

Best of Portugal

11 Days

1 Country

15 Meals

From US\$1995 Per person, twin share

This Best of Portugal journey reveals a nation's proud history, warm-hearted locals and soul-warming cuisine. Starting in Lisbon, you'll travel north and south to explore a Templar stronghold, watch thoroughbreds perform at an Alentejo farm and visit the Algarve.

Past Guest Rated

feefo ^{CS} ★
4.6/5

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Your Must-See Highlights

- **Explore** Lisbon, Évora and Porto with a Local Specialist
- **Discover** the Algarve, Lagos, Castelo de Vide, Viseu, Coimbra, Tomar, Nazaré and Óbidos
- **Visit** the Hieronymite Monastery in Lisbon, the cathedral in Évora, the Palace Gardens at Palacio de Mateus, the Stock Exchange Palace, Arabian Hall and a local port wine cellar in Porto, the University Library of Coimbra, the Convent of Christ in Tomar, the Shrine at Fátima and the Gothic Monastery at Batalha
- **View** the Castle of Guimarães

● Start ● End ● Overnight ● Sightseeing

Tram, Lisbon

Your holiday

Day

- 1 Welcome to Lisbon** A sea of pastel pinks, yellows and blues dot the seven hills of the romantic Portuguese capital, which you will have an opportunity to explore today before meeting your fellow travellers and Travel Director for a Welcome Reception and orientation drive past the city's most iconic sights. **(WR) Hotel: Turim Av Liberdade**
- 2 Discover Colourful Lisbon** Delve into Lisbon's centuries-old seafaring heritage today, paying tribute to the brave men who set off from these shores to discover the 'New World'. With our *Local Specialist*, we'll see the shimmering white Monument to the Discoveries, the iconic suspension bridge spanning the Tagus, and Belém Tower, built as a fortress protecting the city of Lisbon. We'll *Dive Into Culture* on a sightseeing tour of the UNESCO-listed Hieronymite Monastery, an exquisite testament to 16th-century Manueline architecture and art. There's time to join an Optional Experience to the historic towns of Cascais and Sintra. In the evening, perhaps enjoy a traditional Portuguese dinner amidst the heart-wrenching, haunting sounds of the *fado*. **(B, 🎧)**
- 3 Journey to the Algarve Region** We journey across the Tagus this morning and drive south towards the Serra da Arrábida Mountains and to the golden pastures of the Alentejo. The hearty aroma of Portuguese chicken fills the air at our *Be My Guest* experience as we *Connect With Locals* over a traditional lunch at a stud ranch, where Lusitano horses were once reared at the pleasure of King João VI in the 18th century. Our journey continues further south, bound for the sun-kissed shores of the Algarve – our home for the next two nights. **(B, BMG, 🎧) Hotel: Real Bellavista**
- 4 Cliffs, Beaches and More in the Algarve** The dramatic cliffs and beautiful beaches of the Sagres Peninsula provide a stunning backdrop for our morning coastal drive. Admire spectacular views across Baleeira Beach, before continuing along the coast to Cape St. Vincent, the site of many sea battles centuries ago. We end our excursion with a visit to the resort town of Lagos – once the home of Henry the Navigator. **(B)**
- 5 Onwards to Elegant Évora** Journeying north, we travel to the ancient Alentejo city of Évora. Join your *Local Specialist* and visit the elaborate cathedral, Roman temple and the Chapel of Bones. Spend the rest of your day, delving into the medieval history of this enchanting city. Consider joining an Optional Experience to the medieval village of Monsaraz. This evening, we dine at our hotel in Évora. **(B, D) Hotel: M'ar de Ar Muralhas**
- 6 Venture Past Mountains to Viseu** Our first stop today is in the hilltop town of Castelo de Vide with its white façades, narrow alleys and Jewish Quarter. Travel north towards the Serra de Estrela mountains and arrive later in Viseu, set high on a plateau near the famous Dão vineyards. Explore the city's rich art and architectural history, seeing the 12th-century Sé, standing imposingly on a hill overlooking the city. **(B) Hotel: Grão Vasco**
- 7 Through the Douro Valley to Porto** Vineyard-clad hills provide an enchanting backdrop for our journey today through the Douro Valley, where Port wine is produced. We explore the magnificent gardens at the Baroque-style Palácio de Mateus, depicted

on the label of the distinctive Mateus wine bottles. We then continue via Guimarães for views of its impressive 10th-century castle. **(B)**

Hotel: Neya/Carris Ribeira

- 8 Explore Vibrant Porto** Join a *Local Specialist* today for a sightseeing tour of Porto, which takes you past baroque churches and along the winding lanes that tumble down towards the Douro River. See the remarkable bridges that span the river and the Gothic Church of St. Francis. Visit the Stock Exchange Palace with its splendid Arabian Hall inspired by Granada's Alhambra, before we *Dive Into Culture* and gain insights into the centuries-old tradition of local port production at a tasting in a port cellar. Spend the rest of the afternoon strolling through the historic centre of Porto. **(B, 🎧)**



Port tasting in Porto. Learn about Portugal's 300 years of Port wine tradition when you visit a wine cellar and get to taste some of its vintages. Discover more at trafalgar.com.

- 9 On to Coimbra and Pilgrimage to Fátima** Soak up the grand atmosphere of one of Europe's greatest and oldest universities and stroll through the ancient streets and squares of Coimbra, before journeying to the Templar city of Tomar to visit the Convent of Christ, originally built as a Templar stronghold in the 12th century. We arrive in the pilgrimage centre of Fátima, where we rub shoulders with millions of Catholic pilgrims who have journeyed to this pilgrimage site, where three young shepherds famously saw apparitions of the Virgin Mary. **(B, D) Hotel: Fátima**
- 10 Experience Village Life Returning to Lisbon** En route to Lisbon, we stop at the imposing monastery of Batalha – a UNESCO World Heritage site and the best example of late Gothic architecture in Portugal. Our next stop is the fishing village of Nazaré, before we visit the medieval walled city of Óbidos with its whitewashed houses and cobblestone streets. Our last night in Portugal together sees us toast to an incredible journey at a Farewell Dinner. **(B, FD) Hotel: Neya/Smy Lisboa**
- 11 Farewell Lisbon** Say a fond *adeus* to your fellow travellers at the end of an unforgettable Portuguese holiday. Find out more about your free airport transfer at trafalgar.com/freetransfers. **(B)**

Your 2022 Holiday Planner

| Start Lisbon | End Lisbon | Start Lisbon | End Lisbon |
|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| ■ Sun 02 Jan | Wed 12 Jan | Wed 03 Aug | Sat 13 Aug |
| ■ Fri 14 Jan | Mon 24 Jan | Fri 05 Aug | Mon 15 Aug |
| ■ Fri 28 Jan | Mon 07 Feb | Wed 10 Aug | Sat 20 Aug |
| | | Fri 12 Aug | Mon 22 Aug |
| ■ Fri 11 Feb | Mon 21 Feb | Wed 17 Aug | Sat 27 Aug |
| ■ Fri 25 Feb | Mon 07 Mar | Fri 19 Aug | Mon 29 Aug |
| | | Wed 24 Aug | Sat 03 Sep |
| ■ Fri 11 Mar | Mon 21 Mar | ★ Fri 26 Aug | Mon 05 Sep |
| ■ Fri 18 Mar | Mon 28 Mar | Wed 31 Aug | Sat 10 Sep |
| ■ Fri 25 Mar | Mon 04 Apr | | |
| | | Fri 02 Sep | Mon 12 Sep |
| ■ Fri 01 Apr | Mon 11 Apr | Wed 07 Sep | Sat 17 Sep |
| ■ Fri 08 Apr | Mon 18 Apr | Fri 09 Sep | Mon 19 Sep |
| ■ Fri 15 Apr | Mon 25 Apr | Wed 14 Sep | Sat 24 Sep |
| Wed 20 Apr | Sat 30 Apr | Fri 16 Sep | Mon 26 Sep |
| ★ Fri 22 Apr | Mon 02 May | Wed 21 Sep | Sat 01 Oct |
| Wed 27 Apr | Sat 07 May | Fri 23 Sep | Mon 03 Oct |
| Fri 29 Apr | Mon 09 May | Wed 28 Sep | Sat 08 Oct |
| | | Fri 30 Sep | Mon 10 Oct |
| Wed 04 May | Sat 14 May | Wed 05 Oct | Sat 15 Oct |
| Fri 06 May | Mon 16 May | ★ Fri 07 Oct | Sat 17 Oct |
| Wed 11 May | Sat 21 May | Wed 12 Oct | Sat 22 Oct |
| Fri 13 May | Mon 23 May | Fri 14 Oct | Mon 24 Oct |
| Wed 18 May | Sat 28 May | Wed 19 Oct | Sat 29 Oct |
| Fri 20 May | Mon 30 May | Fri 21 Oct | Mon 31 Oct |
| Wed 25 May | Sat 04 Jun | Fri 28 Oct | Mon 07 Nov |
| Fri 27 May | Mon 06 Jun | | |
| | | ■ Fri 11 Nov | Mon 21 Nov |
| Wed 01 Jun | Sat 11 Jun | ■ Fri 25 Nov | Mon 05 Dec |
| Fri 03 Jun | Mon 13 Jun | | |
| Wed 08 Jun | Sat 18 Jun | ■ Fri 09 Dec | Mon 19 Dec |
| Fri 10 Jun | Mon 20 Jun | ★ Fri 16 Dec | Mon 26 Dec |
| Wed 15 Jun | Sat 25 Jun | ★ Mon 26 Dec | Thu 05 Jan |
| Fri 17 Jun | Mon 27 Jun | | |
| Wed 22 Jun | Sat 02 Jul | | |
| Fri 24 Jun | Mon 04 Jul | ■ Mon 02 Jan | Thu 12 Jan |
| Wed 29 Jun | Sat 09 Jul | ■ Fri 13 Jan | Mon 23 Jan |
| | | ■ Fri 27 Jan | Mon 06 Feb |
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| ★ Fri 08 Jul | Mon 18 Jul | | |
| Wed 13 Jul | Sat 23 Jul | ■ Fri 10 Mar | Mon 20 Mar |
| Fri 15 Jul | Mon 25 Jul | ■ Fri 17 Mar | Mon 27 Mar |
| Wed 20 Jul | Sat 30 Jul | ■ Fri 24 Mar | Mon 03 Apr |
| Fri 22 Jul | Mon 01 Aug | ■ Fri 31 Mar | Mon 10 Apr |
| Wed 27 Jul | Sat 06 Aug | | |
| Fri 29 Jul | Mon 08 Aug | | |

- These departures may vary in itinerary, hotels, and inclusions in line with seasonal changes.
- ★ **Festive Meals:** Christmas and New Year's Eve dinners have been arranged for these departures. Join us in Europe to celebrate the festive season.
- ★ **Special Rate Solo Rooming:** These departures include 20 – 100% discount on our standard single supplement.

Your 2023 Holiday Planner

If you're looking even further ahead, this trip departs every Wednesday and Friday from March to October 2023. Visit our website for dates and today's best prices.

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#TTBestOfPortugal

Trip code: **PORT**

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🍷 **Connect With Locals** 🍽️ **Stays With Stories**
WR Welcome Reception **L** Lunch
B Breakfast **D** Dinner

🍷 **Dive Into Culture** 🌱 **MAKE TRAVEL MATTER®**
RD Regional Dinner **BMG** Be My Guest
FD Farewell Dinner