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PRESS RELEASE

Malta crowned best diving destination at boot Düsseldorf Dive Awards 2025

Valletta/Munich – Malta has been named the world's best diving destination at the prestigious boot Düsseldorf Dive Awards 2025, held on January 24 at the Dive Centre in Hall 12 of the world's largest yacht and water sports trade fair. The Maltese Islands were lauded for their exceptional offerings and conditions for divers, including a unique variety of wreck dive sites and underwater experiences.

This recognition was determined by a panel of expert judges, including chief editors from renowned diving publications such as *Divemaster*, *PLONGEZ!*, *TAUCHEN*, and *Taucher.net*. The international diving community also played a key role through a public voting process. Competing in the Destination category, Malta outshone other contenders with its professional diving infrastructure and unparalleled opportunities for divers of all levels.

Malta's appeal as a diving destination lies in its perfect combination of natural and cultural treasures. The islands offer year-round diving opportunities, stunning underwater landscapes, world-class diving sites, as well as cutting-edge accessibility such as the Underwater Malta virtual museum.

In addition, Malta boasts over 40 diving centres catering for all levels, from beginner to technical diving, supported by two decompression chambers for safety. Sustainability is a key focus, with protected areas such as the "Cirkewwa Marine Park" and Blue Flag-certified beaches highlighting Malta's commitment to environmental stewardship.

Playing a role in this award win was also the direct connection between German cities and Malta. With direct flights and excellent value for money, Malta is an easily accessible destination for diving enthusiasts. Its compact size ensures short distances to dive sites, further enhancing the convenience for visitors.

Martin Frendo, Director of the Malta Tourism Authority office in Germany, stated: "Being recognised as the best diving destination worldwide is a testament to Malta's dedication to providing exceptional experiences for divers. This award highlights the rich marine biodiversity, historical treasures, and sustainable practices that make Malta a standout destination."

Carlo Micallef, CEO of the Malta Tourism Authority, added: "Malta's win at the *boot Düsseldorf Dive Awards* is most welcome as it recognises VisitMalta and our partners' efforts to constantly improve the experience that our Islands offer to the international diving community, and the wide-ranging marketing and promotion efforts of MTA's offices and representatives around the world. This award also reflects our commitment to excellence in tourism and environmental preservation as we seek to develop a sustainable future to the Maltese Islands' tourism industry."