

2019

## 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, 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".

### **Flower Festival | Funchal May 2nd to 26th**

Celebrating Spring and its typical exuberant flourish, the city of Funchal is the stage of a sumptuous and inebriating show full of colour and fantasy – the Flower Festival.

This year, this touristic attraction is carried out between 2 and 26 May, a show integrated within the celebrations of the 600th anniversary of the Madeira and Porto Santo islands' Discovery.

The festivities began on Thursday, 2 May, with the opening of the Flowers Market, at the Central Area of Avenida Arriaga, and with the inauguration of the Flower Exhibition, at Praça do Povo.

In parallel, other ludic activities are carried out, namely music concerts and the construction of delicate floral carpets and sculptures, along the main streets of Funchal.

On Saturday, 4 May, thousands of children participate on the Children Parade, each one carrying a flower, parading between Avenida Arriaga and Praça do Município, aiming to place the flower in a quite symbolic wall, the "Hope Wall". The construction of the wall ends with release of doves and a children's show.

On the following day, Sunday, 5 May, the dazzling and spectacular Allegoric Flower Parade, which consists of a parade in which thousands of participants and allegoric cars illustrating the flower walk through the city, exhibiting combination of multiple typical floral species of the island, leaving behind soft and ephemeral perfumes.

The Flower Festival is one of the most colourful festivals of the island which, besides paying tribute to the Madeiran flowers, carry the genuine Madeiran traditions forward and transforms Funchal, for several days, in a marvellous stage where several artistic and cultural expressions are carried out.

Learn more at <http://www.visitmadeira.pt>

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

This reggae music festival is carried out annually at Paúl do Mar, therefore marking the beginning of the bathing season in this area.

This is the 9th edition of one of the alternative music festivals which dynamized the regional events agenda, with sounds which fit perfectly with the outgoing and sunny environment of that coastal village.

Visit Madeira and discover the events which make this destination a giant stage full of surprises and enjoy the Maktub Soundsgood.

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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.

### **Madeira Classic Car Revival | Funchal** **May 24th to 25th**

The "Madeira Classic Car Revival" is an annual automobile event, representative of the history of the old and classic vehicles of the Region, namely cars, motorcycles and bicycles produced until 1980.

Organized by the Classic Automobiles Club of Madeira (CACM), this automobile exhibition aims to award the best and most beautiful examples, to be distinguished with the "Best of Show" award, an exhibition which shall take place at Praça do Povo, a place where also other activities and parades will be taking place.

On the 24th 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://bit.ly/2UP6oKS>

### **Festival Aleste | Funchal** **May 24th to 26th**

The festival Aleste 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 sixth edition, 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, and Drop Gala.

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

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### **Regional Philharmonic Bands Meeting | Ribeira Brava** **May 24th to 26th**

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.

### **Book Fair | Funchal** **May 24th to June 2nd**

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.

### **School Sports Festival | Funchal** **May 28th to 31st**

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

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

### **"Aqui Acolá" Festival | Ponta de Sol** **May 30th to June 2nd**

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 emblematical location.

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

For more information: <http://www.festivalaquiacola.com/>

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### **Ultra Skymarathon Madeira| Santana** **May 31st to June 1st**

The Clube Aventura of Madeira, in partnership with the Portuguese Camping and Mountaineering Federation, promotes the 7th edition of Ultra Skymarathon® Madeira.

This is the seventh skyrunning competition in Portugal, integrating for the sixth consecutive time the Iberian circuit of the Skyrunner® National Series championship of Spain, Andorra and Portugal.

Skyrunning is a variant of the technical mountain run, with steep slopes and a high technical degree, which will surely attract many participants, not only due to its characteristics but also for the natural and beautiful sceneries and landscapes of the Northern coastal area of the island.

With the picturesque city of Santana and its surrounding areas as the stage, this sporting competition has contributed for the promotion of this municipality's natural heritage, associated to the touristic potential of its pedestrian paths and to this locality's culture and traditions.

This event consists of three races with different distances, the Ultra Skymarathon® Madeira (USM 55km 4000m D+), the Santana Sky Race (SSR 21 km 1350m D+) and the Mini SkyRace (MSR 13km 400m D+).

To follow up more details regarding this race go to: <http://www.madeiraskyrunning.com>