



## 2.5 Administrative region code and name

NUTS level 2 code

Region Name

MT00	Malta
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## 2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Mediterranean (100.0  
%)

## 3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

## 3.1 Habitat types present on the site and assessment for them

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## 3.2 Species referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2009/147/EC and listed in Annex II of Directive 92/43/EEC and site evaluation for them

Species					Population in the site						Site assessment			
G	Code	Scientific Name	S	NP	T	Size		Unit	Cat.	D. qual.	A B C D	A B C		
						Min	Max				Pop.	Con.	Iso.	Glo.
B	A247	<a href="#">Alauda arvensis</a>			w				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A247	<a href="#">Alauda arvensis</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A257	<a href="#">Anthus pratensis</a>			w				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A257	<a href="#">Anthus pratensis</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A256	<a href="#">Anthus trivialis</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A226	<a href="#">Apus apus</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A228	<a href="#">Apus melba</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A227	<a href="#">Apus pallidus</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A222	<a href="#">Asio flammeus</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A452	<a href="#">Bucanetes githagineus</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A133	<a href="#">Burhinus oedicnemus</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A243	<a href="#">Calandrella brachydactyla</a>			r				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A010	<a href="#">Calonectris diomedea</a>			r	800	1000	p		G	A	B	C	B
B	A224	<a href="#">Caprimulgus europaeus</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A081	<a href="#">Circus aeruginosus</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A289	<a href="#">Cisticola juncidis</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A113	<a href="#">Coturnix coturnix</a>			w				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A113	<a href="#">Coturnix coturnix</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A212	<a href="#">Cuculus canorus</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A253	<a href="#">Delichon urbica</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A269	<a href="#">Erithacus rubecula</a>			w				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A269	<a href="#">Erithacus rubecula</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A727	<a href="#">Eudromias morinellus</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A103	<a href="#">Falco peregrinus</a>			c				P	P	A	C	C	C
B	A099	<a href="#">Falco subbuteo</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A096	<a href="#">Falco tinnunculus</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A014	<a href="#">Hydrobates pelagicus</a>			r	25	25	p		M	C	B	C	B
B	A459	<a href="#">Larus cachinnans</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C

B	A230	<a href="#">Merops apiaster</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A383	<a href="#">Miliaria calandra</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A281	<a href="#">Monticola solitarius</a>			c				P	P	B	B	C	B
B	A262	<a href="#">Motacilla alba</a>			w				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A262	<a href="#">Motacilla alba</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A261	<a href="#">Motacilla cinerea</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A260	<a href="#">Motacilla flava</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A277	<a href="#">Oenanthe oenanthe</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A214	<a href="#">Otus scops</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A355	<a href="#">Passer hispaniolensis</a>			c				P	P	C	B	C	B
B	A072	<a href="#">Pernis apivorus</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A274	<a href="#">Phoenicurus phoenicurus</a>			w				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A274	<a href="#">Phoenicurus phoenicurus</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A140	<a href="#">Pluvialis apricaria</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A464	<a href="#">Puffinus yelkouan</a>			r	150	300	p		G	A	B	C	B
B	A275	<a href="#">Saxicola rubetra</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A276	<a href="#">Saxicola torquata</a>			w				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A276	<a href="#">Saxicola torquata</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A155	<a href="#">Scolopax rusticola</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A210	<a href="#">Streptopelia turtur</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A303	<a href="#">Sylvia conspicillata</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A305	<a href="#">Sylvia melanocephala</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A232	<a href="#">Upupa epops</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C
B	A142	<a href="#">Vanellus vanellus</a>			c				P	P	C	C	C	C

- **Group:** A = Amphibians, B = Birds, F = Fish, I = Invertebrates, M = Mammals, P = Plants, R = Reptiles
- **S:** in case that the data on species are sensitive and therefore have to be blocked for any public access enter: yes
- **NP:** in case that a species is no longer present in the site enter: x (optional)
- **Type:** p = permanent, r = reproducing, c = concentration, w = wintering (for plant and non-migratory species use permanent)
- **Unit:** i = individuals, p = pairs or other units according to the Standard list of population units and codes in accordance with Article 12 and 17 reporting (see [reference portal](#))
- **Abundance categories (Cat.):** C = common, R = rare, V = very rare, P = present - to fill if data are deficient (DD) or in addition to population size information
- **Data quality:** G = 'Good' (e.g. based on surveys); M = 'Moderate' (e.g. based on partial data with some extrapolation); P = 'Poor' (e.g. rough estimation); VP = 'Very poor' (use this category only, if not even a rough estimation of the population size can be made, in this case the fields for population size can remain empty, but the field "Abundance categories" has to be filled in)

### 3.3 Other important species of flora and fauna (optional)

## 4. SITE DESCRIPTION

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### 4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
Total Habitat Cover	0

#### Other Site Characteristics

The northern half of the site is dominated by generally flat karst-like Globigerina terrain that extends from the western end in a southeastward direction towards Il-Misraħ and Ix-Xagħra (occupying a central portion of the plateau) and Il-Qortin il-Kbir (occupying an expanse of land overlooking the cliffs on the western and southwestern sectors). Formerly cultivated, terraced fields occupy a significant portion of land to the east (at Is-Sisien, Tal-Kalkara and Tas-Smina) and southeast (at Ta' Riglis, L-Iżgandlu and Ta' L-Iskandlu). A number of trees (*Ficus carica* and *Ceratonia silqua*) and large shrubs also occur on the peripheries in some of the former fields. Vertical Lower Coralline Limestone sea-cliffs border the southern half of the site; these cliffs being particularly important for sea-birds. The vertical sides support

rupestral communities, with maritime phrygana / steppe communities growing on the cliff-top areas. The steep-sided valley at Wied Sabbar drains a fair extent of the land cover towards the eastern side. The Ras in-Newwiela promontary forms a flat Globigerina Limestone cliff-top platform.

#### 4.2 Quality and importance

The Ta' Ċenċ cliffs area qualifies as an Important Bird Area of EU Importance due to its large population of 800-1000 pairs of Cory's Shearwater (*Calonectris diomedea*). In effect, the Ta' Ċenċ cliffs support the largest breeding colony of Cory's Shearwater in the islands. The cliffs are also an important breeding site for Yelkouan Shearwater (*Puffinus yelkouan*), and the only mainland breeding site as yet known for European Storm-Petrel (*Hydrobates pelagicus melitensis*). The site is also a stronghold of a number of other protected bird species, including Short-toed Lark (*Calandrella brachydactyla*), Zitting Cisticola (*Cisticola juncidis*), Blue Rock-thrush (*Monticola solitarius*), Spectacled Warbler (*Sylvia conspicillata*) and a few pairs of Corn Bunting (*Miliaria calandra*). All of these species are still breeding at Ta' Ċenċ. Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) and Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) are also known to have bred at Ta' Ċenċ.

#### 4.3 Threats, pressures and activities with impacts on the site

The most important impacts and activities with high effect on the site

Negative Impacts			
Rank	Threats and pressures [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	E02		i
L	H06.01		b

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside /outside [i o b]

Rank: H = high, M = medium, L = low

Pollution: N = Nitrogen input, P = Phosphor/Phosphate input, A = Acid input/acidification, T = toxic inorganic chemicals, O = toxic organic chemicals, X = Mixed pollutions

i = inside, o = outside, b = both

#### 4.4 Ownership (optional)

#### 4.5 Documentation

### 5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

#### 5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

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#### 5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

#### 5.3 Site designation (optional)

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### 6. SITE MANAGEMENT

#### 6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

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Organisation:	Environment and Resources Authority
Address:	
Email:	natura.2000@era.org.mt

#### 6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	Name: Rdumijiet u L-Inħawi ta' Ta' Ċenċ Link: <a href="https://era.org.mt/en/Pages/Natura-2000-Management-Planning.aspx">https://era.org.mt/en/Pages/Natura-2000-Management-Planning.aspx</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> No, but in preparation	
<input type="checkbox"/> No	

#### 6.3 Conservation measures (optional)

### 7. MAP OF THE SITES

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INSPIRE ID:

MT.ERA.MT0000027

Map delivered as PDF in electronic format (optional)

Yes  No

Reference(s) to the original map used for the digitalisation of the electronic boundaries (optional).