

Azores 2026 — Dinner Planning

David & Katarina · July 2–14, 2026

Part 1 — Dinner Nights

Date	Restaurant	Status	Notes
SÃO MIGUEL · JUL 3–6			
Fri Jul 3	Suggested: Terra Nostra Garden Hotel restaurant	Open	Arrival night — stay on property. Good cozido + fish menu. Receipt earns free garden access.
Sat Jul 4	Dinner: Cozido das Furnas	Call Ahead	Call that morning to reserve portions (cooked underground 7-8 hrs). After Breakfast with Goats; no formal lunch.
Sun Jul 5	Suggested: A Quinta (Furnas)	Walk-in	Walk-in only — no reservation needed. Wine bar + music venue on Av. Dr. Manuel de Arriaga. Tapas, burgers, sangria, live music. 5-min walk from Terra Nostra.
Mon Jul 6	Balcony Restaurant (Ponta Delgada)	✓ Confirmed	Reservation confirmed via TheFork — 19:00, party of 2. Katarina's birthday dinner. Rooftop terrace with ocean views, PDL city centre.
FAIAL · JUL 7–8			
Tue Jul 7	Dinner: Restaurante Atlético (Horta)	✓ Confirmed	Reservation confirmed for 19:00, party of 2. Best fish on Faial.
Wed Jul 8	Lunch: Ah!! Boca Santa (Horta market hall)	Walk-in	Horta market hall, lunch only — moved from Jul 7 since the 15:05 flight lands you at 16:00. Best burgers in the Azores on Bolo Levedo buns.
Wed Jul 8	Dinner: Canto da Doca (Horta)	✓ Confirmed	Reservation confirmed for 19:00, party of 2. Cook your own fish and meat on a hot lava stone. Marina location.
PICO · JUL 9–13			
Thu Jul 9	Suggested: local spot near Simas House (Santo Amaro)	Open	Arrival night on Pico — keep it casual and local. O Ancoradouro (Madalena, harbour views) is a good option if you'd like to book.
Fri Jul 10	Suggested: Keep it simple — local café or takeaway	Open	Post-volcano day — you will be exhausted. Low-key is the right call
Sat Jul 11	Suggested: Danny's Café (Lajes do Pico)	Open	Casual lunch/dinner post-whale watching — burgers and sandwiches, friendly and cheap. Arrive early, small place
Sun Jul 12	BIOMA Restaurant — Mesa Açoriana (Lajes do Pico)	✓ Confirmed	Reserved — 20:00, party of 2. 5-course tasting menu, pay on the night (€50–75/person)
RETURN · JUL 13			
Mon Jul 13	Suggested: Near Neat Hotel Avenida (Ponta Delgada)	Open	Late arrival from Pico (~20:30). Something casual near the hotel — Aliança or a PDL neighbourhood spot

Part 2 — Restaurant Directory

Restaurant	Island	Type	How to Book	What to Know
SÃO MIGUEL				
Gastrónomo	São Miguel · PDL	Dinner	Call directly — no online booking	#1 restaurant in PDL. Fresh daily fish, tuna, limpets. Book well ahead for dinner.
Restaurante Aliança	São Miguel · PDL	Dinner	Walk-in — arrive early	Classic 90yr-old steakhouse. Famous Bife à Aliança. Busy at lunch, easier at dinner.
Jardim Natural Food	São Miguel · PDL	Brunch only	Walk-in — can get busy	Inside António Borges botanical garden. Giant pancakes, specialty coffee. Breakfast/lunch only.
Balcony Restaurant	São Miguel · PDL	Dinner	Confirmed via TheFork — 19:00 Jul 6	Katarina's birthday dinner. Rooftop terrace restaurant overlooking Ponta Delgada harbour. Azorean seafood and local specialties.
FAIAL				
Restaurant Atlético	Faial · Horta	Dinner	Arrive at opening or call ahead	Best fish on Faial. Fills fast. Arrive right when they open.
O Esconderijo	Faial · Horta/Cedros	Dinner	Reservation needed	Entirely vegetarian — 4-course surprise menu only. Beautiful garden setting. Confirmed vegetarians only.
Bico Doce	Faial · Horta	Breakfast/caf�	Walk-in	Pastry shop on Rua Consul Dabney. Good coffee, past�s. Morning stop.
Oceanic Caf�	Faial · Horta	Bar/tapas	Walk-in — opens 18:00, closed Sundays	Historic building at the marina. Tapas, organic wine, craft beer, live music weekends. Evening only.
Gelados do Atl�ntico	Faial · Horta	Ice cream	Walk-in	On the main square, Pra�a Infante Dom Henrique. Homemade gelato — passion fruit, pistachio, fig.
Ah! Boca Santa	Faial · Horta	Casual lunch	Walk-in	Inside a local market. Burgers and sandwiches with S�o Jorge cheese. Quick and cheap.
PICO				
O Ancoradouro	Pico · Madalena	Dinner	Reserve via Google or call ahead	Higher-end, terrace over the harbour. Cataplana, octopus, limpets. Great arrival dinner.
BIOMA Restaurant	Pico · Lajes do Pico	Dinner tasting	Confirmed — 20:00 Jul 12	Mesa A�oriana 5-course, �50/person. Pay on the night. Best table on the island.
Danny's Caf�	Pico · Lajes do Pico	Casual lunch	Walk-in — arrive early, small place	Burgers, sandwiches, coffee. Friendly and cheap. Perfect for post-whale watching Jul 11.
Mar Sushi Terrace	Pico · Lajes do Pico	Lunch/dinner	Walk-in — arrive early or book locally	Local fish caught daily as sushi. Up to 12 types in summer. Ocean terrace view. Can get packed.

Note: Lunch spots (Jardim Natural, Bico Doce, Ah! Boca Santa, Danny's) are listed for context but are casual walk-in only. Bars and ice cream are walk-in. Focus booking energy on Gastr nomo (PDL) and Atl tico (Horta) — both fill up weeks in advance in July. Cantinho das Provas is closed Tue-Wed.