

THE SOLAR BRANCO ECO ESTATE GUIDE TO TECERIA

Last Updated Winter 2020

#WELOVEAZORES

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#WELOVEAZORES: THE #WELOVEAZORES campaign and website was created in the aftermath of the Covid-19 crisis. Tourism is the key driver of employment in the Azores and the impact cannot be understated on the islands.

This guide aims to highlight the best local restaurants, experiences and activities on each island. Helping the recovery through sustainable tourism.

Instagram: @solarbranco
Facebook: Solar Branco Eco-Estate
Web: welopeazores.com

ABOUT THE SOLAR BRANCO ECO-ESTATE

ABOUT THE PROPERTY: Solar Branco or The White Mansion in English, is located just above the historical town of Livramento on the biggest island of the Azores, Sao Miguel. The estate has 9 individual accommodation units. The main building originates from the 1800s.

OUR UNIQUE EXPERIENCES: From vegan cozido to a gin tasting masterclass we have Azorean themed experiences for you to enjoy. Check these out by visiting our website [here](#).

SOCIAL MEDIA: Please feel free to check us out and follow on the following channels:

Instagram: @solarbranco
Facebook: Solar Branco Eco-Estate
Web: solarbranco.com

TERCERIA

(THE PURPLE ISLAND)

Soft blue and purple hydrangeas grow all over the Azores but Terceira, the third largest of the nine islands, is specifically recognized for the soft pastel color of its flowers including lilacs – hence The purple Island.

One of the more beautiful gardens in the Azores is believed to be the Duke of Terceira Garden in Terceira's capital Angra do Heroísmo (once the capital of the entire archipelago).



WHAT TO SEE & DO

Biscoitos Wine Museum Located conveniently in the town of Biscoitos, is a family-run wine cellar and museum that has been open since the early 90s. One of the many interesting things that you will learn about during your visit is that the vines grow from the rich porous lava rock, as opposed to growing in fertile soil.

Inside the museum is an interesting collection of decades-old wine-making tools. The brief, yet informative tour ends with a delicious sampling of locally produced wines, all of which are reasonably priced if you're looking to take home a memento from your visit. Whale watching.

This company comes highly recommended and is one of the most ecologically aware whale watching companies in the Azores. They combine the tourist industry with scientific research and are a passionate team about the whales and their conservation, check them out here <http://www.atlantiangra.pt/>

Algar do Carvão is an ancient lava tube located in the geographic centre of the island. It is one of a few places in the world where you can walk inside an extinct volcano. While its name loosely translates to cave of coal, Algar do Carvão is not a producer of coal and is most likely named after the dark composition of the interior rocks.

Get ready to climb a few hundred stairs as you explore the depths of this mesmerizing geological wonder. Above you, you will see a fern grotto leading up to the outside world along with stalactites hanging from the interior ceilings.

At its deepest point, you will come upon a shimmering lagoon (though lack of rainfall in the summer months may cause the lagoon to temporarily dry up).

Please note that the cave has varied opening hours with limited access in the off-season.

Miradouro do Facho If the weather is right, this should be your very first stop upon leaving the Terceira Airport. Located just 5 minutes away, Miradouro do Facho offers incredible views over the town of Praia da Vitória and its harbour below. There's a good chance you will have already seen this wonderful viewpoint from above during your descent onto the island.

Serra do Cume For iconic shots of the most notable landscapes on the island of Terceira, head up to Serra do Cume. Though it is situated on relatively flat terrain, the Serra do Cume overlook sits high at 1,800 ft (545 m). Two different stops upon the hilltop provide endless panoramic views of the island's beautiful countryside, nearby small towns, and the surrounding vast

WHAT TO SEE & DO

Monte Brasil Along the shorelines of Angra do Heroísmo, Terceira's capital city, are the remnants of a now-extinct volcano. The naturally-formed peninsula, known as Monte Brasil, is another great spot on the island for outstanding scenic views. Follow the designated hiking trail or drive your car to the summit.

São João Baptista Fort, located on Monte Brasil is the oldest fortress that has been continuously occupied by the Portuguese army. You will find old out-of-commission artillery pieces near the summit, in addition to a cross indicating the discovery of the island in 1432.

Aqualva Hiking is one of many active things to do in Terceira, and the lookout point in Aqualva has one of the most spectacular views.

São Sebastião Vila de São Sebastião, commonly shortened to São Sebastião, has a beautifully preserved city centre, including a handful of 16th-century buildings. In addition to admiring the bell tower of Igreja Matriz de São Sebastião (church), take a step inside where you'll find the walls adorned with late medieval frescoes.

Santa Bárbara You will find in this region an inactive volcano that is the highest point on the entire island at 3,350 feet (1,021 m). At the base of the ascent to the Serra, you will find the Santa Bárbara Interpretation Centre which strives to educate visitors on the natural heritage of Terceira Natural Park.

Ponta das Contendas On the complete opposite side of the island, in the southeast corner, is the Ponta das Contendas Lighthouse, built in 1934. The drive along the southern coast offers numerous places to pull over and admire the views, including the beautiful bay, Baía da Mina. How lucky are these cows to have oceanfront pastures to graze?

Praia da Vitória Just a 5-minute drive from the airport, so it can easily be your first stop during your visit to Terceira Island. The town boasts cobbled streets, colourful churches, an impressive town hall, modern marina, and beautiful beach (Prainha da Praia da Vitória, meaning Beach of the Victory.)

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Angra do Heroísmo The capital city of Angra do Heroísmo takes vibrancy to a whole new level. There's not a dull block in the whole city. The entire town centre was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983 for its unique architecture and cultural significance. With plenty of museums, cathedrals, gardens, and restaurants to visit, there is plenty to do in the bustling capital city of Angra.

WHAT TO SEE & DO

Porto Judeu Located just a short drive from Angra is the tiny town of Porto Judeu (Jewish Port). You can wander through the quaint town centre consisting of just a few colourful buildings, including a church and post office, then make your way to the coastline where you will find natural swimming pools and a trail leading to a few geothermal vents. Also, while near Porto Judeu, don't miss a stop at the Cruz do Canario Viewpoint where you will have wonderful views of Terceira's southern coast and the nearby Ilhéus das Cabras (dual islet.)

EATING

Ti Choa

Grota do Margaride 1 Serreta, 9700-661 Angra do Heroísmo

[Google Maps](#)

Restaurante Boca Negra

Largo Sto António 1, 9700-368 Porto Judeu

[Google Maps](#)

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