



Sunday · April 1st, 2018

# Malta Sample Experiences

---

Sunday · April 1st

Examples of Private Experiences  
Saluting Battery Full Gun Firing  
St. John's Co-Cathedral - Private Afterhours Visit  
Private Palazzo Visit - Casa Rocca Piccola  
Verdala Palace - The President's Home (Private Visit)  
Private Visit to San Anton Palace (President's Home) and Gardens  
Private Visit to Upper Fort St. Angelo - home to Knight Resident Fra. John Critien  
Visit to a Private War Shelter  
Classic Car Evening  
UNESCO Experiences  
Hagar Qim & Mnajdra Temples  
Ggantija Temples  
Hypogeum Visit  
Examples of Private Dining  
Farm Lunch Experience  
George Borg Culinary Experience  
Rogantinos - Private Dinner at an Old Hunting Lodge  
Private Dinner in the Marsovin Wine Cellars  
Barbecue on the Beach  
Dinner in a Private Palazzo  
Cliffside Picnic Experience  
Pastizzi Making Experience  
Private Artisan Encounters  
Gilder - Artisan Visit  
Traditional Carpet Weaver  
Private Maltese Filigree Artisan Visit  
Traditional Instrument Artisan  
Private Recital in a Wayside Chapel  
Private Sailing Examples  
Comino Sailing Day - Racing Sailboat  
Cruising on the Mediterranean with Comino Island - Sunseeker 56  
Active / Adventure  
Countryside Walks  
Quad Bike Tour  
Kayaking off of Gozo  
Rock Climbing  
Scuba Diving around Northern Malta and Gozo Island  
Swimming at Ghajn Tuffieha  
Bocci With The Locals  
Jewish Culture Examples  
Mdina - the Silent and Medieval City (Jewish Highlights)  
Synagogue visit  
Village of Rabat  
Shabbat Dinner at L'Chaim Restaurant  
The Marsa Jewish Cemetery  
The Kalkara Jewish "Slave" Cemetery  
Ta Braxia Jewish Cemetery

Sunday · April 1st

Examples of Private Experiences



## Saluting Battery Full Gun Firing

Start off your Valletta Capital City Experience with a bang! The Saluting Battery is located on one of the best vantage points overlooking the Grand Harbour. Its origins are as old as those of the City itself, having been built as part of it, in 1566, by the Order of St. John on the design of the military engineer Francesco Laparelli. From its very start, the grand location of the battery ensured that it was to be used for ceremonial artillery firings. Gun salutes were fired to greet dignitaries or ships visiting the island and to mark national and religious occasions. Gun salutes were also fired to announce important naval and military victories and the succession or death of a sovereign.

We'll be having a full 8 gun firing salute to commemorate your welcome to Malta and in particular Valletta.



## 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!



## 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.



## 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.



## Private Visit to San Anton Palace (President's Home) and Gardens

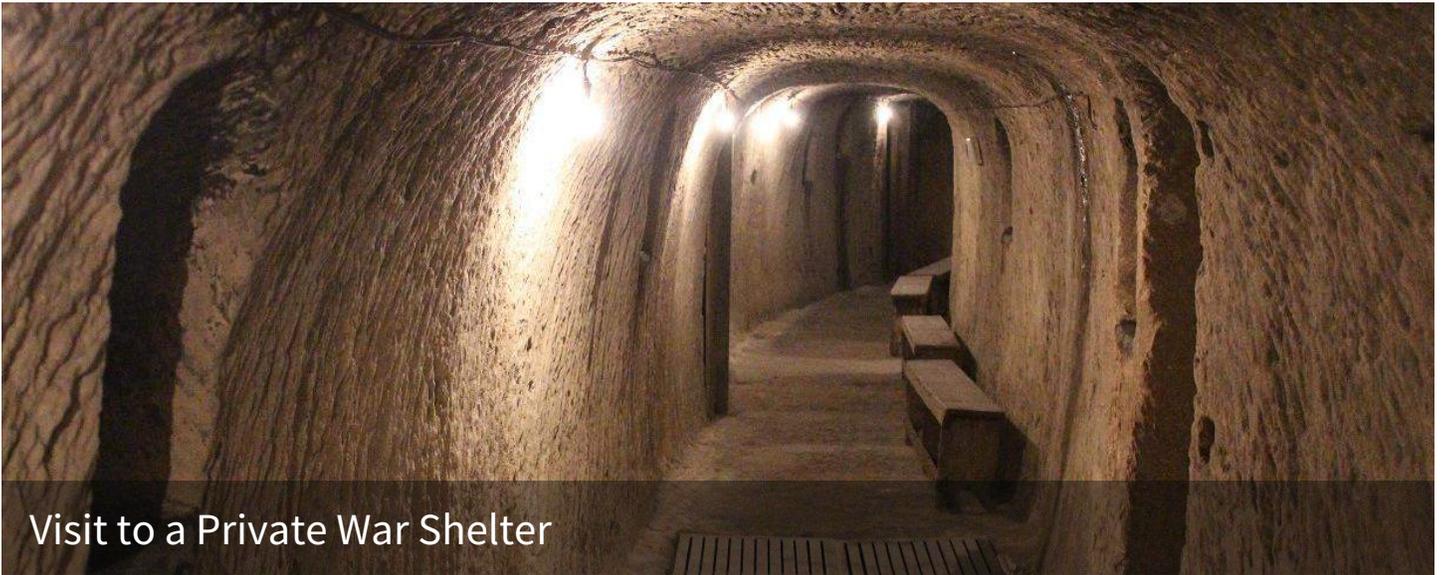
Enjoy the privilege of visiting the home of the President of Malta for a private tour by one of her staff members. Explore each of the rooms to gain insight into the President's activities all the while learning about the history of the palace and its previous occupants. Step into the gardens of San Anton - officially opened to the public by Sir Alexander Ball in the early 19th century.



## Private Visit to Upper Fort St. Angelo - home to Knight Resident Fra. John Critien



An exclusive opportunity awaits you in Vittoriosa. Fort St. Angelo is steeped in history - it having been known as the Castle by the Sea when the Knights of St. John arrived. The fort had been built up during the knights period and played a crucial part during the Great Siege of 1565 against the Ottoman Empire. Atop the Fort is the private land of the Knights of St. John where Resident Knight Fra. John Critien resides. This area of the fort is where the first Grand Master of the Order in Malta resided up until Jean Parisot de la Vallette. Enjoy a private tour led to include the grounds, private chapel as well as a few other surprises.



## Visit to a Private War Shelter

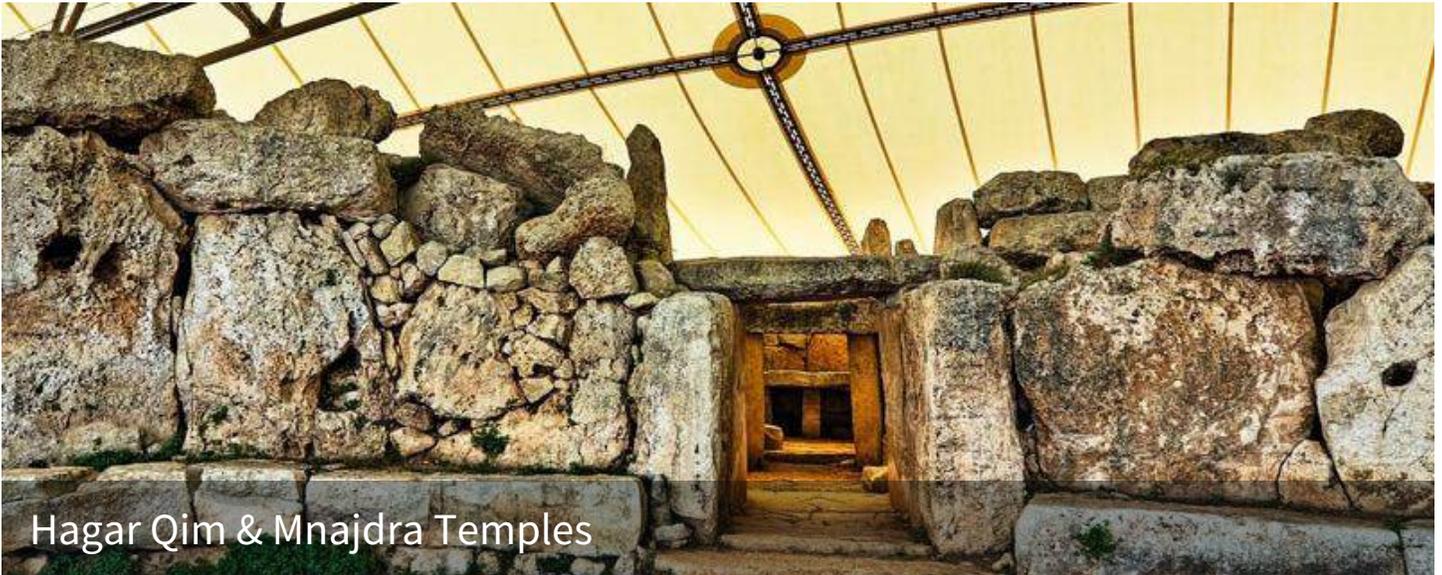
Enjoy the unique opportunity to visit a war shelter located below a private dwelling. Back some 25 years ago, the owner of this basement dwelling did some digging to make way for some infrastructure. What he didn't expect to find was a massive war shelter that continues underneath several private homes in the village.



## Classic Car Evening

Join owners of the Old Motors Club in Malta to see their prized car collections. Then join them in their vehicles for a drive out to the Western part of Malta.

**UNESCO Experiences**



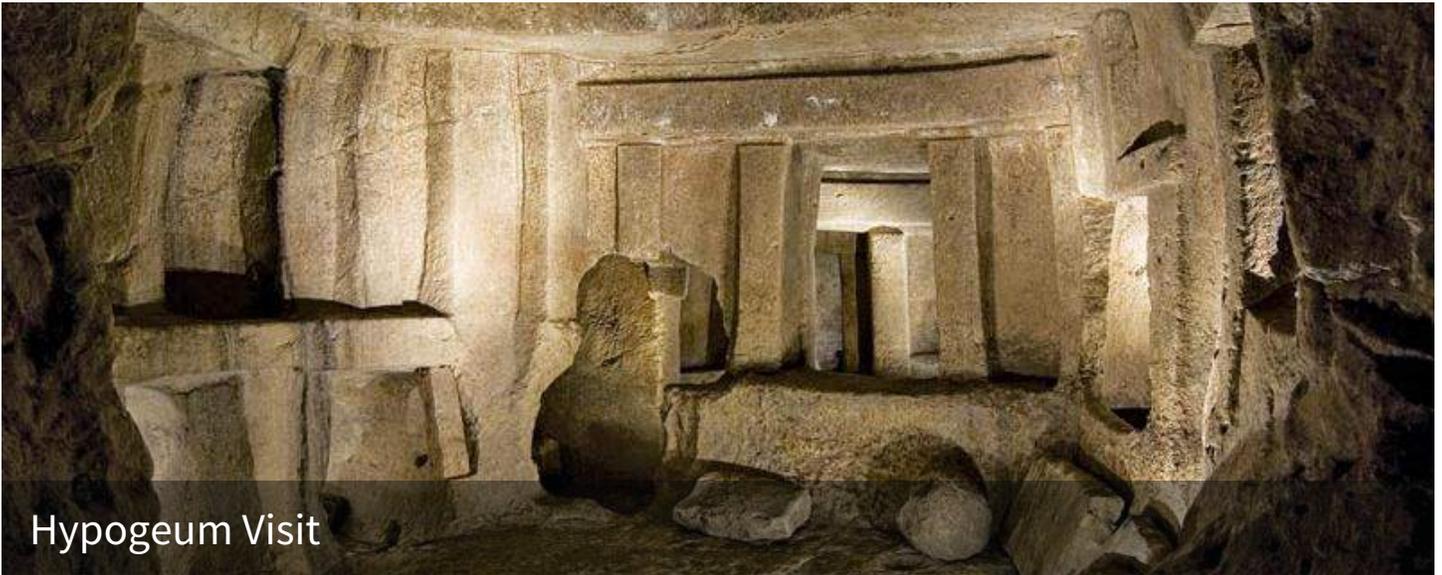
## Hagar Qim & Mnajdra Temples

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. To put their age into perspective - they are around 1000 years older than the pyramids at Giza and Stonehenge. Who knew!?



## 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.



## 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.

## Examples of Private Dining



## 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.



### George Borg Culinary Experience

Your lunch will be a special one. Join famed chef, George Borg for a shopping trip followed by a privately cooked lunch in his studio kitchen. Engage with him in conversation about Maltese and Gozitan cuisine while enjoying local wine.



### Rogantinos - Private Dinner at an Old Hunting Lodge

A private 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, sheries and also rums. A special tasting of your choice is included.



## Private Dinner in the Marsovin Wine Cellars

Tonight's dinner will be in the private cellars of Marsovin Winery - arguably one of the best on our islands. Enjoy a delectable dinner as you navigate through their best wines.



## Barbecue on the Beach

A tradition for Gozitan families in the summer is to have a barbecue on the beach. So tonight it's dining on the beach with your private chef cooking up a storm.



## Dinner in a Private Palazzo

Enjoy a visit to a private palazzino in the city of Cospicua. Unassuming from the outside but a treasure on the inside. Enjoy peaking around the palazzino to see a wonderful collection of art, charming rooms and to ultimately enjoy the chef's dinner creation.



## Cliffside Picnic Experience

Being cliff-side in Malta is a wow experience in itself. Imagine adding a bottle of local bubbly and a picnic meal while enjoying the serenity of the environment during the day or at sunset. Enjoy a private picnic experience at a location that is hand-picked for you.



## Pastizzi Making Experience

Enjoy the unique opportunity to learn how to make the coveted pastizzi snack (a meal for some) in one of the island's most famous pastizzerias. After watching a demonstration, get in there and try out your new found skill set. Bragging rights!

## Private Artisan Encounters



## 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!



## 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.



## Private Maltese Filigree Artisan Visit

The art of filigree can be traced back to ancient Egypt and can be found throughout the Mediterranean and Asia. Maltese Filigree is a delicate art of jewelry that involves the use of fine threads of gold or silver, woven together to create ornate motifs. More than most other types of jewelry, filigree is valued more for the artisan's skill than the actual material used. The more intricate and ornate the design, the more valuable the object. Visit a private artisan to witness this ancient art.



## Traditional Instrument Artisan

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.



## Private Recital in a Wayside Chapel

Wayside chapels dot the Maltese Islands. They existed to serve the villagers before parish churches were constructed. This evening we will have one of them opened for you to enjoy a private recital prior to dinner.

## Private Sailing Examples



## Comino Sailing Day - Racing Sailboat

ALLEGRA is a 47.7 Beneteau racer cruiser performance boat. She has all the luxuries of a modern cruiser coupled with a hull design and sail configuration of a competitive racer; in other words she's comfortable and fast.



## Cruising on the Mediterranean with Comino Island - Sunseeker 56

Enjoy a unique sea perspective of the majestic Maltese Islands and the sparkling Mediterranean on board this Sunseeker Manhattan 56, featuring an array of outdoor facilities for stylish boating entertainment. The 61-foot Sunseeker Manhattan luxury boat boasts an exceptional cruising speed and range. A sleek and spacious flybridge overhead accommodates up to ten day charter guests, doubling as the perfect panoramic sun lounge and entertainment area for pure cruising pleasure.

Active / Adventure



## Countryside Walks

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.



## Quad Bike Tour

There is really no better way to experience the island of Gozo than on a Quad Bike. Ride along less traveled roads to discover unbelievable beauty and peacefulness. We have prepared a picnic lunch for you to enjoy at one of your stops.



## Kayaking off of Gozo

With the freedom of kayaks one can appreciate the beauty of the Maltese coastline and clear blue seas. Due to the nature of the Maltese islands' geology the island is littered with caves that one can freely explore with a kayak.



## Rock Climbing

Awesome and safe - the Maltese Islands are perfect for rock climbing. The rocky terrain and sheer cliffs that characterize much of the Maltese archipelago are ideal for practicing this adventure sport. With over 1300 climbing routes to choose from, and good weather throughout most of the year, the Maltese Islands are becoming a climber's paradise.



## Scuba Diving around Northern Malta and Gozo Island

The Maltese Islands' clear blue Mediterranean sea is ideal for scuba diving. All three Islands offer some unique diving experiences with an abundance of reefs, caves and wrecks that make diving here some of the most interesting in the Mediterranean.

Cost will depend on various factors



## Swimming at Ghajn Tuffieha

Literally meaning "Apple's Eye", Ghajn Tuffieha offers a glimpse into Northern Malta's beautiful scenery. On top of the cliffs west of Gajn Tuffiea bay there is an old defense tower built in 1637. It is one of the seven towers built by Grand Master Giovanni Paolo Lascaris, of the Knights Hospitaller.



## Bocci With The Locals

Who doesn't enjoy a good game of bocci? This afternoon, you'll enjoy the popular game at one of the village bocci clubs. It's not just a past-time for the locals as you'll find out.

## Jewish Culture Examples



## Mdina - the Silent and Medieval City (Jewish Highlights)

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. While inside, learn about the bustling Jewish culture of the Middle Ages where their population represented a third before the Edict of Expulsion.



## Synagogue visit

Malta's only Synagogue is located in the village of Ta' Xbiex. It was consecrated in January of 2000 and is discreetly located in an apartment complex. The gold-embroidered blue velvet Ark cover was donated in 1946 in memory of two brothers, Alfonso and Menashe Reginiano (one of who was killed by a bomb in WWII). We will meet at the Synagogue with the Acting Rabbi of the Jewish community to hear stories about the community, his family and to learn about their local practices.



## Village of Rabat

The Arabs, during their 200 years of rule, divided the old Roman City of Melita into two: the citadel became known as Mdina and the rest of the area as Rabat. In Rabat we find St. Paul's Church and Grotto as well as the St. Paul's Catacombs. It is here where we learn the story of a shipwrecked St. Paul (Saul of Tarsus) in Malta.

The Christian, Jewish and Pagan Catacombs of St. Paul are not themselves associated with Paul but derive their name from their proximity to St. Paul's Church and Grotto. They are a fascinating labyrinth of 3rd-century AD subterranean tombs and the earliest archaeological evidence of Christianity in Malta.



Shabbat Dinner at L'Chaim Restaurant



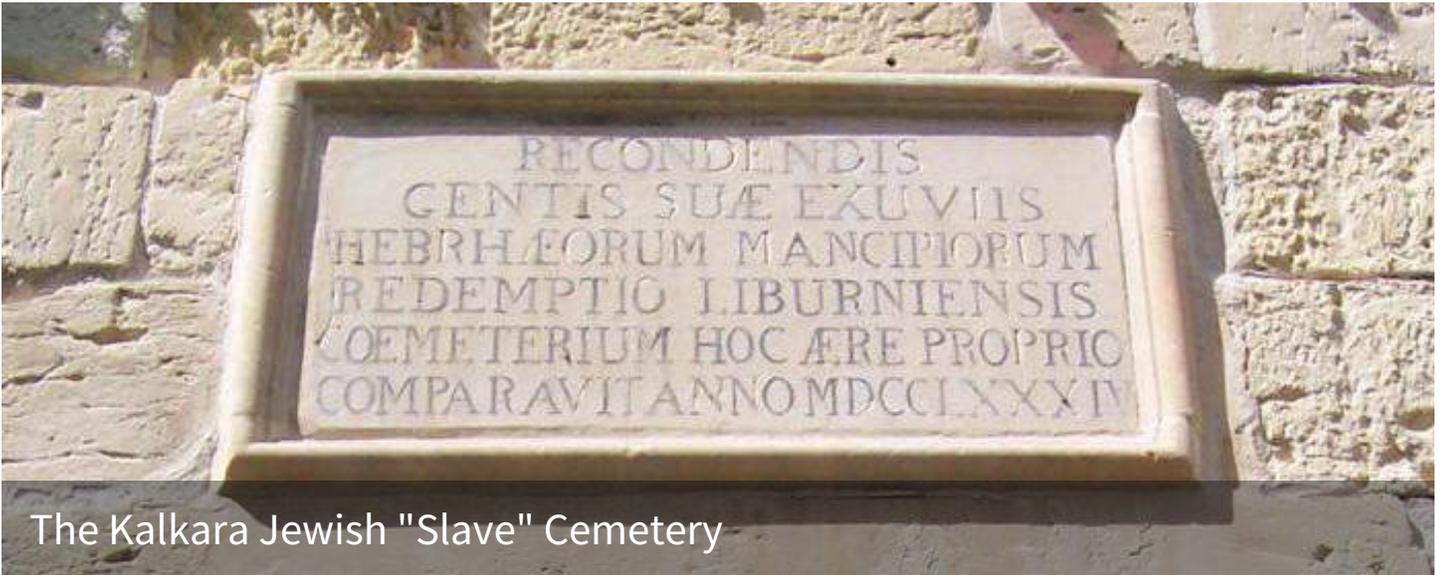
Chabad Jewish Center of Malta was established in 2013 (5773) by Rabbi Chiam Shalom and Mrs. Chaya Mushka Segel as emissaries of the Lubavitcher Rebbe.

Within the Chabad there is Le'Chaim, the only strictly kosher restaurant in Malta. There is a lounge area, quality food with the option of fast foods such as falafel and sandwiches as well as Jewish reading books. Enjoy your Shabbat dinner this evening here!



The Marsa Jewish Cemetery

The Marsa Jewish cemetery was established in 1879. The first readable gravestones are from 1887 with the inscriptions in Italian being the oldest - perhaps because there was nobody to write in Hebrew. In these holy grounds lie side by side Jews who escaped from concentration camps, from Budapest or from Tunis, Oran or a German village. Learn about the prominent families of the last 100 years with a focus on the Tayar and Ohayon families.



## The Kalkara Jewish "Slave" Cemetery

The Kalkara cemetery is the earliest surviving Jewish burial ground in Malta. The cemetery is about 30 feet by 40 feet, bounded by houses, and at the front by a retaining wall. The origins are recorded in a Latin inscription on a tablet over the door:

"This cemetery was established in 1784 by the Leghorn fund for ransoming Hebrew slaves, at its own expenses, for the burial of the dead of its race,"



## Ta Braxia Jewish Cemetery

Sir Moses Montefiore, the famous Jewish philanthropist passed through Malta in 1827 on his way to Palestine and stayed on the island for a month. During his visit he asked Governor Ponsonby for a new site as a Jewish cemetery. The last was purchased by the Jewish community and belongs to them. The larger Ta' Braxia Cemetery came afterwards. The earliest identifiable grave is from 1836.

Restoration work occurred by volunteers from the Din L-Art Helwa community to clean up the land with 50 percent of the graves intact afterwards.