

THE **TRAVEL CLUB**

Pre-Departure Itinerary

THE AZORES

The Island of Sao Miguel

Stunning landscapes, volcanic craters, hot springs, lush greenery and 5-star accommodations

8 DAYS: Saturday, September 12-Saturday, September 19, 2026



Unveil paradise in the Atlantic with a vacation to breathtaking, vibrant and unforgettable Sao Miguel in the Azores. A hidden gem awaits us this September as we visit volcanic craters, lush gardens and hot springs and enjoy stunning coastal views and the friendly Azorean people. A non-stop flight from Boston brings us to beautiful Sao Miguel—the Green Island—in just five hours. From our downtown accommodations in colorful Ponta Delgada, we're close to museums, monuments and historic landmarks as well as lively markets, lovely parks and plenty of cafés, restaurants and shops. Visit the famous crater lakes at Sete Cidades—and perhaps discover why one lagoon is blue and the other green—the mystical Fire Lake, and the hot springs in the Valley of Furnas. We'll be entertained at a tea plantation and passion fruit liqueur factory, enjoy a traditional Azorean feast cooked underground by the hot springs and stroll the winding paths at Terra Nostra Botanical Park. Add in quaint

villages, tropical waterfalls, ocean views and a full day to explore on our own and we'll understand why *National Geographic* rates the Azores as one of the top ten vacation spots in the world!

Includes

- Round-trip regularly scheduled SATA Airways flights direct from Boston to Ponta Delgada, Azores
- Six nights' five-star accommodations: **Grand Hotel Açores Atlântico**
- Coffee/breakfast on arrival
- Orientation meeting with welcome beverage
- Breakfast daily
- Arrival dinner at hotel or local restaurant within walking distance
- Dinner at local restaurant
- Traditional "Cozido" lunch at Terra Nostra Garden Hotel
- Tapas-style lunch at local farm
- Dinner at a local restaurant within walking distance
- Lunch at a local restaurant
- Farewell drink with the group at the hotel
- Escorted, private, round-trip airport/hotel transfers
- Services of professional local Tour Manager

Grand Hotel Açores Atlântico

The renovated 5-star Grand Hotel Açores Atlântico, is set in a prime location close to the historic center, facing the marina and boasting exceptional Atlantic ocean views. Featuring a classic décor evoking the European Grand Hotel style, all rooms and suites are equipped with air conditioning, free WiFi, smart flat-screen TV, mini-bar and a desk. Accommodations may feature views of the city, the bay or the ocean. The hotel's à la carte restaurant offers a signature menu inspired by the Azorean gastronomy and products, offering a stunning view of the Ponta Delgada Marina. The buffet breakfast features local products. In addition, there is a Bistro at the reception perfect for a light meal or a drink. With a 24-hour reception, Grand Hotel Açores Atlântico features a permanent exhibition about the maritime transportation sector, as well as a laundry service and a heated swimming pool.

\$4,999

Prices are per person based on double occupancy. Single supplement is \$1,070. Triple accommodations may be available upon request. Fuel surcharge, air taxes and fees subject to change. Passport required. Per person deposit is \$500.

Please note - if you wish to extend your tour or request air or hotel upgrades, please advise us at the time of booking.

Features

Ponta Delgada tour, excursion to Sete Cidades twin lakes, pineapple plantation, ceramic factory, passion fruit liqueur factory, Caldeira Velha waterfall, Lagoa de Fogo (Fire Lake), excursion to Valley of Furnas, traditional cozido feast, Terra Nostra Botanical Park, visit tea plantation, excursion to Ribeira Grande, Ribeira dos Calderoes, Nordeste, day at leisure, excursion to Quinta do Agriculture farm estate





Day 1 & Day 2: We'll depart Boston in the evening on our direct flight to Sao Miguel arriving early the next morning. We'll enjoy coffee service (or breakfast) upon arrival at the hotel. Check in and relax at your five-star accommodations at the **Grand Hotel Açores Atlântico**. In the afternoon we'll have a guided orientation walk of Ponta Delgada followed by a get together, welcome drink and dinner. **(D)**



Day 3: After breakfast at the hotel we'll start our day with a visit to a local pineapple plantation and then continue on the mountain road to the famed **twin lakes of Sete Cidades (Seven Cities)**, where in the middle of an extinct volcanic crater lie the legendary twin lagoons. One is green and the other is blue. This magnificent natural effect is

perhaps the most photographed site in the Azores. At Sete Cidades village we'll have free time to explore followed by a visit to Capelas village. We'll return to the hotel and the afternoon is free before we have dinner at a local restaurant. **(B D)**



Day 4: Today's full-day tour takes in the eastern side of the island to the **Valley of Furnas and Terra Nostra Garden**. We'll see the picturesque town of **Vila Franca do Campo** and continue to **Furnas Lake** – this famed lake is surrounded by cauldrons (hot springs) and boiling sulfur pools where delicious meals are cooked in underground silos or Fumaroles. At midday, a traditional cozido feast is elegantly served at Terra Nostra Garden Hotel. Afterwards, stroll the winding paths at **Terra Nostra Botanical Park** to view one of the world's most impressive collections of exotic flowers and trees. We'll have free time to enjoy the thermal pool. **(B L)**





Day 5: This morning, visit the **Quinta do Agricultor** farm estate, also known as the “Farm of the Farmer”, originally constructed in the 17th century. Learn about sustainable agriculture and the organic farming that produces high-quality steak and dairy products. Meet their friendly donkeys and enjoy a tapas-style lunch of local products made on the farm. We’ll visit a local ceramic factory and (weather permitting) we’ll climb to Miradouro Pico da Barrosa viewpoint over Lagoa do Fogo. Have the afternoon free before we walk to a local restaurant for dinner. **(BLD)**





Day 6: Another day of spectacular sightseeing awaits as we explore the northeast coast. Visit the **Parque Natural da Ribeira dos Caldeiros** and enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Visit a local tea plantation before we stop at the beautiful city of **Ribeira Grande** with its outstanding 17th and 18th century Baroque architecture and have free time to explore with a brief stop at a local beach. **(B L)**





Day 7: Today is a day at leisure for you to explore on your own. Your Tour Manager will help you with planning your own optional activities. This evening enjoy a farewell drink at the hotel. **(B)**



Day 8: After breakfast at the hotel, you'll have the morning and afternoon free before transfer to the airport in the midafternoon. **(B)**

Proof of Citizenship is required for all trips outside the United States. U.S. citizens require a valid Passport for travel with at least 6 months' validity. Passports are the responsibility of each traveler.

PLEASE NOTE: This pre-departure itinerary is designed to give you an idea of how this itinerary is structured. We reserve the right to make any changes to your final itinerary if deemed necessary, at any time prior to departure.

PLEASE NOTE: This is not your final itinerary. You will receive final documents (itinerary, tickets (if applicable), etc.) approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure. Although we try our best to ensure that information is accurate at the time of publication, we are not responsible for any error, omission, misprint or liability that results from the use (or misuse) of this information.