

Fatacil celebrates 31 years

Lagoa's annual arts and crafts, tourism, agriculture, commerce and industry fair, known as Fatacil, will be celebrating its 31st anniversary this year.

The fair, between August 20 and 29, will give special prominence to the Lusitano horse, with Luís Valença, one of the most renowned masters of equestrian art in Portugal, as one of the special guest riders.

The programme includes a live horse exhibition entitled Algarve Lusitano from 10pm each day, except the first day of the fair.

Meanwhile, Blood Donor Day on August 21 will hope to raise awareness about the importance of giving blood with the Western Algarve Blood Donors Association (ADSBA) providing a blood bus for donors.

On August 22, Children's Day, the Portuguese Association of Cerebral Palsy in Faro will provide hippo therapy sessions carried out by certified physiotherapists.

Wine producers from across the Algarve will also be showing off their produce, particularly on August 24, Algarve Wine Day.

Tickets for Fatacil this year cost five euros per person or 15 euros for a family ticket and can be purchased at the venue.

Every year in the last week of August, FATACIL – the Lagoa Arts & Crafts, Tourism, Agriculture, Business and Industry Fair - presents an impressive display of regional products and its culture, attracting thousands of visitors. Here, you can find regional arts and crafts, both traditional and contemporary, with workshops featuring live presentations of crafts in action. Woven material, copper work, ironworks, lacework, pottery and ceramics, cork pieces, wickerwork and basketry are all bear the hallmark of the creativity and quality from Algarve's finest artisans. Not to be missed is the regional gastronomy, an essential feature at the FATACIL fair: real sausages, hams, regional sweets made from figs, almonds, dried fruits, brandies and liqueurs, and delicious cheeses. For those who like trying out new food, there are many stalls offering dishes created from timeless recipes. You can also find the latest innovations in industry, agriculture and animal husbandry. This is the ideal opportunity to get to know what business opportunities there are in the Algarve, and how certain bodies, such as civil parishes, schools and associations, operate. An extensive programme of entertainment, with musical performances by the best and most popular Portuguese musicians enlivens the evenings. Algarvian party on a grand scale, not to be missed!