



# Terceira

## The Lilac Island

**Area:** 382 sq. km  
**Length:** 29 km (18 miles)  
**Width:** 17.5 km (11 miles)  
**Population:** 56,000 inhabitants  
**Capital:** Angra do Heroísmo



Elliptic in shape, Terceira covers an area of 382 sq.km, is 29km at its longest and 17.5km at its widest. The island is a plateau, with the Serra do Cume to the east, the Serra do Labacal in the centre (rising to 808m), and the Serra da Santa Barbara (rising to 1,021m) to the west.

Angra do Heroísmo, with its origins in the late 15th century, has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is a picture book town of imposing townhouses and cobbled streets seemingly untouched by time. The best views of this once prosperous trading centre are from the 1,205m high Monte Brasil across the harbour. The west coast harbours a host of villages and the wilder, centre of the island is ideal for walks.

Praia da Vitoria, to the east, with its sandy beach is a charming small town and, inland, the views from the 500m high point of the Serra do Cume, over the gigantic quilt made up of green pastures separated by black volcanic stone walls, quite breathtaking.



Angra do Heroísmo

Terceira caters for all interests from golf, to exploring volcanoes, to walking, to swimming in natural rock pools and to visiting the sixty eight 19th century 'Imperias', (small chapels to the Holy Spirit), which are scattered throughout the island.

Then there are the colourful festivals and street bullfights (they pad the bulls' horns and bulls are never killed) where the only casualty is young men's wounded pride.

## Highlights

- **Algar do Carvão**  
Formed by several caves, and about 100m depth, this underground lava tube has plenty of stalactites and stalagmites. A visit is included when booking an island tour.
- **Verdelho wine**  
Taste the locally made Verdelho – a sweet aperitif wine. You can also visit the wine museum at Biscoitos where the production of Verdelho is housed.
- **Viewpoints**  
Climb the heights of the botanical garden in Angra do Heroísmo, to the Miradouro of Memory, for a wonderful view over the capital and Monte Brasil. The woods of Mata da Serreta, Serra do Cume and Pico Alto offer excellent panoramas of the island.
- **Handicrafts**  
Clay and wicker works, embroidered linen and colourful weaved bed spreads are traditionally made on Terceira.

## Festivals

- Espírito Santo (7 weeks after Easter)
- Tourada a Corda (May-Oct)
- Sao Joaninas (24th June is the high point of this 10 day festival)
- Santo Cristo (early August) – boat races, bullfights and cultural events
- Praia da Vitoria (2nd week of August) – Gastronomic fair
- Angrajazz (1st weekend of October)
- Ramo Grande Festival (end Oct / early Nov) – World music

**Note:** Dates are subject to change.

## Activities (page 32)

- Golf
- Island tours
- Natural rock swimming pools
- Scuba diving



# What to see and do on Terceira

Terceira is an island of contrasts. There are picturesque villages, interesting museums, wild countryside, volcanic caverns and the beautiful UNESCO town of Angra do Heroísmo. Sunvil are able to pre-book a range of excursions, which will enable you to derive maximum benefit from your visit.

## Island Tours

Sunvil is able to pre-book the following private taxi tours on Terceira. Tours can also be tailor-made to suit the individual requirements of our clients, please telephone us for a quotation.

### Full day

Depart from Angra do Heroísmo by the south coast to Praia da Vitoria, passing en route the villages of Porto Judeu and Porto Martins. In the afternoon continue to Serra do Cume from where you can enjoy a panoramic view over the green fields enclosed by stone walls and hydrangeas to the town of Praia da Vitoria. Return to Angra do Heroísmo, visiting Algar do Carvão (Jun-Sep only) and via Biscoitos with its wine museum and natural swimming pools.

From Angra do Heroísmo

**Price is £136 per taxi**

From Praia da Vitoria

**Price is £159 per taxi**

### Half day

Depart from Angra do Heroísmo to Monte Brasil for a view over the town, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Continue to Biscoitos for a visit of the wine museum and the natural swimming pools. Return to Angra do Heroísmo via the villages of Doze Ribeiras and Sao Mateus.

From Angra do Heroísmo

**Price is £81 per taxi**

From Praia da Vitoria

**Price is £102 per taxi**

**Notes** ■ Prices are based on a maximum of 3 people per taxi ■ Lunch and entrance fees to museums and parks are not included ■ Itineraries are subject to change.

## Tourada a Corda

Experience the thrill of the bull running through the streets of towns and villages. The bulls have their horns padded and are not killed in the Azores. This colourful festival runs from 1st May to 15th October throughout the island. Should you wish to see one of the oldest pastimes of the archipelago – the first recorded event took place in Angra do Heroísmo in 1622, then the local hotels and Tourist office can provide the latest details of the location and times of the bull running during your stay.

**Note:** The bull running usually takes place between 20th to 25th of each month.



## Golf

The golf course is located between the towns of Praia da Vitoria and Angra do Heroísmo. Affording rural views over the beautiful pastures of Serra do Cume, a number of small lakes and fairways flanked by trees this course has much to offer golfers of any ability.

### Praia da Vitoria

■ 18 holes ■ Par 72 ■ Required handicap: 28 Men / 36 Women ■ Clubhouse with bar, restaurant and pro-shop ■ Driving range, a putting green, chipping and pitching green, golf simulator and golf clinic ■ Soft spike shoes on the courses are obligatory.

**Prices:** Green time at Terceira Island Golf Club can be arranged by our agent locally. Daily green fees are between 30-56 Euros per person.

### Note

■ SATA International and TAP Portugal allow one golf bag per person, free of charge, in excess to the standard luggage allowance of 20kg.

## Diving

Take a dip in to the deep waters off Terceira at the fully equipped PADI dive centre based at the Hotel do Caracol, Angra do Heroísmo (see page 35).

- Open daily all year.
- Suitable for all – from complete beginner to the most experienced, with shore and boat dives.
- Minimum age of 16yrs applies to all PADI programmes except for the Discover scuba course which is 8yrs.
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- Medical certificates confirming fitness to dive is required for certain courses – details on request.
- Dives are limited to 40 metres and a maximum group size of 6.
- Sunvil's insurance covers dives up to a depth of 18m only. For those wishing to dive deeper than 18m please advise us at the time of purchasing the Sunvil insurance.

■ **This activity is bookable locally through the Hotel do Caracol.**



## Hotel Angra Garden, Angra do Heroísmo

Airport: 24km Lajes

■ 3-star hotel ■ Bed & Breakfast ■ Swimming pool ■ Air-conditioning

The Hotel Angra Garden is centrally located in the historic town of Angra do Heroísmo. This modern city hotel was in fact the first hotel (in 1968) to offer accommodation to visitors on Terceira. The hotel is ideally located opposite the main square of 'Praca Vehla' and adjacent and overlooking the Botanical gardens, from which there is a path that leads uphill (well worth the effort) to the 'Miradouro of Memory' with excellent views over the town of Angra.

### Accommodation

120 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms, triple rooms, executive rooms, one-bedroom junior suites and a two bedroom duplex suite ■ All rooms with bathroom (bath and/or shower), hairdryer, telephone, cable TV and minibar.

### Standard rooms (sleep 2)

Twin or double bed, bathroom (bath & shower, 4 with shower only) and view of botanical gardens, square or side street.

### Triple rooms (sleep 3)

Three beds, bathroom (bath & shower) writing desk and view of the inner courtyard.

### Executive rooms (sleep 2)

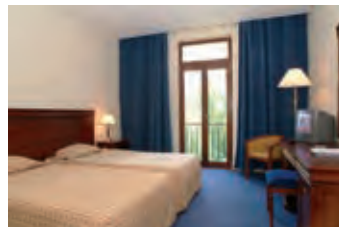
Larger in size than the standard rooms, Executive rooms have a queen-size bed, bathroom (bath & shower) and view of the main square.

### 1-bedroom junior suites (sleep 2+2)

Ground floor: Living room with double sofa bed (for adults) & bathroom (shower). First floor: Twin/double bed and bathroom (bath & shower). View of the square.

### 2-bedroom duplex suite (sleep 4)

Ground floor: Double bedroom (king size



bed), living room with French balcony (view of square) and bathroom (bath & shower). First floor: Double bedroom and bathroom (shower).

### Amenities/Leisure

Buffet breakfast ■ Restaurant serving international cuisine (à la carte menu – evening only) facing the botanical garden ■ Banqueting room ■ Bar/TV lounge serving snacks ■ Small reading room ■ Terrace with panoramic views over Angra do Heroísmo to the ocean and Monte Brasil ■ Internet connection at reception (c.3 Euros for 15 minutes) ■ Safe at reception (free of charge) ■ Lift ■ Health suite with indoor heated swimming pool (5 x 10m) – pool towels provided and gym, Jacuzzi, sauna and Turkish bath (payable locally) ■ Free access to the botanical garden (gates close at 23:00 in summer/18:00 in winter) ■ Street parking (metred).

## Hotel Terceira Mar, Angra do Heroísmo

Airport: 24km Lajes

■ 4-star hotel ■ Bed & Breakfast ■ Swimming pools ■ Air-conditioning

The Hotel Terceira Mar is situated on the oceanfront with wonderful views across the bay to Monte Brasil. This spacious hotel is full of light and has comfortable lounges and common areas overlooking the ocean. It is the perfect base for a stay in this UNESCO listed world heritage town of considerable character, the centre of which is only a 20-minute walk.

### Accommodation

139 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms, triple rooms, junior suites (king size bed) and a senior suite, all with bathroom (bath & shower – 2 rooms with shower only), hairdryer, cable TV, safe deposit box, telephone, WIFI internet connection (payable locally c.3 Euros per hour and c.20 Euros per day), minibar and ocean view ■ Most rooms have a balcony (11 rooms do not) ■ Six rooms interconnect ■ Standard rooms can accommodate an extra bed for a child ■ Junior suites have a double bedroom, small living area with sofa bed suitable for a child, bay windows and balcony with ocean view ■ The senior suite can accommodate an extra bed for a child and has a double bedroom, separate living room and balcony with ocean view.



### Amenities/Leisure

Buffet breakfast ■ Panoramic restaurant with open-air terrace dining (buffet service) ■ Bar/Lounge with ocean view and terrace ■ Games room (snooker – c.5 Euros per hour, chess, draughts and backgammon) ■ WIFI internet connection c.3 Euros per hour or c.20 Euros per day ■ Gift shop ■ Enormous 800 square metre outdoor swimming pool (salt-water) open all year – pool towels provided ■ Children's pool ■ Pool bar open in summer ■ Indoor heated swimming pool (4 x 15m) ■ Fitness centre with sauna, Turkish bath, Jacuzzi and fully equipped gym (free of charge) and aqua gym, beautician, masseur and hairdresser (local charge) ■ 3 Lifts ■ 2 tennis courts (local charge c.10 Euros per hour) ■ Large sea front lawned garden ■ Free parking ■ Sea swimming off the rocks ■ 1km to Angra town centre.

### Special Offer

■ Early booking discount applicable for reservations made 60 days or more prior to departure.



Natural rock pool



Monte Brasil

## Quinta das Mercês, Sao Mateus

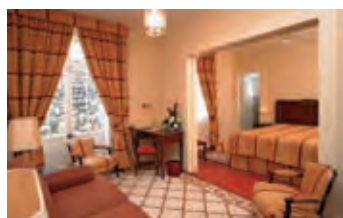
Airport: 22km Lajes

■ Manor House (4-star equivalent) ■ Bed & Breakfast ■ Swimming pool  
■ Air-conditioning ■ Car hire recommended

Positioned in the protected area of Monte Brasil and only a short distance from Sao Mateus fishing village (1km), this beautifully restored 18th century Manor House is the perfect base for a peaceful stay on the island. Set within a 35,000 square metre estate, the Quinta das Mercês has been lovingly restored to its original splendour by the owners Mr & Mrs Raiano. Offering in our opinion the highest standard of accommodation on Terceira, the property has been tastefully decorated throughout in a style that reflects the elegance of the property and the warmth of hospitality received by guests. Although boasting the facilities expected of a 4-star hotel, the Quinta das Mercês offers much more - a home from home. Highly recommended!

### Accommodation

12 air-conditioned (ceiling fans) rooms and a suite ■ All the rooms are traditionally furnished with bathroom (bath & shower), hairdryer, telephone, internet connection and cable TV ■ 3 rooms have a private garden ■ 3 rooms face the inner courtyard ■ 2 rooms have a garden view ■ 2 rooms have a side ocean view and will accommodate an extra bed for a child ■ The suite (sleep 2) has sliding doors between the double bedroom and living room and access to a private garden.



### Amenities/Leisure

Buffet breakfast room – during summer breakfast may be taken outside in the courtyard ■ Bar ■ Various TV lounges and reading rooms ■ Library ■ 24-hour self service tea/coffee facilities ■ Safe deposit box at reception ■ Enclosed gardens with stone seating areas and 35,000 square metres of forest with walking trails (5km walks) ■ Infinity saltwater swimming pool (14 x 9m) open all year – pool towels provided ■ Astroturf tennis court (c.8 Euros per hour if equipment required) ■ Chapel ■ Gym ■ Jacuzzi and Turkish bath (c.5 Euros per person) ■ Games room (snooker, billiards, table tennis, table football – free of charge) ■ Putting green ■ Bicycle hire (c.750 Euros for 3 hours) ■ Fishing equipment (c.750 Euros for 3 hours) ■ Kayaks (c.25 Euros for 3 hours – max. 2 people) ■ 30-minutes walk to Angra do Heroismo (3km) ■ Closest restaurants in Sao Mateus (1km) ■ The coastal road runs between the grounds of the Quinta das Mercês and the sea ■ Free parking.

### Special Offers

- Stay 6 nights pay 5 nights between 01Nov11-31May12 and 01-31Oct12.
- Honeymoon couples staying a minimum of 3 nights receive fruit and flowers in their room on arrival.
- Honeymoon couples staying a minimum of 4 nights receive a complimentary bottle of sparkling wine, fruit and flowers in their room on arrival.
- Honeymoon couples staying a minimum of 5 nights receive a complimentary evening meal (drinks excluded) and an upgrade to a suite (subject to availability).





Angra do Heroísmo

## Hotel do Caracol, Angra do Heroísmo

Airport: 24km Lajes

■ 4-star hotel ■ Bed & Breakfast ■ Swimming pools ■ Air-conditioning

The Hotel do Caracol is well situated on the western side of Angra do Heroísmo (25-minutes walk) and enjoys excellent views across the bay towards Monte Brasil (1,205m high). This stylish hotel, which has adopted an almost nautical theme in its choice of colours and design, is perfectly suited for both couples and families alike. A wide choice of leisure facilities and sporting activities make it the ideal choice for an extended stay on the island. The hotel offers the services of a true 4-star property and will make any stay well worth the visit – recommended.

### Accommodation

100 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms, junior suites, standard suites and senior suites ■ All rooms have a bathroom (bath and/or shower), hairdryer, telephone, cable TV, complimentary WIFI internet connection, minibar, safe deposit box and balcony with view of the ocean or gardens ■ All the junior suites and suites are duplex units ■ The junior suites have a bedroom, bathroom (bath & shower) and a living room with garden view ■ The standard suites have a bedroom, two bathrooms (bath & shower, one with shower only) and living room with balcony and ocean



view ■ The senior suites have two bedrooms, two bathrooms (bath & shower, one with shower only) and a living room with balcony and ocean view.

### Amenities/Leisure

Buffet breakfast ■ Panoramic restaurant with ocean view serving Portuguese and International cuisine (à la carte) ■ Bar with ocean view serving snacks ■ Several lounges ■ Complimentary WIFI internet connection in the public areas ■ First floor bar and terrace with ocean and garden views ■ Occasional musical recitals on Saturday nights ■ Shop selling local handicrafts, clothing and souvenirs ■ Outdoor salt water swimming pool in the shape of a semi-circle (12 x 20m) open all year ■ Pool bar in summer ■ 2 Lifts ■ Wellness centre with indoor heated swimming pool (6 x 9m) – swimming cap required, fully equipped gym (with instructor), one squash court (payable locally), Jacuzzi, sauna and Turkish bath (free of charge) & Thalgo beauty centre offering various marine treatments and a physical therapy room ■ Public tennis court within 800 metres ■ Free parking ■ PADI 5-star dive centre (bookable locally).



Praia da Vitoria

## Hotel Praia Marina, Praia da Vitoria

Airport: 5km Lajes

■ 4-star hotel ■ Bed & Breakfast ■ Air-conditioning

The town of Praia da Vitoria, on the northwest coast of Terceira, is a delightful little community with a good choice of shops and restaurants including an excellent fish restaurant 'Pescador', considered one of the finest on the island. This 4-star property occupies a prime position within the town of Praia da Vitoria, opposite a sandy, blue flag beach 50 metres from the main square, and offers guests the luxury of a hotel with the amenities of a self-catering apartment. The public areas and bedrooms are of a high standard with modern furnishings. The studios, apartments and suites enjoy the addition of a fully equipped kitchenette. The property will suit both couples and families alike – recommended.

### Accommodation

All the units are air-conditioned and have complimentary WIFI internet connection ■ Daily linen change and cleaning.

### Six Standard rooms (sleep 2)

All with bathroom (bath, shower and hairdryer), cable TV, telephone, WIFI internet connection, safe deposit box and town view.

### Fourteen Studios (sleep 2+2)

Open-plan studios with bathroom (bath, shower and hairdryer), living room with double sofa bed, cable TV, telephone, WIFI internet connection, safe deposit box, dining table, kitchenette (fridge-freezer, microwave and 2 electric hobs), and balcony with ocean view.



### Nine 1-bedroom apartments (sleep 2+4)

One-bedroom apartments have a separate bedroom and living room with two double sofa beds, cable TV, telephone, WIFI internet connection, kitchenette (fridge-freezer, microwave and 2 electric hobs), bathroom (bath, shower and hairdryer) and a balcony with town view.

### Three Suites (sleep 2+4)

Located on the top floor, all the suites have a double bedroom, bathroom (bath, shower and hairdryer), living room with two sofa beds (suitable for adults), cable TV, telephone, WIFI internet connection, safe deposit box, dining table and corner kitchenette (fridge freezer, microwave and 2 electric hobs), and a large covered balcony with ocean view ■ One suite can accommodate two extra beds.

### Amenities/Leisure

Buffet breakfast room ■ Bar ■ Lounge with ocean view ■ Lift ■ Communal terrace with chairs, parasols and ocean view ■ TV room with internet connection ■ Complimentary WIFI connection at reception ■ Coffee shop ■ Four free car parking spaces outside the property or free parking at the marina (100 metres).