

EXCURSIONS

Experience the Douro – 7 Nights



Day	Arr	Dep	City
Day 1	-	-	Porto, PT
Day 2	-	07:00	Porto, PT
Day 2	13:00	14:00	Régua*, PT
Day 2	17:00	-	Pinhão, PT
Day 3	-	13:00	Pinhão, PT
Day 3	19:00	-	Vega de Terrón, ES
Day 4	-	12:00	Vega de Terrón, ES
Day 4	12:30	-	Barca d'Alva, PT
Day 5	-	09:00	Barca d'Alva, PT
Day 5	11:15	12:15	Pocinho*, PT
Day 5	17:30	-	Pinhão, PT
Day 6	-	07:00	Pinhão, PT
Day 6	09:00	14:00	Régua, PT
Day 6	18:30	-	Bitetos, PT
Day 7	-	06:45	Bitetos, PT
Day 7	08:30	09:00	Cais da Lixa*, PT
Day 7	11:00	-	Porto, PT
Day 8	-	-	Porto, PT

*Excursion stop

Please note that there may be small changes in the itinerary due to locks and special nautical conditions.

Create your very personal holiday programme with our choice of carefully chosen excursions! Each excursion is a highlight in itself: from tours through metropolises, trips through impressive landscapes to action and fun-filled excursions. In many cities you have the opportunity to visit the country and its people with your personal guide and driver.

We have compiled the excursion programme in conjunction with well-known, local agencies. We arrange the excursions and they are implemented by the local agencies, which are the excursion organisers, and thus also your contractual partners. Your A-ROSA excursion team has tried every excursion. They explored the cities, the surroundings, museums and castles themselves to provide you with the best experiences. Look forward to a variety of excursions that will make your holiday unforgettable. The excursions for your cruise can be found on the following pages.

In order to provide you with a better overview of the various offers, we have divided our excursions into five categories: Bike, Discovery, Adventure, Family and Gourmet tours. Each is assigned the corresponding symbol. Your International Host on board will happily provide you with more information.

We wish you a great time on shore! Your A-ROSA Team

A-ROSA CATEGORIES



DISCOVERY TOURS

City tours, city walks or sightseeing tours.



GOURMET TOURS

Sample regional specialities directly from the producers.

EXCURSION PACKAGE

BOOK AN EXCURSION PACKAGE AND SAVE!

The package includes several excursions at one special price. You will save compared to booking the excursions individually. Take advantage and make the most out of your A-ROSA holiday.

PORTO CITY TOUR (Cais da Lixa)

THE MATEUS PALACE (Régua)

CASTELO RODRIGO (Barca d`Alva)

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN OF LAMEGO (Régua)

Price: € 149 SPECIAL PRICE | The excursion package can be booked on board and in advance online at www.arosa-cruises.com/excursions.

RÉGUA

THE MATEUS PALACE

The Mateus Palace, still owned by the Count of Vila Real, was built by the architect Niccolo 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: € 45 | Duration: approx. 3 h 15 min

GRAPE HARVEST FESTIVAL AT THE QUINTA AVESSADA

Every year, September and October mark the beginning of the most important time of the 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 the Adega Cooperativa de Favaios to learn everything about the industrial wine production, before visiting a family-owned bakery because wine and bread definitely belong together here. Afterwards, we will visit the Quinta Avesada, where grapes have been pressed for five generations. The family welcomes you with traditional music that has always been part of 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: € 59 | Duration: approx. 4 h

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN OF 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: € 43 | Duration: approx. 4 h



VEGA DE TERRÓN

SPANISH TRADITIONS IN 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. 9.5 h



BARCA D`ALVA

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: € 43 | Duration: approx. 2 h 45 min



CAIS DA LIXA

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 Clerigos 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: € 44 | Duration: approx. 4 h | Port wine tasting included



PORTO

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).

Price: € 48 | Duration: approx. 5.5 h

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 Guest Relation 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.

GOLF

It is possible to play golf in many destinations. The golf courses are very different in terms of quality and condition. Information about the location and costs can be obtained from your Guest Relation Manager or International Host on board.

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.

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.

PRICES AND DISCOUNTS FOR CHILDREN

Prices are indicated - equivalent to the onboard currency - in Euro. For many of the excursions there are discounts for children up to the age of 11. Children under the age of four can take part for free, but are not entitled a seat. More precise information can be obtained from your Guest Relation Manager or International Host.

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 01/2020, subject to change.

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