Madeira

Levadas Unravelled

- Walk along the famous Levadas
  - Immense sea views
  - Self-drive for maximum flexibility

**SELF-GUIDED Departures** for a minimum of 2 persons travelling together

Tour Grade – A-C (dependent upon walks chosen)       Tour Code - TMAD

For dates and prices visit: [www.walksworldwide.com](http://www.walksworldwide.com)

Call: 0845 301 4737  or visit [www.walksworldwide.com](http://www.walksworldwide.com)
**Introduction**

Madeira is a spectacular rugged volcanic island north of the Canary Islands in the Atlantic. It is a famous walking destination due to the levadas, the water channels bringing water from the highlands. There are some 2150 kilometres of levadas, all with footpaths alongside them, making it a perfect walking destination. You will be dazzled by the stunning scenery as well as the sweeping views of the rocky coastline and blue seas as you walk from the high mountains with sub tropical forest to highland moorland and steep gorges down to the sea. The island also has a profusion of wild flowers, lush fruit trees, olive, juniper and Madeira laurel and blueberry on the terraced hillsides.

This two-centred self-drive holiday gives you flexibility to choose your daily walks from our suggestions each day. You stay in hotels in pretty coastal villages perfect for swimming after your day walking in the hills. You have the opportunity to walk between the two highest peaks, Pico Ruivo, 1861 metres and Pico do Arieiro, 1817 metres, to impressive waterfalls and through the UNESCO classified Laurisilva Forest. The majority of the navigation is easy with linking paths and levadas. The ancient levadas are steeper plummeting steeply downhill from mountainside springs, whereas the newer levadas lend themselves to easier walks running along the islands contours, their banks covered with wild flowers. This is truly a delightful weeks holiday on an island filled with beauty and breathtaking walking.

---

**The Levadas**

The watercourses of Madeira are famous for their walks. The myriad of them are visible in all the rural areas. And this irrigation system now comprises an impressive 2150km of channels, including 40km of tunnels. The actual length of Madeira is 57km, and at its maximum width is 22km.

The early settlers started terracing the lower slopes and built (usually by slaves or convict labour) the first small levadas from the springs higher up the mountains. These plummeted downhill and their banks are festooned with wild flowers. In the 1900’s there were about 200 levadas and about 1000km in length over the island. In 1939 the Portuguese government decided to start work on an irrigation and hydropower scheme for the whole island. New levadas were built and water piped down to power stations. All work was done by hand and in some cases the workers were suspended in wicker baskets above the channels with picks digging and breaking the rock. As these levadas need access for maintenance purposes there is a massive walking path network over the whole island.
**Flora and Fauna**

Madeira is often referred to as the ‘Flower Island in the Atlantic’, and there are few insects. There is however a number of endemic Madeira birds and seabirds that breed on the island. At night you do hear the crickets, and during the daytime lizards bask in the sun waiting for a passing butterfly.

There are around 118 endemic flora species on Madeira, and it is also the largest and best-preserved area of Laurel forest in the world.

---

**The Holiday**

**Routine**  
As this is a self-guided holiday you are able to choose when you wish to start walking, if you prefer to rise early or enjoy at leisurely coffee before you start your walk it is entirely up to you. You also will have a choice of walks, so you can select the best walk for you that particular day.

**Walking conditions**  
The walks are on good paths, either next to the levadas or one of the many linking paths over the island. Some walks are steep in their ascents and descents. You will have to have a head for heights on some of the walks, although there are lower level walks too. You can choose your walks each day, so there is always an option for a longer harder walk or an easier shorter half-day outing.

A full explanation of the trip grading can be found in our brochure or online at www.walksworldwide.com. You should ensure you are comfortable walking at this level of grading and are physically prepared for the trip.

**Self-Guided**  
Our self-guided holidays are operated by our local agents. **You will be provided with detailed route notes and maps, which will have been prepared by your local agent upon arrival. Please note is not possible to send route notes and maps in advance.** Route notes will naturally vary from country to country. Maps provided are usually not as detailed as Ordnance Survey maps in the United Kingdom, but will be the best available for that particular country. Your route notes will also explain the arrangements for baggage transfers etc along your route. On the majority of self-guided walking holidays you will often be following way-marked trails (either signed or with frequent symbols). However you should be confident in your navigational and map-reading skills and knowledge and experience of using a compass (and taking one with you) can be helpful. In your final joining instructions we will send you contact details of our local agent (day time and emergency), as well as your first night’s accommodation. Details of your onward accommodation arrangements will be contained within your route notes. Our local agent should be able to provide local advice and assistance if required. You should always carry your mobile/cell phone with you at all times. In the unfortunate event of inclement weather we would advise you contact our local agent to check whether that days particular walk presents any increased difficulty before deciding whether to proceed.

**What you need to provide**  
Your personal equipment as detailed in the clothing and equipment list later in this trip dossier.

**Itinerary**

IMPORTANT-Due to the specialist nature of our holidays, day to day itineraries should be taken as a guide only, and as statements of intent and not contractual obligations. We regularly update our trip dossiers to take into account changes to trekking routes, accommodation, local transport etc. Such changes are a factor of this type of holiday and when made are out of necessity. Other factors such as adverse weather, unforeseen circumstances and other matters entirely out of our control etc can also lead to enforced changes during the course of the holiday. It is not possible to guarantee that any of our holidays will operate exactly as per the anticipated itinerary. The most current trip dossier will be made available on our website. We will also send you the most up to date trip dossier with your “Final Joining Instructions” approx. 2 weeks before departure and you should carefully check this for any changes that may affect your plans. We also recommend you read the “Useful Information” section on our website and in our current brochure.
## Outline Itinerary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Itinerary</th>
<th>Overnight</th>
<th>Accommodation</th>
<th>Meals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Arrive at Madeira Airport and collect your car, 40 mins drive to hotel</td>
<td>Porto da Cuz</td>
<td>Hotel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>40 min drive to trailhead, walk 2 highest peaks in Madeira</td>
<td>Porto da Cuz</td>
<td>Hotel</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>15 min drive to trailhead, walk levadas and Queimadas forest park</td>
<td>Porto da Cuz</td>
<td>Hotel</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Drive to South Coast</td>
<td>Ponta Do Sol</td>
<td>Hotel</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Full day Levada walk</td>
<td>Ponta Do Sol</td>
<td>Hotel</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Full day walk Prazeres - Paul do Mar - Faja da Ovelha</td>
<td>Ponta Do Sol</td>
<td>Hotel</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>40 mins drive to airport for flight home</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*B – breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner.*
Day 1
Arrive Madeira. Meet the local agent at Funchal Airport and who will then assist you with the car hire, give you the route notes, maps and any additional information that you require. You then have a 40-minute drive to your hotel on the north coast of the island in the town of Porto da Cruz. Porto da Cruz has a stunning coastal setting and your hotel in the heart of this former fishing village, has sea views.

Hotel, Porto da Cuz

As you walk you pass various caves dug into the volcanic rock where the cattle and shepherds took refuge in the years past. Further birds that you might come across are the canary, Betherlot’s pipit, the Madeira rock sparrow, chaffinch and firecrest. Up here the high altitude heath is marked by various endemic species, including the Madeira violet, Madeira grey heather, the rock orchid and the Madeira kidney.

After reaching Pico Ruivo with its panoramic views of the island and the sea stretching out in every direction you return back to Pico do Arieiro and descend back to the trailhead.
Walking time approx. 6 hours.
Hotel, Porto da Cuz

Day 2
The suggested walk today is the challenging ascent of the two highest peaks, Pico Ruivo (1861 m) and Pico do Arieiro (1817 m). It is a 40-minute drive to the trailhead at the Pousada of Pico do Arieiro, where you walk to the top, and then traverse over to Pico Ruivo. Shortly you come to the ‘Ninho da Manta belvedere’ where you have outstanding views of the valley of Faja da Nogueira, Sao Roque do Faial and central mountain range. The Faja da Nogueira is a breeding ground for the Manx shearwater, and the Manta belvedere is one of the only known breeding sites in the world of Zino’s petrel, which is endemic to the island and one of the most endangered seabirds of Europe.

Walking time approx. 6 hours.
Hotel, Porto da Cuz

Day 3
Today we suggest you drive for 30-minutes to the trailhead at Queimadas Forestry Park. The walk winds along the levada of Caldeirao Verde (approx 990 m). This levada is an impressive work of art built in the 18th century. It carries water through steep cliffs and down the mountains to the farm lands of Faial. The path takes you into the deep valley of Sao Jorge with spectacular views of the terrain, including several vertiginous sections. You enter into the interior of the island, and also walk through some of the levada tunnels which have all been carved out by hand. In the Queimadas Forestry Park there is a shelter with original features of the typical houses of Santana including a marvellous thatched roof.

Here you will see some excellent specimens of the elegant Japanese cedars, European beech with their dense reddish foliage, Canary Island junipers, Madeira laurel, Pau branco or southern olive, hundred-year old broom heather as well as Madeira blueberry.

The nearby Achada do Marques, a small settlement designated as protected is noted for its traditional farm terraces and old stone cow huts. From here you pass through four tunnels to the Caldeirao Verde, which is a lake, formed by water that falls from the 100m waterfall. You can lunch here or continue to the Caldeirao do Inferno (not suitable to those who have vertigo), before retracing your steps back to the car.
Walking time approx. 5-6 hrs
Hotel, Porto da Cuz
Day 4
Today you journey from the north of the island to the south coast (2hrs drive), and the town of Ponta do Sol. You have opportunities for a picnic lunch and a walk along the way.

The traditional historic village of Ponta do Sol is surrounded by mountains and is tranquil and peaceful. It has magnificent views of the green terraces, vast forest areas, and the crystal blue sea of the bay. The locals are friendly and will welcome you reflecting the traditions of the island. The name ‘Ponta do Sol’ means ‘Sun Point’ which describes this small town well as it is one of the sunniest places on the island. It is only 25-minutes drive from Madeira’s capital town of Funchal, and 40-minutes from the airport. It played an important role in the early economy because of its sugar cane production and natural deep harbour allowing access for people and goods.

Hotel, Ponta do Sol

Day 5
A 30-minute drive takes you to the start of today’s suggested walk. The trail goes along Levada do Risco, 1000m above sea level. You first pass an impressive waterfall before descending to the 25 Spring Lagoon (Lagoa das 25 Fontes), created by the waters coming down from the Mountain March (Paul da Serra) and mysteriously appears behind the lagoon wall. At this height the landscape is dominated by moorland, which includes the Madeiran Whortleberry. The vegetation changes as you descend, and you might see the rare Mountain Mocano and walk through the Madeiran Larusilva forest (a UNSECO Natural Heritage Site). The endemic Trocas Pigeon lives and nests in this area.

Walking time approx. 4 hrs.
Hotel, Ponta do Sol

Day 6
A 15 minute drive up to Prazeres. From here you walk down to Paul do Mar along the original path that the fishermen took to gain access to the seas to. Upon arriving at the small fishing village, you cross to Ribeira das Galinhas, site of one of the best surfing spots in Europe, then climb up the ‘hillside with 24 curves’ takes you to Faja da Ovelha. From here you take the levada that goes directly back to Prazeres.

Walking time approx. 5 hrs
Hotel, Ponta do Sol

Day 7
Depending on your return flight you may have time for a short walk or a swim in the sea before driving the 40-minutes back to the airport to drop the car off and take your flight home.
Practical Information

Passports and Visas
British passport holders (and other EU passport holders) do not require a visa for stays up to three months (please ensure your passport has at least 6 months validity).

Accommodation
Accommodation will be reserved for you on a twin share basis unless you have already requested a single room. The hotels used on this holiday are simple, yet comfortable and serve as a convenient base for your walks. Rooms will be en-suite.

Food
As there is a long established fishing tradition on the island, fish plays an important part of the local daily menus. Tuna, espada (black scabbard fish and cooked with banana), bacalhau (codfish), gaiado (regional fish treated like codfish) and potas (similar to a large squid).

Other specialities include the tomato and onion soup crowned with a poached egg, grilled meats, ‘espetada’ with chunks of beef rubbed in garlic and salt skewered on a stick and grilled, ‘carne vinho e alhos’ with small pieces of pork marinated with garlic and bay leaves, and ‘picado’ small pieces of beef fried in garlic with red peppers and served with chips.

Vegetarians can also be catered for with the large selection of vegetables and fruits produced on the island.

Of course there is also the famous Madeira wine too.

Climate
It is of course impossible to predict the precise weather conditions you will encounter during the course of your holiday. However, we do schedule our holidays to coincide with what should be the most suitable weather periods for walking.

Most people who live here find that Madeira has just about the most perfect climate in the world. It is never too hot (temperatures can get up to around 33 °C when the ‘Leste’ - east wind coming from the Sahara desert - blows for a few days every year) averaging a maximum of 24 °C during the summer months and a minimum of 17 °C. During winter average temperatures drop by approximately 4°C. The island is full of small microclimates. The bay of Funchal, protected by the highest peaks, enjoys the best of sunshine. Further down the west coast at Ponta do Sol and Calheta, backed by the lower hills of the Paúl da Serra, the sun shines brighter during these months, but they are less protected from the sea winds.

The prevailing wind is the North Easterly Trade that gathers off the Portuguese coast and runs down to the Cape Verde Islands. It brings moisture and large sea swells to the north coast, and often, particularly in the morning, adversely affects the weather on the eastern end of the island between Caniço and Caniçal. However in a westerly wind these areas can be surprisingly dry and sunny whereas the south and west coasts are duly soaked.

For climate statistics visit www.worldweather.org
Roughly speaking temperatures decrease by approx. 1°C for every 200 metre increase in altitude.

Local transport
This trip is self-drive and includes the hire of a car, group A. If you wish to upgrade the car please contact the office.
Baggage
Please make sure that your baggage is clearly marked with your name, inside as well as outside, in case the labels get detached. Please note that as from July 1st 2009 we are no longer providing complimentary Walks Worldwide Kitbags.

Responsible Tourism
Acting responsibly in the way that we operate our holidays is very important to us at Walks Worldwide. In recognition of our Responsible Tourism values and practices, we have been awarded 4-star status in AITO’s Responsible Tourism scheme. We would also request that as a client you endeavour to take part in any of our holidays with a positive attitude to Responsible Tourism and travel in a socially responsible manner. Many of our holidays travel to ecologically and culturally sensitive areas, where it is important to minimise any negative impact. We would especially recommend that before you start your chosen holiday you take the time to learn more about the country you are visiting, especially with regard to local culture, religion, customs, taboo’s, acceptable modes of dress etc. Bradt, Lonely Planet and Rough Guide publications are an excellent resource for this and much more too. We are of course always happy to help and advise with regard to the country you are visiting.

Vaccinations and medical precautions
We always recommend visiting your doctor and dentist for a check up before travelling. Your doctor will also have access to the most up to date information on vaccinations and medical precautions for the country you are about to visit. In general, no vaccinations are necessary for Madeira and health problems here are quite rare. Water on the walk is generally safe to drink, but you may like to take iodine tablets to purify your drinking water. Iodine is preferable to chlorine as a water steriliser, and a supply of powdered fruit juice would be a useful luxury to take away the taste of the sterilising medium. A useful travel health online resource is www.fitfortravel.scot.nhs.uk

Please make sure that you obtain form EHIC either online www.dh.gov.uk or from your local post office – you will need to produce this if you have to see a doctor.

First Aid
You should always carry your own small, personal first aid kit. This should consist of the following: A general anti-biotic, throat lozenges, painkillers, plasters (band-aids), blister treatment, insect repellent (DEET), rehydration salts, antiseptic cream, diarrhoea treatment (e.g. Imodium).

Currency
The Madeira currency is the Euro. Please refer to www.xe.com for up to date rates. ATM machines are common in the bigger towns, and you will be able to pay by credit cards in many shops and restaurants. In the smaller villages you should have cash to pay for lunches and drinks.

Language
The main language spoken in Madeira is Portuguese, although many people also speak French and English too. However, not everyone will speak English and we recommend you take a Portuguese phrase book.

Know before you go Walks Worldwide are fully committed to the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office’s “Know before you go” campaign. We thoroughly recommend that all Walks Worldwide clients visit the FCO website www.fco.gov.uk
If you have any questions or concerns about government travel advice to your chosen country please contact the Walks Worldwide office.

Contact details
It is not our policy to provide addresses and telephone numbers of every location that you will be staying at on this tour, as, due to frequent changes in contact details, it is very difficult to provide an accurate list for all our tours. Your Final Joining Instructions, which you will receive 2 weeks prior to departure, will show any local contact details that are required for your tour. However we will endeavour to provide you with further details if you have a specific reason. Mobile phones do work in Madeira although in the areas you are trekking in there maybe no signal. If you have not used your mobile outside the UK before you will
have to contact your operator to enable international calls. Please ensure your phone is set for roaming if you are taking a mobile. Please note that it is expensive to phone both to and out of a mobile when abroad. We do not however encourage mobile phone use whilst walking on any of our trips – out of courtesy to other clients please use you mobile phone discretely. If you do need to get in touch, or if anyone needs to get in touch with you, please contact the Walks Worldwide office (0845 301 4737) during office hours.

On the return you will drop the car off at the airport on day 7 before flying home.

Flight Inclusive Package Options
Walks Worldwide will be delighted to make your International Flight arrangements for this holiday. We have full ATOL bonding and can book flights with most Airlines. Most International flight prices are variable and usually can only be guaranteed at the time of booking. If you would like to upgrade to business or first class, we can also arrange this for you.

Please contact the Walks Worldwide office for an up to date Flight Inclusive Package quote plus flight advice and options for your chosen holiday.

Please note all airline schedules are subject to change.

Land Only
The Land Only price does not include International flights.

With the increasing choice of both scheduled and low cost airlines offering regional departure flights simple to use online booking services, our Land Only walking holidays do not include International travel. Making your own International travel arrangements online is certainly the easiest and most cost effective way to join this trip.

You should book flights that enable you to arrive at Madeira Airport on day 1 of the trip itinerary. Return flights should be booked to depart on day 7.

The following airlines operate services from various UK Airports that may be suitable for you:

- **www.easyjet.com**
  Fly from London Gatwick or Stansted to Madeira, or from Liverpool to Lisbon and onto Madeira.

- **www.flytap.com**
  TAP – Portugal’s national airline, has scheduled flights from Gatwick to Madeira.

Useful online search engines for International air travel are:

- **www.kayak.co.uk** - searches scheduled airlines
- **www.whichbudget.com** - provides useful information on low cost airlines flights.

Maps
We recommend either: The Map Shop, 15 High Street, Upton-on-Severn, Worcs WR8 0HJ (Tel: 01684 593146)  
www.themapshop.co.uk or Stanfords at 12-14 Long Acre, London WC2E 9LP (Tel: 0207 836 1321)  
www.stanfords.co.uk

Joining Arrangements and Transfers
You will be met on arrival at Madeira Airport on day 1 of the trip itinerary by our local agents. They will take you to the car hire desk and assist you through this process. They will then give you all the vouchers, directions, maps and route notes that you require for the holiday. They will discuss with you the walks available and give you contact details if you require further information.
IMPORTANT- MAKE SURE YOUR CHOSEN HOLIDAY IS GUARANTEED TO RUN BEFORE YOU PURCHASE AIR TICKETS AND MAKING ANY OTHER TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.

Please contact the Walks Worldwide office to check the status of your chosen holiday BEFORE purchasing your International Air ticket. You should not book your International flight tickets or make any other travel arrangements until your chosen holiday is guaranteed to run. If you are purchasing your own air ticket, you should be aware that most of the cheaper airline tickets available for sale on the internet or from low cost carriers are non-refundable in the case of cancellation. For this reason we strongly advise you check the rules of the ticket when you make a flight booking, and check the limitations of any cancellation insurance policy you have. We cannot be held liable, for losses incurred relating to any flight bookings or subsequent travel arrangements you have made yourself.

Once your chosen holiday has reached ‘guaranteed’ status we will contact you

Travel Insurance
It is a condition of booking any of our holidays that you have comprehensive travel insurance. It is your responsibility to ensure you are covered for medical and personal accident risks for the part of the world you intend to travel and the activities involved. This cover should include repatriation costs, air ambulance and helicopter rescue. It is also advisable to take out cancellation insurance as all deposits paid are non-refundable.

You may arrange either single-trip or annual multi-trip travel insurance through our preferred specialist insurance brokers Campbell Irvine, for example, underwritten by AXA Insurance (UK) plc. This cover has been specifically designed to cover our type of travel and we strongly recommend that you use it.

To arrange cover or to obtain a quotation please contact Campbell Irvine directly.
·Apply online at www.campbellirvine.com
·Tel: 020 7937 6981
·Email: info@campbellirvine.com

Inclusions and exclusions

Inclusions
☑ All breakfasts
☑ All accommodation
☑ Car hire (Rent-a-Car group A)
☑ Maps and route notes

Exclusions
☒ Drinks
☒ Souvenirs and personal items
☒ Insurance
☒ Meals not indicated above
☒ International Flights
☒ Petrol for car
Clothing and Equipment Lists

At least one set of casual / non-walking clothes will be useful for wearing in hotels on this holiday. Whilst walking you must not worry about how you look: comfort and protection against bad weather are of prime importance. Because mountain weather is so very variable, we recommend a number of thin layers rather than a few thick ones. The following list is our suggested guide to help you with your packing based upon our many years of travelling/walking. Using your own judgment for packing is of course important, especially with regard to casual clothing etc but please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about packing for your holiday, or are uncertain as to the suitability of your clothing and equipment.

CLOTHING

- Walking boots and spare laces
- Trainers/approach shoes
- Sandals
- Socks – 3+ pairs (Walking and Casual)
- Underwear 3+
- T-shirts 3+
- Trekking Pants
- Short trousers 2+
- Light fleece 1-2
- Thick fleece 1-2
- Waterproof jacket with hood
- Waterproof trousers
- Winter/Thermal Gloves
- Sun Hat
- Warm Hat
- Gaiters (optional)
- Swimwear

EQUIPMENT

- Daypack/rucksack (size 25-30 litres)
- 2 Large water bottles (1 litre each)
- Towel – quick drying pack towel is recommended
- Torch (and spare bulb and batteries)
- Camera & accessories
- Binoculars (optional)
- A variety of dry bag/plastic bags (kitbags are not waterproof)
- Sunglasses
- Trekking poles (highly recommended)
- Reading material (optional)
- Washing/Shaving kit
- Insect Repellent
- Small personal First Aid kit (see section above)
- Anti-Bacterial Handwash
- Water purifying tablets (iodine based are best)
- Sun Cream & lip salve
- Blister plasters – i.e. Compeed
- Tickets/E tickets
- Passport
- Money
The following items should also considered as being useful on a walking holiday

- Penknife/small scissors (DO NOT PACK IN HAND LUGGAGE)
- Moisturising cream
- Baby wipes
- Snacks/Energy bars
- Safety pins (DO NOT PACK IN HAND LUGGAGE)
- Padlock for your kitbag
- Small sewing/repair kit (DO NOT PACK IN HAND LUGGAGE)
- Small mirror
- Nail clippers (DO NOT PACK IN HAND LUGGAGE)
- Spare glasses/contact lenses
- Earplugs (against snorers)
- Cold water Travel Wash (preferably biodegradable)
- Travel adaptor
**What to do next**  We hope that you found this trip dossier helpful and informative. If you would like further information, our friendly team would be delighted to help and advise with any questions you may have. As an independent walking specialist company staffed by widely-travelled walking enthusiasts, we pride ourselves on being able to provide an informal personal service to our clients, of whom travel with us on a regular basis.

**How to book this trip**  To check availability for specific dates and to receive a flight quote please contact us, also if you are looking at a group trip please check the trip status with us before you book.

The easiest way to book your holiday is via our website: [www.walksworldwide.com](http://www.walksworldwide.com) or to go directly to the online booking form please [CLICK HERE](http://www.walksworldwide.com).

There is also a booking form on the website and in the brochure which you can complete and post to us. Alternatively you can telephone (0845 301 4737) us and we can accept your booking over the telephone.

**Deposit**  We require a deposit of either £100 per person or 10% of the total cost of the holiday (whichever is greater), including extensions, single supplement and flights if we have quoted these separately to you. Certain non-refundable, instant purchase flights will require full payment – we will advise you this at time of enquiry. Your deposit can be paid by cheque, debit or credit card.

---

**YOUR FINANCIAL PROTECTION**

We are an ATOL bonded tour operator authorised by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). Every holiday we sell that includes a flight element is protected under our ATOL licence number 10186. In the unlikely event of our insolvency, the CAA will ensure that you are not stranded abroad and will arrange to refund any money you have paid to us for an advanced booking.

We protect all UK customers who purchase tours that do not include flights from the UK through the AITO-arranged AITO Trust Ltd (AITOT). AITOT work closely with the CAA - they share much of their information. Their financial requirements are as rigorous as those of the CAA.

IATA is the Trade Association of the world’s international airline industry. To become an Accredited IATA Agent we have to demonstrate financial soundness, and proficiency of staff.

We are a member of the Association of Independent Tour Operators. AITO represents Britain’s leading independent tour operators and encourages high standards of quality and service. We abide by the Association’s Code of Conduct and adhere to the AITO Quality Charter which can be viewed at [www.aito.co.uk](http://www.aito.co.uk).

---

**RESPONSIBLE TOURISM**

Climate Care is the organisation through whom we offer people the opportunity to offset their carbon emissions. We were one of the first travel companies in the UK to provide this facility.

In recognition of our Responsible Tourism values, we have been awarded 4-star status in [AITO’S Responsible Tourism Scheme](http://www.aito.co.uk).

---

**LOYALTY SCHEME**

**Up to £100 off**

If you’ve already experienced the magic of one of our holidays, you automatically qualify for a discount on holidays offered by the other specialist travel brands in our group. See our website or brochure for details.