

# FLAG OF AZORES - A BRIEF HISTORY



Where In The World



## Trivia

The Flag uses the same colours of the Portuguese flag that was in use before the 5th October revolution 1910.

## Technical Specification

<b>Adopted:</b>	1979
<b>Proportion:</b>	2:3
<b>Design:</b>	A blue and white bicolour with Portuguese shield in the top left corner. Where the blue meets the white there is a golden goshawk with nine five-pointed stars in a semicircle
<b>Colours:</b>	PMS – <b>Blue:</b> 288 CVC, <b>Yellow:</b> 803 CVC, <b>Red:</b> 485 CVC. CMYK – <b>Blue:</b> 100% Cyan, 100% Magenta, 25% Yellow, 10% Black; <b>Yellow:</b> 100% Yellow; <b>Red:</b> 100% Magenta, 100% Yellow;

## Brief History

The Portuguese discovered Azores in 1427 and eventually in 1431 it became an official Portuguese colony. There was no specific Azores flag during this time, however the symbol of the goshawk was popular because when the first explorers visited the archipelago of the Azores they thought the common buzzards indigenous to the region were northern goshawks.

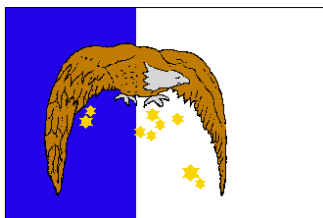
A version of the modern flag was first seen in 1975 when the Azores Liberation Front formed to try and bring a forced independence to Azores. They chose the bicolour of the Portuguese flag that was used between 1830 and 1910 with the Portuguese liberals formed a government on the Azorean island of Terceira. Rather than include the Portuguese coat of arms, the Azores Liberation Front chose a goshawk with falling five-pointed stars.

After the Carnation Revolution, Autonomy was granted from Portugal in 1976 and a flag for Azores was adopted in 1979. It is very similar to that of the liberation front, the blue and white bicolour has a golden goshawk with nine five-pointed stars in a semicircle above and in the canon there is the Portuguese shield.

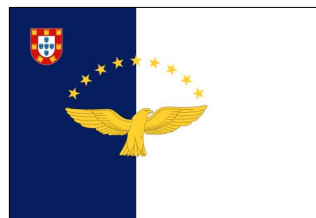


The Symbol of Azores

The Flag of Portugal  
(1830 – 1910)



**The Flag of the Azores Liberation Front  
(1975 -1976)**



**The Flag of Azores  
(1976 to Present Day)**

### The Coat of Arms of Azores

The Coat of Arms of Azores features a silver shield with a red bordure featuring nine golden stars. In the centre of the shield is a blue eagle with red tongue, beak and feet. At either side of the shield are two chained bullocks holding flagpoles with flags bearing Christian symbols. Above the shield is a gold helmet with another blue eagle on top; attached to the eagle are nine gold, five-pointed stars.

Below the shield is a gold banner that reads "Rather Die Free Than In Peace Be Subjugated."



### Portuguese Municipalities in Azores

There are 19 Portuguese municipalities in the 9 islands that come under Azores. Each has its own flag with coat of arms at the centre with 15 of the 19 flags featuring an Azorean goshawk. Here are some examples of those Municipal flags.



**The Flag of the Municipality of  
Angra do Heroísmo**



**The Flag of the Municipality of  
Calheta (São Jorge)**



**The Flag of the Municipality of Corvo**



**The Flag of the Municipality Horta**



**The Flag of the Municipality of  
Lages das Flores**



**The Flag of the Municipality of Lages  
do Pico**



**The Flag of the Municipality of  
Lagoa**



**The Flag of the Municipality of  
Madalena (Pico)**



**The Flag of the Municipality of  
Nordeste**



**The Flag of the Municipality of Ponta Delgada**



**The Flag of the Municipality of Povoação**



**The Flag of the Municipality of Praia da Vitória**



**The Flag of the Municipality of Ribeira Grande**



**The Flag of the Municipality of Santa Cruz da Graciosa**



**The Flag of the Municipality of Santa Cruz das Flores**



**The Flag of the Municipality of Velas**



**The Flag of the Municipality of Vila do Porto**



**The Flag of the municipality of Vila Franca do Campo**