



Lisbon, Douro Valley & Porto

# Portugal Cultural Walking Adventure

CLASSIC JOURNEYS  
THE WORLD'S FINEST WALKING TOURS



“Classic Journeys provides unbeatable access to experiences around the globe.”

— *Travel + Leisure*

## Douro Vineyards and Alentejo Villages

This is how it feels to be royalty. Funded by centuries of discovery and empire, Portugal has more regal grandeur than any other country we know. Of course, the great cities of Lisbon and Porto are rich with imperial landmarks. Your hotels here are some of the most splendiferous anywhere. But Portugal also has more hours of sunshine a year than any other European country, perfect for exploring. So you'll taste the country's treasured port wines on walks in the mountainous vineyards where they're born. On a glorious coastal trail, you'll face the churning surf that Henry the Navigator conquered to explore Africa and the New World. And you'll come face to face with the Portuguese people from cork artisans to winemakers. You'll get a true feel for the unique tempo and personality of this kingdom by the sea.

**DAY 1****LISBON**

- **Explore on foot at eye level one of the most walkable cities in Europe**
- **Enjoy insider anecdotes as you walk the historic Alfama district**

Meet in Lisbon on the banks of the Tagus River, and your week of Portuguese revelations starts immediately. It is, for instance, regarded as the oldest city in Europe. And, though other countries may be better remembered for their empires, Portugal led the Age of Discovery, and vast colonial wealth flowed to the kingdom. The proof is in the grand landmarks everywhere you go, such as St. George's Castle. It's perched atop Lisbon's highest hill and offers both jaw-dropping views and historical milestones of the city. The castle served as a fortification for the Romans, Visigoths, and Moors, who turned it into a royal palace before it was eventually taken by Portugal's first king, Afonso Henriques.

Lisbon is one of the great cities to explore on foot at eye level, as it's a maze of streets, alleys, lanes, steps, squares, and courtyards. And the Alfama district is like a small village within the city, where everywhere you turn is a postcard view with tile panels, street art, pastel colors, fountains, arches, potted plants, orange trees, clotheslines, and beautiful river vistas. Exploring with your guide, you'll feel as if you've stepped back in time with a well-connected friend as you connect with the authentic soul of Lisbon.

**Overnight:** Lisbon

**Meals:** D

**DAY 2****PENA NATIONAL PALACE**

- **'Only with Classic Journeys' - Explore Pena Palace before it's open to the public**
- **Walk the dramatic seaside along the Atlantic coast**

The Sintra region was long a favorite site for royal retreats, estates and castles. The most stellar example is Pena National Palace. Its soaring jumble of red, ocher, and pink towers is an iconic image of Portugal and it's the most visited site in the country. 'Only with Classic Journeys', you'll experience this treasure of the Romanticist style without the crowds that descend on it daily because we've secured special access to explore it before it's open to the public.

Look west from the sandy beaches of Portugal, and there's nothing but Atlantic between you and North America. And these Atlantic waves have shaped the limestone cliffs that provide footpaths with exceptional views. There's no better way to put yourself in the footsteps of 15th century explorer Vasco da Gama and the poet Camões before they set sail to India than on a morning walk overlooking the sea.

Midday, you'll arrive in Cascais. For over a century, it was an ultra-exclusive playground for Lisbon aristocrats. Spain's royal family cemented that reputation when they chose it as a home-in-exile during Franco's rule. Now the town has added a decidedly hip element to its vibe and is known for the quality of its art and galleries. On a walk through the town, you can also admire the local catch brought in daily by the expert fishermen who have sailed these waters for centuries. Our insider tip is to visit one of your guide's favorite local spots to try the innovative Mediterranean fusion cuisine and sushi platters. After lunch, there's time to explore before making your way inland to the Alentejo region not far away.

**Overnight:** Évora

**Meals:** B

## DAY 3

### ALENTEJO

- **Marvel at standing stones more than 8,000 years old**
- **Walk through thousand-year-old olive trees to a private tasting on an estate**

The Alentejo region has been dubbed both the Provence and the Tuscany of Portugal. It's a reasonable oversimplification when attempting to explain the similarities among the three spectacular regions. You may prefer to simply adore Alentejo for its charms that include wheatfields, cork oak forests, wildflower meadows, white-washed villages, and the well-tended footpaths that allow for immersive explorations on foot.

You know Stonehenge. And likely you've heard that quite a few people visit it on any given day. So, you might have wondered what it would be like to have it to yourself. Happily, you can have that sort of experience with us today, as you visit the finest Neolithic stone formation on the Iberian Peninsula. The 95 standing stones of the Almendres Cromlech form two large stone circles that were once part of a ceremonial site dedicated to a celestial religion in 6,000 BC.

If we invited you on a walk through thousand-year-old olive trees, with cinematic views of a whitewashed village and its castle backed by mountains, to meet with a mad scientist who makes small batch olive oil on the estate founded by his grandfather, would you join us? When you do, you'll meet our good friend, Joao, who along with his family, still picks the olives by hand and processes them on the day they are gathered to conserve all the properties of the oil. It's a huge commitment that allows them to handcraft award-winning small batch extra virgin olive oil with notes of tomato and dried fruit, and a slightly spicy finish. Joao is incredibly personable and passionate, and he opens his heart and home to us as he walks us through the steps, even teaching us the professional way to taste the oil.

**Overnight:** Évora

**Meals:** B, D

## DAY 4

### ÉVORA

- **Enjoy a nature walk along Aqueduct de l'Agua de Prata**
- **Visit a working cork factory**
- **Savor a wine tasting and picnic under cork wood trees**

Évora dominates the Alentejo plain. With its outstanding beauty, the town is classified as a UNESCO World Heritage site. You'll see why this treasure has so much to offer, not only historically and culturally, but also gastronomically, on a walk through the historic center.

Beforehand, enjoy a nature walk along the Aqueduct de l'Agua de Prata. The 16th century marvel channeled water through a complex set of structures that included long tunnels, deep valleys and most impressively, over massive stone aqueducts. The clever design meant that the water from the river could flow unassisted into the Praça do Giraldo, the main plaza of Évora.

This afternoon, you'll visit a working cork factory with your new friend, Joaquin. Later, visit with our friend Eduardo and his family at their organic winery for an 'Only with Classic Journeys' experience - a wine tasting and gourmet al fresco dinner in their vineyard. While there, Eduardo shares how they shepherd their land to create a diversified ecosystem that follows the historic calendars and methods used during Roman times and includes raising heritage Portuguese animals like Garvonesas cows, Rafeiro Alentejano mastiffs, and Alentejano pigs that all add to the quality of their soil, their vines, and ultimately their wines. As Eduardo explains, the pigs get fat on the acorns from the cork trees. The cows graze the fields. And the dogs herd... and sleep in the sun! For you, it adds up to an unforgettable night.

**Overnight:** Évora

**Meals:** B, D

## DAY 5

### MARVÃO / SERRA DA ESTRELA

- Wander the cobblestone lanes and thick stone walls of the fairytale village of Marvão
- Walk countryside paths to a visit with a cheesemaker

Today connects two magnificent regions of Portugal - the Évora area east of Lisbon with the Douro River valley east of Porto. That means the day is nicely divided into manageable sections, leading to a memorable series of visits that allow you to taste, touch and explore the best of Portuguese culture.

As you approach through cork and chestnut trees, and past Lilliputian settlements with flower gardens and low stone walls, the medieval village of Marvão looks like a fairytale mirage. Happily, it's very real and strategically perched atop a mountain ridge. At certain twists and turns, you'll catch cinematic glimpses of its terracotta roofs and whitewashed walls. But nothing quite prepares you for the dramatic arrival: a giant stone wall, up to 10 feet thick in parts, edges the perimeter of the town, encircling its ancient castle and picture book cottages. Wander the cobblestone lanes. And make sure to join your guide along the top of the stone walls for spectacular views of the Alentejo region's scrubby, sunbaked plains. Turn to the east and Spain is just 10 miles away. Look west past expansive, wheat-colored fields and green-and-granite hills to Lisbon.

Walking on the slopes of the Serra da Estrela mountains, you still see shepherds taking care of their flock, spending their days from sunrise to sunset going up and down the hill. It's an old vocation that's hard to find elsewhere but still prevalent in this part of Portugal. The Bordaleira breed of sheep munch happily on the thistle that grows so well on this land. On a 'Only with Classic Journeys' visit to a husband-and-wife shepherds on their simple quinta, you see how this benefits you directly in providing the milk they use to make some of the finest cheese in Portugal.

**Overnight:** Douro Valley

**Meals:** B

## DAY 6

### DOURO VALLEY

- Marvel at the terraced vineyards above you on a scenic cruise on the Douro River
- Walk among vineyards followed by a wine tasting and picnic of local specialties

This morning, board a traditional Portuguese Rabelo boat that for centuries transported people and goods along the Douro River. You'll make your way up one of the most beautiful stretches of the river, taking in sweeping views of its world-famous terraced vineyards.

Happily, the vineyards are not just a cinematic backdrop to your cruise, they're also your destination this afternoon. As you enjoy a jaw-droppingly beautiful walk through the vineyards with a winemaker at an acclaimed quinta, learn how they graft the vines, plant the terraced vineyards with horse and plow, and trim and harvest the grapes by hand. Your walk leads to an exploration of the winery and a tasting of the acclaimed wines accompanied by a delicious picnic of local specialties.

**Overnight:** Douro Valley

**Meals:** B, L, D

DAY 7

PORTO

- Meander through historic Porto on a guided walk
- Part company in Lisbon

Once an outpost of the Roman Empire, Porto is steeped in tradition - including the fact that it gave its name to Port wine. Nowadays, the medieval city is also undergoing an architectural renaissance. Old World icons, such as the baroque Torre dos Clérigos bell tower that helped the city earn UNESCO status contrast beautifully with contemporary buildings by Pritzker Prize-winning architects. New boutiques are transforming historic streets, and row houses are being brought back to life.

The key to visiting Porto is knowing your way in so that you sequence what you're seeing, and how you're seeing it. Join your guide on a fascinating walk starting at Vila Nova de Gaia, just across the river. This is the shaded side and so the English wine makers had their cellars here for storage before shipping the port wine to England. As you explore on foot at eye level, you'll see the majestic Ribeira boats, the soaring Dona Maria Bridge with its iconic steelwork designed by Gustave Eiffel, and the hills of Porto. You may want to wander through the city's most famous market, the almost 200-year-old Mercado do Bolhão. Order your favorite ice cream and explore the colorful, noisy market that carries every imaginable type of fruit and vegetable, olives, Portuguese specialty cheeses, homemade breads, deserts, fish, poultry, and meats. And don't miss the flower ladies. This afternoon, part company back in Lisbon.

Meals: B



## Tour Hotels



### The Ivens

The Ivens is an oasis hiding in the city - but not from it. Inspired by the adventures of the explorers Ivens and Capelo, the rooms are decorated in the colours and materials of the period to create a serene balance between comfort and sophistication. With a view either of the city or the river, they are all lit by Lisbon's magnificent light.

**OVERNIGHT:** Lisboa | **NIGHTS:** 1



### Convento Do Espinheiro

With its fascinating history and authentic charm, Convento do Espinheiro is a 15th-century convent, considered a national monument, where important nobles throughout history helped shape Portugal's destiny.

**OVERNIGHT:** Evora | **NIGHTS:** 3



### The Vintage House Hotel

The hotel enjoys an idyllic and tranquil riverside location at Pinhão in the heart of the Douro Valley. The Douro is one of Europe's oldest and most beautiful wine regions, a breathtaking landscape enjoying UNESCO World Heritage status.

**OVERNIGHT:** Pinhao | **NIGHTS:** 2

## Tour Dates & Prices

To see the full list of dates and prices for this tour, go to our website by clicking [here](#).

Want to travel with just your group on a date of your choosing? Visit [CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE](https://www.classicjourneys.com/private) to learn more about Private Journeys.

## Trip Essentials

<b>TRIP LENGTH</b>	7 Days, 6 Nights
<b>START</b>	Lobby of The Ivens Hotel, Lisbon, Portugal
<b>END</b>	Lobby of The Ivens Hotel, Lisbon, Portugal
<b>TERRAIN</b>	Easy to moderate on good trails and coastal paths. At your option, up to 2 to 4 hours of walking per day, with a mini-van in support.

## What's Included

- Award-winning boutique hotels that provide you unlimited access to the people and places, culture and history you came to experience
- All breakfasts, 1 lunch, and 4 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip and handle behind-the-scenes logistics
- Admissions to scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals, and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

## Above & Beyond Benefits

- Invisible Check-In
- Wine on Us
- Perfect Pairings Dinners
- Privileged Access Events

**READY TO BOOK?**  
CLICK TO MAKE A RESERVATION

## Or give us a call

**1-800-200-3887**

Mon-Fri 8:00AM – 5:00PM PST  
moreinfo@classicjourneys.com

### AMBASSADOR CLUB

As a Classic Journeys guest, you are invited to join the Ambassador Club after your first Classic Journeys tour. As a member, you'll have access to [a whole suite of Ambassador benefits](#) you can use immediately and as often as you like.

### ENJOY THE UNEXPECTED

When you travel with Classic Journeys, you can expect handcrafted surprises built into every trip, but some things just can't be anticipated. Unusual weather, a once-a-year festival or an unscheduled site closing will inspire us and your local guide to improvise and modify this itinerary. Likewise, the hotels named here are used on the majority of our trips, but occasionally one of them can't accommodate us. If that happens, you can count on us to let you know before departure and make sure you're in a hotel of equal or better quality. It's our goal to make your trip exceptional!

\*\*Any discount offered cannot be combined with other offers, and only applies to published (regularly scheduled public) departure dates in our catalogs or on our website.



# THE Classic Journeys Difference

## HANDCRAFTING TRIPS OF A LIFETIME.



At the end of the day, we fundamentally believe that every guest on every departure of every trip should have a trip of a lifetime. We're fortunate to play the role of well-connected friend, linking our guests with amazing guides, artisans, winemakers, hoteliers, restaurateurs, naturalists, and too many others to list here.

That's what motivates me and our team — in our La Jolla HQ and around the world — every day. Join Us!

  
President & Founder



## You can expect the highest standards:



### Luxurious Lodgings:

Ours include coveted properties that appear in "World's Best" and "Gold List" rankings.



### Included Activities:

You'll never be surprised with add-on fees on your activities that include snorkeling to cooking lessons.



### Local Guides:

Your guides are locals who are always at your side like well-connected friends.



### Small Group Travel:

With an average of just 10-12 guests, it's a small footprint that guarantees you access that's off-limits to larger groups.



### Amazing Cuisine:

From Michelin-starred restaurants to lunch in a farmhouse kitchen, you'll have a seat for the region's signature dishes.



### Unmatched Value:

"Excellent value" and "unbeatable access" are two of the reasons that Travel + Leisure has consistently voted us a World's Best Tour Operator.

## You'll enjoy these handcrafted travel experiences in Portugal...

- Exploring the gardens of Pena Palace, one of the Seven Wonders of Portugal
- Overnighting in a 15th century convent-turned-luxury-hotel, considered a national monument, where important nobles throughout history helped shape Portugal's destiny
- Visit a working cork factory with our friend, Joaquin
- Cruising a scenic stretch of the Douro River on a traditional Rabelo boat
- Strolling along the river in historic Porto

"Carla was an outstanding guide. She was organized, paid attention to detail, knowledgeable, kind, considerate, so pleasant, and took into consideration the needs of each traveler."

-Anita Purcell, Midlothian, VA.