

Portugal

Walking Adventure: Porto, Douro, Alentejo & Lisbon
October 5 to 15, 2027

Optional Porto and Lisbon extensions are available.

Prices from: $6,998
(based upon double occupancy)

Contact Us – Info@WalkingConnection.com | Portugal Web Page | Trip Deposit Payment Page

Walking Connection

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Portugal: Porto to Lisbon – The Trail Less Traveled

Built With Human Intelligence (H.I.)

From Porto to Lisbon, this journey takes us through Portugal's history and natural landscapes. "Along the way, we'll discover what drew Iberians, Phoenicians, Romans, Muslims, and Christians to fight for this land, and how a small nation at the edge of Europe came to look so boldly outward to the sea." History walks hand in hand with the landscape. Forests, mountains, and coastline bring variety to every day of the trip, from the lush forests and meadows of the north to the open Mediterranean forest and the calm waters of the Tejo River.

The towns, villages, and landscapes truly come alive when we meet the people who live there. Local guides, farmers, chefs, and winemakers are part of this experience, offering true insight into life in Portugal.

Food and wine are at the heart of the journey. We'll visit some of Portugal's most significant and oldest D.O. wine regions and enjoy culinary experiences ranging from traditional farm stews to top-level creative cuisine.

We've carefully paced the journey to make it comprehensive without being tiring. Each day ends at a fine, very comfortable hotel with a strong sense of place, and the variety is part of the pleasure, from stunning historic buildings to small boutique hotels. Jo Ann and Gene host, and expert local guides lead the way.

Come Walk Portugal With Us!

Moments

PORTO AND THE GREEN NORTH

Our journey begins in the lush north, where Peneda Gerês, Portugal's only national park, shelters granite villages, stone granaries raised on stilts, and the dramatic farm terraces of Sistelo, known as the Portuguese Tibet.



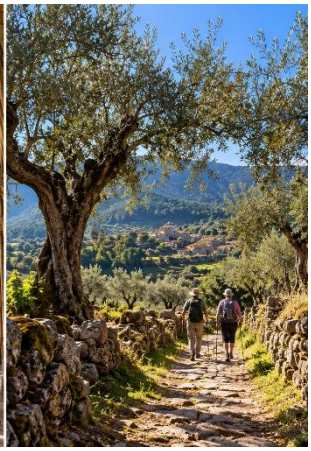
THE DOURO VALLEY

We walk down through terraced vineyards to the river at Pinhão, share a farm lunch at a family winery, and glide along the Douro aboard a traditional rabelo boat, the wooden vessels that once carried wine down to the cellars of Porto.

CENTRAL PORTUGAL

Walk the monks' forest of Buçaco, stand beneath the Gothic vaults of Batalha, and hike through ancient olive groves before a hands-on cooking workshop at our design hotel in the Serra de Aire e Candeeiros Natural Park.





ALENTEJO: Cork oak plains, old smugglers' paths, and the hilltop fortress village of Marvão, with views deep into Spain.

We finish in Évora, with its Roman temple and Chapel of Bones, before a farewell evening of dinner and Fado music in Lisbon.

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Calendar Highlights

October 5

PORTO
Activities: Arrive in Porto, evening at leisure.
Accommodation: Hotel Dorma Almada, Porto

October 6

MINHO AND PENEDA GERÊS NATIONAL PARK
Activities: Guided walk to the village of Soajo and its granite granaries, and continue to Arcos de Valdevez.

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Accommodation: Hotel Ribeira Collection, Arcos de Valdevez

October 7

SISTELO TO GUIMARÃES
Activities: Hike the terraces of Sistelo, the "Portuguese Tibet," then drive to Guimarães.

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Accommodation: Hotel da Oliveira, Guimarães

October 8 to 9

GUIMARÃES TO THE DOURO VALLEY
8th: Guimarães walking tour, Casa de Mateus palace and gardens, vineyard walk from Provesende down to Pinhão.
9th: Family winery visit and farm lunch, rabelo boat cruise on the Douro.

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Accommodation: Quinta de la Rosa, Pinhão

October 10 to 11

BUÇACO, BATALHA AND SERRA DE AIRE
10th: Forest walk in Buçaco, Gothic Monastery of Batalha.
11th: Olive grove hike from the hotel, cooking workshop & dinner.

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Accommodation: Cooking and Nature Hotel, Alvados

October 12 to 13

THE ALENTEJO AND MARVÃO
12th: Smugglers' route hike from Galegos to Marvão.
Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.
13th: Walk to Castelo de Vide; visit an olive oil press.

Breakfast & Dinner.
Accommodation: Pousada de Marvão

October 14

ÉVORA TO LISBON
Activities: Guided tour of Évora, drive to Lisbon, farewell dinner and Fado show.

Breakfast & Dinner
Accommodation: Once Upon a House, Lisbon

October 15
This adventure ends after breakfast at your hotel in Lisbon.
Ask about optional extension nights in Porto and Lisbon.

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Day-By-Day

Please note that this itinerary is subject to change. We organize many planned activities based on availability, events or seasonal dates, weather conditions, or our guides' discretion. We make every effort to provide the experience described in the itinerary with the understanding that some things may change.

Portugal: Step by Step

A NOTE ABOUT FLEXIBILITY: Throughout your Signature Adventure, we will have a dedicated private driver and vehicle accompanying us. This provides welcome flexibility on many days, allowing you to enjoy a ride to our next destination if you prefer.

Each evening, we'll review the following day's activities, including walking distances, terrain, and available alternatives. This way, you can make an informed choice about how you'd like to enjoy the day ahead.

Our philosophy is simple: Enjoy the journey at your own pace.



DAY 1
October 5
ARRIVE IN PORTO

Welcome to Portugal! After passport control and customs, head to the arrivals area, where taxis are readily available for your transfer to **Hotel Dorma Almada.**

The rest of the day is yours to settle in and begin exploring Porto, with its tiled facades, steep lanes, and port wine lodges along the Douro.

YOUR STAY
Hotel Dorma Almada, 1 Night

Hotel Dorma Almada is a four-star hotel in Porto and a comfortable base for our first night in Portugal.



DAY 2
October 6
Peneda Gerês National Park and the village of Soajo

After meeting our group and in-country guide in Porto early this morning, we'll travel an hour and a half to the Peneda mountains to enjoy a walk from Anto do Mezio to the village of Soajo, famous for its espigueiros, unique granaries on stilts. From here, travel to the beautiful town of Arcos de Valdevez.

After a trail lunch in the mountains, continue to Arcos de Valdevez for the night.

Hiking distance: 4.06 mi
Elevation gain & loss: 460 ft & 1,350 ft

YOUR STAY
Hotel Ribeira Collection, 1 Night (B, L, D)

Hotel Ribeira Collection sits in the town of Arcos de Valdevez, our gateway to Portugal's only national park.

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DAY 3
October 7
Peneda National Park-Sistelo

We will explore another section of Peneda-Gerês National Park. From our hotel, a short drive will take us to Sistelo. One of the oldest villages in the Arcos de Valdevez area, Sistelo is a main gateway to Peneda-Gerês National Park, a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve and Portugal's only national park.

Sistelo is also known as the Portuguese Tibet for its beautiful agricultural terraces. We will have lunch on the trail.

Hiking distance: 5.06 mi
Elevation gain & loss: 1,470 ft & 1,470 ft

In the afternoon, we will drive 2 hours to Guimarães and settle into our hotel in the heart of town. We will have dinner at the hotel.

YOUR STAY
Hotel da Oliveira, 1 Night (B, L, D)

Hotel da Oliveira is set in the heart of Guimarães, steps from the medieval squares of the old town.



DAY 4
October 8
Birthplace of the Portuguese Nation and into wine country

Meet our local guide for a walking city tour of the city that was the capital of the primitive County of Portugal; thus, Guimarães is considered to be the origin of the nation with its 12th-century castle, but it also has great examples of architecture from the 15th & 16th centuries, all considered a Unesco's World Heritage Site.

Travel 1 hour to the Vila de Mateus palace for a one-hour stop to visit the Baroque Palace and Gardens. Inside the palace, a library holds a collection of 2,000 parchments and royal charters dating back over 500 years.

Travel 30 minutes to the edge of the Douro River Valley, then walk through vineyards to discover this unique landscape. From the village of Provesende, we walk down and enjoy a picnic lunch before reaching the village of Pinhão. Our wine hotel overlooking the river is home for the next two nights.

Hiking distance: 4.3 mi
Elevation loss: 1,150 ft

YOUR STAY
Quinta de la Rosa, 1 of 2 Nights (B, L, D)

Quinta de la Rosa is a family wine estate and hotel overlooking the Douro River near Pinhão.

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DAY 5
October 9
A family winery and a rabelo boat on the Douro

This morning we visit a family winery to learn about the Douro's table wines, followed by a traditional farm lunch at the quinta. Wine is included with lunch today.

In the afternoon, we board a traditional rabelo boat for a guided two-hour cruise along the Douro. These wooden boats once carried the wine down from the vineyards of the upper Douro to the aging cellars of Porto.

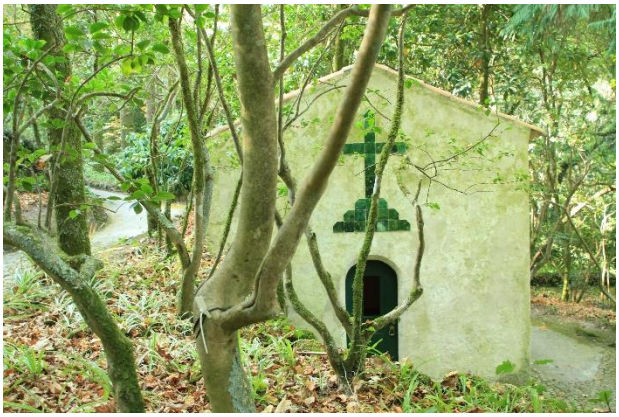
YOUR STAY
Quinta de la Rosa, 2 of 2 Nights (B, L, D)

Quinta de la Rosa gives us a second evening above the river. Wine with dinner is on your own.



From the granite villages of the north to the cork oak plains of the Alentejo, Portugal packs remarkable variety into a small country. Walking is the best way to feel how each region differs: the food, the wine, the architecture, and the rhythm of daily life.

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DAY 6
October 10
Hike through the forests of Buçaco and visit Gothic Monasteries

This morning, we will travel to the stunning forest of Buçaco, where you will take a short hike to explore the forest and garden of the National Forest of Buçaco, created and protected by the Carmelite Monks who settled in this area in the 16th century. The area is full of pathways and little chapels hidden in the lush forest.

Hike: 2-3 miles inside the Buçaco gardens.

In the afternoon, we travel a short distance to the Gothic Monastery of Batalha, built in the 14th century to commemorate the defeat of the Castilian forces that secured Portugal's independence as a kingdom.

After visiting the monastery, we retreat to the peace of rural Portugal at a modern design hotel that blends with nature, surrounded by olive trees in the Natural Park of Serra do Aire e Candeeiros.

Hiking distance: 1.2 to 2.5 mi, your choice

YOUR STAY
Cooking and Nature Hotel, 1 of 2 Nights (B, L, D)

Cooking and Nature Hotel in Alvados is a modern design hotel set among the olive groves of the natural park, where good food is part of the experience.



DAY 7
October 11
Olive groves and a cooking workshop

This morning we hike in the Serra dos Candeeiros Natural Park. We set off straight from our hotel, walking through ancient olive groves and climbing into the hills of the natural park to enjoy the views.

Enjoy your beautiful hotel in the afternoon, then finish the day with a fun cooking workshop at your hotel, followed by dinner.

Hiking distance: 8 mi (shorter options available)
Elevation gain & loss: 1,300 ft & 1,300 ft

YOUR STAY
Cooking and Nature Hotel, 2 of 2 Nights (B, L, D)

Cooking and Nature Hotel welcomes us home after a day in the hills.

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DAY 8
October 12
The Alentejo and the smugglers' route

Travel East today for two hours along the Tejo River to enter the Alentejo region, the essence of Southern Portugal, with its open landscapes of cork oak trees and distant hilltop villages and fortresses.

Transfer to the tiny village of Galegos, right on the border with Spain, to hike the 12km back to Marvão along ancient paths surrounded by giant cork oak fields. Smugglers once used these trails to move coffee between Portugal and Spain.

The views from the beautiful fortress village, perched on a hill overlooking the border with Spain, are stunning. Settle in your converted convent to enjoy dinner with the widest views you can imagine.

Hiking distance: 7.5 mi
Elevation gain: 1,500 ft

YOUR STAY
Pousada de Marvão, 1 of 2 Nights (B, L, D)

Pousada de Marvão sits within the walls of this hilltop fortress village. Wine with dinner is on your own tonight.



DAY 9
October 13
Hilltop villages, ancient paths, and olive oil Traditional Factory

We will walk down from Marvão to the beautiful town of Castelo de Vide, where we will have time to explore its castle and Jewish neighborhood before having lunch at leisure.

After lunch, we will travel a short distance to Galegos to visit a traditional Olive oil press museum and learn about this unique product so closely connected to the landscapes we will be walking through.

Spend the rest of the afternoon in Marvão enjoying the views and resting before dinner at our hotel.

Hiking distance: 6.2 mi
Elevation gain & loss: 820 ft & 1,640 ft

YOUR STAY
Pousada de Marvão, 2 of 2 Nights (B, D) (Wine Included w/dinner).

Pousada de Marvão offers one more evening of sweeping views over the border country.

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DAY 10
October 14
Évora and on to Lisbon

This morning we travel to Évora for a guided tour of this peaceful town. With its Roman temple, its Chapel of Bones, and its narrow streets and quiet corners, there is plenty to discover. Lunch is on your own, with many good choices in town.

Enjoy some time at leisure to explore the town's many lunch options.

In the afternoon, drive one hour into Lisbon and settle in the central Baixa district. This evening, enjoy a traditional Fado music show and dinner as a farewell to Portugal.

YOUR STAY
Once Upon a House, 1 Night
Standard Room (B, D)

Once Upon a House is our home in central Lisbon for the final night of the adventure.



DAY 11
October 15
Say farewell to Portugal, or extend your stay in Lisbon.

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Your Walking Connection adventure in Portugal concludes after breakfast, with independent departures to the airport or more time to explore Lisbon. (B)

OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS

Arrive early in Porto. Add one or two extra nights at the Hotel Dorma Almada and join a Porto city tour that includes a port winery visit and a gourmet lunch (minimum 8 guests).

Linger in Lisbon. Add one or two extra nights at Once Upon a House and enjoy a full-day guided tour with transportation and entrances included (minimum 8 guests).

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Adventure Inclusions

This Walking Connection Adventure Includes:

- Exclusive Signature Adventure itinerary.
- Hosted by a Walking Connection staff member.*
- Full-time private transportation throughout the itinerary.
- All walks, hikes, and site visits per the final itinerary.
- Experienced English-speaking guide with the group throughout, plus local guides for the Guimarães and Évora city tours.
- Accommodations for 10 nights, including one night in Porto and one night in Lisbon.
- Meals per the itinerary: 10 Breakfasts (B), 7 Lunches (L), 9 Dinners (D).
- Water with all meals. Wine with the winery lunch and select group dinners. (Individual pays for other beverages.)
- Entrance to Casa de Mateus Palace and gardens, the Monastery of Batalha, and Marvão Castle.
- Family winery visit with traditional farm lunch in the Douro Valley.
- Traditional rabelo boat cruise on the Douro River.
- Olive oil press visit and cooking workshop.
- Farewell dinner with traditional Fado show in Lisbon.
- Detailed "Know Before You Go" information includes recommended websites, reading lists, packing lists, what to bring, weather, and more.

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Exclusions

This Walking Connection Adventure Does Not Include:

- Gratuities for leader/guide or driver
- All international airfares.
- Airport arrival and departure transfers.
- All items of a personal nature, including premium beverages and shopping.
- All passport and visa application fees, vaccination, and medical consulting fees.
- Camera or video camera fee for specific historical sites.
- All international departure taxes collected at the airport on departure.
- Pre or Post-night hotel accommodations.
- Travel insurance.
- Early check-in & late check-out of rooms not specified.
- Optional tours or items of a personal nature.
- Photographs & phone calls.
- No discounts or refunds on any unused portion of the tour.
- Anything that is not expressly stated in the itinerary or on the inclusions page as included.

Price, Terms, and Conditions

Price per person:

- Double occupancy: $6,998 USD
- Single Occupancy (Limited Availability): Email us for pricing & availability (info@walkingconnection.com)

Deposit: A deposit of $1000 USD /person is required to secure the booking for this trip. Payment can be made by credit card. We cannot hold space without a full deposit for each traveling guest. Payments can be made securely online – PLEASE CLICK HERE.

Payments:
Payments must be made according to the schedule & are subject to the cancellation and penalty policy. Final payment is due on or before 90 days prior to the trip. We request that all final payments be made by wire transfer, check or credit card. Credit card and PayPal payments for the final amount due are subject to a 3.5% surcharge of the total due. Canadian (or other non-U.S.) credit cards are subject to a 4.5% surcharge. Payments can be made by mail, online, or by phone.

Cancellation, Penalty & Refund Policies:
Should you have to cancel your tour, the following terms will apply:
A refund of your deposit (less a $300 service fee) will be given if we are notified at least 7 months before the departure date. If your deposit was a credit from a previous trip postponement, we will apply it as a future credit.
After that:
For cancellations 91 days – 7 months, your $1000 deposit is non-refundable.
For cancellations and no-shows 90 days, 100% of the trip price is non-refundable

All cancellations must be made in writing and delivered to Walking Connection via email and/or US Postal Service. Your cancellation date is the date Walking Connection receives and confirms your notice, not the date it is posted.

Trip Minimum is 8 full-paying Guests: This trip requires a minimum of 8 paying guests to proceed at the stated price. An additional Small Group Surcharge may be assessed, or Walking Connection may cancel the trip if sign-ups do not meet the 8-person minimum. This trip will be guaranteed to depart once we reach the minimum number of guests or have been evaluated 90 or 60 days prior to departure. Additionally, if the minimum is not met, Walking Connection reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to operate the trip without a Walking Connection host. **Please do not make your international or domestic air arrangements until the trip is confirmed.**

Trip maximum: 12 full-paying guests.

Your Local Guides and Trip Host/Escort:
At Walking Connection, our philosophy is straightforward: each trip is designed in partnership with locals and led by local experts. We collaborate with a select group of trusted travel partners to deliver exceptional experiences safely and responsibly. During this trip, one of our highly trained professional guides will accompany and lead you and your small group. A Walking Connection staff member will be hosting this trip, with a minimum of 8 paying guests.

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Why You Should Always Get Travel Insurance!

Protect Your Investment - Your trip is an investment. Don't let unforeseen circumstances jeopardize it. With travel insurance, you can safeguard your finances against trip cancellations or interruptions.

Ensure Adequate Health Coverage - Health emergencies can happen anywhere. If your health insurance doesn't cover you abroad, or if you're traveling to a country where healthcare is expensive, travel insurance with medical coverage can be invaluable.

Emergency Evacuation Assistance - In the event of a medical emergency or natural disaster, travel insurance can cover the cost of emergency evacuation to the nearest suitable medical facility.

Reimbursement for Travel Disruptions - Unexpected delays, cancellations, or missed connections can throw your travel plans off course. Travel insurance reimburses you for additional expenses incurred due to travel disruptions, allowing you to navigate unforeseen challenges with ease.

Protection for Lost or Delayed Baggage - Lost, stolen, or delayed baggage can be a traveler's nightmare. Travel insurance offers coverage for replacing essential items or reimbursing necessary purchases, ensuring you're not left stranded without your belongings.

For Walking Connection Adventure Travel and Active Adventures.

Because they are active trips, often in remote areas of the world. Medical facilities and services, if available, may be limited and paid for in local currency before services are rendered. For these reasons, many countries and local governments **REQUIRE** visitors to have health and medical transport insurance to participate in adventure travel activities.

https://www.walkingconnection.com/travel-insurance



This is your moment to slow down, connect with the world—and yourself—one step at a time.

THANK YOU FOR TRAVELING WITH THE WALKING CONNECTION

Tripadvisor

Have You Traveled with The Walking Connection before? If so, we would greatly appreciate it if you could briefly review your experience on TripAdvisor. It helps future guests understand who travels with us, why, and what they can expect on a trip with the Walking Connection. Please CLICK HERE and share!

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