



### ■ SLEEP { Malta }

## Casa Ellul

81 Old Theatre Street, Valletta, [casaellul.com](http://casaellul.com)

For years, visitors to Malta have enjoyed the architectural delights of Valletta by day, only to leave at night for the island's resorts. Now, things are changing. A number of boutique hotels have recently opened in this UNESCO-listed city, offering elegant accommodation within the city walls. Among them is the luxurious Casa Ellul.

Converted from an early 19th-century palazzo, complete with Maltese patterned tiles, this intimate boutique hotel offers eight suites, each uniquely decorated with the attractive blend of modern chic and antique sophistication. Five of the suites are set within the historic house and retain many of the building's original features, such as suite five's antique piano and traditional covered balcony. Suites six to eight are modern additions, newly constructed on the roof, sporting minimal furniture and contemporary finishes. But what they lack in historic features, they make up for with their romantic terraces; for ultimate relaxation, suites seven and eight include outdoor hot tubs.

On the ground floor, a statue of Heracles greets guests in the open courtyard, beside the breakfast room, and contemporary artworks adorn the hotel's entrance corridor. Reception is staffed 24 hours a day, and staff are eager to help. Outside, the bars and restaurants of Strait Street are only minutes away. Take in the Manoel Theatre, one of the oldest working theatres in Europe, just a few doors down. Rooms from €200.

✈️ FLY TO MALTA TWICE WEEKLY



### ■ FASHION { Abidjan }

## PRINTS AND PRINCESSES

Erika Duparc abandoned her successful business career in favour of founding a luxury brand in the Ivory Coast. She called her company Nihahsah, Swahili for "black princess", and her exquisite African-print silk scarves and beach wraps are truly fit for royalty. **Sarong, €130, [nihahsah-luxe.com](http://nihahsah-luxe.com)**

✈️ FLY TO ABIDJAN SIX TIMES WEEKLY



### ■ DESIGN { Venice }

## Clear winner

Marina and Susanna Sent grew up on Murano, Venice's famous glassmaking island, and that is where they still work, creating gorgeous glass jewellery and objets d'art.

Third generation glassmakers, the Sent sisters love to experiment with this exquisite material, which has been crafted on Murano since the 13th century. Using vibrant colour combinations and unexpected techniques, they are continually extending the application of art glassmaking and have built an international reputation for the quality of their creations.

Sent jewellery can be found in galleries such as New York's MoMa and the Guggenheim museums in Venice and Bilbao. And as well as having two shops in Venice's historic heart, they welcome visitors to their Murano headquarters, Spazio Sent, a converted aperitif factory.

**[marinaesusannasent.com](http://marinaesusannasent.com)**

✈️ FLY TO VENICE THREE TIMES DAILY

