

media release

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MTA Moves from the Capital City to SmartCity

The Malta Tourism Authority has moved offices from the historic Auberge d'Italie in Merchants Street, Valletta to its new premises in Smart City, Kalkara.

MTA had established its Head Office at the Auberge d'Italie in 2002, having moved from its previous location on Republic Street to the 16th century former home of the Italian Knights - a premises which it shared with the Ministry for Tourism for more than a decade. In 2011, it was decided that the Museum of Fine Arts housed at the former Admiralty House in South Street Valletta was to be relocated to the Auberge d'Italie. This project eventually became part of the Valletta 2018 European Capital of Culture initiative and will see the setting up of a new National Art Museum – MUZA which is scheduled to open next year.

So, fifteen years after first moving into the Auberge, it was time for MTA to relocate once again, this time to a more modern setting outside the capital.

MTA CEO Mr Paul Bugeja commented that *"This is the start of new phase for the Malta Tourism Authority. We are confident that the modern facilities and purpose-built office space that our staff will now be operating from will help us in our efforts to continue improving our services. Meanwhile, we are also investing in a new licensing system that facilitates the processing of online applications including license fee payments, and makes it easier for the general public and our trade partners to avail themselves of our services."*

Apart from the Head Office at SmartCity, MTA also has offices in Victoria - Gozo, an Enforcement Unit in Valley Road, Msida, a storage facility in Mrieħel, as well as 11 Tourist Information Offices in various localities across Malta and Gozo. MTA also operates a network of overseas offices in major cities in Europe and beyond.

As the Authority moves into its new premises, it salutes the historic Auberge d'Italie with a short video that recounts the palace's chequered history. <https://youtu.be/QS2Lzqs5GPw>. A longer version is being produced for posterity.

The Authority's new address is:

**Malta Tourism Authority
Suites 301-306, Building SCM 01,
SmartCity Malta
Ricasoli SCM 1001
Kalkara, Malta.**

The general enquiries telephone number (+356 22915000) and email address (info@visitmalta.com) remain unchanged.



