



# Adventure week in Cape Verde

Discover the untamed beauty of Santiago Island, Cape Verde's largest and most diverse island. From mountain hikes and golden beaches to vibrant fishing villages, this journey blends adventure with culture.

# Program description

The Santiago Island Program is an immersive journey through the heart of Cape Verde's largest and most diverse island. Designed for those who crave both adventure and cultural depth, this experience invites you to explore coastal trails, historic towns, and the everyday rhythm of island life.

Your adventure begins in Tarrafal, a laid-back seaside town framed by rugged hills and turquoise water. Here you'll hike to the lighthouse for sweeping ocean views and snorkel among vibrant marine life. As the days unfold, you'll sail past striking rock formations, swim in the luminous caves of Aguas Belas, and visit traditional fishing villages where life moves to the steady beat of the tides.

Further south, you'll discover Praia — Santiago's lively capital — and the UNESCO World Heritage town of Cidade Velha, where Cape Verde's story began. Wander through bustling markets, taste traditional cachupa, and connect with locals who embody the island's warm hospitality. Evenings bring relaxed meals, sunset views, and the soft sounds of morna music drifting through the air.

Blending nature, culture, and meaningful encounters, this program offers an authentic glimpse into Cape Verdean life. It's an invitation to slow down, connect, and feel the pulse of an island rich in history and heart.

## Program Highlights

- Hike to Tarrafal Lighthouse and snorkel in Tarrafal Bay
- Sail to the Pilon de Achada Leite rock formations and swim in the caves of Aguas Belas
- Explore the fishing village of Porto Rincão and relax on Porto Beach
- Discover Praia's Plateau district and the lively Sucupira markets
- Visit UNESCO-listed Cidade Velha, Cape Verde's oldest capital
- Enjoy traditional cuisine and live local music in Praia

# Additional Equipment

- Modest clothing (covers knees and shoulders)
- Bring swimwear for beach activities.
- Comfortable walking shoes, sandals, water shoes
- Sun hat, fleece sweater, windproof rain jacket (depending on weather)
- First-aid kit (medications, sunscreen, insect repellent, rehydration tablets)
- Toiletries (shampoo, soap, etc.)
- Day pack, small travel towel, reusable water bottle
- Moneybelt, locks for bags
- Personal entertainment (books, cards, music player)
- A small backpack for day trips.
- Waterproof bags to keep electronics safe.



# Schedule

## Day 1 - Arrival into Santiago

- Arrive at Nelson Mandela International Airport in Praia where our team will meet you and transfer you to your accommodation in Tarrafal. Settle in, enjoy a group orientation and dinner, and begin soaking up the easy rhythm of island life.
- Overnight: 3 Guest House in Tarrafal | Meals: Dinner

## Day 2 - Arrival with Tarrafal Lighthouse Hike & Snorkelling Bay

- Begin your adventure with a hike to the Tarrafal lighthouse for sweeping views of the Atlantic before diving into the clear waters of Tarrafal Bay for snorkelling. Spend the evening relaxing at the accommodation, soaking in the peaceful rhythm of island life.
- Overnight: 3 Guest House in Tarrafal | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## Day 3 - Caves of Aguas Belas & Rebiera Da Braca

- After breakfast, drive to Rebiera Da Braca where your coastal adventure begins. Sail to the Pilon de Achada Leite rock formations and swim through the natural sea caves of Aguas Belas, known for their dazzling light and crystal waters. Return to Tarrafal in the late afternoon for a relaxed evening.
- Overnight: 3 Guest House in Tarrafal | Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

## Day 4 - Porto Rincão & Fishermen's Quarter

- Travel west to Porto Rincão, a charming fishing village with colorful boats and laid-back beaches. Meet local fishermen, enjoy a short boat ride, and swim at Porto Beach. After a leisurely lunch and some free time by the shore, return to Tarrafal to rest and reflect on the day.
- Overnight: 3 Guest House in Tarrafa | Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

# Schedule

## Day 5 - Plateau Tour & Sucupira Markets

- Head south to the island's capital, Praia. Begin with a panoramic view from Castelao, then tour the Plateau district where colonial architecture meets modern street art. Visit the lively Sucupira markets for handmade crafts and local produce. Enjoy a traditional Cape Verdean lunch before watching the sunset at Qebra Canela Beach.
- Overnight: 3 Hotel in Praia | Meals: Breakfast

## Day 2 - Arrival with Tarrafal Lighthouse Hike & Snorkelling Bay

- Begin your adventure with a hike to the Tarrafal lighthouse for sweeping views of the Atlantic before diving into the clear waters of Tarrafal Bay for snorkelling. Spend the evening relaxing at the accommodation, soaking in the peaceful rhythm of island life.
- Overnight: 3 Guest House in Tarrafal | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## Day 6 - Cidade Velha & Praia Nightlife

- Step into history at Cidade Velha, Cape Verde's first capital and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Wander its cobbled streets, ancient fort, and historic church before returning to Praia. In the evening, experience the island's nightlife with live morna music and dancing.
- Overnight: 3 Hotel in Praia | Meals: Breakfast

## Day 7 - Departure Day

- After breakfast, check out and transfer yourself to the airport for your onward journey. Depart with memories of Santiago's music, markets, and ocean views that will stay with you long after you've left.
- Meals: Breakfast