When walking through dense coastal woods, junipers and patches of Laurel forest, you should not be surprised if you find along the way waterfalls where you can cool yourself or typical houses, some of which have been converted to rural tourism units. On trails along the coast, you can admire the jagged slopes with rock formations that sometimes form natural pools, where at the end of a long walk, a bath to refresh and regain strength feels great.

There are many different types of trails that are well-suited to different ages and physical conditions, with varying degrees of difficulty and length. The Nature that the Azores offer those who visit them showcases unique and varied landscapes, which can be reached through about 60 approved and marked walking trails spread across the different islands, comprising a network of about 500 km of trails. In addition to the landscapes that are a feast for the eyes of any ordinary lover of nature, many trails feature great biological, geological and even historical and ethnographic interest, which can be interpreted by experts from tourism companies that operate on the islands.

For more information, please visit trilhos.visitazores.com.
geoTouriSM
azores geopark - 9 islands, 1 geopark
enhancement, particularly in the context of Geotourism.

The Azores Geopark is a perfect example of the enhancement of Geoparks in 2013 recognised the quality of the 121 geosites of the archipelago. The aromas and experiences connected to the volcanic nature, which turns the archipelago into a paradise for geology enthusiasts. Several activities let you explore and enjoy the archipelago's volcanic landscapes and geosites, particularly biking, walking, visits to volcanic caves, canyoning, paragliding, bathing in spas, diving in shallow hydrothermal areas, and climbing Mount Pico.

The Azores Wood Pigeon (Columba palumbus azorensis), and the Greater Gifted Pigeon (Columba oenas azorensis) are also present in the area. The geoparks have dedicated information on the 7 Natural Wonders of Portugal.

Bird Watching

The Azores are known to be an excellent destination for bird lovers. There are birds on all the islands and all kinds, habitats and landscapes, from the mountains and peaks of the Azores to the coastal islands, where you will find varied, varied and coastal habitats that function as a diverse network of vital nodes, with and even protected areas with and easy access to them.

In addition to the Azores Bullfinch (Pyrrhula pyrrhula), one of the rarest birds in Europe that is endemic to a small area of the island of São Miguel, the Montañoza Parrot (Monachus monachus) is on the list of the World Conservation Union. There are also many more species of interest, such as the Atlantic Canary (Serinus canaria), and several others, such as the Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax), the São Miguel Gold Pheasant (Lophura guttata), and the Montañoza Parrot (Monachus monachus).

At the beginning of the road of the Cova do Pico up to the summit), and a vertical drop of 1,100 metres, and its presence imposes itself in the Atlantic Ocean: whether you have never ridden a horse, or are already an experienced rider, the Azores offer “horseback riding” tours that are available all year round and are accessible even to those who have never ridden a horse.

The Furnas Golf Course is located in one of the most beautiful areas of the island of São Miguel, only 10 minutes from Ponta Delgada, and stands out for being a championship course that hosts major national and international competitions and the World Championships of the Tour of the Atlantic. This centre was designed by Gary Player and 27 holes, with 14th greens, wide fairways and strategically placed bunkers with black sand.

The Azores have three magnificent golfer courses: Batalha, Furnas, and Terceira Island Golf Club. The Furnas Golf Course is a unique course with natural, without any buildings along the way of well laid out fairways.

GOLF

In the Azores, bird-watching is more than just observing birds. It is a complex and virtuous exercise that has been present in the archipelago for a long time. The Azores have been the property inventors from the beginning of the 18th century. With such, and being a home to a bird that only the affluent could enjoy, bird-watching for them, a symbol of wealth, status, and nobility.

With the passage of time, the social classes faded and, from generation to generation, horses have become part of daily life of Azoreans, both helping in rural tasks and as a companion during leisure time. Currently classified as a Nature Reserve, it is one of the oldest protected areas in the Western Palearctic. The best season for bird watching in the Azores runs from September to November.

In 2013, the Azores were the 7th Natural Wonders of the World.

The Furnas Golf Course is located in one of the most beautiful areas of the island of São Miguel, in the area of Furnas, in the middle of an imposing volcanic landscape with lush subtropical vegetation. Without any buildings along the way of well laid out fairways. This centre offers information on the geology, botany and zoology, also legal and the National Forest of the Furnas.

Furnas Golf Course is simply spectacular. In 2013, the North American Golf Digest, the most important golf publication in the world, evaluated the Furnas Golf Course to be one of the most beautiful in the world, with a top 10 in the world of golf courses.

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