



# Lajes Field, Portugal Welcome Packet







2025



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#### **ABOUT TERCEIRA ISLAND**

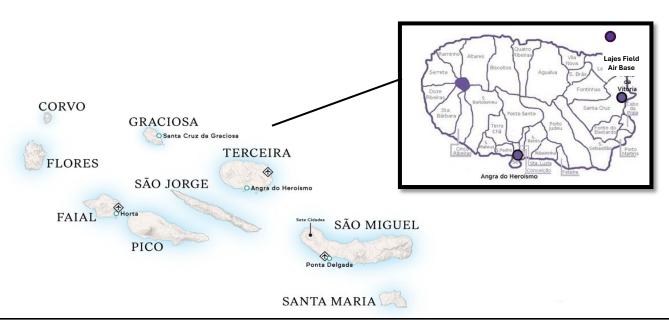
Terceira Island, part of the Portuguese archipelago of the Azores, is a captivating destination located in the middle of the North Atlantic Ocean. Known for its lush green landscapes, volcanic origin, and rich cultural heritage, Terceira blends natural beauty with historical charm.

The island's capital, Angra do Heroísmo, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, recognized for its well-preserved Renaissance architecture and strategic maritime history. This city played a crucial role during the Age of Discoveries and remains a cultural and administrative center of the region.

Terceira offers a unique combination of natural wonders, from the dramatic volcanic crater of Algar do Carvão to the scenic coastline dotted with natural swimming pools. Its interior is a patchwork of green pastures, forests, and volcanic formations, ideal for hiking and exploring.

Culturally, Terceira is vibrant and proud. The island is famous for its traditional bullfighting (touradas à corda), colorful festivals such as Sanjoaninas and Festas da Praia, and its warm, welcoming people. Local cuisine, featuring fresh seafood, grass-fed beef, and regional wines, adds to the island's charm.

With a mild year-round climate, Terceira is not only a beautiful travel destination but also a place where tradition and nature coexist in harmony. Whether you're drawn by its history, landscapes, or peaceful atmosphere, Terceira offers an authentic Azorean experience.



#### CLIMATE

Terceira experiences a mild, temperate oceanic climate. Influenced by the Gulf Stream and the island's mid-Atlantic location, the weather is generally stable, with small temperature variations throughout the year. Summers are pleasantly warm, with average daytime temperatures ranging between 72°F and 79°F (22°C to 26°C), while winters are mild and humid, with average temperatures between 54°F and 63°F (12°C and 17°C). Snow and frost are extremely rare, even at higher altitudes.

Rainfall is spread fairly evenly throughout the year, through the wetter months tend to be from October to March. Despite this, rainfall often comes in short bursts, followed by clear or partly cloudy skies. Humidity levels are relatively high, contributing to the island's lush green landscapes. The island is also known for its frequent cloud cover, winds and changing weather conditions – locals often say you can experience all four seasons in a single day. Sea temperatures remain moderate year-round, ranging from around 61°F (16°C) in winter to 73°F (23°C) in summer, making the island attractive for coastal activities.

Overall, Terceira's climate is comfortable and inviting, ideal for outdoor exploration in any season.

#### **TIMEZONE**

Terceira Island follows Azores Standard Time (AZOT), which is UTC -1 during standard time and UTC±0 during daylight saving time (Azores Summer Time, AZOST). Daylight saving time typically begins in late March and ends in late October, aligning with European Union time change conventions.

This places Terceira one hour behind mainland Portugal and most of Western Europe for the majority of the year. Compared to major global cities, Terceira is 4 hours ahead of New York (Eastern Time) during standard time, and 3 hours ahead when daylight saving time is in effect in the U.S. It is also 2 hours behind Central European Time (CET) during winter and just 1 hour behind in summer.

Here's a quick conversion chart for US time zones:

U.S. Time Zone	Standard Time (Nov-Mar)	Daylight Saving Time (Mar-Nov)
Eastern (EST/EDT)	UTC-5	UTC-4
Central (CST/CDT)	UTC-6	UTC-5
Mountain (MST/MDT)	UTC-7	UTC-6
Pacific (PST/PDT)	UTC-8	UTC-7
Alaska (AKST/AKDT)	UTC-9	UTC-8
Hawaii (HST)	UTC-10	No DST

# **65<sup>TH</sup> AIR BASE GROUP**

Welcome to the 65<sup>th</sup> Air Base Group! Lajes Field, known as the "crossroads of the Atlantic", provides an important mid-Atlantic link for U.S. and Allied Forces to Europe, Africa, and Middle East.

Team 6-5 is very proud of our commitment to enabling the expeditionary movement of personnel, aircraft, and global communications to commanders supporting joint, coalition, and NATO operations – promoting regional partnerships. We conduct operations and take care of our team with pride. Our team is composed of United States military and civilian personnel, and Portuguese local nationals. As our guest, you are now a member of "Team Lajes". We hope you find this information helpful.

This is a beautiful assignment. Even if you've spent lots of time overseas, your assignment to Lajes will probably be unlike any other assignment you've ever had. Our community is small, and the local people of the island are warm and friendly, eager to try to speak English with you, while also enjoying your effort to speak Portuguese.

Living and working here will almost certainly be different from anywhere else you've been, and throughout this packet, we'll try to identify for you the kind of things that make living here unique. As everywhere, we hope that you'll find that the rewards and benefits of living here make up for the challenges that you might face.

There will be a lot of information here for you to digest. We understand how busy you're going to be as you prepare for this move, but reading this whole package carefully should be an important part of your preparation. We hope you'll make the time to read it thoroughly, and if you come across something you don't understand, ask your sponsor for more information or an explanation – that's what you have a sponsor for. We are looking forward to meeting you.

# BEM-VINDO A LAJES FIELD! WELCOME TO LAJES FIELD!

# **Prior to Departure**

To call to Lajes Field from a DSN to another DSN: 314-535 - (last 4 of DSN number)

To call commercial from Europe: 00351-295-57- (last 4 of DSN number)
To call commercial from the U.S.: 011-351-295-57- (last 4 of DSN number)

# **Temporary Base Access Requirements**

Your sponsor will arrange for a temporary base pass. You will be asked to provide your full name, passport number and country of passport. A permanent Base Access Pass request will be done at Pass & ID (you MUST be in uniform for this appointment and have your CAC). Below you can find Pass & ID's schedule and contact:

**Monday to Friday:** 08:00 AM – 12:00 PM & 01:00 PM – 3:45 PM.

**CLOSED** on Saturdays, Sundays & Portuguese Holidays.

**DSN:** 535-4786

#### E-Mail Access

Your sponsor will request you to fill-in a DD Form 2875 to get e-mail access. You must provide your current Information Awareness Training certificate as well.

#### **Uniforms**

There is **NO** military clothing sales store on the island. You must bring extra uniform items, especially if you will be promoted during your tour. You are required to bring all uniforms; OCPs, Service Dress, Semi-Formal, official PT gear, headgear and extra boots. It is also recommended that you bring outer garment uniform items for inclement weather (i.e. rain, wind and cold weather).

**Note 1:** We host several formal events throughout the year, bring your mess dress/semi-formal.

**Note 2:** It is highly recommended to pack a uniform in your carry-on bag in case your luggage is misplaced.

**Note 3:** The Laundry operation on base may have uniform items left by members, but this is not a guarantee and on a first come first served basis.

#### Where to Live

All personnel at Lajes Field live off-base on the local economy. You can drive from one side of the island to the other in about 45 minutes (depending on traffic, which sometimes includes livestock), and nothing on the island is "far away". Portuguese electricity is 220-240 volts. If you have any questions on whether an appliance will work here, look at the voltage label on the back.

Most American appliances will require electrical transformers, adapter plugs and/or modification to operate properly.

# **Housing Office**

The housing office staff will assist you in every step of the way during house hunting. This will include the scheduling of viewings appointments (the process is EXTREMELY helpful and efficient!) The housing office also assists you if there is a language barrier, however most landlords speak English. You can look on www.homes.mil to see what is available. You are authorized 30 days in lodging. However, if you are actively searching for a house or waiting for a housing inspection, you can stay longer if space is available. Furniture is provided by the housing office (i.e. tables, beds, transformers, etc.). The M&FRC offers a small loan closet with dish kits and other small appliances. Below is the housing office's schedule and contact:

**Monday to Friday:** 09:00 AM - 12:00 PM & 01:00 PM - 4:00 PM.

**CLOSED** on Saturdays, Sundays & Portuguese Holidays.

**DSN:** 535-4173

#### **Household Goods Shipment**

Service members are authorized 2,500 pounds or 25 percent of the HHG weight allowance (whichever is greater). Civilian employees are authorized 4,500 pounds. Please contact your local TMO HHG/PAX Section for any additional information.

# **Cell Phone/Internet**

Contact your U.S. phone carrier for international service options and conduct a cost estimate. If you want to convert to a local provider, ensure your phone is unlocked (contact your current provider to verify). Pre-paid SIM cards are available at MEO starting around 10.00 euro a month and cell phone service can be added to internet/cable plan. Force Support Offers free Wi-Fi in several on-base buildings. For off-base internet service, two main companies (MEO and NOS) provide Wi-Fi, cable TV and phone packages and some locations also offer fiber optic connections.

MEO Store in Praia da Vitória	NOS Store i <mark>n</mark> Pra <mark>ia da</mark> Vitória
Forum Terceira, R. Graça, 57	Continente Praia da Vitória - Est.
9760-473 PRAIA DA VITÓRIA	Circunvalação, 976 <mark>0-400 Praia</mark> da V <mark>itória</mark>
Schedule	Schedule
Monday to Friday from 10:00 to 19:00	Monday to S <mark>unday from 09:00 to 21:00</mark>
Website	Website
https://www.meo.pt/	https://www.nos.pt/
	OTH AIR PASE GRO

# Post Office (T-324)

Average mail delivery time is 1-6 weeks!

- **1.** Your sponsor can request a mail receptacle up to 30 days prior to arrival (orders are required).
- **2.** If PCSing from another APO location, you can send uniforms and pro gear required for official duty by MPS. \*\*Mailing other items in conjunction with a PCS that are not pro gear (household goods) requires postage to be paid at the outbound Post Office. \*\*
- **3.** Mail receptacle is only authorized for individual use. Any mail not addressed to the owner receptacle will be returned to sender.
- **4.** Certain mailing restrictions apply to APOs. Please contact the post office on guidance on what you can and cannot ship to an overseas location.

For questions, please <u>contact the Post Office</u> at <u>314-535-1203/1207</u> or email the org box Lajes ABS/Post Office (65cs.postoffice@us.af.mil).

# **In-Processing**

Most establishments are within walking distance and could be accomplished quickly. Many offices are one person deep (consider lunch times prior to visiting), so there is more flexibility and time to accomplish in-processing.

You must be in uniform and bring PCS documents provided by losing base. \*Right Start is a MANDATORY appointment and should be attended within the first 30 days of arrival - schedule with the M&FRC office. (765ABS.FSF.MFRC@us.af.mil)

Attention: You will need to get a Portuguese Tax ID number once you get to Lajes, and it will make the whole process smoother if you get it as soon as possible. You will need one to purchase a vehicle, enter into a rental agreement, and set up internet services at your home. You need to have your APO Box address established to get your Portuguese Tax ID number. You will have your sponsor to help you with this, and to inform you of what documents you need to bring to the Portuguese Finance building (Finanças) in Praia. Usually, they are open from 09:00 to 16:00, and below is their address and contact:

Address: Avenida Paço do Milhafre 21-A, 568 Praia da Vitória, Portugal

**Contact:** 295 545 650

# Finance (T-100)

The Finance Office offers one-on-one service for all your financial needs. Once you arrive, you will want to visit them as soon as possible to complete your travel voucher. Completing your travel voucher will ensure that you are paid timely for your travel expenses and be used to update your military pay entitlements.

Most common allowances:

- Cost of Living Allowance (COLA). A non-taxable allowance designed to offset the higher overseas prices of non-housing goods and services. This allowance will fluctuate with the USD-EUR exchange.
- Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA). OHA is paid to service members living in private housing at overseas duty stations for rent and utilities.
- Move-In Housing Allowance (MIHA). A one-time entitlement paid for move-in housing expenses.
- **Temporary Lodging Allowance (TLA).** TLA is to partially reimburse a member for lodging and meals.
- Family Separation Allowance-Restricted (FSA-R). FSA-R is the Family Separation entitlement for members serving an unaccompanied dependent restricted tour here at Lajes.
- Dislocation Allowance. DLA is an entitlement for all members who PCS and are authorized
  to live off base. If you have dependents and they remain at the same location, members
  will only receive DLA at the single rate. However, if members elect to move dependents
  to an approved follow-on location or authorized designated location, they will be
  authorized DLA at the with dependent rate.

Visit the DTMO website for current rates:

https://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/allowances.cfm.

#### The currency used off-base is EURO €.

Lajes is a dependent-restricted tour where no government quarters are assigned, so housing entitlements for individual situations can become complicated. Members with questions should contact the team at 65 CPTF, 65ABG.CPTF.MilitaryTravelPay@us.af.mil, to avoid overpayment or misinformation. Below are some specific situations that may pertain to housing entitlements while stationed at Lajes:

Member has dependents who remain stateside or OS:

 o In most cases, dual housing allowances are paid when dependents remain outside the

 PDS in the form of BAH or OHA at the with-dependent rate.

o The BAH rate will be the previously authorized location, old PDS, or dependent's location at the time of the Service member's departure.

o Family Separation Housing-Overseas (FSH-O) is paid for where the member is stationed (Lajes) at the single rate.

#### Member is divorced and paying child support:

o Dependents must be in primary physical custody or reside with the member for at least half the calendar year to be considered a dependent for housing allowance purposes. This must be explicitly stated on the divorce decree, otherwise the member will need to petition for a modified possession order.

o If no primary physical custody is granted, the member will receive housing allowances at the with-dependent rate (OHA with-dependent) if the child support amount is more than the BAH-Diff rate table.

o Reference: DODFMR VOL 7A Ch 26

• For a child born out of wedlock, a birth certificate with the Service member's name cited is required. If the Service member's name is not stated on the birth certificate or on a court order, obtain a signed **notarized affidavit** of parentage from the Service member.

Please contact the Finance Office if you are planning to have your dependents visit. If dependents stay longer than 90 days this will affect your Family Separation Allowance\* and your housing entitlements\*\*.

\*DODFMR Vol 7A, 270302. A. FSA-R

\*\*AFMAN 65-116V1, 26.28.1.3.

Finance Org Box: 65ABG.CPTF.MilitaryTravelPay@us.af.mil

#### **Special Financial related considerations:**

- There are no commercial U.S. banking facilities on the island.
- 65 CPTF offers limited cashier services, including check-cashing for active duty military and US employees to assist in paying bills. Checks can only be cashed in USD but can be exchanged for EUR at the TORC.
- There are two (2) Euro-only ATMs on base which charge an exchange rate/fee (check with your financial institution for specific rates). Some financial institutions specialize in military banking and international transfer needs.

# **Rent Payment Options**

- **1.** Pay with cash from the ATM.
- **2.** Consider the use of an international transfer app such as Wise and Revolut. They offer lower fees and will allow you to purchase EUR electronically to pay your landlord's IBAN or SWIFT code.
- **3.** Open a Portuguese Bank Account. This can be challenging and will require a considerable amount of paperwork to get an account in the Azores. It could take six weeks or more and you'll need some help from the locals to smooth the process.
- **4.** Make a Euro Transfer from your financial institution. Ask your financial institution if they offer this service and consider the fees for transfers and the exchange rates they use to make payments.

#### Automobile

POV shipment to Lajes is AUTHORIZED. The roads, streets and parking areas are much narrower (typical for European countries). Parking is done typically on the street, keep this in mind if shipping a larger vehicle (i.e. truck, SUV). However, having a reliable vehicle is very important because all personnel live off base. Automatic cars here are rare - you'll probably have to learn to drive a manual while you are here! Diesel Fuel is **NOT** offered on base. The POV delivery timeline is around (8-10 weeks), pick up is on-base, scheduled with 65 LRS. For vehicle pickup please contact the Vehicle Processing Center (VPC) at DSN: 314-535-3317

Building T605 Room #1 office

**Building T607 VPV** 

Primary E-mail: paulo.sousa.pt@us.af.mil Alternate e-mail: luis.sousa.pt@us.af.mil

If you purchase a U-Plated vehicle (imported by U.S. personnel), please make an appointment with Pass and Registration office to complete a bill of sale. Both the buyer and seller (or POA) must be present. If you purchase a P-Plated vehicle, you will have to go to the Automobile Registry Office in the Court House Conde Praia da Vitória (Largo 9760-438, Praia da Vitoria). Both buyer and seller must be present, and you have to bring your ID, your Portuguese tax identification number and cash for the registration fee. The average cost of an 'island bomb' is around \$3,000 to \$4,000 – but car standards are very different from U.S. standards and some vehicles are very old.

Car rental is available at monthly rates, but prices increase during the tourist season. Rental can be done online, at the airport or in downtown Praia da Vitória.

**CAUTION:** Most companies do not offer refunds for early returns. We recommend you contact the M&FRC office before making a car buying decision. An unofficial Facebook group (called

Official Lajes Island Bombs) is available – but let the buyer beware - similar websites were created to take advantage of Americans.

# **Driver's License Requirements**

You are required to get a local driver's license by completing registration with M&FRC or Safety. The following info is required: First and last name, State and license #, Expiration date, DEROS date, & Motorcycle Rider (yes or no).

A Legal Office Memo is required if the license is expired or will expire while member is still stationed at Lajes.

# Motorcycles

The use of motorcycles or ATVs as a primary mode of transport is not recommended as rain is often and unpredictable. Motorcycle Riders Requirements: Completed Basic Riders Course (BRC), Get an Endorsement on license, Complete the Initial CCs brief, Updated MUSTT account, wear all your PPE.

**Note:** All motorcycle safety training must be completed prior to arrival to Lajes (<u>Not available on</u> island).

Vehicle Registration DSN: 314-535-4786

#### **Imported Vehicles:**

- U.S driver's license/ Lajes Form 13 (local Driver's License)
- Proof of insurance for Portugal
- Vehicle shipping documents (AF 733)
- You will have up to 60 days to get your vehicle inspected

#### U.S. Vehicles purchased here:

- Valid US & Local Driver's License (LF Form 13)
- Valid CAC card/CCI (Personal Base ID)
- Valid Inspection
- Proof of insurance for Portugal
- Pass & ID Vehicle Registration

#### **P-Plated Vehicles:**

- Valid U.S. & Local Driver's License (LF Form 13)
- Valid CAC Card/CCI (Personal Base ID)
- Valid Inspection
- Proof of insurance for Portugal



• Livrete (Portuguese Title)

#### **Specific Local Vehicle Inspection Requirements:**

- Rear fog light
- Trucks and large SUVs must have reflective tape
- After-market tinted windows are NOT authorized (removal at owner's expense)

#### **Car Insurance**

Insurance is typically inexpensive, but you MUST specify that you are in the Azores and not on mainland Portugal. Local insurance companies are available for "P-plated" vehicles, like **Zurich** and **Certezza** at <u>Estrada 25 de Abril 112 D, 9760-403 Praia da Vitória</u>. USAA and GEICO offer international policies.

# Fitness Center (T-333)

Offers an amazing ocean view and full services in a huge facility. The staff can register you for 24/7 CAC access and you will have free Wi-Fi along with a selection of outdoor rec equipment, like bikes, golf clubs, or tents to sign out for free!

# **TORC (Top of the Rock Commons) (T-121)**

A multi-function facility providing quality of life and the only restaurant on base. Also, the place to go for live events, bands, themed parties, classic gaming tournaments, cooking workshops and other events. They also host Armed Forces Entertainment shows and active-duty personnel can book off-island trips and other adventures through the Recharge for Resiliency (R4R) program. A contract travel agency provides services for all your personal traveling needs. Additionally, we offer free video gaming systems, a movie theater, free Wi-Fi, a small library, community center computers and more.

# **Laundry & Dry Cleaners**

A unique service providing low-cost laundry, dry-cleaning services and ability to do alterations.

# AAFES Shoppette, Commissary and Barber Shop

Expectation management is key! We have limited AAFES facilities, basically a shoppette at the gas station with two unleaded gas pumps. For the size of the base, the commissary provides great service and meets most nutritional needs. Other needs can be supplemented by purchasing from the local economy or by shopping online. The Barber shop is located at the Fitness Center (T-333).

#### Remember, there is NO military clothing sales on the island!

# **Off-base Food & Shopping**

The local food is amazing! Grocery shopping is easy off base. They have many of the same items that any local grocery store or convenience market would carry. Also, the quality of the meat, bread and wine is terrific. You can also find a wide range of everyday essentials and specialty items at well-known supermarkets such as **CONTINENTE**, **GUARITA** and **AKIPERTO**. These stores offer an extensive selection of products including fresh fruits and vegetables, bakery goods, meat and fish, dairy products, frozen meals, cleaning supplies, pet food, baby items, car items, and personal care products. You can also find in these locations a household section with kitchenware, textiles, and small electronics. Inside the building of **CONTINENTE**, you'll have access to the **NOS** Store; **Wells**, which features over-the-counter medications, parapharmacy products, beauty items, optical and audiology services and baby & maternity care; **SPORTZONE**, a sports retailer where you can find apparel, footwear, sports equipment and accessories; **MO**, a Portuguese clothing, footwear and accessories retailer that targets women, men, children and babies; **Burger King**, which is self-explanatory.

# Medical Care (T-333)

Two Independent Duty Medical Technicians (IDMT) advise and assist with medical care at Lajes Field. The IDMTs will assess your condition, treat you or place a referral for you to be seen at the local hospital either downtown Angra Do Heroismo or in Praia da Vitoria. In short, if you have a serious injury, you will get seen by a doctor or medically evacuated to the closest Military Treatment Facility (Ramstein). A local Nurse and a medical translator will take care of you for any local doctor or hospital visits. For sick-call or less serious conditions, care is provided in-house. There is a local dentist that can perform check-ups and other dental work.

Please ensure all medical requirements are made current prior to your arrival at Lajes, preferably within 60 days of arrival. This includes HIV testing, flu Shots, PHA, dental, optometry, immunizations, and any occupational health related requirements. Audiograms must be done prior to arrival if needed for your job. Please be mindful most of these tests cannot be accomplished at Lajes.

#### Medications

Ensure you bring all prescription medications with you. That means you will need a full year supply of medications. Resources are limited and it is imperative to have all your medications prior to arrival.

#### **Dependents and TRICARE**

The Medical Aid Station is NOT responsible for the care of visiting dependents, they have limited resources and limited capabilities. Please coordinate visits via International SOS, contact your

local TRICARE representative before scheduling visits to the island to get a better understanding of how they will be covered.

#### **Visitors**

Visitors can be on island for up to 90 consecutive days. The easiest route is from Boston to Terceira Island (TER), or to Ponta Delgada (PDL), on the neighboring island of São Miguel. There are some flights direct to Lajes Field (TER) weekly. You might have to search for a flight from BOS to TER or PDL. Searches from the departure airport might not show a flight. So in essence, you have to fly to BOS and then fly BOS to TER/PDL and it must be booked this way (baggage will need to be rechecked).

**Note:** A notarized letter allowing your spouse or guardian to **depart** Portugal with your child/children is a Portugal customs requirement. The process is simple but it is recommended to contact the Legal Office in advance for details and availability. Please follow all international travel guidance from your state of residence.

# **Bringing Family Members to Lajes Field**

Lajes Field is an unaccompanied tour for all military and U.S. civilians. However, many personnel choose to bring family members on their own costs. DODEA is not available. Children can attend local schools. You are required to request a Dependent Visa Exemption to keep family members in Portugal for more than 90-days! Please check the attachment *Bringing Family to Lajes*. You can also contact our Political Affairs Liason, at 535-3381, for more information.

#### Pets

Dogs and cats are not subject to quarantine. However, new E.U regulations came into effect on 3 July, 2004. These regulations require dogs and cats entering the E.U and coming from the United States and most non-E.U member states the pet be clearly identifiable (microchip or tattoo) and have a health certificate including proof of rabies vaccination obtained no less than 30 days before entry into Portugal, but no more than 120 days. More detailed information is available in the EU webpage at: <a href="https://europa.eu/youreurope/citizens/travel/carry/animal-plant/index">https://europa.eu/youreurope/citizens/travel/carry/animal-plant/index</a> en.htm

Pets are not authorized to ship to Lajes, as per Portugal Country Instructions. Pets can be brought at your own coordination and cost.

**Note:** There are no pet friendly lodging rooms on base.

#### **Banks/Money Exchange**

There are two ATM locations at Lajes Field Air Base, both being at the PoAF Terminal Building. Right off the Main Gate, next to the store AKIPERTO, you can also find an ATM location. All ATMs are available 24/7, and all have an English language option.

#### **Transportation**

Lajes Field Air Base does not have public transportation. Therefore, you will need to make personal arrangements for a rental or taxi service.

#### **Taxi Service**

We have full taxi services offering transport around the island. You can find taxis in the center of Praia, Angra and at some main communications hubs, like the airport. You can also order taxis by phone, calling 295—512-092 or 295-512-151.

#### **Car Rental**

Right at the arrivals area at Lajes Airport, you can find different rental companies, like GoldCar, Ilha Verde, AngraCar, Aguiatur, EuropCar.

#### **Pharmacies**

You'll find 3 pharmacies in Praia da Vitória: Farmácia Silva (in front of the Court House), Farmácia Cabral (next to the Portuguese Postal Office) and Farmácia da Misericórdia (next to the Portuguese Finance building).

#### **Butcher Shops & Market**

If you prefer to buy meat from a local butcher shop, check out Talho Dois Amigos (across the street from the Police Station in Praia), Talho Borba e Mendes (at Rua do Conselheiro Nicolau Anastácio) and Salsiçor (up the street from Burger King). There is also a Market in the center of Praia (at Rua de Jesus), where you can find fish, vegetables, fruits, etc.



# **Very Important Contacts**

**BDOC:** 011-351-295-573-222; From Europe: 00351-295-573-222

Emergency (Off Base): 295-571-911 (On Base is 911), or call 112

**POLAD (Political Advisor): 011-3**51-963-835-056; From Europe 00351-963-835-056

First Sergeant: 011-351-964-565-917; From Europe 00351-964-565-917

Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC): 011-351-966-677-266; From Europe

00351-966-677-266

Referral Management Nurse: Medical Liaison: 011-351-961-379-617

Lajes Chaplain: 011-351-964-335-471

Lajes JAG: 011-351-964-078-882

Lajes Military Family Life Counselor (MFLC): 011-351-925-717-854

Lajes PAX & Personal Property Office (TMO): 011-351-295-575-168

M&FRC: 011-351-295-574-138 & 765abs.fsf.mfrc@us.af.mil

#### **MOVING TO LAJES CHECKLIST**

- Start Passport Paperwork and Medical Reviews;
- Work with sponsor to determine housing and schooling options (if bringing dependents, remember it is at your own expense);
- o Research homes/apartments using <u>www.homes.mil</u> and record listing I.D.'s to provide;
- Get PSC Box number from your sponsor for change of address notices;
- O Schedule household goods shipments. Decide what to bring and what to store based on the information in the Welcome Packet. Housing can issue furniture, laundry appliances, beds, couches, table, chairs, etc. You can also check the Loan Closet and the Airman's Attic at the Base. Reach out to 765abs.fsf.mfrc@us.af.mil for more information;
- O Vehicles can take 8-10 weeks to get to the island. Schedule your vehicle shipment. Make rental car reservations, if desired, or check Lajes Field Island Bombs Facebook Page. Most vehicles are standard (not automatic); Lajes VPC: 535-3317.
- o Bring all uniform items with you. Do not place in UAB/HHG Shipment. **Clothing supply is unavailable**;
- Get your airline tickets through TMO and SATO;
- Hand-carry important records;
- Dependents can stay up to 90 days;
- For school applications, gather records from current schools;
- Provide Photo Page of Passport to sponsor for Base Pass;
- Complete USA-007 US Forces Driver's Training Program for Europe (JKO);
- Mail items you want to have shortly after you arrive but don't want to carry. **DO NOT** include any passports or personal or family records you will need for in-processing or school registration;
- Remember that US or military postal systems will not ship items over 108 total inches or
   70 pounds;
- Talk to your TMO about reimbursement procedures at your current base;
- Get pets' physicals and shots;
- The letter from your vet <u>must</u> be dated within 10 days of your arrival in Europe and translated as required;
- Confirm your sponsor has your arrival date, time, airline and flight number and knows your plans;
- Be sure to let your sponsor know it you will be bringing any pets or large luggage, have special food or bedding needs;
- o If taking leave en-route pass where you can be contacted if needed while you're on leave.



Last but not least,

# Welcome! We look forward to have you in our team!



Please visit the Lajes Field, Azores Facebook page "Lajes Field, Azores" for information. If you would like to know a little more about us, please feel free to browse the 765<sup>th</sup> Air Base Squadron Force Support Flight web page at: <a href="https://lajes765fsf.com/">https://lajes765fsf.com/</a>