

## NEWSLETTER October, 2017

The mild climate and very pleasant temperatures typical of this month invites you to a walk through the centre of Funchal or to relaxing moment at one of the city's many terraces. Get to know all the reasons to visit our archipelago in October!



### **Madeira Nature Festival til October, 8th**

Feel the landscape around you! Dive in it! Take a deep breath! Between the 3rd and the 8th of October, surrender to the charms of an island that radiates energy, excitement and adventure. Madeira Tourism is hosting another week-long edition of the Nature Festival, celebrating with its visitors the best that nature has to offer in the archipelago. Whether on land or in the air or on the sea, the choices are endless and there is a huge range of activities suited to all age groups and preferences. Including sport, entertainment and the best of local culture, this is an unmissable festival.

For more information, visit the Madeira Nature Festival event site: <http://madeiranaturefestival.visitmadeira.pt>



### **8th edition Madeira Organ Festival October, 20th to 29th**

The Regional Directorate for Culture (DRC) will promote the eighth edition of the Madeira Organ Festival. This cultural initiative consists of a series of concerts taking place in the most notable liturgical spaces of Madeira. This event will feature a wide range of recitals performed by nationally and internationally-renowned organ masters. The Madeira Organ Festival intends to spread awareness of this rich cultural heritage.

For more detailed information: <https://www.facebook.com/madeiraorganfestival/>



### **Madeira Internacional Swim Marathon October, 27th to 29th**

There will be another edition of this open water swimming event, organised by the Funchal Naval Club, in partnership with the Portuguese Swimming Federation and the Swimming Association of Madeira. With 1,500 meters, 5 km, and 10 km, 60 top athletes in this kind of open water event will participate, among which shall be foreigners and swimmers from the National Team. The objective is to attract an ever more expressive number of practitioners of this sport, finding the ideal setting of crystal clear waters in Madeira!

For further information: <http://www.clubenavaldofunchal.com/iv-madeira-island-international-swim-marathon-2017/>



### **Madeira voted the Best Island Tourist Destination in Europe!**

For the second year in a row and for the fourth time since first participating, Madeira Islands has been chosen by the World Travel Awards as Europe's Leading Island Destination 2017, in what are considered the "Tourism Oscars".

In this category, Madeira Islands competed alongside with other tourist destinations such as the Canary Islands, Cyprus, the Balearic Islands, Crete, Guernsey, Jersey, Malta, Sicily, the Azores and Sardinia.

The World Travel Awards are held once a year and aims to recognise, reward and celebrate excellence in all sectors of the tourism industry on a global scale.

The largest group of votes is provided by tourism professionals and travel agents located in more than 200 countries around the world.

Visit this destination acknowledge for its excellence!



### **A new Museum opens in Funchal**

The museum has more than two thousand pieces originating from all over the world that have been collected by a Madeiran enthusiast over the past 50 years, with the oldest piece dating from the 18th century. Located in Rua das Pretas in a Madeira heritage-listed building dating from end of the 19th century, the museum features a diverse collection that displays many rare objects, including telescopes, film projectors, and microscopes, among many others.



### **Did you know that...**

... the sack of Funchal, carried out by the French on 3 October 1566, gave rise to a legend related to Our Lady of the Mount?

There are several legends about Our Lady of the Mount (Nossa Senhora do Monte) that have been passed down from generation to generation, from the beginnings of local settlement to the present day.

It was in that year that French corsairs of the Calvin religion came to Madeira and invaded, plundered and robbed our island.

Legend has it that after stealing the silver from the Cathedral, from Santa Clara and from other Churches, these heretics also decided to take the image of Our Lady of the Mount. One of the Huguenots laid his hands on the image of Our Lady of the Mount, and when he realised that she was

not as valuable as he had expected, he threw her against the stone steps of the temple to shatter her. But to the buccaneer's misfortune, a shard of stone jumped up and plunged into his heart, killing him right there and then.

Visit Madeira and get to know all the legends and historical curiosities inscribed and described in books and in the built heritage.