

Documents Required for Getting Married in Malta

In order for the wedding to be legally binding then you need to have the following legal documentation in place.

[1] **Rz1** - to be signed by groom and bride. Bride has to indicate which surname she will be using after marriage.

[2] **Rz2** - to be signed by groom and bride in the presence of a solicitor, not earlier than 3 months prior to date of marriage. The Solicitor is to sign, date and stamp the declaration. Please use separate forms.

[3] Groom's and bride's **Birth Certificate / Adoption Certificate** (showing also parents' names); **an original or a true/repeated copy authenticated by the competent authority that issued the document** + any **Deed Polls**.

[4] **MARITAL STATUS RELATED CERTIFICATES** – certificates are to be issued by your Local Registrar not more than 3 months prior to the intended date of marriage. Please vide table below:

SINGLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Spouses have to prove that they have never been married and that they are still single. Thus they have to provide this Registry with a FREE STATUS CERTIFICATE or a CERTIFICATE OF NO IMPEDIMENT or a NO TRACE LETTER.
WIDOWED PERSONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Certificate of first marriage - an original or a true/repeated copy authenticated by the competent authority that issued the document.➤ Death Certificate of late spouse - an original or a true/repeated copy authenticated by the competent authority that issued the document.➤ FREE STATUS CERTIFICATE or a CERTIFICATE OF NO IMPEDIMENT – stating that they are still widowed and have not contracted any other form of marriage.

DIVORCEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Divorce or Marriage Annulment Court Decisions - an original or a true/repeated copy authenticated by the Court that delivered the judgment or decree. ➤ FREE STATUS CERTIFICATE or a CERTIFICATE OF NO IMPEDIMENT – stating that they are still divorced and have not contracted any other form of marriage since their divorce.
<p><u>FREE STATUS CERTIFICATE</u></p> <p><u>CERTIFICATE OF NO IMPEDIMENT</u></p> <p><u>NO TRACE LETTER</u></p> <p>If none of these certificates is issued by your Local Registrar, then make use of the 3rd Party Declaration... which declaration has to be completed by a member of your family or a very close friend in the presence of a solicitor not more than 3 months prior to the date of marriage. It is absolutely necessary that the solicitor signs, dates the declaration and affixes his personal stamp or seal.</p>	

[5] PHOTOCOPY of groom's and bride's passport; just the page with the photo + a valid visa

[6] PHOTOCOPY of witnesses' passport (also, please tell us where they live, just the town/city/county and country).

[7] Occupation of spouses.

Documents at [3] & [4] above, you can ask to have them issued in the multi-lingual version, otherwise they have to be translated into English by an accredited translator. These documents (the originals and their relative translations) must also be apostilled or legalised by the competent authority in the country where they were issued in accordance with the *Hague Apostille Convention*.

WHAT IS AN APOSTILLE? “... Examples of public documents for which Apostilles are issued in practice include birth, marriage and death certificates. Apostilles may only be issued by a Competent Authority designated by the State from which the public document emanates. The Apostille is placed by the Competent Authority on the public document itself or on an *allonge*. The effect of an Apostille is to certify the authenticity of the signature, the capacity in which the person signing the document has acted, and where appropriate, the identity of the seal or stamp which the document bears.” (*HAGUE APOSTILLE CONVENTION*).

WITNESSES: The witnesses must be 18+ years old and must provide either their passport or Identity Card for identification purposes.

CAPACITY TO MARRY ABROAD: Please do enquire with your local Marriage Registrar whether you have to do any formalities in your own country so that your marriage in Malta will also be valid and legal in your country of domicile.

May I finally remind you that the Marriage Registry forms (Rz1 and Rz2), duly filled in, together with the other documents required and the relative Marriage Registry fee should reach this Registry by post not more than 3 months and not less than 6 weeks prior to the date of marriage.

Documentation required for Catholic Church wedding for bride & groom as follows:

These are the documents needed for a Church Wedding to be celebrated outside the spouses' Diocese

Documents prepared by the Parish priest:

Pre-nuptial forms for the Bride and the groom.

Certificates of Baptism, Confirmation and free to marry declarations.

Certificate that the couple attended a preparatory course for Catholic Wedding

All paper work will be sent by the Parish priest to The Diocese's Office (Curia) for approval from where all paper work will be posted to the

ARCHBISHOP'S CURIA

FLORIANA FRN 1535 MALTA