

Columbus Festival

September 18 to 21

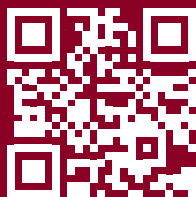
2025



When you're into
new discoveries,
you're into Porto Santo.



PORTO SANTO ISLAND



Digital Columbus Festival

This festival can be followed in digital format, including the detailed programme of all the activities, namely on the official Madeira Tourism website, Madeira Events, and on social networks at:

www.visitmadeira.com

www.eventsmadeira.com

www.facebook.com/visitmadeiraofficial

www.instagram.com/visitmadeira/



- 1 Columbus House – Porto Santo Museum
- 2 Porto Santo Municipal Library
- 3 Largo do Pelourinho
- 4 Dr. Nuno Silvestre Teixeira Street
- 5 Infante D. Henrique Avenue (North lane)
- 6 City Park
- 7 Largo das Palmeiras
- 8 Praça do Barqueiro
- 9 Infante D. Henrique Avenue
- 10 Porto Santo Pier – Beach



18 to 21 September

Opening times

Days 18, 19, 20: 19:00 – 00:00 | Food stalls open until 02:00

Day 21: 18:00 – 21:00 | Food stalls open until 00:00

Vila Baleira

Entertainment in the festival area with live music, theatre, medieval dances, acrobats, masqueraders, stilt walking, juggling, storytellers, fire acts, among other artists.

5 Infante D. Henrique Avenue (North)

19:00 to 23:00

Crafts and regional products

7 Largo das Palmeiras,

9 Infante D. Henrique Avenue and Court Gardens

Food and beverage stalls

The Columbus Festival consists of a series of entertainment activities which portray the era when this famous merchant lived on Porto Santo Island, recalling his experiences in the Archipelago of Madeira and the epic era of the Portuguese Discoveries.

The event evokes the time spent by the Genoese navigator in the Golden Island, and includes a craft market, street performances, circus arts, theatre, medieval music and dances, thus ensuring continuous entertainment and a constant bustle amongst the several typical characters of that period.



9 Infante D. Henrique Avenue and Padrão dos Descobrimentos

19:30 – 22:30

Organised by the local school Escola Básica e Secundária com Pré e Creche Prof. Dr. Francisco de Freitas Branco, this camp site invites you on a journey into the past, with activities suitable for all age ranges. Visitors can explore exhibitions about old weapons and artefacts, participate in various activities, including archery, craft workshops, astronomy and live alchemy experiments, theatrical performances, dances, traditional games, storytelling for the little ones and henna painting. The entertainment is enriched by themed period settings and music by the percussion group Ostinatos, creating a fun, educational and engaging environment for the whole family.

2 Porto Santo Municipal Library and Casa Colombo – Porto Santo Museum

ACTIVITIES

The Regional Archives, Libraries and Books Board (DRABL) will be present once again at the Columbus Festival, presenting a set of proposals specifically designed for schools, families and the entire local community. There will be a range of activities, over three days, inviting participants to recall memories and take realistic time travels by reading, writing and imagination, providing enriching moments of interaction and sharing. The story sessions exploration are free for groups, but require booking in advance.

For more information and reservations, contact the Porto Santo Municipal Library, by telephone at 291 985 273.

18

Thursday

2 Porto Santo Municipal Library

14:30

The activity 'The Evolution of Transport in Madeira and Porto Santo' invites participants to go down memory lane and recall experiences from times gone by, in a shared and interactive environment.

Target audience: members of the Porto Santo Senior University

Registration at the Porto Santo Municipal Library

10 Beach – Porto Santo Pier

19:15

Disembarkment – A ALMA PORTUGUESA (THE PORTUGUESE SOUL)

An open-air show, on the iconic beach of Porto Santo, celebrating the Portuguese maritime history and the figure of Christopher Columbus. In a stunning natural setting, music, dance, theatre and narration blend to evoke the courage and spirit of discovery of the Portuguese navigators. From the symbolic observation of the sea to Columbus's exciting arrival, the show builds a bridge between past and present, highlighting the importance of faith, culture and sharing. Written and directed by Miguel Vieira, it features special guest participations by Vânia Fernandes and Luís Sousa, and a cast composed of artists from Madeira and Porto Santo. Produced by Associação Avesso and co-produced by Associação Cenas&limitadas. After leaving the beach, the group visits the city.

23:50

Fire Show



3 Largo do Pelourinho

19:00

Parade by the school Escola Básica e Secundária com Pré e Creche Prof. Dr. Francisco de Freitas Branco

20:00 and 23:40

Music performance – Porbatuka

20:30

Teatro Bolo do Caco – Contadores de Histórias (Storytellers)

21:00

Dance performance – Belly Dancers

21:30

Music performance – Urro das Marés

22:00

Dance performance – Associação Cultural Rodopio Pitoresco

22:30

Street parade – Associação Batucada da Madeira

23:00

Christopher Columbus Parade

In the enchanted streets of Vila Baleira, in the heart of Porto Santo, time goes back to the 15th century to welcome, with solemnity and thrill, Christopher Columbus' entourage. The navigator returns to the island he once called home, accompanied by his family, noblemen, servants and percussion musicians who enliven the journey with vibrant rhythms. As he passes by, the folk welcome him with pride and enthusiasm, while popular characters interact with the audience, with a touch of satire and humour, recreating the lively and multifaceted spirit of the time. This parade is a celebration of the island's history and identity, paying tribute to one of its most illustrious inhabitants.

23:15

Dance performance – ADARS (medieval)



9 Infante D. Henrique Avenue

20:00

Performance by circus artists – Stilt walking, juggling and belly dancing

21:00

Music performance – Macetitas

21:30 e 22:30

Teatro Bolo do Caco – Saltimbancos e Andarilhos (Tumblers and Wanderers)

22:00

Street Entertainment – Colombo em Apuros (Columbus in Distress)

23:15

Teatro Bolo do Caco – Tomates na Berlinda (Tomatoes in the Spotlight)

23:40

Music performance – Alma Negra

8 Praça do Barqueiro

21:00

Performance by circus artists – An engaging performance that combines magic, acrobatics, fire, juggling and many emotions.

22:30

Concert – Zingary 3 Culturas | Spain

A collection of songs, chants and legends that evoke the history of exoduses, crafts, rites, culinary traditions, kings and impossible loves, throughout the centuries in when Jews, Arabs and Christians shared the Iberian Peninsula.

4 Dr. Nuno Silvestre Teixeira Street

20:15

Teatro Bolo do Caco – Saltimbancos e Andarilhos (Tumblers and Wanderers)

21:00 e 23:00

Street entertainment – Colombo em Apuros (Columbus in Distress)

22:30

Street entertainment – Magician

23:30

Street entertainment – Dez Centavos







19 and 20

September

Porto Santo Golf Course
8th Edition Colombo's Golf Trophy

19

Friday

- 2 **Porto Santo Municipal Library and**
- 1 **Casa Colombo – Porto Santo Museum**

10:30 and 14:30

The activity 'Journey through the means of transportation of Madeira and Porto Santo' involves all participants on a discovery full of curiosities and imagination.

Target audience: 4th year students from Porto Santo Elementary Schools

Registration at the Porto Santo Municipal Library

- 2 **Porto Santo Municipal Library**

18:30

Reading Club: "Arquipélago de Leituras"
(Archipelago of Readings)

Target audience: Adults and youngsters over 16 years old

Free admission

3 Largo do Pelourinho

19:30 and 22:00

Music performance - Alma Negra

20:00

Music performance - Associação Batucada da Madeira

20:30

Dance performance - Belly Dancers

21:00

Music performance - Zingary 3 culturas

21:30

Dance performance - Macetitas and ADARS
- percussion and dance come together in a symbiosis of medieval music

22:30

Music performance - Macetitas

23:00

Christopher Columbus Parade

23:15

Teatro Bolo do Caco - Tomates na Berlinda
(Tomatoes in the Spotlight)

23:40

Dance performance - Associação Cultural Rodopio Pitoresco

23:50

Fire Show

9 Infante D. Henrique Avenue

19:15

Street parade - Alma Negra

20:00 and 23:40

Music performance - Porbatuka

20:30, 21:30 and 22:30

Teatro Bolo do Caco - Mascarados

Quinhentistas (16th Century Masqueraders)

21:00 and 22:00

Street entertainment - Colombo em Apuros
(Columbus in Distress)

23:15

Music performance - Zingary 3 culturas



8 Praça do Barqueiro

21:00

Performance by circus artists - aerial and others

22:00

Concert - Urro das Marés (Azores) meets Associação Cultural Rodopio Pitoresco

Azorean group dedicated to medieval-inspired music, playing traditional instruments such as bagpipes, bass drums and percussion, which recreate ancient sounds and festive atmospheres.

4 Dr. Nuno Silvestre Teixeira Street

21:00, 22:00 and 23:00

Teatro Bolo do Caco - Saltimbancos e Andarilhos (Tumblers and Wanderers)

22:30

Street entertainment - Magician

23:00

Street entertainment - Colombo em Apuros
(Columbus in Distress)



9 Christopher Columbus Archery Tournament

Portuguese Federation of Archers and Crossbow / Archery Club - Escola Básica e Secundária com Pré e Creche Prof. Dr. Francisco de Freitas Branco
Parque da Cidade (former camping site)
10:00 - 14:00
Praça do Barqueiro
21:00
Awards ceremony

2 Porto Santo Municipal Library

11:00
Reading Workshop: "À pesca de leitores"
(Fishing for readers)
Target audience: Families with children aged 4 and over
Free admission

3 Largo do Pelourinho

19:00 and 23:40
Music performance - Porbatuka
19:30 e 23:00
Music performance - Alma Negra
20:00
Dance performance - Associação Cultural Rodopio Pitoresco
20:30
Cocktail Festival - Associação de Barmen da Madeira
22:00
Music performance - Urro das Marés
22:30
Dance performance - Macetitas and ADARS
- percussion and dance come together in a symbiosis of medieval music

4 Dr. Nuno Silvestre Teixeira Street

20:00
Performance by circus artists - stilt walkers and jugglers
20:30, 21:30 and 22:30
Teatro Bolo do Caco - Saltimbancos e Andarilhos (Tumblers and Wanderers)
23:00
Street entertainment - Magician
23:30
Teatro Bolo do Caco - Tomates na Berlinda
(Tomatoes in the Spotlight)

9 Infante D. Henrique Avenue

19:00
Street parade - Associação Batucada da Madeira
20:00 and 21:30
Teatro Bolo do Caco - Mascarados Quinhentistas (16th Century Masqueraders)
20:30
Dance performance - Belly Dancers
22:00
Street entertainment - Colombo em Apuros (Columbus in Distress)
23:00
Street entertainment - Dez Centavos
23:30
Music performance - Zingary 3 culturas
23:50
Fire Show

8 Praça do Barqueiro

21:30
Circus artists show - aerial
22:30
Theater and music show - QUEM ÉS TU, CRISTÓVÃO? (WHO ARE YOU, CHRISTOPHER?)
At the crossroads between truth and fantasy, "WHO ARE YOU, CHRISTOPHER?" delves into the enigmatic origins of Christopher Columbus, in a theatrical journey where dream, identity, and memory intertwine. Between the alleys from Genoa, the lively markets, the Portuguese coast and the silent cloisters from Lisbon, we follow a restless young man who refuses to accept the label upon him by others. Son of weavers or nobility? Genoese, Portuguese, Spanish... or all of it simultaneously? Each segment writes a metamorphosis chapter: from a rebellious teenager into a visionary capable of defying kings with maps and promises. To the sound of lutes, cries, and fados, Columbus builds—or invents—his own story, with the sea as the main character in this search for a name that fully suits him. Written and directed by Miguel Vieira, it features special guest participations by Vânia Fernandes and Luís Sousa, and a cast of artists from Madeira and Porto Santo. Produced by Associação Avesso and co-produced by Associação Cenas&Limitadas.



21

Sunday

3 Largo do Pelourinho

18:00

Teatro Bolo do Caco - Saltimbancos e Andarilhos (Tumblers and Wanderers)

18:30

Dance performance - Belly Dancers

19:00

Music performance - Alma Negra

19:30

Performance by circus artists - stilt walkers and jugglers

20:00

Music performance - Urro das Marés

20:30

Music performance - Zingary 3 culturas

9 Infante D. Henrique Avenue

18:00

Dance performance - ADARS (medieval)

18:30

Teatro Bolo do Caco - Mascarados Quinhentistas (16th Century Masqueraders)

19:00 and 20:30

Street entertainment - Colombo em Apuros (Columbus in Distress)

19:30

Music performance - Porbatuka

20:00

Teatro Bolo do Caco - Tomates na Berlinda (Tomatoes in the Spotlight)

8 Praça do Barqueiro

20:00

Performance by circus artists - aerial, fire, among others

4 Dr. Nuno Silvestre Teixeira Road

19:00

Teatro Bolo do Caco - Saltimbancos e Andarilhos (Tumblers and Wanderers)



Região Autónoma
da Madeira
Governo Regional

Secretaria Regional
de Turismo, Ambiente e Cultura
Direção Regional do Turismo



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