

Tourist itinerary

Through the secular “quintas” (manor houses) of Santo António da Serra | 8,80km

The occupation of this village is closely related to the summer villas of wealthy families of Funchal, especially those of English origin, who sought here a warmer refuge in the summer months. This route, which will take you to know the location of many of these villas, has as its starting point Santo da Serra Square, in the heart of town, in front of the

- 1. Church Igreja de Santo António**, from the mid-nineteenth century, with its blue and white neobaroque panels in the main chapel, built at the expense of public funds while the body of the church was built thanks to the valuable contribution of the American consul João Howard March; outside the fence of the church yard, a partition plate is displayed
- 2. County partitions Standard - Padrão Divisório de Concelho** – between Santa Cruz and Machico, with heraldic representation of both, strife symbol between the two councils from 1835-1862; in this year the dividing line was finally fixed. Here you can also observe
- 3. the fountain - Fontanário**. Follow the
- 4. Regional Road Santo António da Serra (E.R. 207)** towards Santa Cruz, going through
- 5. the villa Quinta do Santo da Serra** – or Junta – summer residence of the President of the Regional Government, the property is free public access and was once vacation home of the English family Blandy. The building of the nineteenth century, built according the British colonial taste, shows characteristic windows with lintel curve; the property has a magnificent tree park with boxwood gardens, groves of Azaleas, where plants from around the world live, as the gray palm trees, spruce trees, camellias, tree ferns, rhododendrons, endemic tildes, etc. At the eastern end of the park there is a gazebo with a beautiful view of the wide valley of Machico. In this large garden you can do maintenance, eat lunch, or simply experience the stillness and beauty of nature. A little further on, on the right side of the course, it is worth visiting the
- 6. Hotel Porto Bay Serra Golf**. The main building, dated 1920, was restored in 1999 and its facade translates decorative elements of the Art Nouveau era, such as crimping flowering tiles, white slatted wooden windows and its roof scales; the expansion of this Chalet, former summer residence, later Teahouse and subsequently Golf Club, which was designed by architect Rui Campos Matos. Continue the route to the
- 7. Golf Course - Campo de Golfe**; around the roundabout, go ahead, and enter on the right in the path
- 8. Caminho do Poiso**; on the right, after passing the Tourist Resort of
- 9. Quinta da Cova do Milho**, take the
- 10. bystreet Travessa do Poiso**, leading down to become a pathway
- 11. Vereda** (of Travessa do Poiso); carry on downhill, through
- 12. Blandy Estate - Quinta Blandy** (one of several properties of this British family, that is a reference in the history and Madeira wine trade for over two centuries, not only in Madeira but also all over the world) until the water channel
- 13. Levada Nova de Santa Cruz**, following to the right (opposite to the water). When you reach the river
- 14. Ribeira de Santa Cruz**, cross over and go up by the pathway
- 15. Vereda do Alvored**, stepping through an area of laurel forest with dense vegetation (laurel and tilda) and some ruins (haystacks) until
- 16. Levada dos Tornos**; take the opposite direction to the water and continue towards the
- 17. road Caminho da Madre de Água**, starting to climb to the
- 18. School ARENDRUP**; here you can visit the
- 19. Chapel of the Sisters Pereira - Capela das Irmãs da Pereira**, the place where an English nun Mary Jane Wilson lived and founded a school, in the late nineteenth century, major character with great charitable action almost everywhere east of the island. Go back to the route through the street called
- 20. Rua Mary Jane Wilson** up until
- 21. the estate Quinta do Serrado das Ameixieiras or Quinta**

Acciaioli; descending the path

22. Caminho do Serrado das Ameixieiras and meet a small but interesting core of traditional houses, with its garden and cultivated surroundings. Retake the crossing with Mary Jane Wilson Street and turn right at

23. Pereira path - Caminho da Pereira - towards Santo da Serra; at about 400 meters you can make a small detour to the

24. Nascent Acciaioli - Nascentes Acciaioli, an ancient water reservoir that even supplied the entire town of Santa Cruz, and that is also an interesting Geocaching point. Go back to Caminho da Pereira – Pereira Way, passing through the crossroad with Caminho dos Rochões and further on the Tourist Resort of

25. Quinta das Eiras. This territory is still populated with villas / farms, some with large areas of land with beautiful specimens of trees, such as

26. Quinta Valente, a private property where you can see a giant eucalyptus – exemplary ranked as one of the 203 'Monumental and Emblematic trees of Madeira' (publication of the Regional Forest Department – DRF). Just opposite, on the right side of the road, we can see another villa, an estate of contemporary language, a project of the Architect Paulo David. Keep going until the end of the Rua Pereira (Pereira Road) to the intersection with

27. Rua Padre João Pedro Gomes Henriques and turn right. About 50 meters ahead, to the right, go down the stairs, paved with sharp stones, to access the

28. Fountain - Fonte do Bispo ou dos Ingleses of late-Mannerist language, in stonework, dating from the XVIII century, with wide ranging in round arch and semicircular inside domed; the dual place name in the source originates from the summer residence of the bishop of Funchal that had nearby and from the presence of many English names that are recorded in the source of the backrests; names of British who inhabited in the villas in Santo da Serra, of summer visitors and British soldiers who occupied Madeira between 1807 and 1814, following the Napoleonic invasions of Portugal. Continue to head to the crossing with the road

29. Santo António da Serra regional road (E.R. 207) and turn right. Go through the short distance to

30. the Square - Largo do Santo da Serra - where you started this route.

Make sure you try the traditional Sidra – a beverage made from fermented juice of Santo da Serra apple (also known as the Holy fiddle Pêro).



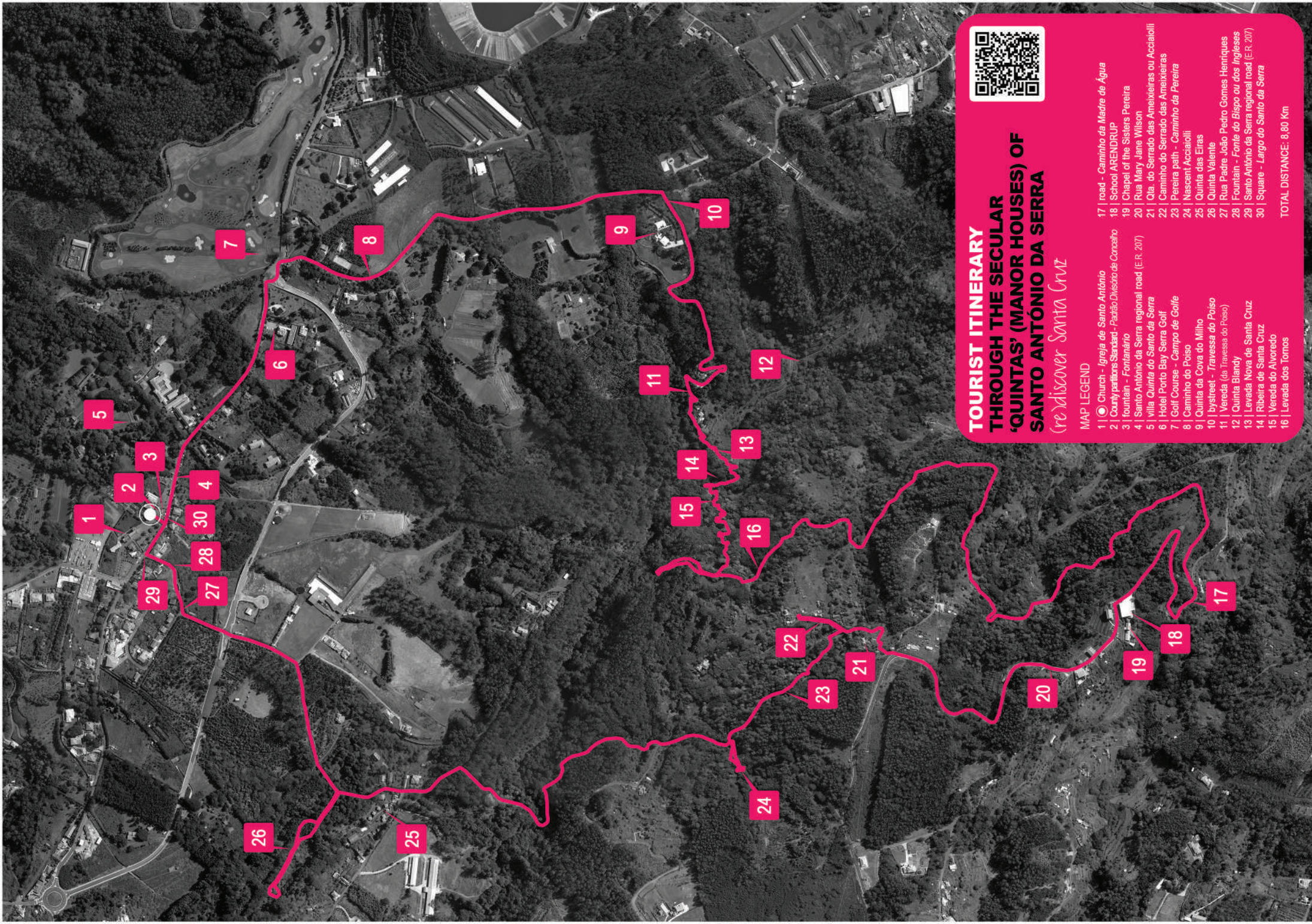
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(re)discover Santa Cruz



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MAP LEGEND

- 1 | Church - Igreja de Santo António
- 2 | County partitions Standard - Padrão Divisivo de Concelho
- 3 | Fountain - Fontanário
- 4 | Santo António da Serra regional road (E.R. 207)
- 5 | Villa Quinta do Santo da Serra
- 6 | Hotel Porto Bay Serra Golf
- 7 | Golf Course - Campo de Golfe
- 8 | Caminho do Poiso
- 9 | Quinta da Cova do Milho
- 10 | Bystreet - Travessa do Poiso
- 11 | Vereda (da Travessa do Poiso)
- 12 | Quinta Blandy
- 13 | Levada Nova de Santa Cruz
- 14 | Ribeira de Santa Cruz
- 15 | Vereda do Alvoredo
- 16 | Levada dos Tornos

- 17 | road - Caminho da Madre de Água
- 18 | School ARENDRUP
- 19 | Chapel of the Sisters Pereira
- 20 | Rua Mary Jane Wilson
- 21 | Oia. do Serrado das Ameixieras ou Acciaiolli
- 22 | Caminho do Serrado das Ameixieras
- 23 | Pereira path - Caminho da Pereira
- 24 | Nascent Acciaiolli
- 25 | Quinta das Eiras
- 26 | Quinta Valente
- 27 | Rua Padre João Pedro Gomes Henriques
- 28 | Fountain - Fonte do Bispo ou dos Ingleses
- 29 | Santo António da Serra regional road (E.R. 207)
- 30 | Square - Largo do Santo da Serra

TOTAL DISTANCE: 8,80 Km