

2018

Events - May

Feast of Saint James the Less | Funchal **May, 1st to 3rd**

Every year, on the 1st of May, Funchal pays tribute to its patron saint, São Tiago Menor (St. James the Less). Funchal's Old quarters, and in particular the Santa Maria Street, and Corpo Santo Square depicting a very lively ambience characteristic of the local religious festivities - "arraial".

'Fica na Cidade' Festival | Funchal **May, 2nd to 9th**

From May, 2nd to 9th the Municipality of Funchal hosts the third edition of the music Festival 'Fica na Cidade' ('stay in town').

This cultural event intends to bring to the city center of Funchal a set of musical starring various national, international and regional artists.

During the course of eight days, this cultural festival will host a total of 40 concerts, featuring 150 performers/artists depicting various musical styles such as Rock, Pop, Jazz, apart from other performances and street entertainment shows to be held in four different stages located at Funchal downtown, such as: Praça de Colombo, Largo do Chafariz, Rua da Carreira and the historical Funchal Old Quaters.

Sugarcane Harvest Festival | Porto da Cruz **May, 4th to 6th**

From May 4th to 6th the Associação Cultural Flores de Maio organizes the 3rd edition of the Festival 'Apanha da Cana', an agricultural exhibit held in the parish of Porto da Cruz, in Praça da Alagoa, at the Centro Cívico and at Engenheiros do Norte, Lda.

This events intends to promote both the local sugarcane rotary and the cultural and architectural heritage of this parish presenting a set of activities held in the centre of the village, including various artistic and cultural endeavours. Additionally other more active activities are featured in the event's programed including the harvest of the sugar cane apart from hiking trails with tourists, who will get the chance to discover the beautiful landscapes of this village.

Maktub Soundsgood | Paúl do Mar **May, 5th**

This reggae music festival is held annually in Paúl do Mar, thus indicating the beginning of the bathing season in that area.

This year marks the 8th edition of an alternative music festival which has greatly contributed for the enhancement of the regional events calendar, offering sounds that fit perfectly in the relaxed and sunny environment of this lovely village located by the sea.

Visit Madeira and discover some of the musical events that make this tourist destination a large centre stage filled with surprises.

Follow up this festival on: <https://maktubsoundsgood.bol.pt/>

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"Aqui Acolá" Festival | Ponta de Sol May, 10th and 11th

The historical core of the Ponta do Sol municipality will host the 4th edition of the Festival "Aqui Acolá", a cultural initiative that aims to heighten the cultural landscape and the economy of this emblematic location.

The official programme covers a range of artistic, classical and contemporary manifestations, including musical performances, dance, painting, sculpture, theatre, poetry and photography exhibitions, among other entertainment activities.

To follow up more details on this event go to: <http://www.festivalaquiacola.com/>

Madeira Film Festival | Funchal May 14th to 20th

The Madeira Film Festival is based on an international project developed by Scottish Aitken Pearson, aiming to promote the islands natural heritage and the Laurel Forest in particular - a UNESCO World Heritage Site -, through the cinematic arts.

Madeira Film Festival stands out for its investment in a diversified programme combining cinematography with music concerts, lectures, workshops and solidarity fashion shows, in a unique and intimate atmosphere.

Every year, the festival welcomes celebrities from the film and music industry, contributing to boost the local artistic panorama and also to promote Madeira Islands abroad.

The official programme includes the presentation of films and short films based on environmental causes, divided into several categories, which are then be submitted for evaluation by an international jury. More information: www.madeira-filmfestival.com

International Museum Day May, 18th

The 2018 edition of the International Museum Day, which is celebrated on the 18th of May, features the theme "Hyperconnected Museums: New Approaches, New Publics".

For this occasion museums are free, and it is possible to visit their exhibitions and works and participate in initiatives prepared exclusively for this commemorative day. The opening hours are also extended so that more visitors have the opportunity to visit the museums.

Some of the museums of the Region adhere to the "European Museums Night", one of the most popular and anticipated initiatives, allowing visitors to enjoy the institutions' cultural offerings programmed for specific timetable.

Onion Festival | Caniço, Santa Cruz May 18th to 20th

The onion festival is one of the most emblematic festivities of Caniço, whose main attraction is the onion parade, involving several decorated floats and an auction.

The event takes place at Largo Padre Lomelino and comprises various exhibitions and musical entertainment performances.

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School Sports Festival | Funchal **May, 22nd to 25th**

The Regional Secretariat of Education, in collaboration with the Regional Directorate of Education, promotes another edition of the School Sports Festival.

This week-long sports event under the theme "Cultural Heritage Ties, features a competition, amid the local's schools, which is annually held at the Marítimo's Football Stadium.

This colourful gymnastic show integrates over one thousand participants, between the ages of 8 and 90 years old.

Trout Festival and Cider Route | Santana **May, 23rd to 27th**

The municipality of Santana hosts another edition of the Trout Festival/Cider Route, an event which coincides with the Meeting of Cultural Groups in the municipality of Santana Cider and trout are two culinary elements little-known by visitors, who will thus have the opportunity to savour these products during this festival, through visits to the Ribeiro Frio aquaculture station; participation in trout fishing contests; presentations and food tastings based around trout and cider; and exhibitions that demonstrate the handmade cider production process, a drink that is very appreciated by the people of Madeira.

The event extends to the localities of Achada do Cedro Gordo, Pico do Cedro Gordo and Chão do Cedro Gordo, in the parish of São Roque do Faial, municipality of Santana.

Book Fair | Funchal **May, 25th to June, 3rd**

Avenida Arriaga will be the center stage of the annual Book Fair, a cultural event which will involve most of Madeira's bookshops and some Portuguese publishing houses. This initiative is being run by Funchal Municipal Council and includes a diverse range of activities, from conferences, book launches, concerts and exhibitions which will take place in the Auditorium of the Municipal Garden and Baltazar Dias Municipal Theatre.

Festival Aleste | Funchal **May, 26th**

Aleste Festival is one of the latest cultural events dedicated specially to music, a musical festival commitment to improve the diversity and the quality music concerts in Madeira Island. The event, which attracts international interest, will host its fifth edition in the 26th of May, featuring a line up of alternative music at Ponta Gorda Bathing Complex, in Funchal, a natural stage by the sea.

In previous editions, the Aleste Festival has featured artists such as Wooden Wisdom, Liima, Who Made Who, La Flama Blanca, The Legendary Tigerman, Marina Gasolina, The Correspondents, Fish Memory, B Facade, Drop Gala, Bonga, Sensible Soccers, Capitão Fausto and The Poppers. This year's edition includes already various artists such as Surma, Bitchin Bajas, Bruno Pernadas, Bispo and Celeste Mariposa, in a show where music and landscape merges into a perfect evening.

For more information go to: <http://www.aleste.pt>

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Madeira Classic Car Revival | Funchal May, 26th and 27th

The Madeira Classic Car Revival is an annual automobile event comprised by the most representative types of old classic and vintage vehicles existing in Madeira Islands, such as automobiles, motorbikes and bicycles manufactured prior to 1980.

Promoted by the "The Classic Motor Exhibition" Association – ACME, this auto show aims to award prizes to the most beautiful and representative old vehicles on display, with the "Best of Show" award. This exhibit will be held at Praça do Povo, location which will also depict other entertainment activities and parades.

On Sunday, May 27th will be taking place the "Rampa dos Barreiros" a sports car race, in tribute to the historical car race held in 1935.

More information at https://www.facebook.com/acme.madeira?hc_location=ufi

Regional Philharmonic Bands Meeting | Ribeira Brava May, 27th

Promoted by the Regional Directorate for Culture, this cultural initiative was created to safe keep Madeira's musical heritage and to pay tribute to the important role played by the regional Philharmonic bands in favour of the public entertainment initiatives and the indisputable joyfulness that they instil into Madeira's traditional feasts.

This event takes place on Sunday with a procession of all the regional bands throughout the main streets of this village. Then all bands get together at the coastal avenue and each band presents its individual musical repertoire.

This meeting ends with a combined anthem composed specifically for the occasion. Trophies are then handed out, followed by a celebration.