



#### FILM FESTIVALS

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Lyon - France  
Thessaloniki, Greece  
Liguria, Italy  
La Valletta, Malta  
Ibiza, Spain  
Limassol & Nicosia, Cyprus

# EUROPEAN TRANSNATIONAL ITINERARY

*Film Festivals  
around  
UNESCO Sites*

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## *Film Festivals around UNESCO Sites*



## *Lyon, France*

### **Lumière Festival**

Since 2009 the Lumière Festival, dedicated to the 7th art and open to the general public, has become one of the largest international festivals of classic cinema.

Once a year in Lyon, the birthplace of the Cinematograph, the cinema world celebrates the vitality and memory of film, taking a contemporary journey through works of the past (restored films, retrospectives, tributes...).

Thanks to all the participating theatres, over the course of a week in October, the Lumière Festival shines across Lyon and its surrounding area, reaching a wide audience.

At the heart of the festival, the Prix Lumière is awarded to a major figure for his or her work and relationship with the history of cinema.

There are also more than 180 screenings, exhibitions and 'ciné-concerts' (film screenings accompanied by live music).

**Discover and visit the city's UNESCO and other important Heritage sites.**

### **Notre Dame de Fourvière**

The basilica is at the top of "the hill which prays". It is named after the Virgin Mary and is listed as a historical monument. Today, considered as the emblem of the city of Lyon, the basilica welcomes millions of pilgrims and visitors each year.

Its architects are Pierre Bossan and Sainte-Marie Perrin. It was built thanks to a public subscription in 1872 and consecrated in 1896.

### **Primatiale Saint-Jean and its Astronomical Clock**

After having followed the same route as Philippe Noiret through the city, you will arrive at the Saint-Jean cathedral. Here is the primatial Saint-Jean built from 1170 until the 15th century. The apse and the choir are of Romanesque style while the transept and the nave are of Gothic style.

The lower part includes the three important gothic portals each surmounted by rosettes with quatrefoils. Degradations suffered by missing or decapitated statues are the work of the soldiers of Baron des Adrets in 1562. Fortunately, the sumptuous decoration of 320 carved medallions in the bottom of openings has only suffered time. They tell the Bible, the saints, and even courtly or monstrous scenes. The extremely varied topics are indeed inspired by Holy History, mythology, symbols, popular scenes.

Here you will find the impressive 9-meter-high astronomical clock dating from the 14th century and which comes alive with automatons representing the Annunciation. Stand under the clock as the actor Philippe Noiret, let time stop for a chime that will transport you back to the Tavernier movie. **Other Important Heritage Sites Worth Visiting In Lyon**

## Museum of Miniature & Cinéma

The innovative concept of this unique collection in Europe aims to pay tribute to the incredible but little-known talent of artists working for the 7th Art.

Enter into a wide range of film sets and discover a rich collection of authentic filming objects from the largest European film studios. Eight educational rooms illustrated with miniatures, animatronics, masks, prostheses, robots, costumes, creatures and monsters of all kinds, reveal many secrets about the special effects' techniques used in the cinema.

More than 450 mythical pieces of film delight us throughout this dive behind the scenes of secret cinema.

## Court of Appeal Of Lyon

This courthouse of Vieux-Lyon was built between 1835 and 1847 by Louis-Pierre Baltard. The architect was inspired by a Greek temple but preferred to place the columns on its main facade rather than on the sides of the temple which was customary in antiquity.

Since the construction of the new Judicial City at Part-Dieu, the building now only houses the Court of Appeal and the Court of Assizes.

Completely renovated between 2009 and 2013, the Palais de Justice of Vieux-Lyon has regained all its majesty.

By crossing its colossal facade with twenty-four columns, just as Sophia Loren in the 'Verdict' you will discover and will understand the importance of this place. It is the very site where justice has been rendered since the 10th century.

An exceptional opportunity to travel among the magistrates and lawyers in the Palais De Justice where some of the

most important trials of France have and continue to take place.

## Hôtel de Ville de Lyon

The Lyon City Hall is located between Place des Terreaux and Place de la Comédie where it faces the opera house. It was built by architect Simon Maupin in 1646. It was partly destroyed by fires and the revolution. It was restored by Tony Desjardins in 1852.

On 14th September 1944, during a speech at the Hôtel de Ville de Lyon (City Hall), General de Gaulle paid tribute to the city's commitment, and proclaimed Lyon "Capital of the Resistance".

## Quartier Saint-Jean

This district is today the most important touristic attraction point of Vieux Lyon, as much for the lyonnais as for the international tourists. Its main street, Rue Saint-Jean, highlighted by the first restorations, is the most popular of the streets of the old quarter that it crosses from north to south, from the Place du Change to Adolphe-Max. It contains a lot of architectural curiosities, especially traboules and courtyards.

In the film 'Les Lyonnais', it is in the Saint-Jean square that takes place one of the most important scenes since it is the scene of the spectacular murder of one of the main characters.

## Passage de L'argue

The passage of the Argue is a covered passage located in the district of Bellecour, in the 2nd district. It presents one of the oldest arcades of France in Province, built on the same model as those of Paris of which it is contemporary.

Famous and of high reputation in Lyon, the passage plays a significant role in the trade of the peninsula of the city.

It is in this place that is shot a key scene of the film when the actress, Isabelle Carré twirls because she has fallen in love!

## Useful links

### Calendar of Events

<https://en.lyon-france.com>

<https://www.france-voyage.com>



## Thessaloniki, Greece

### The Thessaloniki International Film Festival

The Thessaloniki International Film Festival is the top film festival of South Eastern Europe. It is a dissemination platform for the year's Greek productions, and the primary and oldest festival in the Balkans for the creations of emerging filmmakers. Thessaloniki International Film Festival is a growing force on a global scale by presenting independent and professional film productions from all over the world.

The Thessaloniki International Film Festival is a great cultural event and at the same time a big celebration during the last weeks of October and the first half of November.

People involved in the arts look forward to travelling to this amazing city and to renewing their friendships, sharing their experiences and of course enjoying nightlife.

**Discovering the UNESCO and other Heritage Sites in Thessaloniki.**

### Paleochristian and Byzantine Monuments Rotunda

Rotunda, also known as Agios Georgios, is the oldest monument in Thessaloniki. It is a massive round building that was first a Roman mausoleum, then a Christian church

and then a mosque. The interior of the monument is decorated with Early Christian mosaics. On the outside is the city's only surviving minaret.

### Saint Demetrius (Agios Dimitrios)

Agios Dimitrios is considered the most important church of Thessaloniki by the majority of the locals for religious, historical and artistic reasons as well.

The temple is a fine sample of Byzantine religious architecture of the late early period of the Empire (7th century A.D.).

Back in the 4th century A.D., a small chapel was constructed over the ruins of older roman baths. More than a century later, the initial structure was replaced by a three aisled Basilica, by a named Leontios, while finally reconstructed in 629 – 634 A.D., as a five aisled basilica.

### Hosios David Church

The Church of Hosios David is a late 5th-century church in Thessaloniki. In Byzantine times, it functioned as the katholikon of the Latomos Monastery, and it had a rich mosaic decoration, which was then renewed in the 12th–14th centuries.

### Saint Sophia (Agia Sophia)

The Paleo – Christian temple of Agia Sophia is one of the most impressive Byzantine churches of Thessaloniki. Located in the centre of the city, it is a very beautiful temple with an imposing architecture, beautiful wall paintings and elaborate mosaics.

Having a 1600 years old history, it can definitely be considered one of the most important religious sites in

Thessaloniki and in Macedonia generally.

### **Other Important Heritage Sites Worth Visiting in Thessaloniki**

#### **The Ano Poli (old town of Thessaloniki)**

Fascinating place to visit while in the city. The area was a part of the ancient walled city. Here you will be able to find wonderful examples of Ottoman Architecture, Macedonian monuments and many historical sites. Interestingly enough the place is also surrounded by numerous restaurants which provide a lovely view of the ancient city.

Aristotelous square: a huge busy square surrounded by beautiful buildings where you can enjoy a nice coffee.

#### **The White Tower**

Is the emblem of Thessaloniki, perhaps the most recognizable spot in the city. A lovely buff covered, stinky cylindrical monument once part of the walled city. This fort was once used as a strategic vantage point but now is a huge tourist attraction and a very important landmark of the city.

#### **The Archaeological museum of Thessaloniki**

An astonishing number of incredibly beautiful pieces of art and articles from the ancient times.

#### **Museum of Byzantine Culture**

A wonderful tribute to the Byzantine Era in Greece's history. This museum showcases the period of history with the aid of over 2000 rare artifacts.

#### **Arch (Kamara) and Rotunda of Galerious**

Perhaps the most distinctive and interesting roman structure of Thessaloniki.

## *Useful links*

### **Calendar of Events**

<https://thessaloniki.gr/i-want-to-know-whats-going-on-in-the-city/?lang=en>

### **Accommodation**

<https://services.grhotels.gr/en/SearchAccommodation/>  
<http://www.tha.gr/default.aspx?lang=en-GB&page=1>

### **Restaurants**

<https://thessaloniki.gr/i-want-to-know-the-city/discover/feel-the-city/gastronomy/?lang=en>



## Liguria, Italy

### Riviera Film Festival

Born in 2017, aspires to link the different generations of authors and directors with a new formula of cinema enjoyment, made of entertainment and training. RIFF takes place with a section dedicated to documentaries on environmental issues and with a variety of events that surprise the public, sponsors and professionals.

### Discovering the UNESCO and other Heritage Sites near Sestri Levante

### Portovenere, Cinque Terre

Portovenere, Cinque Terre (45 Km Cinque Terre to Sestri Levante), and the Islands (Palmaria, Tino, and Tinetto) is a collective property listed as one of the cultural sites recognized by UNESCO in Italy. This cultural landscape is considered of universal and cultural significance as it showcases how the impact of human activity transformed the steep slopes of the Ligurian Coast. Specifically, these steep slopes are heavily planted with agricultural products such as olive trees and vines.

### Other Important Heritage Sites worth visiting in Sestri Levante Area

Baia del Silenzio (Bay of Silence). This bay is a hidden gem; small, idyllic, and sandy, probably the most beautiful and romantic beach in Liguria. Walk in one of the many lovely bars and treat yourself with a cold drink and local delicatessens.

Alternatively, you can visit the “Baia delle Favole” beach. From there you can see Portofino, Santa Margherita Ligure, Rapallo, Chiavari and Lavagna. The bay offers numerous public and private beaches.

From either bay, go up the small hill on via Cappuccini to reach Chiesa dell’ Immacolata, a small and very picturesque church built in the XVII century by Capuchin friars. Inside the church you can admire paintings of the local artist Fiasella.

However, the most interesting thing about this place is the panoramic view of both bays. This view explains why Sestri Levante is called “the town of two seas”.

Go down the hill through via 25 Aprile and continue until you reach the small square called Piazza Matteotti to visit the biggest church of the town called Chiesa Bianca (The White Church). On the left of the church, take via Penisola Levante to lead you to the ruins of St. Katherine Oratory. This modest and simple Oratory was initially built in the 18th century. The real attraction of St. Katherine Oratory is a huge panoramic terrace which is located behind the building.

Finally, if you go all the way up via Penisola Levante you will reach Chiesa di San Nicolò (St. Nicolas Church), the oldest church in Sestri Levante. This church was once the most important church of Sestri Levante but, when the White Church in Piazza Matteotti was built, it losted its importance.

On a square in the front of St. Nicolas Church, you can admire another panoramic view of Sestri Levante and Baia del Silenzio.

## Genoa Film Festival

Genova Film Festival was born in 1998 and is nowadays a member of the A.F.I.C (Associazione Festival Italiani di Cinema), (Association of Italian Movie Festivals).

It is a competition, organised in 2 sections dedicated to short movies, moyenmétrage and documentaries.

### Discovering the UNESCO and other Heritage Sites in Genoa

#### The Palaces of Genoa

In 2006, UNESCO included the site "Genoa: le Strade Nuove and the system of the Palazzi dei Rolli" in the list of World Heritage Sites.

Forty-two buildings distributed along a circular path starting from Piazza Corvetto to Via Balbi, almost touching the sea along Via del Campo and Via San Luca. The "Rolli" includes 114 buildings.

#### The Nuovo Cinema Europa Festival

The Nuovo Cinema Europa Festival is an international film event which has taken place annually in Genoa since 2010. We are the only Italian festival to put the focus on first works by European filmmakers. Our goal is to promote new European cinema by showcasing a careful selection of recent feature films by debut directors and inviting international guests to Genoa. All films are in the original language and subtitled in Italian. The festival also includes in-depth sessions dedicated to up-and-coming Italian filmmakers and already established European directors.

During the week of the festival the programme features screenings, discussions, seminars on various aspects of international cinema, and other activities.

#### Palazzo Rosso

Palazzo Rosso is one of the first Rolli palaces we encounter following the luxury trail of earlier times when the nobles used to stroll, showing off along the streets of Genoa. This is a noble stately home decorated with frescoes by the greatest Ligurian painters of the 17th century and precious furnishings, houses an extensive painting collection, collected by the Brignole-Sale family for over two centuries. The Gallery of this Genoese aristocratic building features works of art by Dürer, Veronese, Guercino, Strozzi, Grechetto, Van Dyck, and many others.

#### Palazzo Reale

Following Via Balbi, we arrive to Palazzo Reale, originally a noble residence built in the 17th century by the Balbi family, in 1677, it was inherited by Eugenio Durazzo, who transformed it into an impressive Baroque-style building, reminiscent of a Roman palace. In 1824, it came into the possession of the Royal House of Savoy, who adopted it as their Genoese residence, hence the name Palazzo Reale, or Royal Palace.

Today the mansion hosts the wonderful National Museum in the heart of the monumental Via Balbi.

Inside Palazzo Reale you will discover the impressive Hall of Mirrors, known as the "lite" version of Versailles, a stunning hall dating to the 18th century.

## Digital Fiction Festival

It was inaugurated in the summer 2019. The festival took place at the stunning Castlefranco Fortess in Finale Ligure, near to Savona. The Festival hosted important TV serie

producers and actors.

### Discovering the UNESCO and other Heritage Sites in Finale Ligure

#### Finale Ligure

Finale Ligure is located adjacent to the Rock of Caprazoppa, a mountain on the southwest, and much of the town extends uphill slopes.

The town of Finale Ligure is divided into three "boroughs". Finale Ligure Marina (Finalmarina), Finale Pia (Finalpia) which is the traditional center of the town, where a Benedictine abbey still stands. Finalborgo, the third borough located further inland, consists of an old walled medieval town built at the joncion of two streams: Aquila and Pora.

### Important Heritage Sites worth visiting in Finale Ligure Area

#### Grotte di Borgio Verezzi

The caves of Borgio Verezzi offer a tourist path of about 800 meters inside large rooms, among huge blocks detached from the vault in remote eras. Very rich concretions of every shape: from the cannulae, thin and almost transparent, to the drapes, thin as sheets, to the large columns that seem to support the vault up to the eccentric stalactites, that defy the gravity force developing in all directions. And a variety of colors: white, yellow, and red in a many different shades.

#### La Val Ponci e i Ponti Romani

About 4 kilometers away from the coast of Finalpia, moving in the inland towards the hamlet of Calvisio, you can enter

one of the most stunning valleys around Finale, the Val Ponci. Dominated by the spectacular Crag Rocca di Corno and crossed by the ancient Roman road Julia Augusta, this valley is one of the most precious pieces of evidence of the Roman presence in Liguria.

There are five Roman bridges that are still standing and in excellent conditions.

The Valle Ponci is a perfect destination not only for climbers and bikers but also for all nature lovers who want to spend a day of relaxation and walks in the countryside.

### Chiesa di San Paragorio

San Paragorio is a church located outside the Medieval walls of the town of Noli, province of Savona. It is an important monument of Romanesque architecture and it is ranked among the most beautiful buildings of this style to be seen in Liguria. It is an Italian national monument since 1890.

The church has two phases of use: Paleochristian and Romanesque. It is dedicated to St. Paragorius, a saint who fled with his companions from Libya, to escape from persecution under Diocletian, took refuge in Corsica, in the town of Calenzana, and there was martyred. In the 5th–6th century his relics were taken to Noli, as the island was threatened with invasions of Vandals.

### Ponente International Film Festival

Ponente International Film Festival was born in 2015, thanks to the cultural association "Decima Musa". It's a festival dedicated to the Mediterranean area productions mainly coming from Europe, North Africa, Middle-East and the Balkans. It is developed among Ventimiglia, Bordighera

and Sanremo.

### Places to visit in "Ponente" (Western) Area of Liguria Region

#### Ventimiglia

Ventimiglia is a city in Liguria, northern Italy, in the province of Imperia. It is located 130 km southwest of Genoa, and 7 km from the French-Italian border, on the Gulf of Genoa, having a small harbour at the mouth of the Roia River, which divides the town into two parts.

#### Bordighera

One of the closest coastal towns in Liguria to the French border, Bordighera is known for its old town and exotic gardens, and for the neighbouring villages of Sasso and Borghetto San Nicolò that preserve their own historic centres are now part of Bordighera itself.

Bordighera is located at 20 kilometres (12 mi) from France and it is possible to see the French coast with a naked eye from the town. Having the "Capo Sant'Ampelio" which protrudes into the sea, it is the southernmost commune of the region. The cape is at around the same latitude of Pisa and features a little church built in the 11th century for Sant'Ampelio, the patron saint of the city. Since Bordighera is built where the Maritime Alps plunge into the sea it benefits from the Foehn effect which creates a special microclimate with warmer winters than in other parts of the Region.

#### Sanremo

Sanremo is a coastal city in northwestern Italy. Its green spaces include the park of Villa Ormond, with a Japanese

garden, palm trees and ancient olive groves. The 12th-century San Siro Cathedral has 12 bells in its tower, plus a huge crucifix above its altar. Nearby, the Russian Church has 5 onion domes.

### Discovering the UNESCO and other Heritage Sites in Sanremo Area

#### Basilica Concattedrale di San Siro

The Cathedral of San Siro is the oldest religious building and one of the leading examples of Romanesque architecture in western Liguria. Located in the historical center, in the square, it was built in the 12th century. It is located on the same name street of the Maddalena district. It is an impressive building which shows off the quality of materials and the great ability of artisans who worked here.

#### Santuario Madonna Della Costa Cathedral

Beautiful Baroque shrine with large central dome richly frescoed and beautiful preserved. The Sanctuary is located in the Sanremo Heights, from which you can admire a beautiful panorama. Inside there are works by Fiasella and Maragliano.

#### Giardini di Villa Ormond

Giardini di Villa Ormond is located in Sanremo. Villa Ormond Park in Sanremo was commissioned in the second half of the nineteenth century by Michel Louis Ormond, a Swiss businessman, as a place to meet or rest, or for festive ceremonies, a setting for memories, like a picture postcard in the time of patrons and travellers. It reveals the harmonious synthesis of experience and aesthetic taste of

botanists, agronomists and landscape designers who planted collections of palms, trees and shrubs from every continent here in a skilful blend of shapes and colours.

### Corso dell' Imperatrice Promenade

Quite beautiful and historic promenade, where many famous people used to take strolls. It is very beautiful with palm trees gifted by the Russian imperatrice Maria Alexandranova in 1984.

### Video Festival Imperia

The Videofestival City of Imperia is a competition organized by the "Officine Digitali, in collaboration with the Municipality of Imperia and Conf Commercio (Italian confederation of trade and commerce) and it is dedicated to works produced in every kind of system and ratio. The Festival is restricted to professional directors, filmmakers and schools (in a separate section).

Imperia is Liguria's westernmost province. It borders on Piedmont to the north, the Province of Savona to the east, and France to the west. To the south, it is lapped by the Ligurian Sea. The Provincial Capital is Imperia (41,500 residents) but the most populated town is San Remo (56,000 residents).

The stretch of coast belonging to Imperia Province is also known as the Riviera dei Fiori, the Flower Riviera, characterized by bays, ports and coves that become valleys, creeks and peaks standing above 984 ft. The sea of the Riviera is known for a mild climate, even in winter.

At a short distance from the coast, behind the hills are valleys and pristine woods.

**Discovering the UNESCO and other Heritage Sites in**

### Imperia Area

#### Villa Grock – Tourist Attraction

Acquired by the Province of Imperia in 2002, the house was opened to the public for the first time in January 17th, 2010 after a complete restoration of the main floors, with full respect for their original characteristics. The original home of the greatest clown in history "Grock" gave birth to a cultural project based on new technologies.

#### Piazza Dante

Piazza Dante is the nineteenth century center of Oneglia, the reference point of the city from which the main streets of the town branch off. One of these is via Bonfante with its arcades and beautiful shops. This square is the pulsating heart of Imperia, sporting a pretty central fountain and framed by graceful ochre-coloured neoclassic buildings, in the typical style of the house of Savoy. Oneglia was in fact the port of the kingdom of Piedmont for many centuries and the architecture reflects it. Around it there are some historical shops widows, like those of "Caffè Pasticceria Piccardo", and some unusually shaped, large green kiosks, which seem coming from another era.

#### Santuario Monte Calvario

This 17th c. monastery was built by a religious confraternity. The stunning façade opens to a small precious interior containing artistic treasures. It is used for chamber music concerts in addition to booked ceremonies like weddings. On the top floor there is a museum with original exhibits, such as the procession of costumes used in the past. Concerts are held in the vast parvise looking out on one of the most spectacular views of the Riviera.

## Useful links

### Calendar of Events

<https://www.lamialiguria.it/en/eventi.html>

<http://www.visitgenoa.it>

### Getting around Genoa

<https://www.amt.genova.it/amt/>

<http://www.visitgenoa.it/en/public-transport>

### Accommodation

<https://www.lamialiguria.it/en/ospitalita-in-liguria.html>

<https://www.visitgenoa.it/en/dovedormire>

### Restaurants

<https://www.liguriagourmet.it/>

<https://www.lamialiguria.it/en/taste-liguria.html>

### Miscellaneous

[www.visitgenoa.it/en/rolli](http://www.visitgenoa.it/en/rolli)

[www.visitgenoa.it/en/rolli-days-may-2019](http://www.visitgenoa.it/en/rolli-days-may-2019)

[www.rolliestradenuove.it](http://www.rolliestradenuove.it)

[www.instagram.com/tags/rolligenova](https://www.instagram.com/tags/rolligenova)

<https://www.lamialiguria.it/en/component/content/article/179-plan-your-trip/1053-liguria-by-car.html?Itemid=573>



## *La Valletta, Malta*

### **La Valletta Film Festival**

For ten days, Europe's smallest capital city transforms every summer into an open cinema with screenings and events happening at different squares and other historical buildings. Valletta Film Festival is Malta's largest cinematic event and attracts around 10,000 visitors each year. The festival exhibits over forty featured films and twenty-four short films and organizes a number of master classes and workshops.

Valletta Film Festival has developed a strong connection with the cultural life and heritage of the country. In 2019, the organization launched Summer Cinema, a touring cinema concept around Malta and Gozo. This initiative included five free screenings at various open-air venues around the islands, an incredible opportunity for both visitors and locals to live cinema in a different way. As part of the aim to expand the Valletta Film Festival's throughout the year, the organizers have also launched the VFF Weekend, held in November.

### **Discovering the UNESCO and other Heritage Sites in Valletta**

The whole city of Valletta is a cultural UNESCO World Heritage Site.

It has a population of less than 7,000, it is one of the smallest capital cities in the world. Its character and vibe of the city is essentially Baroque in nature. There, you can find several architecture and monuments that depict the Neo-classical, Mannerist, and Modern architecture.

The Second World War left many portions of the city in ruins, though. But despite of that, the city still holds a lot of cultural and historical value, which is why the City of Valletta is named a UNESCO site.

### **The Grand Harbour**

Malta's Grand Harbour commands the respect of many sailors, visitors and historians of all nationalities. This deep natural harbour has been regarded as a safe refuge since ancient times. Breath-taking views of Fort St. Angelo, Fort Ricasoli and the historic Three Cities of Bormla, Birgu and Isla, on one side and the magnificent re-developed Pinto Vaults on the other.

### **Fort St. Angelo**

One of Malta's most well-known landmarks, Fort Saint Angelo, was fortified in 1530, when the Order of Saint John came to the island. This massive fort has several rooms that reflect its crucial role in the Maltese history. Beneath the fort lies a prison which was greatly feared and housed many high-ranking offenders within the order.

In 1609 the famous painter Caravaggio was imprisoned at St Angelo after found guilty of injuring a knight during a quarrel. Fort St. Angelo is the jewel in the crown of Malta's fortifications.

### **Malta Film Studios Water Tanks**

This 90,000 square feet water studio complex is a few minutes south of the capital of Valletta on the edge of a natural harbour over-looking the Mediterranean.

Malta Film Studios (MFS) boasts of one indoor tank and two large exterior water tanks situated along the coast and

therefore enjoying a natural horizon. MFS is also reputed for set construction, especially for boat building and model-making.

### Fort Saint Elmo

Built by the Knights of the Order of St John in 1552, named after the patron saint of mariners, this fort has been Guarding Marsamxett and Grand Harbour through the times. The fortifications consist of several walled cities, citadels, forts and towers. Fort Saint Elmo houses The National War Museum which exhibits a superb collection of items taking visitors back to prehistoric times. While in the museum take a WAR H.Q. TUNNEL TOUR, to experience the feeling of WWII.

### Valletta Waterfront

An impressive waterfront with nineteen historical warehouses built by Grand Master Pinto at the pick of the baroque period in Malta. Valletta Waterfront is stretching along the water's edge and the historical Quay Wall where the Knights of St John and European merchants used to unload their wares.

### The Upper Barrakka Gardens

The beautiful Upper Barrakka Gardens are built on top of a bastion, on the highest point of Valletta and provide a space of peace and shade in the heart of the capital city. The gardens offer fantastic views of the Grand Harbour, the cities of Senglea, Vittoriosa and Kalkara.

Every day at noon, members of the Malta Heritage Society (dressed in British Artillery uniforms) visit the gardens and fire a salute.

### Lascaris War Rooms

Lascaris War Rooms, named after Giovanni Paolo Lascaris, an Italian nobleman and also the Grandmaster of the Knights of Malta, are located 400 feet under the Upper Barrakka Gardens and represent one of Malta's best kept secrets from the Second World War.

This ultra-secret complex is composed of a network of tunnels and chambers underground. The Lascaris War Rooms housed British's War headquarters in Malta from where all the defence and offensive operations in the Mediterranean were directed.

In July 1943, the War Rooms were used by General Eisenhower and his Supreme Commanders as their advance Allied HQ for Operation Husky - the invasion of Sicily. After the war, Lascaris War Rooms became the Mediterranean Fleet HQ, playing an important role in the Anglo-French invasion of Egypt during the Suez crisis in 1956, going into full alert for a number of days during the Cuban Missile Crises of 1962.

In 1967 it was taken by NATO to be used as a strategic Communication Centre for the interception of Soviet submarines in the Mediterranean.

### National Museum of Archaeology

A must see. Housed in the Auberge de Provence, serves as an excellent example of fine Baroque architecture. The Auberge de Provence was built to house the Knights of the Order of St John and displays beautiful architectural features. Of particular note is the Grand Salon, with its richly painted walls and wooden beamed ceiling. The Museum exhibits a spectacular range of artefacts dating back to Malta's Neolithic period (5000 BC) up to the Phoenician Period (400 BC).

### The Grand Master's Palace

The Grand Master's Palace was once the residence of the Grand Masters of the Knights of St John and was connected to a secret tunnel to allow the Grand Master to escape in case of attack.

The palace houses the famous Council Chamber which is decorated with valuable Gobelins tapestries woven in France, the former Hall of the Supreme Council of the Knights with its fine frescoes and the Hall of the Ambassadors, with its red damask walls decorated with precious furniture and frescoes depicting episodes of the history of the Order of St. John by the artist Joel lo Spada.

On the basement floor lies the pride of the palace, the Armoury, exhibiting one of the largest collections of its kind in the world. The Armoury houses around 5,000 of the original 25,000 Knights of St John suits of armour, weapons including crossbows, muskets, swords and pistols.

## Useful links

### Calendar of Events

<https://www.visitmalta.com/en/home>

<https://www.whatson.com.mt/en/home.htm>



## *Ibiza, Spain*

### **Ibicine Film Festival**

Ibicine brings short films to the island of Ibiza on a stage that year after year grows in talent and international impact. Through semi-finals, finals, cinema-related events and conferences, the festival unfolds throughout the year to become a meeting point of cinema professionals and lovers on the island. Ibicine seeks to promote the short film as a genre, making it more accessible and appealing for the general public. In addition to this, the festival seeks to promote professional cinema on the island by integrating it into the rich cultural life of its community.

Part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site list since 1999, Ibiza is the perfect place to disconnect from the big cities in a natural environment in which the blend of the sea and the mountain has given rise to an ecosystem unparalleled in the world. That makes it the perfect scenario for Ibicine, a place to create, enjoy and learn in an atmosphere blessed by the magic of cinema.

### **Discovering the UNESCO and other Heritage Sites in Ibiza**

The capital is located in Ibiza, with its impressive fortress, declared UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1999. This international award acknowledges its historical, cultural, and architectural value. It is the best-preserved coastal fortress in the Mediterranean.

### **Dalt Vila, Ibiza's fortified old town (Acropolis)**

Mystery and discoveries, a place of worship spanning 2,500 years, wonderful panoramic views, and a treasure trove of history are all encapsulated in this UNESCO World Heritage site. The cathedral dominating the square situated at the top of the fortified area within the walls of Ibiza's old town (Dalt Vila) dominates the square.

In front of the cathedral lies the Archaeological Museum exhibiting numerous collections from the Phoenician and Carthaginian era with artefacts from the necropolis of Puig des Molins, where its sister museum is located.

Dalt Villa has been a cultural crossover for centuries, and this fortress' environment is the stage for concerts, poetic cycles, exhibitions, and cultural activities all year round.

### **Phoenician remains of Sa Caleta in Saint Joseph**

The discovery of this archaeological site with its origins going back to the VIIIth Century b. C. was essential to understand the history of Ibiza. UNESCO considers that the assets discovered "they are exceptional evidence of urbanization and social life in the Phoenician colonies of the western Mediterranean. They constitute a unique resource, in terms of volume and importance, of material from the Phoenician and Carthaginian tombs", and defines Ibiza as a privileged setting due to its biodiversity.

For the importance and historical value of the discovery, the settlement was included as a world heritage by Unesco in 1999 called 'Ibiza, biodiversity and culture'.

### Phoenician-Punic cemetery of Puig des Molins (Necropolis)

This massive necropolis houses over 4,000 tombs that date back to the Phoenician era and the era of the Punic (Carthaginians). Exhibited in the Monographic Puig des Molins Museum, the magnificence of this archaeological find is only bettered by the tremendous collection housed at the museum – a collection consisting of the Phoenician, Punic and Roman treasures discovered in the burial chambers. The Phoenician-Punic cemetery of Puig des Molins is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1999.

### Ethnographic Museum of Ibiza

The museum is housed in a converted country house and offers a unique experience of the traditional Ibizan rural life. Named Can Ros, this traditional rural house has a typical "porxo" (main room), kitchen, bedrooms, oil mill, balcony, well and cistern and attempts to record and preserve a way of life almost forgotten; how it was for the people of Ibiza before modern times.

Visitors can get a fascinating insight into the past of Ibiza through the vast collection of clothing, jewellery, farming and fishing implements, toys and musical instruments tools displayed.

Santa Eularia des Riu or Santa Eulalia del Río, a relaxed town on the east coast of Ibiza with a lot of beaches, markets and charming villages. The town centre is based around a pretty promenade, with plenty of restaurants, bars and cafes, plus a stunning white sandy beach.

Well known for its gastronomy this is a good spot to pick a restaurant and order your fill of delicious seafood! The town grew around the 16th century church Puig de Missa, where visitors and locals alike can enjoy incredible panoramic views of the town next to the Mediterranean Sea.

### Church of Puig de Missa

Situated at the top of a high hill overlooking the town of Santa Eulalia, this 16th century fortified church is a great example of traditional Ibizan architecture.

## Useful links

### Calendar of Events

[http://www.ibizapureevents.com/?gclid=EAlaQobChMluleKuc2J5QlVBp53Ch2tmQY6EAAAYASAAEgJqcvD\\_BwE](http://www.ibizapureevents.com/?gclid=EAlaQobChMluleKuc2J5QlVBp53Ch2tmQY6EAAAYASAAEgJqcvD_BwE)  
<https://www.ibiza-spotlight.com/events>  
<https://www.essentialibiza.com/ibiza-party-calendar/>

### Restaurants

<https://theculturetrip.com/europe/spain/articles/foodie-s-guide-to-eating-out-in-ibiza-10-must-try-restaurants/>  
[https://www.ibiza-spotlight.com/restaurant\\_guide\\_i.htm](https://www.ibiza-spotlight.com/restaurant_guide_i.htm)  
<https://www.elitetraveler.com/finest-dining/the-5-best-restaurants-in-ibiza>