PRINTABLE TRIP ITINERARY

Malta in 2 Days for £296.30 for Two

Our completed May 2026 weekend from Edinburgh with Sliema, Valletta and Mdina, one hostel night and one traveller's visa included.

2 days	£296.30 for 2	Malta	2 days
TRIP	BUDGET	DURATION	GUIDE

What this guide includes

Actual or planned costs, a readable day-by-day itinerary, practical food and accommodation notes, and public transport station pairs where available.

Important: Historical costs are budgeting references. Verify current prices, route numbers, opening times and entry rules before travel.

Budget and transport

Expense for two	Actual cost
Direct Ryanair return flights · Edinburgh ⇄ Malta	£110.00
Budget hostel in Sliema · one night	£44.00
Malta buses and Sliema–Valletta ferry	£16.30
Edinburgh Airport tram returns	£15.00
Shared European eSIM	£8.50
One-month VPN plan	£11.00
Dry vegetarian food and coffee mix from Edinburgh	£15.00
One traveller’s Schengen visa · €90	£76.50
Confirmed total	£296.30

Bus, train, tram and ferry route card

Mode	Service	Board at	Get down at	Approx. fare	Note
Bus	Airport route serving Sliema (commonly X2/TD routes; verify current number)	Malta International Airport bus terminus	Sliema Ferries / stop nearest the hostel	About €2.50 daytime single	Malta route numbers change; use the official Tallinja planner on the day.
Ferry	Sliema–Valletta Ferry	Sliema Ferries terminal	Valletta ferry landing	About €2.00 single / €3.80 return	Walk uphill or use the lift/streets to central Valletta.
Bus	Route 202 or current Sliema–Rabat service	Sliema Ferries area	Rabat terminus	About €2.50 daytime single	Walk from Rabat into Mdina through Mdina Gate.

Checked October 2026: confirm live schedules and disruptions in the official operator planner.

Day-by-day itinerary and practical notes

We flew directly from Edinburgh, stayed one night at a budget hostel in Sliema and explored Valletta, Sliema and Mdina using buses, the harbour ferry and long walks.

Prices are historical rather than live quotations. Use them as a budgeting reference and verify current fares, entry fees and booking conditions before travelling.

We left Edinburgh on the 6:00 AM flight on 2 May and landed back at 11:45 PM on 3 May, reaching home after midnight on 4 May. Only one of us needed a Schengen visa.

Exactly what we spent

The average is approximately £148.15 per person, although the visa cost applied to only one traveller.

Our two-day Malta itinerary

After landing, we used the airport bus to reach Sliema and left our bags at the hostel. We crossed the harbour by ferry, walked past Triton Fountain and along Republic Street, then enjoyed the free view from Upper Barrakka Gardens before returning to Sliema.

We checked out, stored our bags and took a public bus inland. In Mdina we walked through the gate, explored the silent lanes and enjoyed the bastion viewpoints for free. We returned to Sliema for our luggage, travelled to the airport and landed in Edinburgh at 11:45 PM.

The map joins Malta Airport, Sliema, the ferry landing, central Valletta, Upper Barrakka Gardens and Mdina.

Food we carried from Edinburgh

Our £15 food budget covered commercially packed vegetarian dry food, instant meals, snacks and dry coffee mix. We did not record any separate food or coffee purchase in Malta. Anyone bringing food from Great Britain into the EU should check current restrictions before travelling, particularly for products containing meat or dairy.

Transport, mobile data and money

Buses and ferry

Our combined Malta bus and ferry spend was £16.30 for two. Malta Public Transport’s official tariff for our May 2026 dates was €2 for a regular daytime single journey, valid for two hours and payable by cash or contactless card. Airport Direct and night services used different fares. Ferry prices and schedules can change, so check them before travelling.

eSIM and Wi-Fi security

We budgeted £8.50 for a shared European eSIM and £11 for a one-month VPN plan. A VPN is optional, but can add privacy on shared hostel Wi-Fi. Travellers should compare current roaming, eSIM and local SIM prices rather than assuming the same provider will remain cheapest.

Cards and euros

Malta uses the euro. We favoured card payments and avoided unnecessary currency exchange. Check your bank’s foreign-transaction fee and exchange rate before relying on any card advertised as “zero markup”.

Schengen visa: what applied to us

One traveller required a short-stay Schengen visa and we recorded the statutory €90 fee, approximately £76.50. The other traveller did not require a visa. The VFS service charge is excluded because we did not retain a confirmed figure. Visa requirements depend on nationality and UK residence status; use the official Malta/VFS checklist for the application location and passport involved.

Official Malta visa application guidance →Official Malta bus fares →Official Valletta ferry schedule →

Budget traveller’s quick summary

Trip: Edinburgh → Malta Airport → Sliema → Valletta → Mdina → Edinburgh

Dates: 2–3 May 2026; home after midnight on 4 May

Travellers: 2

Cost: £219.80 before visa; £296.30 including one visa

Highlights: Sliema waterfront, harbour ferry, Triton Fountain, Republic Street, Upper Barrakka Gardens and Mdina

Biggest savings: direct budget flights, one hostel night, packed food, public transport and free sights.

Before you travel

Reconfirm every fare, stop, timetable, visa or entry requirement, baggage rule and food-import restriction with the responsible provider.