

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a cityscape in Malta at dusk. The central focus is the large, domed St. Paul's Cathedral, which is illuminated from within, casting a warm glow. To its right is a tall, slender spire, also lit up. The surrounding buildings are multi-story and feature balconies, some with laundry hanging out. The city is built on a hillside, with a stone wall visible in the foreground. The sky is a deep blue, and the water in the foreground is dark and calm. A diagonal line, matching the red background element, runs from the top left towards the bottom right, separating the logo area from the main text area.

BDO Malta

The Malta Citizenship by Naturalisation for Exceptional Services by Direct Investment



The Maltese Citizenship by Naturalization for Exceptional Services by Direct Investment Regulations offers foreign individuals and their families the opportunity to obtain a certificate of naturalization as a citizen of Malta on the basis of contributions towards Malta's economic and social development.

The acquisition of Maltese citizenship under the Regulations guarantees foreign individuals and their families an increased mobility within the EU and beyond along with a number of benefits to be enjoyed in Malta, a jurisdiction deemed to be one of the strongest and most stable economies in Europe.

Introduction

About Malta

Malta, a member state of the European Union since 2004, consists of a small group of islands in the heart of the Mediterranean Sea and is culturally and commercially well-positioned, linking Europe, Africa and the Middle-East. The official languages are Maltese and English, yet most business on the island is done using the English language. Malta became a member of Europe's Schengen Area in 2007 and its currency is the Euro.

Malta boasts an enviable combination of a Mediterranean climate, a thriving economy and a rich culture due to its 7,500 years of historical heritage. The country enjoys a safe and stable environment with a very low crime rate, sound infrastructural framework, with high standard health and educational institutions. Malta also has high developed industries, which include high-tech manufacturing, food and beverages, tourism and international financial services. Malta is regarded as a highly reputable international financial business services centre due to a framework, which creates attractive business environment for international investors and establishes appropriate regulatory structures.

About BDO Malta

BDO Malta is a member firm of BDO Global, an international network of accounting, tax, consulting and business advisory firms, which provide professional services under the same brand name.

BDO has member firms in over 166 countries and is the 5th largest professional services network globally. BDO in Malta is an end-to-end corporate and business advisory services firm assisting clients worldwide with all their business requirements.

BDO Malta is known for its specialist teams who have excelled in various fields including Audit and Assurance, Tax, Outsourcing Services, Advisory, Citizenship & Residency Services, Payroll, Technology Advisory & Assurance Services and Corporate Services.



MEMBER OF THE
EUROPEAN UNION



INDEPENDENT
REPUBLIC IN THE
COMMONWEALTH
OF NATIONS



CONSISTS OF A
SMALL GROUP OF
ISLANDS



OFFICIAL
LANGUAGES



CURRENCY

Application Requirements

The Granting of Citizenship by Naturalisation for Exceptional Services by Direct Investment, allows the granting of Maltese citizenship by naturalization.

By gaining Maltese citizenship, applicants and their family members shall also benefit from:

EU Citizenship

The programme, offers the possibility of enjoying the benefits of an EU citizenship.

Increased Mobility

The granting of a Maltese passport also guarantees the right to live, work and study in all European Union member states as well as Norway, Iceland, Switzerland and Liechtenstein as well as visa-free travel to more than 180 jurisdictions, including the United States, Australia and Canada.

Possible Tax Planning Benefits

Maltese citizenship makes it easier for applicants and their family members to take up residence and/or invest in business in Malta which may result in opportunities to benefit from Malta's advantageous taxation system.

Personal Security

Malta offers a thriving economy, it is politically stable and has no restrictions on dual citizenship.

Good Quality of Life

Malta guarantees a warm climate, a safe environment and an excellent quality of life with high quality healthcare and education.

Applicants may also choose to extend their application to family members, namely:

- ▶ Spouses in a monogamous marriage or in another relationship that has the same or similar status to marriage.
- ▶ Minor children, including adopted children up to 18 years of age.
- ▶ Adult children between the age of 18 years and 29 years who are unmarried and are wholly maintained or largely supported by the main applicant.
- ▶ Parents or grandparents of the applicant or his spouse above the age of 55 years and are wholly maintained or largely supported by the main applicant.

Requirements

- ▶ The Applicant must be at least 18 years of age.
- ▶ The Applicant needs to prove that he/she has been a resident in Malta for period between 12 to 36 months. Such requirement may be satisfied by proving that there are sufficient factors linking the Applicant to Malta.
- ▶ The Applicant and family members included in the application as dependents must follow a thorough due diligence process which shall prove that they are fit and proper persons and persons of good conduct

Financial requirements

- ▶ A contribution of at least EUR 590,000 for a minimum residence period of 36 months or EUR 740,000 for a minimum of 12 months. An additional EUR 50,000 would apply for each dependent included in the application.
 - ▶ A donation of EUR 10,000 to a registered sport, cultural, scientific, philanthropic, animal welfare, or artistic non-governmental organization or society, as approved by the Community Malta Agency.
 - ▶ The acquisition of a residential property in Malta of at least EUR 700,000, which must be held for five years, as an alternative, the lease of a residential property with a rental value of at least EUR 16,000 per annum, also to be held for five years. Such property cannot be sublet during this five-year period.
 - ▶ The above excludes other administrative fees which are imposed by the Agency in terms of the programme, such as the residence permit and passport fees, as well as due diligence fees.
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Application process & timeline

BDO's team of specialists possess in-depth knowledge and experience of the related legislation and procedures to assist applicant and their dependants at every stage of the Malta Citizenship by Naturalisation for Exceptional Services by Direct Investment.

Stage 1 Residency Stage	Stage 2 Eligibility Stage	Stage 3 Citizenship Stage	Stage 4 Passport Issuance
Preparation of the relevant documentation and proceeding with the filing requirements to ensure the issuance of the Maltese residence permits.	Guidance and support provided in relation to the provision of the necessary due diligence documentation required in terms of the programme.	The Agency issues Letter of Approval.	Required registrations and verifications to be made by the Malta Public Registry and other third parties.
If required, applying for the necessary permit for the Applicant to purchase an immovable property in Malta or assistance with leasing of a qualifying property in Malta.	Preparation and submission of the relevant application pack (within 12 months from the issuance of the residency cards), prepared in terms of the programme, which shall include the relevant application forms for the main applicant and dependants.	Assistance, through the relevant introductions and guidance, to ensure that the investment and contribution requirements in terms of the programme are satisfied.	Issuance of an invitation by Agency for the Main Applicant and their dependants to take the Oath of Allegiance to Malta and be issued with a Certificate of naturalization.
Tier 1 due diligence checks are completed by the Agency, the application for a residence permit will be submitted.	Comprehensive due diligence checks are carried out by the Agency and decision is taken as to whether the applicant and their dependants are eligible to apply for the citizenship.	Presenting to the Agency evidence that the Main Applicant satisfies the requirements imposed in terms of the programme.	Application for the issuance of the Maltese passports for the main applicant and dependants and issuance of the Maltese passports.

Upon the successful completion of the application, the main applicant would need to continue being represented by an Approved Agent, such as BDO Malta, for the first five (5) years following the date of issuance of the Maltese passport, for the purposes of complying with the annual obligations imposed in terms of the programme.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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