



## **SmallGroup Travel of Malta with Sue Kuti 2022 Let me share my heritage with you!**

### **Day 1 – 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022 Malta**

Welcome to Malta! Upon arrival at the airport, you will be met and transferred to your hotel (group transfer included). 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.

*Accommodation x 10 nights: Waterfront Hotel*

### **Day 2 – 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022 Valletta**

Meet your guide today in the Foyer at **0900** and transfer to the capital city of Valletta by coach.

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Your walking tour commences at **0945**. 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.

You will have free time for lunch / shopping (lunch not included). Transfer back to your hotel.

**1430** Transfer back to the hotel using the Sliema Ferry.

**1900** Meet in the hotel lobby & transfer to Valletta for dinner this evening at Kings Own.

**1945** Dinner at Kings Own.

Make your own way back after dinner. (B,D)

### **Day 3 – 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022 Gozo**

**0830** Meet your Guide in the hotel lobby & transfer to Gozo in land rover jeeps.

**0900** Board the Ferry to 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.

Upon arrival in Gozo, we will start our Safari to discover the magical island of Calypso (max 4 people per Land Rover). We drive to the village of Qala and then on to Nadur, down to the red sandy beach of Ramla il-Hamra (Ramla Bay) and then on to the very quaint village of Xagħra. Enjoy a cheese demonstration at Rikardu's farm.

Lunch is at Rikardus in Citadell.

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.

**1530** We will board the ferry back to Malta. We will return to the Safari Terminal at approximately 6:00pm (May to October) when you will be collected once again to be taken back to your accommodation. (B,L)

#### **Day 4 – 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022 At Leisure**

Today is yours to enjoy at leisure.

Today you will have an optional walk of Three Cities led by Sue Kuti. 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)

Local transportation is at your own cost. (B)

**20:00** Additional option - Theatre in Valletta (to make your own way). Details TBA

#### **Day 5 – 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 Marsaxlokk, Tarxien & Hal Saflini Hypogeum**

**0900** Meet guide in the hotel lobby & transfer to Hypogeum Temples.

**1000** Hypogeum tour - The highlight of this day is a visit to the world-renowned Hal Saflini 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 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.

**1100** Transfer to Tarxien Temples for a tour at **1115** - 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.

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**1215** Transfer to Marsaxlokk a picturesque fishing village and the largest fishing harbour of Malta. It has been so since antiquity and today the greater part of fish sold on the islands are caught by fishermen coming from this village. Traditional luzzu's and larger fishing vessels line the sheltered harbour in a colourful display that has been the subject of countless photo shoots.

**1245** Lunch today is at Tartarun restaurant providing genuine local produce for an exquisite fish dining experience. The feel of the restaurant is rustic, with a lot of wood work, yet it has a modern finish exposing local scenery and local way of life.

**1500** Transfer back to Hotel.

The remainder of the day is at leisure. (B,L)

#### **Day 6 – 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022 At Leisure**

Day at Leisure (one way transfer & full day guide included). (B)

#### **Day 7 – 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022 Mosta, Rabat and Mdina**

**0900** Meet guide in the hotel lobby & transfer to Mosta.

Visit Mosta Dome, 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 Ta Hagraat Temples which 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.

We will also Rabat where we visit the Roman Villa (Domus Romana) with its mosaic pavements that rank amongst the finest and oldest compositions from the western Mediterranean.

Visit St. Paul's catacombs - St. Paul's Catacombs are some of the most prominent features of Malta's early Christianity archaeology. The archaeological clearing of the site has revealed an extensive system of underground galleries and tombs dating from the third to the eighth centuries CE.

For lunch enjoy a Pastizzi & tea stop (Crystal Palace)

Walk to Roman Villa discovered in 1881 and depicts how the Romans lived while they were ruling over Malta. The most astonishing feature of the Roman Villa are the beautiful and fine Roman mosaic pavements found in the Peristyle and the surrounding rooms. The mosaics date back to the first century BC and were produced with extremely fine techniques created by highly skilled artists and are today one of the oldest arrangements from the western Mediterranean.

Walking tour of Mdina, one of Europe's finest examples of an ancient walled city and extraordinary in its mix of medieval and baroque architecture.

Tour ends and you may stay and wonder around this amazing walled city – perhaps stay for dinner.

Make your own way back to your hotel.

Dinner at leisure. (B)

**Day 8 – 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022 Prehistoric sites, Limestone Heritage & typical fishing village**

**0900** Meet your guide in the Hotel lobby and Depart for a full day tour to the South including Temples & Limestone Heritage.

Limestone Heritage tour visits a modernised quarry that explains Malta's foremost trade of quarrying together with farmhouse building and stone decoration always using the typical limestone.

Walk to the village of Siggiewi. Siggiewi, also known as Città Ferdinand, is a village in the South West part of Malta. The town is built on a plateau 10km away from Valletta, and has a population of around 9000 people, who in the past were mostly farmers working in the agricultural areas that surround the village.

Transfer to Hagar Qim Temples, standing on a hilltop overlooking the sea and the islet of Fifla, not more than 2km south-west of the village of Qrendi. At the bottom of the hill, only 500m away, one finds the remarkable temples of Mnajdra. Both sites are included in the UNESCO World Heritage List (3600 BC).

Tour of Temples

Transfer to Ghar Lapsi, a small fishing place with just three restaurants known for their fresh fish.

Lunch at Dive In Restaurant a delightful restaurant in the beautiful tiny harbour of Ghar Lapsi.

**1530** Transfer back to the hotel.

Evening at leisure. (B,L)

**Day 9 – 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022 Sailing**

**0900** Meet in the hotel lobby and transfer to Mellieha.

**1000** Spend your day on the Luzzu a traditional fishing boat from the Maltese islands. They are usually painted in bright colours, while the bow has a pair of eyes. Luzzus have existed since ancient times. Enjoy a BBQ lunch and the local open bar includes wine, beer, soft drinks and water.

**1700** Transfer back to Hotel.

Evening at leisure. (B,L)

**Day 10 – 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 At Leisure**

Today is yours at leisure. Your representative will advise the time of pickup for this evening.

Meet in the hotel lobby & transfer to Valletta.

Drinks and nibbles at Kingsway followed by the Fireworks Festival. The fireworks festival has a tradition in Malta and is attended by locals and tourists alike. Valletta's Grand Harbour is the perfect setting for

this event, during which the anniversary of Malta's EU membership is also being celebrated. The fireworks festival is the starting signal for many village parties all across Malta. ( subject to confirmation of date)

Transfer back to your hotel. (B)

### **Day 11 – 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022 Departure**

Following breakfast, the day is yours at leisure until it is time to transfer to the airport for your onward flight. (B). or Join me in Sicily!

### **End of Services**

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- Return airport transfers (group transfers) If your transfer is outside of this time, additional charges may apply.
- 12 nights accommodation
- Meals as per the above itinerary
- Transportation in an air conditioned 10 seater bus
- Entrances fees as per the itinerary
- Services of an English-speaking guide

#### **EXCLUSIONS**

- International and domestic airfares
- Travel insurance (required)
- Activities and meals not mentioned in the program
- Gratuities and personal expenses

#### **COST OF TOUR**

Please contact me for details. Pricing is dependent on numbers.

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. I can help you with this.**

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**Conditions of Payment:**

You are required to fill in a signed SmallGroup Travel Booking Form. This booking form acknowledges that you have read and accepted the Terms and conditions. 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.

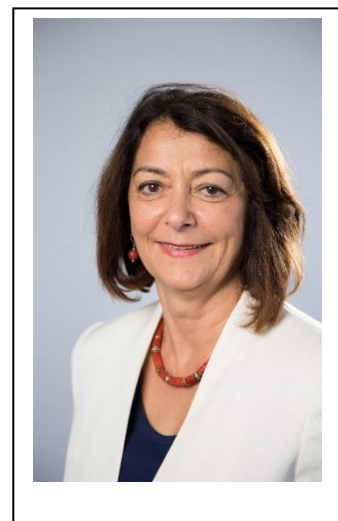
**A non-refundable deposit of \$1000 per person is required to secure your reservation.**

**Full payment is required by 27 January,2022.**

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

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

Please contact me if you have any questions.



M: 0414 598 157

E: [Sue.Kuti@travelmanagers.com.au](mailto:Sue.Kuti@travelmanagers.com.au)

*I look forward to sharing my heritage with you!*

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