

# Furnas

(2 hour drive time)

For the most part they do not require great weather and can be enjoyed either way.

## 1) Lagoa do Congro (May be muddy)

Before heading to Furnas, you can stop by along the way at one of the smaller and less visited lakes on the island – Lagoa do Congro.

From the parking lot it is a short 10-15 minute walk through the lush forest to reach the bottom of the lake. The greenery coupled with the sun hitting the lake makes it have this incredible green color.



## 2) Miradouro do Pico do Ferro

You can now continue to the drive to Furnas and take part of a bunch of different attractions around the area. First up is the Miradouro do Pico do Ferro viewpoint.

Here **you will get to take in the view of Lagoa das Furnas as well as the whole city of Furnas down below.**

You will be able to spot out a couple of the geothermal areas in the distance with their sulfuric gasses rising up from the ground.



## 3) Parking Caldeiras Vulcânicas

After taking in the view from up top it is time to head to one of those geothermal areas – Caldeiras Vulcânicas.

You will be able to see (and smell!!) up close some of the geothermal activity. There are several pockets of gas all around the area.



#### 4) Casa Invertida



#### 5) Antigo Pomar das Caldeiras da Lagoa das Furnas

*Note that the cost here is 2 Euro per person.*

You can then make your way to the second geothermal area down by Lagoa das Furnas. **You will find a short pathway that takes you around the sulfuric activity as you can get right up close to some of these gas pockets.**

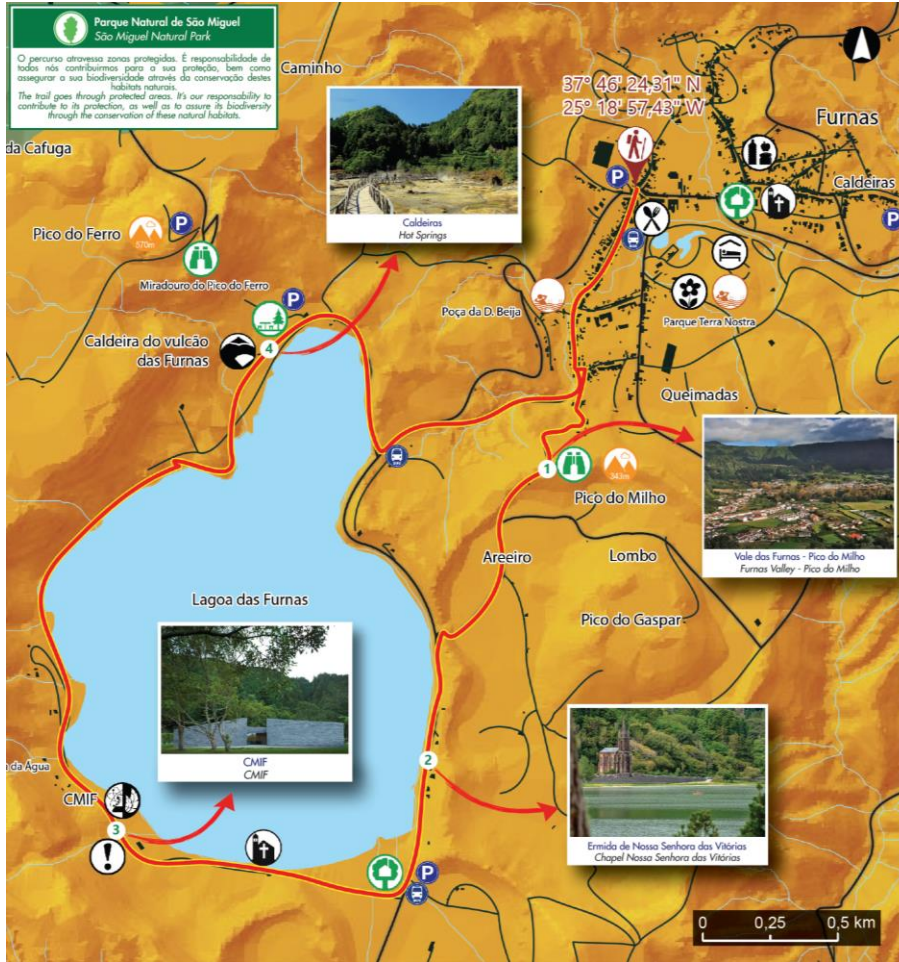
Be careful if its windy though as the gas can head right in your direction and believe me it does not smell great! If you are there are the right time, you might see local restaurant workers picking up or dropping off Cozido (a local stew) into the ground.

**That's right, they cook their meals inside these geothermal areas!**

Cozido is a mixture of beef, chicken, pig, vegetables and more mixed into a stew. For about 6-8 hours, they leave the Cozido in the ground and pick it up before lunch or dinner time to serve to their restaurant guests.



**6) Lagoa das Furnas Trail Head (1.5 hr walk around lake) PRC 06 SMI**  
 Start from Antigo Pomar das Caldeiras da Lagoa das Furnas



**PRC 06 SMI** Percurso Pedestre / Walking Trail  
**Lagoa das Furnas**  
 Ilha de São Miguel / São Miguel island

**Duração / Duration** 03h00 **Extensão / Length** 9,5 km

**Fácil / Easy** **Médio / Medium** **Difícil / Hard**

**Caminho certo / Right way** **Caminho errado / Wrong way** **Vire à direita / Turn right** **Vire à esquerda / Turn left**

**Topografia do Trilho / Trail's topography**

**Bicicletas / Bicycles** **Motorizados / Motorized** **Equinismo / Equestrian** **Familiar / Family** **Equipamento / Equipment** **Chulada / Way trail**

This circular route in Furnas begins at the parking place, at the entrance of the village, near Largo das Três Bicas. Follow the marks along the village, passing by Igreja de Santana and Poça da Dona Beija until you reach a crossroad where you should continue towards Pico do Milho.

From the top of this elevation it is possible to profit the view over the valley of Furnas (photo 1). Proceed along the road until you arrive to Lagoa of Furnas, follow left by the cobblestone road, going round the lake. Along this way (photo 2) you will cross the Chapel of Nossa Senhora das Vitórias, a gothic construction from the 19th century, the garden Mata Jardim José do Canto and by the house Casa dos Barcos (Rural Tourism).

Further ahead you will find the Furnas Monitoring & Research Centre (photo 3) and the surrounding area with several leisure places, ruins of ancient ovens of coal production and the biggest classified Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) in Europe.

Follow the road along the lake bank, through a very accessible flat dirt road where it is possible to see several wooden sculptures and continue until the area of Caldeiras. This place, due to the geothermal activity, provides one of the tourism advertisings of the island and where is done the famous traditional Cozido à Portuguesa, using the internal heat of the Furnas volcano (photo 4).

After enjoying this scenery, continue passing by the crossroad to the viewpoint of Pico do Ferro and by the area of the ticket booth until reaching the regional road, where you should follow left. Proceed, carefully, along the road until you arrive the village center, place where the trail ends.

**CONTATOS DE EMERGÊNCIA**  
**EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

 (00 351) 296 550 050  (00 351) 296 549 040

 (00 351) 296 308 625

**Número Nacional de Emergência**  
**Emergency Call Number** **112**

**Código de ética e conduta do pedestrianista:**

1. Antes de iniciar a caminhada, informe sempre alguém de qual o percurso que irá fazer e quando pretende começar.
2. Certifique-se de que possui o equipamento adequado e os mantimentos necessários.
3. Evite sair do trilho identificado, não utilize atalhos.
4. Feche todos os portões que abrir ao longo do percurso.
5. Em caso de emergência refira o último poste numerado pelo qual passou.

**Ethic and behaviour code for hikers:**

1. Before starting the walk always inform someone about the trail you will take and when you intend to start it.
2. Make sure you have the adequate equipment and enough supplies.
3. Avoid leaving the identified trail and do not take shortcuts.
4. Throughout the course, leave all gates closed.
5. In case of emergency mention the last numbered post that you passed by.

**Parque Natural de São Miguel**  
*São Miguel Natural Park*

**Paisagem Protegida**  
*Protected Landscape*

 Alojamento Turístico <i>Accommodation</i>	 Centro de Ciência <i>Science Centre</i>	 Miradouro <i>Viewpoint</i>
 Restaurante <i>Restaurant</i>	 Ponto de interesse <i>Point of interest</i>	 Turismo Habitação <i>Guest House</i>
 Mercado/Mercaria <i>Market/Grocery</i>	 Águas Termais <i>Thermal Waters</i>	 Zona de Repouso <i>Resting Place</i>
 Geossítio <i>Geosite</i>	 Lagoa <i>Lake/Lagoon</i>	 Autocarro <i>Bus</i>
 Ermida <i>Hermitage</i>	 Zona Balnear <i>Bathing Area</i>	 Estacionamento <i>Parking</i>

**Direção Regional do Turismo**  
**Tourism Board**  
Tel: +351 292 200 500  
e-mail: [acoresturismo@azores.gov.pt](mailto:acoresturismo@azores.gov.pt)

**Delegação de Turismo de São Miguel**  
**São Miguel Tourism Board**  
Tel: +351 296 308 625  
e-mail: [info.turismo@azores.gov.pt](mailto:info.turismo@azores.gov.pt)



VISITAZORES.COM



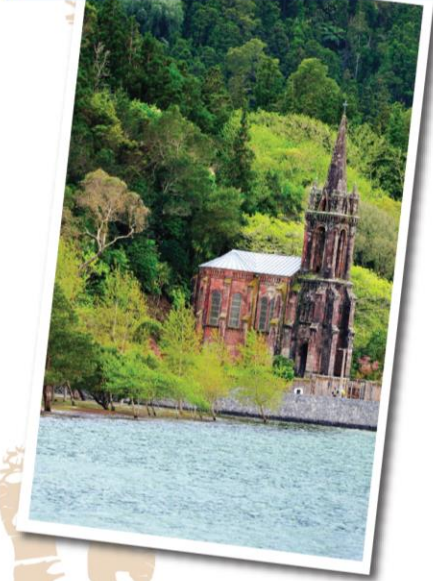
**açores** percurso pedestre  
walking trail

Corvo  
Flores  
Faial  
São Jorge  
Pico  
Graciosa  
Terceira  
Santa Maria

São Miguel

**PRC 06 SMI** **Lagoa das Furnas**

9,5 km - 03h00  **Fácil Easy**



## 7) Capela de Nossa Senhora das Vitorias



### 8) Terra Nostra Garden Restaurant. (In the Hotel)

Now although it was probably the most expensive and fancy option, it actually worked out pretty well economically for us. The Cozido here is 24 Euro per person / 40 Euro for 2 people.

**When you order the Cozido, you will also get a free pass to enter the Parque Terra Nostra and its massive hot spring pool – a savings of 8 Euro.** So, at the end of the day, lunch + the park will come out to ~20 Euro per person.



### 9) Parque Terra Nostra

Entrance Fee: 8 Euro

Opening Hours: 10:00AM – 6:00PM

If you decided to eat at the hotel's restaurant and order Cozido, then you will get to enter free of charge.



Note that the pool's orange color can stain your clothes. So bring along a cheaper bathing suit and towel option when heading in. Also make sure to wash up real good at day's end as the water can stick around on your skin if you don't give it a good scrub.