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WRITTEN BY		August 10, 2024	

REVISION HISTORY

<i>NUMBER</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>DESCRIPTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>

Contents

1	151	1
1.1	151.guide	1
1.2	151.guide/Malta	1
1.3	151.guide/Geography (Malta)	2
1.4	151.guide/People (Malta)	3
1.5	151.guide/Government (Malta)	4
1.6	151.guide/Government (Malta 2. usage)	5
1.7	151.guide/Economy (Malta)	6
1.8	151.guide/Economy (Malta 2. usage)	7
1.9	151.guide/Communications (Malta)	7
1.10	151.guide/Defense Forces (Malta)	8

Chapter 1

151

1.1 151.guide

Texified version of data for Malta.

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Malta

1.2 151.guide/Malta

Malta

Geography (Malta)
People (Malta)
Government (Malta)
Government (Malta 2. usage)
Economy (Malta)
Economy (Malta 2. usage)
Communications (Malta)
Defense Forces (Malta)

1.3 151.guide/Geography (Malta)

Geography (Malta)

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Location:

in the central Mediterranean Sea, 93 km south of Sicily (Italy), 290 km north of Libya

Map references:

Europe, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

320 km²

land area:

320 km²

comparative area:

slightly less than twice the size of Washington, DC

Land boundaries:

0 km

Coastline:

140 km

Maritime claims:

contiguous zone:

24 nm

continental shelf:

200 m depth or to depth of exploitation

exclusive fishing zone:

25 nm

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

none

Climate:

Mediterranean with mild, rainy winters and hot, dry summers

Terrain:

mostly low, rocky, flat to dissected plains; many coastal cliffs

Natural resources:

limestone, salt

Land use:

arable land:

38%

permanent crops:

3%
 meadows and pastures:
 0%
 forest and woodland:
 0%
 other:
 59%
 Irrigated land: 10 km2 (1989)
 Environment:
 numerous bays provide good harbors; fresh water very scarce; increasing
 reliance on desalination
 Note:
 the country comprises an archipelago, with only the 3 largest islands
 (Malta, Gozo, and Comino) being inhabited

1.4 151.guide/People (Malta)

People (Malta)

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Population:
 363,791 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 0.84% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 13.9 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 7.52 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 1.98 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 8.2 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 76.52 years
 male:
 74.32 years
 female:
 78.9 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 1.97 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Maltese (singular and plural)
 adjective:
 Maltese
 Ethnic divisions:
 Arab, Sicilian, Norman, Spanish, Italian, English
 Religions:
 Roman Catholic 98%
 Languages:
 Maltese (official), English (official)
 Literacy:

age 15 and over can read and write (1985)
 total population:
 84%
 male:
 86%
 female:
 82%
 Labor force:
 127,200
 by occupation:
 government (excluding job corps) 37%, services 26%, manufacturing 22%,
 training programs 9%, construction 4%, agriculture 2% (1990)

1.5 151.guide/Government (Malta)

Government (Malta)

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Names:
 conventional long form:
 Republic of Malta
 conventional short form:
 Malta
 Digraph:
 MT
 Type:
 parliamentary democracy
 Capital:
 Valletta
 Administrative divisions:
 none (administration directly from Valletta)
 Independence:
 21 September 1964 (from UK)
 Constitution:
 26 April 1974, effective 2 June 1974
 Legal system:
 based on English common law and Roman civil law; has accepted compulsory ←
 ICJ
 jurisdiction, with reservations
 National holiday:
 Independence Day, 21 September
 Political parties and leaders:
 Nationalist Party (NP), Edward FENECH ADAMI; Malta Labor Party (MLP), ←
 Alfred
 SANT
 Suffrage:
 18 years of age; universal
 Elections:
 House of Representatives:
 last held on 22 February 1992 (next to be held by February 1997); results -
 NP 51.8%, MLP 46.5%; seats - (usually 65 total) MLP 36, NP 29; note -
 additional seats are given to the party with the largest popular vote to
 ensure a legislative majority; current total 69 (MLP 33, NP 36 after

adjustment)

Executive branch:
 president, prime minister, deputy prime minister, Cabinet

Legislative branch:
 unicameral House of Representatives

Judicial branch:
 Constitutional Court, Court of Appeal

Leaders:

Chief of State:
 President Vincent (Censu) TABONE (since 4 April 1989)

Head of Government:
 Prime Minister Dr. Edward (Eddie) FENECH ADAMI (since 12 May 1987); Deputy
 Prime Minister Dr. Guido DE MARCO (since 14 May 1987)

Member of:
 C, CCC, CE, CSCE, EBRD, ECE, FAO, G-77, GATT, IBRD, ICAO, ICFTU, IFAD, ILO,
 IMF, IMO, INMARSAT, INTERPOL, IOC, IOM (observer), ITU, NAM, PCA, UN,
 UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO

Diplomatic representation in US:
 chief of mission:
 Ambassador Albert BORG OLIVIER DE PUGET

chancery:
 2017 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008

telephone:
 (202) 462-3611 or 3612

FAX:
 (202) 387-5470

1.6 151.guide/Government (Malta 2. usage)

Government (Malta 2. usage)

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consulate:
 New York

US diplomatic representation:
 chief of mission:
 (vacant)

embassy:
 2nd Floor, Development House, Saint Anne Street, Floriana, Valletta

mailing address:
 P. O. Box 535, Valletta

telephone:
 [356] 240424, 240425, 243216, 243217, 243653, 223654

FAX:
 same as telephone numbers

Flag:
 two equal vertical bands of white (hoist side) and red; in the upper
 hoist-side corner is a representation of the George Cross, edged in red

1.7 151.guide/Economy (Malta)

Economy (Malta)

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Overview:

Significant resources are limestone, a favorable geographic location, and a productive labor force. Malta produces only about 20% of its food needs, ←
has
limited freshwater supplies, and has no domestic energy sources.
Consequently, the economy is highly dependent on foreign trade and services ←

Manufacturing and tourism are the largest contributors to the economy. Manufacturing accounts for about 27% of GDP, with the electronics and textile industries major contributors and the state-owned Malta drydocks employing about 4,300 people. In 1991, about 900,000 tourists visited the island. Per capita GDP at \$7,600 places Malta in the middle-income range of the world's nations.

National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$2.7 billion (1991 est.)

National product real growth rate:

5.9% (1991)

National product per capita:

\$7,600 (1991 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

2.9% (1991)

Unemployment rate:

3.6% (1992)

Budget:

revenues \$1.1 billion; expenditures \$1.1 billion, including capital expenditures of \$161 million (1992 est.)

Exports:

\$1.2 billion (f.o.b., 1991)

commodities:

clothing, textiles, footwear, ships

partners:

Italy 30%, Germany 22%, UK 11%

Imports:

\$2.1 billion (f.o.b., 1991)

commodities:

food, petroleum, machinery and semimanufactured goods

partners:

Italy 30%, UK 16%, Germany 13%, US 4%

External debt:

\$127 million (1990 est.)

Industrial production:

growth rate 19.0% (1990); accounts for 27% of GDP

Electricity:

328,000 kW capacity; 1,110 million kWh produced, 3,000 kWh per capita ←
(1992)

Industries:

tourism, electronics, ship repair yard, construction, food manufacturing, textiles, footwear, clothing, beverages, tobacco

Agriculture:

accounts for 3% of GDP and 2.5% of the work force (1992); overall, 20%

self-sufficient; main products - potatoes, cauliflower, grapes, wheat, barley, tomatoes, citrus, cut flowers, green peppers, hogs, poultry, eggs; generally adequate supplies of vegetables, poultry, milk, pork products; seasonal or periodic shortages in grain, animal fodder, fruits, other basic foodstuffs

Economic aid:

US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-81), \$172 million; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$336 million; OPEC bilateral aid (1979-89), \$76 million; Communist countries (1970-88), \$48 million

Currency:

1 Maltese lira (LM) = 100 cents

1.8 151.guide/Economy (Malta 2. usage)

Economy (Malta 2. usage)

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Exchange rates:

Maltese liri (LM) per US\$1 - 0.3687 (January 1993), 0.3178 (1992), 0.3226 (1991), 0.3172 (1990), 0.3483 (1989), 0.3306 (1988)

Fiscal year:

1 April - 31 March

1.9 151.guide/Communications (Malta)

Communications (Malta)

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Highways:

1,291 km total; 1,179 km paved (asphalt), 77 km crushed stone or gravel, 35 km improved and unimproved earth

Ports:

Valletta, Marsaxlokk

Merchant marine:

789 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 11,059,874 GRT/18,758,969 DWT; includes 6 passenger, 17 short-sea passenger, 272 cargo, 26 container, 2 passenger-cargo, 20 roll-on/roll-off, 2 vehicle carrier, 3 barge carrier, ←
17

refrigerated cargo, 19 chemical tanker, 15 combination ore/oil, 3 specialized tanker, 3 liquefied gas, 131 oil tanker, 223 bulk, 26 combination bulk, 3 multifunction large load carrier, 1 railcar carrier; note - a flag of convenience registry; China owns 2 ships, Russia owns 52 ships, Cuba owns 10, Vietnam owns 6, Croatia owns 37, Romania owns 3

Airports:

total:

1

useable:

1
with permanent-surface runways:
1
with runways over 3,659 m:
0
with runways 2,440-3,659 m:
1
with runways 1,220-2,439 m:
0

Telecommunications:

automatic system satisfies normal requirements; 153,000 telephones;
excellent service by broadcast stations - 8 AM, 4 FM, and 2 TV; submarine
cable and microwave radio relay between islands; international service by 1
submarine cable and 1 Atlantic Ocean INTELSAT earth station

1.10 151.guide/Defense Forces (Malta)

Defense Forces (Malta)

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Branches:

Armed Forces, Maltese Police Force

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 97,446; fit for military service 77,481 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$21.9 million, 1.3% of GDP (1989 est.)