## Azores, And Terceira



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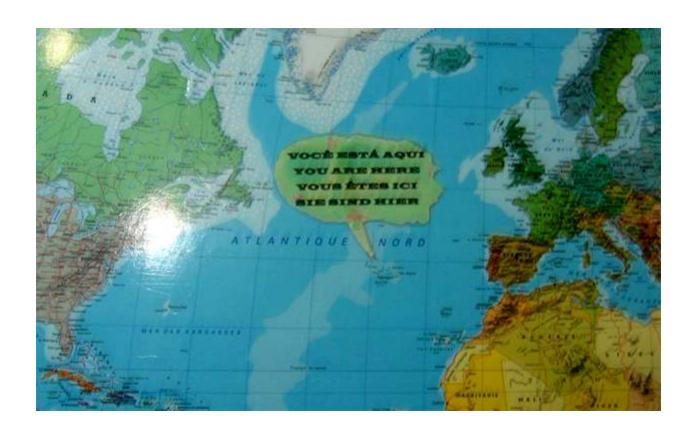
## **Tour Summary**

Nine little gems in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, the volcanic Azores Islands are a quick four-hour plane ride from the U.S. East Coast, so you can essentially be in Europe in less time than it takes to go from coast to coast. The Azores are Portuguese, with their own colorful maritime history, indigenous cuisine and wines, plenty of outdoor activities for travelers, and warm and friendly people. Terceira Island, third largest of the Azores, has a UNESCO World Heritage city, golf, paragliding, whale-watching, caves, and some unique and exciting customs that involve bulls and umbrellas.

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## **Terceira Island**





Europe is just four hours by airplane from the Northeastern coast of the United States, if you're heading to the Azorean Islands.



Nine volcanic islands that make up the only land between North America and the mainland of Europe, each of the Azores has its own distinct characteristic and personality, although all are part of Portugal.



Santa Maria has the most beautiful beaches, San Miguel its volcanic lakes and the best shopping, Graciosa has the most vineyards,



St. George has its great hard cheeses, Pico its black houses made of lava, Faial the most colorful marina in the world, Flores its flowers and unspoiled nature,



Corvo has its peaceful farms and warm people. All of the Azores have been called "authentic, unspoiled, and likely to remain so",



by the National Geographic Center for Sustainable Destinations,



which named them the world's second most appealing islands destination.



You should spend most of your travel time in the Azores, though,



on the island of Terceira, the third largest of the islands at about 153 square miles,



and with the oldest, largest, and most important city and harbor.

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