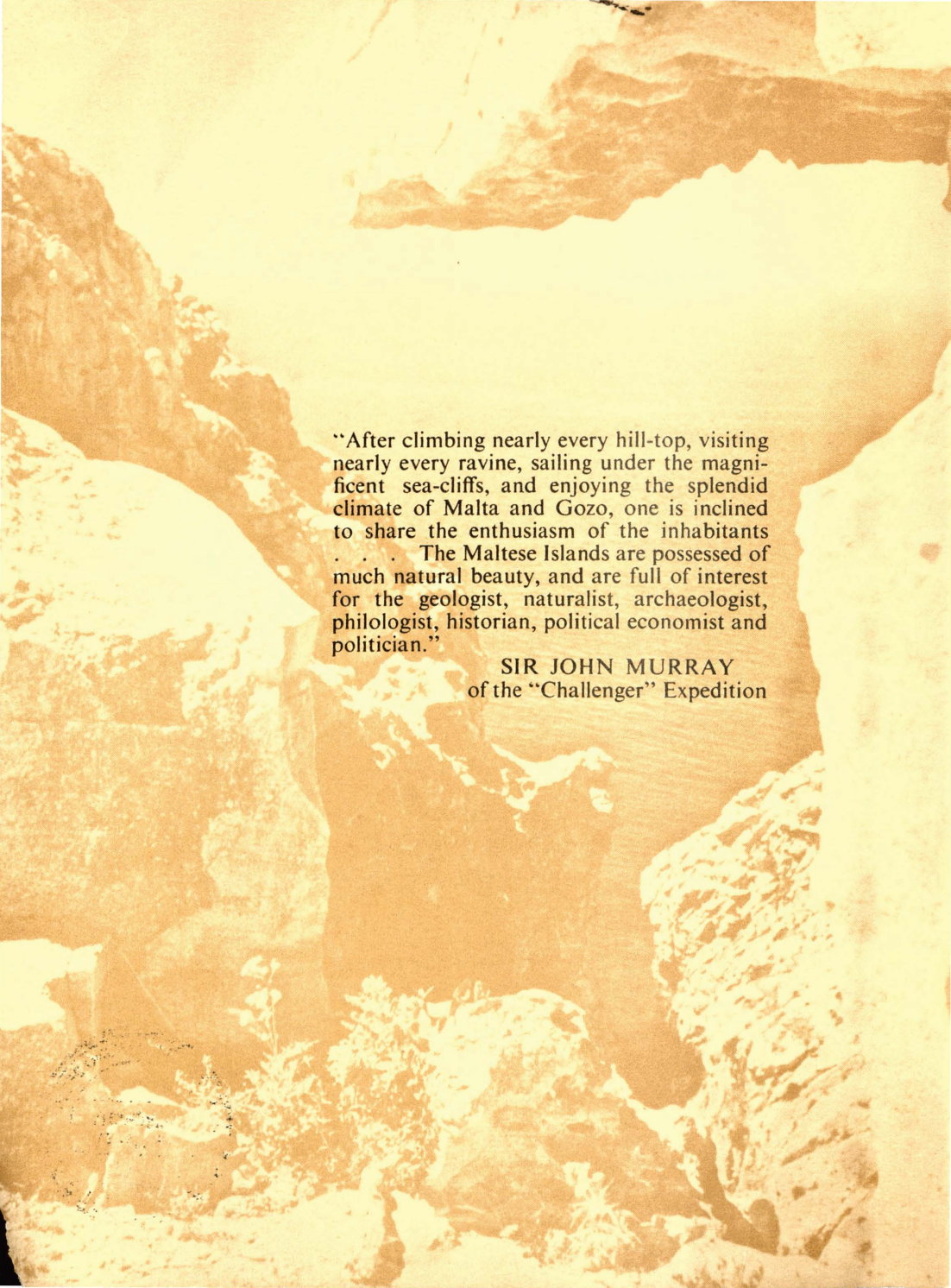


MALTA



Official Guide

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“After climbing nearly every hill-top, visiting nearly every ravine, sailing under the magnificent sea-cliffs, and enjoying the splendid climate of Malta and Gozo, one is inclined to share the enthusiasm of the inhabitants

... The Maltese Islands are possessed of much natural beauty, and are full of interest for the geologist, naturalist, archaeologist, philologist, historian, political economist and politician.”

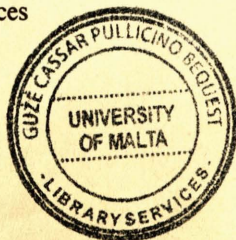
SIR JOHN MURRAY
of the “Challenger” Expedition

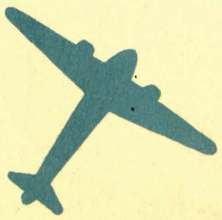
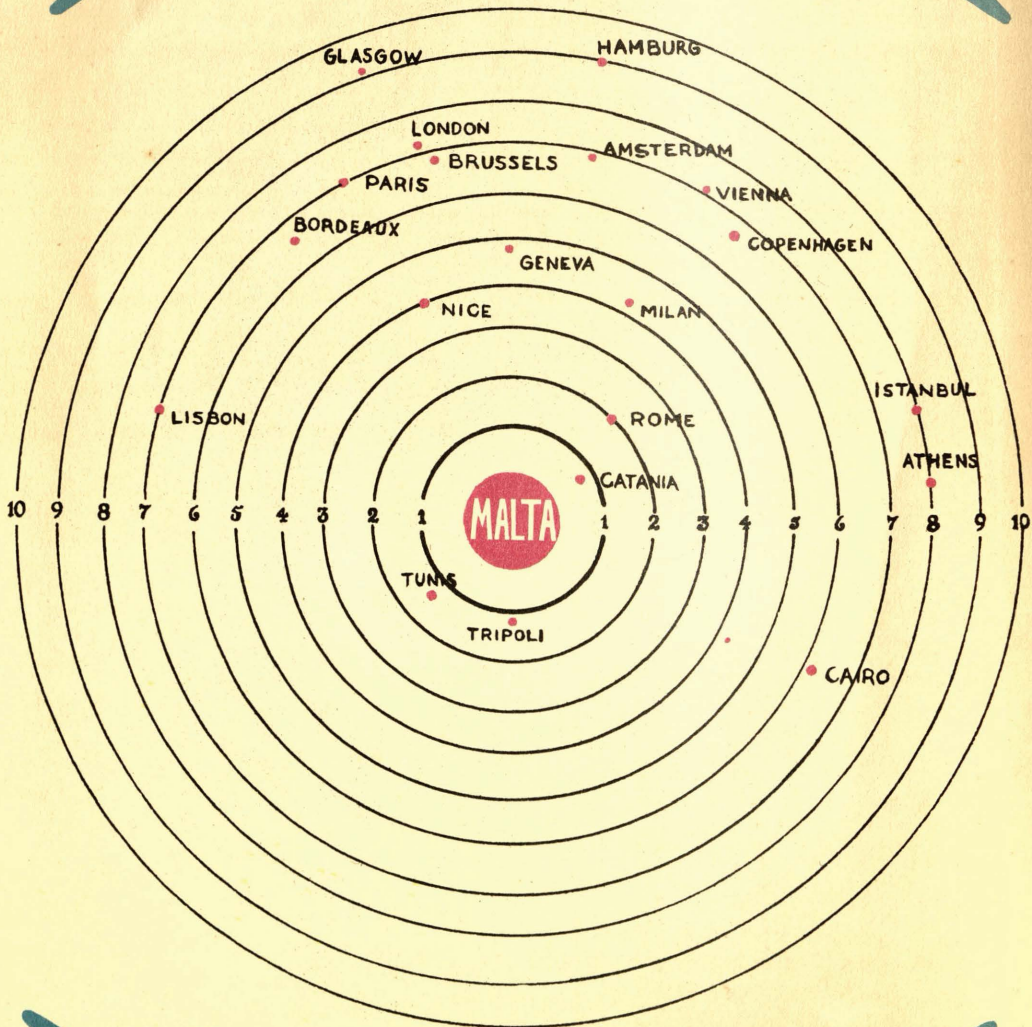
MALTA

*The Island of
Sunshine and
History*



Published and Produced by
The Department of Information and Tourist Services
224 Valletta—MALTA





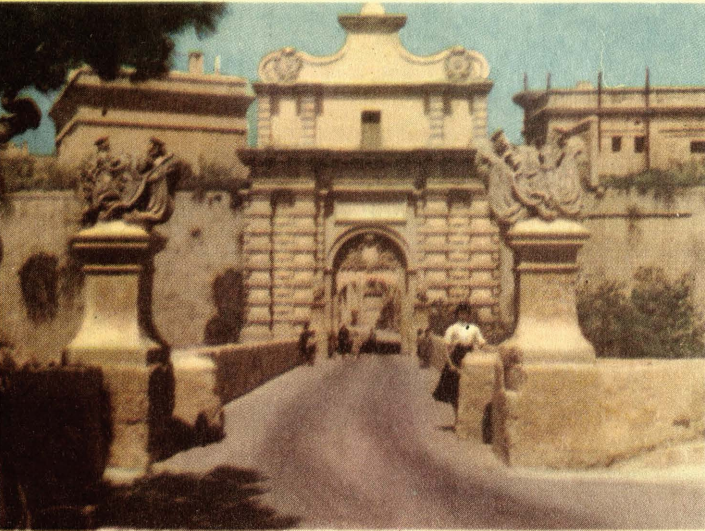


An old sentry box on St. James Counterguard.

To live under perennial blue skies is a rare privilege. Malta, with its sun-drenched scenery and embraced by warm glistening waters of the blue Mediterranean is the island home of a peace-loving and hospitable people, ever so anxious to make the visitor's stay amongst them an unforgettable holiday. A small nation with the longest history in the world—a medieval bastion, a nuclear age outpost, a mellowing blend of old and new. An island, only a few flight hours away from principal cities, but very remote from their noise and pushing crowds. A perfect haven for those who want to get away from the northern winters and the crashing tempo of fast metropoli.

Malta is a veritable playground for young and old alike, for the rich and not so rich, for the active and the leisurely, an island of golden beaches and unspoilt secluded bays, a hunting ground for the geologist, the naturalist, the archaeologist—an odd 90 square miles with a unique atmosphere to suit all tastes.

MALTA IN HISTORY



Entrance to the old Capital
—Mdna.

The Magisterial Palace
—Neptune's Courtyard.

Malta's strategic position in the centre of the Mediterranean has from earliest times attracted many powerful nations to her shores. Successive invasions and immigrations have enhanced the Island's natural beauty with Neolithic temples that are among the wonders of the world, Phoenician and Carthaginian tombs, Roman Villas and lines of fortifications and fine buildings that evoke the glories of the past. But Malta owes much of its grandeur to the Knights of the Order of St. John (1530—1798), recruited from the noble





One of the Auberges of the Knights—Auberge de Castille.

houses of Europe. Endowed with a cosmopolitan culture and being acknowledged connoisseurs of art in all its forms, they enriched their Island principality with magnificent churches and auberges, fine paintings and sculptures, tapestries and furniture, gold and silver ware and one of the finest collections of armour in the world.

Sir Walter Scott compared the city of Valletta, built after the epic siege of 1565, to a dream. Disraeli called it a "City of Palaces, built by gentlemen for gentlemen". Nelson and Napoleon struck by its fortifications considered it the greatest stronghold in Europe.

In 1798, Napoleon with the help of some French renegade Knights seized Malta, only to be driven out two years later by the combined efforts of the Maltese and the British. The Maltese placed the Island under the protection of the British Crown and in 1813 it was annexed to Britain.

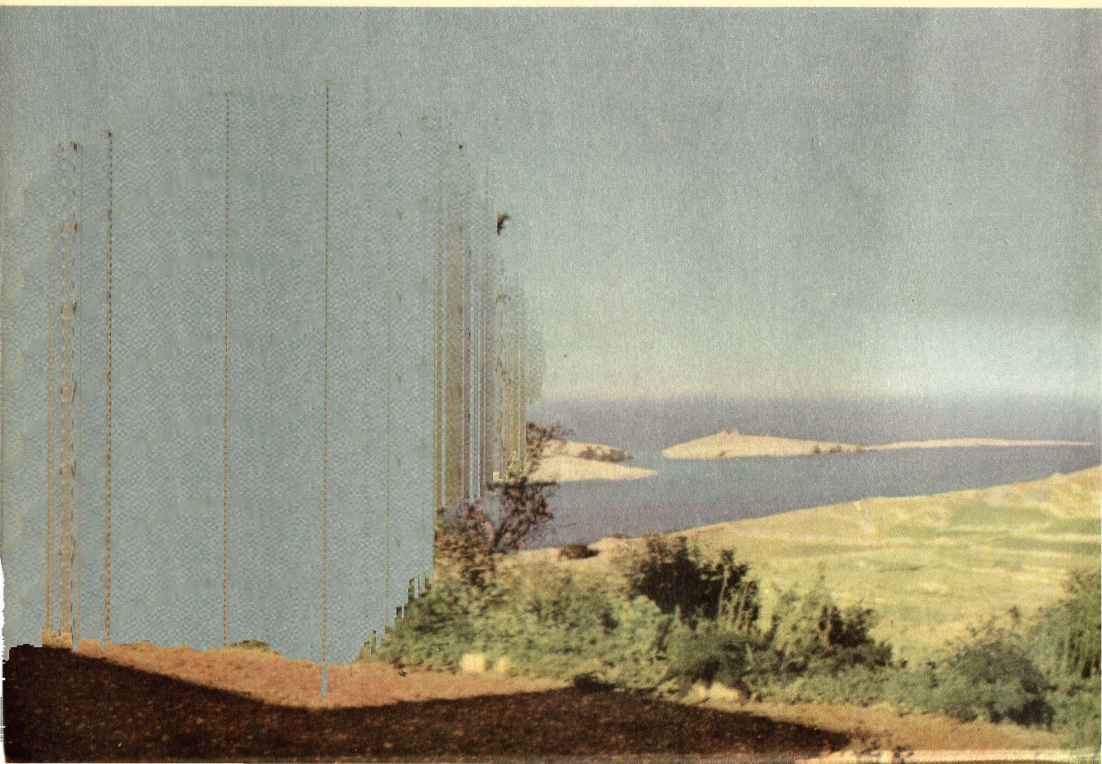
In recognition of her bravery during World War II King George VI, in April 1942, awarded the George Cross to the Island of Malta.

LANGUAGE

The Maltese speak a language that is both very ancient and interesting. The history of Maltese civilization goes back uninterruptedly to the Neolithic era, the most significant evidences of which are the Megalithic Temples.

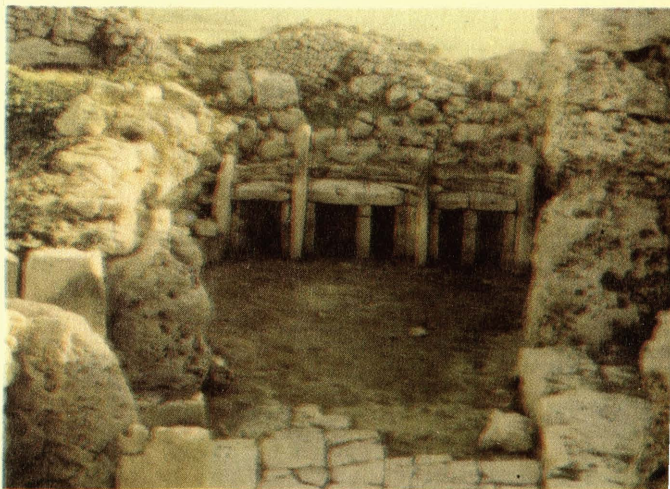
The evidence of linguistic continuity in Malta is based on two main historical data—a paragraph in one of the travel books of Diodorus Siculus describing Malta and Gozo as Punic colonies and St. Luke's description of the hospitable Maltese as barbarians (Ch. XXVIII of the Acts). These two statements explain each other in the sense that the Maltese under the Romans (C. 3rd century B.C.) spoke a Punic dialect, a Semitic tongue which was an offshoot of Phoenician. In 800 A.D. the Arabs conquered most of the Mediterranean including Malta and they affected the structure of Punic Maltese to a considerable degree. Up to the end of the Arab domination (800 A.D.—1090 A.D.) the structure of Maltese remained purely Semitic. In 1090 A.D. the Normans took possession of Malta and from that time onwards a large number of words of Romance origin, mainly Sicilian and later

St. Paul's Islands from Wardija Hill.





Hagar Qim Megalithic Temples.



The Ggantija Temple
—Gozo

Italian, increased the vocabulary of the Maltese population. That process of foreign accretions and assimilations has been maintained ever since, on account of religious and cultural contacts with Mediterranean countries mainly Sicily and Italy.

The language has the power of assimilation to a degree that one can now describe it as a distinct language structurally Semitic and super-structurally Romance. The nearest parallel is the growth of modern English, the basic structure of which is Anglo-Saxon (Old English) and the super-structure Romance. But while English obtained its new Norman Romance words from France, Malta obtained her new Norman Romance vocabulary from Sicily. In spite of such accretions, the language has retained a high degree of vitality in the production of a growing literature, especially since Maltese became an official language together with English in the public administration of the island.

PHYSIOGRAPHY

Position: The Maltese Islands which consist of Malta, Gozo, Comino and two other uninhabited islands, are situated in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea. The distance between Malta and the nearest point in Sicily is 58 miles, and the distance from the nearest point on the North African mainland is 180 miles. Gibraltar is 1,141 miles to the west and Alexandria is 944 miles to the east.

Area: The total area is 122 square miles (Malta 95, Gozo 26, Comino 1). The longest distance in Malta extends from the south-east to the north-west for about 17 miles and the widest distance extends for about 9 miles in an east-westerly direction. The corresponding figures for Gozo are 9 miles and 4.5 miles.

Physical Features: The island of Malta consists of a low plateau which descends by gentle steps to the low plain in the south-eastern part of the Island. The

Salt Pans at Salina Bay.

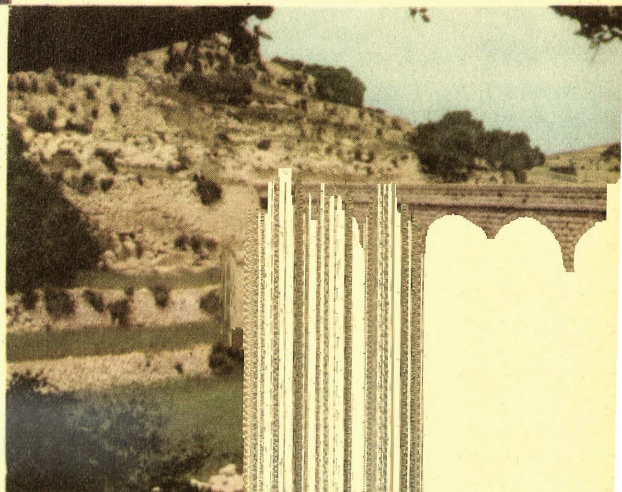




Cliffs near Ghar Lapsi.

plateau is a faulted, tilted and eroded block of Tertiary strata and is mainly composed of a hard and resistant core of Coralline Limestone. The lower plain on the south-eastern part of the Island is composed of a thick lower stratum of soft Globigerina Limestone but outcrops of Lower Coralline Limestone occur all round the southern coast.

The whole block has been tilted down south-eastwards raising the steep cliffs on the western coast to about 800 feet drowning the valleys on the south-eastern part which is indented and provides the main deep and safe harbours of the Islands. The northern part of the Island has been faulted on an eastern-western trend and is characterised by alluvial valleys which follow the same direction of the hills.



The coastline of Malta is well indented particularly on the east, north-east and south-east side. The length of the shoreline round Malta is 85 miles and that round Gozo is 26.5 miles.



San Anton Gardens.

INCOMPARABLE WINTER CLIMATE

Month	M E A N A V E R A G E		
	Sunshine Daily	Rainfall Monthly	Temperature Daily
January	5.4 hours	3.85 inches	54.2 deg. F.
February	7.8 "	0.25 "	56.8 "
March	7.8 "	0.46 "	56.6 "
April	7.4 "	0.41 "	60.3 "
May	9.9 "	0.64 "	64.4 "
June	10.2 "	0.07 "	73.6 "
July	13.4 "	—	77.0 "
August	11.7 "	—	79.9 "
September	9.2 "	1.77 "	75.1 "
October	9.2 "	5.97 "	70.5 "
November	5.4 "	6.38 "	63.4 "
December	5.0 "	4.38 "	56.5 "

The above represent absolutely cloudless sunshine and NOT the time from sunrise to sunset — Statistical Abstract 1957

MALTESE

CUSTOMS



Kingsway—Valletta.

Folk-customs offer a fascinating aspect of social life in the Maltese Islands—the meeting-place of East and West where the rich colour and imagery of Oriental peoples blend with Mediterranean culture and Catholic tradition.

The visitor sees the Maltese farmer using a primitive plough, biblical in its simplicity; he will notice the hard-beaten circular threshing floor, the rubble walls separating the fields, the wayside shrines and street-corner niches, the stone-crosses and windows encased in balconies of wood.

The people of Valletta are different in dress and manners and speech intonation from the peasant folk. The Maltese **fiesta** (celebrations held almost all over the Islands in connection with the feast of the Patron Saint of a particular town or village) is a vital force in the social life of the people. It is an occasion of unparalleled rejoicing characterised by



Primitive ploughing.



An old flour mill



The Old and the New.

Msida Church "en fête".

illuminations, band marches, fireworks, water regattas and other open-air entertainment. The rejoicing reaches its peak when the statue of the Saint is about to enter the church after it has been carried processionally through the decorated and illuminated streets of the village.

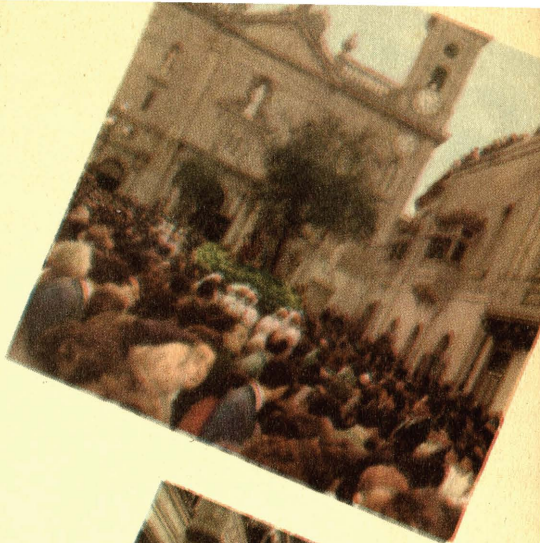
An ancient custom is the horse race which takes place in the streets of some of the villages of Malta and Gozo. Very popular

Valletta ready for the "festa".

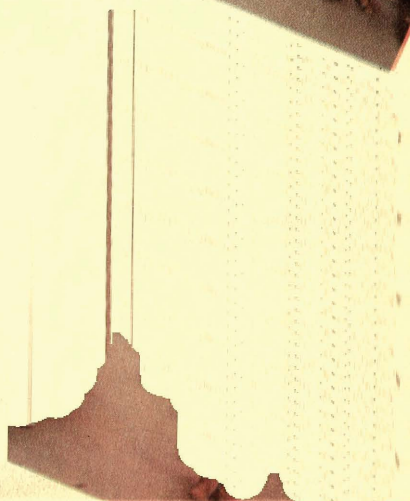


A village scene.

among these is the one held at Rabat on the occasion of the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul (29th June). The donkeys and horses are ridden bare-backed to the amazement of the crowds thronging the streets. For a proper understanding of Maltese customs the visitor must keep in mind that in the course of its history the island has had a succession of dominations and cultures.



HOLY WEEK





C A R N I

Carnival is the most colourful of all public entertainment in Malta. There are fancy dress balls all through the week following Lent. Within the capital, Valletta, and its suburb Floriana, triumphal cars carrying gay companies of smart ladies and their partners dressed in picturesque costumes, alternate with grotesque masks and band marches parading the streets on



I V A L



gaily decorated vehicles. There is carefree song and laughter and the Carnival spirit of merrymaking manifests itself in many ways, handed down by a tradition of over four centuries. Carnival was first held just after the coming of the Knights in 1530 and has since come to form an important characteristic of the life on the island.

WEEK

AFTER

EASTER

THE ISLA



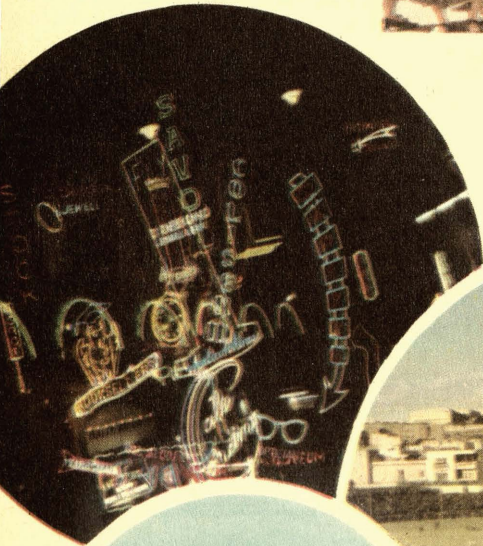
Sunday ride.



Open-air stall.



Flower Kiosk.



Denmark
vs
Malta.

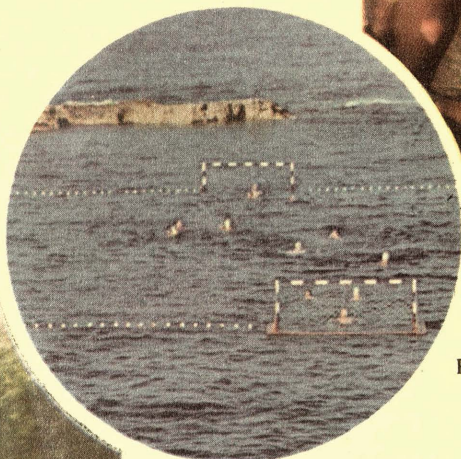


Polo.

D SCENE



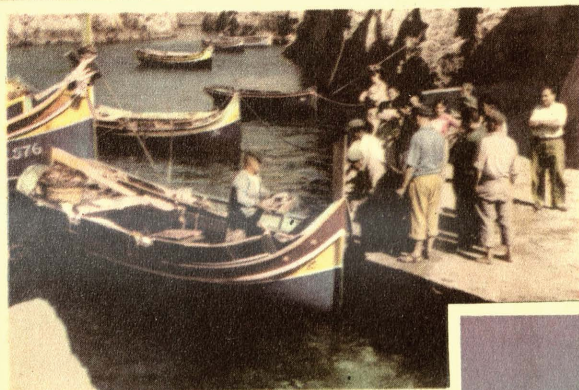
Ready for the fun.



Water Polo.



Ghajn Tuffieha.



Back from the catch.



Trotting Races.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SITES

Ghar Dalam

The Maltese caves and fissures have long been famous for the quantities of animal remains which have been obtained from them. These represent a Pleistocene fauna which is quite distinct from that of the Islands at the present day, for it is almost, if not entirely, composed of extinct species and includes several extinct genera: dwarf elephants and hippopotami, a giant dormouse, gigantic land tortoises, a large anserine and other extinct birds, are some of the typical forms.

Ghar Dalam is a veritable store-house of fossil remains of this extinct fauna. A rich collection of the material from the deposits in this cave is displayed in the nearby Museum.

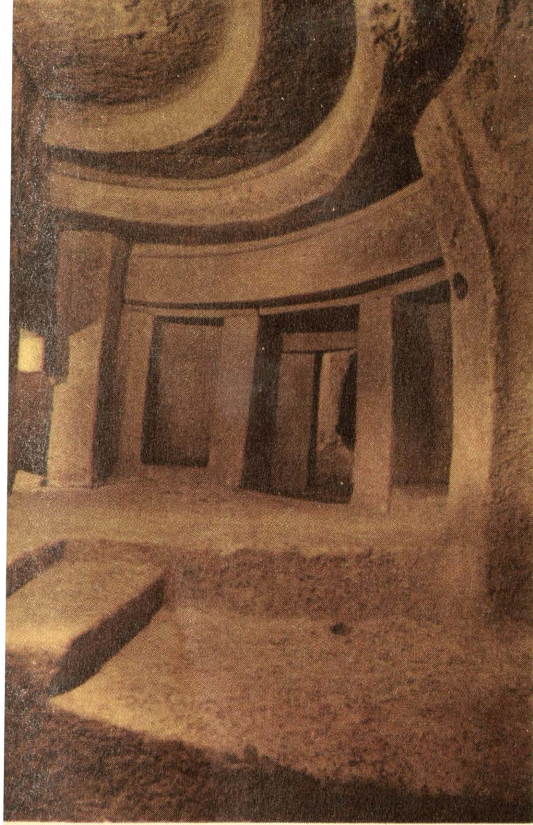
Megalithic Monuments

The earliest relics of human occupation in Malta have been found in Ghar Dalam. This pottery is identical with that of the neolithic inhabitants of Sicily and suggests that the Maltese Islands were first colonised by primitive farmers who came over from Sicily late in the third millennium B.C. In the second millennium B.C., probably between 2000 B.C. and 1500 B.C. the megalithic culture flourished to such an extent in the Maltese Islands that the remains of numerous temples erected at that time are unique in the whole world.

The Maltese megalithic sanctuaries are usually situated on high ground and have a very distinct and typical plan. The early temples have a simple clover-leaf plan. Later this plan seems to have been abandoned in favour of a more developed one consisting of two or three elliptical chambers situated one behind the other and connected with the front of the building by passages. At the back of the inner ellipse and opposite the passages is a semi-circular niche. Very often two or three temples are constructed side by side.

The remains of stone idols, animal representations carved in relief, stone tables, altars and screens decorated with spirals and other patterns, fire places, ornamented niches and oracular chambers enhance the attraction of these magnificent sanctuaries.

The **Tarxien**, **Hagar Qim** and **Mnajdra** megalithic temples in Malta, and **Ggantija** in the sister Island of Gozo, are exceptionally interesting monuments which are



The Hypogeum at Paola.

profitably visited by all those who are interested in the early history and in the development of the prehistoric culture in the Mediterranean.

The **Hal Saffieni Hypogeum** is a unique underground monument of great archaeological importance. It consists of a system of caves, passages and cubicles cut in the rock in imitation of the interior of a megalithic temple. The Hypogeum has three distinct storeys; the highest storey is connected with the original entrance; the middle one contains a large hall and a number of small chambers, two of these with painted ceilings, and the lower storey, 40 feet below street level, is reached by a flight of steps and contains a number of circular tombs.



Tarxien Neolithic Temples.

It appears that this underground monument served the purpose of a temple and a burial place where no less than 7,000 human skeletons were found buried. It has been suggested that an oracle was consulted in these caves and that one of the chambers with painted ceiling was specially cut for this purpose.

ROMAN REMAINS

Museum of Roman Antiquities, Rabat

The definite conquest of Malta by the Romans took place in the year 218 B.C. The wealth and magnificence of Malta during the Roman rule is evidenced by contemporary writers, who mentioned the existence of palaces, temples, theatres, thermae, fortifications and works of art, of which at the present day we have but scanty remains.

The remains of the ROMAN PALACE at Rabat, commonly known as the ROMAN VILLA, and the collections displayed in the Museum on the same site illustrate the prosperity and artistic taste prevailing during the 1st century A.D.

The Year 1960!

MALTA celebrates the

19th CENTENARY of ST. PAUL'S

SHIPWRECK on the ISLAND and

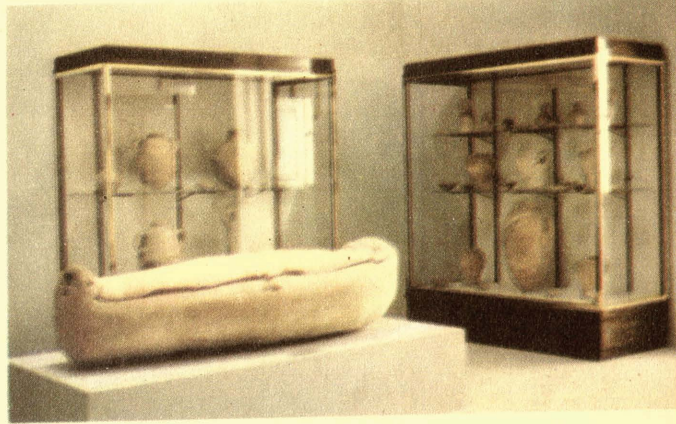
her CONVERSION to CHRISTIANITY

A.D. 60 — A.D. 1960



The Magisterial Palace
—one of the corridors.

Exhibits at the National Museum.



The Tapestry Chamber.



St. Paul's Catacombs

St. Paul's Catacombs at Rabat are typical of the underground Christian cemeteries which were common in the 3rd century A.D. In them are found numerous loculi or horizontal recesses, canopied table graves and saddle-backed tombs, cut in imitation of the classical Greek sarcophagi.

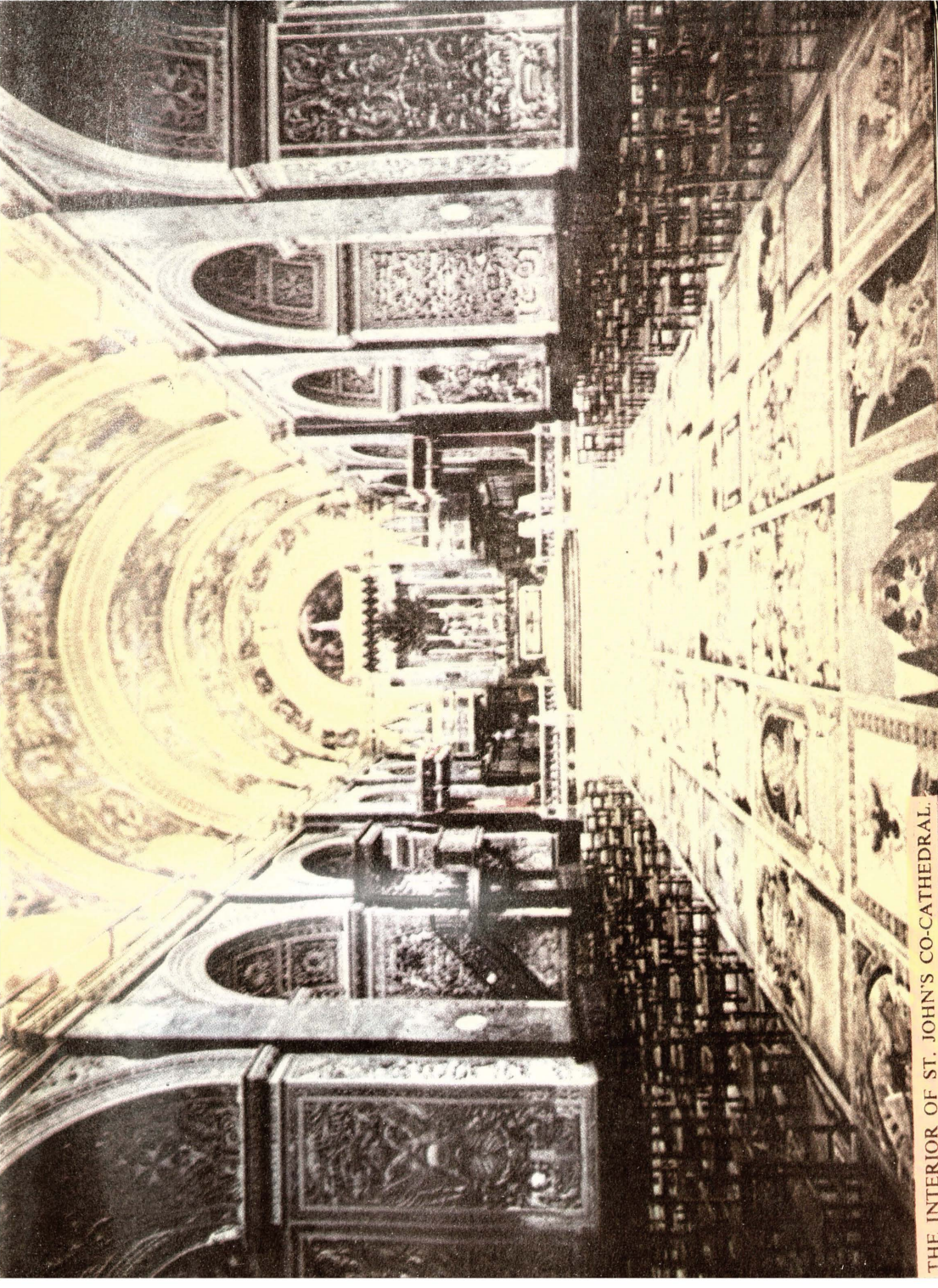
A characteristic feature of the Maltese catacombs is the presence of round tables known as "agape tables", hewn out of rock, with slanting sides on which mourners reclined in order to partake of a farewell repast.

The National Museum

The more important collections covering the field of Maltese archaeology, history and art, are housed in the Auberge de Provence, Valletta, one of the Inns of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, recently adapted as a Museum. On the ground-floor of this late 16th century building, collections of prehistoric pottery, statuettes, stone tools, personal ornaments and other artefacts recovered from the Maltese megalithic temples and other prehistoric sites, are exhibited. Typical examples of tomb furniture of the Punic and Roman periods are also displayed. The following are of special interest: the prehistoric terra-cotta vases and the figurines from the Tarxien and Hagar Qim Temples and from the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum, the cinerary urns, idols and tools from the Tarxien cremation cemetery and the stone altars, beautifully decorated with spirals carved in relief, from the Tarxien Temples.

The halls on the top floor contain pictures and drawings of the Italian and other Continental schools of the 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th centuries as well as pieces of sculpture. A section has been specially chosen for works by Maltese artists. Besides the aforesaid collections a display is arranged of relics of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem including sacred vestments, silver objects, majolica jars, coins, commemorative medals and decorations.

Among the works deserving special mention in the Maltese section is the self-portrait by Giuseppe Grech, a neo-classic painter and the portrait of a lady by Giorgio Bonavia, as well as "Arab horses" a plaster model by Antonio Sciortino. In the other halls, a bozzetto on panel with the Martyrdom of St. Lawrence attributed to Palma Giovane, four large canvases depicting historical subjects by Mathias Stomer and St. John Elemosynarius by Mattia Preti should not escape the attention of the visitor. Two outstanding works are St. Francis of Paola by Jusepe de Ribera called Lo Spagnoletto and St. Margaret of Cortona by Gian Domenico Tiepolo.



THE INTERIOR OF ST. JOHN'S CO-CATHEDRAL.

St. John's Co-Cathedral

St. John's Co-Cathedral, formerly Conventual Church of the Order is one of the most important monuments in the Island, both historically and artistically. It was built between 1573 and 1577 to the design of Gerolamo Cassar (1520—1586) chief engineer to the Order.

The carvings in the walls, the vault as well as many canvases by Mattia Preti and the monuments of the Grand Masters scattered in the various chapels of the different langues are really enticing. Of special interest are the lunettes with the "Birth of the Virgin" by Preti over the entrance to the Sacristy and the Monument to Roman Perellos by Giuseppe Mazzuoli in the Chapel of Aragon.

The visitor should not leave the Co-Cathedral before paying a visit to the Crypt which contains the tombs of the earlier Grand Masters including those of L'Isle Adam who landed in Malta in 1530 and of La Valette the victorious leader in the well-known siege of 1565.

The Magisterial Palace

Another interesting monument connected with the Order is the Magisterial Palace, likewise designed by the Maltese Architect Gerolamo Cassar.

Many of the State apartments are decorated with friezes depicting episodes from the history of the Order.

Amongst the best pictures hanging on the walls are "Jacob tending his flock" probably by Ribera, a portrait of Louis XV by Jean Baptist Van Loo and a portrait of Charles-Theodore, Duke of Bavaria by Pompeo Batoni.

In the room where the Ribera and the Batoni paintings hang, commonly known as the Yellow State-Room, four 16th century Urbino vases with medallions and snake handles as well as a Boulle calendar clock resting on an elegant inlaid table should catch the visitor's attention.

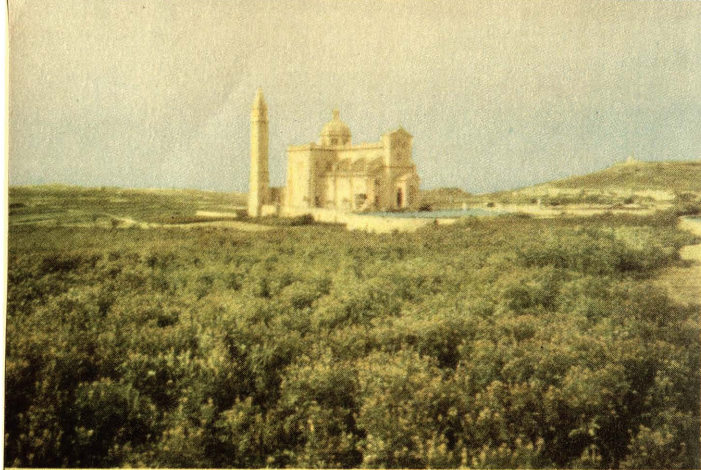
The two most attractive apartments in the palace are probably the Tapestry Chamber and the Armoury. The former room, now used by the Malta Legislative Assembly, was the Council Hall during the period of the Order. It takes its name from the famous set of Gobelin's tapestries also known as the "Indian Hangings" the gift of Grand Master Perellos. In the latter which is a hall of considerable length are displayed arms and armour of various periods and description. The most arresting exhibits are beyond any doubt the suits of armour the best of which are the mid-sixteenth century German one said to have been worn by Garzes, the Milanese armour made for Aloff de Wignacourt, that supposed to have been made for Verdelain, which is North-Italian and the sapping armour of Aloff de Wignacourt.



Palace of the Grand Masters—The Armoury.

GOZO

*-Isle
of
Calypso-*



Ta' Pinu Church—Gozo.

Gozo is the sister-island of Malta four miles to the North-West and linked to it by a regular ferry service.

The history of Gozo necessarily follows the same pattern as that of Malta. It was subject to the same conquests and, isolated as it was, suffered many incursions at the hands of the Saracens who at the time were the scourge of the Mediterranean. The Citadel at Victoria (Rabat) where the inhabitants used to withdraw because of the Turkish raids is believed to be contemporary to the old capital of Mdina in Malta and from the bastions which girdle this old keep the visitor can get a magnificent view of all Gozo.

This island of flat-topped hills has far more vegetation than Malta and the cliffs are more majestic in their ruggedness. From the picturesque villages which are built astride colourful spurs the visitor looks down on fertile valleys leading to the shimmering blue sea. Gozo is essentially a farming and fishing country and the implements of these trades are to be seen everywhere. The charming fishing villages, so delightful in the simplicity of life which they depict, spring to activity in the summer when many Maltese families come over for the season to spend their holidays in an unsophisticated atmosphere, where time seems meaningless and where all cares can be put aside in the enjoyment of sheer existence. The two bays of Marsalforn in the North and Xlendi in the South enchant the visitor with the sheer beauty of the simple unadulterated life that goes on in these two tiny bathing villages.

Calyпсо's Cave, takes one back to the legendary days of Homer and, as the visitor looks down, the red sands some 400 feet below seem to invite the mariner to come and enjoy unruffled peace in the shade of the trees on the sand dunes.

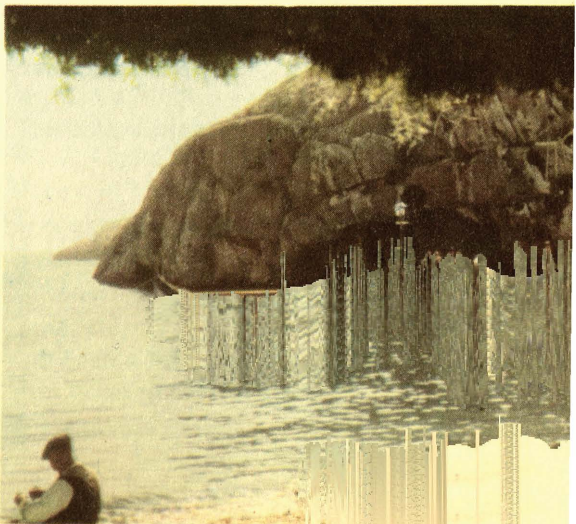
The prehistoric temple known as Ggantija or Giant's Tower is a monument to the skill and industry of its builders—the outstanding feature being the orientation of its large stones. There are of course other temples: the Cathedral and St. George the Martyr in Victoria (Rabat), which are intimately linked with the history of this island, and several modern churches, the most outstanding being Ta' Pinu Church which has been built by voluntary contributions and enormous sacrifice round the miraculous shrine of Our Lady of Ta' Pinu.

The renowned lace of Malta is mainly worked in Gozo and the visitor should endeavour to see one of the lace workers in order to admire the skill and speed with which the bobbins are used to weave intricate lace patterns. This is a fairly ancient craft for which Malta is justly renowned and which has survived notwithstanding the introduction of machine made lace.

The main attraction in Gozo, however, is its inhabitants who have cultivated a philosophic attitude to life and are bright and happy even in adversity. They are hospitable, hard working, and frugal, and they have an intense attachment to their little island which will not fail to charm the visitor as it is reputed to have charmed Ulysses.



Marsaltorn Bay



Xlendi Bay.

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CURRENCY REGULATIONS

1. Travellers entering Malta may bring in (a) Not more than a total of £10 in Bank of England Currency notes. (b) Travellers' cheques, letters of credit, etc., in any currency and up to any amount. (c) Notes in currency other than sterling and local currency, without limit.

2. Travellers leaving Malta may take out (a) Not more than a total of £10 in Bank of England and Maltese Currency notes. (b) Tourists and other temporary visitors may take out of Malta notes other than sterling and local currency up to the amount imported or £100, whichever is the higher.

With these exceptions no notes may be taken out of Malta unless the traveller produces a certificate at the place of exit from Malta: to obtain this certificate travellers should apply to the Treasury.

3. If travellers who are about to leave Malta have excess amounts of currency or are in any doubt as to the amount they will be allowed to take with them they are advised to consult a bank. For instance, if a traveller from overseas has more than £10 in Maltese Currency Notes as a result of encashing too many of his travellers' cheques or letters of credit, the bank will exchange up to £30 into travellers' cheques, etc., available in the traveller's country of permanent residence.

4. Visitors who use travellers' cheques or letters of credit can exchange them into Maltese Currency Notes at any bank. There is no restriction on the amount of such cheques exchanged.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

1. Circumcision January 1
2. Epiphany January 6
3. St. Paul's Shipwreck February 10
4. St. Joseph's Day March 19
5. Good Friday (movable)
6. St. Joseph the Worker May 1
7. Ascension Day (movable)
8. Empire Day May 24
9. Corpus Christi (movable)

10. Queen's Birthday June
11. St. Peter and St. Paul (Imnarja) June 29
12. The Assumption August 15
13. Malta National Day September 8
14. All Saints Day November 1
15. The Immaculate Conception December 8
16. Christmas Day December 25

VISAS

Visitors from:

BELGIUM,
DENMARK,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC
OF GERMANY,
FRANCE,
GREECE,
ITALY,
LIECHTENSTEIN,
LUXEMBOURG,
MONACO,
NETHERLANDS,
NORWAY,
PORTUGAL,
SWITZERLAND,
TURKEY,
UNITED KINGDOM,
UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA,

do not require a visa

to visit MALTA

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Transport: A public bus service operating from two termini in the capital Valletta (Castille and Kingsgate) takes you to nearly all places on the island. A regular ferry service from Marfa links the island with its sister Gozo. Information regarding time of departures etc., may be had from the Police booth at the termini (Telephone 4001).

2. Currency. Silver and copper coins are the same as in the United Kingdom; the pound and ten shilling notes are Maltese but of the same value. Malta is in the sterling area and visitors may spend as much as they like leaving their basic allowance untouched.

3. Language: No difficulty—for the ordinary purposes of visitors English is spoken everywhere.

4. Food: English and continental apart from local dishes such as minestra (an assorted soup), ravioli and timpani (paste puddings). A speciality in the cafes are the cheese-cakes.

5. Drink: The cost of a bottle of whisky is £1 5 6 and local wines cost from 1s. to 2s. a bottle. Local beer is good, wholesome and cheap.

6. Cigarettes: The best brands of English cigarettes cost between 1s/5d. and 2s/3d. per packet of twenty.

7. Cars: Taxis, private-hire, and self-drive cars are easily available at Government controlled prices.

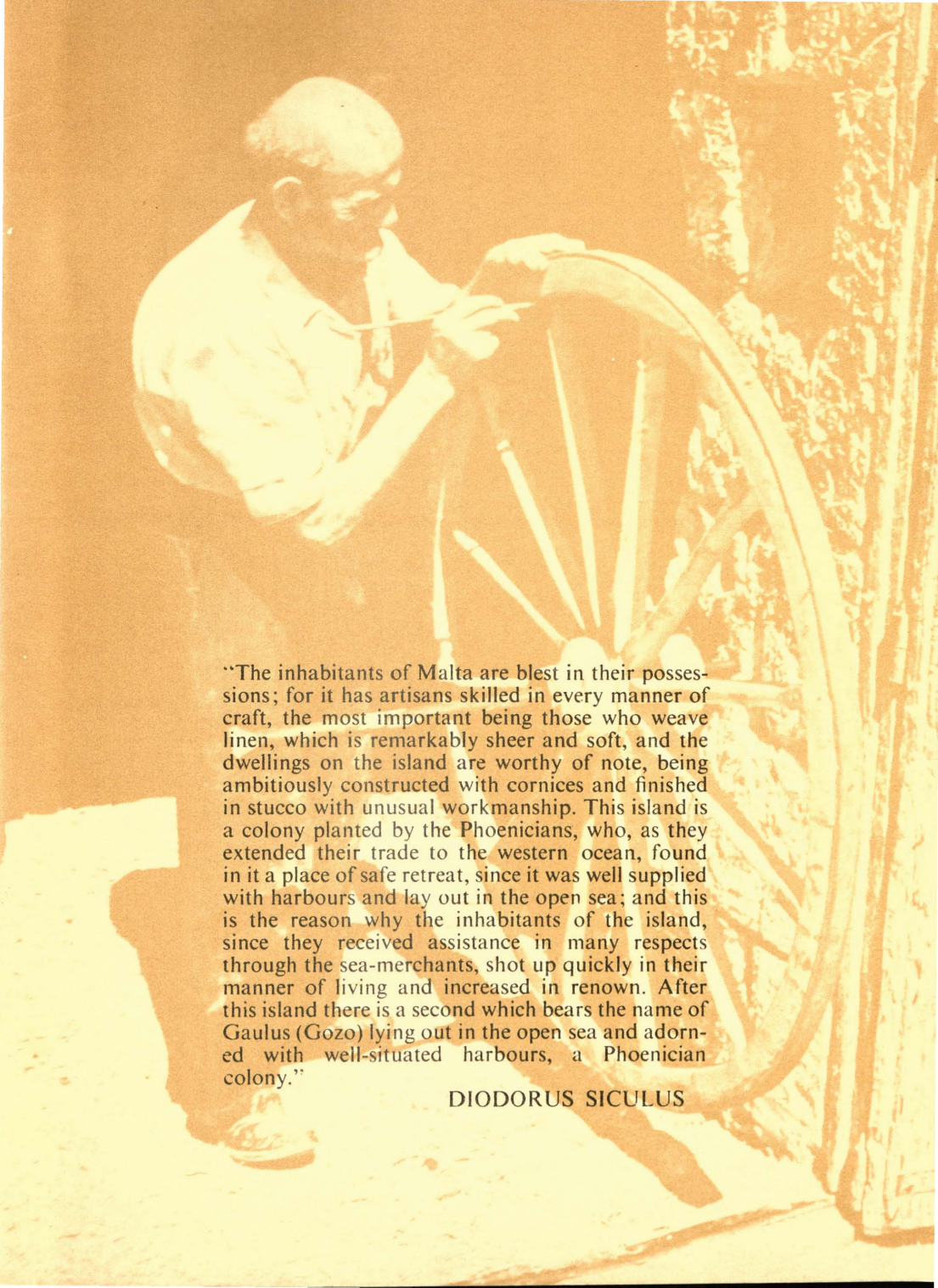
The rule of the road is English—drive LEFT.

8. Entertainment: Open-air dining and dancing is held in the beach hotels in summer (May-October).

Daily showing of English, American and continental films is held in the fifty-five picture theatres situated all over the island.

9. Special Crafts: Gold and silver filigree, pottery and the famous Malta lace.

10. Time: One hour ahead of G.M.T.

A sepia-toned photograph of a man in a light-colored shirt and dark trousers, focused on working on a large, spoked wooden wheel. He is using a tool to adjust or shape the rim of the wheel. The wheel is positioned vertically and is the central focus of the image. The background is dark and indistinct, suggesting an indoor workshop or a shaded outdoor area. The overall mood is one of traditional craftsmanship.

“The inhabitants of Malta are blest in their possessions; for it has artisans skilled in every manner of craft, the most important being those who weave linen, which is remarkably sheer and soft, and the dwellings on the island are worthy of note, being ambitiously constructed with cornices and finished in stucco with unusual workmanship. This island is a colony planted by the Phoenicians, who, as they extended their trade to the western ocean, found in it a place of safe retreat, since it was well supplied with harbours and lay out in the open sea; and this is the reason why the inhabitants of the island, since they received assistance in many respects through the sea-merchants, shot up quickly in their manner of living and increased in renown. After this island there is a second which bears the name of Gaulus (Gozo) lying out in the open sea and adorned with well-situated harbours, a Phoenician colony.”

DIODORUS SICULUS

