

Illegal Hunting Activity Guidance – Spring 2019

| Species and Quotas | |
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| It is illegal to: Shoot at, injure or kill a protected species Hunt over allowed quota of birds which can be hunted | |
| Bird species which can be hunted: | Common Quail |
| Protected species which cannot be hunted: | All other bird species are protected including the Turtle Dove |
| Quotas: | National hunting bag limit: 5,000 Quail Each bird caught has to be reported to the authorities. When a quota is reached it means that the hunter has to stop hunting. Note that a shotgun out of its case is considered as still hunting. |

| Timing | |
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| Permitted hours: | From 2 hours before sunrise (i.e. circa 4:30am) until 12pm, Monday to Sunday |
| Season: | Open season: 10 th April to 30 th April 2019 |

| Prohibited Locations | |
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| It is Illegal to hunt or carry a gun: | |
| In protected areas and surroundings | These include Foresta 2000, Għadira Nature Reserve and Mellieħa Bay, Simar Nature Reserve, Salina Nature Reserve and Kennedy Grove, Buskett Gardens, Ta' Qali, Marsaxlokk Salt Marsh |
| On protected islands | Filfla, St Paul's Island, Comino and Cominotto, Manoel Island, Fungus Rock off Gozo |
| Within 200m of an inhabited area, the airport and heliport | An area with inhabited or inhabitable buildings Malta International Airport, and heliport on Gozo |
| Within 50m of a main road or radio station | Eg radio station on Dingli Cliffs A main road is a main thoroughfare. Roads where buses pass are considered main roads. E.g. main road along Dingli cliffs |
| From a vehicle | |
| On or within 50m of sandy beaches | Għadira bay, Għajn Tuffieħa bay, Paradise Bay, Golden Bay. Other small sandy beaches on Malta and Gozo |
| In cemeteries, public gardens, sports grounds, Armed Forces of Malta property | Or within 50m of these |
| Certain Gozo sites | Ta' Ċenc Cliffs, il-Qawra, Għammar Hill |

| Guns | |
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| It is illegal to: | |
| Use or possess a modified shotgun | Shotguns that can fire more than 3 shots in succession |
| Use or possess other guns capable of holding more than 2 shots at a time | Including semi-automatic and automatic weapons |
| Carry a gun or ammunition out of its case during non-permitted hours | Earlier than 2 hours before sunrise After 12pm (midday) |
| Carry a gun or ammunition out of its case at a prohibited location | See Prohibited Locations section |

| Other Methods | |
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| It is illegal to: | |
| Use electronic callers | Luring in birds using pre-recorded bird calls |
| Use decoy birds of protected species, or birds which are blind or mutilated | Any species other than Common Quail is protected |
| Use any method of trapping or live capture of birds | Any trapping is illegal in spring. Includes using nets on the ground, cage traps, vertical nets, hooks or snares etc |
| Trespass | Hunting on private land without the owner's permission |