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Double S Travel Worldchoice - Celebrating Twenty Three Years of service to residents and businesses in the South Bedfordshire area 1985 – 2008

Madeira

Where is Madeira?

A spectacularly beautiful island in the Atlantic Ocean
525 miles SW of Lisbon
Used to be covered in subtropical rain forest – hence Madeira – Portuguese for 'wood'
It is the top of a massive volcano rising 4 ½ miles from the ocean floor
Actually an archipelago of about 18 islands
Neighbouring by the tiny islands of Porto Santo (9miles x 3 miles), Desertas Islands and Savage Islands

What is the island like?

Semi tropical so a good winter destination, sunny and warm in the south
Backbone of island (E-W) a mountain chain with deep ravines
Noted for it's Madeira wine, embroidery and flowers
Noted also for it's New Year's Eve fireworks
A spectacularly beautiful island
Volcanic in origin
Rises to a couple of peaks 6000ft high in the centre
Coastline of near sheer cliffs
Woods, vineyards and rich farmland
Beaches are rare and of poor quality
The tiny island of Porto Santo - reached by air in 15mins or by sea 3 hours - has good sandy beaches

How big is Madeira?

36 miles long and 14 miles wide

Where are the main tourist centres

Mostly in the capital – Funchal - airport is only 14 miles NE of Funchal
And along the SE coast
Canico
5 miles E of Funchal
suited to mature couples
no nightlife
steep terrain
mostly German tourists
limited shops

Partners: **SJ Pattenden TD & KJ Pattenden MSc. VAT Number 449 3040 53.**

Nominated Travel Agent of the Year 2006, 2007, 2008

Finalist Travel Agent of the Year 2005, 2006, Finalist Business Travel Agent of the Year 2006

Finalist Best Specialist Website 2006 www.railchoice.co.uk.

Runner-up, Corporatechoice Business Travel Agent of the Year 2005,

Runner-up, TIPTO Agent of the Year 2005, Nominated Travel Agent Achievement Awards 2005.

Funchal

On SE coast

Outstanding destination for botanists (semi tropical climate) and walkers – Lavadas – irrigation channels – 1350 miles of them

Capital

Upmarket

Suitable for middle-aged and mature people or adventure seekers – diving, surfing, wind surfing, hang gliding, paragliding, canyoning, trekking, rock climbing.

Not ideal for families – no beaches

Steep streets

Many good 4* and 5* hotels and aparthotels

Good shopping – indoor market, commercial centre, many shopping streets

Popular with Portuguese, British, Germans in that order

Sightseeing around the old town or via open-top double decker bus

Fort (Sao Tiago), gothic cathedral,

Nightlife, casino, many bars

Machico

Northern end of the E coast between the massive headlands of the deep Bay of Zarco

Peaceful village atmosphere

Non-commercial

Not suitable for youngsters

Pebble beach

Walks along the Levadas

Climbing Pico do Facho of the spectacular views

18 hole golf course

Diving and sailing

Excursions

Half day Camach – Madeira's wicker-work centre

Crater and Toboggan – visit to spectacular Nunns Valley and a steep 2 mile trip downhill in a wicker toboggan

Garden Tours

Jeep tours

West coast tour – includes Cabo Girao – the world's 2nd highest sea-cliff

Dolphin-spotting boat trips

Porto Santo – with its vast sandy beach.

What is other significant details are there for Madeira?

Currency is the Euro

Same timezone as UK

Drive on the continental right

Language is Portuguese

General

Exchange Rates

This week Last week 1000 costs

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Our aim is to be your most trusted dream provider

Euro	1.2046	1.2426	£830
Dollar	1.5103	1.6740	£662

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