



AN UNDERWATER PARADISE

MALTA & GOZO



Malta
Gozo & Comino



IT'S NO WONDER THAT MALTA IS THE DESTINATION OF CHOICE FOR DIVERS.

The brilliant climate, fantastic visibility, coastal caves, shipwrecks and reef habitats are a big draw. Everyone is welcome. If you've never tried diving, professional instructors will ease you in. In no time you'll be enjoying the wonderful undersea world of the Maltese Islands. For technical divers a rich heritage of wrecks, from **naval ships** to **Second World War bombers**, awaits exploration.

Malta is very different from destinations where you have to spend time catching boats to reach various dive sites. **Everything is within easy reach.** And, because you're not somewhere remote, there's plenty to see and do when you're not diving; from visiting the sights and museums to experiencing great restaurants, bars and nightlife. It's

especially appealing for the partners of divers, who have plenty to keep them entertained.

Other things that make Malta such a popular diving destination are the **peace of mind** and confidence offered in having **reputable diving centres**, the English language (everyone speaks it), and a mild Mediterranean climate.

For many, the Malta diving experience is on their bucket list. Malta has even welcomed the American astronaut **Buzz Aldrin**, the second man to walk on the Moon. But no skill as an astronaut is needed; just come with the same sense of adventure.

"If this is your first trip to Malta for diving, you are about to have the most incredible experience of your life. Divers return year after year to dive for one reason only: the world class diving that Malta has to offer."

Jason Sockett, Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) Regional Manager.

WHEN TO GO

In Malta, you can dive practically all year round. If there's wind on one side of the island it's easy to relocate to the other side. The high season runs from May to October, but the months of March, April and November are popular too. The water temperature never falls below 16 degrees Celsius and is above 20 degrees in the summer.

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"Scuba diving in Malta is so easy to do. It is easily accessible for all divers, from beginners to experienced. The weather is great, and the water stays warm well into October ensuring that Malta has become a very popular destination to BSAC members. Malta is ideal for training as well. For those who need to finish off some training or brush up on some skills, the sea is warm, visibility great and some sheltered diving sites are on offer. The island is full of diving centres and boats and then, when the diving is finished for the day, there is some amazing culture and sightseeing to be done."

Mary Tetley, CEO of British Sub Aqua Club (BSAC).
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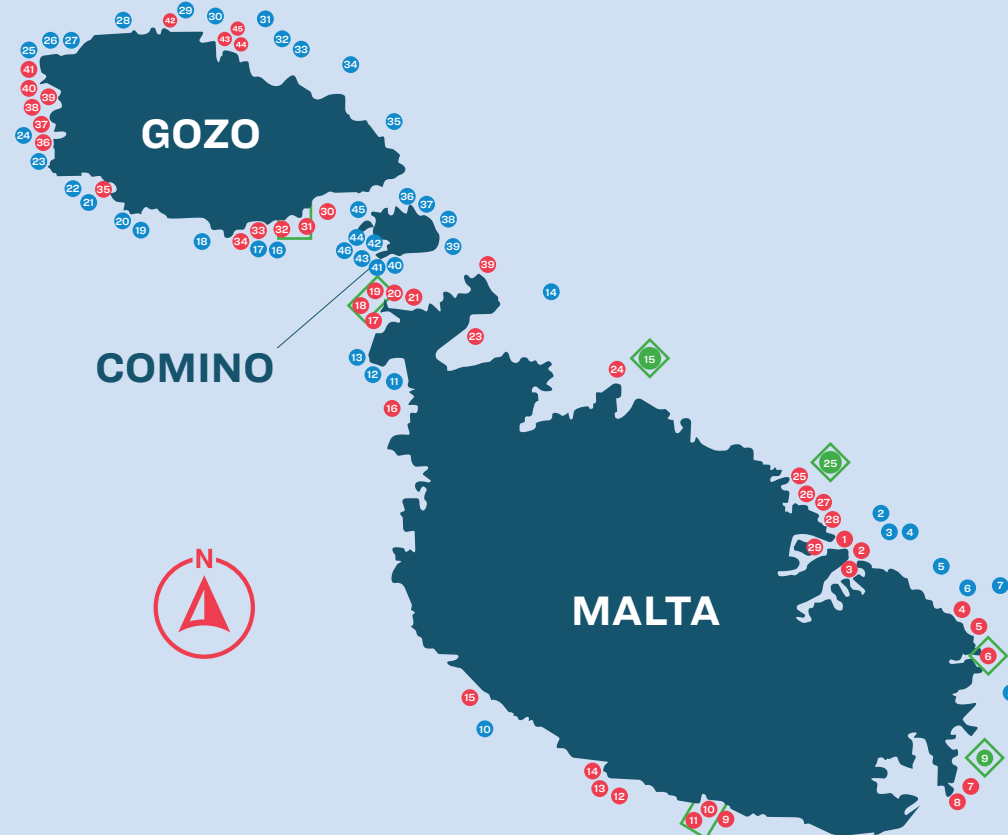
SO MUCH CHOICE

There are plenty of diving sites to choose from around Malta and its smaller neighbours, Gozo and Comino.

0m metres	Malta	
5-10	Slugs Bay	23
5-12	Mercanti Reef - Paceville	25
5-15	Coral Gardens - Sliema	28
5-15	Fortizza - Sliema	27
5-20	Qawra Point North	24
5-25	Tunnel & Reef - L-Ahrax	22
7	Mini Blue Hole - Marsascala	4
14	HMS Maori - St Elmo Bay, Valletta	1
10-16	Middle Reef - Ghar Lapsi	12
10-20	Anchor Bay	16
10-20	Exiles - Sliema	26
10-20	Ċirkewwa Arch - Ċirkewwa	21
10-25	Żonqor Point North - Marsascala	5
10-27	Paradise Bay - Ċirkewwa	17
	Gozo	
1-15	Mġarr ix-Xini	33
5-35	Xatt l-Ahmar	30
10-20	Tunnel & Reef - Xlendi	35

15m metres	Malta	
8-22	Lighter X127 - Manoel Island	29
12-26	South Reef - Delimara Point	8
16-30	East Reef - Delimara Point	7
16-36	Miġra Ferha	15
20	Fort St Elmo - Valletta	2
20-22	Finger Reef & Crib - Ghar Lapsi	19
20-25	Sugar Loaf & Madonna - Ċirkewwa	18
20-25	West Reef & Caves - Wied iż-Żurrieq	10
22	Tug boats - Żonqor Point	6
25	Black John - Ghar Lapsi	14
25	SS Margit - Kalkara Creek	3
	Gozo	
10-35	Anchor Reef - Marsalforn	44
15-35	Reef & Cave - Ta' Ċenċ	34
15-40	Cathedral Cave - Ghasri Valley	42
15-45	Blue Hole and Azure Alps	39
15-45	Blue Hole & Coral Gardens - Dwejra	38

30m metres	Malta	
20-38	P29 Patrol Boat - Ċirkewwa	18
25-36	East Reef - Wied iż-Żurrieq	9
25-36	Miġra Ferha	15
32	Tug Boat Rożi - Ċirkewwa	20
35	Um el Faroud - Wied iż-Żurrieq	11
	Gozo	
20-35	Big Bear & Coral Gardens	37
20-45	Little Bear to Crocodile Rock - Dwejra	36
20-45	Reqqa Point - Marsalforn	43
25-45	Inland Sea & Tunnel - Dwejra	41
25-60	Inland Sea to Blue Hole - Dwejra	40
30-42	Karwela & MV Cominoland	31
30-42	MV Xlendi - Ghajnsielem	32
30-45	Double Arch - Marsalforn	45



0m metres	Malta	
6-20	Halq Hamiem	28
15	Reqqa Point	29
15-30	Qala Quarry	35
15-30	San Dimitri Point	25
15-40	Ulysses Cave	21
15-40	Żurżiep Reef	22
	Comino	
5-10	Crystal Lagoon	42
10-15	Elephant Rock	36
10-15	Santa Maria Caves	37
10-18	Sultan Rock	39
10-20	Alex's Cave	43
10-20	The Canyon	45
10-50	Lantern Point	40
15-25	Santa Maria Reef	36
15-30	Lantern Point West	41
18	Patrol Boat P31	46

20m metres	Malta	
20	Scot Craig	11
	Gozo	
20-35	Calypso Tunnel/Cave	34
20-35	Ta' Ċenċ Reef	18
20-45	Dawra Tas-Sanap	20
20-45	Fungus Rock	24
20-45	Newwiela Point	17
25-35	Fomha Cave	32
25-35	Sanap Cliffs	19
25-35	Ta' Ċamma	27
25-35	Wied ir-Raheb	26
25-40	Billinghurst Cave	33
25-40	Il-Margun	31
25-40	Taċ-Ċawla (Gudja Cave)	30
	Comino	
25-45	Cominotto Reef (Anchor Reef)	44

40m+ metres	Malta	
38	Beaufighter	1
38	Imperial Eagle	15
42	Bristol Blenheim	9
45	HMS Hellespont	2
45	Italian E-Boat	6
50	Devil's Reef	12
50	Miġra Ferha	10
53-70	<i>tec dive</i> Le Polynesian	8
55	<i>tec dive</i> St Angelo	4
56	<i>tec dive</i> HMS Eddy	3
57	<i>tec dive</i> HMS Stubborn	14
60	Gammieh Point	13
70	<i>tec dive</i> Southwold	7
73	<i>tec dive</i> Schnellboot	5
	Gozo	
25-45	Wardija Point	23
25-50	Feszej Rock	16

○ Shore Diving Sites ● Boat Diving Sites ■ Marine Protected Areas



📍
P29 CIRKEWWA
MALTA



📍
ŻURRIEQ
MALTA

MALTA

Ċirkewwa offers a variety of overhangs, swim-throughs and archways. A selection of wrecks in the 16 to 35 metre depth range act as nurseries for fish and provide an abundance of colour and spectacle for photography. At **Anchor Bay** you can combine a dive with a visit to **Popeye Village**, built for the 1980 Robin Williams movie, and now turned into a family fun park.



📍
BLUE HOLE
GOZO

GOZO

Experience the majestic **Blue Hole** and **Inland Sea**, where the seascape and the landscape are equally stunning. Lately a new attraction became an instant hit, the **Azure Window** which was a stunning arch until nature reclaimed it. Now it is a place only divers can enjoy, and enjoyment is the word as it offers an incredible mountain range-like landscape. These sites are considered among the best in Europe and the ultimate for many divers.

COMINO

Explore the **Santa Maria Caves** on the virtually uninhabited island of **Comino**.

What makes diving in the Maltese Islands so special is the amazingly **clear blue sea**. There is excellent visibility, no currents and tides, just fabulous blue water!

Those who just want to try snorkelling are most welcome, as all dive centres offer rental of snorkelling equipment.

Both shore diving and off-shore diving, which includes a boat trip, are widely available.



📍
SANTA MARIA CAVES
COMINO

GOOD CARE



Malta has high standards, developed over many years. Licensed dive centres offer a full range of services including diver training, daily dive excursions and gear hire. Most centres are members of the local **Professional Dive Schools Association**, which considers the safety and well-being of divers as of paramount importance. It also works to ensure that dive sites are protected and accessible and that divers are aware of the need to safeguard the archaeological and natural underwater heritage.



📍
UM EL FAROUD WRECK
ŻURRIEQ, MALTA



MALTA IS, WITHOUT ANY DOUBT, ONE OF THE BEST AND MOST COMPLETE DESTINATIONS FOR DIVING WORLDWIDE.

“Malta boasts a huge number of easily accessible diving spots, that cater perfectly for non-divers, where learning will be easy, safe and fun. The easily accessible intermediate and deeper dive-sites attract already certified divers from all over the world. Maltese dive centres definitely deliver a great service and make sure the diver (new and old) leaves Malta with only one wish: to come back.”

Marco Gervasi, Area Manager, Malta Scuba Schools International.



DOWN DEEP

📍
HMS STUBBORN
QAWRA, MALTA



For technical divers, there are more than a dozen 50m plus wrecks to visit. All are within a few miles of each other. These may be too many to do in one trip and a good reason to keep coming back. More wrecks are being opened up to divers every year. There’s every chance you’ll be one of the first to see a new wreck if you time your visit well.

Get a taste of what’s on offer by visiting **Malta’s Underwater Virtual Museum** online. The heritage varies from a **2,700-year-old Phoenician shipwreck**, the oldest in the central Mediterranean, to dozens of wartime aircraft crash sites and battleships. Underwater sites are protected and are accessed in a controlled manner, so trips need to be booked in advance.



APNEA

Freediving is gaining in popularity. Instructors will help you achieve goals you thought impossible. The emphasis is not on numbers or depth but on relaxation and technique. You will be given **the confidence, mental strength and knowledge** to enjoy freediving in a safe way.

GOOD TO KNOW



The minimum age to partake in diving is 10 and written parental/guardian consent is required for all divers under 18 years of age.



Divers are only permitted to dive independent of an instructor if they are a certified PADI Advanced Open Water or CMAS 2 Star Diver.



Instructors can only offer instructor services through an MTA licensed dive centre and must provide proof of active Instructor certification, third-party insurance as well as a valid diving medical certificate signed by a hyperbaric specialist within the past 12 months.



Divers are required to complete and sign a medical questionnaire. For any medical condition, you need a 'fit for diving' certificate signed by a medical practitioner. If you're not sure whether or not you will require this certificate, simply contact a dive centre prior to arriving in Malta, and they will be glad to assist.

LIFE ABOVE WATER



📍 *Maltese Dghajsa,*
Grand Harbour, Malta



📍 Malta National
Aquarium, Bugibba

Malta has a great variety of accommodation to meet your needs, from self-catering to five-star hotels, and no shortage of good quality restaurants, bars and clubs. Sightseeing offers temples older than the Pyramids, breathtaking architecture in **Valletta** and the stunning **Grand Harbour**.

There are plenty of action sports to indulge in, including **rock climbing**, **kayaking** and **cycling**. It's fun to seek out movie location shoots, following in the footsteps of Angelina Jolie, Brad Pitt and Tom Hanks, or take a hike and soak in the natural beauty of **Gozo** and **Comino**.

SHORE DIVING
AT GHAR LAPSĠ
MALTA



AZURE ALPS
GOZO

TOP TIP

If you are bringing your own kit, check with your airline about any advantageous rates for diving equipment. But, if you do leave anything at home, you'll find diving centres have plenty of gear available for rent at very reasonable prices.



Images: MTA; PDSA Malta.

