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# The Azores

Ponta Delgada to Lisbon aboard *Sea Cloud II*

April 16-26, 2015

CRITERION  
travel



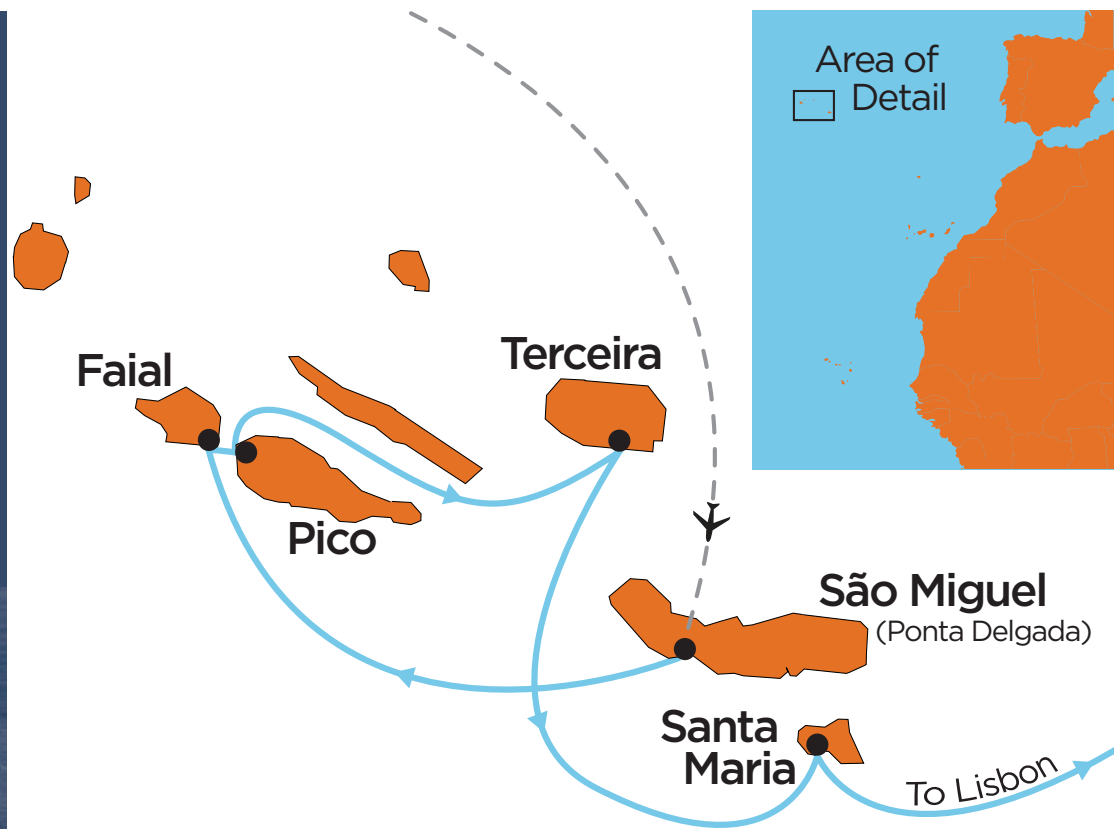


# Floating in the Atlantic Ocean

nearly a thousand miles from the mainland, the lush green Azores Islands are dotted with picturesque villages, pristine beaches, and volcanic craters. Explore these beautiful islands, once a favorite target of pirates and now a peaceful autonomous region of Portugal, aboard the elegant *Sea Cloud II*, one of the most luxurious vessels afloat.

Each island visited has its own special character: São Miguel's geothermal hot springs, steaming geysers, and crater lakes; the spectacular blue hydrangeas on Faial; Pico's whale-hunting turned whale-conservation history; the wine-making tradition of Terceira; and lovely Santa Maria, prized for its beautiful beaches.

In the grand tradition of ocean crossings aboard the finest sailing vessels, guests aboard *Sea Cloud II* will enjoy the amenities of a five-star cruise, the atmosphere of a romantic tall ship, and the thrill of sailing beneath 30,000 square feet of billowing hand-set sails. En route to Lisbon, enjoy a diverse educational program featuring speakers representing a fascinating range of topics. An optional post-trip extension in Portugal's capital city and the nearby royal retreat of Sintra is available.



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Revel in **8 nights aboard the privately chartered *Sea Cloud II***, which offers guests luxurious accommodations in both public and private spaces and an exceptional dining experience
- Explore the fascinating **Azores islands**, a volcanic archipelago nearly 1,000 miles off the coast of Portugal, and its wealth of geothermal features including steaming geysers, hot bubbling springs, immense volcanic craters filled with deep green water, and unusual lava arches
- Visit **two UNESCO World Heritage sites** in the Azores: Angro do Heroismo, the historic capital of the Azores, and the landscape of the Pico Island Vineyard Culture
- Enjoy an **in-depth on-board lecture program** featuring experienced experts in the fields of deep-sea exploration, volcanoes and plate tectonics, the relationship between architecture and culture, and travel photography
- Sample some of the **culinary specialties of the Azores**, including a rich meat and vegetable stew called *cozido*, which is cooked in the ground using volcanic heat, a bacon-infused pot roast called *alcatra*, and the rich *verdelho* wine produced on Pico Island

# DAILY ITINERARY

THURSDAY-FRIDAY, APRIL 16-17

## Home / São Miguel Island, Azores

Depart home on an overnight flight to Ponta Delgada, the capital of São Miguel Island. Upon arrival, check in at the Hotel Marina Atlantico. This evening enjoy a welcome orientation and reception.

HOTEL MARINA ATLANTICO (R)

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

## São Miguel Island

Ponta Delgada is a good base from which to explore the Azores archipelago's largest island. Visit Ribeira Grande on the north coast, dominated by the Serra de Agua de Pau volcanic massif and endowed with some fine Baroque and Manueline-influenced buildings. Also tour the beautiful grounds and plantings at the Terra Nostra Botanical Gardens, and marvel at its geothermically



heated and strangely mustard-colored pool. Enjoy a traditional cozido lunch on the Northern shore of Lagao do Furnas, where the volcanic ground is hot enough to cook this rich meat and vegetable stew. En route back to Ponta Delgada, visit the hot springs, where 23 mineral springs spew hot water into a sulphur-laden atmosphere. Embark the *Sea Cloud II*, your home for the remainder of this program.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

## Faial Island

Faial, settled by Flemish farmers in the 15th century, is renowned as a yachting destination as well as for its spectacular display of blue hydrangeas that bloom in the summer. In the harbor of Porto Pim, explore an old whaling factory that now houses a whaling museum documenting the work of the whalers and the processing of whale cadavers for oil and other products. Enjoy the panoramic vista from the Espalamaca belvedere, then visit the central Caldeira do Cabeço Gordo, a vast crater with a walking path around its rim, and the Interpretive Center at the Capelinhos volcano, which erupted in 1957-58 but is now extinct.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

MONDAY, APRIL 20

## Pico Island

The dominant feature of Pico Island is its eponymous volcano, which rises up 7,700 feet to form the summit of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge of submarine volcanoes that run the entire length of the Atlantic Ocean. Tour the island's capital, Madalena, and visit the Wine Museum, housed in a former Carmelite Convent. Learn about Azorean wine-making techniques and view the beautiful vineyard landscape, a picturesque mix of lava walls and green vines that has earned a World Heritage designation. At Cachorro on the north coast, marvel at the delicate arches, cliffs, and caves formed by eroded lava. Look for whales as the ship cruises between Pico and Terceira Islands this afternoon.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

## Terceira Island

Terceira was the third (*terceira* in Portuguese) island of the Azores to be discovered, in 1427. Explore its capital city, Angra do Heroismo, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Here, Vasco da Gama buried his brother Paulo in 1499,

and Spanish galleons bearing treasures from the Americas packed the harbor in the 17th century. Visit Monte Brasil, a volcanic crater with a military fort built during Spain's annexation of Portugal in the late 16th century, and take in the wonderful view of Terceira's harbor. Enjoy a wine tasting at Biscoitos (literally, biscuits), named for the biscuit-shaped lava rubble strewn along the shores, and a tour of the Museu do Vinho. Another spectacular view can be seen from Serra do Cume, which overlooks Praia da Vitoria, where you will enjoy a traditional lunch of slow-cooked bacon-embellished pot roast called *alcatra*.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

## Santa Maria Island

The first of the islands discovered by the Portuguese around 1427, Santa Maria boasts lovely beaches and the warmest climate in the Azores. Visit the fishing town of Anjos to the north, where a statue of Christopher Columbus commemorates his arrival here in 1493 after his first voyage to the New World, and the chapel in which he celebrated his return still stands. From the lookout point at São Lourenço, see the only white sand beach in the Azores. Also learn how linens and wool jerseys are manufactured at a handicraft shop in the village of Santo Espirito.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

THURSDAY-SATURDAY, APRIL 23-25

## At Sea / Lisbon

During *Sea Cloud II*'s three-day crossing of the Atlantic to Lisbon, delve into the diverse areas of expertise of our outstanding lecture team—the relationship between culture and architecture, marine exploration, volcanoes and plate tectonics, expert photography techniques—during the continuation of the lecture series and in more intimate one-on-one conversations. Additionally, take advantage of uninterrupted time to relax and enjoy the amenities of this exquisite ship, the joy of sailing under billowing topgallants, staysails, and spankers, and the companionship of your fellow travelers. On the last evening aboard ship, enjoy a festive farewell dinner.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

## Lisbon

Disembark the ship and transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

# OPTIONAL EXTENSION



SUNDAY-TUESDAY, APRIL 26-28

## Lisbon and Sintra

Spend two nights at the Pestana Palace Hotel in Lisbon, the capital of Portugal, while you explore the city's rich cultural and architectural history. Visit Rossio Square, since the Middle Ages the stage of popular events and a lively meeting place even today; two World Heritage sites: the Tower of Belem (above) and the Jeronimos Monastery; the Monument to the Discoveries, built in honor of Henry the Navigator; and the Calouste Gulbenkian Museum, with its varied collections of ancient and modern art. Also travel to Sintra, where a variety of royal retreats, estates, castles, and buildings has earned the town a World Heritage site designation. Enjoy a seafood lunch at Guincho, a popular beach on Portugal's Estoril coast; a free afternoon on independent exploration; and a farewell dinner with live fado music, the haunting expression of the Portuguese soul.

### Rates:

\$1,690 per person, double  
\$1,940 per person, single

Contact us with any questions or to make your reservation today!

888-328-2089

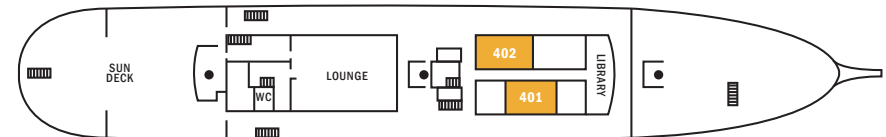
res@criteriontravel.com



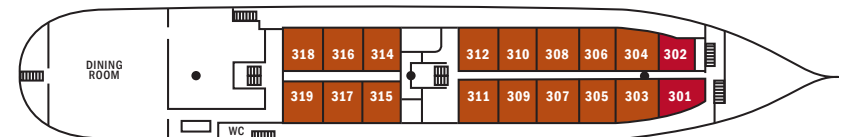


## SEA CLOUD II

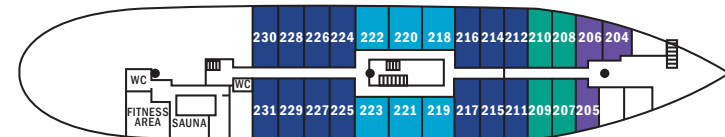
Christened in 2001, the *Sea Cloud II* is perhaps the most luxurious three-masted sailing yacht on the seas today. The sister ship of Marjorie Merriweather Post's legendary *Sea Cloud*, she combines the seafaring elegance of a bygone era with the highest modern standards of luxury. Since the *Sea Cloud II* first set sail, this beautiful yacht has never failed to enchant her guests with stylish comfort, a true sailing experience whenever weather permits, and a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. The *Sea Cloud II* offers an intimate setting of just 47 beautifully appointed cabins, gracious common areas, world-class service, and five-star dining. Note: There is no passenger elevator between decks.



**LIDO DECK**



**PROMENADE DECK**



**CABIN DECK**



U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare from major U.S. gateways to to São Miguel Island, Azores, with return from Lisbon, is approximately \$1,290 per person as of April 2014 and is subject to change without notice. In order to give you as much flexibility as possible with the variety of air travel options available, you are free to make your own air arrangements for this program.

## RATES (per person)

**No Single Supplement!**  
Double Single

<b>Category 1</b> (129 sq. ft., upper & lower twin beds, 2 portholes, shower)	\$5,995	<del>\$7,995</del>
<b>Category 2</b> (172 sq. ft., forward, twin beds/double bed, 2 portholes, shower)	\$6,995	<del>\$11,995</del>
<b>Category 3</b> (172 sq. ft., midship, twin beds/double bed, 2 portholes, shower)	\$8,995	<del>\$14,495</del>
<b>Category 4</b> (204 sq. ft., twin beds/double bed, 2 portholes, shower)	\$9,995	-
<b>Category 5</b> (204 sq. ft., queen bed, windows, shower)	\$10,795	-
<b>Category 6</b> (247 sq. ft., twin beds/double bed, windows, tub/shower combo)	\$11,995	-
<b>Category 7</b> (290 sq. ft., king bed, windows, separate tub & shower)	\$13,995	-

Contact us with any questions or to make your reservation today!

888-328-2089

res@criteriontravel.com

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Program Rates Include

All accommodations and meals as specified in the itinerary • All excursions as specified in the itinerary • Full program of briefings, lectures, and presentations • Group transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure days • Baggage handling at hotels and ship • Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers, and shipboard personnel • Port charges • Entrance fees • Welcome and farewell wine receptions • Wine, beer, and soft drinks at all group lunches and dinners • Bottled water on excursions • Complete packet of pre-departure information • Professional tour manager throughout

## Program Rates Do Not Include

U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport/visa expenses • Medical expenses and immunizations • Airport transfers for those not arriving or departing on designated dates • Travel insurance • Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour • Excess baggage charges • Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals • Laundry or dry cleaning • Telephone, email and fax charges • Room service • Other items of a personal nature

## What to Expect

Influenced by the Gulf Stream, spring temperatures in the Azores are generally mild and comfortable, with warm and bright sunny days averaging between 60 and 65 degrees F. Located so far out in the ocean, the islands are prone to rain at any time of year, which keeps them lush and beautiful. This program is considered moderately active. Participants should be fit and in active good health, able to walk on uneven terrain and climb stairs without assistance, and keep pace with an active group of travelers. When it is not possible for the ship to moor at a pier, passengers will need to transfer via the gangplank to tenders to get to shore. Participants with medical issues and/or dietary restrictions must make them known to us before departure, and impairments regarding mobility must be disclosed prior to booking.

## Group Size

This program is limited to 76 participants, including travelers from Yale, The National Trust for Historic Preservation, and Harvard.

## Insurance

Travel insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended, and we hope that you will obtain it for this expedition. Trip cancellation policies that apply to this expedition are included in this brochure. Please be sure to carry the details of your travel insurance coverage

with you on the program. Travelers are free to purchase the travel insurance of their choice. It is recommended that travelers clearly understand the difference between "primary" and "secondary" travel insurance.

## Reservations and Deposits

To reserve space, please complete the reservation form and mail it with your check or credit card information to the address at the top of the form. You may also fax the form to (650) 560-6400 and your reservation will be held for five working days pending receipt of your check or credit card information. If you have questions, please call (888) 328-2089 or email [res@criteriontravel.com](mailto:res@criteriontravel.com). Final payment deadline is December 18, 2014, 120 days prior to departure.

## Cancellations and Refunds

Upon payment of a \$1,000 deposit per person, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be effective until they are received in writing and confirmed by the Criterion Travel. Deposits are refundable (less a \$250 per person administration fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of reservation; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. Final payment is due December 18, 2014 (120 days prior to departure). Cancellations within 120 days of departure are 100% nonrefundable. For this reason we strongly urge participants to purchase trip cancellation insurance. If the program is cancelled by the Criterion Travel, you will receive a full refund, without further obligation on our part. No refunds will be made for any part of this program on which you choose not to participate. Note: Criterion Travel does not accept liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in conjunction with this tour.

## Itinerary Changes

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, Criterion Travel reserves the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

## Reservation Contact

(888) 328-2089 or [res@criteriontravel.com](mailto:res@criteriontravel.com)

California Seller of Travel Program  
CST #2088800-40

# RESERVATION FORM

To reserve a place on **The Azores** please complete and return this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel. Mail to: 145 Forest Ave. Palo Alto, CA 94301. For more information or to reserve by phone, please call (888) 328-2089 or (650) 328-2089, or email [res@criteriontravel.com](mailto:res@criteriontravel.com)

NAME #1 (as on passport)

BIRTHDATE

NAME #2 (as on passport)

BIRTHDATE

STREET ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP / POSTAL CODE

HOME PHONE

WORK PHONE

FAX

E-MAIL(s)

## PAYMENT

☐ Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$1,000 per person), to reserve \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) on **The Azores**

OR ☐ Charge the deposit to my credit card (circle one):

VISA

MC

AMEX

Diners Club

Discover

NAME ON CREDIT CARD

CARD #

EXP. DATE

SECURITY CODE

SIGNATURE AS IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD

DATE

## CATEGORY PREFERENCE

1st Choice \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

Bed Preference (not guaranteed): ☐ One bed ☐ Two beds

## SINGLE TRAVELERS

☐ I prefer to have single accommodations.

OR ☐ I plan to share accommodations with: \_\_\_\_\_

OR ☐ I'd like to know about roommates. I am a ☐ Non-smoker ☐ Smoker.

*I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of December 18, 2014, I will pay the single rate.*

☐ I/We have read the Terms & Conditions section of this brochure and understand and agree with them as stated herein.

SIGNATURE

DATE

SIGNATURE

DATE

Contact us with any questions or to make your reservation today!

888-328-2089

[res@criteriontravel.com](mailto:res@criteriontravel.com)