



MADEIRA

A garden with
charm and
sophistication

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MAIN CITIES AND DESTINATIONS

Madeira - A garden with charm and sophistication.



Right in the middle of the Atlantic, the islands of Madeira and Porto Santo are a haven of natural beauty. The exotic colors of the flowers stand out from among the blue sea and the emerald green vegetation; this is an archipelago where two thirds are a protected area and where the largest laurisilva forest in the world is located.

The springtime temperature, felt all year round, cries out for open air activities. You can go for a walk along the network of levadas (irrigation channels), visit the city of Funchal and discover the heritage associated with the Discoveries or roam freely around the island. Boat rides are an excellent way of admiring the coastline from a different perspective.

Madeira offers various tourist complexes and accesses to the sea with prime conditions for leisure boating and scuba diving. The island of Porto Santo is the ideal place to escape from stress and undertake a thalassotherapy program, or a beach holiday combined with a spot of golf.



Gastronomy: Right in the Atlantic, the fish and seafood of the archipelago are tasty and cooked in traditional ways, such as fillets of black scabbard fish or tuna steaks, served with crispy fried maize; there is also octopus and delicious seafood, such as limpets and winkles. The most traditional meat dish is the famous beef on a skewer made of a laurel stick, which gives it a unique flavor. With its exceptional climate, Madeira grows a large variety of crops, in particular sugar cane and tropical fruit (such as the much appreciated banana, pineapple and passion fruit), to be

found in the drinks and the delicate desserts. The famous Madeira wine, whether drunk as an aperitif or digestive, goes well with the traditional honey cake (made with sugarcane honey). Sugar cane is also used to make the aguardente to mix in to the famous punch, to be tried when climbing the Pico do Areeiro. Finally, we just need to mention the bolo do caco. Except that this is not a bolo (cake) but a type of bread, which, through being baked on a piece of tile, was given this name.

Suggested trips: Levadas walk - About 1.500 km of levadas (irrigation channels) to explore, discovering breathtaking landscapes, a unique encounter with nature. **Flower Festival** - in celebrating springtime and the exuberance of the flowers that typically bloom in that season, and here with even greater intensity due to Madeira's subtropical climate, Funchal is the setting for a truly sumptuous spectacle, the city's Flower Festival. **Carros de Cesto** - these cars are made of wicker and wood, and has two seats; these sledges are powered by two carreiros, or sledge drivers wearing white uniforms and straw hats, who control this mean of transportation by making use of their boots as brakes.



Explore Portugal's preferred landmarks: Cabo Girão viewpoint - situated on the highest promontory in Europe, at an elevation of 580 m, offers a vertiginous view of the fajãs of Rancho and Cabo Girão - small areas of cultivated land at the foot of the cliff - as well as magnificent panoramic views over the ocean and the municipalities of Câmara de Lobos and Funchal. **Beach of Porto Santo** - The 9 km beach, with an extensive and continuous shoreline of fine golden sands, has given the island the popular name of "Golden Island", becoming its trademark and main icon, together with its uniquely crystal-clear and turquoise-blue warm waters. **Mercado dos Lavradores** - The Farmers' Market features New State architecture, including large tile panels that decorate the facade, the entrance and the fishmonger; here all kinds of products are sold, mixing colors, sounds, smells and multiple nationalities.

