



PR  
17

# Caminho do Pináculo e Folhadal



## Legend

- Regional road
- Footpath
- Rural road
- Water course
- Stream
- House
- Tunnel



Information Point



Parking



Restaurant



Belvedere



Natural Flora



Fauna



Bus Stop



Toilets



Casa do Caramujo

## The Footpath

Beginning at the regional highway E.R. 110 on the way up to Paul da Serra from Encumeada, this trail leads to the areas of Bica da Cana, Casa do Caramujo and Folhadal, coming to an end at regional highway E.R. 228 at the Encumeada junction.

This path follows the levadas of Serra and Norte, between the elevations of 1000 and 1600 metres, crossing an excellent area of native high-altitude vegetation, as well as the native Laurisilva forest, an area that is part of the Natura 2000 Network.

Along the way, you will encounter magnificent views of the São Vicente Valley, as well as examples of the island's architecture and heritage, as is the case of a "municipal path" – a section of a public pathway used by the islanders in travelling between the north and south sides of the island – paved with stone; the levadas and tunnels carved out of the rock that were built to carry the water from the north to the south side of the island.

The route runs along the levada, although in some places you leave it to follow the stone pathway. When you reach the top of the footpath at Pináculo, you will have a view of the magnificent landscape of the Ribeira Brava Valley in the background and the Central Mountain Range, where the island's two highest peaks stand out, Pico do Areiro (1817m) and Pico Ruivo (1861m).

Surround this levada is a vegetation rich in small endemic plants which are at the height of their beauty in the spring months: Madeiran orchids (*Dactylorhiza foliosa*), Canary buttercups (*Ranunculus cortusifolius*), easily recognised by their bright yellow flowers, Mandon's chrysanthemum (*Argyranthemum pinnatifidum*), and geraniums (*Geranium palmatum*).

You will reach a point where the levada you have followed from the start divides into two branches. Follow the walkway at the side of the Levada do Norte, which is used to power the hydroelectric generating plant at Serra d'Água.

Cascades and tunnels are found all along this route and when you come out of the last tunnel, you reach Folhadal, a name referring to the abundance of Lily-of-the-valley trees (*Clethra arborea*) found here.

At Encumeada you can take PR 1.3 – Encumeada Footpath, which leads to Pico Ruivo.



## Description

Distância: 14Km  
Tempo: 6h 30m  
Altitude máxima: 1620m  
Altitude mínima: 1000m  
Início: Lombo do Mouro  
Fim: Encumeada

## Warning

Weather is subject to frequent changes, take warm clothing; Tunnels en route, carry a torch; Carry drinking water.

## Contacts

Emergency number	112
Civil Protection	291700112
Buses (RODOESTE)	291220148
Taxis (São Vicente)	291842238

## Local Festivities

- Festa de Nossa Senhora da Paz (last Sunday of July)
- Festa de Nossa Senhora da Saúde (1st Sunday of August)
- São Vicente Municipality Day (last week of August)
- Festa do Senhor Bom Jesus (1st Sunday of September)
- Festa Nossa Senhora do Rosário (1st Sunday of October)

## Handcrafts

Madeira embroidery; Patchwork tapestries; Woolen garments; Caps with ear flaps or "barretes de vilão"

## Field Code



## Walking Code

- Avoid noise or actions against nature.
- Do not take plants or animal with you.
- Do not throw rubbish away (issues do not easily decompose).
- Do not light fires.
- If you are a smoker do not throw cigarettes ends on the floor, keep them for the dust-bin.
- Do not change or damage the signs.

## For your own safety ...

- Before starting out make sure you have update instructions on the route.
- Let someone else know where you're going and when you expect to return.
- Be sure to confirm the time it will take so that you can finish before nightfall.
- Take some extra food and water with you.
- Wear suitable clothes and shoes;
- If possible take a mobile phone whit you;
- In case of heavy rain or strong winds do not go on and/or turn back using the same route.
- Don't take risks.

## Promotor



## Technical information:

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Madeira Island Footpaths

