

**VAT** Most stores participate in the Value Added Tax program in which Non-European citizens may be entitled to reclaim a portion or all of the taxes paid (depending on the total purchase price). It is your responsibility to inquire as to whether or not the store participates in VAT refund program if the purchase qualifies for a refund.

**Global BLUE** Shop where you see this Global Blue - Tax Free Shopping sign and ask for your tax refund receipt. To qualify, there are minimum amounts, per store, per day, so please ask the retailer for details. Show your purchases and Global Blue receipts to Customs officials when leaving the EU. Have your Global checks stamped and collect your cash at the Global Blue cash refund office.



**Look for this sign or flag in all of our preferred shops.**  
**Beware of "similar" signs at store fronts.**  
**If the store is not mentioned on this map, then the store is not part of our program!**

**PORT EXPLORER & SHOPPING MAP GUARANTEE** Shop with confidence as all the merchants on our Preferred Shopping Program have been carefully selected and that each offers a 60 day guarantee to our cruise line guests. This guarantee is for repairs and exchanges. Please note the following conditions apply to the guarantee: Guest negligence or buyer's regret is excluded. Price paid for merchandise or verbal claims/agreements between merchant and guests will not be grounds for returns. Only jewelry appraisals from gem laboratories or independent graduate gemologist appraisers not affiliated with jewelry retailer, or rug appraisals from certified non-commercial carpet experts will be considered for valuation claims. Watches and other brand merchandise may not be returned as they carry International brand warranties. Guests are responsible for all postage returns and appraisal fees.

Please contact us at [Europeshopping@rccl.com](mailto:Europeshopping@rccl.com) if any queries arise after your purchase from our preferred shops on shore. We will do our best to facilitate a solution on your behalf.



# Madeira (Funchal), Portugal

## PORT EXPLORER and SHOPPING GUIDE

**GENERAL INFORMATION** Funchal is the capital of the Portuguese island of Madeira which is situated some 350 miles from North Africa, amidst the warm waters of the Gulf Stream. The Island is lush and mountainous with a mild, sunny climate, conducive to the growth of the many varieties of exotic plants and trees to be seen blossoming in every direction. The clear seas surrounding the Island provide a natural recreational facility as well as a good fishing source.

The Island was first settled by the Portuguese, although seafarers and soldiers of many origins have created a people of mixed descent. The culture and language remains proudly Portuguese and the people are both friendly and very polite.

The economy is based on a number of exports, including; bananas, potatoes, onions and orchids, with tourism being a major contributor. Madeira is famous for its wine, aptly named Madeira Wine, which has been widely exported since the 17th century. Other local specialties are wickerwork and embroideries.

**SHORE EXCURSIONS** To make the most of your visit to Funchal and the island of Madeira we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour content and pricing consult your Shore Excursion Brochure or contact the Shore Excursion Desk. Please be advised to take only necessary items ashore and secure any valuables onboard.

**LOCAL CUSTOMS** Bargaining: Some shops may be prepared to bargain.

Tipping: There is no general guide here, tipping is up to the individual.

**LOCAL CUISINE AND DRINK SPECIALTIES** Try the Espada, a tasty local specialty, this fish lives at depths below 3,000 ft and is only caught in this area and in the Eastern Atlantic, from the Denmark Strait, Iceland and Norway and the west coast of North Africa. A Traditional meat dish is "Espetada", small portions of beef cooked over an open fire and served on a large skewer – usually on a spit of laurel. Fruit is abundant in Madeira, including guavas, pawpaws and passion fruit. Bolo de Mel is a rich honey cake popular with the locals.

Madeira Wine is the specialty and samples may be tasted at the local Wine Lodges. Also, there is Aguardente, a locally distilled rum and Maracujá, a fizzy drink made from passion fruit. Bottled water is recommended.

**LOCAL CURRENCY** The unit of currency in this port of call is the euro. There are 8 euro coins denominated in 2 and 1 euros, along with 50, 20, 10, 5, 2, and 1 cent pieces. Every euro coin carries a common European face. On the obverse, each Member State decorates the coins with their own motifs. No matter which motif is on the coins they can be used anywhere inside the Member States. There are 7 euro notes in different colors and sizes, they are denominated in 500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10, and 5 euros. The notes are uniform throughout the euro area; unlike coins, they have no national side. All euro notes are legal tender in all countries of the euro area.

**POST OFFICE** The main Post Office is located on Avenida Zarco.

**TOURIST INFORMATION** The Tourist Information Office is located on Avenida Arriaga (1).

**TRANSPORTATION** Taxis are available on the Pier. For local trips they operate by meter, for greater distances it is important to negotiate a fare prior to departing. Some taxi drivers may accept U.S. Dollars.

### USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

- Yes • Sim
- No • Nao
- Good Day • Bom dia
- Good Afternoon • Boa tarde
- Thank You • Obrigado
- You're Welcome • De nada



