

CAPE VERDE

2023-2024

SHORE EXCURSION PACKAGE





DAY 2

SAL REI

BOA VISTA: THE DRY NORTH

- Duration approx. 8 hours
- Incl. Transportation by pickups/Guide/Lunch/all fees
- Per Person: Euro 78

NOTE: Boa Vista tour has to be pre-booked ahead of embarkation!

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**. See local artisans creating decorative pieces with their home clay followed by a drive in the **Viana Desert** (short stop). We will also have the opportunity to swim in the ocean at the natural beach of Santa Monica weather permitting, followed by a good local lunch.

Our last highlight will be the old **Shipwreck at Santa Maria** beach before returning to our ship.

Note: Guests are seated both inside/outside at the pickups with rotation during the tour;(heat/sun/sand)

A pickup-truck is a light duty truck with seats inside(covered) and outside(uncovered)



DAY 3

PRAIA

SANTIAGO ISLAND: PLATEAU - CIDADE VELHA

- Duration approx. 3 hours
- Incl. Transportation/Guide/Entry fees
- Per Person: Euro 45

The excursion starts with a short drive towards **Plateau** to have a look at its main attractions: The **pedestrian shopping street** with the **Mercado Municipal di Praia** building, the **Praia Alexandre de Albuquerque Square**, surrounded by old buildings, exemplifying the old colonial architecture style, like for instance the **Palacio da Justia**, the **church of Nossa Senhora** from 1900, the **Municipality**, and the **Culture Palace lido Lobo**.

It will take us now on half an hour trip to **Cidade Velha** (once Ribeira Grande), which has been inscribed on **UNESCO's World Heritage List** and first capital of Cape Verde. Here we visit first the **fortress of Sao Filipe**, followed by walk through the village to see the **Catedral**, the **Rua de Banana**, the **Church of Nossa Senhora do Rosario** and the historical **Pelourinho** with its small craft market. After some free time, we drive back to the port and our ship, passing the beaches of Praia.



DAY 4

SAO FELIPE

FOGO: SAO FELIPE CITY , ISLAND TOUR AND THE VOLCANO

- Duration approx. 7 hours
- Incl. Transportation/Guide/Lunch/all fees
- Per Person: Euro 72

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 Verde 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 Verde. 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**.



DAY 5

MINDELO

SAO VICENTE: MINDELO – CULTURE CITY WALK

- Duration approx. 4 hours
- Incl. Local Guide and all fees
- Per Person: Euro 45

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. Have a cultural visit at the recently opened Arts, Crafts and Design Center> Continue with 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.



DAY 6

PORTO NOVO

SANTO ANTAO: THE DISCOVERY

- Duration approx. 8 hours
- Incl. Transportation/Guide/Lunch/ all fees
- Per Person: Euro 78

A full day excursion discovering the major sites of the island, passing by the famous new costal road to **Cidadhe 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 Antao. 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 Antao 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!



DAY 7

PORTO NOVO

SANTO ANTAO: VOLCANIC LANDSCAPES

- Duration approx. 4 hours
- Incl. Transportation/Guide
- Per Person: Euro 54

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.



REMARKS:

Minimum number of participants for the operation of above tours: 10 paying persons.
Maximum number depending availability (limited)

The tours include: private transportation for the exclusive use of the VARIETY CRUISES passengers, friendly and knowledgeable English speaking local guides or escorts, entrances where applicable and light traditional meals (if mentioned in the program).

Transportation takes place by Toyota or similar Minibuses or Jeeps with no A/C no P/A (microphone)- as per each island's standards.

The level of the tours is considered easy (guests with normal mobility condition) except for Boa Vista which is considered slightly strenuous (sun/sand and transportation is taking place with pickups vehicles) and Sao Vicente walking tour which is considered moderate.

Prices, timings of the tours 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.

Guests are advised to wear comfortable shoes, have sun protection and water and to protect their phones or cameras during tender rides to shore-if any. Eventual swimming stops during the tours take place in natural beaches without amenities mostly and swimmers should swim close to the shore as there are no swimming attendants around.

Prices are valid until including April,2024

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