
SWIM CAMP
MADEIRA
SWIM
TOGETHER
UNFORGETTABLE SWIMS



TRIP DESCRIPTION

Since 2021, we have been crafting bucket-list open water swimming experiences in Madeira Island, taking swimmers beyond the typical tourist paths.

This holiday has been meticulously designed to reveal the island's breathtaking wild beauty from the best perspective possible: the ocean.

Over 7 unforgettable days, you will swim through dynamic, ever-changing landscapes. From crystal-clear turquoise waters and dramatic volcanic caves to hidden archways along the rugged Desertas Islands.

Blessed with a subtropical climate and warm, comfortable ocean temperatures (21°C - 25°C / 70°F - 77°F), Madeira offers ideal open water conditions year-round.

Guided by our experienced local team, you'll explore protected natural sanctuaries including the Garajau Partial Nature Reserve, Ponta de São Lourenço, and the uninhabited Desertas Islands.

These pristine marine protected areas are home to vibrant marine life, where you may share the water with playful dolphins, whales, sea turtles, and even the rare Mediterranean monk seal.

Based right in the heart of the Garajau Nature Reserve, our base location offers direct access to calm, sheltered bays perfect for iconic coastal swims.

Away from the crowds, this is your invitation to immerse yourself in one of Portugal's most extraordinary arine ecosystems.

Are you ready to dive into this dream adventure with us?



ITINERARY

DAY 1 | WELCOME & ACCLIMATIZATION SWIM

We will meet you at Madeira Airport (Funchal - FNC), where your transfer will be waiting to greet you. From here, enjoy a short scenic drive along the coast to our hotel in Caniço de Baixo for check-in. Once settled, we'll gather for a relaxed welcome lunch with your fellow swimmers, followed by an introductory briefing to go over the safety protocols and the exciting week ahead. In the afternoon, we will head straight down via the hotel's direct sea access for our acclimatization swim at the edge of the Garajau Partial Nature Reserve. It's the perfect spot to enjoy your first strokes in the calm, clear ocean of this protected marine sanctuary.







DAY 2 | THE WILD EAST – PONTA DE SÃO LOURENÇO

Our expedition truly begins as we journey to the dramatic peninsula of Ponta de São Lourenço, a protected natural reserve at the easternmost tip of the island. Surrounded by towering volcanic cliffs that plunge directly into the deep blue Atlantic, you will experience one of Madeira's most iconic landscapes from the ultimate perspective: the water. In the morning, our first swim takes us along the sheltered coastal waters of Baía d'Abra. We will swim past the impressive Pigeon's Cave and navigate around the steep, isolated rock formation of Morro do Furado, marveling at millions of years of volcanic history carved by the ocean. Afterwards, we head to the North Coast for a scenic lunch at Quinta do Furão, perched on high cliffs above the sea. We will wrap up the day with a brief visit to the traditional thatched houses of Santana before returning to the hotel.



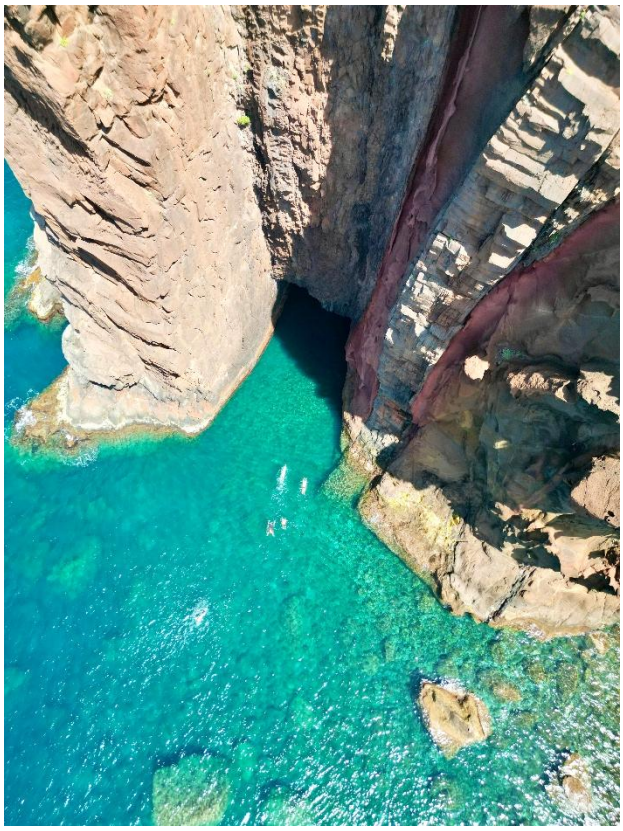




DAY 3 | THE SECRET REALM OF THE MONK SEAL

Today is one of the ultimate highlights of our week. We board our motorboat at Quinta do Lorde Marina toward the Desertas Islands Nature Reserve, an uninhabited archipelago accessible only with a special permit. As we approach Deserta Grande, you will become one of the few swimmers to experience these untouched waters. This pristine sanctuary is home to the endangered Mediterranean monk seal, offering a rare privilege to swim in their natural habitat. Our swim takes us beneath towering volcanic cliffs and past dramatic sea arches, taking in the raw beauty of the coast. Then, we anchor by the warden station for a traditional lunch on board, followed by a short guided walk on the island. After lunch, you can relax and take a refreshing dip in the bay as we prepare for the journey back to Madeira, often escorted by dolphins and whales along the way.







DAY 4 | HIDDEN SOUTH COAST – CALHAU DA LAPA TO FAJÃ DOS PADRES

We explore the secret south coast of Madeira, connecting the iconic Calhau da Lapa to the breathtaking cliffs of Fajã dos Padres, right beneath Cabo Girão. Sheltered from the northern winds, this protected coastline typically boasts warmer, calmer waters, making for an exceptionally pleasant swim. As you glide through this tranquil paradise, keep an eye out for local marine life: stingrays are often seen resting on the sandy ocean floor, and a sea turtle might just drift peacefully past you into the deep. Following our swim, we'll enjoy a delicious local lunch by the sea, leaving the afternoon free for you to relax, explore at your own pace, and recharge for the days ahead.



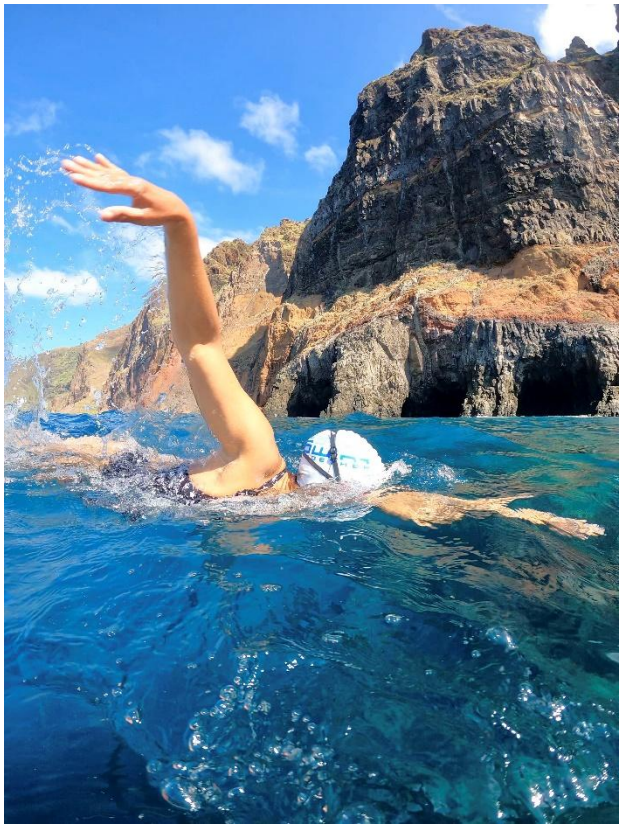




DAY 5 | THE WESTERN HORIZON – PONTA DO PARGO

We travel to the island's westernmost tip for a breathtaking swim inside the protected marine area of Ponta do Pargo, one of Madeira's most stunning and pristine coastal stretches. Boarding our boat, we navigate beneath the cliffs to admire the entire western coastline. Perched high on a dramatic cliff 300 meters above the sea stands the iconic Ponta do Pargo Lighthouse, a century-old beacon built in 1922 to guide ships along these rugged waters. Right beneath this historic landmark, we jump into the ocean to start our swim toward Fajã da Ovelha, experiencing an unforgettable journey in pure communion with nature. Later, we head to Calheta Marina for a regional lunch, followed by an afternoon visit to Cabo Girão to take in the views from its famous glass skywalk.

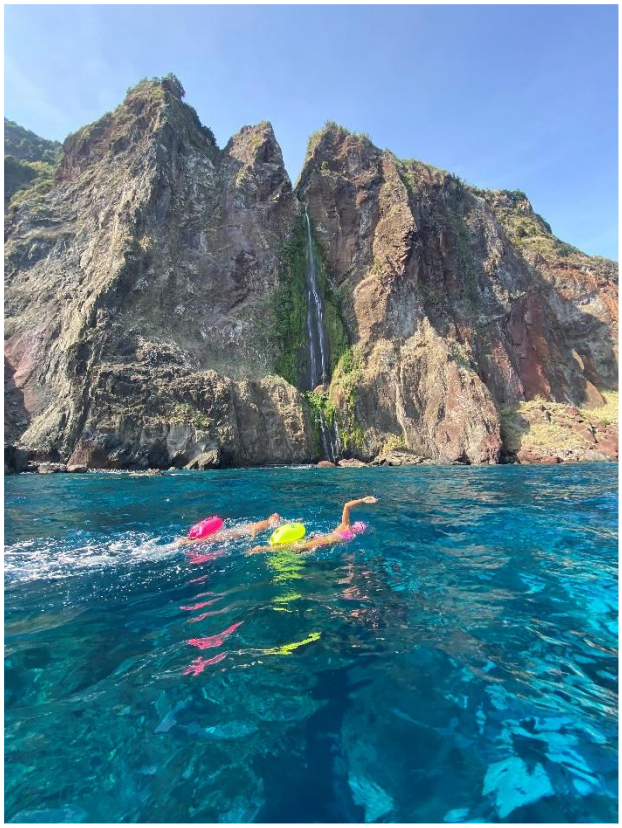


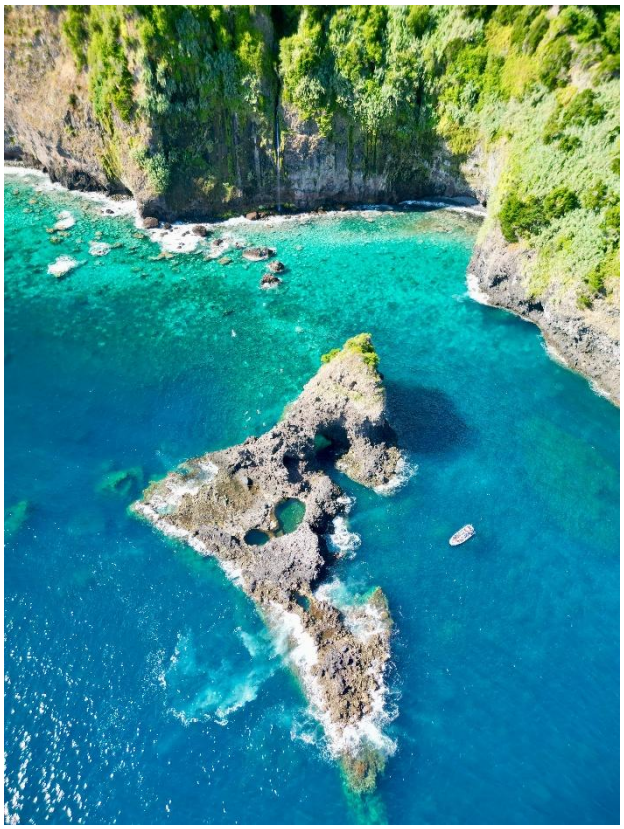




DAY 6 | THE WILD NORTH & ITS CASCADING WATERFALLS

On our final day of adventure, we explore the wild, rugged North Coast of Madeira: a dramatic contrast of lush green mountains, towering cliffs, and endless freshwater cascades. We set out by boat from Porto Moniz, passing the iconic volcanic sea stacks of Ilhéu da Ribeira da Janela on our way to the famous black sand beach of Seixal. Starting from the beach, we swim beneath mountain slopes covered in indigenous forest, with impressive waterfalls plunging into the ocean, including the emblematic Véu da Noiva (Bride's Veil) cascade right before our eyes. Following this spectacular swim, we return to Seixal for a grilled local lunch, giving you the perfect opportunity to taste some of the finest fresh tuna in the region. We then spend the afternoon relaxing and swimming in the famous volcanic natural pools.

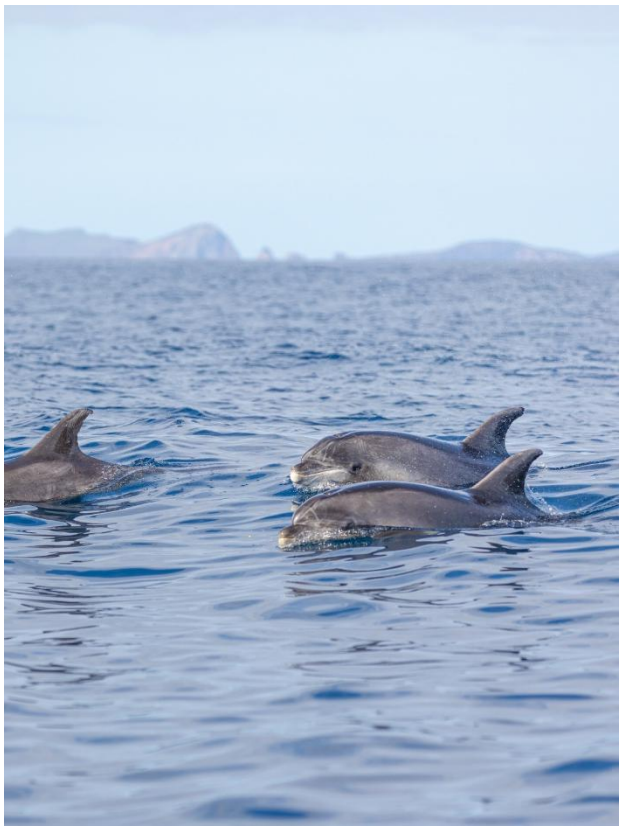






DAY 7 | GOODBYE MADEIRA: FAREWELL & DEPARTURE

As our incredible week comes to an end, we bid a fond farewell to everyone taking their flights back home. A transfer service will depart from the hotel to the airport, fully scheduled according to your individual departure times to ensure a smooth and seamless journey. Thank you for sharing this unforgettable swim adventure across Madeira with us. Safe travels home, and we hope to see you in the water again soon!







WHAT IS INCLUDED?

- **Safety:**
  - Personal Accidents Insurance
  - Accompanied by experienced swim guides
  - Open water sessions are accompanied by one boat and one kayak
- **Food:**
  - Breakfasts
  - Lunches[1]
  - Water, tea, dry fruits, bananas and honey cake during swimming moments
- **Accommodation**:
  - 6 nights at Hotel Royal Orchid[2]
  - Twin rooms for all customers with standard view. Upgrade to single and/or sea view (extra cost)
- **Transfers:**
  - During all trip in a 9-seater van or similar
- **Others**:
  - Photos

[1] Only waters included. Other drinks with extra cost. **NOTE**: Vegetarian option included.
[2] The accommodation is subject to availability and may change to a similar alternative.



WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

- Equipment
- Flights
- Personal extras, gratuities for local guides
- Anything not mention in the up section
- Evening meals[3]
- Personal travel insurance
- Eco Tourist Tax at accommodation (2€ per person per night)
- Extra Activities

EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST

In addition to your daily non-swimming clothes, we also recommend that you bring the following items:

✓	ITEM	✓	ITEM
☐	Swimming Costume (x2)	☐	Towel
☐	Swimming Goggles (x2)*	☐	Small Daypack / Dry bag
☐	Wetsuit (Optional)	☐	Poncho / Dry Robe
☐	Swim Buoy	☐	Warm Clothes and Waterproof Jacket
☐	Sun Hat and Sunglasses	☐	Walking Shoes / Sandals
☐	High Factor, Water Resistant Sun Cream	☐	Anti-chafing cream or neck protector
☐	Fins and Paddles (Optional)	☐	Aqua Shoes

* Try to bring one clear lens and one tinted lens for different light conditions.

Equipment Rental: Wetsuits and swimming gear can be rented at the meeting point. Please request your equipment at least 2 weeks prior to the start of the trip.

[3] Special conditions with the hotel. **NOTE**: Vegetarian option included.



ACCOMMODATION

Located in Caniço de Baixo, on the island of Madeira, Hotel Royal Orchid is a 4-star oceanfront hotel offering a breathtaking setting with panoramic views over the Atlantic Ocean and the dramatic cliffs of Garajau Nature Reserve. Perched on a clifftop with direct access to the sea, the hotel provides the perfect balance of relaxation, convenience, and comfort after an inspiring day on or in the water. Whether relaxing by the oceanfront pool, enjoying the heated indoor pool and spa, or unwinding on a quiet evening overlooking the waves, Hotel Royal Orchid serves as an exceptional base for an unforgettable Madeiran experience.





SWIMMING DISTANCE

This swimming holiday takes place in Madeira Island and is approximately 16-19km (average of 3.5km / day). Please note that the below daily itineraries are an example of the swims that may take place during the course of your trip, however, actual swim locations and distances will vary according to local weather and sea conditions. Your SwimTogether guides and local boat pilot will determine the most suitable swim locations each day and will communicate the plan with all guests as soon as possible.

SEA CONDITIONS

Swimming in the sea is a unique experience, however, you should be aware of marine life such as jellyfish, sea urchins and seaweed. In addition, the sea and weather conditions may make the swimming more challenging.

WATER TEMPERATURE

The average temperature during this time of the year is between 21°C - 25°C / 70°F - 77°F, reason why the use of wetsuit is optional.



WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

The experience of outdoor swimming can be challenging, but extremely out of the ordinary. Having a natural self confidence to swim in open waters is an asset. The minimum required swimming speed that you can achieve is 30min/km, and the minimum required swim distance you can do nonstop is 2km. This swim camp can be accompanied by adult family members or friends who travel with you and are not participating in the swimming.

GROUP SIZE

This swimming holiday has a maximum of 10 participants. According to the speed of the swimmers we can make 2 groups. Each group is escorted by a safety team.

SAFETY

The whole trip will be accompanied by 2 experienced guides who will stay with you in the water and at your hotel. Whenever you need you can ask them for information and assistance. All open water swimming sessions that are not performed in Lido will be accompanied by a boat and one kayak. During the open water swims you can get out of the water or ask for something to eat or drink.



MEETING POINT

Location: Madeira International Airport Cristiano Ronaldo (FNC), Madeira Island.

Pick Up Time: at any time on Day 1.

Drop Off Time: at any time on Day 7.

We will meet you at Madeira International Airport Cristiano Ronaldo, Madeira Island, where your airport transfer will be waiting to greet you. From here, enjoy a short 15-minute ride to the hotel for check-in.

