



**Heritage  
Malta**

**Calendar of Events**  
January - December 2024

**maltabiennale.art 2024**  
13 March - 31 May

# Who we are



**H**eritage 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.





# Calendar of Events

January - December  
2024

**maltabiennale.art** 2024  
13 March - 31 May

# Heritage Malta Calendar of Events

January-December 2024

## Type of Event

- Lecture
- Exhibition
- Members' Event
- Senior Passport
- Student Passport
- Special Opening
- Re-enactment
- Seminar
- Taste History
- Thematic Event
- Workshop
- Biennale



[heritagemalta.mt/whats-on](https://heritagemalta.mt/whats-on)

# Embracing our Heritage

This programme is a heartfelt effort to keep Malta's vibrant cultural heritage alive and thriving. It's not just about preserving the past but making sure everyone can be a part of it. To make this programme a success, we've focused on some key aspects that bring history to life for everyone.

Imagine a journey through Malta's history and culture that goes beyond just looking at artefacts. This programme is an open invitation to the public to not just observe but actively engage with the rich tapestry that makes Malta unique. It's about understanding how our history and culture have shaped who we are today.

This isn't your typical history lesson. We've carefully put together a diverse range of events for different audiences – kids, teenagers, and the general public. It's more than just a calendar; it's an opportunity for everyone to experience Malta's heritage in fun and interactive ways. From specially designed educational activities for kids to engaging experiences for all ages, the programme aims to make our heritage accessible and enjoyable.

But what sets this programme apart is its commitment to inclusivity. With 30 Student Passport events, 10 separate special openings, 11 members events, more than 10 lectures, 30 thematic events, 9 re-enactment events, 3 Senior

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Passport events, and more than 10 exhibitions, we're reaching out to diverse audiences. This ambitious program is expected to grow exponentially during the months of March, April and May in view of the first edition of maltabiennale.art 2024.

This programme is a game-changer. It's a shift from simply watching and listening to actively participating and engaging. By blending education with entertainment, it promises a meaningful and enjoyable experience for participants. It's not just about gaining knowledge; it's about fostering a deeper connection with Malta's rich history and culture.

As participants immerse themselves in this programme, attending events that cater to different interests and age groups, they're not just learning about Malta's history – they're becoming an integral part of it, leaving with a profound understanding and a strong connection to our cultural roots.



**Dr Owen Bonnici**

Minister for the  
National Heritage, the Arts  
and Local Government



**Noel Zammit**  
Chief Executive Officer

# Making our cultural heritage as accessible as possible

**T**he new year is the harbinger of all things positive for Heritage Malta, as we bask in the success of splendidly implemented projects such as the restoration of the Grand Master's Palace – another feather in our cap, thanks to which visitors may once again relish the opulence of this magnificent seat of power.

The same may be said of the Malta Maritime Museum, where the second phase of a complete overhaul is in full swing and where a one-of-a-kind temporary exhibition has been set up to showcase what has been achieved so far and where the museum is headed. Several public activities are being organised throughout the year in connection with this exhibition, as you will discover while browsing through this booklet.

This publication will surely whet your appetite for what's in store in the coming months – from curatorial talks and public lectures, to exhibitions, fun-filled kids' activities, re-enactments, thematic tours, special openings of closed sites, harbour

cruises, heritage trails, equinox events, and Taste History's exclusive gastronomic experiences.

We have put great effort into our events calendar, because it is our mission to make our cultural heritage as accessible as possible – both physically and virtually – and to give our visitors holistic and exciting experiences centred around their particular tastes and needs, aided by the latest technology. Our success in contributing towards a better appreciation of Malta's cultural identity, by locals and foreigners alike, is what keeps us constantly motivated to do our best. Heritage Malta's quest for excellence will manifest itself yet again in the first edition of [maltabiennale.art](https://maltabiennale.art) 2024.

This year will also see Heritage Malta consolidating its membership scheme and its patronage concept, with flexible options to suit different tastes and circumstances. Volunteering is just one of these options – an ideal opportunity for those who wish to dedicate some of their time to assisting Heritage Malta in implementing its mission, whilst learning more about the agency's operations and collections.

As countless new opportunities and sources of untapped potential open up for our agency in 2024, I invite you to join us on our adventures and to be well and truly Part of Us.



# January 2024

- **04**  
Everyone is a Critic  
*MUŻA, Valletta*
- **06**  
The Mysterious Knight's Glass  
*Diagnostic Science Labs, Bighi*
- **07**  
Villa Frere - Open day  
*Villa Frere, Pietà*

- **14 & 28**  
In Guardia  
*Fort St Elmo and the National War Museum, Valletta*
- **28**  
Ta' Bistra Opening  
*Ta' Bistra Catacombs, Mosta*



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Heritage Malta reserves the right to amend dates and other details. Please consult Heritage Malta's website and social media for the latest information.



Grand Master's Palace

# February 2024

- **04**  
Villa Frere open day  
*Villa Frere, Pietà*
- **10**  
Mass & Guided Tours at  
San Pawl Milqi  
*San Pawl Milqi, St Paul's Bay*
- **12 & 13 & 14**  
Cooking Camp  
*Inquisitor's Palace, Birgu*
- **04 & 18**  
In Guardia  
*Fort St Elmo and the National  
War Museum, Valletta*
- **22**  
L-Inkwizizzjoni: Ir-raba' taħdita  
- Għas-servizz tal-Inkwizitur:  
L-uffiċjali, il-ħaddiema u  
l-gabillotti  
*Inquisitor's Palace, Birgu*
- **24**  
Behind the Scenes  
*Malta Maritime Museum, Birgu*
- **25**  
Ta' Bistra Opening  
*Ta' Bistra Catacombs, Mosta*



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The Malta Maritime Museum

# March 2024

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- **03**  
Villa Frere open day  
*Villa Frere, Pietà*
- **08**  
Launch of “The Dockyard  
from the Workers’  
Perspective: 100 Interviews”  
Publication  
*Malta Maritime Museum,  
Birgu*
- **16**  
Curators tour on the  
Great Siege  
*Fort St Elmo and the National  
War Museum, Valletta*
- **19**  
Heritage Trail  
*Birkirkara*
- **19 & 20**  
Spring Equinox  
*Hagar Qim & Mnajdra  
Archaeological Park, Qrendi*
- **23**  
Regatta  
*Fort St Angelo, Birgu*
- **23**  
Kwareżimal cookalong  
*Inquisitor’s Palace, Birgu*
- **27**  
Unveiling Roman Spice Paint  
Creation  
*St Paul’s Catacombs, Rabat*
- **30**  
Malta Museum of Football -  
Museum Tour  
*Malta Museum of Football,  
Ta’ Qali*
- **31**  
Ta’ Bistra Opening  
*Ta’ Bistra Catacombs, Mosta*



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# malta biennale .art 2024

13 March – 31 May



## Valletta

- ① Spazju Kreattiv
- ② MUŻA
- ③ National Museum of Archaeology
- ④ Underground Valletta
- ⑤ Republic Square
- ⑥ National Library
- ⑦ Grand Master's Palace
- ⑧ Main Guard
- ⑨ Auberge d'Aragon
- ⑩ Tal-Pilar Church
- ⑪ Fort St Elmo



Scan the QR code for  
more information.

A Heritage Malta initiative through MUŻA, the Malta National Community Art Museum, in partnership with Arts Council Malta and other stakeholders and under the Patronage of H.E. the President of Malta and UNESCO.

# April 2024

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- **01**  
Easter Egg Hunt  
*Għar Dalam, Birżebbuġa*
- **02**  
Figolli making  
*Inquisitor's Palace, Birgu*
- **03**  
Easter Egg Hunt  
*Gran Castello Historic House, Ċittadella*
- **04**  
Ġnien Dinja Waħda  
*Hal Tarxien Prehistoric Complex, Tarxien*
- **07**  
Festa Frawli  
*Ta' Həgrat Megalithic Site & Skorba Prehistoric Site, Mġarr*
- **21**  
Comino Tour  
*Comino*
- **26, 27 & 28**  
Careers Fair  
*Fort St Elmo and the National War Museum, Valletta*
- **21 & 28**  
In Guardia  
*Fort St Elmo and the National War Museum, Valletta*
- **27**  
Old Abattoir  
*Valletta Design Cluster, Valletta*
- **28**  
Tour of Kordin III  
*Kordin III Prehistoric Site, Paola*
- **28**  
Ta' Bistra Opening  
*Ta' Bistra Catacombs, Mosta*



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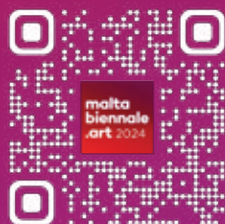
# malta biennale .art 2024

13 March – 31 May



## Cottonera

- 1 Dock 1**  
Hall 1  
Hall 2
- 2 Birgu Armoury**
- 3 Inquisitor's Palace**
- 4 Fort St Angelo**
- 5 Villa Portelli**



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more information.

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# May 2024

- **01**  
Special Opening  
*Grand Master's Palace, Valletta*
- **04**  
The Sea and Me  
*Fort St Elmo and the National War Museum, Valletta*
- **04**  
Still stone, Moving planet  
*Hagar Qim and Mnajdra Archaeological Park, Qrendi*
- **05**  
Villa Frere open day  
*Villa Frere, Pietà*
- **10**  
Night at the Museum  
*Inquisitor's Palace, Birgu*
- **14**  
World Migratory Bird Day  
*National Museum of Natural History, Mdina*
- **18**  
Harbour cruise: The Great Siege  
*The Grand Harbour, Valletta*
- **24**  
Ta' Bistra Opening  
*Ta' Bistra Catacombs, Mosta*
- **25**  
Behind the scenes  
*Details closer to the date*
- **26**  
Gozo tour  
*Gozo*

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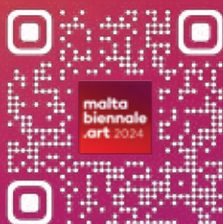
# malta biennale .art 2024

13 March – 31 May



## Gozo

- 1 Ċittadella**  
Gozo Cultural Centre  
Grain Silos  
Ruins Area
- 2 Victoria**  
Republic Street  
Castle Hill street
- 3 Ġgantija Archaeological  
Park, Xagħra**



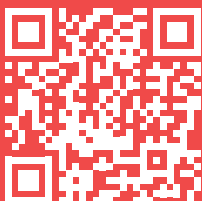
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more information.

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# June 2024

- **02**  
Villa Frere open day  
*Villa Frere, Pietà*
- **02**  
Medieval Castrum Maris  
*Fort St. Angelo, Birgu*
- **07**  
Heritage Trail  
*Floriana (Marsamxett Route)*
- **11**  
Ftira Cookalong  
*Inquisitor's Palace, Birgu*
- **15**  
Special opening at  
Abbatija tad-Dejr  
*Abbatija tad-Dejr  
Catacombs, Rabat*
- **19**  
Clean Oceans Conference  
*Malta Maritime Museum,  
Birgu*
- **21**  
The Melite Civitas Romana  
Project  
*Domus Romana, Rabat*
- **21, 22 & 23**  
Summer Solstice  
*Haġar Qim and Mnajdra  
Archaeological Park, Qrendi*
- **28**  
On the route of St Paul -  
St Paul's Islands Cruise  
*St Paul's Islands, St Paul's Bay*
- **29**  
L-Għarusa Maltija: L-ilbiesi  
tat-tiegħ f'Malta fis-seklu 19 u 20  
*Inquisitor's Palace, Birgu*
- **30**  
Ta' Bistra Opening  
*Ta' Bistra Catacombs, Mosta*

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Loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*)

# July 2024

- **05**  
Bats!  
*National Museum of Natural History, Rabat*
- **07**  
Villa Frere open day  
*Villa Frere, Pietà*
- **14 & 21**  
Filfla Tour  
*Filfla*
- **27**  
Meet the Curator  
*Details closer to the date*
- **28**  
Ta' Bistra Opening  
*Ta' Bistra Catacombs, Mosta*



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Fillo

19

# August 2024

● **04**

Villa Frere open day  
*Villa Frere, Pietà*

● **23**

Turtles and Sea Birds  
*Ġnejna Bay, Mgarr*

● **25**

Ta' Bistra Opening  
*Ta' Bistra Catacombs, Mosta*

● **31**

Behind the Scenes  
*Details closer to the date*

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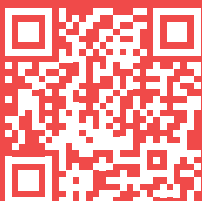


Scopoli's Shearwater (*Calonectris Diomedea*)

# September 2024

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- **01**  
Villa Frere open day  
*Villa Frere, Pietà*
- **07**  
A Night at the Museum  
*Malta Maritime Museum, Birgu*
- **08**  
Reggimento di Malta unit  
*Fort St Angelo, Birgu*
- **08**  
Victory Day Regatta  
*Fort St Angelo, Birgu*
- **20, 21 & 22**  
Autumn Equinox  
*Hagar Qim & Mnajdra Archaeological Park, Qrendi*
- **20**  
VISA open day  
*Malta Museum of Football, Ta' Qali*
- **20**  
Snails!  
*Dingli*
- **28**  
Olive picking and tour  
*Bidnija*
- **29**  
Ta' Bistra Opening  
*Ta' Bistra Catacombs, Mosta*
- **15 & 29**  
In Guardia  
*Fort St Elmo and the National War Museum, Valletta*



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Ta' Bistra Catacombs

# October 2024

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- **05**  
Notte Bianca  
Valletta
- **06**  
European Cultural  
Heritage Days  
Malta Maritime Museum,  
Birgu
- **06**  
Villa Frere open day  
Villa Frere, Pietà
- **11 & 12**  
Birgufest  
Birgu
- **13**  
Napoleonic - 19eme  
Demi-Brigade de Ligne  
Fort St Angelo, Birgu
- **18**  
Dark Tales Tour  
Fort St Elmo and the National  
War Museum, Valletta
- **18**  
Landscapes of Death and  
Commemoration  
St Paul's Catacombs, Rabat
- **19**  
Lunch with a View  
Fort St Elmo and the National War  
Museum, Valletta
- **26**  
Crime Scene Investigation
- **26**  
Meet the Curator  
Hagar Qim & Mnajdra  
Archaeological Park, Qrendi
- **27**  
Ta' Mintna Catacombs  
Ta' Mintna Catacombs, Mqabba
- **27**  
Ta' Bistra Opening  
Ta' Bistra Catacombs, Mosta



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Villa Frere Gardens

# November 2024

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- **03**  
Villa Frere open day  
*Villa Frere, Pietà*
- **09**  
San Martin  
*Inquisitor's Palace, Birgu*
- **15**  
Tour of the Tarxien Prehistoric Complex after dark  
*Hal Tarxien Prehistoric Complex, Tarxien*
- **16**  
Fungi  
*Buskett*
- **17**  
Ex Dockyard workers talks  
*Malta Maritime Museum, Birgu*
- **17**  
World Children's Day  
*Borg in-Nadur, Birżebbuġa*
- **10 & 24**  
In Guardia  
*Fort St Elmo and the National War Museum, Valletta*
- **24**  
Ta' Bistra Opening  
*Ta' Bistra Catacombs, Mosta*
- **30**  
Il-Knisja tal-Pilar  
*Valletta*



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Our Lady of the Pillar Church

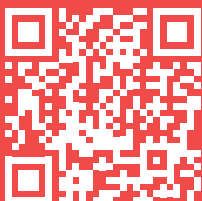
27

# December 2024

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- **01**  
Villa Frere open day  
*Villa Frere, Pietà*
- **01**  
Medieval Castrum Maris  
*Fort St Angelo, Birgu*
- **07 & 08**  
Christmas at the Fort  
*Fort St Elmo and the National War Museum, Valletta*
- **08**  
Navy Tour  
*Fort St Angelo, Birgu*
- **14**  
Qagħaq tal-Għasel  
*Inquisitor's Palace, Birgu*
- **01 & 15**  
In Guardia  
*Fort St Elmo and the National War Museum, Valletta*
- **20**  
Monitoring Nature  
*National Museum of Natural History, Mdina*
- **21 & 22**  
Winter Solstice  
*Haġar Qim & Mnajdra Archaeological Park, Qrendi*
- **16-20**  
Qagħaq tal-Għasel for Seniors  
*Inquisitor's Palace, Birgu*
- **28**  
Meet the Curator  
*Details closer to the date*
- **29**  
Ta' Bistra Opening  
*Ta' Bistra Catacombs, Mosta*

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Honey Rings (Qaghaq tal-Qastanija)

# Exhibitions 2024

## January - March

BOV Noel Galea Bason  
retrospective  
*The National Museum of  
Archaeology, Valletta*

## February 2024 - February 2025

An Island at the Crossroads  
*Malta Maritime Museum, Birgu*

## March - May

Biennale  
*Valletta - Cottonera - Gozo*

## June - July

Patrick Fenech photography  
*MUŻA, Valletta*

## June - December

250th anniversary of the  
slaves' revolt  
*Inquisitor's Palace, Birgu*

## July - September

BOV art collection  
*MUŻA, Valletta*

## September - January 2025

Barnaby Barford shop facades  
*MUŻA, Valletta*

## September - February 2025

Cippus  
*National Museum of Archaeology,  
Valletta*

## October - November

British Malta Maps  
*MUŻA, Valletta*

## October - September 2025

Liturgical vestments  
*Inquisitor's Palace, Birgu*

## November - December

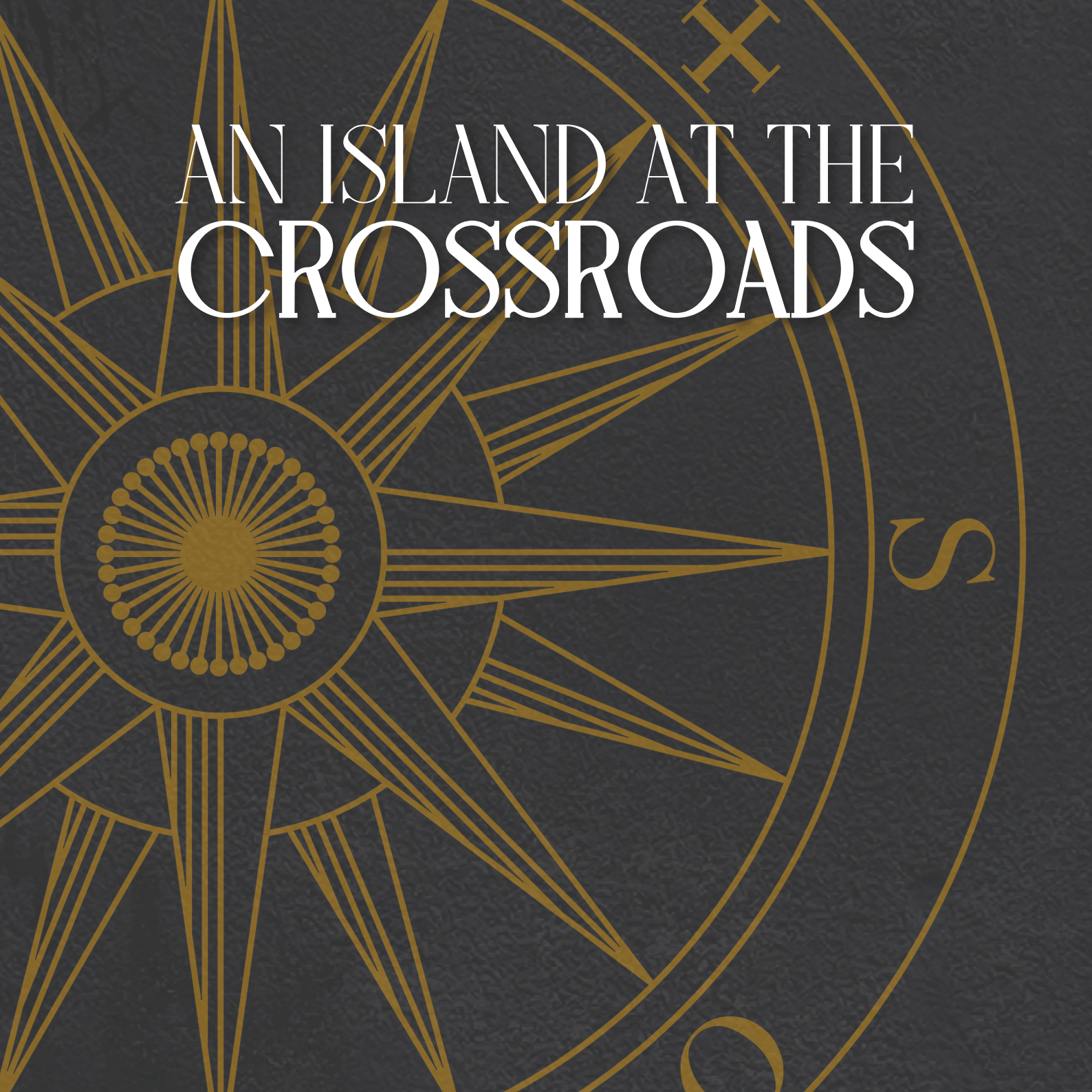
Malta: Il-Mixja sat-Twaqqif  
tar-Repubblika  
*Grand Master's Palace, Valletta*

## November - January 2025

Sima Kahaki works in dialogue  
*MUŻA, Valletta*

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# AN ISLAND AT THE CROSSROADS



# Accessibility

2024

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](mailto:education@heritagemalta.org)** or visit **[heritagemalta.mt/departments/education-outreach/](https://heritagemalta.mt/departments/education-outreach/)**



# Experience **MORE** **HISTORY** for Less

## MULTISITE PASS

GET ACCESS WITH **1** TICKET!\*

For more information visit  
[heritagemalta.mt/store](https://heritagemalta.mt/store)

*\*except to Hal Saflieni Hypogeum and Underground Valletta*



# Heritage Malta Memberships

## Membership benefits:

- Free entrance to all open Heritage Malta museums and sites (except Hal Saflieni Hypogeum, Underground Valletta, and closed sites) \*
- Your own personal HM Membership Card
- Free, unlimited entrance to ALL Heritage Malta exhibitions
- Free Exclusive Monthly Members Events
- Discounts on Heritage Malta public events
- An exclusive Heritage Malta welcome gift with any membership category
- Discount on Joint memberships (one referral address; not restricted to joint household)
- 50% discount on entry to the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum and Underground Valletta
- 15% discount at Heritage Malta Museum Shops (except for silver, coins, food & drinks)
- 10% discount per adult membership cardholder when you dine at MUŻA restaurant (not applicable with any other offer or for Sunday Lunches and special events / no beverages or desserts are included. Discounts are valid for the A la Carte Menu ONLY )
- 50% discount on adult entry tickets at the National Aquarium when presenting a valid membership card
- Free monthly e-calendar of events emailed to you

Each Adult or Joint membership entitles 6 accompanying children free admission to Heritage Malta Museums and Sites only. Their names must be registered upon application. Any children, 12 years and over (included in the 6) from within a Member's household, are entitled to their own membership card, permitting them independent entry.

**All Heritage Malta museums and sites listed overleaf with the exception of Underground Valletta, Villa Frere and the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum**

# TREASURE DISCOVER EXPLORE

Joining as a Heritage Malta Member comes with numerous perks that are not part of our Student or Senior Heritage Malta Passport programs. One key advantage is monthly thematic events organised specifically for members. Enjoy first access to exhibitions, exclusive behind-the-scenes glimpses, guided tours of closed sites, and visits to conservation laboratories, among other bespoke tours.

Additionally, your membership subscription plays a crucial role in generating essential income to support vital conservation efforts and projects and ensures the ongoing enjoyment of our sites and museums for both present and future generations.

[patronage.heritagemalta.mt](https://patronage.heritagemalta.mt)

For more information visit:  
[heritagemalta.mt/explore/](https://heritagemalta.mt/explore/)

Opening hours can be  
accessed here:



# Museums & Sites

OPEN ON A REGULAR BASIS



Valletta

## 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



Three  
Cities

## 3 Birgu

Inquisitor's Palace  
Malta Maritime Museum  
Fort St Angelo

## 4 Hal Tarxien & Paola

Hal Tarxien Prehistoric Complex  
Hal Saflieni Hypogeum



South  
Region

## 5 Birżebbuġa

Għar Dalam Cave and Museum  
Borġ in-Nadur Prehistoric Complex

## 6 Qrendi

Haġar Qim Prehistoric Complex  
Mnajdra Prehistoric Complex



Rabat &  
Mdina

## 7 Mdina & Rabat

National Museum of Natural History  
Domvs Romana  
St Paul's Catacombs



## 8 Mġarr

Skorba Prehistoric Complex

Ta' Haġrat Megalithic Site

## 9 Mosta

Ta' Bistra Catacombs

## 10 Victoria

Gozo Museum of Archaeology

Gran Castello Historic House

Old Prison

Gozo Nature Museum

## 11 Xagħra

Ġgantija Archaeological Park

Ta' Kola Windmill

With a total surface area of just 316km<sup>2</sup>, 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](http://www.heritagemalta.mt)



# Underwater Sites

THROUGH APPROVED DIVE CENTRES

1



**T**he 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.



Underwater

- 1 Spitfire
- 2 JU88
- 3 Fairey Swordfish
- 4 Schnellboot S-31
- 5 HMS *Urge*
- 6 HMS *Olympus*
- 7 HMS *Trusty Star*
- 8 ORP *Kujawiak* L72
- 9 HMS *Southwold*
- 10 HMS *Russell*
- 11 HMS *Nasturtium*
- 12 JU88 South
- 13 SS *Polynesian*
- 14 Martin *Maryland*
- 15 SS *Luciston*
- 16 B24 *Liberator*
- 17 Douglas A-1 *Skyraider*



# 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.

800 BC

## **Phoenician and Carthaginian dominance**

Foundation of Phoenician colony and trade hub, and eventual metamorphosis into a Carthaginian dependency.

2000 BC

## **Early Bronze Age**

Fresh wave of colonisation and arrival of new technologies, repurposing of megalithic temples.

5900 BC

## **Early Neolithic**

First evidence of cultivation on the Maltese Islands.



1530  
**Early Modern Period**  
Transformation into a regional maritime hub and world-class stronghold, and an exponential increase of population count.



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



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



**PART  
OF US**