

Overview

Our Portuguese tour takes you to experience the wonderful Cities of Lisbon and Porto, with trips to Sintra, Cascais, Cabo de Roca, the Douro Valley wine region and City Centre tours. The tour starts in Lisbon and ends in Porto from where you make your own onward departure plans. This tour does not run to a schedule, we try to start it on the date you require. This tour is delivered by our Portuguese Partner.

WELCOME TO PORTUGAL



For this tour, you stay for three nights in high quality City Centre accommodation in both Lisbon & Porto.

The tour can either be taken as an extension to one of our Andaluçia tours or independently.

Portugal is the oldest state on the Iberian Peninsula and one of the oldest European nation-states, its territory having been continuously settled, invaded and fought over since pre-historic times.

With its political stability and low crime rates, it is ranked as the most peaceful country in the EU and the 3rd in the world.

Today's modern day continental Portugal, along with most of modern Spain, was part of al-Andalus between 711 AD – 1249 AD, following the Umayyad Caliphate conquest of the Iberian Peninsula in 711 AD.

Day 1: ARRIVAL LISBON Upon arrival in Lisbon, you are met and collected at the airport with a private transfer service to your accommodation, normally the 4* Bessa Hotel Liberdade in the City Centre. You then have free time to enjoy Lisbon.

Lisbon, the Capital of Portugal, is one of the ‘must visit’ Cities of Europe. A wonderful and vibrant City, Lisbon has a host of sites to see and things to do.

It is one of the oldest cities in the world, and the second-oldest European Capital City (after Athens), predating other modern European capitals by centuries. Julius Caesar made it a municipium called *Felicitas Julia*, adding to the name *Olissipo*. Ruled by a series of Germanic tribes from the 5th century, it was captured by the Moors in the 8th century. In 1147,



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the Crusaders under Afonso Henriques conquered the city and since then it has been the political, economic and cultural centre of Portugal.

Recommended restaurants for consideration for dinner include:



- Taberna da Rua das Flores
- Bairro do Avillez
- Belcanto (expensive two Michelin stars)
- Taberna Sal Grosso
- Ramiro
- Café de São Bento
- Cantinho Lusitano
- Cervejaria Ramiro

★ **Day 2: LISBON INTRODUCTION TOUR** Take breakfast in the hotel and the Lisbon Introduction Tour commences at 09:00. This is a small group tour for up to 8 guests, so you will join this. The meeting point is in Avenida da Liberdade 9 (in front of the Armani exchange shop) and close to your hotel if you are staying at the Bessa Liberdade.

Our Portuguese partners will show you Lisbon like if it was their own house !

This tour takes you on a journey in and around the city, telling you the historical background of Lisbon and Portugal while at the same time falling in love with it and trying some of the best local food.

It will take you out of the over-crowded central areas and dive into the real Lisbon.

You get to understand its people, eat the local food and drink the local wine. You will experience an in-depth view of this growing capital while seeing the best views around and exploring the most exciting areas, street art, food and culture.



Included in the trip: the famous ‘Bifana’ (that Anthony Bourdain loved), one drink (wine, beer or juice), local savoury pastries and a local treat. The duration of this trip is 5 to 6 hours

Day 3: SINTRA, CABO DE ROCA & CASCAIS A fantastic day out to the magical places around Lisbon. Early



breakfast in the hotel and a fantastic day trip to Sintra, Cabo de Roca and Cascais.

Meet at 08:30 at the same location as yesterday for the small group tour for up to 8 guests.

This trip takes you for a full day on a breath-taking journey out of Lisbon, where you will learn about Portuguese culture from the perspective of one of our partner’s “famous” local drivers. Exploring the areas around Lisbon, including Sintra, a Unesco World Heritage Site and its fairy-tale-setting, you’ll visit the stunning Monserrate Palace in

Sintra.

Travelling on to Cabo de Roca, you will stop at the awe-inspiring viewpoint of the most western point of Continental Europe.

Next is the beach town of Cascais, an old fishing village, and then one of the best and unexpected hidden views in Lisbon to finish the day.

The unique style, creativity and sites makes it perfect for first time visitors to the beautiful City of Lisbon, but also for repeat visitors looking for something more. This trip has been called “the best tour in Portugal”



Included in the trip: the most famous pastry in Sintra, a Portuguese lunch experience in a rustic restaurant, amazing wine of the region, and a homemade “Ginjinha” liquor.

The duration of the trip is 7 hours.

Return back to your accommodation for your final evening and night in Lisbon.



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★ **Day 4: PORTO** After breakfast enjoy some free time before taking a taxi from your Hotel to Lisbon Santa Apolónia train station for your transfer to Porto. You will have you first class seats on the 12:00 train from Lisbon arriving at the train station Porto Campanha in Porto at 14:50. We will pre-order your lunch on-board which you pay for on the train. Upon arrival in Porto, you will be met at the Porto Campanhã train station (*at the end of the access tunnel located under the tracks*) by a representative of our Portuguese partners and they will have a hand-held sign with their name on it. They will provide a private transfer to your accommodation, normally the 4* Ribeira House Hotel, check-in and enjoy free time in Porto. Porto is a beautiful coastal city in northwest Portugal known for its stately



bridges and port wine production.

In the medieval Ribeira (riverside) district, narrow cobbled streets wind past merchants' houses and cafes. São Francisco Church is known for its lavish baroque interior with ornate gilded carvings and the palatial 19th-century Palácio de Bolsa, formerly a stock market, was built to impress potential European investors.

Also known as *Oporto* (the Port), it is the second-largest city in Portugal after Lisbon. The City has a population of 287,591 and a metropolitan area with around 2.3 million people. Located along the Douro River estuary in northern Portugal,

Porto is one of the oldest European centres, and its core was proclaimed a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1996, as "Historic Centre of Oporto, Luiz I Bridge and Monastery of Serra do



Pilar".

The historic area is also a National Monument of Portugal.

Its settlement dates back many centuries, when it was an outpost of the Roman Empire. Its combined Celtic-Latin name, *Portus Cale* has been referred to as the origin of the name Portugal, based on evolution from Latin. Port wine, one of Portugal's most famous exports, is named after Porto, since the metropolitan area, and in particular the cellars of Vila Nova de Gaia, were responsible for the packaging, transp transport, and export of fortified wine.



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In 2014 and 2017, Porto was elected *The Best European Destination*.

Recommended restaurants for consideration for dinner include:

- Restaurante Cafeina
- Pedro Lemos
- Bacalhau
- Bufete Fase
- Grelhador da Boavista
- Casa de Pasto da Palmeira
- The Yeatman (Two Michelin Stars, expensive, tasting menu)
- O Gaveto
- Casa d’Oro



Day 5: PORTO After breakfast, the Trip’eira City Tour of Porto, a small group tour of up to 8 guests.



The meeting point is at 09:00 in Praça de Liberdade at the statue of Don Pedro IV (famous horse statue in the middle of the Plaza).

This trip gives you a fantastic introduction to Porto, the culture, the people, the city and the surroundings, so you experience the best of Porto and its local area.

Learning the historical background of Porto, while at the same time falling in love with it and trying some of the best local food in the city.

You experience the real Porto, a rapidly changing City with great views and exciting areas.

We are sure that, not only we will you fall in love in the city, but in the end you will never want to leave. Especially because of the wine 😊

Included in the trip: ‘Bifana’, one drink, one local savoury pastry and a local treat, and of course Port wine.

The duration of the trip is 5 to 6 hours.

Day 6: DOURO VALLEY Today is a private tour by vehicle through the stunning Douro Valley, the main wine producing region of Portugal. You will be collected from your accommodation after breakfast.



This Unesco World Heritage Landscape area is not only the oldest officially recognised wine region in the world, and home to the famous Vinho do Porto, but it's also a beautiful area to drive around. Breathtaking views are around every turn.

The river carved deep valleys out of the Schist mountains and plantations of vineyards were created in the fertile soil. The vines, emerald green in the summer and flame red in the autumn are set in inclined terraces to expose the vines to the sun assisting the grapes to ripen and produce some lovely wines. A truly symbiotic and harmonious relationship between nature and man.

You will visit a winery with tasting, and there are options available to you to consider, such as a boat tour, or a second wine tasting.

The trip takes a very scenic route following the river Douro, however, there are some quite long stretches of driving time.

Often the driver of this tour will be the same as in the Porto city tour, so because this is a private tour, you can discuss any final details for the trip the day before. The duration is 7 to 8 hours, a full day out.

At the end of this trip, you will be returned to your hotel where you can enjoy your final evening and night in the beautiful City of Porto.



Day 7: PORTO AND DEPARTURE You have free time in Porto to enjoy before your onward departure. Porto has an airport with many European City destinations or take the train back to Lisbon for more flight options.

We are sure that your ‘Tale of Two Cities’ Tour of Portugal with us will have been a fabulous trip with wonderful memories.



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What’s included

- Any other meals, drinks, subsistence not detailed in the itinerary
- Guided City tour Lisbon
- Guided City tour of Porto
- 3 nights bed & breakfast accommodation in high quality City Centre hotel in Lisbon
- 3 nights bed & breakfast accommodation in high quality City Centre hotel in Porto
- Meet and greet airport transfer at Lisbon to hotel
- First class train transfer between Lisbon & Porto
- Meet and greet transfer from Porto train station to hotel
- Light lunch in Sintra
- Wine tasting in Douro Valley Winery with collection and transfer to/from your hotel
- 21% Sales Tax



What’s not included

- Any other meals, drinks, subsistence not detailed in the itinerary
- Any shows, performances
- Monument entrance fees
- Any transportation not detailed in the itinerary
- Flights to/from Lisbon and Porto
- Any other expenditure not detailed above or in the itinerary

Portugal ‘Tale of Two Cities’	Per person	Single Supplements
7 day/6 night tour of Lisbon & Porto	£1,195	£490



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Notes

- We aim to run this tour to meet your required dates and we run it for a minimum of two guests
- The walking distance during each day can normally vary between 5km and 10km. Wear comfortable shoes, drink lots of water and use sunscreen cream
- All bookings are subject to our terms and conditions, a copy of which are included in the booking form
- Prices are based on two guests sharing a room
- Prices are in £GBP

