

3. Malta

Situated in the center of the Mediterranean Sea, Malta enjoys an excellent reputation for its splendid climate, friendly people, low crime rate, and superb quality of life. An attractive place in which to live or own a second home, Malta also has excellent air links. Malta became independent from Britain in 1964 and has been a republic since 1973. It is a democratic country with respect for the rule of law. Malta is a member of major international organizations including the Council of Europe, Europe's Schengen Area, the European Union, the Eurozone, and the International Monetary Fund. Malta has been ranked 5th in the world by the World Health Organization for medical services and facilities. While Malta has a high standard of living comparable to other European countries in the Mediterranean region, the cost of living is generally lower than the rest of Europe.

Minimum Investment Requirement

EUR 738,000 (or EUR 888,000 by exception) depending on the residence status length (36 or 12 months, respectively)

Investment Criteria A+B+C (Due After Approval)

A-Residential Property – Either Property Purchase Minimum Euros 700,000 or Property Rental Minimum Euros 16,000 per year

B- Direct Investment- 3 Year Residence Euro 600,000 + Euros 50,000 per dependant or 1 year residence Euros 750,000 + Euros 50,000 per dependant

C- Charity- Approved Charity under Euros 10,000

Nature of Investment

Real Estate + Direct Investment + Charity

Investment Holding Period

5 Years

Application Processing time

Applicants and all adult dependents must hold Maltese residence status for a minimum of 36 months (or 12 months by exception) before they may apply for citizenship

Global Passport Index Ranking

8

Visa Free & Visa on Arrival Access in

184

Key Visa Free travel destinations

Australia, Canada, Schengen, UK, *US*, Singapore, Hong Kong

The Right to Live, Work and Study without Restrictions in

27 EU Countries- Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

Free Public Education for Citizens

Yes

Free or Subsidised primary healthcare for citizens

Yes

Dual Citizenship Permitted

Yes

Minimum Stay Requirement

At least 36 months (or 12 months, by exception)

Visit required as a part of application process

1 for real estate investment finalization

Physical presence required

None

Family Coverage

Yes

Key benefit

An attractive place to live or own a second home in, strategically located, with excellent air links

Benefits of Maltese Citizenship-by-Naturalization

The Malta Citizenship by Naturalisation for Exceptional Services by Direct Investment process allows for the granting of citizenship by a certificate of naturalization to foreign individuals and their families who contribute to the country's economic development. This is possible following a 36-month (or, by exception, 12-month) residence period. Each application is subject to a stringent due diligence process, including thorough background checks. Community Malta Agency is the competent Maltese Government Agency responsible for administering the regulations.

Benefits of Maltese citizenship

- Visa-free or visa-on-arrival travel to 186 destinations
- Access to a transparent and reputable financial centre and a prime jurisdiction for international business
- World's strictest due diligence standards and vetting of applicants, thus ensuring only highly respectable applicants

- An attractive place to live or own a second home in, strategically located with excellent air links

Requirements of Maltese citizenship-by-naturalization

The application for Malta Citizenship by Naturalisation for Exceptional Services by Direct Investment is thoroughly checked and assessed and undergoes a four-tier due diligence process. To qualify, the following requirements must be fulfilled:

- A minimum age of 18 years for all applicants
- An investment of at least EUR 600,000 (or EUR 750,000 by exception) depending on the residence status length (36 months or 12 months, respectively)
- The purchase of a residential property in Malta of at least EUR 700,000, which must be held for 5 years. Alternatively, the lease of a residential property with a rental value of at least EUR 16,000 per annum, also held for 5 years. Please note that the property cannot be sublet during this 5-year period. A 36-month (or 18-month, by exception) lease agreement or property purchase is required during the residence period
- A donation of at least 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
- Legal residence of Malta for at least 36 months (or 12 months, by exception), which includes the lease of a residential property with a rental value of at least EUR 16,000 per annum, held for that same period. Applicants require a valid residence card in order to apply for citizenship

Procedures and time frame of Maltese citizenship-by-Investment Program

Applications must be made on the prescribed forms and be accompanied by the appropriate fees and specific documents. Highly detailed due diligence checks are carried out and an application will be declined if it turns out that it contains false information or omissions.

If the Tier 1 due diligence checks completed by the Community Malta Agency are passed, the application for a residence permit will be submitted. After residence has been obtained, an eligibility application will be submitted and further (tiers 2, 3, and 4) due diligence checked will be made by the agency and presented to the relevant Maltese minister, who will decide on the applicant's eligibility to apply for citizenship.

If successful, a citizenship application will be submitted to the Community Malta Agency after 36 months of residence (or 12 months by exception). After the minister has decided if the applicant can be granted Maltese citizenship, the successful applicant will then be required to fulfil the exceptional investment, donation, and property requirements. Thereafter, the applicant will be invited to take the oath of allegiance in Malta and be presented with a Maltese certificate of naturalization.

The Community Malta Agency will conduct continuous monitoring for 5 years.

Dual citizenship

There are no restrictions on dual citizenship in Malta.