

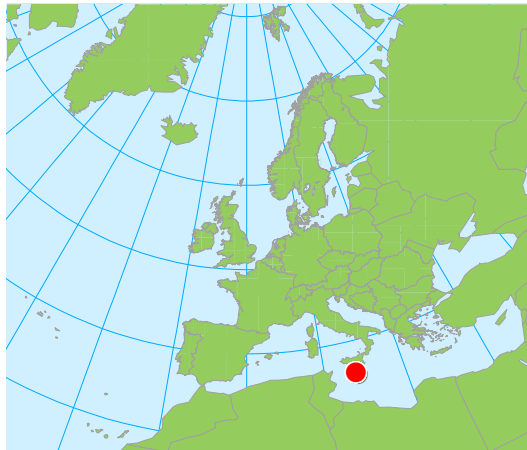


<b>RDUM MAJJIESA</b>	 <b>Malta</b>	<b>Conservation status</b> ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆	
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Co-ordinates: 35°56'N, 14°20'E



Il-Karraba promontory with Ghajn Tuffieha Bay in the foreground and Gnejna Bay in the background. Photo P J Schembri

**Description of site:**

The Rđum Majjiesa area, from Ras il-Wahx to Ras ir-Raheb, on the western coast of the island of Malta, extends along approximately 11km of N-S trending coastline with sea cliffs, rocky and sandy shores, boulder fields, shallow bays and rocky shoals; the outer boundary is the 50m depth contour and the whole area covers 4.75km<sup>2</sup> of seabed.

**Description of fauna and flora:**

Littoral biotopes include sandy and cobble beaches, boulder screens, sheer cliffs and cliffs with surrounding boulder screens. Sublittoral biotopes include: bare sandy bottoms, rock with photophilic algae, seagrass (*Cymodocea* and *Posidonia*) meadows, sciaphilic assemblages on rock, caves, and maerl.

**Habitats present:**

	Mud	Sand	Rock
Littoral		X	X
Sublittoral		X	X
Seagrass beds	X		

**Human impact:**

This region is being considered as a potential marine protected area as it supports a representative selection of all major biotopes occurring around the Maltese Islands and is minimally impacted apart from the sandy beaches which are used for bathing and water sports.

**Facilities:**

The University of Malta is located some 15km from the site.

**Available database and website:**

No information at present.

**Commitment and ongoing research:**

The area is proposed as a marine protected area and the subject of an extensive habitat survey funded by the United Nations Environment Programme's Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) as part of its Coastal Area Management Programme For Malta (CAMP Malta); a management plan is currently being prepared.