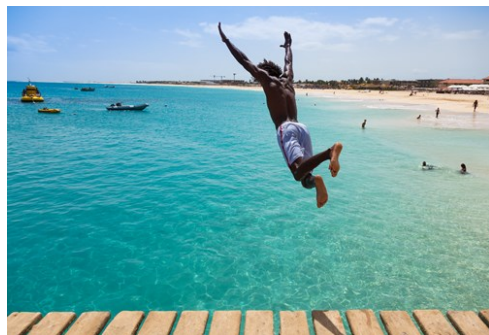




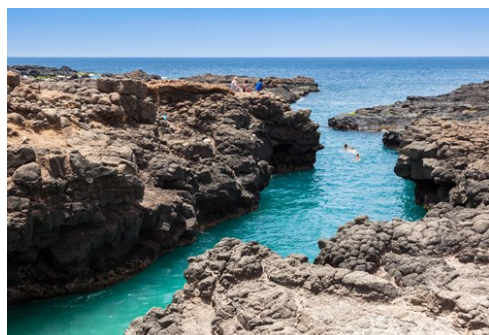
Photo: Frank Bach/Shutterstock



Samuel Borges Photography/Shutterstock



Susana\_Martins/Shutterstock



Samuel Borges Photography/Shutterstock

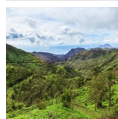
Cape Verde's unique geographic location, tumultuous history of slavery and invasion, and fascinating mix of transatlantic cultures have given rise to a place unlike any other on the globe. A place as joyful as it is full of longing, a fact perhaps best reflected in Cape Verdean music and the hauntingly beautiful 'morna'. The sometimes harsh, drought-prone conditions of this mid-Atlantic scattering of islands have seen the flourishing of a fascinating Creole culture and the most stable democracy in Africa.

### Featured



#### **Pedra de Lume Salt Flats (Sal)**

On the appropriately named island of Sal (salt in English), just to the east...



#### **Serra Malagueta (Santiago)**

The Serra Malagueta Natural Park lies in the northern part of the island of ...



#### **Buracona — Blue Eye Cave (Sal)**

A short drive north of the village of Palmeira on the island of Sal, a hidde...



#### **Brava Island**

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#### **Deserto de Viana (Boa Vista)**

The northwestern part of the island of Boa Vista is covered by a large expan...

### Top 5



#### **Cidade Velha (Santiago)**

Cape Verde's first UNESCO World Heritage Site, Cidade Velha ('Old Town') was...



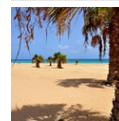
#### **Praia (Santiago)**

Praia is Cape Verde's capital, largest city and centre of economic, politica...



#### **Mindelo (São Vicente)**

Cape Verde's second city is also the undisputed centre of culture, entertain...



#### **Santa Maria (Sal)**

The small fishing town of Santa Maria, on the island of Sal, boasts miles of...



#### **Pico do Fogo (Fogo)**

Pico do Fogo, Cape Verde's youngest and most active volcano, towers beautifu...



## THE ISLANDS



*Susana\_Martins / Shutterstock.com*

Off the western coast of Africa, almost exactly halfway between Portugal and Brazil, lies a volcanic archipelago of breathtaking natural beauty and sobering historical tragedy. The terrain ranges from barren and rocky volcanic backdrops to lush tropical forests, with white and gold beaches and indigo seas. Equally varied is the cultural heritage of the islands' inhabitants, a Portuguese-African Creole with ties to the Caribbean, as much São Paulo and Kingston as it is Dakar and Lisbon, a fact reflected in their speech, their music, their cooking and their general outlook on life and 'morabeza', the hallmark Cape Verdean hospitality.

The 10 islands that make up the archipelago (nine of which are currently inhabited) are rather charmingly laid out in the shape of an arrow, pointing southeast towards the Senegalese coast. Sal is the main island for tourists, with the city of Santa Maria offering plenty of resorts, restaurants and fine shopping, while São Vicente (and in particular the city of Mindelo) is the country's cultural hub. Santiago is home to the capital, Praia, and the main port, which handles most of the commercial and passenger vessels travelling to and from the islands. Visitors would do well to explore as much of the archipelago as possible, as each island is a world unto itself,

deserving of our admiration and awe.

## DO & SEE



*Samuel Borges Photography / Shutterstock.com*

Adventure awaits amidst the rugged beauty of the Cape Verde islands. Thrill-seekers come from around the globe for first-class windsurfing and game fishing, to gape at the underwater marvels while diving and snorkelling and to admire the islands from atop an active volcano after a full-day hike. But there is plenty in the way of leisure, as well, with pristine golden beaches and a burgeoning resort infrastructure. Be sure, however, not to miss the historical wonders found at Cidade Velha and among the streets of Praia and Mindelo.

### Cidade Velha (Santiago)



Cape Verde's first UNESCO World Heritage Site, Cidade Velha ('Old Town') was the first European settlement in the tropics, and once an

important point in the Portuguese Empire. Parts of the original city still remain, including two churches, the town square and the imposing Forte Real de São Filipe (São Filipe Royal Fortress), looming over the area from the hilltop. It is the perfect place to begin exploring Cape Verde's fascinating past.

Photo: Erik Kristensen/CC BY 2.0/Wikimedia(image cropped)  
Address: Cidade Velha, Santiago, Cape Verde

### Praia (Santiago)



Praia is Cape Verde's capital, largest city and centre of economic, political and religious life. The city boasts a distinct mix of African and

Mediterranean vibes throughout the downtown area (known as Platô for its location on a small plateau), with its charming old quarter and rapidly expanding urban infrastructure.

Photo: Samuel Borges Photography / Shutterstock.com  
Address: Praia, Santiago, Cape Verde

### Mindelo (São Vicente)



Cape Verde's second city is also the undisputed centre of culture, entertainment and nightlife, including Brazilian-influenced

Carnival celebrations. Mindelo's Porto Grande harbour is a visual feast with its colourful colonial houses gracing the shoreline against the dramatic backdrop of rugged mountains. Alongside the harbour, you'll also find the Torre de Belém, a scaled-down replica of the historic tower in Lisbon. This vibrant setting not only captivates the eyes but also offers a lively atmosphere, as Mindelo boasts excellent establishments for dining, drinking, and enjoying live music.

Photo: Frank Bach / Shutterstock.com

### Santa Maria (Sal)



The small fishing town of Santa Maria, on the island of Sal, boasts miles of picture-perfect beaches with golden sands and sparkling blue water. Relax at one of the numerous beachside bars, watch the fishermen reel in their daily catch, or jump off the pier into the refreshing water on a hot afternoon.

Photo: Styve Reineck / Shutterstock.com  
Address: Santa Maria, Sal, Cape Verde

### Pico do Fogo (Fogo)

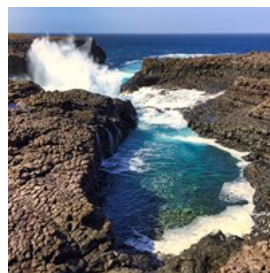


Pico do Fogo, Cape Verde's youngest and most active volcano, towers beautifully but menacingly over the island of Fogo. The

mesmerising black volcanic soil is reminiscent of similar fiery peaks in Hawaii and Iceland and is used to grow coffee. A small community, Chã das Caldeiras, is precariously located in the caldera very near the peak, and adventurers can hike up the imposing 2,829 metres for unparalleled views of the island.

Photo: Sabine Hortebusch / Shutterstock.com

### Buracona — Blue Eye Cave (Sal)



A short drive north of the village of Palmeira on the island of Sal, a hidden gem awaits — a small inlet along the rocky coast unveils a natural

wonder. At the opportune time, preferably in the morning, sunlight filters through a hole in the rocks, transforming the scene into a

mesmerising display resembling a bright blue eye. The juxtaposition of the vibrant blue water and the frothy white waves crashing against jagged rocks creates a stunning spectacle. Just above this sight, there is a small swimming hole with calmer waters from which to enjoy it.

Photo: Nikola Cedikova/Shutterstock

### Deserto de Viana (Boa Vista)



The northwestern part of the island of Boa Vista is covered by a large expanse of untouched and unspoiled desert, the Deserto de Viana. Explore

the picturesque sand dunes on an all-terrain 4-wheel motorcycle, operated by local companies, and be sure to try some sandboarding.

Photo: luis abrantres / Shutterstock.com

Address: Deserto de Viana, Boa Vista, Cape Verde

### Forte Real de São Filipe (Santiago)



The stunning Forte Real de São Filipe, the first and most important fortification anywhere in Cape Verde, overlooks Cidade Velha from its

privileged position on a 120-metre-tall hill. Destroyed by the French in the 18th century, then rebuilt, and recently restored, it is today one of the country's most recognisable and visited sights.

Photo: David Stanley/CC BY 2.0/Flickr(image cropped)

Address: Cidade Velha, Santiago

### Colonia Penal de Tarrafal (Santiago)



For some insight into Cape Verde's more recent turbulent history, visit Colonia Penal de Tarrafal, a prison and concentration camp

nicknamed 'Campo da Morte Lenta' (Camp of the Slow Death). It was used to keep political opponents of António de Oliveira Salazar, the right-wing dictator who governed Portugal in the mid-20th century. It is a harrowing, but important visit.

Photo: CorreiaPM/Public domain/Wikimedia(image cropped)

Address: Campo De Concentração, Chão Bom, Cape Verde

Opening hours: Daily 9am-5pm

### Maio Island



Maio may be one of the most unfairly overlooked of the Cape Verde islands. It is true that tourist infrastructure is somewhat lacking, but

that's part of its charm. Untouched beaches and sand dunes cover much of the island, though it is also home to a large forest, uncharacteristic in these parts. You may be able to catch a glimpse of a loggerhead turtle, as it has the second-largest nesting population in the archipelago.

Photo: Polly Dawson / Shutterstock.com

Address: Maio Island, Cape Verde



### Serra Malagueta (Santiago)



The Serra Malagueta Natural Park lies in the northern part of the island of Santiago, a lush expanse crowned by the 1,064-metre Serra

Malagueta. As one of the greenest areas in the whole country, and offering stunning views from the mountainous terrain, it is the premier hiking region in Cape Verde.

Photo: Samuel Borges Photography / Shutterstock.com

### Brava Island



The greenest and smallest inhabited island in Cape Verde is sometimes called the 'island of flowers' due to its diversity of flora and

fauna. It is also one of the most mountainous islands, known for its picturesque cliffs and gorges, making it another premier hiking destination.

Photo: LivetImages / Shutterstock.com

Address: Brava Island, Cape Verde

### Outdoor Activities



Cape Verde is a prime destination for outdoor activities and adventure-seeking, with people coming from all corners of the world to

hike, dive, windsurf and fish, and also to admire some of the marine wildlife in the area, like turtles and whales. Below are the best times of year and islands for each activity:

- Diving: April-September (Sal and Boa Vista)

- Windsurfing: November-May (Sal and Boa Vista)

- Hiking: All year (Santo Antão, Fogo and Santiago)

- Fishing: April-August (all islands)

- Turtle-watching: June-August (Sal and Boa Vista)

- Whale-watching: March-April (Boa Vista), June-July (Sal)

Photo: Dima Fadeev / Shutterstock.com

### Pedra de Lume Salt Flats (Sal)



On the appropriately named island of Sal (salt in English), just to the east of Espargos, is the 1.8-kilometre wide crater of Pedra de Lume, an

extinct volcano crater which is now home to the Pedra de Lume Salt Flats. Though salt extraction is now inactive, it is still a fascinating visit and an interesting view, with white fields of salt and a natural lake filling the crater.

Photo: PLRANG ART / Shutterstock.com

Address: Pedra Lume, Cape Verde

Opening hours: Daily 9am-5:45pm

Phone: +238 951 32 83

### Pachamama Eco Park — Viveiro Botanical Garden (Sal)



Just north of Santa Maria lies this small but beautiful and well-cared-for botanical garden and zoo, where you can admire the

rugged beauty of the islands. Every type of ornamental plant that can be found on the archipelago is on display here, as well as some animals, including bunnies, donkeys, and guinea

pigs.

Photo: Lawrence Jackson / Shutterstock.com

Address: Zona da Fátima, Santa Maria

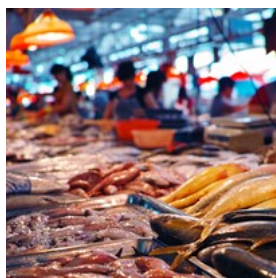
Opening hours: Daily 10am-6pm

Phone: +238 986 60 31

Internet: [www.instagram.com/pachamamaecopark\\_viveiro](https://www.instagram.com/pachamamaecopark_viveiro)

Email: [pachamamasal@gmail.com](mailto:pachamamasal@gmail.com)

### Mercado de Peixe (São Vicente)



This fish market is a sight in itself, where fishermen sell their catch of the day and experts fillet large tuna in the back. But what is really special

about this place is that you can purchase what you want from the market stalls and take them to any of the surrounding eateries to be prepared however you like, ensuring one of the freshest meals you've ever had.

Photo: Vladimir Krupenkin / Shutterstock.com

Address: Avenida Marginal, Mindelo

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 8am-6pm, Sun closed

## DINING



Fanfo / Shutterstock.com

Seafood abounds in Cape Verde, with delicacies like grilled lobster, tuna, and octopus featuring on most menus, as well as Creole and Portuguese specialities. The most representative typical dish is the 'cachupa', a filling slow-cooked stew of corn, beans, cassava, sweet potato, fish

or meat. The larger towns offer an increasingly wide variety of restaurants and cuisines, but on smaller islands, many places will be limited to the lunch of the day ('prato do dia'), which usually includes the freshest catches.

### Chez Pastis (Sal)



Chez Pastis is a charming gem of a restaurant, offering Italian cuisine, Brazilian meat, and local fish and seafood. The flavours are simply

exquisite, and the setting, a vine-covered courtyard, completes the unique dining experience. Although slightly higher in price, every bite justifies the cost. Given the limited number of tables, making a reservation in advance is highly advisable.

Photo: thieury / Shutterstock.com

Address: Rua Amilcar Cabral 5, Santa Maria

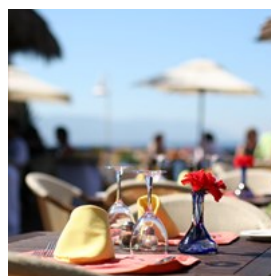
Opening hours: Daily 6:30pm-11pm

Phone: +238 984 36 96

Internet: [www.chezpastis.com](http://www.chezpastis.com)

Email: [booking@chezpastis.com](mailto:booking@chezpastis.com)

### Odjo d'Água (Sal)



Perched at the end of Santa Maria Beach, the Odjo d'Água Hotel boasts three dining options. Farolin, a panoramic restaurant, provides

breathtaking views of the beach and the Bay of Santa Maria while specialising in fresh fish, seafood, and traditional dishes like cachupa. Esplanada Palha Verde, an uncovered space with parasols above the sea, allows guests to relish aperitifs or meals against the backdrop of ocean waves for breakfast, lunch, or dinner. The Damfjord Beach Bar, with a focus on tropical

juices, serves a diverse menu of drinks and quick-mix dishes, emphasising flavorful wraps.

Photo: Galina Barskaya/Shutterstock

Address: Hotel Odjo d'Água, Zona do Farolinho, Santa Maria

Phone: +238 977 73 76

Internet: [www.odjodagua-hotel.com/restaurants.html](http://www.odjodagua-hotel.com/restaurants.html)

### Barracuda (Sal)



Located directly on the gorgeous Santa Maria beach, Barracuda offers a unique and relaxing dining experience where you can enjoy your meal with your feet in the sand. Sourced directly from local fishermen who dock their small boats in front of the establishment, Barracuda guarantees a delightful seaside dining experience amidst the picturesque surroundings.

Photo: Yevgen Romanenko / Shutterstock.com

Address: Praia de Santa Maria

Opening hours: Daily noon-4pm / 7pm-11pm

Phone: +238 599 04 50

Email: [barracudagrupo10@gmail.com](mailto:barracudagrupo10@gmail.com)

### Café Criolo (Sal)



Café Criolo doesn't look like much more than a shack when you first catch a glimpse of it, but it happens to be one of the best local restaurants on Sal. Servings are huge, prices are reasonable and the atmosphere is warm and vibrant. The traditional Cape Verdean dishes served here stand out for their exceptional quality — fresh, flavourful and truly authentic. From the divine cachupa to the amazing stews and the to-die-for seafood rice, Café Criolo promises a culinary journey through the finest tastes of Cape Verde.

Photo: AS Foodstudio/Shutterstock

Address: Between Rua Almicar Cabral and Rua 1 de Junho, Santa Maria

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 7am-10pm, Sun closed

Phone: +238 995 55 28

### Casa Café Mindelo (São Vicente)



Casa Café Mindelo is a small guesthouse, restaurant, café and bar, located in a beautifully restored colonial building from 1870 in the heart of Mindelo, overlooking the Porto Grande bay. A central meeting point in the city's daily life, Casa Café Mindelo is open from early in the morning to late in the evening. Drop by any time of day for some tasty home-cooked meals, hot coffee, or a refreshing drink in the evening, accompanied by live music.

Photo: Rui Ornelas/CC BY 2.0/Flickr(image cropped)

Address: Rua Governador Calheiros 6, Mindelo

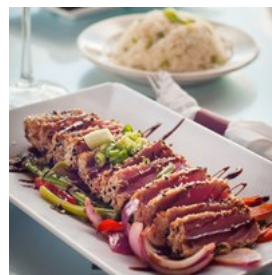
Opening hours: Daily 7am-midnight

Phone: +238 231 37 35

Internet: [www.instagram.com/casa\\_cafe\\_mindelo](http://www.instagram.com/casa_cafe_mindelo)

Email: [casacafemindelo@gmail.com](mailto:casacafemindelo@gmail.com)

### Sol Doce (Sal)



Located conveniently next to the pier, Sol Doce provides a prime vantage point to witness local fishermen bringing in their daily fresh catches.

Offering generous portions at reasonable prices, the restaurant specialises in grilled fish, with tuna tataki emerging as a favourite among diners.

Photo: Sabina Kunitsyna/Shutterstock (cropped)

Address: Pontão Santa Maria

Opening hours: Thu-Tue 10am-6pm, Wed closed

Phone: +238 994 65 62



### Quintal da Música (Santiago)



Quintal da Música is a space that combines gastronomy and culture in the very centre of Praia. Typical Cape Verdean cuisine is served

to the backdrop of nightly live traditional music. Nationally and internationally renowned artists have delighted customers here with their music, an experience that keeps them coming back time and time again.

Photo: Africa Studio / Shutterstock.com

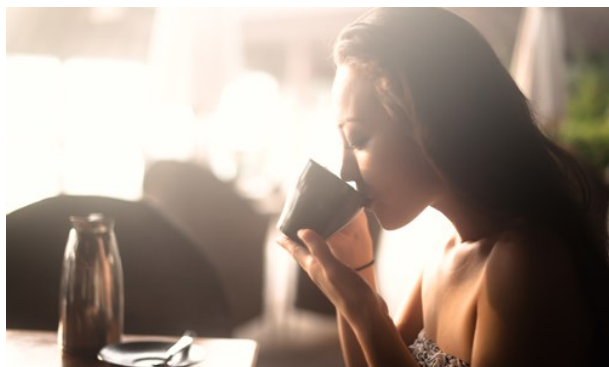
Address: Avenida Amílcar Cabral, Praia

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 3pm-11:30pm, Sun closed

Phone: +238 261 16 79

Email: quintaldamusica@gmail.com

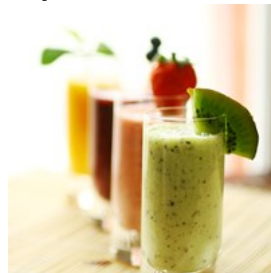
### CAFÉS



merzzie / Shutterstock.com

Most Cape Verdean cafés double as restaurants or bars, so you can often eat, drink, and have dessert at the same place. Pastries are particular highlights here, many following the Portuguese traditions, as are the jams ('doce') made from local exotic fruits, often served with goat cheese for dessert. There is a steadily increasing selection of cafés to be found in the major towns and near popular beach areas.

### Cape Fruit (Sal)



Cape Fruit is a small but absolutely charming café that focuses on healthy living and healthy eating. It is one of the few places that cater to vegetarians

and vegans, offering delicious meat-free options for breakfast and lunch, including sandwiches, wraps, and pancakes, along with refreshing fruit smoothies and juices.

Photo: Pinkcandy / Shutterstock.com

Address: Rua 15 de Agosto, Santa Maria

Opening hours: Daily 8am-4pm

Phone: +238 982 22 05

Internet: [www.instagram.com/capefruitsal](https://www.instagram.com/capefruitsal)

### Pastelaria Morabeza (São Vicente)



Ask any local what the best pastry shop is in Mindelo and you'll inevitably get the same answer: Pastelaria Morabeza. Various types

of bread, fresh fruit juices and coffee all make it a wildly popular place, but the biggest draw here is the huge selection of fresh pastries, including bola de berlim (Berliner) and pastel de nata.

Photo: Natalia Mylova / Shutterstock.com

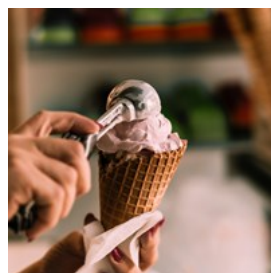
Address: Avenida Baltazar Lopes da Silva 25, Mindelo

Opening hours: Daily 6am-10pm

Phone: +238 231 30 82

Email: [pastelaria.morabeza@sapo.cv](mailto:pastelaria.morabeza@sapo.cv)

### GiraMondo Ice Cream Cafe (Sal)



Beat the oppressive midday heat by indulging in a cool escape at GiraMondo, the city's best ice cream shop. On the menu: decadent



waffles, crepes, and cakes. However, the true star of the house is undeniably their homemade Italian-style ice cream, available in a delightful array of flavours.

Photo: Branislav Nenin/Shutterstock  
Address: Rua 1 de Junho, Santa Maria  
Opening hours: Daily 8am-midnight  
Phone: +238 242 21 11

### Pão Quente (Santiago)

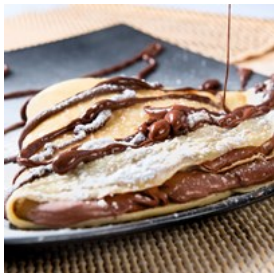


Originally a family business, Pão Quente has grown quickly to become one of the most loved bakeries in the country. They offer a variety of

pastries, including the mouth-watering pastel de nata, plus, fresh bread, cakes and coffee.

Photo: Shebeko / Shutterstock.com  
Address: Rua 13 de Janeiro, Praia  
Opening hours: Daily 6am-9pm  
Phone: +238 534 01 30

### Nhamii Ice Dreams (Santiago)



Nhamii Ice Dreams is a small but modern gelateria, renowned throughout the islands for its high-quality ice cream, fresh natural fruit juices,

and smoothies, as well as its sweet crepes and other desserts.

Photo: BMProductions/Shutterstock  
Address: Rua 5 de Julho, Praia  
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-11pm, Sun 3pm-11pm  
Phone: +238 938 70 10  
Internet: [www.instagram.com/nhamiicv](https://www.instagram.com/nhamiicv)  
Email: [nhamiicedreams@gmail.com](mailto:nhamiicedreams@gmail.com)

### Gelataria Ártica (Santiago)



On a hot day in Santiago, Gelataria Ártica, the city's oldest ice cream shop, is the perfect retreat for a refreshing scoop. In addition to classic

flavours, the shop boasts locally inspired options such as mango, papaya, and camoca — all crafted in-house. For those seeking heartier fare, Gelataria Ártica also offers light, home-cooked meals.

Photo: Gtranquillity / Shutterstock.com  
Address: Achada Santo António, Praia  
Opening hours: Daily 9am-midnight  
Phone: +238 530 73 44

### BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Mark Atkins / Shutterstock.com

Nightlife in Cape Verde moves to the sounds of 'morna', a beautiful form of folk music that fully captures the country's rich history and mix of cultural influences. In taverns around the islands, people gather after dark to hear the mournful sounds of singers accompanied by guitars, violins, and pianos. More joyful melodies come from the islands' other genres of 'funaná', 'batuque', and 'coladeira', all of which liven up a nightlife scene that lives and breathes music and tradition.

### One Love Reggae Bar (Sal)



Perched on top of a downtown Santa Maria building, this rooftop reggae bar is one of the most laid-back places on the island, praised for its chilled vibes and its excellent choice of music, which inevitably leads to patrons dancing well into the night.

Photo: Meik / Shutterstock.com

Address: Rua 1 de Junho, Santa Maria

Opening hours: Daily 5pm-3am

Phone: +238 911 56 58

### Sal Beach Club (Sal)



Sal Beach Club is a laid-back beach establishment serving quick lunches, snacks, and even Western-style breakfasts. It doubles as a sports bar and often screens important events on its large TVs. At night, the place really comes alive with music, parties, and diverse events.

Photo: iko / Shutterstock.com

Address: Rua 5 Agosto, Santa Maria

Opening hours: Daily 8am-midnight

Phone: +238 972 89 28

Internet: [www.instagram.com/salbeachclub](http://www.instagram.com/salbeachclub)

### Pub Calema (Sal)



Calema is a typical local bar, with plastic chairs on the pavement and a signature warm welcome. One of the best places to experience an authentic Cape Verdean night out, complete with kizomba and a crowded but joyful dance floor.

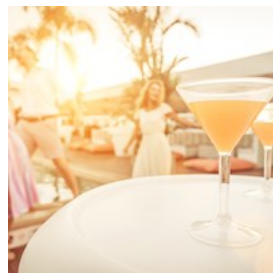
Photo: 5PH / Shutterstock.com

Address: Rua 1 de Junho, Santa Maria

Opening hours: Daily 5pm-4am

Phone: +238 908 47 84

### Kebra Cabana (Santiago)



Kebra Cabana is one of the coolest restaurants/bars in Praia, with a prime location by the beach and delicious homemade food. Young and fashionable people gather at Kebra Cabana in droves to groove to the weekly live music.

Photo: oneinchpunch / Shutterstock.com

Address: Quebra Canela, Praia

Opening hours: Daily 11am-3am

Phone: +238 585 34 89

Internet: [www.instagram.com/kebracabana](http://www.instagram.com/kebracabana)

Email: [kebracabana@gmail.com](mailto:kebracabana@gmail.com)

### Bar Tropikal (Maio)



Bar Tropikal serves authentic Cape Verdean cuisine right on the Bitxe Rotxa beach, specialising in raw fish, carpaccio and pizza. Come by in the afternoon to enjoy the beautiful Maio sunset with one of their specialty caipirinhas.

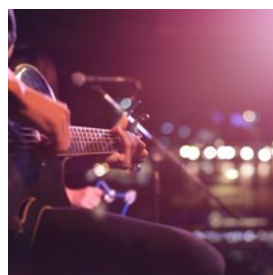
Photo: iravgustin / Shutterstock.com

Address: Bitxe Rotxa, Vila do Maio

Opening hours: Tue-Sun 8:30am-11pm, Mon closed

Phone: +238 959 41 51

### Ocean Cafe (Sal)



A very popular café and bar located right in front of the main square at Santa Maria, Ocean Cafe is a lively place for an afternoon coffee or drinks



after dark. Locals crowd the place in search of local beers and international cuisine, as well as for the regular live music, dancing and good vibes.

Photo: PopTika / Shutterstock.com  
Address: Praça Central, Santa Maria  
Opening hours: Daily 7am-1am  
Phone: +238 580 35 05  
Internet: [www.oceancaboverde.com](http://www.oceancaboverde.com)  
Email: [info@oceancafe.com](mailto:info@oceancafe.com)

### Buddy Bar (Sal)



Buddy Bar is one of the best places to hear authentic local music in Cape Verde, with nightly performances by local artists in the bar's

intimate space. They boast an extensive and affordable drinks menu specialising in gin, with over 15 varieties.

Photo: Sergei Bachlakov / Shutterstock.com  
Address: Rua 1 de Junho, Santa Maria  
Opening hours: Daily 6pm-4am

### O Cocktail (São Vicente)



O Cocktail is a simple and laid-back restaurant and bar serving cold drinks and a variety of food options, including fish dishes and pizza in a

convivial atmosphere. As the sun sets, O Cocktail comes alive with the soulful rhythms of live Cape Verdean music.

Photo: Africa Studio / Shutterstock.com  
Address: Avenue 5 de Julho, Mindelo  
Opening hours: Daily 8am-midnight  
Phone: +238 232 72 75

## SHOPPING



Photology1971 / Shutterstock.com

Most everyday products in Cape Verde are imported and thus tend to be on the expensive side, but locally-produced items are plentiful, and strolling through the stalls at any of the islands' vibrant markets is an experience not to be missed. Find fresh produce and fish, local coffee, cheese and jam, wine, rum, the traditional grogue, and of course, a wealth of handicrafts and artwork, including wood carvings, woven baskets, paintings and jewellery.

### Djunta Mo Art (Sal)



Djunta Mo Art is one of the premier handicraft shops in Cape Verde, offering tasteful and elegant handbags, scarves, trinkets,

jewellery and home decor with vibrant colours and impeccable designs. All their products are fair trade and sustainable, directly benefiting local artisans.

Photo: In Green / Shutterstock.com  
Address: Rua 1° de Junho, Santa Maria  
Opening hours: Daily 8am-10:30pm  
Phone: +238 594 28 28  
Internet: [www.instagram.com/djuntamoart](https://www.instagram.com/djuntamoart)  
Email: [djuntamoart@gmail.com](mailto:djuntamoart@gmail.com)

### Mercado Municipal Mindelo (São Vicente)



You might think that from the outside it looks more like a museum than a market, but it is, in fact, the municipal market of the city of Mindelo, a vibrant, colourful and meticulously kept space filled wall to wall with the freshest island produce and the smiling faces selling them.

Photo: Herbert wie/CC BY-SA 4.0/Wikimedia(image cropped)

Address: Rua António Aurélio Gonçalves, Mindelo

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 8am-6:30pm, Sun 10am-1pm

### Capvertdesign+Artesanato (São Vicente)



Capvertdesign+Artesanato is no ordinary souvenir shop. Within its walls, you can find Cape Verdean photography and coffee table books, typical home design items and decorations, art, glasswork, and traditional musical instruments. Every product sold here has a refined and elegant taste about it, making it perhaps the best place in the country for gifts and mementoes.

Photo: Anneke Swanepoel / Shutterstock.com

Address: Rua Da Luz 10-12, Mindelo

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-1pm / 3pm-6:30pm; Sat 9am-1pm, Sun closed

Phone: +238 976 04 02

Internet: [www.instagram.com/capvertdesignartesanato](https://www.instagram.com/capvertdesignartesanato)

Email: [contact@capvertdesign.com](mailto:contact@capvertdesign.com)

### Sucupira Market (Santiago)



At the foot of the central area of Platô in Praia stands a large market (perhaps more of an agglomeration of stalls) selling everything from

clothes, shoes and accessories to furniture and home decor items, and even live farm animals. It is a colourful and lively place and always makes for an interesting visit.

Photo: Sopotnicki / Shutterstock.com

Address: Sucupira, Praia

Opening hours: Daily 9am-6pm

### Municipal Market of São Filipe (Fogo)



At the edge of São Filipe's modern neighbourhood, Bila Baxo, right next to the main square of Praça Francisco de Assis, lies

the city market, a lively place where visitors can purchase locally-produced products, such as cheese, coffee, wine and Cape Verde's typical exotic jams, as well as freshly-caught fish.

Photo: Africa Studio / Shutterstock.com

Address: Rua do Mercado, São Filipe

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 8am-5pm, Sun closed

### Praia Shopping (Santiago)



Praia Shopping is a modern and sleek shopping centre in the south of Praia full of all the amenities one would expect from a shopping

mall, including high-end fashion shops, department stores, cafés and restaurants, including international options.

Photo: Monkey Business Images / Shutterstock.com

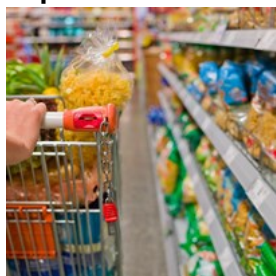
Address: Avenida Jorge Barbosa, Praia

Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

Phone: +238 263 86 11



### Supermercados Calu e Angela (Santiago)



Supermercados Calu e Angela, which has several locations throughout the city of Praia, is a large and modern supermarket that carries a host of imported international products, as well as local items and specialties, like wine, cheese and other kinds of produce.

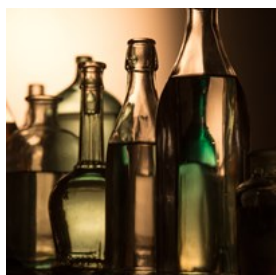
Photo: Lisa S. / Shutterstock.com

Address: Avenida Amilcar Cabral, Praia

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 8am-8pm, Sun 8am-1pm

Phone: +238 930 40 06

### L'Alambic Cabo Verde (Sal)



L'Alambic is a little boutique selling gifts, arts, and typical Cape Verdean products, including grogue (cane juice rum), punch and different flavoured liquors, such as banana, chocolate and tamarind, as well as coffee and other natural products.

Photo: Stone36 / Shutterstock.com

Address: Pensão Les Alyzes - Store 9, Santa Maria

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-9pm, Sat & Sun 9am-8pm

Phone: +238 993 55 35

Email: lalambic.cv@gmail.com

### Pérola Do Sal (Sal)



Pérola Do Sal is a fine boutique that sells jewellery and home decor items with original design ideas, creatively using precious stones, pearls, shells and other natural materials from the islands.

Photo: EugeniaSt / Shutterstock.com

Address: Pontão de Santa Maria, Santa Maria

Opening hours: Daily 9am-7pm

Phone: +238 933 74 60

### Art D'Cretcheu (São Vicente)



Art D'Cretcheu takes great pride in being the oldest fair trade arts and crafts shop in Cape Verde. All of their items are handmade by artists

and artisans from the archipelago's nine islands, including wicker baskets, clay figurines, local liquors, artwork, and much more.

Photo: Zachary Staines / unsplash.com

Address: Rua Libertad d'Africa, Mindelo

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-7pm, Sat 10am-12:30pm, Sun closed

Phone: +238 959 85 76

Internet: [artdcretcheu.wordpress.com](http://artdcretcheu.wordpress.com)

Email: [artdcretcheu@gmail.com](mailto:artdcretcheu@gmail.com)

### Mitu Monteiro Shop (Sal)



World-champion kite-surfer (and three-time world vice-champion) and Cape Verde native Mitu Monteiro has opened his

own surf shop in Santa Maria, selling his own line of fantastic surf gear, clothes and accessories, as well as boards and everything else needed to ride the waves.

Photo: Oleg V. Ivanov / Shutterstock.com

Address: Rua Amilcar Cabral, Santa Maria

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9:30am-10pm, Sat 9:30am-12:30pm / 3:30pm-8pm; Sun 9:30am-12:30pm

Phone: +238 531 02 74

Internet: [www.mitumonteiro.net](http://www.mitumonteiro.net)

## TOURIST INFORMATION



*Samuel Borges Photography / Shutterstock.com*

### Airports



Cape Verde has four international airports: -  
Amílcar Cabral International Airport (SID) on Sal, Cape Verde's main airport; -  
Nelson Mandela International Airport (RAI) on Santiago;  
- Aristides Pereira International Airport (BVC) on Boa Vista;  
- Cesária Évora International Airport (VXE) on São Vicente.

Many hotels can arrange a pickup service from the airport, and taxis are readily available at all terminals. A cheaper option is to take an 'aluguer', a kind of shared taxi, though this can be less convenient as they follow fixed routes.

Photo: ImYanis/Shutterstock

Internet:

[www.caboverde-airports.cv/en/homepage/?locale=en\\_US](http://www.caboverde-airports.cv/en/homepage/?locale=en_US)

### Public Transport



Besides taxis and renting a car, the only way to get around the islands is to take an 'aluguer', or collective taxis, which can be anything from spacious vans to pick-up trucks. They connect even the smallest towns on most islands, picking up and dropping off passengers on request at any point along their route.

Photo: Salvador Aznar/Shutterstock (cropped)

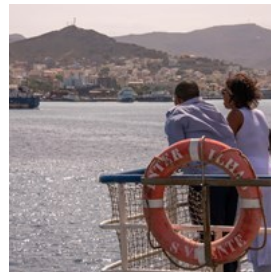
### Taxi



Taxis are really common on all islands. It is a convenient and affordable mode of transportation in Cape Verde. In Santa Maria, taxis are blue and yellow. However, each city has its own unique colour scheme. While the prices are typically negotiable, it's advisable to confirm the fare with the driver beforehand to ensure a transparent and agreeable arrangement.

Photo: Salvador Aznar/Shutterstock (cropped)

### Ferry



It is possible to travel between most islands by ferry, but schedules tend to be unreliable and can often be delayed or cancelled due to stormy weather (particularly during the winter months). The most reliable connections are between Santiago, Brava and Fogo, as well as between São Vicente and Santo Antão.

Photo: Salvador Aznar/Shutterstock



Internet: [www.cvinterilhas.cv/routesschedules](http://www.cvinterilhas.cv/routesschedules)

## Post



Correios de Cabo Verde operates postal service in Cape Verde. The headquarters are located in the city centre of Praia. More than 90% of Cape Verdean roads do not have names, so most people use community post boxes. Open Location Code system invented by Google is used by the local postal system, and residents can connect their home's location to their personal information.

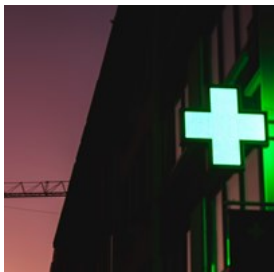
Photo: Ali Bakhtiari/Unsplash

Address: Correios de Cabo Verde, Rua João Cesário Lacerda, 2, Praia

Phone: +238 260 87 60

Internet: [correios.cv](http://correios.cv)

## Pharmacy



Pharmacy (Sal) Rua  
Almicar Cabral, Santa  
Maria +238 242 18 82  
Open Mon-Sat 8am-8pm,  
Sun 8am-1pm Pharmacy  
Santa Isabel

(Santiago)

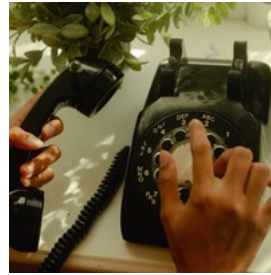
Rua Largo da Europa, Praia

+238 262 37 47

Open Mon-Fri 8am-6pm, Sat & Sun closed

Photo: Serkan Yildiz/Unsplash

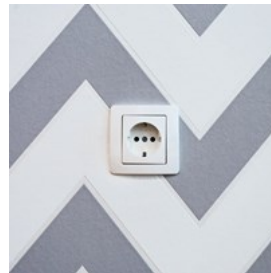
## Telephone



Country code: +238

Photo: Wesley Hilario/Unsplash

## Electricity



220-240 Volts / 50 Hz.

Power sockets type C and F.

Photo: Neven Krcmarek/Unsplash

## Population

598,682 (2023)

## Currency

Cape Verdean Escudo, CVE

## Opening hours

General opening hours are from 8/9am until 7pm, with most shops closing from noon to 3pm. However, opening hours are quite flexible in some smaller villages and on more remote islands, especially at restaurants and cafés.

## Internet

[www.visit-caboverde.com/en](http://www.visit-caboverde.com/en)

## Newspapers

A Semana: [www.asemana.cv](http://www.asemana.cv)

Expresso das Ilhas: <https://expressodasilhas.cv>

## Emergency numbers

Hospital: 130

Fire brigade: 131

Police: 132