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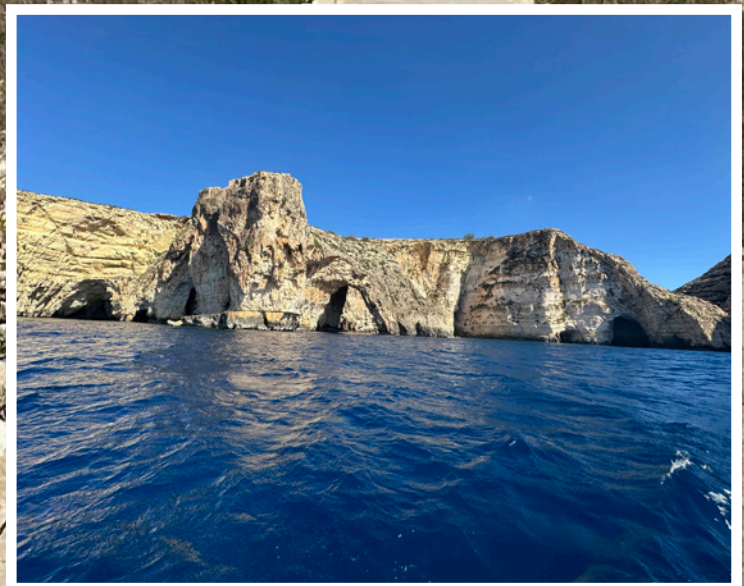
MNAJDRA TEMPLE, MALTA

Marianne Migliori, RIMJ Graphic Designer, checks RIMJ within the Mnajdra Archaeological Site. Comprised of huge limestone blocks that were shaped and relocated to the site, it is one of seven megalithic temple sites in Malta, and dates from c. 3500 BCE, making it older than Stonehenge and the Egyptian pyramids. The entire site is now protected by a large architectural canopy.

Mnajdra is located on a rocky cliff overlooking the sea, on Malta's southern coast. About a mile away are a series of caverns accessible only by small boat, collectively known as the Blue Grotto.

The republic of Malta is an archipelago in the Mediterranean Sea, about 100 miles south of Sicily. It covers a mere 122 square miles, with the largest island, Malta, being only 17 miles long and 9 miles wide.

Over the centuries, it has been ruled and influenced by the Phoenicians, Romans, Tunisians, Normans, Turks, French, and British (from 1800–1979). In 1530, the Holy Roman Emperor gave Malta to Knights of Saint John, who built fortifications and the city of Valletta, and who controlled it until 1798 when Napoleon drove them out.



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