

Dolphins, whales and humans; 1-week Whale Watching package on Pico

Overview

Dolphins, whales and humans - one week Whale Watching package on Pico Island

Watching whales and dolphins in the wild is a unique experience, which many people dream about all their lives. On Pico Island it can become reality. Pico is known to be one of the best places in the world when it comes to whale watching. Spend a week searching for Moby Dick, accompanied by the team of Espaço Talassa. The Azores are among the best places in the world to spot whales and dolphins. About 25 different species live in the Azores archipelago or pass by the islands. Focusing on the waters around the island of Pico, the dream of spotting whales and dolphins up close will become a reality. Almost nowhere else in the world it's possible to observe so many different species within only one season. The ocean provides a richly set table for these various mammals. The most frequently spotted whale is the sperm whale, Moby Dick, which can grow up to 18 meters long. The most spotted dolphins in this area are bottlenose dolphins and the so-called common dolphins.

Espaço Talassa - Sustainable Whale Watching on the Azores since 1989

Since 1989 Serge Viallelle has explored the ocean around the Azores. He investigates the stunning world of the local Cetacean (commonly known as whales and dolphins). With increasing passion he founded the first sustainable Whale Watching and Cetacean Research Station of the Azores in 1991.

On each of your 5 boat excursions you'll have a 98% chance to get to spot cetaceans. You not only get the opportunity to observe one of the 28 registered species of marine mammals, but also actively participate in their research and protection. With respect for the animals, their environment and our ethnic principals, you will help collecting data for our research; taking pictures, creating underwater audio files and observing the animals.

By choosing Espaço Talassa, you decide to limit your ecological footprint. Espaço Talassa, in collaboration with Quercus, is planting trees and participating in the micro-reserve project to partially offset the environmental deficit and CO2 emissions caused by our whale watching activity. For each client of Espaço Talassa, 50 cent will be donated to replant the mountain range of Carmulo, called "Cabeço Santo". After a horrific fire in 2005, it is now reforested with our help.

1 week holiday with dolphins and whales

The hotel you'll be staying in for 7 nights is directly linked to the Whale Watching agency Espaço Talassa and the Whaler's Museum of Lajes do Pico. Most rooms have sea view or a view of the impressive mountain of Pico. Breakfast is included. You'll also have included transfers to and from the airport or the harbors of Pico. In case you'll arrive on Faial, the transfer from Faial to Pico is bookable for an extra charge.

During your stay you'll participate in 5 boat excursions, each will take approximately 3 hours. Before the excursions important data will be collected, to make the trip as successful as possible. The afternoons are free. It's recommendable to visit the Whaler's Museum in Lajes, which provides interesting information about the history of whaling in the Azores. Our Whale Watching office provides information about the whales and other marine mammals. It's possible to rent goggles, entire snorkel equipments, bikes or kayaks; go for a hike and enjoy the wonderful views Pico's hiking trails provide; or book individual tours to the other islands with vista verde azores.

This description is only a rough summary of your package. Depending on climatic conditions, safety and health issues, and of course the presence of the animals, the tour operator might modify the program.

Details

1. DAY

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Arrival on the island of Pico and transfer to Lajes

Arrival on the island of Pico and transfer to the town of Lajes, where you'll stay the entire week.

Transfers from the harbors and from the airport of Pico are included. At arrival on the island of Faial, there will be an extra charge for the transfer.

After your arrival in Lajes, you'll receive a short overview of your holiday program.

After, you'll have the rest of the day off.

2. - 7. DAY

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Enjoying whales and dolphins

During your stay on Pico you'll be able to participate in 5 boat excursions provided by Espaço Talassa; these are the highlights of this package. The usual schedule for each day is as follows.

At 10am the boat leaves the harbor of Lajes. You can peacefully watch dolphins and whales, listen to them and take photographs. Around 1pm you'll be back in Lajes and enjoy your free time.

In the Whaler's Museum in Lajes you can learn a lot about the history of whale hunting in the Azores. In the museum you'll find a big Scrimshaw-collection (engravings on sperm whale teeth and bones) and one of the biggest libraries providing information about whale hunting.

The „Vigia da Queimada“ is also worth a visit, as well as the BOCA, our Base of Observation of the Cetaceans of the Azores. It provides books, audiovisual materials, Internet access as well as kajaks, bikes and snorkel equipment.

“Calheta de Nesquim”, the Azorean port from where the first whaling boat ventured out, will appeal to the more energetic visitors. In the town of São Roque you can visit the former whaler's factory.

Or you can just relax and enjoy the Azorean summer.

8. DAY

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End of package; departure or individual journey

Your package with Espaço Talassa will end today with the transfer to the harbor or the airport. You can fly back home, or start an your individual journey on the remarkable Azores islands, which can be booked with us, [vista verde azores](#).

Dates & Prices		
from	until	Price
20.04.2024	28.06.2024	639 €
per person with 2 travelers in a double room		
29.06.2024	13.09.2024	759 €
per person with 2 travelers in a double room		
14.09.2024	04.10.2024	639 €
per person with 2 travelers in a double room		
05.10.2024	01.11.2024	569 €
per person with 2 travelers in a double room		

Included services

- Transfer from the airport or ferry port on Pico to the hotel in Lajes and back
- 7 nights in the 2-star Hotel Whale Come ao Pico (owned by Espaço Talassa) in a double room with shower/toilet with breakfast
- 5 half-day (approx. 3 hours) whale and dolphin watching tours including insurance/taxes
- free entry to the Whaler's Museum
- free rental of mountain bikes

not included services

- International arrival and departure
- Extra charge for transfer from Faial: €27 per person
- Single room surcharge for the entire week: €119
- Extra charge for a sea view room: €28 per person (for the entire week)
- Extra charge for half board: €126 per person.