

PORTUGAL

The Best of Portugal, (13D/12N)

Lisbon – Fátima – Oporto – Canas de Senhorim – Lisbon – Evora – Lagos – Lisbon

Departure on Fridays from May till October 2015

(Tour code: CL11)

Included

- Round trip transfers: airport – hotel – airport
- 12-night accommodation at 4* hotel on bed & breakfast basis
- Transportation by coach with air conditioning
- Accompanying guide throughout the tour
- Entrance fees during tours: Monastery of Batalha, University of Coimbra, Bolsa Palace (Porto), Church of São Francisco (Porto), Mateus Palace Gardens, Convent of Christ (Tomar), Pena Palace (Sintra), Chapel of Bones and Church of São Francisco (Évora), Évora Cathedral, São Vicente Fortress (Sagres)
- Assistance of our representative in Portugal

Excluded

- Round trip ticket to Lisbon
- Airport taxes
- Visa charge
- Travel insurance
- Lunches and dinners
- Optional tours
- All other expenses

Prices are per person in Euros : (minimum 4 persons)

Fixed departure dates 2015	Double	Single
May 23 ; Oct : 03 & 17	€ 1650	€ 1940
Jun : 6 & 20 ; Jul 4 & 18 ; Aug: 8 & 22 ; Sep: 5 & 19	€ 1655	€ 2060

- Rates are subject to change without prior notice

Selected hotels: (or similar)

Nights no:	Region / City	4-star
4	Lisbon	Hotel Lutecia
1	Fátima	Hotel Santa Maria
3	Oporto	Hotel Ipanema Porto
1	Canas de Senhorim	Hotel da Urgeiriça
1	Évora	Hotel Muralhas Mar D'ar
2	Lagos	Hotel Vila Galé Lagos

Detailed Itinerary:

DAY 1: FRIDAY / BEIRUT – LISBON

Upon arrival to the Lisbon airport, meet and transfer to hotel

DAY 2: SATURDAY / LISBON – ÓBIDOS – ALCOBAÇA – NAZARÉ – BATALHA – FÁTIMA (AROUND 217 KM)

Pick-up from your hotel for departure at: 9 A.M from place: MARQUES DE POMBAL SQUARE

Heading north to arrive in **Óbidos**, surrounded by medieval walls; try a flavorsome *ginjinha* and cherry liqueur.

Then depart to **Alcobaça** to visit the **towering church**

Moving onto **Nazaré**, take a walk through this fishing town and discover its legends and traditions.

Stop in **Batalha**, the **Monastery of Batalha** is the final resting place of Prince Henry the Navigator, the intellectual mentor to Portugal's golden maritime era.

Proceed to **Fátima**, to visit the world renowned Marian Sanctuary and its Altar of the World. Overnight

DAY 3: SUNDAY / FÁTIMA – COIMBRA – AVEIRO – OPORTO (AROUND 270 KM)

After breakfast depart to **Coimbra** home to one of the oldest universities in the world; visit the **Church of Santa Clara**

Continue to **Aveiro**, a city known as the Venice of Portugal due to its crisscrossing canals.

Arrival to **Oporto** for overnight at hotel

DAY 4: MONDAY / OPORTO (AROUND 25 KM)

A.M. Depart for a half day city tour of Oporto second largest city visiting:

The old houses , Palaces , churches,...

P.M free time at leisure and overnight at hotel in Oporto

PORTUGAL

DAY 5: TUESDAY / OPORTO – GUIMARÃES – BRAGA – BARCELOS – OPORTO (AROUND 178 KM)

Depart for Full day tour to Minho, on the Sacred Hill, we may observe the Royal Castle and Bragança Palace
We then set off for Braga, where we make another stop.

Known as Portugal's Rome, we encounter a sense of the power of the sacred in the country's **oldest cathedral** and the **Bom Jesus Sanctuary**, with its fascinating and scenographic Baroque stairway.

From Braga, we move to Barcelos, where the cockerel legend finds its origins en route to becoming an icon of Portugal. Return to Oporto hotel for overnight.

DAY 6: WEDNESDAY / OPORTO – AMARANTE – VILA REAL – VALE DO DOURO – LAMEGO – VISEU (254 KM)

Depart for **Amarante**, small town, located on the banks of River Tâmega, has St. Gonçalo as its patron, a wedding-maker venerated in the convent overlooking the river

We head onwards to **Vila Real**, passing through **Serra do Marão**. In Vila Real, stroll the harmonious and perfumed **gardens of Mateus Palace**, whose façade features on the label of the similarly named Rosé wine.

The vineyards across the Demarcated Douro Region, the source of one of the most famous of nectars, port

Proceed to **Lamego**, where Lady of Remédios Sanctuary looks at the city and place to try a traditional Lamego cake.

Later head for Viseu and the Dão wine region and visit the Cathedral

Spend the night in Urgeiriça, in Caldas da Felgueira .

DAY 7: THURSDAY / URGEIRIÇA – BUSSACO – TOMAR – LISBON (AROUND 365 KM)

Depart to **Bussaco**, visit the romantic **Hotel Palace**

Continue to **Tomar**, visit the **Convent of Christ**, declared world heritage status by UNESCO in 1983.

Head back to Lisbon hotel for overnight

DAY 8: FRIDAY / LISBON – SINTRA – CABO DA ROCA – CASCAIS – ESTORIL – LISBON (AROUND 90 KM)

Embark on a day of luxury. Give in to the fantasy of a palace that is a landmark in romanticism and enjoy wandering the charming town of Sintra. Free time for lunch but also for the wonderful panoramic views from mainland Europe's most westerly points, Cabo da Roca

Along the coast, we get to gaze out onto one of the most famous surfing beaches, the fantastic Boca do inferno waterspout, and the cosmopolitan town of Cascais and Estoril gardens.

Return to Lisbon for overnight.

DAY 9: SATURDAY / LISBON – ÉVORA (AROUND 140 KM)

Discover the city of **Évora** – UNESCO World Heritage – a mosaic of culture, history and traditions.

Visiting: the Roman **Temple of Diana**, the Romanesque-Gothic **Cathedral**, the **Church of São Francisco** and its **Chapel of Bones** as well as the **University**; and explore the deep variety of handicrafts produced across the Alentejo including the renowned pieces in cork, ceramics and copper.

Free time for lunch (not included)

Overnight at hotel in Evora

DAY 10: SUNDAY / ÉVORA – BEJA – SILVES – LAGOS (AROUND 250 KM)

A.M free time at leisure

Depart to **Beja**, dominated by the most imposing medieval castle tower in Portugal.

Proceed through mountain and valley southwards to the Algarve, where among orange groves,

Arrival in **Silves**, perched on the peak of its hill, is its **Moorish Castle** that combines with the legacy of historical cork industry practices.

After, we arrive at the sea in **Lagos** for overnight at hotel



PORTUGAL

DAY 11: MONDAY / LAGOS – PONTA DA PIEDADE – SAGRES – CABO DE SÃO VICENTE (140 KM)

A.M. Depart to **Ponta da Piedade** then head to **Sagres**, site of the mythical nautical school of Prince Henry the Navigator and here he planned the journeys opening up "worlds to the World".

In **Cabo de São Vicente**, the most south westerly point of continental Europe, there are some stunning cliff landscapes. Spend some time in Lagos, a cosmopolitan Algarve city with a marina and fishing port and a great place for some high quality dining, rich in fish and shellfish and almond based sweets.

P.M. Free time to enjoy the beauty and the serenity of **Lagos beach**

Overnight at Lagos hotel

DAY 12: TUESDAY / LAGOS – SETÚBAL – SERRA DA ARRÁBIDA – LISBON (AROUND 330 KM)

We Depart to **Setúbal**, a port and industrial city, located on the left bank of the mouth of the River Sado, with views out onto the fine splendor of Troia peninsula.

Then head to **Serra da Arrábida Natural Park** where there is rare vegetation and some unique panoramic scenarios.

We cross one of the bridges over the River Tagus and return to Lisbon hotel for overnight

DAY 13: WEDNESDAY / LISBON – BEIRUT

Transfer to the Lisbon airport for departure flight