

2017

Events - September

Jesus and Holy Sacrament Festivity | Ponta Delgada September, 2nd to 3rd

Hundreds of pilgrims from all across the island attend the celebration in tribute to the Holy Sacrament, held in the village of Ponta Delgada, taking part in one of the largest religious pilgrimages in the island. This is a religious festivity that emphasizes the island's rich religious traditions commemorated with great fervour, in addition to many entertainments.

Grape and Farmer's Festival | Porto da Cruz September, 2nd to 3rd

Hosted by the Community Centre of Porto da Cruz, this parish town with a great wine-making tradition, annually celebrates the Grape and Farmer Festival, which serves as an excuse to hold a major popular animation, featuring an allegoric parade that brings together many cultural aspects of the parish town.

Funchal Junior Open and Madeira International Tennis Open | Funchal September, 8th to 10th

The sports hall of the Bartolomeu Perestrelo School will host the Funchal Junior & Cadet Open and the Madeira International Table Tennis Open 2017, an event part of the World Junior Circuit of the International Table Tennis Federation.

On the 10th of September, the 21th edition of the Madeira International Table Tennis Open will also be taking place. More information at <http://www.atmmadeira.com>

Columbus Festival September, 14th to 16th

The town of Vila Baleira located in Porto Santo Island, annually promotes a festival in a tribute to the renowned navigator Christopher Columbus. This event includes an intricate programme which includes numerous performances combining music and theatre, in addition to several exhibitions and parades allusive to the Portuguese Age of Discovery.

This event intends to recreate the navigator's experiences during his stay Madeira Island, in 1478, when Funchal was involved in the sugar trade.

Columbus actually lived in Porto Santo Island for a few years, where he met and married the daughter of the island's Captain Donee Bartolomeu Perestrelo. His son Diego was also born in this island.

More information at: www.visitmadeira.pt

Our Lady of Piety Festivity | Caniçal September, 16th to 17th

The village of Caniçal, located on the eastern most part of Madeira Island, is the scene of one of the most peculiar tributes in honour of the local fishermen patron saint – Our Lady of Piety.

This religious festivity is depicted by a unique maritime procession in which fishermen's boats are beautifully

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decorated with flowers and flags, departing from Caniçal's pier towards the Chapel of Our Lady of Piety, where the virgin statue is placed on Saturday evening.

On the following day, another procession is held accompanied by pilgrims who chant while returning the image back to the main church.

35th Apple Festival | Ponta do Pargo September, 16th to 17th

This characteristically rural event brings together many farmers from several neighbouring regions, which turn the production of the "pêro", common name for apple, into a widely animated festival of great projection, along with its usual food and drink stalls.

Madeira Life Saver September 22 th to 24th

The Madeira Regional Canoeing Association, in collaboration with the Municipalities of Porto Moniz and Machico, organizes the Madeira Life Saver, a sports competition held on September 22th and 24th.

This competition is open to both male and female athletes who compete in the Absolutes K1 categorie. This sport event consists of two acts, the first one takes place at the beach of Seixal and the second one in Machico's beach. Participants must cover a 500 meter course, in a sport event which is comprised of multiple stages.

For more information and registration see the official event page: <http://bit.ly/28NigpQ>

Bodyboard Girls Experience September, 23rd to 24th

The Surf Association of the Autonomous Region of Madeira (ASRAM) in partnership with the Machico Ludens Sport Club is currently organising the fourth edition of the Bodyboard Girls Experience, an annual meeting to be held on 23rd and 24th September dedicated to the promotion of female bodyboarding and the island of Madeira as a destination of excellence for this sport.

The event's official programme includes a series of fun activities such as free-surf sessions, workshops and bodyboard lessons for all skill levels. In addition to the event itself, participants will also have the chance to experience some of the island's tourist and cultural attractions through an extensive programme of guided tours, culinary experiences and other tourist activities.

The fifth edition of the Bodyboard Girls Experience in Madeira also constitutes the seventh of ten stages of the 2017 world bodyboarding circuit, a competition with a total prize of 5,000 euros.

A new addition to this competition in 2017 is televised coverage of the event in 22 countries around the world by "Epicentre.TV".

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27th Cider Festival | Santo da Serra **September, 23rd to 24th**

The village of Santo da Serra annually hosts a popular party with the purpose of promoting one of the island's ancient traditions, regarding the handmade process of manufacturing of cider, in a tribute to this popular drink, in a celebration with very m celebration.

This initiative counts with some leisure activities, in particular a small ethnographic parade, preceded by the pressing (by foot) of the "pêro", also featuring some exhibitions on the subject.

World Tourism Day Celebration | Madeira **September, 27th**

Madeira, whilst tourist destination par excellence, could not abide from joining in on the commemorations of the World Tourism Day, which this year are dedicated to the topic "Sustainable Tourism – a Tool for Development", held on September, 27th.

The official programme includes several cultural activities held in Funchal city centre, such as free admission to some museums and gardens. In addition, tourists will be greeted with flowers and giveaways upon their arrival at Madeira's International Airport and also at some official tourist offices.

More information at <http://wtd.unwto.org>