

MALTA

Staying with a Maltese family is a great way for students to practise their English outside of school whilst learning about the culture of this Mediterranean island. All our homestay providers are licensed by the Malta Tourism Authority and approved by EC's Accommodation staff who visit all host families regularly.



TRAVEL TIME FROM AIRPORT

Malta International Airport: Approx. 40 min

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- General English course - 20 lessons per week (1 lesson = 45 minutes)
- Course materials
- Welcome Pack
- End of course certificate
- Return airport transfers
- Full board accommodation
- Supervised activity programme (per week):
 - 5 half-day activities and 3 evening activities
 - 1 full-day excursion (for students staying minimum 2 weeks)
- EC bus to all activities and school

DATES AVAILABLE

- Spring: 21 March - 11 April 2015
- Summer: 13 June - 30 August 2015
- Autumn: 10 October - 07 November 2015

Homestay locations include (but are not limited to): St Julian's, Sliema, Swieqi, San Gwann, St Andrew's, Ta' Xbiex, Gzira, Msida, Bahar ic-Caghaq and Pembroke.

AGES

13 - 17 years

ARRIVAL DAY

Saturday or Sunday*

DEPARTURE DAY

Saturday or Sunday*

*Please note, packages include accommodation for 7 nights per week, thus arrival on a Saturday and departure on a Sunday will incur an extra night's fee

GETTING TO SCHOOL & ACTIVITIES

- Students are transported to school and activities on a private EC bus.
- The average journey time to school is 30 minutes.

EXTRA ACTIVITY

- **Diving** 4 half-day lessons of PADI Open Water for beginners and PADI Advanced for experienced divers
- **Sicily Trip** Full day trip with a guided tour including a visit to Mount Etna, the largest and most active volcano in Europe
- All extra options substitute other activities

Accommodation

BOARD STATUS

Full board

TYPE OF ROOM

Students are placed in a twin/triple room with other students of the same gender, usually of a different nationality.

BATHROOMS

Shared bathroom

ROOMS INCLUDE

- a bed
- desk/table where students can do their homework (if not in the room, a place for studying will be provided in a common area)
- storage space

LINEN/TOWELS

Bed linen and towels are provided by the family. Students must bring their own beach towel. Linen and towels will be cleaned once a week.

LAUNDRY

Students can use the homestay's laundry facilities once a week.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE ACCOMMODATION

- Students will have access to living areas during acceptable hours.
- All students will have access to the phone. To make a call, students must use a calling card, which can be purchased in many local shops. Students will also be able to receive incoming calls, from their parents, for example.
- International leaders are accommodated in twin rooms. If international leaders book a single room, a single room supplement will be charged at the time of booking and reserved based on availability.
- Valid reasons must accompany a request for change of accommodation and each request is considered on its own merits. Such changes are also subject to availability. Students must pay for any transport costs, additional accommodation charges and cancellation fees (where applicable). These additional charges must be paid in full prior to the move. EC is happy to assist students with arrangements for any justifiable accommodation changes.

Meals

BREAKFAST

Tea / coffee, toast, jam and cereal.

LUNCH

Packed lunch: A large sandwich, fruit, and a bar of chocolate. During the week packed lunches are collected at school. At the weekend packed lunches are collected from the homestay provider.

DINNER

A hot meal, for example pasta / chicken / beef / pork / pizza / hamburgers, mineral water and dessert / fruit.

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

If students have specific diet requirements (e.g. Gluten free / vegetarian / Halal), EC must be informed of this prior to the student's arrival.

Please note: For gluten-free meals a supplement may apply.

Temperatures in Malta during summer are quite high and students therefore, need to drink plenty of water. Whilst water is provided during meals, students will be expected to buy bottled water at other times, during activities and school. It is important to take this into account when evaluating the amount of pocket money needed.

MEDICAL

At the time of booking EC must be advised of any medical conditions, allergies or medication that needs to be taken by the student. EC will endeavour to find a homestay provider that can accept students with medical conditions. However if we are not advised of this in advance, EC cannot take responsibility should the homestay provider refuses to accept the student in their home.

Students must have adequate health, accident and travel insurance while attending any of our programmes which must be acquired prior to their arrival.

European students travelling with a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) are entitled to free public healthcare. Non EU nationals will be charged for public health care, provided their E111 card is presented upon admittance. They will be asked to leave a deposit of €70 upon admittance, with any additional amounts due to be paid prior to departure.

Students requesting private medical treatment must be prepared to pay approximately €25 to see a doctor; this must be paid at the time of their visit.

Learning Centre

Address:

Spring & Autumn programmes: EC Malta, St. Julian's

Summer programme:

- EC Malta, St. Julian's
- Chiswick House School, 38, Antonio Schembri Street Kappara, San Gwann
- St. Martin's College, Swatar Road, Swatar

All schools provide a safe and comfortable environment which is highly conducive to English language learning. Each school has a dedicated academic co-ordinator, and all schools are fully air-conditioned, which is ideal during the hot summer months.

Course: General English

20 lessons per week (a total of 15 hours)

1 lesson = 45 minutes

- The course will help improve English language skills by focusing on the key areas: reading, writing, speaking and listening. A strong focus is placed on speech and using the language confidently and fluently.
- Our dedicated and professional teaching staff provide feedback and support and help students build confidence to speak English.
- Lessons will possibly follow a Double Banking or morning only timetable.
- International classes.

MAXIMUM CLASS SIZE

15 students per class

MINIMUM COURSE DURATION

1 week

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Educational materials are provided. Students should bring their own notepaper and pens.

WIFI

Free wifi is available at school.

FIRST DAY

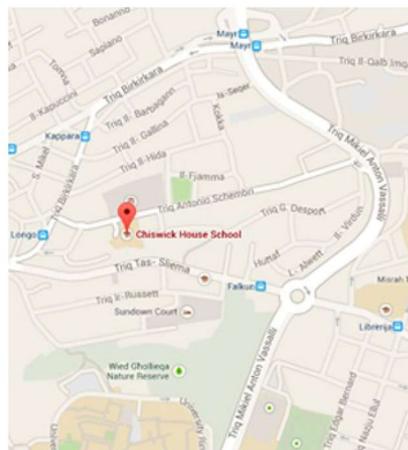
The first day of school is very important. Students are picked up from their bus stop at the time indicated on their programme.

The handbook clearly states the date and time that the student has to be at school for the placement test – this may vary according to the number of students starting their course on that day. The test time is earlier than the starting time of lessons on any other school day. Students must be PUNCTUAL to ensure that the allocation process of students to classrooms/levels runs smoothly. All students are entitled to use the EC school bus service.

Students sit a placement test on the first day. This assesses students in listening, reading, writing and use of English allowing academic staff to place students in the relevant group for their ability.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance to class is compulsory unless there is a justified reason for absence. In case of a student falling ill, an EC staff member will provide assistance.



SAMPLE PROGRAMME

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Saturday	Arrivals		
Sunday	Arrivals / Free Day for Orientation		
Monday	Placement Test or Lessons	Baystreet/Beach	Welcome Party
Tuesday	Harbour Cruise including Lunch	Lessons	Free evening
Wednesday	Lessons	Visit to Wied iz-Zurrieq	International Night
Thursday	Mdina	Lessons	BBQ Night
Friday	Lessons	Splash & Fun Water Park	Free Evening / Optional Go Karting
Saturday	Free day		
Sunday	Free Day / Optional Sicily or Gozo, at extra charge		
Monday	Go karting & Crafts Village	Lessons	Foam Party
Tuesday	Lessons	Comino	Free Evening
Wednesday	Valletta inc. Audio Visual Show	Lessons	International Night
Thursday	Lessons	Sandy Beach, Mellieha	Night with the EC Stars
Friday	Sliema Shopping & Rocky Beach	Lessons	Optional Horse Riding / Free Evening
Saturday	Departures / Full day excursion		

- This is a sample programme only and changes may occur
- Any lessons / activities missed will not be made up
- Lessons will alternate daily between morning and afternoon



Welfare, Rules and Disciplinary Action

CURFEW TIMES

- Age:13 and Under
ALL NIGHTS – 22:00 hours
- Age: 14 – 16
Sunday – Thursday – 23:00 hours
Friday & Saturday – 00:00 hours
- Age: 17
Sunday – Thursday – 00:00 hours
Friday & Saturday – 01:00 hours
- Please note: Curfew times are set for students' free evenings, not when attending EC activities

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

The consumption of alcohol by Junior students is not allowed. Students who consume alcohol risk being expelled from EC and repatriated to their home country at their own expense.

SMOKING

The legal age for smoking in Malta is 18 years. Smoking is NOT allowed at any time.

DRUGS

The consumption and / or possession of any illegal drugs will result in the immediate expulsion and repatriation of the student at their own expense. The intervention of the police may also be necessary in such an event.

Course Certificate

Students must attend all lessons and organised activities in order to receive their End of Course Certificate.

Money Transfer Arrangement

EC does not provide a pocket money service for students. Parents should ensure their children have sufficient pocket money for the duration of their stay. Should students require pocket money during their stay, parents are asked to transfer funds through an international transfer service.

Discipline

In order to manage student behaviour, EC staff may issue a formal warning, notify parents, ban students from an activity or withhold the End of Course certificate, if the student misbehaves.

ACCOMMODATION RULES

- Students must keep their room neat and tidy.
- Students must not be noisy or disturb other members of the household.
- Curfew times must be respected by all students.
- The host family must be told well in advance if students are not going to be there for dinner or if they have an activity which conflicts with their dinner.
- Students who are not residing at the host family are not allowed to stay overnight. Students must ask the host family for permission to have a friend visit them at the family home.
- Students are liable for any damages/breakages caused whilst staying at the host family. The School will advise of any payments due, no money should be given directly to the host family.
- The host family may have specific house rules that will be communicated on arrival and must be abided by.

CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS

At EC, we endeavour to provide our students with the highest possible level of service. If, however, a student is unsatisfied with any aspect of their programme with EC, we ask that they inform us immediately. Most problems are small and can be quickly resolved by our staff members. During the first week of school, all students are given an Initial Course Evaluation form, in which they are asked to evaluate various aspects of their stay, such as tuition, accommodation and leisure. The form also allows students the opportunity to bring to our attention anything that is not to their satisfaction should they feel unable to speak to us directly. Solutions to any issues will be provided and all necessary parties will be notified when applicable. Students are also requested to complete an End of Course Evaluation form at the end of their stay such that they have the opportunity to provide EC with general feedback before returning to their home country.

EXPULSION

EC reserves the right to expel and repatriate a student at his / her own expense for any of the reasons including but not limited to the circumstances listed below:

- Possession and / or use of any illegal drugs
- Consumption of alcohol
- Malicious damage to school property and/or place of accommodation
- Being a danger to his / her own safety or that of other students
- Breaking Maltese law
- Repeated failure to attend academic lessons and/or activities

In any of the above circumstances the student will be informed that their stay is going to be terminated with immediate effect. Simultaneously EC will inform the student's agent about the student's behaviour and the course of action to be taken. The earliest flight available will be booked and an EC staff member will accompany the student to the airport to ensure that the student leaves the country safely. Following such action EC will terminate all relationships with the student and will be unable to take further responsibility for the student. No refunds will be given to any student who has been expelled.

