

A design for life

The city of Funchal, Madeira, isn't just the home of world-renowned interior designer Nini Andrade Silva – it's also her constant source of inspiration

“Choosing my favourite season in Funchal is like being asked to choose my favourite child!”

IN BRIEF

NAME
NINI ANDRADE SILVA

AGE
54

FROM
FUNCHAL, MADEIRA

OCCUPATION
INTERIOR DESIGNER

People from Funchal are incredibly friendly and you'll quickly feel at home. They've got old-fashioned values and will always help you if you need advice.

My design studio is in Funchal but I live in Garajau, 10km from the city. It's by the ocean, with lots of green space. From my house I can

see the bay and the lights of the city.

Being asked to choose a favourite season is like being asked to choose a favourite child! In winter there are always parties going on and spring is when the flower festival takes place. You can also experience all four seasons in one day, thanks to the city's position between the sea and the mountains.

Madeiran cuisine involves a lot of vegetables with wonderful flavour. We grow fantastic passion fruit and avocados, and make honey from sugarcane. A popular Madeiran speciality is tuna steak served with fried corn.

Gavião Novo, one of my favourite restaurants, is in Funchal's old town, which is filled with narrow streets and tiny eateries. It's also where you'll see Madeira's famous doors, which have been painted by different artists.

My favourite bar is at the top of my design centre, the Design Centre Nini Andrade Silva. The building is on top of an old fort, and you can enjoy 360-degree views over the island.

The city's got several fantastic museums. You have the Madeira Wine Museum, the Madeira Embroidery Museum and the Museu Cristiano Ronaldo, if you like football.

Most people don't know that during the 15th century the Port of Funchal was a stop-off on trade routes which connected the Americas to other parts of Europe and India.

niniandradesilva.com

✈️ FLY TO FUNCHAL WEEKLY FROM APRIL 2017