

Lisbon and Porto... the Spirit of Portugal

Our tour combines the proud maritime history of Lisbon with Porto, the home of port wine and the city that gave this lovely country its name. Explore the Costa Verde with its spectacular coastal scenery and the old world charm of villages like Sintra, perched high in the rolling green hills of the Serra de Sintra.

DAY 1 Fly to Lisbon airport and transfer to the city centre for a 4 night stay.

DAY 2 Half day guided tour of Lisbon, including the busy Rossio Square, the Black Square and the old quarter of Amalfa with its narrow streets leading up to Saint George's Castle.

DAY 3 Full day guided tour visiting Queluz and Sintra, the home of the National Palace, Cabo da Roca, the most westerly point in mainland Europe, and the resorts of Cascais and Estoril.

DAY 4 The entire day is free for your further exploration of Portugal's capital city.

DAY 5 Journey from Lisbon to Porto, including the pilgrimage town of Fatima and university city of Coimbra, with stops for sightseeing, before you continue to Porto for a 3 night stay.

DAY 6 Morning guided tour of Porto, situated near the mouth of the River Douro. The city is world famous for its port wine cellars and the old town has great charm. Your afternoon is free.

DAY 7 Half day scenic tour along the lovely Douro valley, down which the wines journey before resting in Porto. Your route when returning includes the pretty old town of Guimares.

DAY 8 After free time in the city you'll transfer to Porto airport for the return flight to Britain.

Porto (Portuguese N.T.O.)

Southern Europe

Andalucia... Spain's Moorish Heritage

The long Moorish occupation left an indelible mark on much of southern Spain and today a wonderful mixture of richly decorated Moorish architecture remains. Explore the streets of Seville, Jerez, Granada and Cordoba and marvel at the kaleidoscope of colours and cultures.

DAY 1 Fly to Seville airport and transfer to the city for a 2 night stay.

DAY 2 Morning guided tour of this beautiful city, including Maria Luisa's Park, Plaza de Espana, Plaza de America, the Guadalquivir River and Torre del Oro. You'll then continue on foot to see the Cathedral, Reales Alcazares and the Santa Cruz quarter. Afternoon at leisure.

DAY 3 Travel to Jerez and check in to your hotel for 1 night. Continue on a guided city tour, passing through the old centre to reach the Alcazar and the Spanish School of Equestrian Art. Continue to a winery to see how the world famous sherries and brandies of Jerez are made.

DAY 4 Travel by coach from Jerez to Granada, where you'll stay for 2 nights. After checking in to your hotel the remainder of the day is free.

DAY 5 Morning guided tour of the city, including Reyes Catolicas Square, the Alcaiceria, and the Royal Chapel. You'll then continue to the Alhambra, Palace of Carlos V and Generalife.

DAY 6 Travel to Cordoba this morning, with the afternoon free. Stay for 2 nights.

DAY 7 A guided tour of the city this morning, including Gran Capitan Square, the Roman Bridge, the Torre Calahorra, continuing on foot to visit the Mosque/Cathedral and the Jewish Quarter. Finally you will visit Medina Al Zahara.

DAY 8 Depart by coach to Seville Airport for the return flight to Britain.



Malta and Gozo

The Maltese are a friendly people who will welcome you warmly to their country, where everyone speaks English. This tiny state has a long and interesting history dating back thousands of years and the British influence, dating from the early 19th century until quite recently, remains strong. This, and earlier Italian ideas, are reflected in the many beautiful and historic buildings in the capital Valletta and other towns. Malta's warm, dry climate makes it an attractive destination at most times of the year.

DAY 1 Fly to Malta, with a coach transfer on arrival to your hotel in the popular resort of Sliema, on the north coast close to Valletta. You will stay here for 5 nights.

DAY 2 Half day tour to Rabat, Mosta and Mdina, "the silent city", once the capital of Malta. Stroll in Mdina's quiet narrow streets and enjoy the splendid views across the island from the old town walls.

DAY 3 Another half day excursion is included today to the famous Blue Grotto, on the south coast, a delightfully picturesque system of sea caves. You will continue to Marsaxlokk, a colourful fishing village, before returning to Sliema.

DAY 4 Today the entire day is free to relax and soak up the sunshine, or perhaps spend a leisurely day exploring more of Valletta, with its spectacular natural harbour.

DAY 5 A full day tour is included to Malta's sister island, Gozo. In the capital Rabat (Victoria) you will see the cathedral and Citadel, or "Gran Castello", with its impressive bastions.

DAY 6 Transfer by coach to the airport for your return flight to Britain.



Rome, Sorrento and the Amalfi Coast

Rome has been an inspiration to artists and writers alike since classical times. This fascinating city has seemingly limitless beautiful architecture and marvellous art treasures by Michelangelo and countless others. The vibrant life of Rome contrasts wonderfully with the relative tranquillity of Sorrento, overlooking the Bay of Naples and starting point for several unforgettable excursions.

DAY 1 Fly to Rome airport and transfer to the city for 3 nights' stay.

DAY 2 A morning guided tour of Rome and the Vatican, including Castel Sant' Angelo, St Peter's square and the Sistine Chapel. Your afternoon is free, perhaps to see the Forum, the Pantheon, the Colosseum or the Spanish Steps, or simply stroll around the alleys, piazzas and boulevards.

DAY 3 A whole day free to explore Rome and take a closer look at the sights which interest you most.

DAY 4 Transfer from Rome to Sorrento for a 4 night stay, with the rest of the day at leisure.



Quirinale Palace, Rome



Sorrento

DAY 5 A free day to appreciate Sorrento, with its old fishing harbour nestling under steep cliffs. Alternatively, you might like to take a boat excursion to the island of Capri.

DAY 6 We include a full day excursion to the ancient city of Pompeii, buried in AD79 by a volcanic eruption, and to nearby Mount Vesuvius, the cause of Pompeii's downfall.

DAY 7 Half day excursion to the lovely small towns of Positano and Amalfi, driving along the famous coastal route with its spectacular series of hairpin bends and breathtaking views.

DAY 8 Today you will return to Rome airport by coach for the flight home to Britain.



Vedette, Malta



FOR PRICES AND DEPARTURE DATES, PLEASE REFER TO LEAFLETS AVAILABLE SEPARATELY

Athens and Classical Greece

Few countries in the world can boast a history as rich as that of Greece, the land of ancient mythology and birthplace of the Olympic Games. Starting and finishing in the ancient capital of Athens, our tour includes visits to Epidaurus, Mycenae, Nafplio and Olympia. The final highlight is Delphi, religious centre of the pre-Christian world and one of Greece's most famous and best preserved archaeological sites.



DAY 1 Fly to Athens airport and transfer to the city, staying for a 2 night stay.

DAY 2 This morning we include a guided tour of classical Athens, visiting the Acropolis—the "High City"—which dominates the modern skyline. Here you can see the Temple of Athena Nike, the Propylaea monumental gates, the Erechtheum and of course the Parthenon.

DAY 3 Leave Athens today, visiting Epidaurus, healing centre of the ancient world, and the ancient citadel of Mycenae, with its Lion Gate guarding the entrance to the city once ruled by Agamemnon. Continue to Nafplio, with its mediæval castles and battlements, for 1 night's stay.

DAY 4 Depart Nafplio and cross the central Peloponnese, through beautiful mountain scenery, to Olympia, site of the original Olympic Games, where you'll stay for 1 night.

DAY 5 Your guided tour this morning includes both the Archaeological site and the Museum of Ancient Olympia. In the afternoon you'll leave Olympia and travel to Delphi for a 1 night stay.

DAY 6 According to Greek mythology the Oracle of Delphi was the centre of the earth. This morning you'll have a guided tour of possibly the most famous and best preserved archaeological site in Greece. After a visit to the Museum, with its famous bronze "Charioteer", you return to Athens for a further 2 night stay.

DAY 7 At leisure in Athens, perhaps to visit the Athena Agora and Temple of Hephaestus at the foot of the Acropolis, or simply to take a walk in the Plaka quarter, well known for its lively atmosphere, restaurants, bars and music.

DAY 8 Today you'll be transferred to Athens airport for your homeward flight.