

# News Release

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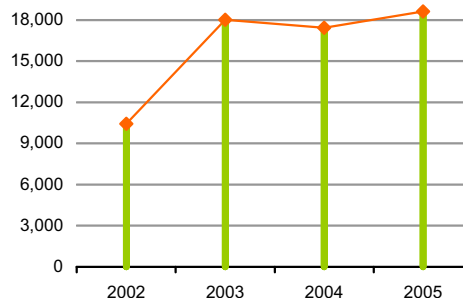
## Tourism

### Outbound Tourism: December 2005

#### December 2005

Maltese passengers during the month of December, reached a total of 19,158. Of these, 18,630 passengers departed by air - an increase of 6.9 per cent over the same month a year ago. In the month under review, 98.4 per cent of Maltese air departures went abroad for less than 6 months.

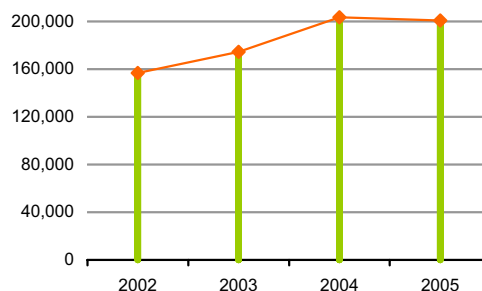
Maltese air departures: December



#### January - December 2005

During the January-December 2005 period, the number of Maltese passengers departing by air amounted to 200,744, a decrease of 1.3 per cent over the same period a year earlier. Of these, 97.8 per cent spent less than 6 months away from Malta. On the other hand, 0.5 per cent of Maltese passengers travelling by air spent 12 months and over away from the Maltese Islands.

Maltese air departures: January - December



In the period under review, the most frequent destination was the United Kingdom accounting for 23.6 per cent of the total number of Maltese travelling abroad by air. This was followed by other main destinations - Italy (21.6 per cent), Tunisia (7.0 per cent), France (6.2 per cent), Germany (5.8 per cent), Netherlands (2.5 per cent) and Spain (2.4 per cent).

When compared to the same period in 2004, Maltese departures to the United Kingdom increased by 0.7 per cent. Other increases were registered in Maltese air passengers departing to Germany (15.3 per cent), the Netherlands (12.7 per cent), Spain (1.9 per cent), Tunisia (3.6 per cent) and a group of 'other' markets (2.5 per cents). On the other hand, decreases to other main destinations were as follows - France (11.5 per cent) and Italy (11.4 per cent) ■

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**Table 1. Monthly distribution of Maltese departures: 2003 - 2005**

	Air					Sea	
	2003	2004	% change	2005	% change	2004	2005
January	10,208	12,006	17.6	14,117	17.6	-	31
February	9,911	12,872	29.9	12,769	-0.8	-	259
March	11,871	14,279	20.3	18,620	30.4	-	1,240
April	11,694	16,731	43.1	13,314	-20.4	944	1,623
May	10,508	13,480	28.3	12,000	-11.0	2,845	3,770
June	11,299	14,043	24.3	16,280	15.9	2,845	3,984
July	17,021	22,329	31.2	24,454	9.5	2,040	4,257
August	24,240	29,150	20.3	26,076	-10.5	2,975	3,946
September	23,613	24,676	4.5	20,089	-18.6	2,459	2,739
October	13,344	13,623	2.1	12,365	-9.2	1,562	1,304
November	12,723	12,774	0.4	12,030	-5.8	508	504
December	18,010	17,435	-3.2	18,630	6.9	616	528
<b>Total</b>	<b>174,442</b>	<b>203,398</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>200,744</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>16,794</b>	<b>24,185</b>

**Table 2. Duration of overseas stay of Maltese passengers by month: December 2004 - December 2005**

Month	Under 6 months	6 and over but less than 12 months	12 months and over	Unknown	Total
<b>2004</b>					
December	17,087	40	88	220	17,435
<b>Jan-Dec 2004 AIR</b>	<b>198,722</b>	<b>846</b>	<b>1,222</b>	<b>2,608</b>	<b>203,398</b>
<b>Apr-Dec 2004 SEA*</b>	<b>16,727</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,794</b>
<b>2005</b>					
January	13,795	46	-	276	14,117
February	12,474	-	42	253	12,769
March	18,406	43	128	43	18,620
April	12,855	42	-	417	13,314
May	11,650	88	88	174	12,000
June	16,024	43	85	128	16,280
July	24,003	82	82	287	24,454
August	25,783	-	84	209	26,076
September	19,554	82	123	330	20,089
October	11,995	82	82	206	12,365
November	11,399	168	169	294	12,030
December	18,339	-	83	208	18,630
<b>Jan-Dec 2005 AIR</b>	<b>196,277</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>966</b>	<b>2,825</b>	<b>200,744</b>
<b>Jan-Dec 2005 SEA</b>	<b>23,925</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>24,185</b>

Note: Values below 1,000 should be treated with caution.

\* Data for January to March not available.

**Table 3. Maltese passengers by destination, age group and sex: January-December 2004**

Country of destination	Males						Females						Total
	0-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	Total	0-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	Total	
France	387	437	2,878	2,976	237	6,915	746	785	2,428	2,740	398	7,097	<b>14,012</b>
Germany	192	653	2,985	2,756	363	6,949	65	648	1,265	1,030	84	3,092	<b>10,041</b>
Italy	1,070	2,291	11,478	10,698	703	26,240	1,198	2,619	10,234	7,715	866	22,632	<b>48,872</b>
Netherlands	86	368	1,530	971	43	2,998	43	196	667	563	-	1,469	<b>4,467</b>
Spain	224	244	1,340	1,037	119	2,964	34	483	821	352	106	1,796	<b>4,760</b>
Tunisia	788	803	2,783	2,316	192	6,882	520	873	2,785	2,375	205	6,758	<b>13,640</b>
United Kingdom	1,260	1,536	11,842	9,658	1,614	25,910	1,125	2,037	8,731	7,247	1,945	21,085	<b>46,995</b>
Other	873	2,340	16,336	15,385	1,420	36,354	962	2,493	11,356	7,903	1,543	24,257	<b>60,611</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,880</b>	<b>8,672</b>	<b>51,172</b>	<b>45,797</b>	<b>4,691</b>	<b>115,212</b>	<b>4,693</b>	<b>10,134</b>	<b>38,287</b>	<b>29,925</b>	<b>5,147</b>	<b>88,186</b>	<b>203,398</b>

Note: Values below 1,000 should be treated with caution.

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**Table 4. Maltese passengers by destination, age group and sex: January-December 2005**

Country of destination	Males						Females						Total
	0-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	Total	0-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	Total	
France	85	417	2,815	2,749	580	6,646	125	456	1,634	2,996	540	5,751	<b>12,397</b>
Germany	41	500	3,734	3,364	253	7,892	85	424	1,691	1,315	170	3,685	<b>11,577</b>
Italy	208	1,549	10,979	10,198	842	23,776	337	2,399	9,278	6,936	593	19,543	<b>43,319</b>
Netherlands	-	501	1,608	1,314	126	3,549	-	209	816	460	-	1,485	<b>5,034</b>
Spain	42	292	1,720	1,213	83	3,350	-	291	667	502	42	1,502	<b>4,852</b>
Tunisia	42	924	3,188	2,615	428	7,197	84	765	2,872	2,924	293	6,938	<b>14,135</b>
United Kingdom	250	2,180	11,653	11,162	2,018	27,263	250	1,906	8,586	8,146	1,178	20,066	<b>47,329</b>
Other	374	3,075	17,904	17,415	1,948	40,716	125	2,489	9,998	7,974	799	21,385	<b>62,101</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,042</b>	<b>9,438</b>	<b>53,601</b>	<b>50,030</b>	<b>6,278</b>	<b>120,389</b>	<b>1,006</b>	<b>8,939</b>	<b>35,542</b>	<b>31,253</b>	<b>3,615</b>	<b>80,355</b>	<b>200,744</b>

Note: Values below 1,000 should be treated with caution.

## Methodological Notes

1. Maltese air departures are collected through a continuous survey carried out at the departure lounge of Malta International Airport. A two-stage sample design is used for this survey. At the first stage alternate days are selected. Then within each shift a sample of passengers is selected systematically. Personal interviews are carried out. Monthly response rates of around 90 per cent are achieved.
2. Maltese sea departures are collected through a regular survey that is carried out at the seaport. Ferry sailings on every alternate day are selected. Departing passengers are interviewed personally. On average a response rate of 93 per cent is recorded for this survey.
3. The survey which is carried out at the seaport commenced in April 2004. No data for Maltese sea departures is available for the period January - March 2004.
4. The variables with respect to Maltese departures that are collected in this survey include the following:  
Age  
Sex  
Destination
5. The surveys carried out at the airport and the seaport are grossed up using the monthly passenger departures data in respect of each port after removing the number of transit passengers from the data sets.
6. Definitions  
  
*Outbound tourism* comprises the activities of residents of a given country traveling to and staying in places outside that country and outside their usual environment.  
  
*Usual environment* consists of the direct vicinity of his/her home and place of work and other places frequently visited.
7. The data in this release are not normally subject revision.
8. Further methodological notes are available at [www.nso.gov.mt/publications/Tourstat/Tourstat2003.pdf](http://www.nso.gov.mt/publications/Tourstat/Tourstat2003.pdf)