

L.N. 167 of 2007**WINE ACT
(CAP. 436)****IĠT Wines Production Protocols Regulations, 2007**

IN exercise of the powers conferred by articles 12(1) and 27 of the Wine Act and regulation 11(5) of the Denomination of Origin and of Geographic Indications Regulations, the Minister for Rural Affairs and the Environment has made the following regulations:-

1. (1) The title of these regulations is the I.Ġ.T. Wines Production Protocols Regulations, 2007. Citation and commencement.

(2) These regulations shall be deemed to have come into force on the 1st May, 2007.

2. In these regulations, unless already defined in the Act, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings: Interpretation.

"the Act" means the Wine Act;

Cap. 436.

"the Minister" means the Minister responsible for agriculture;

"the Unit" means the office responsible for viticulture and oenology.

3. The Unit is hereby designated as the competent office for enforcing these regulations and for the certification of the prescribed I.Ġ.T. wines. Designation of competency.

4. (1) Certification shall be awarded by the Unit following an official request, made in writing, from the wine producer concerned and after the Unit has carried out the necessary technical and administrative checks to verify that the wines produced conform to the relevant protocol. Certification of wines.

(2) Wines shall only be certified as "MALTESE ISLANDS" I.Ġ.T. wines if the protocol in Schedule I is fully respected.

Schedule I

Production Protocol of the "Maltese Islands" I.G.T. Wines

Article 1 - Geographical Indication.

1.1 The geographic indication (GI) "MALTESE ISLANDS" shall be reserved to the wines that satisfy all the conditions specified in this protocol.

1.2) The geographic indication "MALTESE ISLANDS" may be substituted by "OF THE MALTESE ISLANDS".

Article 2 - Oenological Typologies.

2.1 The geographical indication shall be reserved only for the following typologies of wine:

- (a) Red;
- (b) White;
- (c) Rosé;
- (d) Varietal: with a specification of a variety listed in article 4.

2.2 The typologies of article 2.1 may be complemented with the specification: "Novello", "Frizzante", "Semi-Sparkling" or "Aerated Semi-Sparkling", and "Liqueur Wine", under the conditions established in this protocol and, where applicable, as defined in Annex I of Council Regulation (EC) 1493/99.

Article 3 - Demarcation of the region of grape production.

3. The delimitation of the production region of grapes for I.G.T. "MALTESE ISLANDS" shall be the whole region of the Maltese Islands with the exclusion of the harbour area in the Island of Malta as detailed in the scaled map attached as Annex I. The harbour area is defined in Annex III.

Article 4 - Ampelographic scope.

4.1 The "MALTESE ISLANDS" I.G.T. wines shall be produced from grapes harvested in the region described in article 3. The "MALTESE ISLANDS" I.G.T. Red, White and Rosé wine typologies may be obtained from one or more of the grape varieties listed in the Classification of Vine Varieties (Production of Wine Grapes) Regulations, 2006 - Legal Notice 188 of 2006.

4.2 A mono-varietal mention may be used if the said wine contains a minimum 85% of the grape variety to be mentioned. The remaining 15% may be derived from non-aromatic grapes having the same I.G.T. typology.

Article 5 - Method of cultivation.

5. The environmental and cultivation methods in vineyards used for the production of wines listed in article 2 must be according to the traditional practices of the demarcated region described in article 3.

Article 6 - Yield limits of finished wine ready for consumption.

6.1 The maximum production of wine per hectare allowed for the production of "MALTESE ISLANDS" I.G.T. wines in hl/ha of selected vineyards is as follows:

- 125 hl/ha for all varieties used in the White and Rosé typologies with or without a mono-varietal mention;
- 120 hl/ha for all varieties used in the Red typologies with or without a mono-varietal mention.

6.2 The Director may establish a maximum limit of production which may be superior or inferior to that fixed in this production protocol, on the advice of the Wine Regulation Board and the interested producers' organisations, from year to year, before the harvest, taking into account the climatic conditions.

Article 7 - Vinification Protocols.

Region of vinification

7.1 Vinification operations, ageing, and bottling and ageing in bottles shall be carried out within the territory of the region of production referred to in article 3.

7.2 For the production of "MALTESE ISLANDS" I.G.T. wines in all typologies, the above operations may also be carried out in the following regions in close proximity:

1. Malta Harbour area

Article 8 - Minimum Alcoholic strengths.

8.1 Minimum Potential Natural Alcohol Strength of grapes.

For the production of the "MALTESE ISLANDS" I.G.T. wines, with or without a varietal mention, all the grape varieties, except for Girgentina and Ġellewża, must guarantee a minimum natural alcoholic strength of:

- 10.0% for the White and Rosè typologies;
- 10.5% for the Red typologies.

For the production of the "MALTESE ISLANDS" I.G.T. wines, with or without a varietal mention, the Girgentina and Ġellewża grape varieties must guarantee a minimum natural alcoholic strength of:

- 9.5% for use in all wine typologies except the "Liqueur" wine typology.

Notwithstanding all the limits described above, the Director may however, on the advice of the Wine Regulation Board and the interested producers' organisations, from year to year, before the harvest, taking into account the climatic conditions, establish limits of minimum natural alcoholic strengths which may be 0.5% less than those fixed above.

8.2 Minimum Total Alcoholic Strength of finished Wine ready for consumption.

For the production of the "MALTESE ISLANDS" I.G.T. wines, with or without a varietal mention, the minimum Total Alcoholic Strength of finished wine ready for consumption must be:

- 10.5% for all the White and Rosè typologies;
- 11.0% for all the Red typologies except the Ġellewża mono-varietal typology;
- 10.5% for the Ġellewża mono-varietal typology.

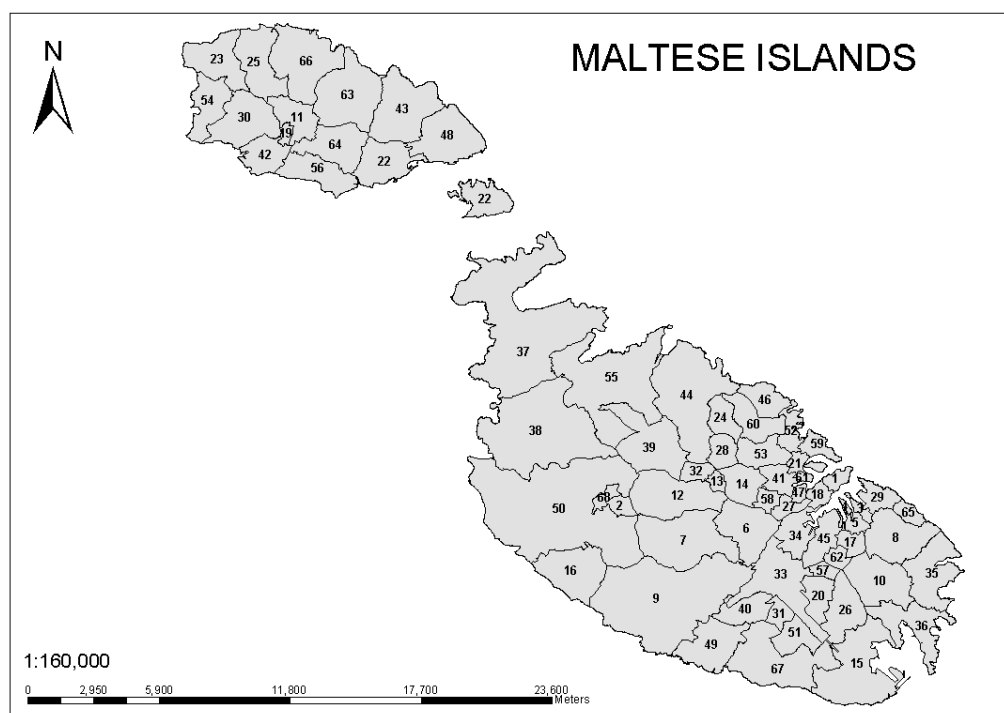
Article 9 - Qualification.

9.1 With regards to labelling, designation and presentation of the wines referred to in article 1, the use of any additional qualification which is not allowed by this protocol is strictly forbidden. This includes the use of adjectives such as, but not limited to, "extra", "fine", "superior" and "similar". Nevertheless the use of indications which refer to names, business, private trade marks are permitted on condition that they do not have a significance aimed at praising the product and that they do not mislead the consumer.

Article 10 - General provision.

10.1 Community law shall apply in cases where this protocol does not explicitly indicate otherwise.

ANNEX I



1:160000 scale map of the Maltese Islands demarcating the borders delimiting the region of grape production falling under the GI "MALTESE ISLANDS" (with the exclusion of the harbour area)

ANNEX II

Key of Local Councils

Code	Locality
1	Valletta
2	Mdina
3	Birgu
4	Isla
5	Bormla
6	Qormi
7	Żebbuġ
8	Żabbar
9	Sigġiewi
10	Żejtun
11	Rabat (Victoria)
12	Attard
13	Balzan
14	Birkirkara
15	Birżebbuġa
16	Dingli
17	Fgura
18	Floriana
19	Fontana
20	Gudja
21	Gżira
22	Ghajnsielem
23	Għarb
24	Għarghur
25	Għasri
26	Għaxaq
27	Hamrun
28	Iklin
29	Kalkara

Code	Locality
30	Kerċem
31	Kirkop
32	Lija
33	Luqa
34	Marsa
35	Marsaskala
36	Marsaxlokk
37	Mellieha
38	Mġarr
39	Mosta
40	Mqabba
41	Msida
42	Munxar
43	Nadur
44	Naxxar
45	Paola
46	Pembroke
47	Pietà
48	Qala
49	Qrendi
50	Rabat
51	Safi
52	San Ġiljan
53	San Ġwann
54	San Lawrenz
55	San Pawl il-Baħar
56	Sannat
57	Santa Luċija
58	Santa Venera

Code	Locality
59	Sliema
60	Swieqi
61	Ta' Xbiex
62	Tarxien
63	Xaghra

Code	Code
64	Xewkija
65	Xghajra
66	Żebbuġ (Għawdex)
67	Żurrieq
68	Mtarfa

ANNEX III

Councils making up the Harbour Area

Code	Locality
1	Valletta
3	Birgu
4	Isla
5	Bormla
18	Floriana
