

ALGARVE TRAVEL GUIDE

MEET A LOCAL
INSIDER TIPS
FROM LOCALS

FOOD & DRINKS
A SELECTION OF
TOP RESTAURANTS

5 MUST-VISIT
BEACHES &
TOWNS



WELCOME TO THE ALGARVE GUIDE BY PETIT-HEM

This is an inspirational guide giving you an overview of top things to see and do in the amazing Algarve. Including charming towns to visit, stunning beaches, top activities, and insider tips from locals.

It is an excellent read for anyone traveling to the Algarve, that is keen on finding the best spots and wants to make the most out of their holiday. I hope you enjoy the read. Love from Hetal



INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS PETIT-HEM?

Petit-Hem is our beloved project about leaving the stress of city life, for an easy living lifestyle in the Algarve. And, we are all about sharing, exploring, and promoting this fantastic region.

Along with this travel guide, we offer a beautiful holiday home in a serene location, an inspiring Algarve travel blog, creative workshops, yoga, and more. *Click here to discover more.*





CONTENT

04. TOP PLACES TO VISIT

11. FOOD & DRINKS SPOTS

13. TIPS FROM A LOCAL

15. STUNNING BEACHES

21. TIPS FROM A LOCAL

22. TOP THINGS TO DO

28. TIPS FROM A LOCAL



PLACES TO VISIT

5 CHARMING TOWNS TO VISIT



1. LAGOS

2. SILVES

3. FARO

4. TAVIRA

5. FERRAGUDO





PLACES TO VISIT

LAGOS

Lagos is a lively town in the western Algarve, with plenty to offer. Visit the old town with cute cafés, restaurants, shops, and churches. Next to the river, is a marina and a souvenir/apparel market. Lagos is also famous for its beaches and Ponta de Piedade, a stunning place with impressive caves and rock formations. *Click to read more.*

Where to eat: Arribalé, Casa do Prego & A Petisqueira.





PLACES TO VISIT

SILVES

Silves is a historical medieval town, in central Algarve, surrounded by stunning views of citrus trees and vineyards. Here you can visit a hilltop castle and cathedral or wander around the charming old town to discover beautiful details from the Moorish era. *Click to read more.*

Where to eat/drink: Restaurante Marisqueira Rui & Café DaRosa.



PLACES TO VISIT

FARO

Faro is the capital of Algarve. A culturally rich city that offers a variety of fascinating tourist attractions. Here you can visit Arco da Vila, ancient quarters, Chapel of Bones, take a boat tour to Ria Formosa natural park and enjoy plenty of great food and drinks spots. *Click to read more.*

Where to eat/drink: Se7e Pedras, Portas de Sao Pedro & Columbus Bar.

WWW.PETIT-HEM.COM





PLACES TO VISIT

TAVIRA

Tavira, on the east side of the Algarve, is set by the Gilão river. The houses here are decorated with beautiful tiles and the town has a traditional Portuguese vibe. Top attractions include a hilltop castle, an old Roman bridge, churches and cute little streets lined with restaurants and shops. *Click to read more.*

Where to eat: Come na Gaveta, Aquasul & D'gusta.



PLACES TO VISIT

FERRAGUDO

This riverside fishing village, in central Algarve, is perhaps the most photographed town in the Algarve and it's easy to understand why. A maze of cute cobbled alleys lined with whitewashed buildings and colourful houses. A visit here is a must if you are looking for an authentic and traditional Algarve. *Click here to read more.*

Where to eat: Borda do Cais.



Did you know that
the name Algarve
(Al-Gharb) is from
the Arabic language
and means "to the
west"?



FOOD & DRINKS

A SELECTION OF OUR FAVOURITE RESTAURANTS, BARS AND CAFÉS



LOCAL DISHES: MARISQUEIRA RUI

A local seafood restaurant in Silves with a busy and vibrant energy. Great spot to enjoy traditional and local dishes such as cataplana and bacalhau (cod fish). *Click for more info.*

Other suggestions: Restaurante Prazeres (Olhão) & Borda Do Cais (Ferragudo).



BEST FISH SPOT: A GRELHA DO TI MANEL

A Grelha do Ti Manel in Galé is an all-you-can-eat fish restaurant, where a wide range of delicious freshly grilled fish is brought to the table directly from the grill. *Click for more info.*

Other suggestions: Vai e Volta (Olhão) & A Lota (Alvor).



CREATIVE FLAVOURS: A PETISQUEIRA

A cute wine bar, on the lively streets of old town Lagos, with a creative menu. Here, every dish is well cooked with fresh ingredients and delicious flavours, paired with great wine. *Click for more info.*

Other suggestions: Se7e Pedras (Faro) & Come na Gaveta (Tavira).

FOOD & DRINKS

A SELECTION OF OUR FAVOURITE RESTAURANTS, BARS AND CAFÉS



BEAUTIFUL CAFÉ: CAFE DAROSA

Café DaRosa in Silves is a gorgeous cafe decorated with beautiful tiles. Treat yourself a coffee and homemade pastries, sit back and enjoy lovely views of a water fountain, lush trees, and castle walls. *Click for more info.*

Other suggestions: Bar Bacchus (Porches).



FAB COCKTAILS: COLUMBUS BAR

Columbus is a lively bar in Faro with an extensive drink menu and talented bartenders that will serve you excellent cocktails. It is one of the best spots to enjoy the fun local vibe. *Click for more info.*

Other suggestions: Sal Rosa (Albufeira) & Casa Mae in (Lagos).



HIDDEN GEM: QUINTA DOS SANTOS

Quinta Dos Santos, close to Carvoeiro, is a fantastic spot with stunning architecture and views of vineyards. This brewery/ winery offers flavourful food with high-quality ingredients, that pairs perfectly with their wine and beer. *Click for more info.*



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT MEGAN AND HER ART:

Website

Instagram

MEET A LOCAL KIDS-FRIENDLY TIPS FROM A LOCAL

Megan is an Algarve based artist who creates beautiful macrame and weaving pieces, using only natural material. You can see her work at the LiR gallery and the Longevity hotel. She is also a mother of two, and here are Megan's top family-friendly tips.

How has the Algarve inspired your art?

The thing that strikes me as most beautiful in this part of the world is its natural colors. The rich and earthy tones really inspire me to use materials in their natural forms and to enjoy the beauty which this simplicity brings.

What is your favourite thing to do in the Algarve with kids?

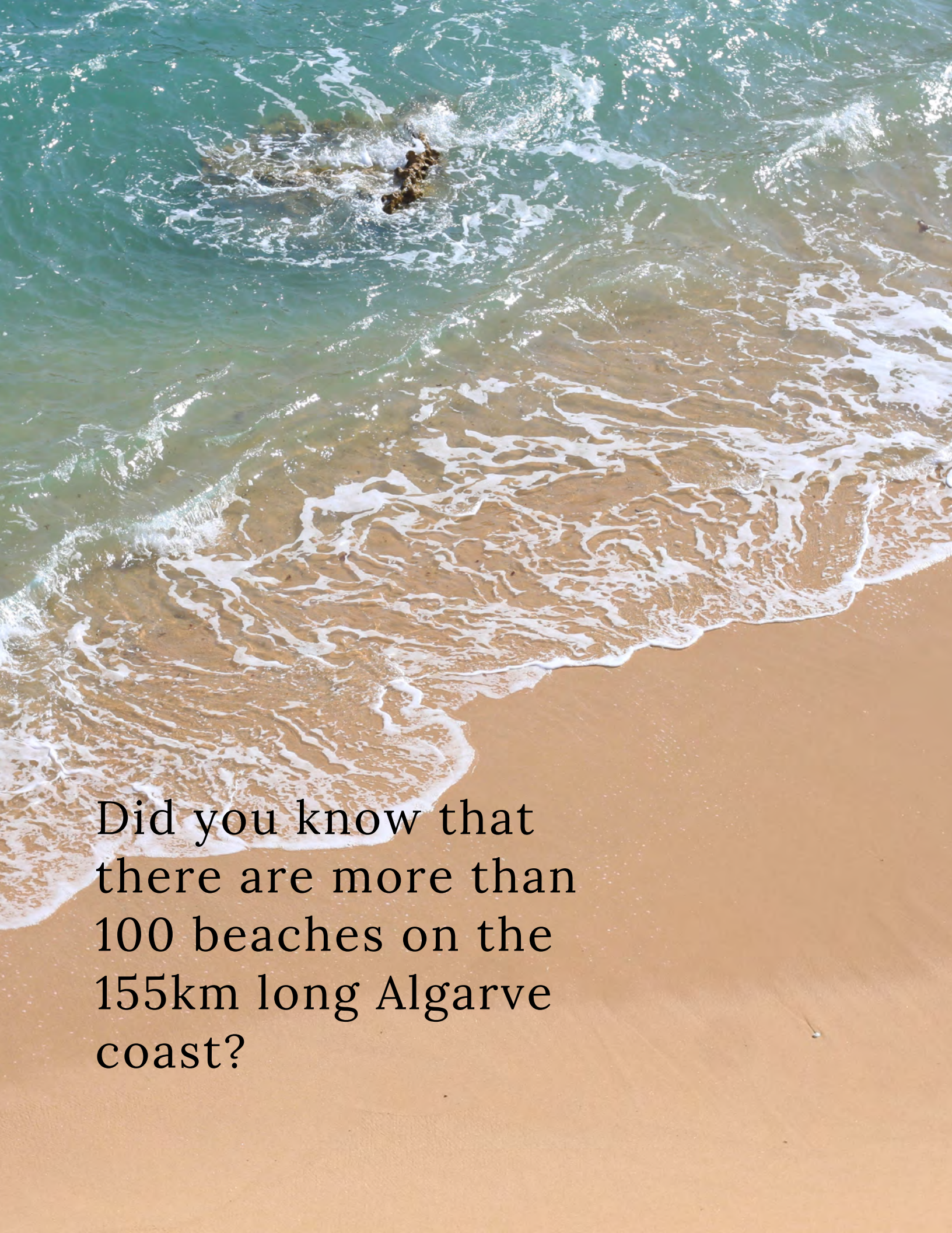
Walks on the beach with my babies in the winter time - the summertime is typically beautiful and fun but I enjoy the quieter times.

Which is your favourite restaurant?

Being a mum of 2 under the age of 3, going out to a restaurant is a bit of a luxury. So, when I do, I prefer to go somewhere really nice and make an effort. For me, this place is Quinta dos Santos.

What tips do you have for families with kids traveling to the Algarve?

Hire a car and explore around! There are so many beaches that offer different experiences.

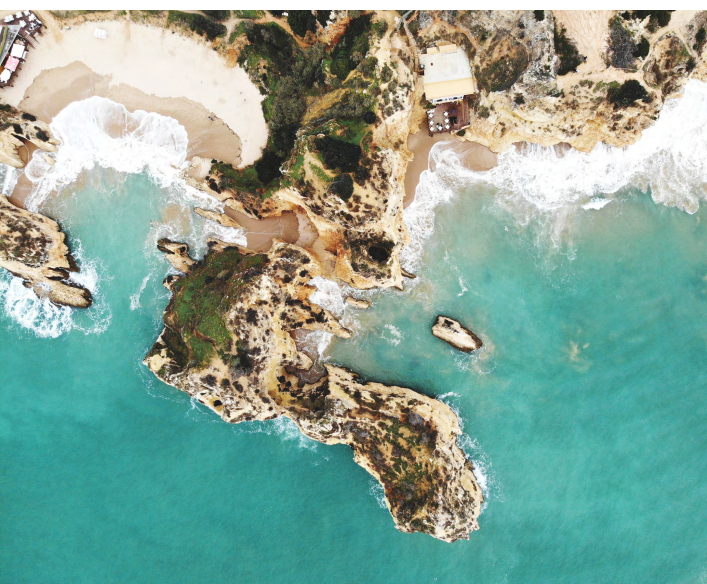


Did you know that
there are more than
100 beaches on the
155km long Algarve
coast?



STUNNING BEACHES

TOP 5 MOST BEAUTIFUL BEACHES



1. PRAIA DO CAMILO
2. PRAIA DE ALBANDEIRA
3. PRAIA DOS TRÊS IRMÃOS
4. PRAIA DA MARINHA
5. PRAIA DA FALESIA

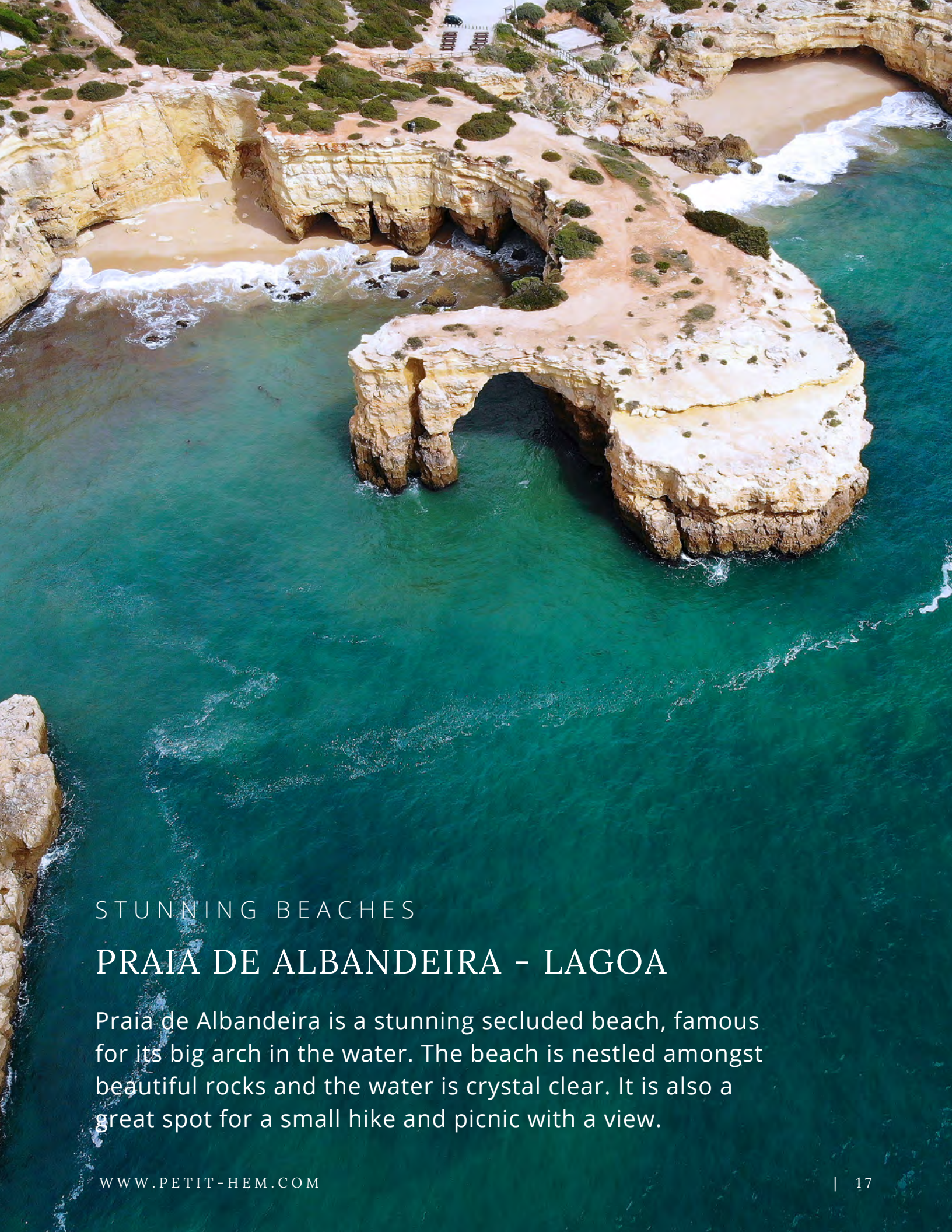




STUNNING BEACHES

PRAIA DO CAMILO - LAGOS

Praia do Camilo is a gorgeous beach nestled between sandstone cliffs. Only reachable by stairs and as you walk down you will see a splendid view over the bay. The sea is clean and clear blue.



STUNNING BEACHES

PRAIA DE ALBANDEIRA - LAGOA

Praia de Albandeira is a stunning secluded beach, famous for its big arch in the water. The beach is nestled amongst beautiful rocks and the water is crystal clear. It is also a great spot for a small hike and picnic with a view.



STUNNING BEACHES

PRAIA DOS TRÊS IRMÃOS, ALVOR

We love Praia dos Três Irmãos for its big beautiful rocks and small caves that divide the beach into smaller more private areas. Walking through impressive rock formations gives an adventurous feeling but fear not, it is simple to access.



STUNNING BEACHES

PRAIA DA MARINHA, LAGOA

Praia da Marinha is an iconic beach, known as one of the most stunning beaches in Europe. Praia da Marinha is an excellent spot for picnics and hikes with breathtaking views.



STUNNING BEACHES

PRAIA DA FALESIA, ALBUFEIRA

Praia da Falesia is a truly unique beach and a colorful treat for the eyes. Here you will find kilometers of sandy beach, set against fascinating red and white cliffs. Falesia is always a safe bet when you need a beach with plenty of space.



DISCOVER MORE ABOUT MATHIAS AND HIS PHOTOGRAPHY:

Instagram

Facebook

Youtube

MEET A LOCAL

LOCAL TIPS TO FIND THE BEST SPOTS

Mathias, 23 years old, has lived in the Algarve almost all of his life. He works in a tourism agency, but photography is what he loves. His goal with photography is to inspire people to spend more time outside and discover this beautiful world we have.

What is the best thing about Algarve?

There are 2 things; the seafood is excellent and all the unique and beautiful beaches.

Which is your favorite spot in the Algarve?

Praia da Marinha for sure! Impressive rock formations, easy to access, incredible views, great sunsets, and a place for very good photos. Unfortunately, the beaches here gets very crowded during the summer.

What is your favorite restaurant in the Algarve?

There are 2 that I like very much. Hamburgo, in Alte, has the best steaks. And O lobo do Mar in Armação de Pêra, serve excellent seafood.

Do you have any tips for people visiting the Algarve?

Explore and spend time outside. Algarve has so many amazing things to discover and experience. Do a little research before coming, choose the places you want to visit and rent a car to get around. If possible stay in local accommodation, this is the best way to meet locals.



THINGS TO DO

5 MOST POPULAR ATTRACTIONS

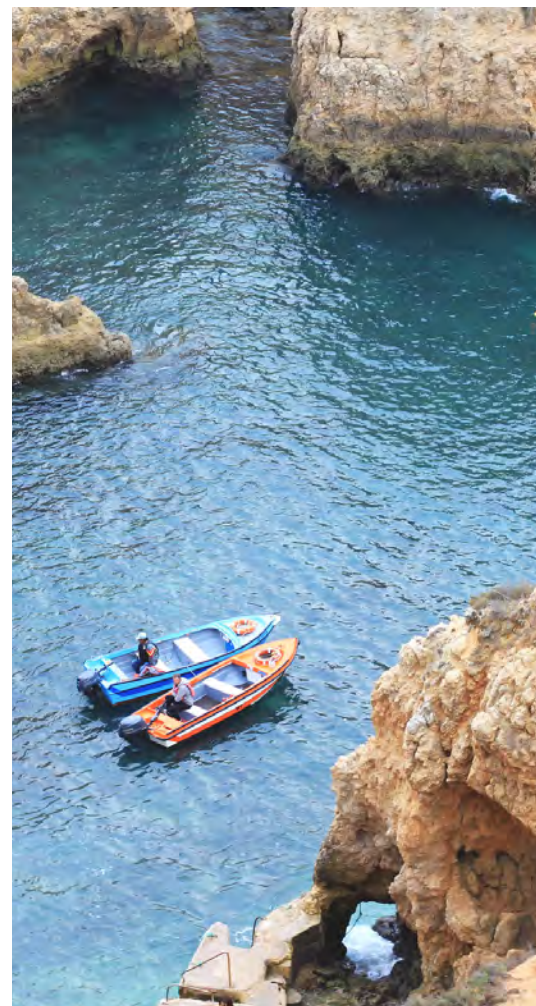
1. PONTA DA PIEDADE
2. BENAGIL CAVES
3. WINE TASTING
4. SLIDE & SPLASH
5. GOLFING



THINGS TO DO

PONTA DA PIEDADE

A visit to Ponta da Piedade, in Lagos, is one of the top things to do when visiting the Algarve. Ponta da Piedade is an absolutely stunning place with cool rock formations and caves. See it from above to enjoy breathtaking views or get up close by boat or kayak. There are several boat tours departing from the marina in Lagos.



**MORE
INFORMATION ON
HOW TO VISIT:**

Boat tours

Tripadvisor



**MORE
INFORMATION ON
HOW TO VISIT:**

Boat tours

Tripadvisor

THINGS TO DO

BENAGIL CAVES

Visit the incredible sea caves of Benagil. It is famous for its dome-shape with a hole at the top, letting sunlight stream into the cave. It is best explored by kayaking or stand-up paddle as it allows you to enter the sea cave, but can also be visited by boat.



THINGS TO DO

WINE TASTING

Learn about Algarvian wine at Morgado do Quintão, a charming historical wine estate that focuses exclusively on growing premium wines. The wine tasting, at this beautiful rustic farmyard, feels more personal and intimate compared to many other wine experiences in the Algarve, which is why I prefer it.



**FOR MORE
INFORMATION
PLEASE VISIT:**

Website

Instagram

Tripadvisor



**FOR MORE
INFORMATION
PLEASE VISIT:**

Website

Tripadvisor

Instagram



THINGS TO DO

SLIDE & SPLASH

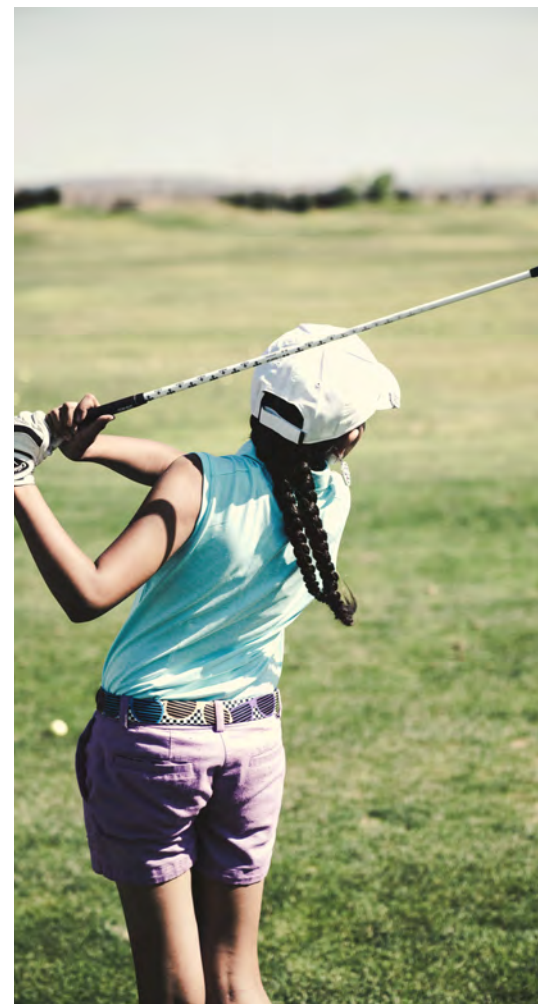
Slide and splash is a funfilled waterpark, great for a family outing. There is something for every age; a fun water playground for the smaller ones and crazy waterslides for older kids and adults. Warning for long queues during high season.



THINGS TO DO

GOLFING

The Algarve is a well-known golf destination. Here you will find over 40 different golf courses. Located in unique, unspoiled areas, surrounded by breathtaking views and natural beauty. The perfect climate means you can play all year round.



**FOR MORE
INFORMATION
PLEASE VISIT:**

Algarve Golf Guide



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT BRUNO AND HIS SUP TOURS:

Website

Instagram

Facebook

MEET A LOCAL INSIDE TIPS FROM A LOCAL GUIDE

Bruno, a local guide and founder of Blue Xperiences. During his childhood, he spent a lot of time with the fishermen at the Armação de Pêra beach, where he learned about the Algarve coastline. Today, stand up paddle is Bruno's passion. In his tours, he shares his knowledge about the "Benagil Caves" in a sustainable, nature-friendly way.

What is the best thing about Algarve?

The people! People are the reflection of this amazing place!

What is your favorite spot in the Algarve?

It is Foia, the highest point of the Algarve. On a clear day you can see both south and west coast and the best sunset. On my way down, I stop at a natural water source to drink some fresh mountain water, it's the best water one can have.

Which is your favorite restaurant in the Algarve?

A tiny little place in Estombar called Restaurante O Charneco, that does typical Algarvian food.

Do you have any tips for people visiting the Algarve?

Choose local restaurants, small group tours, and local native guides, they have great secrets to share with you.

THE END

THANK YOU

Thank you for downloading and reading this travel guide. I hope you find it useful, inspiring and that you are now ready for an awesome holiday in the Algarve. For more travel tips and updates follow us on social media.

INSTAGRAM

FACEBOOK

PINTEREST

WEBSITE

