

Highlights of Gozo Cycling

Hotel-to-hotel lower independent cycling

- Wonderful gentle cycling: scenic coastal tracks, sleepy hamlets, lush valleys, breathtaking views
- Fabulously varied ★★★★★ and ★★★★★★ hotels, all with pools
- Baroque churches, honey-hued hilltop hamlets, archaeological treasures, colorful fishing villages
- Beautiful secluded bays; stunning turquoise seas



Surrounded by azure Mediterranean waters, diminutive Gozo lies just 3mi/5km from its lively sister island of Malta. In contrast, the pace of life on Gozo however is one from an era gone-by, even a short visit will lull you into its relaxed rhythms. This tranquillity, combined with the island's size, makes Gozo perfect for gentle exploration on two wheels – each day offers a montage of ancient archaeological treasures, stunning gentle tracks, coastal vistas and hidden hilltop hamlets - and short distances mean that you can explore at your own pace. An evocative silence pervades the island; as you pedal along the only sound is the soothing peel of church bells, the sea softly lapping the shore or the rhythmical clapping of horses hooves.

Your journey starts at Ta Cenc, the island's most panoramic spot with views sweeping as far as Malta and Comino. First, you pedal to Calypso's Cave with breathtaking views over Ramla's red sands, to reach Xaghra, where locals gather every afternoon in its beautiful piazza to catch up on the daily gossip! You then travel west past a string of colorful fishing harbors and striking salt pans to the luxurious Kempinski Hotel in San Lawrenz. Your last section takes you inland to honey-hued Victoria with its tangle of alleys and ancient citadel, before taking in azure sea views again as you return to Ta Cenc.

The superb hotels offer a highlight to your holiday too; our favorite is the romantically secluded ★★★★★ Ta Cenc where in fine weather you dine under a 400-year old carob tree. In Xaghra you stay in a former Gozitan farmhouse, now renovated into a cozy hotel, and our hotel in San Lawrenz boasts one of Europe's best spas. All have sparkling outdoor pools (as well as indoor heated ones at two hotels!) and offer delicious al fresco dining in warm weather, as well as plenty of opportunity to sample Gozo's excellent wine.



"The holiday exceeded our expectations and was extremely well organized."

Mrs Shlugman



HIGHLIGHTS OF GOZO CYCLING | DAY BY DAY

Day 1 Arrive at Ta Cenc

We meet you at Malta airport and transfer you via ferry (25 mins) to the exclusive Hotel Ta Cenc (10 mins).

Day 2 Ta Cenc to Xaghra 14km/9mi

A panoramic swoosh takes you to Xewkija, a tiny village boasting Europe's third largest dome, from where you can drink in views of the entire island and beyond. Cycling through gently swaying vineyards you reach Calypso's Cave with its magnificent views to Sicily; it's said that the nymph Calypso kept Odysseus captive here for seven years. Maybe descend by foot to the rich red sands of Ramla Bay – the island's best beach – before pedalling on towards Xaghra and your fabulous farmhouse hotel.

Day 3 In Xaghra

There's plenty to explore in Xaghra's tangle of butter coloured streets. Perhaps visit the megalithic temples of Ggantija, an archaeological wonder dating back to 3500BC or Xerri and Ninu's grottos, two caves full of stalagmites and stalactites strangely located within their owners' houses! Xaghra's piazza with its church is at the centre of village life – do as the locals do and relax in one of the cafes and watch the world go by. Or, our hotel has two lovely pools in its geranium decked courtyard.

Day 4 Xaghra to San Lawrenz 15km/9mi

Farmers tend their crops in the verdant terraced fields as you descend to Marsalforn, where rugged fishermen mend their nets in the harbour, their brightly painted luzzu boats bobbing lazily in the turquoise waters. A wild and beautiful stretch of coast takes you past a patchwork of salt pans and onto Wied il-Ghasri, a narrow inlet with a beautiful secluded cove – a perfect picnic spot. Time to visit the remarkable neo-Romanesque basilica at Ta Pinu before reaching the luxurious Kempinski Hotel in time for a swim before dinner.

Day 5 In San Lawrenz

Perhaps visit Dwerja Point (there's a free shuttle from your hotel), where you'll find spectacular coastal scenery and some of Gozo's most recognisable sights such as the Inland Sea, the stunning Azure Window (where the blue sea and sky is framed by a honey-coloured stone archway) and Fungus Rock. Our ★★★★★ hotel has several pools as well as one of Europe's best spas, so there's no excuse not to soothe any aching muscles!

Day 6 San Lawrenz to Ta Cenc 9km/5mi or 15km/9mi

In fine weather maybe follow one of the island's most attractive trails along the western coast, fields bright with tiny yellow flowers and the air fragrant with Mediterranean garrigue. Otherwise it's a gentle pedal towards the north-west, where the terraces are dotted with Gozo's succulent tomatoes. Then onto the capital, Victoria, with its tangled maze of flower-scented streets – the mediaeval citadel boasts spectacular views across the whole island. Time to explore Ta Cenc's archaeological treasures before your final candlelit dinner beneath the ancient carob tree.

Day 7 Leave Gozo

You return by ferry to Malta in time for your flight home. Or perhaps relax at the Ta Cenc for a few extra nights?



Dates and Prices (US\$)

	Tour Only
2010 Dates	
Jan 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Feb 7, 21, 28	\$2,141
Feb 14	\$2,169
Oct 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28, Dec 5, 12	\$2,346
Oct 3, 10, 17	\$2,367
Mar 7, 14, 21, 28	\$2,198
Apr 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16	\$2,284
Oct 24	\$2,367
Sep 12, 19, 26	\$2,547
Apr 4, 11, May 23	\$2,319
Dec 20, 27	\$2,547
2011 Dates	
Jan 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 20, 27	\$2,399
Feb 13, Mar 6, 13, 20, 27	\$2,364
Apr 3, 10, May 1, 8, 15, 22	\$2,419
Apr 17, 24, May 29	\$2,419

Singles: Add \$57 per night. Except Sep 2010 departures when \$70 per night.

Child: This holiday is unsuitable for children under 12.

Room upgrade: Prices from \$19 per person, per night, based on 2 sharing.

Holiday type: Independent cycling, hotel-to-hotel, no minimum group size, however airport transfers are subject to at least 2 people (in total) booked on each departure.

Departs: Selected dates from Jan 3 2010 to May 29 2011.

Duration: 7 days (6 nights). This holiday may also be adapted into a 4 night version – just deduct \$254 per person from the prices above.

Meals: Buffet breakfast and evening meals.

Other details: For "What your holiday price includes," see "Booking Information" section pp 48-51.

Tailor-made travel choices

Air Connections: Flights are not included, but can be arranged from most airports, with connecting transfers as required, prices and details on request.

The above prices include our standard transfers: Pick up from Malta Luqa Airport at 15:05, then transfer to ferry (ferry ticket included) to Gozo 18:00/18:25. (Transfer to hotel, 10 mins, provided). Return: Ferry to Malta 12:00/12:25 then transfer to Malta Luqa by 14:00 (transfer provided).

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HIGHLIGHTS OF GOZO CYCLING | WHERE YOU STAY



Hotel Ta Cenc
★★★★★
Sannat
Days 1+6



Hotel Comucopia
★★★★★
Xaghra
Days 2+3



Kempinski San Lawrenz
★★★★★
San Lawrenz
Days 4+5

For extra nights we recommend Gozo or Malta.