

AZORES KAYAK SYMPOSIUM

PORTUGAL, APRIL 25TH-29TH 2026

Clube Naval de Lajes das Flores
Antiga Fábrica da Baleia – Zona Portuária



- GUIDED TOUR OF THE MAIN TOURIST ATTRACTIONS OF FLORES ISLAND
- SEA KAYAKING TRAINING (THEORY & PRACTICE) WITH ALICE MCINNES & MATT HAYDOCK

Join us for an amazing trip to a stunning, tropical location in the Azores, off the coast of Portugal, where you'll learn the theory & practical training of kayaking with two highly experienced and British Canoeing professional instructors from the UK - [Alice McInnes](#) & [Matt Haydock](#).

What's Included

- All Kayaking instruction
- Four nights accommodation,
- Meals
- Transfers from airport
- Kayak hire
- Safety boat

What's not included

- Travel to Flores Island
- Kayak equipment

BOOK NOW to SECURE YOUR SPOT - LIMITED PLACES!

Contact Alice McInnes hello@seakayakalice.co.uk

Or email info@tideracekayaks.com

About the Kayaking

- 25th April kayaking activities Matt, Alice, local guides and André from Tiderace are discussing ideas
- 26th April Breakfast - Morning workshops - Lunch - Guided tour of Flores Island
- 27th April Breakfast - Morning workshops - Lunch - Guided tour of Flores Island
- 28th April Breakfast - Morning workshops - Lunch - Guided tour of Flores Island
- 29th April kayaking activities tbc

Workshops will include technical skills, paddling in wind and swell, close to rocks, forward paddling, journeying skills, rescues, turning, having fun, balance, navigation, leadership. Guided trips will be a chance to see the beautiful island scenery and enjoy the warm climate of the Azores. If there is interest we will organise a racing event.

About Flores Island



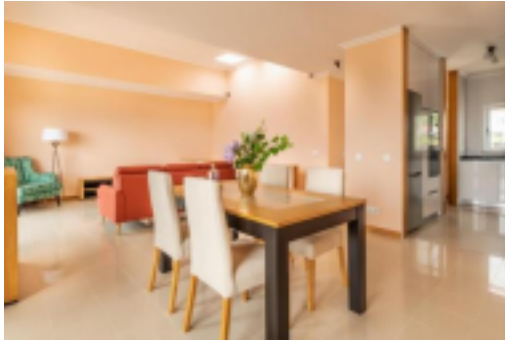
[Flores Island](#), the westernmost of the Azores, is a small paradise adrift in the middle of the Atlantic. Its name means *flowers* — and it truly deserves it. Everywhere you look, wildflowers grow freely, especially the hydrangeas that line the roads and meadows, turning them into blue and purple tunnels in summer. The landscape feels almost unreal — rolling green hills, volcanic craters now filled with calm lagoons, and immense cliffs that drop straight into the sea.

Flores is also a [UNESCO Biosphere Reserve](#), which explains much of its magic. Nature here remains untamed. The villages are tiny, quiet, and deeply rooted in the land. Life moves slowly, peacefully — it's a place that invites reflection.

When you arrive, the sense of isolation is immediate — in the best possible way. There are few cars, few visitors, and a lot of space to walk, breathe, and listen only to the sound of birds and running water. It's a destination for those who seek **authenticity and connection with nature**, not for those in search of nightlife or luxury.

The town of [Santa Cruz das Flores](#), on the northeastern coast, is the main gateway to the island, with a small airport, a harbor, and narrow streets with cafés and grocery shops. From there, roads lead inland to the **volcanic lakes** — Lagoa Funda, Rasa, Comprida, and others — all shimmering in shades of green and blue that change with the light. When the mist rolls in (as it often does), the landscape takes on a mysterious, otherworldly beauty.

What is the accommodation?



[Villas do Mar](#) is a small modern retreat on the edge of the Atlantic, at the westernmost point of Europe. Located in Fajã Grande, one of the most beautiful and remote villages of Flores, it offers the perfect combination of contemporary comfort and the absolute silence of Azorean nature.

The accommodation consists of several semi-detached houses, each with two floors. The lower floor features the bedrooms and bathrooms, while the upper floor comprises the living room, kitchen, and a balcony overlooking the sea. Everything is bright, clean, and thoughtfully designed — neutral tones, light wood, simple lines.

Despite its isolation, there is a small supermarket and a few cafés and restaurants within walking distance — enough for those who enjoy a simple, local atmosphere. The people of Fajã are welcoming and helpful; the hosts at Villas do Mar embody this spirit: discreet, yet always ready to provide advice on trails, restaurants, or sea conditions.

Location:

Villas do Mar
Fajã Grande
Ilha dos Flores

How many nights' accommodation is included?

The accommodation includes 4 nights, from the night of 25/04/2026 to the night of 28/04/2026, with check-in on 25/04/2026 (4 pm–9 pm) and check-out on 29/04/2026 (7 am– 12 pm).

The price covers all expenses from April 25th to April 29th, including accommodation, meals, transfers, and the kayak. Flight tickets are the responsibility of each participant. We cannot be held responsible if someone arrives before April 25th or departs after April 29th.

What kayaks will be available?

The kayaks that will be used are the [Tiderace Xceed](#) and [Pace](#) models, both designed by Nelo for high-performance open-water paddling.

Tiderace kayaks, produced by the Portuguese company Nelo, are designed for those seeking high performance in open water. Known for their combination of speed, stability, and maneuverability, they are ideal for sea touring, expeditions, and coastal adventures.

Among the most popular models are the **Xceed**, designed for high-performance touring and long distances; the **Xcite**, excellent for surfing and day trips; the **Xtra**, built for fun and maneuvers in coastal environments; and the **Pace 17 Tour** and **Pace 18**, focused on high-performance expeditions with good cargo capacity and speed.

Will any kit be available? decks/paddles, etc

Only the kayaks will be provided. Guests will need to bring their own paddles, decks, and other equipment.

Can you tell me about the sea conditions - sea temps, swell, coastlines, etc?

In April, the sea temperature around Flores Island is expected to be approximately 16.2 °C, with variations between 14.6 °C and 18.4 °C. These temperatures are typical for spring in the region.

The sea conditions can be variable, with wave heights potentially exceeding **1 meter**.

Swell decreases in frequency and intensity, but significant waves can still occur, especially during storms far out at sea. The sea alternates between calm and rough days.

The climate in April is generally mild, with average daytime temperatures around **17.5 °C**. Rainfall continues to decrease, and the island experiences frequent sunny intervals, enhancing the overall atmosphere.

However, it's important to note that the climate in the Azores can be very changeable, with some days experiencing all four seasons in a single day.

Is there a safety boat? Yes, there will be a safety boat.

Getting to Flores Island

To travel from the United Kingdom to Flores Island in the Azores, the most common way is to fly first to Ponta Delgada (airport code PDL) on the bigger Island of São Miguel, and then take a SATA Air Açores flight to Flores Island. Return flight cost ~£150

For booking the Azores island to island flight please visit [Azores Airlines](#) return flight approx ~£130