

Travel Honey São Miguel Regional Guide

Regional Guide Preview

This is the first five pages of the Travel Honey Regional São Miguel Guide and the links are inactive. When you book your Travel Honey Trip, you'll receive the full 29-page Guide, and the links will work!

OVERVIEW



Thank you for choosing Travel Honey! We've created this comprehensive regional guide, so you can have the best experience possible on São Miguel.

Find everything from this guide on the [interactive Google Map](#). Use it on your computer when planning your trip and on your phone in São Miguel. Start here with these [map tips](#).

We promise you'll have a better trip if you read the [Insider Tips](#) at the end of the guide or you can find the links here

Symbol Key

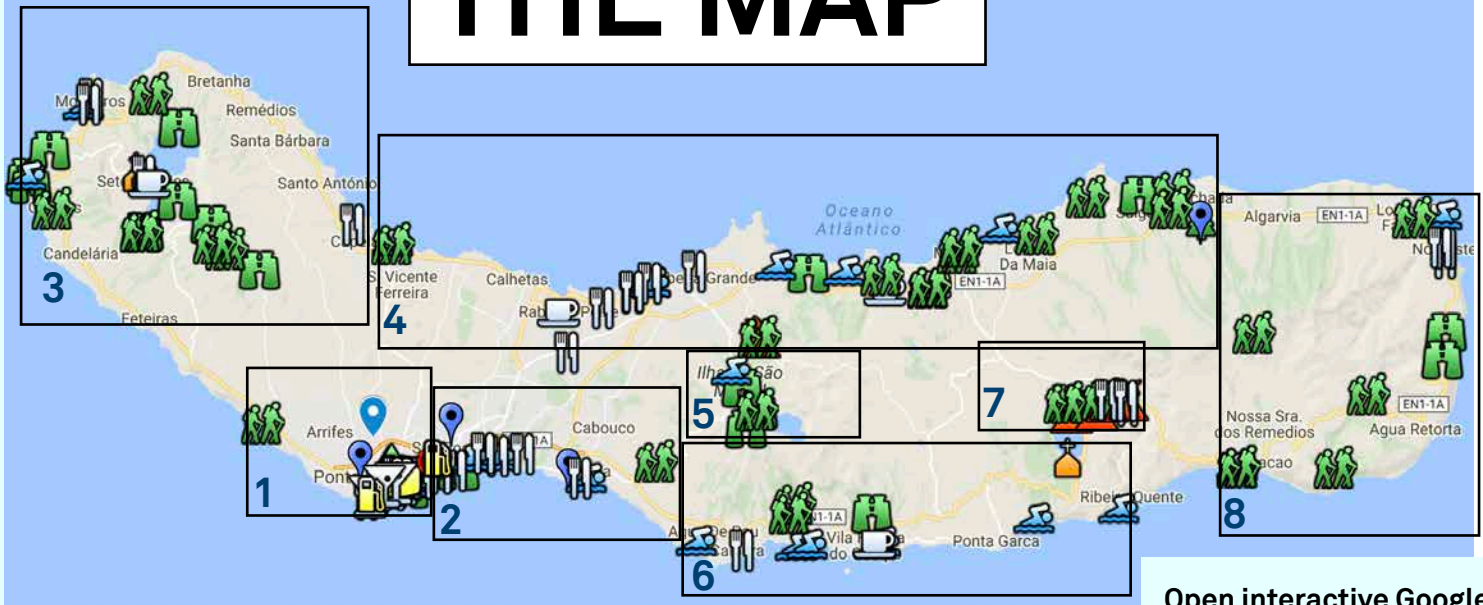
- ☂ -> Good for a rainy day
- ☀ -> Better for a sunny day
- 🎯 -> Activity
- ⛪ -> Church
- 🏛️ -> Museum
- 🌿 -> Garden or park
- 🛍️ -> Shopping
- 👁️ -> Vista/Nice view
- 🏊 -> Natural or Manmade Swimming Pool
- ♨️ -> Hot springs
- 🏖️ -> Beach
- 🍽️ -> Restaurant
- ☕ -> Coffee or dessert
- 🧭 -> Hike (more details for each hike in [the map](#))
- \$\$\$\$ -> Travel Honey [Pricing Key](#)
- *NAME* -> The closest webcam location is included in asterisks if it's weather dependent (read about the Spot Azores Webcam App [here](#))

Insider Tips

- [Azores Airlines Tips](#)
- [Inter-Island Flight info](#)
- [What to Book/Do Ahead](#)
- [What to Pack](#)
- [Thoughts on the Weather](#)
- [Arrival Tips](#)
- [Apps you MUST Download](#)
- [Driving Tips](#)
- [Hiking Tips](#)
- [Eating and Drinking Tips](#)
- [Spending Tips](#)
- [How to Use Your Cell Phone in Portugal](#)
- [What to Say](#)

This guide is meant to be used with your personalized 7-Day Itinerary. It's especially helpful if you're in an area and you want to see everything that is around you, not just what's in the itinerary.

THE MAP



Open interactive Google Map on your computer or phone [here](#).

Regions of São Miguel

1) Ponta Delgada - The largest city in São Miguel. It has the most hotel & restaurant options.

2) São Roque & Lagoa - São Roque is next door to Ponta Delgada and has the closest beaches to Ponta Delgada. Lagoa is about 10 minutes east.

3) Sete Cidades & Northwest Coast - Sete Cidades is the famous double crater lake, the town itself doesn't have a lot to see but there are great views if you head towards Mosteiros on the west coast.

4) North Coast (Ribeira Grande & East) - Ribeira Grande is the second biggest city and worth a visit. Santa Barbara beach is beautiful and great for lunch. There are many hikes and tea plantations along the northeast coast.

5) Lagoa do Fogo - A beautiful crater lake that is a must visit if the weather is nice. There's also a nice hot spring.

6) Southeast Coast (Caloura, Vila Franca do Campo) - Caloura is known for having the best weather and you'll find many beaches along the southeast coast.

7) Furnas - A cute town and home to the greenest crater lake. It also has awesome hot springs. A must visit.

8) East Coast (Povoação to Nordeste) - Less populated, so head here if you want off the beaten path.

Travel Honey Map Tips

Save the map by signing into [Google Maps](#) on your computer or the Google Maps app ([iPhone](#) or [Android](#)) on your phone. Later access the map on both your computer or app by going to Menu >Your places >MAPS (repeat if map freezes on phone)

See the information in each map marker by clicking any marker in the map or in the legend on your desktop. On your phone, click any marker then click the name of the marker at the bottom of the screen. The links are only clickable from your computer.

Get directions to any of the markers on the map by opening any marker then clicking the route icon when you're online.

You'll need the internet to access the map. Find out how to easy it is get online in Portugal [here](#).

1) Ponta Delgada

📍 [Portas da Cidade](#) The city gates are in the main square, so they're hard to miss. They're built in the eighteenth century and include the royal and city's coat of arms. Just in front, there is the statute of Gonçalo Velho Cabral, who is credited with discovering the Azores. (☂️)

🏛️ [Igreja Matriz de São Sebastiao](#) You can't miss the 16th Century Church in main square of Ponta Delgada. You'll likely walk by it, so it's worth popping into. You can't take photos inside. (☂️)

🏛️ [Santuário Senhor Santo Cristo dos Milagres](#) A beautiful (especially inside) church in Ponta Delgada. The Santo Cristo celebration is here in May. The church is very important religiously for the people of the Azores. Open from 8am to 6pm Mon-Fri but it can be closed for lunch. Services are Mon-Fri 6:30pm, Sat 6pm and Sunday from 11am-6pm. (☂️)

📍 [Forte de São Brás](#) A fort in Ponta Delgada built in the 1500s with a military museum (with equipment, clothes, etc.) and nice views of the city. It's only a few euros and is surprisingly big (there are no maps or visiting instructions, so you have to wander). Good for history buffs. (☂️)

🏛️ [Igreja Paroquial do São Pedro](#) A church in Ponta Delgada with a beautiful painted ceiling. (☂️)

👁️ [Ponta Delgada Bell Tower](#) A narrow bell tower with great views of the city, but the stairs are steep and narrow. Usually open M-F 9:30am-5:30pm. (☂️)

🏛️ [Museu Carlos Machado](#) Sao Miguel's biggest museum dates back to the late 1800s and has a ranging collection of cultural, historical, religious and natural history pieces. There are 3 parts: the main museum (in an old convent), the Nucleo de Santa Barbara (mostly temporary exhibits) and the Museum of Sacred Art (don't miss the elaborate wood alter). Tickets are 5 euro for all three and it's closed Mondays and free on Sundays. (☂️)

🌿 [Jardim António Borges](#) A lush informal garden with huge trees, grottos and winding paths. Nothing super spectacular, but it's free and nice to walk through. There's a cafe to stop and have a coffee or tea.

🛍️ [Maviripa](#) A gift shop with more main stream Azorean gifts. (☂️)

🛍️ [Azores Lovers Store](#) A bit higher end gift shop in the mall on the Avenida with traditional gifts. (☂️)

🛍️ [Arrisca](#) A non-profit run gift shop with traditional gifts made by economically and socially disadvantaged. (☂️)

🌿 [Palácio de Sant'ana](#) Built in the 1800s, the palace and pretty gardens are just north of the city center and house the office of the President of the Regional Government of the Azores. You can visit for a small fee. (☂️)

📍 [Coliseu Micaelense](#) A tiered circular auditorium for concerts/shows. Check their Facebook page for a more up to date event schedule. (☂️)

📍 [Teatro Micaelense](#) A charming theater that often has concerts and performances. (☂️)

📍 [Gruta do Carvão](#) Small underground caves outside the city center. The hour long tour costs 5 Euros and the first 15 minutes is an old video. It's not a must, but a good option if it's raining and underground caves sound interesting to you. Open every day (10am – 12:30pm) (2 – 6pm). (☂️)



Portas da Cidade



Forte de São Brás



Wooden Alter in Museu Carlos Machado