



LEARN ENGLISH IN MALTA



**ALPHA**  
SCHOOL OF ENGLISH

# WHY LEARN ENGL



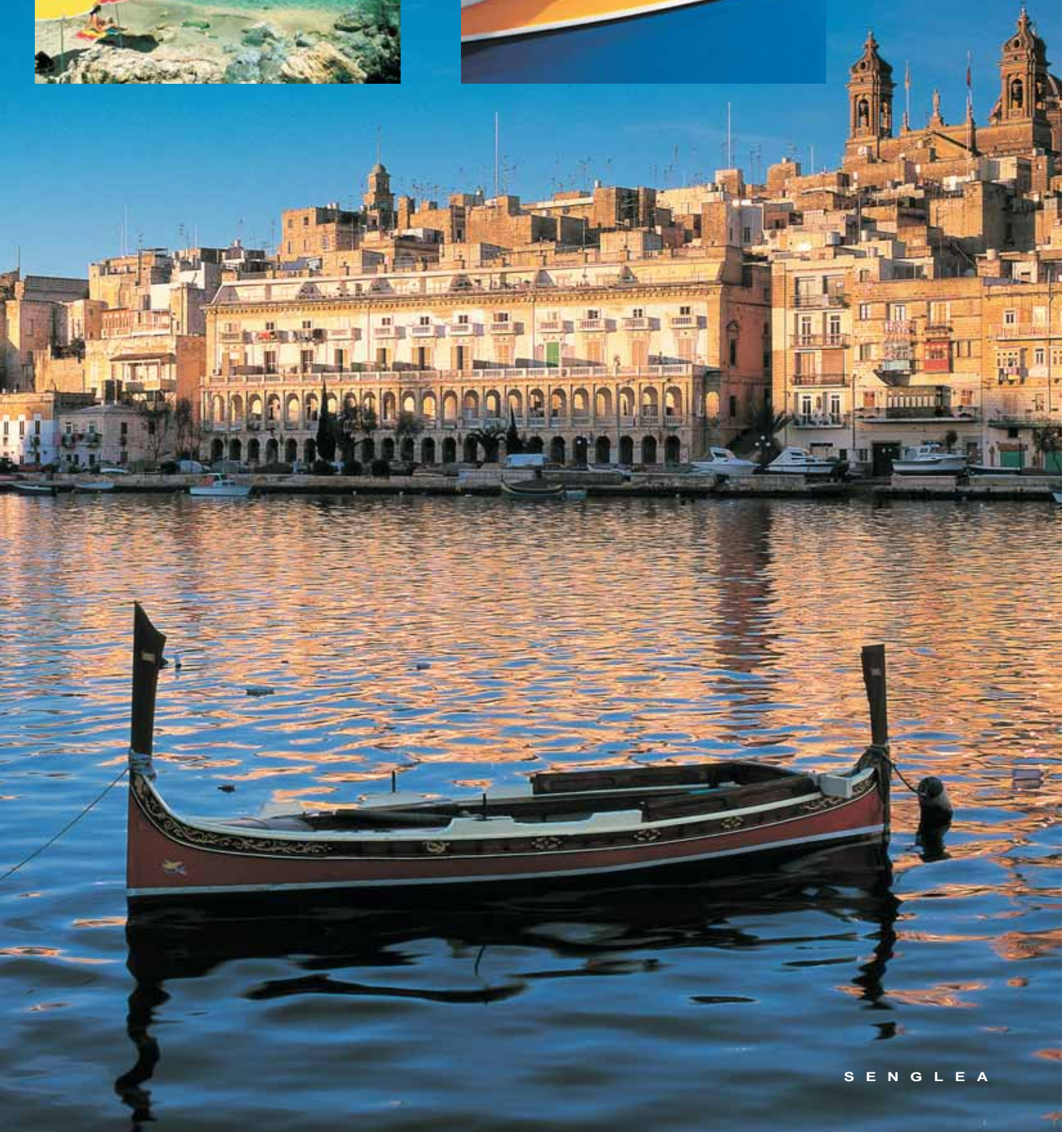
**W**hat better place to learn English than Malta? Our beautiful climate, crystal-clear seas, friendly and hospitable people, and 6000 years of history and culture all contribute to making Malta an ideal vacation destination. Following 160 years of British rule, Malta is also an English-speaking nation - the perfect choice for students wishing to immerse themselves in the English language.

Situated in the middle of the Mediterranean, just 100km south of Sicily, the Maltese islands have a rich and chequered history. Several important sea-faring powers, from the Phoenicians to the Romans, and the Knights of St. John to the British, ruled Malta at some point in history. They all left their mark on the islands' history and culture. The Neolithic temples, the Roman mosaics, the baroque churches and the magnificent fortifications built by the knights have made Malta a paradise for lovers of art, architecture and culture.

**St. Paul's Bay** is a typical old-world Mediterranean fishing village situated in the north of Malta. Although the area now boasts all modern amenities such as shops, banks, cinemas, a post-office, several restaurants specialising in local cuisine, pubs and open-air cafés, it still retains its old-world charm. The bay itself, which is enclosed, is the perfect setting for all water-sports enthusiasts. Windsurfers and water-skiers mingle with the colourful Maltese fishing-boats. Further out one can see the two islands which are of great historical significance since it was here that St. Paul was shipwrecked in AD 60, when he introduced the Christian faith to Malta, which has flourished ever since.



# ISH IN MALTA?





## ALPHA SCHOOL OF ENGLISH

Established in 1991, Alpha School of English is a licensed school, fully recognised by the Maltese Ministries of Education and Tourism. It is staffed by an international team of dedicated, highly qualified, experienced teachers who are all native speakers of English, and it caters for students at all levels and all age-groups. Classes are small enough for students to be given the personal attention necessary to improve their knowledge of the English Language quickly. English is the ONLY language spoken in the classroom.

Using a modern communicative approach to teaching along with specialised aids and tools, teachers ensure that all students can make solid and rapid progress. The school is open all year round except on public holidays. All courses begin on Mondays when

students are given a preliminary assessment test in order to assess their knowledge of English. They are then assigned to an appropriate class. At the end of the course, all students receive a certificate of attendance.

## GENERAL ENGLISH COURSE

This is a group course which is designed to help students communicate effectively in English in a variety of everyday situations. The timetable is organised so that the students receive a balance of different types of lessons which include conversation activities such as debates, discussions and role-play, as well as grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation exercises. (Maximum 10 students per class). **Standard Course:** 20 group lessons per week. **Intensive Course:** 20 group lessons + 10 One-to-One lessons per week. **Level:** Beginner - Advanced.

## BUSINESS ENGLISH COURSE

In the world of business today, a good knowledge of English is essential for a successful career. This course aims to develop the ability of business managers, secretaries or students to communicate effectively in English in the following situations; using the telephone, reading and analysing business texts, chairing / participating in meetings, making travel arrangements and business correspondence - emails / reports / memos. (Maximum 5 students per class). **Standard Course:** 20 group lessons per week. **Intensive Course:** 20 group lessons + 10 One-to-One lessons per week. **Level:** Pre-Intermediate +.



## ONE-TO-ONE COURSE

These courses are tailor-made to meet the precise linguistic requirements of each individual student. Before the student arrives in Malta, as well as on the first day of school, we carry out a detailed needs analysis in order to prepare an individual course around the student's needs. Consequently this type of course provides the quickest and most effective English language training possible. **Standard Course:** 20 One-to-One lessons per week. **Intensive Course:** 30 One-to-One lessons per week. **Level:** Beginner - Advanced.

## TWO-TO-ONE COURSE

This course is ideal for family members or friends / colleagues seeking private tuition. Available only to students of a similar level of English, this course is tailored to the individual needs of the students. Prior to arrival as

well as on the first day of the course, a needs analysis is carried out by our Director of Studies. This course allows students to focus on and practice specific individual problems and areas of English. **Standard Course:** 20 Two-to-One lessons per week. **Intensive Course:** 30 Two-to-One lessons per week. **Level:** Beginner - Advanced.



## SPECIALISED ONE-TO-ONE

These tailor-made courses are specifically designed to meet the professional requirements of any student. We welcome enquiries from companies or individuals who require courses in English for any purpose. Courses include English for Law, Banking, Medicine, Computers, Insurance, Engineering, the Hotel Industry, the Airline Industry, etc. **Standard Course:** 20 One-to-One lessons per week. **Intensive Course:** 30 One-to-One lessons per week. **Level:** Elementary - Advanced.

## HOME TUITION

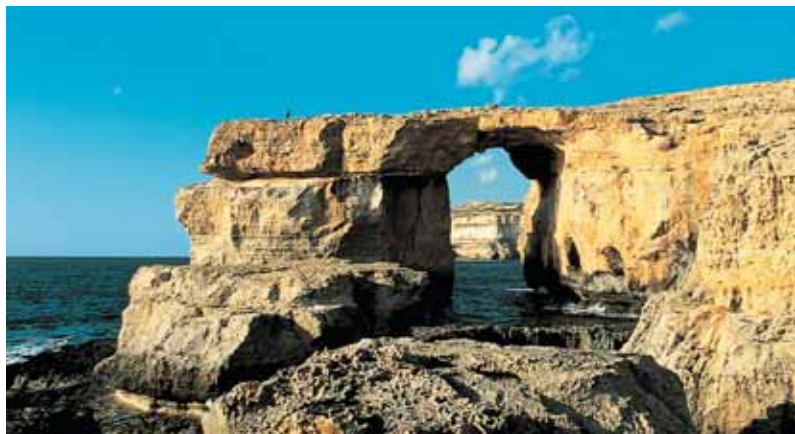
This course offers students complete immersion into the English language as students benefit from the advantage and the comfort of living in their teacher's home, which may be located anywhere in Malta. In the mornings students follow a 20-lesson course (which has the same structure as our One-to-One course), however the teaching obviously does not stop there as the students will have plenty of other naturally occurring opportunities to learn from their teacher and Host Family. **Standard Course:** 20 One-to-One lessons per week + Accommodation in Single Room on Full Board Basis. **Level:** Beginner - Advanced.

## EXAMINATION COURSES

Our examination courses are all of 4 - 12 weeks duration to prepare students for the international examinations listed below. To thoroughly prepare for the exam we normally recommend a course of minimum 8 weeks. Please contact the school for current examination fees and dates.

- **IELTS Preparation Course** - IELTS (International English Language Testing System) is a comprehensive test of English language ability. It consists of reading, writing, speaking and listening parts in either academic or general training contexts. IELTS is accepted by most Australian, British, Canadian and New Zealand academic institutions. It is also widely used internationally for a variety of purposes such as immigration and work placements. IELTS examinations take place every month and applications must be made at least 6 weeks before the examination date. (Maximum 5 students per class). **Standard Course:** 20 group lessons per week. **Minimum Course Length:** 4 weeks. **Level:** Pre-Intermediate+.
- **University of Cambridge** - The Cambridge ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) examinations are known and recognised by universities, employers and national education authorities throughout the world. Every year more than one million people take Cambridge ESOL in order to improve their employment prospects, seek further education or prepare themselves to travel or live abroad. Cambridge examinations are held three times a year - in March, June and December. Applications must be made at least 12 weeks before the examination date. Alpha School of English offers four Cambridge ESOL examination preparation courses: **PET - Preliminary English Test (Pre-Intermediate Level)**, **FCE - First Certificate in English (Intermediate Level)**, **CAE - Certificate in Advanced English (Upper-Intermediate - Advanced Level)**, **CPE - Certificate of Proficiency in English (Advanced Level)**. (Maximum 5 students per class). **Standard Course:** 20 group lessons per week. **Minimum Course Length:** 4 weeks.

- **TOEFL Preparation Course** - The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) measures the ability of non-native speakers of English to use and understand North American English as it is used in college and university settings. Most universities and colleges in the United States and Canada require high scores on the TOEFL test for admission of international students. TOEFL is now an internet based test which provides more effective information about a student's ability to communicate in an academic environment. (Maximum 5 students per class). **Standard Course:** 20 group lessons per week. **Minimum Course Length:** 4 weeks. **Level:** Intermediate+.





## VACATION ENGLISH COURSES

These courses are designed for junior students aged between 13 - 18 who would like to combine a holiday in the Maltese sunshine with an English course. (We also accept students age 8-12 provided they are accompanied to Malta by a parent, teacher or Group Leader). Morning lessons are followed by afternoon activities, and included in the cost of the programme are three excursions per week with our friendly young group-leaders.

Furthermore, on a daily basis the school also organises several other afternoon and evening activities, ranging from boat-trips and sightseeing tours to beach parties, barbeques, horse-riding lessons, and evening outings to cinemas and nightclubs. Unaccompanied students are placed with Maltese Host Families while students travelling to Malta with an adult caregiver may also select accommodation in our School Guest House.

The Vacation English programme is only available during the Easter period and June-September inclusive. (Maximum 12 students per class). **Standard Course:** 20 group lessons per week + 3 excursions. **Intensive Course:** 20 group lessons + 10 One-to-One lessons per week + 3 excursions. **Level:** Beginner - Advanced.





#### VACATION ENGLISH PLUS COURSE

The Vacation English Plus Course consists of the Vacation English Course programme as well as an additional four afternoon excursions per week to various sandy beaches in Malta. This activity-packed programme provides young students with a balance of cultural and leisure excursions, allowing them to get an insight into various aspects of the Maltese islands and way of life. All excursions and activities are supervised by our group leaders. **Standard Course:** 20 group lessons per week + 7 excursions. **Level:** Beginner - Advanced.

#### ACCOMMODATION

We take great care in the selection of suitable accommodation, and can offer a wide choice, including self-catering apartments, villas, guest houses, hotels of different categories, and host families.

For those students who would like to experience life in a Maltese home, we recommend one of our carefully chosen English-speaking host families. Friendly conversation in a relaxed family atmosphere will enhance language acquisition. ALL our host families are regularly inspected by our Accommodation Officer.

#### LEISURE ACTIVITIES

As regards water-sports and beach activities, Alpha School of English is in a unique position, since it is located in the north of Malta, close to the island's sandy beaches. Scuba-diving, windsurfing, sailing, water-skiing and paragliding are all very popular activities, and during the summer season, we operate a shuttle bus service every day after school to the various nearby sandy beaches. As the Maltese climate is ideal for the pursuit of outdoor sports, Alpha School of English also organises a range of sports courses such as horse-riding, tennis, squash, golf, kayaking, abseiling, climbing, sailing, kitesurfing and wakeboarding which may be taken alone or in combination with an English Course. If you would like additional information about these courses please contact us for a copy of our Adventure & Sports Courses Brochure.

As the Maltese islands are steeped in history, there are also several places of interest which are a must-see for all visitors. The school organises many activities and excursions, ranging from tours to the 'silent city' of Mdina and the capital city of Valletta, to boat trips to our sister islands of Gozo and Comino, as well as evening outings to various nightclubs and places of entertainment.





## G E N E R A L I N F O R M A T I O N

**Dates of English Courses:** The school is open all the year round except for public holidays. All courses begin on a Monday and end on a Friday, except for One-to-One / Two-to-One / Specialised One-to-One courses. It is possible to begin a course on any Monday during the prescribed period.

**Duration of English Course:** Minimum length is 1 week and the maximum length is 50 weeks.

**Duration of English Lessons:** One lesson takes 45 minutes.

**School Time-Table:** Standard Courses are from 09.00 to 10.30 and from 11.00 to 12.30

Intensive Courses are from 13.00 to 14.30 or 15.00 to 16.30. During peak season the school reserves the right to hold Standard Courses in the afternoons. Please note that when there is only one student taking a group course, the number of lessons is reduced by a third.

**Location of English Courses:** By special arrangement, One-to-One, Two-to-One and Specialised One-to-One Courses may be held outside school premises (for example at the student's place of accommodation).