

# Malta Travel Guide: Everything You Need to Know



## About Malta

Malta, a beautiful Mediterranean archipelago, is a haven of history, culture, and breathtaking landscapes. Its three main islands—Malta, Gozo, and Comino—are renowned for their rich heritage and stunning coastlines.

- **Currency:** Euro (€).
- **Climate:** Mediterranean, with hot summers (25–35°C) and mild winters (10–18°C). Spring and autumn offer pleasant weather, perfect for sightseeing. <https://maltaweather.com/>
- **Culture:** Influenced by its Phoenician, Roman, and British past, Malta celebrates a mix of traditions, including festas, colorful carnivals, and local crafts.
- **Accepted Payment Methods:** Credit and debit cards (Visa, Mastercard) are widely accepted, but cash is recommended for small businesses or in remote areas. ATMs are easily available.

## Malta International Airport (MLA)



- **Location:** Situated in Luqa, about 10 km from Valletta, Malta's capital.
- **Transport Options to the City:**
  - **Public Buses:** Regular and affordable services to major destinations like Valletta, Sliema, and St. Julian's.
  - **Taxis:** Available 24/7 outside the arrivals hall. Opt for pre-paid taxi tickets for fixed rates.
  - **Transfers and Rideshares:** Private transfers and rideshares can be booked online for added convenience and reliability.
  - **Car Rentals:** Major companies offer rentals at the airport for exploring at your own pace. <https://economybookings.tp.st/jwlcTpVG>

💡 [Click Here to Book](#) your private airport transfer online for a seamless arrival in Malta. Skip the lines and enjoy a stress-free start to your journey!

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## Valletta: The Capital City



*Valletta, Malta's capital,* is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and an architectural masterpiece. Built by the Knights of St. John, the city is known for its baroque buildings, lively streets, and stunning harbor views. Key attractions include St. John's Co-Cathedral, the Upper Barrakka Gardens, and the Grandmaster's Palace. Valletta's rich history and cultural events make it the perfect hub for exploration.



## Top Free Activities

### Upper Barrakka Gardens and the Saluting Battery in Valletta 🌳💣



The **Upper Barrakka Gardens** is one of Valletta's most iconic and serene spots, offering breathtaking panoramic views of the Grand Harbour and the Three Cities. Originally designed as a private garden for the Knights of St. John in the 17th century, it is now a peaceful public space adorned with beautiful flowers, fountains, and shaded areas, perfect for relaxing or capturing memorable photos.

One of the garden's highlights is the **Saluting Battery**, a historic artillery battery located just below the gardens. Here, visitors can witness the daily **cannon firing ceremony**, which takes place at **12:00 PM and 4:00 PM**. This tradition harks back to when cannons were fired to mark the time for ships in the harbor. The event is both a fascinating glimpse into Malta's history and an impressive spectacle, as the sound reverberates across the harbor.

👉 **Tip:** Arrive early to secure a good viewing spot for the cannon firing. You can also book a guided tour of the Saluting Battery for an up-close experience and a deeper dive into its history.

**Don't miss this blend of history, stunning views, and tradition when visiting Valletta!**

### **Grandmaster's Palace and the Parliament Building in Valletta** 🏛️ ✨



The **Grandmaster's Palace**, located in the heart of Valletta, is a magnificent symbol of Malta's rich history and its connection to the Knights of St. John. Constructed in the 16th century, this grand building once served as the official residence of the Grand Masters of the Order and later as the seat of Malta's government. The palace is renowned for its opulent state rooms, adorned with intricate frescoes, ornate furniture, and priceless tapestries.

You can admire the stunning architecture of the **Grandmaster's Palace** for free as you explore Valletta's historic streets. The building's majestic exterior, rich in history, is a sight to behold. However, for a deeper dive into its

grandeur, I recommend you to step inside to visit the **Palace Armoury** and the **State Rooms**, where centuries of Maltese history come alive.

🛡️ **Don't miss out!** Book your [Tickets Online Here](#) to explore the interior and guarantee your spot for an unforgettable journey through Malta's rich heritage.

**Visit the Triton Fountain at the city gate.** 🌊🧑‍🦰



Located at the main entrance of Valletta, the **Triton Fountain** is a striking landmark and a welcoming symbol of Malta's capital. Featuring three majestic bronze Tritons holding up a large basin, the fountain showcases Malta's connection to the sea. It's a popular spot for photos, especially at night when it's beautifully illuminated.

## Explore the city's historic streets and discover hidden corners.



The historic streets of Valletta are a charming maze of narrow alleys, steep staircases, and cobblestone paths that transport visitors back in time. These streets are lined with beautifully preserved buildings, many showcasing traditional Maltese balconies, which are a unique feature of the city's architecture. As you walk through the bustling streets, you'll encounter a perfect blend of Baroque and modern influences, with ornate facades juxtaposed against contemporary art galleries and trendy cafés.

### **Did You Know?**

Valletta, Malta's capital, is often referred to as an "open-air museum" due to its rich history, which dates back to the 16th century. The city was founded by the Knights of St. John and has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, offering visitors a glimpse into Malta's past through its streets, buildings, and landmarks.

As you explore, you'll come across hidden squares where locals gather, quaint shops selling handmade crafts, and charming restaurants where you can stop to sample local delicacies. The narrow alleys, some of which lead to stunning views of the Grand Harbour, offer countless photo opportunities, making it a photographer's paradise.

Valletta's streets exude a sense of history and mystery, and wandering through them is like stepping into a living history book. Whether you're marveling at the intricate details of the buildings or enjoying a peaceful moment in a tucked-away square, there is something magical about every corner of this city.

**Fun Fact:**

Valletta is home to one of the smallest streets in the world, "St. Lucia Street," which is just 59 cm wide. A great spot to check out if you're interested in seeing the smallest of things in this historic city!

So, make sure to take your time to explore Valletta's historic streets and enjoy the beauty and charm that have captivated visitors for centuries.

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**Paid Activities**

**Visit St. John's Co-Cathedral**



St. John's Co-Cathedral, located in the heart of Valletta, is a stunning example of Baroque architecture and one of Malta's most treasured landmarks. Built between 1573 and 1578 by the Order of the Knights of St. John, the cathedral was designed to reflect the wealth and power of the Knights.

Its exterior, while modest, contrasts dramatically with the opulent interiors adorned with intricate gold decorations, frescoes, and marble inlays. The cathedral houses two extraordinary works by the renowned artist Caravaggio, including "The Beheading of St. John the Baptist," which is the only painting he ever signed. Visitors can also explore the Oratory, chapels dedicated to various langues (languages) of the Order, and the elaborate tombstones of the Knights embedded in the marble floor.

**Did you know?** The cathedral also features a beautiful museum with a rich collection of tapestries, relics, and vestments.

👉 [Plan your visit and buy tickets online here](#) to ensure entry and avoid long waits at the door. This experience is an unforgettable journey through history, art, and devotion.



## The Malta Experience Private Tour - Discover Malta



Discover the best of Malta on this full-day tour, showcasing the island's stunning natural beauty and rich cultural heritage. Enjoy a seamless experience with round-trip transfers included for a stress-free adventure. Visit iconic landmarks like the Blue Grotto and Mosta Parish, and uncover hidden treasures such as the Popeye Village film set and Selmun Palace. Benefit from the personalized attention of your private guide and savor complimentary tastings of Malta's finest local products along the way.

"Book your private full-day Malta tour now and experience the island's highlights and hidden gems with ease and exclusivity! ✨ [Click Here](#) to secure your spot today!"



## Discover the National War Museum



Located within the historic Fort St. Elmo in Valletta, the National War Museum offers a fascinating journey through Malta's military history. Explore exhibits showcasing artifacts from the Great Siege of 1565, World War II, and Malta's pivotal role in European conflicts. Highlights include the George Cross, awarded to the Maltese people, and an impressive collection of weaponry and uniforms.

**📅 Plan ahead! Book your tickets online to guarantee your visit and dive into Malta's rich wartime heritage.**



## The Malta Experience



The Malta Experience is an engaging audio-visual show that takes you on a captivating journey through Malta's 7,000 years of history. Located in Valletta, this 45-minute presentation highlights the island's fascinating past, from prehistoric times to the Great Siege of 1565 and Malta's role during World War II. Perfect for history enthusiasts and first-time visitors, it offers a vivid introduction to the culture and resilience of the Maltese people.

**[Reserve your tickets online to ensure your seat and enrich your visit to Malta with this immersive historical experience!](#)**

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## Gozo: A Serene Escape



Gozo, the second-largest island in Malta, is celebrated for its rolling hills, charming villages, and historical landmarks. Notable sites include the Citadel in Victoria, the ancient Ggantija Temples (a UNESCO site), and Ramla Bay's red sands. Gozo offers a slower pace of life, perfect for those seeking relaxation and connection with nature.

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## Getting to Gozo from Valletta



There are two main ways to travel from Valletta to Gozo: taking the ferry from Cirkewwa or using the Gozo Fast Ferry. Here's a detailed guide for each option:

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### 1. Ferry from Cirkewwa

- **How to Get to Cirkewwa Port:**
  - From Valletta, you can take a direct bus (Routes 41 or 42) to the Cirkewwa terminal. The bus ride takes approximately 1.5 hours.
  - Alternatively, you can opt for a taxi or ride-share service, which is faster and takes around 40 minutes.
- **Ferry Details:**
  - The ferries from Cirkewwa to Gozo operate frequently and take about 25 minutes.

- This is a smooth and reliable option, accommodating both pedestrians and vehicles.
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## 2. Gozo Fast Ferry

- **Direct Service:**

- The Gozo Fast Ferry connects Valletta directly to Mgarr, Gozo, in just 45 minutes. It's a quick and convenient choice, especially for those on a tight schedule.

- **Important Note:**

- While the fast ferry is time-efficient, it can be rough during choppy seas. On my last trip, my wife and several other passengers experienced severe motion sickness.
- **Recommendation:** If you're prone to nausea or motion sickness, the fast ferry may not be the best option. Instead, opt for the standard ferry from Cirkewwa, which offers a smoother ride. If you choose the fast ferry, consider bringing motion sickness remedies and traveling during calmer weather conditions.

Plan your journey to Gozo based on your needs and comfort preferences for a smooth and enjoyable trip. [See Tickets Here!](#)



## Top Free Activities in Gozo



- **Explore the Cittadella in Victoria** 🏰 – Walk along the historic walls and enjoy a panoramic view of the island.
- **Ramla Bay** 🏖️ – Relax on the famous reddish-sand beach.
- **Xlendi Bay** 🌊 – A great spot for swimming, cliffside walks, and stunning sunsets.
- **Wied il-Ghasri** 🌿 – A hidden cove perfect for swimming and taking incredible photos.
- **Marsalforn Salt Pans** 🧂 – Stroll along the centuries-old salt pans and learn about traditional salt harvesting.

– **Historic Churches** 🏛️ – Visit sites like Ta' Pinu Basilica and the Xewkija Rotunda.

– **Hiking and Walking Trails** 🚶 – Explore Gozo's breathtaking nature through scenic routes.

## Top Attractions

### Explore the Ggantija Temples, a UNESCO World Heritage Site



**The Ġgantija Temples**, located on the island of Gozo, are among the world's oldest freestanding structures, dating back over 5,500 years. These megalithic temples, recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, predate the pyramids of Egypt and are a testament to the advanced engineering and spiritual devotion of Malta's prehistoric inhabitants.

Surrounded by legends of giants building the site—hence the name "Ġgantija," meaning "giant" in Maltese—the temples showcase remarkable architectural features, including massive limestone blocks, apses, and intricate carvings. Visitors can immerse themselves in history while exploring these sacred grounds, learning about the rituals and beliefs of the ancient community that once thrived here.

👤 **Tip:** Visit early in the day to avoid crowds and enjoy the serene atmosphere.

✨ [Book your ticket online now](#) to ensure your place at this incredible historical landmark!

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**Visit the Citadel in Victoria for stunning views and historical exhibits.**



The **Cittadella** in Victoria is a must-visit landmark in Gozo, offering a journey through history with breathtaking panoramic views. This ancient fortified city, once the island's main defense, is free to explore—walk along its walls, admire the stunning architecture, and soak in the incredible scenery. 🏰

For those eager to dive deeper into Gozo's past, the **Cittadella Archaeology Museum (€5)** 🏛️ showcases fascinating artifacts and insights into the island's rich history.

📌 **Tip:** Book your museum ticket online and make the most of your visit!

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### Blue Hole & Inland Sea – A Diving Paradise in Gozo 🤿



The **Blue Hole** is one of Malta's most famous diving spots, known for its crystal-clear waters, underwater caves, and breathtaking marine life. Nearby, the **Inland Sea** offers a unique experience with a natural lagoon connected to the open sea through a tunnel in the cliffs.

You can explore these wonders by **diving** or taking a **boat ride** to admire the dramatic coastline from the water.

📌 **Tip:** [Click Here to Book](#) your dive or boat tour in advance to secure your spot!

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## Jeep or Quad Bike Tour – Explore Gozo with Adventure! 🚗



Discover Gozo's stunning landscapes and hidden gems on an **exciting Jeep or Quad Bike Tour**. Ride through rugged countryside, coastal cliffs, and charming villages while experiencing the island in a fun and adventurous way.

With **tours starting from €60**, you'll visit top attractions like the **Sanap Cliffs, Ramla Bay, Wied il-Għasri, Crystal Lagoon, and more**, all while enjoying an exhilarating ride.

📌 **Tip:** [Book Here](#), your tour in advance to secure your spot and get the best experience!

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## Comino: Paradise at the Blue Lagoon



Comino is a tiny, car-free island renowned for the Blue Lagoon, a natural wonder with crystal-clear turquoise waters ideal for swimming and snorkeling. Visitors can hike to the Santa Marija Tower or explore hidden caves along the coastline. Comino is a perfect day-trip destination for nature lovers and adventure seekers.

- **How to Get There:**

- **Ferries from Cirkewwa:** Frequent trips to Comino.
- **Private Boat Tours:** Customizable trips for groups or families.

- **Top Activities:**

- Swim or snorkel in the Blue Lagoon.
- Explore the Santa Marija Tower.
- Enjoy boat tours to discover hidden caves and secluded beaches.

💡 ***Reserve boat tours online*** to secure your spot, especially during summer when demand is high.

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## Other Must-Visit Destinations

### Mdina – The Silent City 🏰 ✨



Step into the **timeless charm** of Mdina, Malta's first capital, known for its **narrow medieval streets, grand palaces, and peaceful atmosphere**. Often called the **Silent City**, this walled town offers a journey back in time with its **impressive architecture and rich history**.

- **Explore** the beautifully preserved **noble palaces and ancient alleyways**.
- **Visit St. Paul's Cathedral** 🏰 – A stunning baroque masterpiece filled with history. See Tickets Here!
- **Enjoy a magical sunset** from the city walls, with breathtaking panoramic views.

✨ Don't miss the chance to experience the unique atmosphere of Mdina!

[Mdina and Rabat Walking Tour inc. Catacombs and St. Paul's Grotto](#)

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## Rabat – A Journey Through Malta's History 🏛️ ✨



Located just outside Mdina, **Rabat** is a town rich in **history and culture**, offering a glimpse into Malta's past.

- **Explore St. Paul's Catacombs** (€6) – An extensive underground network of ancient burial sites.
- **Walk through historic streets** and discover hidden gems along the way.
- **Try local delicacies** at charming eateries, including the famous Maltese pastizzi.

✨ **A must-visit for history lovers and food enthusiasts alike!**

[Rabat Mdina and San Anton Gardens Group Tour with St. Paul's Catacombs](#)

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## St. Julian's & Sliema – Vibrant Seaside Destinations 🌊 ✨



These lively coastal towns offer a mix of **entertainment, shopping, and stunning waterfront views.**

- **St. Julian's** – Famous for its **nightlife** in Paceville, luxury hotels, and scenic Spinola Bay.
- **Sliema** – A hub for **shopping**, seafront promenades, and some of Malta's best restaurants.
- **Take a harbor cruise** 🚤 for breathtaking views of Valletta and the coastline.
- **Relax by the rocky beaches** and enjoy a swim in the crystal-clear waters.

✨ **Perfect for those looking to experience Malta's modern and dynamic side!**

[\*Jet Ski Rental in St. Julian's \(St. George's Bay\)\*](#)

[\*The best of Sliema walking tour\*](#)

## Marsaxlokk – Malta's Iconic Fishing Village 🐟🌊



Marsaxlokk is a **charming seaside village** famous for its **traditional fishing boats (luzzu), fresh seafood, and relaxed atmosphere**. It's a great spot to experience the authentic side of Malta.

- 🐟 **Sunday Fish Market** – A bustling market where you can find fresh seafood, local produce, and handcrafted souvenirs.
- 🍴 **Seafront Restaurants** – Enjoy a delicious seafood meal while overlooking the colorful harbor.
- 🚶 **Scenic Walks** – Stroll along the promenade and take in the peaceful coastal views.

- 🌊 **St. Peter's Pool** – A stunning natural swimming spot just a short drive away, perfect for a refreshing dip.

✨ **A must-visit for those who love food, culture, and breathtaking sea views!**

[Marsaxlokk Fishing Village and Market Roundtrip Transportation](#)

## Popeye Village 🎬🏠



Originally built as a film set for the 1980 musical *Popeye*, starring Robin Williams, Popeye Village has since been transformed into a charming theme

park. Located in **Anchor Bay, near Mellieha**, this colorful village offers fun activities for visitors of all ages.

You can explore the rustic wooden houses, meet costumed characters, enjoy boat rides, and watch live performances. There's also a small beach area where you can swim in the crystal-clear waters.

💰 **Entrance Fee:** Prices vary depending on the season and include access to all attractions, shows, and mini-golf.

📍 **Location:** Anchor Bay, Mellieha, Malta

🚗 **Getting There:** Best reached by car or public bus from Valletta.

✨ **Tip:** Book tickets online to secure your spot and get discounts!

[\*Popeye Village with Optional Roundtrip Private Transfers\*](#)

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## Traditional Maltese Foods 🇲🇹



Malta's cuisine is a delicious blend of Mediterranean influences, with flavors inspired by Italian, Arabic, and British culinary traditions. Here are some must-try traditional dishes:

#### **Pastizzi**

One of Malta's most famous snacks, pastizzi are crispy, flaky pastries filled with either ricotta cheese or mushy peas. They are a perfect on-the-go bite!

#### **Stuffat tal-Fenek (Rabbit Stew)**

Considered Malta's national dish, this slow-cooked rabbit stew is rich in flavor and usually served with pasta or crusty Maltese bread.

#### **Ftira**

A traditional Maltese sourdough bread, often enjoyed as a sandwich filled with tuna, olives, capers, and tomatoes.

#### **Lampuki Pie**

A seasonal fish pie made with lampuki (dorado fish), vegetables, and a golden pastry crust. It's a must-try dish if visiting Malta between late summer and early winter.

#### **Aljotta (Maltese Fish Soup)**

A fragrant and hearty fish soup made with tomatoes, garlic, and fresh herbs, perfect for seafood lovers.

#### **Ġbejna (Maltese Cheese)**

A small round cheese made from sheep's milk, available in different varieties—fresh, dried, peppered, or preserved in oil. It pairs perfectly with local wines!

#### **Maltese Wine & Craft Beer**

Malta produces excellent wines, with local varieties such as Gellewza (red) and Girgentina (white). For beer lovers, try Cisk, Malta's famous lager.

✨ **Tip:** Many restaurants serve traditional Maltese platters with a mix of cheeses, olives, sun-dried tomatoes, and bigilla (a broad bean dip). It's a great way to sample local flavors!

[\*\*Click Here to Book: Top Malta Food Tours\*\*](#)

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## **Planning Your Trip to Malta**

### ***Tips for a Smooth and Memorable Experience***

Malta is an incredible destination, offering a rich history, stunning landscapes, and delicious cuisine. To help you plan your trip and make the most of your time, here's a handy checklist with all the essentials you'll need for a smooth and enjoyable experience in Malta.

#### **1. Travel Insurance**

Before you start your adventure, make sure you have reliable travel insurance that covers medical emergencies, lost luggage, and unexpected travel

disruptions. Having travel insurance gives you peace of mind throughout your trip. 🙌 [Click here to get the best travel insurance for your trip!](#)

## 2. Flights to Malta

Flights to Malta are available from major cities worldwide. Make sure to book your flight in advance to get the best deals. Malta's main airport, Malta International Airport (LHR), is well-connected and offers a variety of flight options. 🙌 [Find the best deals on flights to Malta!](#)

## 3. Accommodation

Malta offers a wide range of accommodations, from luxury hotels to charming guesthouses. Whether you're staying in Valletta, Sliema, or Gozo, be sure to book your accommodation early, especially during the high season, to secure the best options. 🙌 [Book your stay in Malta now!](#)

## 4. Custom Itinerary Planning (from \$29)

Want a hassle-free travel experience tailored to your preferences? I can create a **personalized itinerary** based on your travel style, interests, and budget — starting from just **\$29**. Whether you're looking for the best historical sites, local food spots, or off-the-beaten-path adventures, I've got you covered. 🌍

✉️ *Contact me to start planning your perfect Malta trip today!*  
<https://wa.link/6w2bp3>

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## ✅ What You Need for a Smooth Trip to Malta: Essential Travel Checklist

Planning a trip to Malta? Here's a practical checklist to ensure a stress-free experience from start to finish:

✈️ Travel Documents

-  **Passport** – Must be valid for at least 6 months beyond your travel dates
-  **Visa** – Not required for stays up to 90 days for many nationalities (*check your visa status*)
-  **Proof of return or onward travel** – Might be requested upon arrival

### Travel Essentials

-  [Get travel insurance](#) – Covers medical issues, delays, lost luggage & more. Don't travel without it!
-  [Book flights in advance](#) – Best prices for early planners
-  [Reserve your airport transfer](#) – Stress-free ride directly to your hotel
-  **Hotel bookings confirmed** – Have digital or printed copies ready

### Money & Payments

-  **Credit/Debit card** – Accepted almost everywhere
-  **Cash in euros (€)** – Useful for small purchases, markets, buses
-  **Optional: Prepaid travel card** – Great for budgeting and avoiding foreign transaction fees

### Connectivity & Apps

-  [Buy a local SIM card or eSIM](#) – Stay connected affordably
-  **Google Maps + Google Translate** – Essential for exploring & communicating
-  [Download Tallinja app](#) – For real-time public transport info

## **What to Pack**

-  **Reusable water bottle** – Malta is sunny, stay hydrated
-  **Sunscreen & sunglasses** – Even in winter, Malta gets a lot of sun
-  **Comfortable shoes** – You'll walk a lot, especially in historic areas
-  **Adapter plug** – Malta uses Type G (UK-style, 3-pin plugs)

## **Local Transportation**

-  [Tallinja Explore Card](#) – Unlimited bus rides across Malta & Gozo
-  **Uber & Bolt apps** – Cheaper and easier than taxis
-  [Optional: Rent a car](#) – Especially handy for exploring Malta

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 **Tip:** Save or print this checklist so you won't forget anything important!

 **Want to know more about Malta?**

[Click here](#) to discover extra tips, travel hacks, and detailed information in our blog post on *Viajante Digital*.

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