

PORTUGAL RIVER CRUISE WITH LISBON & PORTO



MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

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Douro River Cruise with City Stays & Flights

Duration: 13 days

Departs: 2023

Stay: 7 nights outside cabin, 4 nights hotels

Travel style: Escorted river cruise with city stays & flights

Booking code: PRCLPG13M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience

Email hello@mytravelxp.com

13 Days Portugal Douro River Cruise with Flights

About the holiday

Discover the allure of Portugal on this stunning river cruise that ticks all the boxes!

Begin the beautiful journey in the capital city of Lisbon, where you'll view the treasured 16th century Belem Tower and enjoy the 2-night stay. As you travel to Porto/Afurada to embark the ship, stop en route in the Medieval town of Obidos that's encircled by fortified walls.

Sail the Douro River from Porto to the heart of Portugal's wine region, as well as UNESCO World Heritage-listed city of Salamanca. Continue the scenic cruise to picturesque Pinhao, where the ship spends the night for time to explore at your leisure or you can take an optional tour to elaborate Mateus Palace. Then enjoy a two-night stay in Porto, to discover the city's vibrant nightlife, rich culture and fascinating history.

River cruising offers the unique opportunity to visit historic cities and charming villages as you sail Europe's beautiful waterways. Cruise aboard an intimate floating hotel, equipped with features and amenities to make your voyage comfortable and carefree.

Why you'll love this trip...

- View the iconic 16th century Belem Tower, a monument to Portugal's Age of Discovery
- Tour the Douro Museum and learn about the wine making industry of the area
- Discover the medieval village of Castelo Rodrigo, perched on a hilltop and surrounded by imposing walls
- Visit Salamanca with its ancient sandstone buildings
- Embark on a tour of Porto and view the Cathedral, S. Bento Train Station, famous for its azulejos tiles, and the Stock Exchange
- Visit Aveiro, a charming coastal city known as the "Venice of Portugal"

Travel dates

2024 - select dates from April to November, see our website for departures.

Departures are subject to confirmation at time of booking. Price will vary depending on your travel date and please ask us for rates on other cruise itineraries.



Escorted River Cruise includes:

- Return economy airfares from Australian capital cities to Lisbon
- 11 nights accommodation
 - 2 nights Lisbon 4-star hotel
 - 7 nights outside cabin aboard MS Douro Cruiser
 - 2 nights Porto 4-star hotel
- Cruise & hotel portorage
- 24 meals: 11 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 7 dinners
- Tour managers in Lisbon & Porto
- Cruise director & activity host throughout cruise
- Shore excursions per itinerary
- Entrance fees per itinerary

Package excludes:

Airport transfers - can be pre-purchased on request

Meals & sightseeing not specified in the inclusions or itinerary

Optional tours - a package can be pre-purchased

Personal items, such as drinks, taxis, snacks, laundry etc.

Gratuities for crew, guides & drivers

Travel insurance is essential

Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

Subject to confirmation by airlines, hotels, river cruise company & local operators.

Cancellation fees & booking conditions apply.

Email hello@mytravelxp.com for more information or call 1300 168 910

River cruise features & amenities:

- Welcome dinner and farewell dinner
- Wine and beer with dinners
- Lounge serving premium spirits
- Non-smoking ship interior
- Early riser breakfast in addition to buffet breakfast
- Shore excursions conducted exclusively in English by licensed guides

Itinerary:

DAY 1, Saturday - Depart for Portugal

Depart for Portugal

DAY 2, Sunday - Arrive in Lisbon

Arrive in Portugal's capital city, Lisbon, and catch taxi to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure. Your tour will begin with an orientation meeting with your Tour Manager at the hotel at approximately 6 PM. We recommend that you select flights which arrive no later than 4 PM

Overnight: Lisbon

DAY 3, Monday - Lisbon City Tour

Begin the tour of Lisbon with a stop at the top of Edward VII's Park to enjoy panoramic views over the hills of Lisbon and the River Tagus. Next, view the treasured 16th century Belem Tower, a monument to Portugal's Age of Discovery and UNESCO World Heritage Site. Spend the rest of the day at leisure. Tonight, attend the *optional* Fado Dinner. While dining, listen to the popular performances of local songs accompanied by guitar playing Portuguese melodies. Savour dinner with wine before a brief drive through the illuminated city

Optional: Fado Dinner

Overnight: Lisbon

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 4, Tuesday - Obidos en route to Porto/Afurada, Cruise Embarkation

This morning, depart Lisbon and begin a lovely drive to Porto; you will embark the ship in Afurada, a charming place outside Porto. Along the way, stop at the medieval town of Obidos, encircled by fortified walls for lunch on your own. Spend free time to explore the town with its many Gothic and Renaissance churches, before continuing to Porto. Arrive at the port for embarkation. After arrival formalities, time to relax on board. Tonight, meet your Cruise Director and enjoy dinner, as it sets the mood for your lovely Douro river cruise

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 5, Wednesday - Sail to Regua, Douro Museum

This morning, sail along the Douro towards Regua. This historic town in the heart of Portugal's most famous wine region, has been the centre of port wine industry for centuries. After a light lunch, disembark and visit the Douro Museum, housed in a restored former wine warehouse, learn about the wine making industry of the area. Stroll through the exhibits providing information on the history of the Douro region, including the geography, climate and people. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure or participate in the *optional* tour to a renowned wine estate. Visit the vineyard and learn about Porto and red wine production, aging, and bottling. The ship docks overnight in Regua

Optional: Half Day Winery Tour & Tasting

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6, Thursday - Castelo Rodrigo

This morning sail towards Pocinho. After lunch, disembark in Pocinho and transfer to the medieval village of Castelo Rodrigo, perched on a hilltop and surrounded by imposing walls. Stroll along the steep narrow cobblestone alleys and learn about its fascinating history. You may also choose to stay onboard and continue cruising. Re-join the ship late this afternoon in Vega de Terrón, where it overnights

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 7, Friday - Explore Salamanca

After an early breakfast, embark on a full day excursion to Salamanca, Spain. Travel through the Spanish countryside to Salamanca, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit the prestigious university, founded in the early 1200s. View ancient sandstone buildings, Plaza Mayor, the Clergy, the striking 12th century old Cathedral with its mysterious carvings, Casa de las Conchas, and the historic centre of the city. Free time for your own lunch, before transferring to the ship

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 8, Saturday - Cruise to Pinhao

Continue your scenic cruise, admiring the region's beautiful landscapes of terraced vineyards and lush valleys. This afternoon, stop in Pinhao, where passengers may depart for the *optional* Mateus Palace and dinner at Quinta da Avesada. Embark on a tour of Mateus Palace, located in the city of Vila Real. Explore the beautiful Baroque palace with its elaborate carved ceilings and stroll through the manicured gardens. Afterward, savour dinner at Quinta da Avesada. Re-join the ship later in the evening in Pinhao where it remains overnight

Optional: Mateus Palace & dinner at Quinta da Avesada

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 9, Sunday - Sail to Porto/Afurada & City Tour of Porto

Spend the morning at leisure, taking in the beautiful scenery. In the afternoon, enjoy the views of Porto as the ship enters the city. Disembark and transfer for a city tour of Porto. Take a panoramic drive to the city centre to Clerigos Tower, next to the former Jewish Quarter. Then, embark on a walking tour. View Porto Cathedral, Bento Train Station, famous for its azulejos tiles, the Stock Exchange, and the medieval S. Francisco Church. The tour ends at Ribeira Quarter with free time to shop for souvenirs. Afterward head back to the ship

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 10, Monday - Porto/Afurada

Spend the morning and the afternoon at leisure in Porto/Afurada or join the *optional* Medieval city of Guimarães. Explore the city, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with its wealth of architectural treasures. Walk by the Guimarães Castle where Alfonso Henriques, the first king of Portugal was born. View and learn about the Palace of the Dukes of Braganza. End the tour at the historical main square Oliveira and spend some free time before returning to the ship

Optional: Medieval City of Guimarães

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 11, Tuesday - Disembarkation, Visit Aveiro

This morning, disembark and head to Aveiro, a charming coastal city known as the "Venice of Portugal." The city features picturesque canals, colourful moliceiro boats and rich cultural heritage. The guided tour will take you through Aveiro's highlights, allowing you to immerse yourself in the city's unique ambience. Savour a delightful lunch at a local restaurant. Afterward, return to Porto and check into your hotel. Free time to discover Porto's vibrant nightlife on your own

Overnight: Porto

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 12, Wednesday - Full Day in Porto

Spend the day at leisure in Porto. Perhaps, join the full day *optional* Braga & Barcelos tour. Soak up the rich history and vibrant culture of these two cities. Visit the historic city of Braga, often referred to as the "Rome of Portugal." The city has over 2,000 years of history and a lot of ancient Roman influence. Then, head to Barcelos, a city famous for its pottery and folklore. Discover the legend of the Barcelos Rooster an emblematic symbol of Portugal and explore the historic centre with its medieval castle ruins and charming squares. Later, enjoy the scenic drive back to Porto

Optional: Full Day Braga & Barcelos Tour

Overnight: Porto

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 13, Tuesday - Depart Portugal

After breakfast it's time to check out of the hotel and make your own way to the airport by taxi for your departure flight to Australia

Meals: Breakfast

Please note: The day by day descriptions are intended as an indicative guide only. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, river levels, road conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and many other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that are ultimately for the client's benefit. It is therefore essential that travellers are flexible in this regard.

My Know before you book - High & low water levels

European river cruising has gained in popularity for very good reason. It's a relaxing and convenient way to experience Europe while enjoying the comfort of a deluxe ship. However, before making the decision to reserve your vacation, please be aware of potential conditions which may impact your cruise.

While most of the time river cruises operate exactly as planned, weather conditions may result in high or low water levels which impact a ship's itinerary and, on occasion, render a ship unable to sail at all. On very rare occasions, other events such as heavy fog, a damaged lock, or an incapacitated vessel blocking the river, may impact a sailing. These events typically occur with little or no notice.

In the event that a cruise is partially or completely impacted, the itinerary will be operated by deluxe motor coach, accompanied by a Tour Manager, with overnights in hotels. When the option exists, the operator will "swap ships" with another vessel sailing in the opposite direction, retaining the sailing experience. Crew, ship and cabin configuration may differ. The itinerary will include as many of the originally scheduled sightseeing features as possible, considering the travel time and distances required, as well as meals.

While it is not possible to recreate the more leisurely comforts of sailings, the tour operator will endeavour to provide a comparable itinerary. These alternative services will be provided at no additional charge.

**For more information about booking conditions
please call 1300 168 910 or email hello@mytravelxp.com**

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Travel On Demand Pty Ltd trading as

MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE BOOKING CONDITIONS

Please read the following information prior to making your reservation

Our full set of terms and conditions can be [viewed and downloaded on our website](#), or supplied on request from our office. We highly recommend you read My Travel Experience booking conditions prior to making your holiday reservations. This is the contract under which both parties enter, therefore we request that you only make a booking if you agree with these conditions.

This is a summary in brief for our customers:

1. Upon making a reservation with My Travel Experience you will receive a booking form, which needs to be filled out and signed to confirm that you agree to the terms and conditions.
2. Your booking will then be confirmed to you in writing and you will be required to pay a deposit to hold your reservation.
3. At this time, you must take out travel insurance for your holiday to protect you against any unforeseen circumstances.
4. 120 days prior to departure you will be asked to make the balance payment for your trip (the exact due date for your travel supplier will be advised at the time of booking).
5. 10 days prior to departure you will be sent your travel documents electronically via email.

My Travel Experience operates a Client Trust bank account. This means that we do not hold your money. We pay the ultimate travel providers (Suppliers) of your travel services the funds for your holiday. The Suppliers include airlines, tour operators, cruise lines, transport companies, hotels etc. We are required to pay the Suppliers deposits and final payments to secure your booking and in some instances these items are non-refundable.

If you wish to cancel you must notify us of your cancellation in writing. We will then write to the Suppliers to cancel your booking and request a refund (if applicable) for any elements of your holiday that are refundable. You will need to make an insurance claim for any travel arrangements that are non-refundable. If you have any issues during the refund or cancellation process, you have 30 days to contact our office in writing to lodge a complaint so an immediate resolution can be found for you.

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