

# Azores Archipelago Portugal



#### Santa Maria Island

## Vila do Porto marina, 36° 56′.7N 25° 08′.9W

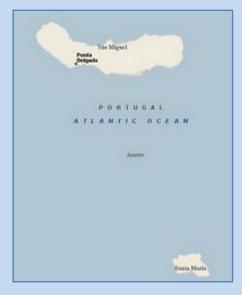
The marina is situated in the commercial harbour, well protected by the inner breakwaters. There are floating pontoons, all with finger pontoons, electricity and water for every berth. Showers ( $\[ \in \]$ 1,5) and toilets. Washing machine and drier available  $\pm \[ \in \]$ 5,= a load. Free Wi-Fi, perfect reception at the boat. The staff is very helpful and friendly. Rates (2010 and 2011) up to 15 m is  $\[ \in \]$ 17,=/n. The town is a steep walk up the hill behind the marina. It's a nice town, several supermarkets, fresh product market

(veggie/fruit/meat/fish). In the summer holidays (schools) there is no bus connection to other villages at the island. Car rental can be arranged by the marina office or as we did, rented the car from the German big yellow catamaran in the marina. It's not a new one (21 years old) but it brought us all over the island for €25,=/day. Fishing boats are coming and going from the quay opposite the marina, but not bothersome. Ice is obtainable from the ice factory at the fisherman's quay. We were told they even sell fresh fish to you, like tuna! The ferry to other Azores Islands comes twice a week in the outer harbour. (Info 2011)

## São Miguel Island, S-coast

## Ponta Delgada marina, 37° 44'2N 25° 40'W

Ponta Delgada's new marina lies W of the old one and has less shelter from the (always) incoming swell or passing fishing ships, pilot launches, jet skis and so on. It has floating pontoons all with



finger pontoons, electricity and water near every berth. There is only one entrance gate, which operates by an electronic key card, to all pontoons. Cold showers and toilets are for free. If you like a warm shower they will charge you for it, it goes automatically using the key card. Laundry facilities and book swab. Chandler in the corner of the old marina, very good stock but rather expensive. (We paid €33,= for a refill of a 10kg gas bottle which was in Angra €12,=). There is a very good supermarket opposite the marina and a fresh fruit/veggie market nearby. Nice town with lots of shops, bars and restaurants. To rent a car is easy because a man comes to the boat to make an offer in prize and good cars. It turned out to be the cheapest of the many companies around. Free parking as you use the marina electronic key card, at the marina parking place. There are so many things to see on the island you have to spend a few days playing the tourist. We had the best and splendid views of both sides of the island near Lagoa de Fogo. (Info 2011)

## Terceira Island

## Praia da Vittória marina, 38° 43′.5N 27° 03′.5W

The marina is situated in the northern part of a hugh bay protected by 2 large breakwaters. The entrance to the marina is opposite the sandy beach in-between the yellow swimming boys and the breakwater. The shallow swimming area makes the entrance to the marina very narrow. Take care especially around low water spring when the depth in the entrance is between 2.5 and 3m. We moored (after contact with the marina staff by VHF channel 9) along the outside of the outer floating pontoon, which is the waiting pontoon. Due to our length of 14m we were allowed to stay at the visitor's pontoon for 3 weeks. Water and electric (incl) at every berth, other facilities are toilets, showers ( $\leq$ 1,70), washing machines and driers (wash and dry  $\leq$ 4) and free Wi-Fi. Staff is very friendly. Rates (2011) up to 15m was  $\leq$ 6,= a day. Praia marina is the cheapest place to haul out (travel lift) and hard standing for winter. A year contract for 14m is  $\leq$ 600,=. No diesel available in the marina, so you have

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to walk 20 minutes to the fuel station. A chandler is difficult to find at Terceira. The only shop is far outside Praia (near Angra). The man who runs the shop is **Pedro Pareira** (does as well the legs/supports for the hard standing in Praia as in Angra) he is very helpful and will always try to find a solution to your question or problem. His mobile phone number is: **912 355 308** The town is very nice and in walking distance of the marina. The unique thing of this place is the sandy beach one of the few in the Azores Islands. There are many restaurants, shops, a fresh produce market (bread, veggies, meat & fish). The large supermarket Continente is a 20 minutes' walk to the other end of town. Several busses tour the island and the bus stop for all busses is in front of Continente supermarket. (Info 2011)

#### Praia da Vittória anchorage

One of the most protected spots is just outside the marina breakwater. The depth is between 3-5m and holding in sand is perfect. Another is just off the beach but leave enough space for the pilot boat that comes and goes from the marina. In southerlies it is more sheltered in the direction of the commercial harbor but we have not seen boats at anchor over there, maybe due to the low marina fees? You can leave your dinghy inside the marina at the floating pontoon near the travel lift. We assume you can even use the facilities of the marine (for e small fee) whilst at anchor. (Info 2011)

#### Angra do Heroísmo marina, 38° 39'N 27° 13'W

Marina Angra do Heroísmo is situated at the eastside of Monte Brazil and protected by high land all around but the southeast. The large breakwaters protect the marina but some swell will enter in SEwinds. After you pass the marina entrance, moor at the long visitor's pontoon in front of the office building. There you have to arrange a berth. All berths have fingers, electricity and water. In the

service building are, toilets, showers and even a Jacuzzi bath (you have to pay for both) as well as washing-, drying machines (€4,= load) and an ironing board. In this building are also computers/laptops, using is for free as well as the book swab. At the moment there is free Wi-Fi (good signal at all



berths) but we think in due time you will have to pay for it. Rates for our 14m Zeezwaluw was  $\pm$  €15,=/n ex tax. The chandler is difficult to find at Terceira. The only shop is far outside Praia (near Angra). The man who runs the shop is **Pedro Pareira** (does as well the legs for the hard standing in Praia as in Angra) he is very helpful and will always try to find a solution to your question or problem. His mobile phone number is: **912 355 308**. Hauling out is excellent, the hard standing is guarded 24/7 so very safe. We were on the hard for about 3 weeks. Living on board and working at the boat yourself, is allowed. Water and electricity near the boat. There are toilets in the security office but no showers; you have to use the ones in the marina (20 minute walk). There are many things to explore in the city of Angra, a UNESCO World Heritage site (1983) and well worth a visit. The narrow streets and alleys running somehow always uphill which is a good exercise after a long sail! Many supermarkets in the centre but Continente at the other end of town is a long steep walk uphill!), fresh produce market, restaurants and all kinds of other shops. Bus stop is near the marina to tour the island. Many excursions are possible, even whale and dolphin watching. In between the marina and Monte Brazil is a nice little beach with guarded swimming area. (Info 2011)

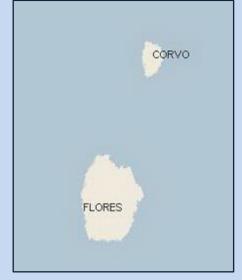
#### Faial Island, E-coast

## Horta marina, 38° 32′N 28° 37′5W

Horta marina lays just north of Monte de Guia and south of Pta de baia do Cavalo, and sheltered by 2 large breakwaters. The North one mentioned in the pilot as "under construction" is finished, therefore the shelter has improved a lot. At your arrival moor alongside the quay at the white marina building. After the paperwork is done you are allowed to go to the allocated berth. The arrival quay is not a good spot due to passing ferries all day long while easterlies make it especially bumpy. The pontoons at the south side are mostly taken by local boats but a few berths are available as at the inside of the arrival quay. The pontoons at the north are very sheltered and when available the best ones. The wall at the inside of the breakwater is OK too. Water and electricity available at all berths. Shower block with laundry service at the far end of the north side, only open during office hours (you pay a fee per shower). No gates. Free Wi-Fi, fast and strong signal at all berths. The great famous paintings of fellow sailors are all over the place and it takes a while to see them all! Find a free spot (or a faded painting) to leave your own artwork behind for it means bad luck if you don't! As the paintings are World famous, so is Peter' Café Sport, just to the left of the main entrance of the marina. You have to go there for a drink or a bite; we can recommend the sea-food without a doubt!

Sitting inside the café, sipping at your drink while looking around at all the courtesy flags (maybe you recognize one or two from friends) and other old historic items of the island' whaling history, time will pass quickly! The town in itself is nice, with many little shops, a tiny produce market with a few stalls

with fresh fruit and veggies, a few supermarkets of which Continente the largest. A very good chandler M.A.Y.S. near the marina is able to attack most of your problems and will arrange the work that has to be done. Delivers good work but is not cheap. The old Whaling factory just a 10 minutes' walk away from the marina has been turned into a museum and worthwhile to see, as is the walk back along the beach of Porto Pim. We went by bus (goes only once a day) for a 2-hour tour around the island Faial. It was a great journey! A ferry goes to next-door **Island Pico** many times a day. The Tourist Office opposite the main entrance of Horta marina, provides you with timetables of ferries and busses of both Faial and Pico. We went by ferry and left Zeezwaluw in Horta. (Info 2011)



The most westerly Islands Corvo and Flores we did not visit yet.

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