



Transport Malta

PORTS AND YACHTING DIRECTORATE

Ref: TM/PYD/PN/04/2023

To: Ship Owners and Operators
Ship Agents
Ship Masters
Terminals and Marine Facilities Operators

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Minimum Towage Requirements – Revision 2.0

Mariners are advised that with immediate effect, the Towage Requirements – Revision 2.0 as specified in the table annexed to this Notice – Annex I & II shall apply within Maltese ports and their approaches.

The Authority reminds all that towage is regulated in terms of the Authority for Transport in Malta Act (Cap. 499) and the Towage (Tariff of Rates) Regulations (S.L. 499.49) of the Laws of Malta. Towage shall be under the supervision and regulation of the Authority at all times.

Cruise Liners, scheduled Liner Ro-Ro & Ro-Pax vessels, Authorised Bunker Barges and Authorised High Speed Craft (HSC) are normally exempt from minimum tug requirements, as specified in the Annex to this Port Notice, subject to Master/Pilot Information Exchange and vessels passage plan taking into account the prevailing weather circumstances and conditions.

The Authority may, under specific circumstances and on application, exempt a specific vessel/s from these minimum tug requirements.

Furthermore, in terms of the Harbour Towage Agreement, it is to be reminded that Tug Malta Ltd is the appointed exclusive harbour towage service provider, including tug assistance from one port to another, in the port areas defined in Part I and Part II of the Schedule to the Ports and Shipping Act (Cap. 352) and their approaches, and other emergency services.

In case of disabled vessels, cold moves or exceptional circumstances, tug requirements may be increased based on an assessment conducted by the Ship's Master and the Pilot and confirmed by the Harbour Master.

Day light restrictions apply in the case of specific berths and docking operations.

The Authority reserves the right to alter tug requirements as directed by the Harbour Master.

Port Notice No 01 of 2021 is hereby being repealed.

Capt. David Bugeja
Chief Officer and Harbour Master

14th June 2023

MINIMUM TOWAGE REQUIREMENTS – Revision 2.0

GRAND HARBOUR											
Ship's Length	Berthing	Unberthing	Ship's Length	Berthing	Unberthing	Ship's Length	Berthing	Unberthing	Ship's Length	Berthing	Unberthing
	Ricasoli Tank Cleaning Farm		Palumbo Shipyards – Wharfs Quays*		Palumbo Shipyards Docks *		Bighi & Fish market (on anchors) *				
Up to 100m	1 Tug (i)	1 Tug (i)	Up to 100m	1 Tug (i)	1 Tug (i)	Up to 100m	1 Tug (ii)	1 Tug (ii)	Up to 130m	1 Tug	0 Tug
101 – 200m	2 Tugs (i)	2 Tugs (i)	101 – 200m	2 Tugs	2 Tugs	101 – 200m	2 Tugs (ii)	2 Tugs (ii)	131 – 160m	2 Tugs (i)	2 Tugs (i)
201 – 239m	3 Tugs (iii)	3 Tugs (iii)	> 200m	3 Tugs (iii)	3 Tugs (iii)	201 – 239m	3 Tugs (iii)	3 Tugs (iii)	161 – 200m	2 Tugs	2 Tugs
>239m	4 Tugs	4 Tugs				>239m	4 Tugs (i)	4 Tugs (i)	> 200m	2 Tugs	2 Tugs
						> 300m	4 Tugs (iv)	4 Tugs (iv)			
	Menga Basin *		Pinto Wharfs and Deep-Water Quays		Malta Maritime Hub Basin ***						
Up to 130m	2 Tugs (i)	1 Tug	Up to 100m	0 Tug	0 Tug	Up to 100m	1 Tug (i)	1 Tug (i)			
131 – 200m	2 Tugs	2 Tugs	101 – 150m	1 Tug	1 Tug	101 – 170m	2 Tugs	2 Tugs (i)			
			151 – 200m	2 Tugs	2 Tugs (i)	> 170m	3 Tugs	2 Tugs			
			> 200m	3 Tugs (iii)	2 Tugs (iii)						
	Fuel Wharf		Laboratory / Magazine Lab South 1 / 2 Wharfs								
Up to 100m	1 Tug (i)	1 Tug (i)	Up to 100m	0 Tug	0 Tug						
			101 – 150m	1 Tug (i)	1 Tug (i)						
			151 – 200m	2 Tugs (i)	2 Tugs (i)						
			> 200m	3 Tugs (iii)	2 Tugs						

Notes:

- (i) If a vessel has a functional bow thruster and /or stern thruster and favourable weather conditions allow, tug resources may be reduced by 1 (one) in line with Port Notice.
- (ii) In case of docking operations depending on the prevailing circumstances, additional tug resources may be used in line with Port Notice.
- (iii) Vessels with more than 40 metres of beam shall be assisted by 4 Tugs.
- (iv) Subject to favourable weather conditions and available sea room apply.

* Daylight restriction applies

** Only outbound manoeuvres

*** Night-time manoeuvres limited to vessel fitted with bow and stern thruster/twin propellers

MARSAXLOKK											
Ship's Length	Berthing	Unberthing	Ship's Length	Berthing	Unberthing	Ship's Length	Berthing	Unberthing	Ship's Length	Berthing	Unberthing
St Lucian Terminal *			Freeport Terminal			Marsaxlokk Dolphin *			Oil Tanking Malta		
Up to 130m	1 Tug	1 Tug	Up to 130m	1 Tug	1 Tug (i)	Up to 130m	1 Tug	1 Tug	Up to 130m	1 Tugs	1 Tugs
131 – 160m	2 Tugs (i)	2 Tugs	131 – 200m	2 Tugs (i)	2 Tugs (i)	131 – 160m	2 Tugs	2 Tugs	131 – 200m	2 Tugs	2 Tugs
>160m	2 Tugs	2 Tugs	201 – 299m	2 Tugs (ii)	2 Tugs (i) (ii)	> 160m	2 Tugs	2 Tugs	>200m	3 Tugs	2 Tugs
			>299m OR >70,000GT	3 Tugs (i)	2 Tugs						
			Terminal 1, >330mtrs	3 Tugs	3 Tugs						
			Terminal 1 inner & Terminal 2 South inner	3 Tugs	3 Tugs						
			>299m or 70,000GT								
			>400m (i)	4 Tugs (i)	3 Tugs (i)						
Delimara Power Station *			LNG Terminal **			31st March Terminal *					
Up to 130m	1 Tug	1 Tug	All	4 Tugs	4 Tugs	Up to 130m	1 Tug	1 Tug			
> 131m	2 Tugs	2 Tugs				>131m	2 Tugs (i)	2 Tugs (i)			

Notes:

- (i) If a vessel has a functional bow thruster and /or stern thruster and favourable weather conditions allow, tug resources may be reduced by 1 (one) in line with Port Notice.
- (ii) Vessel for Malta Freeport Terminal 2 South and Terminal 1 (Inner), when greater than 250m, one (1) additional tug required.

MGARR HARBOUR, GOZO		
Ship's Length	Berthing	Unberthing
Mgarr Harbour Quay #3 *		
Up to 80 m	1 Tug	1 Tug (i)

Notes:

- (i) If a vessel has a functional bow thruster and /or stern thruster / twin propeller and favourable weather conditions allow, tug resources may be reduced by 1 (one) in line with Port Notice.

* Daylight restriction applies.

** Daylight restrictions apply for inbound.