



SP2. 10 Days The Best of Portugal – Independent

Highlights: Porto, Douro, Lisbon, Sintra

3 nights in Porto, 1 night in Douro Valley, 1 night in Coimbra, 4 nights in Lisbon

Itinerary

DAY 1 ARRIVAL

Private transfer from Porto Airport to Hotel in Porto

Overnight in Porto

DAY 2 PORTO

B

Today explore the city of Oporto, voted Best European Destination 2012 by the European citizens. This is also known as “Cidade Invicta” (unvanquished city). It’s its distinct and unique character that gave Porto a World Heritage classification. Aligned with the river Douro, rich in contrasts and well-preserved treasures, an ancient city of the Port of immeasurable beauty. The tour will end with a cruise of the Six Bridges (pick up at your hotel is included)

Overnight in Porto

DAY 3 MEDIEVAL GEMS: BRAGA & GUIMARÃES

B

Today join a small group excursion to Minho and visit the cities of Braga and Guimarães, where you feel like returning to medieval times, to walk through the old streets, visit monuments like the famous castle or palace, or have a drink in one of the most beautiful Portuguese squares. First a Roman city, capital of Galicia, **Braga** was conquered by the Sueves, before the Visigoths and Muslims moved in. It was a mid-11th century before the city was reconquered by Christians and the archdiocese restored to Bishop Pedro. Throughout Muslim rule, the bishops had moved their place of residence to Lugo (Spain). The Se in Braga is the oldest in Portugal and was the major religious reference point throughout centuries. Thus comes the popular saying "older than the Braga Se", to denote something that is extremely old. **Guimarães** is one of the most fascinating cities in Portugal, whose center was the medieval and sixteenth-century and was classified as UNESCO World Heritage Site. Associated with the founding of the kingdom of Portugal and D. Afonso Henriques. **Overnight in Porto**

DAY 4 DOURO VALLEY

B

Meet your private driver-guide and explore the wonderful Douro Region, a traditional place born in the culture of wine production. Visit the most famous Wine Estates and taste its delicious Port Wines. Embark on this adventure through the Douro Valley on a river cruise and enjoy the majestic vineyards around you, loaded with grape. Discover one of the most beautiful roads in the World, N222, which connects Peso da Régua to Pinhão. The journey includes a guided tour to two of the main Douro Wineries with commented tastings of wines of excellence. You will enjoy a typical lunch in a local restaurant.

Overnight in Douro Valley

DAY5 COIMBRA**B**

Meet your driver and motor to Coimbra, one of the most charming cities in this country. Here you will enjoy a visit with an expert local guide. The city was for some time the residence of Count Dom Henrique and Dona Teresa, the parents of the first king of Portugal, Dom Afonso Henriques, who was born here. It was the latter king who integrated the city into the Portuguese territory in 1131. Coimbra was the setting for the forbidden love of Dom Pedro I (1357–67) and Dona Inês, a lady at court. Inês was executed at the orders of the king Dom Afonso IV, who saw in this romance the danger of Portugal being submitted to the rule of Castile. As an inspiration to poets and writers, their story still forms a major part of the city's rich heritage.

Coimbra was the capital of Portugal during the Middle Ages, but it was the Renaissance that transformed the city into a place of knowledge, when Dom João III (1521–57) decided to move the University to the city on a definitive basis, whilst at the same time numerous colleges were created to provide an alternative to the official form of teaching. In the 17th century, the Jesuits arrived in the city, immediately announcing their presence with the building of the Sé Nova (New Cathedral). In the following century, the royal work instituted by Dom João V (1706–50) was to enrich some of Coimbra's monuments, including the University. Dom José I (1750–77) also introduced some alterations into the city through the influence of his minister Marquês de Pombal, particularly in the field of education.

Overnight in Coimbra**DAY6 OBIDOS & PENICHE****B**

Meet your driver and transfer from Coimbra to Lisbon. You will have an en route stop in Obidos and Peniche.

The mediaeval town of **Óbidos** is one of the most picturesque and well preserved in Portugal. Quite close to the capital and located on high ground near the Atlantic coast, Óbidos has had strategic importance in the territory. It had already been settled prior to the Romans' arrival in the Iberian Peninsula, and the town prospered after being chosen by the royal family. King Dinis offered it to his wife, Queen Isabel, in the 13th century. Being the favorite site of the Queen, she built an incredible number of churches in this small place. **Peniche** and the sea are inseparable. It is one of the largest traditional fishing ports in Portugal and a major Atlantic hub for maritime-tourist activities. Before heading to the beach, your visit to Peniche must include a walk through the historic center. Besides the Nossa Senhora dos Remédios Sanctuary, the São Pedro and Misericórdia Churches, the Peniche Fort is a must-see. It was built in the 16th/17th centuries to defend the coast, together with the Fort on Consolação beach and the fort on the Island of Berlengas

Overnight in Lisbon**DAY7 LISBON****B**

You will enjoy a full day visit of Lisbon with an expert driver escort who will introduce to the most beautiful sites of the city on the Atlantic Ocean. This tour is a unique way to see and experience historical Lisbon. Insider guides give you a great insight into Lisbon's lifestyle, history and culture as well as useful tips. Districts we visit Baixa – Chiado – Alfama. Visit the major sites of central Lisbon. Walkthrough Baixa – the old downtown district of the city – tasting the famous Pastel de Nata (custard tart) along the way. Explore the amazing Rossio, Figueira and Comércio Squares. Get to know Chiado, the glamorous part of the city with its iconic cafés and shops. Take a ride on the vintage tram to Alfama, a beautifully ancient Moorish neighborhood. Stop for a Wine tasting at a wine bar located in a medieval palace.

Overnight in Lisbon**DAY8 SINTRA & CASCAIS****B**

Visit Sintra is the first wish for those who have seen wonderful fairytale Pena Palaces on a postcard from Portugal. In 8 hours of enjoyable tour "Sintra Amazing Daily Tour Pick-up Tickets Included," you will explore magical Unesco listed Natural Landscapes of Sintra-Cascais and many architectural treasures breathing by history and mysterious legends. Discover exotic gardens, lakes, and caves surrounding the historical monuments. Admire the magnificent nature of Lisbon Riviera on the way back to Lisbon.

Overnight in Lisbon

DAY9 EVORA**B**

Meet your driver guide and motor to Évora, a book of Portuguese art history.

The best way to see the city is on foot, walking through its narrow streets lined with white houses, discovering along the way the monuments and details that reveal the history of Évora and its rich heritage.

Judging by the calm, welcoming surroundings, one easily sees why this city, which dates from the Roman era, was chosen by the kings of Portugal in the 15th century to serve as their residence, a fact that contributed to its development and cultural importance in the following centuries. It was in fact due to Évora's long history and its urban center, typical of the 16th to 18th centuries, that has been preserved to our days that lead UNESCO to classify the city as a World Heritage site.

Overnight in Lisbon**DAY 10****DEPARTURE****B**

Transfer to airport or train station station.

FEATURED PROPERTIES			
Porto	Douro	Coimbra	Lisbon
HF Fenix, Mercure Porto, Das Artes	Vintahe House, Quinta Nova, Quinta De Casaldronho	Quintadas Lagrimas, Vila Gale, Sapiencia Boutique	Marques de Pombal, Turim Libertade, Turim Marques, HF Fenix Musica

Hotel may be substituted with similar category

What is included

- Daily breakfast
- 3 Nights In Porto
- 1 Night in the Douro Valley
- 1 Night in Coimbra
- 4 Nights In Lisbon
- Arrival & Departure Transfer
- Half-day Small Group guided visit or Porto + 6 Bridges Cruise
- Full-day private visit of Douro Valley + wine estates visits + wine tasting and lunch
- Transfer from the Douro to Coimbra
- Guided visit of Coimbra
- Transfer from Coimbra to Lisbon with an en-route stop in Peniche and Obidos
- Full-Day Private driver escort visit of Lisbon
- Full-Day Private driver escort visit of Sintra, Cascais
- Full-Day Private driver escort visit of Evora

SP2. The Best of Portugal – Independent

9 nights / 10 days

Highlights: Porto, Douro, Lisbon, Sintra

3 nights in Porto, 1 night in Douro Valley, 1 night in Coimbra, 4 nights in Lisbon

Year 2020

Departure (Saturday)	DBL	TPL	DUS
January 4, 11, 18, 25,	1800	1600	
February 1,8,15,22, 29	1800	1600	
March 28, 7, 14, 21, 28	1890	1670	
April 4,11, 18, 25	2000	1750	
May 2, 9,16, 23, 30	2070	1870	
June 6, 13, 20, 27	2070	1870	
July 4, 11, 18, 25	2070	1870	
August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	2000	1750	
September 5, 12, 19, 26	2070	1870	
October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	1980	1780	
November 7, 14, 21, 28	1730	1500	

[Click here to Submit Enquiry](#)

(VIT - 15/11/2019)