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## SmallGroup Travel Tour of Malta with Sue Kuti 2018 Let me share my heritage with you!

### Day 1 – 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018 Arrival in Malta

Welcome to Malta! This is the land of my parents. I am excited to share this amazing island with you.

Upon arrival at the airport, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. The remainder of the day is yours at leisure to relax. Welcome drinks (not included) will take place this evening to meet your fellow travellers.

*To live is to Travel .....share the experience!*

### **Day 2 – 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018 Valletta**

Today it is time to explore the capital city of Valletta. This tour will take you through the bustling streets of Valletta allowing you to view the Baracca Gardens that command a breathtaking panorama of the Grand Harbour and then to St. John's Cathedral, adorned in riches that date back to the Knights of Malta including the world famous Caravaggio painting that is on display in the Oratory of this Cathedral. Included is also a visit of the Grand Master's Palace which includes the state rooms, as well as a visit to The Archaeological museum. Time permitting, you may also visit the ANZAC Memorial at Argotti Gardens. Lunch today is at Eddie's Café.

If you still have any energy left, walk around the back streets behind the hotel. Lots of narrow streets with some authentic homes still there.

Or Walk like a Maltese and do the passigata along the promenade

Or have a swim and cool down!

Dinner this evening is all about Maltese specialities. Gululu is a casual diner, serving both traditional and contemporary Maltese food in a relaxed atmosphere on the sea shore in pretty Spinola bay. Gululu is a good place for a true taste of Malta. During the warmer months a good selection of fish is always available, together with seasonal and festive specialities. (B,L,D)

### **Day 3 – 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018 Gozo**

The Gozo Land Rover Safari is probably the best way to see the island of Gozo, where we take you to all the places of interest that our sister island has to offer and drive through beautiful countryside and valleys, taking different routes from your 'normal' excursions. You will be collected from your accommodation from 7:00am onwards and taken to the Jeep Safari Terminal (departure point) from where the Safari departs for the Gozo Ferry. Upon arrival in Gozo, we will start our Safari to discover the magical island of Calypso. We drive to the village of Qala and then on to Nadur, down to the red sandy beach of Ramla l-Ħamra (Ramla Bay) and then on to the very quaint village of Xagħra. Lunch today will be in a local farm house. After lunch we head off for Marsalforn which is a very popular tourist town and then on to Dwejra the 'Inland Sea'. During this excursion, we will also visit Ggantija temples – two Megalithic temples - considered to be one of the earliest free standing constructions in the world, the citadel in the capital city of Victoria, the Bay of Xlendi, Azur Window and inland sea at Dwejra. From here we head to the Fishing Village of Xlendi and then back to the ferry. We will return to the Safari Terminal at approximately 6:00pm when you will be collected once again to be taken back to your accommodation. (B,L)

### **Day 4 – 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018 The Three cities**

Join me and wander through amazing streets untouched by Tourism

I will be leading you to the Three cities. It's an amazing part of Malta. We will catch the local bus.

The Three Cities offer an intriguing insight into Malta and its history. These cities are a slice of authentic life as well as a glimpse into Malta's maritime fortunes. Along with Mdina it is the oldest fortified city in Malta.

The harbour inlets have been in use since Phoenician times: the docks always providing a living for local people, but also leaving them vulnerable when Malta's rulers were at war. As the first home to the **Knights of St. John**, the Three Cities' palaces, churches, forts and bastions are far older than Valletta's.

We will pass through narrow medieval streets and coastal footpaths.

We will also visit the *Malta at War Museum* where you will be able to enter the underground war shelters of World War II. There will be some free time to have lunch in the Victory Square and visit the Inquisitors Palace.

The walk will conclude at the fort alongside the marina where you can then get the ferry across to Valetta and have the most amazing view at Baracca Gardens. You can either stay in Valetta or get the ferry or bus home.

Bring your walking shoes! Entry fees and lunch at your own expense (B)

#### **Day 5 – 6<sup>th</sup> September 2018 Marsaxlokk, Tarxien, Ghar Dalam & Hal Saflieni Hypogeum**

Discover the southern part of Malta visiting the picturesque fishing Village of Marsaxlokk. Tarxien Temples is a group of three temples that due to their very good state of preservation provided plentiful evidence of the skill and artistic abilities of our forefathers. It dates from 3600 to 2500 BC and is the most complex of all temple sites in Malta. It consists of four megalithic structures. We also visit Tas Silg which are a pair of temples that contain ruins from 3 different eras. A visit through the cave and museum of Ghar Dalam, one of the first habitats of these Islands is also included. The highlight of this day is a visit to the world-renowned Hal Saflieni Hypogeum This truly unique site enjoys an individual listing on the UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The Hypogeum consists of halls, chambers and passages hewn out of the living rock and covering some 500m<sup>2</sup>. The rock-cut chambers are of a diverse shapes and sizes and finished to different standards of workmanship. The complex is grouped in three levels – the upper level (3600-3300 BC), the middle level (3300-3000 BC), and the lower level (3150 -2500 BC). The deepest room in the lower level is 10.6 metres under road surface. The site was discovered accidentally by a stone mason in 1902. *Please note that restricted viewing at Hypogeum applies. Only 10 persons per hour can go in so tickets must be purchased well in advance. We will rotate the groups so half visit the Hypogeum whilst the other half explore Tarxien Temple.* The group will meet for lunch at leisure. (B)

#### **Day 6 – 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018 Golden Sands and Festa**

Today is yours at leisure to relax and explore independently.

Lots to do.

Take the ferry to Valetta and wonder around. Walk or catch a bus up to the Point – a new shopping centre with a courtyard with lots of places to eat. Walk down the street and find the shops.

But save some energy for the afternoon walk. Transfers will be provided for you to Golden Sands. We will spend some time exploring Gold Sands where we will be led by a local who will show us the great views of this area. Pack a picnic/ Champers? You will be collected and transferred to Melieha Festival. Stay and watch the fireworks and then transfer back later in the evening. (B)

#### **Day 7 – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2018 Mosta, Mdina, Rabat and Skorba & Ta Hagra**

A visit to Mosta Church, Europe's third largest free standing dome and Mdina, Malta's old capital city for a short walk in the 'silent city' admiring the imposing bastions that command a magnificent view and allow us to admire a panorama of most of the island. Included in this tour is a visit to Skorba Temples a typical three-apsed temple that was built in the Ggantija phase (3600 – 3200BC). Remains include the stone paving of the entrance passage, the torba floors of the apses, a 3.90 metre high slab of coralline limestone, and steps covered with pitted decoration. Ta Hagra Temples is one of the earliest

temple buildings in Malta. The temple is smaller than many of the Islands' temples, at 15m long internally, but it is better preserved. In Rabat we also visit the Roman Villa (Domus Romana) with its mosaic pavements that rank amongst the finest and oldest compositions from the western Mediterranean and St. Paul's catacombs. (B) **\*\*Note this day should end in Mdina with an option for the group to return to the hotel with the vehicle or to make their own way via public transport.**

#### **Day 8 – 9<sup>th</sup> September 2018 Prehistoric sites, Limestone Heritage & typical fishing village**

Depart for a full day tour to the South (including Temples & Limestone Heritage). We explore one of Malta's unspoilt typical villages. Together with the guide you will be led to a Maltese Pjazza (square) along winding narrow streets where progress did not leave it's mark We proceed to the temples Hagar Qim & Mnajdra temples (3600 BC). These temples stand on a hilltop and offer a breathtaking view of the sea and the islet of Filfla. We then proceed to Wied iz – Zurrieq where there we have the possibility to take a boat trip that will take you to the Blue Grotto renowned for its azure sea. After lunch we proceed to the beautiful cliffs at Dingli. We also visit the Limestone Heritage which is a modernised quarry that explains Malta's foremost trade of quarrying together with farmhouse building and stone decoration always using the typical limestone. (B,L)

*\*\*Please note a supplement of 8 euro per person for the Blue Grotto is payable locally.*

#### **Day 9 – 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018 Sailing**

Spend the day on the water sailing around in a private Luzzo as you explore Malta, Gozo and Comino. With plenty of time for swimming, enjoy a Maltese lunch of traditional foods like Hobs bi zejt, maltese platter, and baked macaroni on board. (B,L)

#### **Day 10 – 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018 Day at leisure, Farewell Dinner.**

Today is at leisure.

This evening enjoy a farewell dinner Ta Cassia Salina. (B,D)

#### **Day 11 – 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018 Departure**

Following breakfast, the day is yours at leisure until it is time to transfer to the airport for your onward flight. (B).

### **End of Services**

I look forward to sharing this wonderful island with you!

Sue

## Cost of the Tour

### **Price per person twin share (Waterfront) – 14-16 people travelling together**

- \$3150 AUD standard room
- \$3350 AUD partial sea view (highly recommended)
- \$3650 AUD sea view room

### **Price per person twin share (Waterfront) – 10-13 people travelling together**

- \$3400 AUD standard room
  - \$3600 AUD partial sea view (highly recommended)
  - \$3900 AUD sea view room
- Single Supplement \$1085 for standard room.

## Inclusions:

- Return private airport transfers
- 10 nights accommodation
- Private Transportation
- Services of a local guide
- Entrances fees for sites as per the itinerary
- Sightseeing as per the itinerary
- 10 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 2 Dinners

## Exclusions:

- International air tickets to/from Malta
- Other food and beverage in addition to the above
- Early check-in and late check out charges from the hotel
- Visas
- Travel Insurance
- Expenditure of a personal nature such as drinks, souvenirs, laundry, tipping etc

## Note:

All rates are per person in AUD.

Transfers are based on all passengers arriving together. If your transfer is outside of this time, additional charges may apply.

Duration for excursions mentioned in the descriptions are approximate, and can vary for operational reasons. SmallGroup Travel is not responsible for visa and vaccination regulations.

***Travel Insurance is mandatory to travel on a SmallGroup Travel tour.***

## Conditions of Payment:

You are required to fill in the SmallGroup Travel Booking Form. Once completed you will receive an invoice with payment details. Credit card payments will incur a fee of 1.1% for Visa and 3% for American Express.

A deposit of \$1000 per person is required to secure your reservation.

Full payment is required by June 16, 2018.

Please ensure you have read and understand SmallGroup Travel Privacy Policy and Booking Conditions.

<https://www.travelmanagers.com.au/terms-and-conditions/>

Crooked Compass is not responsible for any belongings of the passengers carried during any services rendered by its ground operators, such as transfers or tours

Cancellation conditions for land services:

Unless mentioned otherwise all transfers and excursions are inclusive of local English speaking guide, changing in each area.

Duration for excursions mentioned in the descriptions are approximate, and can vary for operational reasons. In case this number of hours is exceeded for any reason that is out of our responsibility, the additional hours of use can be subject to charge.

Programs are expected to be carried out as described, however Crooked Compass and its ground operators reserves the right to change or adjust itineraries for the safety of our passengers.

In case of very early departures we cannot guarantee the included breakfast at the hotel. Depending on hotel and time there might be no breakfast at all or a reduced breakfast. At all hotels Check-in Time is usually after midday and Check-out before 11:00h. An Early-Check-in (ECI) or Late-Check-out (LCO) must be requested and can be provided upon surcharge subject to availability.

Crooked Compass is not responsible for visa and vaccination regulations.

**Travel Insurance is mandatory to travel on a Crooked Compass tour.**

**Liability:** Crooked Compass liability will be limited to the reimbursement of services supplied for failure of services contracted by its ground operators.

Crooked Compass cannot be held liable for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity occasioned by air-carriers or third-party suppliers and by natural phenomena, sickness, war, quarantine, strike, or any other kind of force major or by attendance to Federal Police, customs and Health Authorities regulations.

Crooked Compass cannot be held liable for any injury, damage or loss of any kind caused by or resulting from tours that involves higher risk (beach buggy, 4x4 wheel tours, helicopter flight and speed boats). These tours are not covered by our insurance. Clients participate at their own risk and will be required to sign a waiver prior to departure on these tours

Our general terms and conditions apply.

**Validity of this offer:**

All listed prices and conditions except airfares are valid for 7 days after quotation date.

For any bookings received after this deadline the rates and conditions may change.

**Cancellation conditions for land services:**

Unless otherwise specified, tours can be cancelled up to 60 days prior to arrival with loss of deposit and airfares. Thereafter, cancellation fees of 10% to 80% of the total package rate may apply. In case

of no show on hotel or land services or cancellations shortly prior to arrival date, we may charge 100% cancellation fee. After departure, no refund.

Cancellation fees for flights and for cruise packages are subject to more restrictive cancellation conditions and will be informed separately.

Crooked Compass only charges cancellation fees that are charged by our suppliers. Please ensure you have read and understand our Privacy Policy and Booking Conditions.

Please contact me if you have any further questions

Sue Kuti

M: 0414 598 157

Your Personal Travel Manager

E: [sue.kuti@smallgrouptravel.com.au](mailto:sue.kuti@smallgrouptravel.com.au)

