



LEAF National Operators' Meeting

Xrobb I-Għagin Nature Park and Sustainable Development Centre
Marsaxlokk - Malta

21 - 23 March 2016

Information about Malta

Strategically placed at the centre of the Mediterranean, Malta has been involved in the major events that have characterised this region. The Republic of Malta consists of an archipelago of three main Mediterranean islands (Malta, Gozo and Comino) making up an area of approximately 316 km². With a population of over 400,000, Malta has a relatively high population density (1160 persons per km²). With its natural environment, 7000 years of history and cultural traditions, Malta is like an open-air museum that can be easily explored.

Endemic flora and fauna, the oldest free-standing stone structures in the world, great fortresses, Renaissance cathedrals, Baroque palaces and a varied cuisine are but a few of the attractions that Malta has to offer. Find out more by visiting:

<http://www.visitmalta.com/main?l=1>

Information about Xrobb I-Għagin can be found in the following link:

<http://www.xrobbighagin.org.mt/>

(a) Time Zone: Central European Time (GMT + 01:00)

(b) Visa requirements: Malta is a Schengen Zone country. Check out whether your country is part of the Schengen Zone by visiting:

<http://foreignaffairs.gov.mt/en/Pages/The-Schengen-Area.aspx>

Please check whether you need a Visa to come to Malta by visiting:

<http://homeaffairs.gov.mt/en/MHAS-Information/Travelling%20to%20Malta/Pages/Which-third-country-nationals-are-required-to-have-a-visa.aspx>

For more information visit: <http://foreignaffairs.gov.mt/en/Pages/Travelling-to-Malta.aspx>



We can send you an official invitation letter to attend the NOM if you need it. Just tick the appropriate box in the registration form.

- (b) Health:** Delegates should ensure that they are covered by an adequate medical insurance. Health care in Malta is of a high level conforming to European standards. There are three major hospitals: Mater Dei Hospital – the state hospital and a number of private hospitals.
- (c) Language:** The national language is Maltese. English is also an official language and is widely spoken and will be the language of the NOM. If you want to learn some basic Maltese phrases visit:
<http://www.surfacelanguages.com/language/Maltese/reviewwords/A-few-first-words--1.html#> .
For the more daring we suggest: http://www.linguanaut.com/english_maltese.htm.
- (d) Shops:** Shops are usually open from 0900 to 1300hrs and 1600 to 1900hrs. However, most remain open throughout the day (and also on Sundays).
- (e) Climate and Clothing:** With all the permutations that Climate Change is causing, it is very difficult to predict the weather. However, the weather is usually warm and sunny in March and you can even enjoy a swim. However, light jackets and umbrellas are recommended. More information will be forwarded closer to the NOM dates.
- (f) Communications:** *Telephone* – there are no area codes and public telephone booths available. *Mobile phone* – roaming agreements exist with most international mobile phone companies and coverage is good. *Internet* – there is free internet in the park, and in most of the cafes and restaurants at Marsaxlokk. *Post* – good postal services exist within the island with mail taking around four working days to arrive at an EU destination.
- (g) Currency and Banks:** The unit of currency in Malta is the Euro. All major credit cards are widely accepted. There are two ATMs in Marsaxlokk. There are banks in all towns and villages with additional "Bureaux de Change" in Sliema, St Julians and Valletta. Banking hours are: Mon-Fri 0830-1730, Sat 0800-1300.
- (h) Electricity:** Electricity supply is 220/240 volts, single phase, 50 cycle. The square fitting standard three-pin plugs and sockets are used.