

MALTA TOUR – 07 DAYS

Depart Date: 15/09/2024

Return Date: 21/09/2024

Adult: from £1445 per adult on twin / double / triple sharing basis

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- ❖ Three Cities Tour with Grand Harbour and Valletta
- ❖ Blue Grotto Boat Trip
- ❖ Marsaxlokk Village
- ❖ Mdina Medieval City
- ❖ Crafts Village and Mosta Dome
- ❖ Gozo Island Tour

Itinerary:

DAY 01: LONDON/MANCHESTER – MALTA:

Depart from London/Manchester Airport to Malta. Arrival, Pickup and proceed to Hotel. Check-in at hotel. Rest day free for leisure. Overnight Stay.

DAY 02: FULL DAY TOUR TO THREE CITIES, GRAND HARBOUR & VALLETTA:

After breakfast, proceed for Three Cities with Grand Harbour and Valletta tour.

We start this tour visiting the oldest region of the Grand Harbour, otherwise known as the Three Cities. Our first stop includes a visit to the Gardjola Gardens in Senglea. From here you can admire the fantastic view from the Vedette (watch tower used by the Knights). We continue with a scenic drive along the seafront to Cospicua. Here you can admire the magnificent beautifully transformed marina, which used to shelter the galleys of the Knights and British navy vessels during the British era.



Our next location is Vittoriosa, otherwise known as Birgu. In 1532 the Knights of St. John first settled here, and we will explore the old historical centre which is known as the Collacchio. Here the Knights' built their Palazzos and Auberges. It is a maze of narrow streets and quaint alleys. Your visit will give you a good insight into the way the Knights lived. A short distance from the old historical centre is the original conventual church of the Order, St. Lawrence's. This beautiful church overlooks the harbour area which was the main place of commercial activity during the period of the Knights.

We will stop for a short drink/coffee break in Birgu Piazza, before making our way down to the harbour to board a board the ferry for Valletta. On arrival in Valletta, we will take the Barraka Lift (elevator) to the upper level of the city, and the magnificent Upper Barraka Gardens.

Valletta, our capital, is the youngest of our fortified cities and it was built soon after the Great Siege of 1565 against the Ottomans. We start our tour of Valletta at the Upper Barraka Gardens, from where you can admire views over the magnificent fortified Grand Harbour. We continue with our walking tour of the city, enroute passing Castille Place and Merchants Street, here you can admire the beautiful Auberges and Palazzi which were built in the baroque style architecture and have imposing facades.

Overnight stay.

DAY 03: FULL DAY TOUR TO BLUE GROTTA BOAT TRIP, MARSAXLOKK VILLAGE (SMALL MARKET), MDINA MEDIEVAL CITY, CRAFTS VILLAGE & MOSTA DOME:

After breakfast, Proceed for full day sightseeing.

We will be touring the south of the island during this tour, starting at the Blue Grotto. This picturesque grotto and its neighboring system of sea caverns mirrors the brilliant phosphorescent colors of underwater flora. Boat trips, which take around 25 minutes allow you to explore these grottoes and sea caverns along this stretch of coast



Our next stop includes a visit to Marsaxlokk. This quaint fishing village on the south coast is characterized by low lying buildings and the colorful traditional fishing boats known as the 'luzzu'. Enjoy some free time taking photos and wandering around the small local market.

We next visit the Medieval city of Mdina.

Mdina is built on a plateau in the centre of the island, the city's old Baroque buildings, cathedral and magnificent bastion walls dominate the rural skyline. Mdina, once the capital of Malta until the modern city of Valletta was built in 1566 has had many names including Melite (Roman occupation), Medina (Arabic occupation), Citta Notabile and Citta Vecchia (after Valletta was built). Today it is also referred as the Silent City since it inspires tranquillity at any time of the

day or night. The only way to really experience and enjoy this city is on foot, explore the quaint alleys, narrow streets, ancient buildings and incredible far reaching views from the high bastion walls. At this stage you will have some free time for a lunch break.

After lunch we continue to Crafts Village. Here one can view the local crafts and it is also the ideal place to purchase some gifts from a good selection of locally made pottery and ceramics, filigree and jewellery, local stone items, wrought iron and much more. Do not miss out on the glassblowers – decorative glass made in the traditional manner by hand and mouth; also etching and crystal cutting.

Our final stop is at one of Malta's most iconic buildings, Mosta Dome. The church's dome is the fourth largest unsupported dome in Europe. Mosta Dome is also popular with visitors as it was at this church where a bomb pierced the dome during a World War II air attack. The bomb fell inside the church during a service and failed to explode. Locals hailed this as a miracle. Overnight stay.

DAY 04: MALTA:

After breakfast, Full day free for leisure / shopping activities on your own. Overnight stay.

DAY 05: FULL DAY TOUR TO GOZO ISLAND:

After breakfast, Depart for Gozo Island tour.

We start with a scenic drive along the northern coast passing the pretty village of Mellieha and Ghadira Bay before arriving at the ferry terminal. Here will board the ferry for a pleasant 25 minute ferry crossing, en route passing the smallest of our islands, 'Comino'.

The charm of Gozo is apparent the moment you arrive there. Greener, more rural and smaller than Malta. Our tour is a combination of scenic spots, historical sites and local culture.

We feature most of the main highlights during our tour. The first stop is at Ggantija temples, which are a UNESCO World Heritage Site and considered to be amongst the oldest free standing megalithic monuments in the world dating back over 5500 years. The adjoining visitor's centre boasts artefacts from the temple site and also from the Xaghra Circle (4100BC), studies of samples and results from which are still emerging.



A scenic drive will pass through quaint sleepy villages that characterise Gozo's unique charm. The drive also highlights the north coast. A brief stop at the Calypso Cave Belvedere, offers magnificent views over the red sands of Ramla Bay and the lush fertile valley which leads down to it.

Overnight stay.

DAY 06: MALTA:

After breakfast, Full day free for leisure / shopping activities on your own. Overnight stay.

DAY 07: MALTA – MANCHESTER/LONDON:

Early morning, check-out from hotel and transfer to airport for flight back to Manchester/London.

PRICE INCLUDES:	PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Economy class International Air ticket (London/Manchester to Malta Return) ✓ Accommodation in 4* or similar hotel in standard room on twin / double / triple sharing basis ✓ Daily Continental Breakfast and Dinner at hotel ✓ Three Cities Tour with Grand Harbour and Valletta ✓ St. John's Cathedral ✓ Blue Grotto Boat Trip ✓ Marsaxlokk Village ✓ Mdina Medieval City ✓ Crafts Village and Mosta Dome ✓ Gozo Island Tour ✓ All transfer and sightseeing by private vehicle basis ✓ Services of Tour Manager (minimum 20 paying adults only or local representative) ✓ Tips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Travel Insurance ✗ Any expenses of personal nature ✗ Lunches / Any meals not mentioned ✗ Porterage ✗ Any items not mentioned ✗ Any entrance tickets not mentioned ✗ Single Room Supplement: £395