

2018

Events - April

Flower Festival | Funchal April 19th to May, 13th

Celebrating the arrival of springtime and the exuberant blossoming of flowers typical of this season, Funchal is the setting of a sumptuous and inebriating show filled with colour and fantasy - Flower Festival, a tribute to the celebration of the 600th anniversary of the Discovery of Madeira and Porto Santo Islands.

The festivities begin on Thursday, April 19th, with the opening of the Flower Market in the Central Square of Avenida Arriaga, and the Flower Exhibition at Praça do Povo. Additionally other entertainment activities integrate this event such as music concerts and the construction of delicate floral carpets and floral installation along the main streets of Funchal.

On Saturday morning, April 21st, hundreds of youngsters take part in the Children's Parade, each carrying a flower to be placed in a mural known as the "Wall of Hope", located at Praça do Município.

This occasion includes a children show which culminates with the releasing of doves.

On the following day, Sunday, April 22nd, is held another dazzling event: the Grand Flower Parade. Hundreds of participants and flower-themed floats make their way through the city streets in lavish style to the sound of music, decorated with intricate flower arrangements of different sorts exuding soft-ephemeral perfumes.

In recent years other activities were integrated in the events programmed, namely the "Madeira Auto Parade" held in April, 29th. Organized by the Association "The Classic Motor Exhibition" - ACME and the Clube Carocha da Madeira, this event intends to present the glamour of classic vehicles and motorcycles, combined with the flowers of Madeira. This event is one of the largest exhibitions, and national restoration and elegance contests, an opportunity to admire some of the best vehicles and auto parts in Madeira.

The Flower Festival, one of the Islands' most colourful celebrations, is more than just a tribute to the flowers of the Madeira Island. It's an occasion that contributes for the preservation of some of the genuine Madeiran traditions transforming Funchal city centre into a magnificent artistic and cultural expression centre stage.

For more detailed information go to: www.visitmadeira.pt

Chapels under the Moonlight April, 19th and 26th

The Regional Directorate for Culture is the responsible entity for an unprecedented project, based on the idea of accessibility to our heritage, making it available to the general public.

That way, a guided tour programme was created for a set of chapels in Madeira Island, featuring artistic references of the highest importance in the context of regional heritage.

With a multiannual duration, it includes visits to several places of interest and some musical moments.

This initiative will involve teams from the Directorate of Museum Services and Cultural Heritage of the Regional Directorate of Cultural Affairs/SRTC and the Madeira Classic Orchestra in collaboration with the *Associação Notas e Sinfonias Atlânticas*.

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MIUT - Madeira Islands Ultra Trail | Santana **April 25th to 29th**

The Clube de Montanha do Funchal organizes the 10th edition of MIUT (Madeira Island Ultra Trail) a Trail Running competition involving four races: the MIUT115, Ultra85, Marathon43 and Mini16, challenging its participants to partake in a unique experience crossing the island highest peaks/mountains.

The MIUT - Madeira Islands Ultra Trail is a sports competition crossing the island's best tracks, starting in the municipality of Porto Moniz and ending in the council of Machico, passaging through the central massif area - Encumeada - Ruivo Peak (1861 m) - Areeiro Peak -, in a very challenging circuit with a total extension of about 115 km.

During this competition participants face several challenges involving unexpected temperature and visibility variations, crossing mountainous terrains, conditions which entail some experience and physical skills.

For further information go to <http://madeiraultratrail.com>

Lemon Festival | Ilha, Santana **April, 28th and 29th**

The parish of Ilha, located in northern part of the island in the municipality of Santana, organizes the Lemon festival, a tribute to one of its main agricultural produces.

This annual event gathers local producers who present their local gastronomic delicacies made with this citrus fruit, a festivity characterized by its popular and lively ambience.

Madeira Auto Parade **April, 29th**

Organized by the Association "The Classic Motor Exhibition" - ACME and the Clube Carocha da Madeira, the Regional Secretariat of Tourism and Culture and Madeira Tourism Board promotes the "Madeira Auto Parade" an event integrated in the Flower Festival activities.

This event intends to present the glamour of classic vehicles and motorcycles, combined with the flowers of Madeira. This event is one of the largest exhibitions, and national restoration and elegance contests, an opportunity to admire some of the best vehicles and auto parts in Madeira.

The programmed itinerary is similar main flower float parade, starting at Praça da Autonomia, Avenida do Mar e das Comunidades Madeirenses (south lane), til Francisco Sá Carneiro roundabout, passing at Avenida Francisco Sá Carneiro, till the roundabout of the Port of Funchal, where the participating automobiles will be placed in display.

The Madeira Auto Parade integrates vehicles including classic cars and motorcycles, which will circulate in pairs, a parade filled with moments of pure entertainment, colour and beauty with performances by various musical bands and pageants dressed in costumes inspired by the flowers of Madeira.