

## São Miguel Intensive - discover the largest and most diverse Azores Island during the course of a week

### Overview

Get to know the island of São Miguel in depth on this personalized Azores tour. The largest and most diverse island in the Azores archipelago will inspire you with its crater lakes, black beaches and breathtaking viewpoints. You are flexible to explore the island with your own car, but we will give you tips on how to organize your day.

You can expect unspoilt nature, lush greenery, volcanoes, idyllic places, exciting museums, beautiful hiking trails and a whale-watching trip. The island provides an immense diversity, waiting to be discovered by you. Discover the impressive volcanic crater of Sete Cidades, where the Vista do Rei (King's View) viewpoint left the Portuguese royal family breathless with amazement. Try the unique regional dish Cozido, steam-cooked with geothermal heat, on the edge of the volcanic lake in Furnas. Stroll through the bright green tea plantations of Cha Gorreana, the only one of its kind in Europe, and sample the delicious hot drink. Hike waterfalls, go swimming in the Atlantic Ocean and climb cooled lava formations. Most of your activities and your daily schedule can be decided spontaneously on the spot. In the hotel option, you will be accommodated as standard in the 4-star Hotel Talisman (national category), which is located in a restored manor house in the center of the old town of Ponta Delgada. With the country house board option, you stay in the stylish Quinta da Abelheira, which is located in a suburb of Ponta Delgada. The beautiful Quinta da Mó complex in Furnas, located in the town of hot springs, awaits you in the holiday home option (self-catering).

The accommodation can of course be customized according to your individual wishes. The accommodations listed here are just examples. Of course, you can also change accommodation in the middle of your trip to get to know another part of the island better. The trip can be customised according to your wishes and can of course also be combined with visits to other islands.

This trip is not suitable for people with reduced mobility. Please contact us for further information.

### Details

#### 1. DAY



#### Arrival in the Azores / São Miguel island

International arrival on São Miguel. Pick up your rental car directly at the airport and drive to your accommodation. Here you can choose from three different options: A 4-star hotel in the heart of Ponta Delgada, a more rural and comfortable quinta or a holiday home in the countryside. Breakfast is included in the price of the hotel and quinta options, while the holiday home option is self-catering. Contact us and we will be happy to send you more information about the accommodation. As a general rule, the main island of the Azores offers a very wide range of accommodation and we can select it according to your wishes. It is also possible to split your stay into two different accommodations.

*7 nights in a 4-star hotel in Ponta Delgada / a charming guesthouse / a holiday home*

## 2. - 6. DAY



## Explore the island of São Miguel and the city of Ponta Delgada

Explore the beauty of the island at your own pace and according to your mood with your rental car. It's recommendable to set out to the east, the central area and the west. In addition to the recommendations listed below, there are many beautiful small sandy beaches and natural bays on the island - ideal if you are travelling in summer! Recommendations for your stay on São Miguel:

Discover the west of the island. The highlight is the legendary crater lakes near Sete Cidades. There are also beautiful hiking trails in the area, such as a hike on the crater rim. On the way back towards Ponta Delgada, you can visit a pineapple plantation where deliciously flavored delicacy pineapples are grown in greenhouses. The only ones in the world!

Get to know Ponta Delgada, the capital of the island of São Miguel, on your own. There are interesting buildings from over 500 years of history to see. It's worth taking a walk along the beautiful, black and white patterned pavements through the historic old town with its decorated balconies, colorful market, lively squares, winding alleyways, beautiful gardens and a multitude of churches.

Explore the valley and the town of Furnas. Enjoy the charm of the traditional spa town of Furnas, featuring over 20 hot springs. Try the "Cozido" stew, which is steam-cooked with geothermal heat, dug into the ground. Take a walk through the Terra Nostra Park, which many consider to be Europe's most beautiful botanical garden, and enjoy a dip into the park's natural thermal pool which provides a constant temperature of 38 degrees Celsius. The close by Lake of Furnas invites you to leisurely walks; right at the lake there is the place where the Cozido stew is cooked in the ground.

The lake Lagoa do Fogo. The secluded "lake of fire" is situated in about 600 m height in a crater, in the uninhabited interior of the island. From several viewpoints on the mountain road, you can marvel at the impressive lake and the beautiful colors of nature. The crater lake is considered to be one of the most beautiful ones of the entire Azores.

The north-east of the island - Nordeste. Head north-east and make a detour to the "Chá Gorreana" tea factory. There are a total of two tea plantations in the Azores (the only ones in Europe), but only "Chá Gorreana" can look back on a 125-year tradition. It is worth visiting the factory and also taking the easy circular walk through the tea fields. Along the north coast you reach Nordeste, the end of the island of São Miguel.

Guided hikes: Book an English-speaking guide to explore the island's hiking-trails amidst wonderful nature. Hiking guides not only know the trails very well, but also provide interesting information on the island. Please contact us for more information.

Other exciting activities: On the island of São Miguel there are a variety of exciting activities to choose from. Be it a canyoning tour for beginners, a sailing trip in a catamaran at sunset, snorkeling with dolphins or a mix of kayaking and cycling. If you are interested, please contact us and we will be happy to send you more information.

## 7. DAY



## SPECIALLY INCLUDED FOR YOU: WHALE- AND DOLPHINWATCHING

A holiday in the Azores is, in some ways, "incomplete" without a trip to the world of giant marine mammals. They pass the Azores on their migration routes and they like to take a (long) break in the Azores, due to the abundance of fish. The most common whale is the sperm whale. Like other whale and dolphin species, the sperm whale is native to the area and lives all year round in the waters around the Azores. A male sperm whale grows up to 20 meters long. It's very likely to get to see dolphins, who like to accompany the excursion boats and play with the waves those create. Commercial whaling on the islands came to an end at the beginning of the 1980s. Today, fortunately everything "only" revolves around observing the giants of the oceans. The half-day excursion takes place from/to Ponta Delgada in a larger catamaran/excursion boat, which is also suitable for small children.

## 8. DAY



## Return Journey

It's time to say goodbye. Drive to the airport, return your rental car and flight back home.

Dates & Prices		
from	until	Price
01.04.2024	31.05.2024	953 €
Hotel Pedras do Mar/Verde Mar (Meerblick!) - pro Person bei 2 Reisenden im Doppelzimmer		
01.04.2024	31.05.2024	2.575 €
mit Quinta da Mo - bei einer reisenden Person im Ferienhaus		
01.04.2024	31.05.2024	1.239 €
Quinta Atlantis - bei einer reisenden Person im Einzelzimmer		
01.04.2024	31.05.2024	672 €
Quinta Atlantis - pro Person bei 2 Reisendem im Doppelzimmer		
01.04.2024	31.05.2024	1.147 €
mit Hotel Talisman - bei einer reisenden Person im Einzelzimmer		
01.04.2024	31.05.2024	1.340 €
mit Quinta da Mo - pro Person bei 2 Reisenden im Ferienhaus		
01.04.2024	31.05.2024	687 €
mit Hotel Talisman - pro Person bei 2 Reisenden im Doppelzimmer		
01.04.2024	31.05.2024	556 €
mit Quinta Altamira - pro Person bei 2 Reisenden im Ferienhaus		
01.04.2024	31.05.2024	1.740 €
Quinta da Abelheira - bei einer reisenden Person im Einzelzimmer		
01.04.2024	31.05.2024	1.010 €
Quinta da Abelheira - pro Person bei 2 Reisenden im Doppelzimmer		
01.04.2024	31.05.2024	895 €
mit Quinta Altamira - bei einer reisenden Person im Ferienhaus		
01.04.2024	31.05.2024	1.717 €
Hotel Pedras do Mar/Verde Mar (Meerblick!) - bei einer reisenden Person im Einzelzimmer		
01.06.2024	30.09.2024	894 €
Hotel Talisman - pro Person bei 2 Reisenden im Doppelzimmer		
01.06.2024	30.09.2024	777 €
mit Quinta Altamira - pro Person bei 2 Reisenden im Ferienhaus		
01.06.2024	30.09.2024	3.317 €
mit Quinta da Mo - bei einer reisenden Person im Ferienhaus		
01.06.2024	30.09.2024	1.711 €
mit Quinta da Mo - pro Person bei 2 Reisenden im Ferienhaus		
01.06.2024	30.09.2024	1.226 €
mit Quinta Altamira - bei einer reisenden Person im Ferienhaus		
01.06.2024	30.09.2024	783 €

Quinta Atlantis - pro Person bei 2 Reisenden im Doppelzimmer		
01.06.2024	30.09.2024	2.063 €
Quinta da Abelheira - bei einer reisenden Person im Einzelzimmer		
01.06.2024	30.09.2024	1.462 €
Quinta Atlantis - bei einer reisenden Person im Einzelzimmer		
01.06.2024	30.09.2024	1.543 €
Hotel Talisman - bei einer reisenden Person im Einzelzimmer		
01.06.2024	30.09.2024	1.263 €
Hotel Pedras do Mar/Verde Mar (Meerblick!) - pro Person bei 2 Reisenden im Doppelzimmer		
01.06.2024	30.09.2024	2.327 €
Hotel Pedras do Mar/Verde Mar (Meerblick!) - bei einer reisenden Person im Einzelzimmer		
01.06.2024	30.09.2024	1.271 €
Quinta da Abelheira - pro Person bei 2 Reisenden im Doppelzimmer		
01.10.2024	31.10.2024	672 €
Quinta Atlantis - pro Person bei 2 Reisendem im Doppelzimmer		
01.10.2024	31.10.2024	556 €
mit Quinta Altamira - pro Person bei 2 Reisenden im Ferienhaus		
01.10.2024	31.10.2024	1.147 €
mit Hotel Talisman - bei einer reisenden Person im Einzelzimmer		
01.10.2024	31.10.2024	2.575 €
mit Quinta da Mo - bei einer reisenden Person im Ferienhaus		
01.10.2024	31.10.2024	953 €
Hotel Pedras do Mar/Verde Mar (Meerblick!) - pro Person bei 2 Reisenden im Doppelzimmer		
01.10.2024	31.10.2024	1.239 €
Quinta Atlantis - bei einer reisenden Person im Einzelzimmer		
01.10.2024	31.10.2024	1.340 €
mit Quinta da Mo - pro Person bei 2 Reisenden im Ferienhaus		
01.10.2024	31.10.2024	1.717 €
Hotel Pedras do Mar/Verde Mar (Meerblick!) - bei einer reisenden Person im Einzelzimmer		
01.10.2024	31.10.2024	1.010 €
Quinta da Abelheira - pro Person bei 2 Reisenden im Doppelzimmer		
01.10.2024	31.10.2024	1.740 €
Quinta da Abelheira - bei einer reisenden Person im Einzelzimmer		
01.10.2024	31.10.2024	687 €
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01.10.2024	31.10.2024	895 €
mit Quinta Altamira - bei einer reisenden Person im Ferienhaus		

## Included services

- 7 nights on the island of São Miguel (various options)
- 7 days rental car category A small car (example models Citroen C1, Toyota Aygo or similar), from arrival/to departure airport: unlimited free kilometres, including fully comprehensive insurance with reimbursement of excess\*; second driver possible at no extra charge; 24-hour assistance from the rental car company
- \*Reimbursement of the excess: In the event of damage, you must pay the amount of the damage incurred to the car hire company on site (maximum excess for small cars: €700). If you submit the damage report, photos of the damage, proof of the deductible and the rental vehicle contract to the ALLIANZ insurance company in Germany on time after returning the car/after your holiday, the amount will be refunded to you. This is because vista verde azores has taken out this additional insurance for all travellers there. The additional insurance reimburses the contractually owed and charged excess of the comprehensive insurance for passenger vehicles in the event of accident and theft as well as the contractually owed and charged necessary costs due to damage to the underbody, tyres, windscreen, side and rear windows, exterior mirrors and roof of the rental vehicle in the event of an accident.
- half-day whale watching tour from/to Ponta Delgada in a semi-rigid or excursion boat
- Detailed travel documents and 24-hour emergency telephone number (always in English, often also in German) on site

## not included services

- international arrival and departure (possible with TAP Air Portugal, Azores Airlines and possibly other airlines such as Ryanair and Edelweiss)
- fuel for your rental car
- other meals and personal expenses
- travel insurance