

# MALTA, THE PEARL OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

6 Days FROM \$1,419



Valletta Skyline in the Evening, Malta

## ESCORTED TOUR PROGRAM

(5) Malta



# - No. of overnight stays

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Tour the Maltese capital of Valletta and delve into the tales of the Knights of St. John
- See Caravaggio's masterpiece "The Beheading of St John" in St. John's Cathedral
- Delve into Mdina, touring its cobblestone streets and walking around its well-preserved defensive walls
- Explore Vittoriosa and venture back in history with a visit to Hagar Qim Temples built over 7,000 years ago
- Marvel at the 5000+ year-old UNESCO-listed Ġgantija Temples on the island of Gozo

**DAY 1 | FRI | VALLETTA** Arrive at Malta International Airport, and transfer to your hotel situated adjacent to the magnificent 16th century bastions of Valletta, the Maltese capital, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. At the center of the Mediterranean, come explore its splendid buildings, tales of the Knights of St. John, crystal-clear intensely blue waters, peaceful beaches, and rocky coves continue to attract visitors from all over the world. Dinner and overnight at your hotel. (D)

**DAY 2 | SAT | VALLETTA | MDINA | VALLETTA** Today you will tour Valletta, Malta's capital city and a World Heritage site. The first stop will be at the Upper Barrakka Gardens, a beautiful public park whose terrace offers panoramic views of the Grand Harbor and the old towns of Vittoriosa, Senglea and Cospicua. Next, walk past Auberge de Castille, on your way to St John's Co-Cathedral, the 16th century church built by the Knights of Malta housing Malta's finest piece of art: The Beheading of St John by Caravaggio. Head to the Grandmaster's Palace that was built by the knights in 1571 and is home of the Maltese government. Have lunch on own. This afternoon you will visit Mdina and tour its cobblestone streets and walk around its defensive walls before heading back to your hotel. (B)

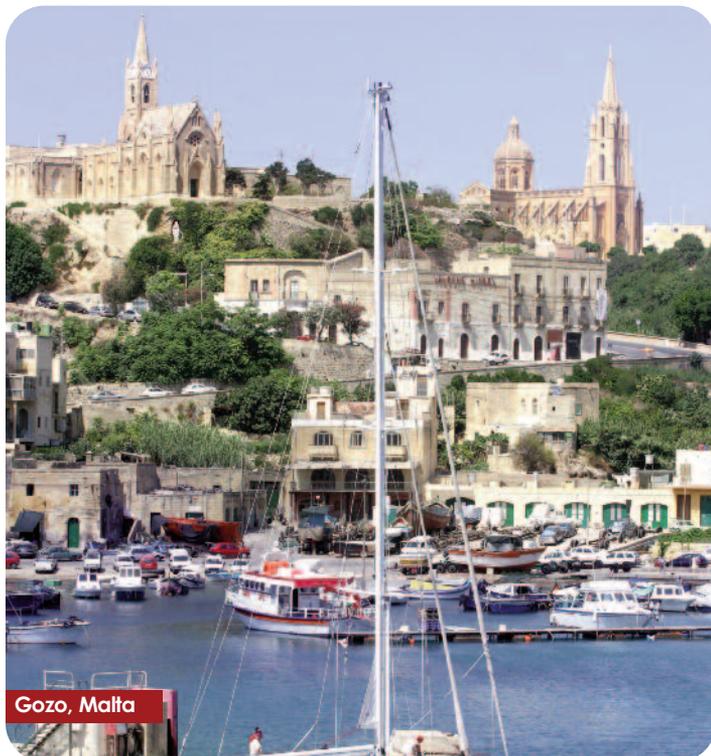
**DAY 3 | SUN | VALLETTA | VITTORIOSA | VALLETTA** This morning, start the day with a tour of the town of Vittoriosa. Here stroll, with your guide, through the quaint narrow streets, passing by the Church of St Lawrence, the Inquisitor's Palace, and several palaces built during the time of the Knights. From Vittoriosa, you will venture further back in history with a visit to Hagar Qim Temples, a magnificent temple site built over 7,000 years ago. Many artifacts of interest have been unearthed at Hagar Qim, notably a decorated pillar altar, two table-altars and the "fat lady" statues, now on display in the National Museum of Archaeology in Valletta. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure. (B)

**DAY 4 | MON | VALLETTA | GOZO | VALLETTA** This morning you will travel by ferry to the second largest island of the Maltese archipelago, the island of Gozo. See the UNESCO-listed Ġgantija Temples. Dating back between 3600 BC and 3200 BC, these two megalithic monuments are the oldest free-standing stone structures in the world, even older than the Stonehenge and the Egyptian Pyramids. Next, continue on to Victoria, Gozo's laid-back capital. In between sightseeing, you will stop at a local restaurant for lunch. Return to Malta in the late afternoon. (B,L)

**DAY 5 | TUE | VALLETTA** Full day at leisure for independent activities. Tonight enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B,D)

**DAY 6 | WED | VALLETTA TO USA (OR EXTEND YOUR STAY)** Morning transfer to Malta International airport for your return flight home. (B)

(B) Breakfast - (L) Lunch - (D) Dinner



Gozo, Malta



Exploring old town of Valletta

### PREFERRED HOTELS (or similar)

City	Nts.	Hotels	Cat.
Valletta	5	Grand Hotel Excelsior	Deluxe class

### INCLUDED FEATURES

- Deluxe class hotel accommodation for 5 nights
- 8 included meals, consisting of:
  - 5 buffet breakfasts
  - 1 lunch at local restaurant
  - 1 dinner at hotel
  - 1 dinner at local restaurant
- Wine and water served with meals at hotel and restaurants
- Touring by private vehicles
- Assistance of a professional tour director for the entire length of the tour
- Sightseeing, including local guide and all entrance fees, as follows:
  - Tour of Valletta and Mdina, including St. John's Cathedral and Grandmaster's Palace
  - Tour of Vittoriosa, including Hagar Qim Temples
  - Tour of Gozo, including Ġgantija Temples
- Arrival and departure airport transfers
- Baggage handling at hotel
- Document holder and luggage tags
- Hotel taxes and service charges

### 2018 TOUR DATES & PRICES

Daily Departures	Price*
Minimum of 4 pax	\$1,599
Minimum of 6 pax	\$1,499
Minimum of 8 pax	\$1,419

Single supplement: \$539

(\*) Price is per person based on double occupancy.

Rates for additional nights at first and last city are available.