

Madeira, Portugal - Canary Island & Atlantic Isle Cruises

You'll consider Madeira's reputation as the 'Garden Island' well founded, swathed in lush greenery which bears all manner of tropical fruits. For a thrilling overview, ascend by cable car to Monte, from whose delightful palace and gardens you can survey the orange rooftops below. The best way down again is by wicker toboggan, expertly steered by two gondoliers dressed in whites.

Excursions

Please note: The shore excursions listed are typical for this port. The full programme of shore excursions available for your cruise will be displayed on Cruise Personaliser at least 12 weeks prior to departure.

- **Eco City Tour, Tukxi Madeira**

Hop aboard an eco friendly tukxi, and explore Funchal in a fashionable, fun and alfresco way.

[Hide](#)

Originating in Italy, Ape Calessino tukxi's are 3 – wheeler modern day versions of the 'little cart' that was popular with the 1950's 'Dolce Vita' lifestyle. Having now expanded into other parts of Europe this method of transport re-creates the true meaning of Dolce Vita – The good life, full of pleasure and indulgence.

On your intimate guided tour you can sit back and admire the scenery as your driver heads along the harbour front, which has views of the sea on one side and clusters of houses on green mountains on the other. Arriving in the Old Town you'll travel along the narrow cobbled streets, which are lined with beautifully restored houses and quaint local restaurants, contrasting with the wider and busier Avenida Arriaga, the city's main commercial centre. Along the way look out for colourful local ladies (dressed in traditional costume), selling the famous 'bird of paradise', the true symbol of the island. Right in the heart of the city is the delightful Praca do Municipio, the awe inspiring square that boasts the architectural treasure of City Hall.

As well as discovering the hidden corners of the city that larger vehicles cannot reach, you'll also make stops for photographs at the Socorro Viewpoint, to capture views of the stunning cliff tops and Santa Caterina Park, which provides exceptional views of the harbour below.

And after your unusual sightseeing experience, there'll be plenty of time to explore more of the sights and sounds of Funchal independently.

Tour code

FNC_039

Features

○ 

ACTIVITY LEVEL: LOW

○ 

REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

Duration

1 HOUR

• Farmer's Market and Botanical Gardens

Experience the scents, colours, flavours and traditions of life in Madeira.

[Hide](#)

Your day starts with a panoramic drive around Funchal's most beautiful and historic sights. As you wind your way through the hustle and bustle of the capital, you'll pass by Autonomy Square, City Hall, the São Lourenço Palace and Santa Catarina Parque, en route for a photo stop overlooking this colourful city.

At the centre of local life is the Mercado dos Lavradores, or farmer's market. With your guide, follow the exotic aromas to the stalls selling tropical fruits, vegetables and fragrant blooms and sample some of the local produce. Check out the catch of the day; depending on the season you may see fresh tuna or black scabbard. Don't forget to bring your camera, to capture the vivid colours of the sellers wearing traditional costume and the ceramic wall tiles depicting regional scenes.

Then it's time to discover the beautiful Botanical Gardens, the former private residence of the Reid family. The gardens are host to a profusion of plants and flowers, from all parts of the world. Follow the paths that wind along the terraces to the herbarium and greenhouses with many rare and indigenous plants. Finally, before leaving ensure you take some time to savour the stunning views over Funchal.

Tour code

FNC_041

Features

○



ACTIVITY LEVEL: MEDIUM

○



SHOPPING

Duration

4 HOURS

• Drive a Vintage Car

Drive yourself through the true Madeiran countryside on this unique vintage sports car tour.

[Hide](#)

After a short coach ride to Canico you'll be met by your driver/guide who will always drive in the first car for the whole tour.

The tour takes you through Madeiran countryside. Driving up the old forest roads from Canico, you first reach the village of Camacha where there will be a comfort stop and some free time to visit a wickerwork workshop. You then continue along the narrow roads until reaching the top of the mountain Pico do Arieiro for a short break. The drive back down the mountain to the village of Santo da Serra is through lush and spectacular countryside. Enjoy the fresh air and the joy of driving these unique cars. At the Santo da Serra Golf Course, stop for a slice of cake and a coffee before returning to Canico via the viewpoint of Portela and the village of Machico.

Tour code

FNC_008

Features

○



ACTIVITY LEVEL: MEDIUM

○



REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

Duration

5 HOURS

• Deep Sea Fishing – Guest Only

An opportunity to accompany friends or family on a fishing trip as they try their luck at 'hooking' a fish on the high seas.

[Hide](#)

Take the opportunity to accompany a friend or family member on a Deep Sea Fishing tour.

Madeira is ideally situated on the migratory routes of large game fish, and in addition there are other species that are resident throughout the year.

The target species are mainly Spearfish, Albacore, Wahoo and Dorado and you may be lucky enough to encounter both Blue and White Marlin. Sit back and relax onboard the fishing boat with the surrounding beauty of Madeira as a backdrop.

Enjoy some snacks and drinks whilst observing your friends and family as they wait for the 'Big One' to bite.

Tour code

FNC_034

Features

○



ACTIVITY LEVEL: LOW

○



REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

Duration

4½ HOURS

• The Caves of São Vicente

Explore a labyrinth of lava caves at the picturesque village of São Vicente.

[Hide](#)

Embark on a scenic drive along the south western coast of Madeira, before reaching the pretty secluded village of Serra de Agua, nestled within a lush green ravine. Enjoy a brief photo stop and a visit to a traditional bar to sample the local drink 'poncha' made from rum and honey!!!

Next, you'll head to São Vicente's Caves and Volcanism Centre, to explore the entrails of the earth. The caves are made up from a series of lava tubes that were formed during a volcanic eruption over 400 thousand years ago. Admire the volcanic stalactites, 'lava cakes' and the erratic block. Your cave exploration ends at the Volcanism Centre where you can enjoy a 3D film experience which allows you to relive Madeira's formation nearly 5 million years ago.

Before returning to Funchal, take advantage of some free time to capture the natural beauty and breathtaking scenery of São Vicente.

Tour code

FNC_037

Features

O



ACTIVITY LEVEL: MEDIUM

Duration

4 HOURS

- ## Deep Sea Fishing

Try your luck at 'hooking' a large fish on the high seas.

[Hide](#)

Madeira is ideally situated on the migratory routes of large game fish and in addition there are other species that are resident throughout the year.

The target species are mainly Spearfish, Albacore, Wahoo and Dorado and you may be lucky enough to encounter both Blue and White Marlin. From novice to expert you can experience an enjoyable fishing trip with the surrounding beauty of Madeira as a backdrop.

Enjoy some snacks and drinks whilst waiting for the 'Big One' to bite.

Tour code

FNC_010

Features

O



ACTIVITY LEVEL: LOW

O



REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

Duration

4½ HOURS

- ## Tea at Reid's

Enjoy one of Madeira's oldest traditions - tea at Reid's Palace Hotel, overlooking the Bay of Funchal.

[Hide](#)

En route to Reid's Hotel, you will enjoy a scenic drive to the viewpoint of Pico dos Barcelos for magnificent views over Funchal.

Built in the last century, Reid's Palace has always had a special place in the history of Madeira. Located on the outskirts of Funchal, perched on a cliff top headland overlooking the bay, Reid's is set in ten acres of lush semi tropical gardens, where hanging vines jostle for room with stunning displays of geraniums, hibiscus and salvias.

Upon arrival, you will be taken on a short walk through the Hotel gardens before tea is served, giving you an opportunity to relax and enjoy the unique atmosphere.

The menu includes tea, scones and cakes.

Tour code

FNC_002

Features

○



ACTIVITY LEVEL: LOW

○



REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

Duration

2½ HOURS

- ## Jeep Adventure

Driving off road in a 4x4 to some of the most unspoilt locations is the ideal way to discover the beauty of Madeira.

[Hide](#)

The route takes you on tracks, which meander through the mountains, across small rivers and along valleys providing incredible views. You will be presented with an excellent opportunity to see the native flora of the island; the Laurissilva.

Embrace the thrill of your off road adventure and take in the interesting commentary from your guide as you pass by some of the islands most glorious scenery.

A short break will be made during the tour for you to enjoy some light refreshments.

Tour code

FNC_024

Features

○



ACTIVITY LEVEL: MEDIUM

○



REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

Duration

4 HOURS

- ## Cable Car & Toboggan

This picturesque tour offers a new dimension to Madeira, with stunning views from a cable car and a thrilling toboggan ride.

[Hide](#)

A rack and pinion railway once took passengers up the hillside from Funchal and the return to the coast was by toboggan. The railway closed in 1939, but an Austrian company has constructed a cable car for the trip up to Monte, noted for its many fine properties and gardens. The Funchal station is situated in the old part of town, and the journey from Funchal to Monte takes 15 minutes. (The cable car access is similar to a ski lift. The car does not stop for boarding; it just slows in motion).

Experience the ancient wicker-sled transport on a thrilling 10 minute toboggan ride. The drivers run alongside the toboggans, pushing and steering and using their rubber-soled boots as brakes.

Your tour continues by coach to Pico Dos Barcelos, a flower-decked belvedere where you will have wonderful views towards the east of the island.

Making your way back to Funchal, you will make a stop at the wine lodge where you can sample the different types of Madeira wine, ranging from the dry Sercial to sweet Malmsey.

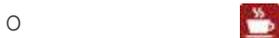
Tour code

FNC_011

Features



ACTIVITY LEVEL: MEDIUM



REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

Duration

4 HOURS

• Leisurely Scenes of Madeira

This tour has been designed to show you the delightful scenery and stunning views of this beautiful island at a leisurely pace.

[Hide](#)

Sit back and relax, as your scenic extravaganza starts off along the rugged west coast road and through the picturesque fishing village of Camara de Lobos, once painted by Sir Winston Churchill.

Driving through eucalyptus forests, you'll reach Cabo Girao. From a superb viewpoint, see the 2nd highest sea cliff in the world. From here, you can also see mountain slopes that have been carved into terraces.

At Pico dos Barcelos the true beauty of the island is revealed. See Funchal in the distance and the surrounding villages scattered on green slopes. After admiring the amazing views of Funchal and the southern coast, continue along a winding road to Eira do Serrado. A short ascent will lead you to Pico do Serrado, where a brief photo stop will be made. There are superb views of Madeira's highest peaks and the Curral das Freiras village below, a hamlet so remote the Santa Clara Convent nuns used it as an escape from the pirate raids of the 16th century.

At a leading hotel in Eira do Serrado, relax and enjoy tea, coffee or a glass of the famous Madeira wine with a well-deserved slice of homemade cake.

Tour code

FNC_042

Features



ACTIVITY LEVEL: LOW



REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

Duration

4 HOURS

• Discover Whales & Dolphins by RIB

Observe whales and dolphins the more adventurous way.

[Hide](#)

The Atlantic Ocean around the Madeira Islands is an idyllic spot for marine mammals, and up to 20 species of cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises) have been spotted in these waters.

A short drive takes you to Funchal Marina, where after a brief introduction you'll board your high-speed RIB for your thrilling adventure on the water. A Marine Biologist is on hand to answer any questions you may have regarding the various types of sea mammals that visit the waters of Madeira.

Ensure to keep your eyes peeled for short-finned pilot whales, bottlenose dolphins, Atlantic spotted dolphins and common dolphins that will amaze you with their acrobatic moves. You may even be lucky enough to spot the Risso's dolphins, beaked whales and killer whales that occasionally visit the seas of Madeira.

An experience not to be missed!

Tour code

FNC_031

Features

0



ACTIVITY LEVEL: HIGH

Duration

3 HOURS
