

**Media Release** 

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## **COVID-19: MTA INSPECTS OUTLETS**

ISSUED 31/03/2020

Inspectors from the Compliance and Regulatory Directorate of the Malta Tourism Authority took remedial action following the discovery of 11 guests staying in a hotel in Sliema which had been subject to an enforcement notice and was therefore supposed to be closed. This was the same hotel where 80 workers had been discovered over the weekend. Apart from the 7 rooms where these guests were found during the inspection, another two rooms also appeared to be occupied as they contained personal belongings. MTA ordered the immediate relocation of the guests and also requested the relevant authorities to suspend water and electricity supply to the hotel.

Meanwhile, during Monday 30th March 2020, MTA continued with its programme of inspections of restaurants, bars, snack bars and other outlets. In Malta, more than 399 inspections were carried out in 18 different localities across the island. Of these, more than fifty percent (215) took place in the St Paul's Bay/Buġibba/Qawra area, including Xemxija and Salini.

In Gozo, MTA's inspectors checked around 150 establishments in the following towns and villages: Marsalforn, Mgarr Harbour, Mgarr ix-Xini, Nadur, Qala, Qbajjar, Sannat, Xagħra, Xewkija, Xlendi and Victoria.

Once again, no breaches were found, neither in Gozo, nor in Malta.

With these latest inspections, the total number of inspections that the Malta Tourism Authority has carried out since the relevant Legal Notices came into force rose to more than 10,150 inspections. More than 8080 inspections took place in Malta and over 2070 in Gozo.

MTA reminds the general public that anyone who encounters any breaches can inform the authority via the helpline: 21692447 or email: <u>tourismcovid-19helpline@visitmalta.com</u>.

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