

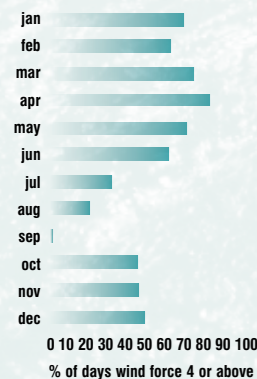


Sal Cabo Verde

An oasis for windsurfers and kites, Cabo Verde – the Cape Verde Islands – are a group of islands, 450kms off the west coast of Africa. The islands lie directly in the path of the Northeast Trade winds, making Cabo Verde a fast growing resort, with guests travelling from all over Europe. The Cape Verde archipelago consists of 11 volcanic islands, the flattest of these being Sal where vast expanses of white sand form the stark landscape.



Windstats



With the introduction of direct flights from UK, Cabo Verde is now transforming a previously barren land, covered only in salt flats, into a fast growing watersports paradise. Only a 20 minute journey from the airport, is the little town of Santa Maria, the main focus for all activities on Sal. Those not windsurfing, can enjoy kitesurfing or diving. An abundance of bars, restaurants and most of the islands hotel accommodation, are centred around Santa Maria where the local people are friendly, having a very 'laid back' Creole attitude to life. The beautiful beaches are blessed with a wide range of sailing conditions, offering anything from flat water, windchop with a shore break or full on waves at either end of the long beach.

Windsurfing in Cabo Verde

The windsurf facilities in Santa Maria are some of the best. The Club Mistral centre is located in front of the Hotel Belorizonte on the superb endless beach. The centre offers plenty of space, with a boutique, showers and toilets, Atlantis Bar & Restaurant and 'Internet-Cafe'. The bay is situated on the south coast of the island and the white sands stretch for over

4 kms. The prevailing Northeast Trade winds that blow move down to Cabo Verde during the winter months. Due to the mechanics of wind zone movements over the earth, Cabo Verde are blessed with consistent winds from October to June.

The sailing areas of Santa Maria are well defined. In front of the centre the water is a little choppy outside the shorebreak. If the shorebreak becomes too strong, then launching further upwind nearer the village jetty, makes getting away more comfortable. Once past the jetty and the local fishing boat moorings upwind, the conditions get flatter but with the new developments has created a wind shadow. But keep sailing upwind and the swells get better along with a cleaner wind, perfect for wave riding.

To round off the variety of conditions Sal has to offer, the Club Mistral team also make special excursions to the wave spot at Rife. Even then, Cabo Verde has even one more treasure to give, that of Punta Preta where the conditions both of wind and wave are one of those special spots in the world (sailing is undertaken totally at one's own risk).



HOTEL MORABEZA

Right on the beach, only steps from the Club Mistral centre, the Hotel Morabeza is located in the perfect position for a relaxing holiday in Santa Maria. One of the original hotels on the island, the hotel has comfortable accommodation with the usual facilities. In front of the main building, there is a saltwater pool, surrounded by a relaxing sun terrace. The beach club and bar, also includes the hotel restaurant serving international cuisine. The hotel also offers a variety of leisure and sports activities.

In Brief

- Superb location, on the beach, 5 minutes walk from Santa Maria and Club Mistral at the Atlantis Bar and Restaurant.
- Comfortable rooms with ceiling fans (air-conditioning on request), bathroom/WC, fridge, satellite TV, telephone and balcony some with seaview.
- Beach Club with restaurant, beach bar, saltwater swimming pool and sun terrace.
- Club Mistral windsurf centre 5 minutes walk.

HOTEL BELORIZONTE

Located on the Santa Maria beach, the hotel has an intimate atmosphere with wooden bungalows laid in small plazas among the palm trees, just metres from the fine white sands, some have air-conditioning. Recently completed is a new wing of deluxe rooms furnished to a high standard sited surrounding a freshwater pool and sun terraces. The hotel has a restaurant, bar and beach restaurant.

In Brief

- Superb location, on the beach and 10 minutes walk from Santa Maria.
- Comfortable chalet rooms some with air-conditioning, shower/WC, minibar, satellite TV and telephone.
- Restaurant, bar, beach bar and restaurant.
- Two freshwater swimming pools and tennis court.
- Club Mistral windsurf centre 2 minutes walk.

HOTEL PONTAO

Situated on the edge of town, Hotel Pontao is part of a small complex complete with a few shops and close to the variety of restaurants and bars. The large rooms are well furnished with air-conditioning, TV, mini-bar and balcony. There is a small landscaped pool and terrace flooded with evening sunshine. This new property is ideally located just 250m from the Club Mistral action.

HOTEL DUNAS DO SAL

This new hotel is located back from the beach, just minutes from the windsurf centre. The comfortable rooms with ensuite bathroom, air conditioning TV, and minibar, surround the pool with shady communal balconies. The seaview rooms are smaller with the same facilities but have a private balcony. The hotel has a restaurant with an excellent cuisine, also a lounge with a bar, open on one side overlooking the pool. There is a spa and fitness gym.



CLUB MISTRAL SAB SAB

Formerly the Hotel Albatross, Sab Sab has recently undergone minor refurbishment. With its own beach and now home to the Club Mistral centre 2. The facilities include a restaurant specialising in local and international cuisine, bars, swimming pool, lightly furnished gym, and a tennis court,

In Brief

- Great Location 15 minutes walk from Santa Maria.
- There are 46 standard rooms and 4 two bedroom rooms (Suites).
- All rooms have panoramic sea view with TV, telephone, mini bar and A/C.
- Restaurant & bar.
- Swimming pool.
- Club Mistral windsurf centre 2 on site.

CLUB MISTRAL WINDSURF CENTRE CABO VERDE

- Location:** On the beach in front of the Hotel Belorizonte
- Board/Sail Types:** Mistral / North
- Open:** All year round, (except September)
- Best Time:** October - June.
- Launch:** Sandy beach with some shore break, occasionally moderate.
- Sailing Area:** Variety of conditions for all levels.
- Wind type:** Northeast Trades.
- Wind Direction:** Cross-shore, at times cross offshore
- Shorebreak:** Normally slight but can be moderate.
- Water Conditions:** Generally choppy; up wind flatwater area; on the eastern edge increasing swells.
- Suitability:** Intermediate up to advanced wave sailors.

- Other local spots:** Rife, Punta Preta (sailed at own risk), excursion to Boa Vista. Isolated sandy beach for kitesurfing.
- Facilities:** Shower, toilet, bar/restaurant, internet cafe

- SKYRIDERS**
- Equipment:** North Kiteboarding
- Location:** Wide sandy beach

- Kite Area:** Wide bay with large area upwind of windsurf zone. Novice kitesurfers upwind from main kite zone. For experienced riders, the more upwind, the more challenging
- Conditions:** Cross shore.

- Hazards:** Shorebreak
- Suitability:** Beginners to intermediates.