



## **EUROPA 2019 – Postage stamp issue - “National Birds”**

On 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019, MaltaPost will join other European postal administrations by the release of a philatelic stamp set bearing the theme ‘National Birds’.

EUROPA stamps underline cooperation between European postal administrations and seek to promote philately and build awareness of the common goals, roots, culture and history of Europe.

This issue features two stamps of the Blue Rock Thrush, the national bird of the Maltese Islands the bird locally known as ‘il-Merill’. It is a starling-sized bird, circa 23 cm in length with a long slim bill. The male features a striking blue colour with darker wings and tail - an appealing contrast to the less striking female with its brownish-grey colour.

The stamps will be issued in a sheet of 11 stamps, with each stamp measuring 44mm x 31mm, with a comb perforation 14.0 x 13.9 and bearing the Maltese Cross watermark. The sheets measures 150mm x 158mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 30,200 of the €0.59 stamp and 33,000 of the €2.00 stamp. The photography is by Joe Sultana, BirdLife Malta.

The €0.59 stamp will be Malta’s entry for the ‘2019 EUROPA Online Stamp Contest’. The contest is an annual online event where creative entries from across Europe compete for the best design.

This philatelic issue will be available from all Post Offices in Malta and Gozo as from Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019. Orders may be placed online at [www.maltaphilately.com](http://www.maltaphilately.com) or by mail from the Philatelic Bureau, MaltaPost p.l.c. 305, Qormi Road, Marsa, MTP 1001; Telephone: 2596 1740, e-mail: [info@maltaphilately.com](mailto:info@maltaphilately.com)

## **EUROPA 2019 – Ȋħarġa ta’ bolli tal-Pustaġġ - “National Birds”**

Fid-9 ta’ Mejju 2019, MaltaPost se tingħaqad mal-amministrazzjonijiet postali Ewropej bil-ħruġ ta’ sett ta’ bolli filateliċi bit-tema “National Birds”.

Il-bolli tal-Ewropa jenfasizzaw il-koperazzjoni bejn I-amministrazzjonijiet postali Ewropej u jfittxu li jippromwovu l-filatelija u jibnu għarfien tal-miri komuni, għeruq, kultura u l-istorja tal-Ewropa.

Dil- Ȋħarġa ta’ bolli turi żewġ bolli tal-Merill, l-għasfur nazzjonali ta’ Malta. Dan l-għasfur intgħażel bħala l-għasfur nazzjonali tal-Gżejjer Maltin fl-1970.

Is-sett se jinhareġ f’folji ta’ Ȋħdax -il bolla. Kull bolla hija ta’ daqs 44mm x 31mm, b’perorazzjoni ta’ 13.9 x 14.0 (comb.) u l-folja hija ta’ daqs 150mm x 158mm. Il-bolli ġew stampati b’watermark tas-Salib ta’ Malta u Printex Limited ipproduċa dan is-sett b’metodu offset. Il-ħarġa tikkonsisti f’30,000 bolla tad- €0.59 u 30,000 bolla taż- €2.00. Ir-Ritratti huma meħuda minn Joe Sultana, BirdLife Malta.

Il-Bolla tad- €0.59 se tkun imdaħħla fil-kompetizzjoni għall-isbaħ bolla fl-Ewropa. Din hi kompetizzjoni annwali fejn xogħol kreattiv minn madwar l-Ewropa kollha jikkompeti għall-aħjar disinn.

Din il-ħarġa filatelika se tkun għall-bejjgħ mill-Fergħat tal-MaltaPost f’ Malta u Għawdex minn nhar il-Ħamis 9 ta’ Mejju 2019. Ordnijiet jistgħu jsiru online fuq [www.maltaphilately.com](http://www.maltaphilately.com) jew bilposta mill-Bureau Filateliku, MaltaPost p.l.c. 305, Triq Hal Qormi, Marsa, MTP 1001 -Telephone 2596 1740 - e-mail: [info@maltaphilately.com](mailto:info@maltaphilately.com)