The unique Madeira Carnival is celebrated in an atmosphere of contagious joy, driven by initiatives of striking creativity and imagination. Visit us and enjoy yourself, discovering a destination of singular beauty ready to welcome you with open arms.

**Carnival Festivities**
**7th to 18th of February**

Since Madeira Carnival step into the streets for the first time in the 80s, this event acquired countless fans among locals and foreigners. This season is lived intensely by everyone in a festivity full of fun, in such a way that this event is considered one of the main tourist attractions of Madeira, filled with colour and joy. The theme "Madeira - 600 hundred years of Joy" sets the tone to the creativity of the allegoric groups which, on the 10th of February, participate in the Saturday night’s Carnival parade. This year, eleven groups participate in this great festivity. In addition to this festive period, the “Tralhão” Parade will take place on the 13th of February, Carnival day. After both parades, Praça da Autonomia will showcase variety shows.

You can find the detailed programme of the event at: [http://www.visitmadeira.pt](http://www.visitmadeira.pt)

**Porto Santo Nature Trail**
**March 3rd and 4th**

The Athletics Association of the Autonomous Region of Madeira is hosting again the Porto Santo Nature Trail, having reshaped the event, which is held once a year in the Golden island. The Porto Santo Nature Trail consists of four races covering the island from one end to the other: the main race being 42.3 km; the second, 21.9 km; a shortest relay, 8.9 km and an extra race - “Porto Santo Kids Trail (KTPS), destined for younger athletes. The competition integrates the Regional Trail Championship, in the distance Half Marathon and Marathon. For further information: [http://portosantonaturetrail.com/index.php/pt/](http://portosantonaturetrail.com/index.php/pt/)

**The Stars Route**
**March 9th to 13th**

Created in 2010, “The Stars Route” is identified as one of the most important high quality gastronomic festivals that takes place in Portugal. Already in its 9th edition, the “The Stars Route” will come to the island of Madeira twice, the first restaurant visited being Il Gallo D’Oro, holder of two Michelin stars. In June, the event will take place in the one Michelin-starred William Restaurant. The event unfolds over several dinners, with a tasting menu prepared jointly by several invited national and international chefs. The festival also includes showcookings, workshops, wine tasting and guided tours to promote local gastronomic products. The host of this travelling gourmet food festival is chef Benoit Sinthon. More information is available on the event’s official website: [http://www.rotadasestrelas.com](http://www.rotadasestrelas.com)