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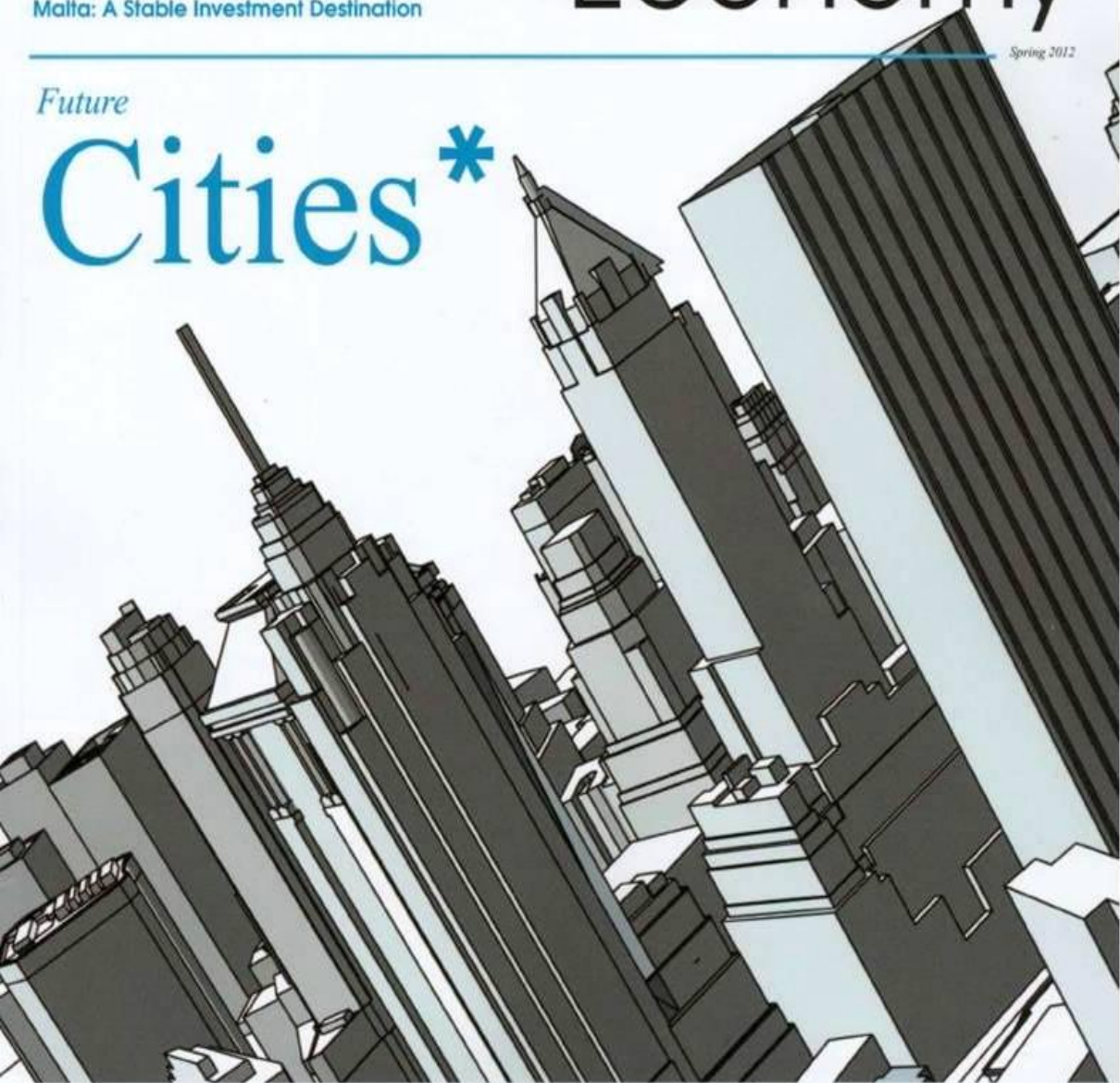
Malta: A Stable Investment Destination

# New European Economy

Spring 2012

Future

# Cities\*



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# Farol Hotel - The Gem of Portugal

**F**arol Hotel is literally located "on the water", planted on the edge of the cliffs of Cascais, overlooking the Atlantic. Cascais, a town of charming old houses and cobbled streets huddled around a graceful bay on Portugal's spectacular Estoril Coast, is a mere 35-minute drive from Lisbon and likewise from the capital's international airport. The Design Hotel is composed of a daring architectural structure: a combination of a remodeled 19th century mansion, once owned by the Count of Cabral, and a unique contemporary design, resulting in a harmonious bridge of the old and the new.

Thirty-three guest rooms, including three suites and nine designer rooms, await guests to indulge in a spectacle by the water. Acclaimed Portuguese and international fashion designers Ana Salazar, António Augustus, Arkadius, Fátima Lopes, Miguel Vieira, Manuel Alves & José Manuel Gonçalves, José António Tenente and João Rolo have left their mark on the designer rooms, making them a selection of very individual and unique retreats with sea view to meet very individual preferences. All suites and 10 of the regular rooms offer spectacular sea views with the remaining 11 rooms overlooking the picturesque upscale Cascais setting of Mediterranean villas nestled between sunshine-spoilt palm trees and lush flower bushes; with many of these rooms catching glimpses of the Guincho coast. All rooms come with a hydro-massage bathtub.

A sunbath and dip into the outdoor saltwater swimming pool ensure relaxation for both body and soul. Of course, culinary delights are catered for also. Facilities include two superb restaurants. The Mix, presenting a Mediterranean fusion cuisine based on local and traditional flavors; for those that desire some exceptional sushi or sashimi, Sushi Design will blow their mind away with such creativity and freshness presented by the hotel's pro-surfer chef. Both restaurants luxuriously spread over



three distinct dining areas that flow gracefully into one another and extend out onto the terraces and overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. Farol Bar is the place to chill out to the sound of lounge tunes, ideal for sunset lovers. Light snacks and cocktails are available until the early hours. Farol Bar on the Rocks offers light snacks and drinks outdoors for guests by the pool and in the gardens.

The unique location, its unmatched architectural design and the outstanding range and quality of culinary offerings is what sets Farol Hotel apart from the town's other five-star hotels.

For those seeking to explore beyond the hotel, the Cascais Marina as well as various sandy beaches are a mere five- to ten-minute walk away. Sintra, a small town 20 kilometers northeastwards, enchants its visitors with its gracious palaces, Moorish Castle and lovely old-town charm, all tucked away in the mountains. Lisbon offers a sightseeing agenda that easily fills a

few days. Cabo da Roca, Europe's western-most spot, is just 15 kilometers north and will surprise with breathtaking views again different from those from the cliffs at Farol. Day-trips can reach much further still to Evora, a picturesque town to the east, to the unspoiled Alentejo region to the south or Fatima, the destination of many a pilgrimage, to the north.

Getting to this seemingly remote side of Europe is easy. Budget and main carriers fly to Lisbon daily from all major hubs of Europe, Frankfurt, Paris and London just as much as Stockholm, Zurich and Moscow. Arrived at Lisbon International Airport, guests may leisurely drop into the comfortable backseat of a pre-arranged hotel limousine and enjoy the short yet scenic trip to the hotel. Adventure lovers may opt for a rental car available at the airport and enjoy cruising along the coast road or choosing a faster lane on the motorway. ■