AUTUMN HUNTING

Hunting on land

- The autumn hunting season is open from 1st September 2023 to 31st January 2024
- Between 15th September 2023 and 7th October 2023 hunting is permitted from two hours before sunrise to 7 pm
- For the remainder of the season hunting is permitted from two hours before sunrise until two hours after sunset
- On Sundays and public holidays, hunting is not permitted after 1 pm
- It is legal to hunt for 40 species from land. All other species are protected by national and international law
- Out of these, European Turtle-dove (Streptopelia turtur) can only be hunted between 1st September 2023 and 30th September 2023
- The overall bag limit for the autumn hunting season for European Turtle-dove is 500
- 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 50 m of a main road
- It is illegal to hunt within 50 m of a beach (Tab. 2)
- It is illegal to hunt within 200 m 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 2023 and 31st January 2024
- It is illegal to hunt at sea within 3 km of the shoreline
- It is legal to hunt for 12 species at sea. All other species are protected by national and international law
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird Sanctuaries</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addolorata Cemetery and within 50 metres of any other cemetery</td>
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<td>Salina</td>
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<td>Marsa Sports Ground</td>
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<td>San Anton Gardens and all other public gardens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manoel Island</td>
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<td>Ghadira (Mellieha Bay)</td>
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<td>Heliports</td>
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<td>Within 200 metres from Malta International Airport</td>
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<td>Comino</td>
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<td>Filfla</td>
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<td>Buskett</td>
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<td>Ta’ Ċenċ Cliffs, Gozo</td>
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<td>Ta’ Qali</td>
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<td>Within 50 metres of transmission stations</td>
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<td>Simar (St. Paul’s Bay)</td>
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<td>Salt Marsh at il-Ballut, Marsaxlokk</td>
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<td>Girgenti</td>
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<td>Wied Għollieqa</td>
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<td>Il-Qawra, Gozo</td>
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<td>Ghammar Hill, Gozo</td>
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*Tab. 1 Bird Sanctuaries*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Protected beaches</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Malta</strong></td>
<td><strong>Gozo</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Armier Bay</td>
<td>Mġarr ix-Xini Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anchor Bay</td>
<td>Ramla l-Ħamra beach</td>
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<td>Ghajn Tuffieħa Bay</td>
<td>San Blas Bay</td>
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<td>Paradise Bay</td>
<td>Xatt l-Ħħmar beach</td>
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<td>Ġnejna Bay</td>
<td>Xlendi Bay</td>
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<td>Golden Bay</td>
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*Tab. 2 Protected beaches*
LEGALLY HUNTABLE SPECIES IN AUTUMN 2023

Bean Goose
Anser fabalis

Canada Goose
Branta canadensis

Common Pochard
Aythya ferina

Common Teal
Anas crecca

Eurasian Wigeon
Mareca penelope

Gadwall
Mareca strepera
Common Pheasant
*Phasianus colchicus*

Common Quail
*Coturnix coturnix*

Grey Partridge
*Perdix perdix*

Irish Red Grouse
*Lagopus lagopus hibernicus*

Scottish Red Grouse
*Lagopus lagopus scoticus*

Red-legged Partridge
*Alectoris rufa*
Rock Partridge
*Alectoris graeca*

Rock Ptarmigan
*Lagopus muta*

Common Coot
*Fulica atra*

Common Moorhen
*Gallinula chloropus*

Western Water Rail
*Rallus aquaticus*

Common Snipe
*Gallinago gallinago*
Eurasian Golden Plover
*Pluvialis apricaria*

Grey Plover
*Pluvialis squatarola*

Jack Snipe
*Lymnocryptes minimus*

Northern Lapwing
*Vanellus vanellus*

Ruff
*Calidris pugnax*

Eurasian Woodcock
*Scolopax rusticola*
Rock Dove
*Columba livia*  
European Turtle-dove
*Streptopelia turtur*

Common Woodpigeon
*Columba palumbus*  
Eurasian Blackbird
*Turdus merula*

Fieldfare
*Turdus pilaris*  
Mistle Thrush
*Turdus viscivorus*
Redwing
*Turdus iliacus*

Eurasian Skylark
*Alauda arvensis*

Song Thrush
*Turdus philomelos*

Common Starling
*Sturnus vulgaris*