



# The Algarve

Think of the Algarve... mile upon mile of golden sands interrupted only by craggy outcrops of rock. But the Algarve, although well known as one of the sunniest areas of Europe, is much more than just a beach lover's paradise.

For five centuries this was the land of the Moors and their intriguing legacy is evident in local architecture, music and language. The region's character is strongly influenced by the sea and, perhaps surprisingly, almost every coastal village still devotes itself mainly to fishing.

Stretching across the whole of southern Portugal, the region, over recent years has attracted a great deal of tourist development, especially along the coastline between Faro and Albufeira. At the outer fringes of the region, including Sagres, Olhao and Tavira, the development has been minimal and the towns and villages have retained their original charm and character – This is the area that we feature, THE REAL ALGARVE!

Located 6km from **Capo de Sao Vicente**, the most southwestern point of continental Europe, **Sagres** is famed for its maritime past and for its links with Prince Henry the Navigator.



Traditional House, Algarve

It is in Sagres that the school of Navigation was established in the 15th century and from where Prince Henry, alongside cartographers and navigators, pushed forward the borders of the new world. The Portuguese explorers Pedro Alvares Cabral and Vasco da Gama both studied in Sagres. Around Sagres the coastline is dotted with more than 20 beaches – some small coves hidden at the foot of cliffs, others broad expanses of sand. There is also a breeding ground for Common dolphins just off the coast of Capo de Sao Vicente and the mammals are frequently visible in the waters.

To the east of the Algarve, the **Natural Park of Ria Formosa** is a haven for bird and fish life. Covering an area of 18,400 hectares and stretching for 60km from Ancao, near **Quinta do Lago**, to Manta Rota, this coast has some of the regions most spectacular beaches – many only accessible by boat. Traditional fishing villages are scattered along the eastern coastline, of which the sardine and tuna fishing port of **Olhao** and the charming whitewashed town of **Tavira** are worthy of a visit.

## Highlights

### Beaches

Long expanses of white sand, others nestled within rocky coves are classed amongst the best in Europe. Perfect between May to October for surfing, windsurfing, water skiing and kite surfing.

### Golf

The region's mild climate is perfect for golfers with courses catering for all skill levels.

### Local Specialities

Try the freshly caught sardines or tuna steaks washed down with a white Portuguese Vinho Verde.

### Serra de Monchique

Inland, the Serra de Monchique mountain range is known for the traditional architecture of Monchique's houses, with their white walls, carved stonework and special "saia" (skirt) chimneys. If you are feeling energetic, a climb to the peak of Pico da Foia (902m) affords excellent views of the surrounding landscape.

### Sagres and Capo de Sao Vicente

The Capo de Sao Vicente is the most southwesterly point of continental Europe. A panoramic walk links the cape to the fortress town of Sagres.

## Festivals

### Car Rally (27Mar-01Apr)

### International Jazz Festival, Loulé (Jul)

### Medieval Fair, Silves (2nd week of Aug)

Return to the Middle Ages with live action history lessons, processions, jousting tournaments, jugglers, acrobats, dancers, snake charmers, artisans and merchants.

Note: Dates subject to change.



Vila Indigo



Reception area

## Hotel Vila Monte, Moncarapacho

Airports: 25km Faro / 170km Beja

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

The Vila Monte is a charming, country resort hotel, set within 9 hectares of land and located between Faro and Tavira in the eastern Algarve. A blend of Moorish and Mediterranean influences has created a beautiful rural retreat offering the perfect balance between nature and the sea. Fabulous countryside and distant sea views can be seen from the terraces of the Orangerie and the haute cuisine restaurant. The bedrooms are located in four separate, themed buildings within the lush Mediterranean gardens, each one within 200 metres of the other.

### Accommodation

53 air-conditioned rooms, all with bathroom (bath and/or shower), hairdryer, satellite TV, telephone, minibar, internet connection and safe deposit box.



### Vila Indigo: 2 standard rooms, 2 superior rooms and a '1001 Nights' suite:

This private, Moroccan style villa offers a taste of the exotic with its warm and inviting décor ■ 1001 Nights suite is a large room with twin beds and a dedicated living area with wood burning fireplace ■ All rooms share a terrace ■ A private garden and outdoor swimming pool is located in front of the villa.

### Riad House: 12 standard rooms, 4 superior rooms and 2 'Sultan' suites:

The Riad House is located opposite the outdoor swimming pool and pool side bar ■ The rooms are on 2 floors, set around a central courtyard and with views over the gardens ■ The Sultan suites consist of a large room with a double bed and dedicated living area.

### Orangerie: 8 junior suites, 16 suites and the 'Vizir' suite:

Located next to the restaurant with the same name is the Orangerie, a typical Andalusian styled building set around an orange tree grove and with a profusion of flowers cascading along the length of the 1st floor terrace wall above the ground floor inner courtyard ■ The junior suites are located on the 1st floor and open onto a shared terrace facing the inner courtyard ■ The suites are located on the ground floor and have a twin bedroom and separate lounge with satellite TV and private balcony with views over the countryside ■ The junior suites and the suites will accommodate two extra beds for adults or children ■ The 'Vizir' suite is open-plan with a king size bed, living area, bathroom with separate shower cubicle and Jacuzzi bath, outdoor Jacuzzi and terrace. This suite is reserved for honeymoon couples.



### Kasbah: 3 standard rooms and 2 '1001 Nights' suites:

Decorated in a Moroccan style, the Kasbah overlooks one of the outdoor swimming pools and is home to the spa ■ Many rooms in the Kasbah have a private terrace with views over the surrounding countryside to the sea in the distance ■ 1001 Nights suite is a large room with twin beds and a dedicated living area with wood burning fireplace.

### Amenities/Leisure

Buffet breakfast ■ 'Orangerie' restaurant specialising in authentic Mediterranean dishes (a 3-course meal excluding drinks for 2 people is c. 100 Euros) ■ Swimming pool (6 x 15m) with pool bar located opposite Riad House ■ Second swimming pool (10 x 5m) surrounded by the well-maintained gardens in front of the Vila Indigo ■ Third swimming pool located opposite the Kasbah ■ Kasbah spa with Hamman and Arab baths and treatment rooms (payable locally) ■ Golf shop ■ Reception area, bar, and lounge with a strong Moroccan influence opening on to a terrace facing the putting green ■ 3-hole golf course (Par 3), 2 putting greens and 1 chipping green ■ Tennis court (free of charge) ■ A 15-minute drive to the beaches of the Algarve ■ Closest restaurants are in Moncarapacho (13km) ■ Free transfers to the sandy beach at 'Praia do Barril' is offered by the hotel in the summer ■ Free parking.

**Minimum stay:** 3 nights between 15Jul-31Aug12

### Guideline price £ per person - 7 nights

Prices based on 2-sharing a Standard room, flights to Faro with British Airways and car hire (Group A – see page 90). Single room supplement on request.

Hotel Vila Monte	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Aug	Sep-Oct
	£786	£810	£1065	£926

Please refer to page 2 for details of pricing structure and telephone us for a quotation.



Villa



Monte da Quinta Suites

## Monte da Quinta Resort, Quinta do Lago

Airports: 20km Faro / 150km Beja

■ 4-star resort ■ Bed & Breakfast (BB) ■ Self Catering (SC) ■ Swimming pool ■ Air-conditioning

The Monte da Quinta Resort is located at the heart of Quinta do Lago and is surrounded by the Ria Formosa Nature Park. This elegant resort, set in a natural garden paradise, is perfectly suited for families, groups of friends or couples. The resort offers something to suit all tastes whether it is a relaxing family holiday by the pool or a golfing holiday for friends and enthusiasts.

### Accommodation

#### 132 Suites BB:

1-Bedroom suite (Sleeps 2+1): One bedroom, two bathrooms and a balcony

■ 2-bedroom suite (sleep 4+1): Two bedrooms, three bathrooms and a balcony

■ 3-bedroom suite (sleep 6+1): Three bedrooms, four bathrooms and a balcony

■ All suites have a sofa bed suitable for a child

■ Daily cleaning and change of towels

■ Bed linen changed three times a week

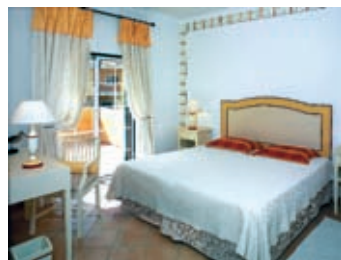
■ Buffet breakfast.

All Suites are air-conditioned and have a kitchenette (microwave, electric oven and hobs, fridge, toaster, coffee machine, kettle, hand mixer and dishwasher), cable TV, DVD player, telephone and safe deposit box

■ The building also has bars and restaurants, WiFi internet connection, underground parking and outdoor swimming pools for both adults and children.



Club house



Town house – Bedroom

#### 48 Two-bedroom Town houses (sleeps 4)

SC: 2 double/twin bedrooms, 3 bathrooms (bath and/or shower), living room with fireplace, kitchen, cloakroom and private garden area with plunge pool. Note: The two-bedroom townhouses can also be used for 2 people by closing off one of the bedrooms to create a one-bedroom house (sleeps 2).

#### 28 Three-bedroom Town houses (sleeps 6)

SC: 3 double/twin bedrooms, 4 bathrooms (bath and/or shower), living room with fireplace, kitchen, cloakroom and private garden area with plunge pool.

#### 12 Three-bedroom Villas (sleeps 6)

SC: 3 double/twin bedrooms, 4 bathrooms (bath and/or shower), separate living room with fireplace, dining room and TV room, all with French windows opening onto the garden, kitchen, cloakroom and private garden area with swimming pool.

#### 70 Four-bedroom Villas (sleeps 8)

SC: 4 double/twin bedrooms, 5 bathrooms (bath and/or shower), separate living room with fireplace, dining room and TV room all with French windows opening onto the garden, kitchen, cloakroom and private garden area with swimming pool.

**20 Five-bedroom Villas (sleeps 9) SC:** 4 double/twin bedrooms and 1 single room, 6 bathrooms (bath and shower), separate living room with fireplace, dining room and TV room all with French windows opening onto the garden, kitchen, cloakroom and private garden area with swimming pool.

All Town houses and Villas are equipped with a microwave, 4 electric hobs, electric oven, large fridge-freezer, dishwasher, washer-dryer, toaster, kettle, coffee-maker, juicer, barbecue, telephone, safe deposit box, cable TV, DVD player on request (payable locally), stereo hi-fi unit, internet connection, air-conditioning unit, house alarm, pool towels and utility room (iron, ironing board, broom & vacuum cleaner). Town houses have a plunge pool (4 x 2m). Villas have a swimming pool (4 x 8m). Daily cleaning and change of towels

■ Bed linen changed three times a week.

### Amenities/Leisure

Bar ■ Restaurant with large terrace overlooking the outdoor swimming pool, serving international cuisine

■ Pool bar ■ Gym ■ Turkish bath ■ Jacuzzi ■ Heated indoor pool (4.60 x 10m)

■ Large outdoor swimming pool and children's pool

Massage room ■ Coffee shop ■ Golf shop ■ Newsagent ■ Health & Beauty centre and spa ■ Hairdresser ■ Kid's Club (3-12 year olds) ■ Kid's World with creche ■ Babysitting service ■ Cots and highchairs (free if pre-booked or 10.00 euros (cot) and 5.00 euros (high chair) per day if booked locally)

■ Free parking ■ 24-hour reception desk ■ Convenience store ■ Bikes for hire ■ Quinta do Lago beach (white sand) is 2km from the property and the access is across a wooden bridge over the river. Complimentary daily shuttle bus service to the beach is available between Jul-Aug (09:30 to 18:30)

■ Three neighbouring, 18-hole Golf courses – Quinta do Lago (north and south), San Lorenzo and Pinheiros Altos – Green fees on request locally

■ The Jimmy Stewart Tennis Academy is located c.500m from the resort. Guests are able to use their facilities for c.18 Euros per hour.

**Minimum stay (SC):** 2 nights and 7 nights between 01Jul-31Aug12.

**Minimum stay (BB):** 3 nights between 20-24Apr12.

**Suites (BB) open:** 25Feb12.

### Guideline price £ per person - 7 nights

Prices based on 2-sharing or 4-sharing, flights to Faro with British Airways and car hire (Group A for 2-sharing and Group C for 4-sharing – see page 90). Single room supplement on request.

Monte da Quinta Resort	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Aug	Sep-Oct
1-Bedroom Suite BB (2-sharing)	£685	£989	£1280	£1036
2-Bedroom Townhouse SC (4-sharing)	£562	£781	£1129	£809

### Special Offer

■ SC Town houses and villas: Book before 28Feb12 for departures between 01Apr-31Oct12 and receive 20% discount. Offer excludes 3 and 5-bedroom villas.

**Please refer to page 2 for details of pricing structure and telephone us for a quotation.**



Villa



Gardens

## Monte do Casal, Estoi

Airports: 15km Faro / 151km Beja

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

Surrounded by eight acres of well-maintained, landscaped botanical gardens full of fruit, olive and almond trees and near the village of Estoi, this charming property is perfect for those wishing to relax and experience the true Algarve. Although quiet, refined and relaxed, the Monte do Casal is by no means isolated being only 15-minutes drive from several unspoilt beaches, golf courses and the Moorish town of Faro.

### Accommodation

Guests can take their breakfast on their private terrace ■ Guests are able to use the facilities of both buildings.

**Main building:** An 18th century country house with 12 air-conditioned rooms including 3 standard twin rooms, 2 deluxe rooms, 2 junior suites and 5 suites ■ All rooms have private bathroom (bath and shower), hairdryer, safe deposit box, satellite TV, CD and DVD player and tea/coffee making facilities ■ The deluxe



Suite

rooms have a designated sitting area and a private terrace ■ The suites have a separate sitting room with French windows leading to a private terrace and a second terrace accessed from the bedroom ■ There is a heated swimming pool (9 x 5m) ■ Restaurant serving Portuguese and international cuisine (meals served on the terrace by the pool in summer) ■ Bar with terrace ■ WiFi internet connection in all rooms ■ Free parking.

**Villa:** The Villa is located in the gardens 1-minute walk from the main house and restaurant ■ 6 air-conditioned rooms including 2 standard twin rooms, 3 deluxe rooms and 1 suite ■ All rooms have private bathroom (bath and shower), hairdryer, safe deposit box, satellite TV, CD and DVD player and tea/coffee making facilities ■ The twin rooms have a garden view ■ The deluxe rooms have a private terrace and views over the countryside to the sea in the distance ■ There is a heated swimming pool (11 x 6.50m) ■ Lounge with French windows leading to the swimming pool ■ Sun terraces ■ Sanctuary Spa and wellness centre offering aromatherapy, Reiki, massages and beauty treatments, a private sauna, hammam and Jacuzzi ■ Botanical gardens, a bird sanctuary with two lakes and two waterfalls ■ Mini gym ■ The nearest beach is a 13-mile drive ■ 19 Golf courses within easy reach ■ Free parking.

**Note:** Children aged 15 years or younger are not allowed except between 01Jun-31Aug12.



Main building

### Guideline price £ per person - 7 nights

Prices based on 2-sharing a Standard room, flights to Faro with British Airways and car hire (Group A – see page 90). Single room supplement on request.

Monte do Casal	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Aug	Sep-Oct
	£961	£986	£1322	£1246

### Special Offers

- Stay 4 nights pay 3 nights between 04Jan-31Mar and 01-31Oct12.
- Stay 7 nights pay 6 nights between 04Jan-31Mar and 01-31Oct12.

Please refer to page 2 for details of pricing structure and telephone us for a quotation.



## Pousada Palacio de Estoi, Estoi

Airports: 10km Faro / 156km Beja

- Historic Design ■ Bed & Breakfast ■ Swimming pool ■ Air-conditioning
- Pousada map reference 34 (see page 10)

The famous Palacio de Estoi was originally built in the 19th century as the ancestral home of the Viscount of Estoi, Jose Francisco da Silva. The construction of the Palace took approximately 20 years to complete and a celebratory party was held in the gardens of the palace when it was inaugurated in 1909.

The romantic taste of the first owner, a descendant of one of the most distinguished families of the Algarve, inspired him to build a neo-baroque and neo-rococo styled country house surrounded by beautiful gardens. Today, this former home has been converted in to a luxury Pousada providing high quality guest accommodation just a short drive from Faro.

### Accommodation

63 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms, superior rooms and suites, all with bathroom (bath and/or shower), hairdryer, telephone, complimentary internet connection, cable TV, minibar, balcony and garden view ■ The superior rooms have a double bed and are larger than the standard rooms ■ Suites have a separate living area ■ All rooms will accommodate an extra bed for an adult or child.

### Amenities/Leisure

Buffet breakfast ■ Restaurant serving Portuguese and International cuisine ■ Bar ■ Spa with a Turkish bath, sauna and gym ■ Outdoor swimming pool (14 x 7m) ■ Indoor heated swimming pool (8 x 3,5m) ■ Complimentary WiFi internet connection in the public areas ■ Free parking ■ 13km from the coast with its' long sandy beaches, golf courses and the Ria Formosa Nature Park.



### Guideline price £ per person - 7 nights

Prices based on 2-sharing a Standard room, flights to Faro with British Airways and car hire (Group A – see page 90). Single room supplement on request.

Pousada Palacio de Estoi	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Aug	Sep-Oct
	£713	£799	£1162	£1090

Please refer to page 2 for details of pricing structure and telephone us for a quotation.



## Pousada Convento da Graca, Tavira

Airports: 40km Faro / 180km Beja

- Historic Pousada ■ Bed & Breakfast ■ Swimming pool ■ Air-conditioning
- Pousada map reference 36 (see page 10).

The Pousada Convento da Graca, a former 16th century convent of the Augustin order of nuns offers superb accommodation in Tavira. The property stands on castle hill, the site of what was once the Jewish quarter. Many of the original architectural features have been retained and beautifully blended in with the modern interior. The Renaissance cloister, the façade facing the main square and the central staircase, all in baroque style are a few of these highlighted features.

Bathed by the Gilão river, Tavira stands alongside the Ria Formosa, 40km from Faro and 160km from Seville. There is a beautiful sandy beach which is often quite deserted. You can walk all the way along the beach to Barril beach at Santa Luzia - another unspoilt area worth a visit (the train from Barril beach to Santa Luzia costs c.1.00 Euro).

### Accommodation

36 air-conditioning rooms including standard rooms, superior rooms, suites and one duplex suite (Dom Sebastiao) ■ All rooms have bathroom (bath or shower), hairdryer, telephone, cable TV, internet connection and minibar ■ Some standard rooms will accommodate two adults and two children ■ Some rooms



have a small balcony ■ One superior room has a mezzanine floor ■ Two superior rooms have a small private garden to the front of the Pousada.

### Amenities/Leisure

Buffet breakfast ■ Restaurant ■ Bar ■ Swimming pool (14 x 6.65m) ■ Children's pool (5 x 5m).

### Guideline price £ per person - 7 nights

Prices based on 2-sharing a Standard room, flights to Faro with British Airways and car hire (Group A – see page 90). Single room supplement on request.

Pousada Convento da Graca	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Aug	Sep-Oct
	£744	£860	£1162	£1090

Please refer to page 2 for details of pricing structure and telephone us for a quotation.