

Discover   
madeira

# MADEIRA AND PORTO SANTO GUIDE



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## Useful Information

# DISCOVER MADEIRA!

The Madeira Archipelago is an autonomous region of Portugal and comprises 4 island groups: Madeira, Porto Santo, Desertas and Selvagens. Only the two larger islands (Madeira and Porto Santo) are inhabited, with most transport access provided through Madeira Airport and Porto Santo Airport.

The Madeira Archipelago is home to approximately 265,000 inhabitants, with 120,000 living in the capital, Funchal, and about 5,500 living on the island of Porto Santo.

The island of Madeira was bestowed by WTA – World Travel Awards as the “Europe’s Leading Island Destination” in 2013, 2014, 2016 and 2017 and also as the “World’s Leading Island Destination” in 2015 and 2016.

## WHO ARE WE?

Madeira is breathtaking landscapes, dense forests, verdant, volcanic mountains, lushly coloured flower gardens, passion fruit flavour and diving in the blue of the Atlantic.

People have come to Madeira in search of blue skies and brilliant sunshine since the 18th century, though a mild climate all year round is just one of the many things that brings visitors to these islands.

Getting to know Madeira is to be at the summit of Pico do Areeiro “with your head in the clouds”, admiring the indescribable beauty of the island’s landscapes. It’s walking along the “levadas”, the man-made irrigation channels excavated in rock that criss-cross the enchanting *Laurissilva* forest, awarded with World Heritage status by UNESCO.

Discovering Madeira is strolling along the beautiful bay of Funchal with its picturesque villages rising from the sea to the mountains, witnessing scenery that surpasses even the very best cinematography.

Feeling Madeira is being greeted with a warm smile and experiencing the tranquillity and security of the island's famous hospitality.

Tasting Madeira is savouring Madeira wine, honey cake, black scabbard fish, limpets, freshly baked "bolo do caco", sweet local bananas and other delicacies of our local cuisine.

The islands offer a huge range of fun activities in nature that are suitable for all preferences and ages, like underwater diving, hiking or cycling along the many walking paths and "levadas", or, if you prefer, simply contemplating the shifting tones of a magnificent sunset.

As Max, a well-known Madeiran composer sings: "Porto Santo, like you there is no other."

Located 50 km from the island of Madeira, the island of Porto Santo is 15 minutes from Funchal by plane or 2h 15m by ferry.

Bathed in a deep turquoise sea, its 9 km beach of golden sand has therapeutic properties and is an idyllic place to spend a holiday.

## WHERE ARE WE?

The Madeiran Archipelago is located in the Atlantic Ocean about 450 km from the Canary Islands, 500 km from the African coast (Morocco) and about 1,000 km or a 90 minute flight from continental Europe (Lisbon).

The island of Madeira has an approximate total area of 742 km<sup>2</sup>, 57 km long and 22 km wide. The island of Porto Santo has an approximate total area of 42 km<sup>2</sup>, 12 km long and 6 km wide. The two islands are connected by air and sea transport services.

## CLIMATE

The geographical position and mountainous terrain of the Madeiran Archipelago provide an amazingly mild climate of between 25°C in summer and 17°C in winter, with very mild average temperatures and moderate humidity.

The influence of the warm Atlantic Gulf stream produces sea water temperatures of around 22°C in summer and 18°C in winter.

# A BRIEF HISTORY

Although previously known, it was not until 1420 that the islands, that now make up the Madeiran Archipelago, were officially recognised and settled by Portuguese sailors at the service of Prince Henry 'the Navigator'.

Initially arriving on a small island when blown off course by a storm, they named it Porto Seguro or Porto Santo ('Holy Port'), as that island had saved the crew from a tragic fate.

Tristão Vaz Teixeira, Bartolomeu Perestrelo and João Gonçalves Zarco (the three discoverers) also arrived on the island of Madeira. It is João Gonçalves Zarco who is believed to have chosen the name of the island, which means 'Wood' or 'Timber', in reference to the abundance of that material on the island. The origin of the name Funchal is due to the abundance of fennel plants or 'funcho' which they found on arrival.





In light of their potential and strategic importance, the islands began to be settled from about 1425 onwards. Agricultural crops such as cereals and sugar cane were introduced, which made Funchal an important commercial port in the second half of the 15th and early 16th centuries, a compulsory stopover on European trade routes.

The 17th and 18th centuries were marked by the introduction of the Madeira wine grape varieties, which had a huge impact on the economy of the island.

From the end of the 18th century and throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, tourism on Madeira flourished. The islands became famous for their natural therapeutic and climatic qualities, which fascinated a European aristocracy that began to establish itself here.

Today, Madeira continues to inspire travellers who come in search of the rare beauty of the archipelago's landscapes, which range from the sea to the mountains.

# ACCOMMODATION

The Madeiran Archipelago offers an extremely wide range of accommodation choices.

In addition to excellent and friendly hotels which cater for all needs and preferences and which can be found throughout the archipelago, there is also a wide range of smaller inns and tourist apartments for all tastes.

**For more information:**  
[www.visitmadeira.pt](http://www.visitmadeira.pt)

Other accommodation options include rural houses, sea-front retreats and the cosy old manor houses or 'Quintas' which are characteristic of the island and are surrounded by beautiful gardens. Youth hostels and camping sites are other alternatives to traditional accommodation.

## 'Quintas' or Manor Houses

Their natural setting and the high heritage and architectural value of these properties make them the ideal option for those who seek the cosy refinement of a distant era. The island's 'Quintas' once belonged to noble families of the 18th and 19th centuries and are found in several parts of the island.

## Rural tourism

Rural Tourism is the perfect choice for those who seek more direct contact with nature and local traditions, with houses located in rural areas throughout the archipelago.





### Camping sites

The region has 2 camping sites.

The Porto Moniz camping ground is located at the mouth of Ribeira da Janela, about 20 minutes walk from the village of Porto Moniz and 4 minutes by car. The park has approximately 1,500 m<sup>2</sup> available for camping. Services include a reception, showers and toilet facilities, kitchen, and a playground.

**Sítio da Ponte — 9270-106 Ribeira da Janela**

**Phone: (+351) 291 853 856**

**E-mail: [parquecampismo@portomoniz.pt](mailto:parquecampismo@portomoniz.pt)**

**[www.portomoniz.pt](http://www.portomoniz.pt)**

The camping site on Porto Santo is located in Vila Baleira in the area around Fontinha beach. It is a treed and fenced space with capacity for 800 people. It offers shower and toilet facilities, a TV room, internet, a bar and electricity.

**Rua Gularte Medeiros — 9400-164 Porto Santo**

**Phone: (+351) 291 982 209**

**E-mail: [info@cm-portosanto.pt](mailto:info@cm-portosanto.pt)**

### Youth Hostels

The region's hostels are mainly used by youth groups, families, associations and the general population, though there is no age limit for this type of accommodation.

There are five hostels in the archipelago, in Funchal, Calheta, Santana, Porto Moniz and Porto Santo island.

**Phone: (+351) 291 741 540**

**E-mail: [pousadas.drjd@madeira-edu.pt](mailto:pousadas.drjd@madeira-edu.pt)**



# LOCAL CUISINE

The Madeiran Archipelago offers culinary experiences of incomparable richness, from typical regional food to international cuisine.

With its proximity to the sea, there are delicious fish and seafood dishes available, including black scabbard fish fillets, tuna steaks, mackerel, shellfish, limpets, octopus and more.

Other typical regional dishes include beef roasted on laurel wood skewers accompanied with fried corn and the island's famous marinated pork sandwich (*sandes de carne de vinha-d'alhos*).

*Bolo do caco* is another signature regional dish which, despite its Portuguese name suggesting a type of cake, is actually a type of round flat bread made from wheat flour. Traditionally cooked on a heated stone (or 'caco'), it is best eaten hot and with garlic butter. In addition to *bolo do caco*, homemade bread made with sweet potato, which is widely used on the island, is also common.

For fruit lovers, the Madeiran Archipelago is a true paradise. Bananas, avocados, custard apples, cherries, Suriname cherries, papaya and passion fruit grow abundantly in the region and their flavours, either in their natural state or in the form of puddings, mousses and ice cream are a wonderful addition to any meal.

For those with a sweet tooth, the archipelago has a wide variety of delicacies to offer. The most typical sweets are honey cake and honey buns, made with spices, nuts and rich sugar cane honey. They are traditionally prepared on 8th December, the day of Our Lady of Conception (*Nossa Senhora da Conceição*), to eat at Christmas and are known for being able to last up to a year.

Cane honey comes from sugar cane, which is processed in mills on the island of Madeira that are open to visitors. *Queijadas*, tartlets made with sweetened fresh cheese, as well as fennel and eucalyptus sweets are also widely available.

The choice of drinks is also varied, ranging from passion fruit juice to a traditional 'poncha' made with cane brandy, honey and lemon. Of course there is also the famous Madeira wine, which can be served as an aperitif or digestive.

# MADEIRA WINE

With a 500 year history, Madeira wine is recognised and appreciated by wine lovers around the world. The richness of the island's soil and its special climate, as well as the production process and the grape varieties cultivated, are all crucial elements of this success.

Madeira wines were even chosen by General George Washington to celebrate historical events, such as the gaining of American Independence on 4th July, 1776. The wine was praised by Shakespeare in Hamlet and has been famously appreciated by other world figures such as Sir Winston Churchill. It was even used as a ladies perfume in Victorian times.

There are more than 30 grape varieties used for Madeira wine, the most notable of which are Sercial, Boal, Verdelho and Malvasia.

Light-coloured and very fragrant, Sercial is a dry wine variety which is ideal as an aperitif. Delicate, very fragrant and golden in colour, Verdelho is a medium dry wine most suitable for accompanying food. The Boal variety,

medium-sweet, smooth, refined and of a dark golden colour is the most suitable for roasts and desserts. Between meals or for dessert there are few who can resist Malvasia, a sweet, full-bodied wine with an intense perfume and red colour. Wine lovers can also take part in the Madeira Wine Festival, which usually takes place in late August and early September.

While in the rural landscape, visitors will also notice the small stone terraces or 'poios', a typical part of the Madeiran cultural heritage and where all agricultural products are cultivated by hand on the island, from sea to mountain, in valleys and in other hard to access places.

# OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

The islands of Madeira and Porto Santo have ideal geographical and climatic conditions for getting involved in a wide range of outdoor activities. These popular and traditional activities are highly invigorating, especially the footpaths and 'levadas'.

The famed therapeutic qualities of Madeira's climate, which is beneficial for respiratory diseases, has attracted visitors since the late eighteenth century. Diving in the calm, clear waters of the ocean, taking advantage of natural seaweed and plant extracts, and enjoying the aroma of flowers and fresh air are the ideal recipe for renewing your energies. Enjoy your contact with nature.



# FOOTPATHS AND 'LEVADAS'

Several footpaths and *levadas* cross the beautiful landscapes of the Archipelago.

An ingenious and admirable irrigation system, the building of which began in the 16th century, the *levadas* are handmade channels carved in the rock which serve to transport water. There are around 3,000 km of footpaths and *levadas* to explore on Madeira.

These trails constitute living evidence of the astonishing efforts of our ancestors to distribute the abundant water coming from the springs in the north to the island's valleys. It is possible to go along the *levadas* on foot, enjoying scenes of rare natural beauty. Exclusively mountain routes, forest routes, seaside routes and mixed routes are available. Footpaths recommended in the Autonomous Region of Madeira are classified as Small Routes (or PR, 'Pequenas Rotas'). There are a total of 30 on the two islands: 28 in Madeira and 2 in Porto Santo. While distributed throughout the island of Madeira, they are more prevalent on the North and Southwest coast. Tracks are categorised for walkers, so they

can have an idea of what to expect on each prior to departure. Tracks are maintained, monitored and signposted by regional public entities, in particular the IFCN - Institute of Forestry and Nature Conservation. As some footpaths in the region are subject to maintenance work in order to ensure the safety of walkers, visitors are advised to check their status prior to the departure through the website [www.visitmadeira.pt](http://www.visitmadeira.pt). (Please refer to the Useful Information section of this guidebook for safety guidelines).

While the majority of tracks are accessible to anyone, the tracks present various degrees of difficulty and it is advisable to engage the services of tourist operators and check relevant publications in addition to using suitable equipment. Hikers are recommended to take part in programmes organised by tourist operators and guides. Hiking without the assistance of local guides and operators is not recommended. The Madeira Tourism Board is unable to take any responsibility regarding the state and conservation of the footpaths and 'levadas'.

## Responsibility

The walking trails recommended do not exempt users or their promoters from any liability for any material or human damages that may occur during their use (Regional Legislative Decree 7-B / 2000 / M, Article 9).

# LAURISSILVA FOREST

Many visitors come to Madeira almost exclusively to experience the Laurel or *Laurissilva* Forest, unique in Portugal and designated a UNESCO World Heritage site since 1999.

Dating back over 50 million years to the Cenozoic Era, the *Laurissilva* Forest is considered to be one of the 7 Natural Wonders of Portugal. During the last ice age, this forest survived only in the geographical area of the Macaronesia, that is, in the Atlantic islands of Madeira, the Azores, the Canary Islands and Cape Verde. Since Madeira is the region with the largest area of *Laurissilva* (about 22 thousand hectares), this remarkable site is truly worth visiting.

Madeira also has a wide variety of flora, including rare Madeiran orchid species (such as *Dactylorhiza foliosa* and *Goodyera macrophylla*). The large trees of the *Laurissilva* include the Tilo tree or Fetid Laurel (*Ocotea foetens*) and many species of the laurel family (*Laurus novocanariensis*, *Persea indica* and *Apollonias barbujana*).

Endemic fauna on the island include the Trocaz pigeon (*Columba trocaz*), Zino's petrel (*Pterodroma madeira*), Desertas petrel (*Pterodroma deserta*) and the Madeira firecrest (*Regulus madeirensis*), the smallest bird on the island and much sought after by birdwatchers.





# NATURE RESERVES

Madeira's natural heritage is one of unique richness and diversity.

Designated as Natural Park, safeguarding its rare flora and fauna since 1992 (classified as a Biogenetic Reserve), Madeira has a number of protected marine and land areas, which make it a destination of worldwide ecological significance.

The Garajau Nature Reserve is one of the main tourist diving destinations in the world, where it is possible to observe large non-threatening fish species such as the Grouper (*Epinephalus guaza*).

The Selvagens Islands Nature Reserve is one of the oldest in Portugal and is considered an "ornithological sanctuary" due to the unique conditions that these islands present for the nesting of seabirds.

The Desertas Islands Nature Reserve represents the last Atlantic refuge for the Monk Seal (*Monachus monachus*), which can be admired on guided tours from Funchal.

# BEACHES AND POOLS

The beaches of the Madeiran Archipelago differ from one island to another, with mostly pebble beaches found on Madeira. Notwithstanding, there are some natural sand beaches on the island of Madeira, such as Prainha in Caniçal, the beach in Seixal, Alagoa Beach in Porto da Cruz and some areas of Formosa beach in Funchal.

Madeira also has two beaches made of imported yellow sand: the beach in the village of Calheta and the beach in the city of Machico.

There are also several bathing complexes with swimming pools and direct access to the sea. Most of these offer a range of facilities, including sunbathing areas, toilets, changing rooms and showers, lockers, bars, umbrellas, sun loungers, lifeguard and first aid stations.

In Porto Santo you will find extensive beaches of fine golden sand - an irresistible invitation to sunbathing and sea. The sand on the island of Porto Santo also presents a vast wealth of mineral elements and is much sought after as a complementary treatment for rheumatic complaints. The island even has a Thalassotherapy Centre, providing preventive and curative health services.





# GARDENS AND PARKS

One of Madeira's main tourist attractions are its flowers, both endemic (native) and exotic (from other continents), which are well adapted to the climate and soil. These flowers can be admired in the many nature parks and lovingly tended gardens which fill the island with unforgettable colours and aromas. Flowers are also on sale at markets, street florists and speciality shops.

Due to the climatic characteristics of Madeira, throughout the year it is possible to admire flowers such as orchids, strelitzias, anthuriums, magnolias, azaleas, proteas and others. Some of the best-known endemic species include the so-called Pride of Madeira (*Echium candicans*) and the golden *Musschia aurea*. Every year during the months of Spring, Madeira hosts the beautiful Flower Festival.



# ACTIVE TOURISM

Enjoying the unforgettable landscapes of Madeira can form part of any activity you do on the island, whether this is hiking, bird watching, trekking, climbing, canyoning, hang gliding, paragliding, taking part in a jeep safari, off-road biking, geocaching, horseback riding or playing golf.

The tradition of golfing in Madeira goes back to 1937 when the English families Miles, Leacock and Blandy built the island's first nine-hole golf course.

The region currently has 72 holes across its three golf courses, two of which are located on Madeira Island (with 18 holes in Funchal and 27 in Santo da Serra), and one on the island of Porto Santo (with 27 holes, 9 of which are part of the pitch and putt course). Representing a true paradise for golf lovers, Madeira's three golf courses present excellent playing conditions and stand out for the beauty of their surrounding scenery.

As for aquatic activities, visitors can dive in the company of groupers or dolphins. It is also possible to sail the waves of the Atlantic while surfing, windsurfing, jet skiing or water skiing. Sports fishing enthusiasts will find ideal conditions for catching swordfish or a blue marlin.

For more information on active tourism choices, browse the list of Tourism Entertainment Companies at [www.visitmadeira.pt](http://www.visitmadeira.pt) and <http://www.madeiraallyear.com/en/> and make the most of these fun and safe activities.

# REGIONAL CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS

Madeira is an island full of traditions, with local culture evident in the customs, experiences and products of the island, which have been handed down through the generations with great pride. When visiting Madeira, do not miss any opportunity to appreciate these customs and traditions, including the *arraiais* or religious feasts, local traditional dance - the *bailinho*, local embroideries and wicker, or the region's musical instruments and costumes.



# ARRAIAIS (RELIGIOUS FESTIVITIES)

In Madeira, the summer months are marked by several *Arraiais* or traditional religious festivals and pilgrimages. These are normally celebrated in religious parishes at weekends, in most cases organised by the *festeiro* or sponsor.

These festivities feature entertainment from local philharmonic bands and the traditional local folk dance – the *bailinho*. The streets surrounding the church are adorned with colourful flowers and flags, while small wooden stalls are decorated with laurel branches. A little bit of everything can be found at these festivities, from the typical necklaces made of sweets to the edible cakes baked in the form of dolls with seeds for “eyes” and coloured ribbons for hair and clothes.

Be sure to try regional snacks such as beef skewers or freshly baked *bolo de caco* with garlic butter, as well as local wine and the traditional drink to be found in the *arraiais*: a type of wine spritzer made with orange juice. The skewers are made with pieces of beef cooked on a laurel wood skewer roasted directly over an open flame. The festivities continue through the night.

During the month of June, religious feasts are held in honour of the three Popular Saints throughout the

island of Madeira. In this month the *Casa do Povo* of *Boaventura* organises the annual Countryside Soup Fair, which promotes the typical aromas and flavours of the region, such as “pilgrim’s broth” (*caldo da romaria*), “wheat soup” (*sopa de trigo*) and a range of others (*corte, boganga and açorda*).

During the month of August, the Feast of Nossa Senhora do Monte in Funchal, of Nossa Senhora da Graça in Porto Santo and the *arraial* of São Vicente on Madeira’s North Coast, are the most popular.

On the first Sunday of September, the “Bom Jesus” *arraial* is celebrated in Ponta Delgada. In the past, this feast was visited by thousands of pilgrims arriving on foot via the paths connecting the island’s north and south. It continues to be one of the largest feasts on the island of Madeira today.

On the third weekend of September, festivities in honour of Our Lady of Mercy are held in Caniçal, featuring a procession by boat and then by land to a small chapel located at the top of the slope to gather the image of Our Lady of Mercy. This image remains inside the chapel in Caniçal until the following day, when it is returned to its place of origin.

In the month of October, the municipality of Machico hosts the Feast of Senhor dos Milagres in commemoration of the flood that occurred on 9th October, 1803. The flood destroyed the chapel which housed the image of the Lord of Miracles, which itself was swept out to sea. The tradition goes that three days later the image miraculously reappeared next to the chapel.

On 11th November, the village of São Martinho in Funchal features traditional celebrations which comprises tasting the year's new wine, cod and the last of the season's chestnuts.

At each dawn of the Christmas season (16th to 24th December), Madeira celebrates one of its main Christmas traditions: the "Birth Masses". These nine Catholic Masses announce the Birth of Jesus and are known for the performances by local choirs and the joyful atmosphere in the churches, where locals meet to share food and drink with the faithful and visitors.

On the evening of 24th December, Midnight Mass or 'Mass of the Rooster' is celebrated in Madeira, taking its name from the legend of the rooster which is believed to have been the first animal to witness the birth of baby Jesus.





# FOLKLORE

Folklore, an indispensable part of Madeira's cultural traditions, is maintained thanks to the region's many folk groups. A quintessential element of Madeiran folklore is the traditional folk dance called the "bailinho", accompanied by singing and music, invoking themes of love, pastoral traditions and festive moments from the island's history. The stomping of the grapes is symbolised in the dance steps, and the lowered heads of the dancers are a symbol of submission and respect to the Lord from the era of slavery and servitude. Typical dances include the dance of the *camacheiras*, *chamarrita*, *charamba*, *mourisca* and others.

The people of Madeira are passionate music lovers and the musical instruments used in Madeiran folklore deserve special attention for their variety and authenticity, especially hand-held stringed instruments, which include the machete, the *rajão*, the *rebeca*, the wire *viola* and the *braguinha* (an ancestor of the ukulele, taken by

Madeiran emigrants to Hawaii), as well as the accordion, the triangle and the popular "brinquinho" of original and local manufacture. A notable musical genre played in local homes, parties and festivities is that of the typical "despiques" or singing challenge, which can be seen at the various *arraiais*.

The traditional attire of Madeira is rich in regional, national and foreign influences and it is common to find people wearing typical Madeiran clothing in the Lavradores Market in Funchal and among flower sellers. The female attire is predominantly red and features a plain or striped woollen skirt, a vest, a bodice and a blue cap. The masculine attire is predominantly white and features knee-length shorts called *bragas*, a pleated shirt and a blue cap. The boots worn by both men and women are made of tanned leather, the top of which is turned outwards and descends to the ankle. Women's boots are often adorned with red ribbons.

# MADEIRA EMBROIDERY

The origins of Madeira Embroidery go back to the beginnings of the island's settlement. Noblewomen are believed to have begun to use embroidery to decorate their homes and clothes as well as for religious purposes. From the second half of the nineteenth century, this product became recognised internationally when English merchants established in Funchal began to export local embroidery to England. This new dynamic spurred the creation of shops, schools and factories dedicated to the craft, using fabrics such as linen, natural silk, organdie or cotton. These fabrics are stamped and then embroidered by the talented hands of embroiderers, after which they are returned to the factory to be checked, trimmed, washed and ironed.

The art of tapestry, of German origin, was brought to Madeira in 1936 by the Kiekeben family, in order to diversify the production of its embroidery factory. Local embroiderers began to excel at this art, which uses wool and cotton on canvas. Only after verification are local embroidery and tapestry products given the seal of the IVBAM (Institute of Wine, Embroidery and Handicraft of Madeira), thus guaranteeing their quality and authenticity.

Do check this seal when purchasing pieces of Madeira embroidery. Recognised internationally as true works of art, these articles range from handkerchiefs to traditional and beautiful tablecloths, and are the fruit of a long tradition.





## WICKER

The origins of the wicker industry begin in 1850 in the parish of Camacha. The basket willow plants (*Salix viminalis*) that are used for this production grow in areas of abundant water. After cutting, the plant is then peeled and dried and undergoes a treatment process which gives it its brown colour, and is then boiled to improve elasticity and facilitate handling. The wicker is used to make baskets and furniture of all shapes and sizes, including the famous wicker “toboggans” of Monte, though the most sought after products are picnic baskets and wicker chairs.

There is a wide range of shops selling regional items in the central streets of Funchal. One of the best places to see these traditional products up close is the Municipal Market of Funchal, better known as the Lavradores Market.

# FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

Madeira is a destination which hosts a wide variety of entertaining events throughout the year, where the local population's enthusiastic participation makes for unforgettable experiences for visitors.

While the dates of festivals and events vary from year to year, a calendar is published in advance on the Madeira Tourism website allowing people to plan holidays around the events. Please check the website [www.visitmadeira.com](http://www.visitmadeira.com) for more information on the dates of festivals and events.

The main tourist entertainment calendar events in Madeira are the following:



# CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S EVE FESTIVITIES

These celebrations combine Christian traditions with the joy of the arrival of the New Year. Celebrations begin with thousands of decorative lights illuminating the streets and main roads of Funchal, in an unusually beautiful scene due to natural amphitheatre of the city's orography, and include a vibrant programme of events throughout the month of December that ends with the Three Kings Day celebrations on 6th January. During the holiday season, Avenida Arriaga offers a variety of street entertainment, including music and tastings of regional products by locals and visitors alike. The homes of the locals, hotels, restaurants, bars and streets of Funchal becoming absolutely immersed in the Christmas atmosphere. The Market Night takes place on 23rd December as Madeirans make their last Christmas purchases. It is in this bustle that the spirit of the "Feast", as Christmas is known to Madeirans, is best understood. Locals go to the Lavradores Market, whose surrounding streets are closed to traffic and occupied by several stalls which are open throughout the night. These stalls offer a variety of regional products such as flowers, fruit, vegetables, sweets and traditional marinated pork sandwiches

and drinks such as *poncha*. At dusk, there is a performance by locals of traditional Christmas songs followed by a variety of bands and folk groups that keep the party going until dawn.

On 28th December the traditional St Silvester Funchal Road Race takes place. This event attracts numerous national and international athletes to the region and fills the Madeiran capital with excitement.

The holidays culminate on 31st December with a magnificent fireworks display, which was officially recognised as the world's greatest firework display by the Guinness Book of Records in 2006. Distributed across several points of Funchal and from cargo ships on the sea, the display lasts around eight minutes.

On the night of 5th to 6th January, singing takes place in the Municipal Garden and in several municipalities across the island. The musical performance "Cantar os Reis" (Singing the Kings) recreates the popular tradition of singing traditional Madeiran songs that were performed from door to door. This show marks the end of the New Year festivities.

# CARNIVAL

Carnival is another of Madeira's huge tourist attractions. It takes place over a week in February / March, when the festive atmosphere of Funchal is filled with bright colours, movement, joy, fantasy and music. On the first Friday of Carnival, the city dawns with the sound of music, live shows and carnival parades in the city centre.

Saturday night is the most anticipated moment of the Carnival festivities in Madeira, when the great allegoric parade takes to the street with vibrant music and the costumes, colour, creativity and dancing of several parading troupes.

On Carnival Tuesday, Funchal receives the traditional 'Trapalhão' parade, with thousands of revellers coming from all over the island to parade before a mid-afternoon crowd in an atmosphere of caricature and fun.



# FLOWER FESTIVAL

April and May welcomes one of the most beautiful festivals in Madeira, the annual Flower Festival. This Festival celebrates the arrival of spring and the beauty of flowers with various musical concerts, performances by folk groups and the multiple floral carpets that decorate Avenida Arriaga. This tradition originated in the floral carpets of the procession made during the Feast of the *Santissimo Sacramento* which are widespread throughout the island.

The magnificent Flower Show can also be admired in the Praça do Povo in Funchal. The festival, which began in the 1950s, features the most beautiful examples of flowers produced by Madeira's skilled and dedicated floriculturists. The flowers on display are evaluated in their various categories and distinguished by a specialised jury. The festival also includes workshops and regional craft shows.

A wide variety of flowers can be bought in the picturesque and traditional environment of the Lavradores Market.

For more than three decades the Children's Parade has been held from around 10 am on Saturday morning, in which hundreds of children from the schools of Funchal parade from Avenida Arriaga to the town square. With the flowers they carry in their hands, they form a beautiful mural symbolically called the "Wall of Hope", whose purpose is to call for peace in the world. The ceremony usually culminates with a release of doves and a children's show.

On Sunday afternoon, the streets of downtown Funchal host the Grand Flower Parade, a magnificent spectacle of natural beauty, music and joy featuring several floats and hundreds of participants of all ages, dancing along Avenida Sá Carneiro and Avenida do Mar in costumes decorated with multiple flowers in one of the most remarkable events of this Festival.

The Madeira Car Show concludes the celebrations of the Flower Festival, adding the glamour of hundreds of classic cars and motorcycles to the flowers of Madeira. This initiative recreates the parade held in the 1980s and 90s in Funchal and is a unique opportunity to admire some of the most beautiful vehicles. This event also offers entertainment and beauty, with bands and participants dressed in costumes inspired by the flowers of Madeira.

# ATLANTIC FESTIVAL

Combining fireworks every Saturday night during the month of June and a weeklong art display, the charming Atlantic Festival takes place every year in the bay of Funchal. The festival brings together pyrotechnic companies from four continents in a competition which offers visitors an incredible visual spectacle synchronised with music, with a final prize awarded by public vote.

'Arts Week' shares the artistic creativity of about 4000 students from regional schools, who decorate Avenida Arriaga in the centre of Funchal with their art.





## MADEIRA WINE FESTIVAL

This celebration, which takes place in late August and early September, seeks to recreate ancestral customs of Madeira at the beginning of the island's harvest season. Most events take place in the centre of Funchal's Avenida Arriaga, where wine presses, casks, barrels, harvesting baskets, grape stomping, traditional means of transport known as "borrachos", as well as local cuisine, Madeira wine tastings and a regional handicraft exhibition can all be enjoyed. There are also performances by folk groups, traditional Madeiran music and the Madeira Orchestra.

In the Estreito de Câmara de Lobos, the "Vindimas" festival is celebrated with grape picking in the picturesque environment of the Quinta do Estreito. This is followed by an allegoric parade focusing on Madeiran ethnography with the participation of folk groups. After the parade, grape stomping is carried out in a traditional winery. Visitors also have the opportunity to sample wine in the traditional cellars. This party has the look and feel of a typical Madeiran village with regional cuisine, lively traditions and lots of entertainment.

# COLUMBUS FESTIVAL PORTO SANTO

On the Island of Porto Santo, the city of Vila Baleira dedicates a week in September to the navigator Christopher Columbus, who travelled to and lived on this island for some years. This festival commemorates the experiences of this navigator, as well as the entire period of the Discoveries. With music, exhibitions, street entertainment and staging of medieval re-enactments, the particular emphasis of the festival is the historic parade which recreates the docking of Columbus and his companions at the city's main wharf.





# NATURE FESTIVAL

In October, the people of Madeira invite visitors to join them in celebrating the best that nature has to offer on the Island and experience Madeira's natural charms, which inspire such excitement and adventure. Whether on land, in the air or in the sea, there is a huge range of experiences and activities for all age groups, including sport, entertainment, folklore and Madeiran culture. In the Praça do Povo, scenarios and structures are set up to demonstrate activities related to nature. A Madeiran *arraial* also takes place, with displays of handicrafts and regional cuisine, demonstrations of traditional games and performances by folk groups.

# THE ISLAND OF MADEIRA

The island of Madeira is divided into several municipalities, including Funchal, the archipelago's capital located on the south coast, the North Coast, with Porto Moniz, São Vicente and Santana, the Southeast Coast, with Santa Cruz and Machico, and the Southwest Coast, with Lobos, Ribeira Brava, Ponta do Sol and Calheta.





# FUNCHAL

## The capital

The municipality of Funchal is composed of 10 parishes: Monte, Imaculado Coração de Maria, Santa Luzia, Santo António, São Roque, São Gonçalo, São Martinho, Sé, São Pedro and Santa Maria Maior.

Funchal is located on the south coast of the island of Madeira. The city is set in a beautiful bay with a natural amphitheatre shape, marked by mountains, valleys, streams, century old trees, flowering gardens and houses with terracotta roofs.

By day and at night, the charming city of Funchal is beautiful, clean and quiet.

Large enough to welcome visitors from all over the world, Funchal perfectly retains the warm atmosphere of a small town where people still greet each other on the street.

The city's authenticity together with its climate, the island's cultural heritage, the outdoor activities on offer and the local cuisine ensure an unforgettable holiday.

This is the signature of a city which has grown since 1508 to become the most important centre in the archipelago, with many stories to tell and dozens of natural locations to discover.

Discover Funchal and fall in love with the city...

# NOT TO BE MISSED!

## 1. Strolling along the main streets

Admire and take some beautiful photos of the pedestrian avenues and squares in the centre of Funchal, paved in the typical Portuguese manner and flanked by historical buildings, fountains, restaurants, shops, gardens and houses with flower gardens. Rua de Santa Maria, Rua dos Ferreiros, Rua da Carreira, Rua Dr. António José de Almeida and Rua do Esmeraldo are some of the city's oldest streets. Avenida Arriaga is one of the most dynamic areas of Funchal and offers access to the Cathedral, the Municipal Garden, the Municipal Theatre, Santa Catarina park and cafés with outdoor terraces and live music.

Rua Fernão de Ornelas (although not pedestrian) is also one of the main streets of the city. Here you can find several shops and cafés with terraces, surrounded by a constant bustle around the Lavradores Market and traditional commerce.

Absorb the city's laid back lifestyle and make a toast to your vacation with Madeira wine.

## 2. Admire the monuments and museums of the historic centres of Sé, São Pedro and Santa Maria Maior

Visit the Colégio Church, the private chapels of the Convent of Santa Clara, the noble halls of the São Lourenço Palace and climb the tower of the Town Hall. Discover the manor houses of Madeira (the 'Quintas') through the Quinta das Cruzes Museum, contemplate a comprehensive sacred art collection from the 16th century at the Sacred Art Museum and learn about the cultural history of Madeira at the Sugar Museum, the Electricity Museum, the Madeira Story Centre and the Madeira Film Experience.

## 3. Discover the city by the sea

At Avenida do Mar, you can discover the city's old pier, the Praça do Mar, the Marina and Pontinha. Enjoy the views from the city pier, the sea, sailboats and cruise ships or book a dolphin or whale watching trip along the coast. Relax in the gardens of the Praça do Povo and visit the nearby ruins of the São Filipe Fort or the São Tiago Fort, a testimony to the historical richness of Madeira. In Praça do Mar visitors will also find the statue and museum of the famous Madeiran footballer, Cristiano Ronaldo.

## 4. Discover the Old Town

Discover this labyrinth of narrow cobbled streets where visitors can admire the façades of the old restored houses and restaurants, *fado* houses and lively bars. Get to know the "Open Doors Art" Project, in which the



paintings on the doors by local artists transformed Rua Santa Maria (and other streets nearby) into an “art gallery”. In the vicinity of the Corpo Santo Chapel, visit the beautiful Socorro Church, erected in the 16th century at the initiative of private citizens. Sit on an esplanade and enjoy the lively atmosphere as it changes throughout the day. This is also an early evening meeting point.

### 5. Explore the Lavradores Market

Well worth a visit, this market is a clear example of the architectural style of the Estado Novo period, a style that oscillates between art deco of the 30s and modernism. Enjoy the busy atmosphere, the *azulejos* (glazed tiles) and the multiplicity of colours and aromas - flowers, fruit, vegetables and spices. In the *praça do peixe* (fish market) you can find Madeira’s typical black scabbard fish, tuna and much more.

### 6. Walk the paths of Monte

With an altitude of 550 metres, the parish of Monte is one of the most popular places to visit in Funchal. Don’t miss the chance to take the cable car that links Funchal to Monte and the Botanical Garden. On the way back, take an unforgettable ride on one of the typical wicker toboggans at the expert hands of one of Monte’s “carreiros”. In Monte, visitors will find luxuriant gardens and



the emblematic Church of Nossa Senhora do Monte, the location of the tomb of Charles I, the last emperor of Austria, who resided here. Enjoy panoramic sea views from the Monte Palace Tropical Garden and be dazzled by beautiful plants from all over the world.

### 7. Stroll along the Lido promenade

This long seaside walk offers a pedestrian connection between the Lido area and Formosa beach and goes all the way to Câmara de Lobos. In addition to being a great place to enjoy sea views, there are also several restful garden areas. Another attraction is its proximity to beaches, namely the Clube Naval, the Ponta Gorda Swimming Complex, the Poças do Governador, as well as Formosa beach.

### 8. Relax in the city's parks and gardens

Colour your day with the multitudes of amazing flowers in the city. Enjoy the tranquillity of the delightful gardens interrupted only by the sound of running water and singing birds. The Botanical Garden, the Municipal Garden, the Palheiro Gardens, the Quinta da Boa Vista garden and Santa Catarina park are some of the must-see places.

### 9. Enjoy the stunning views at the viewpoints

Pico dos Barcelos is situated at an altitude of 355 metres and offers incredible panoramic views over Funchal, the Desertas Islands, Câmara de Lobos and Cabo Girão.

The Pináculo viewpoint is located at the east end of the city at 283 metres above sea level and offers one of the most beautiful views of the bay of Funchal. Located next to the Quinta das Cruzes Museum is the Cruzes viewpoint, one of Funchal's oldest, decorated with *azulejos* (glazed tiles) and offering a fantastic view of central Funchal.

### 10. Have fun in the city of never ending parties

By its very nature, Funchal is a city of fun. In addition to the Old Town, other night life areas include Avenida de Sá Carneiro and the Lido area. Madeira Casino is also an option with gaming rooms, bars, a disco, restaurants and musical shows. Throughout the year, there are many festivals and events that liven up the streets of the city, such as Carnival and the Flower Festival, though the city's Christmas and New Year's Eve celebrations are exceptional and feature "the greatest fireworks show in the World", according to the Guinness Book of Records.

# BEACHES AND POOLS

## WEST FUNCHAL

### Funchal Naval Club

The Funchal Naval Club is a beach area with direct access to the sea and salt water pools. Most access to the sea is by stairs and there is a large sun bathing area. There is a restaurant and bar, changing rooms, showers, toilets, a first aid station, a children's playground, a diving club and net space.

The Funchal Naval Club also aims to promote the practice of nautical sport and the cultural, social, environmental and recreational participation of its members.

The club offers a number of sports and leisure spaces, including:

Quinta Calaça - Bathing complex, diving centre and leisure area for members;

São Lázaro Nautical Centre - Nautical sports activities and karate;

Nazaré Sports Complex - Swimming and Health Club (AquaGym);

Gym and Judo Room - Av. Calouste Gulbenkian (Bodybuilding and Judo);

Management of the Funchal Marina in partnership with the Mar Training Centre. Paid admission.

**32, Rua da Quinta Calaça – 9000-108 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 762 253**

**[www.clubenaval dofunchal.com](http://www.clubenaval dofunchal.com)**

### Lido Bathing Complex

Designed by José Rafael Botelho, this complex has two salt water pools, one for adults and another with slides for children. It also offers stairway access to the sea at various points of the complex. This bathing area has excellent support facilities and a great location. Paid admission.

Open every day from 8.30 am to 8 pm.

### Rua do Gorgulho

**Phone: (+351) 291 105 163**

**[www.frentemarfunchal.com](http://www.frentemarfunchal.com)**

### Ponta Gorda Bathing Complex

Located on the Lido Promenade, this complex has two swimming pools for adults and one for children, with access to the sea, a playground, changing rooms, showers, toilets, a first aid station, sun loungers, parasols, restaurants and bars. It also has a team of lifeguards on duty. Paid admission.

Open every day from 8.30 am to 8 pm.

### Passeio Público Marítimo – Ponta Gorda

**Phone: (+351) 291 105 763**







### **Formosa Beach Bathing Complex**

This beach is connected to the Lido Promenade and the Câmara de Lobos Promenade. The complex consists of four beaches of sand and pebbles: Nova beach, Formosa beach, Namorados beach and Areeiro beach. Facilities include parking, changing rooms, toilets, first aid, restaurants and bars. In the bathing season, safety is ensured by a team of lifeguards.

#### **Formosa Beach**

**Phone: (+351) 291 105 760**

**[www.frentemarfunchal.com](http://www.frentemarfunchal.com)**

## **EAST FUNCHAL**

### **Barreirinha Bathing Complex**

In the vicinity of the São Tiago Fort lies the Barreirinha Bathing Complex. This beach offers direct access to the sea and good swimming conditions.

It has a large sunbathing area, toilets, showers, lockers, a bar, parasols, sun loungers, lifeguards and a first aid station. Paid admission.

Open every day from 9 am to 7 pm.

#### **Largo do Socorro**

**Phone: (+351) 291 105 760**

**[www.frentemarfunchal.com](http://www.frentemarfunchal.com)**

# GARDENS AND PARKS

## FUNCHAL CITY CENTRE

### Municipal Garden

The Municipal Garden is located in the city centre and is one of the city's most popular. It is also known as the D. Amelia Garden, in honour of Queen Amelia of Portugal, wife of King Carlos I of Portugal, who visited Madeira in 1901. For many centuries the garden was the site of the St Francis Convent, from which the Franciscan coat of arms can still be observed on one of the lawns.

The garden has beautiful identified specimens of Madeira's flora, such as dragon trees, as well as plants from all over the world. Also worth mentioning are the garden's sculptures and busts, the lake with swans and ducks, a kiosk with a café terrace and an auditorium where various cultural activities take place.

#### **Avenida Arriaga**

**Phone: (+351) 291 231 501**

**E-mail: [parquesjardins@cm-funchal.pt](mailto:parquesjardins@cm-funchal.pt)**

**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

### Santa Catarina Park

Santa Catarina Park is the city's largest and is located between Avenida do Infante and Avenida de Sá Carneiro. It offers a beautiful view over Funchal, from the bay to the Ponta do Garajau. The park has a large lawn surrounded by flower beds of numerous arboreal, shrub and herbaceous species from all corners of the globe.

Also worthy of mention are the Santa Catarina Chapel and the lagoon where an island was built for the nesting bird species that live there. Free admission.

Open every day.

Summer opening hours: from 7 am to 9 pm

Winter opening hours: from 8 am to 7 pm

#### **Avenida do Infante – Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 231 502**

**E-mail: [parquesjardins@cm-funchal.pt](mailto:parquesjardins@cm-funchal.pt)**

**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

## EAST FUNCHAL

### Rui Vieira Botanical Garden

This garden brings together more than 2,000 exotic plants from all continents of the globe, each blossoming as if in their natural habitat. The garden has also become a scientific and cultural centre working for the conservation of plants threatened with extinction. A Natural History Museum located here is open to visitors

and features a herbarium of endemic plants. Paid admission.

Open every day from 9 am to 6 pm  
(except 25th December)

### **Caminho do Meio, Bom Sucesso**

**9064-512, Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 211 200**

**E-mail: [jardimbotanico.sra@gov-madeira.pt](mailto:jardimbotanico.sra@gov-madeira.pt)**

**[www.sra.pt/jarbot](http://www.sra.pt/jarbot)**

#### **NOTE:**

One of the ways to get to this Garden is by the cable car which connects the Botanical Garden to Babosas in Monte. The approximately 1,600 m journey lasts around 9 minutes with an altitude between 10 and 100 +m above the ground. This offers visitors panoramic views over the bay of Funchal and the valley of Ribeira de João Gomes, a place of rare natural beauty. After visiting the Botanical Gardens, visitors can continue onwards to the romantic village of Monte. A bar and restaurant with terraces overlooking magnificent views are located at both the Jardim Botânico station and the Largo das Babosas viewpoint.

### **Botanical Garden Cable Car**

**MTV - Transportes Alternativos da Madeira, S.A.**

Paid admission.

Open every day except 25th December

Summer opening hours: from 9.30 am to 5.30 pm

Winter opening hours: from 9 am to 5 pm

### **15, Caminho das Voltas**

**Phone: (+351) 291 210 290**

**[www.telefericojardimbotanico.com](http://www.telefericojardimbotanico.com)**

**[www.botanicalgardencablecar.com](http://www.botanicalgardencablecar.com)**

### **Palheiro Gardens**

The wide lawns of the Palheiro Gardens boast some of the world's rarest and most valuable plants. Once owned by the first Count of Carvalhal, who started its magnificent collection of camellias, the gardens feature trees of more than 200 years of age as well as panoramic views of Funchal. Paid admission.

Open every day from 9 am to .5.30 pm.

Closed on 1st January and 25th December

### **Caminho da Quinta do Palheiro**

**9060-255 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 793 044**

**E-mail: [manuel.teixeira@palheiroestate.com](mailto:manuel.teixeira@palheiroestate.com)**

**[www.palheirogardens.com](http://www.palheirogardens.com)**

### **Quinta da Boa Vista Gardens**

One of the main aspirations of Quinta da Boa Vista is to take advantage of the climate of Madeira to recreate habitats for endangered species.

In this garden there are sections dedicated to bromeliads of South America, Australia's martinets and aloe from Africa. The main attraction is the garden's exhibition of prize-winning orchids collected over 20 years. Paid admission.

Open Monday to Saturday 9 am to 5:30 pm.

Closed Sundays and holidays.

**Rua Lombo da Boa Vista — 9060-173 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 220 468**

**E-mail: [patrickgarton@hotmail.com](mailto:patrickgarton@hotmail.com)**

### Monte

From the centre of Funchal, Monte can be visited via cable car on a trip of around 15 minutes which offers magnificent panoramic views not only of the city but also of the surrounding mountain ranges. Funchal station is located in Campo Almirante Reis and Monte station in Largo das Babosas.

A visit to the fantastic Monte Palace Tropical Garden is recommended. The cable car can be used to return as can the wicker toboggans to the Livramento area. Driven by two “carreiros” or drivers, this mode of transport dates back to 1850 and provides moments of unforgettable fun and adrenaline.

### Wicker toboggans - Carreiros do Monte

Paid admission.

Open: Monday to Friday from 9 am to 6 pm and Sundays 9 am to 1 pm.

Closed on 1st January, Good Friday, 15th and 16th August and 25th December.

**Sítio da Igreja — 9050 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 783 919**

**[www.carreirosdomonte.com](http://www.carreirosdomonte.com)**

### Monte Cable Cars

Paid admission.

Open every day from 9 am to 5:45 pm. Closed 2nd, 3rd and 4th February and 25th December.

**8, Caminho das Babosas — 9050-541 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 780 280**

**E-mail: [info@madeiracablecar.com](mailto:info@madeiracablecar.com)**

**[www.telefericodofunchal.com](http://www.telefericodofunchal.com)**

### Monte Palace Tropical Garden

The Monte Palace Tropical Garden is located on Quinta Monte Palace which is owned by the Joe Berardo Foundation. With plants from all over the world, the garden presents a beautiful collection of cycads (*Encephalartos*) which are considered true living fossils. Of the 72 known species, this garden has about 60 varieties! The garden also has a space dedicated to Madeiran flora, including most of the species found in the *Laurissilva* Forest. You can also visit the Monte Palace Museum which houses a collection of minerals entitled “Secrets of Mother Nature” and another entitled “African Passion” with contemporary sculpture from Zimbabwe. The sculptures, which date back to the 1950s and 60s, include works by artists from Tengenenge such as Henry Munyaradzi and Bernard Matemera. The collection of minerals, mostly from Brazil, Portugal, Peru and North America, is organized according to aesthetic value, with a special emphasis on diamonds.

There is also a large collection of historic *azulejos* (glazed tiles) panels placed along the walking paths.

In the garden's central lagoon (formerly belonging to the nineteenth century Monte Palace Hotel), visitors can still admire the grace of the swans and enjoy the sound of the waterfall.

Paid admission.

Open every day except 25th December from 9:30 am to 6 pm.

**174, Caminho do Monte — 9050-288 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 780 800**

**E-mail: [info@montepalace.com](mailto:info@montepalace.com)**

**[www.montepalace.com](http://www.montepalace.com)**

### **Monte Municipal Garden**

This park features many native and exotic species as well as some century-old trees. At the entrance is the Largo da Fonte, with a bandstand and the Virgin Fountain, with a niche containing the image of Our Lady of Monte. In the centre of the park is a lake bearing a map of the island of Madeira carved in stone. Free admission.

**Largo da Fonte**

**Phone: (+351) 291 231 502**

**E-mail: [parquesjardins@cm-funchal.com](mailto:parquesjardins@cm-funchal.com)**

**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**



## WEST FUNCHAL

### Panoramic Garden

The Panoramic Garden is located between the Lido Promenade and Estrada Monumental and presents four groups of vegetation with different themes: Native Coastal Flora, Native Flora of Medium Altitude, Cactuses and the Tropical Section. It offers a magnificent panoramic view over the Atlantic. Free admission. Open every day from 7 am to 10 pm.

**Estrada Monumental – Passeio Público Marítimo**

**Phone: (+351) 291 231 502**

**E-mail: [parquesjardins@cm-funchal.pt](mailto:parquesjardins@cm-funchal.pt)**

**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

### Quinta Magnólia Garden

Located on a Madeiran Quinta, this garden offers vast green spaces where a variety of exotic plants can be observed. Free admission

Open every day except 1st January  
and 25th December from 8:30 am to 6 pm.

**10, Rua Dr. Pita — 9000-089 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 764 598**

**E-mail: [parquesjardins@cm-funchal.pt](mailto:parquesjardins@cm-funchal.pt)**

**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

### Lido Promenade - Public Maritime Path

The seaside promenade located between Gorgulho (Lido) and Formosa Beach allows visitors to stroll





along the seafront and observe several plants including Rosewood trees (*Tipuana tipu*), Tilos (*Ocotea foetens*), Laurels (*Apollonias barbujana*), Dragon trees (*Dracaena draco*), Pride of Madeira plants (*Echium nervosum*), Marguerite Daisies (*Argyranthemum Sp.*) and more. There are also several beautifully colourful bougainvillea.

### Ajuda Garden

The special highlight of this garden of tropical flora is its 16 different species of palm trees. The garden also has a children's play area, a *pétanque* alley, a basketball court, two ping-pong tables and three games tables. Free admission.

Open every day.

Summer opening hours: from 7 am to 10 pm.

Winter opening hours: from 7 am to 8 pm.

**Rua do Vale da Ajuda**

**Phone: (+351) 291 231 502**

**E-mail: [parquesjardins@cm-funchal.pt](mailto:parquesjardins@cm-funchal.pt)**

**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

# ACTIVE TOURISM

Various outdoor activities are available in the Ecological Park of Funchal, such as canyoning, paragliding, mountain biking and hang gliding. Over an area of about 1,000 hectares, the existence of considerable differences of altitude combined with several water courses give this park a varied range of native flora reinforced by the planting of trees. Nesting bird species of Madeira can also be found here. Another of the park's attractions is the Poço da Neve, or 'Snow Hut'. Located in the highest part of the Park, the hut has a cylindrical shape and was used in the past to store ice. Free admission.

Open every day from 8:30 am to 7 pm.

**103,259 Estrada Regional**

**Ribeira da Cales — 9050 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 784 700**

**E-mail: pecof@cm-funchal.pt**

**www.cm-funchal.pt**

Various sport and leisure activities related to the sea can be done in Funchal Marina, such as boat trips for dolphin and whale watching, canoeing, sailing and windsurfing.

The marina is located in the city centre within the main port of Madeira. There are 210 places for yachts and a mooring area for boats for nautical and tourist activities. The Funchal Marina also offers a wide range of support services, including water and electricity connections, petrol stations, sanitary facilities and toilets, nautical shops and restaurants and bars. Free admission.

**Marina do Funchal — 9000-055 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 232 717**

**www.marinadofunchal.com**

For those wishing to play golf, Palheiro Golf course is located 500 metres above the bay of Funchal, next to the exotic gardens of Quinta do Palheiro. Opened in 1993 and specially designed by Cabel Robinson to make good use of the hills, peaks and deep valleys of the region, the course is sure to provide golf professionals an exciting and competitive game. Palheiro Golf Course has 18 holes, par 72, and 6,015 m long, with facilities such as a pro-shop, a putting green and a driving range.

**29, Rua do Balancal — 9060-414 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 790 120**

**www.palheirogolf.com**



The Funchal Marathon brings athletes of several nationalities together on an almost entirely closed circuit with excellent landscape. This important international sporting event is organised by the Madeira Athletics Association and consists of three events: the Funchal Marathon (42,195 m), the Funchal Half Marathon (21,097.5 m) and the Funchal Mini Marathon (5,900 m).

**For more information:**  
[www.funchalmarathon.com/pt/](http://www.funchalmarathon.com/pt/)

# MUSEUMS AND MONUMENTS

## HISTORIC CENTRE OF SÉ

### Sacred Art Museum

This museum features impressive works of Flemish religious painting from the 16th to 18th centuries, religious sculpture from the 16th to the 18th centuries and religious silverwork from the 17th and 18th centuries.

Paid admission.

Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am to 12.30 pm and 2.30 pm to 6 pm. Sundays from 10 am to 1pm. Closed on Mondays and holidays.

**21, Rua do Bispo**

**9000-073 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 228 900**

**E-mail: [info@museuartesacrafunchal.org](mailto:info@museuartesacrafunchal.org)**

**[www.museuartesacrafunchal.org](http://www.museuartesacrafunchal.org)**

### Madeira Wine Museum

This museum located on the site of the old St. Francis Convent of Funchal, which was demolished in the nineteenth century, houses the oldest wine cellars of Madeira.

Here it is possible to explore and enjoy old warehouses, a small cobbled street and what appear to be the vestiges of an old chapel. Visitors will also find letters of famous personalities, documents of the English firms that originated the “Madeira Wine Co.”, books, utensils, a seventeenth century winery and a bar for tasting and purchasing wine. The exhibition area presents the history of Madeira wine, from the vineyard production process to the transformation into the different Madeira wine varieties: Sercial, Malvasia, Verdelho and Boal. In the tasting room it is also possible to admire panels illustrating the various phases of Madeira wine production painted by Max Romer, a German artist who lived on the island between 1922 and 1960.

Paid admission.

Open Monday to Friday from 10 am to 6.30 pm and Saturdays from 10 am to 1 pm.

Closed Sundays and holidays.

**Adegas de São Francisco — 28, Avenida Arriaga**

**9000-064 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 740 100**

**E-mail: [pubrel@madeirawinecompany.com](mailto:pubrel@madeirawinecompany.com) [www.blandyswinelodge.com](http://www.blandyswinelodge.com)**

### Henrique and Francisco Franco Museum

This museum has a fine collection of paintings, prints, drawings and sculptures from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries by the illustrious Madeiran brothers Henrique and Francisco Franco.

Paid admission.



Open Monday to Friday from 10 am to 6 pm  
Closed on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

**13, Rua João de Deus — 9050-027 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 211 090**

**E-mail: [museu.franco@cm-funchal.pt](mailto:museu.franco@cm-funchal.pt)  
[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

### **IVBAM Museum Centre - Embroidery Museum**

This museum is a space dedicated to the history and culture of Madeira Embroidery. It exhibits valuable pieces of embroidery that have been produced over 150 years, tapestries and marquetry. Paid admission.

Open: Monday to Friday from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 2 pm to 5.30pm.

Closed on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

**44, Rua Visconde Anadia  
9050-020 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 211 600**

**E-mail: [ivbam.sra@gov-madeira.pt](mailto:ivbam.sra@gov-madeira.pt)  
[www.ivbam.gov-madeira.pt](http://www.ivbam.gov-madeira.pt)**

### **Sugar Museum**

Archaeological excavations of this site in 1989 uncovered a large and rich collection of evidence of daily life between the

sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, part of which is displayed in one of the two rooms of the museum. The other room features a Sugar Loaf, Sugar Shapes, Flemish paintings and sculptures, a rare set of Manueline measuring cups, counters and silver objects bearing the city's coat of arms. This museum has an active Educational Service and a shop conveniently located in the Sé Historic Centre (in Praça de Colombo). Paid admission.

Open: Monday to Friday from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm. Closed on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

**5, Praça de Colombo — 9000-630 Funchal**

**Phone: (351) 291 236 910**

**E-mail: [museu.acucar@cm-funchal.pt](mailto:museu.acucar@cm-funchal.pt)**

**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

### **São Lourenço Palace and Fort**

Having undergone many changes over time that have transformed it progressively into a “national palace”, this monument of national historical and political importance has a military, Manueline and Mannerist design. The palace currently functions as the residence of the Representative of the Republic and the headquarters of the Military Zone of Madeira. In addition to a military museum, you can visit the Palace's noble halls such as the Portrait Room with paintings of the island's early Captain Donees, the Ballroom with

its gilded stucco ceiling, the Red Room with its French-style furniture and the Green Room with Madeiran-themed panels painted by Max Romer. Free admission.

Wednesdays at 10 am, Thursdays from 10 am to 1 pm and Fridays at 3 pm. Closed on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

**Avenida Zarco — 9001- 902 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 202 530**

**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

### **Sé Cathedral**

Classified as a National Monument since 1910, this is the main religious temple of the Archipelago. Of undeniable aesthetic value, the altarpiece of the main chapel stands out as the only retablo from the Manueline period that remains in its place of origin in its entirety, as well as featuring one of the most beautiful ceilings in Portugal.

The altarpiece was executed at the commission of King Manuel I in 1510-1515. It is crowned by a Gothic canopy which takes the form of a beautiful painting on several panels with gilded wooden carving, sculptures and paintings. The Cathedral's Moorish ceiling is amazing! Made from cedar wood (*Juniperus cedrus*) in the Mudejar style, it combines Christian and Islamic styles and is highly praised by art experts. The Flemish style choir of the chapel is also worthy of admiration, as is the exceptional processional cross bestowed by King Manuel I, considered one of the

masterpieces of Portuguese Manueline silverwork.  
Free admission.

Open Monday to Friday from 9 am to noon and 4 pm to 5:30 pm, Saturdays from 5 pm to 7 pm and Sundays from 8 am to 10 am, 11 am to noon and 5 pm to 7 pm.

**Rua do Aljube — 9000-067 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 228 155**

**E-mail: [secatedralfunchal@sapo.pt](mailto:secatedralfunchal@sapo.pt)**

**[www.sefunchal.com/](http://www.sefunchal.com/)**

### **Portas da Cidade or City Gate - Largo dos Varadoursos**

This is the old city gate, originally built in 1689 and demolished in 1911, which was once a part of Funchal's defensive wall. It was rebuilt in 2004 as part of a restoration of historic heritage. Of the original pieces of the gate, only the crown, the royal arms and the front stone remain.

### **Baltazar Dias Municipal Theatre**

Located on Avenida Arriaga, the Theatre is a centennial monument of high architectural value built in 1888. It is named in dedication to the blind playwright from the island of Madeira, Baltazar Dias, a dramatist of the second half of the sixteenth century, whose works were performed in Europe, Africa and Brazil. It was decorated by two famous painters of the time, Eugénio do Nascimento Cotrim and the Italian Luigi Manini. The ceilings are painted with decorative elements from the romantic period, and its horseshoe-shaped auditorium is surrounded by balconies

decorated with gilded Greek masks carved in wood.  
Paid admission.

**Avenida Arriaga — 9000-060 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 215 130**

**E-mail: [teatro.municipal@cm-funchal.pt](mailto:teatro.municipal@cm-funchal.pt)**

**<http://teatro.com-funchal.pt>**

### **HISTORICAL CENTRE OF SÃO PEDRO**

#### **Frederico de Freitas House Museum**

The Madeiran lawyer, notary and art collector Dr. Frederico de Freitas lived in this house of romantic civil architecture, which houses several artistic objects. The house-museum features a vast and valuable collection of *azulejos* (glazed tiles), painting, religious sculpture and Neoclassical and Art Nouveau furniture. In the garden it is possible to visit a *casinha de prazer* or small "house of pleasure" of colonial style, often found in the bourgeois Madeiran houses of the eighteenth century.

Paid admission.

Open: Tuesday to Saturday from Saturday from 10 am to 5:30 pm. Closed on Sundays, Mondays and public holidays.

**7, Calçada de Santa Clara — 9000-036 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 202 570 or (+351) 291 202 576**

**E-mail: [cmffreitas.drc.sretc@gov-madeira.pt](mailto:cmffreitas.drc.sretc@gov-madeira.pt)**

**<http://cultura.madeira-edu.pt/museus/>**

### Quinta das Cruzes Museum

This Quinta was the home of the 2nd Captain Donee of Funchal (João Gonçalves da Câmara, son of João Gonçalves Zarco). Today it is an arts museum with pieces ranging from the fifteenth to the nineteenth centuries, consisting of Portuguese and foreign furniture, porcelain from Europe and the East Indian Company, Portuguese faience, Indo-Portuguese ivory, Flemish and Portuguese sculpture, nativity scenes, paintings and prints. Outside the museum you will find the Quinta das Cruzes Garden, which features a beautiful Manueline style window, a wide variety of plants and a rare Orchestrophone. This mechanical musical instrument was manufactured in 1900 by Limonaire Frères in France, and consists of a beautiful decorated wooden structure which uses a crank controlled mechanical system to read perforated cards that produce music. This type of instrument was common in Europe from the late nineteenth century onwards and often used as a substitute for musicians at balls and parties requiring polkas, waltzes and other music. Be sure to experience this extremely rare instrument during your stay! Paid admission.

Open: Tuesday to Sunday from 10 am to 12:30 pm and 2 pm to 5:30 pm. Closed on Mondays and public holidays.

**1, Calçada do Pico — 9000-206 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 740 670**

**E-mail: mac.drac@gov-madeira.pt**

**www.museuquintadascruzes.com**

### Funchal Municipal Museum (Natural History)

In the nineteenth century, the Counts of Carvalhal lived in the building of this museum (formerly the S. Pedro Palace). The museum features a valuable exhibition on the fauna, flora and geology of the archipelago, in addition to developing important scientific research activity in the Macaronesia. In addition to the Natural History of Funchal Museum, there is a Scientific Library, the Municipal Aquarium and the Aromatic and Medicinal Plants Garden.

Paid admission.

Open: Tuesday to Sunday from 10 am to 6 pm.

Closed on Mondays and some public holidays

(1st January, Carnival Tuesday, Easter Sunday, 25th April, 1st May, 21st August, 25th and 26th December).

**31, Rua da Mouraria — 9004-546 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 229 761**

**E-mail: mmf@cm-funchal.pt**

**www.cm-funchal.pt**

### João Carlos Abreu Universe of Memories

This museum presents a collection of varied works of art, furniture, ties, photographs, wooden horses and travel souvenirs donated by João Carlos Abreu, the former Regional Secretary for Tourism and Culture of Madeira. All the pieces assembled here are closely linked to aspects of the course of his life. The interesting pieces that make up this collection come from all four corners of the world. The museum has a tea house in the garden, entry to which is free. Paid admission.



Open Monday to Friday from 10 am to 5pm.  
Closed on weekends and public holidays.

**Calçada do Pico, 2 — 9000-206 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 225 122**

**E-mail: [cccsc.drac@gov-madeira.pt](mailto:cccsc.drac@gov-madeira.pt)**

**<http://cultura.madeira-edu.pt/museus/>**

### **St John the Evangelist Church (Igreja do Colégio)**

This church is one of the most beautiful monuments of the seventeenth century, with its construction marking the transition from international mannerism to Portuguese baroque. This beautiful work completed by Jesuits presents one of the most valuable examples of gilded wooden carving of the seventeenth century. It also features *azulejos* (glazed tiles) and paintings from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

Free admission.

Open Monday to Friday from 10 am to 6 pm, Saturdays from 3 pm to 6 pm and Sundays from 9 am to 1 pm and 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

**Largo do Município — 9000-080 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 233 534**

**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

### **Funchal Municipal Council**

The Funchal Town Hall Building is located in the former Palace of the Conde Carvalhal and is a harmonious example of late eighteenth century architecture. The building features an interior garden patio covered with Batistini tiles produced in the Fábrica de Maria de Portugal in 1940, as

well as a fountain decorated with a marble statue of “Leda and the Swan”, by Germano José Salles.

The historical building of the Funchal Town Hall opens its doors for public visits every weekday at 11 am. with tours lasting 60 minutes and conducted in several languages. Paid guided tours.

Open: Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5:30 pm.

**Praça do Município — 9004-512 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 211 000**

**E-mail: [cmf@cm-funchal.pt](mailto:cmf@cm-funchal.pt)**

**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

### **São Pedro Chapel**

This chapel dates from the 16th century and is notable for its Mannerist portal, choir, wood carved altars and the beautiful set of *azulejos* (glazed tiles) in its interior and at the top of the bell tower. It is decorated with paintings, pieces of silverwork and furniture from the 17th to the 20th century. Free admission.

Open every day from 9 am to noon and 3 pm to 5 pm.

**Rua de S. Pedro - 9000-219 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 222 523**

**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

### **Santa Clara Church and Convent**

This convent was built at the end of the 16th century by order of the second Captain Donee of Madeira, João Gonçalves da Câmara, for the purposes of the daughters of the local nobility. In addition to the São

Gonçalo de Amarante Chapel (possibly built in the 16th century), it is possible to visit the atrium, the cloisters, the old private chapels decorated with *azulejos* (glazed tiles) from the 17th century, as well as the interior of the Church of Santa Clara. Nowadays this convent belongs to the congregation of the Franciscan Sisters and has a school for children. Paid admission.

Open Monday to Saturday from 10 am to 12 pm and 3 pm to 5 pm. Closed Sundays and public holidays.

**15, Calçada de Santa Clara — 9000-036 Funchal**  
**Phone: (+351) 291 742 602**  
**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

### English Church

This neo-classical style Anglican Church, inspired by the architecture of the Florentine renaissance, was built in 1820 by order of the English Consul Henry Veitch.

Surrounded by beautiful gardens, some notable personalities are buried here, including William Reid, founder and owner of the iconic Reid's Palace Hotel. Free admission.

Open Monday to Saturday from 8:45 am to 4:30 pm and Sundays 8:45 am to 11 am.

**18, Rua do Quebra Costas — 9000-034 Funchal**  
**Phone: (+351) 291 220 674**  
**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

### Pico Fortress

The Fortress of São João Baptista, also known as the Pico Fortress, was one of the defence fortresses of Funchal. From this fortress it is now possible to access a café with a terrace and a children's playground, and enjoy one of the best panoramas over the city of Funchal. Free admission.

Open daily.

Summer opening hours 7 am to 9 pm.

Winter opening hours 8 am to 7 pm.

### Rua dos Frias

**Phone: (+351) 291 231 502**  
**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

## HISTORICAL CENTRE OF SANTA MARIA

### Lavradores Market

With an atmosphere of excitement and joy, the Lavradores Market ('Farmers Market') first opened its doors in 1940 and is a good architectural example of the Estado Novo. This building was designed by Edmundo Tavares (1892-1983). Large tile panels of Batisttini faience, produced at Maria de Portugal in 1940 featuring regional themes painted by João Rodrigues, adorn the façade, the main entrance and the fish market. The market features regional products of all kinds in an environment which brings together the colours, sounds, aromas and people from many different origins. Free admission.

**Rua Brigadeiro Oudinot — 9060-158 Funchal**  
**Phone: (+351) 291 214 080**  
**E-mail: [unidade.mercados@cm-funchal.pt](mailto:unidade.mercados@cm-funchal.pt)**  
**<http://mercados.cm-funchal.pt>**

### **“Casa da Luz” Electricity Museum**

This museum is located on the former site of the Funchal Thermal Power Station, which has been closed since 1989. Here it is possible to see rare machines that are more than 50 years old, to learn about the evolution of public illumination on the island, to see a three-dimensional model of Madeira that summarises the gradual spread of electricity on the island, to learn about different types of renewable energy and enjoy an interactive area. Paid admission.

Open: Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am to 12:30 pm and 2 pm to 6 pm. Closed on Sundays, Mondays and public holidays.

**2, Rua da Casa da Luz — 9050-029 Funchal**  
**Phone: (+351) 291 211 480**  
**E-mail: [mcl@eem.pt](mailto:mcl@eem.pt)**  
**<http://www.museucasadaluz.com/>**

### **Madeira Story Centre Museum**

The Madeira Story Centre is located in the Old Town of Funchal, next to the cable car terminus. It presents a panoramic view of the 14 million year History of Madeira in visits of an hour and a half. The museum explains the geological formation of the Archipelago



and the cultural history of Madeira through historical objects and interactive audiovisual equipment.

Get ready for a fun and cultural experience that both children and adults will find exciting.

Paid admission.

Open every day from 9 am to 7 pm.

**27,29 Rua D. Carlos I — 9060-051 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 639 081**

**E-mail: [info@storycentre.com](mailto:info@storycentre.com)**

**[www.madeirastorycentre.com](http://www.madeirastorycentre.com)**

### Toy Museum

Located in the Market Warehouse next to the Lavradores Market, this museum features collections of old toys belonging to José Manuel Borges Pereira. Visitors can observe about 20,000 models of national and international toys dating from the end of the 19th century to the present day, with particular emphasis on collections of dolls, puppets, miniatures, cars and games. Paid admission.

Open every day from 10 am to 7 pm.

**39, Rua Latino Coelho (2nd Floor)**

**Phone: (+351) 291 640 640**

**E-mail: [museu@armazemdomercado.com](mailto:museu@armazemdomercado.com)**

**[www.armazemdomercado.com](http://www.armazemdomercado.com)**

### Socorro Church

Also known as São Tiago Church, the Socorro Church is located in the old part of the city in Largo do Socorro. Its construction honoured a promised

made by the population of Funchal in 1523, during the outbreak of a plague. It is one of the Madeiran churches that best presents traces of an impressive baroque style, well evident in its façades.

Free admission.

Open every day from 9:30 am to noon and 3 pm to 6 pm.

**Largo do Socorro — 9050-030 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 220 550**

**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

### São Tiago Fort

Built at the beginning of the 17th century as a defence fortress in the port of Funchal, the São Tiago Fort is an urban fortress of military architecture.

It is located above the sea front of the historical area of the city, better known as “Old Town”. These days it features a pleasant restaurant, and the rooftop offers beautiful views of the sea and the downtown area.

Free admission.

Open Monday to Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm.

Closed on Sundays and public holidays.

**Rua do Portão de São Tiago — 9060-250 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 213 340**

**[www.cm-funchal.pt](http://www.cm-funchal.pt)**

## OTHER ATTRACTIONS

### CR7 Museum

This museum portrays the life story of football player Cristiano Ronaldo, who was born in Madeira and boasts many individual and collective trophies. These accolades have been won over his brilliant career at the service of Andorinha (Madeira), Nacional (Madeira), Sporting Clube de Portugal (Lisboa), Manchester United (United Kingdom) and Real Madrid (Spain). The museum offers emblematic photos of his career, videos and a wax statue of the athlete. The great attractions of this museum are Ronaldo's four Ballons d'Or trophies (2008, 2013, 2014 and 2016) and four Golden Boots (2007/08, 2010/11, 2013/14 and 2014/15).

Paid admission.

Open Monday to Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm. Closed on Sundays.

**Avenida Sá Carneiro — 27, Praça do mar  
9004-518 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 639 880**

**E-mail: museucr7@gmail.com**

**www.museucr7.com**

### Madeira Film Experience

Located in the Marina Shopping Centre, this film offers you a chronological journey through 600 years of history on the island of Madeira. This

audiovisual and scenographic experience lasts 30 minutes, during which time historical facts and scenarios are presented in a room equipped with an audio guide system available in five languages (Portuguese, English, German, French and Dutch). This cultural project also features a free smartphone app the 'Madeira History Guide', which contains an information guide to support the discovery of some of the main places of interest in the centre of Funchal. Paid admission.

Open every day from 10 am to 6 pm.

**Rua Conselheiro José Silvestre**

**9000-060 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 222 748**

**E-mail: madeirafilmeexperience@gmail.com**

**www.madeirafilmeexperience.com**

### Nini Andrade Silva Design Centre

Located in the Nossa Senhora da Conceição Fort in Pontinha, this building was once the home of Gonçalves Zarco, a Portuguese navigator and coloniser of the Madeira Archipelago. Backed by the internationally recognised interior designer Nini Andrade Silva, this project consists of a museum centre featuring the Nini brand, a modern gourmet restaurant, a shop and a café with beautiful sea views. The construction of this fort began in the first quarter of the seventeenth century





at the top of the islet that forms part of the port of Funchal. The building is a monument to the rich history and beauty of the city, not only architecturally, but also in terms of its landscape, which captures wonderful views of the Bay of Funchal. Free admission.

Open every day from 10 am to 11 pm.

**Forte de Nossa Senhora da Conceição**  
**9000-726 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 648 780**

**E-mail: [geral@ninidesigncentre.com](mailto:geral@ninidesigncentre.com)**

**[www.ninidesigncentre.com](http://www.ninidesigncentre.com)**

### **São José Fort**

Built in the mid-18th century, this is the site of the first Madeiran fortification. The fort stands on the rocky formation known as the Islet of São José, one of the two islets in the port of Funchal. This fort had several functions, serving both as a headquarters and prison during the occupation by English troops from 1801 and 1807. Magnificent views over the Bay of Funchal can be seen from the top of the fort.

**[www.fortesaojose.org](http://www.fortesaojose.org)**



# TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICES

## **Avenida Arriaga Tourist Information Office**

Open: Monday to Friday from 9 am to 8 pm and  
Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from 9 am to 3:30 pm.

**16, Avenida Arriaga**

**9004-519 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 211 902**

## **Pontinha Tourist Information Office**

Open 8.30 am to 11 am only when cruise ships are  
docked.

**Gare Marítima da Madeira Área de desembarque,**

**Piso 1 ( 1st floor)**

**9004-518 Funchal**





# NORTH COAST

**PORTO MONIZ  
SÃO VICENTE  
SANTANA**

The North Coast of Madeira comprises 3 municipalities: Porto Moniz, São Vicente and Santana. The municipality of Porto Moniz is composed of four parishes: Porto Moniz, Achadas da Cruz, Ribeira da Janela and Seixal. The municipality of São Vicente is composed of three parishes: São Vicente, Boaventura and Ponta Delgada. The municipality of Santana is composed of six parishes: São Roque do Faial, Faial, Santana, Ilha, São Jorge and Arco de São Jorge.





# NOT TO BE MISSED!

## MUNICIPALITY OF PORTO MONIZ

### 1. Visit the natural pools of Porto Moniz and Seixal

These salt water pools are formed naturally by the volcanic rocks and the sea, offering a breathtaking spectacle. Swimming in its clear waters is an unforgettable experience.

### 2. A cable car trip in Achadas da Cruz

The Achadas da Cruz viewpoint has a cable car service that connects the viewpoint and the beach, not only for tourists, but also for transporting crops and to provide access to the agricultural area. Admire the beautiful views over the sea and the traditional agricultural fields of Quebrada Nova.

### 3. Explore Chão da Ribeira, a haven of natural beauty

This enchanting setting occupied by agricultural land and

constructions is also marked by a vast patch of *Laurissilva* forest. Here visitors will find a small picnic park with barbecues, tables and benches. One of the oldest traditions that occurs here in January is the *Panelo* Festival, where participants enjoy a typical stew-style dish prepared with local ingredients such as meat and vegetables.

### 4. Discover the volcanic cauldron of Fanal, about 1120 metres above sea level

Following winter rains, this cauldron becomes a beautiful lagoon and there are several walking paths in the surrounding area of the Fanal where visitors can admire the hundred year old tilo trees that inhabit the area. There is a range of facilities here too, such as picnic areas.

### 5. Admire the views of Ribeira da Janela

This area features a tunnel that was once owned by Companhia Açoriana that practised whaling here, and which was provisionally installed as part of a factory from 1940 to 1945 and subsequently transferred to Caniçal. The tunnel was excavated in front of the islands of Ribeira da Janela and the sea view is breathtaking.

### 6. Be dazzled by the “Bride’s Veil” Waterfall

The Véu da Noiva viewpoint is located on the old road that connects Seixal to São Vicente and provides a great view of one of the most emblematic



landscapes on the slopes of the north coast of Madeira. From here visitors can see the “Bride’s Veil” (Véu da Noiva) waterfall which, due to its height and the load of water that flows down the hillside, is reminiscent of a bride’s veil.

## **MUNICIPALITY OF SÃO VICENTE**

### **7. Experience the emblematic Chapels of São Vicente**

According to legend, St Vincent appeared on the rock in the mouth of the Ribeira de São Vicente, leading the people to erect the chapel in that place at the end of the 17th century. Also known as the *Nossa Senhora de Fátima* Chapel, this attraction features a 14 metre high clock tower which offers sublime panoramic views over the valley of São Vicente.

### **8. Explore the Limestone Route**

This route leads to two limestone quarries, a lime kiln, a hay store and a collection of 5 million year old fossils of marine animals (corals, sea urchins, scallops, bivalves, etc.), proving that this area was submerged in the sea. It is located at 450 metres of altitude in the Sítio dos Lameiros.

### **9. Visit the caves and the Volcanic Centre**

Walk along the underground volcanic channels and learn about the geological formation of the island. Complementing a visit to the caves, the Volcanic

Centre aims to promote knowledge about the birth of the archipelago of Madeira, which resulted from volcanic explosions, with a pavilion which features an audiovisual presentation of the geological evolution of the caves, the staging of a volcanic eruption and a simulation of the island's birth.

### **10. Explore Ponta Delgada**

Visit its beautiful Parish Church and admire its tiled interior and paintings.

### **11. Walk the streets of downtown São Vicente and visit its Parish church**

This Church constructed in 1692 presents a beautiful Mannerist portal and, inside, magnificent paintings of St Vincent blessing the village as well as a retablo of gilded carved wood. On the last weekend of August, São Vicente hosts some of the largest festivities in Madeira, the Arraial of São Vicente.

## **MUNICIPALITY OF SANTANA**

### **12. Visit Pico Ruivo and experience one of the island's most spectacular walking routes**

Begin your journey at Pico do Areeiro, the third highest peak in Madeira which is located at 1818 metres above sea level and offers a fantastic view over the island's central massif. Pico do Areeiro is accessible by car and is the beginning of one of the most spectacular walking

routes in the region, leading towards the highest point of the archipelago, Pico Ruivo, with an altitude of 1,862 metres (PR1 - Vereda do Areeiro: Pico do Areeiro - Pico Ruivo). This is the nesting place of the endemic species Zino's petrel (*Pterodroma madeira*), considered the most threatened marine bird in Europe.

### **13. Watch the sunrise at Pico Ruivo**

On the Pico Ruivo walking route (PR1.2 - Achada do Teixeira - Pico Ruivo), walkers can also access the highest peak in Madeira - Pico Ruivo with an altitude of 1862 metres above sea level. Next to the Pico Ruivo shelter, there is access to 3 other routes that lead to different points of the island: The Pico Areeiro track (PR1), the Encumeada route (PR1.3) and the Ilha route (PR1.1). At Achada do Teixeira, visitors can also admire the Homem em Pé (Standing Man), an interesting basaltic rock formation. During the climb, walkers are often surrounded by clouds, above which an unforgettable sunrise awaits.

### **14. Admire the views from the Balcões viewpoint**

This viewpoint is accessible via the PR11 - Vereda dos Balcões walking trail (Ribeiro Frio - Balcões) and on days with good visibility, offers views of the splendid scenery of the verdant valleys of the *Laurissilva* Forest. From here it is possible to see the Fajã da Nogueira Hydroelectric Power Plant, Pico do Areeiro, Pico Ruivo, as well as Penha D'Águia (the emblematic geological



formation of Porto da Cruz). This is also a popular place to observe the region's bird life, especially the Madeiran chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs maderensis*) and the Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea schmitzi*).

### **15. Discover the lake of the Caldeirão Verde (Green Cauldron)**

This lake is formed by the spectacular 100 m vertical cascade of water that runs from the Ribeiro do Caldeirão Verde. Visitors can reach this lake by the PR9 - Levada do Caldeirão Verde (Queimadas - Caldeirão Verde), which offers a vertiginous and incredible view of the interior of the island, as well as the possibility to pass through man-made tunnels excavated in the rock. At the beginning of the track visitors will also be able to see a small settlement, Achada do Marques, which enjoys protected landscape status and is characterised by its traditional agricultural fields and old stone hay stores.

### **16. Relax in the Queimadas Forest Park**

This park hosts the Queimadas shelter, which retains the original characteristics of the typical thatched-roof houses of Santana. Visitors to the park can admire exotic trees

such as the elegant Japanese cedar (*Cryptomeria japonica*), the European beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and other native trees such as the Madeiran cedar.

The park also has a beautifully situated picnic area with breathtaking views. There are several walking trails from the park, including the "Um Caminho para Todos" (A walk for all!), which leads to Pico das Pedras and is accessible to people of all ages.

### **17. Visit the Rocha do Navio Nature Reserve**

At the Rocha do Navio viewpoint visitors will find a cable car that provides access to the Nature Reserve. It is possible to dive here and practice other non-motorised water sports.

### **18. Admire the views from Faial Fort**

Built in the 18th century to guard against invaders, the Faial Fort is considered a monument of local value with romantic views of Ponta de São Lourenço, Penha d'Águia and occasionally Porto Santo. In Faial, visitors will also find a swimming and sports complex with a natural swimming pool and several leisure areas.





### **19. Visit a Traditional Santana House**

This area features typical houses of Santana, all of which are adapted to modern usage and which sell a great variety of artisanal products.

### **20. Discover the sweeping landscapes of the Levada do Rei.**

This levada (PR18- Levada do Rei: Quebradas - Ribeiro Bonito) offers spectacular views of the agricultural lands of São Jorge and Santana and leads to Ribeiro Bonito, a natural sanctuary covered by the *Laurissilva* Forest. At the end of the trail be sure not to miss the water mill on the site of Achadinha, which is about 300 years old and is fed with the waters of the Levada do Rei.

# WALKING ROUTES AND THE 'LEVADAS' – "LAURISSILVA" FOREST

## MUNICIPALITY OF PORTO MONIZ

This municipality has 4 recommended walking routes:

### **PR7 - Levada do Moinho** (Ribeira da Cruz - Lamaceiros)

**Distance:** 10.3 km.

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 3h 30m.

**Start / end:** Ribeira da Cruz (E.R. 101) Porto Moniz / Junqueira (Tornadouro) Ponta do Pargo.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 900 m / 496 m.

Walkers must climb a path from the road to the *levada*, which features several water mills and the ruins of an old grain mill in the Achadas da Cruz, as well as a beautiful waterfall in the valley of the Ribeira do Tristão, surrounded by the *Laurissilva* forest.

### **PR13 - Vereda do Fanal** (Paúl da Serra - Fanal)

**Distance:** 10.8 km / 5.6 km.

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 4h.

**Start / end:** E.R. 209 Assobiadores - Paúl da Serra / E.R. 209 Fanal Forest Post.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 1420 m / 1130 m.

This footpath crosses a vast stretch of *Laurissilva* forest. In the area known as Sítio do Fio, walkers can appreciate the ingenious cable installations used for the transportation of firewood, bracken and heather collected in the Fanal area for the agricultural activity of the inhabitants of Chão da Ribeira and Seixal. Note the magnificent volcanic cauldron, classified as a resting reserve of the Natural Park of Madeira, and enjoy a moment of pure relaxation surrounded by the centuries-old Tilo trees (*Ocotea foetens*).

### **PR14 - Levada dos Cedros** (Fanal - Curral Falso)

**Distance:** 5.8 km.

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 3h.

**Start / end:** E.R 209 Fanal, Paúl da Serra / E.R 209 Curral Falso, Ribeira da Janela.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 1130 m / 840 m.

The Levada dos Cedros route offers superb views over the valley of Ribeira da Janela and Paúl da Serra. Built in the seventeenth century, this *levada* is one of

the oldest on the island and was excavated in the hillside soil and is only partially cobbled. Walkers can observe native tree species measuring from 30 to 40 metres, such as the laurel (*Laurus novocanariensis*), the tilo (*Ocotea foetens*) and Madeira mahogany (*Persea indica*).

**PR15 – Vereda da Ribeira da Janela  
(Curral Falso - Ribeira da Janela)**

**Distance:** 2.7 km.

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 1h 30m.

**Start / end:** E.R. 209 (Curral Falso) / Ribeira da Janela.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 820 m / 400 m.

This trail follows the vestiges of an old footpath used by the population between Calheta and Ponta do Sol. Barrels of wine were transported along here to be sold or exchanged for other products. This is a good place to observe the Trocaz Pigeon (*Columba trocaz*), an endemic species of Madeira.

**MUNICIPALITY OF SÃO VICENTE**

This municipality has 3 recommended walking routes:





### PR16 - Levada da Fajã do Rodrigues (Fajã da Amã - Ribeira do Inferno)

**Distance:** 3.9 km (+ 3.9 km return).

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 3h 30m.

**Start / end:** Ginjas / Ginjas.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 580 m / 580 m.

This *levada* crosses extensive tunnels and offers beautiful views over the valley of São Vicente. The footpath has two names: Levada Fajã do Rodrigues or Levada Fajã da Ama. Here walkers can see some of the typical flowers of Madeira including geraniums (*Geranium palmatum*), daisies (*Argyranthemum pinnatifidum*), Madeira orchids (*Dactylorhiza foliosa*) and the Azores buttercup (*Ranunculus cortusifolius*). Waterfalls can be observed along the footpath, guaranteeing lively flora and fauna.

### PR21 - Caminho do Norte (Encumeada - Ribeira Grande)

**Distance:** 3.2 km.

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 1h 30m.

**Start / end:** Boca da Encumeada / Ribeira Grande.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 1000 m / 320 m.

This footpath passes through some tunnels, allowing walkers to admire fantastic views of the island's highest peaks. It follows the vestiges of an old path used to connect the south and north sides of the island for trade and traditional pilgrimages.

### PR22 - Vereda do Chão dos Louros (Chão dos Louros)

**Distance:** 1.9 km.

**Difficulty:** Easy.

**Duration:** 45m.

**Start / end:** Chão dos Louros / Chão dos Louros.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 890 m / 830 m.

This footpath allows walkers to cross the area surrounding the Chão dos Louros forest park and access the Ribeira Grande from the existing link to the PR 21 - (Caminho do Norte), with magnificent views over the entire São Vicente valley from the routes natural viewpoints.

## MUNICIPALITY OF SANTANA

This municipality has 6 recommended walking routes:

### PR1 - Vereda do Areeiro (Pico do Areeiro - Pico Ruivo)

**Distance:** 7 km.

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 3h 30m.

**Start / end:** Pico do Areeiro viewpoint / Pico Ruivo.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 1862 m / 1542 m.

This track, travelling through part of the Central Mountain Massif, includes tunnels, some steep slopes and fabulous landscapes of the two highest peaks of the island of Madeira. Walkers can see the Ninho da Manta

(Buzard Nest) viewpoint, where the common buzzard (*Buteo buteo*) used to nest. The endemic species Zino's petrel (*Pterodroma madeira*), considered the most threatened marine bird in Europe, also nests in this area. The most difficult part of this trail is the final climb to the Pico Ruivo Shelter. Along the route, several caves excavated in the volcanic tuffs can be found. These were often used to shelter shepherds and cattle. Several species of birds and plants endemic to Madeira can also be seen on this track. Arriving at the Pico Ruivo shelter, the path then leads to Achada do Teixeira, thus giving continuity to the walk. This is the location of the basaltic rock formation popularly known as the "Homem em Pé" (Standing man).

### **PR1.1 - Vereda da Ilha**

**(Pico Ruivo - Ilha)**

**Distance:** 8.2 km.

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 3h.

**Start / end:** Pico Ruivo shelter / Parish of Ilha.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 1764 m / 485 m.

This route begins with a short ascent to the highest summit of Madeira, Pico Ruivo, from where a long and almost continuous descent begins to the parish of Ilha. At the Vale da Lapa site walkers pass over the tunnel of the Lapa Valley crossing the Levada do Caldeirão Verde, which starts from this point towards the Queimadas forest park.

### **PR1.2 - Vereda do Pico Ruivo**

**(Achada do Teixeira - Pico Ruivo)**

**Distance:** 2.8 km (+ 2.8 km return).

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 1h 30m.

**Start / end:** Achada do Teixeira / Achada do Teixeira.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 1862 m / 1535 m.

This route leads to the highest peak in Madeira, Pico Ruivo. Several shelters for protection are found while climbing due to the possibility of abrupt climatic changes, with the area often submerged in or just above the clouds. On the right side there is the Santana mountain range, where the Queimadas forest park can be observed in the distance. Inland is the valley of Ribeira Grande that begins at the mouths of the Caldeirão Verde (Green Cauldron) and the Caldeirão do Inferno (Cauldron of Hell). On days of good visibility, walkers can see the rock formation of Penha D'Águia, Serra das Funduras and Ponta de St Lourenço.

### **PR9 - Levada do Caldeirão Verde**

**(Queimadas - Caldeirão Verde)**

**Distance:** 6.5 km (+ 6.5 km return).

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 5h 30m.

**Start / end:** Queimadas Forest Park / Queimadas Forest Park.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 980 m / 890 m.

This *levada* offers the walker a vertiginous and spectacular view of the geography of the island's interior. Built in the 18th century, it passes abrupt cliffs and mountain faces, transporting water to irrigate the agricultural lands of Faial. It also involves passing through 4 tunnels dug into the rock. The Caldeirão Verde lake is formed by the spectacular 100 m vertical cascade of water that runs from the Ribeiro do Caldeirão Verde. The site serves as a good rest spot before continuing the same route to the Queimadas Forest Park.

**PR11 – Vereda dos Balcões**  
(Ribeiro Frio - Balcões)

**Distance:** 1.5 km (+ 1.5 km return).

**Difficulty:** Easy.

**Duration:** 1h 30m.

**Start / end:** E.R. 103 (Ribeiro Frio) / E.R. 103 (Ribeiro Frio).

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 630 m / 630 m.

This small trail follows *Levada da Serra do Faial* to the Balcões viewpoint. Superb views can be enjoyed over the valley of Ribeira da Metade, the Hydroelectric Power Plant of Fajã da Nogueira and the Parish of Faial. On days of good visibility, Pico do Areeiro and Pico Ruivo can be seen.

**PR18 – Levada do Rei**  
(Quebradas - Ribeiro Bonito)

**Distance:** 5.1 km (+ 5.1 km return).

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 3h to 3h 30m.

**Start / end:** São Jorge ETAR / São Jorge ETAR.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 710 m / 530 m.

This *levada* offers spectacular views of the agricultural lands of São Jorge and Santana. On the second half of the route, the *levada* crosses the slope from the interior of the island to an area of well developed forest before reaching Ribeiro Bonito. This area is considered a natural sanctuary and is covered by typical vegetation of the *Laurissilva* Forest.

# GARDENS AND PARKS

## MUNICIPALITY OF PORTO MONIZ

### Porto Moniz Garden and Sea Front

This is a beautiful area to walk along and enjoy the landscape by the sea. It has a children's playground, garden areas, several restaurants and shops.

### Porto Moniz Sea Front

9270-095 Porto Moniz  
[www.portomoniz.pt/](http://www.portomoniz.pt/)

### Lamaceiros Park

This park allows visitors to come into close contact with nature, especially the *Laurissilva* Forest of Madeira. It has excellent facilities for picnics, with three covered bbq grills, tables and benches, water, toilets (including for the disabled) and several green areas. There is also a viewpoint from where visitors can observe

the parish of Ribeira da Janela and part of Madeira's North Coast. Free admission.

[www.portomoniz.pt](http://www.portomoniz.pt)

## MUNICIPALITY OF SÃO VICENTE

### Garden of Native Plants of Madeira

This garden features more than 60 species of Madeiran native flora and was created in 1989 by the Barbusano Ecology Club with the support of the "Worldwide Fund for Nature". Free admission.

[www.cm-saovicente.pt](http://www.cm-saovicente.pt)

## MUNICIPALITY OF SANTANA

### Biosphere Garden

This garden was created to commemorate the awarding of "UNESCO Biosphere Reserve" status to the city of Santana and features the Biosphere Monument by local sculptor Luís Paixão, portraying planet Earth in a perfect symbiosis between nature, life and landscape in the form of a female figure.

### Madeira Theme Park

One of a kind in Portugal, the Madeira Theme Park features pavilions dedicated to history, science and the traditions of the island. The park features a replica of the Monte train, traditional ox carts, traditional hammocks similar to Sedan chairs, a typical house from



Santana, landscaped areas with the endemic flora of Madeira, walking paths, a lake with rowing boats and a great children's playground.

Paid admission.

Open every day.

Summer opening hours: 10 am to 7 pm.

Winter opening hours: 10 am to 6 pm.

Closed from 3 pm on 24th and 31st December.

Closed on 25th December.

**101, Estrada Regional, Fonte da Pedra, 9230-098 Santana**

**Phone: (+351) 291 570 410**

**E-mail: [info@parquetematicodamadeira.pt](mailto:info@parquetematicodamadeira.pt)**

**[www.parquetematicodamadeira.pt](http://www.parquetematicodamadeira.pt)**

### **Quinta do Arco Rose Garden**

The Quinta do Arco gardens offer one of the largest collections of rose bushes in Portugal, including rare species and others close to extinction. The collection consists of more than a thousand different species of roses, including ancient and contemporary rosebushes, both climbing and non-climbing species. This rose garden was given the "Garden of Excellence" award by the "World Federation of Rose Societies".

Paid admission.

From April to December open every day from 10 am to 6 pm.

**Sítio da Lagoa, Arco de São Jorge, 9230-018 Santana**

**Phone: (+351) 291 570 250**

**E-mail: [info@quintadoarco.com](mailto:info@quintadoarco.com)**

**[www.quintadoarco.com](http://www.quintadoarco.com)**





### **Ribeiro Frio Forest Park**

Situated only 17 km from Funchal, this forest park is characterised by its beautiful gardens set harmoniously in the *Laurissilva* forest. The park also incorporates the Aquaculture Centre, which breeds rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss walbaum*) in order to repopulate the island's water courses.

Free admission.

**São Roque do Faial**

**9230-209 Santana**

**[www.sra.pt/drif](http://www.sra.pt/drif)**

### **Queimadas Forest Park**

Located 5 km from Santana, the Queimadas Forest Park is a great space for picnics or walks. Here visitors will also find the Casa das Queimadas, a large thatched roof building.

Free admission.

**Sítio das Queimadas**

**9230 Santana**

**[www.sra.pt/drif](http://www.sra.pt/drif)**

### **Pico das Pedras Forest Park**

Surrounded by the *Laurissilva* Forest, the forest park is a pleasant place to hold picnics or to have a stroll around nature. Several species of endemic flora and fauna can be found here. This park is also able to receive people with physical and visual disabilities, allowing direct contact with nature.

Free admission.

**Sítio do Pico das Pedras**

**9230 Santana**

**Phone: (+351) 291 572 152**

# BEACHES AND POOLS

The intense blue of the sea contrasting with the lush green of the mountains make the beaches of the North Coast of Madeira unforgettable. However, they are often characterised by strong currents and waves, and are therefore very popular with surfers. Proper precautions are advised.

## **MUNICIPALITY OF PORTO MONIZ**

### **Natural Pools of Porto Moniz**

These salt water pools, which are naturally formed by the sea and volcanic rocks, offer swimmers a breathtaking scenery. The site has a children's pool, disabled access, changing rooms, bathrooms, lockers, a first aid station, sun loungers, parasols and a snack bar in the summer. Paid admission.

Open every day.

Summer opening hours: 9 am to 7 pm.

Winter opening hours: 10 am to 5.30 pm.

**Sítio do Lugar**

**Phone: (+351) 291 850 190**

**<http://www.portomoniz.pt/>**

### **Seixal Natural Pools**

These pools of volcanic origin are located near Laje Beach and have a beautiful surrounding landscape. The pools also have a bar, toilets and shower facilities, though there isn't any lifeguard surveillance. Free admission.

### **Porto do Seixal Beach**

This black sand beach is surrounded by the superb landscape of the island's north coast. Having only formed recently next to the Port of Seixal, the beach has no surveillance though it does have an external shower. Free admission.

### **Laje Beach**

This small black sand beach is hidden between rocks and is distinguished not only by its crystalline waters, but also by its tranquillity. Despite having toilets and a bar in the summer, this beach does not have lifeguard surveillance. It is also known as "Jamaica Beach" due to the palm trees planted along the sea front in the area. Free admission.

### **Seixal Naval Club Bathing Complex**

This complex consists of a natural swimming pool, a sunbathing area with sun loungers, a bar, showers, toilets and a fantastic environment. It is also possible to rent kayaks. Free admission.



Open every day.

Summer opening hours: 10 am to midnight.

Closed during winter.

**Seixal**

**Phone: (+351) 963 843 830**

**<http://clubenavaldoseixal.org/>**

## **MUNICIPALITY OF SÃO VICENTE**

### **Ponta Delgada Bathing Complex**

Located next to the parish church of Ponta Delgada, this complex consists of two salt water pools, one for adults and one for children. It also has a sunbathing area, a bar/terrace, changing rooms and first aid services.

Paid admission.

Open every day.

Summer opening hours: 10 am to 7 pm.

Closed during winter.

**Zona Balnear da Ponta Delgada**

**Phone: (+351) 291 863 091**

**[www.cm-saovicente.pt](http://www.cm-saovicente.pt)**



### **São Vicente Bathing Complex**

Located in Fajã da Areia, halfway between the parishes of São Vicente and Ponta Delgada, this complex has a sunbathing area with direct access to the sea, a restaurant, bar, gym, parking and a 620m long promenade connecting the Varadouro to the Bay of Juncos.

The Naval Club has its support facilities for water sports, such as canoeing, sports fishing, surfing and bodyboarding here and it is an excellent place for surfing.

Free admission.

**Porto do Varadouro**

**Fajã da Areia**

**Phone: (+351) 291 842 074**

**[www.cm-saovicente.pt](http://www.cm-saovicente.pt)**

## **MUNICIPALITY OF SANTANA**

### **Foz da Ribeira do Faial Bathing Complex**

Situated at the mouth of the Faial stream, this bathing complex has a natural swimming pool, a saltwater children's pool and a children's playground. Other services available include a catering area, showers, a first aid station and a sunbathing area. There are also several leisure and sports facilities for football, handball, beach volleyball and a multi-sport pavilion. A volcanic geosite can also be observed on the mountain surrounding the mouth of the water stream. This

unique geological formation set in the Faial stream is characterised by the effects of past lava flows.

Free admission.

**Estrada da Ponte do Faial**

**Phone: (+351) 291 570 200**

**[www.cm-santana.com](http://www.cm-santana.com)**

### **Calhau de São Jorge Bathing Complex**

Situated at the mouth of the São Jorge stream, this complex has a small freshwater lagoon and a beach complex with three swimming pools, where visitors can enjoy views of the north coast landscape. There is also a sunbathing area, changing rooms and a restaurant. Paid admission.

**Sítio do Barranco – São Jorge**

**9230-167 Santana**

**Phone: (+351) 291 576 008**

**[www.cm-santana.com](http://www.cm-santana.com)**

# NATURE RESERVES

## **Rocha do Navio Nature Reserve**

Located in Santana, this Nature Reserve was created in 1997 at the suggestion of the local population. It includes a strip of sea and the Ilhéu da Viúva ("Widow's Islet") where rare plants can be found. There is a cable car at the Rocha do Navio viewpoint as well as a path providing access to the reserve. The reserve offers great views over the sea, small agricultural plots and of the Viúva Islet. It is also a potential habitat for the monk seal, endemic Macaronesian coastal flora as well as submerged and semi-submerged marine caves. The name Rocha do Navio ("Ship Rock") refers to a shipwreck that occurred here in the 19th century.



# ACTIVE TOURISM

Some of the most popular outdoor activities on the North coast are Jeep tours and bike tours. Canyoning is also possible, especially in the area of Ribeiro Frio and Chão da Ribeira, Seixal, an exciting and physical challenge which involves actively exploring a stream or other watercourses by climbing, jumping, abseiling and swimming. Every year the RIC Madeira International Canyoning Meeting takes place on the island and has become one of the sport's signature events.

Pico do Areeiro is also open to climbers in search of that incredible wave of adrenaline.

It is also possible to go diving in the depths of the ocean or even in the Aquarium of Madeira in Porto Moniz.

## **Madeira Island Ultra Trail**

The Funchal Mountain Club is the promoter of the annual MIUT - Madeira Island Ultra Trail, a mountain running race that challenges participants to cross some of the highest peaks on the island. Each year sees top class athletes of various nationalities participate in this stimulating 115 km challenge, which involves crossing the island of Madeira from the village of Porto Moniz to Machico, or vice versa, along the

best tracks of the central massif - Encumeada - Pico Ruivo - Pico do Areeiro.

**For more information:**

<http://madeiraultratrail.com/pt/>

## **Ultra Skymarathon® Madeira**

USM forms part of the calendar of the Spain, Andorra & Portugal Skyrunner® National Series and for the second year running is the only Portuguese stage of the exclusive Skyrunner® World Series (2017). 2017 is also the inaugural year of the Santana Vertical Kilometer®, forming part of the Vertical Kilometer World Circuit. Skyrunning is a technical type of high gradient mountain running, which attracts its participants not only for its physical challenges but also for the scenery and natural landscapes of the course. In this sense the incredible beauty of the Madeiran north coast is ideal.

This international event will reveal the natural heritage of the area, accentuating the tourist potential of the walking paths with the culture and traditions of the island.

The event consists of four events of different distances, the Ultra Skymarathon® Madeira (USM 55 km 4000 m D +), the Santana Vertical Kilometer® (SVK 4.8 km 1003 D +), the Santana Sky Race (SSR 20 km 1350 m D +) and the Mini SkyRace (MSR 13 km 400 m D +).

**For more information:**

<http://www.madeiraskyrunning.com>

# MUSEUMS AND MONUMENTS

## MUNICIPALITY OF PORTO MONIZ

### Living Science Centre

The living science centre is a cultural centre for both adults and children that aims to host national and international exhibitions in the field of science, in coordination with the Pavilion of Knowledge - Ciência Viva in Lisbon. This centre has an exhibition area with interactive games and an auditorium for around 150 people. Paid admission.

Open every day from 10 am to 6 pm.

Closed on 25th December.

**Rotunda do Ilhéu Mole — 9270-095 Porto Moniz**

**Phone: (+351) 291 854 274**

**E-mail: geral@portomoniz.cienciaviva.pt**

**www.portomoniz.cienciaviva.pt**

### Madeira Aquarium

The Madeira Aquarium is found on the location of the São João Batista Fort. Built in 1730, visitors come into close contact with representative habitats

of Madeiran marine life in the aquarium's various tanks. It is even possible to dive in one of the tanks and admire various marine species, such as rays and morays.

Paid admission.

Open every day except 25th December from 10 am to 6 pm.

**Rua Forte de São João Batista**

**9270-096 Porto Moniz**

**Phone: (+351) 291 850 340**

## MUNICIPALITY OF SÃO VICENTE

### Limestone Route Museum

This museum features two limestone quarries, a lime kiln, a set of over five million year old fossils, a hay store and traditional Madeiran agricultural fields, with three thematic centres on display: Natural Values; Rural Heritage; Limestone Production. A visit to the museum involves a 30-minute walk along a route made by kiln workers many years ago. Visitors are also able to see a video which explains the lime production process. Visits by prior appointment.

Open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm.

Closed on Mondays, Sundays and public holidays.



**Sítio da Achada do Furtado  
do Barrinho, Lameiros**  
9240-211 São Vicente  
Phone: (+351) 291 842 018  
E-mail: [rotadacal@gmail.com](mailto:rotadacal@gmail.com)  
<https://sites.google.com/site/rotadacal/>

### **Caves and Volcanic Centre**

Complementing a visit to the caves, the Volcanic Centre has a pavilion which features an audiovisual presentation of the geological evolution of the caves, the staging of a volcanic eruption and a simulation of the island's birth. Paid admission.

Open every day except 25th December from 10 am to 7 pm.

**Sítio do Pé do Passo**  
9240-039 São Vicente  
Phone: (+351) 291 842 404  
[www.grutasecentrodo vulcanismo.com](http://www.grutasecentrodo vulcanismo.com)

### **Dr. Horacio Bento de Gouveia House Museum**

Dr. Horacio Bento de Gouveia's place of birth and subsequent residence was built between the 17th and 18th centuries in the Madeiran civil style. In 1986 the building was turned into a museum where visitors can find objects related to the



professional life of this Madeiran writer, journalist and teacher. Free admission.

**Sítio dos Terços – Ponta Delgada**

**9420-120 São Vicente**

**Phone: (+351) 291 862 332**

## **MUNICIPALITY OF SANTANA**

### **Arco de São Jorge Wine Museum**

Located on an experimental vineyard, this museum serves to promote wine produced on the island of Madeira with displays of various pieces of equipment related to the activity. It has a winery and an area showcasing the grape varieties of Madeira wine.

Paid admission.

Open Tuesday to Saturday from 2 pm to 6 pm.

Outside these schedules only with prior reservation.

**Sítio da Lagoa**

**9230-018 Santana**

**Phone: (+351) 291 578 106**





# TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICES

## **Santana Tourist Information Office**

Open Mondays from 2 pm to 4.30 pm.  
Tuesday to Friday from 9.30 am to 4 pm  
and Saturdays from 9 am to 1 pm.

**Sítio do Serrado**

**9230 Santana**

**Phone: (+351) 291 575 162**

## **Porto Moniz Tourist Information Office**

Open: Monday to Friday from 10 am  
to 4 pm and Saturdays from 10 am  
to 12.30 pm.

**Vila do Porto Moniz**

**9270 Porto Moniz**

**Phone: (+351) 291 853 075**





# SOUTHEAST COAST

## SANTA CRUZ AND MACHICO

The municipality of Santa Cruz is composed of 5 parishes: Camacha, Caniço, Gaula, Santa Cruz and the western part of Santo António da Serra.

The municipality of Machico is composed of 5 parishes: the eastern part of Santo António da Serra, Água de Pena, Machico, Porto da Cruz and Caniçal.

# NOT TO BE MISSED!

## MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA CRUZ

### 1. Admire the views from Cristo Rei

The site of Garajau, located between Funchal and Caniço, owes its name to the large number of garajaus (terns) that nest in that area. Here visitors will find Ponta do Garajau, a promontory where the statue of Cristo Rei is erected and which offers magnificent views of the sea and Funchal.

### 2. Experience Garajau Beach

The Garajau Cable Car is located at the site of the emblematic Cristo Rei Statue in Ponta do Garajau, giving access to the beautiful beach of Garajau which has a small café and diving centre where visitors can experience the Garajau Marine Reserve. The Garajau Nature Reserve, created in 1986, offers unique diving conditions which are sought after by divers from all over the world for their biological richness and the clarity of the water. This is the only exclusive marine reserve

in the country and offers the opportunity to come into contact with rays and other large non-threatening fish.

### 3. Visit Caniço de Baixo

Owing its name to the long thin reeds that abounded in the area at the time of discovery, this parish has a 18th century church with a large bell tower and is an important centre for tourism. The Lido Galomar Bathing Complex is set on volcanic rocks and also features a diving club.

### 4. Discover Reis Magos Beach

The Reis Magos beach offers visitors clear and clean water and enjoys Blue Flag accreditation. Safety is provided by lifeguards and a first aid station.

### 5. Visit Camacha and its emblematic Café Relógio

Camacha is known around the world for its folklore (the “Bailinho da Madeira”) and it was in this parish, in Largo da Achada, that football was played for the first time in Portugal in 1875. Another notable feature of Camacha is the Café Relógio (the clock café), famous for its tower containing a bell and clock from Liverpool, England. Camacha is also the location of the Handicrafts Factory and the Wicker Bazaar where visitors can see live demonstrations of objects being made in wicker.

### 6. Explore the streets of Santa Cruz

Visit the market built in modernist style, the second largest church in Madeira and walk along the beautiful



sea front promenade of Santa Cruz. In addition to the rocky Palmeiras beach and its two swimming pools, visitors will find a new bathing complex located next to the Boaventura stream featuring swimming pools, a sunbathing area, changing rooms and a restaurant area. There is a small protected basin near the swimming pool area which provides safe access to the sea and for those who love swimming in open waters, there is a swimming pontoon near the stream mouth. A fun option for little ones, the Aquapark is also located in this area.

## **MUNICIPALITY OF MACHICO**

### **7. Visit Santo da Serra**

Lush vegetation and beautiful villas and farms contribute to the romantic and natural environment of Santo da Serra, where visitors will find several charming restaurants, hotels and holiday cottages. Quinta's lovely gardens are worth a visit, as is the market it hosts every Sunday which features dozens of regional traders who come to sell their products. Horseback riding is also available in Santo da Serra and the Santo da Serra Golf Club is considered one of the most spectacular golf courses in Europe, offering unbelievable views of the mountains and the sea.



## **8. Experience the city of Machico**

It was in Machico that Gonçalves Zarco and Tristão Vaz Teixeira first landed when they discovered Madeira. Legend has it that a century before this discovery Robert Machim and Ana d'Arfet had found refuge here and it is from Machim that the name of the city is derived. The bay of Machico, surrounded by a pleasant seaside landscape, is an inviting place for a stroll. When walking along the promenade, visitors will find two beaches: São Roque and Banda d'Além which are notable for their imported yellow sand. There are also several restaurants and bars along this pleasant walk.

## **9. Experience the Machico Gastronomy Fair**

The annual gastronomic fair, which is held in the city centre every summer in partnership with local restaurants and bars has become a real drawcard for the local area. Apart from delicious food, the fair also features entertainment from several performance groups and bands.

## **10. Visit the Pico do Facho viewpoint**

To the east of the Machico valley lies the Pico de Facho viewpoint, where visitors can

contemplate the panoramic view from the peaks of the central part of the island to Ponta de São Lourenço.

## **11. Visit Porto da Cruz**

Long associated with the exploration of the island, the landscape of Porto da Cruz is deeply marked by rural and agricultural activity. Visitors can also find the imposing "Penha d'Águia", a 590 metre emblematic seaside cliff in the shape of a truncated pyramid. Walkers can access this rock along a route from Cruz to enjoy the area's fantastic scenery.

## **12. Visit the Companhia de Engenhos do Norte (Northern Sugar Company)**

Built at the beginning of the 20th century, this is one of the main sugar processing plants on the island, dedicated exclusively to the production of sugar cane rum in accordance with traditional processes and is entirely steam-powered. Visitors can watch the machines in operation between the months of March and May. It is also possible to taste various kinds of rum, including poncha, the traditional Madeiran drink made with sugar cane rum.

## **13. Visit Alagoa Beach**

This black sand beach in Porto da Cruz has a sunbathing area with good access to the sea, lifeguards during the summer, changing rooms, a

children's playground and bars and restaurants. This beach is also very popular with surfers.

#### **14. Walk the PR10 Levada do Furado (Ribeiro Frio - Portela)**

This route follows the Serra do Faial *Levada* to the water division house and then descends to Lamaceiros ending at Portela viewpoint in the municipality of Machico. The landscape is dominated by the Ribeiro Frio valley, the spectacular rocky mass of Penha d'Águia, the bay of Faial and Ponta dos Clérigos.

#### **15. Admire the view from the Portela viewpoint**

The Portela viewpoint offers views over one of the most beautiful landscapes of Madeira: the magnificent scenery of mountains descending into the valley and down to the sea. The viewpoint has a great view of the Porto da Cruz and Penha d'Águia, which, although located on the north coast of the island, belongs to the municipality of Machico.

#### **16. Admire the view from Baia d'Abra viewpoint**

Located at Ponta de St Lourenço, the easternmost peninsula on the island, this viewpoint is named after the ship of João Gonçalves Zarco and provides a spectacular view over the Ponta de St Lourenço and its coastline, shaped by the erosion of the sea and the wind.



### **17. Explore the Ponta de São Lourenço Nature Reserve (PR8 – Vereda da Ponta de São Lourenço)**

Ponta de São Lourenço is characterised by several red and black coloured rock formations and small islets. The walking tracks at Ponta de São Lourenço provide a breathtaking view of both the north and south coasts of the island, as well as of the Desertas and Porto Santo islands. The Reception Centre, Casa do Sardinha, is located next to the Sardinha Pier at the end of the Ponta de São Lourenço route. With prior booking, visitors to the centre can enjoy a permanent exhibition about the Nature Reserve.

### **18. Visit the Ponta do Rosto viewpoint**

This viewpoint is located in the northern part of the São Lourenço Peninsula and is worthy of mention for its flora and fauna. On clear days it is possible to see both the north coast and south coast of Madeira and the island of Porto Santo.

### **19. Visit the Madeira Whale Museum**

Located in the village of Caniçal, this Museum is a comprehensive testimonial to the history of whaling and associated activities in Madeira island.

### **20. Relax on Prainha Beach**

This is the clearest, natural sand beach on the island of Madeira and the surrounding scenery is a stark contrast to the landscape found in the rest of the island, as the usual shades of green are replaced by a landscape of arid yellows, browns and oranges.

Prainha Beach has a restaurant, changing rooms, parasols and sun loungers, as well as a car park.





# WALKING ROUTES AND 'LEVADAS'

## MUNICIPALITY OF MACHICO

This municipality has 3 recommended walking routes:

### PR5 – Vereda das Funduras (Portela - Maroços)

**Distance:** 8.7 km.

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 3h.

**Start / end:** Portela viewpoint / Maroços.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 605 m / 175 m.

Crossing the Machico mountain range, this footpath starts at the Portela viewpoint with a magnificent view over the north coast of Madeira, continues through the Funduras mountain range and then enters the *Laurissilva* Forest, eventually coming to the “Casa das Funduras”, which supports forest activities. Walkers can then continue to the Larano viewpoint, with beautiful views over the bay of Machico. The route includes the most stunning part of the *Laurissilva* forest on the southern slope of

the island of Madeira. One important environmental characteristic of the forest, is its role in retaining water from the mists and fog which are often seen in this place where sudden atmospheric changes occur throughout the day. On the track it is also possible to see Santo da Serra, the profile of the island’s highest peaks (Pico Ruivo and Pico do Areeiro) and the Desertas Islands. The trail ends in the town centre of Maroços among the traditional terraced fields which characterize the Madeiran agricultural landscape.

### PR8 - Vereda da Ponta de São Lourenço (Baía d’Abra - Cais do Sardinha)

**Distance:** 4 km (+ 4 km return).

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 2h 30m.

**Start / end:** E.R. 109 (Baía d’ Abra - Caniçal) / E.R.

109 (Baía d’ Abra - Caniçal).

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 110 m / 5 m.

This undulating path allows walkers to observe the landscapes of the island’s east, crossing the area of Ponta de S. Lourenço where basaltic volcanic formations and also calcareous sediments can be found. Eventually two islets can be seen: the Islet of Cevada and the Islet of Ponta de S. Lourenço. The vegetation along the route is low and the absence of trees stands out from the rest of the island, constituting a unique natural heritage. Of the 138 species of plants

currently identified here, 31 are exclusive to the island of Madeira (endemic) and, in terms of fauna, one of the region's largest colonies of Yellow-legged Gulls (*Larus cachinnans atlantis*) nests on the Islet of Desembarcadouro, as do other protected seabirds such as the Cory's shearwater (*Calonectris diomedea*), the Band-rumped storm petrel (*Oceanodroma castro*), Bulwer's petrel (*Bulweria bulwerii*) and the Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*). In addition to birds, there is also an abundance of Madeiran wall lizards (*Lacerta dugesii*) and a large number (24) of terrestrial mollusc endemisms or, as they are more commonly known, snails. With some luck, walkers will also be able to observe Mediterranean monk seal (*Monachus monachus*) in the sea. At the end of the footpath is Sardinha House (in reference to the family name of its former owners), which is presently used by forestry workers in the reserve, and the Sardinha pier where walkers can swim.

### **PR10 – Levada do Furado (Ribeiro Frio – Portela)**

**Distance:** 11 km.

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 5h. **Start / end:** E.R. 303 (Ribeiro Frio) / E.R. 102 (Portela).

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 870 m / 520 m.

This route runs through the Serra da Faial Levada to the water division house, then down to the Lamaceiros area and ends at the Portela viewpoint in the municipality of Machico. The routes landscape is mostly made up of the Ribeiro Frio valley, including the agricultural fields of Faial, São Roque do Faial and Porto da Cruz, and the spectacular rock formations of Penha d'Águia and Ponta dos Clérigos. This Levada is one of the oldest belonging to the state, acquired in 1822 by a contract between the first Count Carvalhal and the Board of Royal Treasury, with the aim of irrigating the agricultural fields of Porto da Cruz. The route ends at the Regional Road ER102 in Lamaceiros, where the descent begins to Portela.

# GARDENS AND PARKS

## MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA CRUZ

### Quinta Splendida Botanical Garden

The Quinta Splendida Botanical Garden, located in Caniço, houses more than 1000 species of plants and flowers, some of which are endemic to Madeira. The title of “Botanical Garden” was awarded by the Regional Government in recognition of the garden’s commitment and diverse natural beauty. Free admission

**11, Estrada da Oliveira**

**9125-001 Caniço**

**Phone: (+351) 291 930 400**

**E-mail: [info@quintasplendida.com](mailto:info@quintasplendida.com)**

**[www.quintasplendida.com](http://www.quintasplendida.com)**

### Largo Conselheiro Aires de Ornelas

The Largo Conselheiro Aires de Ornelas square, better known as Largo da Achada, is the gateway to Vila da Camacha. This large space is surrounded by large trees, gardens and a playground.

### Santa Cruz Municipal Garden

The Santa Cruz Municipal Garden, located next to the Parish Church in the centre of Santa Cruz, is a great place to relax and enjoy the calm that nature provides. This garden provides a pleasant walk through plants and





offers benches where visitors can relax and enjoy the best that the surrounding landscape has to offer. The Garden also features a sculptural work by Luís Paixão in honour of Sister Mary Wilson, whom the people affectionately called “The Good Mother”.

#### **Quinta do Dr. Américo Durão Garden**

Part of the Albatroz Yacht Beach Club, this garden is located next to the International Airport of Madeira in the municipality of Santa Cruz. Originally part of an old farmhouse that was destroyed by the expansion of the Airport, the garden features endemic species of Madeiran flora such as Dragon trees (*Dracaena draco*) and the Aleppo pine (*Pinus halepensis*). Free admission.

**Sítio da Terça**

**9100-187 Santa Cruz**

**Phone: (+351) 291 520 290**

### **MUNICIPALITY OF MACHICO**

#### **Machico Municipal Garden**

Located next to the City Hall of Machico, in a pleasant seafront area, the Municipal Garden of Machico features both native plants and a wide range of plant species from around the world. There is also a children’s playground.

# BEACHES AND POOLS

## MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA CRUZ

### Garajau Beach

The Garajau beach, located at the base of the Ponta do Garajau cliff and integrated in the Garajau Partial Natural Reserve, offers excellent conditions for diving. For a fee, the beach can be accessed by cable car. This beach enjoys particularly calm and crystalline waters, much sought after by snorkelers, and also offers showering facilities, a first aid station and a restaurant area.

Free admission.

**Estrada do Cristo Rei**

**Phone: (+351) 291 520 100**

### Lido Galomar Bathing Complex

This complex was built on the site's volcanic rocks as a private initiative of a German businessman and features a diving club offering specialised training for new divers.

Paid admission.

**Rua Dom Francisco Santana**

**9125-031 Caniço**

**Phone: (+351) 291 930 930**

### Reis Magos Beach

Reis Magos beach is a small pebbly beach with good access to the sea. The waters are clear and its quality is confirmed by Blue Flag accreditation. Safety is provided by lifeguards and a first aid station.

Free admission.

**Reis Magos, Caniço**

**Phone: (+351) 291 520 100**

### Palmeiras Beach

Palmeiras beach is located in the municipality of Santa Cruz and is divided into two areas: the pebble beach and the pool area (one for adults and one for children). It has changing rooms, showers, toilets, a first aid station and a team of lifeguards. There is also a restaurant area. Free admission.

**Phone: (+351) 291 520 100**

### Aquapark

If you are looking for entertainment and fun for the whole family, a half day at the Aquapark is just the ticket. With capacity for more than 1,000 people, the Aquapark offers several play pools, three water slides, four fast lanes, a fast stream, a black hole, a stream hole, a lazy stream, a leisure pool and a children's aqualand. Paid admission.

Open every day from 10 am to 6 pm  
from June to November.

Closes at 7 pm in August.

#### **Ribeira da Boaventura**

**9100-138 Santa Cruz**

**Phone: (+351) 291 634 408**

**[www.aquaparque.com](http://www.aquaparque.com)**

### **MUNICIPALITY OF MACHICO**

#### **Banda d'Além Beach**

Banda d'Além beach in Machico Bay is an imported yellow sand beach with excellent facilities for visitors and full lifeguard services during the bathing season.

This fun swimming space also offers changing rooms, toilets, showers and parking, making it the ideal place to spend a nice day at the beach. Free admission

**Phone: (+351) 291 969 990**

**[www.cm-machico.pt](http://www.cm-machico.pt)**

#### **Caniçal Bathing Complex**

This complex consists of two saltwater pools - one for adults and one for children - and direct access to the sea.

It is located on the seafront of the village of Caniçal and has a snack bar and a terrace where visitors can enjoy views of the magnificent

landscape over the Atlantic, in addition to changing rooms, sun loungers and parasols.

Paid admission.

Open every day.

Summer opening hours: 10 am to 7 pm.

Closed during winter.

#### **Rua da Pedra d' Eira**

**Phone: (+351) 291 969 990**

**[www.cm-machico.pt](http://www.cm-machico.pt)**

#### **Porto da Cruz Bathing Complex**

The Porto da Cruz Bathing Complex, located on the seafront promenade of Porto da Cruz, is composed of two swimming pools, one for adults and another for children, and several facilities for visitors, including showers, toilets, changing rooms, a bar, sun loungers, fixed parasols and parking in the public road.

Paid admission.

Open every day.

Summer opening hours: 10 am to 7 pm.

Closed during winter.

**Phone: (+351) 291 562 272**

**[www.porto-da-cruz.com](http://www.porto-da-cruz.com)**

#### **Alagoas Beach**

This black sand beach provides a sunbathing area and good access to the sea. Services include lifeguards during summer, changing rooms, a

children's playground, bars and restaurants. This beach is also very popular with surfers.

### **Prainha Beach**

Prainha, near the tip of São Lourenço, is a natural sand beach of volcanic origin and provides a different kind of 'day at the beach' than usual. This beach features the Piedade Dunes, which are limestone fossils of geomorphological interest.

The landscape that surrounds this beach contrasts with that found in most of the island with the usual green replaced by an arid landscape of yellow, brown and orange.

This beach features a restaurant, changing rooms, parasols, sun loungers and a car park. Free admission

**Estrada Regional 109**

**Phone: (+351) 291 969 990**

**[www.cm-machico.pt](http://www.cm-machico.pt)**





# NATURE RESERVES

## **Partial Natural Reserve of Garajau**

This reserve was created in 1986 and is the only exclusively marine reserve in the country. A wide variety of coastal species can be observed here, including large non-threatening fish such as groupers (*Epinephalus guaza*). This reserve is considered one of the best tourist destinations worldwide for amateur diving, as well as a place of great scientific, recreational and tourist interest.

## **Ponta de São Lourenço Nature Reserve**

Created in 1982, this reserve features peculiar flora and fauna due to unique local climatic conditions and soil. The reserve also has a monitoring station that supports Environmental Education.

# ACTIVE TOURISM

## MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA CRUZ

It is possible to practice Canyoning in Camacha, and in Caniço there are several types of activities available, including canoeing, stand up paddling, windsurfing and diving.

### Santa Cruz Nautical Club

This Club is an institution that promotes sporting activity in general and nautical activities in particular among the public. The club promotes sailing, sports fishing, diving, underwater photography, judo and much more.

## MUNICIPALITY OF MACHICO

This municipality presents several active tourism options, including horseback riding, golf and jeep tours at Santo da Serra; trails for running or cycling around Portela; surfing in Porto da Cruz; whale and dolphin watching in Machico; and ideal conditions for climbing or running at the tip of São Lourenço.





### **Santo da Serra Golf Club**

Considered one of the most spectacular golf courses in Europe thanks to the breathtaking views from the mountains to the sea, this course was designed by Robert Trent Jones and opened in 1991. It is situated a short distance from Funchal and less than 15 minutes from Madeira International Airport. With 27 holes, this par 72, 6,039 m course is characterised by generous fairways and greens.

#### **Santo António da Serra**

**Phone: (+351) 291 550 100**

**[www.santodaserragolf.com](http://www.santodaserragolf.com)**

### **Água de Pena Sports Park - Machico**

Located under the runway of Madeira Airport, this park features several multipurpose fields where it is possible to play sports such as hockey, futsal, handball, basketball, volleyball, soccer, tennis and squash.

Open every day from 10 am to 10 pm (prior booking recommended).

#### **Parque Desportivo Água Pena Sítio da Queimada**

**Phone: (+351) 291 966 222**

**<http://mmachico.wix.com/pdap>**

### **Quinta do Lorde Marina**

From this Marina visitors can take a boat trip to observe seabirds, dolphins, whales and other marine species. It is possible to rent a luxury yacht with crew, go kayaking or go diving with the diving centre located here. The Quinta do Lorde Yacht Club, created by a group of regional sailing enthusiasts, also organises water sports events. It is also a benchmark in the organisation of Match Racing competitions.

#### **Marina da Quinta do Lorde**

**Phone: (+351) 291 969 607**

**[www.quintadolorde.pt](http://www.quintadolorde.pt)**

# MUSEUMS AND MONUMENTS

## MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA CRUZ

### **Santa Cruz House of Culture - Quinta do Revoredo**

Quinta do Revoredo promotes several cultural activities, with several exhibition halls, a visual arts studio, a photography laboratory, a library, and a beautiful open-air amphitheatre. Facing the ocean, the building is also surrounded by pleasant gardens. Free admission.

**Rua Bela de São José**  
**9100-151 Santa Cruz**  
**Phone: (+351) 291 520 124**

## MUNICIPALITY OF MACHICO

### **Solar do Ribeirinho Museum Centre**

This interactive museum presents stories and characters that have built the present day city of Machico over more than 500 years of its history. The visitor can discover several historical objects, including

a cross that once belonged to Machim; a painting by the 1st Captain Donee of Machico (Tristão Vaz Teixeira); a seventeenth century processional arch of high artistic value; a rare sixteenth century seal with an ivory handle and a silver stamp; several ceramic, stone and metal archaeological objects, as well as an engraved inscription of a quatrain by the eighteenth-century poet Francisco Álvares de Nóbrega “Camões Pequeno”.

Paid admission.

Open: Tuesday to Friday from 10 am to 12:30 pm and 2 pm to 5:30 pm, Saturdays 10 am to 1 pm. Closed on Mondays, Sundays and public holidays.

**Rua do Ribeirinho, 15 — 9200-102 Machico**  
**Phone: (+351) 291 964 118**  
**E-mail: solardoribeirinho@cm-machico.pt**

### **Nossa Senhora do Amparo Fort**

Built in 1706, this fort had a defensive function against the attacks of pirates and other privateers and features a plaque with the national arms, commemorating the fort’s foundation. Around the Fort there are landscaped areas and cobbled streets.

### **Whale Museum**

The Whale Museum located in the village of Caniçal is a comprehensive testament to the history of whaling in Madeira and is one of the most innovative museums of its kind in the world, featuring 3D movies



and life-sized models of whales and dolphins. The museum also promotes scientific research projects on cetaceans and marine life in the seas of Madeira. Paid admission.

Open: Tuesday to Sunday from 10:30 am to 6 pm. Closed on Mondays and public holidays.

**Rua Garcia Moniz, 1**  
**9200-031 Caniçal**  
**Phone: (+351) 291 961 858**  
**E-mail: geral@museudabaleia.org**  
**www.museudabaleia.org**

## TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE

### **Airport Tourist Information Office**

Open every day from 9 am to 9:30 pm.  
**Santa Catarina de Baixo**  
**9100 Santa Cruz**  
**Phone: (+351) 291 524 933**

# SOUTHWEST COAST

CÂMARA DE LOBOS  
RIBEIRA BRAVA  
PONTA DO SOL  
CALHETA

The Southwest Coast of Madeira comprises 4 municipalities: Câmara de Lobos, Ribeira Brava, Ponta do Sol and Calheta. The municipality of Câmara de Lobos is located to the west of Funchal and is composed of 5 parishes: Câmara de Lobos, Estreito de Câmara de Lobos, Jardim da Serra, Quinta Grande and Curral das Freiras.

The municipality of Ribeira Brava is composed of 4 parishes: Ribeira Brava, Campanário, Serra de Água and Tabua.

The municipality of Ponta do Sol is composed of 3 parishes: Ponta do Sol, Madalena do Mar and Canhas.

The municipality of Calheta is the largest municipality of Madeira and comprises 8 parishes: Ponta do Pargo, Fajã da Ovelha, Prazeres, Estreito da Calheta, Calheta, Paúl do Mar, Jardim do Mar and Arco da Calheta.





# NOT TO BE MISSED!

## MUNICIPALITY OF CÂMARA DE LOBOS

### 1. Admire the panoramic views from Cabo Girão viewpoint

Situated on the highest promontory in Europe, at 580 m, the Cabo Girão viewpoint consists of a suspended glass platform (called a 'skywalk') that offers vertiginous views of the Rancho and Cabo Girão *fajãs* - small areas of cultivated land below the cliff - as well as magnificent views of the ocean and the municipalities of Câmara de Lobos and Funchal.

### 2. Visit the Pico da Torre viewpoint

This viewpoint offers a magnificent 360 degree panorama over Câmara de Lobos, Cabo Girão and Funchal.

### 3. Stroll through the centre of Câmara de Lobos

Admire the views of the bay with its typical fishing

boats (*xavelhas*), at the Lago do Poço, one of the landscapes painted by Sir Winston Churchill during his visit to Madeira in 1950. There are several bars and restaurants where visitors can enjoy typical drinks, such as poncha, and savour fresh fish caught in Madeira. A nearby promenade leads to Formosa beach in Funchal.

### 4. Visit Curral das Freiras

This parish is located in a deep valley and was once the refuge of the nuns of the Convent of Santa Clara as they fled invading French pirates. This is one of the few places on the island that is not visible from the sea and has only one access road from Funchal. The Boca dos Namorados and Boca da Corrida viewpoints provide excellent views of Curral das Freiras and several volcanic peaks. There is a path at the Boca dos Namorados viewpoint giving pedestrian access to this locality where visitors can taste its famous sour cherry liqueur. Another viewpoint offering a beautiful view of Curral das Freiras is the Eira do Serrado viewpoint.

### 5. Visit Fajã dos Padres

*Fajãs* (areas of fertile land by the sea) can be accessed by boat or cable car in Cabo Girão. The Fajã dos Padres viewpoint, about 250 m above sea level, is the terminus of the panoramic lift that gives access to the fajã where the famous malvasia grape vines and many fruits such as mango and Suriname cherries grow. Here it is also possible to swim in the crystal clear waters of the nearby pebble beach and enjoy delicious fresh fish at the local restaurant.

## 6. Try the fabulous local cuisine of Estreito de Câmara de Lobos

When discussing Madeira wine it is impossible to not also mention the grape growing parish of Estreito de Câmara de Lobos, whose vineyards offer picturesque landscapes that change their tone from season to season. The typical dish from this region is the beef skewer, which originated in this parish in the 1950s.

## MUNICIPALITY OF RIBEIRA BRAVA

### 7. Wander inside the Ribeira Brava Church

Also known as the São Bento Church, this church was built in the 15th century and exhibits magnificent panels of strong Flemish influence. Nor far from the church is the São Bento Fort, which currently functions as a tourist office, and a lighthouse from which visitors can see the centre of the village, Ponta do Sol and the Campanário mountains. From the old pier, visitors can admire beautiful landscapes of the mountains by the sea.

### 8. Experience the magnificent scenery of Encumeada

A high point of the island that connects Ribeira Brava on the south coast and São Vicente on the north coast, Encumeada can be accessed by the Serra d'Água road. During the ascent, visitors can enjoy panoramic landscapes of the south and north of the island set

against the deep blue of the sky and the clouds rolling through the mountains. At the Espigão viewpoint, visitors can enjoy beautiful panoramic views over the Ribeira Brava valley, the Serra de Água and Encumeada.

## MUNICIPALITY OF PONTA DO SOL

### 9. Watch the sunset

Ponta do Sol owes its name to a rocky outcrop that touches the sea and reflects the sun's rays, a landscape that offers magnificent views of the sunset.

This is also considered the hottest municipality on the island and the area where the sun shines for the greatest number of hours. Other places of interest include the Church, the pedestrian alleyways, the quay and the ancient bridge of the Caminho Real that served to connect this locality to Madalena do Mar.

### 10. Discover Paúl da Serra, Madeira's only plateau

Located at an altitude of 1500 m, Paúl da Serra is rich in native vegetation and migratory birds due to its dimensions, location and other unique natural characteristics.

There are also several wind turbines marking out this wild landscape. On the road connecting



Canhas to Paúl da Serra, visitors can see the *Levada do Poiso* water clock, which was built at the end of the 19th century, and is comprised of a pink tower with a clock and bell at its peak.

### 11. Enjoy the Bica da Cana leisure area

Bica da Cana is located near Paúl da Serra in the parish of Canhas. The leisure area has several inviting and restful spaces for picnics and a viewpoint which offers superb views. It's also a good starting point for hiking.

### 12. Visit Madalena do Mar

This parish is home to the Church of Santa Maria Madalena, built on the site of an old hermitage commissioned by one of the first inhabitants of the island, Henrique Alemão or 'Henry the German', who, as legend has it, was none other than King Władysław III of Poland. In the Moledos area visitors can admire several hectares of endemic flora and, from the Trigo de Negreiros viewpoint on Regional Road 222, interesting panoramic views of the area.

## MUNICIPALITY OF CALHETA

### 13. Discover Rabaçal

This area offers sublime views, including the spectacular waterfall located along the Risco Levada (PR6.1 - Risco Levada - Rabaçal - Risco) from where walkers can continue to the emblematic 25 Fontes

lagoon (PR6 - Levada das 25 Fontes - Rabaçal - 25 Fontes).

### 14. Walk the Caminho Real from Prazeres to Paúl do Mar

This walking route was once used to connect Paúl do Mar with the higher areas of island. The track starts at the Assomadouro dos Prazeres viewpoint, a height of 535 metres, and offers superb panoramic views over Jardim do Mar and Paúl do Mar. At Paúl do Mar, walkers can admire spectacular cliffs, swim in the sea and stroll along the pleasant streets of the town, where some picturesque vestiges of the past remain, including the chimney of a cannery, the ruins of a sugar cane mill and a small fishing port with its fishing boats.

### 15. Visit the Casa das Mudas

This project was designed in complete harmony with the surrounding landscape and presents a wide range of cultural offerings, including a diverse range of exhibitions, theatre, musical performances, conferences and much more.

### 16. Spoil yourself with traditional honey cakes and poncha at the Calheta Sugar Mill

The Calheta Sugar Mill Society is located in the village of Calheta. Visitors can observe the machinery used to manufacture sugar cane brandy and honey, an indispensable ingredient in the manufacture of Madeira honey cake.





### **17. Explore the alleys and footpaths of Jardim do Mar, “the surfers’ paradise”**

The beauty of this place, which at times is completely covered in wildflowers, is the origin of its name, which translates to ‘Garden of the Sea’. Ruins of an old mill, with tiles that served as a cover for its tanks, can be found on the sea front. The chimneys and houses that surround the Church of Our Lady of the Rosary and the village’s narrow alleys make for a picturesque location. Jardim do Mar is very popular with surfers, who consider its waves to be the best in Europe. The town also frequently hosts international surfing competitions.

### **18. Take a trip to the island’s southwest and visit Ponta do Pargo**

The coast of Ponta do Pargo has always presented considerable dangers for navigators and, for this reason, a lighthouse was built at the top of the cliff at Ponta da Vigia. The area around the lighthouse and its magnificent views of the Atlantic Ocean is open to visitors.

The hours around sunset are highly recommended.

### **19. Discover the pleasures of the Caminho dos Pés Descalços (Barefoot Path)**

This 800 metre route, located in Jardim Hotel do Atlântico in Prazeres, allows visitors to discover another side of the Madeiran natural heritage by actually walking on its various elements, including bay leaves, pebbles, sand, eucalyptus, pine cones, mud and more.

### **20. Stroll along the Calheta marina**

The Calheta marina is a perfect place for water sports and has space for three hundred boats. Visitors will also find a few restaurants and bars, tourism service providers as well as an artificial sand beach.

# WALKING ROUTES AND LEVADAS – LAURISSILVA FOREST

## MUNICIPALITY OF CÂMARA DE LOBOS

In this municipality there is 1 recommended route:

### PR2 – Vereda do Urzal (Curral das Freiras - Boaventura)

**Distance:** 10.6 km.

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 4h 30m.

**Start / end:** Fajã dos Cardos, Curral das Freiras / Lombo do Urzal, Boaventura.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 1450 m / 519 m.

This trail crosses an area of beautiful scenery that varies from the peaks that surround Curral das Freiras to panoramic views of the Curral das Freiras valley. It is also possible to access Pico Ruivo from a route that starts at Boca das Torrinhas and continues on PR1.3, the Encumeada footpath.

## MUNICIPALITY OF RIBEIRA BRAVA

This municipality has 3 recommended walking routes:

### PR1.3 – Vereda da Encumeada (Pico Ruivo - Encumeada)

**Distance:** 11.2 km.

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 6h.

**Start / end:** Pico Ruivo Shelter / Encumeada.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 1761 m / 1000 m.

This 11.2 km route starts at the Pico Ruivo Shelter and has a duration of 6 hours, offering walkers landscapes of remarkable beauty as they cross the Central Mountain Massif and the *Laurissilva* Forest. The route features several caves excavated in the rocks, such as the *Furna da Lapa da Cadela*, which formerly served as a shelter to those in the area to harvest heather (*Erica platycodon subsp. Maderincola* and *Erica arborea*) for fencing, firewood or charcoal production. On the approach to Encumeada, walkers often have the feeling of being in the centre of the island due to the panoramic landscape over the majestic valleys of Curral das Freiras, Serra D'Água and São Vicente.

### PR12 - Caminho Real da Encumeada (Boca da Corrida - Encumeada)

**Distance:** 12.5 km.

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 6h 30m.



**Start / end:** Boca da Corrida viewpoint / E.R. 228 (Encumeada).

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 1340 m / 940 m.

This route was formerly part of the old cobbled “Caminho Real”, one of the main routes for the movement of people on the island, with the men on horseback and their wives transported in hammocks. There are references to a grocery store that was supposed to have existed somewhere along the footpath, probably established as a trading post for walkers crossing the island. Along this route, walkers can observe the parish of Curral das Freiras and several water courses that traverse the hills, covered with the vegetation and teeming with the native birds of the *Laurissilva* Forest. Around Pico Grande it is possible to see the villages of Serra D’Água and Encumeada, as well as the water pipes that supply the Serra D’Água Hydroelectric Power Station.

**PR17 – Caminho do Pináculo e Folhadal  
(Lombo do Mouro - Caramujo - Folhadal  
- Encumeada)**

**Distance:** 14 km.

**Difficulty:** Difficult.

**Duration:** 6h 30m.

**Start / end:** Lombo do Mouro / Encumeada.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 1620 m / 1000 m.

This trail starts from the ascent of the Encumeada route to Paúl da Serra (Lombo do Mouro) and then crosses the Serra and Norte Levadas, offering magnificent views of São Vicente and the *Laurissilva* forest. Walkers are recommended to bring torches and sturdy footwear due to the existence of several tunnels where it can be slippery. Along the route, it is possible to see various architectural and patrimonial elements of the island, such as the footpath called “caminho real”, the *levadas* and open tunnels on the rock which bring water from the north side of the island to the south. The *caminho real* is the cobbled public way that was once used to transit from the north of the island to the south. The trail continues along the levada, though walkers depart from it at some points along the paved path. Arriving at the top of the route at the pinnacle, walkers can enjoy the magnificent landscape over the Ribeira Brava valley and the highest peaks of the island.

**MUNICIPALITY OF CALHETA**

This municipality has 4 recommended walking routes:

**PR6 - Levada das 25 Fontes (Rabaçal - 25 Fontes) /  
PR6.1 - Levada do Risco (Rabaçal - Risco)**

**Distance:** 4.6 km (+ 4.6 km return).

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 3h.

**Start / end:** E.R.110 (Rabaçal, Paúl da Serra) / E.R.110 (Rabaçal, Paúl da Serra).

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 1290 m / 900 m.

This footpath is one of the most popular on the island and begins with a descent to Rabaçal. Here walkers come across a spectacular waterfall falling vertically forming a scratch shape (*risco*) in the rock. Walkers may then continue to the emblematic 25 Fontes lagoon, formed by waters descending from Paúl da Serra and which can be seen behind the lagoon wall. As the name suggests, more than 25 sources can be found, offering a breathtaking view.

**PR19 - Caminho Real do Paúl do Mar  
(Prazeres - Paul do Mar)**

**Distance:** 1.8 km.

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 1h 20m.

**Start / end:** Assomadouro dos Prazeres / Paúl do Mar.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 535 m / 35 m.

This route offers panoramic views of Jardim do Mar and Paúl do Mar and is a prime example of those hard-to-access routes that descend to sea level, often requiring

walkers to transport heavy loads on their backs. This cobbled track is of authentic historical heritage, a testimony to the isolation of settlers in earlier times and their ingenious and arduous efforts to overcome it. The waterfalls and exclusive endemic flora of these altitudes also contribute to a truly stunning route.

**PR20 - Vereda do Jardim do Mar  
(Prazeres - Jardim do Mar)**

**Distance:** 1.9 km.

**Difficulty:** Easy.

**Duration:** 1h.

**Start / end:** Prazeres / Jardim do Mar (the Church Square).

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 35 m / 530 m.

This route connects Prazeres to Jardim do Mar, serving in the past as one of the few access ways down to the coast, for the population of Prazeres. The trail offers magnificent views of the Jardim do Mar and Paúl do Mar *fajãs*, or traditional agricultural lands. Due to a mild climate and an abundance of water, agriculture covered the land in the stone terraces, as is evident along the path. Before arriving at the village of Jardim do Mar, be sure to visit the recently restored Water Mill, which once served to grind the cereals grown in and around the parish.



# GARDENS AND PARKS

## MUNICIPALITY OF CÂMARA DE LOBOS

### The Gardens of Ilhéu de Câmara de Lobos

These gardens offer a beautiful view over the town of Câmara de Lobos, the promontory of Cabo Girão and the majesty of the Atlantic Ocean.

The gardens of Ilhéu de Câmara de Lobos are situated at the top of a cliff above the sea, commonly known as Ilhéu, in the centre of Câmara de Lobos.

The Ilhéu de Câmara de Lobos was once the most densely populated area of Madeira, housing the village's fishing district.

The neighbourhood has since undergone substantial renovation and today is a very pleasant place for a visit, with beautiful views over Cabo Girão and the city centre.

## MUNICIPALITY OF PONTA DO SOL

### Municipal Garden of Ponta do Sol

This garden is located in the centre of Ponta do Sol and offers a garden with lawns, a bar and a children's playground.

## MUNICIPALITY OF CALHETA

### Calheta Municipal Garden

Located in the centre of the village on Avenida D. Manuel I next to the *Paços do Concelho* (Town hall), the garden is essentially made up of dragon trees, rosewood trees, palms and laurels.

### Fonte do Bispo Forest Park

This park offers picnic facilities perfect for social occasions or relaxing after a stroll along the surrounding walking paths. Located in Paúl da Serra and blessed by intense natural beauty, the park is surrounded by a large tract of forest composed of varied exotic species.

### Prazeres Educational Farm

The Prazeres Educational Farm opened in October 2000 to promote knowledge and appreciation of the rural environment of the local parish. The farm is divided into four areas: an agricultural area dedicated to the introduction of new crops; a herbal garden; a farm area for various animals and a tea house. In fulfilment of its educational role, a range of activities related to nature and the environment take place at the farm, including the annual Animal Blessing festivity, during Santo Antão festivities, in January,

the Festivities of the Rooster Auction (June), the Wheat Threshing Festival (September) and the Cider Festival (September). The educational farm has received several national prizes for its traditional products, including its papaya and orange jam, dried Madeira banana, apple cider vinegar and passion fruit.

**Sítio da Igreja — 9370-603 Prazeres**

**Phone: (+351) 291 822 204**

**[www.prazeresdaquinta.com](http://www.prazeresdaquinta.com)**

# BEACHES AND POOLS

## MUNICIPALITY OF CÂMARA DE LOBOS

### Salinas Bathing Complex

Located near the bay of Câmara de Lobos, the Salinas natural pools are a bathing complex with a swimming pool for adults and another for children.

There are also locker rooms, sun loungers, parasols and a poolside bar.

Paid admission.

### Caminho da Trincheira

**Phone: (+351) 291 942 713**

**[www.jf-camaradelobos.pt](http://www.jf-camaradelobos.pt)**

### Fajã dos Padres Beach

Located at the foot of Cabo Girão, this entirely pebble beach is accessible only by boat or the Quinta Grande cable car.

While there is no lifeguard surveillance, it is a beautiful beach, with easy access to the sea from the quay to the end of the bay and mild water temperature throughout the year. The clarity of its water and the variety of species near the coast make for excellent diving and

fishing. There is a spacious sunbathing area next to the bay and, in summer, sun loungers and parasols are available. At the entrance next to the restaurant, there are showers and changing cabins and docking can be provided on request. Access via the sea is free.

## **MUNICIPALITY OF RIBEIRA BRAVA**

### **Ribeira Brava Bathing Complex**

The Ribeira Brava Bathing Complex is composed of a black sand and pebble beach protected from the waves by rocks which form a breakwater.

It has swimming pools, changing rooms, sanitary facilities and a snack bar and restaurant.

Free admission.

**Rua Eng.º Pereira Ribeiro**

**Phone: (+351) 291 952 548**

**[www.cm-ribeirabrava.pt](http://www.cm-ribeirabrava.pt)**

### **Calhau da Lapa Beach**

This pebble beach, located in Campanário, offers crystal clear waters. Access is via a steep footpath that requires some care, or via the sea by boat. There are some support houses along the beach, a small pier that allows for sea access via stairs and a set of caves dug in the rocks.

Free admission.

**[www.cm-ribeirabrava.pt/piscinas](http://www.cm-ribeirabrava.pt/piscinas)**

## **MUNICIPALITY OF PONTA DO SOL**

### **Ponta do Sol Bathing Area**

Ponta do Sol beach, located in a small cove between the cliffs in the village of the same name, is 160 metres long and has excellent water quality.

Support facilities include changing rooms and toilets, including for the disabled, a snack bar, a summer library and a games area. There is also parking available near the beach.

Free admission

**Rua Dr. João Augusto Teixeira**

**Phone: (+351) 291 972 106**

### **Anjos Beach**

This beach is quite long and offers a breathtaking scenery to visitors. The beach is of black sand and pebble and has a bar. This beach is has no lifeguard surveillance.

Free admission.

### **Madalena do Mar beach**

This pebble beach offers clear waters, beautiful surrounding landscapes and support services such as a bar, sunbathing area, a volleyball court and lifeguards during the summer. Free admission

## **MUNICIPALITY OF CALHETA**

### **Calheta Beach**

The artificial yellow sand beach of the village of Calheta



was opened in 2004 and was the first of the region to be built with sand imported from Morocco. Located near the marina, it is free of access and has a sunbathing area of around 7,300 m<sup>2</sup>. The beach has a length of 100 m and has two breakwaters as protection.

Sun loungers and parasols are available for hire. Free admission

**Avenida D. Manuel I**

**Phone: (+351) 291 820 200**

**[www.cm-calheta-madeira.com](http://www.cm-calheta-madeira.com)**

#### **Jardim do Mar Beach**

Portinho, Enseada and Ponta Jardim are very popular pebble beaches, especially among surfers. Praia do Portinho has a bar. Free admission

#### **Ribeira das Galinhas Beach**

This pebble beach is located in Paúl do Mar and has a small sunbathing area as well as a pier that allows for access to the sea by means of stairs. There are restaurants and bars nearby with terraces where visitors can relax and catch the magnificent sunset. Free admission.

# ACTIVE TOURISM

## MUNICIPALITY OF CÂMARA DE LOBOS

This municipality offers sports fishing, boat trips to observe dolphins and whales and Jeep tours.

## MUNICIPALITY OF RIBEIRA BRAVA

Visitors to Ribeira Brava can take Jeep tours in the vicinity of Encumeada and admire its beautiful landscapes.

### **Ribeira Brava Sports Centre**

This Sports Centre, located north of the motorway exit in the middle of the Ribeira Brava valley, has facilities for football, futsal, tennis and racquet sports. It also has a covered multipurpose field, a cycling path, and a training circuit in addition to playgrounds, green areas, a snack bar and underground parking.

Open Monday to Friday from 9 am to 11 pm and Saturdays and Sundays from 9 am to 10 pm.

**Sítio da Fajã da Ribeira**

**Phone: (+351) 291 950 120**

**[www.sociedadesdesenvolvimento.com/  
centro-desportivo-da-madeira.html](http://www.sociedadesdesenvolvimento.com/centro-desportivo-da-madeira.html)**



## MUNICIPALITY OF PONTA DO SOL

In addition to diving at Madalena do Mar, visitors can do sports fishing and take Jeep tours at Ponta do Sol.

### Diving

At a depth of 21-30 m and a distance of 180m off the coast of Madalena do Mar, visitors can find the wreck of the "Bowbelle", a ship that sank a few years ago and now forms an artificial reef.

## MUNICIPALITY OF CALHETA

Mountain biking, paragliding, surfing, Jeep tours, surfing, sports fishing and whale watching are all available to visitors in Calheta.

### Mountain biking

Specialist mountain bike tracks have been created between Fonte do Bispo and Prazeres, and in Paúl da Serra (Bica da Cana - Estanquinhos), located within the protected forest area of the Rede Natura 2000. Discover the pleasure of mountain biking along the levadas and dirt roads with obstacles inside the *Laurissilva* forest. Interested parties require authorisation/permit.

### Off-road jeep tours

Enjoy discovering the scenic beauty of Madeira in a new and adventurous way, from the cliffs to

the mountains on an all-terrain vehicle tour. The emotions and fun of driving across natural obstacles en route to remote and isolated parts of the island are unforgettable.

### Surfing

If adrenaline is what you are looking for, the coasts of Jardim do Mar and Paúl do Mar present challenging waves for a perfect day of surfing. Some of these locations also have surf schools that can help you get to grips with the basics of surfing.

### Calheta Marina

This marina offers visitors the opportunity to participate in various tourist activities such as sports fishing, dolphin and whale watching and water sports such as jet skiing and kayaking.

### Porto de Recreio da Calheta

Phone: (+351) 291 824 003

[www.portoderecreiodacalheta.com](http://www.portoderecreiodacalheta.com)

### Calheta Naval Club

This Club was founded in the 1990s as a collective to promote various activities, including regattas, canoeing, sailing schools, triathlons and more. Its headquarters are located in the Calheta marina.

# MUSEUMS AND MONUMENTS

## MUNICIPALITY OF CÂMARA DE LOBOS

### Press Museum

This museum gathers the interesting historical, typographical, lithographic and cinematographic heritage of the Press and Media in Madeira. Located in the building of the Municipal Library of Câmara de Lobos and managed in conjunction with the National Press Museum, this museum aims to recover, itemise and exhibit the heritage of the print industry and press of the Autonomous Region of Madeira, as well as promoting cultural activities. The museum's collection comprises about four dozen machines. Particularly noteworthy are the exhibitions of original equipment and machinery of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Free admission.

Open: Monday to Friday from 10 am to 5 pm and Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm.

Closed on Sundays and public holidays.

**3, Avenida da Autonomia**  
**9300-133 Câmara de Lobos**  
**Phone: (+351) 291 910 135**

## MUNICIPALITY OF RIBEIRA BRAVA

### Ethnographic Museum of Madeira

The Ethnographic Museum of Madeira is housed in an old baroque building and features collections of ethnographic objects and other testimonies of Madeiran culture and society. Various objects relevant to traditional Madeiran culture are shown in the temporary exhibition room. Paid admission.

Open: Tuesday to Friday from 9:30 am to 5 pm, Saturdays from 10 am to 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm.

Closed on Sundays, Mondays and public holidays.

**24, Rua de São Francisco — 9350-211 Ribeira Brava**  
**Phone: (+351) 291 952 598**  
**E-mail: museuetnografico@gmail.com**  
**<http://cultura.madeira-edu.pt/museus/>**

### Solar dos Herédias

The Solar dos Herédias, located in the centre of the village next to the parish church, served as the home of Francisco Correia Heredia, founder of the municipality and Viscount of Ribeira Brava.

This century-old building, from the late 18th and early 19th centuries, has a magnificent garden with numerous

species. Since the 1980s, it has been the seat of the Municipality of Ribeira Brava.

## **MUNICIPALITY OF PONTA DO SOL**

### **John dos Passos Cultural Centre**

The Centre was founded in honour of the writer of Madeiran Portuguese ancestry, John dos Passos, and is located in Ponta do Sol. It has a permanent exhibition room dedicated to the writer, two museum spaces, a library which presents the author's extensive work and an auditorium where various cultural activities such as music, dance and theatre take place.

The centre also hosts temporary exhibitions, seminars and conferences, with particular emphasis on the annual symposium dedicated to John dos Passos. Free admission.

Open: Monday to Friday from 9 am to 12:30 pm and 2 pm to 5 pm. Closed on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

**3, Rua do Príncipe D. Luís**

**9360-218 Ponta do Sol**

**Phone: (+351) 291 974 034**

## **MUNICIPALITY OF CALHETA**

### **Mudas. Museum of Contemporary Art**

Conceived by the architect Paulo David, the Mudas. Museum of Contemporary Art is a

modern building, internationally awarded for its architecture and perfect integration into the landscape. It hosts various exhibitions, musical performances, plays and conferences. The Mudas. Museum of Contemporary Art is located on a hill overlooking the village of Calheta on the west side of the island of Madeira, just over 30 minutes from the city of Funchal.

The museum and 400 piece art collection from the 1960s to today, was transferred from the Fort of São Tiago, Funchal.

Paid admission.

Open Tuesday to Sunday from 10 am to 5 pm.

Closed on Mondays and public holidays.

**Vale de Amores**

**9370-139 Calheta**

**Phone: (+351) 291 820 900**

**E-mail: [mudas@gov-madeira.pt](mailto:mudas@gov-madeira.pt)**

### **Sugar Cane Mill and Museum**

The Calheta Sugar Mill Society arose in the early twentieth century in a period of great industrial development, and is one of the oldest sugar cane mills on the island of Madeira. Today it operates entirely on steam power and water to produce high quality sugar cane honey and brandy, though production is seasonal and the mill only operates for two months a year, beginning its work around Easter. The facilities, including machinery used in the manufacture of brandy and honey, can be

visited all year round. There is a tasting room and bar/cellar. Paid admission.

Open: Monday to Friday from 8 am to 7 pm and Sundays and public holidays from 9 am to 7 pm. Closed Saturdays.

**29, Avenida D. Manuel I — 9370-135 Calheta**

**Phone: (+351) 291 822 264**

**E-mail: engenhosdcalheta@sapo.pt**

**www.engenhosdcalheta.com**

### **Ponta do Pargo Lighthouse Museum**

The Ponta do Pargo lighthouse, whose construction dates back to 1922, stands on a 300 m cliff at Ponta da Vigia, the westernmost point of the island of Madeira. In 1999 it was classified as local heritage of cultural value and since 2001 offers a museum with several pieces related to the lighthouses of Madeira. Free admission.

Open: Monday to Friday from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm and 2 pm to 4:30 pm.

Closed on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

**Ponta da Vigia — 9385 Ponta do Pargo**

**Phone: (+351) 291 882 125**





# TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE

## **Ribeira Brava Tourist Information Office**

Open: Monday to Friday from 10 am  
to 4 pm and Saturdays from 10 am  
to 12:30 pm.

**Forte de São Bento**

**9350 Ribeira Brava**

**Tel.: (+351) 291 951 675**

# THE ISLAND OF PORTO SANTO

The tranquil golden island of Porto Santo is surrounded by turquoise waters.

The island is made up of a single administrative parish, Vila Baleira, which also serves the islets of Baixo, Cima, Ferro and Fonte de Areia.





# VILA BALEIRA

The city of Vila Baleira is located on the south coast of the island and, together with its beach, offers a captivating landscape to all those who visit. The city's various natural settings include the picturesque town centre, nine kilometres of beach, seaside walking paths, some small peaks and an endless blue sea.

This small town is the ideal place to escape from the stress of everyday life while reaping the therapeutic benefits of the iodine, calcium and magnesium rich sands that help to restore stress and fatigue-related mineral shortages in the human body.

The landscape of Porto Santo is characterized by traditional wooden windmills, some of which are still in active use. These windmills first appeared on the island due to its flatness and exposure to winds from all directions. They had the function of grinding cereals needed to make bread. Vila Baleira is a friendly, safe, clean and tranquil city.

As the lights come on in the evening so too does the night life begin, with visitors and locals coming out to have a drink or one of the famous "lambecas" or ice creams. On Sundays, it is in the churchyard that the population is found, since the city is predominantly Catholic.

Regarding entertainment, there are several hotels, restaurants and bars, not only on the beach but also in the town centre.

In September, the city of Vila Baleira dedicates a week to the navigator Christopher Columbus, who lived in Porto Santo for some years following his marriage to Filipa Moniz, daughter of the first 'Captain Donee' of the island. The Columbus festival takes place in a fun atmosphere, a re-enactment of the Epic period of the Portuguese Discoveries.

# NOT TO BE MISSED!

## 1. Relax on the beach

The beach of Porto Santo stands out for its extensive 9 km of golden sand with therapeutic properties and its azure and inviting water. Don't miss the opportunity to relax in its idyllic scenery bathed by a turquoise sea of indescribable beauty.

## 2. Admire the panoramic view from the Miradouro da Terra Chã

This viewpoint offers a beautiful panoramic view of the city and some of the most emblematic locations of the island of Porto Santo, such as the Ilhéu de Cima and Pico Branco. There is also a path that gives access to the top of Pico Branco, where white urzela lichen (*Roccella sp.*) can be found.

## 3. Discover the windmills of the Miradouro da Portela

This viewpoint located on a palm-lined avenue and surrounded by three windmills offers a view of the entire south coast of the island: to the west, the

beach and Ilhéu da Cal; to the east, the conical form of Pico de Baixo, the Ilhéu de Cima, the harbour and the marina.

## 4. Climb to the top of Pico Castelo

This peak is located 437 metres above sea level and provides an exceptional view of Porto Santo. This is also the location of a small fortress built in the sixteenth century to counter the frequent invasions of French and Algerian pirates. The peak was formed by an old volcanic chimney.

## 5. Admire the unique form of Pico de Ana Ferreira

The irregular prismatic columns of this peak were formed by the slow cooling of magma that had built up deep within the volcanic conduit and are known locally as 'the Piano'. At the summit of Pedreira viewpoint you can observe the islet de Fora, Pico do Facho and Pico do Castelo.

## 6. Climb Pico do Facho, the island's highest point

With an altitude of 516 m, Pico do Facho is the highest point of the island.

In ancient times, torches were lit here to warn the population of enemy ships approaching. It is also possible to walk through the Serra de Fora valley or the extensive Serra de Dentro valley, which is located on the eastern slope of Pico do Facho.



### **7. Visit Fonte da Areia**

In the past, this location was the source of the purest water on the island, with its waters even used for medicinal purposes. As a result, it was considered sacred by its inhabitants. Water no longer runs from Fonte da Areia like in the old days, but the wind erosion has left its trail along the sandy rocks, providing visitors with an incredible legacy. The spot hosts extensive accumulations of carbonated biogenic sandstone, classified as eolianites. The eolianites, whose sandy particles are mostly composed of fragments of mollusc shells and coralline algae, are an inheritance from the marine life that existed here, and are the source of the sand presently found on Porto Santo Beach.

### **8. Visit Calheta**

One of the best ways to enjoy Porto Santo is to walk along the beach from Ponta da Calheta to the marina. Let yourself be carried away by the magical sound of the waves as you contemplate the beach's idyllic beauty.

### **9. Experience the bay of Zimbralinho**

Zimbralinho in the island's north-west is a place of great beauty where you will find a pebble beach bay, a fountain and fantastic turquoise waters. Here you can see underwater volcanic formations known as "pillow lavas".



#### **10. Walk in Morenos**

This pleasant green area, characterised by its coastal cliffs, is an ideal picnic spot and has a beautiful view over the Ferro islet.

#### **11. Admire the Ilhéu de Baixo or the Ilhéu da Cal (islets)**

This islet once formed one of the extremities of the island prior to its separation caused by erosion. Several galleries have been excavated in the limestone along the islet for the archipelago's lime production industry. This material is made up of carbonated marine sediments and fossiliferous coral reefs that formed when the island was submerged.

#### **12. Explore the unique 'Casas de Salão'**

A 'Casa de Salão' is the traditional house of Porto Santo built of mortar, which gives it its particular characteristics of being cool in summer and warm in winter. In the past, the 'Casas de Salão' served as support for agricultural activities.

### 13. Kick up your heels at the Festa de São João

The most anticipated festivities of the year are those celebrated on 23rd and 24th of June and dedicated to the patron saint of the island, St John. The festivities include processions and other typical celebrations of Porto Santo and its people.

### 14. Don't miss the Columbus Festival

Held every September, this festival marks a historic week with music, exhibitions, street performances and medieval decorations. The festival also features a re-enactment of the landing of Columbus and his companions at the city's quay in the form of a historical parade.

Columbus' first contact with Madeira occurred in 1478, when Funchal was involved in the sugar trade, but the most intimate connections were due to his marriage to D. Filipa Moniz, daughter of the first 'Captain Donee' of Porto Santo, with Columbus having lived on the island from 1480 to 1482.

### 15. Visit the Christopher Columbus House Museum

The greatest cultural icon of Porto Santo is the Christopher Columbus House Museum, which marks the presence of the discoverer of America on the island. Here we try to recreate the original environment in which the explorer lived. The House of Columbus is set in two buildings, the older of which dates back to the time when the navigator was on the island. In addition to the exhibition of portraits of Columbus from the 16th

to 20th centuries, there are maps which detail the different routes travelled by the navigator.

### 16. Enjoy the benefits of Thalassotherapy

Pamper yourself with one of the many natural treatments offered by Porto Santo's centre for thalassotherapy ("seawater therapy" in Greek). The beach of Porto Santo stands out for the carbonated properties of its sand which is composed of sediments of corals, shells and sea urchins. Scientifically recognised for its therapeutic properties that help in the treatment of rheumatic and bone diseases, this sand is one of the elements included in the treatments developed by the Centre of Geomedicine of Porto Santo. The sea water of Porto Santo is also used in thalassotherapy treatments due to its high strontium, chromium and iodine content, elements which are beneficial to our health. Similarly, the spring water of this island is also rich in elements essential for the well-being of the human body (such as bicarbonate of soda). Come and visit this centre and relax while taking care of yourself and your health.

### 17. Challenge yourself to a round of golf in Porto Santo

Offering superb views of the serene surrounding landscape and a lovely sea breeze, this course presents unique challenges and optimal all year round conditions for golf.

### **18. Taste the wine of Porto Santo at the Harvest Festival**

Late August is the time of the grape harvest celebrations, when it is possible to sample the different wine varieties cultivated on the island. Don't forget to try the island's delicious local grapes. There is a public wine winery, wine tastings and a lot of music entertainment.

### **19. Visit Porto dos Frades**

Porto dos Frades (Port of the Friars) is located in the north of the island of Porto Santo. It is a quiet location with a beach of crystalline waters situated in a fantastic landscape that has been sculptured by sea and the wind erosion. . Here you will find an old lime factory, a lime kiln and salt pans.

### **20. Admire the Chapel of Nossa Senhora da Graça**

This chapel was built in the 19th century and hosts one of the biggest celebrations of the island of Porto Santo on 14th-15th August, with a Mass followed by a procession in honour of Our Lady of Grace. There is also an outdoor fair with typical stalls where you can enjoy local cuisine. The chapel has a deep connection to the history of the island, as many inhabitants fled here to escape persecution from pirates.





# WALKING TRAILS

## PS PR1 – Vereda do Pico Branco and Terra Chã

**Distance:** 2.7 km (+ 2.7 km return).

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 1h 30m (each way).

**Start / end:** E.R 111 / Terra Chã.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 450 m / 184 m.

This trail leads to a location known for its high quantities of native flora in optimal conditions. Due to the unavailability of water on this footpath, walkers are advised to bring water with them.

Following a path to the top of the Pico Branco, the hiker finds an enormous prismatic geological formation called *Rocha Quebrada*. After climbing to a fault in the rock of *Cabeço do Caranguejo*, the path then follows a predominantly arboreal landscape of Cyprus trees (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) until a bifurcation that leads to Terra-Chã on the right and Pico Branco on the left. Pico Branco, or 'White Peak', owes its name to the existence of a column of white stone and the many white lichen of the urzela species (*Roccella sp.*) which grow there and which were exported from Porto Santo for the production of paints and other related specialist products. Two species of seabirds, the Cory's shearwater (*Calonectris diomedea borealis*) and the Common tern (*Sterna hirundo*) can be observed in

this place. In Terra Chã there is a recently restored stone house which supports the propagation of endemic plants. Below Terra Chã is *Furna dos Homiziados*, a former hiding place for fugitives where, according to history, several people took refuge from the law and from Algerian pirates.

The innumerable natural viewpoints that this path offers allow you to view a large part of the island of Porto Santo. The return is made by the same path.

### PS PR 2 - Vereda do Pico do Castelo

**Distance:** 3.2 km / 4.6 km.

**Difficulty:** Medium.

**Duration:** 1h 30m / 2h 15m.

**Start / end:** Sítio do Moledo / Canhão viewpoint.

**Maximum / Minimum Altitude:** 435 m / 225 m.

This trail features two possible routes: one on the north side and another on the south side of Pico do Facho.

The latter is the longest walking trail on the island of Porto Santo and offers magnificent landscapes and contact with the island's fauna and flora.

From this trail it is possible to witness traces of the old agricultural area and the arduous work involved in building the paired walls, as well as to contemplate the fantastic reforestation efforts on the island. A statue of Antonio Schiappa de Azevedo, a great activist of Porto Santo, is located at the top of Pico Castelo. Exotic tree species have been introduced which, due to their rustic character, are especially resistant, such as the Aleppo pine (*Pinus halepensis*), the Maritime pine (*Pinus*

*pinaster*) and cedar (*Cupressus macrocarpa*).

Native species on the trail range from the dragon tree (*Dracaena draco*), olive trees (*Olea sp*), holm oaks (*Quercus ilex ssp. rotundifolia*), fire trees (*Myrica faya*), heather (*Erica scoparia*) and the flowery Pride of Madeira plant (*Echium nervosum*).

On the track it is also possible to come into contact with the island's fauna, such as Red-legged partridges (*Alectoris rufa*), buzzards (*Buteo buteo*) and other birds of prey, colourful sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) and the impressive Hoopoe (*Upupa epops*).

At the top of Pico Castelo you will find the *Miradouro do Canhão* viewpoint, with views of the city of Vila Baleira and almost the entire length of the island in the background. The name Pico Castelo originates in the fifteenth century and refers to the fort where the population of the island fled when attacked by pirates and Algerians.



# GARDENS AND PARKS

## Quinta das Palmeiras

Located in the western part of the island, this small zoo and botanical garden offers its visitors a large number of plant and bird species as well as luxuriant green spaces.

Paid admission.

Open every day.

Summer opening hours: 10 am to 5 pm.

Winter opening hours: 10 am to 1 pm and 3 pm to 5 pm.

**Estrada das Pedras Vermelhas**

**Sítio dos Linhares**

**Phone. (+351) 291 983 625**

**E-mail:**

**[quintadaspalmeirasportosanto@gmail.com](mailto:quintadaspalmeirasportosanto@gmail.com)**

**[www.facebook.com/quintadaspalmeirasportosanto](https://www.facebook.com/quintadaspalmeirasportosanto)**

## The Avenida Infante D. Henrique Garden

This garden offers the city a vast green space with typical dragon trees, palms and bougainvillea among other plants and flowers. The garden also features the bust of navigator Christopher Columbus and two playgrounds.





## NATURE RESERVE

The Network of Protected Marine Areas of Porto Santo is made up of its six surrounding islets, including the islets: Ilhéu das Cenouras, Ilhéu da Cal, Ilhéu do Farol, Ilhéu de Fora, Ilhéu da Fonte da Areia and Ilhéu do Ferro, and also by the marine areas surrounding Ilhéu da Cal and Ilhéu de Cima. Also included is the wreck site of the ship “Madeirense”. The islets feature coastal vegetation with important traces of Macaronesian coastal flora. There is also abundant and diverse marine fauna, making it an exceptional diving site.

# BEACHES AND POOLS

## **The Natural pools of Salemas**

Salemas beach is located near Porto das Salemas in a small and beautiful cove formed by small natural pools, making it well worth a visit.

## **Calheta Beach**

Located to the south-west of Porto Santo, Calheta beach is where the long Porto Santo beach ends and is naturally rockier. This beach features beautiful views of the landscape of the islet Ilhéu da Cal. It has therapeutic sands and its warm waters offer ideal swimming conditions. Due to its location, this beach is more private. There are showers and toilet facilities.

## **Cabeço da Ponta Beach**

Located about 4 km from the centre of Vila Baleira, Cabeço da Ponta Beach is visited mainly by tourists who know about the therapeutic effect of its sands. This beach is located in an area with several large hotels, thus providing excellent accommodation

choices and various leisure activities.

There is public parking available at the beach. Facilities available to users include surf rescue, lifeboat services and a first-aid station.

## **Fontinha Beach**

Fontinha beach begins at Cais Velho and ends at the Torre Praia hotel, bordering the beach of Pedras Pretas. This beach is visited mostly by locals and visitors captivated by the hours of sunshine and the beauty of the beach. Its fine sand is known for its scientifically proven therapeutic properties and is ideal for the treatment of rheumatic and orthopaedic problems. This beach holds Blue Flag accreditation and has parking facilities, toilets, showers, lockers, a restaurant area, umbrellas, lounge chairs and a first aid station.

## **Pedras Pretas Beach**

Pedras Pretas or 'Black Stone' Beach has a family atmosphere and is mostly frequented by people who live in that area.

This beach is located in the area of the same name and is known for the purity and temperature of its waters. Pedras Pretas Beach has surf rescue services, a first aid station, a bar and a shower on the small esplanade.

## **Ribeiro Cochinho Beach**

Ribeiro Cochinho is a quiet beach near the Vila Baleira hotel.



### **Ribeiro Salgado Beach**

Ribeiro Salgado Beach is located in front of Hotel Pestana Porto Santo. The therapeutic qualities of its sands are ideal for rheumatic and orthopaedic problems. Ribeiro Salgado Beach is about 100 metres long. Beach access is via a wooden walkway that also connects the beach to the hotel gardens.

This beach features a range of facilities above the dunes including toilets, a bar and terrace offering beautiful panoramic views of the Atlantic Ocean.

### **Cotrim Beach**

Cotrim Beach is located in Porto dos Frades, in the northern part of the island of Porto Santo. It is a quiet location with a beach of crystalline waters situated in a fantastic landscape that has been sculptured by sea and the wind erosion. Here you will find an old lime factory, a lime kiln and salt pans. There are no shower facilities.

# ACTIVE TOURISM

Porto Santo offers various activities to keep you active during your vacation. From golf, water sports, diving, sport fishing or even walking tours, there will be no shortage of choices to suit your style and preferences.

## **Porto Santo Golf Course**

This Golf Course was designed by former world champion Severiano Ballesteros and opened in 2004. It offers an 18-hole par 72 circuit and another 9-hole par 3 'Pitch and Putt' course which is easily covered in about an hour. The course occupies a vast area which offers players spectacular views of the north and south coasts of the island.

### **Sítio das Marinhas**

**Phone: (+351) 291 983 778**

**[www.portosantogolfe.com](http://www.portosantogolfe.com)**

## **Porto Santo Marina**

Located about 40 miles from the island of Madeira, the Porto Santo marina and shipyard are situated in the harbour about 3 km from the



city centre. The marina has a pontoon docking capacity of 140 places. All mooring stations are equipped with water and an electricity supply system. There are also toilets, showers, a laundry, a workshop, a reception desk and boat repair services.

**Marina do Porto Santo — Vila Baleira**  
**Estrada Jorge Moura Caldeira de Freitas**  
**Phone: (+351) 291 980 180**  
**www.apram.pt**

### **Sport fishing**

Porto Santo has gained an international reputation as a first-class destination for deep sea fishing. Given the abundance and quality of local tuna species, these islands are the ideal place to catch huge swordfish weighing up to more than 500 kg.

### **Diving**

Porto Santo has long been visited by lovers of diving because of the transparency and temperature of its waters. The location most popular with divers is in the southern section of the harbour. This is the wreck site of the 'Madeirense' ship, which for decades linked the islands of Porto Santo and Madeira, and has attracted lovers of diving since 2000. In July 2016, the Portuguese Navy warship the 'General Pereira d'Eça' was sunk about two nautical miles from the Madeirense at 30 metres depth in order to create an artificial reef and further attract divers.

### **Porto Santo Naval Club**

Founded in 1982, this club is dedicated to water sports such as sailing, canoeing and organises periodic regattas and other events. Kayaking, sailing, swimming and standup paddleboarding are other activities provided by this association.

### **Stand Up Paddle**

Stand Up Paddle (also known as SUP) allows you to enjoy the relaxing aquatic experience of this sport while also appreciating the beauty of the landscape. With sufficient wind, windsurfing and kite surfing are also available.

### **Tennis**

The island of Porto Santo offers an excellent tennis court complex. Located on the Campo de Baixo site next to the golf course, the complex is equipped with all the equipment required for high-level tournaments. It consists of a main stadium, which has benches for 1,000 spectators, five secondary courts and two other paddle tennis courts.

Open every day from 10 am to 1 pm and 3 pm to 8 pm.

**Porto Santo Ténis — Campo de Baixo**

**Phone: (+351) 291 983 274**

**E-mail:**

**mjose@sociedadesdesenvolvimento.com**

### Other activities

Another option is to take an all terrain Jeep tour, venturing across the island of Porto Santo. There are also good conditions to do hang gliding and paragliding, with good spots for takeoff on the peaks and landing on the beach. The golden sand and the translucent blue of the sea make flying sports an attractive proposition for everyone.

As Porto Santo is quite a flat island, cycling is a popular way of exploring it. Rent a bike and discover every magical corner of the island.





# MUSEUMS AND MONUMENTS

## Church of Nossa Senhora da Piedade

One of the main monuments is the Parish Church, also called Church of Nossa Senhora da Piedade, located in Largo do Pelourinho in the city.

This church was set ablaze on several occasions by pirates and other privateers that disembarked in the island. Preserved in its interior is a beautiful altar and canvases by artists Martim Conrado and Max Romer, whose artistic beauty awakens the attention of all who visit. The Feast of Our Lady of Mercy is celebrated at the end of August and includes traditional music, bands and local cuisine.

## Chapel of Nossa Senhora da Graça

Built before 1533, this hermitage is one of the oldest temples in Porto Santo. Destroyed in the year 1812, it was rebuilt in 1951. Closely linked to the history of the island, many of the inhabitants took refuge there to escape persecution by pirates.

## Chapel of Espírito Santo

The Chapel of Espírito Santo, located in Campo de Baixo, dates from the 17th century and was rebuilt in the first

quarter of the 19th century. It is a Mannerist chapel with a simple façade and a bell tower. Inside, it features 16th century Flemish paintings of the “Last Supper”.

## Chapel of São Pedro

The 17th century Chapel of São Pedro, also located in Campo de Baixo, is of a Mannerist and Baroque style. The baroque altarpiece gilded and carved wood in its interior stands out, as does the vaulted wooden ceiling of the chancel decorated with paintings.

## São José Fort

The old São José fort is in the upper part of the city and is formed by a line of eight small iron cannons that once served to defend the island. Its construction has undergone profound changes since the start of the seventeenth century.

## Municipal Palace

Located in the centre of the city, this building, also called the “Casa Comunal”, has the peculiar history of having once been a jail. The origin of its construction dates back to the 16th century, although it has since undergone changes.

## Monument to the Discoveries

Popularly known as the *Pau de Sabão*, or ‘Bar of Soap’, this monument has an imposing quadrangular form on each side of which there are reliefs making reference to the discoveries of the time of Prince Henry of Portugal. This work by António Aragão was unveiled



in 1960 and is located in Alameda do Infante. The Promenade of Porto Santo begins next to the Monument.

### **Christopher Columbus House Museum**

The House of Columbus is set in two buildings, the older of which dates back to the early 16th century and retains two Gothic windows. The house is divided into two floors: the ground floor houses a shop and a temporary exhibition room, while the first floor has three thematic exhibition rooms. The first room is dedicated to the Portuguese Maritime Expansion and presents the strategic position of Porto Santo in that context. The second room is related to the importance of the Spanish crown in world expansion and as the financier of Christopher Columbus' 1492 expedition. The third room is dedicated to the Dutch colonial empire, including part of that which was recovered from a Dutch East India Company galleon, "Slot ter Hooge", which sunk north of the island of Porto Santo in 1724. Paid admission.

Winter opening hours: Open Monday and Wednesday to Saturday from 10 am to 12.30pm and from 2 pm to 5.30 pm. Sunday from 10 am to 1pm. Closed on Tuesday and public holidays  
Summer opening hours (July to September) daily from Monday to Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm. Sundays from 10 am to 1 pm. Closed on public holidays.

**2-4, Travessa da Sacristia**  
**9400-176 Porto Santo**  
**Phone: (+351) 291 983 405**  
**E-mail: [casacolombo.drac@gov-madeira.pt](mailto:casacolombo.drac@gov-madeira.pt)**  
**[www.museucolombo-portosanto.com](http://www.museucolombo-portosanto.com)**

### **The Jorge Brum do Canto Museum**

This museum opened in the centre of Vila Baleira on 2nd July, 2016. It was established following the donation of a set of private collectibles (66 objects) and a documentary collection (268 documents | 2651 documentary pieces) relating to the life and work of Portuguese director and actor Jorge Brum do Canto, who had strong roots in the Archipelagos of Madeira and the Azores. These include a portrait of Dr. Luiz Henriques, the first director of the 19th century Medical-Surgical School of Madeira, a portrait of Jorge Brum do Canto “in the role of Mouzinho in the film Chaimite” (authored by C. Bielmaer, dated 1953); Honorary Orders attributed to Jorge Brum do Canto, one with the insignia of the Grade of Grand Cross of the Order of Prince Henry of Portugal (attributed posthumously on 9th June, 1994), and another with the insignia of the rank of Officer of the Order of St. James of the Sword (10th March, 1967); and finally a plaster sculpture of Jorge Brum do Canto (by sculptor Júlio de Sousa), a diverse range of cinematographic material, photographs and award trophies.

**Rua Dr. Nuno Silvestre Teixeira**  
**9400-162 Porto Santo**

## **OTHER ATTRACTIONS**

### **Handicraft Centre**

Located next to the city’s wharf between the Infante D. Henrique Garden and the Praça do Barqueiro, the centre is dedicated to the commercial supply of artisanal products of the archipelago, including palm-woven hats, cane reed baskets, figurative clay sculptures and small pieces made with shells.

**Av. Dr. Manuel Gregório Pestana Júnior**  
**Phone: (+351) 291 985 244**

### **Porto Santo Cultural Centre**

Located in the centre of the city of Vila Baleira, the centre offers modern infrastructure for the holding of meetings, concerts and film screenings.

The Cultural Centre features an auditorium with capacity for 300 people, an exhibition area, rooms for presentations, meetings and workshops and includes the support of bars and multipurpose rooms. It also has a shopping area and a car park.

Open: Monday to Friday from 9 am to 12:30 pm and 2 pm to 5:30 pm.

**Rua Dr. Nuno Silvestre Teixeira**  
**9400-162 Funchal**

**Phone: (+351) 291 980 600**

**E-mail: [geral@sociedadesdesenvolvimento.com](mailto:geral@sociedadesdesenvolvimento.com)**



# TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICES

## **Porto Santo Tourist Information Office**

Open: Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5:30 pm and Saturday from 10 am to 12:30 pm.

**Centro de Artesanato**  
**Av. Dr. Manuel Gregório Pestana Júnior**  
**9400-171 Porto Santo**  
**Phone: (+351) 291 985 244**

# USEFUL INFORMATION

Before planning your trip, find out about how to get to the Madeira archipelago, what legal documents are required, customs formalities and health precautions to be taken.

## **Air transport connections**

There are two airports in the Madeira Archipelago: Porto Santo Airport, on the island of Porto Santo, and Madeira International Airport, on the island of Madeira. Each offers regular international connections with several destinations. The duration of daily connecting flights between the cities of Lisbon and Funchal is around 1h 25m. Daily connections between the islands of the archipelago take about 15 minutes. For more information, go to: <http://www.visitmadeira.pt/en-gb/getting-here/travelling-to-madeira>

## **Sea transport connections**

Frequently visited by cruise ships, the ports of Funchal and Porto Santo serve as points of arrival and departure to other destinations. The daily ferry connections between the islands take about 2h 30m, transporting people, goods and vehicles. For more information, go to:

<http://www.visitportosanto.pt/en-gb/getting-around/getting-around/porto-santo/transport/maritime-connections>

## **Port of Funchal International Maritime Passenger Terminal**

Integrated into the cruise ship circuit between Madeira and the Canary Islands, North Africa and the Mediterranean, this state of the art Cruise Tourism infrastructure is located 15 minutes on foot from the city centre. It is also an important port of call for transoceanic travel. The daily ferry connections between the islands take about 2h 30m, transporting people, goods and vehicles.

## **Porto Moniz harbour**

On the north coast, Porto Moniz harbour offers a 120 metre jetty and a heliport.

## **Seixal harbour**

Seixal harbour allows for the mooring of fishing boats and other small boats.

## **Caniçal Commercial Port**

On the south-east coast, the Caniçal Commercial Port is the main port infrastructure handling commercial cargoes. In addition to the container dock, there is also a 400 metre long pier.

### **Machico harbour**

A small harbour built in the bay of the city of Machico can receive small and medium sized boats.

### **Porto Santo harbour**

Porto Santo harbour meets all requirements to receive small and large ships. It is in this harbour that the 'Lobo Marinho' ferry makes its daily connection between the island of Porto Santo and the island of Madeira. People from all over the world arriving on cruises at the island of Porto Santo make their stop in this port. Recreational vessels can dock in the protected Porto Santo marina.

### **Roads**

Travel on the islands is greatly facilitated by the modern road infrastructure implemented in recent years. The island of Madeira also enjoys a good public transport network, with regular services from Funchal taking visitors to any point on the island.

## **BUS ROUTES**

### **Funchal**

**Horários do Funchal e Interurbanos**

**Phone: (+351) 291 705 555**

**[www.horariosdofunchal.pt](http://www.horariosdofunchal.pt)**

### **East Madeira**

**SAM – Sociedade de Automóveis da Madeira**

**Phone: (+351) 291 201 150**

**[www.sam.pt](http://www.sam.pt)**

### **Airport bus**

There is an Airport bus service that runs regular daily connections between Madeira Airport and Funchal, with several stops near major hotels.

**<http://www.sam.pt/informacoes-aerobus.html>**

**Empresa de Automóveis do Caniço**

**Phone: (+351) 291 222 558**

**[www.eacl.pt](http://www.eacl.pt)**

### **West Madeira**

**Rodoeste**

**Phone: (+351) 291 220 148**

**[www.rodoeste.pt](http://www.rodoeste.pt)**

### **TÁXIS**

Taxis can be found at the airports on Madeira and Porto Santo, in the main hotels and on various streets and squares of the cities of Funchal and Vila Baleira, as well as in the remaining municipa-

lities of the island of Madeira. On weekdays, between 9 pm and 6 am and throughout the day on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, an additional 20% is charged on the taximeter.

**Associação dos Industriais de Táxi da RAM**

**Phone: (+351) 291 765 760 / 779**

**[www.aitram.pt](http://www.aitram.pt)**

### **RENT-A-CAR**

For those who prefer to use car rental services, this is possible from one of the several rent-a-car agencies available at the airports of Madeira and Porto Santo airport in the cities of Funchal and Vila Baleira, as well as in other large towns on Madeira.

**<http://www.visitmadeira.pt/en-gb/getting-around/detail/madeira/transport/car-rental>**

### **Legal documents**

Visitors from the European Union subject to the Schengen Agreement can enter freely. If you are not subject to this agreement, according to Portuguese law you will need a valid passport and, in some cases, an official visa for entry.

### **Customs Formalities**

While there are no limits on outward-bound articles, if you are carrying a quantity that seems excessive to customs officials, you may be asked to prove that the items being transported are for personal consumption.

### **Vaccination and health precautions**

No vaccines are required before travelling to the archipelago.

Emergency care in public hospitals is free for citizens of the European Union and private health care services are available for visitors from other nationalities. There are 67 health centres across the island of Madeira and 1 in Porto Santo. There are 2 public hospitals in Funchal.

### **Pharmacies**

Pharmacies are open Monday to Friday from 9 am to 1 pm and 3 pm to 7 pm and on Saturdays from 9 am to 1 pm. There are also some 24 hour pharmacies available.

### **Shopping centres**

Shopping centres are located in various parts of the city of Funchal. There are 3 large Shopping Centres: La Vie (Rua Dr. Brito da Câmara, no. 9); Fórum Madeira (Estrada Monumental, no. 390) and Madeira Shopping (Caminho de Santa Quitéria, no. 45). In addition to a wide range of shops, these centres also have supermarkets, car parks and in some cases cinemas screening movies in their original languages.

### **Communications**

Sophisticated information and communication technologies are widely available in the region. The international dialling code for the archipelago is 00351.

### **Wi-Fi**

Wi-Fi Madeira provides wireless internet access in public places in several districts of the region. A list of public wi-fi hotspots is available on the Wi-Fi Madeira website. <http://www.wifi-madeira.com>

### **Phones**

You will find public telephone booths scattered along the main streets of the larger towns. Some of them only accept telephone cards that can be purchased in cafés, tobacconists and post offices. To call abroad you must dial 00, followed by the desired country code.

### **Time zone**

Madeira follows the GMT EU directives for time-keeping. Clocks are set one hour forward on the last Sunday, in March and set back one hour on the last Sunday, in October, in accordance to the European Union standards.

### **Water and electricity**

The electric current in the archipelago is 220V. Madeira has excellent drinking quality water. Water on the island of Porto Santo is desalinated.

### **Banks and Shopping schedules**

Banks are open Monday to Friday from 8.30 am to 3 pm.

Currency exchange offices are open every day from 9 am to 1 pm and 2 pm to 7 pm, except Saturdays when they are open from 9 am to 7 pm.

### **Police**

If you require police assistance, call 112. The police station in Funchal offers a lost and found service.

### **Security**

The islands of the archipelago present a safe place to spend holidays. With the observance of minimal precautions and common sense, you are unlikely to encounter any problems here. Most hotels have safety deposit boxes or other places where valuables can be stored.

### **Firefighters**

In the event of fire, call Municipal Firefighter Service in Funchal or the Volunteer Firefighter Service.

# WALKING TRAILS

## Safety rules on 'levadas' and walking trails

Most of these routes are in mountainous areas surrounded by nature, so it is very important to be adequately prepared before beginning a hike so as to avoid any danger. The following are some rules to be followed at all times:

- Stay on the footpath.
- Avoid making excessive noise and other behaviours that disturb the environment.
- Do not collect or damage plants.
- Do not disturb animals.
- Do not leave any rubbish behind you.
- No open fires are permitted.
- Do not throw cigarette butts on the ground. Save them and put them in a bin.
- Do not destroy or modify safety or other signs.
- Never walk alone. Always walk with other people.
- Ensure you have up-to-date information about the status of the footpath prior to departure and always take a torch.

- Always tell someone about which walking trail you are planning to take and your expected time of arrival.
- Be sure to leave yourself enough time to complete your walk before nightfall.
- Always bring some food and extra water.
- Wear appropriate clothing and footwear in the mountains
- Use sunscreen.
- If possible, carry a mobile phone.
- Do not hike in the event of heavy rain and wind. If already on the trail, return the same way you have come immediately.
- Do not take risks.

# USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

## Emergency

112

## Civil Protection:

(+351) 291 700 112





Direção Regional do Turismo  
Av. Arriaga, 18, 9004-519  
Funchal - Madeira

Ph.: +351 291 211 900  
F: +351 291 232 151  
[www.visitmadeira.pt](http://www.visitmadeira.pt)  
[info.srtc@madeira.gov.pt](mailto:info.srtc@madeira.gov.pt)