Malta
Tourism Authority

Media Release

Date: 01/11/2019

Ref: 14-2019

<u>Malta ġiet klassifikata bħala t-tieni l-aqwa destinazzjoni għall-għadis fid-Diver Awards ta' din is-sena.</u>

F'ċerimonja ta' premjijiet waqt l-*International Dive Show* li saret fis-26 ta' Ottubru fir-Renju Unit, Malta ġiet ivvutata bħala t-tieni l-aqwa destinazzjoni tal-għadis għal din is-sena mill-qarrejja tad-*Diver Magazine*. Malta żammet il-klassifika mal-ewwel tlett postijiet għal dawn l-aħħar ħames snin. Hu magħruf li l-Gżejjer Maltin għandhom biex jiftaħaru bl-abbundanza ta' sikek, kaverni mill-isbaħ, għerien u inkalji spettakolari. L-ibħra ta' madwar l-arċipelagu Malti huma magħrufin għat-trasparenza, it-temperatura u l-kulur mill-isbaħ tagħhom.

Il-premju prestiġjuż poġġa lil Malta u Għawdex bħala waħda mill-iktar destinazzjonijiet popolari għall-għadis internazzjonalment u bħala l-ewwel fl-Ewropa. L-avveniment tant mistenni sar ġewwa *NEC Birmingham* waqt l-*International Dive Show*.

Dan iI-premju kellu ammont sostanzjali ta' pajjiżi minn madwar id-dinja li kkompetew bis-sħiħ għall-ewwel tlett postijiet għal din is-sena. L-Eġittu klassifika fl-ewwel post, fil-waqt li l-Indoneżja fit-tielet post.

Fl-2018, in-numru ta' turisti li għażlu Malta bħala destinazzjoni għal *scuba diving* laħaq iktar minn 127,000 persuna waqt li madwar 42,000 viżitatur ieħor għamlu attivitajiet ta' *scuba diving* matul iż-żjara tagħhom fil-gżejjer tagħna.

Il-Ministru għat-Turiżmu Konrad Mizzi laqa' dan il-premju li jpoġġi lil pajjiżna fuq quddiem, bħala destinazzjoni ideali għall-għaddasa tul is-sena kollha. Żied jgħid li importanti ħafna li nibqgħu naħdmu favur turiżmu sostenibbli sabiex nissalvagwardjaw l-ambjent tagħna.

- Tmiem -

Malta Tourism Authority

Media Release

<u>Malta voted 2nd best dive destination of the year</u>
<u>at Diver Awards</u>

In an awards ceremony at the Dive Show UK, held on 26 October, Malta was voted the 2nd Best Dive Destination of the Year by the readers of Diver Magazine. Malta has been in the top three for the past five years, which is testament to its incredible scuba-diving credentials. The Maltese Islands boast an abundance of reefs, stunning caverns, caves and spectacular wrecks. The water surrounding the Mediterranean archipelago is known for its pristine transparency, warmth and azure blue colour.

The prestigious award placed Malta and Gozo as one of the most popular diving destinations internationally and the first in Europe. The highly awaited event took place at the NEC Birmingham during the International Dive Show. This award recognises the best in the industry, amongst leading diving destinations.

The Best Dive Destination of the Year award had a strong list of contenders from across the globe vying for this year's top three places. Egypt placed first, while Indonesia placed third.

In 2018, the number of tourists who opted for Malta as a scuba diving destination reached more than 127,000, while another 42,000 visitors opted for scuba dive activities during their visit in our islands.

Minister Konrad Mizzi welcomed this award which places our islands at the forefront, as an all-year destination for diving enthusiasts. He added that most importantly, we should keep striving towards sustainable tourism and the importance of caring for our environment.

- End -