# **Scouting Facts: Malta**



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Few countries have as long a tradition in Scouting as Malta has. It was during his term as Assistant Military Secretary to his uncle General Sir Henry Smyth, who was Governor of Malta between 1890-93, that Baden-Powell showed that concern for the welfare of the soldiers, which in time led to his writing '*Aids to Scouting*'.

With his connections with Malta and his many Maltese friends, it was natural that *The Scout Association of Malta* would be the first overseas branch of the British Association, formed only months after the first Scouts appeared on the Island and within a short time of the first scout camp at Brownsea Island in July-August 1907.

The Malta Scout Association formally applied to become a member of the British Movement on November 9, 1908 and was officially recognised a year later. Those first few Scouts started a tradition that has kept scouting in the very forefront of youth education in Malta.

Since its early years, Scouting has been the most active and strongest youth organisation on the Island.

The Scouts of Malta played a notable role in the aerial siege of the Island between 1940 and 1943. They were collectively decorated with the unique honour of the Bronze Cross '*in recognition of their courage and devotion to duty in the face of continuous enemy action in the war for freedom*'.

The Scout Association of Malta was until 1966 a branch of the British Association. Malta became an independent state in 1964 and in October 1966 the Maltese national organisation became a member of the World Scout Conference.

The Maltese Scouts have been represented at all Jamborees except two, those in the Philippines and Japan. It was the Maltese Scout contingent which at Olympia in 1920 initiated the move that

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proclaimed Baden-Powell Chief Scout of the World.

Throughout all these years the Scouts of Malta have maintained their sense of service and dedication to the ideals of the Movement as conceived by its founder. On the turn of the millennium, the Scout Association of Malta went co-educational, accepting Girl Scouts within the Association.



## The Scout Association of Malta Logo

Circling the arrowhead (often in the form of a fleur-de-lys) is a cord tied with a reef knot. This knot reminds all of worldwide unity and of ones obligation to do a good

turn every day.

All this, is superimposed on the eight pointed cross, often referred to as "The Maltese Cross" or "The Cross of the Knights of Malta".

#### SCOUT SECTIONS

There are four Sections in the Scout Association of Malta

Cub Scouts	aged 7 to 11 years
Scouts	aged 11 to 151/2 years
Ventures	aged 151/2 to18 years
Rovers	aged 18 years and over

#### SCOUT MOTTO:

Kun Ippreparat(Male)Kun Ippreparata(Female)Be Prepared

#### SCOUT PROMISE

Fuq I-unur tieghi, nwieghed li naghmel hilti, Biex naqdi dmiri lejn Alla u Art Twelidi,

Biex nghin lil haddiehor kull hin,

Li nobdi I-ligi ta' li Scouts.

On my honour, I promise that I will do my best,

To do my duty to God and my Country;

To help other people at all times;

To obey the Scout Law.

#### THE SCOUT LAW

L-unur ta' Scout ghandu jkun afdat.

A Scout's honour is to be trusted.

Scout hu/hi lejali u ubbidjenti.

A Scout is loyal and obedient.

Id-dmir ta' Scout hu li jkun ta siwi u ghajnuna ghal haddiehor.

A Scout's dutu is to be useful and to help others.

Scout hu/hi habib/a ta' kull hadd.

A Scout is a friend to all.

Scout hu/hi dhuli/ja, hanin/a u jaf/taf jaghder/taghder.

A Scout is courteous, kind and considerate.

Scout izomm ruhu/ruha rasenjat/a f'kull tigrib.

A Scout is cheerful in adversity.

Scout jaghmel/taghmel uzu tajjeb mill hin u ma jahlix/tahlix jew iwettaq/twettaq hsara filproprjeta u l-ambjent.

A Scout makes good use of time and avoids waste, and damage to, property and the

environment.

Scout hu/hi nadif/a fil-hsieb, fil-kliem, u fleghmil.

A Scout is clean in thought, word and deed.

Further information on the Scout Association of Malta can be obtained from:-

The International Commissioner

The Scout Association of Malta,

Congreve-Bernard Memorial Hall,

E. S. Tonna Street,

*Floriana VLT 16,* - **MALTA** Phone (+356) 21 224 334

Fax (+356) 21 251 382

Email	info@maltascout.org.mt
URL	http://www.maltascout.org.mt

Information concerning the Maltese history and beauty can be obtained from:

Malta Tourism Authority Auberge D'Italie Merchants Street Valletta CMR 02 Malta

Customer Service Tel No's (+356) 2291 5601 - (+356) 21 237 331

Email: customercare@visitmalta.com

Website www.mta.com.mt

To request promotional material from the Malta Tourism Authority kindly email: <u>info@visitmalta.com</u>