THE AZORES
Portugal’s hidden gem

AUGUST 6-14, 2021
The Azores
Portugal’s hidden gem

Dear Vanderbilt Traveler,

You are invited to discover the exotic natural wonders of the Azores, Portugal’s hidden gem! We are pleased to announce a very special alumni trip to this cutting-edge travel destination scheduled for August 2021. One of two autonomous regions of Portugal, this archipelago is composed of nine volcanic islands in the Macaronesia region of the North Atlantic Ocean.

Situated 930 miles directly west of Lisbon, this lush and untamed archipelago offers visitors an unexplored paradise replete with natural and culinary treasures. On the island of Pico, see the beauty of Arcos do Cachorro, Mistério de São João, and Fajã dos Vimes. Learn about the island’s fascinating natural history at Gruta das Torres, the largest lava tube in the Azores. Continue to the island of São Miguel and experience its breathtaking beauty at Sete Cidades, Terra Nostra Park, Fogo Lake, and the hot springs of Furnas.

As stunning as the Azores geography can be, their cuisine is equally rewarding. Please your palette during a private visit to a local winery and cheese factory in Ponta dos Rosais. From the famous cozido to the local pastries and tea plantations, savor the wide range of Azorean tastes and traditions.

Space on this program is strictly limited. Contact us as soon as possible to reserve your place. We look forward to having you join us on this remarkable adventure.

Sincerely,

Cary DeWitt Allyn
Director, Vanderbilt Travel Program

For more details: WWW.VUCONNECT.COM/TRAVEL
615.322.3673

AUGUST 6-14, 2021
FRIDAY, AUGUST 6: DEPART USA
ALDEIA DA FONTE NATURE HOTEL
Depart USA on your overnight flight(s) to Ponta Delgada, Azores.
(Your international flight to The Azores is not included, but can be arranged by DAI upon request.)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7: PONTA DELGADA / PICO ISLAND
ALDEIA DA FONTE NATURE HOTEL
Upon arrival to Ponta Delgada, connect to your internal flight to Pico Island, one of the most beautiful and lesser known islands of the Azores. The landscape features an eponymous volcano, Ponta do Pico, the highest mountain in Portugal. This evening, gather for a Welcome to Azores Dinner. (D)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8: PICO ISLAND
ALDEIA DA FONTE NATURE HOTEL
Begin in Porto de Cachorro, an old, traditional town with narrow streets along a rugged coastline created by cooled lava flows. Explore the impressive rock formations of Arcos do Cachorro (Arches of the Puppy!) in 4X4 vehicles. Picturesque vineyards, that produce the region’s "verdhello" wine, grace this stretch of Pico’s coastline. Visit the charming Adega Buraca winery for a private tasting and luncheon of local specialties. Stroll the scenic walking trails of Lagoa do Capitão and Mistério de São João, the town of Lajes, the first settlement on the island. (B,L)
MONDAY, AUGUST 9: PICO ISLAND / SÃO JORGE ISLAND
ALDEIA DA FONTE NATURE HOTEL
Morning ferry ride to São Jorge Island. Continue along the western part of the island to Ponta dos Rosais where natural beauty flourishes. The culinary star here is the tangy world-renowned São Jorge Cheese and you will indulge in this delicacy at a private tasting. A ferry ride to Fajãs and the ancient settlement of Velas is also part of your experience. A stop at the beautiful baroque Church of Santa Barbara will be followed by a tour and coffee sampling at the famed Fajã dos Vimes cafe and coffee plantation. Return to Pico via ferry for an evening at leisure. (B,L)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10: PICO ISLAND / SÃO MIGUEL ISLAND
GRAND AÇORES ATLÂNTICO HOTEL
Explore the amazing Gruta das Torres (Torres Cave). With an estimated length of over 3.2 miles, it is the longest lava cave in the Azores. Enjoy a lunch of Portuguese specialties before heading to the Pico Airport for your internal flight to the island of São Miguel. Nicknamed “The Green Island”, it is the largest and most populous island in the Portuguese archipelago. The late afternoon and evening is yours to relax at leisure. (B,L)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11: SÃO MIGUEL & PONTA DELGADA
GRAND AÇORES ATLÂNTICO HOTEL
Time at the exciting and thriving Ponta Delgada market is a fun way to start the day. Later, venture into the countryside past green covered pastures and dairy cow farms to Sete Cidades (Seven Cities), a small town on the western end of Sao Miguel Island. The town, with a population of less than 1000 residents, sits at the base of the Green and Blue Twin-Lakes, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of Portugal. According to legend, the lakes were formed from the tears of a shepherd and a princess who shared a forbidden love. See the island’s most breathtaking views from Vista do Rei (King’s View) Lookout. The balance of the afternoon is free for independent exploration, or take an optional kayaking tour along the Sete Cidades Lake. (B,L)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12: SÃO MIGUEL & FURNAS
GRAND AÇORES ATLÂNTICO HOTEL
Head to the nearby town of Furnas, known for its natural volcanic fumaroles. The entire Furnas valley is a giant crater which last erupted in 1630. The volcano is now dormant, but you can still feel it everywhere in the form of thermal pools, steam holes and hot springs. There are magnificent views of the entire Furmas Caldera from Pico de Ferro. Your luncheon today is the unique Cozido, the Portuguese specialty of meats and vegetables prepared in volcanic fumaroles. Underground sealed clay pots simmer in the steam of the hot springs for six hours. Scrumptious! Visit Terra Nostra Park, one of the most lovely gardens in Europe, featuring more than 2,000 different trees. End your afternoon savoring local pastries at Vila Franca do Campo Islet. (B,L)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13: SÃO MIGUEL - LAGOA DO FOGO
GRAND AÇORES ATLÂNTICO HOTEL
As you cross the island heading northeast, visit Lagoa do Fogo, a beautiful crater lake in the center of São Miguel Island. Continue to Riberia Grande, a small, but wealthy seaside town situated on the north coast of the island. The narrow wandering streets of the historic city center are lined with impressive baroque architecture from the 17th and 18th centuries. Try a sip of the locally famous Passion Fruit Liqueur at a private tasting. Continue to the belvedere of Santa Iria featuring stunning views of the northern coast line. Along the way, there is an exclusive time with tea at the Chá Gorreana Farm, Europe’s largest and oldest tea plantation founded in 1883 by the Gago de Camara family. This evening’s Farewell to Azores Dinner features lyrical folk music paired with fine local fare. (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14: DEPART PONTA DELGADA
EN ROUTE
Transfer to the Ponta Delgada airport for your international return flight to the USA. Welcome Home! (B)
Cost of Adventure:
THE AZORES PROGRAM: $4,995 per person double occupancy  SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: $1395
EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT BY JANUARY 31, 2021: $4,795 PER PERSON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
AIRFARE NOT INCLUDED

Included in your program are:

Hotel accommodations in Pico and Ponta Delgada as detailed above including buffet breakfast
• All touring mentioned in program on private basis including all entrance fees
• DAI-select professional guide throughout the program • All transfers and touring by private air-conditioned vehicles
• One-way internal flight Pico/Ponta Delgada based on economy class service
• Meet & greet services at all airports for arrivals and departures
• Meals as indicated by (B), (L), (D) B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner (7 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners)
• Gratuities for guides, drivers, restaurant service per the itinerary

Not Included are:

International airfare from USA to Ponta Delgada and return to USA including applicable taxes
• Items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone/Wifi, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages unless indicated otherwise, incidental expenses at hotels, etc. • Medical and travel insurance (highly recommended)
• Excursions and activities not included in the program • Additional discretionary gratuities for guides
• Early check-in and/or late check-out from hotels (can be arranged at an additional cost)

THE AZORES PORTUGAL’S HIDDEN GEM: A deposit of $1500 pp is required to secure your reservation

Secure your reservation with a deposit of $ ____________________________ charged to the credit card below, or with the enclosed check payable to Destinations & Adventures by JANUARY 31, 2021 for the advertised rate.

Credit Card Information:

Card#: ____________________________ CVV Code#: ________ Exp. Date: ________

Name (as it appears on your credit card):

Passenger #1: ____________________________ DOB: ________ GENDER: ________ (as it appears on your passport)

Passenger #2: ____________________________ DOB: ________ GENDER: ________ (as it appears on your passport)

Phone: ____________________________ Email: ____________________________

Billing address: ____________________________

City: ____________________________ State: ____________________________ Zip: ____________________________

I/We have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at www.daitravel.com and detailed in program documents to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.

Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

For reservations please contact the VANDERBILT TRAVEL OFFICE at 615.322.3673 or email alumni.travel@vanderbilt.edu

Payment Schedule:
A $1500 per person deposit is required to confirm services. Final payment is due 60 days prior to departures. Payment is accepted by personal check, wire transfer and all major credit cards.

Rates & Fares:
All rates shown are accurate at the time of publication and are subject to change. All prices are based upon foreign exchange rates the company feels will be in effect at the time of departure. These prices are subject to change resulting from fluctuations in exchange rates.

Refunds & Cancellations:
All cancellations must be in writing. The per person forfeiture charges are:
• More than 60 days prior to departure: full refund
• 59-30 days prior to departure: 50% of tour price
• Less than 30 days prior to departure: 100% of tour price

There is no refund for a partially completed tour or for unused services of any kind.

TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.