



Transport Malta

PORTS AND YACHTING DIRECTORATE

## NOTICE TO MARINERS No 51 of 2019

Our Ref: **TM/PYD/ 87/01**

Malta Transport Centre  
Marsa, MRS 1917  
Malta

Tel: (356) 2122 2203  
Fax: (356) 2125 0365  
Email: [info.tm@transport.gov.mt](mailto:info.tm@transport.gov.mt)

[www.transport.gov.mt](http://www.transport.gov.mt)

10 July 2019

### Archaeological Zones at Sea – Superintendence of Cultural Heritage

The Ports and Yachting Directorate, Transport Malta would like to remind all mariners that the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage has established a number of protected sites, in line with the Cultural Heritage Act (CAP. 445).

As per the Government Gazette dated 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019, No 615 Cultural Heritage Act (Cap.455) Declaration of Archaeological Zones at Sea, the following sites have been established.

<u>Wreck</u>	<u>Latitude (N)</u>	<u>Longitude (E)</u>	<u>Buffer Area (Radius)</u>
<b>Off Il-Ponta tal-Qawra</b>			
JU88	35° 58'.484	014° 27'.982	250 m
<b>Off Il-Bajja ta' San Giljan</b>			
Fairey Swordfish	35° 56'.102	014° 30'.646	250m
<b>Off Il-Port il-Kbir (Valletta)</b>			
HMS Olympus	35° 55'.536	014° 33'.916	500m
Schnellboot	35° 54'.289	014° 32'.861	500m
HMS Trusty Star	35° 54'.388	014° 33'.371	500m
<b>Off Il-Bajja ta' Marsaskala</b>			
ORP Kujawiak	35° 53'.290	014° 38'.482	500m
HMS Southwold (Bow)	35° 52'.434	014° 35'.836	500m
HMS Southwold (Stern)	35° 52'.349	014° 35'.861	500m
SS Polynesian (Bow)	35° 51'.469	014° 36'.297	500m
SS Polynesian (Stern)	35° 51'.451	014° 36'.392	500m



Transport Malta

HMS Nasturtium	35° 53'.637	014° 42'.612	500m
HMS Russell	35° 54'.198	014° 36'.473	500m

**Off Il-Bajja ta' Marsaxlokk**

SS Luciston	35° 47'.461	014° 35'.464	500m
-------------	-------------	--------------	------

In view of the above, Transport Malta hereby notifies that with immediate effect, all commercial vessels intending on carrying out diving operations on the above listed historical wrecks must be fitted with an AIS which must be kept on all the time. Besides the necessary permits from Heritage Malta - Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit, they must obtain clearance from Valletta Port control (Valletta VTS) on VHF channel 12 or Marsaxlokk Port control (Marsaxlokk VTS) on VHF channel 14, following a pre-notification.

Compliance with this requirement is mandatory and non-compliance will entail the prohibition of stopping/diving on these sites and/or navigation in general, without prejudice to other applicable penalties and legal proceedings.

The buffer area is considered as "NO STOPPING AREAS". Anchoring/mooring will only be allowed to divers' vessels fitted with an AIS and having a special permit as stated above. Masters of diving support vessels are to ensure that the appropriate signals in accordance with the International Convention for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea and the International Code of Signals, are shown at all times. Furthermore, divers/mariners are to note that spear fishing and the use of fishing gear such as set bottom lines, trammel nets, gill nets and entangling nets, encircling nets, demersal pots and traps are prohibited in these areas. Only surface fishing is allowed including trolling lines (*rixa*) and angling for pelagic fish.

Charts Affected: BA 36, 177, 2537, 2538

Positions are referred to WGS84 DATUM