

HUNTING

Hunting on land

- The autumn hunting season is open from 1st September 2018 to 31st January 2019
- Between 15th September 2018 and 7th October 2018 hunting is permitted from two hours before sunrise to 7.00 pm
- For the remainder of the season hunting is permitted from two hours before sunrise until two hours after sunset
- On Sundays, hunting is not permitted after 1.00 pm
- It is legal to hunt for 40 species from land. All other species are protected by national and international law (Tab. 2)
- Out of these, Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia turtur*) can only be hunted between 1st September 2018 and 30th September 2018
- The overall bag limit for the autumn hunting season for Turtle Dove is 7,000
- It is illegal to hunt or possess a firearm or trapping equipment in a Bird Sanctuary (Tab. 1)
- It is illegal to use electronic callers
- It is illegal to have a shotgun capable of firing more than 3 shots in succession
- It is illegal to hunt within 50m of a main road
- It is illegal to hunt within 50m of a beach (Tab. 3)
- It is illegal to hunt within 200m of a residential area (i.e. an area with more than 100 residents)
- It is illegal to hunt under the legal age of 18

Hunting at sea

- Hunting of birds at sea is permitted between 1st October 2018 and 31st January 2019
- It is illegal to hunt at sea within 3km of the shoreline
- It is legal to hunt for 12 species at sea. All other species are protected by national and international law (Tab. 2)

Bird Sanctuaries
Addolorata Cemetery and within 50 metres of any other cemetery
Salina
Marsa Sports Ground
San Anton Gardens and all other public gardens
Manoel Island
Għadira (Mellieħa Bay)
Heliports
Within 200 metres from Malta International Airport
Comino
Filfla
Buskett
Ta' Ċenċ Cliffs, Gozo
Ta' Qali
Within 50 metres of transmission stations

Simar (St. Paul's Bay)
Salt Marsh at il-Ballut, Marsaxlokk
Girgenti
Wied Ghollieqa
Il-Qawra, Gozo
Ghammar Hill, Gozo

Tab.1 Bird Sanctuaries

LEGALLY HUNTABLE SPECIES IN AUTUMN 2018			Birds that may be hunted	
			on land	at sea
ANSERIFORMES	Bean Goose	<i>Anser fabalis</i>	✓	✓
	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	✓	✓
	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	✓	✓
	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	✓	✓
	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>	✓	✓
	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	✓	✓
	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>	✓	✓
	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	✓	✓
	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓
	Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	✓	✓
	Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	✓	✓
	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	✓	✓
GALLIFORMES	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	✓	
	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	✓	
	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	✓	
	Irish Red Grouse	<i>Lagopus lagopus hibernicus</i>	✓	
	Red Grouse	<i>Lagopus lagopus scoticus</i>	✓	
	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>	✓	
	Rock Partridge	<i>Alectoris graeca</i>	✓	
	Rock Ptarmigan	<i>Lagopus mutus</i>	✓	
GRUIFORMES	Common Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	✓	
	Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	✓	
	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	✓	

CHARADRIIFORMES	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	✓
	European Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	✓
	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	✓
	Jack Snipe	<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>	✓
	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	✓
	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	✓
	Woodcock	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	✓
COLUMBIFORMES	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓
	Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	✓
	Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓
PASSERIFORMES	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓
	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	✓
	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	✓
	Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	✓
	Sky Lark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	✓
	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	✓
	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓

Tab.2 Non-protected species

Protected beaches	
Malta	Gozo
Armier Bay	Mgarr ix-Xini Bay
Anchor Bay	Ramla l-Ħamra beach
Għajn Tuffieħa Bay	San Blas Bay
Paradise Bay	Xatt l-Aħmar beach
Ġnejna Bay	Xlendi Bay
Golden Bay	

Tab.3 Protected beaches