Malta

Competent authority:
The Transport Malta Authority.

What documents do I need to present to register a car?

For new cars:
- The completed registration form for new vehicles;
- A European Certificate of Conformity (COC) or equivalent;
- A declaration by the manufacturer that the vehicle complies with the emission-level standards established under Directive 70/156/EEC;
- Evidence of payment of duties to customs if the vehicle is imported from a non-EU country;
- An invoice issued by the manufacturer or by an authorised agent of the manufacturer showing the cost of the vehicle and, in the case of goods or off-road vehicles, the engine capacity and maximum authorised mass (the maximum load that can be carried safely), and other documents showing the cost, insurance and freight (CIF) price (the cost of delivering the vehicle by sea to the nearest port);
- Documentation confirming your name and address.

For second-hand vehicles:
- Deposit form VEH 03;
- Completed application forms (VEH 01 and VEH 02 for individuals and VEH 25 for car dealers) downloaded from www.transport.gov.mt;
- A valuation printout signed by the Transport Malta Technical Unit. The registration value on the valuation printout is valid for the month in which it is issued and until the end of the following month;
- The original foreign registration certificate (‘log book’) signed by the seller and the buyer. In the absence of any signatures, the buyer must provide Transport Malta with either a private contract of sale between both parties or an application form to transfer a vehicle (form VEH 50). These must always be witnessed.
- For vehicles brought into Malta from the UK or Ireland, either an Odometer Certificate of Authenticity issued by a body approved by Transport Malta showing the vehicle’s authentic odometer reading (Approved agencies: JEVIC UK LTD, Building 46, Dunsfold Park, Cranleigh, Surrey, GU6 8TB, United Kingdom, Tel: (UK) +44 01483 276900, (Malta) +356 35505155, Fax: +44 01483 331701/273250, e-mail: info@jevic.co.uk; CAR-PASS, Belgium, CAR-PASS v.z.w., Woluwedal 46/2, 1200 Brussels, Belgium, Tel: +32 27735056, e-mail: info@car-pass.be) or an original valid roadworthiness certificate showing the latest odometer reading issued in another EU Member State by any roadworthiness testing station issuing odometer certificates;
- A Notice of Arrival. This must be original and rubber stamped by the shipper and in the name of the person to whom the vehicle will be registered. If you import a vehicle in another person’s name, you must present a declaration at the Land Transport Directorate confirming that the vehicle was brought into Malta for the sole use of the other person. The declaration has to be signed by both parties.
- The foreign plates;
- A valid insurance policy certificate, starting from the date of registration (the vehicle must be insured whilst in use for the necessary inspections);
- A Vehicle Roadworthiness Test (VRT) certificate (not required if less than 4 years have passed since the vehicle was first registered);
- A board resolution by the company secretary if the vehicle is registered on behalf of a company;
- Payment as follows: EUR 50 inspection fee, EUR 15 registration fee over the counter or EUR 10 registration fee online, registration tax, annual circulation fee, plates and an administrative fine of EUR 30 per day where applicable.

To register the car, do I have to show that a technical inspection has been performed?

Yes.

This document is intended to present the information consumers might need for a successful car purchase abroad and the registration in various European countries at the moment of publication and in the most user-friendly manner possible. It has no legal value however and the working group will not be held liable for any loss or costs incurred by reason of any person using or relying on the information it contains.

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If the car was sold with a valid foreign vehicle inspection certificate, is this recognised in Malta?

A national inspection is necessary for registration.

In Malta, a roadworthiness test has to take place 4 years after the car is first registered and then every two years. The cost of the inspection by an independent expert depends on the size of the vehicle.

Is it mandatory to show proof of insurance to the registration service?

Yes, you have to show confirmation of car insurance.

To whom should VAT be paid?

A car is considered new if no more than 6 months have passed since the date on which it was first registered or if its mileage does not exceed 6 000 km. For intra-EU transactions, new cars are VAT exempt. Thus, the supplier should not charge VAT. Instead, if you have bought a new car in another EU Member State with the intention of importing it to and registering it in your country of residence, you must pay VAT in your own Member State at that country’s rate.

VAT should be paid to the VAT Department.

Documents to be presented:

- A vehicle registration certificate issued by the competent authority of the country from where the vehicle was imported or brought into Malta and, where appropriate, an English or Maltese translation;
- An invoice showing the price, chassis number, engine capacity and maximum authorised mass;
- A declaration of origin and technical data or specifications;
- A certificate of roadworthiness issued in accordance with the Maltese Motor Vehicle Roadworthiness Test Regulations;
- Motor insurance policy documents;
- Inspection form issued by the competent authority upon evaluation of the vehicle, where applicable.

All other cars are considered second hand (more than 6 months since the date of first registration and mileage of more than 6 000 km). They are generally sold inclusive of VAT if the supplier is a taxable person for VAT purposes. You don’t have to pay VAT in your country of residence.

Whom do I contact in the event of difficulties with the registration authority/administration?

You can contact the SOLVIT Centre Malta for help with any difficulties.
If you have a question linked to your consumer rights when purchasing a car cross-border, contact your local ECC: www.eccnetmalta.gov.mt