

OUR FAVORITE TRAILS We've been scouting the island for our favorite hiking and walking trails. Below is our top choices for both variety and difficulty. Each recommendation includes a map link to the trailhead (we use Here Maps, which are the most complete of the island), as well as general trail info from the Visit Azores website.

GRENÁ - PICO DO FERRO Easy circular trail (but with some challenging inclines) along the ridges of the Furnas volcano caldera; features sweeping views over the valley and some hidden surprises. Hike is about 4 miles in length and we do it in reverse.

Traihead link
Trail info

SALTO DO PREGO FAIAL DA TERRA Two-mile medium difficulty circular hike over steep climb to spectacular waterfall. Trail connects to the Ribeira do Faial da Terra trail, a linear trail that is about 3 miles each way.

Traihead link
Trail info

MATA DO CANÁRIO + SERRA DEVASSA Easy 2.5-mile hike over mountain ridges in the Sete Cidades range with views of lakes and the ocean. Great for seeing native vegetation. From there, visit the Lagoa do Canário forest reserve, which features a non-advertised and absolutely breathtaking mountaintop viewpoint over the

Sete Cidades lakes. From there, you can also connect to 6-mile trail over the ridge of the Sete Cidades volcano, which offers amazing views but is also a traffic gravel road. Make sure the mountains are clear of fog or low clouds if you want to see the amazing views.

Traihead Link
Trail info

PRAIA – LAGOA DO FOGO Thrilling medium level linear hike follows a levada (water channel) to Fogo volcano. It's about 6 miles one way and it's a turnaround trail because you'll be inside the lake crated with no other viable exit point to a main road. But it's worth the up and back!

Traihead Link
Trail info

PRAIA DA VIOLA + MOINHOS DA RIBEIRA FUNDA MAIA Easy hike follows the coastline, starting at a small sandy beach and ending at another, wilder sandy beach. Along the way you

TRAIL RESOURCES ONLINE

Trails Azores website: www.trails-azores.com website
WalkMe Azores website and app:
<http://www.walkmeguide.com/en/azores/trails-list/>



will learn about the town's old occupations and how women led the local economy. About 3 miles one way. Trail connects Moinhos da Ribeira Funda hike, a 2-mile medium difficulty circular hike that offers specular trail along river and over cliffs. Great as a standalone hike.

Trailhead link Praia da Viola | Moinhos da Ribeira Funda

Trail info

WHAT GEAR TO PACK

- ▶ Medium to heavy duty waterproof hiking boots
- ▶ Non-cotton moisture-wicking hiking pants with zip-out shorts
- ▶ Non-cotton moisture-wicking T-shirt
- ▶ Non-cotton intermediate layer
- ▶ Light rain/wind jacket
- ▶ Bandanas/sun hats
- ▶ Hiking socks
- ▶ Headlamp
- ▶ Water bottle (optional)

- ▶ Water shoes (optional)
- ▶ Wool heat in winter if mountain hiking
- ▶ Gloves only in winter, if very sensitive chilly weather

DON'T NEED TO PACK

- ▶ Hiking poles
- ▶ Compass
- ▶ Maps
- ▶ Longjohns
- ▶ Pocket knives and other tools

PRECAUTIONS + EMERGENCY RESPONSE If you are hiking by yourself (outside an organized hike), always tell someone which trail you are doing and how to contact you. Please wear appropriate clothing and shoes as conditions on trail can change quickly. Check the weather before you leave. Weather in the Azores can be very changeable. If you are joining a **minuvida azores** hike, staff hiking leaders are trained in first aid. In case of emergency, the protocol response occurs through the national emergency number 112. Additionally, **minuvida** will notify local authorities as required before taking to the trail. **minuvida** is also registered with the Azorean Tourism Board with the ability to request for emergency services directly from its **mobile app**.

