



Caring for  
your world.

Your  
relocation  
guide to  
Malta



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Memb No: A091



TELEPHONE:	Country code 356 no area codes
STANDARD TIME:	GMT +1 hour – Central European summertime
WEIGHTS & MEASURES:	Metric
ELECTRICITY:	240 Volts single phase 50 cycle. Three pin British plugs are used
INOCULATIONS/VACCINATIONS:	Inoculations & Vaccinations certificate not required for EU citizens
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS:	1 Jan, 10 Feb, 19, 31 Mar, 22 Apr, 1, May, 7, 29 Jun, 21 Jul, 15 Aug, 8, 21 Sept, 8, 13, 25 Dec
SHOPPING HOURS:	09.30-13.00, 16.00-19.00 Monday – Saturday
BANK HOURS:	08.30-12.30 Monday – Friday 08.30-11.30 Saturday
EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS:	Police – 191 Ambulance – 196 Fire – 199
UK EMBASSY:	Whitehall Mansions Ta'Xbiex Seafront Ta'Xbiex MSD 11 Malta Tel: +356 2323 0000 Fax: +356 2323 2269 Email: <a href="mailto:bhc@vol.net.mt">bhc@vol.net.mt</a> Web: <a href="http://www.britain.com.mt">www.britain.com.mt</a>
TOURIST & TRAVEL INFORMATION:	1 City Arcades City Gate Valletta Tel: ( 356) 21237747 Fax: ( 356) 21255844 Email: <a href="mailto:info@visitmalta.com">info@visitmalta.com</a>
MALTA HIGH COMMISSION IN LONDON:	Malta House 36-38 Piccadilly London W1V 0PQ Tel: 02072 924 821 Fax: 02077 341 831 Open from 10am – 1pm Mon – Fri

## Customs

Malta is part of the EU and as such, no official documents are required to import personal effects and household goods if originating from another EU country. However, should you be from outside the EU the following applies.

To the best of our knowledge, the following documentation is required to import household goods and personal effects into Malta from outside the EU. It is advisable to check with the authorities that documentation is in order, prior to despatch.

### Removal Goods. If originating within the EU

#### Household goods

Documents required:

- Photocopy of your passport
- Inventory and customs documents
- T2L arranged by Atlantic

No customs deposit is required providing you are in Malta when the goods arrive.

If goods are in free circulation in the U.K importation of effects are duty free.

Any new items purchased must have receipts showing that the VAT has been UK paid.

The inventory must not have items declared as 'packed by owner' or 'miscellaneous' stated on them.

### Removal Goods. If originating outside the EU

Documents required:

- Passport or Identity Card
- Residence Visa
- Certificate of Residence Change
- Customs Bond
- Bank Guarantee
- Letter of Guarantee
- Proof of Employment
- Declaration stating that all imported goods have been used prior to their import
- A.I.P. Permit or Permanent Residence Permit from Finance Minister in Malta or Work Permit from Expatriate Division
- Letter authorizing Destination Agent to clear shipment
- Inventory (in English) detailed (PBO "packed by owner" not acceptable)
- Import license

## Customers must be in the country prior to arrival of goods for Customs Clearance

All shipments are inspected.

Shipments must arrive within six months of Customer.

- Owner is a returning citizen or a foreign national who has been outside Malta for over 18 months
- Foreign nationals taking up temporary residence or having a Work Permit, may import their used household goods duty-free, but a cash guarantee must be lodged with customs authorities which is refundable

## Motor Vehicles

Customers must be in the country prior to arrival of vehicle.

Documents required:

- Import license is required from Department of Trade
- Export Certificate or Log Book
- MOT or Test Certificate to show road worthiness
- Road Insurance or Green Card valid for Malta

Returning citizens or permanent residents are allowed to import one auto duty-free.

Temporary residents can import one used car which has been in their possession for at least six months, however it is dutiable.

Right-hand drive and only lead-free fuel is available.

Car must have been registered in owner's name for over six months.

## Alcohol

VAT is payable at 18% on all alcohol.

## Dutiable / Restricted Items

- New items
- Electrical / electronic appliances
- Bicycles and boats
- Fax machines require an Import License

## Prohibited Items

- Firearms & weapons are subject to Police License (make, country of manufacture, serial number and specifications required)
- Drugs and narcotics
- Alcohol and tobacco products
- Satellite dish antennas, cordless and mobile phones and air band receivers or transmitters require an Import License (must supply make, country of origin, serial number and specifications)

## General Information on the Republic of Malta

### Background

Great Britain formally acquired possession of Malta in 1814. The island staunchly supported the UK through both World Wars and remained in the Commonwealth when it became independent in 1964. A decade later Malta became a republic. Since about the mid-1980s, the island has transformed itself into a freight transshipment point, a financial center, and a tourist destination. Malta became an EU member in May 2004, and adopted the Euro as its national currency on 1 January 2008.

### Geography

The Islands of Malta and Gozo lie in the Mediterranean Sea, off the coast of South Italy. Malta, the main island, has low hills and an indented coastline. The main industries are tourism, ship building and repair, electronics and textiles, which are also the main exports. Natural resources are: limestone, salt and arable land.

The country comprises an archipelago, with only the three largest islands (Malta, Ghawdex or Gozo, and Kemmuna or Comino) being inhabited, numerous bays provide good harbours. Malta and Tunisia are discussing the commercial exploitation of the continental shelf between their countries, particularly for oil exploration.

### Climate

The climate is Mediterranean with mild, rainy winters and hot, dry summers. There is no real thermal dormant season for plants, although plant growth can be checked briefly by abnormal cold in winter (patches of ground frost may occur in inland locales), and summer heat and aridity may cause vegetation to wilt. Effectively there are only two seasons, which makes the islands attractive for tourists, especially during the drier months. However, strong winds can make Malta feel cold during the spring months.

### Population

The population is estimated at 400,420.

Malta's population is a density of 1,282 per square kilometer is by far the highest in the EU and one of the highest in the world.

Maltese legislation recognizes both civil and Canon marriages. Annulments by the ecclesiastic and civil courts are unrelated and are not necessarily both granted. There is no divorce legislation, and abortion within Maltese territory is illegal. A person has to be 16 to marry.

### Environmental Issues

Water supply poses a problem on Malta, as the summer is both rainless and also the time of greatest water use, and the winter rainfall often falls as heavy showers and runs off to the sea rather than soaking into the ground. Malta depends on underground reserves of fresh water, drawn through a system of water tunnels called the Ta' Kandja galleries. More than

half the potable water of Malta is produced by desalination, which creates further issues of fossil fuel use and pollution.

### Currency

The monetary unit is the Euro.

**Notes:** 500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10 and 5 euros.

**Coins:** 2, 1 euros then 50, 20, 10, 5, 2 and 1 cents.

### Economy

Major resources are limestone, a favorable geographic location, and a productive labor force. Malta produces only about 20% of its food needs, has limited fresh water supplies, and has few domestic energy sources. The economy is dependent on foreign trade, manufacturing (especially electronics and pharmaceuticals), and tourism. Economic recovery of the European economy has lifted exports, tourism, and overall growth.

### Religion

Malta is predominantly Roman Catholic and the state religion at 98%, making the nation one of the most Catholic countries in the world, but the Maltese Constitution guarantees freedom of worship. There are also churches belonging to various other religious denominations.

### Language

The official languages of Malta are Maltese and English. Almost all Maltese residents speak English. Maltese is a semitic language written in the Roman script comprising a vast element of words of Italian, French and English origin. Italian is also widely spoken.

### Education

Education in Malta is based on the British Model. Primary School lasts six years. At age 11 students sit for an examination to enter a Secondary School, either a Church School (the Common Entrance Examination) or a State School. Students sit for SEC O-Level examinations at age 16, with passes obligatory in certain subjects such as Mathematics, English and Maltese. Students may opt to continue studying at a Sixth Form or else at another post-secondary institution such as MCAST. The Sixth Form course lasts for two years, at the end of which students sit for the Matriculation examination. Subject to their performance, students may then apply for an undergraduate degree or diploma.

Tertiary education at diploma, undergraduate and postgraduate level is mainly provided by the University of Malta (UoM).

The English and Maltese language are both used to teach students at primary and secondary school level, and both languages are also compulsory subjects. Public schools tend to use both Maltese and English in a balanced manner. Private schools prefer to use English for teaching, as is also the case with most departments of the University of Malta.

This has a limiting effect on the capacity and development of the Maltese language.

### **Health**

Under a reciprocal agreement British nationals receive free medical treatment, during the first thirty days of their stay only. You should take a completed E111 form with you, which should be completed before you leave the United Kingdom (see UK department of Health leaflet “Health advice for travellers”, Tel: 0800 555 7777), This is available free of charge from most UK post offices. You should also take out adequate medical and travel insurance in case medical evacuation or further treatment is required.

Malta enjoys a high standard of medical care. In the worlds Health Organisation’s ranking of the world’s health system it is number 5. (Great Britain is number 18). The general hospital St Luke’s is in Guardamangia, but there are government health clinics in various towns.

Persons who are receiving medical treatment and who may need to carry medications into Malta or purchase fresh supplies locally would be well advised to arm themselves with a letter of introduction from their doctor.

Malta has special clinics for diabetic sufferers and pharmacies generally stock a wide variety of diabetic products.

### **Electricity**

Electricity runs on 240 volts, single phase, 50 cycle. The square fitting standard three pin British plugs are used.

### **Mobile Phone Tips**

To ensure you can still make and receive calls and messages abroad on your UK mobile, you need to change the network service to International roaming before you travel. Contact your UK mobile network provider to ensure your mobile phone is enabled for International Roaming. Do this well in advance as it can take up to 14 days and you can’t do it from overseas. Check your existing handset will also work in the countries you are travelling to as this may not be the case particularly outside Europe. Check with your network provider for the current charges as they can be a lot higher.

*Although every care is taken to ensure that all information in the Relocation Guide is accurate and up to date we cannot accept liability for any inaccuracy.*