

Europa 1987 Issue

Date of Issue	15th. April, 1987.
Values.....	8c and 35c.
Stamp Size	31mm × 44mm.
Art Designer.....	Richard England.
Printers.....	Printex Limited.
Process.....	Lithography.
Perforation.....	14 × 13.9.
Watermark	Maltese Crosses Upright.
Paper.....	Chalk Surfaced.
Gum	P.V.A.

Colours:

This set was produced in multicolours.

Both stamps are of the vertical format and each Pane of ten stamps is divided into twelve spaces, four rows of three. In the first space, of the top row, in the 8c value, can be seen the CEPT emblem, 1987, and a black and white design of "The Aquasan Lido", whilst in the first space, of the second row, of the same value, can be seen a part of the same design in black and white.

In the 35c value, the same pattern is followed, for the same two spaces, but using "The Church of St. Joseph", Manikata.

The value of a whole Pane of stamps is seen in the top margin, above the middle stamp, printed in black.

Colour checks in the form of coloured discs 3mm in diameter, are seen in the right hand margin of each Pane, next to the last stamp of the top row. The colours from top to bottom correspond to the colours used for Pane numbers from left to right, in all Panes, of both values. In the colour checks, I noticed, that the space between the coloured discs, in Panes A and D, of the 8c value, is quite larger than in other Panes of the same value. The same thing was noticed in Pance C only, of the 35c value.

The Printed Sheet of each value consisted of six Panes of ten stamps A to F.

Plate/Pane numbers:

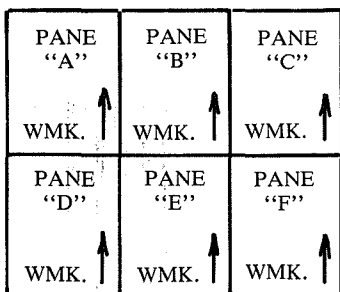
These are seen under the first stamp of the bottom row, in each Pane of both values.

$$8c = 1A \times 4 \text{ up to and including } 1F \times 4.$$

$$35c = 1A \times 4 \text{ up to and including } 1F \times 4.$$

Perforation of Margins:

The right hand margins of Panes C and F, of both values, are imperforate, whilst the right hand margins of Panes A, B, D and E are fully perforated. The top, bottom and left hand margins of all Panes A to F, in both values are also fully perforated.



From a study of details given, the Printed Sheet of each value, before cutting into Panes, would have looked as shown in figure, the perforator running from right to left.

Looking at the Printed Sheet as shown, stamps of both values, would be seen the right way up, hence why watermark in individual stamps is upright.

Imprint Blocks:

The Imprint "PRINTEX LIMITED MALTA" is seen under the third stamp of the bottom row, in each Pane, of both values. Letters are 1mm high and printed in black. An Imprint Block of four will not include the colour checks.

A special handstamp was used for cancellation on the first day of issue.

It is worded "Europa '87 - L-Ewwel Jum Tal-Hruġ - 15-4-87 - Malta" and the name of the respective locality. A sketch of the Aquasan Lido memory screen is also incorporated in the postmark.

This set will remain on sale up to Monday, 9th. November, 1987, unless stocks are previously exhausted.

Sales on the first day of issue amounted to Lm115,280.