

selvagens 2007 islands

birdwatching tours

ventura do mar
Madeira Island - Portugal



Concerning birds, there are at least 10 species that breed regularly on the islands. All are seabirds, except one landbird: Berthelot's Pipit. The seabird numbers are quite high, with about (numbers of pairs breeding annually) **19000** Cory's Shearwater - *Calonectris diomedea borealis*, **2000** Little Shearwater - *Puffinus assimilis baroli*, **5000** Bulwer's Petrel - *Bulweria bulwerii*, **60000** White Faced Storm Petrel - *Pelagodroma marina*, **1500** Madeiran Storm Petrel - *Oceanodroma castro*, and few Yellow Legged Gull - *Larus michahellis atlantis*, Roseate Tern - *Sterna dougalii* and Common Tern - *Sterna hirundo*. Many other vagrant birds have been also recorded on these Islands. One of the greater experiences in life is to be at the Baía da Cagarras (means: Cory's Bay) in Selvagem Grande at sunset: it is amazing to be between thousands of cory's. Due to its noise, you can hardly sleep during night! About the fauna is also nice to highlight the 2 species of reptiles that can be seen. One is the Madeiran Wall Lizard (perhaps a valid subspecies), and the other is the Selvagens Gecko - *Tarentola boettgeri bischoffi*, with this form endemic to the Selvagens).

During the trips at sea there are many chances of seeing turtles, dolphins or whales.

Please know more at:

<http://selvagens.seawatching.net/>



White-faced Storm petrel



Ventura do Mar sailing in Madeira Island

Boat:

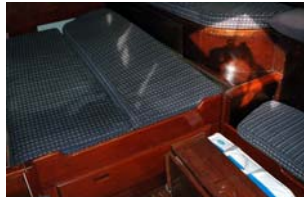
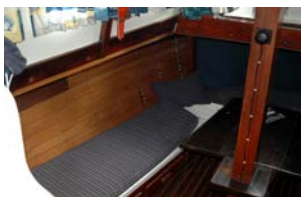
Ventura do Mar

www.venturadomar.com

Boat features:

40 years old, traditional madeiran molde, 16 metres length, 4 metres wide, sailing ketch (2 masts), of wood, Volvo-penta 96hp, kitchen, wc, 2 liferafts (12 pax each), 24 lifejackets, 2 GPS, automatic pilot, 2 compasses, VHF, epirbe, etc. It is not a luxury boat, but all efforts are made, together with our hospitality, to make you feel the best way possible!

The interior of Ventura do Mar



The accommodation on Ventura do Mar

Days trip: 6 days

Responsible from Ventura do Mar:

Luís Dias / Filipe Alves

Contacts:

mobile: +351 963390797

e-mail: venturadomar@iol.pt

Please contact us for any doubt, to see more photos, to know Selvagens Islands detailed localization, etc.

Minimum and maximum passengers: 6-8

Open to: anyone, but we advice to have some receptive attitude about sea trips.

Crew:

- 3 professional and experienced members
- 1 skipper, with training on first aid;
- 1 sailor;
- 1 marine biologist (guide)

Price: 880€ per person

Reservation: 25% to make a valid reservation
75% 3 months before the trip

Payment: cash or bank transfer

IBAN: pt50 0033 0000 00267053417 05
SWIFT: bcomptpl

Beneficiary: Horizonte do Atlântico,
Animação Turística Lda.

Bank: Banco Comercial Português

Includes:

All meals; breakfast (except 1st day), lunch, dinner, snacks; drinks (alcoholic only during meals); insurance; licenses; tax; fuel; dinghy (to disembark); snorkelling equipment; bird and cetaceans book guides for consultation; and all non mentioned expenses related with the boat.

Extras: no extras



Leaving Funchal Harbour



On the way to Selvagens Islands

Other facilities:

- help you on car-rent with special prices (depending on the time you arrive it may be possible to arrange free transport from the airport to Funchal and return);
- help you on bookings with hotel in Funchal (25€ per night) for the remaining days of your stay in Funchal;
- night trip to Pico do Arieiro for the zino's petrel with guide: 45€ + 20€ (fee for the Natural Park);
- help you finding anything else you look for.

Programme:

1st day: leave Funchal by 11:00 am
Sail all day and night to Selvagem Pequena.

2nd day: arrive to Selvagem Pequena by 13:00 pm (estimated time arrival); Disembark (land on) and visit the Island and areas with cory's, bulwers and white-face-storm-petrel nests.

3rd day: leave Selvagem Pequena by 14:00 pm; Sail to Selvagem Grande and arrive by 17:00 pm; disembark (land on) and opportunity for seawatching from the island.

4th day: visit the Island and areas with cory's and little shearwater, bulwer's, and madeira-storm petrel nests.

5th day: leave Selvagem Grande by 9:00pm;

6th day: Sail all day to Funchal. arrive to Funchal by 14:00pm.

Sleeping:

Always on the boat. Each person must bring a sleeping bag; 3 persons sleep on three beds on the living room, and the other 5 on one big room at the bow (see attached pictures above). If the weather conditions are good and the skipper allows it, people can sleep outside (using Ventura do Mar mattresses).

Terms and conditions:

- The trip will only be possible if weather conditions allow it to. Usually on June, July and August the weather is ok, but for this pelagic trip (at 165 nautical miles off Madeira), we really depend on weather conditions as you sure understand;

- the skipper and the company will have the final decision by a minimum of 4 to 5 days before;

- If not possible, passengers may choose between receive the deposit (100% refunded) or an alternative plan around Madeira and Desertas Islands;

- After the reservation are paid there are no refund if the passenger cancel, however, this amount can be used in future trips on Ventura do Mar;

- If the weather conditions do not even allow the an alternative plan, the interested part are 100% refunded too;

- Weather conditions may cause large delays (several hours) on the trip Funchal-Selvagens and return;

- Weather conditions may cause schedule changes in the meals;

- Severe weather conditions may cause a delay (of days) on the departure from Selvagens, and consequent arrival to Funchal, so, **very important, book the flight back with several days after the programmed date of return.** The Ventura do Mar will not be responsible if the interested part do not get on time for the flight back, so the Ventura do Mar is not responsible for any expenses related with the flight;

- In case of damage of the boat or other problem the nearest harbour to make repairs are in Canaries Islands. If that occurs the Ventura do Mar guarantee food and sleeping on the boat during the time of the repairs. The Ventura do Mar does not pay any return trip by plain;

- Due to the distance we will be from the Madeira Island, the passengers must sign up a declaration before departure, or bring one signed by a doctor, as do not have any serious disease that may need urgent medical assistance.

License:

Allows to disembark on land, walk on the islands and visit birds nests (accompanied by a vigilant from the Natural Park), and take photos, both day and night; and swim!

Restrictions:

Please attention on the following regulations:

From the Natural Park:

“The requested permit to the mentioned trip to the Selvagens will be issued. However, I urge you to paid attention to the regulations of the Reserve, namely:

- 1 - Visitors are not allowed to take pictures for commercial use. A special permit can be discussed.
- 2 - Visitors are not allowed to overnight in land. Always on the boat.
- 3 - Visitors are not allowed to take pictures at night near the breeding areas.
- 4 - Night visits must be short and should not last more than 2 hours.

As you already know we expect the visits to give a contribution for the maintenance of the reserve through the purchase of any of the informative material that we sale on the reserve (a contribution of 5 euros/pax is expected).

Further, if you publish trip reports or other kind of presentation, the Natural Park kindly expects to receive a copy.”

Earlier trips:

August 2003 with SPEA – Portuguese Society for Bird Study
(Contact: ivan.ramirez@spea.pt)

July 2005 with Niklas Holmström
(Contact: niklas@seawatching.net)

September 2005 with Chris Winter, Ole Krogh, Nuno Macedo
(Contact: chris_alkmaar@hotmail.com)

June 2006 with Noel Linehan, Killian Mullarney and others
(Contact: kmullarney@eircom.net)

July 2006 with Phil Palmer, Andrew Lasseby and others
(Contact: phil@birdholidays.fsnet.co.uk)

August 2006 with Andrew Palmer, Hans Pely and others
(Contact: andrew.palmer@tesco.net)

For other information:

- <http://www.venturadomar.com>
- <http://selvagens.seawatching.net>
- Holmstrom, N. 2005. A birding trip to the Salvage Islands. *Birding World* 18 (8): 325-337.
- Bister, H. 2005. Selvagensöarna – ducat bord med havets läckerheter. *Road Runner* #4 Dec 2005: 40-47. (Swedish)



Bulwer's petrel



Selvagem pequena

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