



PORTS AND YACHTING DIRECTORATE

NOTICE TO MARINERS N° 44 of 2026

Our Ref: **TM/PYD/0001/26**

31st August 2026



Transport Malta

Malta Transport Centre,
Triq Pantar, Hal Lija, LJA 2021
Malta

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

www.transport.gov.mt

MEDIAS 2026 Survey - Research around Malta and between Malta and Sicily

The Ports and Yachting Directorate of Transport Malta advises mariners that a survey and scientific research program will take place in the waters surrounding Malta and in the channel between Malta and Sicily.

Weather permitting, operations are set to begin on Sunday 20th September 2026 and will conclude on Saturday 31st October 2026. Survey activities will be conducted continuously, both day and night.

The research vessel *M.V. G. Dallaporta* (IMO 9250062) will be involved in various survey operations, including towing research trawl nets. At times, the vessel may remain stationary while deploying pelagic trawl nets and scientific echosounders, which will limit its ability to manoeuvre.

The survey vessel will display the appropriate lights and signals in accordance with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972 (COLREGs), and the International Code of Signals.

Mariners are advised to navigate with caution in the vicinity of the survey vessel and always to maintain a minimum safe distance of 0.5 nautical miles.

All vessels are to observe any instructions given on VHF channel 69 and /or 16 by Malta Coastal Station (Malta VTS) and on VHF channel 12 by Valletta VTS when crossing the channel between Sicily and Malta.

Charts Affected: **BA 194, 2123, 2124, 2537, 2538 and Int. 301**

Positions referred to **WGS 84 DATUM**