

The Best of PORTUGAL – Ossi Family

May 7-17, 2025

<b>MAY 7 - Wednesday</b>	
<p>Hotel VIP Grand Lisboa  Avenida 5 de Outubro, 197  1050-054 Lisboa  T. +351 210 435 000  <a href="https://www.vipgrandlisboahotel.com/">https://www.vipgrandlisboahotel.com/</a></p>	<p>DAY 1: LISBON - We will get together in our hotel at 4:00 p.m. for greetings and introductions. Then, let's get oriented with a walk around our neighborhood, followed by dinner together. Walking: moderate. Sleep for 3 nights in Lisbon. <b>Dinner.</b></p>
<b>Resources</b>	
	<p>Lisbon Transport System -  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tI0u1HtMccA&amp;t=1395s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tI0u1HtMccA&amp;t=1395s</a></p> <p>Lisbon Visitor's Guide  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GSMVJc6cNhI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GSMVJc6cNhI</a></p> <p>What to See in Lisbon  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GSMVJc6cNhI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GSMVJc6cNhI</a></p>
	<p>Metro-Trams-Buses-Trains-Boats  <a href="https://carris.pt/">https://carris.pt/</a></p>
<b>MAY 8 - Thursday</b>	
	<p>DAY 2: LISBON &amp; BELÉM - After breakfast, join your local guide visiting the Belém harborside neighborhood. Belém holds a few essential sights from Portugal's dynamic "Age of Discovery."</p> <p>Enjoy a waterfront stroll past the gigantic Monument of Discoveries constructed in 1960 to commemorate Portugal's famous explorer Prince Henry the Navigator. Nearby, the Belém Tower stands all bright and white, still welcoming sailors to the harbor as it has done for 600 years. Across the street, we will take a look at the impressive Monastery of Jerónimos, constructed by King Manuel in the 1500s commemorating Portugal's early explorers.</p> <p>Then, for a sweet treat, we will pop into a nearby bakery to sample the famous pastries of Belém.</p> <p>Enjoy the afternoon on your own back in the heart of Lisbon.</p> <p>Later, we will cap off our day with dinner and a performance of fado, the soulful traditional singing of ancient Portugal. Walking: strenuous. <b>Dinner.</b></p>

<b>MAY 9 - Friday</b>	
<p>Suggestions for extending your day in Sintra- Skip the group bus ride back to Lisbon.</p> <p>Stay and visit the Royal Palace and/or Moorish Fortress. Both require entry ticket and ample time to visit, hike, climb, and walk these two attractions on the hills above Sintra town.</p> <p>Return to Lisbon by train at your leisure.</p>	<p>DAY 3: SINTRA &amp; CABO DA ROCA - Today, we will take driving tour, west, toward the Atlantic Ocean. Enjoy Sintra to discover mountaintop medieval fortifications, vibrant fairytale castles, lush forests, and eccentric labyrinthine gardens and a visit to the Sintra city palace.</p> <p>Later, we will see the steep cliffs of Cabo da Roca, the westernmost point of the European continent. Then enjoy Cascais, a traditional fishing port and beach area.</p> <p>Returning to Lisbon, you'll have the remainder of the day and evening to explore more on your own.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	
	<p>Sintra Travel Video  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ao-T6ap8HvU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ao-T6ap8HvU</a></p>
Pena Palace (Palácio de Pena)	<a href="https://www.parquesdesintra.pt/en/">https://www.parquesdesintra.pt/en/</a>
Moorish Castle (Castelo dos Mouros)	Same as above
Train LISBON-SINTRA	Use your Viva Viagem Card and “zapping”
<b>MAY 10 - Saturday</b>	
<p>Hotel Aurea Fatima  Av. de Dom José Alves Correia da Silva  279  2495-402 Fátima  T. +351 249 531 750  <a href="https://www.aureahotel.pt/en">https://www.aureahotel.pt/en</a></p>	<p>DAY 4: NAZARÉ AND FÁTIMA – Leaving the city, we will head to the countryside to visit the seaside resort town of Nazaré, where after a little orientation, you'll have a chance to explore, swim, and have lunch on your own. Then it's on to Fátima for dinner and a free evening. <i>Driving: 3 hours. Walking: moderate. Sleep for 2 nights in Fatima. Dinner.</i></p>
<b>Resources</b>	
<p>Nazaré is a beach resort town. If the weather is nice and warm, then beach sunning, swimming, walking and watersports are an option. Bring your swimsuits and change of clothes.</p>	<p>Fatima-Nazare-Obidos Videos</p>
	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AK7PQPzPX_4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AK7PQPzPX_4</a>
	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JEBwFVVr-7s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JEBwFVVr-7s</a>
	<a href="https://youtu.be/z_bATp8P354?si=JXIGBs41Ze21LFbw">https://youtu.be/z_bATp8P354?si=JXIGBs41Ze21LFbw</a>

<b>MAY 11 - Sunday</b>	
	<p>DAY 5: ÓBIDOS &amp; COUNTRYSIDE - Visit the salt pans of Rio Maior where for 900 years the locals have extracted salt from the river.</p> <p>Then we will visit a local olive oil producer and sample the products. Enjoy lunch in a small village with panoramic views of the countryside.</p> <p>Then it's on to Óbidos, a medieval village. Inside the walls find a well-preserved castle and a labyrinth of streets and houses, flowery windows and small squares. If possible, we will visit a bakery to learn about and sample chorizo bread.</p> <p>Back in Fatima, you'll have the afternoon and evening to experience more. <b>Lunch included.</b></p>
<b>Resources</b>	
<b>MAY 12 - Monday</b>	
<p>Hotel IBN Arrik  Alexandre Herculano Street,18-24  3000-019 Coimbra.  T. +(351) 915 071 961  <a href="https://www.ibn-arrik.pt/">https://www.ibn-arrik.pt/</a></p>	<p>DAY 6: BATALHA &amp; CONIMBRIGA: Visit the Batalha Monastery where you'll marvel at the intricate Gothic architecture and craftsmanship. The monastery attracts visitors from all over the world and is a living symbol of Portugal's deeply religious culture.</p> <p>After lunch visit, Conimbriga, one of the most fascinating and well-preserved Roman archaeological sites in Portugal.</p> <p>Later, we'll arrive in Coimbra for hotel check in and a free evening. Sleep for 2 nights in Coimbra.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	
Batalha	<a href="https://youtu.be/QdND-YcJNHg?si=zjOC70JgvwcVTjns">https://youtu.be/QdND-YcJNHg?si=zjOC70JgvwcVTjns</a>
Conimbriga	<a href="https://youtu.be/YImknjpfHqI?si=gFJuZX0i54FiSa1x">https://youtu.be/YImknjpfHqI?si=gFJuZX0i54FiSa1x</a>
<b>MAY 13 - Tuesday</b>	
	<p>DAY 7: COIMBRA - Join a walk this morning to Coimbra's old university, which has been sitting here for more than 700 years. The university library house 30,000 books from the 18th century!</p> <p>Enjoy the afternoon and evening on your own.</p> <p>After a bit of free time, we'll meet for an aperitif and fado performance in a unique style known only to Coimbra.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	
Coimbra	<a href="https://youtu.be/zwGyAFB9l_U?si=B2nk_m2ZjzEH7HNb">https://youtu.be/zwGyAFB9l_U?si=B2nk_m2ZjzEH7HNb</a>

<b>MAY 14 - Wednesday</b>	
<p>Hotel Douro Collection  Vila Galé Collection Douro  Lugar dos Varais - Cambres  5100-426 Lamego  T. (+351) 254 780 700  <a href="https://www.vilagale.com/en/hotels/porto-and-north/collection-douro">https://www.vilagale.com/en/hotels/porto-and-north/collection-douro</a></p>	<p>DAY 8: WINE AND THE DUORO VALLEY – We will drive to Portugal’s famous winemaking region and learn about the art of making port, the famous after-dinner wine from this region.</p> <p>In Regua, you’ll have a chance to visit an old family estate, learn about growing vines and making port, and get to taste it, too!</p> <p>Later, we will arrive at our hotel to enjoy dinner together.  Driving: 3 hours. Walking: moderate. Sleep 1 night in the Duoro Valley region. <b>Dinner.</b></p>
<b>Resources</b>	
Quinta da Pacheca	<a href="https://youtu.be/xZiCphgZXck?si=W4Img6_bG0BS9Zbb">https://youtu.be/xZiCphgZXck?si=W4Img6_bG0BS9Zbb</a>
Douro River Valley	<a href="https://youtu.be/Pmr0L5uhnDw?si=IX7LjTBglf7Wz5Yq">https://youtu.be/Pmr0L5uhnDw?si=IX7LjTBglf7Wz5Yq</a>
<b>MAY 15 - Thursday</b>	
<p>Vila Galé Porto  Av. Fernão de Magalhães, nº 7  4300-190 Porto  T. (+351) 225 191 800  <a href="https://www.vilagale.com/en/hotels/porto-and-north/vila-gale-porto">https://www.vilagale.com/en/hotels/porto-and-north/vila-gale-porto</a></p>	<p>DAY 9: PORTO – We will travel through the lush terraced wine country to the rough and rugged port town of Porto.</p> <p>Enjoy a visit to a local Port wine cellar for a tour and tasting.</p> <p>After setting up at our hotel, you’ll have the afternoon and evening free on your own.</p> <p>Driving: 2 hours. Walking: moderate. Sleep in Porto for 2 nights.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	
Porto	<a href="https://youtu.be/z33hDgMq39U?si=ulx9AZp8dTivoQpZ">https://youtu.be/z33hDgMq39U?si=ulx9AZp8dTivoQpZ</a>
<b>MAY 16 - Friday</b>	
	<p>DAY 10: PORTO - Porto, the second largest city in Portugal, has a unique charm, with fog in the mornings and beautiful sunsets on the banks of the Douro. Its colorful streets and tiled houses make any walk through the historic center a delight. See the Cathedral of Porto as we walk Santa Catarina, one of the busiest streets in Porto. Enjoy the hustle and bustle of Bolhão, the city marketplace.</p> <p>Later, enjoy a scenic cruise on the Duoro River.</p> <p>After a free afternoon, let's meet for a grand farewell dinner to celebrate your tour in Portugal. <b>Dinner.</b></p>
<b>Resources</b>	
<b>MAY 17 - Saturday</b>	
<p>Departure and Timing from Porto to Lisbon - TBA</p>	<p>DAY 11: TOUR OVER AFTER BREAKFAST – Transfer back to Lisbon in time for your flights.</p>

