



2026 ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Series

World Cup I Madeira

May 1 to 3



Location

Funchal - Machico - Calheta - Porto Moniz

More Information at

www.madeiraoceanchallenge.pt



Secretaria Regional
de Educação, Ciência e Tecnologia
Direção Regional de Desporto

Atlântida
Água da Madeira

BRISA
TURISMO



funchal.pt
MUNICÍPIO

MACHICO
CÂMARA MUNICIPAL

porto
moniz
município



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OFFICIAL INVITATION

MADEIRA OCEAN CHALLENGE 2026

Welcome to the 6th Edition of the Madeira Ocean Challenge, on the stunning island of Madeira!

The Portuguese Canoeing Federation and the Madeira Regional Canoeing Association are pleased to welcome all athletes to this historic event, prepared with great enthusiasm and designed to celebrate sport, ocean energy, and the unique beauty of our archipelago.

With its impressive coastline and challenging ocean conditions, Madeira offers the ideal setting for this international competition. The combined experience of our institutions - responsible for major European and World events - guarantees excellence in organization and an unforgettable experience for all.

May this edition be marked by the excitement of competition, camaraderie among nations, and the discovery of Madeira's natural and cultural richness.

We wish all participants good luck, great achievements, and memories that will last forever.

Good competition!

President of the Portuguese Canoeing Federation
Ricardo Machado

President of the Madeira Regional Canoeing Association
Viriato Timóteo



MADEIRA

THE PERFECT RETREAT FOR NATURE SPORTS ADVENTURES

An Outstanding Island Destination

In the heart of the Atlantic, Madeira is repeatedly distinguished as the Best Island Destination in Europe and the World. The contrast between lush subtropical mountains, the deep blue ocean, and imposing cliffs makes it the famous “**Pearl of the Atlantic**,” an irresistible destination for nature lovers.



A Paradise for Sea Canoeing and Surfski

The crystal-clear and deep waters of the region provide ideal conditions for **Surfski and Sea Canoeing**.

From calm areas to more challenging swell, Madeira offers unique experiences for all levels. Paddling along Cabo Girão, exploring sea caves, and spotting dolphins, whales, or turtles makes every ocean outing unforgettable.

Biodiversity and Conservation

The archipelago-comprising Madeira, Porto Santo, Desertas, and Selvagens - has one of the largest marine protected areas in Europe, including full reserves such as the Selvagens Islands, where seabirds like Cory's shearwaters and petrels nest.

The Desertas Islands, in particular, are an essential refuge for the Monk Seal (*Monachus monachus*), one of the world's most endangered species. Their presence highlights the importance of protecting and conserving this unique ecosystem.

Nature on Land: Trails, Levadas and Laurissilva Forest

On land, trails winding through mountains and forests complement the maritime adventure.

The famous **Levadas**, candidates for UNESCO World Cultural Heritage status, lead visitors into the heart of the Laurissilva Forest, a formation around 20 million years old and classified as a **UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site since 1999**.

Culture, History and Flavours with 600 Years

With over six centuries of history, the archipelago combines culture, tradition, and rich authentic gastronomy. After a day of adventure, discovering local flavors is an essential part of the Madeiran experience.

May is the month of color, fragrance, and joy, marked by the iconic Flower Festival.

CALENDAR & PROGRAMME

MADEIRA OCEAN CHALLENGE 2026

PROGRAMME

- **February 14** - Opening of registrations
- **April 15** - Closing of registrations

Welcome to the Madeira Ocean Challenge / ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Cup Series
Portuguese Ocean Racing National Cup / Portuguese Youth Ocean Racing National Cup

PROGRAMME

April 29 & 30

- **17:00 - 19:00** - Surfski Training Session (Instructor to be confirmed)
- **10:00 - 12:00 / 14:00 - 18:00** - Free Training Sessions

April 30

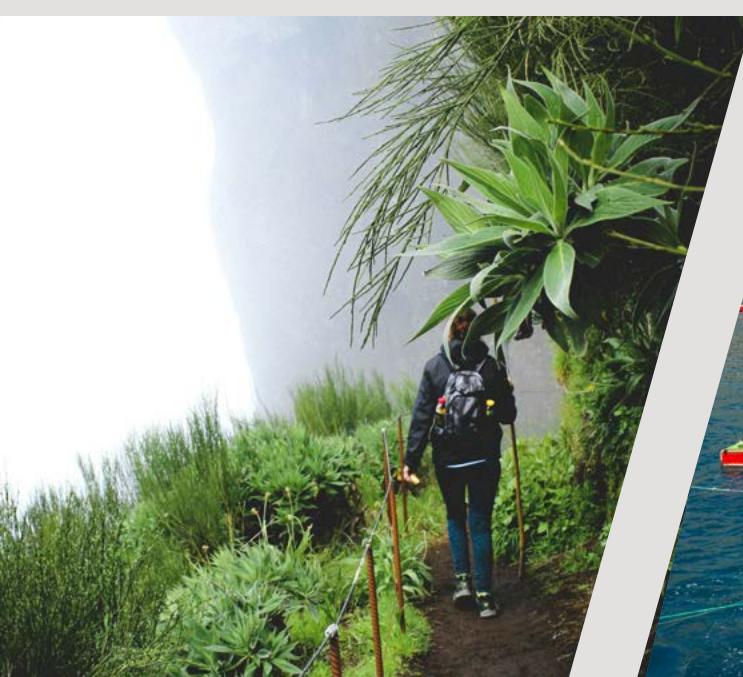
- **10:00 - 12:30 / 14:00 - 18:00** - Accreditation at the HQ, located at the São Lázaro Nautical Center.

Last-minute registrations for the ICF Short Race, ICF Short Race Relay, and Madeira Lifesaving Challenge.

Note

- If the ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Cup Series / ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Cup Series / Portuguese Ocean Racing National Cup is held on May 1, boats must be placed on the available trailers between 16:00 and 18:00 on April 30.

If held on May 2, boats must be placed on the trailers between 14:00 and 18:00 on May 1.



CALENDAR & PROGRAMME

ICF SHORT RACE & ICF SHORT RACE RELAY PROGRAMME

May 1 or 2

- 10:00 - Athletes briefing
- 10:30 - Boat Control Opens
- 11:00 - ICF Short Race – Open (5 km) – Funchal Bay
- 13:00 - ICF Short Race Prize Giving
- 14:00 - ICF Short Race Relay – Juniors (1 km)
- 18:00 - ICF Short Race Relay Juniors Prize Giving

PORTUGUESE YOUTH OCEAN RACING NATIONAL CUP

May 1 or 2

- 08:00 - Athlete transport to race start
- 09:00 - Athletes briefing
- 09:30 - Boat Control Opens
- 10:00 - Portuguese Youth Ocean Racing National Cup
- 12:30 - Prize Giving

ICF CANOE OCEAN RACING WORLD SERIES - WORLD CUP PORTUGUESE OCEAN RACING NATIONAL CUP PROGRAMME

May 1 or 2

- 11:00 - Athlete transport to race start
- 13:00 - Athletes briefing
- 13:15 - Boat Control Opens
- 14:00 - ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Cup Series / Portuguese Ocean Racing National Cup
- 18:00 - Prize Giving Ceremony
- 19:00 - Official Dinner at HQ - São Lázaro Nautical Center on May ^{2nd}

Race day and course will be defined up to 48 hours in advance according to weather conditions: Machico-Funchal or Calheta-Funchal.

MADEIRA LIFESAVING CHALLENGE PROGRAMME

May 3

- 08:00 - Transport from HQ to Seixal Beach
- 09:00 às 09:45 - Free training with Lifesaving Surfski boats
- 10:00 - Madeira Lifesaving Challenge
- 12:30 - Prize Giving
- 13:00 - Lunch
- 14:30 - Transport back to HQ

CATEGORIES

ICF CANOE OCEAN RACING WORLD SERIES WORLD CUP

Official Categories

SS1

- SS Open men
- SS Open Women
- SS Men Junior
- SS Women Junior

Non-Official Categories

SS1

- Men Under 23
- Women Under 23
- Men Master
- Women Master

OC1

- Open

SUPC - Stand Up Paddle Canoe

- Men Junior
- Women Junior
- Men Open
- Women Open
- Men Master
- Women Master

SS2 - Double Surfski

Mixed

- Open
- Under 23
- Junior
- Master

Men

- Open
- Under 23
- Junior
- Master

Women

- Open
- Under 23
- Junior
- Master

* For SS 1 Masters, starting from age group 35-39 and increasing in 5-year intervals).

* In accordance with the new ICF Ocean Racing Rules (Rule 6.3.2), in SS2 the combined age of the two athletes will determine the age group in which the crew competes.

* Age groups are calculated in 10-year increments, starting from 70-79, 80-89, and so on.

Race Format

- All races will take place on a single day.
- All categories will compete on the same day, with start intervals of 5 to 10 minutes between different category groups, if necessary.

Registrations: memosoft.spotfokus.com



CATEGORIES

ICF SHORT RACE

SS1 - Individual Surfski

- Men Open
- Women Open

ICF SHORT RACE RELAY JUNIORS

- SS1 Men
- SS1 Women
- SS2 Mixed

PORTUGUESE YOUTH OCEAN RACING NATIONAL

SS1

- Men U12
- Women U12
- Men U14
- Women U14
- Men U16
- Women U16

SUPC

- Men U14
- Women U14
- Men U16
- Women U16

INSCRIÇÕES EM: <https://www.fpcanoagem.pt/inscricao-provas/login.php>



CATEGORIES

MADEIRA LIFESAVING CHALLENGE

- Men Surfski Open
- Women Surfski Open
- Men SUPC Open
- Women SUPC Open

Format

- Heats with 5 to 8 athletes per race, progressing to the final.
- Only SS1-LS boats will be provided by the organization.
- Transport will be available for athletes traveling from Funchal to Seixal Beach.

A social closing lunch will be held at the venue.

Registrations: <https://form.jotform.com/241472900592355>



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

A special task force was created within the **Madeira Regional Canoeing Association** to plan and organize this event.

- Project Management & Technical Organization:
- Marco Cardoso, Amândio Marques
- Technical Support & Logistics:
- Madalena Marques, Humberto Fernandes
- Financial Resources:
- Marco Cardoso
- Human Resources & Volunteers:
- Marco Freitas
- Accreditation & Protocol:
- Nídia Ferreira, Madalena Marques
- Transport & Accommodation:
- Nídia Ferreira, Nélia Marques
- Media & Press:
- Fábio Pereira, Nídia Ferreira, Humberto Fernandes
- Creativity & Design: Marco Cardoso
- Logistics & Production Management: Amândio Marques, Marco Cardoso
- Safety: Alexandre Brazão, Amândio Marques

Competition Committee



VIRIATO TIMÓTEO

Race Director

Responsible for technical decision-making, managing sea conditions, and ensuring safety and competitive fairness throughout the entire event.



HUMBERTO FERNANDES

Competition Director

A central figure in the management of the competition, responsible for technical decisions, assessment of sea conditions and rigorous application of the regulations, ensuring safety, competitive fairness and continuity of the event.



ALEXANDRE BRAZÃO

Safety Director

Responsible for planning and coordinating maritime safety resources, continuously monitoring sea conditions and responding to incidents, ensuring the protection of athletes, technical teams and the organization.

REGISTRATIONS

All registrations are individual and must be completed online.

All information will be available at: www.madeiraoceanchallenge.pt

Registration: IES.memosoft.pt

Age Criteria

- Athletes may compete in international events from the year they turn 15 years old.
- Junior category: valid until the year the athlete turns 18.
- Under 23 category: valid until the year the athlete turns 23.
- Other categories do not require confirmation from National Federations.

No limit on entries per country.

Registration period: February 14 to April 15, 2026

According to MOC organizational guidelines, all participants, including Masters athletes, must present a letter from their federation confirming they have the technical ability to paddle in extreme open ocean conditions.





PARTICIPATION FEES

ICF CANOE OCEAN RACING WORLD SERIES - WORLD CUP

Until March 31: €70

April 1 to April 15: €85

MADEIRA LIFESAVING CHALLENGE

Until April 15: €10

April 16 to April 30: €15

50% discount for athletes from clubs affiliated with ARCM in 2026

The Fee Includes:

- Accreditation card and access to competition areas
- Prize Money
- Competition kit
- Security services
- Boat storage area with surveillance
- Medical assistance during competition days (first aid only)
- Transport for athletes and boats to the main race start
- GPS tracking device (to be returned after the race)
- Priority access for early registrations
- Official dinner
- Sea transport of boats between the Azores, Mainland Portugal, and Madeira (round trip – dates to be announced)
- Free participation in the ICF Short Race (registration mandatory)

All information: www.madeiraoceanchallenge.pt



COURSES & EVENT LOCATIONS

ICF Short Race & ICF Short Race Relay

- Funchal Bay - 5 km (Open category)
- Funchal Bay - 1 km (Junior Relay)

ICF Short Race & ICF Short Race Relay

- Machico Beach or Calheta Beach - 3 to 6 km

ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Series - World Cup

- Downwind race on the south coast of Madeira, depending on wind direction:
 - Machico → Funchal (22 km)
 - Calheta → Funchal (29 km)

Madeira Lifesaving Challenge

- Seixal Beach - 500 m
- SS1-LS boats provided by the organization

Includes closing lunch, athlete transfers, and access to Prize Money

RACE MAPS

ICF Short Race



Funchal Bay - 5 km.

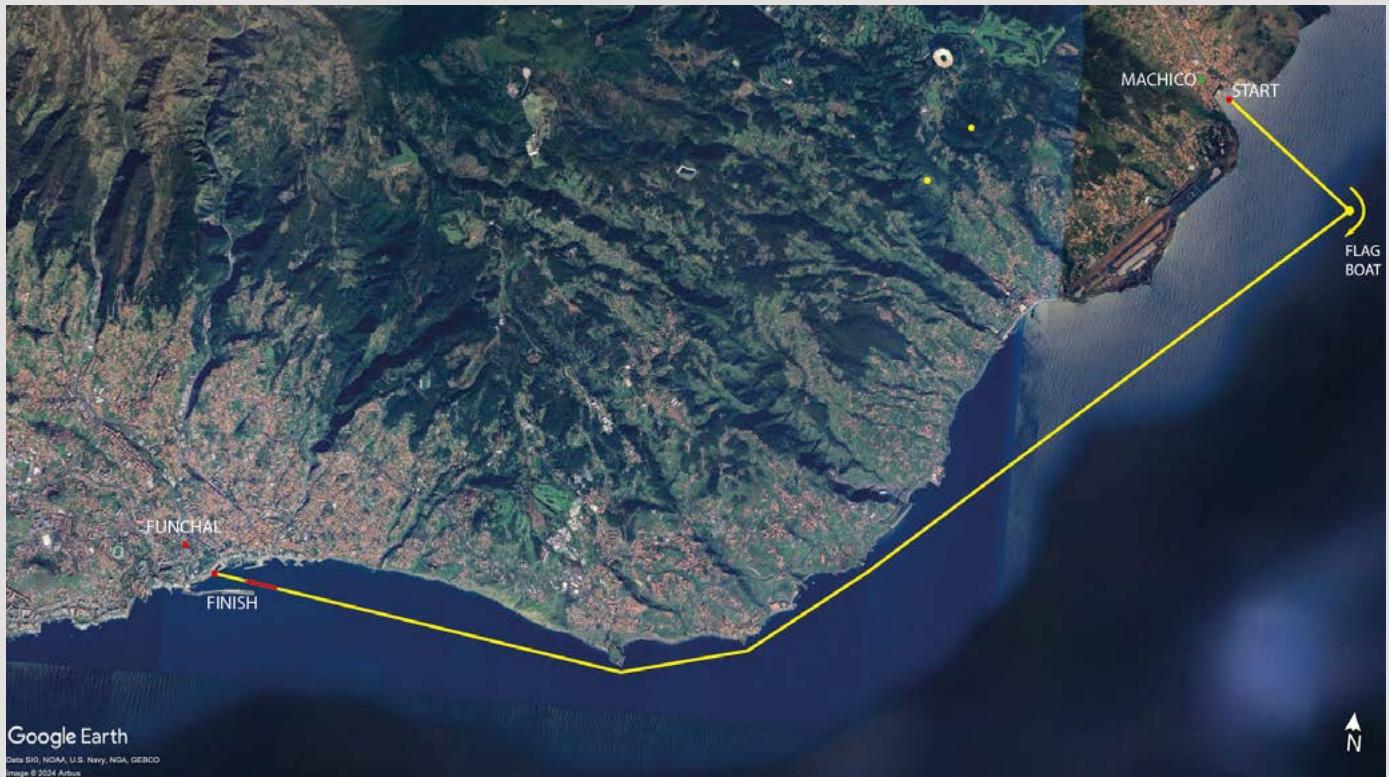
ICF Short Race Relay



Funchal Bay - 1 km.

RACE MAPS

Madeira Ocean Challenge/ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Series - World Cup



Course A: From Machico Beach to Funchal, the distance is 22 km.

Madeira Ocean Challenge/ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Series - World Cup



Course B: Calheta Beach to Funchal, the distance is 29 km.

RACE MAPS

Portuguese Youth Ocean Racing National Cup



Machico Beach or Calheta Beach - 3 to 6 km

Madeira Lifesaving Challenge



Seixal Beach - 500 m

PRIZE MONEY

ICF CANOE OCEAN RACING WORLD SERIES - WORLD CUP

SS1 Overall (Men & Women)

- 1st - €1,200
- 2nd - €750
- 3rd - €400
- 4th - €270
- 5th - €150
- 6th - €75

MADEIRA LIFESAVING CHALLENGE

Men & Women (SS1 & SUPC)

- 1st - €200
- 2nd - €100
- 3rd - €70
- 4th - €40
- 5th - €20



MADEIRA OCEAN CHALLENGE/ICF CANOE OCEAN RACING WORLD SERIES - WORLD CUP

INFORMATION ON VESSEL TRANSPORTATION

Regarding the transport of boats to the Autonomous Region of Madeira for the **MADEIRA OCEAN CHALLENGE/ICF CANOE OCEAN RACING WORLD SERIES WORLD CUP** competition, the Madeira Regional Canoeing Association informs the following:

PORTO

3 x 40-foot containers for transporting vessels located at the following address:

Address:

SIPRE Ltda,
Rua Dr. Francisco Sá Carneiro, Lote 2, F.A, Bouro 4740-010 Esposende.

Contact person in charge: Artur Pereira - +351 914 274 621

Loading from April 13th at 2 PM until April 16th at 12 PM.

LISBOA

1 X 40-foot container needed for transporting vessels located at the following address:

Address:

Alhandra S.C. - Nautical Section
Rua Miguel Bombarda, 48
2600-460 Alhandra

Contact details: Rui Câncio - +351 919 446 441 / Óscar Soares - +351 916 876 089

Loading from April 13th at 2 PM until April 16th at 12 PM

AÇORES

1 X 40-foot container to facilitate the transport of vessels located in the Azores, which will be coordinated by the Azores Regional Canoeing Association.

TRANSPORTATION BY VESSELS:

Participants registered for the Madeira Ocean Challenge 2026 will be able to use the boat transport service.

Structures for kayak placement will be mounted in the containers, and the equipment must be properly packed and secured by the respective applicants.

The Madeira Regional Canoeing Association cannot be held responsible for any accident or damage that occurs to the vessels being transported, nor for any failure to meet the dates and times mentioned above for the delivery of the equipment.

We advise all interested parties to properly pack their vessels, using covers, transport plastic or shock-absorbing foam, ensuring that they do not consume volume in the container provided and may impair its maximum expected capacity.



TRANSPORT OF BOATS

Boat transport from the Madeira Ocean Challenge headquarters to the race start area is included in the participation fee. Transport will be carried out on trailers separate from athlete transport.

Maritime transport of boats between mainland Portugal and Madeira is also

included. Boats must be properly packed and delivered in Lisbon or Porto on dates to be announced. Collection will be available from April 29 at the MOC Headquarters.

*** The organization is not responsible for any damage during transport.**

BOAT RENTAL

ARCM, local clubs, and boat manufacturers may provide rental services. Therefore, they should be contacted if you choose to use a rented boat to compete in the Madeira Ocean Challenge.



SIPRE

Telf. - (+351) 253 965 182 ou pelo
WhatsApp em (+351) 914 274 621
E-mail - sipre@sapo.pt



NELO

Telf. - (+351) 252 618 962
E-mail - nelo@nelo.eu



MAZU

Telf. - (+351) 227 639 176
Tlm. - (+351) 962 559 764
E-mail - info@eliokayaks.com



ACCOMMODATION

Official accommodation partner: We Host

Special rates available using promotional codes (to be announced).

Youth Hostel accommodation and military barracks lodging available upon request.



PROMOTIONAL CODE: **Cano2026**

www.wehostmadeira.com

WhatsApp: +351 925 013 500

Email: wehostmadeira@gmail.com

Available from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Enjoy a 10% discount on your booking

YOUTH HOSTEL

We offer double rooms and shared rooms at the Youth Hostel.

RESERVATIONS AT: geral@canoagemmadeira.com

RG3

Shared accommodation in dormitory-style rooms, averaging 10 beds per room, with shared bathroom facilities.

Each room will be occupied exclusively by members of the same delegation.

Male and female guests will be accommodated in separate rooms.

BOOKINGS AT: geral@canoagemmadeira.com

RENTAL CAR



PARTNER OFFER --CAR RENTAL

Our partner, Madeira Rent, offers a 15% discount on car rentals during your stay in Madeira (April 24-May 10).

Use the promo code **OCEAN15MR** when making your reservation. www.madeirarent.pt

HQ. MAP

HQ. CENTRO NÁUTICO DE SÃO LÁZARO

HQ. SÃO LÁZARO NAUTICAL CENTER



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MAIN INSTITUTIONAL PARTNER



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