

Pico Island, Azores, Portugal

Portugal's highest peak rises dramatically from the Atlantic here — a volcanic island of black basalt vineyards, sperm whales offshore, and an authenticity that mass tourism hasn't touched.

Tender (large ships) / Docked (small ships)

Typical call: 6-8 hrs

Euro (€)

Portuguese

Volcanic / UNESCO Heritage

🗓 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____

Arrive: _____

All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____

Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

- Docking:** Madalena port: small/expedition ships dock; larger cruise ships tender ashore
- Best For:** Whale watching, volcanic scenery, UNESCO vineyard walks, local wine tasting
- Walk to center:** You step off directly into Madalena town — main square under 5 min
- Don't Miss:** Whale-watch from Madalena harbour; walk the Criação Velha UNESCO vineyards

Getting around: **Taxi** €19–€27 cross-island; €100–€150 for half/full-day tours (up to 4 passengers) · **Rideshare** not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Whale & Dolphin Watching** — Pico's waters host over 20 cetacean species year-round, including sperm whales and blue whales.
 - Gruta das Torres Lava Tube** — Portugal's longest lava tube stretches over 5 km underground.
 - UNESCO Vineyard Landscape & Wine Tasting** — The Criação Velha vineyard is a UNESCO World Heritage Site —
- thousands of black basalt stone corrals (currais)...

 - Museu dos Baleeiros (Whalers' Museum)** — Housed in 19th-century boathouses in Lajes do Pico, this museum tells the story of open-boat sperm whale hunting...
 - Volcanic Landscapes & Natural Swimming Pools** — Pico has no sandy beaches, but its natural lava-rock pools (piscinas naturais) are stunning.

BEST WALKS

- Madalena Waterfront & Town** 30-45 min · Flat · Free — A gentle stroll from the port along the waterfront, past the twin-towered Igreja de Santa Maria Madalena, through the main square with...
- Criação Velha UNESCO Vineyard Trail** 2-3 hrs · Easy · Free — Walk or taxi 2-3 km south of Madalena to the Criação Velha trail.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	63°	55°	17d
Jun	70°	63°	12d
Aug	75°	68°	10d
Sep	72°	66°	14d
Oct	66°	63°	18d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 7:18AM–8:32PM · Jun 6:28AM–9:17PM · Aug 7:03AM–8:48PM · Sep 7:30AM–8:00PM · Oct 7:57AM–7:13PM

Euro (€)

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Book whale watching before you sail. Slots sell out on ship days. Many operators offer cruise-passenger packages with guaranteed port pickup — look for those.
- Rent a car if you can — but book months ahead. Pico has essentially no tourist bus service. Cars from Ilha Verde or Auto Atlântico

Pico 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 Naturalist - Science & Tourism Whale Watching | Book your whale watching and dolphin observation tours here. | 2 Paisagem da Cultura da Vinha da Ilha do Pico | Explore the unique UNESCO World Heritage vineyard landscape. |
| 3 Church of Holy Mary Magdalene | Visit this historic and beautiful island church. | 4 WineMuseum | Discover Pico's winemaking history at this museum. |
| 5 Lajido da Criação Velha | Walk through ancient lava fields with unique vineyards. | 6 Paisagem da Vinha de Criação Velha | Experience the distinctive vineyard landscape of Criação Velha. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |