

Two sightseeing's of Malta which I would like to visit

Can you guess my riddle? What is the name of the country which is called a toy country, a part of drowned Atlántida, covered with many legends? If your answer is Malta you are right.

You will be very surprised but I will add some words to the title of my small composition «A Christmas wonder». All Christmas dreams sooner or later come true. I wanted to send a Christmas card to my dearest relatives through the Internet and saw an advertisement about the contest promising to the winner a wonderful trip to magic Malta. Yes, yes you are right I hope to win this contest. You can say that it is not polite to say so. Maybe... But all my way of life proves that I must take part in this contest and win. Firstly, my parents called me Victoria. Some scientists propose the origin of the name of the country from the Roman word which means «honey». It is a sweet and pleasant name, isn't it? That's why it is not strange that Malta attracts like a magnets people from all over the world. It is Eden in the world. Six thousand years ago a seed of civilization was brought to this paradisiacal nook, which grew and bore fruit and turned into a small but the richest in sightseeing's country in the world.

Once my English teacher asked me a question «If you could be another person, who would you be?» I answered that I would be a medieval girl from Malta. Then my teacher went on «If a visitor from a foreign county came to your town, what would you do to make him feel at home?». I would invite him to a small cafe in medieval style in my hometown. One day I met there my delighted classmate Christina who came back from Malta English Summer School with a lot of impressions. Her story was very interesting and I decided to see this magic country myself. It is difficult to imagine towns with only two or three streets. According to the density of presence of monuments on the unit of area Malta takes the first place in Europe and even in the world. Once Malta was declared the territory of the Russian state. Russian czar Pavel the first became the Supreme ruler. That's why the first sightseeing which I want to see in Malta is connected with Russia. On 25th of October 1799 relic of Order and the whole Christian world the right hand of St. John and the wonder-working icon «The Virgin Felermskaya» (painted by St. Luka) came to Petersburg and were placed in the chapel of Winter Palace. To my mind, the most famous sightseeing in Valetta, the capital of Malta is St. John's Co-Cathedral, the pearl of art and architecture, built at the end of the sixteen century. It was sanctified in honor of the patron of knights of the order. The ceiling in baroque was painted by the great master Mattia Pretti. There are 365 mosaic tombstones of different colours in the floor of the cathedral. The knights of the order found their last helter here. I would like to see a museum of one picture in this cathedral «The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist» by Caravaggio it is his masterpiece. The other sightseeing is connected with the preacher of Christianity in Malta St. Paul. From a small square where two towns Aura and Bugibba connect, opens a view to a bay of Saint Paul. There is a small island. saved the life to the crew of the ship and its passengers, among them were St. Paul and St. Luka. About the legend reminds the fountain Ghajn Rasul which stands at the entrance to the town of Saint Paul/ The legend says that St. Paul broke the rock and the spring gushed out and saved those who were parched with thirst. On this place was set up a fountain, which I want to see very much.

I think Robert Burns will forgive me if I paraphrase his words «My heart is in Malta, in Malta my heart». Once Byron wrote a wonderful poem telling good-bye to Valetta. But I am telling: «Wait for me, mysterious Malta. If I don't win this competition, sooner or later we will meet each other and will not have been separating for some time. I must meet a real knight and not in a fairy tale, but in reality, because Malta is a country where real Knights live and meet on the 24th of June every year in St. John's Co-Cathedral.