



MADEIRA UNCOVERED:

A Paradise of Adventure and Charm

Tucked away in the Atlantic Ocean, Madeira is an island of remarkable beauty, offering a perfect mix of adventure, culture, and luxury. Known as the "Island of Eternal Spring" for its mild year-round climate, Madeira entices visitors with its dramatic landscapes, vibrant flowers, and rich history. For those seeking a slice of paradise, it's an ideal destination, whether you're an adventurer, nature lover, or someone looking for an indulgent getaway.

In this edition of KR Travel, we take you on a journey to Madeira, including a stay at the luxurious Belmond Reid's Palace, and an unforgettable dining experience at the renowned Michelin star William Restaurant.

BELMOND REID'S PALACE



Belmond Reid's Palace is the epitome of luxury and tranquillity, offering a one-of-a-kind experience in Madeira that seamlessly combines elegance, history, and breathtaking natural beauty. Perched on a cliff top above the sparkling Atlantic Ocean, this iconic hotel has been a symbol of sophistication and exclusivity for over 120 years. From the moment you step into the hotel, you are greeted by the friendly and attentive staff, who ensure every aspect of your stay is perfect. The hotel is meticulously clean, and as you walk through the airy, grand spaces, you're welcomed by a gentle floral scent that adds to the sense of serenity.

The stunning pink exterior of Reid's Palace, with its historical charm and movie-set feel, sets the tone for the entire experience. The



striking balcony terrace, which overlooks the ocean, is one of the hotel's standout features, offering panoramic views of the coastline—ideal for enjoying a drink or simply watching the sun set over the sea. The pool area, nestled in lush tropical gardens, provides a peaceful sanctuary for guests to unwind and enjoy the tranquillity of the surroundings. Whether you're lounging by the pool or enjoying the view from the terrace, Reid's Palace offers a sense of calm and elegance that makes you feel worlds away from everyday life.

The history of Reid's Palace is as captivating as the hotel itself. Originally built in 1891 by Scotsman William Reid, the hotel was designed as a luxurious retreat for the British elite and soon became a haven for royalty, celebrities, and prominent literary figures. Winston Churchill famously stayed here, and the hotel's association with him, as well as other notable guests such as George Bernard Shaw, adds to its storied legacy. Over the years, Reid's Palace has preserved its historical charm while embracing modern luxury, creating a timeless atmosphere where past and present effortlessly intertwine. The hotel's unique blend of old-world elegance and contemporary amenities makes it feel like stepping back in time, offering guests a chance to experience the glamour of a bygone era, with the convenience and comfort of modern-day indulgences.

Reid's Palace's rich history is further

reflected in its carefully curated décor, with antique furnishings and original features scattered throughout the hotel, paying homage to its past. The grounds are equally stunning, with beautifully landscaped gardens that are home to a wide array of exotic plants and flowers. Guests can take a leisurely stroll through the lush surroundings or enjoy the renowned Reid's Spa, where treatments are designed to rejuvenate and refresh, allowing guests to unwind in a truly luxurious setting. The atmosphere here is one of refinement, inviting guests to embrace both relaxation and sophistication.

The hotel's location is second to none, offering unparalleled views of the ocean while being just a short drive from the vibrant heart of Funchal. The surrounding area is rich in history and culture, and the knowledgeable staff are always on hand to provide recommendations and insights about Madeira, whether you're looking for local attractions or hidden gems in the area. For those who want to explore further, the hotel is also close to several of the island's most famous landmarks, including the stunning Monte Palace and the historic botanical gardens.

The breakfast at Reid's Palace is another highlight of the experience. The incredible buffet and à la carte options feature a wide selection of fresh, local ingredients, from tropical fruits to made-to-order dishes, ensuring there is something to suit every taste. The restaurant's elegant atmosphere,



paired with the exceptional service, makes breakfast a memorable event each day. For dinner, guests can enjoy a variety of fine dining options, with menus that celebrate local produce and international flavours.

The rooms at Reid's Palace are luxurious and plush with the comfiest beds ensuring a restful night's sleep, while the rooms are equipped with luxury amenities, including Dyson hairdryers and high-end toiletries, adding to the sense of indulgence. The elegantly furnished rooms feature beautiful touches that reflect the hotel's heritage, with vintage-style décor that complements the hotel's timeless character. Whether you're staying in a standard room or a luxurious suite, every detail has been carefully designed to offer an experience of absolute comfort.

While Reid's Palace has long attracted an older clientele, its refined atmosphere and stunning surroundings make it the perfect destination for a more sophisticated girls' holiday or a romantic couples retreat. The hotel offers a peaceful, elegant escape where guests can unwind and indulge in luxury, making it the ideal setting for those seeking a more tranquil, refined getaway. The sense of history, combined with the impeccable service, makes Reid's Palace not just a hotel, but a truly special experience that will leave you with lasting memories of your time in Madeira.

www.belmond.com





WILLIAM RESTAURANT

William Restaurant Named after the visionary founder of Reid’s Palace, Mr William Reid, William Restaurant at Belmond Reid’s Palace is a must-visit for an unforgettable culinary experience in Madeira.

Under the direction of a Michelin-starred chef Jose Diogo, this exquisite restaurant offers a dining experience that is as breathtaking as its setting.

The menu at William is a celebration of the island’s bounty. Expect dishes that feature the best seasonal produce, including locally caught fish, fresh vegetables, and tropical fruits. The restaurant places a strong emphasis on sustainability, sourcing ingredients from local farms and fishermen, ensuring that every dish is as fresh and flavourful as possible.

We chose the William tasting menu; The



tuna, seaweed, apple, and prickly pear leaf starter is a beautiful balance of fresh, earthy, and slightly tangy flavors. The tuna is incredibly fresh, while the seaweed adds a subtle umami depth. The apple introduces a sweet and crisp contrast, and the prickly pear leaf provides an intriguing touch, making this dish both refreshing and complex.

Next, the Fish from the coast, fennel, yeast, and roots takes you on a journey of local flavors. The fish is delicate and perfectly cooked, while the fennel and roots bring a mild sweetness and earthiness to the dish. The yeast adds a slight savory note, completing a well-balanced, coastal-inspired plate.

For the main, the Wagyu beef from the Azores, sweet potato, and curd cheese is a showstopper. The smoked wagyu is melt-

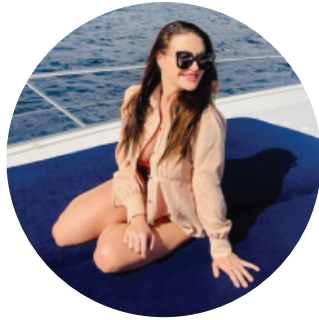
in-your-mouth tender with an intense depth of flavor, complemented perfectly by the creamy curd cheese. The sweet potato provides a velvety sweetness that marries beautifully with the richness of the beef.

The dessert of Lemon Caviar, strawberries, and lemongrass is a zesty and refreshing finish. The lemon caviar offers bursts of citrus flavor, while the strawberries provide sweetness and freshness. The lemongrass adds a surprising herbal note, creating a well-rounded and light conclusion to the meal.

To close the evening, the Coffee and petits fours offer a satisfying and elegant ending. The coffee is rich and aromatic, and the petits fours are delicate, with a variety of flavors that complement the coffee perfectly.

William’s extensive wine list is a true reflection of the island’s famous wine culture. With a selection of locally produced Madeira wines, including rare vintage varieties, guests can enjoy expert wine pairings with each course, allowing them to fully appreciate the depth of flavours that the region’s wines bring to the dining experience.

The overall dining experience at William is one of finesse, creativity, and balance. The restaurant celebrates local ingredients with refined techniques, resulting in a menu that is both inventive and deeply connected to the flavors of Madeira. It’s a must-visit for anyone seeking a memorable, high-end dining experience on the island. The attentive service, combined with the superb quality of the food, ensures that a meal at William is more than just dining; it’s a celebration of Madeira’s unique culinary heritage.



What we loved most about Madeira

What stood out most about Madeira was the incredible warmth of the people – everyone was friendly and eager to share the island’s unique charm. The food was another highlight, with fresh and flavorful dishes that truly captured the essence of the island. It felt incredibly safe, which made exploring stress-free and enjoyable. Everywhere you looked, the lush greenery was stunning, adding to the sense of tranquility. And the warm sea is the perfect way to unwind, making it impossible not to feel completely relaxed and at ease.

5 THRILLING & BEAUTIFUL MADEIRA ADVENTURES YOU WON’T WANT TO MISS



1 Cable Car Ride to Monte



2 Toboggan Ride Down the Hill



3 Explore the Laurisilva Forest



4 Relax at Porto Moniz Natural Swimming Pool



5 Visit Cabo Girão Skywalk



A DAY OF LUXURY ON THE WATER WITH LUXURY CHARTER MADEIRA



For a day of indulgence and adventure, Luxury Charter Madeira offers the perfect way to explore the island’s stunning coastline. Whether you’re after relaxation or excitement, this bespoke yacht charter lets you tailor your experience.

Upon boarding the sleek yacht, we were welcomed by the crew, who briefed us on the day ahead. As we sailed along Madeira’s rugged coastline, the beautiful views of the cliffs and ocean were simply breathtaking. The yacht, with its plush lounges and spacious decks, provided the perfect setting to unwind.

For those seeking adventure, Luxury Charter Madeira offers paddleboarding, snorkeling, and jet skiing. These activities let you explore Madeira’s crystal-clear waters and hidden coves. The yacht also boasts a dining area where we were treated to freshly prepared local delicacies and refreshing drinks, including champagne. The crew was attentive to our every need, ensuring a truly luxurious experience.

One of the best features of the charter is the flexibility to explore not only Madeira but also the nearby Desertas Islands and Porto Santo. With a knowledgeable crew and customizable itinerary, we visited some of the most pristine, untouched spots around the island.

Starting at €2,907 for up to 12 people for 4-7 hours, this private yacht experience is truly unforgettable. Plus, enjoy a 10% discount with the promo code "10OFF."

Whether for a special occasion, romantic getaway, or a unique adventure, a day with Luxury Charter Madeira offers the best way to experience the island’s beauty.

www.luxurychartermadeira.com

