



Tuesday · September 10th, 2019 - Tuesday · September 17th, 2019

#24 -- 8 Day Group Experience (SD)

The Maltese Islands

Tuesday · September 10th

Arrival in Malta
Option: Le Méridien Malta - Seaview Deluxe
Option: The Westin Dragonara Resort - Deluxe Seaview
Option: The Palace Hotel Malta - Deluxe Room
Option: The Victoria Hotel - Classic Room with Balcony
Meal Inclusions

Wednesday · September 11th

Valletta Exploration Day
Upper Barrakka Gardens
Malta Experience Film and Knights Hospital Tour
National Library of Malta - Private Tour
Nenu The Baker Restaurant
Manoel Theatre
St. John's Co-Cathedral - Private Afterhours Visit
Folklore Dinner
Meal Inclusions

Thursday · September 12th

Morning at Leisure - Afternoon Experiences (12:00PM - 6:30PM)
San Anton Palace and Gardens
Pastizzi Snacking
St. Paul's Catacombs
Palazzo Parisio - With Afternoon High Tea
Meal Inclusions

Friday · September 13th	Day at Leisure Mdina - the Silent and Medieval City by Night Dinner at Medina Restaurant Meal Inclusions
Saturday · September 14th	Gozo Island - Touring Day Gozo Channel Ferry The Xwejni Salt Pans Fungus Rock Ta' Mena Wine and Delicacy Tastings The Citadella Ggantija Temples Meal Inclusions
Sunday · September 15th	Prehistoric Malta with Southern and Western Coasts Countryside Walk Sunday Market and Fish Lunch in Marsaxlokk Hagar Qim & Mnajdra Temples Blue Grotto Boat Experience The Dingli Cliffs and Cart Ruts Evening Festa Experience Meal Inclusions
Monday · September 16th	Farm Lunch Experience Traditional Carpet Weaver Farewell Dinner Reservations at Rogantinos Meal Inclusions
Tuesday · September 17th	Departure Day Departing Airport Transfer Meal Inclusions
	Itinerary Inclusions Itinerary Exclusions "From" Total NET in Euro Per Person Based on Double Occupancy

The Maltese Islands

Malta has been fought over for thousands of years, has temples that pre-date the pyramids at Giza and Stonehenge, has some of the clearest waters in the world, and boasts a capital city that is a baroque masterpiece. Like Croatia of 20 years ago, Malta has just now become a newly discovered travel destination for the cultural enthusiast and not as a second thought. The Maltese Islands, although small in size, offers travelers a rare opportunity to see a well preserved history and exciting present day culture.

Tuesday · September 10th



Arrival in Malta

Welcome to Malta. You will be transferred to your host hotel The Corinthia Palace in a private car for your utmost comfort.



Option: Le Méridien Malta - Seaview Deluxe *St. Julians*

Sep 10

Check-in

Le Méridien Hotel & Spa is located along a bustling coastline within the cosmopolitan neighbourhood of Balluta Bay in St. Julian's, a short drive from baroque Valletta. With an indoor and outdoor rooftop pool, the hotel is perfect for a short or extended stay. The rooms are bright and airy with individual balconies to enjoy the views, and the ample terraces are popular with the local fashionable, arts crowd.

Deluxe Sea-View

With ample bright space, the 32-34sqm Deluxe Room offers its guests a comfortable experience enhanced by stunning panoramic views over the fashionable Balluta Bay and the seaside.



Option: The Westin Dragonara Resort - Deluxe Seaview

St. Julians, Malta

Sep 10

Check-in

Discover one of Malta's top hotels located in the heart of downtown St Julian's and right on the water's edge, from where one can directly access the Mediterranean sea from our two private beach lidos.

Deluxe sea view rooms at the Westin Malta are wonderful. Guests have the option of choosing a room with one King-Sized Heavenly bed or two Queen-Sized Heavenly beds to accommodate a family of four in total comfort. Interconnecting rooms are also available for added space and comfort.



Option: The Palace Hotel Malta - Deluxe Room

Sliema

Sep 10

Check-in

The Palace is a luxury city centre hotel situated in the heart of Sliema, Malta. It is highly rated for its services, gastronomy, organization, professional level and surroundings and it has succeeded in creating a luxurious complex inside a city. The perfect location for your holiday in Malta.

Deluxe Room

The Deluxe rooms at this hotel are designed for the flexible traveller. If you are a city enthusiast then these are the rooms that have been specifically designed to match your tastes, especially when you sit and admire the city views that will surely give you that holiday feeling.

All rooms boast a pleasant balcony with seating, providing views of the city from different angles. Although Sliema is a European town, the quaint flat limestone roofs and ornate baroque churches adorned with limestone carving, make this place one-of-a-kind, with a touch of history and a slower pace of life.



Sep 10

Check-in

The Victoria Hotel in Sliema is located very close to the seafront and the main promenade where you will find an abundance of bars, restaurants and high street top designer brand shops. It is also just a 5 minute drive away from St Julian's the most popular hub of the nightlife in Malta. Despite being central, it is nicely tucked away from all the hustle and bustle the locality is known for and relish in tranquil and pleasant environment.

Classic Room with Balcony

Love your coffee in the morning while enjoying some fresh air? Then this room is for you. The Classic Balcony Rooms can be found on the 2nd & 3rd floors which come with your private balcony terrace and are set with classic and elegant furniture for your comfortable stay in Malta.

Meal Inclusions

Welcome Dinner will be enjoyed at a local Maltese Restaurant



Valletta Exploration Day

Valletta was built by the Knights of St. John after the Great Siege of Malta by the Ottomans in 1565. It is the fortified city that was said to be "Built by gentlemen for gentlemen". It boasts over 320 monuments in a .2 square mile radius, is a Baroque capital and is being recognized as the European Capital of Culture in 2018. You'll love what's in store within its main gates - a great mix of history and present day lively culture.



Upper Barrakka Gardens

The Upper Barrakka Gardens overlook the Grand Harbour. From their terrace they afford one of the most beautiful panoramic views in Malta as they command a unique view of the only natural harbour in the Mediterranean with the Three Cities as its backdrop.



Malta Experience Film and Knights Hospital Tour

Set the tone for your vacation with an unbelievable and comprehensive 45 minute film of Malta - depicting the complete history of the Islands. It`s not all that touristy and will truly provide the right introduction and appreciation for the experiences to come. After the show, enjoy a 25 minute tour of the Hospital of the Knights of St. John.



National Library of Malta - Private Tour

Situated in the center of Valletta, the National Library is one of the major treasures of the Maltese Islands. The library preserves the memory of the nation with collections that span the centuries as far back to medieval times. Enjoy this National Treasure accompanied by the National Library Librarian as she walks you through history.



Nenu The Baker Restaurant

Lunch will be enjoyed at an old bakery turned iconic restaurant. Nenu the Baker is arguably the best restaurant within Valletta to try a variety of traditional Maltese dishes. Make sure to add a ftira into the mix. It's like a pizza but it's not pizza.



Manoel Theatre

The Manoel Theatre is one of the oldest working theatres in Europe. Constructed in 1731 by the Grand Master Antonio Manoel de Vilhena "for the honest entertainment of the Knights"; the theatre is a baroque gem with wonderful acoustics and a full calendar of events populated by local and international performers, with productions in English and Maltese. Maybe there is something on the calendar during your stay?



St. John's Co-Cathedral - Private Afterhours Visit

Built shortly after the Great Siege of Malta (1565), St. John's Co-Cathedral's austere exterior is in drastic contrast to its sumptuous high baroque interior. You'll be in awe at the artistic masterpiece - from its tombstone laid floors to the vaulted ceiling painted in the life of John the Baptist. Around the corner and into the oratory, stand before two wonderful masterpieces by the artist Caravaggio - St. Jerome and his only signed piece - The Beheading of St. John the Baptist. The best part of this experience is that you'll be experiencing the Cathedral when it is closed to the public. What a treat!



Folklore Dinner

Situated in the village of Mosta you will enjoy an evening of culinary delights sprinkled with a lot of liveliness. The Folklore Dinner Experience is truly a Maltese cultural celebration. Feast yourselves on a sumptuous 4-course traditional dinner prepared by our award winning chefs, flowing quality local wines, water and coffee.

Meal Inclusions

- Breakfast Included
- Lunch in Valletta at a local family bakery
- Folklore Dinner included at a generational family restaurant

Morning at Leisure - Afternoon Experiences (12:00PM - 6:30PM)

Today take the morning to relax utilizing some of the hotel amenities.



San Anton Palace and Gardens

The San Anton Gardens is located in Attard and is one of the most beautiful gardens in Malta with a large variety of beautiful flowers and plants. This garden has been open to the public since 1882 and it was built by Grand Master Antoine de Paule to complement his summer residence, San Anton Palace, which today is the residence of the Maltese President.



Pastizzi Snacking

The most famous food item in Malta and found in Maltese communities world wide is the hot flaky pastizzi. Stop in at a local pastizzeria to taste for yourself and determine what all of the fuss is all about.



St. Paul's Catacombs

St. Paul's Catacombs are a typical complex of interconnected, underground Roman cemeteries that were in use up to the 4th century AD. They are located on the outskirts of the old Roman capital Melite (today's Mdina), since Roman law prohibited burials within the city. St Paul's Catacombs represent the earliest and largest archaeological evidence of Christianity and Judaism in Malta.



Palazzo Parisio - With Afternoon High Tea

The Marquis Giuseppe Scicluna bought Palazzo Parisio in 1898 and it is through him that the property received its greatest renovation, which fortunately still survives till today largely in its original form. The Marquis Scicluna, a wealthy Maltese banker and merchant; created a showcase for Maltese art which closes the eclectic style of the 19th century propagated by Italian artists on the island. The property dates further back in history and its legacy of owners add to its prestige.

Enjoy a private tour of the Palazzo, its gardens and bask in an Afternoon Tea experience.

Meal Inclusions

- Breakfast Included
- Pastizzi Snack Included at the Islands best Pastizzerja
- High Tea included at Palazzo Parisio.
- Dinner on own with recommendations

Day at Leisure

Enjoy your day at leisure among the Maltese Islands. Explore the Sliema waterfront to make your way back to Valletta. Enjoy.



Mdina - the Silent and Medieval City by Night

You will feel the power as you enter the Old Capital City of Mdina and fall in love with it inasmuch as the families who continue to live here. It's Malta's only medieval city with a range of architecture that includes Norman and Arabic features. If you're a Game of Thrones fan, you will recognize the main gates immediately.



Dinner at Medina Restaurant

While inside the great bastions of Mdina, why not stay a little longer and have dinner at one of the best restaurants in Mdina. Medina offers top cuisine in an elegant yet cosy environment.

Meal Inclusions

Breakfast Included
Dinner included within the walls of Mdina

Saturday · September 14th



Gozo Island - Touring Day

Depart your hotel with private guide for the island of Gozo for the day. The crossing from Northern Malta to Gozo is 25 minutes on ferry. On this day, you will discover Gozo's splendour.



Gozo Channel Ferry

With only a 25 minute crossing from North Malta, you'll arrive at the Island of Calypso to discover the neat little gems and differences from it's sister island.



The Xwejni Salt Pans

Enjoy the gorgeous view from the Roman salt pans. The production of sea salt has a long tradition in Gozo and the salt pans found near Marsalforn are still used today.



Fungus Rock

Just off the sheer cliffs of Western Gozo lies a rock, some 60 metres high. It guards a small deep lagoon and is obviously the remnant of what was once a sea cave whose roof collapsed, isolating it forever from the mainland. This rock is Fungus Rock and you may wonder about its association with mushrooms given its bleak topography and very sparse garigue habitat which one hardly associates with the damp and humidity necessary for mushrooms to thrive.

Indeed there are no mushrooms on Fungus Rock. In fact there ain't much of anything although from the micro-perspective this small rock not only teems with life but harbors one of the rarest plants in the region: a small parasitic tuber which ekes its miserable existence by sucking nutrients from the other plants in its vicinity. A plant which owing to its bulbous shape was formerly confused with a fungus, giving its small island home a name which survives to this day.



Ta' Mena Wine and Delicacy Tastings

Enjoy a 2 hour visit to Ta' Mena Estate for wine, olive oil and other delicacy tastings. You will be joined by others as you enjoy a short guided tour of their estate followed by tastings of 4 wines and an antipasti buffet to include: tomato paste pâté, Maltese bread, galletti (traditional water biscuits), Olives, sun-dried tomatoes in vegetable oil, peppered cheese, smoked local pork sausages, mixed salad and traditional Maltese Pasta Il Forn (in the oven).



The Citadella

Venture to the capital of Gozo for a leisurely walk through the village streets as we witness local people in their daily life. The Citadel or Citadella is an area known to have been first fortified during the Bronze Age and later developed by the Phoenicians and continues development until, by Roman times, it had become a complex Acropolis. Up until the 18th Century, it was the only fortified refuge against attack for the inhabitants of the island.



Ggantija Temples

Malta is so small, yet its history is massive. No visit to Gozo is complete without being a part of a remarkable history with a visit to the oldest freestanding structure in the world - the Ggantija Temples. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is 1000 years older than Stonehenge and the Pyramids at Giza.

Meal Inclusions

Breakfast Included
Lunch and Wine tasting at Ta Mena
Dinner on own with recommendations

Sunday · September 15th

Prehistoric Malta with Southern and Western Coasts



Countryside Walk

Join your guide for a lovely countryside walk. It's truly unbelievable that just 20 minutes outside the hustle and bustle of central-east portion of the island, you find true serenity. The walk will be fairly easy going however we recommend that you are able to walk on paths, over rocks and on a slight incline.



Marsaxlokk is known for being the main fishing village of Malta as well as the best place to see the brightly painted fishing boats. Stop here a short time to learn about the village and its fishing culture. Since this is Sunday, the fish and souvenir market will be in full swing. After some time shopping and browsing, enjoy a wonderful included fish lunch.



Step back some 5500 years with a visit to the Hagar Qim and Mnajdra Temple sites. The temples were excavated in 1839 and are thought to have been built to worship a type of fertility goddess.



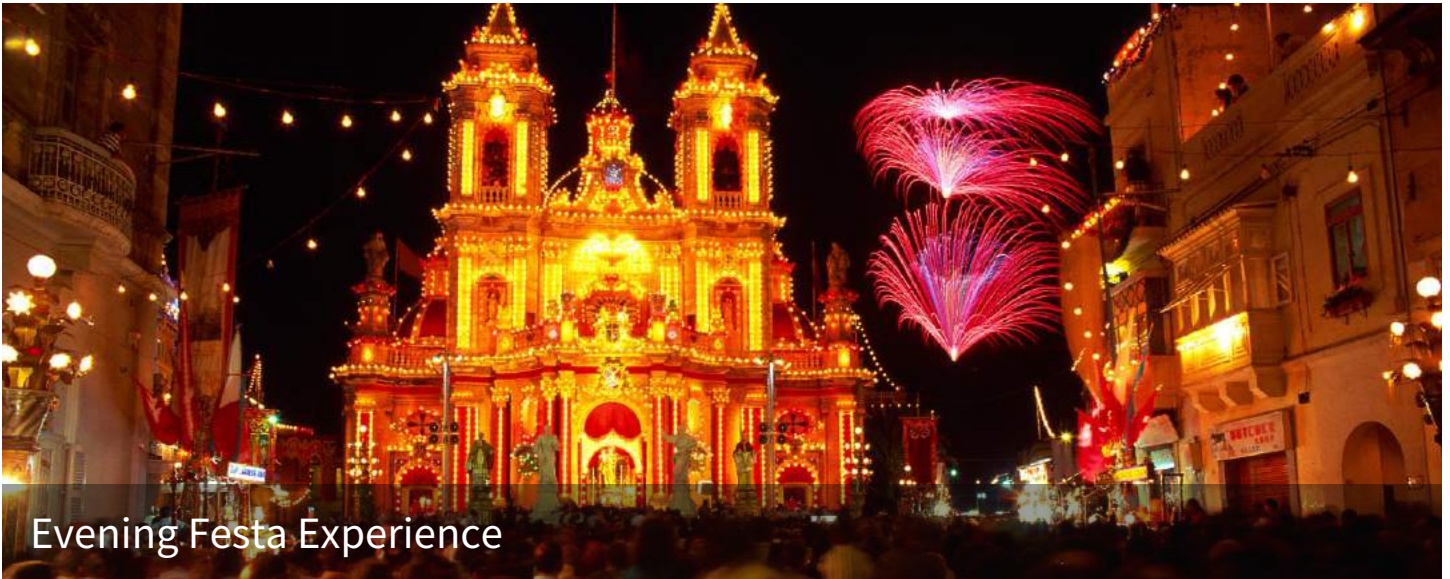
Blue Grotto Boat Experience

Enjoy a boat ride through the Blue Grotto - a series of sea caverns that will highlight the beautiful waters in the area. It's a very refreshing experience!



The Dingli Cliffs and Cart Ruts

You will be treated to the spectacular views of Dingli Cliffs which are the highest point of the Maltese Islands at 253 metres above sea level. The Cliffs propose a majestic, overlooking the small terraced fields below, the open sea and Filfla & the small uninhabited island (used as target practice during the WWII). Nearby arrive at Clapham Junction to discover the mysterious cart ruts. These deep ruts, rilles, tracks, grooves, channels left in Malta's limestone but in such numbers, variety and confusion that they leave more questions than answers.



Evening Festa Experience

From May until the second weekend in October, Maltese villages celebrate their respective Christian patron saints with an elaborate displays, lighting, fireworks, music, and partying.

Meal Inclusions

Breakfast Included
Lunch included in the Fishing Village of Marsaxlokk
Dinner or Snack on own during the festa

Monday · September 16th



Farm Lunch Experience

Direct from the farmers and straight to your plate. Enjoy a wonderful farmer's lunch coupled by an exploration of a farm. You'll be in one of the most rural areas of Malta - in your own little oasis to enjoy a delectable array of food products and local wine.

Your contact on this day is Blue Whitney and her number is: +356 9959 0567



Traditional Carpet Weaver

Weaving is one of the world's oldest trades, and its simple process of interlocking two distinct sets of yarn or thread at right angles to create a piece of cloth is so perfect, it hasn't changed in over 9,000 years. Here in Malta, the first known piece of weaving discovered dates back to around 800BC, to the time when the Phoenicians ruled the island. As with many other crafts, we embraced it and, 3,000 years on, we still produce fabrics and cloths using this ancient method.



Farewell Dinner Reservations at Rogantinos

+356 2145 2003
Wied il-busbies, Malta

As an option, your dinner will be held this evening at an old hunting lodge - literally in the middle of nowhere. The owner and chef is a collector of ports, sherries and also rums.

Meal Inclusions

Breakfast Included
Farmers Lunch and Experience Included.
Dinner included at Rogantino's.



Departing Airport Transfer

Today you depart our wonderful Islands. We hope that Malta measured up to your expectations and more. Safe travels and we hope to see you again.

Meal Inclusions

Breakfast Included

Itinerary Inclusions

- 7 night hotel stay
- 7 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 4 dinners, 1 afternoon tea
- Airport Transfers
- Expert guiding and luxury tour bus
- Gratuities for drivers and guides
- Entrance to attractions indicated on the itinerary

Itinerary Exclusions

- Attractions and meals not identified in the itinerary
- Round-trip airfare and medical/travel insurance

"From" Total NET in Euro Per Person Based on Double Occupancy

Based on Min 10 - NET EURO Per Person Based on Double Occupancy

Westin Hotel: 2629 Euro

Le Meridien/Marriott: 2527 Euro

The Palace Hotel: 2335 Euro
Victoria Hotel: 2009 Euro