



8th March, 2016

MEDIA RELEASE 07/16

Following the release of the tourism statistics compiled by the National Office of Statistics for the past year 2015, the Gozo Tourism Association notes that from these statistics it transpires that, the number of bednights spent on Gozo by foreign tourists reached and exceeded the one million bednight. This was brought about both by the increases in tourist arrivals, as well as their respective bednights spent on Gozo, in 2015.

Infact, during 2015 the number of foreign tourist arrivals reached 166,106, which represents 13,161 more arrivals or 8% increase on 2014. The number of nights spent in all types of Gozitan accommodation reached 1,004,885 which adds up to 125,651 more bednights, translating into an increase of 14% on 2014, in bed nights.

These results augur well for better prospects in the Gozitan tourism industry, since the destination is experiencing increases not only in the summer quarter, but also reaping better occupancies in the quarters covering the shoulder months, between April and June, as well as October to December. Usually these months tend to neutralise the positive results achieved during the shoulder and high season.

The Association is confident that these increases were gained through the collaborative efforts of all stakeholders involved. The Gozo Tourism Association acknowledges the input by the Malta Tourism Authority and its management, which together with, the Ministry for Gozo and its Directorate for Tourism and Economic Development and the Gozo Tourism Association, were instrumental in these positive results.

Finally the Gozo Tourism Association believes that this year's current performance augurs well for better prospects in the tourism sector on Gozo. Through the collaboration and synergized efforts of all concerned, as well as sound decisions taken at the right time, Gozo's unique potential can be better maximised for the benefit of this important industry on the island.