



## Tips for the road

- Plan ahead and follow all the signs throughout the route. This is the **Red Walk** so please follow the red signs. It is very easy to get distracted by the surrounding scenery while taking your country walk. Short cuts are to be avoided as many fields are privately owned. You will encounter many 'RTO' signs meaning 'Riservato'. The markings indicate private property.
- Maltese is the official language of the Maltese Islands and an official EU language. The Maltese language is spoken only on the Maltese Islands. Road signs in Malta are in Maltese. Some basic translations that will help you throughout the walk: *Triq* - Street, *Vjal* - Avenue, *Sqaq* - Alley.
- Please keep in mind that on the Maltese Islands, cars drive on the left hand side.
- In some of the walks you will come across churches and other places of religious devotion. Please keep in mind that these are places of worship and due respect must be given if approaching or entering such places. One should not wander in such places if an official religious function is underway.
- Be Prepared... be sure to wear a comfortable pair of walking shoes and clothing which is appropriate for the time of the year. Allow enough time to complete the walk in broad daylight. Make allowances for time required for resting, taking photographs and observing nature and/or places of interest. Bird trapping and hunting are practised in the countryside. There are, however, strict regulations determining areas where such activities are permitted and the time of the year when no such activities are allowed.
- Cliff tops are magnificent areas but they also present potential hazards. Always keep a safe distance from the cliff edges, especially on windy days, or if the ground is covered by loose gravel or is slippery due to rainfall.

- In some valleys and gorges, mobile phone reception may be poor or there may be none at all.
- Respect the fragility of the countryside. Do not climb over rubble walls or throw stones into valleys or over cliffs. Refrain from taking any 'souvenirs' back home with you. Do not disturb animals, plants or their natural habitats. Leave only your footprint behind you and nothing else.
- Be culturally sensitive and respect local customs. Take photographs but respect the privacy of others.
- Emergency Number: 112**



EN



Leave us your feedback.



www.visitMALTA.com



MALTAGOESRURAL

Rural Development Programme for Malta 2007 - 2013

Axis 3 - Improving the Quality of Life in Rural Areas  
Project part-financed by the European UnionThe European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development:  
Co-Financing Rate: 75% European Union, 25% Government of Malta

Europe Investing in Rural Areas



*The walk starts from the interpretation centre close to Dingli Cliffs<sup>1</sup>. This is a good place to explore the surrounding countryside, while enjoying the open sea. At the interpretation centre, turn left and start walking.*

You should soon reach a large building, which is the secondary radar used to monitor air traffic within the Maltese airspace. Further along this road, you should come across a wide opening, where you may notice a typical small countryside church, dedicated to St Mary Magdalene. Take some time to walk to the edge of the cliff behind the church for a magnificent and panoramic view of the cliffs, the fields and the Mediterranean Sea.

This is the place to admire the fields beneath the edge of the cliffs, the shimmering sea, and the small islet of Filfla.

Once back on the road, continue walking along it. On the right-hand side of the road you may notice the enigmatic prehistoric cart ruts on the garigue. These ruts tend to disappear after a few metres.

The left-hand fork in the road leads down towards the Buskett area. This walk shall proceed along the main road, until the next marker. Here, you should leave the road, turn right and start walking along an unpaved path. You need to pay attention where to step, as this path is very uneven. The path leads towards the tip of the headland and we suggest you wander around and explore the area. Known as *Il-Wardija ta' San Ġorġ*, this is a typical Bronze Age village site. Its position dominates the area, and is naturally defended. On the landward side, a wall would have been erected to provide the necessary defence. The view of the cliffs and the surrounding area from this vantage point is spectacular.

Retrace your steps back onto the uneven path (just before the entrance to the prehistoric site) and turn right. Start walking downhill. The path winds along the side of the cliff, offering good vantage points of the surroundings. Ahead you may notice a number of cave openings, some of which are well maintained and used as a shelter by the farmers of the area. Soon you will reach a small countryside church, dedicated to Our Lady of Mt Carmel. This is the *Fawwara* area - an idyllic place with well-cultivated fields, and countryside tranquillity.

The church is interesting, spacious and from its small parvis, one can admire an idyllic setting. The well-kept church blends well with the fields and the natural environment of the area. The name 'Fawwara' refers to a legend which recounts that once, after a time of drought, the natural spring found beneath this same church started to overflow with water and thus the lives of many families in the area were saved.

Return back onto the road behind the church and continue walking with the steep cliff face on the left and the fields looking towards the open sea on the right. The general walk passes next to a building which was previously used as a school for the small farming community. Along this stretch of the road you may notice a couple of isolated converted farmhouses, as well as another church dedicated to the Annunciation.

Continue walking straight on. When you reach a fork in the road, follow the lane leading down into the valley, with a 19th century aqueduct on the right-hand side. Reaching the main road, turn right and continue walking. Soon you should reach a complex of buildings. Originally used as a rest camp for British military personnel, the place started to be used by local associations, where they organised summer camps for youths, and, eventually the building was converted into a large residential complex for people with special needs, now known as Id-Dar tal-Providenza.

Further down this philanthropic complex, you should reach a fork in the road. Take the left turning, and keep walking along the road, enjoying the good views of the open sea as well as Filfla, the uninhabited island.

Walking along the main road, you will soon reach a road on the right-hand side, leading to the prehistoric temples of *Haġar Qim*. One can easily spend an hour in the vicinity, although this depends on one's interest in archaeological remains. The interpretation centre, together with the complexes of *Haġar Qim* and *Mnajdra* (which is found further downhill) offer a very good and rewarding stop.

Retrace your steps, and get back onto the main road. Keep walking straight on the pavement until you reach the next sign, then turn right and start walking downhill towards Wied iż-Żurrieq. The small creek is spectacular and boat rides are on offer for those who wish to view the shoreline from a different angle. The boat ride takes you to visit the Blue Grotto, famous for its natural arch. Besides this grotto, you may admire other caves and the crystal blue sea.

The walk ends here. There are various places where one can have a snack or a drink. There is also a bus service from this area.

<sup>1</sup> **Bus route No 201** operates the following route:  
Luqa (Airport) - Kirkop - Żurrieq - Qrendi - Siggiewi - Dingli - Rabat.

**Bus route No. 52** operates the following route: Valletta - Floriana - Hamrun - Santa Venera - Fleur de Lys - Birkirkara - Attard - Ta' Qali - Rabat - Dingli. Bus stop "Cliffs" stops right in front of the interpretation centre.

**Length of walk approx 11.2 km**

\* It is the responsibility of individuals to approach outdoor activities with caution. Walking and any other countryside activity can be strenuous or dangerous and individuals should ensure that they are fit enough before embarking upon it. The MTA will not be held responsible for any loss of personal items and injuries of individuals following this walk.



**DINGLI**

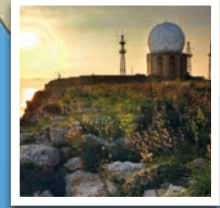
**BUSKETT**

**SIGGIEWI**

**QRENDI**

**START**

**Radar**  
(for air traffic)



**Cart ruts**



**St Mary Magdalene Church**



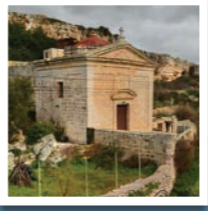
**Bronze Age Village**  
(Il-Wardija ta' San Gorg)  
**Fawwara Area**  
(caves and countryside)



**Mt. Carmel**  
(Chapel and spring)



**Annunciation Church**



**Mnajdra**  
(Temples)



**Hagar Qim**  
(Temples)

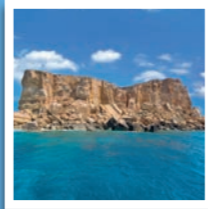


**Wied iz-Zurrieq**  
(Blue Grotto)



4.5 km

**Filfla Island**



**END**

MALTA GOES RURAL

**Dingli, Fawwara, Wied iz-Zurrieq**

*walk*

0 250 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Meters

\* It is the responsibility of individuals to approach outdoor activities with caution. Walking and any other countryside activity can be strenuous or dangerous and individuals should ensure that they are fit enough before embarking upon it. The MTA will not be held responsible for any loss of personal items and injuries of individuals following this walk.

- WALK AREA
- INFORMATION
- RESTAURANT
- CHURCH
- HERITAGE SITE
- BUS STOP
- BOAT RIDES