

Photo: Mikhail\_Kayl/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Saint John's Square, Valletta  
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8am-10pm, Sat 8am-midnight, Sun 9am-10pm

Phone: +356 9913 1035  
Internet: [www.kantinamalta.com](http://www.kantinamalta.com)  
Email: [kantinacafe@gmail.com](mailto:kantinacafe@gmail.com)

### Caffe Cordina



A longstanding local institution with an ornate and, perhaps, slightly pompous interior, Cordina Caffe is a visitor must — for both the atmosphere, the succulent food and the dessert selection. Seating is available in- and outdoors; some choose to simply stay at the bar.

Photo: [rnl/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/rnl)  
Address: 244 Republic Street, Valletta  
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 8am-6pm, Sun 9am-3pm  
Phone: +356 2065 0400  
Internet: [caffecordina.com](http://caffecordina.com)  
Email: [info@caffecordina.com](mailto:info@caffecordina.com)

## BARS & NIGHTLIFE



*Olga Tselik/Shutterstock.com*

Malta's nightlife exudes vibrancy, with Paceville, Bugibba, and Sliema recognised as prime destinations boasting an extensive array of pubs, clubs, and discos catering to diverse preferences. Renowned international DJs frequently grace the stages of the largest clubs, while on weekends, pubs and discos typically keep their doors open until the early hours of 4 am.

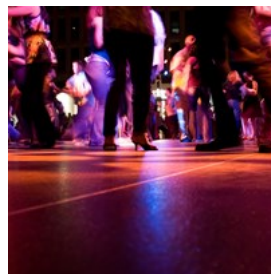
### 67 Kapitali



67 Kapitali is a laid-back bar boasting a diverse range of local craft beers — arguably the best place to check them out — cocktails, plus signature sandwiches, soups, and delicious platters crafted from the freshest ingredients. Embrace the culinary journey with a splendid assortment of cheeses and cold meats, allowing you the freedom to curate your own platter according to your desires. Amidst this delectable array, the chutney stands out as a highlight.

Photo: [Josh Olalde/Unsplash](https://www.unsplash.com/josholalde)  
Address: 67 Old Bakery Street, Valletta  
Opening hours: Mon-Wed noon-11pm, Thu & Fri noon-midnight, Sat noon-1am, Sun noon-midnight  
Phone: +356 2738 0010  
Internet: [www.instagram.com/67\\_kapitali](https://www.instagram.com/67_kapitali)  
Email: [info@kapitali.com](mailto:info@kapitali.com)

### Fuego Speakeasy



Nestled in the heart of Malta's vibrant party district, Fuego Speakeasy is a lively venue offering an array of cocktails and shisha service. Beyond its

libations, Speakeasy entices with an intriguing weekly lineup, featuring acoustic sessions that soothe, salsa classes that invigorate, and premier football matches that electrify the atmosphere.

Photo: [ARENA Creative/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/arena-creative)  
Address: Saint Augustine Street, Saint Julian's  
Opening hours: Daily noon-4am  
Phone: +356 2755 5057  
Internet: [www.instagram.com/fuegoospeakeasy](https://www.instagram.com/fuegoospeakeasy)



### Trabuxu



Housed within a 400-year-old stone vaulted cellar, Trabuxu is Valletta's first-ever wine bar, with a rich legacy of over two decades of

hospitality. Offering a vast array of wines, hailing from both local vineyards and foreign origins, the establishment invites you to embark on a sensory journey like no other. The welcoming staff, known for their warmth and expertise, eagerly assist and guide you in making the perfect wine selection. Complementing this experience is the option to savour delectable cheese and fruit platters thoughtfully paired with your chosen wines.

Photo: Delpixel/Shutterstock.com

Address: 2 Strait Street, Valletta

Opening hours: Tue-Sat 7pm-midnight, Sun closed

Phone: +356 2122 30 36

Internet: [trabuxu.com.mt/wine-bar](http://trabuxu.com.mt/wine-bar)

Email: [winebar@trabuxu.com.mt](mailto: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 nightclub during the summer months for more than 20 years.

Photo: Maxim Blinkov/Shutterstock.com

Address: Gianpula Village

Phone: +356 2145 0238

Internet: [gianpulavillage.com](http://gianpulavillage.com)

Email: [info@gianpulavillage.com](mailto:info@gianpulavillage.com)

### Hard Rock Cafe



Popular bar and restaurant chain known for its decor centred around rock music and with memorabilia displayed all over the

walls. Service is casual in the typical Hard Rock Cafe fashion, food is American steaks and burgers.

Photo: Nitr/Shutterstock.com

Address: Vault 17 Valletta Waterfront Floriana, Malta

Opening hours: Daily 11:30am-11pm

Phone: +356 2123 3346

Internet: [www.hardrockcafe.com/location/malta-bar-valletta](http://www.hardrockcafe.com/location/malta-bar-valletta)

Email: [hello@hardrockcafe.com.mt](mailto:hello@hardrockcafe.com.mt)

### 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 lounge transforms into a hip club with patrons filling up the dance floor.

Photo: Yeko Photo Studio/Shutterstock.com

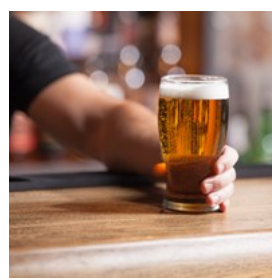
Address: Portomaso Business Tower, Portomaso

Opening hours: Fri & Sat 10:30pm-4am

Phone: +356 2310 2222

Internet: [www.instagram.com/twentytwomalta](http://www.instagram.com/twentytwomalta)

### The Jack of All Trades



This off-the-beaten-path bar offers a haven for those seeking a laid-back evening out. Here, a diverse assortment of board games awaits,

inviting you to engage in friendly competition as

you unwind. Savour the finest Belgium beers, an array of wines, and an impressive whiskey selection. The ambience is further elevated by the carefully curated alternative music playlist, setting the mood for a unique experience.

Photo: BlueSkyImage/Shutterstock.com

Address: Depiro Street, Sliema

Phone: +356 7925 6792

Internet: [restaurantguru.com/The-Jack-of-All-Trades-Sliema](https://restaurantguru.com/The-Jack-of-All-Trades-Sliema)

### The Elvis Tribute Lounge



Calling all Elvis enthusiasts! The Elvis Tribute Lounge promises an unforgettable experience with sensational "rock and roll

king" impersonators taking the stage, igniting the night with electrifying performances that captivate the crowd. A local sensation, this bar is a must-visit, so securing a table beforehand is advisable to guarantee your spot. What's more, indulge in the added delight of pocket-friendly libations that amplify the fun and keep the spirits high throughout the evening.

Photo: Sinelev/Shutterstock.com

Address: Tourist Street, Saint Paul's Bay, Malta

Opening hours: Daily 6pm-1am

Internet: [restaurantguru.com/The-Elvis-Tribute-Bar-and-Dinner-Sutorina](https://restaurantguru.com/The-Elvis-Tribute-Bar-and-Dinner-Sutorina)

Email: [elvistributelounge@gmail.com](mailto:elvistributelounge@gmail.com)

### Gugar Hangout & Bar



A unique gem in Valletta, Gugar Hangout & Bar is the ultimate destination to unwind, socialise with friends, and relish a delightful meal in style.

This quirky bar is known for its great music a nice selection of drinks, and tasty food, including

an array of vegetarian and vegan options. And the cherry on top? Affordable prices that let you enjoy your night without breaking the bank.

Photo: santypan/Shutterstock.com

Address: 89A Republic Street, Valletta

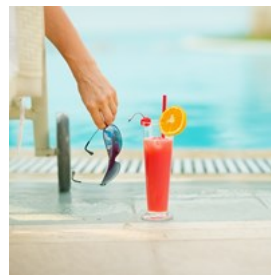
Opening hours: Sun & Tue 5pm-1am, Wed-Sat 10am-1am, Mon closed

Phone: +356 2703 2837

Internet:

[restaurantguru.com/Gugar-Hangout-and-BAR-Valletta](https://restaurantguru.com/Gugar-Hangout-and-BAR-Valletta)

### Café del Mar



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

twenty-something socialites, who flock here to parade designer swimsuits and savour elegant cocktails while enjoying lounge music and some of the best sunsets on the island.

Photo: Alliance/Shutterstock.com

Address: Saint Paul's Bay, Malta

Opening hours: Daily 10am-midnight

Phone: +356 2258 8100

Internet: [cafedelmar.com.mt](https://cafedelmar.com.mt)

Email: [reservations@cafedelmar.com.mt](mailto:reservations@cafedelmar.com.mt)

### The Alex Bar



The Alex Bar is a friendly, laid-back bar, a very popular spot with the local ex-pats, featuring a wide selection of beers, ciders, and wines, plus

large LCD screens showing live football matches, quiz nights, and a sun terrace, perfect to soak up the sun and watch the world go by.

Photo: BUY THIS/Shutterstock.com

Address: Nakkri Street, Qawra



Opening hours: Tue–Sun 11am–11:30pm

Internet: [restaurantguru.com/The-Alex-Bar-Saint-Pauls-Bay](https://restaurantguru.com/The-Alex-Bar-Saint-Pauls-Bay)

### The Thirsty Barber



Concealed behind a barber shop exterior, The Thirsty Barber, a 1920s prohibition-style bar, will transport you back in time while serving up an

assortment of prohibition-era cocktails, meticulously crafted infused gins, and a tantalising array of liquors. Behind the bar, you'll find Malta's finest mixologists ready to lead you on a journey through taste and time. The experience is heightened by lively live music, ensuring your senses stay entertained throughout the night.

Photo: [View Apart/Shutterstock.com](#)

Address: Ball Street, Saint Julian's

Opening hours: Sun–Thu 6pm–1am, Fri & Sat 6pm–2am

Phone: +356 9965 3012

Internet: [www.thethirstybarber.com](http://www.thethirstybarber.com)

Email: [info@thethirstybarber.com](mailto:info@thethirstybarber.com)

## SHOPPING



[Ollyy/Shutterstock.com](#)

For all your shopping needs, the capital city of Valletta is the ideal destination. This is where most shops are located, with both local and international brands represented. For those looking to shop for fresh produce, the daily

market at 8 am is a good place to be. Sliema is another good destination to go shopping.

### 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 shops that sell everything from the latest fashions to electronics. On site, you'll also find a handful of casual restaurants and a supermarket. As Malta's largest retail hub, The Point Shopping Mall beckons shopaholics and enthusiasts alike, transforming into a bustling mecca that's simply irresistible for those seeking a shopping adventure.

Photo: [Andresr/Shutterstock.com](#)

Address: Tigne Point, Malta

Opening hours: Mon–Sat 10am–7:30pm, Sun 11am–6pm

Phone: +356 2247 0300

Internet: [thepointmalta.com](http://thepointmalta.com)

Email: [info@thepointmalta.com](mailto:info@thepointmalta.com)

### Shopping in Sliema



Sliema is a good shopping destination, much due to the fact this is the place where one of the largest shopping centres in Malta — the Plaza Shopping Centre — is located. Shops are open from 9 am to 1 pm, and then open again at 4 pm, to stay open till 7 pm.

Photo: [LuckyImages/Shutterstock.com](#)

Address: Sliema, Malta

### Ta' Qali Crafts Village



Located on the grounds of the former RAF wartime airfield, the Ta' Qali Crafts Village is the perfect place to find a unique and special souvenir to cherish your holiday memories in Malta. Here, local experts showcase their talents, selling an array of exquisite crafts and beautiful artefacts. Watch the craftsmen skillfully blow and shape glass, witness the intricate art of goldsmiths' filigree and stunning jewellery, and admire the craftsmanship of sculptures and lace. Other areas to check out for crafts include Bugibba, Sliema, and Valletta.

Photo: Krzysztof\_Jankowski/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ta' Qali, Malta

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-4pm, Sat 9am-noon, Sun closed

### The Plaza Shopping Centre



The Plaza Shopping Centre reigns as one of Malta's most sought-after retail destinations. This compact yet bustling urban shopping mall boasts an array of brand-name retailers, offering a diverse range of products to satisfy every shopper's desire. Amidst the retail excitement, a vibrant food court beckons, ensuring a satisfying culinary experience to complement your shopping spree.

Photo: michaeljung/Shutterstock.com

Address: Bisazza Street, Sliema

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9:30am-7:30pm, Sun 11am-6pm

Phone: +356 2134 3832

Internet: plaza-shopping.com

Email: info@plazamalta.com

### Mdina Glass



Established in 1968 as Malta's pioneer glass-making company, Mdina Glass offers an extensive array of exquisitely handcrafted glassware, ranging from elegant vases and bowls to practical kitchenware and graceful candleholders. With skilled craftsmanship, glass is expertly blown into a myriad of shapes and comes in many different colours. For a unique and immersive experience, consider visiting the factory to witness firsthand the mesmerising process behind the creation of these remarkable glass pieces.

Photo: sirichai chinprayoon/Shutterstock.com

Address: Saint Publius Square, Mdina

Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

Phone: +356 2145 1224

Internet: [www.mdinaglass.com.mt](http://www.mdinaglass.com.mt)

### Souvenirs That Don't Suck



Souvenirs That Don't Suck lives up to its name, offering the discerning traveller a haven of unique, custom-made souvenirs that capture the essence of Malta in a truly distinctive way. Here, you'll discover a treasure trove of delights including magnets, mugs, buttons, T-shirts, and an array of whimsical designer pieces.

Photo: elwynn/Shutterstock.com

Address: 108 Manuel Dimech Street, Sliema

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-2pm / 3pm-7pm; Sun closed

Phone: +356 7907 2313

Internet: [www.souvenirsthatdentsuck.mt](http://www.souvenirsthatdentsuck.mt)

Email: [hello@souvenirsthatdentsuck.mt](mailto:hello@souvenirsthatdentsuck.mt)



### Soap Café



Irresistible fragrances fill the air at Soap Café, a beauty shop committed to local, freshly made products that are both kind to your skin and the environment. Revel in the indulgence of soaps, lotions, hair products, makeup, and an array of beauty essentials, all meticulously crafted without the presence of toxic chemicals. At Soap Café, beauty meets conscious choices for a truly wholesome and inviting experience.

Photo: HalynaBahlyk/Shutterstock.com

Address: 65 Saint Dominic Street, Sliema

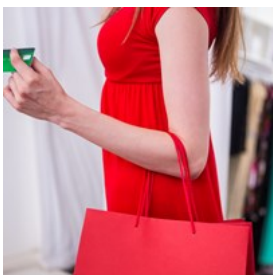
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 10am-2pm / 3pm-6pm; Sat 10am-2pm; Sun closed

Phone: +356 2788 3675

Internet: soapcafemalta.com

Email: info@soapcafemalta.com

### Bay Street Shopping Complex



Located in the heart of St Julian's, Bay Street is a vibrant open-air commercial and entertainment complex, enticing visitors with a diverse array of high street brands, quality independent shops, restaurants, services, and delightful family entertainment. A standout feature is the shops' extended hours, remaining open until 10 pm, offering a pleasant contrast to much of the island, making it the perfect destination for a shopping and leisure experience that lasts long into the evening.

Photo: wavebreakmedia/Shutterstock.com

Address: Lourdes Street, Saint Julian's

Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

Phone: +356 2366 1585

Internet: baystreet.com.mt

### 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 jeweller in action. Pieces come in various shapes and sizes and span various price ranges.

Photo: Luba V Nel/Shutterstock.com

Address: 219 Republic Street, Valletta

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-3pm, Sun 10am-1pm

Phone: +356 2123 1416

### Birgu Market



Every Tuesday, Birgu 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.

Photo: Photology1971/Shutterstock.com

Address: Birgu, Malta

Opening hours: Tue 6am-noon

## TOURIST INFORMATION



Konstantin Aksenov/Shutterstock.com

### Passport/Visa

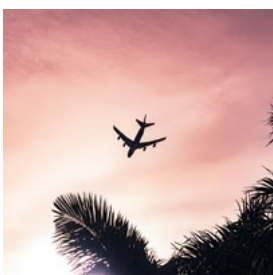


Malta can be visited visa-free for up to 90 days by citizens of Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Malaysia, Israel, UAE and

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) travellers 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: ConvertKit/Unsplash

### Malta International Airport (MLA)



airport of the Maltese Islands is about 40

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

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

The most viable form of transport on the island is buses. There are several lines that run frequently to and from the airport. For information on timetables, visit the Malta Public Transport website. Taxi services between the airport and any destination in Malta are available 24 hours a day. Alternatively, you may also rent a car from one of the many car rental companies available at the airport.

Photo: Eduardo Velazco Guart/Unsplash

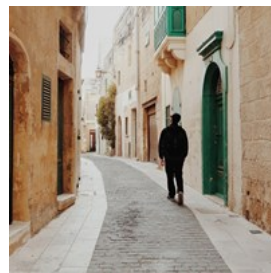
Address: Malta International Airport, Malta

Phone: +356 2124 9600

Internet: [www.maltairport.com](http://www.maltairport.com)

More Info: [www.publictransport.com.mt/en/timetables](http://www.publictransport.com.mt/en/timetables)

### Best time to Visit



Malta's warm climate throughout the year allows for an enjoyable experience during any season. If you seek stunning beaches and vibrant summer festivals, you should plan your trip from June to August. However, be prepared for larger crowds and higher prices during this peak tourist season. Alternatively, for milder weather and fewer tourists, opt for the shoulder seasons of spring (March to May) and autumn (September to November) to enjoy outdoor activities like hiking.

Photo: Micaela Parente/Unsplash



## 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 information on routes can be found on their website.

While bus tickets can be purchased from drivers on all buses, it's also possible to buy travel cards specifically designed for visitors: the ExplorePlusMeep card, the Explore cards, and the 12 Single Day Journey card. These cards are available online, from Sales and Information Office in the Arrivals' Lounge at the Malta International Airport as well as other Sales and Information Offices from a number of partner resellers across Malta and Gozo.

Photo: Ant Rozetsky/Unsplash

Internet: [www.publictransport.com.mt](http://www.publictransport.com.mt)

## Taxi



Hello Cabs Malta +356 9903 4133  
hicabs Malta +356 2137 2137

Photo: Maik Winnecke/Unsplash

## Post



Malta has an efficient postal service. Most towns and villages have post or sub-post offices. They are usually open Monday to Saturday from around 9am to 1pm and in Valletta, there is one post office that is open longer on weekdays. Stamps are available from hotels and souvenir shops.

Photo: Ali Bakhtiari/Unsplash

Address: MaltaPost, South Street, Valletta

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 10am-1:30pm / 2:30pm-6pm; Sat 9:30am-1pm; Sun closed

Phone: +356 2122 4421

Internet: [www.maltapost.com/home](http://www.maltapost.com/home)

## Pharmacy



Pharmacies are generally open from 9am to 1pm and from 4pm to 7pm. Brown's Pharmacy is a well-known and established pharmacy chain, with multiple locations across the island.

Photo: Dima Mukhin/Unsplash

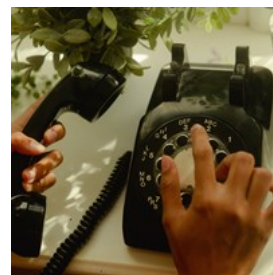
Address: Brown's Pharmacy, Sliema, The Point Shopping Mall

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9am-7:30pm, Sun closed

Phone: +356 2131 3233

Internet: [browns.pharmacy](http://browns.pharmacy)

## Telephone



Country Code: +356

Photo: Wesley Hilario/Unsplash

## Electricity



For Malta, the associated plug type is G, which is the plug that has three rectangular pins in a triangular pattern. Malta operates on a 230V

supply voltage and 50Hz.

Photo: Hamish Kale/Unsplash (cropped)

## Population

535,064 (2023)

## Currency

Euro €1 = 100 cents

## Opening hours

Shops are generally open from 9 am to 1 pm and from 4 pm to 7 pm. Some shops in the tourist areas might not close in the afternoon.

## Internet

[www.visitmalta.com](http://www.visitmalta.com)

## Newspapers

The Malta Independent — [www.independent.com.mt](http://www.independent.com.mt)  
Malta Today — [www.maltatoday.com.mt](http://www.maltatoday.com.mt)

## Emergency numbers

Police, Fire Brigade & Ambulance: 112

## Tourist information

VisitMalta Tourist Information  
Valletta 18, Floriana, Malta  
Open Sun–Fri 9am–5:30pm, Sat 9am–1pm





