

Maltese Country Guide

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Current Travel Advice from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

This advice is current for Mon, 5th November 2018.

Exercise normal safety precautions in Malta. Use common sense. Look out for suspicious behaviour. Monitor the media and other sources for changes to local travelling conditions.

There is an ongoing threat of terrorism in Europe. Terrorist attacks have occurred in a number of European cities in recent years. See [Safety and security](#).

The above information is an edited excerpt of the Travel Advice Summary from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Travellers are encouraged to read the travel advice in full, subscribe to updates to this advice and to register their presence in Malta at www.smartraveller.gov.au.

Tourist Visa Conditions

Malta forms part of the Schengen Area. Australian passport holders are usually allowed to enter the Schengen Area for Tourism or Business purposes for up to 90 days in any 180 day period without a visa. The countries which make up the Schengen Area are Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

Travellers to the Schengen Area are recommended to ensure their passport is valid for at least six months beyond their intended stay. Travellers are also recommended to be able to provide documentation confirming their ability to financially maintain themselves during their stay as well as tickets and entry documents for their onward destination.

For further information and to confirm that your specific circumstance make you eligible to travel to the Schengen area without a visa, please contact a Maltese mission on the details below.

Vaccinations and Health Precautions

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a travellers individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Vaccination against hepatitis A is recommended for travellers to Malta. Frequent or long stay travellers to Malta should consider vaccination against hepatitis B. Regardless of destination, all travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations, including a recent annual Influenza vaccination. Please consult a medical practitioner or contact The Travel Doctor for your specific risk to these preventable diseases and the appropriate avoidance measures.

Australians in Malta are entitled to subsidised health care as part of the Reciprocal Health Care Agreement (RHCA) between the two countries for up to six months from their date of arrival. To take advantage of this program, travellers need to present their Australian passport and a valid Medicare card. For further information regarding the RHCA, please go to www.humanservices.gov.au. This agreement does not replace the need for travellers to take out travel insurance to cover the length of their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas and other issues please visit www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips.

Maltese Representation in Australia

High Commission of Malta,
Canberra

38 Culgoa Circuit
O'MALLEY ACT 2606

Tel: (02) 6290 1724
Web: www.foreign.gov.mt

Consulate of Malta, Sydney

Level 10 Suite 10.04
31 Market Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

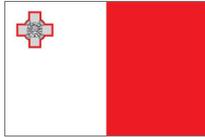
Tel: (02) 9262 9500
Fax: (02) 9264 4722

Consulate of Malta, Melbourne

Suite 613, 6th Floor
343 Little Collins Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Tel: (03) 9670 8427
Fax: (03) 9670 9451

Malta also maintains honorary consulates in throughout Australia. However, the three posts previously outlined should first be contacted as honorary consulates offer limited services.



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Time Differences between Malta and Australia

Malta is Greenwich Mean Time +1 hour (+2 during daylight saving). The applicable time zone is Central European Time (CET) or Central European Summer Time (CEST). Daylight saving is observed from the last Sunday in March to the last Sunday in October.

Malta, 12 noon, Winter (Dec) = Perth 7pm, Darwin 8:30pm, Brisbane 9pm, Adelaide 9:30pm, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 10pm.
 Malta, 12 noon, Summer (Jun) = Perth 6pm, Darwin, Adelaide 7:30pm, Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 8pm.

Important Contact Numbers

Country Code for Malta: +356
 To Dial Australia Call: 00 61 <City> <Number>
 Australian Reverse Charges Direct:
 800 90610
 Travelex Card Services:
 Call the US on +1 954 838 8294
 Visa Global Assist:
 Call the US on +1 303 967 1090
 MasterCard:
 Call the US on +1 636 722 7111
 American Express Travellers Cheques:
 800 90110, then 1 888 937 2639
 Consumer Protection Line: 2125 0221
 Maltese Police: 2122 4001-7
 Emergency Services: 112
 The emergency services should be able to answer calls in Maltese and in English.

Important Information to be Recorded

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

Passports

Name: _____ Passport #: _____
 Name: _____ Passport #: _____

Credit Cards

Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Card Number: _____
 Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Card Number: _____

Travel Insurance

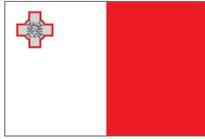
Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____
 Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Australian Representation in Malta

High Commission of Australia, Malta
 Ta' Xbiex Terrace
 TA' XBIEX, XBX 1034
 Tel: (+356) 21338 201
 Fax: (+356) 21344 059
 Web: www.malta.embassy.gov.au

Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (+61) 2 6261 3305.

Australians in Malta are encouraged to register their presence and contact details with the Australian High Commission, or online with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade at www.orao.dfat.gov.au.



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Duty Free Allowances for Malta and Australia

Duty Free limits when entering Malta from a non EU state:

Alcohol: 1 L spirits (>22% alc vol) or 2 L other beverages;
as well as 4 L of still wine and 16 L of beer.

Tobacco: 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 250 g of tobacco.

Other Goods: Up to a value of €430 (€150 if under 15 years).

Duty Free limits when entering Australia:

Alcohol: 2.25 litres of alcoholic beverages.

Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes.

Other Goods: Up to \$900 (\$450 for minors).

Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Further restrictions apply when entering/exiting Malta, Europe and Australia. Travellers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these restrictions before crossing the borders of either country. For information on Maltese customs please visit www.customs.gov.mt, or for information on Australian customs please visit www.homeaffairs.gov.au.

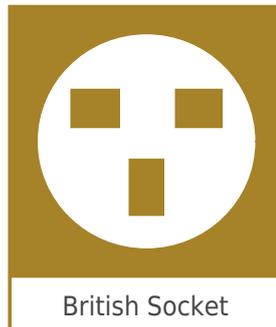
Electrical and Telephone Adaptors

Electrical Socket type: British.

Voltage: 220-240 volts (same as Australia, no voltage/frequency converter required).

Modem Plug: British.

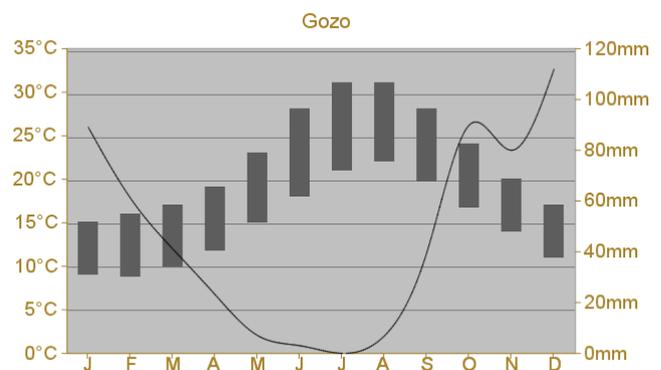
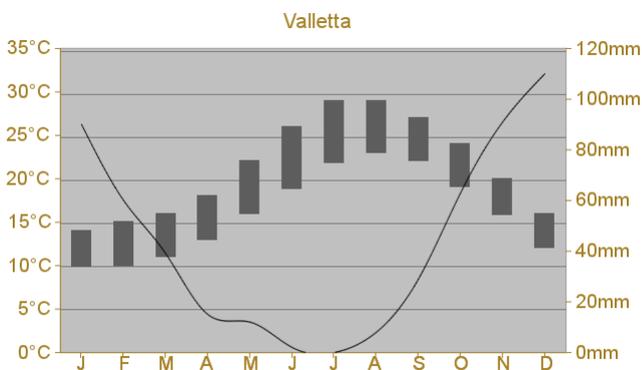
To purchase electrical/modem adaptors, or for further information on this matter, please view the Korjo adapter guide at www.korjo.com.au.



Maltese Public Holidays 2018

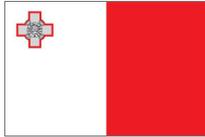
01 Jan: New Year's Day	29 Jun: Saints Peter & Paul Day
10 Feb: St. Paul's Shipwreck	15 Aug: Assumption
19 Mar: St Joseph Day	08 Sep: Our Lady of Victories
30 Mar: Good Friday	21 Sep: Independence Day
31 Mar: Freedom Day	08 Dec: Immaculate Conception
01 May: Labour Day	13 Dec: Republic Day
07 Jun: Sette Giugno	25 Dec: Christmas Day

Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line) in Malta



Source: Metoffice, Malta Airport. For local forecasts please go to <http://weather.maltairport.com> or www.bbc.co.uk/weather.

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Exchange Rate

Interbank Rate

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 0.63 Euro
 1 Euro (EUR) = 1.58 Australian Dollars

With 4% Margin

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) will buy 0.61 Euro
 1 Euro (EUR) will cost 1.65 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "With 4% Margin" adds 4% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin that would be paid when exchanging currencies. These rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

Purchasing-Power Parity

The following is a purchasing-power comparison of the Euro and the Australian Dollar, using the Big Mac as a common good. While it does not present a faultless comparison, it is a useful indicator of the purchasing-power of the two currencies.

Big Mac Australia: \$5.95 (AUD) = 3.76 Euro
 Big Mac Euro Area: €3.95 (EUR) = 6.26 Australian Dollars

A Big Mac in the Euro Area is therefore 5% more expensive than in Australia.

This comparison is based on 2018 prices using current exchange rates. Prices may not include variations by locality or local taxes.

Currency Cheat Sheet

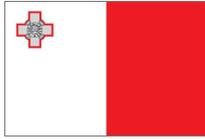
This cheat sheet uses the "With 4% Margin" rate of exchange listed above.

€0.50 = \$0.82 AUD	€10 = \$16.47 AUD	€100 = \$164.73 AUD
€1 = \$1.65 AUD	€20 = \$32.95 AUD	€200 = \$329.47 AUD
€2 = \$3.29 AUD	€30 = \$49.42 AUD	€300 = \$494.20 AUD
€3 = \$4.94 AUD	€40 = \$65.89 AUD	€400 = \$658.94 AUD
€4 = \$6.59 AUD	€50 = \$82.37 AUD	€500 = \$823.67 AUD
€5 = \$8.24 AUD	€60 = \$98.84 AUD	€600 = \$988.40 AUD
€6 = \$9.88 AUD	€70 = \$115.31 AUD	€700 = \$1,153.14 AUD
€7 = \$11.53 AUD	€80 = \$131.79 AUD	€800 = \$1,317.87 AUD
€8 = \$13.18 AUD	€90 = \$148.26 AUD	€900 = \$1,482.61 AUD
€9 = \$14.83 AUD		€1,000 = \$1,647.34 AUD

Notes and Coins

The legal currency of Malta is the Euro, which is abbreviated using the symbol € (for example €100). The subunit of the Euro is the cent, of which there are 100 in every Euro. The following units of currency are the most common in Malta but other versions and denominations are also in circulation (including a purple €500 note and other nations' coins). Pictures are not to scale.





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Full Name: Repubblika ta' Malta (Republic of Malta).
 Independence: 21 September 1964 (from the UK)
 Size: 316 sq km (0.5% the size of the Tasmania).
 Population: 410,000. Valletta (capital) 200,000.
 Density: 1,321 people per square kilometer.
 Languages: Maltese (official) 90%, English (official) 6%.
 Religion: Catholic 98% (the official religion of Malta).
 Ethnicity: Maltese (descendants of Carthaginians and Phoenicians with strong elements of Italian).
 GDP Per Capita: US\$27,500(Australia US\$40,800).

Significant Dates:
 800 BC - Phoenicians from modern Lebanon settle in Malta.
 218 BC - Rome takes control following the Punic Wars.
 60 AD - St Paul the Apostle is shipwrecked on Malta.
 870-1090 - Fatimid Arabs occupy Malta, introducing Islam.
 1090 - The Normans conquer Malta, which is then passed between several royal European houses.
 1530-1798- The Knights of St. John (Hospitaller) rule Malta.
 1565 - The Great Siege of Malta by the Ottoman Turks.
 1814 - Malta becomes a British colony following a brief occupation by Napoleon Bonaparte.
 1939-45 - Malta becomes a British stronghold during WW2. It is heavily bombed by the Italian and German air forces.
 1964 - Malta gains independence from Britain.

