

Ocean Giants

Sao Miguel Island, Azores

EXCLUSIVE SMALL GROUP TOUR

2024 Dates:

27 April – 04 May

04 May – 11 May

11 May – 18 May (Fully Booked)

Prices: From £1295 per person
(based on 2 sharing)

Solo travellers from £1530

Join us on our exclusive group tours this May, as we take a limited number of people on a once in a lifetime trip to the Azores. A truly spectacular destination with biodiversity both on land and at sea. Our dates coincide with the annual migration of the blue, fin and humpback whales, so this is a unique opportunity for you to view these ocean giants in a responsible way, while supporting conservation. We have had exceptional sightings over the last few years. Our expert whale researchers and marine biologist guides will ensure you have the best chances of seeing these majestic creatures in their natural habitat, whilst learning more about them in the process.



“ WE WERE LUCKY ENOUGH TO SEE OUR FIRST BLUE WHALE WITHIN AN HOUR OF SETTING OUT IN THE CATAMARAN. THEN SEEING MANY WHALE AND DOLPHIN SPECIES WITH SUPERPODS OF HUNDREDS OF DOLPHINS RIDING IN THE BOW WAVE OF THE BOAT. IT WAS EXCITING TO BE SO CLOSE TO THE BIGGEST WHALES ON THE PLANET ”



“ WE LOVED THE SMALL GROUP HOLIDAY AS IT ENABLED US TO MEET OTHER LIKE MINDED PEOPLE AND SHARE SIMILAR EXPERIENCES... WE WERE ON THE CATAMARAN AND A HUGE GASP WENT UP FROM EVERYONE ON BOARD: A FIN WHALE SWAM IN FRONT OF THE BOAT, RAISED ITS HEAD AND OPENED ITS MOUTH OUT OF THE WATER TO FEED. IT WAS ONLY A FEW SECONDS, BUT THAT SIGHT IS ENGRAVED ON MY MEMORY ”

Itinerary

Day 1

You will be picked up from the airport and taken to your hotel. In the evening, join the whole group and your guide for complimentary drinks, welcome briefing, and an orientation before your first group meal.

Day 2

Time to explore the marina and old town centre in the morning. Board the catamaran for your first trip in the afternoon. Your on board guide will provide in-depth information about the wildlife, discuss the sightings, share details on current research and help you get the best shots of the whales! First group audio-visual presentation after your boat trip with marine biologist guide.

Days 3-4

Each day there will be a morning and afternoon boat trip. The exact itinerary is decided by guides upon arrival to optimise your chance of sightings.

Day 5

You will be collected from your hotel this morning for a full day tour to the village of Furnas where you will learn about the volcanic history of the island and local culture. You will enjoy bathing in mineral rich geothermal hot springs set in award winning botanical gardens. You will also sample the traditional “Cozido” at lunch time in a local restaurant – a meat or vegetable stew cooked geothermally underground.

Day 6

There will be opportunities for additional island excursions and more trips to sea to fit with your program. You will have time to explore the local lava caves, pineapple plantations and stunning botanical gardens.

Day 7

An opportunity to add more trips to sea or land tours. Final presentation by your marine biologist guide followed by group farewell meal. Afterwards, you will have the opportunity to share photos with the group and discuss highlights of the holiday over a celebratory drink in the bar.

Day 8

Departure day. Transfer to airport from hotel.



Getting There

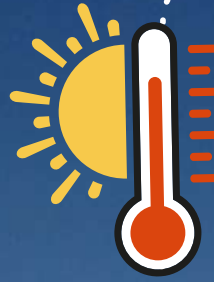
Fly to Ponta Delgada, Sao Miguel Island. Direct flights available from London, many European cities, USA and Canada. Indirect flights via Portuguese mainland (Lisbon/Porto).



What's Included?

- 5 half day trips to sea on sturdy catamaran boat with toilet facilities
- Expert marine biologist guide and whale researchers
- Presentations about the marine wildlife
- Complimentary welcome drinks
- Group meals at beginning and end of holiday
- Full day geothermal tour to Furnas with traditional "Cozido" lunch
- 7 nights 4* accommodation
- Airport transfers

Climate



The Azores has a temperate climate all year round making it the perfect holiday destination.

Winter average temp: 16-19°C
Summer average temp: 20-25°C

Upgrade to the harbour Hotel Marina Atlantico with private balcony & ocean views from £145pp



Hotels

This holiday includes 7 nights at the 4* Hotel do Colegio (pictured left), set in a beautifully restored traditional Azorean building. This hotel boasts a central location, outdoor pool and a great buffet breakfast. See above for upgrade options.

How to book

SIMPLY FILL OUT OUR QUOTE FORM BELOW OR CONTACT US BY EMAIL OR PHONE TO SPEAK TO ONE OF OUR SPECIALIST TRAVEL ADVISERS



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