



TOUR ITINERARY

RIDING
LEVEL

3

Europe / Portugal / Azores

Azores Bike Tour

São Miguel Island: Discover the Cycling Paradise of the Atlantic

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Encounter the island's myriad landscapes by bike, including volcanic vistas, tropical waterfalls, vibrant wildflowers, and lush coastal roads
- Taste tea grown and harvested by Europe's only organic tea plantation, a family-owned production since 1883
- Join our expert friend for a tasting to discover the unique profiles of Azorean wines
- Discover what makes the islands' water unique during a very special underground dining experience



ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

Arrival Details

- ✈ **Airport City:**
Ponta Delgada, São Miguel, Portugal
- 📍 **Pick-Up Location:**
Octant Ponta Delgada
- 🕒 **Pick-Up Time:**
9:30 am

Departure Details

- ✈ **Airport City:**
Ponta Delgada, São Miguel, Portugal
- 📍 **Drop-Off Location:**
Ponta Delgada airport or your Ponta Delgada hotel
- 🕒 **Drop-Off Time:**
🕒 Ponta Delgada airport (10:30 am), Ponta Delgada hotel (10:45 am)

NOTE: DuVine provides group transfers to and from the tour from the pick-up and drop-off locations stated on the itinerary. In the event your train, flight, or other travel falls outside the arrival or departure times or locations, you may be responsible for extra costs incurred in arranging a separate transfer.

Emergency Assistance

For urgent assistance on your way to tour or while on tour, please always contact your guides first. You may also contact the Boston office during business hours at +1 617 776 4441 or emergency@duvine.com.

Travelers Take Note

The Azores is an emerging destination, which is a key part of its charm and appeal. As a result, local service at boutique-style hotels may be more relaxed, on par with the overall disposition of the island.

The Azorean islands enjoy a year-round mild climate. However, hour-by-hour weather can be unpredictable—it's said that all four seasons are sometimes seen in a single day. Therefore, the itinerary as planned may be subject to change depending on weather conditions, and we recommend dressing in layers and packing weather-appropriate gear in case of rain.

When packing swimwear for use in natural volcanic pools, choose something that is disposable or replaceable. The high iron oxide content may discolor or stain swimsuits. We also suggest that you pack a sturdy pair of sneakers.

Due to limited bike availability in this destination, guests will be asked to provide bike information and requests upon booking.

TOUR ITINERARY

Tour By Day

DAY
1

Bem Vindo to São Miguel!

Our guides will greet you at the pre-tour hotel in Ponta Delgada and conduct a bike fitting and safety review before our first ride: head out of the city on a bike path that follows the shoreline to Vila Franca do Campo. The town of Vila Franca was the original capital of São Miguel until it was destroyed by an earthquake (and subsequent landslide) in 1522—today, it's prospering once again thanks to banana plantations and the fishing industry. After lunch, continue riding or catch a lift in the van to our first hotel nestled in the volcanic village of Furnas. Tonight, we dine together at the hotel's restaurant.

Meals: Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Ponta Delgada, Vila Franca do Campo, Furnas

Accomplished: 16 miles / 26 km, elevation gain: 1,253 feet / 382 meters

Longer Option: 29 miles / 47 km, elevation gain: 3,044 feet / 928 meters

Accommodations: [Octant Furnas](#)

DAY
2

Furnas and Fumaroles

After a breakfast of island-grown fruit, Azorean tea, and bolo levedo (an airy Azorean muffin) we'll be properly fueled for a spin around the volcanic caldera of Furnas. From there, our ride continues along a winding road to Ribeira Quente, a quaint fishing village framed by verdant mountains. After a delicious seafood lunch, visit the town's black sand beach, where the ocean is naturally heated by underwater thermal springs. Hop in the van or tackle the short climb back to the hotel, then spend the rest of the afternoon at the spa. Tonight's dinner is a very special one—we'll dine at geologist Paula's house where she'll share how the island's natural elements shape local culinary traditions.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Furnas

Accomplished: 27 miles / 44 km, elevation gain: 2,610 feet / 796 meters

Longer Option: 32 miles / 51 km, elevation gain: 3,351 feet / 1,021 meters

Accommodations: [Octant Furnas](#)

TOUR ITINERARY

DAY
3

The East Coast Road

This morning, begin riding from the hotel or transfer to a starting point further down the road—either way, we’re embarking on an epic loop ride along the island’s eastern coastline. Described by DuVinners as one of the most beautiful rides of their lives, the roads are lined with subtropical forests, blooming azaleas, blue hydrangeas, and fragrant Belladonna lilies. We’ll pass the waterfalls at Caldeirões Natural Park and pause at lookout points over the Atlantic, imagining the 15th-century sailors who also gazed eastward towards mainland Portugal. Weather permitting, break for a picnic lunch prepared by your guides. Hop in the van after lunch, or keep riding right to the mouth of the volcano and into the caldera before looping back to the hotel. This evening, dine on your own in the village of Furnas—our guides can readily recommend a few favorite restaurants.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch

Destinations: Furnas, Provoação, Nordeste, Achadinha

Accomplished: 28 miles / 45 km, elevation gain: 2,696 feet / 822 meters

Longer Option: 56 miles / 90 km, elevation gain: 6,485 feet / 1,977 meters

Accommodations: [Octant Furnas](#)

DAY
4

Le Tour du Tea

First planted on São Miguel in the 16th century, oranges were the island’s principal export until 1842 when a blight wiped out the industry. It was a watershed moment that led to economic reinvention: dairy farming became a new mainstay, and crops like pineapples, passionfruit, tobacco, and tea also thrived. This morning, we’ll take a short transfer to see one of the island’s “new” trades: one of Europe’s only tea plantations. Since the last quarter of the 19th century, the Porto Formoso Tea Factory is one of two plantations in all of Europe that continues to produce commercially. Enjoy a fascinating history lesson and a refreshing cup of tea on the terrace overlooking the plantation. Then start riding west along the coast, passing through fishing villages en route to a lunch of chicken in *piri-piri* sauce. We’ll cross from the north side of the island to the south and check in to our next hotel with time for poolside cocktails or an afternoon massage. This evening, meet our friend and sommelier Joao for a masterclass in Azorean wines and dine on an organic feast.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Ribeira Grande, Fenais da Luz, Mosteiros

Accomplished: 32 miles / 51 km, elevation gain: 2,404 feet / 733 meters

Longer Option: 42 miles / 68 km, elevation gain: 3,480 feet / 1,061 meters

Accommodations: [Sensi](#) or [Santa Bárbara Eco-Beach Resort](#)

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DAY
5

Sete Cidades

Today's route starts with Sete Cidades, the island's enigmatic volcano which derives its name from a folk story about star-crossed lovers. Start riding from the hotel before a steady climb up its southern slope until we reach the Vista do Rei, a lookout point with magnificent views of the lakes and village below. Descend into Sete Cidades for a coffee break, then choose to catch a lift back to the hotel or spend your last full day in the saddle. For those who wish to keep riding, we'll climb to the top of the crater for some spectacular ocean views, followed by a glorious downhill that brings us along the coastal road. This picture-perfect ride finishes at our hotel with a light lunch. Tonight we meet for an apéritif heading to a restaurant lovingly adorned with antiques from the owners' past life in Macao. Our memorable final meal features sustainable and locally sourced ingredients paired thoughtfully with wines from the Azorean island of Pico.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Sete Cidades, Ginetes

Accomplished: 24 miles / 38 km, elevation gain: 2,568 feet / 783 meters

Shorter Option: 16 miles / 26 km, elevation gain: 2,020 feet / 616 meters

Accommodations: [Sensi](#) or [Santa Bárbara Eco-Beach Resort](#)

DAY
6

Adeus São Miguel

Your guides will transfer you back to the island capital of Ponta Delgada. You may wish to stay a little longer in order to experience São Miguel a few other ways—perhaps diving, hiking, or golfing.

Meals: Breakfast
