

DIRECTORY

WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK

- A Café Jubilee
 B Ta' Ricardo
- © Del Borgo Wine Bar
 D The Lord Nelson

EAT LIKE A LOCAL

- E Paranga

 La Cuccagna
- Gululu
- Rubino

SPECIAL PLACES

- Peppino's
 Waterbiscuit

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

WHERE TO SHOP

FIND WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR

- Mdina Glass
- Bristow Potteries
- Casa Rocca Piccola
- Manoel Theatre Bookshop

LOCAL SECRETS

- Marsaxlokk Market
- Fruit & Vegetable Market

KEY SHOPPING AREAS

- Baystreet Shopping MallPlaza Shopping Centre
- The Point
- Republic Street, Valletta

IN THE KNOW

DID YOU KNOW

- Azure Window
- B Hypogeum of Hal-SafjieniC The Grand Harbour
- Mosta Dome
- E St. John's Co-Cathedral

DISCOVER MALTA

- A Three Cities
- B Hagar Qim &
 Mnajdra Temples
 C Blue Grotto

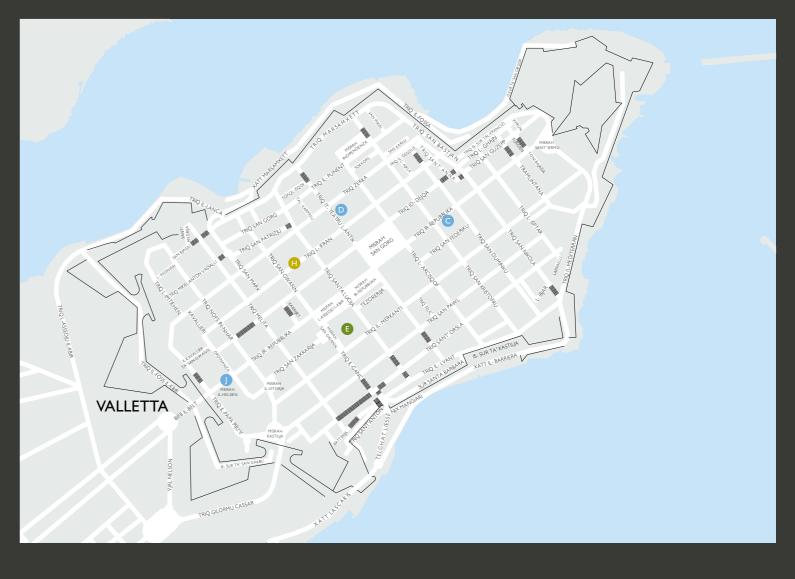
- D Ta' Qali
 Mdina

WALKS & TRIPS

- Spinola Bay
- G Paceville

WHERE THE CROWDS GO

- ⊕ Gozo
- Comino





Harbour and Marsamxett Harbour. boats is also available in the Grand service using traditional Maltese 'dgħajsa' each Island and Comino. A water taxi are also regular boat services between taking about 25 minutes each way. There A regular ferry service links Malta to Gozo, **FEKKIES**

or mountain bicycles is another option. acceptable. Renting scooters, motorbikes and national driving licenses are both tor your convenience. International hire is available at the Concierge Lounge English and driving is on the left. Car the islands. All the road signs are in want to get to the farther reaches of Renting a car is a good option if you CAR HIRE

WELCOME TO

(i) INTERCONTINENTAL CONCIERGE.

on the tare before starting the journey. expensive and it is highly advisable to agree stopping a taxi on the street is relatively you make use of the hotel white taxis as on a fixed tariff. We recommend that Terminal to all localities in Malta are based International Airport and the Seaport bus-stops. Taxi services from the Malta passengers from anywhere, except The white taxi service can pick up

Concierge for further information. takes about ninety minutes. Ask your tourist areas. The longest bus journey get around as buses serve the major of yew boog a si osod bna stlaM no The public transport network of buses **BOS KOOLES**

VKOUND

CELLING

or stroll through the Vittoriosa marina with its mix of hip restaurants and wine bars. views of the Grand Harbour and the bastions of Valletta. After the tour, stop for dinner anything hidden away amongst the squares and tiny streets and admire the wonderful (Birgu), Senglea (I-Isla) and Cospicua (Bormla). Take a guided tour so you don't miss For a perfect evening, we recommend you visit the Three Cities of Malta: Vittoriosa

snack in the bistro of Palazzo De Piro, famed for its stunning views and tranquil setting. treasures and has a beautiful baroque facade. Take a break; enjoy a coffee and a light and palaces. The Cathedral, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is packed with religious streets, filled with sunshine and sharp shadows, connect Baroque buildings, churches 'silent city', a truly timeless atmosphere which simply needs to be experienced. Narrow of an inhabited medieval citadel in Europe. With no traffic, it is referred to locally as the The island's old capital, Mdina, is considered to be one of the most beautiful examples

Cordina, a local institution with its vaulted ceiling, café bar and tea rooms rolled into one. right on cue. If you prefer a café, walk down to Piazza Regina in Republic Street to Café or a rest, the city enjoys plenty of squares, courtyards, gardens and a number of restaurants, shops selling antiques, books, jewellery and much more. When you need to stop for lunch National Museum of Archaeology. Shopping is a delight in Valletta; side streets are full of little of arms carved on parapets. A helpful audio tour-guide of Valletta is available from the architecture and historical sites around every corner: statues, niches, fountains and coats some of Europes finest art works, churches and palaces. You'll come across intriguing retains a charming atmosphere and among the tangle of narrow streets you'll find showpieces of the Mediterranean. Although the city is a busy commercial centre, it Heritage Site, boasting a magnificent natural harbour, it is one of the great architectural

Visitors should not miss Malta's magnificent capital city, Valletta. A UNESCO World

suckling pig being an all-time favourite. Be changes regularly according to season with middle of the rural area of Rabat, the menu small, segregated dining areas. Situated in the vaulted ceilings, original stone floors and fine example of Maltese architecture with A late I 6th century hunting lodge, this is a Palazz L-Ahmar - Landrijiet, Rabat

sure to ask your Concierge how to get there.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

offers a delightfully glamourous feel. senses; the atmosphere is relaxed and cocktails and wines that will tease the the day and night with a variety of coffees, patrons to lounge at the bar throughout will delight all with delicious breakfasts, offers a gastronomic experience that Waterbiscuit, stylishly set on two floors, St. George's Bay, St. Julian's AAGEGLDISCUIE

busy, it makes an excellent meeting place. it's almost an institution. Lively and always Peppino's has been popular for so long, Set in the picturesque bay of St Julian's, 31, St George's Road, St Julian's

SPECIAL PLACES

rooms scattered on different levels. and nostalgia created by the series of small of Valletta, there is a feeling of intimacy

delicious desserts, Situated in the heart exquisite traditional Maltese cuisine and in Malta and remains known for its Established in 1906, Rubino is an institution 53, Old Bakery Street, Valletta

in advance to avoid disappointment. with tasty toppings, it is wise to book interesting variety of thin crust pizzas and casual dining. Famous for their with locals offering a lively atmosphere in Sliema, is well known and popular La Cuccagna, a family run restaurant 47, Amery Street, Sliema

the island to taste favourite local dishes. foreigners and it is one of the best place on iunches and dinners. Waterbiscuit allows is as popular with Maltese as it is with views overlooking Spinola Bay. Gululu its best. The restaurant offers spectacular This is lovely authentic Maltese food at Spinola Bay, St. Julian's

> Concierge to book a table by the sea. Mediterranean food and wine. Ask your nbacsie snd stylish restaurant serving good overlooking St. George's Bay, it is an experience. Beautifully positioned Paranga is the ultimate seafront dining One of Malta's best fish restaurants, St. George's Bay, St. Julian's

> > **EAT LIKE A LOCAL**

of which stay open daily until 22.00 hours. entertainment venues and restaurants, all Complex. It has a range of shops, from InterContinental Malta is Baystreet In Victoria, Gozo. Just across the road and The Plaza in Sliema, and Arkadia commercial centres, including The Point malls can be found in major towns and designer collections whilst shopping high street shopping with the latest The harbour town of Sliema offers sozzaled Patored in restored Palazzos. host of shopping choices, where several combining the beauty of the City with a Valletta makes for a great destination

KEY SHOPPING AREAS

in daily by Maltese farmers. farmers with fresh produce brought A large centralised market for local Pitkali, Ta' Qali FRUIT & VEGETABLE MARKET

catch of the day at Marsaxlokk. full swing. Nothing beats seeing the want to be at the market when it's in Be prepared for an early start if you Marsaxlokk FISH MARKET

LOCAL SECRETS

but also for its cultural history. only for its architectural design, It is well worth seeking out, not

the world and is still in use today. The theatre is one of the oldest in Old Theatre Street, Valletta **WANDEL THEATRE BOOKSHOP**

Maltese Nobility over the last 400 years of the customs and traditions of the provides unique historical evidence Maltese artists. Casa Rocca Piccola original paintings by a number of local of Malta. There are prints and even of your visit to Casa Rocca Piccola and This shop has souvenirs to remind you Republic Street, Valletta CASA ROCCA PICCOLA

producing a range of customised products. and is Malta's leading ceramic manufacturer, Bristow Potteries is a family-run business VISITORS CAN VIEW THE CRAITSMEN AT WORK. products. There is a workshop where A lovely shop selling all kinds of ceramic Crafts Village, Ta' Qali **BRISTOW POTTERIES**

producing and blowing glass. you can actually view the craftsmen unique item. Whilst visiting the shop artists handeraft each and every glass. Highly skilled craftsmen and Mdina Glass produces lovely handmade Crafts Village, Ta' Qali RDINA GLASS

> **TOOKING LOK EIND WHAT YOU'RE**

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KNOW

LOCAL CULTURE

WEATHER

Malta enjoys some of the finest weather in the Mediterranean; we recommend adequate protection from the sun. Hats, sunglasses and sun block in the summer are a must.

RELIGION

The Maltese islands boast some of the most magnificent churches in the world. When visiting, remember that they are places of worship so an adequate dress code is recommended.

SWIMMING

Malta has some of the cleanest seas. Enjoy its beaches, explore its coves, and do remember, when in doubt, swim where the locals do.

Most restaurants in Malta do not include a service charge on their bill, it is habitual to leave a tip of 10% of the bill value.

DID YOU KNOW?

AZURE WINDOW

This most dramatic sea cave, the Azure Window, is one of the island's most photographed sights. To one side of the arch lies the Inland Sea, a small lagoon fed through a cleft in the rocks. Fishing boats inch their way through the cleft taking visitors to view the spectacular sea caves.

HYPOGEUM OF HAL-SAFLIENI

One of the numerous UNESCO World Heritage sites on the islands, this spectacular pre-historic underground temple is the jewel in the Maltese cultural crown.

THE GRAND HARBOUR

The crescent-shaped Grand Harbour is the deepest and most dramatic natural harbour in the Mediterranean. It was the base for the Knights of St. John for 268 years, and later a strategic base for the British for a further 170 years. It remains a spectacular sight, with a unique backdrop.

MOSTA DOME

The Mosta Dome is the fourth largest unsupported church dome in the world. It was hit by a bomb in World War II which, amazingly, failed to explode. This was locally hailed as a miracle, and a replica of the bomb can now be seen in the Church's sacristy.

ST JOHN'S CO-CATHEDRAL

This Cathedral is absolutely spectacular. The floor alone features over 400 intrinsically designed marble tombstones. The magnificent painted ceiling, by Mattias Pretti in 1662, and the work of art by Caravaggio, are both acknowledged world class masterpieces.

WANT MORE?

Because of our unrivalled local knowledge we can help you find experiences that will enrich your stay. So please speak to any of the Concierge team about what we can do to make sure you get the most from your trip.

DISCOVER MALTA

One Hour Across the Grand Harbour are the 'Three

Cities' comprising of Vittoriosa, Senglea and Cospicua. These harbour areas are where the Knights of St. John were based from 1530 until 1570. The waterfront at Vittoriosa is an architectural masterniece. It includes the old naval bakery, now housing the Maritime Museum and Fort St. Angelo which the Knights made their headquarters during the Great Siege. Tucked away in the peaceful residential backstreets, you'll find a former Knights' hostelry, the Inquisitor's Palace and several chapels and churches.

Two Hours

If you would like to visit some temples. we would recommend the Mnajdra and the Ħaġar Qim temples in Żurrieg. Afterwards, hop aboard a small, motorised fishing boat and see the pristine waters around the Blue Grotto caves.

Half a Day

Visit the Ta' Qali crafts village where you can see local experts create all kinds of beautiful artefacts, from blown glass to Maltese lace and from pottery to intricate filigree jewellery. Within easy walking distance you will find the Aviation Museum which houses planes, including Spitfires dating back to World War II. If you still have time, visit Mdina, Malta's old capital city also known as the Silent City.

WALKS & TRIPS

SPINOLA PALACE

Walk down to Spinola Palace and gardens just 1km away from the hotel. In the bay nearby, you will find a range of trattorias, cafés and restaurants, all offering different cuisines at different prices.

PACEVILLE

Malta's main night life is in Paceville, just round the corner from the hotel. There is a variety of venues, clubs. bars, casinos and gentlemen's clubs.

WHERE THE CROWDS GO

GOZO AND COMINO

If possible, plan your trip to Gozo during the week, as the weekends are usually much busier. If you are not going to book an organised tour, renting a car is the best plan. The much smaller island of Comino, lying between Malta and Gozo, is often crowded in summer with private vachts and organised cruises filling up the bays and the tiny harbour.

BLUE GROTTO

If you intend to visit the Blue Grotto do ask the concierge to check if the boats are running as bad weather often disrupts cruises. Visit the Haġar Qim and Mnajdra temples when visiting the Blue Grotto.

INTERCONTINENTAL.

Welcome to the best islands in the world. Well, we would say that, after all, it's our home. We want you to love being in Malta as much as we do. That's why we've put together this guide that will not only help you find your way around, but also show you what we think are some of the highlights. We hope it gives you a taste of what it feels like to be a local in Malta.

Any new discoveries, great finds or just a top tip, please feel free to give us your thoughts.

THE INTERCONTINENTAL MALTA CONCIERGE TEAM

NOTES & INSPIRATION

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