

Unforgettable Douro



Tour Name: Unforgettable Douro

Tour Code: DOUR

Days: 11

Day 1 Porto (D)

Mon, 13 Nov

Welcome to Portugal. Enjoy a warm welcome reception on board the luxurious Scenic Azure. Tonight, as an introduction to Portugal you will be seduced by a soulful Fado performance on board.

Day 2 Porto > Entre-os-Rios (B,L,D)

Tue, 14 Nov

Freechoice: Discover the historic treasures of Porto, including a visit to Palacio da Bolsa, a neoclassical style building which started construction in 1842 and took over 65 years to complete. Instead, if you're feeling more active, join a walking tour that includes a cable car ride allowing you to see Porto from a different perspective. Decorative blue tiles are synonymous with Portugal and this afternoon you will learn about their history while creating a masterpiece of your own during a tile painting workshop. Alternatively, simply enjoy a relaxing afternoon of cruising as your luxurious Scenic Space-Ship meanders its way to Entre-os-Rios.

Day 3 Entre-os-Rios (B,L,D)

Wed, 15 Nov

Freechoice: Guimarães was the seat of the first King of Portugal and is dominated by the impressive Ducal Palace, which dates back to medieval times, or tour Paiva Walkways located along the Paiva River in the Arouca Geopark. Alternatively, you could choose a tasting at the fairytale property of Quinta da Aveleda. Located in the famous Vino Verde region and a renowned regional sparkling wine producer, the incredible gardens alone make the excursion worthwhile.

Later, enjoy a blissful cruise to Regua where you have the chance to explore the Douro Museum at your leisure. Learn about the culture, history and identity of the people living in this wine growing region of the Douro Valley.

Day 4 Regua (B,L,D)

Thu, 16 Nov

This morning, discover the captivating Varosa Valley and visit the charming village of Tarouca where you'll explore the restored Monastery of Saint John of Tarouca. En route, walk the fortified bridge of Ucanha, Portugal's first toll bridge, spanning the crystal-clear waters of the Varosa River.

Freechoice: Tour the elegant town of Lamego, with its many fine Baroque structures such as the Sanctuary of Nossa Senhora dos Remédios and the Lamego Museum, or enjoy a guided visit of Mateus Palace, the historic icon depicted on the labels of Portugal's famous Mateus rosé wine.

Day 5 Regua > Vega de Terron (B,L,D)

Fri, 17 Nov

Enjoy a full day cruising the Douro Valley's Vinhateiro wine growing region. A World Heritage-listed Site, Vinhateiro has a history of wine production that stretches back for 2,000 years. In fact, its impeccable port wines have been world-famous since at least the 18th century. As you cruise towards the Spanish border be introduced to an integral part of Spanish culture during a colourful and passionate Flamenco performance.

Day 6
Sat, 18 Nov

Vega de Terron (B,L,D)

Today you have the opportunity to cross the Spanish border.

Freechoice: Take your time absorbing the architectural splendour of Salamanca, a city as visually striking as it is historically intriguing. From humble beginnings during the Iron Age to darker times, such as the economic crises and the War of the Spanish Succession, Salamanca has been shaped over time to become the fascinating beauty it is today. Explore the city on a guided tour before free time to explore at your leisure. Alternatively, you may choose to visit the Portuguese village, Freixo de Espada à Cinta for a guided tour and visit to their silk museum. Freixo de Espada à Cinta is the only municipality where handcrafted silk is still processed entirely by hand.

Day 7
Sun, 19 Nov

Pocinho > Pinhão (B,L,D)

Freechoice: Visit the award-winning Côa Valley Museum and enjoy a pre-historic workshop. Alternatively, you could join the 'Tastes of the Côa Valley' excursion and visit Casa Painova for a sweet almond workshop and a tasting of their almond, olive and fruit products.

Tonight, be entertained by a traditional Portuguese musical performance on board.

Day 8
Mon, 20 Nov

Pinhão (B,L,D)

Visit the remarkable village of Provesende, showcasing the Portugal of yesteryear, and wander the quaint streets as you gain an insight into the locals way of life.

Freechoice: Top off a truly unforgettable day with a visit to a local estate for a tasting of their famous export, or if you're feeling energetic, you could choose a walk through the hillside vineyard for a tasting among the vines. Alternatively, you may choose to go kayaking along the Pinhão River.

Day 9
Tue, 21 Nov

Pinhão > Porto (B,L,D)

Having spent the previous eight days discovering the treasures of the Douro, Varosa and Côa Valleys, enjoy an exclusive Douro Valley Wine Review. Otherwise, simply enjoy the beauty of the region as you cruise back into Porto.

Enrich

The sheer beauty of São Francisco Church is sure to impress. The façade is a mix of Gothic and Baroque architecture, while the interior glows with intricate wood carvings swathed in gold. Immerse yourself in the heart and soul of Portuguese music as you witness a spectacular private concert in these wondrous surroundings.

Day 10
Wed, 22 Nov

Porto (B,L,D)

Freechoice: Visit a local corking factory and learn how cork is produced as well as its multitude of uses, or visit Vila Nova de Gaia, the historic district set on the banks of the Douro River, for a tasting of the region's famed drop in one of Porto's most renowned port wine aging cellars. Alternatively, step outside of Porto and join an excursion to Aveiro for a guided tour including a cruise on the waterways that meander through this historic and colourful city.

You have the opportunity to explore Porto at your leisure this afternoon, or simply make the most of the remainder of your time on board Scenic Azure.

Day 11
Thu, 23 Nov

Porto (B)

Your cruise concludes after breakfast as you're transferred to Porto airport. Your time in Portugal's Douro Valley may have come to an end, but you'll leave with wonderful memories and newfound friends.

This itinerary is a guide only and may be amended for operational reasons such as high and low water. As such, the cruise may operate altered from that stated above. Please refer to our terms and conditions.