

Malta

A diver's paradise

Popular Dive Sites

MALTA

1 THE TUGBOAT ROZI

Just North of Marfa Point is an old metal jetty. Close to this jetty, at a depth of 30 metres, lies the tugboat Rozi, deliberately sunk in 1991 and now a popular site with beginners and experts alike.

2 MARFA POINT

A wonderful site with caves, reefs, promontories and tunnels at depths of 15 to 30 metres.

3 CIRKEWWA ARCH

Extraordinary underwater walls and a magnificent arch, where you can come across a variety of fish and, if you're lucky, a seahorse or two. This dive is ideal for all levels of experience.

4 L-AHRAX POINT

Although this dive is relatively shallow, it is no less spectacular for that. The reef is rich in marine life and the drop-off impressive.

5 ST PAUL'S ISLANDS

These are the islands at the entrance to St. Paul's Bay. It is a very popular dive site with a reef wall, which drops to a depth of 34 metres to a sandy bottom, where a variety of species swim around and sift for food.

6 HMS MAORI

At the southern end of the small bay, below Fort St. Elmo, is the wreck of HMS Maori, sunk in 1942. It lies on a sandy seabed 13 – 17 metres from the surface.

7 CAROLITA BARGE

This vessel sank near Manoel Island in Marsamxett Harbour in 1942 after being struck by a torpedo. It is very well preserved and is the haunt of many species, particularly octopus.

8 BLENHEIM BOMBER

This aircraft is located approximately 800 metres due east of Xrob il-Ghagin at a depth of 42 metres. The wreck is remarkably well preserved and makes for a very exciting dive.

9 DELIMARA POINT

There are vertical cliffs and many caverns here. The flora and fauna particularly varied and colourful.

10 WIED IZ-ZURRIEQ

Close to the Blue Grotto is a marvellous underwater valley, a labyrinth of caves at different depths.

11 GHAR LAPSI

This is a tiny fishing village on the west coast. The site is fairly shallow, but winds through a varied, interesting route.

12 ANCHOR BAY

The set from the film "Popeye" still stands in this bay in all its glory. The site is characterised by many caves and beautiful passageways.

Gozo

13 XLENDI CAVES

This is a shallow dive with much to recommend it to those who are new to cave diving.

14 XLENDI REEF

The rocky headland dips steeply down to the sea, where it disappears and continues for quite some distance below the surface. A proliferation of flora and fauna creates underwater magic.

15 FUNGUS ROCK

This is a fascinating dive to a maximum of 45 metres. A must for photography buffs.





A diver's paradise



Mediterranean Sea

ix Point

5 St Paul's Islands

ST PAUL'S ISLANDS

CAW

7 Carolita Barge

6 HMS Maori

Im Studios

8 Blenheim
Bomber

9 Delimara
Point

11 Cfar Lapsi

FILELA

10 Wied iż-Zurrieq

16 CROCODILE ROCK & CORAL CAVES

Wonderful caves studded with sponges and corals.

17 THE BLUE HOLE & THE CHIMNEY

This site is easily accessible. The diving area is characterised by arches and cavities. A magical, unforgettable place.

18 SAN DIMITRI POINT

This site offers exceptional visibility that sometimes exceeds 50 metres. Few areas in the world offer such clear waters.

19 GHASRI VALLEY

This is a long, gentle dive, which starts on a shingle beach. One of the outstanding features is the profusion of anemones and rare, multicoloured molluscs. The site is ideal for close-up photography.

20 BILLINGSHURST CAVE

A long tunnel, called the "Railway Tunnel", leads to a cave deep inside the rock, where the diver can surface. For the more daring,

21 REQQA POINT

The walls descend vertically to the seabed, at a depth of about 60 metres. If conditions are favourable, you'll find groups of amberjacks and groupers.

22 DOUBLE ARCH REEF

This site is characterised by a strange formation, with an arch dividing two large openings in the rock. For the experienced driver.

23 XATT L-AHMAR

This is a small bay, a short distance south-west of Mgarr. Excellent for observing a large variety of mullets, groupers, sea breams, octopuses and cuttlefish

24 FESSEJ ROCK

A dark, prominent column of rock close to Mgarr ix-Xini. The wall descends to 50 metres and beyond. It is one of the most popular sites for those who like deep water.

25 IL-KANTRA

Just inside the inlet called Mgarr ix-Xini are no fewer than 103 steps leading right down to the water's edge, where a small platform provides an excellent entry point. Sometimes, visibility is poor but even when it is, the dive is extremely interesting, thanks to the many species encountered.

DIVING REGULATIONS

The current regulations have been established to provide maximum safety for divers. Participants in diving courses do not need official permits but need to prove that they are physically fit (a medical test is requested by your diving centre). The local diving permit, known as Card C, provided by the Ministry of Health, is necessary when diving within the territorial limits of the archipelago. Candidates must provide a medical certificate, two photos and a diving logbook. For those wishing to practice this sport on their own, a certificate which is equivalent to the CMAS/2 - a professional diver's diploma - is a must.

All information in this factsheet is subject to change without prior notice.

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COMINO & COMINOTTO

26 COMINO CAVES

This has become one of the most popular sites for cave dives.

27 LANTERN POINT

The site derives its name from the miniature lighthouse at the end of a rocky promontory. At a depth of 36 metres, a rich fauna proliferates in an abundance of colour.

28 COMINOTTO REEF

Between Comino and Cominotto, this dive offers varied seascapes and an abundance of species at different depths.

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