



**1. Islet of Monchique, Fajã Grande, Lajes**

The islet of Monchique is located 1500 metres off the west coast of the island of Flores and is, therefore, the westernmost point in Europe. It is what remains of a volcanic cone that rises from a submarine platform 40 or 50 metres deep. However, in the time of astronomical navigation, it was an important point of reference and guidance that ships and galleons never failed to pay attention to.



**16. Pier of Estaleiro, Estaleiro, Fajã Grande**

Although in Flores, the toponym “Estaleiro” (Shipyard) refers to places for drying cereals, it is natural that, initially, there was some type of facility here – such as a simple ramp – for ship repairs, equipment that would be useful both for local vessels and also for privateer and pirate vessels. For this same reason, there must have been a fort defending the cove nearby.



**15. Fort of Nossa Senhora do Rosário, Baía da Calheta, Lajes**

When the village of Lajes das Flores was invaded and plundered by five English vessels in 1587, the residents escaped to the outbacks, but this form of protection was possible due to the existence of a lookout that allowed them to alert others. At the beginning of the 18th century, this lookout was already designated as Fortlet of Nossa Senhora do Rosário, undoubtedly because it was close to the village’s main church that bears this name.



**14. Vila das Lajes**

In the town of Lajes, its port location is very exposed and vulnerable to attacks by pirates and privateers, which may justify the location of the main buildings set back from the coastline. This is the case with the main church, which would immediately become a target for looting in the event of a robbery, and with the town hall building, which is even further away from the sea and the port.



**2. Ponta Ruiva, Cedros, Santa Cruz**

An old local legend tells that in the Ponta Ruiva area, on the island of Flores, a fisherman found a girl who had escaped from a pirate boat that passed by, certainly after being taken hostage in another coastal location or vessel. Many red-haired and blue-eyed children were born from her marriage to the fisherman, which is why the place came to be called Ponta Ruiva.



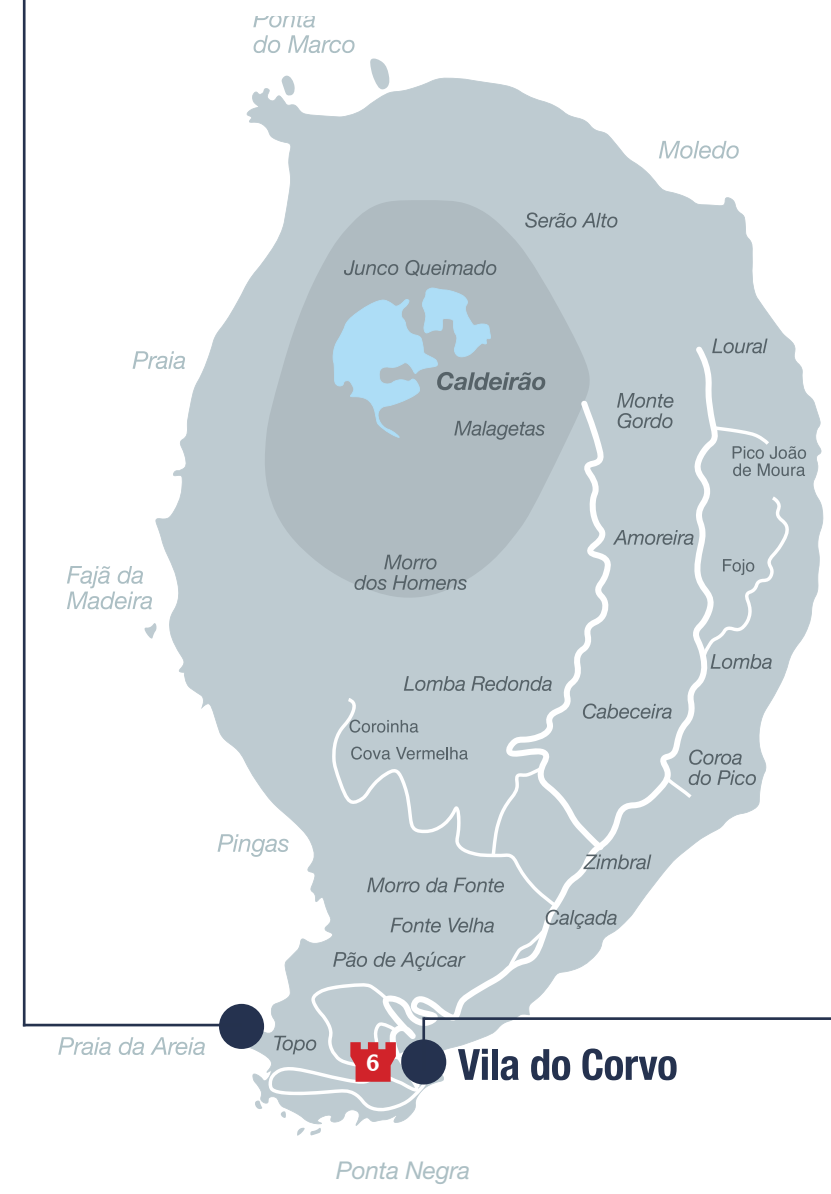
**3. Off the coast of Flores**

In August of 1591, the largest Portuguese carrack ever built – the Nau Madre de Deus – sailed from Goa to Lisbon on its second voyage to India. Passing by Flores with an immense wealth of pearls, amber, fabrics, gold and silver, pepper, cloves, ebony, nutmeg, incense, Chinese porcelain and elephant tusks, among other precious things, it was attacked by six English privateering ships. After intense fighting, it is thought that the surviving crew was left in Flores, but the ship was seized and taken to England, where it amazed everyone with its impressive dimensions.



**4. Ponta da Areia, Corvo**

Legend has it that a citizen of Corvo, taken by pirates as a child, returned to the island as an adult to avenge the contempt he felt for being the son of a single mother accused of witchcraft. Their boats were seen from the Ponta da Areia area, and the pirate attack was repelled. The pirate from Corvo was killed, but his severed head still haunted the island’s population for a few years.



**5. Sculpture of Our Lady of Miracles, Corvo**

The image of Nossa Senhora dos Milagres (Our Lady of Miracles) in the church of the same name, is a wooden sculpture, a work of Flemish art from the 16th century that led to the temple’s construction. It washed up on the coast of Corvo in a box with an inscription expressing the desire for a church to be built where it was found.



**8. Fort of Nossa Senhora dos Milagres, Porto da Casa, Corvo**

The Fort of Nossa Senhora dos Milagres, on the south coast of the island of Corvo, defended the Calheta anchorage, one of the three that served the town. It was probably built at the end of the 16th century because, as Gaspar Frutuoso reports, the coast was shallow there, and it was easy to embark and disembark. Around the same time, a high wall would have been built, five or six spans high and a league long, up to the steepest area – Pesqueiro Alto.



**6. Church of Nossa Senhora dos Milagres, Corvo**

Around 1570, a small chapel was built under the invocation of Nossa Senhora do Rosário (Our Lady of the Rosary) in the village of Vila do Corvo. In 1632, it was destroyed near the port during a pirate raid, but legend says that the image of Our Lady, placed in a strategic location, protected the population. Years later, the people of the parish of Corvo gave way to the construction of the parish church, and it was its second parish priest – Inácio Coelho – who, writing and publicising those events, attributed the miracle of the victory of the people of Corvo over the pirates to the Virgin Mary. From then on, the image came to be called Nossa Senhora dos Milagres (Our Lady of Miracles).



**7. Vila do Corvo**

The tight concentration of Vila do Corvo’s buildings on the tiny strip of land that, from the port area, rises up the hill overlooking it reflects the need to leave as much arable land free for subsistence crops and payment of the high rents owed to the island grantee. However, a town with narrow, cramped, and sloping streets also made it difficult for potential invaders to advance.



**9. The Privateer Peter Easton**

The relationship of the English privateer Peter Easton with the island of Flores dates back to 1609 when he first resupplied the meat, water and firewood here. In the following years, the visits were repeated, testifying to the convenience of a peaceful friendship for both parties. It is even said that the daughter of the captain-general of Flores was promised to Easton. However, the island’s ombudsman and the captain-general would be arrested on charges of protecting privateers.



**10. Ribeira da Cruz Bay, Caveira, Santa Cruz**

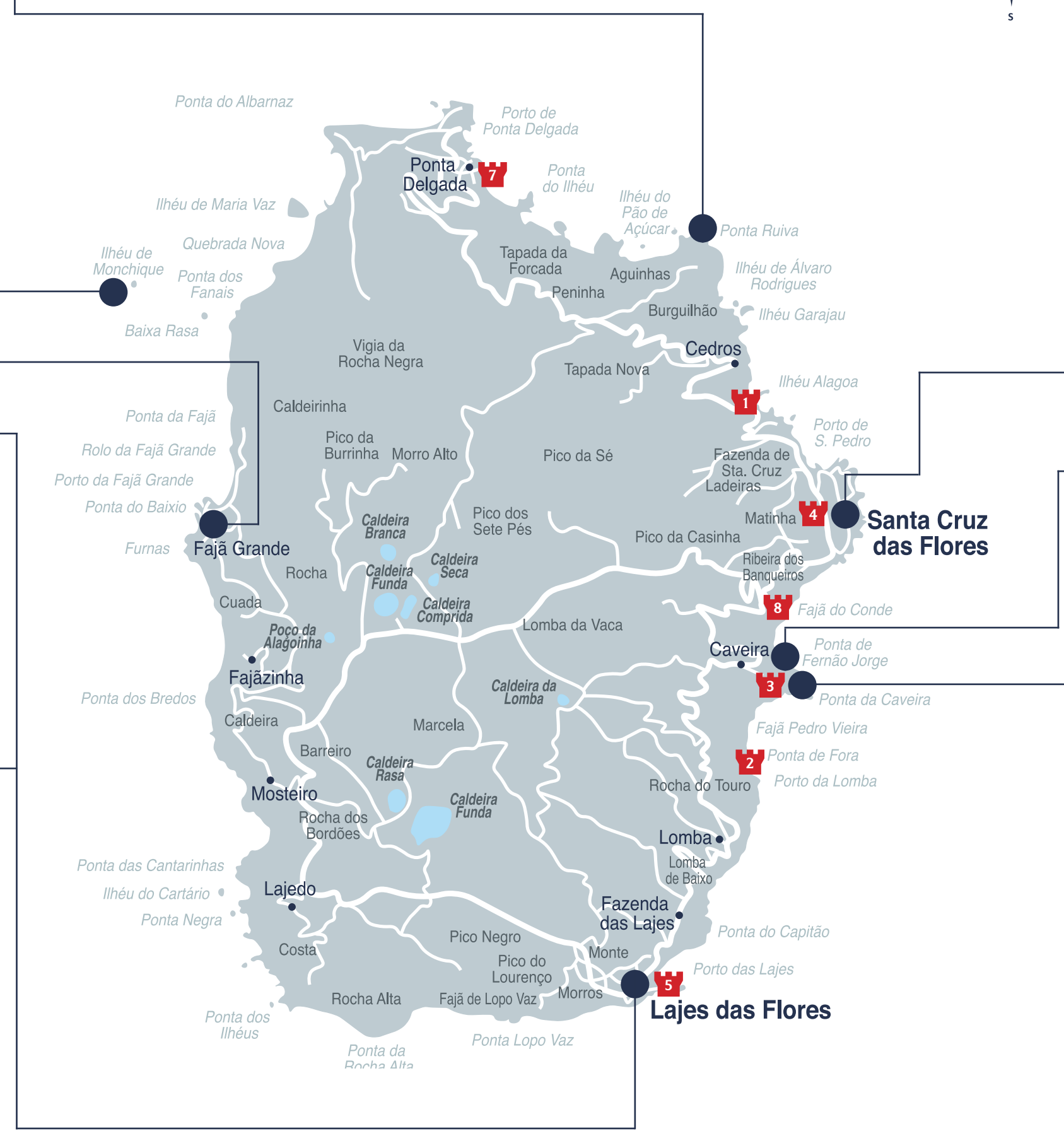
In 1591, the English privateer Richard Grenville, commanding a fleet of 15 ships, sought to intercept the Spanish fleet around Flores as it was returning to Spain loaded with the riches of South America. Grenville was defeated and died, but his epic was immortalised in a long poem descriptive of the battle entitled The Revenge – which was the name of his boat – by Alfred Tennyson: *At Flores, in the Azores, Sir Richard Grenville lay, And a pinnace, like a fluttered bird, came flying from far away: “Spanish ships of war at sea! We have sighted fifty-three!”*

One can imagine the grandiose naval battle in the bay of Ribeira da Cruz, where Grenville’s fleet was ambushed.



**13. Fort of Espírito Santo, Baía da Calheta, Lajes**

The Fort of Espírito Santo was built in the 16th century next to the port of Lajes das Flores on the ruins of the original Chapel of Espírito Santo, which was later transferred to another location.



**11. Ponta da Caveira, Caveira, Santa Cruz**

Ponta da Caveira (meaning Skull Point) got its name due to a shipwrecked man, undoubtedly an English Protestant, who ended up there and where he stayed for the rest of his life. When he died, a skull began to appear, and neighbours interpreted the phenomenon as a plea for masses in his name. Once the request was satisfied, the skull stopped bothering the locals... not without first building a niche to tell the story.

**12. Gruta do Enxaréu, Caveira, Santa Cruz**

Located on the east coast of the island of Flores, close to the parish of Caveira, the Gruta dos Enxaréus was a place of refuge for pirate and privateer vessels who, in addition to hiding, could ambush anyone seeking to approach the port of Santa Cruz.

