



Transport Malta

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PORTS AND YACHTING DIRECTORATE

Our Ref: TM/PYD/ 23/18

Port Notice Number No 06 of 2018

To: Ship Owners and Operators
Ship Agents
Ship Masters, Crewmembers and Skippers
Terminals

**Mandatory Requirements for Vessels used in the Territorial Waters of
Malta and calling at Maltese Ports**

Certificates & Documents to be carried on board

The Authority is hereby bringing to the attention of all concerned the minimum requirements as prescribed in the Ports and Shipping Act (Cap. 352) that stipulate that no boat or ship shall be used in the territorial waters and ports of Malta unless such boat or ship is registered and documented to the satisfaction of the Authority.

The certificates and documents listed in this Port Notice, as applicable to a particular vessel, must be valid prior to entry and throughout their whole stay. Vessels departing from a Maltese anchorage or port must also have proper certification in place.

Apart from legislative provisions, such minimum requirements are intended to contribute towards the safety of navigation, preservation of good order, safeguarding third party rights and protection of the marine environment.

The hereunder requirements are not a derogation of and do not exonerate compliance with other applicable statutory requirements, including Port Notices and Notices to Mariners as issued by the Authority from time to time.



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1 Vessels of 500gt and over

- .1 Every vessel must be covered by and have on board the following valid documents and certificates in line with the applicable international conventions:
 - .1 Ship certificates and documentation
 - .2 Hull and Machinery (H&M) Insurance
 - .3 Licences (or Certificates of Competency) of the Master and Crew
- .2 Every vessel must be equipped with all the communications, life-saving, distress and safety equipment and lights and signals in line with the applicable international conventions, working and not expired.

2 Vessels under 500gt employed in any trade, business or calling and which are not duly licensed and certified in terms of the local commercial provisions

- .1 Every vessel must be covered by and have on board the following valid documents and certificates:
 - .1 Certificate of Registry issued by the Flag Administration
 - .2 Navigation/Trading Licence/Certificate indicating the permitted area of operation (could be included in the Certificate of Registry)
 - .3 Appropriate insurance cover including but not limited to third-party liability, pollution, salvage and wreck removal
 - .4 Port Clearance issued by the authority of the last port of call
 - .5 Class Certificate (where applicable)
 - .6 Official logbooks including oil and garbage record books
 - .8 IACS¹ related documentation (where applicable)
 - .9 PSSC² (where applicable)
 - .10 Fishing licence (where applicable)
 - .11 Licences (or Certificates of Competency) of the Ship's Captain (Master) and Crew issued by a competent maritime authority
 - .12 Personal identification cards or passports of the Master and crew

¹ International Association of Classification Societies.

² Passenger Ship Safety Certificate.

- .13 Authorisation by owner of the vessel on Master clearly showing that he is authorised to command the vessel and act in the name and on behalf of the owner
- .14 Crew list stamped by the Immigration
- .15 Customs clearance
- .16 Appropriate and up to date navigational information (charts and nautical publications or equivalent electronic applications)
- .17 Certificate of validity of life-saving appliances and fire-fighting system on board
- .2 Every vessel must be equipped with the following:
 - .1 Effective and working means of communication with the Port Authority/VTS³ (VHF or GMDSS⁴ as appropriate)
 - .2 Life-saving, distress and safety equipment, in sufficient number and not expired
 - .3 Compliance with COLREGS⁵: All vessels should be fitted with the appropriate and working navigation lights and have on board the applicable day, night and distress signals (as applicable)

3 Recreational and Pleasure Craft

- .1 Every vessel must have on board the following valid documents and certificates:
 - .1 Certificate of Registry issued by the Flag Administration
 - .2 Insurance covering third party liability
 - .3 Appropriate insurance including cover for pollution, salvage and wreck removal
 - .4 Certificate of Competence of the Skipper
 - .5 Personal identification card or passport of the Skipper
 - .6 In the event the vessel is not being skippered by the owner, authorisation by owner of the vessel clearly showing that the Skipper is authorised to command the vessel and act in the name and on behalf of the owner
 - .7 Immigration and Customs clearances
 - .8 Appropriate and up to date navigational information (charts and nautical publications or equivalent electronic applications)

³ Vessel Traffic Services.

⁴ Global Maritime Distress and Safety System.

⁵ Convention on International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea.



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- .2 Every vessel must be equipped with the following:
- .1 Effective and working means of communicating with VTS (VHF)
 - .2 Life-saving, distress and safety equipment, in sufficient number and not expired
 - .3 Compliance with COLREGS: All vessels should be fitted with the appropriate and working navigation lights and have on board the applicable day, night and distress signals (as applicable)

Compliance inspections by the Authority's officers will be carried out accordingly and are without prejudice to any other inspections which may be carried by other responsible and competent persons and entities.

In the event of non-compliance with any of the above, enforcement, including prohibition of navigation, and legal action will be taken. A non-compliant vessel may also be refused entry into or expelled from Maltese territorial waters.

Capt David Bugeja
Chief Officer
Ports and Yachting Directorate

2 August 2018