



# Malta



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## **1.** General information



## Language

In Malta there are two official languages: Maltese and English.

## **Administrative settings**

Malta is a republic with a President as the head of state. The Prime minister and the ministers form the Cabinet, the executive branch of the government, while the Parliament forms the legislative branch of the government. In addition to the central government, Malta has a system of local government composed of 68 local councils.

The Maltese Archipelago is composed of 3 main inhabited islands: Malta, Gozo and Comino. Malta, where the capital city, Valletta, is located, is the centre of the administrative, commercial and cultural life. Gozo is the second largest island and more rural, while Comino is largely uninhabited.



## **Population**

With an area of 316 km2, the Maltese Archipelago is one of the smallest in the world. Yet it is also one of the densest, with a population of 514,564 (as at 2019).



## **Emergency contacts**

- Emergency: **112**. This number is used in case of an emergency, where rescue responders assess how best to address the situation.
- Ambulance: 196
- Police: +356 21224001-7, +356 21221111
- Traffic Accident: +356 21320202



## **Driving licence**

Any person holding a licence issued outside Malta and the European Union is entitled to drive in Malta for a period not exceeding twelve months from the date of their last entry into Malta, following which the foreign driving licence will need to be exchanged. The validity, duration and expiry of the Maltese counterpart issued will be the same as per the details of the driving licence being presented and exchanged. In Malta, drivers drive on the left side of the road.

More information is available here: https://www.transport.gov.mt/land/ driving/driving-licence/exchange-your-foreign-driving-licence-4541

## Ukrainian consulate in Malta

- The address of the consulate of Ukraine is: 89 Wine Pressers Wharf, Marsa MRS 1912
- Phone number: +356 21242007
- Email: ukr.consulate@tritonmalta.com

The consulate is open on weekdays by appointment. The offices of the consulate may be closed on Maltese and Ukrainian public holidays. Please contact the consulate to confirm opening hours. The consulate of Ukraine in Valletta is supervised by the embassy in Rome.





## **2.** Entry to Malta

#### **Health screening**

Persons may travel to Malta from any country. As from 6 June 2022, persons aged 12 years and over are permitted to travel to Malta without undergoing quarantine subject to the provision of proof of either of the 3 following documents: proof of vaccination, proof of recovery, or test certificate. Persons aged 12 years and over who are not in possession of a recognised vaccination, recovery or test certificate as per applicable standards, are required to submit themselves to a period of quarantine of 7 days (the date of arrival is day zero). More information on applicable conditions and standards is available here: <a href="https://deputyprimeminister.gov.mt/en/health-promotion/covid-19/Pages/travel.aspx">https://deputyprimeminister.gov.mt/en/health-promotion/covid-19/Pages/travel.aspx</a>

Regulations are subject to change according to the situation.

Appointments need to be made for health screening. Persons who apply for temporary protection will be referred for medical appointments at the Chest Clinic in the Qormi Health Centre by the International Protection Agency. Any vaccines that are needed will be provided (polio, rubella, TB, diptheria, tetanus, etc.) for free.

### **Documentation and security check**

Holders of a biometric passport can enter visa-free and stay in the country for a total of 90 days within the last 180 days.

Border checks are performed upon arrival at the airport or seaport by immigration police officials.

All arrivals are registered in the ETIAS database/system.



## **3.** Temporary protection

Malta activated temporary protection for displaced persons from Ukraine on 8 March 2022. Malta grants temporary protection to the following categories of persons displaced from Ukraine on or after 24 February 2022, following the invasion by Russian armed forces that began on that date:

- a. Ukrainian nationals residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022;
- b. Stateless persons, and nationals of third (i.e. non-EU) countries other than Ukraine, who benefited from international protection or equivalent national protection in Ukraine before 24 February 2022; and
- c. Family members of the persons referred to in points (a) and (b).

The following persons are considered family members, insofar as the family was already present and residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022:

- **1.** The spouse of a person referred to in points (a) or (b), or the unmarried partner in a stable relationship;
- 2. The minor unmarried children of a person referred to in point (a) or (b), or of their spouse, without distinction as to whether they were born inside or outside a marriage or adopted;
- **3.** Other close relatives who lived together as part of the family unit at the time of the circumstances surrounding the mass influx of displaced persons, and who were wholly or mainly dependent on a person referred to in point (a) or (b) at the time.

Temporary protection will also be granted to stateless persons, and nationals of third countries (i.e. non-EU countries) other than Ukraine, who can prove that they were legally residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 on the basis of a valid permanent residence permit issued in accordance with Ukrainian law, and who are unable to return in safe and durable conditions to their country or region of origin.

It is important to note that in case you are unable to submit evidence that you fall under the target groups listed above, you cannot be granted temporary protection.

If you do not fall under the categories mentioned above, you can still apply for international protection.



## Where can you register for temporary protection in Malta?

Temporary protection is not granted automatically. A request needs to be submitted with the International Protection Agency, which is responsible for the procedure for granting temporary protection.

Registrations take place at the premises of the International Protection Agency upon appointment. Appointments can be received by writing to <u>frontoffice@ipa.gov.mt</u>

## What documents do you need for registration for temporary protection in Malta?

- 1. Original identification documents (passport, identity card, etc.).
- **2.** Travel documents showing your travel route.
- **3.** Original or printed copies of birth certificates of minor children
- **4.** Printed copies of the first page of your passport or identity card (including the personal detail information / biodata page).
- **5.** Printed copies of the page(s) of your passport or identity card including the stamp related to entry in the EU and/or the pages containing the VISA issued by an EU country.

## What is the procedure to register for temporary protection in Malta?

To register for temporary protection in Malta you need to make an appointment by writing to the International Protection Agency at the following email address: <u>frontoffice@ipa.gov.mt</u>

You will then be given an appointment to present yourself, accompanied by the members of your family if any, at the International Protection Agency premises with all the necessary documents indicated above. An appointment is generally given within two weeks from the date you contact the International Protection Agency. However, timeframes might vary depending on availability.

On the day of the appointment, the competent personnel of the International Protection Agency will assess your request to determine your eligibility for temporary protection or otherwise. If it is established that you are eligible for temporary protection you will be issued with the following documents:



- a) A decision indicating that you are being granted temporary protection.
- **b)** A protection certificate indicating your status as a beneficiary of temporary protection. In general, the decision and protection certificate will be issued on the same day of your appointment.

## Which documents will you receive as a beneficiary of temporary protection?

Once you are granted temporary protection, the International Protection Agency will issue a temporary protection certificate which entitles you to obtain a residence permit from Identity Malta Agency. The residence permit is a card containing biometric features, which will be necessary for you to prove your legal residence in Malta as well as to access all available services.

You must submit your application for a residence permit in person at Identity Malta Agency's Hal-Far office:

- Address: Identity Malta, International Humanitarian Protection and SRA Office, Hal Far Hanger, Hal Far, BBG3000
- Telephone: +356 25904841
- Email: <u>intl.protection.ima@gov.mt</u>

The office is open Monday to Friday 7.30–12:30. You can present yourself without appointment or if you are required to present yourself on a specific date for an appointment you will receive an email from <u>noneu.ima@gov.mt</u> To complete your application at Identity Malta office, you will need to bring some documentation.

All documents will be collected and checked, your photo and fingerprints will be taken, and you will be given a receipt with the official residence permit number. This receipt may be used for all services until your residence permit is issued. You will receive a letter from Identity Malta Agency informing you that the residence permit is ready to be collected.

You may find more information at the Expatriates Unit page of Identity Malta website here: <u>https://www.identitymalta.com/unit/expatriates-unit/</u>

### **Duration of temporary protection**

Holders of temporary protection status will be issued with a permit until 4 March 2023. If the reasons for granting temporary protection subsist, this status may be renewed for another two consecutive periods of 6 months each, i.e. until 4 March 2024.



## Your rights as a beneficiary of temporary protection in Malta

Your rights as beneficiary of temporary protection are:

- residence permit
- access to the labour market and accommodation
- social and welfare assistance
- medical care (including, as a minimum essential emergency care and essential treatment of illness)
- access to education for children and teenagers
- family reunification.

## More information about these rights



### Accommodation

Holders of temporary protection in need of accommodation may request assistance from the Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers.

## **Initial reception**



If you are granted temporary protection, you have the right to engage in employed or self-employed activities, subject to rules applicable to the profession, as well as activities such as educational opportunities for adults, vocational training and practical workplace experience. However, for reasons related to labour market policies, priority may be given to EU+ citizens and also to legally resident third-country nationals who receive unemployment benefits.

If you are looking for employment, you can check employment opportunities through Jobs Plus here: <u>https://jobsplus.gov.mt/job-seekers-mt-MT-en-GB/vacancies</u>

For more information call: +356 21255153

### Social welfare



If you are a beneficiary of temporary protection in Malta, you can claim social assistance benefits from the Maltese Government. As a beneficiary of temporary protection status, you can receive aid equivalent to the core social assistance. this right to core social assistance is available as soon as you are granted the temporary protection certificate.



If you are the head of your own household and are living on your own, social assistance is awarded in your own right. However, if your household consists of other family members, the household is awarded additional social assistance including entitlement to other eligible family members forming part of your household.

These benefits can be paid to you by means of a weekly cheque until you are able to open a local bank account. Benefits will be paid to you until you engage in a gainful activity or until the expiry of the validity of your temporary protection status issued by Malta.

applicants forming a household and paying rent receive full social assistance while applicants living in another household and not paying rent receive the equivalent of 75% social assistance.



To receive social assistance, you must lodge a claim for benefits at one of the servizz.gov hubs, where officials will assist you with the application process. Information is available here: <u>https://www.servizz.gov.mt/en/Pages/Servizz/Locations/default.aspx</u>

For more information:

- Freephone: 153
- Email: <u>servizz@gov.mt</u>
- Calling from abroad: +356 21255153

### Other means of subsistence for persons living in the community

Persons residing in the community who may need food and/or supplies can apply to the Foodbank Lifeline and will receive six weeks of support on a weekly basis.

- Website: <u>https://www.foodbanklifeline.com/</u>
- Email: <u>help@foodbanklifeline.com</u>
- Telephone: **99066808**

### **Public health**

### Medical care / medical prescription

As a beneficiary of temporary protection you are entitled to receive free of charge medical care, including at least emergency care and essential treatment of illness, in public hospitals and health centres.



The health centres are the hub of the primary healthcare services provided by the government. Besides the general practitioner and nursing services, various specialised health services are provided. These include podiatry, physiotherapy, immunisation, speech therapy, antenatal and postnatal clinics, well baby and paediatric clinics, diabetes clinics, orthopaedic clinics and wound clinics.

At present there are ten health centres. Floriana Health Centre has two satellites in Gzira and Qormi. Paola Health Centre has two satellites in Cospicua and Kirkop. Mosta Health Centre has two satellites in Rabat and Birkirkara. You are requested to attend the health centre that serves your locality of residence. As the times and availability of these clinics vary, for further information you may contact the Client Support Centre on +356 21231231 or visit the following pages:

- myHealth: <u>https://myhealth-ng.gov.mt/HealthSiteFinder</u>
- or the Ministry for Health webpage: <u>https://deputyprimeminister.</u> gov.mt/en/phc/Pages/Health-Centres/Overview.aspx

### **Psychosocial support**

Support can be received free of charge in specific health centres where a social worker or a mental health clinic is available. Services are provided on appointment.

The role of a social worker is to intervene with persons who are experiencing any form of social difficulties, including relationship problems, poverty, and substance misuse/abuse amongst others. The social worker can provide emotional support and be a liaison/referral person to other professionals and services. Social workers services are offered upon referral from a general practitioner and other health professionals carrying out clinical duties. The working schedule is between 7.30 and 16.00:

- Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at Cospicua Health Centre: <u>https://deputyprimeminister.gov.mt/en/phc/Pages/Health-Centres/</u> <u>Cospicua-Health-Centre.aspx</u>
- Tuesday and Friday at Birkirkara Health Centre: <u>https://</u> <u>deputyprimeminister.gov.mt/en/phc/Pages/Health-Centres/BKara-</u> <u>Health-Centre.aspx</u>

In the mental health clinic, specialised multi-disciplinary teams assist persons with mental health problems who require specialist treatment and care as well as support for their social network. If you feel that you need to speak to someone about your mental health, you can refer to one of the Health Clinics for assessment and subsequent care planning.



Mental Health Clinics covering the south of Malta:

- Cospicua, phone: +356 21662088 / 23972330
- Paola, phone: **+356 21821566** / **21821562**

Mental health clinics covering the centre of Malta:

- Floriana, phone: +356 21220521 / 21220454
- Qormi, phone: **+356 21441317** / **21440170**

Mental health clinics covering the north of Malta:

- Mtarfa, phone: +356 21456750 / 21454917 / 21456758
- Mosta/Qawra, phone: +356 21424969

### COVID-19

Vaccinations are provided without the need for an appointment and free of charge, Monday to Friday, at the following facilities:

- Gateway, University of Malta, 8.00–15.00
- Kerċem Community Clinic, 9.00–13.00

Please make sure you have with you any information about your previous vaccination(s).

You can find more information by calling at **145** or by visiting this website: <u>https://deputyprimeminister.gov.mt/en/health-promotion/covid-19/Pages/vaccines.aspx</u>

You can also get tested free of charge and only upon appointment in one of the public testing centres available on the Maltese territory. To book your swab test call the Public Health Helpline on **111** or **+356 21324086** if you have a non-Maltese phone number. The operators will take note of your personal details and you will be given an appointme nt to undergo this test closest to your place of residence.

For more information please visit this website: <u>https://deputyprimeminister.</u> gov.mt/en/health-promotion/covid-19/Pages/getting-tested.aspx

### Vaccinations for children

The National Immunisation Service is responsible for the administration of all vaccines given to the public at all ages. All clinics in the health centres carry out the scheduled vaccinations for infants, children and adolescents. Scheduled childhood immunisations recommended by the department for persons considered at risk are given free of charge.





For information and vaccination appointments:

- Email: <u>immunisation@gov.mt</u>
- phone: +356 21231231

### Mandatory check up with a veterinarian for pets



Ukrainians travelling to Malta with pets must follow the guidelines on temporary procedure for dealing with animals accompanying travellers entering Malta from Ukraine during the military conflict. The guidelines are provided by Malta's Animal Welfare Commissioner and are available here: https://agrikoltura.gov.mt/en/ahwd/Documents/home/ukraineRefugeePets. pdf

Queries or further information may be obtained from:

- Email: <u>petstravel.mafa@gov.mt</u>
- Phone: +356 21650393; +356 99170532 (24 hours)

### Access to education

### **Childcare/nursery**

The Maltese government provides free childcare services to children whose parents/guardians (both of them or a single father/mother) are employed and paying social security contributions, or are pursuing their education.

More information on the free childcare scheme and on how to apply can be found using the following channels:

- the website: <a href="https://education.gov.mt/en/Pages/Free-Childcare.aspx">https://education.gov.mt/en/Pages/Free-Childcare.aspx</a>
- email: <u>freechildcare@gov.mt</u>
- phone: +356 22201137 / 22201138
- downloading the information leaflet: <u>https://education.gov.mt/en/Documents/Childcare-Leaflet-2015-EN.</u> <u>pdf</u>

### **Primary and secondary school**

Education in Malta is compulsory between the ages of 5 and 16 years. Kindergarten caters for the age group from 3 to 4 years, primary schooling from 5 to 11 years and secondary schooling spans from ages 12 to 16.

Minors enjoying temporary protection will be granted access to the state education system under the same conditions as Maltese nationals.



To enrol your children in a Maltese state school, fill in this form for each child to be enrolled: https://mapsss.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/ Pre-Registration-Form-Logo-MFED-April-2021.pdf On the second page of the form you will find the list of documents required to proceed with the enrolment.

Pre-registration applications for compulsory education are received at the Ministry for Education, Great Siege Road, Floriana. Applicants are expected to submit the application together with supporting documentation. You can find more information by calling or visiting the government Migrant Learners' Unit:

- Phone: +356 25982712/ +356 25981594
- Email: <u>mlu.mede@gov.mt</u>
- Website of the migrant learners unit: <u>https://migrantlearnersunit.</u> <u>gov.mt/en/Pages/About%20us/about-us.aspx</u>



Children's access to Maltese schools is subject to them being fully vaccinated against diseases according to the current Malta National Schedule of Vaccination applicable to Maltese and foreign students attending Maltese schools. In the absence of a vaccination card, the Maltese health authorities will administer all the required vaccines to the Ukrainian children free of charge.

### University

Moreover, lifelong learning courses are offered by the Directorate for Research, Lifelong Learning and Employability of the Ministry for Education and Employment. More information is available through the following channels:

- Phone: **153**
- Email: <u>lifelonglearning@gov.mt</u>
- Website: <u>https://lifelonglearning.gov.mt/</u>

#### **Education titles recognition**

The Malta Qualifications Recognition Information Centre is the competent body that recognises qualifications against the Malta Qualifications Framework. More information is available here: <u>https://mfhea.mt/academic-qualifications/</u>



## 4. International protection

The international protection procedure remains available to persons affected by the conflict in Ukraine as to any other third-country (i.e. non-EU) national.

It is important to note that temporary protection cannot be enjoyed concurrently with status as an applicant for international protection. This means that if you decide to apply for international protection you cannot benefit from temporary protection while your application for international protection is being processed.

At the same time, if you are affected by the conflict in Ukraine but are not eligible for temporary protection, you may apply for international protection. Your application will be examined by the International Protection Agency according to the regular asylum procedure and could end with a positive decision of either refugee status or subsidiary protection status, or with a negative decision which may be appealed.

More information on international protection is available here: <u>https://homeaffairs.gov.mt/en/MHAS-Departments/International%20</u> <u>Protection%20Agency/Pages/Refugee.aspx#Procedure</u>

The European Union Agency for Asylum has information leaflets available for both adults and children in Ukrainian here: <u>https://euaa.europa.eu/</u> <u>euaa-response-war-ukraine-vidpovid-euaa-agentstvo-evropeyskogo-</u> <u>soyuzu-z-pitan-pritulkuna-viynu-v</u>





## **Annex I. Repository of sources**

	General information	
Service	Website	QR
General information about Malta	https://www.gov.mt/en/Pages/ home.aspx Available in English and Maltese	
Driving licence	https://www.transport.gov.mt/l and/driving/driving- licence/exchange-your- foreign-driving-licence-4541 Available in English	
	Entry in Malta	
COVID-19 entry requirements	https://deputyprimeminister.g ov.mt/en/health- promotion/covid- 19/Pages/travel.aspx Available in English	
	Temporary protection	
Ministry for Home Affairs, Security, Reforms and Equality	https://homeaffairs.gov.mt/en/ MHAS- Departments/International%2 OProtection%20Agency/Page s/Temporary-Protection- DirectiveUkraine.aspx Available in English	



Identity Malta	https://www.identitymalta.com /unit/expatriates-unit/ Available in English and Maltese	
Social security benefits	Social welfarehttps://socialsecurity.gov.mt/en/social-security-benefits-eligibility-for-ukrainian-nationals-holders-of-temporary-protection-in-malta/Available in English andMaltese	
Government services regional hubs	https://www.servizz.gov.mt/en /Pages/Servizz/Locations/def ault.aspx Available in English and Maltese	
Health Site Finder	Public health <a href="https://myhealth- ng.gov.mt/HealthSiteFinder">https://myhealth- ng.gov.mt/HealthSiteFinder</a> Available in English	



Ministry webpage	https://deputyprimeminister.g ov.mt/en/phc/Pages/Health- Centres/Overview.aspx Available in English	
COVID-19 vaccine	https://deputyprimeminister.g ov.mt/en/health- promotion/covid- 19/Pages/vaccines.aspx Available in English	
COVID-19 test	https://deputyprimeminister.g ov.mt/en/health- promotion/covid- 19/Pages/getting-tested.aspx Available in English	
Jobsplus (employment agency)	Labour market <u>https://jobsplus.gov.mt/job-seekers-mt-MT-en-GB/vacancies</u> Available in English	



	Access to education	
Registration form to enrol children in school	https://mapsss.org/wp- content/uploads/2022/03/Pre -Registration-Form-Logo- MFED-April-2021.pdf Available in English	
Migrant Learners Unit	https://migrantlearnersunit.go v.mt/en/Pages/About%20us/a bout-us.aspx Available in English	
Ministry of Education: Free childcare scheme frequently asked questions	https://education.gov.mt/en/D ocuments/Childcare-Leaflet- 2015-EN.pdf Available in English	
Ministry of Education: Free childcare scheme	https://education.gov.mt/en/P ages/Free-Childcare.aspx Available in English	



Lifelong learning	https://lifelonglearning.gov.mt / Available in English	
Education titles recognition	https://mfhea.mt/academic- qualifications/ Available in English Pets	
Guidelines on temporary procedure for dealing with animals accompanying travellers entering Malta from Ukraine during the military conflict	https://agrikoltura.gov.mt/en/a hwd/Documents/home/ukrain eRefugeePets.pdf Available in English	
Foodbank Lifeline	Other support <u>https://www.foodbanklifeline.c</u> <u>om/</u> Available in English	
International Protection	International protection https://homeaffairs.gov.mt/en/	
Agency	MHAS- Departments/International%2 OProtection%20Agency/Page s/Refugee.aspx#Procedure Available in English	



EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR ASYLUM

Other useful websites		
Temporary protection in specific countries	https://whoiswho.euaa.europa .eu/Pages/Temporary- protection.aspx Available in English	





