EU NZ TRADE AGREEMENT





EU-NZ FTA COUNTRY FACTSHEET MALTA



Overview of benefits



Eliminates customs tariffs for Maltese exporters and importers



Improves market access for Maltese service providers



Protects distinct Maltese food and drink products



Enables opportunities for green Maltese firms and technology



Supports Maltese smalland medium-sized businesses to export



Creates opportunities for Maltese digital firms to export their services



Enables Maltese firms to bid on **public contracts** in New Zealand



Facilitates Maltese investments into New Zealand







Trade in goods and services

Top exported goods from Malta to New Zealand

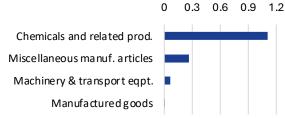


Figure 1: Top exported goods in million Euros, 2023 (Source: <u>Eurostat</u>)

Top-5 exported services from Malta to New Zealand

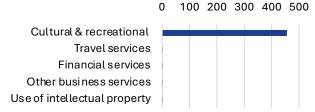


Figure 2: Top-5 exported services in million Euros, 2022 (Source: Eurostat)



Trade in goods

In 2023, Maltese goods exports to New Zealand exceeded €1.4 million, led by chemicals and related products, totalling €1.1 million. This was followed by miscellaneous manufactured articles (€0.3 million) and machinery and transport equipment (€0.1 million). The EU-NZ FTA brings significant tariff eliminations, enhancing Maltese firms' competitiveness across these and other sectors.



Chemicals and related products

For chemicals and related products, medicinal and pharmaceutical products (€1.1 million) are the sole exports, entirely composed of retail packed medicaments.



Prior to the FTA, tariffs in this sector were as high as 5%, however, these have been eliminated, dropping to 0% since the entry into force. For example, the tariff rate for beauty or make-up preparations (HS 3304.99.00), previously 5%, is now 0%.



Miscellaneous manufactured articles

Professional and scientific instruments (€0.2 million) are the main exports, including measuring instruments (€0.1 million). This is followed by apparel and clothing articles (€30 thousand) and photographic apparatus and equipment (€16 thousand).



Prior to the FTA, tariffs in this sector were as high as 10%, however, these have been eliminated, dropping to 0% since the entry into force. For example, the tariff rate for parts of spectacle frames and mountings (HS 9003.90.00), previously 5%, is now 0%.



Machinery and transport equipment

Electrical equipment (€28 thousand) are the main exports, including electrical equipment for vehicles (€22 thousand). This is followed by sailboats (€18 thousand) and telecommunication and sound-recording equipment (€15 thousand).



Prior to the FTA, tariffs in this sector were as high as 10%, however, these have been eliminated, dropping to 0% since the entry into force. For example, the tariff rate for industrial dryers (HS 8419.39.00), previously 5%, is now 0%.

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Trade in services

Maltese service exports amounted to €462 million in 2022. Of this, personal, cultural, and recreational services accounted for the largest share with €457 million.

The agreement facilitates easier access for Maltese firms to New Zealand's service market, ensuring a level playing field for Maltese service providers in sectors like telecommunications, financial services, and international maritime transport. Additionally, the FTA includes advanced provisions for the movement of business professionals, allowing Maltese firms to efficiently post managers or specialists and their families to subsidiaries in New Zealand.



Support framework for exporters

The FTA introduces a comprehensive regulatory framework designed to simplify export procedures and reduce compliance costs for Maltese firms. This includes streamlined customs processes and easy access to essential information. Central to this effort is the European Commission's Access2Markets platform, which provides detailed information and guidance on tariffs, rules of origin (Rules of Origin Self-Assessment Tool - ROSA), taxes, import procedures and formalities, product requirements, trade barriers, and trade flow statistics. The databases are restricted to users in the EU. EU companies' offices outside the EU can request access via this form.



Please visit the EU's Access2Markets platform for more information

Investment opportunities



Figure 3: Investment opportunities for Maltese firms and investors

New Zealand is an untapped market for Maltese investors.

The FTA lays the groundwork for increased Maltese investment in New Zealand, particularly in sectors such as

- tourism
- financial services
- information and communication technology
- film industry

aligning with Malta's investment strengths.

Maltese investment in New Zealand is poised for growth, supported by a favourable investment climate and shared priorities in sustainability and innovation. Under the FTA, the investment screening threshold has been doubled to NZD 200 million (~€110 million). This adjustment impacts Maltese investors planning to acquire significant business assets in New Zealand. Guidance on the overseas investment regime in New Zealand is available from the Overseas Investment Office. More information on investing in New Zealand can be found on the New Zealand Trade and Enterprise website.







Agriculture & Geographical Indications

Malta did not export any food and beverages to New Zealand in 2023. In 2022, Malta's food and beverage exports totalled about €21 thousand. The sole commodity was tomato ketchup & other tomato sauces.

The FTA ensures robust protection for 3 Maltese wines in New Zealand, guarding against counterfeit goods and securing marketing for authentic products with their traditional names. The agreement also includes provisions to potentially expand the list of protected geographical indications (GIs), bolstering the safeguard of Europe's culinary and cultural legacy. All EU GIs protected in New Zealand can be accessed through New Zealand's Intellectual Property Office.

Protected Maltese items include:



Public procurement

The FTA unlocks new opportunities for Maltese firms within New Zealand's public procurement sector, offering several key benefits:

- Expanded market access: Maltese firms now have broader access to New Zealand's procurement, extending beyond WTO limits to include all entities governed by New Zealand Procurement Rules.
- Equal footing with local firms: The FTA levels the playing field, allowing Maltese companies to compete on equal terms with local firms, especially in globally competitive sectors.
- Access to key sectors: Maltese businesses gain entry to transport and infrastructure projects, notably those funded by the New Zealand Transport Agency and Auckland Transport, enhancing prospects in engineering and technology.

More information on public procurement can be accessed via New Zealand Government Procurement. Furthermore, New Zealand's Marketplace platform allows EU firms to register their interest in providing Software as a Service (SaaS), consultancy, managed services, and enterprise software to the government.

Key contacts & additional information

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