

Malta Open 2017: A – Z of Info For Players

AIRPORT: Malta's Luqa airport is approximately 12-14 mins drive in a taxi from the Marsa Sports Club and approx 20 mins in a taxi from St. Julians where the tournament hotel and other hotels are.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS / ARRIVAL: you can organise transfers to and from your hotel in St. Julians by using:

www.maltatransfer.com (simply input your flight and hotel details)

For the Tournament Hotel, select "Cavalieri Hotel, St Julians". It costs 8 Euros per person.

Or you can go to the **Taxi stand inside the Arrivals Terminal** (look to your left when you walk into Arrivals from Baggage Collection). It is a fixed rate of 22 Euros to any Hotel in St. Julians (for up to 4 people in a taxi).

ARCHERY: Racketlon players will get to try out a special session of archery that is being organised by the Marsa Club.

BADMINTON: will be played in an Indoor Tennis Centre at the Marsa Club on badminton mats, using Yehlex shuttles. *(Please note: the Table Tennis and Badminton indoor area is a short 5 mins walk in the sunshine to the Squash and Tennis Complex, on the other side of the Marsa Sports Complex).*

BBQ: there will be a BBQ for all players, friends and family on Friday 6th October on the Royal Malta Golf Club terrace (3 mins walk from the sports centre), costing 15 Euros per person. **But you must book your place with duncan.stahl@areus-sv.com in advance.** See separate document for details.

BEER: the local beer is called CISK. A large glass costs approx 3/3.50 Euros at a bar (and less at the supermarket!)

BLUE LAGOON / COMINO: A boat trip to the island of Comino and the Blue Lagoon is being organised on Monday 9th October. **Please book with Duncan in advance.** See separate document for details.

CHANGING FACILITIES: there are good changing and showering facilities at the Marsa Club. Bring your own towels.

CRICKET: The Racketlon community will be forming a Cricket Team to play against the Maltese national cricket side in a special exhibition match over the weekend. Please contact johnny_bispham@hotmail.com who will captain the Racketlon cricket team.

CULTURAL TOUR: at 4pm on Thurs 5th October, all players (and their families, partners and friends) will be picked up from outside the Cavalieri Art Hotel and taken on a FREE guided tour of the island (which will go to different sites to the previous years). This will be a great way to see some of

the most important and beautiful sights of Malta. You will be dropped off at the Cavalieri Hotel at approx 7.30pm. This is a FREE Tour being provided exclusively to all Racketlon players by the Malta Tourism Authority. **But you must book your place with duncan.stahl@aureus-sv.com in advance.**

CURRENCY: Euros

FOOD: there will be drinks available and food for lunch at the Marsa Club + snacks through the day as well as the evening meals: Fri night BBQ and Sat night Player's Dinner. Please do not bring into the club large quantities of food (picnics, whole meals etc) as this is not allowed under Club rules. The national dish of Malta is Rabbit.

GOLF: any players wishing to play golf at the Royal Malta Golf Club can phone them directly to book a tee time: (+356) 2122 7019 . The Royal Malta Golf Club is situated on the grounds of the Marsa Sports Club. www.royalmaltagolfclub.com

MARSA SPORTS CLUB: Marsa is a private members club. On arrival, please tell security that you are playing in the Racketlon Tournament in order to gain entry. If you are driving a hire car you will need a parking permit – please contact duncan.stahl@aureus-sv.com

Address: Marsa Sports Club: Aldo Moro Street, Marsa, Malta www.marsasportsclub.com

PLAYER'S DINNER: This will take place at the Marsa Sports Club at approx 8pm on Sat 7th October

PLAYER'S PARTY: This is at the **FUEGO CLUB in St. Julians on Sat 7th October** – about a 10 mins walk from the tournament hotel

All players will receive FREE entry; their first drink will be FREE and will also receive 2 further half price drinks. www.fuego.com.mt

From 10.30pm until the sun comes up! (approx 6am!)

REGISTRATION: Player's can register and pay their fees on Thursday evening between 21.00 and 23.00 on the hotel terrace overlooking the outside pool deck at the Cavalieri Art Hotel OR at the tournament desk on Friday morning.

NB All Player's must register and pay their fees before playing their first match

RESTAURANTS: St Julian's has a wide range of places to eat – from McDonalds to very good restaurants.

Probably the nicest area to go out for a meal that is close is SPINOLA BAY (See pic below) – about a 5 mins walk from the Cavalieri Art Hotel.



Spinola Bay

I recommend Peppinos (+356 2137 3200) or Raffael (+356 21352000) as two good value restaurants right by the water in Spinola Bay and very close to the Tournament hotel.

SCHEDULE: for questions about the tournament schedule ONLY, please email raymond_jordan@hotmail.com All doubles categories will be played on Friday and the first round of most singles classes will also be played on Friday afternoon / evening.

SHUTTLE SERVICE: we will only be able to provide 1 or possibly 2 shuttles from the Cavalieri Art Hotel in the morning to the Marsa Sports Club and then again in the evening from the Marsa Sports Club back to the Cavalieri Art Hotel.

Times of the shuttle will be shown in the Reception of the Hotel. Priority will have to be given to Players on these shuttles (as there will not be enough space for non-playing partners, friends and family members as well).

However, a taxi from **Wembley Motors +356 2137 4141** for 4 people from the Cavalieri Art Hotel to the Marsa will only cost 15 Euros. An 8 person taxi will cost 24 Euros. PLEASE PUT THIS TEL. NUMBER IN YOUR PHONES!

It takes approximately 15 mins to drive from St. Julians to the Marsa Sports Complex (maybe more during rush hour times)

SQUASH: Will be played on glass back courts using Dunlop balls

SUPERMARKETS: there are numerous places in St. Julians near the tournament hotel where you can buy everything you might need. There is also a Lidl Supermarket about a 7 mins walk from the Marsa Sports Club (you are advised to bring plenty of bottled water with you but please do not bring large quantities of food with you into the Marsa Club as this is against Club rules).

SWIMMING POOL: there is a large outdoor and indoor pool at the Cavalieri Art Hotel + also a large outdoor swimming pool complex with sun loungers, a bar and cafe etc at the Marsa Sports Club, which can be used by all players and families.

TABLE TENNIS: 2x competition tables and 2x warm up tables (*Please note: the Table Tennis and Badminton indoor area is a short 5 mins walk in the sunshine from the Squash and Tennis Complex, which is on the other side of the Marsa Sports Complex*).

TAXIS: By far the cheapest taxi service is provided by **Wembley Motors: Tel +356 2137 4141, mobile +356 2737 4141**. Phone them up and arrange pick up from your hotel or from Marsa Sports Club. **KEEP THIS TEL NUMBER IN YOUR PHONES!**

The White Taxis which you can hail on the street are generally a lot more expensive.

TENNIS: On outdoor, hard courts using Wilson balls

TOURNAMENT DESK: the main desk will be situated next to the Squash and Tennis complex. ***IMPORTANT : You must collect your Match Sheets from here before walking to the TT and Badminton area.***

TOURNAMENT HOTELS: Cavalieri Art Hotel, Water's Edge, Spinola Rd, St, Julians, Malta (tel. +356 2138 0000).

Be.Hotel, Bay Street Tourist Complex, St George's Bay, St. Julians STJ 3311

WATER: not recommended to drink the tap water. So bring plenty of bottled water to the Marsa Club. Although water and drinks will be available to buy on each day at the Marsa Club.

WIFI: there is free WIFI available to all at the Marsa Sports Club and at the Tournament Hotel.