

São Jorge Activities (01Nov16 – 31Dec17)

Sunvil can pre-book a variety of activities on São Jorge – see full details below.
These activities can also be booked locally through our local agent.

Please note that any pre-booked activity with Sunvil must be requested 14 days or more before departure.

Canyoning

Canyoning is an exciting combination of walking, scrambling, jumping, abseiling and swimming in some of the most spectacular scenery in the island of São Jorge. It has become a very popular extreme sport with fans all over the world and provides a unique experience in the middle of nature and at the same time moments of pure adrenaline.

Baptism

This activity is aimed at beginners with no previous experience of canyoning. Basic training in rappelling techniques are provided and used to scale small vertical (not exceeding 15m) walls with a maximum number of six abseilings. The objective is to enjoy a new experience in a natural setting.

- Difficulty Level: Easy
- Duration: 4-6 hours
- Picnic lunch (sandwich, juice, water, chocolate and fruit) included

Price is £82 per person

Rappel Challenger

This activity is aimed at intermediate level with reduced technical requirements. Scale vertical walls by rappelling over several obstacles.

- Difficulty Level: Medium
- Duration: 4-6 hours

Price is £66 per person

Advanced

This activity is aimed at people who have some previous experience in canyoning. Enjoy vertical water courses (over 20m) and several rappels and jumps. The waterways have access to the ocean and some of them you can only reach by boat.

- Difficulty Level: Difficult
- Duration: 6 hours
- Picnic lunch (sandwich, juice, water, chocolate and fruit) included

Price is £87 per person

Notes

- Excursion provider: Discover Experience
- Daily pick-up from properties in Velas or Queimada at 09:00
- Duration: 3-6 hours – all year
- Location: Eastern part of the island
- A short briefing is included before each activity and instruction in rappelling techniques
- Maximum 6 people / Minimum 2 people
- Minimum age: 8 years (Baptism and Rappel Challenger) and 15 years (Advanced)
- Equipment required: Towel, swim suit, shoes that can get wet (preferably mountain boots or running shoes), warm clothing, spare pair of shoes and clothing for the trip home and a bottle of water
- Safety equipment provided: Neoprene wetsuit, socks and gloves, helmet and harness



Kayak Tours

The kayaks used are 'sit on top' kayaks - they do not flood and are virtually unsinkable in normal use, and are able to navigate up to 300 meters from the shore. Clients will always be accompanied by one or two monitors depending on the route chosen. A short briefing is included before the activity.

Route to Fajã dos Vimes

This activity begins at the harbour of Calheta (south coast). Heading east you will paddle to the Fajã dos Vimes enjoying the scenery and the tranquil waters of the Pico- São Jorge channel and the only place where it is possible to visit the coffee plantations, try the coffee and visit the local handicraft facilities.

- Difficulty Level: Medium
- Duration: 3 hours

Price is £66 per adult and £33 per child (10yrs)

Route Fajã das Almas

The Route to the Fajã das Almas features majestic views of the island of Pico. Stop off at the small Fajã for a drink or light lunch at 'Maré Viva' with its panoramic terrace.

- Difficulty Level: Medium
- Duration: 2½ hours

Price is £60 per adult and £30 per child (10yrs)

Route Fajã Grande

The Faja Grande Route is the shortest route but with a different view of Calheta ending in the small port. There is a bathing area with natural rock pool and a bar with a beautiful terrace overlooking Pico island.

- Difficulty Level: Easy
- Duration: 1 hour

Price is £32 per adult and £16 per child (10yrs)

Notes

- Excursion provider: Discover Experience
- Daily pick-up from properties in Velas or Queimada at 09:00 or 14:00
- Difficulty: low technical requirement
- Distances: Varying distances covered from 2 to 7km
- Duration: 2-3 hours – all year
- Maximum 6 people - 2 people per kayak
- Minimum age: 10 years - Children must be accompanied by parent/guardian
- Equipment required: Towel, swim suit, rain jacket, shoes that can get wet, warm clothing, spare pair of shoes and clothing for the trip home and sun lotion and hat
- Safety equipment provided: Life jackets

Private Taxi Tours

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

São Jorge (Half Day)

Depart from Velas towards Beira where you will visit a traditional cheese factory. Continue to Calheta and Manadas, stopping at several breathtaking viewpoints en route. In Manadas you will visit the beautiful baroque parish church dedicated to Santa Bárbara. Continue to Urzelina before returning to Velas.

Price is £100 per taxi

São Jorge (Full Day)

Depart from Velas along the south coast with several stops at viewpoints en route. You will see the typical Fajãs at Ouvidor, Cubres and Caldeira Santo Cristo and visit the handicraft cooperative where you will see women weaving on looms to produce traditional rugs. Continue to Calheta and Manadas, stopping at several breathtaking viewpoints en route. In Manadas you will visit the beautiful baroque parish church dedicated to Santa Bárbara (entrance fee c.1 Euro per person payable locally). Continue to Urzelina and the park of Sete Fontes before returning to Velas.

Price is £176 per taxi

Notes

- Excursion provider: Melo
- Departure from Velas at 09:00

- Transfers from hotels outside of Velas are at a supplement on request
- Prices are based on a maximum of 3 people per taxi
- Full Day: 7 hours
- Half Day: 3½ hours
- Not included: Lunch and entrance fees to museums, parks and the cheese factory (c.1.50 Euros per person)
- A qualified English speaking guide can be provided at a supplement on request

Self-Guided Walks

The islands of the Azores, with their mild climate (day time temperature ranging from 14-22 degrees), are the most wonderful islands for walking. All walks are to be booked and paid for locally.

Serra do Topo

This walk (4½ hour / 10km) is from the mountain range of Serra do Topo to Fajã dos Cubres, on the north coast of São Jorge. The walk will take you along a magnificent path descending to Fajã do Santo Cristo, one of the most isolated spots in the Azores, with a handful of resident families and a few summer houses for those visiting in the summer months. Spend time exploring the protected nature reserve of Faja do Santo Cristo before continuing towards Fajã dos Cubres. The island of Graciosa can be seen from here. Grade 2 (Medium)

Loural

This is a 2½ hour (5km) walk. Starting at Loural you will walk along the steep slopes of São Jorge's southern coastline through farming pastures before descending to Faja de São Joao and its village. Along this walk you will be able to enjoy a magnificent view across the ocean to Pico Island, with its towering volcano. Grade 2 (Medium)

Pico das Caldeiras

This is a 5½ hour (16km) walk. Passing along the central part of the island from Pico das Caldeiras to Fajã do Ouvidor via Pico da Esperança which, at 1,053 metres, is the highest point on the island. As you descend towards the Fajã do Ouvidor, stop at the viewpoint and admire the magnificent view along the coastline and over the agricultural pasture. Grade 2 (Medium)

Notes

- All walks can be booked and paid for locally
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