



Saturday · April 14th, 2018 - Wednesday · April 18th, 2018

#29 -- 5 Day Luxury 2 Couples Malta 1 Hotel (MLW)

The Maltese Islands

Saturday · April 14th

Arrival in Malta
The Phoenicia Malta - Deluxe Harbour View Room
Private Palazzo Visit - Casa Rocca Piccola
Meal Inclusions

Sunday · April 15th

Countryside Walking, Fishing Village and Pre-Historic Malta (9:00AM - 4:30PM)
Hagar Qim & Mnajdra Temples
Countryside Walk
Marsaxlokk Fishing Village
Ghar Dalam Cave Site
Hypogeum Visit
Meal Inclusions

Monday · April 16th

Valletta Experiences with Leisure Time (9AM - 5:30PM)
Upper Barrakka Gardens
Museum of Archaeology
National Library of Malta - Private Tour
Manoel Theatre
Kings Only Band Club Restaurant
St. John's Co-Cathedral - Private Afterhours Visit
Grand Harbour Boat Tour
Meal Inclusions

Tuesday · April 17th

Western Malta and the Old Capital Region (8:30AM - 5:30PM)
The Dingli Cliffs and Cart Ruts
Verdala Palace - The President's Home (Private Visit)
Farm Lunch Experience
Gilder - Artisan Visit
Mdina - the Silent and Medieval City
Traditional Instrument Artisan - Francesco Sultana
Meal Inclusions

Wednesday · April 18th

Central Malta (10:45AM - 1:00PM)
Mosta Dome Church
San Anton Palace and Gardens
Departure Day

Itinerary Inclusions
Itinerary Exclusions
Value (NET Total in Euro)

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.

Saturday · April 14th



Arrive in Malta and be privately transferred to your host accommodations.



The Phoenicia Malta - Deluxe Harbour View Room

Floriana/Valletta, Malta

Apr 14

Check-in

A Valletta icon and a fine example of the city's revered architectural traditions. The Phoenicia, Malta a Campbell Gray Hotel and member of The Leading Hotels of the World offers 5 star luxury within walking distance to the city's best attractions.

Deluxe Harbour View Room

Overlooking the Grand harbour and the 3 cities or their mature garden and Marsamxett harbour, the luxurious deluxe rooms offer magnificent views. Most of the Deluxe rooms have a private balcony.



Private Palazzo Visit - Casa Rocca Piccola

The history of Valletta is best learned through its people. The 9th Marquis de Piro invites you into their 16th Century home to discover the treasures that tell many stories. The family lived at Painswick House in Gloucestershire for 14 years before returning to Malta in 1990. Although their home is open to the public during the day, your visit will be a private after hours one and experienced with the owners.

Meal Inclusions

Dinner reservations can be made within Valletta. Our recommendation this evening is The Taproom

Countryside Walking, Fishing Village and Pre-Historic Malta (9:00AM - 4:30PM)



Hagar Qim & Mnajdra Temples

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.



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 Fishing Village

Upon arriving in the village of Marsaxlokk, you will see the market in full swing coupled with other food and souvenir vendors. Enjoy lunch on own at arguably the best fish restaurant in Malta - Tartarun. We'll make the reservations for you.



Ghar Dalam Cave Site

Ghar Dalam means 'Cave of darkness' in Maltese. The cave is 145-metre cavity of which the first 50 metres publicly accessible. The animal bones found within are evident proof that Malta was once linked to Sicily and to mainland Europe by a land bridge. Here you`ll find evidence of dwarf elephants, bears and wolves as well as the first human inhabitants.



Hypogeum Visit

In addition to a multitude of temples above ground, Malta has the only subterranean temple in the world. Discovered in 1902 when the village of Paola was building homes, this remarkable temple 5000+ year old site only allows 10 visitors per hour! Another UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Meal Inclusions

Breakfast. We are recommending dinner this evening at the hotel. Many restaurants do not open for dinner service on Sundays.

Monday · April 16th



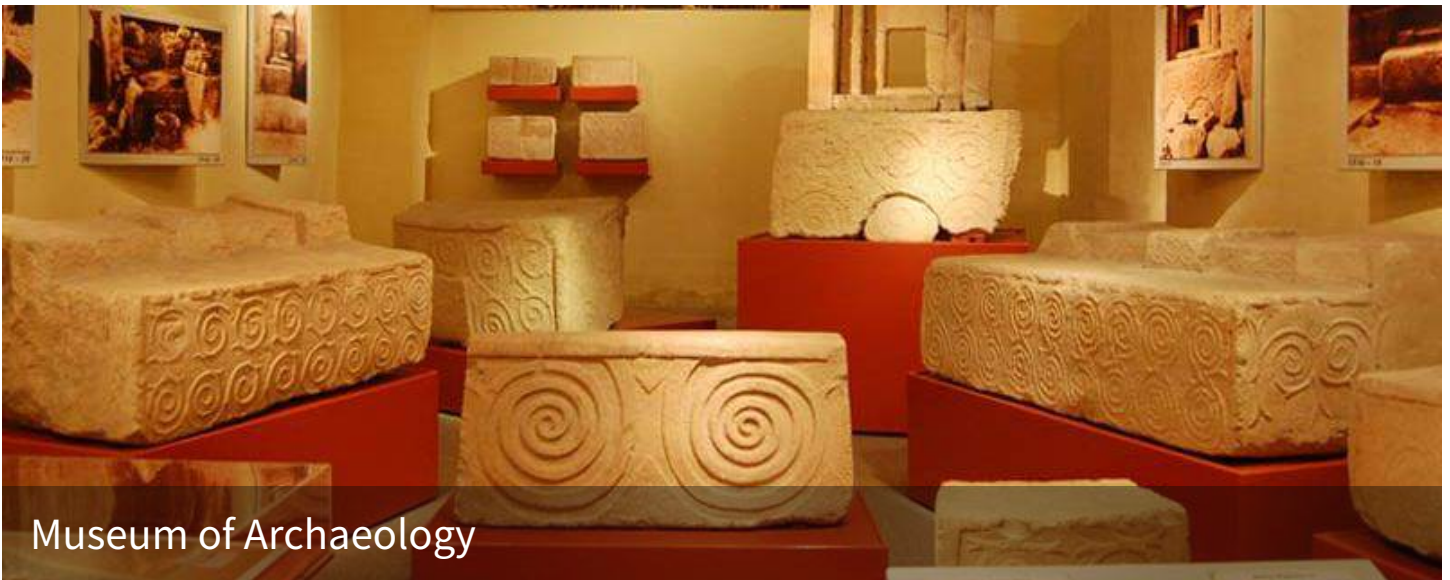
Valletta Experiences with Leisure Time (9AM - 5:30PM)

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. Below are some of the included experiences in addition to meandering the main and back streets to discover Valletta's very interesting history.



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.



Museum of Archaeology

Not just another museum, the Museum of Archaeology will guide you through our living history dating back to the temple period. Spend a short time here gaining an overview and especially seeing the unbelievable finds from the temple(s) that you will be visiting on your tour. Of special note is the sleeping lady!



National Library of Malta - Private Tour

Situated in the centre 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.



Manoel Theatre

<http://www.teatrumanoel.com.mt/>

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?



Kings Only Band Club Restaurant

Casual dining in a historic place. This restaurant resides within the Kings Only Band Club residence. The oldest band club in Valletta had earned its name when the Prince of Wales became king, changing the name of the club to Kings Own from The Prince of Wales band club. Enjoy a fantastic Maltese delicacy lunch and superior wine.



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!



Grand Harbour Boat Tour

Travel down the Upper Barrakka elevators to arrive at the old Customs House where a traditional Maltese boat (Dghajsa) and boatman will be waiting for you for a private cruise of the Grand Harbour. The Ottomans sailed in these waters, Napoleon, the British and now you! How historic!

Meal Inclusions

Breakfast and Lunch. We recommend dinner at Michael's this evening in Valletta.

Tuesday · April 17th

Western Malta and the Old Capital Region (8:30AM - 5:30PM)

Western Malta boasts the Dingli Cliffs, mysterious cart ruts and picturesque scenery. The old capital area will take you back to Roman times and up until the period of the Knights of St. John.



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.



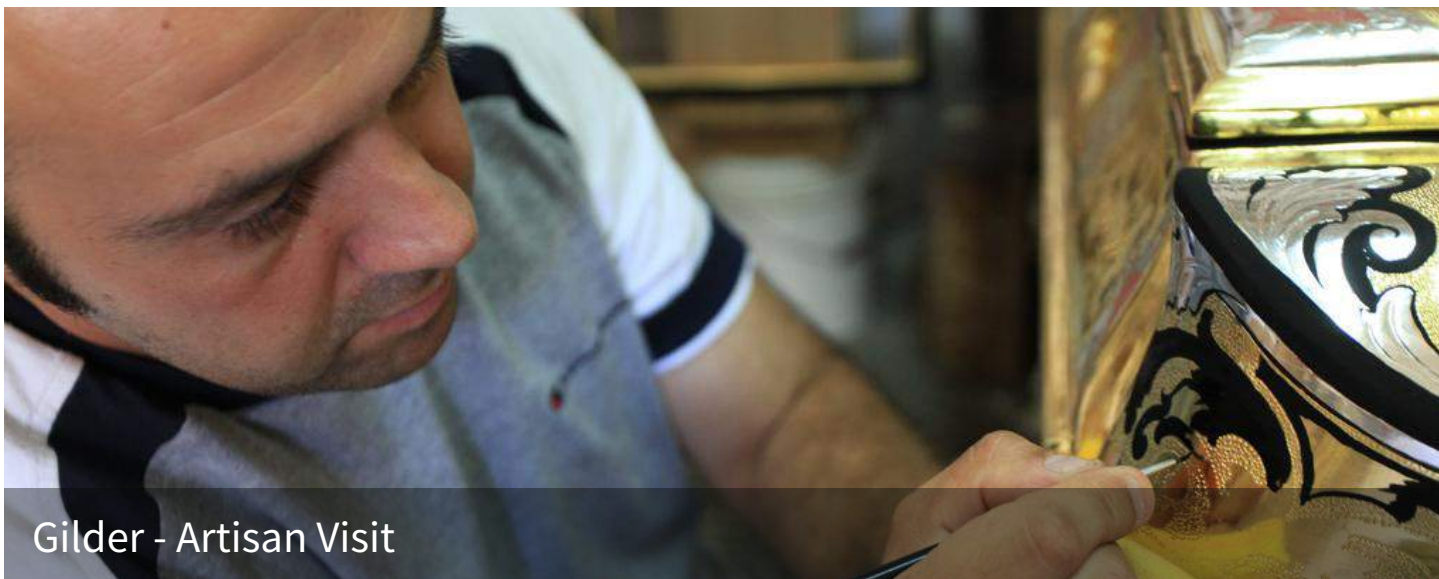
Verdala Palace - The President's Home (Private Visit)

Arrive at the Verdala Palace - the Summer residence of the President of Malta for a private visit. Mr. Mifsud will guide you through the palace, explain its history and its present usage. Mr. Mifsud is the 3rd generation in his family to be caretaker of the Palace.



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.



Gilder - Artisan Visit

You'll be paying a private visit to one of Malta's finest artisans to learn about his trade and the wonderful Maltese clocks that he creates. It's more than you could ever imagine. If you're interested, be prepared for the 2 year wait list!



Mdina - the Silent and Medieval City

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.



Traditional Instrument Artisan - Francesco Sultana

Meet one of Malta's most gifted artisans and musician. By day, Francesco works at Heritage Malta on restoration works. His hobby is in creating traditional Maltese instruments such as the bagpipe which is made from a whole goat. You'll love hearing his story and the fascinating history behind these instruments.

Meal Inclusions

Breakfast and Lunch. We recommend dinner at Bahia Restaurant in Lija with drinks at Grasshopper Bar before hand or at Wigi Restaurant in St. Julians.

Wednesday · April 18th

Central Malta (10:45AM - 1:00PM)



Mosta Dome Church

Image credits: Pixabay

Not just another church; this one has an interesting story on a few fronts. Construction began in 1833 and it was completed by 1860. Modeled after the Pantheon in Rome, it is the 3rd largest unsupported dome in the world behind St. Peter's in Rome and

St. Paul's in London. However the most interesting part of its existence is something that happened on April 9th, 1942 when a German bomb was dropped on it and pierced the dome with parishioners in attendance. It did not explode. According to the locals, it was a miracle!



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.



Departure Day

Arrive at the airport for your departure flight.

Itinerary Inclusions

- 4 night stay in a Valletta Hotel
- 4 breakfasts and 2 lunches
- Airport Transfers
- Expert guiding and private car service included on touring days
- Entrance to attractions indicated on the itinerary

Itinerary Exclusions

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

Value (NET Total in Euro)

4059 Euro Per Couple NET (Based on 2 couples in two rooms)