

# Portugal | AZORES ISLANDS EXPLORER

SÃO MIGUEL, FAIAL, SÃO JORGE, & PICO ISLANDS | 8 DAYS

May 22-29, 2022

June 18-25, 2022

August 13-20, 2022

September 18-25, 2022



## TRIP ITINERARY



1.800.941.8010 | [www.boundlessjourneys.com](http://www.boundlessjourneys.com)

*How we deliver*

# THE WORLD'S GREAT ADVENTURES

**A passion for travel.** Simply put, we love to travel, and that infectious spirit is woven into every one of our journeys. Our staff travels the globe searching out hidden-gem inns and lodges, taste testing bistros, trattorias, and noodle stalls, and discovering the trails and plying the waterways of each remarkable destination. When we come home, we separate wheat from chaff, creating memorable adventures that will connect you with the very best qualities of each destination.

**Unique, award-winning itineraries.** Our flexible, hand-crafted journeys have received accolades from the world's most revered travel publications. Beginning from our appreciation for the world's most breathtaking and interesting destinations, we infuse our journeys with the elements of adventure and exploration that stimulate our souls and enliven our minds. Whether you are looking for a challenging physical expedition or a leisurely cultural exploration, Boundless Journeys has exceptional itineraries to match your sense of adventure.

**Insider connections.** There is simply no substitute for traveling with a knowledgeable insider, and our expert local guides will open doors for you that other travelers miss, like dinner with their extended family in Peru's Sacred Valley, or meeting an art scholar in Florence. Relationships developed over many years allow you to experience our destinations through a well-connected friend.

**Small groups.** Although the camaraderie of a group of like-minded travelers often enhances the journey, there can be too much of a good thing! We tread softly, and our average group size for safaris is just 6-8 guests (or as few as two on private journeys), allowing us access to opportunities that would be unthinkable with a larger group.

**Flexibility to suit your travel style.** We offer both scheduled, small-group departures and private journeys so that you can choose which works best for you. Not finding exactly what you are looking for? Let us customize a journey to fulfill your travel dreams.

**Customer service that goes the extra mile.** Having trouble finding flights that work for you? Want to surprise your traveling companion with a bottle of champagne at a tented camp in the Serengeti to celebrate an important milestone? There is no request that is too big—or too small—for our staff to handle. From your first call, we guide you through choosing your trip, provide advice on preparing for your adventure, and hold your hand until you return home.



Multi-year recipient of *Travel + Leisure* magazine's "World's Best Tour Operator"; and recognized by the editors of *National Geographic ADVENTURE* magazine as one of the **Best Adventure Travel Companies on Earth**.



# Portugal | AZORES ISLANDS EXPLORER

Thank you for your interest in this fantastic journey to the Azores. We have hand-crafted this tour from our own experience and hope you fall in love with the area—as we have!

## THE INSPIRATION FOR THIS JOURNEY

Situated 800 miles west of the mainland of Portugal, another world awaits you in the Azores. Comprised of nine volcanic islands grouped together in three clusters, the archipelago was officially settled in the 15th century, during Portugal's Golden Age of exploration. Today, that intrepid spirit is alive and well, and the Azores' blue hydrangea-lined coastal paths, pristine woodlands, and rare geologic features still attract modern-day adventurers from around the globe.

Here, towering sea cliffs give way to fertile flats, where, throughout the centuries, farmers have adapted to the islands' unique landscape, producing some of Portugal's best coffee, wine, and cheese in all of Europe. Just off shore, the Azores' rich, mid-Atlantic waters shelter an abundance of marine life, including more than 25 species of whales, dolphins, and porpoises—among them the blue whale, the earth's largest species.

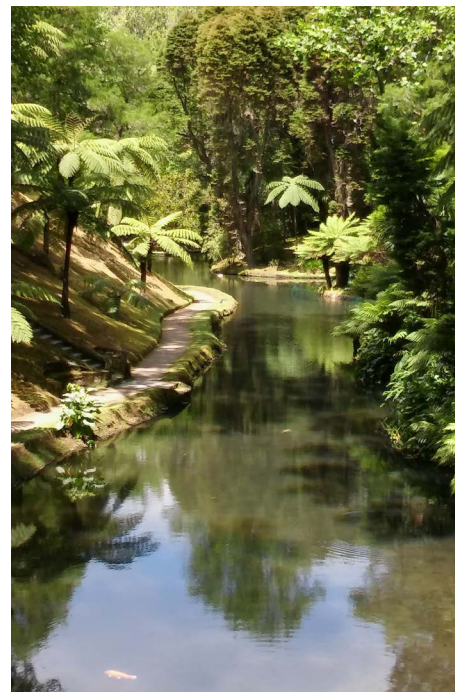
On our 8-day journey through the Azores, we visit four of the archipelago's most scenic and dynamic islands, hike along volcanic calderas, and take to the sea for a whale watching excursion. Along the way, we sample the Azores' extensive culinary bounty, visit with local artisans, and relax in thermal springs and warm, oceanic pools.

At night, we retreat to seaside hotels, enjoy lively meals featuring fresh seafood and time-honored regional dishes, and fall asleep to the sound of the wind in the trees in the shadow of volcanic peaks.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Hiking through subtropical volcanic landscapes with an option to summit Portugal's tallest mountain for expansive views over the ocean and neighboring islands
- Celebrating nature with a soak in hot springs, a meal cooked with underground steam, a walk through a lava tube, and a whale watch
- Enjoying a cheese tasting and some of the freshest seafood you'll ever have

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# TOUR OVERVIEW



## THE BASICS

Duration:	8 days
Tour start/end:	Ponta Delgada, São Miguel
Accommodations:	7 nights in boutique hotels
Trip rating:	1      2 <b>3</b> 4      5
	Easy . . . . . Strenuous
2021 Land cost:	\$5,695 per person*
Single Supplement:	First two reserved on each departure: \$300 (Must reserve at least 120 days ahead) Additional singles: \$800*

\*Pricing listed is for 2021, and is guaranteed up to a 5% increase until 2022 pricing has been confirmed.



## WHAT'S INCLUDED

Just pack your bags—we've got you covered! When you're on a Boundless Journeys adventure, every detail is taken care of for you, so you can relax and truly experience each moment. Put your wallet away, leave your travel books behind, fold up your maps, and BE there. Your Boundless Journeys adventure includes:

- Expert leadership
- All accommodations
- Meals as noted in the itinerary, and local wine and beer with included dinners
- All activities as noted in the itinerary
- Airport transfers, private ground transportation, and ferries
- Internal flights from/to São Miguel to Pico, and São Jorge to São Miguel
- All gratuities except for those for your guide and driver, which are at your discretion

International airfare is not included in the price of your trip. Please contact your local travel agency or the airlines directly to make any arrangements you may need. If you would like assistance with booking your flights or other travel plans, please contact Boundless Journeys directly at 800-941-8010 for a referral to our partners who will best fulfill your needs.



## ITINERARY AT-A-GLANCE

### DAY 1

Arrive in São Miguel. Hike along the rim of the Sete Cidades lakes. Visit Ponta da Ferraria therapeutic spring.

### DAY 2

Transfer to Pico Island; explore Gruta das Torres lava tube and enjoy a walk through the Criação Velha Vineyards, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. A whale watching excursion concludes the day.

### DAY 3

Hike along Pico's Caminho dos Burros, "Path of the Donkeys," and visit a local handicraft school. Optional hike to the summit of Pico.

### DAY 4

Day trip to Faial and hike along the caldera. Explore Capelinhos, with its stark, lunar landscape. Dinner with panoramic views of Faial.

### DAY 5

Ferry to São Jorge and lunch in Velas; visit a renowned coffee plantation and local cheese maker. Observe local weavers at work and learn about this Azorean tradition. Hike from Fajã dos Vimes to the town of Portal.

### DAY 6

Hike from Serra do Topo to Caldeira Fajã dos Cubres, and swim in a natural lagoon. Dinner on your own in Velas.

### DAY 7

Return transfer to São Miguel and visit the 19th-century spa village of Furnas. Afternoon at leisure to explore the Terra Nostra park, fumaroles, and hot springs. Farewell dinner with a traditional Azorean feast.

### DAY 8

Departure



# THE JOURNEY



## DAY 1: Arrival in São Miguel, Sete Cidades

**Activity Overview:** Hiking

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Activity Length:** 4 hours, about 7 miles

Welcome to the Azores! We meet our fellow travelers and local guide in the hotel lobby for an informational session and a preview of our activities in the days to come.

On our first excursion together to stretch our legs in this lush archipelago, we head to Sete Cidades. These two jewel-colored lakes in the heart of São Miguel—one bright blue, the other green—are nestled inside a dormant volcano crater. Hiking along their western edge, we learn about the region's flora and fauna, history, volcanic formation, and the legendary love story behind Sete Cidades' creation. We enjoy a picnic lunch on the shore, taking in the sparkling waters and steep, verdant slopes.

Later in the day, we take a dip at Ponta da Ferraria, a therapeutic spring and bathing site renowned since the 15th century for its healing powers.

This evening, we dine together at Anfiteatro Lounge, a contemporary hotel management school restaurant overlooking the bay of Ponta Delgada.

**Accommodations:** Grand Hotel Azores Atlantico,  
Ponta Delgada, São Miguel

**Meals:** L, D

## DAY 2: São Miguel to Pico

**Activity Overview:** Walking, whale watch

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Activity Length:** 2 hours walking, 3-hour whale watch

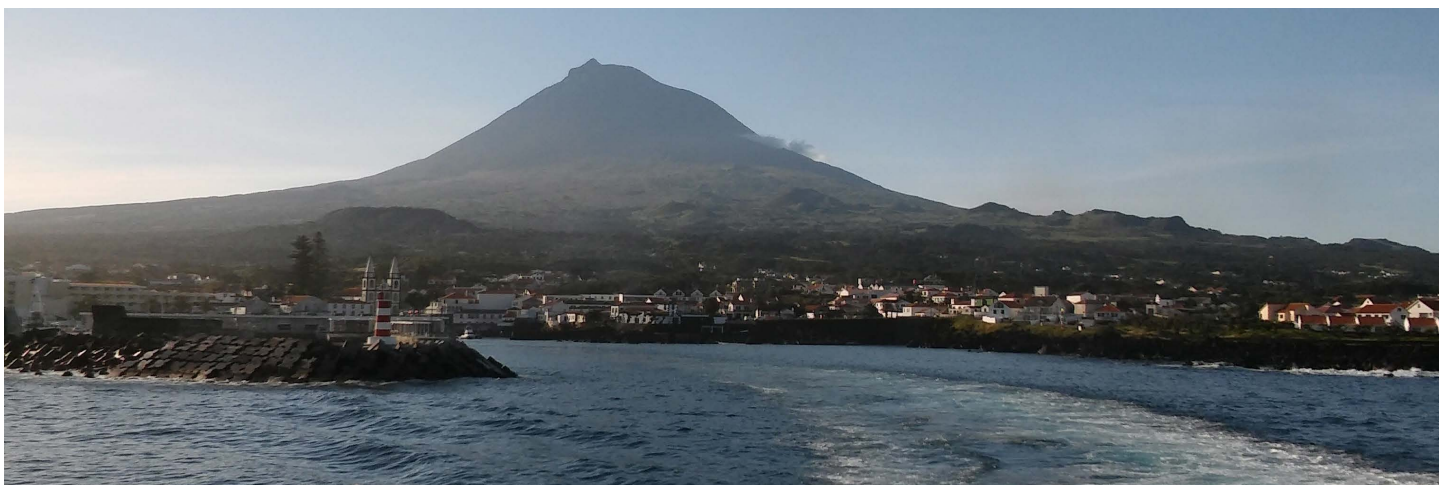
After breakfast, we take a scenic 40-minute plane transfer to Pico Island, famous for its towering, long-dormant volcano—the highest point in Portugal. Our day of exploration begins with a visit to the famed Gruta das Torres lava tube, with a length of nearly 17,000 feet. It is estimated that the tube was formed about 1,500 years ago, during an eruption originating from Cabeço Bravo volcano. With flashlights in hand, an expert guide takes us through part of the tube and teaches us about its unique geology.

Next, we transfer to the town of Madalena on the western coast, where we enjoy a short walk around Criação Velha vineyards, part of a 2,400-acre UNESCO World Heritage Site. Wine has been an important export for the Azores since the 17th century, but the islands' volcanic terrain makes viticulture a unique challenge. Over the centuries, wine growers have adapted, creating rock wall wind breaks, known as *currais*, which to protect and cultivate the grapes.

Our last stop today is the 15th-century Lajes do Pico, the island's oldest settlement, where we enjoy a conservation talk and tour of the town's whaling museum with a local marine biologist. We then board a RIB boat and head out to sea for a chance to spot more than 25 species of whales, dolphins, and porpoises.

This evening, we dine at a local restaurant on our way to Aldeia da Fonte, our home for the next three nights.

**Accommodations:** Aldeia da Fonte, Caminho de Baixo, Pico  
**Meals:** B, L, D



## DAY 3: Caminho dos Burros Hike

**Activity Overview:** Hiking

**Activity Level:** Moderate or a strenuous option with 3,700' elevation gain/loss

**Activity Length:** 4.5 hours, about 7 miles, or 6.5 hours and about 6 miles

Today, we lace up our boots for a full day of hiking along the Caminho dos Burros, or “Path of the Donkeys.” Linking the north and south of Pico, this old trail traverses the plateau moorland, connecting the mountains with the island’s coastal trading center. Historically, farmers would exchange full milk churns harvested from their high pasture cows with essential goods from the mainland and beyond. Our choice of hikes today—one moderate, the other strenuous (hiking poles are recommended)—offer expansive views of the ridgeline of São Jorge on the horizon.

Our moderate route proceeds slightly downhill from south to north along Pico’s Planalto Central, where we pass native grasses, multi-hued moss, and an endangered, endemic evergreen shrub known as *Euphorbia stygiana*. We break for a picnic lunch and a bit of exploration at Praínha Forest Park, after which our path leads on to the coast at Baía das Canas. From here, a short transfer brings us to a nearby arts and crafts school where we join the artisans for a hands-on workshop.

Lunch follows at a local winery, where we can taste the varietals produced there.

If the group elects for the more challenging trail (weather-permitting), we instead begin at Casa da Montanha, or “Mountain House,” located at an elevation of nearly 4,000 feet. Our steep, rocky climb proceeds to the summit of Pico

Mountain, where our efforts will be amply rewarded with a picnic lunch and, if skies are clear, views of the Atlantic and the four surrounding islands.

Tonight, we celebrate our hard work at the hotel restaurant, Magma, over a menu of traditional Pico dishes.

**Accommodations:** Aldeia da Fonte, Caminho de Baixo, Pico

**Meals:** B, L, D

## DAY 4: Faial Caldeira, Capelinhos

**Activity Overview:** Hiking

**Activity Level:** Moderate

**Activity Length:** 3.5 hours, about 4 miles

This morning, a short ferry ride brings us to Faial, known as the “blue island” for its long rows of blue hydrangea plants. The island has long been a favorite and convenient stopping point for yachts on trans-Atlantic crossings. Our guide highlights the island’s volcanic history and the 1957 eruption of Capelinhos, which lasted for 13 months and added nearly a square mile of new land.

Our hike begins at the impressive Faial Caldeira, more than a mile wide in diameter and 1,300 feet deep. Overlooking the surrounding villages, São Jorge, and Pico, our path leads around the crater rim, where stop for a picnic lunch along the way.

From here, we continue to the lunar-like landscape of Capelinhos, which ejected more than 30 million tons of ash and lava extending the island of Faial further into the sea and partially burying a lighthouse.

Upon our return to the lively port town of Horta, we board our ferry to Pico, arriving in time for dinner at Ancoradouro,





a renowned seafood restaurant offering panoramic views of Faial.

**Accommodations:** Aldeia da Fonte, Caminho de Baixo, Pico  
**Meals:** B, L, D

before returning Velas for a short rest before a delicious dinner and another restful evening in the Azores.

**Accommodations:** Cantinho das Buganvilias, Velas, São Jorge  
**Meals:** B, L, D

## DAY 5: São Jorge

**Activity Overview:** Hiking

**Activity Level:** Easy to moderate

**Activity Length:** 1.5 hours, about 2 miles

Today, another ferry brings to São Jorge, our base for the next two days. Long and narrow in shape, the island's rugged topography is the result of volcanic activity, which created its tall, surrounding cliffs and coastal erosions known as *fajãs*. The fertile plains and unique microclimates created by these *fajãs* make for excellent growing conditions, including some of the best coffee in Portugal.

We arrive in the town of Velas, known for its picturesque cobbled streets, renovated square, and 17th-century church. Here, we stop for lunch at one of the town's quaint restaurants before proceeding to Café Nunes, in the village of Fajã dos Vimes. At this renowned coffee plantation arabica coffee is made from beans grown in the village. Above the café, we visit a small weaving center where Señora Nunes and her sister make woven woolen bedspreads.

Our short hike this afternoon skirts the coast on our way north to Portal. Afterwards, we are treated to a lesson in São Jorge's most iconic export: cheese. Known as the best in all of Portugal, the island's cheddar-style *queijo*—made using milk from the thousands of happy cows that call São Jorge home—was created out of necessity for the island's sailors, who needed a hearty food staple that could survive for months at sea. We sample the acclaimed cheeses

## DAY 6: Serra do Topo to Fajã dos Cubres

**Activity Overview:** Hiking

**Activity Level:** Moderate to strenuous

**Activity Length:** 5 hours, about 5 miles

Our hike today is one of the highlights of our journey, bringing us along the spine of the island from Serra do Topo to Fajã dos Cubres. The dramatic scenery here alternates from dense woodlands and high heathers to deep ravines. We pass by a series of now-abandoned *fajã* villages, traveling mostly downhill while enjoying views of the coast and the Terceira and Graciosa islands.

Our efforts on the trail this morning are rewarded with a refreshing dip in a natural lagoon and a picnic lunch along the route to our destination.

Tonight, you are free to explore Velas and enjoy dinner on your own at one of the town's delightful restaurants.

**Accommodations:** Cantinho das Buganvilias, Velas, São Jorge  
**Meals:** B, L

## DAY 7: Return to São Miguel

**Activity Overview:** Walking

**Activity Level:** Easy

**Activity Length:** Variable

A late-morning flight brings us back to São Miguel, the largest island in the archipelago. Upon arrival, we transfer





to the lakeside town of Furnas, a 19th-century spa village nestled in a huge caldera. The active landscape here houses many fumaroles and several hot springs known for their medicinal waters.

This afternoon, you may have time to relax and explore Furnas and its attractions on your own, including Terra Nostra, one of Portugal's most beautiful parks featuring a thermal swimming pool and more than 2,000 species of trees.

Furnas contains a plethora of mini-geysers, hot springs, and other geologic wonders sprinkled around the village. Among them are thermal pockets used to make Furnas's famous, *cozido*—a slow-cooked stew made in pots heated in the ground by volcanic steam. This evening, we have the chance to try *cozido de Furnas* at our farewell dinner, where we raise a glass to our time together and our magnificent adventure here in the Azores.

**Accommodations:** Terra Nostra Garden Hotel, Furnas, São Miguel

**Meals:** B, D

**PLEASE NOTE:** *This is a typical itinerary, and actual activities may vary to take advantage of weather conditions, local events, and to allow serendipity to play a hand in your experience. Accommodations are as outlined in the itinerary, although we reserve the right to change these should the need arise. See our booking terms and conditions for more information about our change policy.*

## DAY 8: Departure

After breakfast, you will be transferred to the airport in time for your departing flight home.

**Meals:** B

# ACCOMMODATIONS



## NIGHT 1

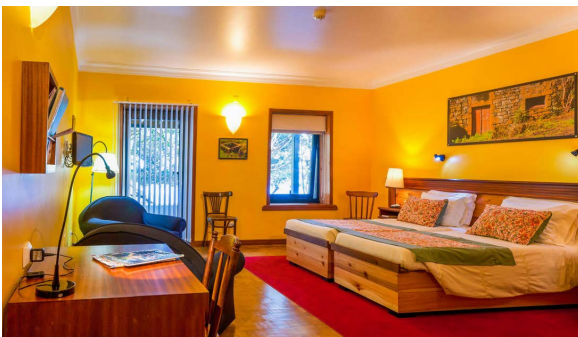
### **Grand Hotel Azores Atlantico**

Ponta Delgada, São Miguel

Tel +351 296 302 200

[www.bensaudehotels.com/grandhotelacoresatlantico](http://www.bensaudehotels.com/grandhotelacoresatlantico)

The 5-star Grand Hotel Azores Atlantico is one of the most outstanding hotels in Ponta Delgada, known for its privileged location, close to the historic center with an exceptional view over the Atlantic Ocean.



## NIGHTS 2-4

### **Aldeia da Fonte**

Caminho de Baixo, Pico

Tel +351 292 679 500 | [www.aldeiadafonte.com](http://www.aldeiadafonte.com)

Passionately built, the Aldeia da Fonte hotel is part of the magnificent and stunning Nature of Pico Island . With six volcanic stone houses perched on the cliffs overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, this eco-friendly resort is set amidst lush gardens.



## NIGHTS 5-6

### **Cantinho das Buganvilias**

Velas, São Jorge

Tel +351 295 432 271 | [www.cantinhodasbuganvilias.net](http://www.cantinhodasbuganvilias.net)

A series of modern, whitewashed apartments comprise this São Jorge mountainside property, complete with a restaurant, gym, outdoor swimming pool, and views of the ocean and islands.



## NIGHT 7

### **Terra Nostra Garden Hotel**

Furnas, São Miguel

Tel +351 296 549 099

[www.bensaudehotels.com/terranostragardenhotel](http://www.bensaudehotels.com/terranostragardenhotel)

Surrounded by a sprawling, 19th-century garden complete with canals and lakes, this award-winning, 1930s Art Deco hotel features elegantly-designed guestrooms, a gourmet restaurant, bar, and spa.



# WHAT TO EXPECT



## GETTING TO PONTA DELGADA

If you will be arriving from North America, it is possible to arrive on Day 1 as most flights land around 5 or 6 a.m. However, we recommend arriving the night before to have plenty of time to recover from jet lag and allow a buffer should there be delays. If you are arriving from mainland Portugal, you will most likely need to arrive the night before.

## TRIP RATING

Boundless Journeys' trips are designed for energetic and flexible individuals who like to be active, have a spirit of adventure, and a positive attitude. The *Azores Islands Explorer* is rated a 3, moderate, on a scale of 1-5 (with 5 being the most strenuous). The fertile landscapes, rolling hills, and coastal paths offer a range of beautiful scenery and a mix of easy walks to strenuous hikes—1.5 to an optional 6.5 hours and 2 to 7 miles, on trails with some rocky and steep sections, paved or cobblestone streets, and dirt paths. If choosing to hike to the summit of Pico Mountain, there is a 3,700' elevation gain and loss.

## PREPARING FOR THIS TRIP

It is very important that you realistically assess your physical condition with regard to the demands of this trip. The more well-prepared you are for the activities, the more you will enjoy yourself. As a general guideline, we suggest that you engage in easy to moderate aerobic activities (such as walking, hiking, jogging, or cycling) for at least 30-45 minutes several times a week for 4-6 weeks before the trip. If you live in a flat area, try to incorporate some stairs into your workout, or use a treadmill with varying incline capability (consult your doctor before undertaking any new fitness program). Please contact us if you have any doubts regarding your physical match with this tour.

## WEATHER

Average high temperatures range from upper 70's in the summer to low 60's in the winter, while the average low temperatures range from mid-60's to low 50's. Perhaps most notable is the unpredictability of the islands' weather, as it can change quickly and drastically from warm sunshine to a windy rainstorm. Most days see some rainfall, which gives the islands their lush, verdant landscapes. You may obtain more detailed information at [www.weatherbase.com](http://www.weatherbase.com).

### AVERAGE TEMPERATURE °F (HIGH/LOW)

May	66/56
June	70/61
August	78/66
September	75/64

## WHEN TO GO

The islands of the Azores are characterized by a maritime subtropical climate, with temperate weather year-round. April through September are the best times to visit, for slightly warmer weather and longer, sunnier days.

## DRINKING WATER

We provide purified or bottled water on all activities; however, in an effort to reduce waste, we strongly encourage you to bring a water bottle to refill where safe to do so. This will be the case in much of Europe, as well as a few other destinations, where tap water is safe to drink (please review Immunizations & Health Concerns for more information). In parts of the world where water must be purified, bottled water may be our only option. Here, we do



our best to provide purified water from larger containers to refill your bottles, rather than using many small single-use bottles throughout your trip. This is just one small way we strive to travel more responsibly and we appreciate your efforts in helping us to protect the extraordinary places we visit.

Boundless Journeys has taken the Travelers Against Plastic company pledge to promote sustainable travel and encourage travelers to avoid buying bottled water when they travel. You can take the pledge, too, and learn more about TAP's efforts at [www.travelersagainstplastic.org](http://www.travelersagainstplastic.org).

## CUISINE

Portuguese cuisine is all about simple, delicious cooking and fresh ingredients, themes that are present across all geographic regions of the country—including the islands of the Azores.

In general, the expansive, fertile soil and mid-Atlantic location mean that grilled seafood, smoked meats, sun-ripened fruit, and other fresh produce are commonplace. Portugal consumes more rice (*arroz*) than any other European nation, and its lesser-known savory dishes fall somewhere between a Spanish paella and Italian risotto. Fish is a staple, and you're likely to find everything from cod and octopus to tuna and grilled sea bass—prepared simply with lemon, garlic, and the country's famed olive oil—on most menus.

You'll also see plenty of stews and soups, including *alcatra*, a traditional beef stew with warm spices; and the unique *cozido das Furnas*—cooked underground with the steam of the earth. Local cheeses, desserts, and wines are

ubiquitous. For dessert, traditional favorites such as egg tarts (*pastel de nata*) and Madeira honey cake (*Bolo de mel da Madeira*) can be found at most pastry shops. Oenophiles should be certain to try wine from Pico Island's rare, World Heritage vineyards.

## TRANSPORTATION

All on-tour transportation is provided in private, air-conditioned vehicles.

## TRAVELER'S RESPONSIBILITY

As a trip participant, you have responsibilities to Boundless Journeys, your fellow travelers and guide, and the local people you encounter. This includes understanding and preparing for the conditions described in the itinerary, ensuring it meets your interests and abilities, and following the health and safety guidelines of Boundless Journeys, local authorities, and/or the CDC. At their discretion, a guide may ask a guest to leave the trip if further participation may be detrimental to the individual or other participants.

We strongly urge any guest feeling ill shortly before departure to cancel their trip. To help cover your investment, we highly recommend purchasing travel insurance with supplemental "Cancel for Any Reason" coverage. If you feel unwell during the tour, please immediately inform your guide, who can help take the appropriate next steps. We appreciate your cooperation.



# OUR AZORES TEAM

## TRIP MANAGER



### **Deborah Tobey**

Originally from Long Island, NY, Deborah has lived and worked around the country. After a decade out west adventuring as a river guide and ski instructor, Deborah was drawn back east to be closer to family. She joined the Boundless Journeys home team in 2010 initially managing Peru, Palau, and Spain. Now, her portfolio includes Croatia, Norway, Portugal, Italy, Iceland, and Costa Rica. She loves being on the water, hiking in Vermont's Green Mountains, and camping with her family and dog, Winston.

## GUIDES

With a Boundless Journeys guide, your experience is that of friend and local adventurer. We believe strongly in working with local guides, experts in the areas to which we travel, and they hold the keys to unlocking the hidden delights of your chosen destination. Although you will never know they are at work—the mark of a truly great leader—our guides make magical things happen and add a dimension to your trip that you could not experience on your own.

Over the years we have forged bonds with some of the best guides in the world, and we typically work with a small team of guides in each region. You will be informed of the guide for your trip one month prior to your departure.



### **Carina Ramos**

Carina came from Ericeira, a charming Portuguese fishing town that is situated about 20 miles northwest of Lisbon. She has a degree in Leisure and Tourism Management and has worked in Switzerland facilitating horse-assisted therapy and event planning. During her free time, she enjoys going to the movies, traveling, and getting together with friends and family. Carina speaks Portuguese, English, and Spanish, and is looking forward to welcoming you to the Azores!

# NEXT STEPS



## TO MAKE A RESERVATION

You can call Boundless Journeys at 800-941-8010, request a reservation online, or contact your travel agent. We will confirm your spot with a deposit of \$500 per person and the payment of internal airfare, payable by check or credit card.

## ONCE YOU RESERVE

As soon as you confirm your adventure, we will provide you with an extensive, detailed trip planner that includes arrival and departure instructions, a complete packing list, regional information, required documents, a reading list, and other details.

## CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY

Please check our Terms & Conditions page on our website for our comprehensive cancellation and refund policies: [www.boundlessjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions](http://www.boundlessjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions).

## TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE

In addition to your detailed trip planner, we will email you a quote for Travel Guard trip insurance. Please let us know if you would like us to purchase a policy on your behalf. Boundless Journeys strongly recommends purchasing Trip Insurance.

## QUESTIONS? WHICH TRIP IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Adventure travel may involve exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, and activities that may be new to you. If you have any questions about the level of comfort, difficulty, or activities included on your trip, please call Boundless Journeys at 800-941-8010, or email us at [info@boundlessjourneys.com](mailto:info@boundlessjourneys.com). Our travel experts look forward to helping you select the perfect adventure.

### VISIT US ONLINE: [www.boundlessjourneys.com](http://www.boundlessjourneys.com)

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- guide bios

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# BOUNDLESS BEYOND



## RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

At Boundless Journeys, our goal is to create meaningful experiences that protect the delicate ecosystems and attributes of every location we visit. We aim to educate our guests on the best responsible travel practices for each destination.

## WE ARE COMMITTED TO

**Making connections.** Our local guides offer insider knowledge of their country, including tips on etiquette and customs. They facilitate meaningful interactions with the people and places we visit, such as dinner at the home of a local family. While you may arrive in a destination as a visitor, you leave with a deeper understanding and connection to each place.

**Going local.** Boundless Journeys' small group size stems from a desire to provide a more intimate traveler experience, giving us the freedom to move through the tight alleys of old towns on foot, eat and sleep at traditional guesthouses, participate in immersive cultural exchanges, and leave a smaller footprint on all of the locales we visit. This mobility allows us to support local economies directly, forging strong relationships with our partners and friends abroad as we return year after year.

**Respecting people and the environment.** We support organizations working to protect ecosystems and improve the livelihoods of local communities. On many of our trips, we explore stunning natural landscapes where conservation is of the utmost importance. As visitors, we practice Leave No Trace ethics and actively contribute to the conservation of parks and protected areas.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

**Give back.** Instead of receiving a Boundless Journeys t-shirt or water bottle, you can opt to donate the value of your gift to our travel scholarship fund, which will be awarded to a local student for an educational or service-based travel opportunity.

**Learn more.** Visit [boundlessjourneys.com/responsible-travel](https://boundlessjourneys.com/responsible-travel) to read more about how our values are reflected in our trip offerings. We also offer a selection of Resources for the Responsible Traveler, which suggests ways to tread lightly and ensure your journey has a positive impact.

**Join us.** Boundless Journeys has taken the Travelers Against Plastic company pledge to promote sustainable travel and encourage travelers to avoid buying bottled water when they travel. You can take the pledge at [travelersagainstplastic.org](https://travelersagainstplastic.org).

## CONSERVATION IN ACTION

Boundless Journeys is a proud member of the Adventure Travel and Trade Association, a global network of adventure seekers who believe in the protection and promotion of local communities and wilderness areas.

