

Welcome to The Azores Islands

Please join Portuguese speaking Maria Fagundes-Bettis of Candy's Carefree Travel, who has coordinated and hosted many groups on this very unique tour, designed especially for you from the heart!

Enjoy the culture and customs of the Portuguese Azorean people who have retained a special way of life in harmony and in nature. This is a once in a lifetime travel opportunity!

Visit- Terceira, Flores, Sao Miguel, Santa Maria, Faial, Pico, & Sao Jorge Islands.

Our visit is planned during the time the blue hydrangeas are in season and when the "Festas da Praia" in Terceira is taking place, and Sea Week Festival in Faial.

July 31-Aug 15, 2019

Hosted by Maria Fagundes-Bettis

PACKAGE RATE:

\$5498 per person, Double Occupancy

\$6359 Single Occupancy

Sorry, No Triple or Quads

PASSPORT REQUIRED

Deposit: \$1000 per person is due upon reservation

Cash or Check Only- Sorry No Credit Cards

Final is due on or before: April 30, 2019

Group Insurance is available at a reduced rate and must be paid with initial deposit.

Please refer to your Carefree Travel invoice for cancel/change penalties and further Terms and Conditions.

This is a small group!

Reservations are made on a first come-first serve basis.

209.575.4192

Contact Maria, our Azores Specialist
mbettis@carefreemodesto.com



Rates Include:

- Roundtrip Transportation from Modesto to Airport (other locations may be available)
- Roundtrip International Airfare
- Inter-Island Air & Ferries
- 14 Nights First Class Hotel Accommodations
- All Transfers, Taxes, Fees & Portage
- Daily Breakfast & Most Meals (as stated in itinerary)
- Sightseeing by English Speaking Local Guides
- Pre-Departure Orientation
- Carefree Travel Host with you all the way!
"Fala Portuguese"



Day by Day itinerary

July 31 – Depart Oakland, CA SATA (Nonstop to Terceira)

Aug 01 – Day 1 - Terceira – Arrive in Lajes, Terceira. Meet & Greet and transferred to our hotel in Angra. After check in, you are free until we gather for our afternoon city tour with a visit to the majestic 19th Century City Hall, and the historical Town Square, and the Angra Museum. Tells the history of the city and island as well, as having an impressive collection of arms, maps, paintings and sculptures. Afterwards, a short stroll around the peaceful and charming Jardim Duque da Terceira, manicured garden in the center of Angra do Heroismo of Angra then to our “Welcome Dinner” at a local restaurant. **(B, D)**

Aug 02 – Day 2 – Terceira – Full day tour of Terceira Island. On this tour you will visit some of the island’s small villages and pass through picturesque stone-walled fields. From Angra to the peninsula of Monte Brasil, one of the largest fortresses built by the Spaniards. Continue to Praia da Victoria where you can see the biggest beach in the Azores. Then to Serra do Cume where you have a breathtaking view over the valley of Achada. Stopping at Sao Sebastiao to view one of the finest example of Imperios do Espirito Santo – Imperios are central to the religious festival of the Holy Ghost, popular throughout the islands and visit a late XV Century church. Enjoy a hosted lunch at a typical restaurant. After lunch we visit the interior of the island the “Algar do Carvao” grotto. Then head north to the coastal village of Biscoitos with its wine museum with a bit of wine tasting, and natural swimming pools of black volcanic rock. Return to Angra, passing by some of the local villages – a stop at the QUIJO VAQUINHA for some cheese tasting and a cold Sagres beer. And maybe there might be a “Festa” nearby with bullfights on a rope. **(B, L)**

Aug 03 – Day 3 – Terceira – This morning a day of leisure, check out nearby shopping, or just relax by the pool. Later we visit the village of Praia da Vitoria for a group dinner, after dinner you can enjoy the evening festivities in Praia. **(B, D)**

Aug 04 – Day 4 – Terceira/Flores – This morning, transfer from the hotel to the Lajes Airport for departure to the island of Flores. See the breath-taking scenery. Flores is an island that has deep valleys and high peaks, waterfalls, lagoons bordered by hydrangeas, cliffs carved by grottoes, hot springs, and the remains of old volcanoes. Flores (Flowers) owes its name to a great profusion of wild flowers (especially hydrangeas, which have large blue or pink petals) Pastures, farms and vineyards complete the make-up of the landscape of Flores Island. Evening at leisure. **(B)**

Aug 05 – Day 5 – Flores – This morning we depart from Fajã Grande we quickly arrived in a small pool at the bottom of a 90-metre high waterfall in Poço do Bacalhau. An obligatory passage point in this visit to Flores island is also Poço da Ribeira do Ferreiro, which requires a short walk, but surely will worth the effort. Almost without realizing it, we arrive to Portal

viewpoint and, a little further ahead, to Craveiro Lopes, two unique points of view of the valley on which they stand, Fajã Grande, Cuada and Fajãzinha. In the viewpoint of Lagoas Negra e Comprida we can admire the 180° view, perfect for a panoramic photograph. Enjoy a hosted lunch at a typical restaurant. Then we continue the “circuit” for the remaining seven wonderful lakes, in the following sequence: Branca, Seca, Funda, Rasa and finally, Lagoa da Lomba. After we go to Aldeia da Cuada, which was once a village full of people and is nowadays an exquisite tourist village. **(B, L)**

Aug 06 – Day 6 – Flores/Sao Miguel – Morning at leisure, we’ll transfer to the airport for our flight to Ponta Delgada, Sao Miguel – the largest island in the Azores. We will be met and transferred to the hotel. Tonight you may want to try one of many excellent restaurants nearby. **(B)**

Aug 07 – Day 7 – Sao Miguel – This morning’s tour includes a visit to the beautiful twin lakes of Sete Cidades and the Pineapple Plantation. Free afternoon for shopping, additional sightseeing or just relax by a nearby café. Tonight a special dinner and Folklore show at Solar da Graca. **(B, D)**

Aug 08 – Day 8 – Sao Miguel – Depart this morning from Ponta Delgada to the village of Furnas, by the south road, stopping in the town of Vila Franca do Campo, and visit the Tea Plantation. In Furnas you will have time to visit the hot springs, try the famous Bolo Levedo (a large fluffy sweet English muffin) Enjoy a special “Cozido” luncheon at the Terra Nostra (meats and vegetables are cooked in the ground by geothermal energy) before enjoying a stroll through the beautiful 30 acre botanical garden. We continue our journey to the town of Ribeira Grande, before returning to Ponta Delgada. Evening at leisure, tonight try one of the local restaurants or cafes near the hotels harbor. **(B, L)**

Aug 09 – Day 9 – Sao Miguel/Santa Maria - Morning at leisure, we’ll transfer to the airport for our mid-day short flight to the island of Santa Maria. The island has several white sandy beaches and rock pools, with excellent conditions for summer activities. The most famous is Praia Formosa, where you can go surfing, windsurfing, water skiing and sailing. Evening at leisure, tonight try one of the local restaurants or cafes near the hotel in Vila do Porto for lunch and dinner. **(B)**

Aug 10 – Day 10 – Santa Maria - We begin our full day island tour with a visit to the São Pedro Church on the way to Lagoinhas. Next stop is the town centre of Santa Barbara, where we will visit a local church. From Santa Barbara we will head west to see the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Afterwards, in the village of Espirito Santo, a visit is scheduled at the Ethnographic Museum, and at a Church of the sixteenth century, whereas history goes, was the first church to hold mass service in the Azores. Return to Vila do Porto, traveling through the Almagreira area. Lunch is scheduled here in a traditional restaurant. After lunch, we will visit the airport near Santa Maria, then head towards the village of Anjos, where Columbus held a Mass in a small

chapel, that has been preserved until this day. Then visit the hotspots of the city of Vila do Porto, return to hotel evening at leisure. **(B, L)**

Aug 11 – Day 11 – Santa Maria/Faial - We begin our half-day tour en-route to the “Caldeira” a stop at one of Faial’s famous Massa Sovada(sweet bread) local Café. Then continue to Capelinhos and see the remains of the last volcanic eruption in 1937. Along the way see beautiful ocean views and unique windmills. Tonight enjoy your time in Horta for the SeaWeek festivities. **(B)**

Aug 12 – Day 12 – Faial/Pico – This morning a short transfer to the Horta harbor, for our 30 minute ferry ride to Pico. We begin our day tour from Madalena harbor you will take the mountain road across the island towards the village of Lajes do Pico, (hosted luncheon included). This journey will include the beautiful south coast of the island, with its vineyards bordering by black volcanic rock and Mount Pico towering above. At Lajes do Pico you will visit the Whaler’s Museum and its fascination exhibit illustration whaling in the Azores which was banned in 1987 and was the main industry of the island. Then to Sao Roque, including a visit to the black rock of Cachorro, before returning to Madalena harbor and your return ferry back to Horta harbor. Evening at leisure. **(B, L)**

Aug 13 – Day 13 – Faial/Sao Jorge – This morning a transfer to the Horta harbor, for a 1 hour 40 minute ferry ride to Velas, Sao Jorge. We begin our day tour of Sao Jorge seeing the breathtaking scenery. Sao Jorge is an island of cliffs, steep rugged mass of rock and fajas. The fajas are small plains originally created by lava or landslides. There are over 40 fajas in Sao Jorge. In some cases there is only pedestrian access. Enjoy a hosted luncheon at a typical restaurant. You will pass by Calheta, and Manadas to visit a beautiful Church of Santa Barbara, 18th century Barroco style church. Then, you will visit Urzelina to see the remaining tower of a church that was covered by lava in the eruption of 1808, and it is now surrounded by fruit trees and other vegetation. It is time now to return to Velas and to discover the most interesting points of the village. At the end of the day your will return to your hotel. Tonight try one of the local restaurants or cafes near the hotel in the village of Velas. **(B, L)**

Aug 14 – Day 14 – Sao Jorge – Today a special visit to the famous cheese factory in Sao Jorge, to see how the famous St. Jorge cheese is made. Free afternoon for shopping, additional sightseeing or just relax by the pool. Tonight enjoy a special Farewell Dinner to celebrate the success of your journey. **(B, D)**

Aug 15 – Day 15 – Sao Jorge/San Francisco USA – Transfer to the airport for your flight back home. **(B)**