

Sal Island, Cape Verde

A flat, sun-baked Atlantic island where Saharan sand meets vivid blue water — and you can float in a volcanic salt crater or wade with juvenile sharks.

 Docked at Palmeira pier

 Typical call: 8-10 hrs

 Euro or Cape Verdean Escudo (CVE)

 Portuguese / Cape Verdean Creole

 Windy, arid, year-round sun

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier at Port of Palmeira (west coast); larger ships may tender

Walk to center: ~20 km to Santa Maria — taxi or shuttle required

Best For: Beaches, kitesurfing, salt crater float, shark snorkel, 4x4 tours

Don't Miss: Pedra de Lume Salt Crater and Buracona Blue Eye

🚗 Getting around: 🚗 **Taxi** ✅ €30 for 1–3 passengers · 📱 **Rideshare** ❌ not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Pedra de Lume Salt Crater Float** — Wade into a hypersaline lake inside an extinct volcanic crater and float effortlessly, Dead Sea-style.
- **Buracona — The Blue Eye** — A natural tidal pool and sea cave on the northwest coast where sunlight hits an underwater arch around midday...
- **Shark Bay Wading Experience** — Wade knee-deep into the crystal-clear shallows of Shark Bay (Baía de Tubãrao), on the island's east side near Pedra...
- **4x4 Island Safari** — Dust-fueled loop of the island taking in sand dunes, the salt crater, Buracona, Terra Boa desert mirage, and...
- **Kitesurfing & Wind Sports at Kite Beach** — Ponta Sino (Kite Beach) is world-class for kitesurfing and windsurfing from October–April.

BEST WALKS

- **Santa Maria Waterfront Stroll** 1.5 km · 20 min · Easy — Wander from the historic Pontão fishing pier through the town market and along the beachfront promenade to Kite Beach viewpoint.
- **Palmeira Fishing Village** 0.5 km · 10 min · Easy — Stroll Palmeira's colorful lanes from the cruise port into the compact fishing village for a glimpse of traditional Cape Verdean life...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	76°	68°	0d
Jun	78°	71°	0d
Aug	83°	76°	4d
Sep	84°	78°	7d
Oct	84°	77°	1d

 **DAYLIGHT & 🌳 MONEY**

Apr 6:16AM–6:47PM · Jun 5:59AM–7:05PM · Aug 6:15AM–6:56PM · Sep 6:20AM–6:33PM · Oct 6:24AM–6:09PM

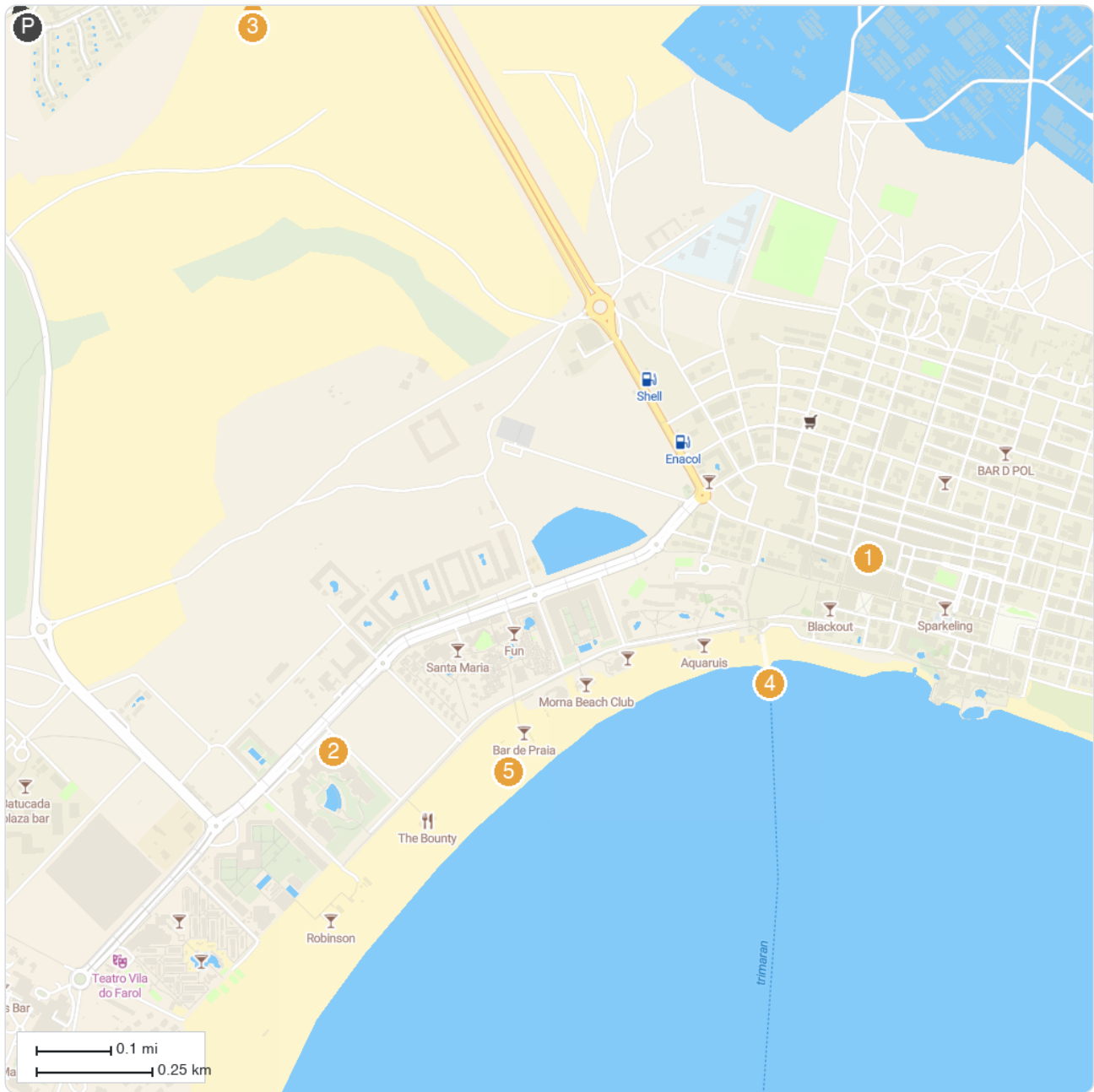
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Euros work everywhere. Santa Maria accepts euros widely at a rough 100 CVE = €1 rate. Cards are limited outside resorts —

Sal Island, Cape Verde — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- | | | | |
|--|---|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 Church of the Nazarene | A vibrant, iconic church in Santa Maria town. | 2 Casino Royal | A modern casino for gambling and entertainment. |
| 3 Pachamama Eco Park - Botanical Garden | An eco-park and botanical garden showcasing local plants. | 4 The Pier of Santa Maria | A lively pier for fishing, local life, and boat trips. |
| 5 Santa Maria Beach | A long, sandy beach perfect for swimming and watersports. | P Cruise port / terminal | |