

# TOURISM IN GOZO

POLICIES, PROSPECTS AND PROBLEMS



Edited by

**Lino Briguglio**

Proceedings of the seminar "Tourism in Gozo"  
held at Hotel Ta' Ċenċ, Gozo, on 28 January 1994.  
Organised by the University of Malta Gozo Centre  
in collaboration with  
the Ministry for Gozo and Löwenbräu Malta Ltd.

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**Published by Formatek Ltd**  
in collaboration with the  
University of Malta Gozo Centre and the Foundation for International Studies  
Malta, March 1994

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Produced in 1994  
by **Formatek Ltd**,  
4, Spencer Building,  
Dun Gorg Preca Street,  
Blata l-Bajda,  
Malta

ISBN 99909-49-00-X

**Photocredits**

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*The opening session of the seminar "Tourism in Gozo" during which the papers included in this book were presented. From left to right: Professor Lino Briguglio, The Hon. Anton Tabone, Dr. Paul Debattistà and Professor Peter Serracino Inglott.*

## **Preface**

Tourism related activities generate considerable income and employment in the economy of the Maltese Islands. They are also important sources of foreign exchange earnings. At the same time, such activities create man-induced pressures on the environment, which may have irreversible repercussions in the long run. They may also have a negative impact on the social relations and cultures of the host countries.

The purpose of this book is to present, in one volume, a number of papers on tourism related policies and on the various impacts of tourism on the island of Gozo. The papers were originally presented during a seminar "Tourism in Gozo", which was held at Hotel Ta' Ċenċ, Gozo on January 28, 1994. The seminar was organised by the Gozo Centre of the University of Malta, with the collaboration of the Ministry for Gozo. It was sponsored by Löwenbräu Malta Ltd.

The book is introduced by Prof. Peter Serracino Inglott, Rector of the University of Malta and concluded by Dr. Paul Debattista, General Manager of Löwenbräu. They both explain why their institutions supported the organisation of the seminar on tourism in Gozo.

During the seminar, eleven papers on different aspects of tourism, were presented, and these are all included in the book. The first two papers deal with tourism policies. The Hon. Anton Tabone, Minister for Gozo, describes the role of his Ministry in tourism development in Gozo. Mr. Michael Soler, chairman of the National Tourism Organisation of Malta, explains the policy of his organisation with regard to Gozo.

The next two papers deal with the special characteristics of the Gozitan tourist. Mr. Leslie Vella, who is the Research and Planning Manager at the National Tourism Organisation of Malta, gives a profile of the foreign visitor to Gozo, whereas Ms. Graziella Pullicino, who is a research executive at METCO, writes about off-season tourism in Gozo.

The next five papers were written by University scholars, and deal

## *Preface*

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with different tourism impacts. The editor of this book covers the economic impact, Professor Patrick Schembri discusses the environmental impact, Professor Jeremy Boissevain and Dr. Joseph Inguanez write on the cultural and social impact, and Professor Anthony Bonanno assesses the archaeological impact. These five papers are followed by a study authored by Mr. Anthony Ellul, who is project planner at the Malta Government Department of Tourism. Mr. Ellul's paper deals with sustainable tourism development, and touches upon all the impacts discussed in the previous five papers.

The book is concluded by short presentations by four Gozitan hoteliers, who are Mr. Paolo Bartolozzi, Mr. Victor J. Borg, Mr. Joseph P. Portelli and Mr. Sammy Rapa. These presentations represent the views of practitioners in the tourist industry in Gozo, and contain proposals aimed at enhancing Gozo as a tourist destination.

I would like to thank Professor Peter Serracino Inglott, Rector of the University of Malta, for his support in the organisation of the seminar and the publication of this book. Thanks are also due to the Hon. Anton Tabone, Minister for Gozo, for his interest and help in activities organised by the University Gozo Centre and to Mr. Paul Debattista, General Manager of Löwenbräu Malta Ltd., who sponsored the seminar, and who took an active part in its proceedings.

I would also like to acknowledge the support for the seminar and for this publication, extended by Professor Salvino Busuttil, Director-General of the Foundation for International Studies.

This publication also benefited from financial assistance by the management of five hotels in Gozo, namely Andar Hotel, Calypso Hotel, Mġarr Hotel, Ta' Ċenċ Hotel and Cornucopia Hotel.

I am very grateful to Mrs. Maryrose Vella, whose assistance in the preparations for the seminar and in the editing and production of this book was vital.

Finally, I would like to thank the authors of the papers, for their contribution to the seminar and to this book.

**Lino Briguglio**