



Discovering Porto & Douro Valley

Fam Trip Pos-Tour BTL

15th - 17th March 2019

Porto and Northern Portugal Tourism Board

On behalf of the Porto and Northern Portugal Tourism Board - Porto Convention Bureau and its Members, we are pleased to invite you to discover Porto and the North – The Essence of Portugal!

Porto and the North of Portugal has 4 World Heritage Sites by Unesco: The Historical City of Porto, the Historical City of Guimarães, the Foz Côa Art Valley and the Douro Valley.

There are a thousand years of History to recreate in the ancient cities, the busy streets, the walls of the heritage and the traditions of the people.

The commerce in the streets and galleries tremble with the vintage shops, traditional markets, gourmet specialities and urban handicraft. The gastronomy from the north is rich, healthy and exclusive and the wines of the region are unique, aromatic and surprising. We have sun, sea and river, culture and entertainment. We have festivities, life, modernity and agitation.

There is an immensity of things to do, places to see, people to meet and emotions to feel.

We receive with the nature of those who live their life with intensity!

This program includes:

Accommodation

All meals and guided visits mentioned in the program;

Coach service and English-speaking guide according to the program

This program excludes:

Personal extras and expenses;

All the services not mentioned in this program.

Program Subject to Minor Changes

Porto and Northern Portugal Tourism Board



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15th March, Friday

Arrival to Porto

Meeting, greeting and assistance by Porto & Northern Portugal Tourism Staff.

13h00 Lunch in Matosinhos at a tradicional fish restaurant

14h30 Transfer by Tram to Porto

15h30 Downtown Tour (Walking Tour)

S. Francisco Church

The city's most important Gothic temple, whose construction began in the fourteenth century. It is one of the most important works of the Baroque, by its gilded interior from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. It was the exuberance of its gild carved wood work that led Count Raczinsky to describe it as the 'Church of Gold'. And, overwhelmed, he adds: 'The gild of this church is so beautiful and rich that goes far beyond everything I have seen in Portugal and in the whole world'. It is worth of notice the Tree of Jesse, as well as the catacombs. It is a National Monument since 1910 and World Cultural Heritage by UNESCO since 1996.



Visit to Palácio da Bolsa

Located in the centre of Porto, the Palácio da Bolsa is an authentic work of art, with undisputed prominence as a representative of the city, with the grand architectural design of the Hall of Nations and the famous Arab Room.



Rua das Flores

The street has maintained its original profile and currently boasts interesting civil architecture from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries and one of Porto's most emblematic baroque façades - the Church of Misericórdia (1749-1750), designed by Nicolau Nasoni. It is one of the buzziest streets in the Historical Centre.



S. Bento Railway Station

The S. Bento Railway Station was built at the beginning of the twentieth century on the exact location of the former Convent of S. Bento de Avé-Maria. The glass and iron structure was designed by the architect Marques da Silva. The vestibule is adorned with twenty thousand tiles painted by Jorge Colaço that illustrate the transport evolution and events of Portuguese history and life.



Aliados Avenue

The imposing architecture and its central character turn this Avenue into the city's "living room". It becomes a location of excellence where the people of Porto gather to celebrate special times. The City Hall is located at the head of the Avenida.



17h30 Check-in at the Hotel and time to refresh

18h30 Visit to a Port Wine Cellar follow by dinner

It is on the banks of the Douro River, in the Vila Nova de Gaia region, that most of the Port Wine Cellars are located. This Wine, which was once transported in the typical “rabelo” boats, has been growing and harvested for hundreds of years in the Douro Demarcated Region and aged in the cellars in Vila Nova de Gaia, where it earns its essence and title of the most famous wine in the world.



Return to hotel and overnight stay

16th March, Saturday

08h15 Breakfast and meeting at Hotel Lobby

09h00 Private Tour in Lello Bookstore

Livraria Lello is a living access door to its history: for preserving the building, for maintaining its original function as a bookshop, for the role of ambassadress of culture and for expanding the cultural dynamics of the city. In the last decade, Livraria Lello has been officially recognized as “one of the most beautiful bookshops in the world” by the magazine Time, The Guardian, and the travel guide Lonely Planet.



10h00 Departure to Douro Valley

Douro was the first wine region in the world to be demarcated and regulated in 1756. The wild slopes of the valley have been transformed, through the work of generations, into terraces to plant the vineyard that produces the famous Porto Wine, excellent DOC Douro wines, sparkling wines and Muscat wines.

The impressive Alto Douro Wine Region was declared a World Heritage Site, in 2001, by UNESCO.



12h00 River Cruise (Pinhão – Romaneira – Pinhão)

Enjoy a beautiful Douro Cruise through the famous Pinhão Wine Region: embark on a magnificent traditional boat named “Barco Rabelo” (Rabelo Boat) and cruise the Douro River towards Romaneira.



13h15 Visit followed by Lunch at Quinta da Roêda

The visitors’ centre is housed in Roêda’s old stables which have been carefully restored in the traditional Douro Valley style. These provide a spacious environment in which to taste Croft’s renowned port wines and browse the shop for unique local products, such as the estate’s own extra virgin olive oil.

Discover the secrets of the vineyards as you take a guided walking tour through the property, stopping at points of interest along the way and taking in the magnificent landscape and the stunning views across the Douro River



15h30 Departure to Porto

17h30 Return to hotel and free time

20h00 Dinner at a local restaurant (TBC)

Return to hotel and overnight stay

 **17th March,**

Breakfast and check-out

End of our program.