

Atlantic ocean islands azores

The Azores Islands are a Portuguese archipelago in the North Atlantic, located about 1,500 km (930 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 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 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 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 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. 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 PortugalAzoresAcoresAutonomous RegionAutonomous Region of the Azores Região Autónoma dos Açores (Portuguese) FlagCoat of ArmsEtymology: açor (Portuguese for Northern goshawk)Motto(s): Anteserres 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 Azores José Manuel Bolieiro• Vice-President of the Regional Government of the Azores Artur Lima Legislative Assembly of the Autonomous Region of the Azores Iosé 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• Assembly 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 (/ň_zňcrz/ ň-ZORZ, also ONS: /jezňrz/ AY-zorz; [3] Portuguese: Acores (Região Autónoma dos Acores), 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 acor (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. Goncalo 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'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. Spawning that particular economic problem, some of the people began to emigrate to Brazil, [9] Iberian Union The Battle of Terceira, part 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 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 conguer 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 Gonçalvez 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 See 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 ACORES 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

Graciosa, with the capital of Angra do Heroísmo on Terceira. Horta consisted of Pico, Faial, Flores, and Corvo, with the capital of Ponta Delgada on São Miguel. Modern period Symbol of the Azores autonomist movement in the 19th century. In 1931, the Azores (along with Madeira and Portuguese Guinea) rebelled against the Ditadura Nacional and were briefly detained by military rebels. [12] In 1943, during World War II, the Portuguese ruler António de Oliveira Salazar leased air and naval bases in the Azores to Great Britain. [13] The occupation of these facilities in October 1943 was codenamed Operation Alacrity by the British. [14] This was a major turning point in the Battle of the Atlantic, allowing the Royal Air Force, the U.S. Army Air Forces, and the U.S. Navy to provide air cover in the Mid-Atlantic divide. This helped them to protect convoys and hunt hostile German U-boats. In 1944, the U.S. built a small and short-lived air base on the island of Santa Maria. In 1945 a new base was built on the island of Terceira, and it is called Lajes Field. This air base is located in an area called Lajes, a wide, flat sea terrace that had been a large farm. Lajes Field is a plateau that rises from the sea in the northeast corner of the island. This air base is a joint American and Portuguese forces. The flag of Azores Liberation Front preceded the modern Flag of the Azores. During Cold War, U.S. Navy P-3 Orion antisubmarine warfare squadrons patrolled the North Atlantic for Soviet navy submarines and surface warships. Since its opening, Lajes Field has been used to refuel American cargo aircraft en route to Europe, Africa and the Middle East. The U.S. Navy keeps a small squadron of its ships in the port of Praia da Vitória, three kilometers (1.9 miles) southeast of Lajes Field. The airport also has a small commercial terminal handling scheduled and chartered passenger flights from the other islands in the Azores, Europe, Africa and North America. After the Carnation Revolution of 1974, which ended the dictatorship of Estado Novo in Lisbon, Portugal and its territories around the world have entered a period of great political uncertainty. The Azores Liberation Front tried to take advantage of this instability immediately after the revolution. hoping to establish an independent Azores until operations ceased in 1975. In 1976, the Azores became the Autonomous Region of the Azores), one of portugal's autonomous regions, and the subdistricts of the Azores were eliminated. In 2003, the Azores saw international attention when U.S. President George W. Bush, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Spanish Prime Minister José Manuel Durão Barroso held a summit there days before the start of the Irag War. [15] Geography Physical Geography Map of the Azores Area Areas of the Azores Sg mi São Miguel 759 293 Pico 446 172 Terceira 403 156 São Jorge 246 95 Faial 173 67 Flores 143 55 Santa Maria 97 37 The archipelago of the Azores lies in the middle of the northern hemisphere of the Atlantic Ocean and extends along a westnorthwest to east-southeast orientation (between 36.5 °- Latitude 40° N and 24.5°-31.5° west longitudes) in an area about 600 kilometers (373 miles) wide. The islands of the Azores originated from what is called the Azores Plateau, an area of 5.8 million km2 that is morphologically accentuated by a depth of 2,000 meters (6,600 feet). [16] [17] From a geostructural perspective, the Azores is located above an active triple connection between three of the world's most important tectonic plates (the North American Plate, the Eurasian Plate and the African Plate). [17] a condition that has translated into the existence of many faults and fractures in this region of the Atlantic. [18] The most western islands of the archipelago (Corvo and Flores) are located in the North American Plate, while the remaining islands are within the border that divides the Eurasian and African Plates. main tectonic structures that exist in the Region of the Azores are the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, the Terceira Rift, the Azores Fracture Zone and the African-Eurasian plates that cross the Azores Plateau between the islands of Flores and Faial from north to south then to the southwest; it is an elaborate form that is crossed by many transformation errors perpendicular to its north-south directive, which is seismically active and prone to volcanism. The Terceira Rift is a system of fractures that stretches from the Mid-Atlantic Ridge to the Glória fault that represents the main boundary between the Eurasian and African plates. It is defined by a line of undersea volcanoes and island mounts that stretch from northwest to southeast for about 550 kilometers (342 miles), from the area west of Graciosa to the islets of the Formigas, which includes the islands of Graciosa, Terceira and São Miguel. The northwest border connects to the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, while the southeast section crosses the Gloria Fault southeast of the island of Santa Maria. The Azores Fracture Zone stretches from the Glória fault and includes a relatively inactive area south of the islands of the Central and Eastern groups north of the Terceira Rift, at an angle of 45°. The Glória fault in turn extends over 800 kilometers (497 miles) along a linear line from the Azores to the Azores-Gibraltar Transform Fault. [19] Lagoa das Sete Cidades, located in Seriee Cidades Massif, in Seriee Cidades, São Miguel Island. The island's volcanism is associated with the gorge along the Azores Triple Junction; the spread of the crust along existing faults and fractures has caused many of the active volcanic and seismic events, [20] while supported by buoyancy upwelling in the deeper mantle, some associate with an Azores hotspot. [21] Most of the volcanic activity has centered, mainly, along the Rift Terceira. From the beginning of the settlement of the island, around the 15th century, there have been 28 recorded volcanic eruptions (15 terrestrial and 13 submarine). The last significant volcanic eruption, the Capelinhos volcano (Vulcão dos Capelinhos), took place off the coast of faial island in 1957; the most recent volcanic activity took place in the mountains and undersea volcanoes off the coast of Serreta and in the Pico-São Jorge Canal. [22] Mount Pico, on Pico Island, is the highest peak in all of Portugal. Macaronesian Laurisilva forest on Flores Island. The islands have many examples of volcano-built geomorphology including caves and lava tubes (such as the Gruta das Torres, Algar do Carvão, Gruta do Natal, Gruta das Cinco Ribeiras), the lava fields on the coast (such as the coast of Feteiras, Faial, prainha mistério or São João on Pico in addition to the inactive cones in the center of São Miguel Island, the aforementioned Capelinhos on Faial, the volcanic complexes of Terceira or Plinian caldeira of Corvo Island. The The of the archipelago were formed by volcanic and seismic activity during the Neogenic Period; the first embryonic surfaces began to appear in the waters of Santa Maria during the Miocene era (from about 8 million years ago). Caldeira on Faial Island formation is generally characterized as: Santa Maria (8.12 Mon), São Miguel (4.1 Mon), Terceira (3.52 Mon), ElAciosa (2.5 Mon), Flores (2.16 Mon), Faial (0.7 Mon), São Jorge (0.55 Mon), Corvo (0.7 Mon) and the youngest, Pico (0.27 Mon). [23] Although all islands have experienced volcanism during their geological history, in recorded human settlement history the islands of Santa Maria, Graciosa, Flores, and Corvo have not experienced volcanic eruptions; in addition to active fumaroles and hot springs, the remaining islands have had sporadic eruptions since the 14th century. Apart from the Capelinhos volcano in 1957-58, the last recorded instance of island formation took place off the coast of São Miguel, when the island of Sabrina was briefly formed. Algar do Carvão volcanic cave on Terceira Island. Due to its geodynamic environment, the region has been a center of intense seismic activity, particularly along the tectonic boundaries on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge and the Terceira Rift. Seismic events, although frequent, are usually tectonic or vulco-tectonic in nature, but generally are of low to medium intensities, occasionally interrupted by events of level 5 or higher on the Richter scale. [24] [25] The heaviest earthquake was recorded in 1757, near Calheta on the island of São Jorge, which exceeded 7 on the Richter scale magnitude. By comparison, the 1522 earthquake that was mentioned by historian Gaspar Frutuoso measured 6.8, but its effects were assessed as X (Extreme) on the Mercalli intensity scale, [26] and was responsible for the destruction of Vila Franca do Campo and landslides that may have killed more than 5,000 of its inhabitants. Fogo lake on São Miguel Island. The nine islands that make up the archipelago occupy an area of 2,346 km2 (906 square miles), which includes both the main islands and many islets in their vicinities. They range in area from the largest. São Miguel, at 759 km2 (293 square mi) to the smallest, Corvo, at about 17 km2 (7 square miles). Each of the islands has its own different geomorphological features that make them unique: Corvo (the smallest island) is a crater of a large Plinian eruption; Flores (his neighbor on the North American Plate) is a rugged island carved by many valleys and slopes; Faial characterized to his shield volcano and caldera (Cabeço Gordo); Pico, is the highest point, at 2,351 meters (7,713 ft), in the and mainland Portugal; Graciosa is known for its active Furnas do Enxofre and mixture of volcanic cones and plains: São Jorge is a long slim slim formed from fissurale eruptions over thousands of vears: Terceira, almost round, is the location of one of the largest island, and is pitted with many large craters and fields of splatter cones; and Santa Maria, the oldest island, is heavily eroded, one of the few places to encounter brown sandy beaches in the archipelago. Barreiro da Faneca, a
protected red clay landscape of Santa Maria. These islands can be divided into three recognizable groups located on the Azores Plateau: The Eastern Group (Grupo Oriental) of São Miguel, Santa Maria and Formigas Islets The Central Group (Grupo Central) of Terceira, Graciosa, São Jorge, Pico and Faial The Western Group (Grupo Ocidental) of Flores and Corvo. In addition, several underground reefs (in particular the Dollabarat on the edge of the Formigas), banks (in particular the Princess Alice Bank and D. João de Castro Bank), as well as many hydrothermal vents and sea fasteners are controlled by the regional authorities, due to the complex geotectonic and socio-economic significance within the economic exclusion zone of the archipelago. Biome Fajã dos Cubres, in Calheta, São Jorge Island, is one of many fajãs (ancient lava overflows) in the Azores. Pico da Sé in Cedros. The archipelago is located in the Palearctic empire, and has a unique biotic community that includes the Macaronesian subtropical laurissilva, with many endemic species of plants and animals. [27] [28] In total, there are at least 6112 terrestrial species, of which approximately 411 are endemic. The majority (75%) of these endemic animals, usually arthropods and molluscs. New species are regularly found in the Azores (for example, 30 different new species of land snails) were discovered around 2013[29]). Pico Island landscape. Although the Azores look very green and sometimes wild, the vegetation has changed a lot. Much of it has been wiped out in the last 600 years for its valuable wood (for tools, buildings, boats, firewood, etc.) and to free up land for agriculture. As a result, it is estimated that more than half of the insects on the island of Graciosa have disappeared or become extinct. [27] Many cultivated sites (traditionally dedicated to pasture or to growing colocasia, potatoes, corn and other crops) are now abandoned, especially as a result of emigration. As a result, some invasive plants have filled these abandoned and disturbed countries. Hydrangeas are another potential pest, but their threat is less severe. Despite the fact that hydrangeas were introduced from the Americas or Asia, some locals consider them a symbol of the archipelago and propagate them along verges, helping the plants to escape into the wild. Cryptomeria, the Japanese cedar, is a which is widely grown for its wood. The two most common of these alien species are Pittosporum Pittosporum and Hedychium gardnerianum. [30] They are usually confined to old land of the farmland and only rarely penetrate into undisturbed native vegetation. [quote needed] Ilhéu da Baleia islet near Graciosa Island. Reforestation have been successfully done in many parts of the Azores. [31] [32] [33] The Azores have at least two endemic living bird species. The Azores bullfinch, or Priolo, is confined to relic laurisilva forest in the mountains on the east side of São Miguel[34] and is classified by BirdLife International as endangered. Monteiro's storm-petrel, described to science as recently as 2008, is known to breed at only two locations in the islands, but may occur more widely. An extinct species of owl, the São Miguel scops owl, has also been recently described, which is likely extinct after human settlement due to habitat destruction and the introduction of alien species. Five species of no-fly track also once existed on the islands, as did any other kind of bullfinch, but these also died after human colonization. 11 subspecies of the bird are also endemic to the islands. [35] A flightless extinct quail is also known. [36] The Azores also have an endemic bat, the Azores noctule, which has an unusually high frequency of day flight. The islets of the Formigas (the Portuguese word for ants), including the area known as the Dollabarat Reef, have a rich environment of marine species such as black coral and manta rays, various species of sharks, whales and sea turtles. On São Miguel, remarkable micro-habitats have been formed by hot springs that host extremophile microorganisms. [37] 17 new marine reserves (with special conservation status) were added to the Azores Marine Park (covering around 900,000 km2 (347,492 sq m)[38] Climate Cinco Ribeiras coast on Terceira. Waterfalls on Flores. The archipelago is spread at about the same latitude as the southern half of mainland Portugal, making it a generally tepid, oceanic, subtropical climate, with mild annual fluctuations. The daily maximum temperatures are usually between 15 and 25 °C. The average annual precipitation increases from east to west, ranging from 700 mm (28 in) in Santa Maria to 1,600 mm (63 in) in Flores and reaching 6,300 millimeters (250 in) on Mount Pico. [39] Hydrangeas on Faial. The Azores High, an area with high atmospheric pressure, is named after the islands. Under the Köppen climate classification, the eastern group is usually classified as Mediterranean while the central and western group is more humid subtropical due to the effects of the Current the Gulf is. Salvador Rivas-Martínez data presents various bioclimatic zones for the Azores. [40] The seasonal slowdown is extreme in the low-sun half of the year, with December being milder than April in terms of average temperatures. Temperatures. as warm as 32.1 °C (89.8°F) is recorded on Pico, neither of the two largest cities Ponta Delgada nor Angra do Heroísmo ever exceed 30 °C (86°F). The Azores have the warmest winters in Europe (still within the European continental plate). In summer, the backlog is slightly lower, with August being the warmest month. Frost, snowfall or freezing have never been recorded at sea level on any of the islands. The coldest weather in winter usually comes from northwest air masses originating from Labrador in Canada. However, since these air masses are warmed up as they pass over the warmer Atlantic Ocean, the temperature during the day is even more than 10 °C. The most western islands of the archipelago, namely Flores and Corvo, get the strongest maritime moderation and most rainfall, because both are right on the Gulf Stream waters. In addition, the Instituto de Meteorologia has identified the following weather extremes[41] Highest minimum air temperature: 24.3 °C (75.7 °F), in Angra do Heroísmo, Terceira (30 June 1996) Lowest minimum air temperature: -3.5 °C (25.7 °F), in Chã das Lagoinhas. São Miguel (2 January 1973) Highest maximum air temperature: 32.1 °C (89.8 °F), in Madalena, Pico (7 September 1985) Lowest maximum air temperature: 4.0 °C (39.2 °F), Chã das Lagoinhas, São Miguel (20 February 1972) Maximum precipitation in 24 hours: 276 mm (10.87 in), Furnas, São Miguel (3 October 1974) Maximum wind speed: >176 km/hour, Santa Maria, (15 December 1989) Climate data for Ponta Delgada, São Miguel Island Month Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Year Record high °C (°F) 19.8(67.6) 20.4(68.7) 21.9(71.4) 22.6(72.7) 23.6(74.5) 27.0(80.6) 28.2(82.8) 28.8(83.8) 28.6(83.5) 25.8(78.4) 25.5(77.9) 22.6(72.7) 28.8(83.8) Average high °C (°F) 16.8(62.2) 16.6(61.9) 17.0(62.6) 17.7(63.9) 19.1(66.4) 21.4(70.5) 23.9(75.0) 25.3(77.5) 24.3(75.7) 21.9(71.4) 19.4(66.9) 17.8(64.0) 20.1(68.2) Daily mean °C (°F) 14.5(58.1) 14.1(57.4) 14.5(58.1) 15.1(59.2) 16.4(61.5) 18.6(65.5) 20.9(69.6) 22.1(71.8) 16.2(65.5) 20.9(69.6) 22.1(71.8) 16.2(65.5) 20.9(65.5) 20.9(65.5) 20.9(65.6) 17.8(65.5) 20.9(65.5) 20.9(65.6) 17.8(65.5) 20.9(65.6) 17.8(65.5) 20.9(65.6) 17.8(65.5) 20.9(65.6) 17.8(65.5) 20.9(65.6) 17.8(65.5) 20.9(65.6) 17.8 21.4(70.5) 19.2(66.6) 16.9(62.4) 15.4(59.7) 17.4(63.4) Average low °C (°F) 12.2(54.0) 11.5(52.7) 12.0(53.6) 12.3(54.1) 13.6(56.5) 15.8(60.4) 17.8(64.0) 19.0(66.2) 18.4(65.1) 16.5(61.7) 14.3(57.7) 12.9(55.2) 14.7(58.4) Record low °C (°F) 4.6(40.3) 5.1(41.2) 5.0(41.0) 5.9(42.6) 7.8(46.0) 8.5(47.3) 12.9(55.2) 14.7(58.4) Record low °C (°F) 4.6(40.3) 5.1(41.2) 5.0(41.0) 5.9(42.6) 7.8(46.0) 8.5(47.3) 12.9(55.2) 14.7(58.4) Record low °C (°F) 4.6(40.3) 5.1(41.2) 5.0(41.0) 5.9(42.6) 7.8(46.0) 8.5(47.3) 12.9(55.2) 14.7(58.4) Record low °C (°F) 4.6(40.3) 5.1(41.2) 5.0(41.0) 5.9(42.6) 7.8(46.0) 8.5(47.3) 12.9(55.2) 14.7(58.4) Record low °C (°F) 4.6(40.3) 5.1(41.2) 5.0(41.0) 5.9(42.6) 7.8(46.0) 8.5(47.3) 12.9(55.2) 14.7(58.4) Record low °C (°F) 4.6(40.3) 5.1(41.2) 5.0(41.0) 5.9(42.6) 7.8(46.0) 8.5(47.3) 12.9(55.2) 14.7(58.4) Record low °C (°F) 4.6(40.3) 5.1(41.2) 5.0(41.0) 5.9(42.6) 7.8(46.0) 8.5(47.3) 12.9(55.2) 14.7(58.4) Record low °C (°F) 4.6(40.3)
5.1(41.2) 5.0(41.0) 5.9(42.6) 7.8(46.0) 8.5(47.3) 12.9(55.2) 14.7(58.4) Record low °C (°F) 4.6(40.3) 5.1(41.2) 5.0(41.0) 5.9(42.6) 7.8(46.0) 8.5(47.3) 12.9(55.2) 14.7(58.4) Record low °C (°F) 4.6(40.3) 5.1(41.2) 5.0(41.0) 5.9(42.6) 7.8(46.0) 8.5(47.3) 12.9(55.2) 14.7(58.4) Record low °C (°F) 4.6(40.3) 5.1(41.2) 5.0(41.0) 5.9(42.6) 7.8(46.0) 8.5(47.3) 12.9(55.2) 14.7(58.4) Record low °C (°F) 4.6(40.3) 5.1(41.2) 5.0(41.0) 5.9(42.6) 7.8(46.0) 8.5(47.3) 12.9(55.2) 14.7(58.4) Record low °C (°F) 4.6(40.3) 5.1(41.2) 5.0(41.0) 5.9(42.6) 7.8(46.0) 8.5(47.3) 12.9(56.2 12.1(53.8) 13.5(56.3) 8.3(46.9) 11.0(51.8) 7.6(45.7) 6.2(43.2) 4.6(40.3) Average precipitation mm (inches) 96.9(3.81) 84.0(3.31) 87.7(3.45) 76.7(3.02) 72.0(2.83) 39.6(1.56) 26.6(1.05) 46.1(1.81) 91.9(3.62) 108.5(4.27) 108.7(4.28) 146.9(5.78) 985.6(38.79) Average precipitation days (≥ 1.0 mm) 15.0 13.0 (2.13) 10.1 (2. 12.0 10.0 8.0 7.0 6.0 6.0 10.0 12.0 13.0 14.0 126 Average relative humidity (%) 82.0 82.0 81.0 79.0 80.0 80.0 78.0 79.0 80.0 80.0 82.0 83.0 80.5 Average monthly hours of sunshine 97 103 120 141 174 163 208 213 175 109 93 1.738 Source 1: Instituto de Meteorologia[42] Source 2: NOAA (Sun, 1961-1990)[43] Hurricanes The Azores are known for small hurricanes. A total of 14 tropical or subtropical cyclones have hit the region in history. Most of them were either extratropical or tropical storms when they hit the region, although several Category 1 hurricanes have reached the Azores. Only one major hurricane has ever hit the Azores; Hurricane Ophelia in 2017, at Category 3 intensity. The following storms have affected the region while at Category 1 strength: Hurricane Emmy in 1973, Hurricane Emmy in 1976, Hurricane Gordon in 2006, Hurricane Gordon in 2012 and Hurricane Alex in 2016. Several tropical storms have hit the region, including Tropical Storm Irma in 1978, Hurricane Bonnie in 1992, Hurricane Gaston in 2016. Storms that were extratropical when they affected the region include Hurricane Tanya in 1995, Tropical Storm Ana in 2003 and Tropical Storm Grace in 2009. In addition, the subtropical storm of the Azores hit the region in October 2005. Economy In order of importance are the main sectors of employment of the Azores services, agriculture, fisheries, industry and tourism. [44] [45] Demographics The Azores are divided into 19 municipalities (concelhos); each municipality is further divided into freguesias (civil administrative parishes), of which there are six cities (Portuguese: cidades) in the Azores: Ponta Delgada, Lagoa and Ribeira Grande on the island of São Miguel; Angra do Heroismo and Praia da Vitória on the island of Terceira and Horta on Faial. Three of these. Ponta Delgada, Angra and Horta are considered capital/administrative cities to the regional government: houses to the president (Ponta Delgada), the judiciary (Angra) and the Regional Assembly (Horta). Angra also serves as the ecclesiastical center of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Angra, the episcopal see of the Azores. Island Group Population[46] Municipalities of the Azores Main Settlement 2011 % Total No Municipalities (Concelho) São Miguel Eastern 137,830 55.86 6 Lagoa, Nordeste, Ponta Delgada, Povoação, Ribeira Grande, Vila Franca do Campo Ponta Delgada Terceira Central 56,437 22.87 2 Angra do Heroísmo, Praia da Vitória Angra do Heroísmo Faial Central 14,994 6.08 1 Horta Horta Pico Central 14,148 5.73 3 Lajes do Pico, Madalena, São Roque do Pico Madalena São Jorge Central 9,171 3.72 2 Calheta, Velas Velas Santa Maria Eastern 5,552 2.25 1 Vila do Porto Vila do Porto Vila do Porto Graciosa Santa Cruz da Graciosa Flores Western 3,793 1.54 2 Lajes das Flores, Santa Cruz das Flores Corvo Western 430 0.17 1 Vila do Corvo Vila do Corvo Total 246,746 19 Population Ponta Delgada, on São Miguel Island, the city in the Azores and the executive capital of the Azores. Angra do Heroísmo, on the island of Terceira, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the judicial capital of the Azores. According to the 2019 census, the population in the Azores was 242,796[1] The Azores were uninhabited when Portuguese seafarers arrived in the early 15th century; settlement began in 1439 with migrants from different regions of mainland Portugal and madeira. The islands were mainly populated by Portuguese immigrants from the Algarve, Alentejo and Minho in an attempt to escape the dangers of Portuguese inquisition on mainland Portugal. However, many Portuguese Sephardic Jews settled on the islands in large numbers. Azores Jews had surnames such as Rodrigues, Pacheco, Oliveira, Pereira, Pimentel, Nunes, Mendes, Pinto, Álvares, Henriques, Cardozo, Teixeira and Vasconcelos. The islands were also settled by Moorish prisoners and African slaves from Guinea, Cape Verde and São Tomé. Flemings, French and Galicians also contributed to the original arrangement. Thus the population of azores received a significant contribution from humans with a genetic background other than Portuguese. The nature of the economy dictated that African slavery never became commonplace in the Azores because the slaves were sent to Brazil and the Caribbean. Only a few remained in the Azores for forced labor, such as household chores, although the islands sometimes served as a waypoint for ships carrying Africans, Moors, Jews, Scots, Germans, Italians, French, Spaniards, Flemings and Portuguese all migrated to the Azores. [48] Genetics Horta, on Faial Island, is the legislative capital of the Azores. As in continental Portugal, the most common mtDNA haplogroup in the Azores H (45.2%), followed by U (16.7%), T (10.1%), K (6.5%) and a smaller African L haplogroups frequency (3.4%) than in Madeira. Inhabitants of the different islands have DNA of different origins. [49] [50] A minority on the islands has non-European ancestors. [51] Flemish settlers built windmills like this on Graciosa Island. Emigration Since the 17th century, many Azores have emigrated, mainly to Brazil, Uruguay, the United States and Canada. [52] Rhode Island and Southeast Massachusetts, in particular the cities of New Bedford, Bristol, Barrington, Pawtucket, Central Falls, West Warwick, Hudson, Marlborough, East Providence, River Point, Somerset, Taunton and Fall River are, and remain, the primary destination for azores emigrants. [53] Emigrants from the East coast returned to their homeland and learned the American dory fishing technique to the Portuguese who began catching cod again on the Big Bank in the 19th century. [54] was the final destination for many of the massachusetts immigrants who then went to the San Joaquin Valley, especially the city of Turlock, just south of In the late 1800s, many Azores emigrated to the Hawaiian Islands. Tuna fishing attracted a significant number of Azores to the Point Loma district of San Diego, southern California. [55] From 1921 to 1977, approximately 250,000 Azores emigrated to Rhode Island and Massachusetts. [56] Some Azores also moved to Hawai'i. [57] Florianópolis and Porto Alegre in the Southern Region of Brazil were founded by azores, which accounted for more than half of Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina's population in the late 18th century. [58] As late as 1960 mass immigration flows were registered to Brazil, and many were from the Azores. [57] During the Great Recession of the early 21st century, Portugal was in recession from 2011 to 2013, resulting in high unemployment in the mainland and the Azores. [59] The Great Recession led to an increase in out-migration of the Azores. [60] Political Main article: Political status of the Azores Sant'Ana Palace is the seat of the President of the Azores. Palace of Capitães-Generais is a residence of the President of the Azores. Since 1976, the Azores has been
an autonomous region integrated within the framework of the Portuguese Republic. It has its own government and autonomous legislature within its own political-administrative statute and organic right. The governing bodies include: the Legislative Assembly, a single-camera parliament consisting of 52 elected representatives, elected by universal suffrage for a four-year term; the regional government and the Presidency, with parliamentary legitimacy, consisting of a president, a vice-president and seven regional secretaries responsible for the day-to-day operations. It shall be represented in the Council of Ministers by a representative appointed by the President of the Republic, established during the revision of the 2004 Constitution (which, among other things, removed the elder Portuguese representative appointed by the President of the Republic from the Council of State and coincides with the President). Since becoming a Portuguese autonomous region, the executive branch of the regional government has been based in Ponta Delgada, the legislative branch in Horta, and the judiciary in Angra do Heroísmo. Madre de Deus Manor is the seat of the representative of the Republic. The Conceição Palace is the headquarters of the Azores. The islands of the archipelago have no independent status in the law, except in the right to vote and are governed by 19 municipalities that subdivide the islands. In addition, until the administrative reform of the 19th century, the following civil parishes had municipal status: Topo (integrated today in the municipality of Calheta, São Jorge); Praia (integrated today in the Santa Cruz da Graciosa); São Sebastião (today an integral part of the municipality of Angra do Capelas (now part of the municipality of Ponta Delgada); and Água de Pau (now a bourgeois parish in the municipality of Lagoa). These bourgeois parishes still retain their titles of vila in name only; the people of Capelas and neighboring parish still protest against the change and promote the restoration of their status. The municipalities are further subdivided into several civil parishes, with the exception of Corvo (the only municipality by law without civil parish, because of its size). Azores politics is dominated by the two largest Portuguese political parties, the Socialist Party (PS) and the Social Democratic Party (PSD), the first with a majority in the Legislative Assembly. The Democratic and Social Centre/People's Party (CDS/PP), the Left Bloc (BE), the Unitarian Democratic Coalition (CDU) and the People's Monarchist Party (PPM) are also represented. With the implementation of the regional elections of 2020[update], the president of the Azores is the Social Democratic Party (PSD) leader José Manuel Bolieiro. Although the PS dominates regional politics, the PSD is traditionally popular in city and city council elections. European Union As part of Portugal, the Azores are located in the European Union and the Schengen area. They are also in the Customs Union and VAT area of the European Union[61], but charge a lower VAT rate than is applicable on the mainland. The Azores, like Madeira and the Canary Islands, are among the areas of the Member States with special status, as one of the designated Ultramost Regions. Transport Country road on Flores Island. Aviation Lajes Air Base, on Terceira Island, is a joint U.S. Air Force and Portuguese Air Force military base. Main article: Aviation in the Azores Each of the nine islands has an airport, [62] although the majority are airports rather than airports. The commercial terminals in Ponta Delgada, Horta, Vila do Porto and Santa Cruz das Flores are operated by ANA – Aeroportos de Portugal, a government agency that oversees the activities of airports throughout Portugal. The rest, with the exception of Lajes Field, are managed by the regional government. Lajes is a military airbase, as well as a commercial airport, and is operated by the Portuguese armed forces in cooperation with the United States. The airports are: Santa Maria: Santa Maria Airport (LPAZ) São Miguel: João Paulo II Airport (LPPD) Terceira: Lajes Airport (LPLA) São Jorge: São Jorge Airport (LPSJ) Pico: Pico Airport (LPPI) Faial: Horta Airport (LPHR) Graciosa: Graciosa Airport (LPGR) Flores: Flores Airport (LPFL) Corvo: Corvo Airport (LPCR) Marine transport Marina of Angra do Heroísmo. The Azores have a long history of maritime transport to cover distances and trade between the community. As a result, shipbuilding developed on many islands, from small fishing boats to whale unloading and larger passenger services. [63] Passenger transport to the main (São Miguel, Santa Maria, Terceira and Faial) began in the 17th century, the Pico Yacht controlled the lucrative summer traffic season. [63] After 1871, the Shipping Company Insulana was the only entity responsible for regular traffic between the islands (except Corvo), Madeira and the United States. [63] Finally, cargo and passenger transport stopped in the 1970s, and the ships were sold or converted into tuna fishing boats. For the next 20 years, commercial maritime service between the islands stopped (except between Faial-Pico and Lajes das Flores-Vila do Corvo). [63] The port of Horta, on Faial Island is world famous as a transatlantic stop for yachts and sailors. [64] Transmaçor (Transportes Marítimos Acorianos, Lda.) was founded on 22 December 1987, following the merger of Empresa das Lanchas do Pico, Lda, owners of the ships Espalamaca and Calheta (ships that had travelled the canal between Faial and Pico for several years); Empresa Açoreana de Transportes Marítimos, Lda, who operated the ship Terra Alta; and Transcanal (Transportes Marítimos do Canal, Lda.) operator of the traditional boats Picaroto and Manuel José. [65] [66] In the Central Group, the shipping company operates four to six times daily connections between Horta and Madalena throughout the year, using its small fleet of ships (Cruzeiro das Ilhas, Cruzeiro do Canal, Expresso das Ilhas and Expresso do Triângulo), in addition to inter-island connections between Faial, Pico, São Jorge and Terceira during the summer months. [65] Steve Jobs's vacht 'Venus' in Horta Marina. Meanwhile, new initiatives began in the late 1990s: the catamaran lapetos began services, followed by Lady of Mann and Golfinho Azul (chartered by Acorline). [63] In 2005, Atletico was founded, providing services with the ships Ilha Azul and Express Santorini, later adding the Viking in 2009, Atlanticoline was involved in a controversial rejection of a 750-passenger, 150-vehicle ship ordered from the Estaleiros de Viana do Castelo (Viana do Castelo Shipvards), [67] Atlantida, a 50 million Eurocruiser (as part of a two-ship agreement with the other one called Anticiclone) was rejected in 2009 by Atlanticoline for the under-performance of the power station, [67] Although it would result only in a five-minute delay between islands, the public company rejected the ship, and the contract was broken over the builder's inability to deliver the required ship on time. [67] While the ship was being shopped to other stakeholders (Hugo Chávez once considered purchasing the ferry in 2010), no interested buyers appeared, and ENVC decided to hand over the Atlantida to Atlânticoline as part of the open competition of the latter to charter two ships in 2012. [67] On 20 June 2011, the regional government announced that it would 500,000 euros in capital from the company. [68] With this transaction, the Autonomous Government of the Azores cealded control, of which it once had 88% of the capital. [68] The signed Memorandum of Understanding concluded negotiations between the various parties concerned, under which Transmaçor's liability (worth a total of EUR 8 million) was evenly split between the region and businessman José E. Almeida, who now holds a majority stake in the company. [68] Similarly, the regional government has agreed to consolidate the three separate port authorities (Administração dos Portos do Triângulo e Grupo Ocidental, Administração dos Portos da Terceira e Graciosa en de Administração dos Portos das Ilhas das Ilhas de São Miguel e Santa Maria) and regional Portos dos Acores in an entity that resulted in a 2.2 million euro cost saving, in addition to a reduction of 11 to three administrators. [69] Seaports sorted by reported size:[70] Ferry ports - Porto Velas, Azores, Latitude: 38° 40' 42 N Length: 28° 12' 11 11 W, Port Type: Ferry, Port size: Small harbours - Porto da Ponta Delgada, Azores, Latitude: 37° 44' 13 N Length: 25° 39' 50 W, UN/LOCODE: PTPDL, Port Size: Small Porto da Praia Da Vitoria, Azores, Latitude: 38° 43' 25 N Longitude: 27° 3' 16 WL, UN/LOCODE: PTPRV, Port Size: Small Very small ports - Marina Vila Franca do Campo, Azores, Latitude: 37° 42' 51 N Longitude: 25° 25' 47 47 47 Wler, Port Type: Marina, Port Size: Very Small Porto da Angra do Heroismo, Azores, Latitude: 38° 39' 9 N Longitude: 27° 12' 57 W, UN/LOCODE: PTADH, Port Size : Very small Porto da Corvo Azores, Latitude: 39° 40' 18 N Length: 31° 6' 36 W longitude, Port type: Pier, jetty or quay, port size: very small Porto da Horta, Azores Latitude: 38° 31' 48 N Length: 28° 37' 30 30 W, UN/LOCODE: PTHOR, Port Size: Very Porto da Madalena, Azores, Latitude: 38° 32' 7 N Longitude: 28° 31' 48 Port size: size: very small Porto Povoacao, Azores, Latitude: 37° 44' 43 N Length : 25° 14' 47 47 inch W, port size: very small Rabo de Piexe, Azores, Latitude: 37° 48' 54 N Length: 25° 35' 2' 2 W Port size: Very small Vila Do Porto, Azores, Latitude: 36° 56' 38 N Length: 25° 8' 48 inches, port size: very small piers, jetties or guays - Porto de Recreio de Calheta, Azores, Latitude: 38° 36' 1 1 N Length: 28° 0' 37 W, Longitudinal port: Pier, jetty or guay, port size: Very small Porto Santo Amaro, Azores, Latitude: 38° 27' N Length: 28° 10' 0 0 W, Port type: pier, jetty or guay, port size: very small Santa Cruz Da Graciosa, Azores, Azores, 39° 5' 1 N Length: 27° 59' 49
WL, Type of port: Pier, Jetty or Quay, Port size: Very small Santa Cruz Das Flores, Azores, Latitude: 39° 27' 6 N Length: 31° 7' 31 W, Port Type: Pier, Pier or Quay, Port size: Very small culture The architecture of the Azores is characterized by the contrast between black volcanic stone and white stucco. Azores have developed their own regional identity and cultural characteristics, from a combination of continental Portuguese customs brought by different waves of immigration and local political and environmental factors. Impérios of the Cult of the Holy Spirit can be found in the Azores. Religious festivals, patron saints and traditional holidays mark the Azores calendar. The main religious events are connected to the festivals associated with the cult of the Holy Spirit, commonly referred to as the Festivals of the Holy Spirit (or Espírito Santo), rooted in millenarian dogma and held on all islands from May to September. These festivals are very important for the Azores, which are mainly Roman Catholic, and combine religious rituals with processions celebrating the benevolence and egalitarianism of neighbors. These events are aimed at treatros or impérios, small buildings that host the meals, worship and charity of the participants, and are used to store the artifacts associated with the events. On Terceira, for example, these impérios have become ornate buildings painted and cared for by the local fraternities in their respective parishes. The events focus on members of the local parishes, not tourists, but all are welcome, as sharing is one of the main principles of the festivals. Some limited event held by Ponta Delgada City Council on the island of São Miguel, which attracts visitors and locals. Procession of the Cult of the Holy Lord Christ of Miracles. Another event, the Festival of the Holy Christ of Miracles (or Senhor Santo Cristo dos Milagres) in Ponta Delgada on the island of São Miguel, is the largest individual religious event in the Azores, and takes place on Rogation Sunday. Pilgrims from the Portuguese diaspora normally travel to Ponta Delgada to take part in an afternoon procession behind the solemn procession is held only on one day, the events of the Festival of Senhor Santo Cristo take place over a period of one week and include a ritual to move the statue between the main church and the monastery at night, eventually culminating in the procession, which is broadcast on the Azores and to the Portuguese diaspora. The Festivities in Angra do Heroísmo on Terceira are held in June in honor of St. Anthony, St. Peter and St. John the Baptist, in a major religious celebration. The festival of van Lady of Lourdes (or Nossa Senhora de Lourdes), patron saint of whalers, starts in Lajes on Pico Island on the last Sunday of August and runs through the week-Whalers Week. It is characterized by social and cultural events associated with the tradition of whaling. The Wine Harvest Festival (or Festa das Vindimas), takes place during the first week of September and is an age-old custom of the people of Pico. On Corvo, on 15 August, in addition to the festivals of the Divine Holy Spirit, people celebrate their patron saint Nossa Senhora dos Milagres (Our Lady of Miracles). The Festival da Maré de Agosto (August in Praia Formosa on Santa Maria. Also the Semana do Mar (Sea Week), almost exclusively dedicated to water sports, takes place in August in the town of Horta, on Faial. Carnival is also celebrated in the Azores. Parades and parades are at the heart of carnival festivities. The traditional bullfights in the arena are underway as are running bulls in the streets. 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