

PRESS RELEASE

MICHELIN GUIDE

Paris, 4th April 2024

# For the first time, the MICHELIN Guide awards two Stars to a Maltese restaurant

- One new restaurant in the selection is distinguished with two MICHELIN Stars, a first in the history of the MICHELIN Guide Malta
- One Maltese restaurant joins the ranks of one MICHELIN Star establishments
- One new Bib Gourmand and five other restaurants make their debut in the Maltese selection, for a total of 40 restaurants selected and honored

The MICHELIN Guide Malta is pleased to present its new restaurant selection for 2024. Since the Guide first arrived on the island, the number of restaurants and the quality of dishes has continued its upward trajectory, illustrating the vitality and appeal of the destination among international gourmets. Valetta and its surrounding area are investing in the local culinary offer to guarantee a consistently higher level and increasingly generous experiences for travelers.

"Our anonymous inspectors explored the local culinary scene, which is constantly evolving, both in terms of the number of restaurants, and the quality of the cuisine prepared and products used. This year marks a milestone in the history of the MICHELIN Guide Malta, with the announcement of the first two MICHELIN Stars restaurant in the selection, underscoring the commitment of professionals to deliver the very best to their diners" explained Gwendal Poullennec, International Director of the MICHELIN Guides. "The inspectors also noticed that the Maltese culinary spirit is changing and becoming ever more zestful and innovative. Chefs are now focusing on local gastronomy, bringing the island's agricultural economy to the fore and thereby consolidating a more sustainable approach to Maltese cuisine. Small kitchen gardens are springing up adjacent to restaurants, enabling chefs to take advantage of local Mediterranean-fragranced products."



The first two MICHELIN Stars accolade in the 2024 selection goes to ION Harbour, Simon Rogan's Maltese institution. Rogan already holds Three MICHELIN Stars for his Lake District restaurant L'Enclume in the UK. In his Maltese establishment, gourmets will find impeccable service and creative and innovative cuisine. Resident chefs Oli Marlow and Eoin Smith prepare complex dishes with Asian influences, crafted from the island's star produce which includes local vegetables, Mediterranean fish and more refined and international ingredients. Highlights include the raw red shrimp and lampuki fish tartare with berries. The view over Grand Harbour is breathtaking, while the selection of local wines is sure to impress connoisseurs.

All of the establishments already honored in the selection retain their one Star status for another year, while **Rosamì** makes its debut in the Guide. Overlooking Spinola Bay, **Rosamì** is a beautiful Maltese-style villa housing a classic, elegant and decidedly romantic restaurant. Four menus of different lengths are proposed (Steam, Petal, Bulb and Leaf), featuring modern dishes with an international flavor. The wine list includes labels from around the world, as well as local offerings, while the house Negroni is a must-try specialty.

The Bib Gourmand section is also expanding, with the addition of **AYU**. Situated opposite Manoel Island, in this eatery, three brothers concoct dishes with international influences, infused with the chefs' memories and experiences. The most memorable dishes include the flavorsome and spicy Sea Bass Stew with Soy and Ginger and the Sri Lankan-Style Pork Curry, which are both ideal for gourmets seeking exotic taste experiences. The excellent value for money and laid-back atmosphere make it a well -known meeting spot after a stroll on the beach-front promenade in Gzira.

The selection of restaurants recommended by the MICHELIN Guide Malta is available free of charge on the MICHELIN Guide website and app. It joins the Guide's hotel selection, which highlights the most exclusive places to stay in Malta and around the world.





## The MICHELIN Guide Malta selection 2024 at a glance:

## 40 restaurants including:

- 1 two MICHELIN Stars (1 new)
- 6 One MICHELIN Star (1 new)
- 5 Bib Gourmands (1 new)
- 28 recommended (5 new)

## The MICHELIN Guide Malta selection 2024:

#### **Two MICHELIN Stars establishment**

Valetta	ION – The Harbour new

#### **One MICHELIN Star establishments**

Balzan	Bahia
Mdina	De Mondion
Sliema	Fernando Gastrotheque
St Julian's	Rosami new
Valetta	Noni
Valetta	Under Grain

#### **Bib Gourmands**

Birgu	Terrone
Gżira	AYU new
Mellieħa	Commando
Valetta	Grain Street
Valetta	Rubino

#### **Recommended establishments**

<u>Ħ'Attard</u>	Terroir new
Gżira	Briju
Kalkara	Marea
Marsaxlokk	Tartarun
Mdina	The Medina
Mellieha	One80 St. Christopher Street new
Mellieħa	Rebekah's



Mġarr	Level Nine by Oliver Glowig new
Mġarr	Tmun
Naxxar	Giuseppi's
Rabat	The Fork and Cork
Rabat	The Golden Fork
Rabat	Grotto Tavern
Rabat	Root 81
Sliema	Chophouse
St Julian's	Caviar & Bull
St Julian's	KuYa
St Julian's	Zest
St Paul's Bay	LOA
Valetta	59 Republic
Valetta	Aaron´s Kitchen
Valetta	AKI
Valetta	Guzé
Valetta	The Harbour Club
Valetta	Kaiseki new
Valetta	Legligin
Xagħra	Ta´ Frenc
Xagħra	Al Sale new



MALTA







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www.michelin.com

@MichelinNews

112, Avenue Kléber, 75016 Paris