



MEDIA RELEASE

1st June, 2021

The Gozo Tourism Association notes that with today's commencement of the fast ferry service between Mgarr and Valletta, the sea connectivity has been further enhanced. The two operating companies of this service will be performing between themselves 44 daily return trips Mgarr-Valletta-Mgarr. These number of trips coupled with the 72 daily return trips being operated presently by Gozo Channel Co add up to 120 daily return trips in twenty-four hours.

With the introduction of the fast ferry service, Gozo is now connected with mainland Malta with basically 5 return trips every hour. The Gozo Tourism Association, since its inception 22 years ago, has always put the inter-island connectivity as one of its main objectives, and today the Association is satisfied with the addition of this fast ferry service. A service that will prove to be beneficial to the Gozitan community, as well as to the visitors to Gozo both local and foreign.

The success of a tourism destination for an island like Gozo, depends totally on connectivity and therefore the Gozo Tourism Association urges Government to continue taking initiatives to improve the way to get to Gozo. The next step in this direction is the introduction of a fixed wing airlink connecting Gozo with the Malta International Airport. Such a service will facilitate the transfers of foreign tourists bound to Gozo as well those of the Gozitans travelling overseas.

The Gozo Tourism Association is confident that Government as in the fast ferry service will have the political will to facilitate and offer the proper infrastructure for the introduction of the airlink between Malta and Gozo.

Finally, the Gozo Tourism Association would like to thank the Minister for Gozo Hon. Clint Camilleri, the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Capital Projects Hon. Ian Borg, Transport Malta, Infrastructure Malta and last but not least the two operators, Gozo Fast Ferry and Virtu Ferries, for making this much awaited service possible. **-END-**