



UNITED STATES TOUR OPERATORS ASSOCIATION (USTOA) PREPARES FOR SPRING 2020 OUT-OF-COUNTRY BOARD MEETING IN MALTA



From L to R: Valletta at night; Villa Corinthia, Corinthia Palace; Battery Street, Valletta

(February 27, 2020, New York, New York) – Terry Dale, USTOA President & CEO, accompanied by Michelle Buttigieg, Malta Tourism Authority (MTA) representative North America, returned from a site inspection in preparation for USTOA's 2020 Out-Of-Country Board Meeting April 25 – May 1 in Malta. The host hotel will be the five-star Corinthia Palace and Turkish Airlines is the official USTOA Malta Board Meeting air carrier.

Terry Dale reported that "the host committee, led by Michelle Buttigieg, is extremely well organized and the program that is being prepared is truly amazing." Dale added, "With every visit to Malta, I continue to discover and delight in this Mediterranean archipelago's wealth of history and culture. I am convinced that our USTOA Board members will have a one-of-a-kind experience" said Dale

To add to the excitement of Malta itself, Dale noted "the USTOA Board members will find that the Corinthia Palace, a property itself steeped in history, reflects the essence of the Maltese experience, warm hospitality from an extremely attentive staff, in a truly luxurious setting." said Dale. "We are also very fortunate that we will have a special dining experience in the historic Villa Corinthia, with Corinthia's well-known Maltese Executive Chef, Stefan Hogan."

Carlo Micallef, Deputy CEO and Chief Marketing Officer, MTA, "We are confident that following their Malta experience, the USTOA Board Members will have a better understanding of why Malta has become so popular in the North American market, as well as experience first-hand, the professionalism of our DMCs and the world-class luxury of our hotels." He added, "MTA is also appreciative of the strong support of the host committee made up of USTOA Maltese members, Alpine Sterling, Exclusively Malta and United Travel Group. MTA also recognizes the great support from the host hotel, Corinthia Palace as well as the Official Air Carrier, Turkish Airlines."

-ENDS-

About Malta

The sunny islands of Malta, in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea, are home to a most remarkable concentration of intact built heritage, including the highest density of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in any nation-state anywhere. Valletta built by the proud Knights of St. John is one of the UNESCO sights and was a European Capital of Culture for 2018. Malta's patrimony in stone ranges from the oldest free-standing stone architecture in the world, to one of the British Empire's most formidable defensive systems, and includes a rich mix of domestic, religious and military architecture from the ancient, medieval and early modern periods. With superbly sunny weather, attractive beaches, a thriving nightlife and 7,000 years of intriguing history, there is a great deal to see and do.

For Further Information and Photography: www.visitmalta.com

About USTOA

Representing nearly \$19 billion in revenue, the member companies of U.S. Tour Operators Association provide tours, packages and custom arrangements that allow 9.8 million travelers annually unparalleled access, insider knowledge, peace-of-mind, value and freedom to enjoy destinations and experiences across the entire globe. Each member company has met the travel industry's highest standards, including participation in the USTOA's Travelers Assistance Program, which protects consumer payments up to \$1 million if the company goes out of business. As a voice for the tour operator industry for more than 40 years, USTOA also provides education and assistance for consumers and travel agents. www.ustoa.com

About Corinthia Palace

Originally opened as a restaurant and transformed into Corinthia's founding hotel in 1968, Corinthia Palace in Attard has become a legendary part of Malta – a see and be seen destination. The San Anton Palace and its glorious gardens are a few moments away, but the hotel grounds themselves are idyllic. Alfresco dining is championed come summertime with The Summer Kitchen complementing the sunsoaked days and balmy evenings. An elegant residence with 147 charming rooms and suites, the real magic of Malta can be observed from the comfort of this tranquil hotel. For more information visit corinthia.com/palace, @corinthiapalace on Twitter, @CorinthiaPalaceHotel on Facebook and @corinthiapalace on Instagram.

About Turkish Airlines

Established in 1933 with a fleet of five aircraft, Star Alliance member Turkish Airlines has a fleet of 337 (passenger and cargo) aircraft flying to 311 worldwide destinations as 261 international and 50 domestic, in 124 countries. More information about Turkish Airlines can be found on its official website www.turkishairlines.com or its social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn, and Instagram.

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