



SAL 2019

FACT SHEET

Sal 2019 - 1st African Beach Games

Dates - 14 to 23 June 2019

Location - Santa Maria, Ilha do Sal, Cabo Verde

Following a successful bid by the Cabo Verdean Olympic Committee (COC) the island of Sal was selected by the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA) to host the inaugural African Beach Games.

The Games will have a maximum of 1000 athletes from all 54 African countries across 11 different sports.

Sports

- Athletics
- Basketball 3x3
- Beach Handball
- Beach Soccer
- Beach Tennis
- Beach Volleyball
- Coastal Rowing
- Freestyle Football
- Karate Kata
- Kiteboarding
- Open Water Swimming

The Mascot

The Sal 2019 Mascot is Kretxeu, pronounced Kret-cho in the local Creole dialect and meaning “loved one”. Kretxeu, is a loggerhead turtle which Cabo Verde is famous for and which has recently been protected by law.



Website and Social Media Channels

www.sal2019.com

www.instagram.com/salbeachgames

www.facebook.com/salbeachgames

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www.linkedin.com/company/sal2019

www.twitter.com/salbeachgames

www.youtube.com/salbeachgames

Cabo Verde

Cabo Verde is an archipelago of 10 islands and 5 islets that lies in the North Atlantic Ocean 460km due west of Senegal. The archipelago is divided into two groups – the Barlavento islands in the North are Sal, Santo Antão, São Vicente, Santa Luzia, São Nicolau and Boavista. The Sotavento islands to the south are Maio, Santiago, Fogo and Brava.

The islands were discovered and colonised by the Portuguese in the 15th century and had previously been uninhabited. Cabo Verde gained its independence from Portugal in 1975. Cabo Verde's expatriate population is greater than its domestic one. Cabo Verde blends various African and European cultural traditions that are reflected in the Crioulo language, music, and pano textiles.

Capital – Praia, Ilha do Santiago

Population – 560,899 (July 2017 est.)

Ethnic Groups – Creole (mulatto) 71%, African 28%, European 1%

Languages – Portuguese (official), Crioulo (a blend of Portuguese and West African words)

Area – 4,033 sq km

Coastline – 965 km

Ilha do Sal

Ilha do Sal is an island of year-round sun, blue azure sea and vast white sand beaches. Sal is a world class hot-spot for sports and activities such as Kiteboarding, Windsurfing, Surfing, Diving and Fishing whilst also becoming an increasingly popular tourist destination.

The island is 35 km long and about 12 km wide. The highest temperatures are in August at around 28C and lowest in January at around 22C. It was discovered on 03 December 1460 and initially named Llana. The island now takes its name from the salt industry at Pedra de Lume that first brought inhabitants to Sal in the 1800s. With the decline of the Salt industry the economy shifted focus onto fishing and, more recently, tourism. Sal accounts for more than 50% of Cabo Verde's tourism industry and this is mostly focused around the town of Santa Maria.

Population – 40,000 (est.)

Area – 216 sq km

Principal Town – Espargos

Santa Maria

Santa Maria is the main tourist centre for the island. Santa Maria was founded in 1835 after the arrival of the Salt industry. It is situated in the southern part of the island and is the location of the Sal 2019 African Beach Games.

Population – 20,000 (est.)

