



Barrington Community School

presents



Madeira, My Dear?

January 29 - February 7, 2016

Friday, January 29th - Late this afternoon you meet at the Barrington Community School parking lot for the private transfer to Logan Airport, where you board your overnight flight. **Overnight: Plane**

Saturday, January 30th - Changing planes this morning at Ponta Delgada in the Azores, you board the short flight to Funchal. You will be met on arrival and escorted to your hotel, where there will be time to unpack and relax. In the evening we'll gather for a welcome dinner at the hotel. **(D)** **Overnight: Funchal**

Sunday, January 31st - This morning we head to the eastern part of the island, stopping for a leisurely walk along one of the most attractive levadas (man made canals) for which Madeira is famous—the Ribeiro Frio—and admire some of the stunning scenery. Continuing on to the historic village of Santana, we'll explore its lovely old streets. In the afternoon we'll return to Funchal, perhaps for high tea at our hotel; the rest of the day and evening are free. **(B)** **Overnight: Funchal**

Monday, February 1st - A relaxing day to discover Funchal at your leisure. A garden in itself, with beautifully planted squares, you may choose to simply roam the city, or set a destination like the Mercado dos Lavradores museum with its splendid collection of silver and antiques. Alternatively, the Museum of Natural History, housed in the old residence of the Count of Carvalhal, features marine-type species and geological samples. For a true taste of Madeira, don't miss the Mercado dos Lavradores, a colorful, high-energy, open-air market where you can buy any of the island's specialties from fresh fish and vegetables to exotic flowers and local crafts. You may also wish to visit Patricia & Gouveia for beautiful embroidery and a tour of its upstairs "factory," or duck into the Casa do Turista for a bit of shopping. In the evening, try out another local restaurant. **(B)** **Overnight: Funchal**

Tuesday, February 2nd - An all-day excursion around the island explores the astonishing range of landscapes, from subtropical to volcanic. We begin by heading west to Camara de Lobos, where Winston Churchill came to paint, stopping at the Henriques & Henriques Vinhos winery for a wine tour and tasting, then on to Cabo Girao, the highest sea cliff in Europe and second highest in the world, surrounded by beautifully terraced farmland. Continuing on, we'll visit Ribeira Brava's 16th-century church and its lively seafront market before proceeding through Serra de Agua to Boca de Encumeada for a view of both the north and south coasts of Madeira. A leisurely stop in Porto Moniz for lunch takes us to one of the island's most colorful fishing villages. Winding our way back to the hotel, we will have dinner at Almirante, a local favorite, and enjoy a performance of fado, the hauntingly sad folk music of Portugal. **(B, D)** **Overnight: Funchal**

Wednesday, February 3rd - Madeira's beauty unfolds on a morning visit to Quinta do Palheiro. Garden enthusiasts will adore this superb estate, owned by the Blandy family, and the surrounding Blandy's Garden, one of the most beautiful parks on Madeira. On the hillside north of Funchal, we'll admire the Botanical Gardens, with their elaborate terracing and splendid variety of exotic flowers, vegetables, and herbs, providing a comprehensive introduction to the island's flora. In the afternoon we'll explore the city itself, beginning with a visit to the Museum of Sacred Art, a former bishop's palace with an extensive collection of Flemish masterpieces from the 15th and 16th centuries. We'll also tour the magnificent Cathedral Se, dating from the 1400s. Our day concludes with a Madeira tasting at San Francisco Adega du Vinho on Avenida Arriaga before you're free to sample one of the superb local restaurants **(B)** **Overnight: Funchal**

Thursday, February 4th - Free day. May we suggest a tour of the Contemporary Art Museum in Forte São Tiago or travel through history at The Madeira Story Centre located in Old Town. **(B)** **Overnight: Funchal**

Friday, February 5th - The spectacular orchid display at Quinta da Boa Vista, five miles above Funchal, has received numerous awards, most notably from the Royal Horticultural Society. From here we continue on to the glorious Monte Palace Gardens in the fashionable hill town above Funchal. Those who wish to, may return to town via the famous toboggans, operated by skillful professionals! In the evening, we will gather for our farewell dinner at O Forte. **(B, D)** **Overnight: Funchal**

Saturday, February 6th - A final free morning in Funchal for last minute shopping. This afternoon we return to the airport for our short flight to Ponta Delgada in the Azores where we will overnight to make our connection back to Boston. **(B, D)** **Overnight: Azores**

Sunday, February 7th - The morning is free to explore the town before we catch our afternoon flight back to Boston. On arrival at Logan Airport our private bus will be waiting to take us back to Barrington. **(B)**

Key to included meals: **B** - breakfast, **L** - lunch, **D** - dinner