

New Year, New Life!

Set out to discover a unique destination, one that's close by, where the sun shines all-year-round. Make your New Year's resolutions come true by travelling to Madeira, where you'll find countless activities and attractions that will pack any stay and make it unforgettable. Start off the year in style!



Santo Amaro Festivity January 15th

Madeira Islands celebrate, in a particularly festive and ceremonial way all over the island, the religious festivity of Santo Amaro. This is the day when families gather to share the remaining delicacies of this festive season, to take out the Christmas decorations and lapinhas (cribs) and to "clean the kitchen cabinets – a custom deeply rooted in the traditions of popular people of Madeira. On this day the municipality of Santa Cruz pays tribute to its patron saint in a very lively religious festivity, which marks the end of the Christmas holidays.



Funchal's Marathon January 28th

The Madeira Athletics Association (AARAM) promotes this major international sporting event. This sports event consists of three main races, the Funchal Marathon (42.195,00 meters), the Funchal Half Marathon (21.097,50 meters) and the Mini marathon (5.900 meters). This race will once again be run on a flat course, almost entirely on a closed, attractively landscaped circuit, offering the perfect setting for healthy competition between athletes from different nationalities. Find out more at the official website:

<http://madeiramarathon.com/index.php/pt/>



Panelo Feast January 28th

This is a famous and old Madeira tradition enjoyed with a special feeling by the local residents of Seixal, a small village located near Porto Moniz. This social gathering takes place early in the morning at Chão da Ribeira, on the first sunday after the religious feast of St. Antão, an occasion where families come together to prepare the "Panelo", a culinary dish made of vegetables and blood sausage, very similar to "Cozido à Portuguesa" (Portuguese stew). This occasion also features stalls, selling local food and drinks, along with lots of entertainment.



Madeira conquets again a World Travel Award

The best way to finish another excellent year for the Madeira tourism industry!

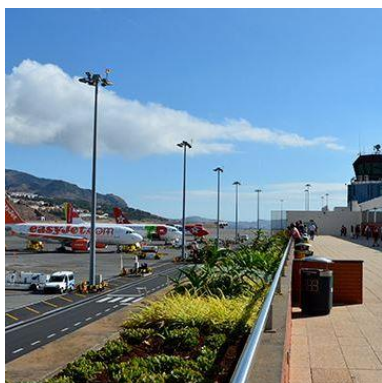
For the third year in a row, the World Travel Awards has recognised Madeira Islands as the World's Leading Island Destination of 2017!

Competing alongside with other emblematic and exotic island destinations, Madeira again collected the annual award that recognises excellence in the stand-out tourism brands and locations around the world, distinguishing itself as the best island tourist destination on the globe since 2015.

The "Tourism Oscars" were awarded at a ceremony held on December 10th, in Vietnam.

Know the reasons for visiting [Madeira this year:](http://www.visitmadeira.pt/en-gb/madeira/10-top-reasons-to-visit-madeira)

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Madeira airport breaks record

For the first time in history, Madeira's International Airport - Cristiano Ronaldo, has reached the historic milestone of processing three million passengers in a single year.

With a constant growth in the last four years, in 2017 Madeira Airport surpassed the growth of previous years, closing with a record of more than 3 million passengers processed, of which 55% are international.

The United Kingdom and Germany remain the main international markets for this destination.

In 2017, Madeira Airport was connected to 71 airports throughout Europe, with 50 operators boosting the arrival of tourists to the Region.