

CAPE VERDE ARCHIPELAGO

Shore excursions 2021 min.10 guests

BOA VISTA – the Dry North

Duration: 8 hours

Including: Transportation, local guide and lunch

NOTE: This tour has to be pre-booked!

Price Per person: € 70--



The easternmost and third-largest island of Cape Verde definitely does justice to its name – Boa Vista: beautiful view. Life on this island is authentic and the landscape is characterized by deserts of sand and scree. Our excursion will take us to small villages, where we will have the opportunity to see every day's life and the special nature of this island. First we will wonder the streets of Sal Rei and take in the atmosphere of the capital, after this we go to Rabil to visit a local school for traditional pottery followed by a drive in the Viana Desert with a short stop. We will also have the opportunity to swim in the ocean followed by a good local lunch. Last highlight will be the Shipwreck at Santa Maria beach before returning to our ship.

PRAIA – CIDADE VELHA

Duration 3 hours

Including: Transportation, guide and entrances.

Price Per person: € 38--



The excursion starts with a short half an hour trip to Cidade Velha (once Ribeira Grande), first capital of Cape Verde. Here we walk through the village, visiting the fortress of São Filipe, the Pelourinho, the Sé Catedral, and Church of Nossa Senhora do Rosário and the convent of São Francisco. Afterwards we drive towards Plateau to have a look at its main attractions; Cidade Velha, which has been inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List. Praça Alexandre de Albuquerque, surrounded by old buildings, exemplifying the old colonial architecture style, like for instance the Palácio da Justiça, the church of Nossa Senhora from 1900, the Municipality, the Culture Palace Ildo Lobo, the market and the miradouro.

MINDELO - SAO VICENTE – Culture City walk
Duration 4 hours
Including: Local guide

Price Per person: € 29--



MINDELO is known as the cultural capital of the country. We will go on a discovery tour of the lively markets and the secret corners of the harbor town. On this tour you will be walking towards the harbor along the famous of MINDELO bay RUA DE PRAIA with traditional shops and monuments like and you will see the cultural centre, (former customs) and the fish market. You will also visit of the African market PRACA ESTRELA passing a traditional quarter, with the town hall, and the vegetable market. Before returning to the pier, you will pass the historical main street RUA LISBOA and the very lively PRACA NOVA- Free time for shopping.

FOGO – SAO FELIPE City tour and the VOLCANO
Duration: 7 hours
Including: Transportation, local guide and lunch.

Price Per person: € 68--



*We start our excursion at Presidio, city's main square, and continue to the "colored market" with many kinds of fruit and vegetables. Continue passing by The City Hall and many others old Sobrados (colonial houses), some of them already restored, and we enter in the **Municipal Museum**, to learn about the history of one of the most important Islands in the past. We continue with a visit to the Natural park is a must, appreciating the greatest attraction of Cape Vert and one of the most impressive landscapes in the world.*

*Departure from **São Filipe**, with our first Stop at **Forno**, visit to one of the area where the drop-by-drop irrigation method is used, a technique adopted by farms on the island in order to minimize the effect of drought. Then we continue to **Achada Furna**, a change to get to know the communities where new houses were built for population of Chã das Caldeiras after the eruption of 1995 and 2014. Although many of them had returned to the Caldeira. Continuing we stop in **Cabeça Fundão** where we have a nice view of many old crater and a landscape of mix colors.*

*Finally we arrive at the entry of the **Natural Park of Chã das Caldeiras** to enjoy a stupendous view from the highest point from Cape Vert. Is our opportunity to Trek to the **2014 crater** – where one can find places extremely hot spots apart from the **Sulfur**. Time to visit one of the two villages that was destroyed, in the eruption of 2014/2015. 98% of the houses, schools, restaurants, hotels, everything gone, but the people were back, strong to rebuild everything again. Lunch at Marisa house and time to taste the traditional Chã das Caldeiras **wine** better known as **Manecon**. A chance to purchase one of the best coffee in the world.*

SANTO ANTAO – The Discovery

Duration: 7,5-8 hours

Including: Transportation, local guide and lunch

Price Per person: € 74--



A full day excursion discovering the major sites of the island, passing by the famous new coastal road to Cidades da Pombas and, of course, going into Paul Valley – a green jewel among the villages of Santo Antão. On the way we will visit plantations of sugar cane and we will taste in home-distillery “grogue” – the white rum made by sugar cane where you will have the possibility to buy some bottles.

We continue with the coastal road to meet Ponta do Sol, the fisherman’s port of Santo Antão. In the area of Ribeira Grande we will take our lunch, before we take the old road over the mountains passing the Ribeira de Torre, Água das Caldeiras and the Corda Caldera, from where we decent back to Porto Novo.

The Santo Antão tour will show you the fabulous contrast between an arid southern region, a forest in altitude and the fabulous vegetation from the North. A tour no one should miss!

SANTO ANTAO – Volcanic Landscapes

Duration: 4 hours

Including: Transportation, local guide

Price Per person: € 55--



Discover the south-western part of the island, a safari through volcanic landscapes, porcelains fields where you will be able to sight beautiful isolated villages with dropwise agriculture and different kind of plantations. A discovery of unusual landscapes like Lagedos village known for its sustainable tourism.

Leaving behind the Northeast we enter the Southwest, a small gem. Typical landscape not only for the unique kind of crops, but also for the colour contrast displayed by the black volcanic rock.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Minimum number of participants for the operation of above tours: 10 paying persons.*
- Tours include: private minibuses for the exclusive use of the VARIETY CRUISES passengers, informative local guides or escorts, entrances where applicable and light traditional meals (when in the program)*
- Transportation takes place by Toyota or similar Minibuses or Jeeps with no A/C no P/A (microphone)-*
- The level of the tours is considered easy (guests with normal mobility condition) except for Sao Vicente walking tour which is considered moderate.*
- Prices or descriptions are subject to changes due to operational or other unforeseen issues. Guests will be informed ahead of time – prior signing in, should any changes occur.*