



UNVEILING MALTA'S HISTORY, CULTURE AND COASTLINES

Finding the perfect Mediterranean getaway can be tricky. It should have great beaches, of course, and lost-in-time villages just made for meandering. Some al fresco dining is essential, and ideally there should also be some unbelievable ancient history and intriguing museums. And if it's not too much to ask, make it easy to get to. Sounds impossible? Think again. Malta has all this and more.. ▶ Contd. on page 2

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TOURISM OF MALTA



Hon. Dr. Ian Borg
It is with great pleasure that I extend my sincere greetings to the friendly people of the State of Qatar and to all those who are drawn to the unique beauty and heritage of Malta. Our islands lie at the heart of the Mediterranean, a crossroads of culture, history and hospitality. Today, Malta is proud to embrace a forward-looking vision that welcomes visitors, investors and partners alike.

My visit to Qatar in January 2025, which included a meeting with the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, HE Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani, reaffirmed the strong bonds of friendship and mutual respect between our two nations. During this visit, we engaged in constructive dialogue to deepen cooperation, explore new areas of partnership, and

celebrate the many shared values of our peoples. I was particularly pleased to see the momentum building in our bilateral relations.

A major milestone in this regard is the resumption of direct flights between Malta and Qatar, which recommenced on 2 July 2025. This renewed air connectivity ushers in exciting prospects for tourism, business and cultural exchange, making it simpler for Qatari, Asian and Australian travellers to experience Malta's charm, and for Maltese citizens to connect more easily with Qatar and the extended region.

We greatly appreciate Qatar's leadership in mediation, multilateralism, humanitarian action and the promotion of dialogue and cooperation across the world. Malta stands with Qatar in advancing these principles. Though we are in different continents, we are united in our common aspiration: to build bridges, foster understanding and contribute positively to global peace, security and stability.

During Malta's tenure on the United Nations Security Council (2023-2024), our country worked diligently to uphold the principles of the UN Charter, promoting peacebuilding, advancing the role of women in peace processes, protecting children in conflict zones and addressing climate-related threats to security. These efforts reflect Malta's commitment to multilateralism, a spirit that resonates with our partnership with Qatar.

On the economic front, the Malta-Qatar relationship is increasingly rich with an untapped potential. Malta offers a strategic gateway to the European and Mediterranean markets as well as an environment characterised by innovation, resilience and openness. Qatar, with its vision for diversification and excellence, presents outstanding opportunities for joint investment in sectors such as renewable energy, tourism, education and advanced technologies.

Together, we can create a future of shared prosperity.

As Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism, I warmly invite our Qatari friends to discover Malta, to wander through its sunlit bays, historic cities, vibrant festivals and warm hospitality. Beyond these gifts, Malta stands ready as a partner for those seeking meaningful connections, memorable experiences and fruitful collaboration.

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO OF MALTA TOURISM AUTHORITY

On behalf of the Malta Tourism Authority, I extend a warm welcome to our friends in Qatar and across the Gulf who are drawn to Malta's unique beauty and hospitality. In recent years, we have witnessed a growing tourism relationship between Malta and the Gulf region, especially with Qatar.

The resumption of direct Qatar Airways flights between Doha and Malta in July 2025 is a milestone we warmly welcomed. Qatar Airways' return signifies a strong recognition of Malta's tourism potential and strengthens our connectivity with the Gulf region and beyond.

Malta is emerging as a preferred destination for Middle Eastern travelers seeking authenticity, heritage, and luxury. Our islands offer a rich tapestry of history, culture, and five-star experiences that resonate deeply with visitors from Qatar.

Our nations are forging closer ties through travel and culture, and Malta is a Mediterranean oasis where Gulf visitors feel at home. Malta offers unique experience that blends heritage, luxury, culture and warm hospitality together. From our centuries-old historical sites and vibrant festivals to world-class hotels and bespoke luxury experiences, the Maltese islands have something special for every visitor. We invite you to discover Malta's spirit – from our sun-drenched coasts to our timeless charm.



The Malta Tourism Authority remains fully committed to strengthening ties with Qatar and our Gulf partners. We will continue working hand-in-hand with Qatar Airways and other stakeholders to ensure this route's long-term success and to foster greater tourism and cultural exchange. We look forward to welcoming you to Malta – your home in the heart of the Mediterranean.

Carlo Micallef
CEO, Malta Tourism Authority.

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AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE

Allow me to start by expressing my appreciation for the warm reception my spouse and I received since our arrival in Doha over two years ago. The friendliness of the Qatari people is indeed unique and augurs well for the future of this hospitable country as it continues to progress under the wise and able leadership of His Highness The Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani.

This publication marks not only a celebration of Malta's beauty and heritage but also serves as a testament to the strong and growing friendship between Malta and the State of Qatar, a relationship built on mutual respect, shared values, and an enduring commitment to cooperation and dialogue.

Diplomatic relations between Malta and Qatar were formally established in 1975, and over these five decades our two nations have consistently strengthened their ties. In recent years, we have witnessed a notable intensification of high-level visits and exchanges, alongside an expanding number of technical delegations exploring avenues of collaboration across diverse sectors, including trade, investment, education, health, culture, and tourism. These developments illustrate our shared vision for a partnership that is both broad and forward-looking.

The opening of the Embassy of Malta in Doha in 2021 was a significant milestone in our bilateral journey. It symbolizes Malta's dedication to fostering deeper engagement with Qatar. The Embassy

has served and continues to assist in expanding cooperation between our governments, private sectors, and people. It has also helped to facilitate new initiatives and dialogues in the political, economic, cultural, scientific, and technical fields, contributing to tangible outcomes for both sides.

Malta and Qatar, though differing in size and geography, share a strategic outlook and a commitment to global engagement. Malta, positioned at the crossroads of Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, is both an EU Member State and a Mediterranean island nation with a long tradition of openness and hospitality. It is, in many ways, a melting pot of cultures. Maltese, our language, a Latinised version of spoken historic Arabic is the only official Semitic language of the European Union.

Qatar, for its part, stands as a dynamic regional and international hub, distinguished by its visionary leadership, commitment to innovation, and active role in promoting peace and dialogue. Together, our countries form a natural bridge between the Mediterranean and the Gulf, connecting regions, cultures and people.

A particularly exciting development in our relations is the growing interest in tourism and people-to-people exchange. Malta is delighted to welcome visitors from Qatar to experience its remarkable blend of history, culture, and natural beauty, from its unique UNESCO World Heritage sites and crystal-clear waters to its vibrant festivals and culinary traditions. The re-establishment of

direct flights between Doha and Malta, in July 2025, made this connection even stronger, opening new opportunities for travel, business, and cultural discovery.

Beyond tourism, Malta and Qatar continue to collaborate closely in areas such as investment, education, maritime affairs, sustainability, and digital innovation. These partnerships reflect our shared belief that innovation and cooperation are essential to building a more prosperous and sustainable future for all.

On the international stage, Malta and Qatar stand side by side in advocating for peace, stability and constructive multilateralism. Malta acknowledges Qatar's commendable diplomatic efforts in regional and global mediation, and we look forward to deepening our coordination on global issues such as climate change, humanitarian support, and dialogue among cultures and civilizations.

As Malta further opens its doors to our Qatari friends, we extend an invitation to discover a country that is small in size but vast in heart, a place where history meets modernity, and where every visitor is welcomed as a friend.

It is my sincere hope that this publication will inspire new journeys, friendships and collaborations between our peoples. Together, Malta and Qatar will continue to build bridges of understanding and opportunity across the Mediterranean and the Gulf.

H.E. Simon Pullicino
Ambassador of Malta to the State of Qatar.



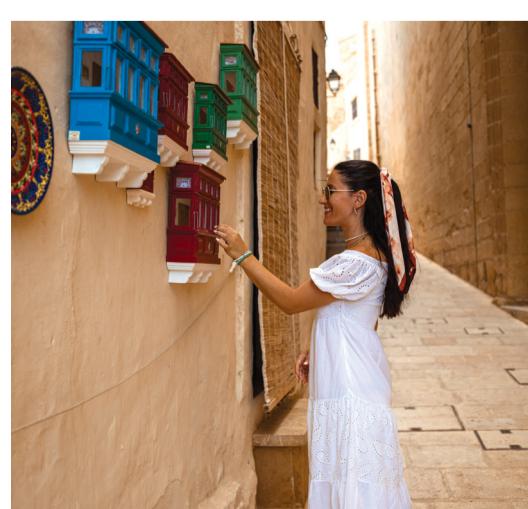
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A TAPESTRY OF TIME

If you ever needed proof that bigger isn't always better, Malta is Exhibit A. Sitting south of Sicily, this tiny country comprised of five islands — the largest has a total area of just 316 square kilometres — is packed with attractions.

Top of the list is Valletta. Europe's smallest capital city has plenty of history crammed into its compact confines. Resist the temptation to fill your Instagram feed with endless shots of the colourfully painted wooden balconies that decorate the golden-hued limestone buildings; there is so much more to discover in this UNESCO World Heritage-listed city.



You might begin with St John's Co-Cathedral, where the jaw-dropping interiors are just the start. The cathedral also has not one but two priceless Caravaggio paintings on display. Want more stunning architecture? Check out the baroque Teatru Manoel, Malta's national theatre, and the Grand Master's Palace, built for the ruler of the medieval order of crusading knights that once ran the island.

For fabulous harbour views head to Fort St Elmo, originally built to hold back the Ottoman armada, which now houses the National War Museum. You may not realise this tiny island played a vital role in the Allied war effort in World War Two; learn more at the Lascaris War Rooms, the British wartime HQ and the Underground Valletta museum, where you can walk the subterranean tunnels and chambers that helped the island resist long sieges.

DISCOVERING MALTA'S SOUL

Tuck into a plate of Maltese food — perhaps some super-fresh seafood or the famous rabbit stew — and you will find a distinctive blend of flavours, part Italian, part Arabic. That culinary complexity reflects the many empires that have left their mark on these islands, from the Phoenicians, Greeks and Romans, to the Arabs, Normans and French.

While you're savouring the local cuisine, be sure to indulge in Malta's unique indigenous wines (Girgentina, a delicate fruity white, and Gellewza, a light red — only found in Malta) — the Phoenicians were the first to plant vines here 3,000 years ago;

visit historic vineyards (such as San Niklaw Estate, Delicata Winery, Meridiana Wine Estate, Marsavin Ramla Valley Estate, Marsavin Cellars, Marnisi Estate, Markus Divinius and the Tal-Massar Winery) or simply sample the island's wines at one of the country's many restaurants and wine bars.

Take the city of Mdina, tucked in behind imposing fortified walls. This 4000-year-old city has a picturesque mix of baroque and medieval architecture, but some of its quiet corners have a distinctly Arabic feel. Its distinctive entrance featured in episodes of Game of Thrones; other highlights include the 13th-century Palazzo Falson and the Domvs Romana, a townhouse dating back to the Roman Empire.

Travel back even further in time at one of Malta's amazing prehistoric sites. Just outside Valletta, the remarkable Hal Safleni Hypogeum is a 3000-year-old underground necropolis, while megalithic temples at Malta's Hagar Qim and Ggantija on Gozo island are older than the pyramids at Giza.

AZURE WATERS AND COASTAL PANORAMAS

Don't forget to pack your swimmers. The beauty of Malta's archipelago isn't just the shimmering blue waters that wash its many coves and bays — it's the fact that you can enjoy them year-round.

With more than 300 days of sunshine a year and famously mild winters, Malta lets you savour a warm-weather holiday outside the busy summer

peak. That means cheaper airfares and low-season hotel rates, which in turn means you can stay a little longer.

So where to start? Hop on a traditional dghajsa boat to admire Valletta's harbour from a different perspective, or take a drive along the Dingli Cliffs, drinking in some of the island's best views along with the scent of wild thyme.

Many beautiful beaches compete for the title of loveliest. Golden Bay, on Malta's northwest coast near the pretty town of Manikata, has a picture-perfect curve of golden sand that makes it a perennial favourite.

On the smaller island of Gozo, the top choices include Ramla l-Hamra, a name which translates to "red sand". That eye-catching colour, framed against a backdrop of rugged hills, make for a spectacularly scenic swim spot.

Don't forget the smallest island, Comino, which has its own contender. The magnificent Blue Lagoon, named for its turquoise waters, is a sheltered swim spot that wouldn't look out of place on a Greek island. Divers take note: Comino also has a dozen great dive sites, from wreck dives to swim-through caverns.

Best of all? It's easy to get to. An easy flight from many European capitals, Aussies can also reach this well-connected archipelago on a one-stop flight with Qatar Airways.

Find out more at visitmalta.com

STRENGTHENING BRIDGES BETWEEN MALTA AND QATAR

As Malta and Qatar celebrate five decades of diplomatic friendship, the Embassy of Malta in Doha continues to play a pivotal role in strengthening ties and expanding collaboration between the two nations.

Since its official opening in June 2021, the Embassy of Malta in Doha has worked tirelessly to consolidate and expand the strong and friendly relations between Malta and the State of Qatar. Through high-level visits, political and economic dialogue, cultural diplomacy, and consular support, the Embassy has become a key instrument in promoting mutual understanding, partnership, and people-to-people connections between the two nations.

DEEPENING BILATERAL RELATIONS

Malta and Qatar enjoy excellent relations based on shared values, mutual respect, and a common vision for prosperity and sustainable development. This recent period has marked a particularly dynamic phase in bilateral cooperation, reflected in an unprecedented number of high-level exchanges and official visits including that of the then President of the Republic Dr George Vella and an accompanying delegation to Doha in June 2022.

This year also marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries and, to this end, the Embassy organised a reception on 25 September 2025 to mark this important event.

The 1st ever Session of the Malta-Qatar Political Consultations, held in Malta in January 2024, laid the foundation



H.E. Dr. Ian Borg, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism of Malta, in discussions with H.E. Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani in January 2025.



The Embassy of Malta in Doha celebrated two significant milestones: the 61st anniversary of Malta's independence and the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Malta and Qatar.

for a structured and forward-looking political dialogue. The Qatari delegation met with the Maltese Prime Minister, the then-Minister for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade, and other senior officials, identifying priority areas for cooperation. This was followed by the 2nd Session of the Political Consultations, held in Doha in August 2025 and led, from the Malta side by H.E. Christopher Cutajar, Permanent

Secretary within the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Tourism, during which both sides reaffirmed their commitment to expand collaboration in the fields of tourism, investment, healthcare, education, and cultural heritage.

A significant highlight was the official visit to Doha by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism, H.E. Dr. Ian Borg, in January 2025. During his meetings with the Prime

Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar, as well as the CEOs of Qatar Airways and Qatar Tourism, discussions focused on enhancing connectivity and developing mutual tourism opportunities. The visit culminated in the announcement of direct flights between Malta and Doha, a milestone achievement that will serve as a bridge for greater exchange in business, tourism, and education between the Mediterranean and the Gulf.

Other notable official engagements included visits by the Spouse of the Maltese Prime Minister, Dr. Lydia Abela, Minister for Finance and Employment, the Hon. Clyde Caruana, the Minister for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation, the Hon. Clifton Grima, and the Minister for Health and Active Ageing, the Hon. Jo Etienne Abela, all of whom held meetings with their respective Qatari counterparts. These exchanges have strengthened cooperation in key sectors such as financial services, sports diplomacy, higher education, and pharmaceuticals.

The Embassy also facilitated the participation of the Armed Forces of Malta at DIMDEX 2024 and at the NATO Military Strategic Partnership meeting in April 2025, further enhancing collaboration in the fields of defence and security. The visit of the Brigadier

of the Armed Forces of Malta, Brig. Clinton J. O'Neill, and subsequent military exchanges underscored Malta's commitment to dialogue and peace in the Mediterranean and beyond.

PROMOTING MALTA'S TOURISM, CULTURE, AND CREATIVITY

Cultural diplomacy has likewise been a cornerstone of the Embassy's work. Heritage Malta's active participation in the Global Public Diplomacy Network (GPDNet) meetings in Doha in 2024 and 2025 reflects the two countries' shared appreciation for cultural heritage and creative exchange.

Malta's growing presence in Qatar's cultural and public diplomacy landscape is a testament to the Embassy's efforts to showcase Malta as a vibrant and modern nation rooted in a rich history. The Embassy, together with Visit Malta, ITS, and AVIAREPS, represented the country at the Qatar Travel Mart 2023, promoting Malta as a year-round Mediterranean destination known for its authenticity, hospitality, and sustainable tourism. Malta will also have a stand at the 2025 edition of this prestigious event.

The Embassy's cultural calendar in Doha has been rich and diverse. Malta

participated in the EU Jazz Festival at Katara Cultural Village, with a performance by renowned Maltese guitarist Warren Galea, and took part for the first time in the European Youth Short Film Festival, screening the film Alicia. Through its participation in exhibitions such as Muslim Faith in the EU, National Dress: Source of Pride and Heritage, and Verses Across Borders, the Embassy has also sought to foster intercultural understanding and dialogue.

In collaboration with Heritage Malta and MaltaPost, the Embassy contributed to the 10th Anniversary of GPDNet, showcasing Maltese artifacts and philatelic collections that celebrate Malta's history and craftsmanship. Educational and community engagement has also remained a priority, with the Embassy hosting Malta stands at the Doha British School and Compass International School, giving students and parents a glimpse of the island's culture, history, and tourism opportunities.

SUPPORTING THE MALTESE COMMUNITY IN QATAR

Beyond its diplomatic and promotional work, the Embassy of Malta continues to serve as a pillar of support for the Maltese community in Qatar, offering consular assistance and guidance with dedication and care. The Consular Section provides a full range of services, including passport renewals, document authentication, emergency assistance, and registration of nationals.

The Embassy also places great emphasis on community building. Events such as the annual Iftar for the Maltese community, held at the Corinthia Yacht Club, and the annual National Day Celebrations have become cherished traditions that bring Maltese nationals together in a spirit of unity and friendship.

LOOKING AHEAD

As Malta and Qatar continue to expand their cooperation, the Embassy remains steadfast in its mission to promote Malta's interests and values, strengthen bilateral ties, and create new opportunities for collaboration. The launch of direct air connectivity between Doha and Malta opened new horizons, not only for tourism and trade but also for cultural and educational exchanges. Through diplomacy, cultural engagement, and service to its citizens, the Embassy of Malta in Doha continues to embody the spirit of partnership and friendship that defines Malta-Qatar relations. A relationship built on shared aspirations, mutual respect, and a common vision for a prosperous and an interconnected future.



H.E. Dr. Lydia Abela, spouse of the Prime Minister of Malta, in conversation with Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation (QF) and Education Above All (EAA) Foundation.



H.E. Dr. Lydia Abela meeting H.E. Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad al-Thani, Chairperson of Qatar Museums (QM).



H.E. Dr. Khalid bin Ibrahim Al-Sulaiti, General Manager of Katara Cultural Village, and H.E. Simon Pullicino, Ambassador of Malta to Qatar, at the 'Verses Across Borders' poetry exhibition in October 2025, featuring a poem by Dr. Charles Daniel Saliba.



H.E. Dr. Ian Borg alongside H.E. Saad bin Ali Al Kharji, Chairman of Qatar Tourism and Chair of the Board of Directors of Visit Qatar.



H.E. Dr. Ian Borg engaging with Qatar Airways Group CEO Badr Mohammed al-Meer.



H.E. Christopher Cutajar with H.E. Ahmed bin Hassan Al Hammadi, Secretary-General of Qatar's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, during the second round of political consultations in Doha.



Explore more *culture*



Malta's culture is a unique blend of influences from various civilizations that have inhabited the islands over thousands of years, from the prehistoric megalithic people, to the Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, and Knights of St. John.



From Qatar to the Mediterranean MALTA BECKONS

QATAR AIRWAYS' NEW DIRECT FLIGHTS FROM DOHA TO MALTA—NOW FOUR TIMES A WEEK—BRING THE MEDITERRANEAN PARADISE CLOSER THAN EVER.

A CULTURAL CONNECTION

Malta shares deep historical ties with the Arab world. From the Arab-influenced Maltese language to Moorish-style architecture and hospitality that echoes Qatari values, visitors feel an immediate sense of familiarity. Family, faith, and warm community spirit are at the heart of Maltese life.



LUXURY & BESPOKE EXPERIENCES

Malta offers an array of lavish stays—from historic palazzos to modern five-star resorts. Private yacht cruises, curated cultural tours, after-hours UNESCO visits, and Michelin-star dining ensure experiences are exclusive and unforgettable.

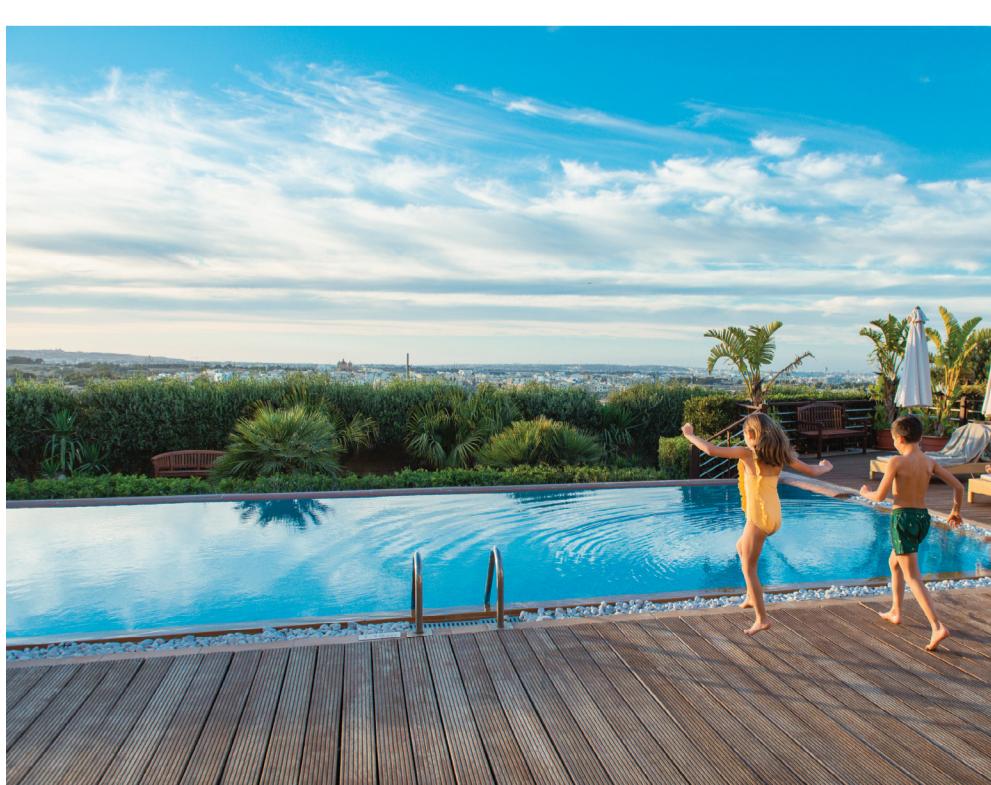
TAKE OFF IN THE MORNING, AND BY AFTERNOON, WANDER THE ENCHANTING STREETS OF VALLETTA OR RELAX ALONG MALTA'S SPARKLING TURQUOISE SHORES.

CULINARY EXCELLENCE

Savour the island's gastronomic richness: seven Michelin-starred restaurants, traditional dishes like pastizzi and ftira bi - ejt, and local wines that elevate the Mediterranean palette.

WHY TRAVELERS FROM QATAR WILL LOVE IT

Malta's blend of heritage, luxury, and cultural kinship makes it an ideal retreat for travelers from Qatar, offering sun, comfort, and extraordinary experiences—all just a few hours' flight from Doha.



- DIRECT QATAR AIRWAYS FLIGHTS FROM DOHA TO MALTA (4X WEEKLY).
- SUN-SOAKED BEACHES AND UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES.
- HISTORIC PALAZZOS, BOUTIQUE HOTELS, AND LUXURY RESORTS.
- PRIVATE YACHT CRUISES AND EXCLUSIVE CULTURAL TOURS.
- MICHELIN-STARRED DINING AND TRADITIONAL MALTESE CUISINE.
- ARAB-INFLUENCED LANGUAGE, ARCHITECTURE, AND HOSPITALITY.
- MILD CLIMATE WITH 300+ DAYS OF SUNSHINE—IDEAL FOR TRAVELERS FROM QATAR.



WHERE LUXURY REACHES ITS PEAK

Luxury in Malta begins the moment you land. With the newly resumed Doha–Malta direct flights, Qatar travellers can now enjoy seamless access to the heart of the Mediterranean. For those who value privacy, Malta's VIP terminal offers fast-track service, discreet lounges, and personalised assistance.

Private aviation is also thriving, with charter flights available for island-hopping, aerial photography, or scenic tours. Picture a helicopter or small-plane flight drifting above the Blue Lagoon or Gozo's terraced hills, where Malta's dramatic cliffs and sapphire coves unfold in breathtaking panoramic views.

On the water, luxury travellers can embark on private yacht charters to secluded bays, hidden caves and untouched beaches—your own floating sanctuary in the Mediterranean.

VIP RETREATS & PALATIAL STAYS

Malta's luxury hospitality scene blends heritage, style and exceptional service. From restored 17th-century palazzos to sleek modern hideaways, the island offers accommodation that rivals the world's elite destinations.

Valletta's iconic Hotel Phoenicia remains a grand symbol of elegance, welcoming royalty and distinguished guests since the 1940s. Nearby, Rosselli AX Privilege offers an intimate boutique stay inside a Baroque palazzo, where old-world splendour meets refined contemporary design.

Modern luxury seekers will find their haven in hotels like ME Malta by Meliá, Hilton Malta, Hyatt Regency Malta, and AX The Palace, all featuring sky pools, panoramic sea-view suites and holistic spa sanctuaries. Whether in Valletta, St. Julian's, Sliema or Mellieħa, Malta's five-star hotels elevate Mediterranean indulgence to new heights—complete with private dining, exclusive excursions and world-class Michelin-star cuisine.

EXPERIENCES BEYOND THE ORDINARY

Luxury in Malta goes far beyond lavish rooms—it's about curated, one-of-a-kind experiences.

Explore the Grand Harbour aboard a private traditional Dghajsa boat, glide between fortified limestone walls,

and watch history unfold around you. Arrange an after-hours tour of UNESCO sites like Valletta or the enigmatic Hal Safljeni Hypogeum, where exclusive access heightens the sense of wonder.

Meet master artisans in countryside workshops, taste award-winning olive oils, or sample farm-crafted cheeses made using centuries-old methods.

For travellers seeking adventure, a private chauffeur can take you to the Dingli Cliffs for a sunset viewpoint paired with a chef-prepared picnic. Or delve into Malta's prehistoric past at Hagar Qim and Mnajdra, then enjoy a bespoke starlit dinner overlooking the temples—an experience that blends luxury with the island's timeless soul.

- ▶ Direct flights from Doha to Malta (four times a week) enable smooth luxury travel.
- ▶ VIP terminal at Malta International Airport ensures privacy, comfort and swift arrivals.
- ▶ Private charters and helicopter flights offer unforgettable aerial views of Malta's coastline.
- ▶ Luxury yacht experiences provide exclusive access to hidden lagoons and quiet coves.
- ▶ World-class hotels include Hotel Phoenicia, Rosselli AX Privilege, Hilton Malta, Hyatt Regency, ME Malta, and AX The Palace.
- ▶ Michelin-star dining and private culinary experiences elevate Malta's gastronomic scene.
- ▶ After-hours access to UNESCO sites offers personalised cultural immersion.
- ▶ Artisan visits for handcrafted lace, olive oil, and cheese production.
- ▶ Exclusive sunset picnics and curated outdoor experiences along the Dingli Cliffs.
- ▶ Bespoke historic tours of megalithic temples and heritage sites.

LUXURY IN MALTA GOES BEYOND LAVISH STAYS—IT'S DEFINED BY RARE, CURATED EXPERIENCES, FROM PRIVATE DGHAJSA RIDES TO BREATHTAKING VIEWS.



Explore more *splendor*

VisitMalta

A CULINARY JOURNEY FROM TRADITION TO MICHELIN STARS

DINING IN MALTA IS MORE THAN A MEAL—IT'S A JOURNEY THROUGH THE ISLAND'S HISTORY, CULTURE, AND SOUL.

► **MICHELIN-STAR DINING:**
43 RESTAURANTS IN 2025,
INCLUDING ION HARBOUR, LE GV,
NONI, ROSAMÉ, UNDER GRAIN,
AND FERNANDO.

► **LOCAL INGREDIENTS & ARTISANS:** MALTESE CHEESES, OLIVE OILS, BOUTIQUE WINES, AND FRESH MEDITERRANEAN PRODUCE.

► **TRADITIONAL DISHES:** PASTIZZI, FTIRA BIZ-ŽEJT, KUSKSU, RABBIT STEWS, BAKED MACARONI PIE.

► **HISTORIC DINING VENUES:** DE MONDION (MDINA), RUBINO (VALLETTA), COMMANDO RESTAURANT (MELLIEHA).

► **UNIQUE EXPERIENCES:** PRIVATE MARKET TOURS, HANDS-ON COOKING CLASSES, AND TASTING MENUS INSPIRED BY LOCAL HERITAGE.

SAVOUR THE FRESHEST CATCHES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN WITH MALTA'S EXQUISITE SEAFOOD, FROM HARBOR-SIDE DELICACIES TO GOURMET CREATIONS.



Malta has emerged as a gourmet paradise, blending centuries of Mediterranean heritage with modern culinary innovation. From casual harbor-side bites to Michelin-starred dining, the islands offer epicurean experiences that delight every palate.

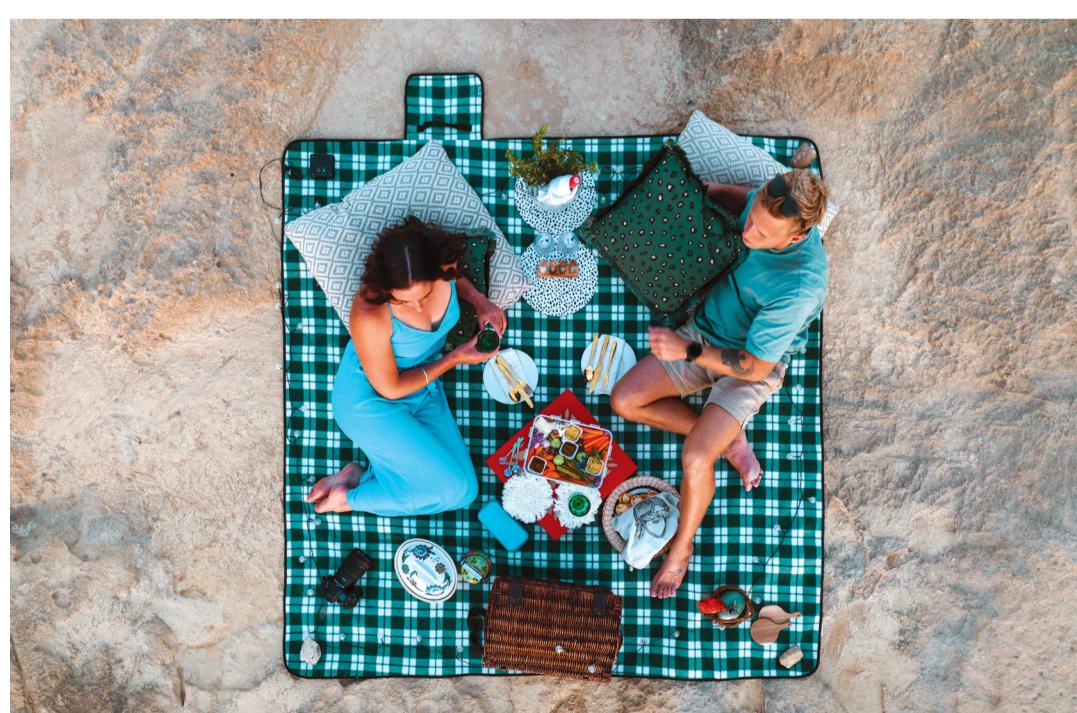
The 2025 Michelin Guide celebrates 43 Maltese establishments, including ION Harbour in Valletta with two stars, and six restaurants with one star. Highlights include Le GV with panoramic views, De Mondion in Mdina offering refined Mediterranean cuisine inside a 17th-century palace, Noni reimagining Maltese classics, Rosami serving globally inspired tasting menus, Under Grain combining haute French cuisine with an intimate cellar setting, and Fernando Gastrotheque, where Mediterranean produce is elevated to art.

Beyond fine dining, Malta thrives on artisanal food production. Wine lovers can enjoy indigenous grapes like Gellewza (red) and Grgantina (white), alongside international varieties such as Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay. Local cheeses, olive oils, and boutique wines reflect the island's rich culinary traditions.

TRADITIONAL FLAVOURS WITH A MALTESE HEART

Authentic Maltese cuisine showcases a fusion of Arabic, Italian, and British influences, yet remains uniquely Maltese. Street foods like pastizzi (ricotta or pea-filled pastries) and ftira biz-żejt (Maltese flatbread with tuna, olives, capers, and olive oil) are bursting with flavour. Comfort foods such as kusksu, a rustic vegetable and goat cheese soup, highlight home-style cooking.

Family-run restaurants preserve culinary heritage: Rubino in Valletta (est. 1906) serves rabbit stews, baked macaroni pie, and almond desserts, while Commando Restaurant in Mellieha offers traditional rabbit and seafood dishes in a historic 300-year-old building. Dining here is not just a meal—it's an immersion into Malta's history, culture, and heart.



MALTA IS THE PERFECT DESTINATION TO SOAK IN THE SUN AND SEA, SAVOUR ITS CULINARY DELIGHTS, AND ENJOY QUALITY TIME WITH LOVED ONES.

WELCOME TO THE LAND OF SUN AND SEA



Bathed in more than 300 days of sunshine each year and surrounded by the shimmering Mediterranean, Malta is a destination where history, culture, and natural beauty meet in perfect harmony. This island nation, nestled between Europe and North Africa, is famed for its pristine beaches, warm climate, and crystal-clear waters that attract travellers year-round.

From the golden sands of Mellieha Bay to the secluded coves of Comino's Blue Lagoon, Malta offers an abundance of coastal escapes for both adventure seekers and those looking to unwind. Its vibrant marine life makes the islands a paradise for divers, while sailing enthusiasts can explore hidden grottos and dramatic cliffs along the coastline.

Beyond the beaches, Malta's centuries-old heritage shines through its fortified cities, ancient temples, and charming villages. Valletta, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, stands as a testament to the island's storied past, blending Baroque elegance with modern Mediterranean charm.

Whether you're chasing the sun, diving into turquoise waters, or discovering a culture shaped by thousands of years of history, Malta welcomes you with its timeless allure and the promise of unforgettable experiences.

MALTA QUICK FACTS FOR TRAVELLERS

WHERE IS MALTA:

A Mediterranean island nation located south of Sicily (Italy) and north of Libya, at the crossroads of Europe and North Africa.



POPULATION:

APPROXIMATELY

540,000
PEOPLE

GEOGRAPHY:

Malta is an archipelago known for its rocky coastlines, clear blue waters, ancient fortifications, and limestone landscapes. It features a mix of beaches, cliffs, harbours, and historic towns.

HOW MANY ISLANDS ARE THERE:

The Maltese archipelago consists of three inhabited islands—Malta, Gozo, and Comino—plus several small uninhabited islets.

CAPITAL CITY:

Valletta, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

BEST TIME TO VISIT:

April to June and September to October for pleasant weather, smaller crowds, and ideal conditions for swimming, sightseeing, and outdoor activities.

EXPECTED TEMPERATURE:

Summer (June–Sept):

28°C to 35°C



Winter (Dec–Feb):



10°C to 18°C

Spring/Autumn:

18°C to 26°C

LANGUAGES:

Maltese and English (both official).

DRIVING SIDE:

Left-hand side of the road.

EMERGENCY NUMBER:

112

(UNIVERSAL EMERGENCY LINE)

CURRENCY:

Euro (EUR).



FLIGHT FROM DOHA:

Qatar Airways resumed direct flights between Doha's Hamad International Airport and Malta International Airport on 2 July 2025. The route operates four times a week, making travel from Qatar to Malta faster and more convenient than ever.



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