

italian tours and

Travel by Diana

19059 Lake Road
Rocky River, Ohio, 44116 - USA
+1.440.895.0011
info@italiantoursbydiana.com
www.italiantoursbydiana.com
f Italian Tours by Diana

Custom Itinerary to Malta

Day 1 Depart USA

International flights to Valletta, Malta (booked independently).

Day 2 Arrive Valletta

Valletta



Merħba f'Malta! Welcome to Malta! Upon arrival at the Valletta airport, retrieve your luggage and proceed to the arrivals hall. Here you will meet your private driver for transfer to your hotel. Check in and relax. Spend the remainder of the day enjoying the Maltese way of life. Malta, a small island, is the perfect place for relaxation, a bit of history, great food and an overall laidback visit. If you choose to venture out to a museum or local gardens, there are plenty to choose from. The National Museum of Archaeology, the Art Gallery, or botanical gardens to name a few. Overnight in Valletta. PT/H

Day 3 Valletta

Valletta



Breakfast at the hotel. This morning, meet your private driver and private bilingual guide to enjoy a leisurely ride around Valletta and its fortifications. Valletta is the official capital of the Island of Malta. Of all European capitals, it is the smallest and is considered a World Heritage Site. Valletta was originally established as a refuge for soldiers returning from the Crusades in 1565 by the religious order of St. John. Some of the city highlights include St. John's Cathedral, The Museum of Archaeology and Ghar Dalaam. From outside of the city walls, view the two harbors on both sides of Valletta. Drive to the Upper

Barracca gardens to get the magnificent view of the Grand Harbor and an incredible perspective of the entire city. Continue on your way to St. John's Cathedral. Inside St. John's Cathedral, you will have an in-depth guided tour that includes Caravaggio's paintings in the Oratory as well as the Museum upstairs. Your exploration will continue with a visit to the Grand Master's Palace and the Palace Armoury. Your tour concludes with a visit to Casa Rocca Piccola, a stately home still lived in and one of the few and rarest opportunities to view the interior of a Maltese home and its typical furnishings. After, independently continue to the Hypogeum and the Tarxien Temples. The Hypogeum literally means "underground" in Greek. Exploring this underground burial site, carved out into the rock more than 5000 years ago, is one of the most memorable and inspiring experiences that you will have on the island; and is among the best-preserved examples of a Maltese temple. Entrance tickets to the Hypogeum will be purchased and included in your final package. Overnight in Valletta. **B/PD/G/ET/ET/H**

Day 4 Valletta, Mdina & Rabat

Mdina



Breakfast at the hotel. Meet your private driver and guide in the hotel lobby for a guided tour of Mdina (20min) and Rabat. The history of Mdina traces back more than 4000 years. Lit by night and referred to as "the silent city," Mdina is fascinating to visit for its timeless atmosphere as well as its cultural and religious treasures. It was the original capital of Malta, but knights and sailors wanted to be closer to their ships so Valletta became the new capital. The small museum of the Domvs Romana is built around the remains of a rich, aristocratic Roman town house which was accidentally discovered in 1881. Although very little remains from the house itself, the intricate mosaics which survived for centuries as well as the artifacts found within the remains are testimony enough of the original richness and story of this fantastic abode. During your tour, you will visit St. Paul's Cathedral and see the old moats of the fortified city. Continue to Rabat. According to tradition it was here that in 60 A.D. that the Apostle St. Paul is said to have lived after being shipwrecked on the Islands. Furthermore it is said that St. Paul resided inside the grotto known as Fuori le Mura (outside the city walls) now known as St. Paul's Grotto in Rabat. Finally, you will visit St. Paul's Catacombs. After the tour, return to Valletta with your driver. You may stop at the Dingli cliffs as you return, for beautiful coastal views. Overnight in Valletta. **B/PD/G/ET/H**

Day 5 Valletta, Gozo

Breakfast at hotel and check out. This morning, meet your private driver in the hotel lobby. Together, you will make your way to Paradise Bay (45m) to board a ferry to the ancient and exclusive island of Gozo (tickets to be purchased on the spot). Upon arrival in Gozo, make your way to your hotel and

check in. Settle for the rest of the day at leisure.

GOZO



Compared to Valletta, Gozo is more rural and less developed but contains incredible natural bays and scenic hills. There are two cultural sites on the island: The Citadel, which you may choose to see in depth, and the pre-historic temples. We suggest you enjoy a traditional lunch at a local restaurant in Victoria, the largest city on the island. Or, you can kayak around the island. Afterwards, you are free to enjoy some time at your own pace in Gozo. Overnight in Gozo. **B/PT/H**

Day 6 Gozo, Comino

Breakfast at hotel. Today is independent. You may choose to rest in Gozo, or visit Dwejra in the northwest part of the island. This is where the Azure Window used to be located before its collapse, but you can still see the Inland Sea and other interesting nature wonders like the Deep Blue Hole. Or, you may choose to visit Comino, Malta's smallest island. From Gozo, you can take a small shuttle boat

Comino



to Comino (25min). Situated between Malta and Gozo, this island is a paradise for snorkelers, divers and windsurfers. Comino is car-free and virtually uninhabited. Here you can explore the Blue Lagoon, with crystal clear water and soft sand, a popular destination for visitors. There are also other two small sandy beaches on the island if you prefer a quieter spot to relax, Santa Marija Bay or San Niklaw Bay, for swimming. Return to Gozo in the late afternoon. Overnight in Gozo. **B/H**
(A private boat can also be arranged)

Day 7 Gozo, Blue Grotto, Marsaxlokk, Valletta

Breakfast at hotel and check out. Meet your private driver in the hotel lobby for transfer first to the Blue Grotto. This famous attraction can be seen from the vista point, or you can copt for the short 30 minute boat tour inside (arranged on the spot). After, continue with your driver to Marsaxlokk.

Marsaxlokk



This small fishing port is a beautiful town, with traditional colorful boats. You may spot an eye painted on the boats, which is a tradition that dates back to Phoenician times. You can have a fresh seafood lunch in charming Marsaxlokk or shop at the market if you visit on a Sunday. Continue back to Valletta with your driver, check in to your hotel and settle. Prepare for overseas flights. Overnight in Valletta. (Alternatively, you could spend the night in Marsaxlokk). **B/PD/H**

Day 8 Depart Valletta

Breakfast at the hotel and check out. Meet your private driver for transfer to the Malta airport. Here you will board a flight home. Addijul! Goodbye, Malta. **B/PT**

CODES: B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner H=Hotel G=Guide ET=Entrance Ticket
PD=Private Driver PT=Private Transfer TRTK=Train Ticket BR= Boat Ride WT=Wine Tasting
PWT=Private Water Taxi CL=Cooking Lesson

Your custom itinerary includes 24/7 concierge service from Diana & staff, along with the items denoted by the codes at the end of each day's description

Once the "flow" of the itinerary is perfect for your journey, we are happy to provide a package price, per person, for the land portion only. Due to confidential and exclusive contracts with our suppliers, we are unable to accommodate requests for price breakdowns. Kindly note that your final quote for the land portion of this journey does not include international airfare, tipping, meals where not indicated and a city tax required by the European governments to be paid upon check out of each hotel. The tax is to be paid in cash and is approximately 1.50-5.00 euro per person per day.