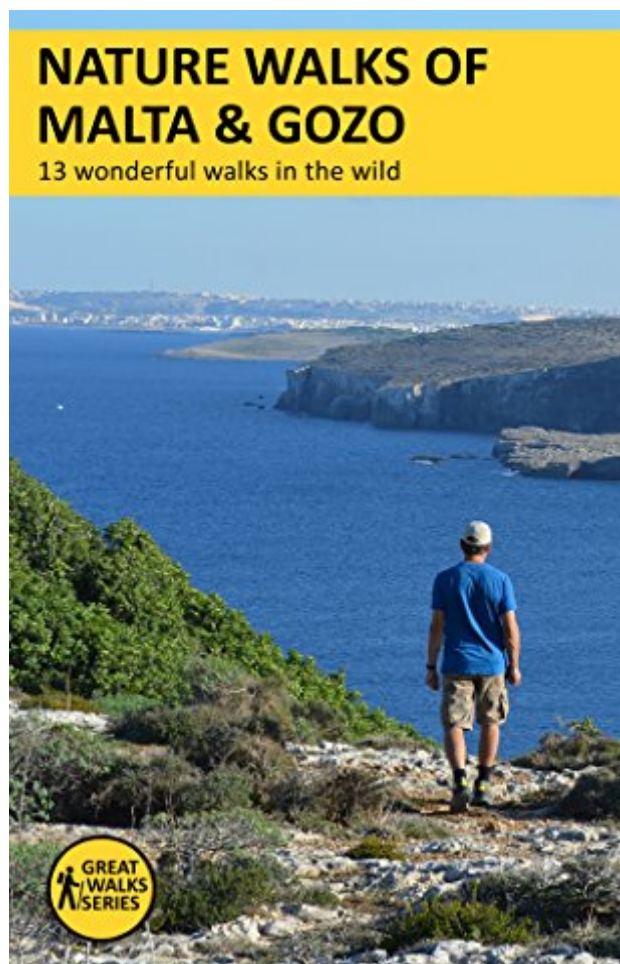


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Nature Walks Malta And Gozo



Emmet McMahon & Jonathan Henwood



Synopsis

The warm Mediterranean climate of Malta, its physical isolation from other land masses and its limestone base, have led to the formation of a range of habitats, some with rare endemic species of plants and animals. Malta hosts over 1,100 wild plant species, over 40 of which are not found anywhere else and many of which are endangered. With extensive cliffs and dramatic boulder scree, the coastal landscapes are among the most beautiful in the world. Inland, there are tranquil rural valleys, deep gorges where shaded conditions promote a luxurious growth and exposed hilltops of fractured lime that are home to a surprisingly wide range of wild flowers. The walks in this book lead you along pleasant coastal and rural paths to showcase the often pristine environment of these sister islands. There are some slightly challenging sections but in the main the walks are along tranquil level paths. Many of the walks will also bring you past features of archaeological interest such as Neolithic temples, ancient chapels and British fortifications. Malta is exceptional in that on any one walk you can encounter a variety of interesting wildlife, landscape and cultural features. The walks on Gozo can be done by taking the morning ferry from Malta and returning that evening. Each of the 13 walks in this book is of moderate length (about 4 hours) and most can be shortened or extended to suit individual requirements. Each is described in detail and shown on a clear map. Can be reached easily by bus or short taxi ride. Will bring you past a variety and impressive variety of features of environmental, landscape and cultural interest. This guide contains sections on the geology, habitats, flora and fauna of Malta so that you can better enjoy its rich environmental inheritance. It also has useful sections with practical advice on weather, buses and ferries and when best to visit. This book was written by environmental scientists Jonathan Henwood and Emmet Mc Mahon. Further information available at www.greatwalksmalta.com.

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