



Porto

## OUR PRICE INCLUDES

- ✓ Executive coach travel
- ✓ Door to door pick up
- ✓ Return overnight ferry crossings
- ✓ Meals not included on board ship
- ✓ Main stay hotel Welcome Drink, (Port, wine or fruit juice) Porterage
- ✓ Buffet breakfasts and buffet dinners with tea / coffee 1/4 ltr wine and 1/2 ltr water with dinner
- ✓ Entertainment 3 times a week, including folklore evening
- ✓ One way river cruise on the Douro including 3 course lunch. Return train journey to Porto
- ✓ Porto city guide
- ✓ Entrance and tour of a Port wine warehouse
- ✓ Excursions as described

Entry fees not included unless otherwise stated



# Portugal Porto & the Duoro Valley

*Including a Douro River Cruise*

New Tour

Door to Door

The World Heritage Douro valley is a captivating destination with its spectacular gorge in the Douro valley, covered in the white mists of flowering almond trees in early summer and by autumn resplendent with the vines and their golden and ruby fruits. The city of Porto is located at the end of the Douro Valley and is famous for its port wine and UNESCO riverside neighbourhood of Ribeira.



## ITINERARY

- Day 1** Following your door to door pick up we travel to Plymouth/Portsmouth and our afternoon sailing to Santander with Brittany Ferries. Lower bed cabins are reserved.
- Day 2** On arrival in Santander we drive via Burgos to our overnight half board accommodation near Palencia.
- Day 3** We continue across northern Spain and into Portugal via the fantastic wine region of the Douro Valley. We take a short stop in the beautiful town of Guimaraes, a UNESCO World Heritage Site before we complete the journey to our resort with time to relax before dinner.
- Day 4** After an early breakfast we travel by coach to the quayside at Vila Nova de Gaia to board the riverboat for an approximate seven hour cruise along the Douro River. On arrival to Peso de Régua we will be escorted to the railway station for the return train journey to Porto where our coach will be waiting to take you back to the hotel.
- Day 5** A day at leisure in resort, enjoy the hotels facilities and recharge the batteries after the previous days travel. Póvoa de Varzim is both a traditional fishing town and summer resort. At one end is the port and picturesque fishermen's quarter, where the men arrange their brightly painted boats and the womenfolk quietly sit mending their husbands' nets.
- Day 6** Today we have a full-day excursion to the beautiful town of Amarante. Crossed by the river Tâmega and surrounded by mountains, this pretty town proudly displays its 17th century mansions, with colourful balconies of painted wood brightly decorating the narrow streets, its restaurants with terraces overlooking the river or the beautiful bridge of São Gonçalo which leads to the great monastery of the 16th century that bears the name of the same saint.
- Day 7** Enjoy breakfast before we travel to Portugals second city Porto, an ancient port steeped in history and tradition. The riverside quarter of Ribeira is delightful, with narrow streets,

winding alleys and colourful traditional houses. The area has been recently restored and now includes fashionable restaurants and bars. We cross the river by means of the Dona Maria Pia Railway Bridge, built by Gustave Eiffel in 1877. We then visit one of the many Port houses that made this city famous.

**Day 8** Sadly its time to depart our resort and travel to our overnight half board accommodation.

**Day 9** We depart the hotel and travel to Santander where time permitting we can visit its opulent suburb, the beach resort of El Sardinero. Its elegant cafes, colourful gardens and majestic white Grand Casino are overlooked by the Magdalena Palace and the huge gardens that surround it. We then travel to the port for the afternoon sailing with Brittany Ferries.

**Day 10** Arrive back in \*Plymouth/Portsmouth and complete the journey home.

\*Brittany ferry schedules and timetables not released at the time of going to print.



Axis Hotel

Axis Hotel Póvoa de Varzim

New Hotel

★★★★ EEE

- Seafront location • En-suite bedrooms •
  - Air conditioning • Hairdryer • Satellite television •
  - Restaurant • Bar with dance floor • Lift •
  - Outdoor swimming pool • Beach access.
- www.axis-hotels.com

## Departure Dates

Sunday	20th May	10 Days	£799
Sunday	9th Sept	10 Days	£799

Single room supplement £152. For Door to Door terms & conditions please refer to Page 141.

Douro Valley vineyards

