

Great News for Travellers to Gozo

There is now a unique way of travelling to Gozo once you have landed at Malta International Airport. With effect from June 2021 two ferry companies commenced operations under the heading of 'Fast Ferry'. Whilst there was always a sense of calmness as you boarded the old ferry at the terminal at Cirkewwa, for some the journey was maybe a bit tedious. As from the 1st June 2021 Virtu Ferries and Gozo Fast Ferry commenced passenger ferries from Valletta to Mgarr Harbour – Gozo. This is a unique way of seeing the some of Grand Harbour when leaving Valletta and the coastline of the eastern coast of Malta as you travel North towards Gozo. Both companies operate fast catamaran type vessels of capable carrying over 300 foot-passengers with facilities for pets and bicycles with a normal journey time of not more than 45 minutes. Both vessels are comfortable and transport you very smoothly to Mgarr Harbour in Gozo. The costs of tickets are very reasonable and online pre-booking is available.

To get to the ferry terminal you can use a taxi but there is a bus service from the airport to the Floriana, Valletta bus terminal from where there is a 10 minute walk to Upper Barrakka Gardens, where there is a lift taking you down to the ferry terminal buildings. The walk is via steps at the zig zag pathway at the turn around for the buses and then you arrive at the Gardens entering through the main gates and follow the signs to the lift. The ferry operator's websites display the timetable, booking arrangements and prices so follow the link below to see what they have to offer.

Virtu Ferries

<https://virtugozo.com>

Gozo Fast Ferry

<https://gozofastferry.com>

Take a look at the article in the Times of Malta when these services commenced for more details by following the link:-

<https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/watch-two-fast-ferry-services-to-gozo-how-do-they-compare.876233>

Obviously, the weather can affect these services, particularly in strong winds (normally Force 5 on the Beaufort Scale or stronger).

Travelling this way gives you a different view of Malta which you may not ordinarily see on your visit to Gozo but it also offers you some extra choices. Use the following link to see a map which you can also see as an interactive map should you wish to do so. [Click here for the map link](#) showing you the route from the airport to Upper Barrakka Gdns