

Cabo	Verde
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"...I found in Cape Verde one of the worlds most lively and varied underwater ".... Jacques Yves Cousteau

## **Geographic Location of Cape Verde**

Cape Verde is an archipelago of volcanic origin in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Senegal, Gambia and Mauritania.



The archipelago is divided into two series of islands:

South Sotavento islands (Brava, Fogo, Santiago and Maio) and islets (Seco or Rombo Ilhéu de Cima, Ilhéu Grande, Ilhéu Sapado, Ilhéu Luís Carmeiro and Ilhéu do Rei);

North islands Barlavento (Boa Vista, Sal, São Nicolau, Santa Luzia, São Vicente and Santo Antão) and islets (Branco and Raso).

The average annual temperature on the islands of São Vicente and Santo Antao varies between 24  $^{\circ}$  C to 31  $^{\circ}$  C and the sea between 23  $^{\circ}$  C and 28  $^{\circ}$ 

## Island of São Vicente

Discovery on the day of São Vicente, the January 22, 1462, **the island of São Vicente**, has an area of 228 km2, it measures 24 km from east to west, 16 km from north to south.



São Vicente is the last island of the archipelago of Cape Verde to be populated. It was only in 1838, when was installed in the bay of Porto Grande, a coal depot for the supply of boats on the Atlantic route, that people began to settle. Mindelo was then founded.

Crossroads of boats from various sources, due to its excellent sea port of Porto Grande, the biggest port in the country, in the center of the main shipping routes across the Atlantic. Is from this sea port that the connections are made to the neighboring island of Santo Antão.



The second most populated island is by its genesis, extremely open, intellectual and sports. Developed an internationally recognized artistic ability, notably Musical or was not the land of Cesária Évora, but also in the visual, Literature, Theatre, Dance and Film Arts.



The beaches, are pleasant distributing the spaces around the entire island. Can be found in the very city of Mindelo, on laginha, and outside in the wide Bay of Salamansa and also in Baía das Gatas, protected zone and of warm waters, we have another beaches in San Pedro, Praia Grande or Calhau. Scroll through them in a quasi-circular to the island, reveals the quaint and the remnants of a once fertile Ribeira de Julião and fishing villages of Calhau and São Pedro, whose charms are calm and endless blue horizon of sea.



The local culinary specialty is the "Tuna Steak with rice Favona".

## Island of Santo Antão

I Initially baptized Santo António, with 754 km2, is the second largest island, the westernmost, the most northern archipelago and higher rainfall.



Your relief is the most impressive of all the islands with deep creeks, peaks and craggy ridges constituting the tourist point of view, one of the most interesting landscapes of Cape Verde in contrasting green areas with dry regions.

An extensive range extends from north to south dividing the island into two parts, north and south, with altitudes exceeding 1500 meters in several places and the Topo de Coroa with the highest point 1979 meters.



The southern slope, where is located the city of Porto Novo, seaport where are the links to the island of São Vicente, is more cut and covered with herbaceous vegetation.



The relief cut cliffs and escarpments, gorges and valleys, make this island unique in its beauty, a paradise for adventurers enabling them to practice

"trekking" and "mountain biking".



Agriculture, forestry and livestock have considerable weight in the island's economy. Here is manufactured the famous "grogue", brandy cane sugar, drink alcohol heavily and still made by traditional methods.



The local culinary specialty is the "lamb stew".

### The sea and biodiversity of the islands of São Vicente and Santo Antão

The marine fauna is rich and diverse, the water is clear, normally with visibility of more than 25 meters. The average annual temperature on the islands of São Vicente and Santo Antão varies between 24 ° C to 31 ° C and the sea between 23 ° C and 28 ° C. All this ingredients promote the existence of coral platforms and multicolored fish creating a amazing ambiance.



The biodiversity is immense and the chance of seeing species such as Wahoo, Skipjack tuna and Common dolphinfish is a reality. Also a permanent numerous of species of fish can be seen at different times of the year such as bream, mullet, esmoregal, snapper, grouper, moray eel, mullet, grouper. The migratory species such as tunas,

dolphins, sperm whales, orcas and whales suddenly arise.



The archipelago also has a sedentary population of tuna, which consists primarily of "Thunnus thynnus" (Yellowfin Tuna) and "Thunnus obesus" (Bigeye Tuna). Among the migratory tuna highlights the "Katsuwnus pelamis" (Skipjack Tuna) passing through Cape



Because São Vicente and Santo Antão Islands are on the most western point of the Cape Verde archipelago, is possible to see sharks, mantas and rays. The most common shark is the nurse shark, but sometimes the nature brings surprises like bull sharks, hammerhead sharks and the big wale shark.



In Cape Verde there are five species of turtle: "Chelonia mydas" (Green Turtle), "Grimace Caretta" (Blue Turtle), "Eretmochelys imbricata" (Turtle Hull), "Lepidochely olivacea" and "Dermochelys



coriacea" (brown tortoise) with a permanent presence of other migratory

character. From June to July seek the beaches to spawn and it is expected that the eggs hatch from August to December. The still waters are home to a large number of crustaceans with particular emphasis on **the** lobsters.



There are four species of lobster: Scyllarides latus, echinatus Panulirus, Panulirus regius and Palinurus Charlestoni. Thelatter is endemic to Cape Verde where it is commonly known as pink lobster.



There are nine types of morays of different colors and you can see on every dive.

#### **Dive Centers - DIVE TRIBE**

The DIVE-TRIBE has three dive centers located on the islands of São Vicente (São Pedro and Mindelo) and Santo Antão (Porto Novo).





All centers are equipped with the best equipment, and BAUER filling stations with SECURUS system, which guarantees an excellent quality of breathable air. The centers have five semi-rigid inflatable craft and. All centers are Rebreather Friendly, we have oxygen and absorbing CO2.

The services presented by DIVE-TRIBE divided into three categories:

**DIVE** - A set of experiments forever. The chance to come face to face with a Manta Ray or maybe even with a huge and friendly Whale Shark is real in Sao Vicente and Santo Antão arguably two of the best islands for diving in Cape Verde. Nurse Sharks, one of very few species of sharks that can be



properties without suffocating and companions in most of our spots, allow endless possibilities to photographers, or even any diver who ever lived the thrill of being a few inches of a so beautiful specimen and top predator. Biodiversity is quantity is such that often feels more like being in a huge aquarium, completely surrounded by movement and color, where each moment is unique and indescribable!

Apnea & Free diving: Dare to let go at Sao Vicente

From discovery with "Try Free diving" to "free diving level 2" we offer you 5 programs to become a advanced free diver!

SPECIAL TRIPS – We provide special one day trips to the natural reserve Island of Santa Luzia and to the mystical place of Tarrafal of Monte Trigo on the southwest of Santo Antão Island. This trips have a minimum number of 6 participants and inloude three dives and all meals.





TRAINING - All the SSI - PADI - CMAS trainings courses are available at Sao Vicente and PADI at Santo Antão,

All the courses are given by qualified, competent and attentive professionals in a pleasant, relaxed and secure atmosphere.



We offer complete training courses, adapted to your objectives and projects. To initiate yourself and discover scuba diving, to become a diver, to improve your skills through a wide choice of specialties or even to change your life by becoming a Instructor.

Enter the world of diving without bubbles and in silence. We have closed-circuit equipment "rebreather" and provide training at different levels offered by TDI (Santo Antão only)

#### **DIVE CENTER CONTACTS:**

DIVE TRIBE - Foya Branca - São Vicente Island

**Foya Branca Resort** 

Tel: 238- 9588233

**DIVE-TRIBE - Sport Fishing Club Mindelo - São Vicente Island** 

**Marina Mindelo** 

Tel: 238 - 9829498

saovicente@dive-tribe.com

DIVE-TRIBE - Art Resort ( Santo Antão Island )

**Santantao Art Resort** 

Tel: 238 - 5915977

santoantao@dive-tribe.com

## **Hotel Facilities**

# Foya Branca Hotel -São Vicente Island

São Pedro

781 Cabo Verde

Phone: 238 2307400

www.foyabranca.com

geral@foyabranca.com

Two minutes from the Airport, "Foya Branca Hotel & Villas", its framework, exemplary advantage of its location on São Pedro Bay, opposite a beautiful secluded beach, the serene atmosphere that provides, pleasant disposition and diversity of spaces, deserves the choice for this adventure by the two most northern islands of Cape Verde.

The hotel consists of 12 junior suites, 4 triples, 52 doubles all equipped with air conditioning, and 6 villas with 2, 3 and 4 bedroom apartments with kitchenette. All units are equipped with safe, minibar, telephone, TV, shower (hot and cold water) and hairdryer.



The various structures of fun (Swimming Pools, Gym, Tennis, Playground, ......) and leisure activities (trips, Bikes, Hiking, Fishing, Diving, "Windsurfing", "surf", ....) fulfill the general wills of any guest. The dining areas offer a varied menu, combining the Cape Verdean and European cuisine, deserving particular reference to high quality and taste of its cuisine. In memory of who goes there is indelibly marked the feeling of comfort and peace that emanates throughout the unit. The strange this is not your own spatial conception but also the friendliness and education helpful service personnel without being noticed is always present and available.

#### **Casa Colonial**

Rua 24 de Setembro - Mindelo - São Vicente

Cabo Verde

Phone: 238 2318760 www.casacolonial.info

casacolonialmindelo@gmail.com

Casa Colonial is a beautifully restored historic home in the heart of Mindelo, the cultural capital of Cape Verde, on the island of São Vicente.

The house is one of the oldest homes in Mindelo and is perfectly located in a quiet residential street within meters of the Presidential Palace and the cafés, restaurants, bars, and shops of Rua Lisboa.

Casa Colonial has 9 large Double bedrooms (6 with 4-Poster Kingsized beds + 3 large Twin bedrooms). Each room has its own ensuite wet-room with open plan shower and w/c.



Also have a secluded courtyard (Quintal) with a plunge pool and a private roof terrace with views over the city and Monte Cara.

#### Casa Café Mindelo

Rua Governador Calheiros 6 - Mindelo - São Vicente

Cabo Verde

Phone: 238 2313735

www.casacafemindelo.com info@casacafemindelo.com

Casa Café Mindelo is a city touristic project in Mindelo, a town located in the bay of Porto Grande, one of the most beautiful bays in the world, on the island of São Vicente, Cape Verde.

The house is situated on the coast road, surrounded by the historical area. Its 21 windows are overlooking the quiet ocean and the pulse of the streets ornamented with acacia trees and the bustle of people. The scenery is composed by markets, cars, saleswomen, churches, art studios, game



corners, barber shops, fresh fish, tropical fruit, travelers, taverns and sailors where the memories of a time of "Sancent sab" extend on clear days. When the sun sets on Monte Cara, the house falls asleep with the murmurs of the waves and the bohemian nightlife resonates far away in a warm voice, "It is sweet to die in the sea ..."

With its three floors, Casa Café Mindelo, provides its visitors a relaxed, familiar and cozy environment. The first and second floors feature seven comfortable, large bedrooms facing the bay and contemplating the movement of the boats. It also includes a terrace inspired by the Moroccan patios, equipped with a barbecue and delicately swept by the warm sea wind.

# Aquiles eco-hotel

São Pedro - São Vicente

Cabo Verde

Phone: 238 2328002

www.aquilesecohotel.com info@aquilesecohotel.com

The powerful nature of Sao Pedro's beautiful beach inspired the design of the Aquiles Eco Hotel. It could not be otherwise, given the natural beauty and the strong character of the site.

This is not a typical hotel.

Eco Hotel means a hotel or accommodation that has made important environmental improvements to its structure in order to minimize its impact on the environment. The basic definition of а green hotel is an environmentally responsible lodging that follows the practices of green living.



The Eco-Hotel re-use water in order to preserve as much as possible this precious global resource, which in Cape Verde is particularly valuable, due to its scarcity.

13 rooms with a basic configuration to fit with the simple village living. They consist in a simple portal "skeleton" made by 8x8 wooden bars, and a "skin" of assembled wooden panels. No need of air conditioning due to the crossed ventilation. No television, as we aim to encourage the discovery of the village and the open-air experiences instead of staying in the rooms. On the other side we offer wi-fi connection in the common spaces to be linked with the world. Low tech installation and few visual information let the visitors experience themselves and the surrounding environment.

# Residential Jenny

Alto São Nicolau- Mindelo - São Vicente

Cabo Verde

Phone: 238 2328969

www.residencialjenny.cv jennymindelo@gmail.com

The Residencial Jenny is located in Mindelo. Is located on privileged zone with a spectacular view of the Bay of Porto Grande and the city of Mindelo. Located in the historical center of the city, you are close to several indispensable facilities for your stay: restaurants, bars, banks, shops, among many others.



The Residential Jenny has at your disposal 24 rooms (of which 5 with sea view, 13 overlooking the courtyard - doubles, singles and twins - and 06 suites) large, bright, pleasant, elegantly decorated and with spectacular views of the Bay Porto Grande and the cosmopolitan city of Mindelo. All rooms are equipped with private bathroom with hot and cold water, TV, air conditioning, minibar and wireless internet. Breakfast is included in the prices.

#### Santoantao Art Resort - Santo Antão Island

Porto Novo

84 Cabo Verde

Phone: 238 2222675

www.santantao-art-resort.com

santantaoresort@gmail.com

The Santantao Art Resort is focused on providing its guests, service excellence, and to present them to a multitude of opportunities for an activity holiday and relaxation combined experience in the beautiful island of Santo Antão.



The hotel offers a modern convenience, distributed by 55 standard rooms (twin rooms / Double Rooms) 15 Superior Rooms and 3 Suites. All rooms have: Bathroom (Tub / Shower) Hairdryer, Air Conditioned, Satellite TV with international channels, mini bar and balcony. Most rooms have a direct sea view and some have a partial view of the sea.

It is a modern 4 star hotel that offers a warm atmosphere of an elegant resort. All installation and services comply with European Standards.

# Pedracin village

Boca de Coruja – Ribeira Grande – Santo Antão

Phone: 238 2242020

pedracin@cvtelecom.cv

Pedracin Village is a rural touristic resort inserted in a farm at Boca de Coruja place, composed by basaltic cottages with thatched roofs, built respecting the traditional island

architecture. Surrounded by a sumptuous natural scenery of green valleys in which sugarcane, papaya, banana and mango trees grow, flanked by abrupt slopes covered with cultures on terrace fields, this resort is an incitement to ecological and mountain tourism.



The lodging capacity is 64 persons, in 30 double rooms and 2 suites equipped with warm water solar energy, air-conditioned, satellite TV, telephone and minibar.

The resort is also equipped with a pool and a relaxing solarium, multiuse and conference room for 80 seated persons, a bar and a restaurant.



## Other activities that the islands provide beyond the diving

Besides diving, there are many points of interest to know in São Vicente and Santo Antão.

#### Island of São Vicente

São Vicente is an island of contrasts where one breathes an unusual and very special atmosphere. The streets of the capital, Mindelo, are blissfully adorned by a European colonial architecture and the cosmopolitanism that hangs in the air, while as the interior of the island is dry and associated with some relief.



The island of São Vicente is also a place of beautiful beaches and warm clear water, like beach Salamansa, "Baia das Gatas" or the beach of São Pedro, for lovers of windsurfing.



With a rich musical tradition, the city of Mindelo is considered the "cultural capital" of the country, still offering the visitor good restaurants where you can savor delicious cuisine, to the sound of beautiful mornas or coladeira. The cultural tradition of capital S. Vicente gains further expression in two seasons: during the music festival "Baía das Gatas", the most famous Cape Verdean cultural event, and Carnival. The feast of the New Year, also has a lot of fame.

#### Places of interest to visit:

Fortim d'El Rei: Strong century. XIX, built in the upper part of Mindelo, with a great view over the town and Porto Grande..

Igreja de Nossa Senhora da Luz: Built in 1862 by the Church of Pracinha, where the oldest district of the city is situated.

Praça Nova (Praça Amílcar Cabral): Built by the British in the late nineteenth century (1894). Full of animation between 18 h and 23 h. At-a-week, in the evenings, enjoy live music.

**Torre de Belém**: Replica of the monument of the same name that exists at the entrance of the Lisbon bar.



Centro Nacional de Artesanato: Dating from the beginning of the century. XX: It was the first college of São Vicente.

Mercado Municipal: Century building. XIX, was expanded in the third decade of the next century and suffered fresh makeover in 1984.

**Museu de Arte Tradicional**: Praça Nova – Historic Centre of Mindelo.

Parque Natural de Monte Verde: The soils of Monte Verde are mostly occupied with rain fed agriculture. The current floristic composition of Monte Verde and literature to allow the reconstitution of the original vegetation of this area. Euphorbia tuckeyana was

the kind that covered the northern Green Mountain slope from 400 m upwards.

#### Where to Eat:

Fish and shellfish are part of traditional Cape Verdean diet. São Vicente is no exception. Mindelo alternative bars and restaurants are immense. Some suggestions:

Cocktail

Restaurant Grill

Casa Café Mindelo

Restaurant Tapas

Restaurant Bistro

Taverna

Caravela

#### Island of Santo Antão

Hilly and green, mainly agricultural, stands out for its grandeur. The tours, mountaineering and small productions grog are the attractions of this island.



Between terraces and valleys, formed by the numerous mazes taken, give sustenance to cane sugar as well results in a distinctive and handmade grogue. The Ribeira Grande Valley of Paul and the Topo of the Coroa are culmination of all the endless beauty of this island, made extensive basaltic areas, rails and boilers, making it an attractive place for adventure sports such as canyoning, hiking, fishing and many others who, reunited in being, a healthy mind in healthy body. But the grandeur of the island does not end here, the uses and customs of its people bring with them a spirit between the profane and the sacred, between joy and tranquility. "Tarrafal de Monte

Trigo", "Pico da Cruz", "Cova" and the lighthouse "Fontes Pereira de Melo" will surely captivate the eye and the senses of visitors.

Perhaps this is the ideal place to experience the best grogue from Cape Verde, a drink with high alcohol content, produced from the fermentation of cane sugar place. On the road to Porto Novo to Ribeira das Patas, you can visit a farm that today is a unique experience in Cape Verde, self-sustaining tourist village.



Marvel at the grandeur of the mountains...

The island of Santo Antão, the second largest island of all the Cape Verde archipelago, is dominated by the towering mountains that popularize the figure of known "Topo de Coroa", a volcano that marks the history of the

island and is the second highest peak top of the archipelago, with 1979 meters high. The ravines and valleys, to the north, desert and arid landscape to the south provide scenarios of extreme beauty and striking contrasts.

# Venture out in sporting activities provided by the mountains...

Being an island of remarkable hills and peaks, valleys and carried, Santo Antão provides a multitude of sporting activities, among which stand out the hiking, trekking and cycling. Let yourself be carried away by existing tracks and get involved in landscapes scenic and beautiful island that once separated the Portuguese and Spanish territories in the Treaty of Tordesillas.



Ponta do Sol, situated northeast of the island, near the coast, is a very quiet and cozy little town. Its inhabitants are devoted almost exclusively to fishing.

A few kilometers from this city are the beaches of Aranhas and Motche. The way there can be traveled on foot or by boat.



Porto Novo is the first point of contact with our Santo Antão. Are you movement and typical of port cities, living on entry and exit of people and goods bustle. Halfway between Porto Novo and Tarrafal Monte Trigo, is the Praia Formosa.



Ribeira Grande, capital of Santo Antão, also known as the Village, is a small town that you can easily know the foot. Near the village, unfold two very rich in water and the pleasant walks inviting verdant valleys, are those of Ribeira Grande and Ribeira da Torre.

Tarrafal Monte Trigo, in the extreme southwest of the island, is wanted by the beauty and grandeur of its rugged mountains. Herein lies the biggest beach of Santo Antão.



The valley of Paul is one of the greenest in the archipelago and is also one of the most beautiful places. Water flows in its streams throughout the year without interruption. There are many paths that can be done on foot or by car, the road itself that connects Porto Novo to Ribeira Grande is punctuated by numerous scenic surprises.

We suggest you then some railings: Vila de Ribeira Grande, Coculi, Boca das Ambas Ribeiras, Chã de Igreja. Itinerary with 12.5 km, traveled in 5.30 h; Ponta do Sol, Fontainhas, Formiguinhas, Chã de Igreja. Route 12 km, traveled in 4.30 h; Penedo, Ribeira do Penedo, Estância de Pedra, Pico da Cruz, Cova Route 14 km, traveled in 6 h.



#### Places of interest to visit:

**Porto Novo**: Visit the small town beach and follow the fishermen to drag the loaded tuna nets ashore. If you walk eastwards for about 25 minutes you will reach the beach Escurralete.

Igreja de Nossa Senhora do Rosário: Situated in the center of the village of Ribeira Grande. Typical colonial architecture dating from the century. XIX.

Casa Roberto Duarte Silva: It is one of the oldest buildings in Village (Ribeira Grande) and that was when the scientist was born and lived.

Estátua de Santo António: Installed near Vila das Pombas, a place that offers a panoramic 180 degree views over the valley de Paúl and the ocean. Following the valley towards Eito and Rocha Grande, will be suddenly surprised by high walls of lush greenery. At the top is Pass, with its municipal park nestled amongst almond and bougainvillea.

Farol de Boi (Farol Fontes Pereira de Melo): Opened in 1886 to signal the channel S. Vicente, this lighthouse is one of the oldest and largest of the archipelago. Is located in Pontinha de Janela.



Chã de Igreja: Charming village, built on a promontory, with the church and whitewashed houses.

**Cova**: Formed by the crater of an extinct volcano. Between Porto Novo and Ribeira Grande.

**Planalto Leste**: Forest zone, candidate for UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Parque Natural de Moroços: Of the 44 species identified in the Moroços, zone 24 (53%) are currently accepted as endemic to Cape Verde. These endemics, 9 contained the First Red List of Cape Verde.



#### Where to Eat:

The gastronomy of the island is diverse, both in fish dishes, such as meat. One of the most beloved traditional recipes is the lamb stew with beans. The deserts are also rich, try the honey cake. Some suggestions:

Babilónia

La Lampara

Restaurant Nova Cidade (Live music friday)

Restaurant Antilhas

RestauranteCibeles

Restaurant Felicidade

Restaurant Veleiro - Paul

Restaurant Veleiro - Ponta do Sol

# Photo Gallery

# São Vicente



Mindelo - São Vicente



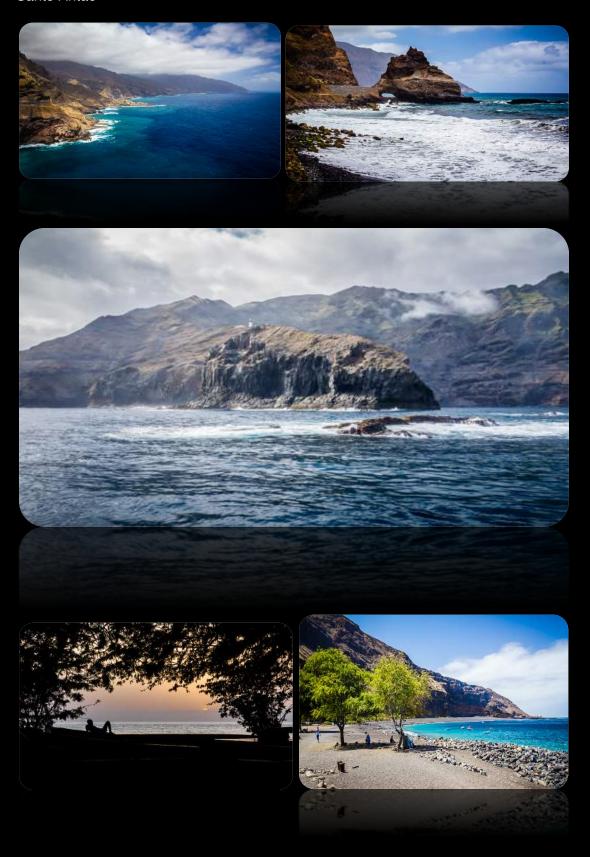




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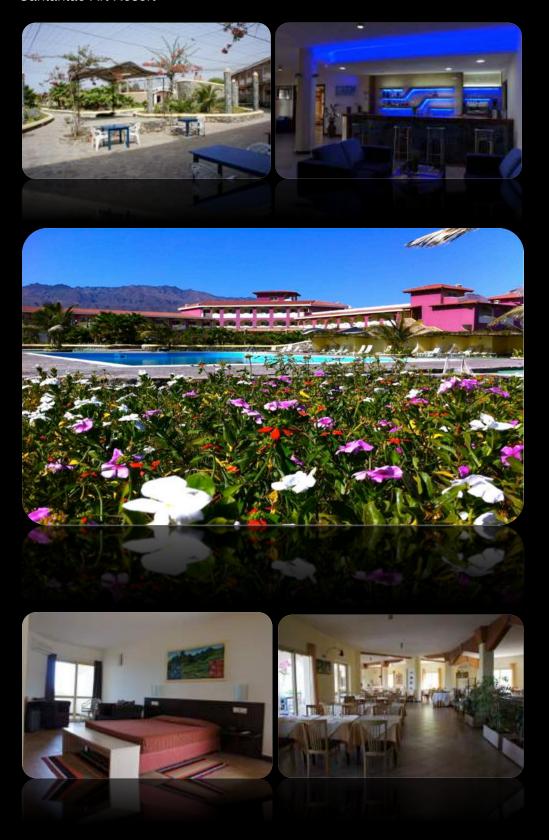


# Santo Antão





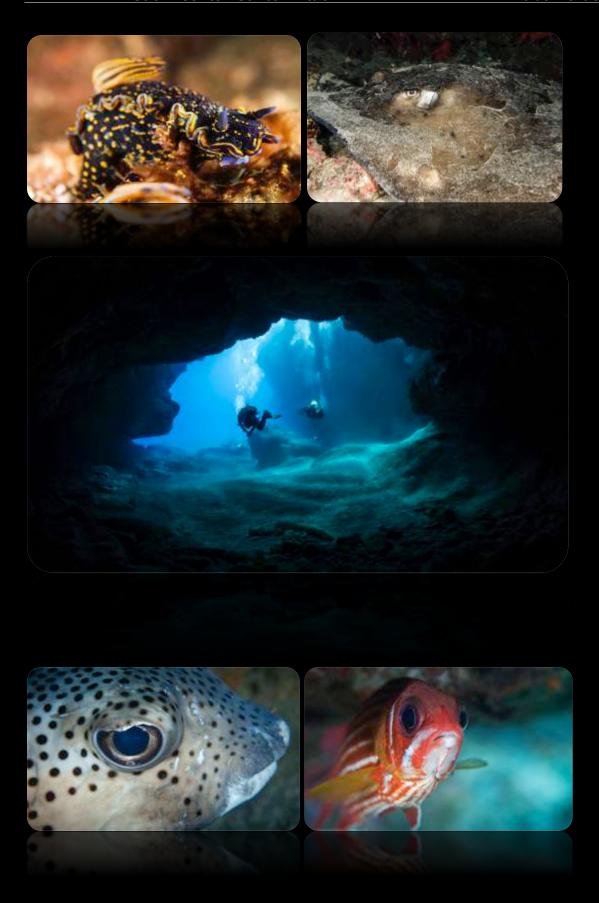
# Santantao Art Resort



Dives







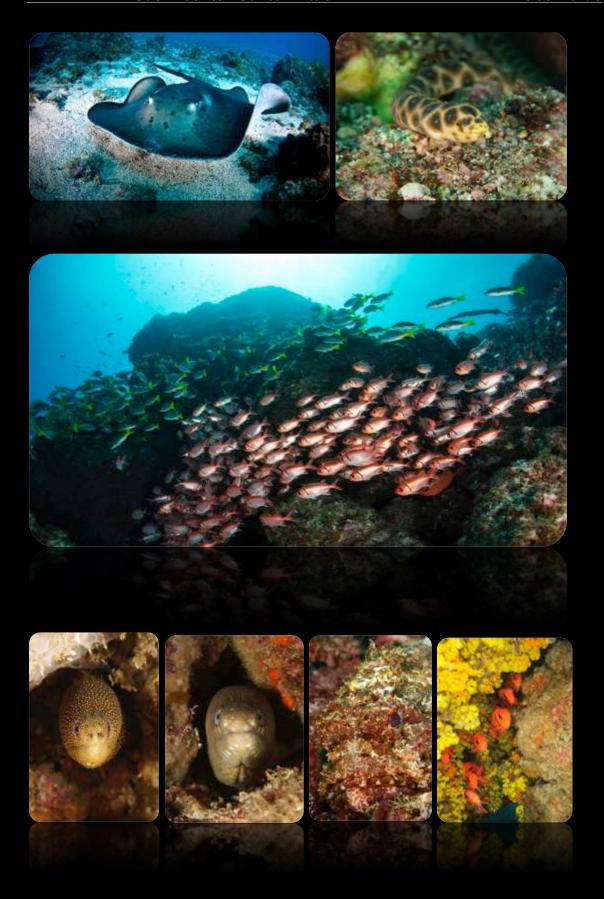








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