

Double S Travel

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Double S Travel Worldchoice - Celebrating Twenty Four Years of service to the residents and businesses in the South Bedfordshire area 1985 - 2009

Steve of Double S Travel's Factsheet for 28 April 2009

Today's Exchange Rates

Euro. Our tourist sell rate today: £1 = 1.06831 worse than last week
US Dollar. Our tourist sell rate today: £1 = 1.46481 better than last week

Stop Press

Swine-flu. The FCO are advising against all but essential travel to Mexico. Check the country you are going to by visiting www.fco.gov.uk.

The government has asked that passenger locator cards be completed by customers on flights returning from Mexico. These will be collected by Health Protection Agency of Port Authority staff as passengers disembark in the UK.

Portugal, Cheap to Luxury.

Cheapest found.

Luton to Faro, 22nd November, 7 nights at the Clube Alvorferias apartments in Alvor, 3* star, self catering, £124 each based on two people sharing.

Family 3* in school holidays

2 adults 2 children, Luton to Faro, 6th Aug, 7nights, 3* Solmonte apartments in Praia de Rocha, self-catering, £1451 total.

2 adults 2 children, Luton to Faro, 6th Aug, 7nights, 4* Clube Humbria in Albufeira, all inclusive, £2148 total.

5* Luxury

Luton to Faro, 6th August, 7 nights at the 5* Vale del Rei Suite and Village Resort, bed and breakfast, £621.53 per person.

Where are these places?

Alvor

Alvor has wide appeal, including golfers and water-sports enthusiasts. Tends to attract people seeking a quieter beach or pool holiday.

Originally a Roman settlement, Alvor was a small fishing village before tourism discovered it in the 1970s and it has remained generally less commercialised than many other resorts in the region. The narrow streets of the old village are lined with

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Proprietor: **SJ Pattenden TD, BA (Hons).** VAT Number 449 3040 53.

Finalist Travel Agent of the Year 2009, 2006, 2005.

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traditional fishermen's cottages alongside a multitude of bars and restaurants. Within the town and surrounding areas, large-scale development continues and there is a sprawling, modern complex of tower blocks and hotels along the coast.

Alvor is located towards the west end of the Algarve, in the Municipality of Portimao. 42 mls west of Faro and its airport. 3 mls west of Portimao and Praia da Rocha. 12 mls east of Lagos.

Praia de Rocha

On Portugal's south coast, 1 ml south of Portimao, 15 mls west of Albufeira, 190 mls south of Lisbon. 40 mls west of Faro. The second-largest resort in the Algarve, originally developed by wealthy Portuguese who settled here in the early 1900s. The 1-ml-long promenade runs along the top of the cliff and is lined with hotels, apartment blocks, bars and restaurants etc. The town itself lacks any real traditional charm owing to the huge amount of modern development. Inland is the town of Portimao with its port and harbour. To the east of Portimao is Ferragudo, a commercial fishing village. Suitable for anyone not looking for an isolated or secluded holiday. Not suited to those with walking difficulties.

Albufeira

Since the 1960s Albufeira has grown to become one of the most popular tourist destinations in the Algarve, and is now an extensive resort divided into boroughs and incorporating several smaller resorts on the outskirts.

The old town centre has retained much of its charm, with a main square surrounded by cobbled streets with fishermen's houses and a tunnel leading to the beach. Modern districts of hotels and apartments rise up in the surrounding low hills; most of these areas are well planned, unlike many other resorts in the Algarve.

Suitable for all types of person and all ages. Being fairly central to the Algarve Albufeira is also good for touring. Nearest golf course is 5 miles to the west.

Location: Midway along the south coast, 190 mls south of Lisbon, 19 mls east of Portimao, 25 mls west of Faro and the airport.

Double S Travel Worldchoice 01582 752 752.
Visit our website at www.doublestravel.co.uk .

In brief:

Thinking of going to New Zealand next year? Join my group! Call me on 01582 752752 or email me at steve@doublestravel.co.uk for details.

Interested in a cruise? Visit our cruise club website at www.upadeck.co.uk it contains details of over 20,000 cruises, port descriptions and ship details!

Do you Twitter? Follow Double_S_Travel.

Travelling to or through the USA? You need a visa (called an ESTA) in order to travel.

If you would like to join my emailing-list to receive offers and news, simply email steve@doublestravel.co.uk and put 'Mailing List' in the subject box.

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Our aim is to be your most trusted dream provider

- Check that your passport does not expire within six months of your return date.
- Ensure you have taken out good travel insurance and if going to Europe, take your EHIC (European Health Insurance Card) with you too.
- Put the 24hour UK Consular Assistance number - +44 020 7008 1500 into your mobile telephone – just in case you need emergency help.
- If hiring a car, don't forget to take both parts of your photo driving licence (the card and the paper counterpart) and a credit card with you. Some rental companies no longer accept the old-style green paper non-photo driving licences.
- Ensure you have all the visas you need in order to travel.
- If you have booked connecting flights, the baggage allowance may be smaller than your long-haul flights. To avoid extra charges, pack to the lowest baggage allowance.
- Tell your credit card and debit card issuer where you are going and for how long otherwise you may find your cards may be blocked. Take a Cash Passport instead of your debit card – much safer.
- Use public transport to get to the airport. Most travel insurance will only cover you for a missed departure if you used public transport.
- Take a photocopy of your passport with you. If you lose your original it is much simpler to replace if you have a copy available.
- Protect your money and your holiday by booking an ATOL protected holiday through a reputable travel agent. Even short-breaks using no-frills airlines can be covered if booked through and agent.
- Declare all medical conditions and hospital visits at the time of taking insurance and tell the insurer if you develop a medical condition before you travel otherwise they may not settle if you try to make a claim.

Remember, travel safely, protect your money by booking through and ATOL holder, but most of all - enjoy your travelling.

All the best,

Steve Pattenden.

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Acknowledgements. DG&G Gazetteers for much of the destination information.

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