

São Jorge Island, Azores, Portugal

The 'Island of the Fajãs' rewards curious cruisers with towering cliffs, tiny cliff-foot villages, Europe's rarest coffee, and the sharpest cheese in Portugal.

 Pier (small ships) / Tender (large ships)

 Typical call: 6–8 hrs

 Currency: Euro (€)

 Language: Portuguese (English spoken in tourism)

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

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

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier at Port of Velas for ships up to ~120 m; larger ships tender

Best For: Hiking, volcanic natural pools, cheese tasting, scenic fajã drives

Walk to Center: 5–10 min flat walk from Velas marina to town center (~400 m)

Don't Miss: Poça Simão Dias natural pool at Fajã do Ouvidor & São Jorge cheese tasting

 Getting around:  **Taxi**  €80–€150/day ·  **Rideshare**  not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Fajã do Ouvidor & Poça Simão Dias** — Drive 25 minutes to the north coast to see one of the Azores' most dramatic natural pools — deep turquoise water...
- **São Jorge Cheese Factory (Uniqueijo)** — Tour the cooperative dairy in Beira (~10 min from Velas) and taste aged São Jorge cheese — raw cow's milk, sharp...
- **Fajã dos Vimes Coffee Plantation** — Visit Café Nunes at Fajã dos Vimes on the south coast — one of the only places in Europe where coffee is commercially...
- **Fajã dos Cubres Lagoon & Hiking** — Easily reachable by car or taxi, this UNESCO Biosphere Reserve fajã has a stunning crystal-clear lagoon.
- **Urzelina Volcanic Tower** — See the lone church tower rising from lava fields in Urzelina — the only structure to survive the 1808 volcanic...

BEST WALKS

- **Velas Town & Preguiça Natural Pools** 1.5 km loop · Easy · ~30–45 min — From the marina, walk along the waterfront to the Jardim da República, through the historic center past the Portão da Vila archway...
- **Fajã dos Cubres Lagoon Walk** 2 km return · Easy–Moderate · ~1 hr at the fajã — Taxi or tour to Fajã dos Cubres, then walk the coastal path along the lagoon edge to the viewpoints above the basalt sea cliffs.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	61°	57°	15d
Jun	68°	63°	10d
Aug	74°	70°	12d
Sep	73°	68°	12d
Oct	69°	64°	16d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 7:16AM–8:29PM · Jun 6:27AM–9:19PM · Aug 7:07AM–8:46PM · Sep 7:34AM–8:00PM · Oct 8:02AM–7:14PM

Currency: Euro (€)

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Grab a taxi immediately. There are very few taxis on São Jorge. Rush to the stand outside the port the moment you disembark —

São Jorge 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.



- 1** Arco Natural de Velas
Velas' natural rock arch: a beautiful coastal formation.
- 3** Baloço Fajã de João Dias
Scenic swing offering breathtaking views over Fajã de João Dias.
- P** Cruise port / terminal

- 2** Sea Explorers Azores
Your gateway to whale watching and marine adventures.
- 4** Pico da Velha Viewpoint
Panoramic viewpoint atop Pico da Velha, offering island vistas.