Heritage Malta

Calendar of Events
July - December 2023
Who we are

Heritage Malta proudly manages over 90 museums, landmarks, national monuments and underwater sites. It seeks to provide its various audiences with an enhanced experience during visits to these museums and sites. From prehistoric caves to subterranean passageways, geology to ethnography, from the management of seven World Heritage Sites to industrial and underwater heritage, there is no interest that is not catered for.

The national agency is also committed to bringing culture closer to the people by facilitating interpretation and accessibility, both physical and intellectual, and curating museums and sites into spaces for the exchange of ideas and knowledge. With its professional team of highly respected curators and archaeologists, architects, digital and scientific experts conservators and restorers, Heritage Malta welcomes you to be part of a spectacular past.
Embracing our Heritage

This programme effectively preserves and celebrates the rich cultural legacy of a community or region. However, to ensure its success, the programme should focus on several key aspects.

The initiatives outlined in this programme provide a wonderful opportunity for the public to engage with various aspects of Malta’s history and culture while enjoying themselves through interactive experiences. The programme aims to go beyond mere admiration of heritage and encourages people to actively live and experience it, recognising its role in shaping the national identity.

The programme comprises a carefully curated, diverse range of events to cater to different audiences. Children, teenagers, and the general public are all targeted through the jam-packed calendar of activities running until the end of the year. The events include fun-filled and educational activities specifically designed for kids, offering them a chance to learn about heritage in an entertaining manner.
By offering a wide array of events, the programme aims to make heritage accessible and appealing to a broader audience. The hands-on and interactive nature of the activities ensures that participants can actively engage with Malta’s history and culture, creating a more immersive and memorable experience.

This programme signifies a shift towards a new understanding of accessibility to heritage. It encourages people not only to observe from a distance but to actively participate and engage with the heritage that forms the nation. By promoting experiential learning and providing opportunities for the public to connect with heritage on a personal level, the programme aims to foster a deeper appreciation and sense of ownership among the community.

Overall, the programme offers a well-rounded approach to heritage engagement, combining educational elements with entertainment, and catering to a diverse range of interests and age groups. It seeks to create a meaningful and enjoyable experience for participants, leaving them with a deeper understanding and connection to Malta’s rich history and culture.
The first half of 2023 has flown by in a whirlwind of events which sparked great interest and saw thousands of people flocking to Heritage Malta’s museums and sites. This being our first full year in a while without Covid-19 restrictions, we look back on the past six months with deep gratitude and thankfulness.

Heartened by the public’s overwhelming response, we now present our calendar of events for the second half of the year. Starting with our much-anticipated crowd-pullers for the hot summer months and ending with our cosy Christmastime concepts, the July – December calendar is bound to attract a wide and varied audience.

Fun-filled, hands-on edutainment family activities, large-scale exhibitions and smaller espressos, re-enactments, curatorial talks, thematic tours, public lectures, special openings of closed sites, harbour cruises, heritage trails, equinox events, and Taste History’s exclusive gastronomic delights are just some of the experiences lined up for the next six months.
In the ensuing pages, we are also offering a first glimpse of this year’s Student Passport Summer Programme, an annual initiative through which youngsters are not only kept active during the summer holidays but are also introduced to various aspects of Malta’s history and culture while enjoying themselves in hands-on experiences. Our student summer programme is a perfect example of how Heritage Malta is placing people of all ages at the centre of its mission to make heritage constantly available to everyone, everywhere. The programme also embodies the agency’s constant endeavours to give its visitors a more holistic and exciting experience through innovative and creative means aided by the latest technology.

With a portfolio including baroque auberges and palaces, catacombs, forts, natural landscapes and UNESCO-listed archaeological parks, Heritage Malta is the face of the Maltese Islands, duty-bound to ensure that our nation’s stories are preserved for posterity and made accessible for everyone to experience and enjoy. This calendar of events, along with the student summer programme, illustrates our efforts to accomplish this mission.

It will be our pleasure to host you in the coming months. We promise to make your experience as edutaining as possible, and to make you feel Part of Us.
Heritage Malta reserves the right to amend dates and other details. Please consult Heritage Malta’s website and social media for the latest information.
SUMMER PROGRAMME 2023

10 July - 15 September

Scan here for more information:

heritagemalta.mt/whats-on
03
Villa Frere: Open Day
Villa Frere, Pietà

08
Victory Day Celebrations
Fort St Angelo, Birgu & Fort St Elmo and the National War Museum, Valletta

20 & 21
Autumn Equinox
Ħaġar Qim & Mnajdra Archaeological Complex, Qrendi

21
Mario Coleiro – Floriana Heritage Trail
Floriana route

30
Abbatija tad-Dejr & St Augustine’s Catacombs: Curator’s Tour
Abbatija tad-Dejr & St Augustine’s Catacombs, Rabat

30
Heritage Malta 20th Anniversary Celebrations: Open Day
All open Heritage Malta museums and sites

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Historical Re-enactments
October 2023

01
Heritage Malta 20th Anniversary Celebrations: Bighi Open Day
Heritage Malta Head Office, Kalkara

01
Villa Frere: Open Day
Villa Frere, Pietà

06
Roman Expansion in the Mediterranean
St Paul’s Catacombs, Rabat

07
Notte Bianca – Extended Hours & Free Admission
Valletta museums

08
Gran Castello Historic House: Free Admission with Guided Tours, marking its 40th Anniversary
Gran Castello Historic House, Ċittadella, Gozo

13
Dark Tales at Fort St Angelo
Fort St Angelo, Birgu

13 & 14
BirguFest - Extended Hours & Reduced Admission Rate on Saturday
Fort St Angelo & the Inquisitor’s Palace, Birgu

20 & 21
Siege of Malta and the War of Cyprus – Compagnia San Michele
Fort St Elmo, Valletta & Fort St Angelo and the Inquisitor’s Palace, Birgu

22
Ta’ Mintna Catacombs: Jum l-Imqabba
Ta’ Mintna Catacombs, Mqabba

22 & 29
In Guardia!
Fort St Elmo and the National War Museum, Valletta

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27
Lejlet il-Wahx
_St Paul’s Catacombs, Rabat_

28
Taste History Event
_Gozo site_

28
Turkish Cemetery Tour
_Turkish Cemetery, Marsa_

29
Ġgantija Archaeological Park
− Reduced Admission Rate with Guided Tours, marking the Archaeological Park’s 10th Anniversary
Ġgantija Archaeological Park, Xagħra, Gozo

29
Castellamare by Historical Re-enactment Group of Malta
_Fort St Angelo, Birgu_
03
Meet the Experts at the Grand Master’s Palace
Grand Master’s Palace, Valletta

04
Ta’ Ħaġrat & Skorba: Curator’s Tour
Ta’ Ħaġrat Megalithic Site & Skorba Prehistoric Site, Mġarr

05
Villa Frere: Open Day
Villa Frere, Pietà

05, 12 & 26
In Guardia!
Fort St Elmo and the National War Museum, Valletta

09
L-Inkwiziżzjoni – L-ewwel sessjoni: L-Inkwiziżzjoni: Meta? Kif? Min u ghaliex?
Inquisitor’s Palace, Birgu

11
Ġewż, Lewż, Qastan, Tin!
Inquisitor’s Palace, Birgu

19
Castellamare by Historical Re-enactment Group of Malta
Fort St Angelo, Birgu

25
The History of the Old Abattoir: Curator’s Tour
Valletta Design Cluster, Valletta

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December 2023

- **03**
  Villa Frere: Open Day
  Villa Frere, Pietà

- **03 & 17**
  In Guardia!
  Fort St Elmo and the National War Museum, Valletta

- **07**
  L-Inkwizizzjoni – It-tieni sessjoni: Il-bini ta’ palazz għall-Inkwizituri
  Inquisitor’s Palace, Birgu

- **09 & 10**
  Christmas at the Fort
  Fort St Elmo and the National War Museum, Valletta

- **16**
  Christmas Special Event
  Fort St Angelo, Birgu

- **17**
  Student Passport VISA Activity
  Fort St Elmo and the National War Museum, Valletta

- **21**
  Winter Solstice
  Haġar Qim & Mnajdra
  Archaeological Complex, Qrendi

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Ħaġar Qim & Mnajdra Archaeological Park
May - September
From Aphrodite to Eros – Mythology on the Greek Vases in the National Collection
The National Museum of Archaeology, Valletta

June - December
The National Museum of Natural History: 50 years in Mdina, a photographic journey
The National Museum of Natural History, Mdina

July - August
Schrine by Alexandra Aquilina
MUŻA, Valletta

August - September
The Langue of Italy: Building an Identity
MUŻA, Valletta

August - October
NOUS by Joseph Farrugia
MUŻA, Valletta

September - December
BeLoved Malta: Stories of Sexual Identity
Main Guard, Valletta

October - November
Caged Spaces – Patrick J Fenech
MUŻA, Valletta

October - July 2024
The Maltese Bride: 18th – 19th century bridal wear in Malta
Inquisitor’s Palace, Birgu

October - December
Fare Convito – Banqueting under the Order of St John
The National Museum of Archaeology, Valletta

October - December
Pathos – Chris Ebejer
MUŻA, Valletta

26 - 29 October
Il-Malti: Il-Mixja sal-Għarfien Uffiċjali
Malta Book Fair

November - December
Maritime Dockyard
The Malta Maritime Museum, Birgu

November - January 2023
The Crib’s Journey with St Francis
Grand Master’s Palace, Valletta

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Abroad

March - September
Streamline – The Form of Progress
Design Museum Den Bosch,
s’Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands

May - May 2024
Bilingual Cippus of Malta
Louvre, Abu Dhabi, UAE

October - March 2024
Mattia Preti – Knight of Malta
Royal Lazienki Museum, Warsaw,
Poland

November – March 2024
The Mark of Jorge Juan – The Legacy
of an Enlightened Scientist
Museo Naval de Madrid, Madrid, Spain
The Education and Outreach Department within Heritage Malta regularly organises multidisciplinary and interactive activities that target audiences with different abilities.

For more information contact us on education@heritagemalta.org or visit heritagemalta.mt/departments/education-outreach/
Experience MORE HISTORY for Less

MULTISITE PASS
GET ACCESS WITH 1 TICKET!*

*except to Hal Saflieni Hypogeum and Underground Valletta

For more information visit heritagemalta.mt/store
Museums & Sites
OPEN ON A REGULAR BASIS

1 Valletta
- National Museum of Archaeology
- Fort St Elmo
- Grand Master’s Palace
- National War Museum
- MUŻA - The National Community Art Museum
- Fortress Builders Interpretation Centre
- Underground Valletta

2 Pietà
- Villa Frere Garden

3 Birgu
- Inquisitor’s Palace
- Malta Maritime Museum
- Fort St Angelo

4 Ħal Tarxien & Paola
- Ħal Tarxien Prehistoric Complex
- Ħal Saflieni Hypogeum

5 Birżebbuġa
- Ghar Dalam Cave and Museum
- Borg in-Nadur Prehistoric Complex

6 Qrendi
- Ħaġar Qim Prehistoric Complex
- Mnajdra Prehistoric Complex

7 Mdina & Rabat
- National Museum of Natural History
- Domvs Romana
- St Paul’s Catacombs
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<tr>
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<th>Location</th>
<th>Sites/Features</th>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Mġarr</td>
<td>Skorba Prehistoric Complex</td>
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<td>Ta’ Ħaġrat Megalithic Site</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Victoria</td>
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<td>Gran Castello Historic House</td>
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<td>Old Prison</td>
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<td>Gozo Nature Museum</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Xaghra</td>
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<td>Ta’ Kola Windmill</td>
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With a total surface area of just 316km², the Maltese Islands cherish an outstanding patrimony. The distinctiveness and longevity of its story is the result of the Archipelago’s position at the crossroads of the Mediterranean and its endowment with formidable natural havens. Heritage Malta, the National Agency for museums, conservation practice and cultural heritage, manages a cornucopia of museums and sites ranging from geology to industrial heritage, archaeology to ethnography, palaces to underground cemeteries, including seven UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

All Heritage Malta Museums and Sites are closed on 1 January, Good Friday and on 24, 25 & 31 December.

Further details may be obtained from www.heritagemalta.mt
The location of the Maltese Islands at the centre of the Mediterranean has created an inextricable link between the archipelago and the maritime history of the Mediterranean. Malta’s human story stretches back over 8,000 years and is reflected in the archaeologically rich landscape of the islands. Millennia of human activity are also reflected on the seabed surrounding Malta and Gozo, ranging from a 2,700-year-old Phoenician shipwreck, Roman and Early Modern shipwrecks, to dozens of aircraft crash sites, submarines and battleships from both world wars. This diversity and unique range of underwater cultural heritage sites has made Malta the curator for a unique and well-preserved cultural resource that is global in nature and belongs to all humankind. A distinctive characteristic of Malta’s underwater cultural heritage sites is their deep-water location, ensuring site preservation whilst maintaining the authenticity and integrity of many historic wrecks.
Malta, 8000 years of history

3800 BC
**Late Neolithic**
Construction of complex megalithic structures and communal burial places, and crafting of fine objets d’art.

1500 BC
**Late Bronze Age**
Flourishing of fortified settlements.

218 BC
**Annexation to Rome**
Thriving of economic and artistic pursuits, and endowment of towns of Melite and Gaulos with fine properties.

5900 BC
**Early Neolithic**
First evidence of cultivation in the Maltese Islands.

2000 BC
**Early Bronze Age**
Fresh wave of colonisation and arrival of new technologies, repurposing of megalithic temples.

800 BC
**Phoenician and Carthaginian dominance**
Foundation of Phoenician colony and trade hub, and eventual metamorphosis into a Carthaginian dependency.
1530
**Early Modern Period**
Transformation into a regional maritime hub and world-class stronghold, and an exponential increase of population count.

535 AD
**Middle Ages**
Succession of diverse dominations and abandonment of coastal settlements due to intensification of hostile incursions.

1964
**Sovereign State**
Achievement of Independence, establishment of Republic, termination of foreign military presence and accession to the European Union.
PART OF US