



The month of December is synonymous with Peace and Love all over the World. A cosy and illuminated atmosphere welcomes all visitors to Madeira and Porto Santo Islands in this very special holiday season. On the last day of the year, you can also bear witness to one of the largest pyrotechnic shows in the world, taking place at Funchal's bay.



**Christmas and New Year Festivities
Until January 6th**

The traditions of the Christmas season, deep-rooted in Madeira's people lifestyle, are combined with manifestations of joy for the arrival of the New Year, in a rich and extensive programme of cultural, ethnographic and artistic manifestations.

Starting from December 8th, with the turning on of the decorative lights in the streets of Funchal, you can appreciate Funchal in a true real-size "nativity scene", in an atmosphere of great joy for you to enjoy shopping, street entertainment and the season's traditional food and drinks stalls.

The bustle continues after Christmas, this time to mark the last day of the year in everyone's memory. As the clock strikes twelve on December 31st, the skies lit up with fire, colour and hope in the year that is just beginning and that could not start in a better way. Visit Madeira and find the stage for an unforgettable show!



**Twelfth Night Carols
January 5th**

This biblical chapter became a popular tradition of Madeira and is celebrated a little throughout the island, gathering families, friends and neighbours who go from door to door to sing the "Twelfth Night Carols" or the "Janeiras".

It was in this spirit that the musical show "Cantar os Reis, Cantar as Janeiras" emerged, as part of the Christmas and New Year Festivities in Madeira, held every year on this day, at 8 p.m., in the Auditorium of the Municipal Garden of Funchal.

Go to the garden and sing along The Twelfth Night Carols with us!



**"70 Ukuleles/70 Artists" Exhibition
Until February 1st**

This unique exhibition, which will be featuring 70 ukuleles that have undergone plastic intervention, is part of a set of activities organised by the Ukulele Cultural Association and Museum.

The challenge was launched to various Portuguese artists, which had the task of transforming 70 ukuleles [cavaquinhos] into 70 works of art, in order to raise awareness to the rich heritage of this small stringed instrument that accompanied the Portuguese diaspora and spread across the world.

This national and travelling group exhibition will be held in ten municipalities, mostly where the practice of Ukulele is known, including Funchal, where it will be open to the public at the Grand Hall of the Baltazar Dias Municipal Theatre, from December 13th on.



Facebook fan page with new name

In order to make standard the promotional strategy for Madeira Islands across the multiple promotional channels, Madeira Tourism made a change regarding the domain at the social network Facebook.

Therefore, the fan webpage at the mentioned social network has the following designation: <https://www.facebook.com/visitmadeiraofficial/>

This adjustment has been made with a view to optimizing and enhancing the destination's communication and marketing policy, and to bringing a new dynamic to the promotion of the islands of Madeira and Porto Santo across a wide range of tourism markets in Portugal and overseas.

Give us a like and get to know this destination better!



Madeira's hospitality facilities acknowledgement

Madeira, as a quality destination, is synonymous with competence, professionalism and rigour, relatively to its hotel industry and tourism-related companies. Find out the latest awards and prizes granted to members of the local trade:

TUI

The German tourist operator TUI distinguished the Porto Bay Hotels & Resorts Group with six prizes, including "Environmental Champion 2015" (The Cliff Bay, Porto Mare, Eden Mar and Porto Santa Maria) and "Top Quality 2015" (Eden Mar and Porto Mare).

Thomson Holidays

Three hotels of the Porto Bay group were distinguished by the British tourism operator, with the Gold Award from Thomson, delivered during the World Travel Market, to the hotels The Cliff Bay, Porto Mare and Eden Mar. The Cliff Bay and Porto Mare hotels were awarded with the "Gold Medal Winner 2015" and the Eden Mar hotel was awarded the "Gold Medal Winner" in the category "Best Thomson Accommodation 2015".

Condé Nast

The Belmond Reid's Palace was ranked 28th among the 30 best resorts in Europe, the sole Portuguese representation in the category 'Condé Nast Readers' Choice Awards 2015'.



Il Gallo d'Oro restaurant keeps its Michelin star

Il Gallo d'Oro restaurant has once again been awarded a star by Michelin Guide, the most prestigious restaurant guide in the world.

The distinction was revealed in Santiago de Compostela during the presentation of the guide's 2016 edition for Spain and Portugal; the book has singled out, again, fourteen Portuguese restaurants.

The gourmet restaurant led by French *chef* Benoît Sinthonm, presents his signature with a refined aromatic cuisine with Mediterranean and Iberian inspiration, in which fresh products from Madeira play a key role in combination with high quality ingredients from various other regions of the Iberian Peninsula.

The Michelin Guide awarded a star to *Il Gallo d'Oro* for the first time in 2009 and it is so far the only Madeiran restaurant to have received such an honour.



Everjets Airline – a new flight connection to Madeira Island

The Madeira International Airport received on November 14th an airplane from the Everjets company, which landed for the first time in the island, where it will be based in the near future.

The airline is operating with regular flights between Funchal, Lisbon and Porto, so beginning the airline's commercial operation that in the last four years has been dedicated exclusively to executive aviation. This is a way to enhance the number of seats from the main national airports to Madeira archipelago. According to the introduced schedule, Everjets will connect Madeira and Lisbon 12 times a week, and Porto twice a week, on Mondays and Fridays.

To celebrate its inaugural flight, the baptism of the aircraft was performed already in Madeiran soil and passengers received souvenirs from the island delivered by the Airport's Public Relations service hostesses. Learn more at www.everjets.com

NEWSLETTER

Direção Regional do Turismo