

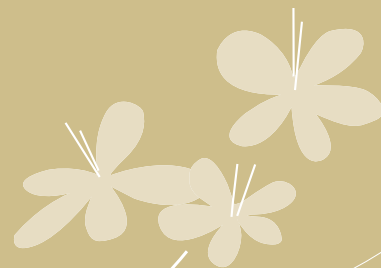


algarve

get out and about  
entertainment



It all happens in the Algarve. Street theatre and performances, musical concerts, sports events, theme fairs, festivals and religious celebrations add up to a full programme of year-round entertainment. After a morning on the beach, drop in at the zoo, take in an exhibition, or drink a glass of something cool to the sound of live music out on a seaside terrace while considering your many possibilities for dinner. To finish the night in style, decide on whether to chat the night away in a bar, try your luck at the Casino or dance till sunrise. With so much on offer, your only problem is choosing.







## year-round entertainment

Whatever the date, whatever the season, the Algarve never stops. With everything from traditional festivals, top class sports events and an endless cultural programme featuring exhibitions, dance, music, theatre and cinema, your choice of entertainment is boundless. During the month of January and throughout the Algarve, groups of "Charolas" (Carol singers) sing traditional "Janeiras" to welcome in the New Year. The blanket of white flowers laid out across the countryside marks the annual arrival of the Almond Blossom International Cross Country Race and the Smoked Sausage Festival in *Querença*.

February is Carnival month and the Algarve plays host to fabulous processions moving to the rhythmic sound of samba. In the sporting field, highlights include the International Carnival Sailing Week, the Equestrian Tour in *Vilamoura* and the Tour of the Algarve, a leading international cycling event.



With the arrival of **Easter Week**, *Loulé* welcomes the Festival of *Mãe Soberana* (the Sovereign Mother), the largest religious festival in the Algarve, while *São Brás de Alportel* is overwhelmed by the colourful Hallelujah Festival and the Flowered Torches Contest. In *Monchique*, it is time to taste the delicious traditional sausages at the *Serra de Monchique* Fair.

In March, the Algarve hosts the National 4x4 Championship: the *Baja Terras d'El Rei* Off-Road Rally.

In April, the Algarve/Skoda Half-Marathon attracts many of the world's leading athletes.

In May, the Portugal/Algarve Grand Prix in Formula 1 Power Boat Racing takes place on the river *Arade* estuary in *Portimão*. Meanwhile, the fields are now in full spring bloom and provide the perfect



backdrop for all the popular festivals that take place across the region and include the “Festival of the Corn Spikes” in the typical Algarve village of *Salir* or the “Pine-Cone Festival” in *Estói*.

The **Popular Saints** festival invades the streets in June. Meanwhile, in *Monchique*, the National Off-Road Championship – the *Baja da Serra de Monchique* – begins.

In July, *Loulé* hosts the International Jazz Festival, while in *Cacela Velha* it is time to travel back in time with the “Nights of the Enchanted Moorish Maiden” - a recreation of all the traditions and habits of yesteryear. The Algarve International Motorbike Rally brings thousands of two-wheeled enthusiasts to the Algarve.



In August, the streets, squares and avenues along the seafront are filled with **MUSIC**, as circus performers and street artists demonstrate their many talents to the visitors and bystanders. Book fairs, gastronomic events and craft exhibitions join the many other different celebrations taking place across the entire region. The Seafood Festival in *Olhão* and the National Sardine Festival in *Portimão*, along with *FATACIL* (an exhibition featuring the best of handicraft, tourism, agriculture, trade and industry), are just some of the events celebrating the region's cultural and culinary heritage. And the same month brings **major sports events** such as the *Vale do Lobo* Grand Champions tennis tournament, where many distinguished international players can be seen.

The International Show Jumping Competition brings some of the world's best horse riders to *Vilamoura* in September. The Mediaeval Days of *Castro Marim* is a veritable voyage back through time, taking you right to the heart of the Middle Ages.

In October, dance, theatre and music, gastronomic festivals and craft fairs, all combine with the highly popular **annual fairs** to preserve the best from times gone by. In November, the Algarve Casinos Rally grabs the attention across the region.

In the month of December, the seasonal atmosphere can be appreciated in the streets, all decked out for the festive season. The Christmas Concerts, featuring many leading choral groups, ensure that music is ever present in the Algarve.

And to round the year off in perfect style, there is no better place to be for **New Year than by the sea**. With a glass of champagne in one hand, you can contemplate the wonders of the star-filled skies, which provide the perfect backdrop to the spectacular firework display welcoming in the New Year.

In the cities, the traditional retail outlets and modern shopping centres provide both relaxation and the opportunity to engage in some quality shopping.







## fun-filled days

With roughly 3,000 hours of sunshine per year, the Algarve gives you the energy you need to try a bit of everything. There's certainly no shortage of entertaining choices. The beaches and the water parks represent the perfect scenario for a rejuvenating family day out, whilst the nature and theme parks offer you the chance to observe animal life close up in natural surroundings or to relive historic events, providing alternative programmes that are certain to ensure all-round quality time.

And for those seeking some **adventure**, there are also plenty of different options. The marinas and sailing clubs are equipped with everything that is needed for surfing, windsurfing, sailing, canoeing or diving. Away from the sea, there are opportunities for hiking, walking and horse riding, as well as rock climbing, abseiling



and sliding, other activities for which the Algarve has ideal conditions. Not to mention **golf** and tennis, which bring countless players to the Algarve, both amateur and professional, to take part in the various international events held here.

And whether you are down by the sea or up in the hills of the Algarve, there are many other ways to relax. The spa of *Monchique* is famous not only because of the intrinsic therapeutic qualities of its waters, but also for its extensive range of treatments and services. Combining massages and baths in both saltwater and fresh water, the **spa** provides an excellent and efficient way to gain a new lease of life. Equipped with new facilities for ensuring your wellbeing, the spa's relaxation centre will help you to **recharge your batteries** for the rest of the year.

ZANZI-BAR



## bright nights

When the sun sets and the beaches gradually empty, the avenues along the coast and the narrow streets of the historic centres light up. Get out and take a stroll, have a drink and a chat, or simply breathe in the refreshing sea breeze.

At the marinas, watch the latest recreational vessels, yachts and fine sailing ships take up their places amidst the rows of sails. **Café terraces** are the ideal place to stop for a quick snack, along with some music, a pleasant chat and all kinds of lively entertainment.

The **casinos** light up with their grandiose shows – musicals and cabarets – and are the perfect place for those looking to spice up their holidays with a gentle flutter. In the **bars and discos**, modern facilities extend out into the open where live music can be heard, different cultures can mix and friends are made. Rock, pop, funk, reggae, Latin and Brazilian music are just some of the sounds that fill these long, warm nights, and which people of all ages can enjoy and dance to. The Algarve's nightlife has become one of the region's most important attractions.



## Water Parks

- ① Aqualand Algarve
- ② Aquashow
- ③ Atlantic Park
- ④ Slide & Splash

## Theme Parks

- ⑤ Zoomarine
- ⑥ Zoolagos
- ⑦ Roma Golf Park
- ⑧ Fábrica do Inglês
- ⑨ Krazy World – Algarve Zoo
- ⑩ Parque Mineiro Cova dos Mouros
- ⑪ Omega Park
- ⑫ Karting Almancil

## Casinos

- ⑬ Casino de Vilamoura
- ⑭ Casino de Monte Gordo
- ⑮ Hotel Algarve Casino

## Other Entertainment Facilities

- ⑯ Observatório Astronómico de Tavira
- ⑰ Centro de Ciência Viva do Algarve
- ⑱ Ecoteca de Olhão
- ⑲ Centro de Ciência Viva de Tavira
- ⑳ Centro de Observação Astronómica do Algarve

# places of entertainment

## Water Parks

### Aqualand Algarve - The Big One

Apartado 11, E.N. 125 – Sítio das Areias  
8365-908 Alcantarilha  
Tel.: (+351) 282 320 230 | Fax: (+351) 282 322 828  
bigone@mail.telepac.pt | bigcomercial@mail.telepac.pt  
www.aqualand.pt | www.bigone-waterpark.com

### Slide & Splash

E.N. 125 – Vale de Deus  
Apartado 90 – 8401-901 Lagoa  
Tel.: (+351) 282 341 685 | Fax: (+351) 282 341 826  
slide.splash@mail.telepac.pt | www.slidesplash.com

### Atlantic Park

Estrada Nacional 125  
Quatro Estradas – Quarteira – 8100 Loulé  
Tel.: (+351) 289 397 282 | Fax: (+351) 289 397 757  
atlantic.park@sapo.pt

### Aquashow Fun Family Park

Estrada Nacional 396  
Semino – 8125-303 Quarteira  
Tel.: (+351) 289 389 396 | Fax: (+351) 289 388 233  
aquashow@aquashowpark.com | www.aquashowpark.com

Slides and tubes, wave pools, swimming pools and Jacuzzis ensure great fun for all. Other forms of entertainment include the *“Oásis Tropical Park”*, with its exotic birds and falconry displays. There is also the unique *“Wax Museum of the History of Portugal”*, set up by the

creator of the animatronic waxworks at the famous *“Madame Tussauds”* museum in London.

## Theme Parks

### Zoomarine

Estrada Nacional 125 - km 65  
8200-864 Guia  
Tel.: (+351) 289 560 300 | Fax: (+351) 289 560 309  
algarve@zoomarine.com | www.zoomarine.pt

This theme park features a range of shows with dolphins, seals and sea lions, tropical birds and birds of prey. There are also turtles, sharks, crocodiles, tropical fish and exotic birds and waterfowl in the Oceanus centre, which depicts the water cycle and its surrounding fauna all the way down from mountain springs to the depths of the ocean.

### Parque Mineiro Cova dos Mouros

Reserva da Foupana – Vaqueiros – 8970 Alcoutim  
Tel.: (+351) 289 999 229 | Fax: (+351) 289 999 436  
guadiana.parque@mail.telepac.pt | <http://minacovamouros.sitepac.pt>

This Park takes you back into the very depths of mineral and metallurgical history. Along an open air route, there are representations of human settlements, utensils from the Stone Age, replicas of homes and a fortress from the Copper Age, smelting furnaces and the *Cova dos Mouros* mines, where both copper and gold were once mined. Children are transported along the route by donkey, ensuring they enjoy the experience even more.

### Zoolagos – Parque Zoológico de Lagos

Quinta das Figueiras – Sítio do Medronhal  
Barão de S. João – 8600-013 Lagos  
Tel.: (+351) 282 680 100 | Fax: (+351) 282 680 109  
geral@zoolagos.com | www.zoolagos.com

This small zoo has carved out its role as a place of education and nature conservation. In the educational farm section, children can enjoy direct contact with plants and animals that are typical of rural environments. Among the various species, highlights include the bird and primate sections.

### Roma Golf Park

Rua dos Marmeleiros  
Apartado 927 – 8125 Quarteira  
Tel.: (+351) 289 300 800 | Fax: (+351) 289 380 716  
rgp@sogestão.pt

This mini-golf park has two 18-hole courses – *Via Appia* and *Via Lusitânia* – that recreate Ancient Rome through a series of lakes, springs, ruins and a lot of greenery.

### Fábrica do Inglês

Rua Gregório Mascarenhas – 8300-159 Silves  
Tel.: (+351) 282 440 480 | Fax: 282 440 489  
fabrica@mail.telepac.pt | www.fabrica-do-ingles.pt

Located right in the heart of *Silves*, and affording pleasant views over the castle, this complex includes the Museum of Cork, a beer hall/shellfish restaurant that produces its own beer and the Aquavision Show. This multimedia show uses the local fountains as the setting for a tour of the long history of *Silves*, going right back to the first pre-historic inhabitants on the banks of the river *Arade*.

### Krazy World – Algarve Zoo

Lagoa de Viseu – Apartado 3 – 8365 Algôz  
Tel.: (+351) 282 574 134 | Fax: (+351) 282 574 898  
info@krazyworld.com | www.krazyworld.com

This Algarve nature park is filled with entertainment and offers direct contact with animals such as turtles, iguanas, snakes, lizards, llamas, deer, kangaroos, dwarf goats, black swans, parrots and macaws, to be found here in their natural surroundings. There are also pony rides, camels and various shows with reptiles, as well as mini-golf to entertain the younger ones.

### Omega Parque – Jardim Zoológico

Caldas de Monchique – 8550-232 Monchique  
Tel.: (+351) 282 911 327 | Fax: (+351) 282 911 412  
info@omegaparque.com | www.omegaparque.com

The Omega Park in Monchique only takes in animals that are in risk of extinction. There are around 25 different species to be seen, many of which are well known, such as the bamboo lemurs.

### Karting de Almancil

Sítio das Pereiras – 8135-022 Almancil  
Tel.: (+351) 289 399 899 | Fax: (+351) 289 393 733  
karting.grupo@mail.telepac.pt | www.mundokarting.pt

The Almancil Kartodrome is a recreational and competition facility that is open to all those interested in what is by far the most accessible of all motor sports: Karting! Open all year round, the Kartodrome is a 760-metre replica of the former Brazilian Formula 1 circuit at Jacarepegua.

## Casinos

As places of great excitement, the Algarve's Casinos offer entertainment possibilities to suit every taste. In the gambling rooms, you can try your luck on the slot machines or at the baccarat tables, or play roulette and blackjack. In the restaurants, you can savour the most tempting recipes while you listen to exciting musical shows and pluck up the courage for another flutter at the tables.

### Casino de Vilamoura

Apartado 656 – 8125-909 Vilamoura  
Tel.: (+351) 289 310 000 | Fax: (+351) 289 310 099  
casinovilamoura@solverde.pt | www.solverde.pt

### Casino de Monte Gordo

Avenida Infante D. Henrique,  
Apartado 51 – 8900-908 Monte Gordo  
Tel.: (+351) 281 530 800 | Fax: (+351) 281 530 849  
casinomontegordo@solverde.pt | www.solverde.pt

### Hotel Algarve Casino

Avenida Tomás Cabreira – Praia da Rocha  
8500-612 Portimão  
Tel.: (+351) 282 402 000 | Fax: (+351) 282402 099  
hotelalgarve@solverde.pt | www.solverde.pt

## Other entertainment facilities

### Ecoteca de Olhão

Chalé João Lúcio – Pinheiros de Marim  
Tel.: (+351) 289 700 940 | Fax: (+351) 289 700948

Located in the Casa João Lúcio and, in architectural terms, one of the finest buildings to be found in the Algarve, this educational centre seeks to inform and generally raise awareness about environmental issues. There are also guided tours of the "Look into the past" exhibition in which the main historic crafts and skills of this region are explained and displayed.

### Centro de Ciência Viva do Algarve

Rua Comandante Francisco Manuel – 8000-250 Faro  
Tel.: (+351) 289 890 920 | Fax: (+351) 289 890 929  
info@ccvalg.pt | www.ccvalg.pt

The Algarve Live Science Centre was founded in order to raise educational standards in the field of science, providing means of access to anyone interested in either science or technology. Science workshops, field trips, astronomy and themed birthday parties are amongst the experiences used to foster learning about the world of science. These are just some of the centre's activities, devised to stimulate the curiosity and imagination, particularly of our younger scientists.

### Centro de Ciência Viva de Tavira

Convento do Carmo, 8800-311 Tavira  
Tel.: (+351) 281 326 231  
geral@tavira.cienciaviva.pt | www.tavira.cienciaviva.pt

This centre was established to promote scientific and technological awareness, particularly in connection with the themes of water and energy. In addition to providing displays on hydroelectricity and modelling the cycle of rainwater or pollution along watercourses, the centre offers highly educational activities and experiences. Interactive modules, laboratories, cyberspace facilities and a media library await people of all ages wishing to discover a whole new world.

### CDEPA – Observatório Astronómico de Tavira

Casa Branca - Sítio do Malhão – 8800-510 Tavira  
Tel.: (+351) 281 321 754 | Fax: (+351) 281 324 688  
cdepa@mail.telepac.pt | www.cdepa.pt

The CDEPA House of Astronomy is an informal science centre. This peaceful holiday centre provides visitors with relaxing conditions and the equipment necessary for the observation, study and research of the cosmos. Or, alternatively, just simply to enjoy the clear skies of the Algarve.

### COAA – Centro de Observação Astronómica do Algarve

Sítio do Poio – 8500-149 Portimão  
Tel.: (+351) 282 471 180 | Fax: (+351) 282 471 516  
info@coa.co.uk | www.ip.pt/coaa



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