

DISCOVER MALTA & GOZO

Malta & Gozo - Islands of Antiquity, Culture and History



As the acknowledged leading specialist tour operator to the Maltese islands, we felt it was about time that we put our 35 years of experience to these wonderful islands to good use. So we have, this is a tour of baroque churches, ancient temples and spectacular scenery as well as two Unesco World Heritage sites, the Palaces, cathedral and gardens of Valletta and Gozo's Megalithic temples of Ggantija.

DAY 1: UK to Malta D

Fly to Malta from your chosen UK departure airport. You will be met on arrival and taken to the 4-star Preluna Hotel on Sliema's seafront.

DAY 2: Valletta B/D

Enjoy a half day walking tour of Malta's fascinating capital Valletta. Visiting in 1830 a young Benjamin Disraeli declared Valletta "a city of palaces built by gentlemen for gentlemen." From the Barakka Gardens with its sweeping views of the Grand Harbour to St John's Co-Cathedral blessed with an incredibly ornate interior and the grandiose Grand Master's Palace displaying antique weaponry and suits of armour, this morning is a great introduction to the treasures that await you on this tour.

DAY 3: Blue Grotto, Mosta Dome and Mdina B/L/D

Your full day tour today starts with a visit to the Blue Grotto – an area of sea caverns on Malta's south coast with stunning views of the rugged coastline. Then visit Mosta to see its famous church with the third largest unsupported dome in Europe. Next move on to the 'silent' city of Mdina, whose quiet narrow streets, grand buildings and palaces are protected by impressive ramparts with majestic views of the surroundings.

DAY 4: Cottonera & Hagar Qim B/D

On today's half-day excursion you'll visit Cottonera, the collective description of the fortified cities of Cospicua, Vittoriosa and Senglea which are enclosed by a massive line of fortifications built by the Knights of St John. Then visit Hagar Qim, a UNESCO World Heritage Site older than Stonehenge and home to Megalithic Temples. Today's tour also takes you through the picturesque fishing village at Marsaxlokk.

Day 5: Malta to Gozo B/D

Depart in the morning for a short twenty minute ferry crossing to Malta's sister island Gozo. On arrival you'll check into the 4-star Cornucopia Hotel.

Day 6: Gozo – Victoria, Dwejra and Xlendi B/D

Your full day of exploration starts with a tour around Gozo's capital Victoria. Winding streets, bustling squares, ornate baroque churches and the Citadel characterise this charming city of just seven thousand inhabitants. From here it's on to see the Azure Window and 'Inland Sea' at Dwejra before taking a look around the church at Ta'Pinu - a national shrine where various miracles are said to have happened since 1883. Your last stop is at Xlendi,

a delightful little seaside village hedged in by rugged cliff faces on either side.

Day 7: Gozo – Ggantija Temples & Marsalforn B/D

Said to be the world's second oldest manmade religious structures, the Ggantija Temples dates back to between 3600-2500 BC. Set magnificently against a backdrop of the Maltese Islands, legend has it that a giantess built these temples single-handedly. Later on in the morning your guide will take you for a scenic stroll along the three hundred and fifty year old Salt Pans and then it's on to the fishing village of Marsalforn, where you'll have free time to explore.

Day 8: Gozo to Malta B/D

Travel back to Malta arriving with plenty of time for some retail therapy in the many international shops and boutiques of Sliema. Alternatively spend the afternoon strolling along the seafront and stopping at one of the many cafés that can be found close by.

Day 9: Malta to the UK or Extension B

Transfer to the airport for your return flight to the UK, or continue on to your chosen extension.

Your hotels

Sliema (5 nights): 4★ Preluna Hotel & Spa - 124 Tower Road, Sliema

SLM 1605, Malta. Contact number: 00356 21334001

Gozo (3 nights): 4★ Cornucopia Hotel - 10 Gnien Imriek Street, Xaghra,

Gozo XRA1521. Contact number: 00356 2155 6486

All accommodation is 4★ and features an en suite bathroom air-conditioning/heating, TV and tea/coffee making facilities. Mercury Holidays has visited and inspected all of the hotels to ensure that they meet the high standards of service which we require for our clients. If the hotels detailed are not available, alternatives will be used of a similar standard. Final confirmation of your hotels will be sent in a document approximately two weeks before you travel.

Meals

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

Lunch where stated will be taken in local Maltese restaurants, with dinner where stated at your hotel.

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. Your guide will be on hand 24 hours a day should you have any queries.

However, If you need to contact your representative during your stay the details are:

Mercury Holidays
97, Nicolo Isouard Street
Sliema
SLM 2080
Malta
00356 79705885

Emergency contact information

Please find below the emergency contact details for Mercury Holidays

Contact	Telephone number
Francis Hill	00356 79705885
	00356 21375543

Visas

A visa is not required for your trip to Malta and Gozo. 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.

Tiping

Tiping for your driver and guide will be at your discretion.

Health and Vaccinations

It is strongly recommended that you check the latest health recommendations for travel to Malta & Gozo with your GP at least 4-6 weeks before travel. Alternatively up to date information can be obtained by telephoning the MASTA Travel health line on 09068 224100. Any medicines you may need during your journey should be packed in your hand luggage. It is not advisable to drink the tap water.

before you travel, or whilst you are in Malta and Gozo. Cash machines will be available throughout your tour for you to withdraw money in the local currency.

Insurance

You must obtain suitable travel insurance prior to departure. Mercury Holidays is partnered with Holiday Extras which offer insurance at the following prices:

Age in years	Up to 64	65-74	75-85
Up to 10 days cover	£21	£42	£62
Up to 17 days cover	£27	£48	£68

Prices are based on our Silver package for European insurance. For all persons 86 years and over, please contact us for insurance prices. If you have an existing policy with another company, 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 have first-hand knowledge at all times.

Physical Accessibility

This tour is accessible to most people with an average level of fitness and normal mobility. It involves full days of sightseeing, often on foot, and includes some climbing of stairs and getting on and off coaches and boats. **This tour is not suitable for anyone with walking difficulties.**

Group Size

The maximum number of passengers on your tour will be 35 passengers. If in the unlikely event the tour does not go ahead then you may be asked to change to a different date. A full refund will be made available to you should this alternative not be suitable.

Currency Exchange

The currency in Malta and Gozo is the Euro, known as €. You can exchange your currency

Personal Expenses

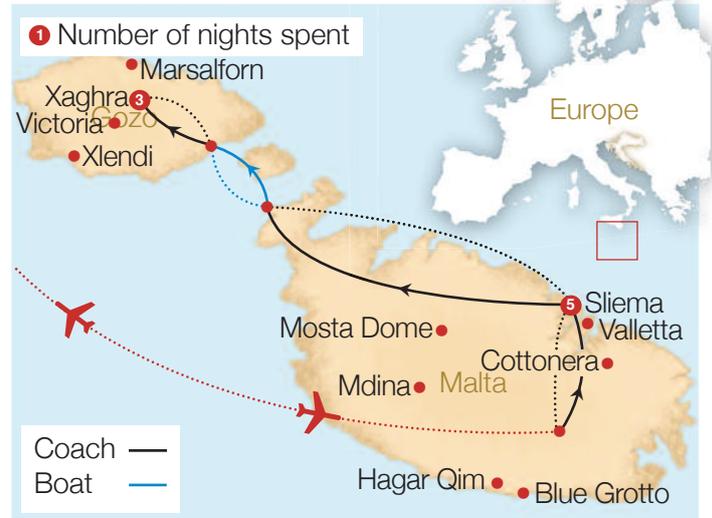
You will need to take some extra money with you to cover any lunches where these are not mentioned on your itinerary and personal purchases, such as souvenirs, laundry and extra drinks and snacks. Approximately £100-£200 per person will be sufficient for the duration of the tour, depending on how much of a bargain-hunter you are!

Itinerary Changes

The order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions or for operational purposes. For this reason, we have indicated approximate times only. Your local guide will inform you of any schedule changes as they are informed of them. Some road construction and/or weather conditions may lengthen the driving times. Our intention is to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions.

What to Pack

- Sunscreen, insect repellent and hat
- Waterproof lightweight jacket
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Camera and charger
- A plug adaptor - the electricity in Malta & Gozo is 230 volts. The three-pin rectangular plug system is used, as in the U.K



Flight and Airport Information

Your flight is to **Malta** with **Air Malta (KM)**, departing from **London Heathrow Terminal 4**.

Route	Depart	Arrive	Flight Duration	Flight Number
London Heathrow - Malta	10:50	15:00	3 hours 10 minutes	KM101
Malta - London Heathrow	16:55	19:25	3 hours 30 minutes	KM102

IMPORTANT: Please note that all flight times/numbers are given for guidance and are subject to change. Final flight details will be confirmed on your e-ticket and final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.

Due to group transfers passengers flying from Gatwick will have a waiting time of 25 minutes at Malta airport while the rest of the group arrives from different flights.

Baggage allowance

Each passenger is entitled to 20kg of hold luggage. Hand luggage: One piece not exceeding 5Kg and with maximum total dimensions not exceeding 113cm (50 cm x 45cm x 18cm). Should you wish to take additional luggage you will need to pay extra at check-in. Check-in should be at least 2 hours before departure.

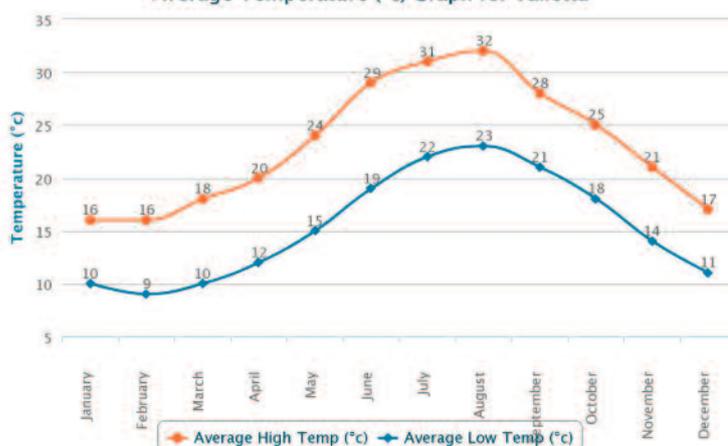
Airport Extras

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 (°C) Graph for Valletta



Ggantija Temples



'Inland Sea' at Dwejra

Regional flight information

Due to group transfers some passengers will have a waiting time at the airport while the rest of the group arrives from different flights. Please note that if your wait at the airport is longer than average then a private transfer is included. If you want to request a private transfer to avoid any wait at the airport then the cost is £19 per person return.

Please note that your baggage allowance varies depending on which carrier you are travelling with.

London Heathrow - Terminal 4 - 20kgs baggage allowance

Route	Depart	Arrive	Flight Duration	Flight Number	Airport Waiting Time
London Heathrow - Malta	11:25	15:35	3 hours	KM 101	25 minutes
Malta - London Heathrow	07:55	10:25	3 hours	KM 100	No wait

London Gatwick - South Terminal - 23kgs baggage allowance

Route	Depart	Arrive	Flight Duration	Flight Number	Airport Waiting Time
London Gatwick - Malta	11:55	16:00	3 hours	KM 117	No wait
Malta - London Gatwick	08:40	10:55	3 hours	KM 116	45 minutes

Manchester - Terminal 2 - 23kgs baggage allowance

Route	Depart	Arrive	Flight Duration	Flight Number	Airport Waiting Time
Manchester - Malta	18:10	22:30	3 hours	KM 147	Private transfer included
Malta - Manchester	14:40	17:20	3 hours	KM 146	Private transfer included

London Luton - Main Terminal - 15kgs baggage allowance

Route	Depart	Arrive	Flight Duration	Flight Number	Airport Waiting Time
London Luton - Malta	18:35	22:55	3 hours	FR 3882	Private transfer included
Malta - London Luton	16:45	19:10	3 hours	FR 3883	Private transfer included

IMPORTANT: Please note that all flight information and airport waiting times listed above are provided for guidance only and are subject to change. Final flight details will be confirmed on your e-ticket and final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.