

# **Itinerary**

## 8 Day Portugal and Spain - Douro River Cruise from Lisbon

\*IMPORTANT NOTE: Any extra nights, optional tours or other amendments, will not be visible on this itinerary.

## **Day 1: Arrive Lisbon, Portugal**

Upon arrival in Lisbon, Portugal's enchanting capital, make your own way to your hotel and check in. After enjoying a welcome dinner, the rest of the evening is free for independent exploration.

**MEALS:** Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** 4 STAR Hotel, Lisbon

## Day 2: Lisbon - City Tour

In the morning, join us for a guided tour of Lisbon, and a panoramic tour of Lisbon by coach in the afternoon. Lisbon, lively and atypical city. Perched on a hill, you'll see the Sao Jorge castle towering over the pastel-coloured houses of the Alfama district, the maze of picturesque alleyways leading down to the Tagus River. Return to your hotel at the end of the day. The evening is free to do as you please.

**MEALS:** Breakfast

**OVERNIGHT:** 4 STAR Hotel, Lisbon

## Day 3: Lisbon ~ Coimbra ~ Porto - Embark Ship

Depart by coach for Coimbra, Portugal's medieval capital and home to its oldest university. In the afternoon, continue to Porto, where you will embark on your river cruise. Settle into your cabin before joining the captain for a welcome cocktail and dinner onboard. This evening you may want to enjoy an evening tour of Porto.

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT: MS Amalia Rodrigues OR MS Gil Eanes OR MS Miguel Torga** 

#### **OPTIONAL EXCURSION**

## Porto by Night

A unique opportunity to admire the city of Porto by night during a panoramic tour by bus. You will love the old, preserved districts of this city of immense character, classed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Porto is not only a city rich in vestiges from a glorious past, but also the young-spirited, warm capital city

of a region marked by its winemaking as well as its closeness to the ocean. During the tour of the historic centre, your guide will schedule a stop at the Sao Bento railway station to look at its magnificent azulejos. Return on board by coach.

#### NOTE:

- The order of the visits can change.
- Times are approximate.

**DURATION:** 1 hr 15 min

## Day 4: Porto - Régua

Spend the morning exploring Porto independently or join an optional excursion to delve deeper into its history and culture.

In the afternoon, we'll set sail through the stunning Douro Valley, passing rolling vineyards, cliffs, and picturesque villages as we cruise towards Régua.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT: MS Amalia Rodrigues OR MS Gil Eanes OR MS Miguel Torga** 

#### **OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS**

#### Guided Tour of Porto & Azulejo Workshop

We'll leave from Vila Nova de Gaia by coach for downtown Porto. Once we arrive, we'll board one of the city's trams and partake in this urban tourism experience all the way to the mouth of the Douro. Our visit will include a stop at the tram museum (Museu do Carro Eléctrico), housed in a former thermo-electric power plant. The museum collection comprises the oldest cars pulled by horses, called "Americanos," to the last trams from the 1950s and 1960s. We'll finish up our excursion with a tasting of some of the local specialties\*. At the end of our tour, we'll return to the ship by coach.

#### NOTE:

- Times are approximate.
- The order of the visits can change.
- Good walking shoes are recommended.
- \*Alcohol can be harmful to your health. Please drink in moderation.

**DURATION:** 4 hrs

#### **Touring Porto via tram and visiting the Tram Museum**

We'll leave from Vila Nova de Gaia by coach for downtown Porto. Once we arrive, we'll board one of the city's trams and partake in this urban tourism experience all the way to the mouth of the Douro. Our visit will include a stop at the tram museum (Museu do Carro Eléctrico), housed in a former thermo-electric power plant. The museum collection comprises the oldest cars pulled by horses, called "Americanos," to the last trams from the 1950s and 1960s. We'll finish up our excursion with a tasting of some of the local specialties\*. At the end of our tour, we'll return to the ship by coach.

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- The order of the visits can change.
- Good walking shoes are recommended.
- \*Alcohol can be harmful to your health. Please drink in moderation.

**DURATION:** 4 hrs

## Day 5: Régua – Vega de Terrón, Spain

This morning, join an optional excursion to explore Portugal's Douro Valley and its winemaking traditions.

In the afternoon, we continue cruising past Porto's famous vineyards, arriving in Vega de Terrón in the evening.

Tonight's evening will have a Spanish flair.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: MS Amalia Rodrigues OR MS Gil Eanes OR MS Miguel Torga

#### **OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS**

#### Mateus Palace and the Douro Museum

We'll leave on foot for the Douro Museum to learn about the passionate history and wine-making heritage in the region, an experience combining traditional and modern approaches. We'll continue by coach for Mateus Palace, a beautiful 18th-century manor in Vila Real. This baroque-style manor belonged to the same family until a foundation was set up to preserve it in 1970. The dramatic splendour and details of the complex offer a unique visual relationship between geometry and space. Enjoy a stroll through the magnificent tree- and hedge-lined gardens, which include a romantic Mexican-cedar topiary tunnel. After, we'll return to the ship in Pinhão by coach.

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- The order of the visits can change.
- Times are approximate.

**DURATION:** 4 hrs

## Day 6: Vega de Terrón - Salamanca - Senhora da Ribeira, Portugal

This morning, join an optional excursion to Salamanca, a UNESCO-listed city known as the "Golden City."

Tonight, enjoy a gala evening and dinner.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: MS Amalia Rodrigues OR MS Gil Eanes OR MS Miguel Torga

#### **OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS**

## Guided Tour of Salamanca (Lunch Included)

Departure by coach towards Salamanca where you'll meet up with your guides. Since 1988, the Old Town of Salamanca has been listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. The classified area extends on a major part of the city as it used to be until the middle of the 20th century and is responsible for its growing popularity. We'll visit the cathedral whose successive extensions created a mixture of styles going from late Gothic to Baroque, including Renaissance. Afterwards, we'll visit one of the world's oldest Universities which first opened in 1218. Also known as "Escuelas Mayores", the University building has a sumptuous gate adorned with the city's most famous design: a frog atop a skull - symbolic of the sin of lust being punished after death. Its wonderful library brims with old manuscripts dating back from prior to the 19th century. You'll enjoy lunch and be free to discover the city on your own. Return on board in Vega de Teron.

#### NOTE:

- · Good walking shoes are recommended.
- Lunch in a restaurant included (drinks are not included).
- The order of the visits can change.
- Times are approximate.

DURATION: 10 hrs 30 min

Salamanca Tapas Tour

You'll leave by coach with our team from Barca d'Alva for Salamanca, where you'll meet up with the local guide for a tapas food tour in several eateries in the city centre. Discover the wide range of Spanish delights and flavours served as appetizers or snacks. The most well-known include patatas bravas, salads, and cold cuts (chorizo, lomo, Jamón ibérico)—all sublime when served with a glass of Spanish wine. You'll have lunch in a local restaurant to prolong your immersion in Spanish cuisine. Afterwards, enjoy some free time to stroll about the town on your own. At the end of our tour, we'll return on board the ship in Vega de Terron.

#### NOTE:

- · Good walking shoes are recommended.
- Lunch in a restaurant included (drinks are not included).
- The order of the visits can change.
- Times are approximate.

**DURATION:** 10 hrs 30 min

## Day 7: Senhora da Ribeira - Leverinho

This morning, opt for an excursion to the Port Wine Route, where you'll visit Pinhão and a wine estate for a tasting. Spend the afternoon cruising towards Leverinho, and in the evening, enjoy traditional folk entertainment onboard.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT: MS Amalia Rodrigues OR MS Gil Eanes OR MS Miguel Torga** 

#### **OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS**

#### Port Wine Route & Pinhão

We'll leave by coach to travel along the Port Wine Route. Portugal has cultivated vineyards since the Roman Empire. In 1756, the Marquis of Pombal created a monopolistic company demarcating the Douro wine region to regulate the production and trading of its wine. The route winds through gorgeous scenery and valleys with the river flowing below. We'll continue to Pinhão and stop at a quinta for a wine tasting. After, we'll visit the historic Pinhão train station, known for its superb azulejo frescoes. We'll return to the ship.

## NOTE:

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- The order of the visits can change.
- Times are approximate

**DURATION:** 4 hrs

## Day 8: Porto - Disembark Ship

Enjoy a final breakfast before disembarking in Porto at 9:00 a.m. We hope to welcome you onboard again for another unforgettable adventure!

**MEALS:** Breakfast