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Atlantic ocean islands azores

The Azores Islands are a Portuguese archipelago in the North Atlantic, located about 1,500 km (930 mi) from Lisbon and about 3,900 km (2,400 mi) from the east coast of North America. The monchique islet on Flores Island, located at 31° 16′ 24 W is considered the westernmost point of Europe, although from a geological point of view the two westernmost Azores islands (Flores and Corvo) are actually on the North American plate. Today, the main industries of the Azores are tourism, livestock farming for milk and meat and fishing. The nine large Azores islands and eight small Formigas extend more than 600 km (373 mi) and lie in a northwest-southeast direction. The sheer size of the islands defines an immense exclusive economic zone of 1,100,000 Km2 (420,000 square miles). The westernmost point of this area is 3,380 km (2,100 miles) from the North American continent. All islands have volcanic origin, although Santa Maria also has some reef contribution. Mount Pico on Pico Island, at 2,351m (7,713 ft) in height, is the highest in all of Portugal. The Azores are actually the peaks of some of the highest mountains on the planet, as measured from their base at the bottom of the ocean. The archipelago forms the Autonomous Region of Azores, one of the two autonomous regions of Portugal, together with the archipelago of Madeira. History
The Azores Islands were discovered or recognized, according to the historian, in 1427 by Portuguese seafarers. The Azores Islands were populated in the 15th century by pioneers from Portugal, although small groups of Flemings settled in some of the islands. During the 16th and 17th centuries the Azores archipelago was one of the centers of trade between Europe America and India, and the ports sheltered and maintained galleons loaded with treasures. Officially, the first islands were discovered in the fifteenth century by Diogo de Silves a captain employed by Infante D. Henrique. During that period, important naval battles were fought in the waters of the Azores, during the attacks of corsairs and pirates. The following centuries were quieter, but in 1829 the Azores returned to the pages of history with terceira's role in the fight against the absolutist forces, and as the basis for the liberal forces that invaded mainland Portugal to regain power. The archipelago developed in the 19th and 20th centuries with the introduction of new crops, the development of industries, and progress made in animal husbandry and fishing. In recent years, the economic and social well-being of the population has been slow but progressive. Most of this improvement is due to the influx of capital donations from emigrants (almost all from North America), the annual rental of the Lajes Air Field the United States, and grants from the European Community Climate Azores
Azores is located in an area between latitude 37° N and the latitudes that run through the Lisbon area (39° 43′ / 39° 55′ N, giving it a tepid, oceanic, subtropical climate, with mild annual temperatures ranging from 15°C (59°F) to 27°C (80°F). The average temperature in the Azores is 18°C. Statistically, the driest month is July and the wettest November. The average annual average relative humidity is 76%. It ranges from 73% in August to 80% in December and January. Frost is not there in the Azores. The temperature of the ocean water in the Azores varies from 17°C in winter to 25°C in summer. The average annual precipitation increases from east to west, with annual precipitation of 958 mm (37.7 in) or 80 mm (3.1 in) per month. The High Azores, an area with high atmospheric pressure, is named after the islands. Light clothing, with one or two sweater or jacket pieces for cooler days or nights, are enough all year round. In winter, slightly warmer clothing may be needed. However, it is better to bring a light raincoat, as showers are sometimes followed by the sun at the same time. The days of the four seasons as the Azores affectionately say are more common in the months of October to April. Language
The official language in the Azores is Portuguese. In most of the nine islands, the variety of Portuguese spoken is very similar to standard European Portuguese. The primary exception is the Portuguese spoken on the largest island, Sao Miguel, where the language has a clear accent unlike any spoken in the Portuguese territory. English is widely used in the tourism industry and is gaining momentum in the islands due to being officially a required language in early schooling. Getting There
Arriving by Plane
The main international hub is Ponta Delgada Airport (PDL) on the island of S. Miguel. Lajes field (TER) in Terceira Island is also an international airport and home to a US air base. Faial (HOR) and Pico (PIC) also have an airport with regional and national reach. Major Carriers
Azores Express – It connects New England to the Azores via Boston-Ponta Delgada and Oakland-Terceira routes. The carrier is part of the SATA Group, which connects the Azores to mainland Europe. SATA International connects azores with Canada and major European hubs such as London, Amsterdam, Frankfurt and Paris, it also has connections to grand Canaria and Madeira islands. TAP Air Portugal, the portuguese airline, flies between Lisbon Angra do Heroismo and Horta. It has a code share alliance with SATA that allows passengers to book SATA flights through its booking systems. Transport
On most islands you rent a car, Corvo is the In addition, most islands have bus service that serves the main villages. In the smaller islands bus schedules can only run a few runs day, generally one in the early morning and one in the late afternoon, and none at all in certain days, such as Sundays and public holidays. There is a ferry service between the islands of Faial, Pico and S. Jorge all year round, as well as weekly service between all islands in the summer months. The Azores are volcanic islands feature terrain at times steep and rugged where roads wind around very steep slopes. Cycling around the islands is a pleasant activity with a range and difficulty that stretches from beginner to expert. Other information
currency Portuguese currency monetary is the Euro €. Existing coins are; €2, €1 and 50, 20, 10, 5, 2 and 1 cent, Banknotes are; €500, €200, €100, €50, €20, €10 and €5. Commas are used to separate the euros from pennies, for example, 1,000.00 (thousand euros). Visitors from countries where the euro is not used should resort to exchanging the currency at the prevailing exchange rate. The best places to exchange your currency are the local banks that are usually open from 09:00 to 15:30 Monday to Friday. Most banks don't close for lunch. Credit cards are most widely accepted, as are debit cards. All banks are equipped with ATMs or Multibancos where your debit card can be used to extract both euros and your credit card (make sure you bring your DEBIT). Please note that Portuguese banks will not redeem credit cards at the counter. Commercial Time Tables
Shops are open from 09:00 to 12:30 and from 14:00 to 18:30, except On Saturdays and Sundays. On Saturdays, shops close at 1 p.m., with the exception of shopping malls and supermarkets. Gift shops are open on weekends. Security advice
There is little mention of violent crimes in the Azores. What is low in crime is mainly drug-related. There are no reports of crimes against tourists. However, theft exists in most population centers. Like anywhere else use common sense, such as making sure you have your hotel door, your car, and keep your valuable possessions close to you. Don't leave expensive items like phones, iPods and cameras in full view in your car before this pulls theft. Portuguese archipelago in the North Atlantic Autonomous Region in PortugalAzoresAçoresAutonomous RegionAutonomous Region of the Azores Região Autónoma dos Açores (Portuguese) FlagCoat of ArmsEtymology: açor (Portuguese for Northern goshawk)Motto(s): Antesserres liv em paz sujeitos(English: Prefer to die freely than be subjected in peace)Location of the Azores within the European UnionOvereign statePortugalSettlement1432Political Autonomy30 April 1976CapitalsPonta Delgada (executive)Angra do Heroísmo (judicial)Horta (legislative)Largest cityPonta DelgadaOfficial : Azores)Government Autonomous Region• Representative of the Republic Pedro Manuel dos Reis Alves Catarino• President of of Legislative Assembly of the Autonomous Region of the Azores Luís Garcia• President of the Regional Government of the Azores José Manuel Bolieiro• Vice-President of the Regional Government of the Azores Artur Lima Legislative Assembly of the Autonomous Region of the National and European Representation of the Azores• Assemlby of the Republic of The Republic of Representatives• European Parliament1 MP• Total2.3 51 km2 (908 m²)Highest height (Mount Pico)2,351 m (7,713 ft)Lowest altitude (Atlantic Ocean)0 m (0 ft)Population• Census 242,796[1]• Density110/km2 (2019) 8 4.9/200 GDP (PPP)2017 estimate• Total €4.128 billion[2]• Per capita €16,900CurrencyEUR (€) (EUR)Time zoneUTC−1 (Atlantic/Azores) • Summer (Summer)UTC (Atlantic/Azores)Date made/mm/yyyy (CE)Driving siderightCalling code+351 (292)ISO 3166 codePT-20Internet TLD.ptUsual abbreviationRAAWebsite[1] The Azores (/ĩz zĩzrĩz/ ñ-ZORZ-, also ONS: /ɔz zĩzrĩz/ AY-zorz; [3] Portuguese: Açores [eˈsoɾiʃ]), officially the Autonomous Region of the Azores (Região Autónoma dos Açores), is one of the two autonomous regions of Portugal (together with Madeira). It is an archipelago consisting of nine volcanic islands in the Macaronesia region of the North Atlantic, about 1,400 km (870 mi) west of Lisbon, in continental Portugal, about 1,500 km (930 mi) northwest of Morocco, and about 1,930 km (1,200 mi) southeast of Newfoundland, Canada. The main industries are agriculture, dairy farming, animal husbandry, fishing and tourism, which will be the main service activity in the region. Moreover, the Government of the Azores employs a large percentage of the population directly or indirectly in the services and tertiary sectors. The capital is Angra do Heroísmo, but the main city of the Azores is Ponta Delgada. There are nine large Azores islands and an islet cluster, in three main groups. These are Flores and Corvo, in the west; Graciosa, Terceira, São Jorge, Pico and Faial in the center; and São Miguel, Santa Maria, and the Formigas Reef to the east. They run more than 600 km (370 miles) and are in a northwest-southeast direction. All islands have volcanic origin, although some, such as Santa Maria, have no recorded activity since the islands were settled several centuries ago. Mount Pico, on the island of Pico, is the highest point in Portugal, at 2,351 m (7,713 ft). When measured from their base at the bottom of the ocean to their peaks, which protruded high above the surface of the Atlantic Ocean, the Azores are among the highest mountains on the planet. The climate of the Azores is very mild for such a northern location, is influenced by the distance to the continents and by the passing Gulf Stream. Due to the influence of the sea, temperatures remain mild throughout the year. Daytime temperatures normal between 16 °C (61 °F) °F) 25 °C (77 °F) depending on the season. [4] [5] Temperatures above 30 °C or less than 3 °C (37 °F) are unknown in the main population centres. It is also generally wet and cloudy. The culture, dialect, cuisine and traditions of the Azores islands vary considerably, as these remote islands were sporadically settled over a span of two centuries. History
Main article: History of the Azores
A small number of alleged hypogea, earthen structures carved into rocks that were used for burials, have been identified on the islands of Corvo, Santa Maria and Terceira by Portuguese archaeologist Nuno Ribeiro, who speculated that they could date back 2000 years, implying a human presence on the island for the Portuguese. [6] These types of structures have been used in the Azores to store grains, however, and suggestions from Ribeiro that they could be cemeteries are unconfirmed. Detailed research and dating to verify the validity of these speculations is lacking, so it is unclear whether these structures are natural or man-made and whether they date from before the 15th-century Portuguese colonization of the Azores. [7] Discovery
Led by Prince Henry the Navigator, the Azores were discovered and populated in the early 1400s. The islands were known in the fourteenth century, and parts of them appear in the Catalan Atlas. In 1427, a captain sailing for Prince Henry the Navigator, possibly Gonçalo Velho, may have rediscovered the Azores, but this is not certain. In Thomas Ashe's 1813 work A History of the Azores, the author identified a Fleming, Joshua Vander Berg from Bruges, who came ashore in the archipelago during a storm on his way to Lisbon. [8] He stated that the Portuguese were investigating the area and demanded it for Portugal. [8] Other stories note the discovery of the first islands (São Miguel Island, Santa Maria Island and Terceira Island) by sailors in the service of Henry the Navigator, although there are few documents to support the claims. Although it is commonly said that the archipelago got its name from açor (goshawk in Portuguese), a common bird at the time of discovery, it is unlikely that the bird nested or hunted on the islands. Settlement
There were no large animals on Santa Maria, so after its discovery and before the settlement began, the sheep were let loose on the island to feed future settlers. The settlement was not immediately reached. Portuguese people were not very interested in living on an isolated archipelago so far from civilization. Gonçalo Velho Cabral patiently collected resources and settlers for the next three years (1433-1436), however, and sailed to establish colonies, on Santa Maria and then on São Miguel. Settlers cleared shrubs and rocks to plant crops: grain, vines, sugar cane, and other plants suitable for local use and of commercial value. They spent animals, such as chickens, rabbits, cattle, sheep, goats and pigs, and built houses and established villages. The archipelago was largely located from mainland Portugal. Portuguese settlers came from the provinces of Algarve, Minho, Alentejo and Ribatejo and Madeira. São Miguel was first established in 1449, the settlers - mainly from the Estremadura, Alto Alentejo and Algarve areas of mainland Portugal, under the command of Gonçalo Velho Cabral - landed on the site of the contemporary Povoação. Many of the early settlers were Portuguese Sephardic Jews who were exiled/exiled there by the inquisition on mainland Portugal - many had well-known Sephardic surnames such as: Pereira, Oliveira, Cardoso, Pimentel, Pinto, Rodrigues, Mendes, or Nunes. 1584 map of the Azores. In 1522, Vila Franca do Campo, then the capital of the island, was devastated by an earthquake and landslide that killed about 5,000 people, and the capital was moved to Ponta Delgada. The town of Vila Franca do Campo was rebuilt on the original site and today is a thriving fishing and marina. Ponta Delgada was granted city status in 1546. From the first settlement, the pioneers focused on agriculture and by the 15th century Graciosa exported wheat, barley, wine and brandy. The goods were sent to Terceira largely because of the proximity of the island. Gaspar Frutuoso wrote Saudades da Terra, the first history of the Azores and Macaronesia, in the 1580s. The first reference to the island of São Jorge was made in 1439, but the actual date of discovery is unknown. In 1443 the island was already inhabited, but the active settlement only began with the arrival of the noble Flemish-born Willem van der Haegen. Arriving in Topo, where he lived and died, he became known as Guilherme da Silveira to the islanders. João Vaz Corte-Real received the captaincy of the island in 1483. Velas became a city before the end of the 15th century. In 1490 there were 2,000 Flemings living on the islands of Terceira, Pico, Faial, São Jorge and Flores. Because there was such a large Flemish settlement, the Azores became known as the Flemish Islands or the Islands of Flanders. Prince Henry the Navigator was responsible for this settlement. His sister, Isabel, was married to Duke Philip of Burgundy, of which Flanders was a part. There was an uprising against Philip's rule and the disease and hunger was rampant. Isabel called on Henry to allow some of the unruly Flemings to settle in the Azores. He granted this and provided them with the necessary transport and goods. The settlement of the then empty islands began in 1439 with people mainly from the continental provinces of Algarve and Alentejo. In 1583 Philip II as King of Portugal, his fleet to free the Azores from a combined multinational force of adventurers, mercenaries, volunteers and soldiers to establish the Azores as a staging post for a rival pretender of the Portuguese throne. After the success of his fleet at the Battle of Ponta delgada captured enemies were hung from yardarms, as they were considered pirates by Philip II. Opponents who received the news portrayed Philip II as a despot or Black Legend; the kind of insult made on a large scale against contemporary monarchs engaged in aggressive empire building and The European religious wars. An English raid on the Azores in 1589 successfully plundered some ports and islands; a repeat eight years later, the Isles Voyage, failed. Spain held the Azores under the Babylonian captivity of 1580-1642. At the end of the 16th century, the Azores and Madeira began to face problems of overcrowding. Spanning that particular economic problem, some of the people began to emigrate to Brazil. [9] Iberian Union
The Battle of Terceira, part of the War of the Portuguese Succession. Editorial: Conquest of the Azores
After the death (1580) of Henry, the cardinal-king of Portugal, the nation fell into a dynastic crisis with various pretenders to the Crown of Portugal. [10] After his proclamation in Santarém, António, prior of Crato was praised in the Azores in 1580 (via his envoy António da Costa), but was expelled from the continent after the Battle of Alcântara. [10] Still, by the administration of Cipriano de Figueiredo, governor of Terceira (who continued to rule Terceira in the name of ill-fated, former king Sebastian of Portugal), the Azores resisted attempts to conquer the islands (including specifically at the Battle of Salga). [11] It was Figueiredo and Violante do Canto who helped organize a resistance on Terceira that influenced some of the reaction of the other islands, even as internal politics and support for Philip's faction increased on the other islands (notably on São Miguel, where the Gonçalves da Câmara family supported the Spanish pretender). [11] The Azores were the last part of the Portuguese Empire to withstand the reign of Philip over Portugal (Macau resisted any official recognition), until the defeat of troops loyal to the Prior of Crato with the conquest of the Azores in 1583. Portuguese control with the end of the Iberian Union in 1640, and the beginning of the Portuguese restoration war, not by the professional army, who were engaged in warfare on the Portuguese mainland, but by local people who attacked a strengthened Castilian garrison. Liberal Wars
See also: Liberal Wars
King-Emperor Pedro IV &I planned and launched his campaign in the liberal wars of the Azores in the name of his daughter Queen Mary II. The Portuguese Civil War (1828-1834) had major effects on the Azores. In 1829, in da Vitória, the Liberals won over the absolutists, making Terceira Island the main headquarters of the new new regime and also where the Regency Council (Conselho de Regência) of Mary II of Portugal was founded. From 1868, Portugal gave its stamps overprinted with AÇORES for use on the islands. Between 1892 and 1906, it also issued separate stamps for the three administrative districts of the time. During the 18th and 19th centuries, Graciosa hosted many prominent figures, including Chateaubriand, the French writer who travelled to America during the French revolution; Almeida Garrett, the Portuguese poet who visited an uncle and wrote some poetry there; and Prince Albert of Monaco, the 19th-century oceanographer who led several expeditions in the waters of the Azores. He arrived on his yacht Hirondelle, and visited the furna da caldeira, the well-known hot springs cave. In 1869, the author Mark Twain published The Innocents Abroad, a travel book describing his time in the Azores. From 1836 to 1976 the archipelago was divided into three districts, equivalent (except in the region) to those in the Portuguese mainland. The distribution was arbitrary, and did not follow the natural island groups, rather indicating the location of each district capital on the three main cities (none of which were on the western group). Angra do Heroísmo consisted of Terceira, São Jorge and

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