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PORTUGAL | 8DAYS / 7NIGHTS

Route: From and to Lisbon

Type of tour: Culture

TOUR OVERVIEW

Bathed by the Atlantic – the influential waters of Portugal’s history, conquests and invasions – this land boasts a richness and diversity of attractions. Between the modern and the traditional, this tour will allow you to discover the country’s medieval-walled cities, authentic villages and fantastic panoramas.

DAY BY DAY

DAY 1 | ARRIVAL LISBON

Arrival at Lisbon Airport and transfer to the hotel in Lisbon. Welcome meeting with the tour guide.

- **Overnight stay in Lisbon. Dinner included.**

DAY 2 | LISBON

Start the day with breakfast at the hotel. Spend the day visiting Portugal’s capital city and surroundings. Short walk in **Alfama**, the oldest and most picturesque quarter of this romantic city. Visit to the São Jorge Castle, one of the most beautiful architectural structures in Lisbon. Situated 110m above the sea level, enjoy the splendid panoramic view.

Then we proceed to another of the seven hills of Lisbon, **Bairro Alto**, where we will do a brief walking tour. **Chiado** is also a neighbourhood of contrasts, where you may see one of the richest buildings in town, such as the São Roque Church, a part of the 12th century city walls, some traditional Portuguese family run shops, and second-hand book stores together with the trendiest cosmopolitan fashion shops.

After lunch we will visit the historical quarter of Lisboa – **Belém**. Belém is linked to Portugal’s Golden Age of Discoveries as the site where the famous navigators set sail to discover the world. Today it is a spacious green suburb with many gardens, parks and monuments that are well worth a visit. After the visit of Belém and before going to the hotel, a coffee break is suggested in one of the most famous cafés in Belém - the '**Pasteis de Belém**'. Guests will have the opportunity to taste the most popular pastry of the city which shares the same name as the café.

- **Overnight stay in Lisbon on a half-board basis.**

DAY 3 | ÓBIDOS - ALCobaÇA - NAZARÉ - FÁTIMA

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure from Lisbon. After travelling through a landscape rich in windmills and fruit trees, arrival at **Óbidos**. The town is located on a hill and is still encircled by a fortified wall. The well-preserved mediaeval look of its streets, squares, walls and its massive castle have turned this picturesque village into a preferred tourist attraction in Portugal. Continue to **Alcobaça** to visit the church of Santa Maria Monastery, built in the 12th century for a group of Cistercian monks. See the elaborate tombs of King Pedro I and his Castilian lover Inês de Castro in the Real Pantheon and hear how she was murdered at the order of Pedro’s father.

The traditional fishing village and seaside resort of **Nazaré** will be the perfect place to enjoy a leisurely lunch break. In the afternoon, mix with the pilgrims at the country’s hallowed national shrine, Fátima’s **Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary**, one of the more important sanctuaries of the world.

- **Overnight stay in Fátima on a half-board basis.**

DAY 4 | FÁTIMA

Breakfast at the hotel. Enjoy your day at leisure to explore this pretty town.

- **Overnight stay in Fátima on a half-board basis.**

DAY 5 | TOMAR - CONÍMBRIGA - COIMBRA

Breakfast at the hotel. On the way out of Tomar, visit the hilltop **Convent of Christ** with its famous Manueline window. Further north, the **Roman ruins of Cónimbriga** are an eloquent testimony to centuries of Roman influence. Tour the excavations, view the well-preserved mosaics, and visit the excellent museum. On to **Coimbra**, strategically situated on a hill overlooking the Mondego River. Here, visit the gilded Baroque library of its 700-year-old university.

- **Overnight stay in Coimbra on a half-board basis.**



DAY 6 | BATLAHA - SINTRA - CABO DA ROCA - CASCAIS - ESTORIL

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to visit **Batalha Monastery**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2007. Then stop in **Sintra** with its luxuriant vegetation. Visit the charming **Palacio da Vila**, or 'Town Palace', with its Moorish style, conic chimneys and Manueline-style windows as well as its tile panels. Take some free time to wander the streets of the village where you can appreciate the various antique shops, handicraft shops and tea rooms. Don't miss tasting the deliciously well-known cheese tarts called *queijadas*. Then after lunch we will continue by bus to admire the beauties of the mountain, its landscapes and luxuriant vegetation down the mountain of Sintra. Stop at **Cabo da Roca**, the westernmost point of Europe. Enjoy the beautiful views over the craggy cliffs and the bays and the blue ocean against the rocky cape. Continue along the coast to **Guincho Beach**, a wild beach known worldwide by windsurfers. From Guincho, we take the panoramic road back to Lisbon, along **the Estoril Coastline**, passing by the famous picturesque beach resorts of Cascais and Estoril.

- Overnight stay in Lisbon on a half-board basis.

DAY 7 | ÉVORA

Breakfast at the Hotel. Departure to **Évora** for a half-day city tour, classified as a World Heritage Site. Visit the old ruins of the **Roman Temple**, the Romanesque Gothic **cathedral** with its massive towers from the 16th century and the **Chapel of Bones**, whose walls are covered with thousands of human bones and skulls. A walk along the impressive "white streets" will help you appreciate the typical sights of this city, formerly a city of kings, artists and humanists. Return to Lisbon.

- Overnight stay in Lisbon on a half-board basis.

DAY 8 | DEPARTURE LISBON

Breakfast at hotel then check out. Transfer to the airport for your return flight.

END OF SERVICES

INCLUDED

TOUR GUIDE:

- Local guide

ACCOMMODATION:

- Hotel Accommodation

TRANSPORT:

- Deluxe air conditioned motor-coach throughout program, driver fees, motorway tolls

MEALS:

- Accommodation on half board without drinks

ENTRANCE FEES AND ACTIVITIES:

- St Jorge Castle, Belém Monastery, Alcobaça Monastery, Convent of Christ, Conímbriga, Coimbra University, Batalha Monastery, National Palace of Sintra; Evora Cathedral and Bones Chapel; Coffee break in Belém

TRANSPORT:

- Taxes and services

NOT INCLUDED

- Beverage with the different meals unless marked otherwise
- Lunches
- Handling of one piece of luggage per person at hotels
- Entrance fees, unless marked otherwise
- Purchase of any personal items