

An aerial photograph of a dramatic coastline. The sea is a deep teal color, with white foam from waves crashing against a dark, pebbly beach. The beach is nestled at the base of steep, moss-covered cliffs. On the cliffs, there are terraced fields and small patches of vegetation. A few small buildings are visible on the shore. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.

MADEIRA ISLAND

Lost World of Europe

TRIP DETAILS:

Price:

\$2650 USD

Accommodation: Twin Sharing rooms at a 3-star Hotel in Santa Cruz Village (8 nights), Mountain Hut twin sharing rooms (1 night).

***Single Room Supplement:** +775 USD for Santa Cruz Hotel nights not possible in mountain hut)



ITINERARY

HERE IS A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF OUR EPIC ITINERARY

Day 1

Arrival Day and Funchal Old Town

Today is the day all the fun begins. Arrival in Madeira (early morning).

We have our first team meeting and briefing at the hotel in Santa Cruz before heading to Funchal.

Mid-morning, we head out to the capital city of Madeira, Funchal for a look around the beautiful old town, traditional market, and a few other surprise spots we love including the small Madeira Photography Museum.

For dinner, we are taking you guys somewhere really special in the mountains – here we will taste some delicious local food and wine while we go over the week and schedule.

We will have an early night tonight; tomorrow is a busy day!



Day 2

Sunrise + North Coast Hike + Poncha Workshop

We leave our accommodation in the dark, bound for a secret sunrise spot. After sunrise and a quick breakfast, we will head off on an awesome hike down in the valley. This hike is one that very few people On the island know about and involves some truly spectacular views, massive waterfalls, and a few epic surprises.

After the hike it is time to try some famous Madeira seafood at one of our all time favorite spots for lunch.

After lunch, it is time to learn about one of the most important aspects of Madeiran culture: Poncha. There is a reason that Madeira used to be called the rum island.

To get the real experience of what Poncha is about, we will head to a very local establishment on the North Coast to get a first-hand lesson on the history and process of making Poncha.

Folks are free for dinner on their own tonight. We can provide a plethora of good recommendations depending on what you want to eat.



Day 3

Southwest Madeira

Today you will experience a totally different side of Madeira.

The south coast is the land of banana farms, passion fruit groves, and plenty of sun all year round. After a walk around one of the most picturesque villages on the whole island, we will take a break for lunch at a classic local spot.

After a few shots of espresso, we will head to a different part of the south coast for an epic sunset hike.

We will grab dinner together as a group nearby.



Day 4

Central Mountains + Traditional BBQ

Our final day of the trip is no time to relax (at least not until the evening).

We will start early with the objective to climb one of Madeira's largest and little known peaks before descending into one of the most beautiful valley's in the Central Mountain range.

The afternoon is dedicated to feasting on epic traditional Madeiran meat cooked on fire called Espetada at a local taberna. The evening is free time with dinner on your own.



Day 5

Wild Canyoneering

Time to get wet! Into the canyons we go.

Canyoneering in Madeira is a special experience for many reasons. We will get to explore deep canyons and river systems while descending massive waterfalls few others get to see due to their inaccessibility without ropes and the proper equipment, etc.

You do not need to have experience canyoneering to take part in the activities as they are intended for beginners. Our expert staff will give every member safety and best practices training before we start.

Because the water in the river and waterfalls is cold, we will don thick wetsuits, helmets, and gloves before heading off into this wild side of Madeira. All gear is provided including a helmet, booties, and the wetsuit.

After our team has finished the roughly 4-hour excursion, we will head to one of the best spots on the island to try local seafood for lunch.

From late afternoon, the group has free time.



Day 6

Hike to the highest point of Madeira and Mountain Hut Stay

Today, we leave our hotel behind for a night to experience Madeira's highest point: Pico Ruivo (1,861 m). Here, we will check in to Madeira's only mountain hut; our base for the night and the perfect spot to see the sunrise the next morning. Along the way, we'll soak in the iconic panoramic views of the surrounding mountain ranges.

The hut is equipped with simple, clean rooms (bedding provided) and a large fire-place heated dining/common room. Because of the size of the hut and our group, we will likely book out the whole place just for us!

A tasty local dinner will be prepared by your guides.



Day 7

Hike Out and Head Back to Santa Cruz

Today, we say goodbye to our cozy mountain hut and begin our hike back out from Pico Ruivo.

We opt for a different route out via a different valley before catching up with our transport. This part of Madeira is full of majestic views, and diverse landscapes, and feels very different from the previous days on the coast!

We have lunch as a group, then head back to the hotel for showers and afternoon free time.



Day 8

Rest Day

Today is a rest day. We will be taking a break from our adventures to give you the time to do what you want.

You will be free to explore the charming village of Santa Cruz or Funchal, relax by the ocean, take refreshing swims, and soaking up the sun. If you want to buy some souvenirs you will have the time to do some shopping.

Optional activities for the group:

- Head to the botanical garden via cable car in Funchal (estimated cost, €50 per person)
- Wine tasting tour (estimated €100 per person with lunch)
- Dolphin or Whale Watching Sunset trip (estimated €60 per person)

Day 9

Sunrise, Light Hike, and Final Team Dinner

Before dawn, we head to a great spot to watch the sunrise on the wild North Coast. Following sunrise, we head to a local bakery to load up on pastries before moving on to a light 3-hour hike along the coast.

In the evening, we have something truly special in store for our final feast. Think fine dining meets home cooking, mountain vistas, and local wine. Very few locals even know about this place; we are STOKED to bring you here to experience it.

We will have our final group goodbyes and head back to our accommodation to get a good night's sleep before the time comes to catch flights home the following day.



Day 10

Departure Day

We say goodbye and arrange for transfers to the airport for those who are flying out today.

A final breakfast is included at our accommodation.

Room check out is around 11 am on this day. You can choose to stay at the same hotel if you are not flying home right away or move to the city of Funchal, though any additional nights at the hotel are not covered by Epic.

WHAT'S INCLUDED AND WHAT'S NOT

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| ✓ All accommodation during the trip (9 nights) | ✗ Flights to Portugal/Madeira Island |
| ✓ Breakfast 9x | ✗ Any pre-tour or post-tour accommodation |
| ✓ Lunch 8x | ✗ Travel Insurance |
| ✓ Dinner 3x | ✗ Tips for staff |
| ✓ All transportation (with the exception of free time taxis, etc) | ✗ Alcohol (except our Poncha workshop) |
| ✓ Airport pick up and dropoff | ✗ Personal snacks and extra drinks (soft drinks, juice, coffee) |
| ✓ All on-the-ground logistics and planning | ✗ Lunch 1x (free time day) |
| ✓ Local English and Portuguese-speaking guides | ✗ Dinner 5x |
| ✓ Entrance fees to the museum in Funchal | |
| ✓ Canyoneering fees including gear rental | |
| ✓ Some group snacks on hikes | |
| ✓ Lots of laughs and epic moments | |
| ✓ Bonus surprises along the way | |
| ✓ One on one pre-tour support | |



Questions about this itinerary?

Send us an email with any trip questions at
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