

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW  
ABOUT IELTS AND THE MALTESE ISLANDS!

# THE IELTS MALTA GUIDE

***IELTS***<sup>®</sup>  
***Malta***

[www.ielsmalta.com](http://www.ielsmalta.com)



# YOUR LESSONS

We are happy to assist with any queries, however, IELTS reserves the right to expel students for unacceptable behaviour. If you are expelled, you will not be refunded for the remainder of your course or accommodation. The cost of the return flight will be at your own expense.



The minimum attendance rate is 80%.



Do not write in your book on the 1st two days in case you need to change level.



Your lessons are compulsory and you are expected to arrive on time.



You will be given a certificate with your level & attendance rate on the last day of your stay.



Lessons are based on a combination of book-based tasks and supplementary materials.



Please fill in the welcome and last day questionnaires to help us improve!

# VISAS



Students must always be in possession of a valid VISA, and/or Visa Extension when necessary.

If you need to extend your Visa, please inform the Welfare Desk.



The minimum attendance rate to have the Visa is 75%. If the attendance is lower, student risks to get expelled and their Visa to be revoked. IELTS is legally required to inform Visa Unit of unauthorised missed days from school, even if attendance doesn't drop below 75%.

## TIMELINE

### VISA EXEMPT COUNTRIES

Apply within 2 weeks of arrival in Malta



### COUNTRIES NOT EXEMPT FROM VISA

After 6 weeks in Malta



The whole process will take a minimum of 3-4 weeks from the moment you apply (a fee applies).



Apply for a visa extension at least 21 days before your 90 days as tourist expires. From the moment you are submitting your application to Visa Unit you must have a minimum of 8 weeks of course left.



Students are allowed to take up to 4 weeks of holiday break every 24 weeks. Holiday breaks need to be booked before the Visa application.



A doctor's certificate is required for sick days otherwise your attendance will be affected.

# HEALTH & WELFARE

The whole team at IELS Malta is dedicated to ensuring you have a happy, problem-free stay.



You must be at least 17 to buy alcohol and 18 to buy tobacco.

Abortion is illegal in Malta. Contraception is available from pharmacies. It's illegal to have sex with anyone under 18.

The use, possession, purchase or sale of any drug is illegal.



The Welfare Desk is situated on the ground floor and is open from 08.30 to 17.00 Monday to Friday.

They are ready to help with visas, accommodation, and general problems.



If you cannot come to your lesson because you are sick, you must advise Welfare Team the same day. You must bring a medical certificate the day when you return to school.



Ask at Reception about pharmacies in the area.

Pharmacies close on Sundays & public holidays, but one is open in each district on a rota. The airport pharmacy is open every day.

Depending on your country of residence you might be entitled to free medical assistance. For more information please visit [www.ehealth.gov.mt](http://www.ehealth.gov.mt) or ask at reception.



**School doctor**  
Dr. Navarro Gera  
(+356) 9949 4115



**Mater Dei Hospital**  
(+356) 2545 0000  
30 minutes by taxi.

Available 24/7, he can visit you at school or your accommodation at a charge.

**St. James Private Hospital**  
(+356) 2329 1000  
15 minutes from the school.

## Safety Tips

- ➔ Keep your belongings with you at all times
- ➔ Don't leave your things unattended
- ➔ Exercise caution when using any ATM
- ➔ Do not carry an opened glass container of alcohol on the street, or walk in swim wear as it is forbidden by Maltese law

## Emergencies



If you have an emergency outside of school hours and need help, you can call the welfare team on (+356) 9942 9617.

For any emergencies requiring an ambulance, the fire brigade or the police, you should dial 112 and then advise IELS staff immediately.

# THE LAW

You must obey the laws of this country. Some laws are the same as in your country but some are not.

If you break the law the Police may arrest you, and you may be sent home at your own expense.

If you are arrested please contact your embassy and lawyer.



Do not buy, sell or use drugs.



Do not drink in the street.



Do not litter.



Do not steal.



Do not buy or carry weapons.



No topless sunbathing.

# LIFE IN MALTA

Many things will be different in Malta from the way you live at home. You may find this a bit scary or you may find it exciting. You can always talk to anyone at IELTS if you're a little homesick!



Maltese traditions are a reflection of a mix of various cultures, mainly Mediterranean and British.



The country's official languages are Maltese and English, but Italian is also widely spoken.



Malta's currency is the Euro (€). You can change money at many banks or exchange bureaus and all over the islands.



Banks are usually open until the early afternoons from Monday to Friday and until midday Saturday.



The closest ATM machine to IELTS is 5 minutes away, at the Tigne Shopping find Complex.



Plugs are three pin (UK style) and 230V. You can adaptors very easily.





We recommend bottled mineral water although tap water is safe to drink.

Ask the Leisure Desk if you need assistance getting a Maltese SIM card.

To call a Maltese number, dial +356 first. To call home from a Maltese phone, first dial your country code.

## Shopping in Malta

Sliema, St Julians and Valletta are popular locations for shopping & eating out. The main shopping areas around the school are:

- Bisazza Street and Tower Road
- The Point Shopping Complex
- Plaza Shopping Centre
- Baystreet

Shops in Sliema are generally open throughout the day.



WOMEN'S SIZE CONVERSIONS

EU SIZE	UK SIZE
36	3.5
37	4.5
38	5.5
39	6.5
40	7.5
41	8.5



MEN'S SIZE CONVERSIONS

EU SIZE	UK SIZE
40	6.5
41	7.5
42	8.5
43	9.5
44	10.5
45	11.5

# EXPLORING MALTA

## MALTA HAS EVERYTHING YOU CAN WISH FOR

& our Leisure Team  
has crafted an amazing  
activity program!

Malta is a small independent nation state in the centre of the Mediterranean sea, just below Sicily in Southern Europe. The Maltese Archipelago consists of 3 main islands, Malta, Gozo and Comino.



Our aim is to help you explore, experience and enjoy everything our island has to offer.



Ask the Leisure Desk for the activity program.



Ask us about other activities you'd like to try, we'll be happy to help you!

# VALLETTA

With a large number of historic buildings, Malta's capital city is a World Heritage Site. In 2018, Valletta was also the European Capital of Culture.



## TO DO LIST

- Barrakka Gardens & Siege Bell
- St John's Co-Cathedral
- Grand Master's Palace
- Republic Street shopping
- Museums: Archeology, Fine Arts, War



Boat



2 €



15min

## TO DO LIST

- Walk through the city
- Visit St Paul's Cathedral
- Watch the Mdina Experience
- Eat amazing cake at Fontanella's rooftop terrace
- Cross to Rabat for catacombs, churches, cafés & more!



# MDINA

Malta's former capital, also known as the Silent City, consists of a combination of both baroque and medieval architecture. It is also the set used in multiple scenes from the famous TV show Game of Thrones.



Bus 13A  
+ Bus 51



2 €



1h

# BEACHES

Malta and Gozo are well known for their sandy and rocky beaches with crystal clear waters typical of the Mediterranean. The beaches are perfect for beach sports, snorkelling, swimming or just sunbathing.



## BEST BEACHES

- Ghadira Bay, Mellieha
- Armier Bay, Mellieha
- Gnejna Beach, Mgarr
- Paradise Bay, Cirkewwa
- Golden Bay, Mellieha
- Riviera, Mellieha



Bus



+/- 1h

## TO DO LIST

- Harbour Cruise
- Best of Gozo and Comino
- Boat Party
- Round Malta Cruise
- Sunset Cruise
- Comino Day Trip

# CRUISES

The calm blue seas of the Mediterranean around Malta are perfect for cruises.

Ask at the Leisure Desk for more details on cruises!



Departure: Sliema Ferry



# TRANSPORT



Buses are the cheapest way to travel around Malta and Gozo.

For more details, please visit [www.publictransport.com.mt](http://www.publictransport.com.mt)

You can also download the Tallinja App to plan your bus journey!

In case of a traffic accident, please contact LESA on +356 2247440.



There are many cab companies in Malta, and one cab station a few minutes away from the school. Other options are Ecabs, Bolt, Uber, etc.



Renting a car is a great way to explore the island.

**In Malta we drive on the left**, so when you cross the road, don't forget to look left, right, and left again. Use traffic lights and zebra crossing when crossing the road.



A great way to enjoy the beauty of Malta is by cycling. For a list of bicycle hire companies, go to [www.visitmalta.com/en/cycle-hire](http://www.visitmalta.com/en/cycle-hire)

# TIPS TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR STAY



Speak English with other students as much as possible



Start watching your favourite TV shows in English



Try not to speak your native language with other students



Borrow English books from our library



Use the school study room on the 1st floor

## STAYING IN A HOST HOME?



- Try to practise English as much as possible with the family especially during evening meals.
- Make your own bed and leave your room tidy.
- Ask your host family before using the phone, the kitchen or taking anything out of the fridge.
- Offer to pay if you break or damage anything.
- If your host family gives you a front door key, please do not give it to anyone else.
- Keep your student card and house key separate.

## ACCOMMODATION

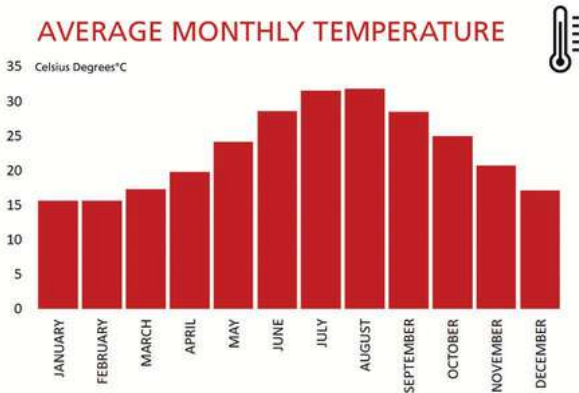


Staying at an IELTS accommodation is a great way to make friends and practise your English!

Accommodation options and guidelines are available on our website. Please familiarise yourself with these regulations.

- For your own security, make sure that your valuables are locked away.
- Look after your keys. Do not give them to anyone and if you lose them please report this to the hotel reception immediately.
- If something is not working or is broken, please inform the hotel reception or the Welfare Desk.

## WEATHER IN MALTA



## **IELS Malta**

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Language Studies,  
Matthew Pulis Street,  
Sliema SLM 3052  
Tel. (+356) 2132 0381  
info@ielsmalta.com

[www.ielsmalta.com](http://www.ielsmalta.com)



@ielsmalta

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