

Notice to Economic Operators: Beer

Subject: Amendments to Excise Duty on Beer under Malta's Excise Duty Act (Effective 1st January 2025)

Dear Economic Operators,

This notice informs you of key amendments to Malta's Excise Duty Act, effective 1st January 2025, pertaining to beer products. The new amendments transition from a "degree Plato" system to an alcohol by volume percentage (ABV%) calculation for excise duties. This change simplifies compliance and improves accuracy in duty declarations.

Key Changes:

- 1. Standard Beer:**
 - **Old Rate:** €1.93 per hectolitre per degree Plato.
 - **New Rate:** €4.60 per hectolitre based on ABV%.
- 2. Beer from Small Independent Breweries:**
 - Applies to breweries with production under 200,000 hectolitres annually.
 - **Old Rate:** €0.965 per hectolitre per degree Plato.
 - **New Rate:** €2.30 per hectolitre based on ABV%.
- 3. Beer Mixed with Non-Alcoholic Drinks & Beer Under 3.5% ABV:**
 - **Old Rate:** €0.45 per hectolitre per degree Plato.
 - **New Rate:** €0.54 per hectolitre based on ABV%.

These amendments ensure that excise duties align with the alcohol content, with minimal financial impact for businesses, particularly those producing lower-strength beer.

N.B Tax Warehouse Keepers only:

Please be advised that, to ensure a smooth transition to the new calculation system, all tax warehouses trading beer are required to submit an end-of-year report and declaration, specifically for this instance, by 31st December 2024.

Next Steps:

Businesses are encouraged to review and adjust their excise duty reporting processes to the new ABV% system. The Alcohol Products Unit is available for assistance via email at apu.mtca@gov.mt or phone at +356 23783710, 23783252, or 23783253.

Please be guided accordingly,

The Excise Directorate
31st October 2024