



PORTUGAL

OFF THE BEATEN TRACKS

WITH JOHN LUM



SEPTEMBER 7-16, 2027

Itinerary

September 7

Depart the USA

Depart the USA on your overnight flight to Lisbon, Portugal.

September 8

Arrival in Lisbon

Welcome to Portugal! Your guide will meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel. The rest of the day will be free until dinner, when you will be introduced to the world of Fado. (D)

September 9

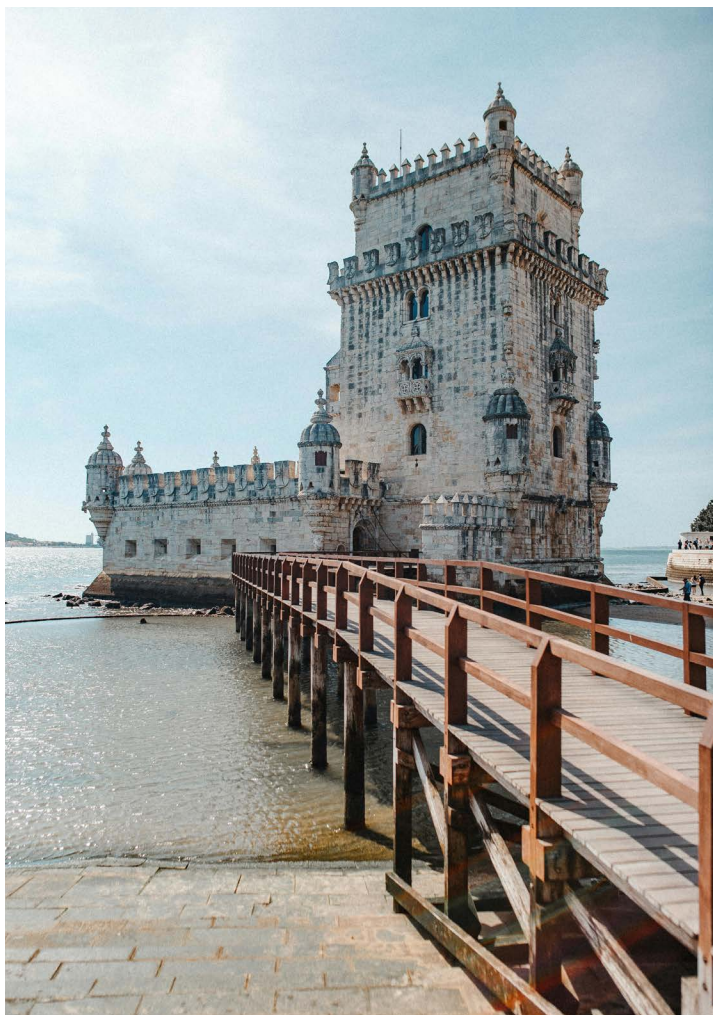
Meeting the Majestic Lisbon

Begin the day with a guided walk through Lisbon's historic heart, uncovering its rich history and captivating legends. In the afternoon, explore the monumental district of Belém, including visits to Jerónimos Monastery and the Belém Tower. Conclude your day with a taste of the iconic pastel de Belém. (B, D)

September 10

Évora and Monsaraz

Enjoy a guided stroll through the sunlit city of Évora, marveling at landmarks such as peaceful squares, the cathedral, the Temple of Diana, Gothic and Renaissance churches (including the Chapel of Bones), and grand royal palaces. After lunch, visit a traditional Alentejo weaving factory in Reguengos de Monsaraz, nationally known for its handcrafted Mantas de Reguengos (Reguengos blankets). Then, take a scenic walk through Monsaraz, stopping at a wine shop to sample local wines and regional delicacies. (B, D)



September 11

A Trip to Medieval Times

Visit Vila Viçosa and be captivated by its deep royal heritage. Admire the grandeur of the Ducal Palace, the town's impressive churches, and its historic castle. Then, discover the former Royal Stud Farm of Portugal, where you'll learn about the indigenous Lusitano horse and enjoy the serene beauty of the estate. (B, D)

September 12

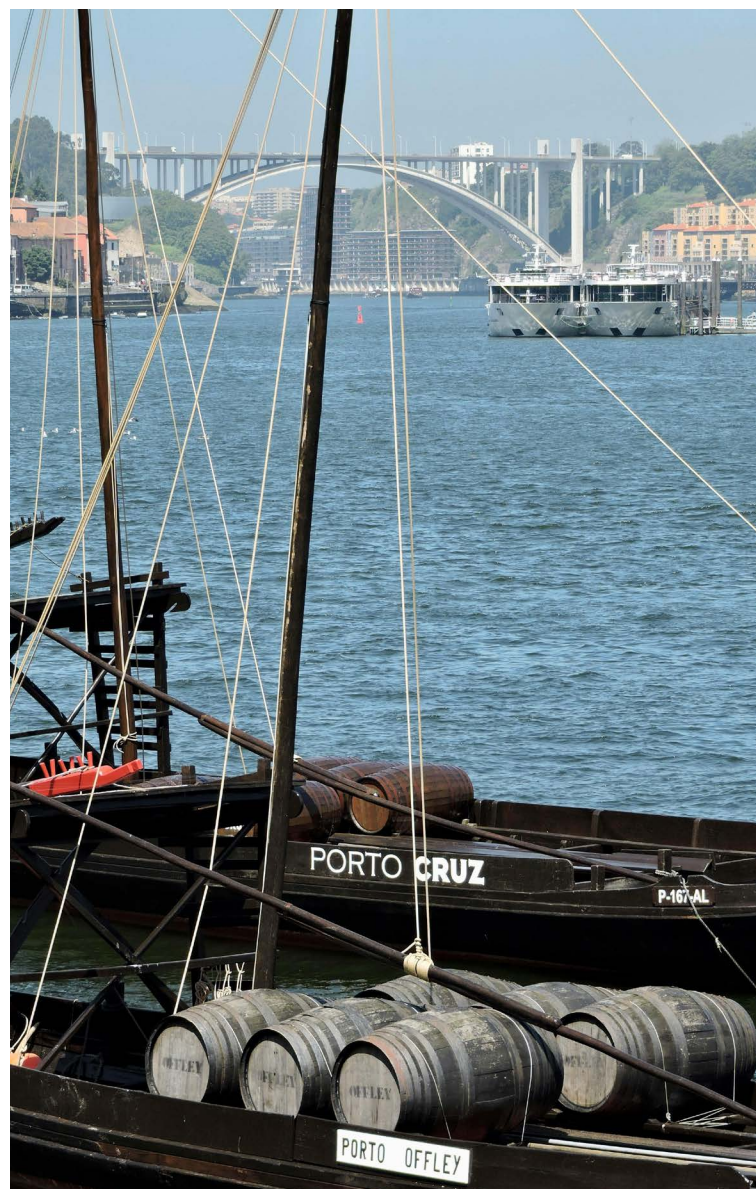
A Village at the Top of the Mountain

Explore the remarkable medieval village of Marvão, with its narrow streets and breathtaking views. Visit an old olive oil mill to learn about regional production and enjoy a light lunch while discovering the importance of Alentejo's cuisine and the Mediterranean diet. In the afternoon, visit Castelo de Vide, home to one of the best-preserved Jewish quarters in Portugal. After that, we will stop in Castelo Branco, a historic inland city in central Portugal known for its Baroque Episcopal Palace Gardens. It offers an authentic glimpse into Portugal's cultural heritage before heading to Guarda. (B, D)

September 13

Discovering Sortelha and Belmonte

Begin the day in Sortelha, a beautifully preserved village of stone houses that evokes tales of kings, queens, and knights. Join your local host for a walk through the village's granite architecture and medieval castle. Later, visit a local farm to enjoy wine from the Beira Interior region. In the afternoon, explore the cobbled streets of Belmonte, with highlights including Belmonte Castle and sites connected to Pedro Álvares Cabral, the discoverer of Brazil, as well as the town's rich Jewish heritage. (B, D)





September 14

Discovering Douro Valley

Visit a wine estate in the Douro Valley to learn about the production of Port wine, followed by a traditional lunch at the quinta (estate). Discover the unique flavors of Douro gastronomy and its deep connection to wine culture. In the afternoon, take a peaceful boat ride from Pinhão, admiring the breathtaking scenery. Afterward, walk through one of the region's most charming wine-producing villages. (B, D)

September 15

Discovering and Tasting Porto

Experience the essence of Porto with a guided stroll through its historic center, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy lunch at a traditional Porto restaurant. In the afternoon, visit a centuries-old wine cellar for an immersive wine tasting, deepening your appreciation and knowledge of Portugal's wine culture. (B, D)

September 16

Return home

B= Breakfast / L= Lunch / D= Dinner

