

# BEACH NEWS MALTA 2016



MINISTRY FOR GOZO



# Malta's Managed Beaches & Quality Awards



St. George's Bay



Mellieha Bay



Golden Bay



Qawra Point



Buġibba Parched Beach



Fond Ghadir Beach



Ta' Fajtata Beach



Gozo



Comino



Malta



Pretty Bay Birzebbuġa



Għajnej Tuffieha



Ramla i-Hamra Bay



Marsalforn Bay



Hondoq ir-Rummien



Xlendi Bay



Blue Lagoon



Santa Maria Bay



Ramla Bay Resort



Edge Lido Paradise Resort



Westin Dragonara Resort

## Code of Conduct for Maltese Beaches

- All beach staff and lifeguards are there for your assistance and safety and are to be treated with respect.
- Swimmers are requested to remain in the swimming zone
- Never swim under the influence of alcohol or medications
- Children are their parents' or guardians' responsibility at all times and are to be accompanied by an adult when in the water
- Distributing samples or leaflets require a permit from the Local Council or MTA
- Impromptu beach games such as volleyball and football are tolerated provided that they do not cause nuisance to others
- Swimmers with a medical condition are advised to swim with a friend
- It is advisable to make use of protective sun creams

### It is prohibited to:

- Litter, throw cigarette butts in the sand, bury waste material or dispose of it in the sea
- Allow animals (except guide dogs) on sandy beaches other than on those specified 'Dog friendly Beaches' in the Criminal Code
- Dig holes of a dangerous size in the sand
- Make any form of fire on the beach
- Drive motorized units on the beach
- Erect tents or attach sheets or towels to umbrellas
- Play loud music, create loud noise or use foul language that effect the enjoyment of others
- Damage any beach or promenade items or furniture; offenders will be prosecuted

# BEACH NEWS 2016

## Another massive record in Quality Awards for beaches in 2016!

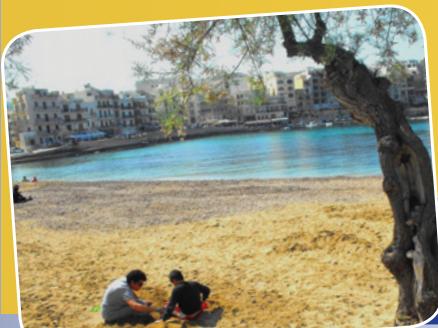
Golden Bay finally achieves a Blue Flag this year! The first beach management pilot project on Golden Bay started in 2002 with the assistance of the Boy Scout Association. The bay had been awarded a Beach of Quality for sustainable beach management, every year since 2009.

Golden Bay achieves Blue Flag Quality Award for the first time



Hondoq ir-Rummien and Marsalforn Bay, both managed by the Ministry for Gozo (MOG), achieved a Beach of Quality Award for the first time. The Ministry for Gozo will be working hard to upgrade these awards to Blue Flags for next year. While managing a further three beaches on Comino and Gozo, MOG will be offering full beach services including lifesaving and supervision. Gozo also boasts of a Blue Flag at ir-Ramla I-Hamra sandy beach which is being managed by the Gaia Foundation.

Marsalforn Bay Gozo



Hondoq ir-Rummien Bay Gozo

Paradise Bay Resort Hotel, Westin Dragonara Resort and Ramla Bay Resort are all working hard on beach management with the former two earning a full Blue Flag this summer.



Westin Dragonara Resort Beach Lido



Ramla Bay Resort Hotel Marfa



Lido's Edge Paradise Bay Resort Hotel

The MTA is keeping up with international standards of sustainable beach management on eight beaches. Apart from Golden Bay, a further five of the eight beaches achieved a full Blue Flag status award yet again. The MTA is giving its input on a total of 18 beaches that will be managed from the 1st June till the 30th of September.

Barbeques at Golden Bay and Ghadira Bay-Mellieha (rocky area only) will be taking an environmental turn for the better with the update of the Mellieha Local Council By-Law, where ONLY LPG gas fired BBQ's will be permitted. All Barbeques will require a permit (downloadable from the local council's website against a minimal fee).

Accessibility at Ghadira Bay is being enhanced by a 150 metre walkway cutting across the middle bay, linking the disabled parking slot with the portable disabled toilet, the sandy beach and ultimately the sea. Sand wheelchairs, or as popularly known, beach trotters are also available on the two accessible beaches of Ghadira Bay. Beach trotters can roam on the soft sand and keep going into the water and stay afloat. They can be used free of charge by those with impaired mobility assisted by another family member or friend.

Other beaches will have better accessibility this summer with the introduction of more wooden walkways, more sand wheelchairs, and a lifter or two.

New recycling bins were installed at Golden Bay and Ghadira Bay. New colours on the waste bag are being introduced in an effort to facilitate recycling on beaches. Recycling waste responsibly is of utmost importance for the country and to retain the quality awards achieved over the years. An ongoing campaign will be taking place throughout summer on the beaches and in the media.

**BEAT THE BURN**

'Beat the Burn,' (BTB) is one of the campaigns organised by the Malta Medical Students Association (MMSA). Its main aim is to raise awareness on the dangers of excessive UV exposure from the sun's rays, as well as the necessity of proper sun protection. MMSA distributes information which can help people avoid the harmful effects on the skin and eyes.

This campaign is possible with the support of La Roche Posay and the Malta Association of Dermatologists and Venereologists. Keep on the look-out for MMSA members who will be going around the beaches near you this summer! <https://www.facebook.com/mmsa.scoph.beattheburn>

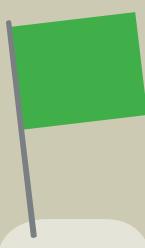
Stay Healthy Smoke Less is part of the Butts Off campaign in an effort to enjoy beaches free of cigarette butts! Portable cigarette ashtrays will be at your disposal on the beach and thank you for keeping our beaches clean!

# Few of the proposed Blue Flag activities for this Summer



- Coast to coast walk from Ghadira Bay to Golden Bay
- Pottery session
- A visit to Ghadira Nature Reserve with school children
- A visit to Majjistral Visitor Centre
- T-Shirt painting at Pretty Bay
- A visit to the Malta National Aquarium
- Snorkelling and exhibition with model displays
- Beat the Burn with MMSA
- Jellyfish awareness Lecture
- Cigarette butt campaign activities
- Swimming with tuna
- Nature walk Golden Bay
- Astronomy event with telescopes
- Sunset Walk
- A visit to a greenhouse

## Beach Safety Flags



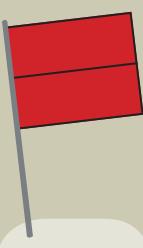
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FLAG  
CALM  
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YELLOW  
FLAG  
MEDIUM  
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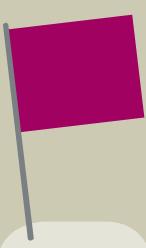
RED OVER  
RED FLAG  
WATER  
CLOSED TO  
PUBLIC USE



BLACK &  
WHITE FLAG  
WATERCRAFT  
AREA



RED OVER  
YELLOW FLAG  
SWIMMING  
AREA WITH  
LIFEGUARD  
SUPERVISION



PURPLE  
FLAG  
MARINE  
PESTS  
PRESENT

# Butts off Campaign



THANK YOU  
for keeping  
our beaches  
clean!

Beach Management Unit  
Product Development Directorate  
Malta Tourism Authority  
Auberge d'Italie,  
Merchants Street,  
Valletta, VLT 1170

Tel: 2291 5000  
Email: [info@visitmalta.com](mailto:info@visitmalta.com)  
[www.visitmalta.com/blueflag](http://www.visitmalta.com/blueflag)

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