



MALTA

OPERATION WORLD

the definitive prayer guide to every nation



Acts chapter 28 documents the crash landing of the Apostle Paul on the Mediterranean island of Malta. To this day, Paul is still considered a national symbol and the founder of Christianity on the island.

The Maltese people have a history that stretches back millennia and are descendants of the ancient Carthaginians and Phoenicians. Throughout this long history, Malta, located between Sicily and Tunisia, has been influenced by many more peoples such as the Greeks, Romans, Arabs, and British. A former colony of Great Britain, Malta received its independence in 1964 and is now a member of the European Union.

WATCH & PRAY

Today Malta's economy relies heavily on trade with other European countries, manufacturing, and tourism. Malta has low unemployment in comparison to the rest of Europe and has also mostly avoided the recent European economic crisis. With the smallest economy in the eurozone, Malta only produces about 20% of its food needs and has limited domestic water and energy supplies. A great number of immigrants pour through the island as they travel from the African continent to the European mainland. These immigrants place a great strain on the Maltese economy, resulting in social tensions between themselves and the native population.

GIVE THANKS

Malta was the first European nation to embrace Christianity and remains the most religious nation in Europe.

Over 96% of the Maltese people consider themselves Christians, and the great majority of this number belong to the Roman Catholic Church, with a small protestant population. The Maltese are very committed to their faith, with over 80% of the population saying their religion is important to them. The majority regularly attends mass. The first nation in Europe to become Christian, Malta has continued this legacy to modern times. Though there is a lack of Christian materials in Maltese, several Christian radio stations broadcast the Good News, and a program allows churches from around the world to adopt a Maltese village in prayer. While the Maltese have a strong Christian tradition, for many it is just that: a tradition. The non-religious segment of society is growing quickly, and nominalism is high. At the same time there has been a great impact, with Catholic charismatic groups, the Alpha Course, and the JESUS film growing and maturing the Church.

PRAY FOR:

- Pray for the deeply religious majority to gain a living relationship with Christ.
- Pray for an effective witness to Libyan and Tunisian immigrants.
- Pray for believers to reach out to those involved in international shipping.
- The Maltese diaspora outnumber the population on Malta, but some return home. Pray that those who return might include followers of Christ who witness to His Gospel.



Although there may be a few believers or even a few churches, they are a people group among which there is no indigenous community of believing Christians with adequate numbers and resources to evangelize their own people group.

JOSHUA PROJECT

A total of 3 People Groups are Unreached – 1 900 people who have limited or NO access to the Gospel.

The number of immigrants attempting to enter Europe, could potentially overwhelm the small population of Malta.

Pray for the Maltese to demonstrate compassion and Christian love; pray that many of these immigrants might discover the living Christ.



REDEPTIVE GIFTS OF THE NATION

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