



Itinerary

Sunny Portugal Estoril Coast, Alentejo & Algarve

Feb 18, 2020 - Feb 27, 2020

Day 1: Overnight Flight



Ancient castles and Roman ruins. Groves of lemon and almond trees. Quiet, whitewashed villages, and kind gentle people. Portugal is waiting for you.

Day 2: Cascais, Portugal - Tour Begins



Your tour opens in a scenic coastal resort on the "Portuguese Riviera," your home for three nights. The mansions scattered about Cascais and Monte Estoril hint at its history as a haven for exiled European royals and nobility. Tonight, join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner.

Hotel

Vila Gale Cascais Hotel
Cascais

Culinary

Dinner

Weather

High 60°
Low 48°
Rain 4"

Day 3: Choice of Lisbon Panoramic City Tour or Alfama District Walking Tour



This morning it's your choice! Join a panoramic Lisbon city tour by coach and uncover sights that include Jeronimo's Monastery (a UNESCO World Heritage site), Belem Tower (UNESCO), and the Monument to the Discoveries, with the tour capping off with a visit to the National Museum of Coaches -OR- embark on a walking tour* of the historic Alfama District, Lisbon's most symbolic quarter. Step back in time on an exploration of this residential neighborhood, which is considered a village within a city. Stroll the neighborhood's medieval alleys, narrow streets and small squares, and pass by beautiful churches, whitewashed houses decorated with tile panels and wrought-iron balconies adorned with pots of flowers. Next, climb the hill to explore the castle, which boasts the most breathtaking panorama of the city. Later, enjoy leisure time in the Portuguese Riviera. Stroll the narrow cobblestone streets, sit in a seaside café, walk wide oceanside promenades, or shop for ceramics, lace, filigree, hand woven works and tapestries. This evening, savor excellent Portuguese cuisine and wine while local artists perform the traditional Fado (UNESCO).

Hotel

Vila Gale Cascais Hotel
Cascais

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 60°
Low 48°
Rain 4"

Day 4: Cascais - Sintra - Obidos - Fatima - Cascais



Begin your day exploring the picturesque town of Sintra (UNESCO), the favorite summer residence of Portuguese kings for six centuries. Journey to Portugal's beautiful "Silver Coast," a spectacular region filled with sleepy villages, rich vineyards and age-old castles. Travel on to picture-perfect Obidos, where white washed houses are held snug by medieval city walls. Later, visit Fatima, the world-famous Marian pilgrimage site.

Hotel

Vila Gale Cascais Hotel
Cascais

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 60°
Low 48°
Rain 4"

Day 5: Cascais - Evora - Alentejo



Travel the beautiful Portuguese countryside and stop in historic Evora (UNESCO), known as the "Museum City of Portugal." Inside this medieval-walled city stands a 2nd-century Roman temple to Diana and the 16th century Chapel of Bones. Indulge in the full-bodied character of the region's wines during a winery tour and tasting. Tonight, enjoy your stay in the heart of Alentejo's countryside at a country resort set among 3,000 acres of farm land, vineyards, and cork trees.

Hotel

Vila Gale Clube De Campo
Beja

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 59°
Low 44°
Rain 2"

Day 6: Alentejo - Sagres - Lagos - Algarve



Journey to the famous Algarve and discover the secrets of the 16th-century fortress at Sagres, home of Prince Henry's School of Navigation and the "compass rose." Garner magnificent views of beautiful Cape of St. Vincente, where 200 foot cliffs plunge into the Atlantic at the most southwesterly point of Europe. Next, explore the historic resort town of Lagos, where Moorish and Renaissance influences abound. Here, the famous voyager, Prince Henry the Navigator, began his explorations and from the harbor where Vasco da Gama sailed in 1499 on his epic voyage of discovery. Stroll through the fortress and historic buildings while taking in the surrounding ocean views during some leisure time.

Hotel

Vila Gale Lagos
Algarve

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 59°
Low 51°
Rain 2"

Day 7: Algarve



The entire day is yours to experience the beautiful Algarve on your own. Geraniums, camellias and oleanders grow alongside fig, orange and almond trees, while brightly colored fishing boats bob on the seas. Protected by hills to the north and warmed by the sea, the Algarve's mild climate and beautiful beaches attract vacationers from all over the world.

Hotel

Vila Gale Lagos
Algarve

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 59°
Low 51°
Rain 2"

Day 8: Algarve - Faro - São Brás de Alportel - Algarve



Journey to Faro, gateway to the Ria Formosa protected lagoon landscape. Explore the city's historic center with 9th-century Roman walls, dramatic golden coastline, and its archaeological and architectural gems. In historic São Brás de Alportel, a presentation by a local liqueur maker is followed by a tasting of some of the many varieties produced in the region. Portugal is the world's number one producer of cork. Visit a local cork factory to learn about its importance to the local economy and its many uses. Complete your day with dinner featuring local delicacies and wine.

Hotel

Vila Gale Lagos
Algarve

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 59°
Low 51°
Rain 2"

Day 9: Algarve - Azeitao - Lisbon



En route to Lisbon, make a stop in Azeitao, a charming agricultural village known for red wine, olive trees and beautiful country estates. Spend time at the centuries-old Jose Maria da Fonseca Winery. Embark on a tour followed by a tasting of local wines, including moscatel. Next, meet local artisans at a family-run shop that demonstrates how azulejos, the famous hand-painted Portuguese tiles, are made. Later, bid Portugal goodbye during a dinner to celebrate the end of a wonderful tour.

Hotel

Culinary

Weather

Day 10: Lisbon - Tour Ends



Your tour ends today.

Post Night: Turim Marques



Would you like to enhance your trip to Portugal with a magical stay on Madeira Island? Known as the “Pearl of the Atlantic,” Madeira Island is located 400 miles off the coast of Africa and only a 90 minute flight from Lisbon. Madeira Island boasts a subtropical climate, majestic mountain ranges, breathtaking ocean views, flower gardens, waterfalls, natural ocean water pools, terraced fields of vineyards and bananas, and much more. Get to see and know all of Madeira Island with a visit to the Botanical Garden and two days of sightseeing. In Funchal, the island’s capital, discover 500 years of history in its charming plazas and colonial mansions. Visit a family-owned embroidery shop and a local Madeira wine cellar for a tasting. Celebrate your adventure with a traditional “espetada” dinner (beef marinated in herbs and cooked over an open fire) accompanied by local entertainers and festive music.