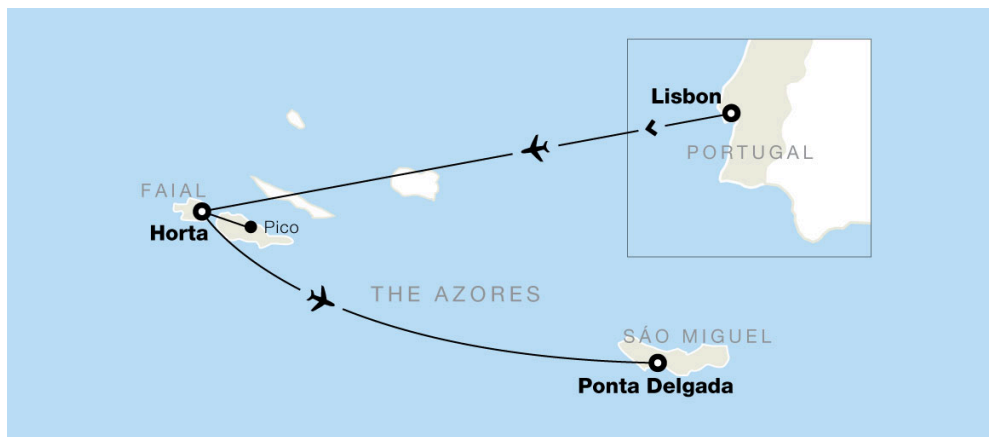




The Azorean Islands with Marie Labbancz

10 days | 12 days with Lisbon pre extension

Dramatic landscapes, charming fishing villages, and tranquil pastures are a few of the features that draw travelers to the Azores, an archipelago situated off of Portugal's coast, in the mid-Atlantic. From mainland Portugal, enjoy island hopping in the Azores from Faial and São Miguel. During your visit, peer into the caldera on Faial, and explore Ponta Delgada, the Azores' capital city, through its military and religious history, its natural landscape, and its culinary traditions.



Your tour package includes

- 8 nights in handpicked hotels
- Breakfast daily
- 1 lunch
- 2 dinners with beer or wine
- 2 wine tastings
- 1 liquor tasting
- 5 sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach
- 2 on-tour flights
- 1 ferry transfer

Included highlights

- Duke of Terceira Botanical Gardens
- Capelinhos caldera
- Pico Island
- Sete Cidades
- Gin Library
- Lagoa do Fogo volcano
- Pineapple plantation visit
- Azorean wine tastings

Tour pace

You will walk for at least 2.5 hour daily across mostly flat terrain, including paved roads and cobblestone streets, with few hills or stairs.

The Azorean Islands with Marie Labbanicz

10 days | 12 days with Lisbon pre extension

Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Lisbon today.

Lisbon → 1 night

Day 2: Arrival in Lisbon

Included meals: welcome dinner

Welcome to Portugal! Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner.

Horta → 3 nights

Day 3: Flight to Faial Island & sightseeing tour

Included meals: breakfast

Fly to the city of Horta, where you'll be staying on Faial Island. Upon arrival, meet up with a local guide and spend the afternoon exploring this volcanic island.

- Travel to the coastal resort town of Varadouro, popular for its natural swimming pools and thermal baths
- Visit the Capelinhos Volcano Interpretation Centre where you can explore their exhibits on eruptions and the importance of Azorean lighthouses
- Head to the volcanic crater at the center of the island and view the over mile-wide caldera
- Take in sweeping panoramic views of Horta and the surrounding area from the Miradouro do Monte Carneiro viewpoint

Day 4: A day on Pico Island

Included meals: breakfast, lunch, wine tasting

Travel to the island of Pico today by ferry, home to Portugal's highest mountain and a bustling wine scene due to its volcanic landscape.

- Meet your guide at the Center of Interpretation of Landscape and Vineyard culture and travel back in time as you discover the island's winemaking traditions
- Set off to the North Zone for a visit to the protected landscape of UNESCO listed Vinha where you'll enjoy a wine and cheese tasting

- Sit down for an included lunch featuring regional dishes
- Visit the Wine Museum where you'll learn about grape growing, the golden times, as well as barrels, and objects used for wine and moonshine making
- Head to the South Zone of Criação Velha where your guide will take you through the stunning landscapes and vineyard

Day 5: Free day in Horta

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a free day in Horta or add an excursion. + Faial Whale Watching & Lunch

Ponta Delgada → 4 nights

Day 6: Flight to Ponta Delgada & sightseeing tour

Included meals: breakfast, liquor tasting

Fly to Ponta Delgada, located on the island of São Miguel, and enjoy a guided tour of the Azores' capital city.

- Begin at Forte de São Brás de Ponta Delgada, a Renaissance-style fortress used as a base for the Portuguese Navy
- Continue walking along the scenic promenade to see the San Sebastian church and the Church of São José
- Visit The Grin Library, Europe's largest gin collection with over 900 gins
- Enjoy a tasting of 3 different gin and tonics paired with light snacks

Day 7: Lagoa do Fogo & Sete Cidades

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Spend today exploring different areas of São Miguel island.

- Visit Lagoa do Fogo, where you'll be able to soak in spectacular views of the Água de Pau Massif volcano from the south side of the lake
- Have a swim in the pools and waterfalls located within the Caldeira Velha forest
- Stop in downtown Ribeira Grande for an included lunch
- Head to the Sete Cidades village, where you'll enjoy magnificent views of the surrounding crater and lake

- Visit Mosteiros, a fishing village located on the western tip of the island, before returning to Ponta Delgada

Day 8: Pineapple plantation & Azorean wine tasting

Included meals: breakfast, tasting, wine tasting, liqueur tasting

Spend the day indulging your taste buds in some of the flavors for which the Azores are known.

- Step inside a traditional greenhouse where Azorean pineapples—an island specialty—have been cultivated for more than 150 years
- Learn about the processes locals use to produce the delicious fruit
- Take part in a tasting of housemade pineapple liqueur and jam

Afterwards, tour an Azorean vineyard and taste wines produced from grapes grown in the Azores' sometimes harsh climate.

Day 9: Free day in Ponta Delgada

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner

Spend a free day in Ponta Delgada or add an excursion.

This evening, celebrate your trip with your group over a farewell dinner.

+ Gorreana Tea Plantation, Lunch & the Furnas Valley

Flight Home

Day 10: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

+ Lisbon pre extension

Why's it so easy to fall in love with Lisbon? There's the stunning seafont, incredible architecture, the captivating history—plus, we've heard a lot of good things about pastel de nata. Arrive to tour early and look to your expert Tour Director for ways to fill your time in Portugal's capital.

Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Lisbon today.

Lisbon → 2 nights

Day 2: Arrival in Lisbon

Welcome to Lisbon! Settle in to your hotel. Then, gather with your Tour Director and fellow group members for a welcome drink.

Day 3: Free day in Lisbon

Included meals: breakfast

Enjoy a full free day to explore Lisbon at your leisure.

+ Old World Portugal: Óbidos & Nazaré

Day 4: Free day in Lisbon

Included meals: welcome dinner

Meet up with the rest of your tour group today and get to know everyone during tonight's welcome dinner (day 2 of the regular itinerary).

Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: goaheadtours.com/ZA3 | 1-800-597-0350

Day 5: Faial Whale Watching & Lunch

Visit the link above or call for pricing info.

(4 hours, departs in the morning, includes lunch)

Home to one of the largest whale sanctuaries in the world, the Azorean waters are home to unique ecosystem where rare resident and migratory species flock to. After a short safety brief and Q & A, board your boat and cruise out into the Azorean sea to look for some of the 24 cetaceans that roam the area such as the sperm whale, dolphins, pilot whale, orcas, humpbacks, and more. Disembark your boat back at Base Peter Zee and sit down for an included lunch at the neighboring Peter's Cafe Sport, a place where sailors have come for 100 years.

Day 9: Gorreana Tea Plantation, Lunch & the Furnas Valley

\$95/\$105* (9 hours, departs in the morning, includes lunch)

Today, find out what makes São Miguel's variety of landscapes special as you explore Europe's oldest tea plantation and the picturesque Furnas Valley. Start with a drive along the coast, where you'll make a stop at Miradouro de Santa Iria to take in dramatic views. Then, pay a visit to the Gorreana Tea Plantation, a family-owned operation that's been operating since 1883. Tour the factory to learn more about tea production, then enjoy a tasting of black and green teas. On the way to the Furnas Valley, stops in quaint villages and enjoy viewpoints before sitting down for a lunch of traditional Cozido—a stew cooked inside an underground, volcano-heated steam chamber. Afterward, set off into the valley, where you'll visit—and, if you'd like, take a dip in—geothermal pools and serene Furnas Lake. (Just be sure to bring your bathing suit!) Then, head back to your hotel.

Extension excursion options

Day 3: Old World Portugal: Óbidos & Nazaré

\$129/\$139* (9.5 hours, departs in the morning, lunch included)

Escape the hustle and bustle of Lisbon and spend the day relaxing by the sea in the medieval villages of Óbidos, Nazaré, and Batalha. Picturesque cobblestone streets and color-trimmed buildings make up the romantic village of Óbidos, where you'll pay a visit to Santa Maria Church to admire the colorful ceiling paintings and 17th-century tiles. You'll also have the chance to view the medieval Óbidos castle, known as one of the seven wonders of Portugal. Next, journey to the fishing village of Nazaré for lunch and spectacular coastline views. Spend some time looking out on Nazaré's brightly colored fishing vessels before continuing to Batalha, where you'll enter the UNESCO World Heritage-listed monastery before making your way back to Lisbon.

*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at goaheadtours.com/terms