

italian tours and

Travel by Diana

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Custom Journey to Portugal

Day 1 Depart USA

International flights to Lisbon, Portugal (independently booked).

Day 2 Arrive Lisbon

Lisbon



Olá! Bem vinda! Welcome to Portugal! Upon arrival at the Lisbon Airport, retrieve your baggage and proceed to the arrivals hall. Here meet your private driver, holding a sign with your name, for transfer to your hotel in the center of the city. Please note official check in time is 2:00-3:00 pm. Check in, settle and enjoy the remainder of the day adjusting to the new time zone. The active city of Lisbon will have plenty of options for your free time today. Perhaps visit the Feira da Ladra, which means 'Thief Fair,' the oldest market in Lisbon. Jardim do Principe Real is popular with locals; you can relax and sit in the shade of the old cypress which is more than 100 years old. Overnight in Lisbon. PT/H

Day 3 Lisbon

Breakfast at the hotel. Meet your private bilingual guide in the hotel lobby today for a three walking tour of Lisbon, the capital city of Portugal. There are many wonderful viewpoints to see a panorama of the city, like Miradouro de Nossa Senhora do Monte or the Castelo de Sao Jorge. Your guide will accompany you as you explore the city and learn the history of Lisbon. Walk through charming neighborhoods in the Alfama district and see lively locals interacting together. Do not miss tasting Pastel de Nata, a local pastry made of a delicate crust and a delicious custard filling! Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure. You could relax in Rossio, in the heart of Lisbon and is a bustling square with open-air cafes, grand architecture and cobbled streets.

Perhaps visit the Timeout Market, with dishes designed by Portugal's finest chefs. The hectic and social setting of the market is a wonderful location for lunch. This evening, we will arrange for dinner and a fado show at one of the local fado houses. Portugal's capital is known for its café culture and soulful Fado Music. Overnight in Lisbon. **B/G/ET/D + show/H**

Lisbon



Day 4 Lisbon, Sintra

Breakfast at hotel. Meet your private driver this morning in the lobby for a day exploring other parts of Lisbon and Sintra. First you will visit the Jeronimos Monastery, one of the best preserved Late Gothic monasteries in the area. Its elaborate architecture will wow you! Entrance tickets will be provided to skip the line. From here, you can see the early 16th century Belem Tower, standing over the Tagus River below. Both have been dedicated UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Your next stop today is Sintra. Located about 40 minutes outside of Lisbon, Sintra has become famous for its many castles. Here you will have free time to explore (a private bilingual certified guide can also be arranged). A visit to the Quinta da Regaliera palace will present a side of mystery; it was designed with Roman, Gothic, Renaissance and Manueline influences.

Sintra



Another castle, the 19th century Palacio da Pena, is colorful and covered in elaborate mosaics; entrance tickets will be provided. The park around the palace are beautifully laid out, with many exotic plants, quaint features and beautiful viewpoints, with trails leading through it all. Be sure to try the local favorite-queijadas are small sweet cakes, made with fresh cheese. Following your visit, enjoy time at leisure before meeting with your driver to return to Lisbon. Overnight in Lisbon. **B/PD/ET/H**

Day 5 Lisbon, Cascais

Cascais



Breakfast at hotel and check out. Meet your private driver this morning at 9:30 am for transfer to Cascais (30min). In Cascais, check in to your hotel and settle. Enjoy your day relaxing on the Portuguese Riviera today. This amazing coastline is known as the “Summer Playground”. There’s plenty of life in Cascais, with winding lanes leading to small museums, beautiful gardens, a shiny marina and an old town famous for its designer boutiques and fish restaurants. Perhaps relax on the beach at the Praia da Conceição or Praia da Duquesa. In Cascais, you can also see the Cascais fort, the Condes de Castro museum and the Paula Rego art gallery. Overnight in Cascais. **B/PT/H**

Day 6 Cascais, Estoril?

Estoril



Breakfast at hotel. Enjoy your day relaxing in Cascais. Or, today you can take the local train to Estoril, with a ride less than 5 minutes. With its stylish buildings, grand villas and glitzy casino, Estoril (sh-toe-reel) once fancied itself as the Portuguese Riviera. Today, Estoril remains a less touristy option with a nice beach and casino. Estoril was where Ian Fleming hit on the idea for Casino Royale, as he stalked Yugoslav double-agent Dusko Popov at the casino. During WWII, the town was filled with exiles and spies. Return to Cascais at your own pace. Overnight in Cascais. **B/H**

Day 7 Cascais, Óbidos or Coimbra, Porto

Breakfast at hotel and check out. Meet your private driver at 9:00 am in the hotel lobby this morning

Obidos



for transfer to Porto. Continue with your driver and stop in Óbidos (1h 10min) for free time OR Coimbra (2h 30m). Óbidos is the classic Portuguese fortified town, and is one of the most picturesque locations in Portugal. The narrow cobbled streets, the quaint houses and the medieval castle are charming. Independently explore this walled city. It is a delightful place to pass your afternoon. The main gate, Porta da Vila, leads directly into the main street, Rua Direita, lined with chocolate and cherry-liqueur shops. Or, if you choose Coimbra, upon arrival meet your private bilingual certified guide for a two to three hour walking tour of the city.

Coimbra



Coimbra, a riverfront city located on the Mondego, was once the country's capital. Here you will find the delightful old town and the famed University of Coimbra, which is now a UNESCO World Heritage site. Discover why this city is known as the "City of Students." Built on the grounds of the former palace where the early kings of Portugal lived, the university is known for its baroque library, the Biblioteca Joanina, and its 18th-century bell tower; if you choose to climb the tower, you will see amazing 360 degree views! In the city's old town lies the 12th-century Romanesque cathedral Sé Velha. After your tour, enjoy time at your own pace. While in town, be sure to taste the Santa Clara pastries or the arrufadas (sweet buns) in one of the historic cafés. Continue to Porto with your driver. Upon arrival in Porto, check in and enjoy the day at your own pace. Overnight in Porto. **B/PD/H + G7/ET?**

Day 8 Porto

Breakfast at the hotel. Today, you will meet your guide at a designated meeting spot for a semi-private three to four hour walking tour all about food! Guided by a Porto native, you will together experience the revival of Portuguese cuisine and experience the best recipes of the past with a modern twist.

Porto



Along the way, you will learn about the city's Art Deco history and enjoy tasting 10 traditional Portuguese foods that usually visitors overlook. You will also sample port wines, Portuguese coffee and other local beverages. Be sure to arrive hungry to this tour! Enjoy the afternoon at your own pace. Prepare for overseas flights. Overnight in Porto. **B/Food tour (includes, Guide/beverages/food)/H**

Day 9 Porto, Duoro Valley

Duoro Valley



Breakfast at the hotel. Meet your private driver in the hotel lobby this morning for a lovely day in the Duoro Valley. With its winding river, lovely vineyards and picturesque villages, the UNESCO World Heritage Douro Valley wine region is a sight to behold. The day is spent between visits and wine tastings at several Douro Valley wine estates - known as "Quintas". You will also enjoy a short Douro river cruise and see the area from a new perspective! Pinhão, a lovely town along a scenic bend in the Douro River, is the center of port wine making region. The town of Peso da Régua is located on the slopes of the river and recently won the title of "International City of Vineyards and Wine." Return to Porto in the late afternoon with your driver. Overnight in Porto. **B/PD/Wine tasting excursion/H**

Day 10 Porto

Breakfast at hotel. Today you can independently explore. Porto, the second largest city in Portugal, is 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- entrance tickets will be included. The São Bento Station, completed in 1903, features over 20,000 tiles depicting the story of Portugal's founding.

Porto



Beyond Porto's historic heart, contemporary architects have left their stamp on the city's skyline. Winging Porto into the 21st century is Álvaro Siza Vieira's minimalist Museu de Arte Contemporânea and Rem Koolhaas' iconic Casa da Música. Prepare for overseas flights. Overnight in Porto. **B/H**

Day 11 Depart Porto

Breakfast at the hotel and check out. This morning meet your private driver in the hotel lobby for transfer to the Porto airport. Here you will board return flights to the USA OR head to Amsterdam. Tchou, Portugal! **B/PT**

CODES: B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner H=Hotel G=Guide ET=Entrance Ticket
PD=Private Driver PT=Private Transfer TRTK=Train Ticket BR= Boat Ride WT=Wine Tasting

Once the "flow" of the itinerary is perfect for your journey, we are happy to provide a package price, per person, for the land portion only. Due to confidential and exclusive contracts with our suppliers, we are unable to accommodate requests for price breakdowns. Kindly note that your final quote for the land portion of this journey does not include international airfare, tipping, meals where not indicated and a city tax required by the European governments to be paid upon check out of each hotel. The tax is to be paid in cash and is approximately 1.50-5.00 euro per person per day.