

Flores Island, Azores, Portugal

The wildest island in Europe's wildest archipelago. Flores delivers volcanic drama — crater lakes, neon-green valleys, towering waterfalls — with almost zero tourist infrastructure. That's the point.

Tender port

Typical call: 7–9 hrs

Euro (€)

Portuguese

UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender — Lajes das Flores pier has been storm-damaged since 2019 (Hurricane Lorenzo); a major new-port reconstruction is underway, projected to complete around 2030

Best For: Nature lovers, hikers, photographers, and anyone who wants the unplugged Azores experience

Walk to center: 10–15 min uphill from tender dock into Lajes das Flores village

Don't Miss: Poço Ribeira do Ferreiro — a waterfall amphitheater that belongs in a nature documentary

Getting around: Taxi €23–€29 · Rideshare not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Poço Ribeira do Ferreiro & Waterfall Circuit** — Flores's signature sight: a dramatic green amphitheater where a dozen waterfalls plunge into a serene lagoon.
- Crater Lakes — Lagoa Negra & Lagoa Comprida** — Twin volcanic calderas filled with inky blue-green water, sitting side by side in the center of the island.
- Canyoning on Flores** — Flores is considered one of Europe's top canyoning destinations — deep gorges, multi-drop waterfalls, and natural slides through volcanic rock.
- Fajã Grande & West Coast Drive** — The westernmost village in Europe, tucked beneath massive cliff faces draped in waterfalls.
- RIB Boat to Corvo Island** — Tiny Corvo — the smallest island in the Azores — is visible from Flores and reachable in about 45 minutes by rigid inflatable boat.

BEST WALKS

- Lajes das Flores Village & Natural Pools** 1–2 hrs · Easy · No transport needed — From the tender dock, walk uphill into Lajes das Flores: explore the small church, local cafes, and the fishing harbor.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	61°	55°	19d	
Jun	68°	63°	15d	
Aug	75°	70°	16d	
Sep	72°	68°	17d	
Oct	68°	63°	18d	

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 7:27AM–8:42PM · Jun 6:37AM–9:33PM · Aug 7:17AM–8:59PM · Sep 7:46AM–8:12PM · Oct 8:15AM–7:25PM

Euro (€)

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Pre-book everything. Flores has roughly 3,500 residents and almost no tourist infrastructure. If you don't arrange a tour or rental car before your cruise, you will be stuck in the village. This is the single most important tip for this port.
- Cancellations are common. Atlantic swells regularly make tendering unsafe. Flores has one of the highest cancellation rates in the Azores — always have a sea-day plan and don't rearrange other ports around a Flores visit.
- Waterproof hiking shoes are essential. The best sights involve wet volcanic rock, mossy trails, and unpaved paths. Sandals or city shoes will make most attractions inaccessible.
- Pack for all weather. Four seasons in one day is not a cliché here — bring a windproof rain jacket, layers, and sunscreen even if the forecast looks clear.
- Bring cash. Small cafes and taxis may not accept cards. ATMs exist in Lajes das Flores but the nearest larger town (Santa Cruz) requires transport.
- July–August for hydrangeas. If your cruise passes through in summer, the island's roads are lined with head-high blue hydrangea hedges — genuinely extraordinary. The Azores hydrangea season peaks in July.

Flores Island, Azores, Portugal — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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|----------|--|--|----------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Rocha dos Bordões | Unique basalt columns form a striking geological monument. | 2 | Miradouro Lagoas Rasa e Funda | Viewpoint offering stunning vistas of Rasa and Funda lakes. |
| 3 | Miradouro Caldeira Rasa e Funda | Panoramic viewpoint overlooking the twin volcanic craters. | 4 | Rocha dos Bordões Viewpoint | Scenic viewpoint to admire the impressive basalt columns. |
| 5 | Miradouro da Fajã do Conde | Viewpoint offering stunning views of a coastal fajã. | 6 | Miradouro Craveiro Lopes | Panoramic viewpoint showcasing dramatic coastal cliffs and ocean. |
| P | Cruise port / terminal | | | | |