

BUSINESS DESTINATIONS

JULY-AUGUST 2007

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



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The Mediterranean's best-kept secret

PERCHED IN THE AZURE BLUE WATERS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA BETWEEN NORTH AFRICA AND SICILY AND ONLY THREE HOURS AWAY FROM LONDON, MALTA BRINGS TOGETHER A UNIQUELY RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE, AN HONOURED TRADITION OF HOSPITALITY, AND A DIVERSE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE FOR CONFERENCE AND INCENTIVE GROUPS

RECENTLY VOTED one of the best climates in the world and with a backdrop of 7,000 years of history, this Mediterranean gem offers a rural landscape dominated by limestone architecture and historical relics evident of years of civilisation. Graced by the welcoming smile of the Maltese people, a burgeoning nightlife, local and international cuisine and a host of activities from rock climbing to jeep safaris, business travellers are set to enjoy an event packed programme. Whatever the size, formality or informality of the event, Malta has the expertise and venues to suit.

Malta's central Mediterranean location provides an ideal choice for an incentive break or business meeting. Major airlines offer direct flights from a variety of UK airports, with Air Malta, the national carrier providing scheduled and chartered flights from main gateways in both Europe and Africa and over 40 flights per week on the major UK routes including daily flights from London Gatwick and twice daily flights, year round from London Heathrow. GB Airways also now offers daily flights now out of both Manchester and Gatwick.

Whilst small in size, Malta is big on service and quality and has all the amenities and services to cater to the needs of conference and incentive groups. Scheduled to open in July, the newly rebuilt Excelsior Grand Hotel (www.grandhotelexcelsior.com.mt) is a five star luxurious city and resort hotel overlooking the Marsamxett Harbour and set in the 16th Century bastion walls of Valletta, the UNESCO world heritage capital of Malta. Facilities include a grand lobby, elegant ballroom that can accommodate seating for up to 600 people, meeting and multi-purpose function rooms featuring the latest technologies.

An abundance of four- and five-star accommodation, historical venues, modern meeting facilities are on offer with dedicated ground support in the form of specialist destination management companies. Malta also offers a variety of magnificent castles, palazzos and forts as function venues. Ta' Qali is home to a new large scale convention centre designed to meet the need for large indoor spaces. The Malta Fairs and Conventions Centre (www.mfcc.com.mt) is an adaptable venue suitable for any type of event. Utilising award winning Tension Fabric Structures, the venue can accommodate a crowd of up to 10,000 seated and 22,000 standing.

Sliema, located in the north east of the island will be home to a new five-star deluxe boutique hotel - The Palace (www.thepalacemalta.com). Boasting 161 bedrooms and themed suites the Palace is ideally situated in close proximity to the seaside, shopping



areas and nearby bars of Spinola Bay. A unique feature of the hotel is the art gallery with its collection of contemporary art and sculpture. Business travel facilities include an executive lounge ideal for one to one meetings and overlooking the hotel courtyard. Teamed with state of the art meeting rooms the Palace has three themed 'news' restaurants such as 'The Tabloid' where delegates can experience fashionable dining and distinctive ambience.

Hotel establishments continue to upgrade facilities to cater to the standards of conference delegates. Suncrest Hotel (www.suncresthotel.com) located in the picturesque bay of Qawra launched new delegate packages following an extensive refurbishment programme which saw enhanced conference facilities. The Ramla Bay Resort (www.ramlabayresort.com), situated on the northernmost shore of Malta, recently expanded its accommodation capacity and refurbished public areas. Now complete with 180 rooms, and top notch conference facilities, this four star resort offers a distinct Mediterranean flavour.

Malta's blend of accessibility, quality infrastructure, short transfer times and compact size, provide both convenience and the flexibility to create a memorable event. ●



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Let's meet



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