

Azores

Island Adventure | WITH A STAY IN LISBON



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ALUMNI

University of Illinois Alumni Association

May 18-29, 2026

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Dear EXPLORERS and Friends,

Embark on an adventure to Lisbon and the mystical Azores archipelago, 870 miles off Portugal's coast in the North Atlantic Ocean. Stay for two nights in Lisbon and eight nights on three Azorean islands. With your intimately small group, limited to 24 travelers, enjoy first-class hotels and internal flights as you uncover traditional, modern Lisbon and the Azores' pristine natural beauty and rich cultural heritage.

Begin in Lisbon with a tour of notable city sites. Then, fly to the Azores to discover Terceira, Faial, Pico and São Miguel islands on an island-hopping adventure! Explore picturesque villages, be thrilled by whale-watching, take a ferry ride to marvel at Pico's vineyard landscape and embark on a jeep excursion to Sete Cidades. You'll encounter otherworldly volcanic landscapes and ethereal crater lakes amid lush tropical forests. Along the way, delve into the Azores' whaling history, stroll beautiful botanical gardens and visit Europe's oldest tea plantation. Plus, savor a lunch of Cozido das Furnas stew cooked in hot lava rock, an experiential Azorean dinner and Pico's unique wines!

This exceptional program has been thoughtfully designed with educational enrichment from expert guides and lecturers. Our Azores Island Adventure will surely be a crowd-pleaser, so guarantee your spot by making your reservation today!

Sincerely,



David Bambrey
President

The EXPLORERS program is open to alumni of the University of Illinois, their families, and friends.

UNESCO World Heritage

1. Monastery of the Hieronymites and Tower of Belém, Lisbon
2. Central Zone of the Town of Angra do Heroísmo in the Azores, Terceira
3. Landscape of the Pico Island Vineyard Culture, Madalena, Pico

Monastery of the Hieronymites





Discovery begins here



Get ready to be captivated by Lisbon and the enigmatic Azorean islands on this unforgettable adventure! Relish a tour of Lisbon's top sites, then fly to the untouched Azores archipelago. Step into a world of breathtaking natural beauty with lush emerald mountains, turquoise crater lakes and miraculous grapevines growing from lava fields. You'll visit centuries-old villages and delve into the Azores' rich cultural heritage and complex whaling history. Plus, savor authentic, fresh and seasonal Azorean food and wine!

Top: Criação Velha vineyards | Above: Local folk dancers

Cover: Sete Cidades | Mail panel: City gates of Ponta Delgado
| Angra do Heroísmo

Inspiring Moments



- **Discover Lisbon** on a panoramic city tour and visit Jerónimos Monastery.
- Be awed by **stunning island vistas**, geological wonders and picturesque villages on **four Azorean islands**.
- Thrill to **whale watching** in one of the world's largest whale sanctuaries.
- Marvel at **vineyards growing in black lava rock** on Pico Island.
- Admire colonial-era, **Portuguese architecture** in the Azores' oldest city.
- **Take a jeep ride** to Sete Cidades to see the iconic twin volcanic crater lakes.
- Witness the Furnas **volcanic crater** and the famed Caldeira Velha **waterfall**.
- Experience three **UNESCO World Heritage sites**.



Lisbon

Day 1 | In-transit

Depart for Lisbon, Portugal. 🌐

Day 2 | Lisbon, Portugal

Arrive in Lisbon, transfer 🚗 and check in to the Dom Pedro Lisboa hotel.

This evening, meet your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception, with canapés.

Day 3 | Lisbon

Lisbon City Tour. Discover vibrant Lisbon today on a half-day panoramic tour. See the majestic 16th-century Tower of Belém and the nautical Monument to the Discoveries. Visit Jerónimos Monastery, a stunning example of Manueline architecture and lasting tribute to Portugal’s Golden Age. Make a photo stop at the elegant Praça do Comércio square, with stunning waterfront views of the Tagus River.

Free Time: Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

Day 4 | Terceira Island, Azores | Angra do Heroísmo

After breakfast, fly to Terceira. Arrive, transfer and check in to the Azoris Angra Garden.

Enrichment: *History of the Azores.*

Angra do Heroísmo. Take a guided walk of this city founded in 1478. Visit the neo-classical, 19th-century City Hall in the Praça Velha square to learn about the city’s rich civic heritage.

Savor flavorful local cuisine at lunch together.

🌐 **AHI Connects | Experiential Azorean Dinner.** Drive to Quinta do Martelo, an authentic Azorean farmstead to stop at the local market, discover the island’s culinary heritage and savor a delicious dinner in the atmospheric farmhouse.

Day 5 | Terceira

Island Tour. Capture the essence of Terceira on a panoramic tour. Stop at viewpoints for stunning island views and in São Sebastião to see its 15th-century church. Break for lunch together and then visit Algar do Carvão to tour the deep volcanic cave and lava tube. *(Active)* Conclude the day in charming Biscoitos, known for its natural lava rock swimming pools. Opt to take a dip or stroll through the town at leisure.

Day 6 | Faial Island | Horta

After breakfast, take a short flight to Faial.

Faial Tour. After you land, begin an island tour. Visit the Capelinhos Volcano & Interpretation Center, where the submarine eruption of 1957 vastly altered the island’s landscape. Stop for lunch and then visit the Caldeira nature reserve to gaze in awe at its massive crater. Continue toward Horta, pausing to appreciate the scenic views of Horta Bay and Pico Mountain.

Arrive and check in to the Azoris Faial Garden.

Free Time: The rest of the day is at your leisure.



15th Century church of São Sebastião



Gorreana Tea plantation



Ribeira Grande

Day 7 | Pico Island | Fail

Vineyards of Pico. Take an early morning ferry ride over to Pico and visit the vineyards in Criação Velha, where grapevines grow from black basalt stone walls, a stunning visual contrast to the deep-blue ocean. Learn about the viticulture techniques used for over 500 years and Pico's mineral-rich Verdelho wine. Relish an Azorean lunch at a local winery.

Lajes & Whaling History. Tour the Whaler's Museum in Lajes, a major whaling hub from the 18th century until 1984. Delve into the Azores' complex whaling history via exhibits of whaling boats, harpoons, historical documents and photos, illustrating the whalers' daily lives. Take the ferry back to Faial and your hotel.

Day 8 | Faial | São Miguel Island | Ponta Delgada

Enrichment: Contemporary Azores.

After the lecture, fly to Ponta Delgada, São Miguel Island. Arrive, have lunch and set out on your guided city walking tour.

Ponta Delgada & Carlos Machado Museum.

Take a guided stroll of this capital city to see the grand city gates, constructed of black basalt with whitewashed accents; picturesque squares with colorful Portuguese pavement

designs and the 17th-century City Hall. Then, visit the Carlos Machado Museum to discover the archipelago's natural and cultural heritage. Check in to the Octant Ponta Delgada hotel.

Day 9 | São Miguel

Furnas Crater. Drive to the village of Furnas to stand in awe at the Lagoa das Furnas volcanic crater lake, surrounded by misty green hills and dotted with steaming fumaroles, bubbling mud pools and sulfur vents. Watch as a traditional stew is buried in the ground to be cooked by volcanic heat. Later, savor the Cozido das Furnas stew for lunch at a nearby restaurant.

Terra Nostra Park. After lunch, stroll through these beautiful, diverse botanical gardens and marvel at the orange-hued hot-thermal pool.

Gorreana Tea Factory. Visit Europe's oldest tea plantation still in operation to stroll the tea fields and tour the production factory.

Day 10 | São Miguel

Whale Watching. Embark on a thrilling boat expedition to look for sightings of majestic,



Volcanic cave, Algar do Carvão



Furnas



Included Features



Accommodations {with baggage handling}

- **2 nights** in Lisbon, Portugal, at the first-class Dom Pedro Lisboa.
- **2 nights** in Angra do Heroísmo, Terceira Island, at the first-class Azoris Angra Garden.
- **2 nights** in Horta, Faial Island at the first-class Azoris Faial Garden.
- **4 nights** in Ponta Delgada, São Miguel Island, at the first-class Octant Ponta Delgada.

Transfers {with baggage handling}

- All transfers in the Land Program: flights, ferries and deluxe motor coaches.

Extensive Meal Program

- 10 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 2 dinners, including a Farewell Dinner; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **Small group:** Sized just right at 24 guests.
- **Enrichment by expert speakers** enhances your insight into the region.
- **Engaging excursions** showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- **Free time** to pursue your individual interests.
- **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.

Whale watching

graceful whales and playful dolphins in one of the world's best and largest whale sanctuaries.

Lagoa do Fogo. Visit this nature park to stand on the crater's rim and behold the serene lake and stunning scenery. Be awed by Caldeira Velha natural hot springs, enveloped by giant ferns, and see its iconic warm iron waterfall.

Ribeira Grande. Visit this town steeped in Portuguese character. Stroll along azulejo-tiled streets to see the baroque-style Town Hall and the graceful, arched Ribeira Grande Bridge.

Day 11 | São Miguel

Jeep Excursion. Venture to a remote volcanic crater region to admire the beautiful, serene Canário lake. Stop at a viewpoint to gaze at stunning panoramic views, the iconic Sete Cidades blue and green twin lakes, a vast caldera framed by lush, mountainous forests.

Farewell Reception, Dinner & Folklore

Performance. Enjoy this evening's reception, dinner and special folklore Performance.

Day 12 | In Transit

After breakfast, check out of the hotel and transfer to the Ponta Delgada Airport for your return flights home.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

✈ Flights and 🚗 transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

Active Travel

This **Active Program** is designed for people who are in good health and can comfortably participate in a demanding daily schedule of physical activities. For more details, please call or visit our website.

Excursions on this program require:

- walking distances of up to 3 miles on unpaved paths and/or uneven surfaces, including lava fields; hills and/or stairs
- getting on/off motor coaches, boats, ferries and/or 4 x 4 jeeps





Lisbon



Terra Nostra Park



Capelinhos Volcano & Interpretation Center

2026 | Departure Details

Program Dates

Travel dates † **May 18-29, 2026**

† Travel dates include any overnights required for international travel. These dates may vary depending on air schedules.

Tour dates* **May 19-29, 2026**

* Tour dates begin on the scheduled arrival date at your destination and end on the scheduled departure date from your destination.

Land Program

Full Price	\$6,045
Special Savings	\$750
Special Savings Price*	\$5,295

***This Special Savings Price includes our \$250 Early Booking and \$500 Pay-in-Full discounts and is valid if you book by the date on the address panel and pay in full at booking.**

Deposit amount is \$750 per person.
Final Payment is due at least 120 days prior to departure.
Price includes applicable program taxes (such as VAT and port charges).
All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).
Special offers, promotions and discounts cannot be combined.
Single accommodations are an additional \$1,495 (limited availability).

Please note: Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://il.ahitravel.com/destinations/1977A?schoold=69>.

AHI FlexAir

Let us arrange your flights

Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- arrival and departure **transfers** on group dates
- **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservation before departure on most flights (Fees may apply.)
- **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays

AHI Travel Expertise

Travel Consultants assist with the reservation process.

Travel & Air Coordinators offer their personalized assistance with flights, electives and special requests.

Travel Information provides pre-departure details and enrichment about your destination.

Your Travel Director, a seasoned, multilingual professional, manages daily logistics so you enjoy a seamless experience.

Handpicked Expert Guides and Knowledgeable Lecturers deepen your appreciation for the region and its history, culture and current events.

Accommodations



Dom Pedro Lisboa | Lisbon



Azoris Angra Garden | Heroísmo, Terceira Island



Azoris Faial Garden | Horta, Faial Island



Octant Ponta Delgada | Ponta Delgada, São Miguel Island



Book your journey today!

844-414-0369

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University of Illinois Alumni Association
EXPLORERS Office
Alice Campbell Alumni Center
601 S. Lincoln Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801

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Journey to the awe-inspiring Azores archipelago!

Committed to connecting travelers
to the people, places and cultures
of the world for more than 62 years.



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information, discounts
and pricing.

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