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When most people think of the Algarve they think of sandy beaches, stunning rock formations and some of the finest seafood known to man â€“ and theyâ€™re quite right for these are just a few of the assets that have made Portugalâ€™s stunning Algarve region a destination of choice for millions of visitors and holidaymakers.

Although tourists have been coming to the Algarve for decades, what a lot of people donâ€™t know is that the region also offers one of the most varied and exciting environments for surfing and kite surfing in the whole of Europe.

Perfectly placed to benefit from the swells and breezes rolling in across the north Atlantic, the Algarveâ€™s sunny beaches offer a plethora of ocean conditions to suit surf novices and experts alike.

The Western Algarve in particular is fast gaining a reputation as one of the best surf spots in Europe, and because of the Algarveâ€™s impressive track record as a tourist destination a stay in the area means that holiday makers and surf buffs alike can experience top class surfing while also enjoying top class facilities and tourist infrastructure.

Whether youâ€™re a beginner or a seasoned surf veteran, when youâ€™re surfing Algarve you can be su youâ€™ll find a spot to suit your needs. One of the beauties of Algarveâ€™s coastline is the variety of surf spots available. If youâ€™re just starting surfing or kite surfing you can learn in crystal clear waters with gentle waves. For the more experienced wave seeker the Algarve has a selection of fantastic reef breaks that make surfing both a challenge and a pleasure.

Because of the western Algarveâ€™s growing reputation as a surf location par excellence, a number of residential surf camps have sprung up along the coastline and regardless of your skill level if youâ€™re serious about surfing in any form youâ€™d be well advised to consider making a booking at one of these establishments. A stay at a surf camp gives you access to the both the technical and local knowledge of experienced surf instructors and really maximises you chances of improving as a surfer.

A company called Extreme Algarve comes particularly highly recommended â€“ not just for the quality of their instruction and equipment, but also because they offer a wide range of high quality residential options and post surf activities. Based in Lagos, they offer flexible packages ranging from a full all inclusive option to a simple accommodation only package, ensuring that whether youâ€™re a lone wolf or a party animal youâ€™ll be able to enjoy exactly the kind of surfing vacation you want.

If youâ€™re staying in Lagos then itâ€™s best to stay in near the centre of the town, and Extreme Algarve â€˜Casa Offshoreâ€™ base is less than ten minutesâ€™ walk from both the town centreâ€™s numerous b restaurants and shopping facilities and excellent surfing beachesthe Algarve has to offer. You can find out more about Extreme Algarveâ€™s residential options and surfing in the Algarve in general by visiting www.extremealgarve.com/accomodation.htm , but regardless of where you stay one thingâ€™s for sure â€“ when youâ€™re surfing Algarve youâ€™re in for the ride of a lifetime.

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