



São Miguel & Santa Maria

The Eastern Islands group is made up of São Miguel, the largest island, and Santa Maria, the oldest island of the archipelago (1439).



These volcanic islands offer a wealth of natural beauty, from shimmering crater lakes, high cliffs plunging to the sea and wooded mountains to fertile lands yielding crops and blue flag beaches.

The fabulous spa town of Furnas, on São Miguel, is one of the largest thermal water sources in the world, with its beautiful azalea bordered lake and 30 acre botanical garden. Everywhere, from April to early summer, hedgerows of azaleas and hydrangeas can be seen across the islands.



1 Geological History Tour (São Miguel)

See, touch and learn the secrets of this volcanic archipelago on a fun and entertaining day trip around the island. A unique insight into how these diverse landscapes were formed.



2 Praia Formosa (Santa Maria)

Although not a traditional beach destination, this is one of the best beaches of the Azores (Blue Flag status) and one of the few white sand beaches in the archipelago.



3 Colourful Houses (Santa Maria)

The window frames and borders of traditional houses on Santa Maria adopt a colour associated with their specific village. Blues, yellows, greens and reds are used.



4 Pineapples (São Miguel)

Visit the pineapple plantation at Fajã de Baixo and taste the delicious pineapple liqueur and boiled sweets. Or, simply order fresh pineapple for dessert – highly recommended!

São Miguel

Ponta Delgada, the main town and port has preserved its historical beauty with narrow cobbled streets bordered by well preserved period houses.

Vila Nova Hotel, Ponta Delgada

The Vila Nova Hotel is located near the 16th century Fort of São Brás and the Praça (Square) de 5 Outubro in the city centre of Ponta Delgada, 200 metres from the town's cobbled shopping streets and 500 metres from the 18th century city gates. This modern hotel provides a good standard of comfort and is a convenient base from which to explore the capital of São Miguel.

Accommodation: 102 air-conditioned rooms including single rooms, standard rooms, triple rooms, junior suites and a deluxe suite.

- Airport: 3km Ponta Delgada
- 3-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- City centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£951 per person***



Standard Room



Superior Room

Do Colégio Hotel, Ponta Delgada

The Do Colégio Hotel, refurbished in 2017, enjoys a privileged location within the historical centre of Ponta Delgada. This 19th century building, once home to the Regional School of Music and Colmeia College, and rich in historical and cultural interest, has been remodelled to create a classically designed, four-star hotel. Many of the building's original features are still in evidence including stone flooring in the reception, TV lounge and bar.

Accommodation: 59 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms, superior rooms, 1 junior suite and 1 suite.

- Airport: 3km Ponta Delgada
- 4-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- City centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£1,014 per person***

Azoris Royal Garden Hotel, Ponta Delgada

The Azoris Royal Garden Hotel is located in the capital, Ponta Delgada, just 250 metres from the town's historic centre and cobbled shopping streets. Within the grounds is a central Zen garden with water features and seating areas, outdoor swimming pool, tennis court, spa, wellness centre with indoor pool, sauna and Jacuzzi. There is also a garden restaurant and coffee shop. The guest rooms are modern and offer options for families or larger groups in suites or executive rooms which interconnect.

Accommodation: 193 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms, executive rooms, junior suites and suites.

- Airport: 3km Ponta Delgada
- 4-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- City centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Spa
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£1,144 per person***



Standard Room

* Guide prices based on 2-sharing a leading room type for 7 nights, flights from London Gatwick to Ponta Delgada, São Miguel (other airports on request) and transfers. Note: We cannot guarantee that any of our featured properties are suitable for all levels of disability so please ask if you have specific issues. Please visit our website for further information on these and other featured properties.

São Miguel

Azores 10 Fest: For ten days in June the island of São Miguel hosts an event that highlights local produce and flavours through ten extraordinary dinners where ten international chefs prepare a six-course taster menu including wines.

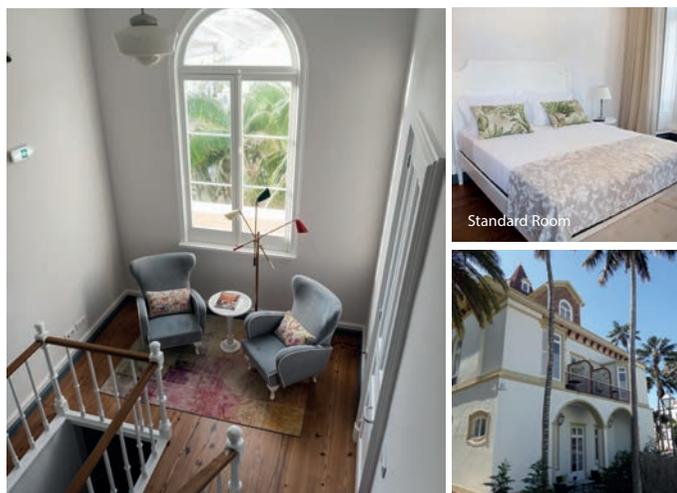
Casa das Palmeiras, Ponta Delgada

This small, family-run property is centrally located in Ponta Delgada and housed in a stunning 20th century building. Decorated throughout in light pastel colours, the property has maintained its tradition and authentic style belonging to a by-gone age. Well positioned in the heart of Ponta Delgada, guests can make the most of this charming house with a gentle stroll to Portas da Cidade, the 18th century city gates or meander through the narrow cobbled streets before stopping off in one of the local cafés for a pastry and a drink.

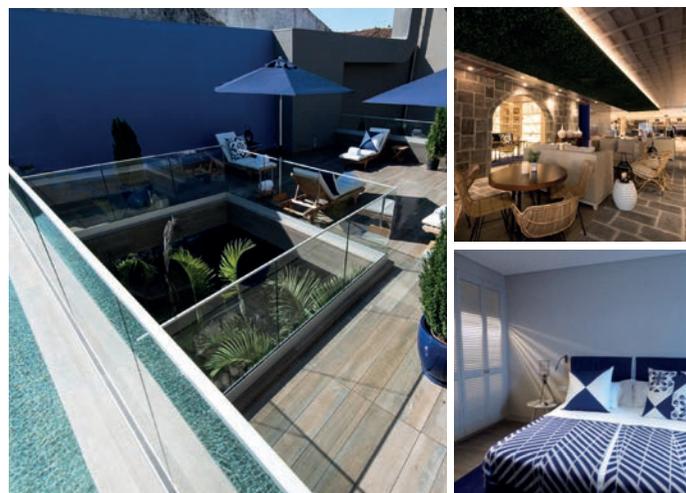
Accommodation: 10 air-conditioned rooms including single rooms, standard rooms, king superior rooms and deluxe rooms.

- Airport: 3km Ponta Delgada
- Charming Guesthouse
- Bed & Breakfast
- Central city location
- Complimentary WiFi

Guide price from **£1,059 per person***



Standard Room



Casa Hintze Ribeiro, Ponta Delgada

This new boutique hotel is located in the historical centre of Ponta Delgada in a pedestrianised area. Decorated in traditional Azorean blue and white intermixed with pastel shades by the well known Portuguese designer Andrade Silva, this is a stylish property, full of light with mini, palm-planted courtyards and glimpses over the rooftops of the old town from some of the apartments. This is an ideal base, tasteful and comfortable, and just a short walk from the main square of Ponta Delgada with its 'Portas da Cidade' city gates.

Accommodation: 22 air-conditioned apartments including studios and one-bedroom units.

- Airport: 3km Ponta Delgada
- 4-star apart-hotel
- Bed & Breakfast (BB)
- Self Catering (SC)
- City centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Health centre
- Plunge pools

Guide price from **£1,089 per person***

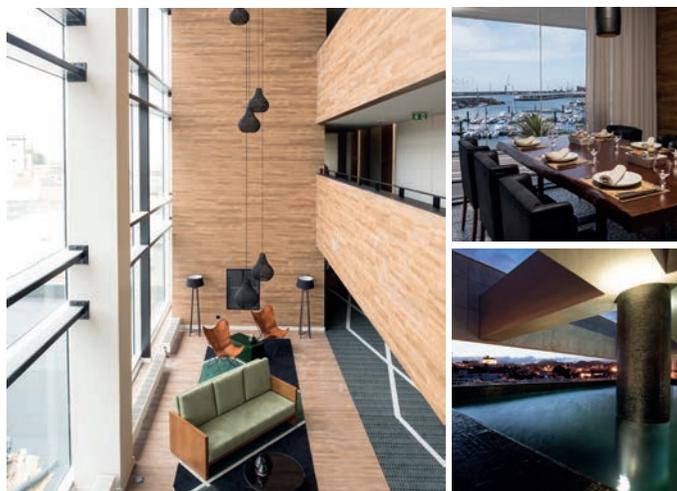
Azor Hotel, Ponta Delgada

The Azor is located on the sea front and is within easy walking distance to the port and the centre of Ponta Delgada. The property though providing 123 rooms has the feel of a comfortable and cosy boutique hotel, with its comfortable, traditional, rooftop bar/library and its quirky bar and lounge area on the ground floor, an excellent open-plan restaurant with dramatic ocean and harbour views and very comfortable rooms, every inch five star.

Accommodation: 123 air-conditioned rooms including single rooms, standard rooms, family rooms and suites.

- Airport: 3km Ponta Delgada
- 5-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- City centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£1,200 per person***



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São Miguel

Ponta Delgada is the hub for all public transportation and tours, and as such is an ideal base from which to explore the island whilst having all local amenities in reach.

Marina Atlântico Hotel, Ponta Delgada

Built on the harbour front of Ponta Delgada, this property has an enviable location affording panoramic views over the ocean and city marina. The glass fronted common areas on the ground and mezzanine floors are light and airy and designed to take full advantage of the location of the property. A private bridge over the coastal road connects the hotel to the open-air public swimming pool (open Jun-Sep c.2.50 Euros entry fee).

Accommodation: 184 air-conditioned rooms including land view rooms, ocean view rooms, upper ocean view rooms and suites.

- Airport: 5km Ponta Delgada
- 4-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- City centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£1,144 per person***



Classic Room



Standard Room

Antillia Hotel Apartments, Ponta Delgada

This modern apart-hotel is well situated in the historical centre of Ponta Delgada with easy access to shops, restaurants and the marina. Offering a range of guest accommodation, the Antillia is suitable for both couples and families - as many apartments are large enough to accommodate a party of six people. In addition to an outdoor swimming pool and sun terrace, guests have complimentary access to the adjacent health spa - indoor swimming pool, Jacuzzi, sauna, Turkish bath and treatment rooms.

Accommodation: 92 air-conditioned units including standard rooms (BB); studios, one and two bedroom apartments (SC).

- Airport: 5km Ponta Delgada
- 4-star apart-hotel
- Bed & Breakfast (BB)
- Self Catering (SC)
- City centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Spa
- Swimming pools

Guide price from **£922 per person***

São Miguel Park Hotel, Ponta Delgada

The São Miguel Park Hotel is located 200 metres from the city park and botanical gardens of Ponta Delgada. The building, originally used as a seminary, was completely remodelled and restored with few features remaining of the original academy. This comfortable, modern, city hotel has a host of facilities and, due to its central location, is only 5-minutes walk to the commercial centre.

Accommodation: 163 air-conditioned rooms including classic rooms, superior rooms, family rooms and a suite.

- Airport: 3km Ponta Delgada
- 4-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- City centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Swimming pools

Guide price from **£1,101 per person***



Classic Room

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São Miguel

The green island offers a unique landscape filled with cascading waterfalls, fabulous crater lakes, thermal hot springs, lush rolling hillsides with grazing cows and small historical villages and towns.

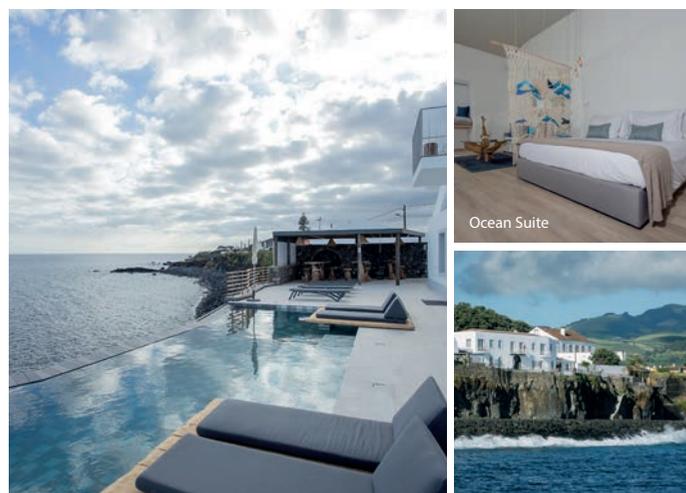
Grand Hotel Açores Atlântico, Ponta Delgada

The Grand Hotel Açores Atlântico enjoys a prime waterfront location, close to the historic centre in Ponta Delgada. Re-opened in 2018 after complete renovation, this landmark hotel has been awarded 5-star status and boasts exceptional ocean views from many of its rooms. The elegant interior has been inspired by the classic European style of 'Grand Hotel'. For those interested in the Azores' maritime history there is a permanent exhibition highlighting the water transportation through the ages.

Accommodation: 140 air-conditioned rooms including city view rooms, bay view rooms, ocean view rooms, junior suites and suites.

- Airport: 5km Ponta Delgada
- 5-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- City centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£1,200 per person***



White Exclusive Suites & Villas, Lagoa (São Miguel)

This contemporary boutique hotel, opened in July 2017, is housed in an 18th century building in the village on the southern coast of São Miguel. As its name suggests, everything is brilliant white from the whitewashed walls and concrete floors to the ocean facing terraces. The furniture is created from raw wood including the driftwood effect chairs and tables on the terraces and the guestrooms are beautifully draped in cotton, wool and linen fabrics. The owners have created a truly wonderful and luxurious hotel with an authentic modern design.

Accommodation: 10 air-conditioned, open plan suites including junior suites, unique suites, ocean suites and a villa suite. Plus a private four-bedroom villa located across the road.

- Airport: 14.2km Ponta Delgada
- Boutique hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Car hire recommended
- Complimentary WiFi
- Ocean front location
- Restaurant
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£1,643 per person***

Casas do Frade, Nordeste

These traditionally restored stone cottages are located at the foot of the Tronqueira mountain range, and are split into four complexes situated along the same road in the quaint village of Lomba da Fazenda. The cottages have all been lovingly renovated by the owner Mr Antonio Melo and offer modern conveniences in a rural setting. There is a mini market, restaurants and bank in Vila do Nordeste (3km) and 3km to a natural rock swimming pool. For those wishing to experience a peaceful stay in rural surroundings, you could not wish for more.

Accommodation: Each cottage (one-bedroom and two-bedroom) is individually decorated using traditional furniture and local handicrafts.

- Airport: 80km Ponta Delgada
- Rural cottages (Turismo Rural)
- Car hire recommended
- Complimentary WiFi
- Rural location
- Self Catering

Guide price from **£966 per person***



Guide prices based on 2-sharing a leading room type for 7 nights, flights from London Gatwick to Ponta Delgada, São Miguel (other airports on request) and transfers (Grand Hotel Açores Atlântico) or car hire. Note: We cannot guarantee that any of our featured properties are suitable for all levels of disability so please ask if you have specific issues. Please visit our website for further information on these and other featured properties.

São Miguel

Visit extinct volcanoes and magnificent lakes; marvel at the wonderful panoramas and delightful beaches nestling under high cliffs; enjoy the thermal pools in Furnas; and take a thrilling whale and dolphin watching trip, one of the many activities on offer.

Quinta dos Curubás, Vila Franca do Campo

This charming property is perched on the hillside overlooking the town and bay of Vila Franca do Campo. It is set on a large estate with a small chapel, fruit orchards and surrounded by verdant countryside where cows can often be seen grazing. It is also home to three dogs, ducks, a peacock, a cockerel and chickens. The natural bay of Vila Franca do Campo is ideal for swimming and regular whale watching, diving and boat excursions (Mar-Dec) depart from its harbour.

Accommodation: 5 one-bedroom cottages including two that interconnect.

- Airport: 25km Ponta Delgada
- Country cottages
- Car hire recommended
- Rural location
- Self Catering

Guide price from **£1,041 per person***



Furnas Lake Apartments, Furnas

In a lush green valley surrounded by heavily vegetated volcanic hillsides are these nine wooden clad units set in a shallow water basin and created to blend with the environment. Each air-conditioned unit has fresh, contemporary, Scandinavian style furnishings using light woods and green, grey and white colours that provide accommodation with all the homely comforts. Only a short walk from the beautiful lake at Furnas (within 10-minutes) this is an ideal location for walkers and nature lovers with endless possibilities.

Accommodation: Studios and one and two-bedroom apartments.

- Airport: 42km Ponta Delgada
- 4-star equivalent
- Car hire recommended
- Rural location
- Self Catering
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£1,124 per person***

Terra Nostra Garden Hotel, Furnas

The Terra Nostra Garden is one of the best hotels on the island of São Miguel. Well positioned next to the Terra Nostra botanical park, the hotel is made up of two adjoining buildings: the Art Deco Wing, built in the 1930's which has maintained its architectural history; and the Garden Wing, added much later in the 1990's. Many of the bedrooms, along with the restaurant and indoor swimming pool, enjoy fabulous views over the world famous, extensive botanical gardens - owned by the hotel.

Accommodation: 86 rooms including cosy art deco rooms, garden view rooms, superior garden view rooms, deluxe garden view rooms, garden suites and suites.

- Airport: 45km Ponta Delgada
- 4-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Car hire recommended
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Swimming pool
- Rural village location

Guide price from **£1,124 per person***



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São Miguel

It is a tradition to slowly cook food by underground vapours at the Furnas hot springs. The meal, Cozido a Caldeiras, consisting of a variety of meats and vegetables, is served daily at Tony's Restaurant in Furnas.

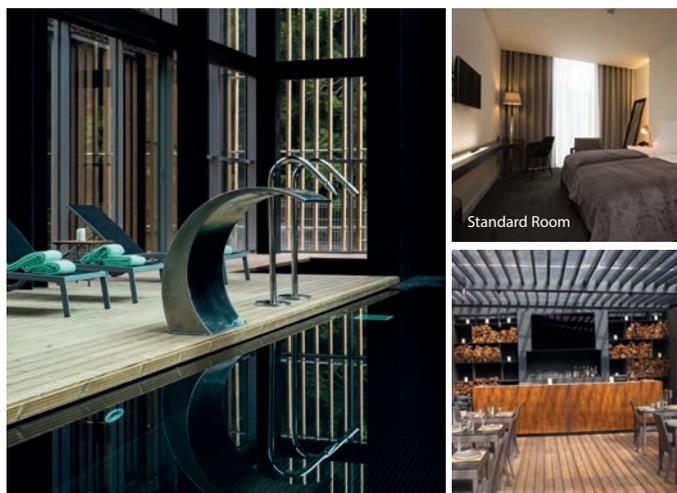
Furnas Boutique Hotel & Spa, Furnas

The Furnas Boutique Hotel & Spa is located in the village of Furnas and has an innovative design that blends perfectly with the natural hot springs and gardens that surround it. Guests can luxuriate in the spa facilities with a dip in the thermal pool, relax in the sauna and hammam (steam room) or be pampered at the full-service spa which specializes in Shirodhara (oil massages).

Accommodation: 53 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms and 1 suite.

- Airport: 50km Ponta Delgada
- 4-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Car hire recommended
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Swimming pool
- Thermal Spa
- Rural village location

Guide price from **£1,302 per person***



Caloura Hotel, Caloura

This owner-managed hotel is located at the edge of the picturesque fishing harbour of Caloura and a 15-minutes uphill walk to the village of Água de Pau – less on the way back! The hotel has a magnificent setting on a rocky promontory overlooking the sea and is set against a background of small fields and vineyards. There is a small sandy beach 'Baixa d'Areira' 5-minutes walk from the hotel (also accessible by car) and natural pools on the headland to which the hotel has access.

Accommodation: 80 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms, triple rooms, a junior suite and a suite.

- Airport: 25km Ponta Delgada
- 4-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Car hire recommended
- Coastal location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£1,109 per person***

Quinta do Mar, Caloura

This delightful small, 160 year old "Adega" is set within 7,500 square metres of hillside land and only a short stroll from the tiny fishing harbour of Caloura. Using local craftsmen and stonemasons, the property, including the original wine press, has been fully restored and enhanced to an extremely high standard. The Quinta do Mar is one of our most well praised properties. Note: No children under 14 permitted. The property is not suitable for those with walking difficulties due to the number of steps.

Accommodation: 4 large, air-conditioned twin/double designer bedrooms with large balcony and ocean view.

- Airport: 22.4km Ponta Delgada
- 4-star equivalent
- Bed & Breakfast
- Car hire recommended
- Coastal location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£1,194 per person***



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São Miguel

São Miguel is the largest island in the archipelago and home to the most surfers. A drive along the island's north coast takes you through tea plantations and surf beaches near Ribeira Grande.

Pedras do Mar Resort & Spa, Fenais da Luz

Located on low cliffs above the sea on the north coast of São Miguel, the property, which opened in April 2016, occupies a magnificent location with panoramic views to the ocean and to the emerald green mountains to the south. Large windows, pine wood, fashionable smooth brushed concrete and grey/black pastel colours fill the hotel with light. This is an excellent walking base as the two hour coastal walking trail to Capelas, which passes in front of the hotel, is one of the most spectacular in the Azores.

Accommodation: 125 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms, family rooms and suites.

- Airport: 14.2km Ponta Delgada
- 5-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Car hire recommended
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Spa
- Swimming pool
- Waterfront location

Guide price from **£1,135 per person***



Standard Room



One-Bedroom Apartment

Santa Barbara Eco-Beach Resort, Ribeira Grande

The Santa Barbara Eco-Beach Resort is located opposite a long sandy beach on the north coast of São Miguel, 20 minutes' drive from the airport. This small resort has been created using a contemporary design with many unique features. The apartments, which resemble Scandinavian chalets, are spacious and modern with natural furnishings and a balcony or terrace. Guests can enjoy various activities in the surrounding area including diving, hiking and golf.

Accommodation: 30 air-conditioned units including studios and one and two-bedroom apartments.

- Airport: 20km Ponta Delgada
- 4-star apart-hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Beach location
- Car hire recommended
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£1,212 per person***

Whale's Bay Hotel Apartments, São Vicente Ferreira

Whale's Bay Hotel Apartments is located near (5km) the village of Capelas, a village, on the north coast of São Miguel, known for its whaling industry in the early 19th century. Today, the only remains are an old chimney – the legacy of a whale factory and the memorial of local fishermen lost at sea. These spacious apartments are ideal for families and those looking for a modern, self catering option within easy reach of the capital, Ponta Delgada (20 minutes' drive).

Accommodation: 15 air-conditioned units including one-bedroom apartments and two-bedroom standard and penthouse apartments.

- Airport: 14km Ponta Delgada
- 4-star apart-hotel
- Self Catering
- Car hire recommended
- Complimentary WiFi
- Swimming pool
- Village location

Guide price from **£1,193 per person***



Two-Bedroom Standard Apartment

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Santa Maria

Santa Maria is the warmest region in the Azores. In the south is Blue Flag Praia Formosa – one of the best beaches in the archipelago with its glorious white sand – as well as the fascinating Baia da Praia nature reserve.

Charming Blue Hotel, Vila do Porto

The Charming Blue is located in the centre of Vila do Porto, the capital of Santa Maria. The main building, dating from the 1860s, is an historic 'family home' that has been beautifully restored and converted in to a small and charming hotel with fifteen tastefully designed and spacious guestrooms, a refined à la carte restaurant and pleasant outdoor space with swimming pool.

Accommodation: 15 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms and superior rooms.

- Airport: 1km Santa Maria
- 4-star boutique hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Coastal town location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£1,072 per person***



Standard Room



Casa de Almagreira, Praia Formosa

Located in the centre of the island, just 2.5km from Praia Formosa – classified as one of the most beautiful, quality beaches in Portugal, is the Casa de Almagreira. This typical Azorean house has three bedrooms with a fully equipped kitchen-diner. The furnishings are simple but comfortable and its location, in a peaceful valley surrounded by gentle rolling hills, meadows and forests, provides a quiet oasis of calm in the heart of Santa Maria.

Accommodation: 3 bedroom house (one twin and two doubles with queen size bed).

- Airport: 10km Santa Maria
- Rural house (Casa Açorianas)
- Bed & Breakfast
- Car hire recommended
- Complimentary WiFi
- Rural location

Guide price from **£1,290 per person based on 4-sharing***

Casa do Norte, Norte

Romantic and remote, the Casa do Norte ticks all the boxes if you are looking for a property in truly rural surroundings where walking, cycling and relaxing are the main priorities. This small and intimate house has been lovingly renovated in classic Santa Maria style and comfortably furnished in a mixture of traditional and contemporary styles. Ideal for two persons, or two persons and a child, this is really a large, open plan studio with a double bed and a sofa bed for a child (2-11yrs).

Accommodation: A studio cottage with a walled garden and excellent panoramic views to the mountain and ocean.

- Airport: 17.5km Santa Maria
- Studio cottage
- Self catering
- Car hire recommended
- Complimentary WiFi
- Rural location

Guide price from **£1,134 per person***



Guide prices based on 2-sharing or 4-sharing (Casa de Almagreira) a leading room type for 7 nights (Santa Maria properties based on 2nts São Miguel - first and last night, and 5nts Santa Maria), flights from London Gatwick to Ponta Delgada, São Miguel (other airports on request), inter-island flights and transfers (Charming Blue) or car hire. Note: We cannot guarantee that any of our featured properties are suitable for all levels of disability so please ask if you have specific issues. Please visit our website for further information on these and other featured properties.

Whale & Dolphin Watching Holiday (A)

São Miguel

Itinerary: 8 days / 7 nights

Experience the natural world up close on one of our 7-night whale and dolphin watching holidays on São Miguel. Top of the list for most visitors to the Azores is whale and dolphin watching. Twenty-four of the planet's 80 species of whales and dolphins have been sighted off the coast of the Azores making this one of the best places in the world to whale watch.

The most frequently spotted cetaceans are Sperm whale, Short-finned pilot whale, Common dolphin, Bottlenose dolphin, Atlantic spotted dolphin and Risso's dolphin.

Day One: On arrival transfer to the Marina Atlântico Hotel in Ponta Delgada or alternatively, collect your hire car and drive to the Quinta dos Curubás in Vila Franca do Campo.

Day Two – Whale & Dolphin Watching: Morning whale and dolphin watching trip (3 hours). Free afternoon - explore the cobbled streets of Ponta Delgada.

Day Three – Whale & Dolphin Watching: Morning whale and dolphin watching trip (3 hours). Free afternoon.

Day Four: Day at leisure. Take an escorted island tour or your self-drive vehicle to Sete Cidades, the extinct volcanic crater which has two lakes - one blue and the other green. The best place to enjoy the majesty of the lakes is from the view point 'Vista do Rei' which offers spectacular panoramic views.

Day Five – Whale & Dolphin Watching: Morning whale and dolphin watching trip (3 hours). Free afternoon – time for a round of golf at Batalha (27 holes) or Furnas course (18 holes). Both courses are beautifully landscaped and offer challenging fairways in stunning surroundings.

Day Six – Whale & Dolphin Watching: Afternoon whale and dolphin watching trip (3 hours).

Day Seven: Day at leisure. Book a fascinating Geological History Tour, which offers a unique insight into how the diverse landscape of the islands was formed. See, touch and learn the secrets of this volcanic archipelago in a fun and entertaining day trip around the island.

Day Eight: Transfer to Ponta Delgada airport for your flight home to the UK.

General Notes:

- Ponta Delgada departures at 08:30 or 13:00 (Zodiac) and 09:00 or 13:30 (Catamaran); Vila Franca do Campo departures at 08:30 or 12:30
- Transfers to and from the whaling bases are not included
- Zodiac boats - small, rigid hull inflatables carrying up to 24 people
- Catamarans - either Cetus (max. capacity 77 people) or 4 Ventos (max. capacity 65 people) are used, both have toilets onboard. No minimum or maximum age limits. Children aged 5 years or under go free of charge
- Zodiacs: Minimum child age is 4 years (accompanied by a parent or guardian). Pregnant women or any person suffering from back problems are not allowed on these boats
- We cannot guarantee that you will see a cetacean but it is unlikely that you should be so unlucky
- Pre-booking in July and August is recommended

*Guide prices based on 2-sharing include:

- Flights from London Gatwick to Ponta Delgada, São Miguel
- Transfers (Marina Atlântico Hotel) or car hire (Quinta dos Curubás)
- 7-nights Marina Atlântico Hotel, Ponta Delgada (BB) - Page 57
- Or 7-nights Quinta dos Curubás, Vila Franca do Campo (SC) - Page 59
- Four 3-hour whale and dolphin watching trips including a briefing by a marine biologist

Departures

Daily (Apr-Oct)

Duration

7 nights

Guide price from

£1,568 per person (Marina Atlântico Hotel)*
or £1,465 per person (Quinta dos Curubás)*

Zodiac





Furnas Botanical Gardens, São Miguel



São Miguel

* Guide price based on 2-sharing includes:

- Flights from London Gatwick to Ponta Delgada, São Miguel
- 4-nights Terra Nostra Garden Hotel, Furnas BB - Page 59
- 3-nights Azoris Royal Garden Hotel, Ponta Delgada BB - Page 55
- All transfers included for hotels and walks
- Six half-day, self-guided walks including a guidebook for the walks with trail descriptions and maps

Departures

Daily (all year)

Duration

7 nights

Guide price from

£1,363 per person*

Grading of Walks: 1 for Easy and 2 for Medium

Walking Inside Volcanoes

São Miguel

Itinerary: 8 days / 7 nights

The volcanic structure of the island of São Miguel has bestowed it with overwhelming beauty; vast craters housing gleaming lakes, hot mineral springs and lush rolling valleys. Located on the eastern side of the archipelago, the island is made up of six volcanic complexes and municipalities.

Our suggested itinerary takes you on a self-guided walking tour of São Miguel, using a route-book for guidance, and passing through areas of geological interest.

It is also possible to extend the itinerary by 7-nights, taking in other volcanic points of interest such as the lava caves: Gruta das Torres on Pico; Furna do Enxofre on Graciosa; and Capelinhos on Faial, the site of the last volcanic eruption in the Azores.

Day One: Arrive at Ponta Delgada airport and transfer to your hotel.

Day Two – Furnas Lake: Today you will walk to Furnas Lake (9.2km / 3 hours) where you will visit the Monitoring & Research Centre (entrance included) – a local project initiated to protect the ecosystem of the valley and improve the quality of the lake water. Afternoon transfer back to Furnas with stops at viewpoints and a tea plantation.

Day Three – Furnas - Lomba do Cavaleiro: This 8.4km (3½ hours) walk descends a track between green pastures until you reach a small stream. The trail then passes through a wood of Australian cheesewood, acacias and vinhática, crossing over a wooden bridge and following the stream as far as Ribeira Quente (opportunity to swim), where the trail ends. Grade 1

Day Four – Furnas - Salto do Prego: This 5km (2 hours) walk takes you past woods, orchards, the Salto do Prego waterfall where it is possible to swim, a deserted watermill and the deserted village of Sanguinho, uninhabited since 1970. Grade 2

Day Five – Furnas - Ribeira Funda: This 7.5km (3 hours) walk takes you to the North coast of the island. Take in the contrasting landscape passing

by dense vegetation, running streams, waterfalls and wonderful sea views as you walk down towards the beach of Praia da Viola. Grade 2. At the end of the walk, transfer by taxi to your hotel in Ponta Delgada. You will visit a panoramic viewpoint en route as well as a tea plantation.

Day Six – Ponta Delgada – Lagoa do Fogo: This 15km (4-5 hours) walk will follow a route along a Levada (a derivation channel) passing through mountains and valleys. You will head to the spectacular Lagoa do Fogo 'Fire Lake' - one of the most beautiful crater lakes in the Azores. The walk ends at a beach where you will have the opportunity to swim in the Atlantic waters. Grade 2

Day Seven – Ponta Delgada – Sete Cidades: This 7.5km walk (2 hours) passes the Vista do Rei viewpoint which offers the best panoramic view over Sete Cidades and the surrounding area before heading down to the lakes. Sete Cidades is an extinct volcano crater of 40 sq.km, within which are two magnificent lakes, one deep blue colour and the other emerald green. Grade 1.

Day Eight: Transfer to Ponta Delgada airport for your return flight to the UK.

Family Holiday (A)

São Miguel

Itinerary: 8 days / 7 nights

The Azores is the perfect destination for a family holiday. Experience an authentic Azorean family-run farm; taste the locally made cheese and marmalade; or even learn how to milk a cow.

Day One: On arrive at Ponta Delgada airport, transfer to your hotel.

Day Two – Half Day Tuk-Tuk Tour: Travel along the cobbled streets of the capital's historic centre, by electric tuk-tuk, visiting attractions including the Campo de São Francisco, where the main religious festivities of the island take place; the fortress of São Bras, whose main function was to defend the island against pirate attacks; the City Gates and the Church of São Sebastião. The tour also includes the city gardens where you can relax in a garden filled with impressively sized and peculiar shaped trees and visit one of the many dark sand beaches typical of these volcanic islands.

Day Three – Full Day Jeep Tour Furnas: A full day jeep tour to Furnas has been included today. Heading east from Ponta Delgada, taking the south coastal road, you will visit Vila Franca do Campo, the first capital of the island before reaching the rural village of Furnas. The natural surroundings of Furnas are lush and unspoiled with a large volcanic crater lake, hot springs and woodlands. Lunch is included at a local restaurant where you can taste the famous

Cozido, a sustainable meal fully cooked underground using the natural heat of the volcanic hot springs – a must for any visitor to the islands. The tour will also include a visit to a tea factory and stops at various viewpoints en route.

Day Four – Whale & Dolphin Watching Excursion: Enjoy a morning 3-hour whale and dolphin watching trip. The Azores is considered one of the destinations in the world for cetacean watching, and with a resident sperm whale population and twenty-four of the planet's eighty species of whale and dolphins spotted in the waters of the archipelago it is easy to see why. Your excursion is on board a zodiac boat and is led by a professional team of skippers, lookouts and biologists. Free afternoon.

Day Five – Full Day Azorean Rural Experience: Your excursion today is one of our most popular trips on São Miguel - The Azorean Experience. Based at a family-run farm in the village of Ginetes (transfers included), the experience provides an insight into rural farming; allows you to meet the resident farm animals; gives you the opportunity to milk a cow; teaches you how to prepare traditional Azorean dishes, bread and handicrafts. There is also a short journey to the Escalvado viewpoint, the Sabrina Islet viewpoint and to the Ferraria lighthouse. A light lunch is included (homemade soup, bread, local cheese, marmalade and soft drinks – water, juice and tea).

Day Six – Full Day Jeep Tour Sete Cidades & Sunset Sailing Trip: Afternoon departure, by jeep, to Sete Cidades - an extinct crater which has two lakes, one green and one blue. The lakes are one of the must-see attractions on São Miguel and one of the most photographed. Return to Ponta Delgada and head to the city's marina 'Portas do Mar'. Here you will board a catamaran for a memorable sunset voyage (c.3½ hour trip) along São Miguel's southern coastline.

Day Seven: Day at leisure. Time for some last minute shopping, or simply relax by the pool.

Day Eight: Transfer to Ponta Delgada airport for your return flight to the UK.



Tuk Tuk tour of Ponta Delgada

* Guide price based on 4-sharing includes:

- Flights from London Gatwick to Ponta Delgada, São Miguel
- 7-nights Antillia Apart-Hotel, Ponta Delgada SC - Page 57
- Return transfers from and to the airport
- City Tour of Ponta Delgada on a Tuk Tuk - 3 hours (Day 2) – max. 6 people per vehicle
- Jeep Tour of Furnas including lunch (Day 3)
- A 3-hour whale and dolphin watching trip including transfers to and from your hotel (Day 4)
- Azorean Rural Experience with lunch - transfers to and from Ginetes included (Day 5)
- Jeep Tour of Sete Cidades and Sunset Sailing Trip (Day 6)

Departures
Daily (Apr-Oct)

Duration
7 nights

Guide price from
£1,010 per person based on 4*



Furnas Lake