



## **2<sup>nd</sup> International Workshop on Renewable Energy**

### **11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

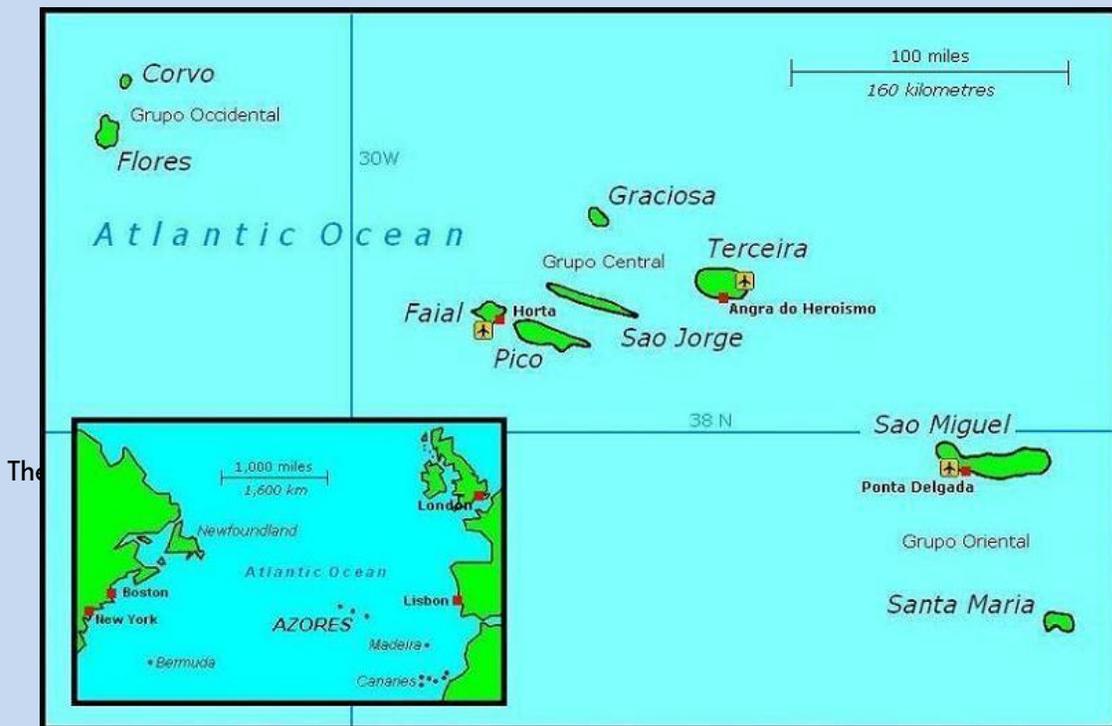
### **Ponta Delgada, São Miguel Island, Azores, Portugal**

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## 1) Where Azores is located?

**A:** The Azores Islands are a part of Portugal. The Azores are a group of 9 islands located in the middle of the North Atlantic Ocean, about two hours flying time and 930 miles (1500 Km) from Lisbon, and about five hours flying time and 2422 miles (3900 Km) from the eastern coast of North America.



## 2) Where is located Ponta Delgada? Could you tell me a little bit more about this town?

**A:** Ponta Delgada itself, the largest town in the Azores, is on the island of São Miguel and is a wonderful place to wander, where the streets bring the past alive. Ornate colonial architecture mixes gothic and baroque styles from Europe with Mexican-influenced sculptures and coloured tiles, while the Renaissance fortress, Forte de São Brás, was built to defend against the pirates who harassed the islands in the 16th century. Following the revised constitution of 1976, Ponta Delgada is the administrative capital of the Autonomous Region of the Azores.

Ponta Delgada is the tourist heart of the Azores. To the north of Ponta Delgada are the suburbs of Fajã de Baixo and Fajã de Cima. Fajã de Baixo is agricultural with pineapple cultivation. Fajã de Cima is famous for its festivities. To the eastern side of Ponta Delgada is the suburb of "São Roque" which is gradually becoming part of the city itself as it expands along the coast with the construction of a new marina and a seaside walk with leisure facilities.

You will find the landscape of São Miguel restful and peaceful – the prairies, forests, sea, and tea plantations lend it a blend of greeny-blue hues – but also inspiring, with the crater lake of Lagoa Verde, and the hot springs and fast-flowing streams of the Furnas Valley.

If you're a culinary adventurer, you may want to sample some of the local specialities, such as Polvo Guisado em vinho de cheiro (stewed octopus in red wine), Linguiça ou Chouriço com inhame (chorizo with yams), Arroz de Lapas (limpet rice) or Cozido nas Caldeiras das Furnas, which is cooked in a hot spring.

### 3) Does Ponta Delgada has an airport? How can we get there and to other islands of the archipelago?

A: Yes, Ponta Delgada has an airport and it is called Joao Paulo II. From Lisbon there are several daily direct flights to the Islands of São Miguel (Ponta Delgada), Terceira (Lajes) and Faial (Horta), and weekly flights to Pico Island. There are, however, direct flights available from:

- The USA (Boston, Oakland and Providence)
- Canada (Montreal, Toronto)
- Germany (Frankfurt, Munich and Dusseldorf)
- England (London Gatwick, London Heathrow, Manchester)
- Netherlands (Amsterdam)
- France (Paris Orly)
- Madeira (Funchal)
- Spain (Barcelona, Madrid, Gran Canaria)
- Sweden (Stockholm)
- Denmark (Copenhagen)
- Norway (Oslo)
- Switzerland (Zurich)

Moreover, there are also daily flights among all islands of the Azores archipelago being operated by SATA and TAP Air Portugal.

#### **Flying from Europe**

The following airlines are flying to Ponta Delgada:

TAP Air Portugal - <http://www.flytap.com/>

Sata Internacional - <http://www.sata.pt/>

Air Berlin - <http://www.airberlin.com>

Arkefly (from Amsterdam) - <http://www.arkefly.nl>

Primera Air: <http://www.primeraair.com>

## Flying from USA

In the Summer there are direct flights from Boston, Providence and Toronto. We recommend you make your reservations early. Flights from the USA to Sao Miguel depart from Boston on Tuesdays and Fridays all year around. In the summer time there is an additional departure on Wednesday and an additional return on Thursday. Also in the summer time, there is an additional flight from Oakland, CA with departure and return on Monday. An additional flight to Providence with departure and return on Saturday and an additional flight to Terceira with departure on Sunday and return on Tuesday.

Operated by Sata Internacional - <http://www.sata.pt/>

## Flying from Canada

The only commercial way of transportation to the Azores from Canada is by airplane. There are two airlines servicing the Islands. Skyservice and SATA Express. You may also fly Air Canada to Lisbon and connect to the Azores.

Operated by Sata Internacional - <http://www.sata.pt/>

## 4) What a visitor can expect to see in Sao Miguel island?

**A:** S. Miguel (Sao Miguel), known as “The Green Island”, is the largest and most populated island of the Azores as well as the home to the Presidency of the Autonomous Region of the Azores. S. Miguel island has a surface area of approximately 293 square miles (759 km<sup>2</sup>). S. Miguel’s population is around 150.000 inhabitants.

Miguel’s diverse scenery is a pleasant awakening to visitors. Its beautiful lakes, sandy beaches, rolling hills, high mountains, green plains, and blue ocean exults a sense that sometime somewhere Switzerland and Hawaii had a child.



S. Miguel is also the island in the Azores with the most offer. Its cosmopolitan town of Ponta Delgada (50 thousand habitants) offers the visitor a blend of contemporary amenities with a historic flavor. Its monuments, turn of the century architecture, parks and



cobble stone streets are interlaced with a modern marina, nice restaurants, shopping, bars, night-clubs, and ocean-front cafes.

S. Miguel is known for its award winning Terra Nostra Park, wonderful golf courses, lakes, beaches, land, century-old architecture, majestic scenery, and most of all, its people. S. Miguel is unlike any other destination in the world. Once you come you will want to come back.

Activities in S. Miguel include whale watching, swimming with dolphins, walking and trekking, diving, fishing, jeep safaris, bird watching, sailing, snorkeling, swimming, golf and many other outdoor and indoor activities.

The weather is best between June and October with the hottest months being July, August and September. November to January is also pleasant but temperatures dip a bit. February through May tend to be on the rainy side.

#### 5) Is there any other possibility to travel between the islands by boat?

**A:** The maritime transport of passengers between the islands of the Azores is provided by two companies: **Transmaçor Ltd** and **Atlânticoline, SA**

**Transmaçor** has been, throughout the years, the maritime transport of passengers between the islands of the Central Group (Faial, Pico, S. Jorge, Terceira and Graciosa), using four vessels (*Cruzeiro das Ilhas*, *Cruzeiro do Canal*, *Expresso das Ilhas* e *Expresso do Triângulo*). To access the schedules and tariffs applied by Transmaçor, visit the page [www.transmacor.pt/](http://www.transmacor.pt/).

**Atlânticoline** ensure, in the period between May 17 and October 2, maritime transport of passengers and vehicles between the islands of the Azores, using two ships capable of transporting vehicles. To access the schedules and tariffs visit the page [www.atlanticoline.pt/](http://www.atlanticoline.pt/).

#### 6) Can I rent a car in Azores?

**A:** Rented cars are not really cheap (about €35 a day for a b category), but it's a comfortable way of moving around the islands. The roads are quite good and there is not a lot of traffic. Only the highways on Sao Miguel and Terceira always have (some) traffic. There are two ways to rent a car: by kilometer (mile) or per day/week. Please pay attention to the insurance against all risks (CDW or super-CDW) and register damages before you rent the car.

Renting a car for 1 week in Ponta Delgada may cost from 230 EUR to 640 EUR depending on the size and type of the vehicle.

Some agencies available:

<http://www.ealuquedecarros.pt/>

<http://acores.costasur.com/en/car-hire.html>

[http://www.europcar.pt/aeroporto-PONTA\\_DELGADA.html](http://www.europcar.pt/aeroporto-PONTA_DELGADA.html)



<http://www.hertz.pt/>

### **7) Can I use taxi in Azores?**

**A:** A taxi is a relatively cheap alternative if you spend a few days at one spot or only travel short distances. Many taxi drivers speak English and some of them are excellent travel guides!!

There are taxis on nearly all islands. You can always find taxis in the larger villages. The best way to keep you from surprises is to set a fixed price before you depart. On shorter trips there are fixed prices, but for longer distances or daily trips you can negotiate on the price. At night taxis are somewhat more expensive.

### **8) Can I use public bus transport in Azores?**

All islands except Corvo have a bus network. The schedules on most islands however are not designed for the tourists: most buses do not drive frequently (only two or three times per day) and on the weekends they might not even drive at all.

Only on the islands Sao Miguel, Terceira and Pico it is interesting to go by bus. Sao Miguel has good regular bus services with extremely low prices. There are timetables in the local tourist offices. To catch a bus you should give a clear sign to the bus driver. You can buy your ticket from the bus driver.

### **9) Is it good to explore Azores by walking?**

**A:** The Azores are a true eldorado for walkers and can be explored easily by foot. On all islands there are wonderful (marked) walking tracks, where you feel yourself being part of the landscape. Before you go to more remote regions you should inform about the condition of the tracks. More information in our walking section.

### **10) Is it convenient to explore Azores on the bike?**

**A:** Although the Azores are not really suitable for riding a bike, you can have beautiful trips. The Azores are rather hilly, so it is preferable to use a Mountain Bike or an All Terrain Bike. There are no marked routes and hardly any bicycle shops; you have to drive on auto roads and small streets. So if you like adventure, go for it!!

### **11) What are the estimated local costs in Azores for the participants of the workshop?**

**A:** The accommodation in the dormitories of the university costs for students 9 EUR per night per person in a double room. For those who are not students, the accommodation in the dormitories is charged at 15.75 EUR per person per night in a double room or 30 EUR for a single room. If the participant prefer to stay in private rooms of shared flats or in a hotel, we may help to get a special discount. If you will prefer to stay in private rooms of shared flats, we can help you to find good offers, although the price will be probably higher than the prices applied in the dormitories.



The meals will be regularly offered in the canteen of the university (lunch and dinner upon previous notice) at the price of 4.50 EUR.

### 12) What is the duration of the workshop and the distribution of sessions per day?

**A:** For a detailed schedule of workshop sessions, consult the full programme of workshop also available for download on the website of CRUSUS - [www.crusus.org](http://www.crusus.org).

### 13) What are the registration fees applicable to the participants of the workshop?

**A:** Basically, the standard registration fees for the workshop in Azores are:

- **120 EUR** for students of the partner higher education institutions: University of Azores (hosting HEI), University of Pardubice, Leuphana University and University Nova of Lisbon.
- **150 EUR** for students of other higher education institutions.
- **250 EUR** for academics, industry professionals, consultants, and others.

Prices above mentioned do not include eventual taxes applied for bank transfer and paypal payment. There are, however, various ways of obtaining special discounts in the registration fee for the workshop in Azores. Consult below for details.

### 14) What are the discounts applicable for participants of the workshop?

**A:** Students of the partner higher education institutions have a 20% discount on the registration fee. Therefore, the registration fee cost for them 120 EUR. In all cases, **the registration fee does not include possible taxes for bank transfer and credit card payments through paypal system** (<http://www.paypal.com>).

**Followers of CRUSUS page on facebook** (<https://www.facebook.com/crusus.org>) will apply for a special discount. A contest will be launched during the first week of May and the winner will be announced on the 7<sup>th</sup> May, Monday.

**Group of minimum 3 participants are eligible for discount of 20% on the registration fees.** This discount can be accumulative to those applicable for students of partner higher education institutions.

For example, a group of three students of any of those partner HEIs will be charged an individual registration fee of 90 EUR.

For clarifying issues related to discounts offered, consult **Mr. Ticiano Costa Jordao** through following e-mail: [tcjordao@crusus.org](mailto:tcjordao@crusus.org).

### 15) How can I pay the registration fee for the workshop?

**A:** Basically, we accept payments by bank transfer and paypal system. Actually, you do not need to have a paypal account in order to pay the electronic invoice which will be sent to you through paypal. It is enough to provide your credit card or debit card details.



Electronic payment through paypal server will have an additional 4% charge on the total amount paid, which corresponds to the transaction fee.

For learning how paypal system works, visit the website:

[https://www.paypal.com/pt/cgi-bin/helpweb?cmd=\\_help](https://www.paypal.com/pt/cgi-bin/helpweb?cmd=_help)

If you are interested in taking part in the workshop, we kindly ask you to download the registration form available on CRUSUS website, fill out it and submit us through the e-mail: [azores2012@crusus.org](mailto:azores2012@crusus.org). You will be soon notified about the receipt of this document. After verification of the total amount to be paid for your registration and a confirmation from your side, you will be kindly asked to make the payment through one of the chosen payment methods. You will receive from us an invoice for your registration fee. If you prefer to make the payment by bank transfer, please consult us for our bank details.

#### **16) Can I pay the registration fee in installments?**

**A:** We may accept the payment of registration fee in two installments if the participant will pay the **first installment by 15<sup>th</sup> May** and the **second installment by 31<sup>st</sup> May**. We shall remind that for the payment of each installment an eventual fee may be charged by bank. The payment in installments is only possible through invoice issued by paypal. **This offer is only possible if the first payment will be done until 15<sup>th</sup> May.**

#### **17) What is the deadline for the registration in the workshop?**

**A:** The deadline is the 31<sup>st</sup> May.

#### **18) Is there any cancellation fees applicable?**

**A:** If you wish to cancel your registration up to 2 weeks prior to the start of the workshop (28<sup>th</sup> May), you may do it upon early announcement and we will refund you 75% of the registration fee previously paid. No refunds of any payment will be made for notification of withdrawal within 14 days of the start of the workshop.

#### **19) Recommended links**

<http://www.azores.com/> (nice video in English available at the welcome page)

<http://www.azores-islands.info/uk/places/sao-miguel/sao-miguel.html>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ponta\\_Delgada\\_\(Azores\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ponta_Delgada_(Azores))

<http://a-tropical-island.com/azore-islands/>



## 20) Videos on youtube about Azores

Portugal travel – Azores

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O31xniHuymg&feature=related>

Azores – part I

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fdsf-UdwFic>

Azores – part II

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fHxYCxRNkMs&feature=related>

Sao Miguel island – the Green island

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PkeHTNsfq4c>

São Miguel island – part I

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zd\\_qhTipbxk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zd_qhTipbxk)

Sao Miguel island – part II

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AD3jlhQGUtM&feature=related>

**For more information about the local costs, workshop programme and outcomes, contact:**

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