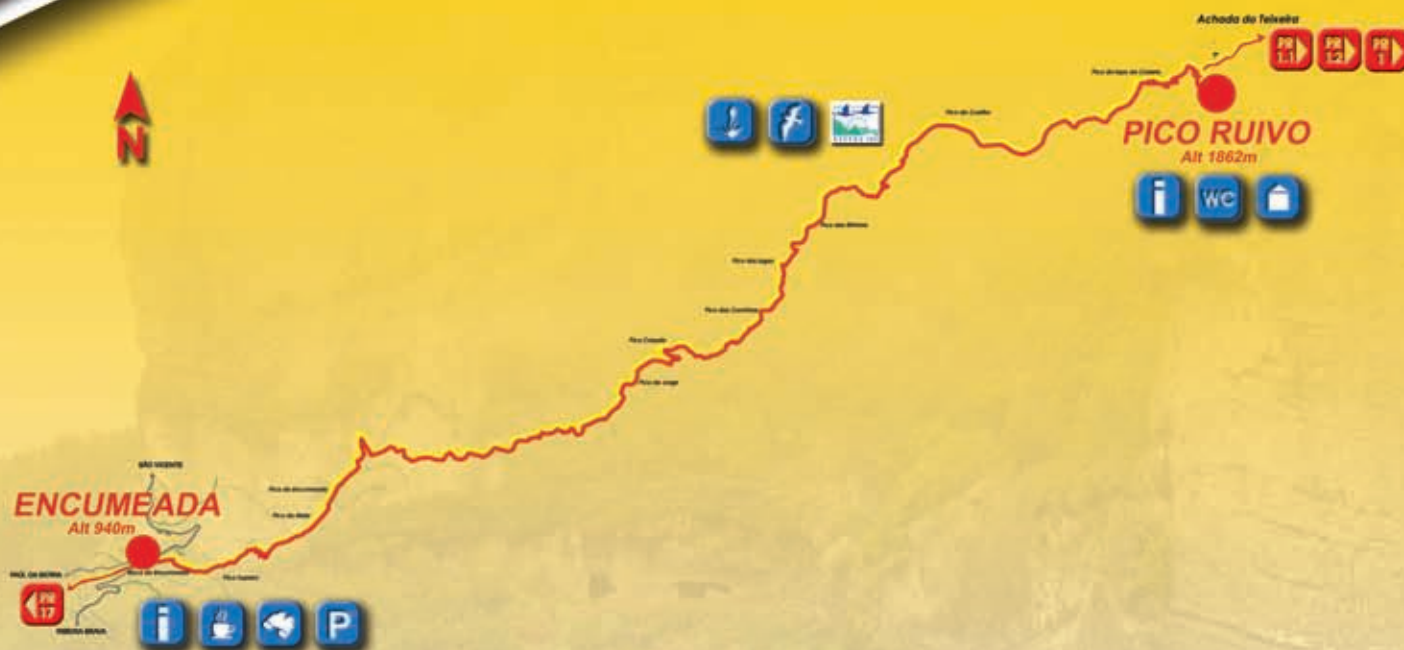




PR  
1.3

## Vereda da Encumeada



### Legend

- Regional road
- Footpath
- Rural road
- Water course
- Stream
- House
- Information Point
- Parking
- Coffee Shop
- Belvedere
- Natural Flora
- Government House
- Fauna
- Toilets



São Vicente Valley



Serra d'Água Valley

### The Footpath

Starting at Achada da Teixeira and following along PR 1.2- Pico Ruivo Footpath leading to the Pico Ruivo Shelter, you will find signs indicating the following routes: PR 1- Pico do Areeiro Footpath, leading to Madeira's 2nd highest peak (1817m); and PR 1.1- Ilha Footpath, which descends to the parish of Ilha. The beginning of the trail to Encumeada begins a few metres above the Pico Ruivo Shelter.

Marked by frequent climbs and descents, the trail winds along at elevations between 1800 and 1000 metres as it heads towards Encumeada. Extremely beautiful landscapes await travellers as they cross two types of ecosystems, both of which are part of the European Network of Sites of Community Interest – Natura 2000 Network: the Central Mountainous Massif and the Laurisilva Forest.

As you progress along the trail, you will pass from the volcanic precipices of the island that are characteristic of the phytoclimatic levels above 1400m (high-altitude heath) to the enveloping settings covered by species of the Laurisilva forest, such as the Madeira laurels (*Ocotea foetens*); laurels, or bay trees (*Laurus azorica*); Lily-of-the-Valley trees (*Clethra arborea*); an endemic buckthorn, sanguinhos (*Rhamnus glandulosa*); the flowering pride of Madeira (*Echium candivcans*); the very rare Madeiran orchid (*Dactylorhiza foliosa*) and Mandon's Chrysanthemum (*Argyranthemum pinnatifidum*).

Along the trail you will find various caves (furnas) dug out of the rocks, such as the Furna da Lapa da Cadela, which in former times served as a refuge for men who passed by as they went about cutting heath (*Erica scoparia ssp maderensis* and *Erica arborea*) to be used for stakes, firewood, or making charcoal.

From the junction of Boca das Torrinhas you can see panoramic views of the majestic valleys of Curral das Freiras. As you near Encumeada the feeling you are in the middle of an island will increase, as you will have the thrill of contemplating landscapes of the southern slope (Serra d'Água) as well as the valley of São Vicente to the north.



## Description

Distance: 11.2 Km  
Time: 6h  
Highest point: 1761m  
Lowest point: 1000m  
Start: Pico Ruivo Shelter  
Finish: Encumeada

## Warning

Weather subject to frequent changes, take warm clothing; the path may be slippery, wear anti-slip footwear; carry sufficient drinking water.

## Contacts

Emergency number	112
Civil Protection	291700112
SAM (Buses)	291706713
Taxis (Santana)	291572540
Táxis (São Vicente)	291842238

## Local Festivities

- Festa dos Compadres (2nd Sunday before Carnival)
- 48 Horas a Bailar (48 hours of Dancing) / Regional Folklore Festival (July)
- Festa de Santa Ana (last weekend of July)
- Gastronomy Week (beginning of August)
- Festa do Santíssimo – Holy Sacrament (1st weekend of August)

- Festa de Nossa Senhora da Paz – S.Vicente (last Sunday of July)
- Festa de Nossa Senhora da Saúde – S.Vicente (1st Sunday of August)
- São Vicente Municipality Day (last week of August)
- Festa do Senhor Bom Jesus – S.Vicente (1st Sunday of September)
- Festa Nossa Senhora do Rosário – S. Vicente (1st Sunday of October)

## Handcrafts

Madeira Embroidery; Patchwork tapestry. Woollen garments, caps with ear flaps or "barreiros de vilão"; Cornshuck dolls; Typical houses at Santana; reed cane baskets; Wicker baskets.

## Field Code



## Walking Code

- Avoid noise or actions against nature.
- Do not take plants or animal with you.
- Do not throw rubbish away (issues do not easily decompose).
- Do not light fires.
- If you are a smoker do not throw cigarettes ends on the floor, keep them for the dust-bin.
- Do not change or damage the signs.

## For your own safety ...

- Before starting out make sure you have update instructions on the route.
- Let someone else know where you're going and when you expect to return.
- Be sure to confirm the time it will take so that you can finish before nightfall.
- Take some extra food and water with you.
- Wear suitable clothes and shoes;
- If possible take a mobile phone with you;
- In case of heavy rain or strong winds do not go on and/or turn back using the same route.
- Don't take risks.

## Promotor



## Technical information:

Texts: Regional Forest Bureau  
Photography: Regional Forest Bureau  
Field work: Regional Forest Bureau  
Graphic design: PEC  
Coordination: Ana Sé

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REPRODUCTION INTERDICT

PR  
1.3

Vereda da  
Encumeada

Madeira Island Footpaths

