

# MALTA



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# LOCATION

- \* Malta is a Southern European island country comprising an archipelago in the Mediterranean Sea.
- \* The country covers just over 316 sq km, with a population of just under 450,000 inhabitants.
- \* Malta's location has historically given its great strategic importance as a naval base, and a succession of powers, including the Phoenicians, Romans, Moors, Normans, Sicilians, Spanish, knights of St. John, French and British, have ruled the islands.

# HISTORY

- The republic of Malta is an island country member of the European Union.
- Due to its strategic location, it has been ruled by various powers over the centuries.
- In 2011, there was a population of 452 215 inhabitants.



# DESCRIPTION

Malta is an European city, its capital is Valetta. The official languages are Maltese and English.

FLAG



# SPORT

Football is the most popular sport in Malta. The national stadium is called ta' Qali Stadium. The national football team has won several matches over big opponents.



# GASTRONOMY

Maltese cuisine shows strong Sicilian and English influences as well as influences of Spanish, Maghrebin and Provençal cuisines. Food has been important historically in the development of a national identity in particular the traditional *fenkata*.



Pastizzi



Ftira

# FESTIVALS

The famous festivals are :

1st January: New Year's day

10th February :St. Paul's Ship Wreck

19th March: St Joseph

31st March : Freedom day

# CLIMATE

Malta has a subtropical and mediterranean climate. Malta has one of the best weathers of the world. It is very similar to Spain.





# EVENTS

- The main events of Malta are in autumn.
- Malta is often a very good destination for a relaxing getaway in autumn and winter.
- Summer tourists have an excellent time touring the island.

# FAMOUS PEOPLE

## **Joseph Vassallo**

He was born on Malta in 1964. His father was a famous actor, too.

At the beginning of 1990, he appeared for the first time on television in a commercial for the cruise line Royal Caribbean. Then he appeared in 100 national television commercials.

Nowadays, he is very popular for his work in American television and films.



## \* **Jon Cassar**

- \* He was born in Malta in 1958. He is very famous for his work on the first seven seasons in “24”. He won the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Directing for a Drama Series for his work on the episode "Day 5: 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.". He directed all the episodes of the miniseries “The Kennedys”.



# TRADITIONS

- It is a country full of traditions.
- Its language has influences of Italian, English, Spanish and even French.
- The Catholic Church is the dominant religion on the island.

