

EXCURSIONS

Experience the Douro – 7 Nights



Day	Arr	Dep	City
Day 1	-	-	Porto, PT
Day 2	-	2.00 pm	Porto, PT
Day 2	7.00 pm	-	Porto Antigo, PT
Day 3	-	9.00 am	Porto Antigo, PT
Day 3	12.00 pm	2.00 pm	Régua*, PT
Day 3	5.00 pm	-	Pinhão, PT
Day 4	-	7.00 am	Pinhão, PT
Day 4	2.00 pm	-	Barca d'Alva, PT
Day 5	-	12.00 pm	Barca d'Alva, PT
Day 5	12.30 pm	-	Vega de Terrón, ES
Day 6	-	7.00 am	Vega de Terrón, ES
Day 6	12.30 pm	2.30 pm	Pinhão, PT
Day 6	4.00 pm	-	Régua, PT
Day 7	-	7.00 am	Régua, PT
Day 7	2.00 pm	-	Porto, PT
Day 8	-	-	Porto, PT

*Excursion stop

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Create your very own personal holiday programme with our numerous excursions! Each excursion is a highlight itself: from tours through metropolises, trips through impressive landscape to action and fun-filled excursions.

In order to provide you with a better overview of the various offers, we have divided our excursions into four categories: bike tours, discovery tours, adventure tours and gourmet tours. Each tour is assigned the corresponding symbol. Please note that most excursions can only take place if the minimum number of participants of 20 is reached.

We have compiled the excursion programme together with well-known, local agencies especially for your cruise. We arrange the excursion and they are implemented by the local agencies, which are the excursion organisers, and thus also your contractual partners.

You can book the excursion directly on board. Your international host will happily provide you with more information and assist you with booking the excursions.

We wish you an unforgettable holiday on board! Your A-ROSA Team.

A-ROSA CATEGORIES



DISCOVERY TOURS

Do you like to go on discovery trips? Then these tours are the perfect fit for you. Whether it's a city tour, a city walk or a sightseeing tour, there is plenty to explore. A must for all culture lovers.



GOURMET TOURS

As the name suggests, indulgence is the focus here: sample regional products and specialities directly from the manufacturers. And if you like what you try, you might just have found the perfect souvenir for your loved ones at home.

PORTO



CITY TOUR

Welcome to Porto, the city that gave its name to one of the finest wines in the world, Port Wine. The city tour takes us along the Douro river to the mouth of the river and further along the Atlantic coast past the noble villa town, Foz do Douro, right into the city centre. Photo stops and explanations at Porto Cathedral in the heart of the old town, at the Palace of Justice near the Clerigus bell tower and at the famous railway station will bring you closer to the city. Here in the middle of the old town, which has been part of the UNESCO World Heritage since 1996, you will also have some free time. Then we cross the landmark of the city, the bridge "Dom Luís I", which was designed by Gustav Eiffel, to Vila Nova de Gaja. This town is known for the old warehouses of the winegrowers which exist for over 100 years now. Here we will visit a typical wine cellar and taste the famous port wine. Price: € 41 (Port wine tasting included) | Duration: approx. 4 h | Note: Excursion available on request only.



CITY TOUR GUIMARÃES

Visiting Guimarães is like stepping into the pages of Portugal's history books. This city at the foot of the Serra da Penha is considered the place where Portugal was first established. Afonso Henriques was born here and in 1139, following a victory over the Moors, he became the first king of Portugal and declared Guimarães his capital. Today, you can still see what the city was like during its heyday. Our excursion will take you to sites such as Guimarães Castle, where Alfonso Henriques spent his youth. This fortress, built in the mid 10th century on the orders of the Galician countess Mumadona Dias, is considered one of the country's best-preserved Romanesque castles. Just as impressive – and right next door – is the Paço Ducal, a French-influenced palace built in 1420 as the seat of the dukes of Bragança. In the old town, you'll find small, lovingly restored town houses, grand squares and convents interspersed with modern buildings and cafes. The most attractive street is without doubt the Rua de Santa Maria, which takes you from the palace to the central Largo da Oliveira ('Olive tree square') – the perfect place to stop for a couple of original Portuguese pastéis de nata (custard tarts). Duration: 4 h | Note: Excursion available on request only.

RÉGUA

CITY TOUR LAMEGO



Lamego is definitely worth a visit, for it's not just a really charming little town but also one of Portugal's most important pilgrimage sites. Perhaps that's why the main thoroughfare leads right up to the 686 steps that, in turn, come to an end high up at the Santuário de Nossa Senhora dos Remédios. This baroque church with its two towers was built in the 18th century on the site of a smaller 14th-century chapel and is striking from a distance as well as close up. The so called "stairway to heaven" is decorated with several beautiful azulejos and from the top, you can enjoy stunning views of Lamego. The museum in the centre was once the bishop's residence and today houses famous paintings and tapestries from Portugal. Lamego also offers many culinary delights, such as "Bola de Lamego", smoked pork, spinach or fish baked in bread with a glass of sparkling Raposeira wine.



Price: € 41 | Duration: approx.. 3 h | Note: Excursion available on request only.

GRAPE HARVEST FESTIVAL AT THE QUINTA AVESSADA



Every year, September and October mark the beginning of the most important time of year for the Douro Valley's winegrowers: the grape harvest. Join us on an excursion to the area, and discover the very heart of Portugal. You'll first stop at a family-owned bakery in Favaios, before visiting the Quinta Avesada, where grapes have been pressed for five generations. After a guided tour of the estate, it will be time to put your taste buds to the test: will you be able to identify the different varieties during a wine-tasting session? Wine connoisseur or not, you'll enjoy the barbecue afterwards as you fortify yourself for the grape harvest. Under the guidance of experts, you'll roll up your sleeves – and later your trouser legs – so that you can pick grapes then crush them underfoot in traditional granite troughs. If this sounds too much like hard work, don't worry! There'll be music, tasty regional treats and, of course, wine to enjoy.

Price: On request | Duration: approx. 4 h | Note: Excursion available on request only.

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PINHÃO



CASTELO RODRIGO

Figueira Castelo Rodrigo is situated 671 metres above sea level and is one of Portugal's twelve historically significant villages. Surrounded by almond trees, whose blossom brightens the landscapes, it is also known as the "white city". Storks became the symbol of the city, because they spend about nine months every year in this region. The village has typically medieval and narrow streets and facades from the 16th century as well as Manuelistic window ornaments. It is known for being a place where Jews, Arabs and Christians have coexisted in peace and harmony over the past few centuries. After visiting the ruins of the castle, we walk through the narrow streets of the village, where you can still find numerous traces of the Jewish community. We will also visit the small medieval church and after that you still have enough time to stroll through the village enjoying a coffee and almond specialities.

Price: € 39 | Duration: approx. 3.5 h | Note: Excursion available on request only.



THE PALACE AND GARDENS OF MATEUS

The Mateus Palace, still owned by the Count of Vila Real, was built by the architect Niccolò Nasoni in Baroque style. The original furniture and, above all, the exceptional and handcrafted chestnut wooden ceilings make the interior of the palace so unique and take you back to a bygone century. After the guided tour you will visit the famous garden of the palace, an absolute must-see. With its sculptures, ponds and rare trees, it is one of the most beautiful gardens in Portugal.

Price: € 43 | Duration: approx. 3.5 h | Note: Excursion available on request only.

BARCA D'ALVA



SALAMANCA

The heart of Salamanca is the university, because knowledge has been brought from here into the city and the whole world since 1218. Today almost 40,000 students study at the fourth oldest university in the world. Cathedrals have always been not only places of devotion, but also demonstrations of power. As the originally small, old cathedral of Salamanca was no longer representative, it was decided in 1513 to build a new one around it - one of enormous dimensions. They are both impressive. Have you ever drunk coffee in a bullring? On the Plaza Mayor that's no problem. The bullfighters are called "Forcados", but haven't fought here in a long time. Even today, the huge square with its granite floor and mighty archway is a real spectacle - especially when everything is beautifully illuminated in the evening. No wonder, that it is considered to be the most beautiful place in Spain.

Price: € 89 | Duration: approx. 10 h | Note: Excursion available on request only.



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EVERYTHING YOU SHOULD KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

EXCURSION AGENCY

DouroAzul, Rua de Miragaia, 103, 4050-387 Porto - Portugal

PAYMENT

The excursions will be charged directly to your onboard account.

BOOKING DEADLINES AND CANCELLATIONS

There are booking deadlines for every port. These deadlines are announced in the daily programme on board. Cancellations or rebookings after the deadline are not possible. In case of illness, the excursion for the affected person will be cancelled free of charge.

CLIMATE AND CLOTHING

For shore excursions, we recommend stable and comfortable footwear with nonslip grip soles. In the summer months, you should be prepared for a very hot and humid climate. We recommend to bring insect repellent, sunscreen and headwear. Please also dress appropriately when visiting churches and monasteries.

GUESTS WITH LIMITED MOBILITY

We kindly ask you to get in touch with your Cruise Manager or International Host as soon as possible. This allows us to advise you individually or to make the appropriate preparations on location if required.

INCLUDED SERVICES

Included in the excursion price: Guided excursions, transport and admission charges. Drinks and meals are only included if mentioned in the excursion description. We always give preference to typical local specialities where meals are included, giving you the opportunity to get to know and enjoy something new. Please be aware that the meals and drinks on the excursions will not always be up to the standard of the varied range of meals you are used to aboard A-ROSA.

LEGAL MATTERS

The excursions generally take place as described. As your contractual partner, the agencies, however, reserve the right, even without prior notice, to adapt the order or times of the excursions depending on current conditions in order to guarantee your safety. The organiser also reserves the right to exclude a participant from the trip without reimbursement of costs if her/his behaviour is not conducive to the safety, well-being or harmony of the group. The insurance policies taken out by the agencies conform to local legislation and vary widely. We therefore recommend that you take out our comprehensive river cruise insurance (please contact us for further information) before the beginning of your cruise.

MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

Most excursions can only take place if the minimum number of participants of 20 is reached. We will inform you as soon as possible if a trip cannot take place. In this case, your booking will be cancelled and the excursion price will of course be credited to your onboard cabin account. We will also suggest an alternative excursion. For some excursions, the number of participants is limited. Registrations are always considered in the order they were made. We kindly ask for your understanding that we might not be able to accept your registration any longer if the maximum number has already been reached. Of course, we also offer alternatives in this case.



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TOUR GUIDE AND LOCAL CUSTOMS

The excursion programme gives you the opportunity to get to know interesting towns, historic places, impressive scenery, as well as different cultures, nations, customs and traditions. Tourism is still at an early stage in some of the excursion ports. The level of the local tour guides, which accompany the excursions, corresponds to the top standard of the respective country. This also applies to all coaches.

TICKETS

After booking, you will receive your shore excursion ticket. Please do not forget to bring it with you for the shore excursion. The excursion ticket entitles you to participate and is collected by the agency at the start of the excursion.

TIPPING

It is a common practice to reward good service with a tip. The local tour guides will be pleased if you show your acknowledgement.

AND FINALLY ...

Objects of value, jewellery, large sums of cash and credit cards should be left in your cabin safe, so that you can enjoy the excursions in a relaxed and carefree frame of mind. Enjoy your excursion on shore!

As of July 2019, subject to change.

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