

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MALTA

Dispense a cura della prof.ssa Amanda Maccarrone



HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

Malta, officially the Republic of Malta, is an island state in southern Europe and the smallest Member State of the European Union. It is an archipelago located in the Mediterranean, in the Malta Channel, 80 km from Sicily, 284 km from Tunisia and 333 km from Libya, included in the Italian geographical region. With an area of 315.6 km² it is one of the smallest and most densely populated states in the world. Its capital is Valletta and the most inhabited city is Saint Paul's Bay (S. Paolo Bay).



LANGUAGE AND CURRENCY

Malta has two official languages: Maltese and English, the latter used in international trade relations. Italian, the official language until 1934, is still widely spoken, and is estimated to be spoken by about a third of the population. The currency in force is the euro.

WEATHER



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In Malta it is very hot, the sun is comparable to that of Sicily: strong and intense. Despite being surrounded by the sea, there is often no wind, except in the most hidden bays, such as Paradise Bay. Even the humidity is not less, really annoying, while the air conditioning, always very strong, can be annoying to the most sensitive people (we recommend to keep a kit for flu and fever at hand, very frequent due to temperature changes between outdoor and indoor rooms with air conditioning set at very low temperature). Despite the intense heat, in fact, the air conditioning is so strong that in many cases you will feel the need to cover yourself with a hat, a sarong or even a sweatshirt. Despite its geographical location, Malta is not immune from rains even in August.

ACCOMMODATION

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The rent of a studio apartment in Malta can start from about 4/500 euros (in peripheral areas), but the average is 600/800 euros per month for the most central areas. Often the most convenient areas are not on the east coast of the island, where instead it is easier to find internship/job opportunities. In addition to apartments you can find accommodation of all kinds including hotels, aparthotels, apartments to share, pensions, hostels and rooms for rent. In addition, in Malta there are many families that host children as English language courses are very popular on the island. There is also the possibility to stay in the residences of schools that generally offer shared dormitories, perfect if you have a limited budget. You can also opt for a hostel or a bnb as an initial solution, in order to choose the final apartment being already on site, and having the opportunity to view the properties or identify local intermediaries that offer cheaper solutions than those available online, aimed at tourists. Here is a series of links where you can find information on the different accommodation options:

- <https://housing.justlanded.com/it/Malta>
- <https://www.maltabudget.com/>
- <https://maltauniversityaccommodation.com/>
- <https://www.malta-lets.com/en/home.htm>
- <https://holiday-malta.com/>

"Quality-price" ratio.

THE NIGHTLIFE

Malta by night definitely Paceville where there are most of the clubs and for the youngest instead the nightlife for the slightly older people has moved to Valletta where there are still many places where they also do Jazz and where they make music and even things a little more elegant refined. There are not particularly neighborhoods to avoid, perhaps the area of Bugibba. There are lots of small cities all connected, one city ends and another begins. They are not Neighborhoods, but they are really real cities.

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TRANSPORTS

As a means of transport to get around the island, I advise you to do it by bus, also because remember that they have the lefthand drive. I also recommend you to make the Tallinja Card that with about 21 euros (for adults), allows you to travel continuously. Taxis are the best way to get around Malta, one route runs from 20 to 50 euros and is much safer than renting a car. Of course, to save money, it would be best to share it with other people.

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But there is a TAXI APP called Bolt

It will be enough to have a charged smartphone and good internet connection to download the Bolt app and call a taxi quickly using the app. Registration is very fast and requires only the user's basic data. Allows you to call a taxi in Malta wherever you are and at all hours of the day and night. If you want the taxi to pick you up at the exact point where you are, the geolocation is already set automatically and you only have to enter the destination. Once you have set the pick-up point you will be asked to choose the type of vehicle: Bolt (normal), Green (an eco taxi) and Comfort (larger car). Each choice is accompanied by the cost of your ride. Choose and you will immediately see a small car, on the map, that will be heading towards the point you have indicated. The Bolt app will immediately give you the arrival time of your taxi, license plate, car model and color, driver's name and photo. You will also have the opportunity to communicate with the driver, during his arrival, with direct call or chat. At the end of the ride you will receive by email the report of your taxi ride with Bolt: do not forget to give 5 stars in the evaluation of your personal experience, at each ride. A ride with Bolt taxis is quite convenient. Nothing to do with the cheap ticket of a public bus (1.50 euros) but still more advantageous than a regular taxi. Not even comparable to taxi prices in Italy!

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INTERNET AND MOBILES IN MALTA

In Malta there are 3 telephone operators: Vodafone Malta, Go Mobile, Melita. Italian mobile phones, hooking up in roaming to the Maltese operators, work regularly. Recently roaming charges have been abolished, in fact you can surf using the same offer you use in Italy.

PALAZZO FALSON HISTORIC HOUSE MUSEUM

Palazzo Falson is a 13th-century private palazzo in Mdina and is its best preserved medieval building. It was formerly home to artist and collector Captain Gollcher (1889-1962), and in 2001 undertook extensive renovation to reopen as the museum we see today. Beyond the house's architectural merits and fine views from its roof terrace, the building houses an exhibit of 17th-century paintings by Anthony van Dyck, Nicolas Poussin, and Bartolomé Esteban Murillo, as well as collections of oriental rugs, silverware.

MALTA MARITIME MUSEUM

Housed in the Old Naval Bakery, occupying an imposing position on Birgu's waterfront, the Malta Maritime Museum is the country's biggest museum. The building, the first in the country designed to cater for the demands of an industrial empire, is itself architecturally significant. Behind its walls, the exhibit charts Malta's maritime history through a collection of over 20,000 artefacts, each of which reveal some aspect of the island's continuous relation with seafaring and the Mediterranean region. Military canons, steam engines, Roman anchors and traditional Maltese boats can all be found inside.

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THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Maltese island offers an extensive introduction to the country's prehistory. Given Malta's rich heritage, the collection offers insights into life on the island across a large part of antiquity spanning from the Neolithic period (5000 BC) to the Phoenician period (400 BC). Early tools, pottery, and numerous representations of animals and human figures produced in this period are on display, including the famous 'Sleeping Lady' clay artifact, thought to represent the Mother Goddess of the Temple Period, 4000 – 2500 B.C

Employment and Training Services Act.

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