



National Trust *for* Historic Preservation

National Trust Tours



## Portugal's Enchanting Douro Valley Round-Trip Porto Aboard *AmaSintra*

October 8 – 16, 2026



# Portugal's Enchanting Douro Valley

## Round-Trip Porto Aboard *AmaSintra*

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Uncover Portugal's enthralling art, architecture, and UNESCO-listed wine heritage on this exclusive Douro River cruise. Aboard the brand-new, world-class *AmaSintra*, which will debut along the Douro in 2025, sail through a monumental landscape of winegrowing terraces, sculpted over centuries. From the enduring Roman legacy to the Moorish-influenced *azulejo* tilework, medieval castles to contemporary art and architecture, expert guides will unveil the region's hidden gems and fascinating history.

Explore charming villages like the hilltop fortress of Castelo Rodrigo, a time capsule of cobblestone streets and ancient ruins. In Lamego, descend the colorful, *azulejo*-adorned steps of the Santuário de Nossa Senhora dos Remédios, one of Portugal's most extravagant Baroque churches. In Porto, delve into the thriving contemporary art scene, while an expert-guided excursion to Spain's UNESCO-listed Salamanca reveals the grandeur of the Spanish Golden Age, one of the world's oldest universities, and a museum collection of rare jewelry and the world's greatest collection of French porcelain dolls inside a gleaming Art Nouveau mansion. Throughout this cruise aboard *AmaSintra*, savor exclusive wine tastings at renowned *quintas* and engage with local traditions, from folk music performances to centuries-old winemaking techniques.

### CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

- Uncover Porto's thriving contemporary art scene on a guided tour of the Álvaro Siza-designed Fundação de Serralves, an innovative art space with a world-renowned gallery and gardens
- Explore the walled medieval village of Castelo Rodrigo, joining expert guides behind the scenes of this hilltop fortress, and sample regional wines and delicacies within its ancient stone walls
- Journey to the golden-hued city of Salamanca, Spain, marveling at its UNESCO-listed Old Town, 13th-century university, and expansive Plaza Mayor, a Baroque architectural gem
- Behold lavish Art Nouveau and Art Deco treasures on an expert-guided tour of Salamanca's Museo de Art Nouveau y Art Déco, housed in a stunning 1905 mansion, marveling at works by Homar, Majorelle, Busquets, and Fabergé
- Discover the Douro Valley's picturesque Pinhão Valley and visit Quinta do Portal, a family-owned winery celebrated for its centuries-old vineyards, modern cellars, and commitment to sustainability
- Admire the ornate Baroque Santuário de Nossa Senhora dos Remédios in Lamego, descending its 686-step staircase adorned with colorful *azulejo* tiles that zigzag down to the lovely gardens



- Delight in Porto's architectural and cultural treasures, from a private concert at the avant-garde Casa da Música to expert-led tours of the city's most prestigious art galleries
- Indulge in a vintage Port tasting at a historic wine cellar in Porto or savor a traditional Portuguese meal in one of the city's stylish restaurants
- Cruise aboard the brand-new *AmaSintra*, featuring elegantly appointed staterooms, a panoramic lounge, sun-deck swimming pool, and gourmet dining showcasing regional flavors and Port wines



Fundação de Serralves, Porto, Portugal, © Serralves Foundation

#### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8: DEPARTURE

Depart on an overnight flight to Porto, Portugal.

#### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9: PORTO, PORTUGAL / EMBARK AMASINTRA

Upon your morning arrival in Porto, you will be transferred to the **Fundação de Serralves**, one of Portugal's leading cultural institutions. Join an expert guide for a tour of the **Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Serralves**, a striking minimalist museum of contemporary art. The museum was designed by Álvaro Siza, a Pritzker Prize-winning architect. Peruse its collection highlighting art after 1968, including pieces by notable artists like Joan Miró, Cindy Sherman, and Paula Rego. After lunch, you will board *AmaSintra* and gather for a welcome dinner in the evening. L,D

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10: PORTO / PESO DE RÉGUA

Make sure to be on deck this morning as we cruise under the **Maria Pia Bridge**, a magnificent iron bridge designed by Gustave Eiffel and completed in 1877, 12 years before his famous Eiffel Tower in Paris.

In the afternoon, take a drive to the family-owned wine estate **Quinta da Aveleda**, known for its delightful gardens. Sample its *Vinho Verde* and enjoy a private dinner while overlooking the vineyard. To end the evening, return to *AmaSintra* and attend a lively onboard performance of Portuguese folk music. B,L,D

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11: PINHÃO / BARCA D'ALVA / CASTELO RODRIGO

Attend a morning lecture on board as *AmaSintra* navigates through the valley to Barca d'Alva. This afternoon, discover **Castelo Rodrigo**, a fortified hilltop village with scenic views of slopes adorned with almond trees and vineyards. Pass through the village's 16th-century walls and climb the narrow medieval streets.

Explore the ruins, which feature the 16th-century **Palacio de Cristóvão de Moura**; the medieval **Igreja Matriz de Nossa Senhora de Rocamador** established by French pilgrim friars; and one of Portugal's most impressive Manueline-style pillories, dating to 1509. The town also retains a medieval cistern and inscriptions that speak to a once-flourishing Jewish community. Refresh yourself with a tasting of regional wine and delicacies. B,L,D

#### MONDAY, OCTOBER 12: BARCA D'ALVA / VEGA DE TERRÓN, SPAIN / SALAMANCA

Cross the Spanish border to **Salamanca**, a UNESCO-listed city of golden sandstone. On a guided tour, admire the elegant buildings of the **Universidad de Salamanca**, founded in 1218 and the third oldest still-operating university in the world. Linger in the 18th-century **Plaza Mayor**, a grand achievement in Spanish Baroque architecture and one of Europe's most beautiful town squares.

You may enjoy a leisurely afternoon in town, or opt for a visit to the **Museo de Art Nouveau y Art Déco**, which features furniture by Homar, Majorelle, and Busquets; jewelry by Masriera and Fabergé; and what is widely regarded as the world's greatest collection of French porcelain dolls. This museum is housed in **Casa Lis**, a graceful 1905 mansion with a sweeping, stained-glass façade. Rejoin our vessel in Vega de Terrón for dinner. B,L,D

#### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13: VEGA DE TERRÓN / PINHÃO, PORTUGAL / SABROSA / PESO DE RÉGUA

Spend the morning cruising through the picturesque **Pinhão Valley**, near where the Rio Pinhão meets the Douro. Then transfer to **Sabrosa**, known as the birthplace of Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan, for a visit to **Quinta do Portal**, a family-owned boutique winery with centuries-old vineyards. Learn about their commitment to sustainability, including their unique way of planting and the installation of photovoltaic panels to produce half of the winery's electricity. You will also tour the modern cellars designed by Álvaro Siza and enjoy a wine tasting. B,L,D



Universidad de Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain





Photos clockwise from top left: Santuário de Nossa Senhora dos Remédios, Lamego; Livraria Lello, Porto; and Casa da Música, Porto, Portugal

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14: PESO DE RÉGUA / LAMEGO / ENTRES-OS-RIOS

Amid the Douro Valley's terraced slopes, **Lamego** is best known for the **Santuário de Nossa Senhora dos Remédios**. Visit this ornate Baroque church and descend its exuberant, 686-step staircase, which features colorful *azulejo* tiles and zigzags to the gardens below.

Make your way to the **Museu de Lamego**, housed in a grand, 18th-century episcopal palace, for a private look at its eclectic religious art and 16th-century Flemish tapestries. This afternoon, *AmaSintra* passes through **Barragem do Carrapatelo**, a hydroelectric dam with the highest lock in Europe. This evening, stop for drinks at a private estate with majestic views of the valley (*pending confirmation*). As the sun sets, observe why the Portuguese named the Douro the "river of gold" (*d'ouro*). B,L,D

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15: ENTRES-OS-RIOS / PORTO

Return to Porto for a morning tour and private concert at **Casa da Música**, a landmark of 21st-century architecture designed by Rem Koolhaas. Alternatively, enjoy a walking tour featuring the opulent former stock exchange **Palácio da Bolsa**; the **São Bento Railway Station**, filled with murals

made up of more than 20,000 *azulejo* tiles, all designed and painted by artist Jorge Colaço in the 1930s; and the **Livraria Lello**, one of the world's most beautiful bookstores, with its curvaceous staircase.

Savor lunch aboard *AmaSintra*, or you may choose to enjoy a traditional meal at leisure in one of the city's stylish restaurants. This afternoon, delight in **private tours of some of the city's top art galleries**. Alternatively, delight in a **vintage Port tasting** at a working wine cellar on a hillside above the city. This evening, the captain hosts a festive farewell dinner. B,L,D

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16: PORTO / DISEMBARK / RETURN

Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for flights home. B

**DISCLAIMER:** This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at [www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms](http://www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms).

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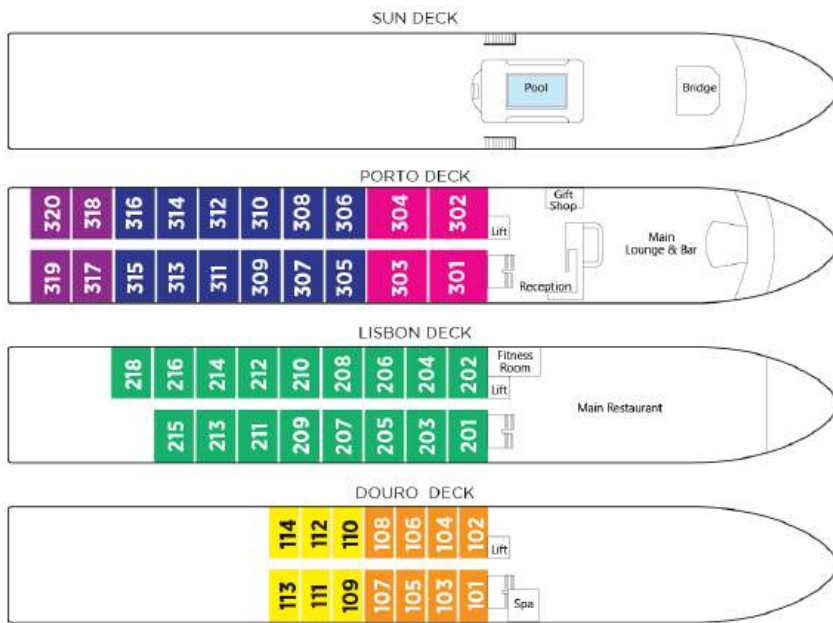
Cover photo: Douro River

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## AMASINTRA



With spacious staterooms offering breathtaking views of Port Country, exquisite onboard cuisine, and top-tier amenities, the exceptional *AmaSintra* will debut in Portugal in 2025. This luxury river vessel features 51 elegantly appointed staterooms and suites. Staterooms include Entertainment-On-Demand, featuring free high-speed Internet access, unlimited Wi-Fi, movies, music, and English-language TV stations; climate-controlled air conditioning; and an in-room safe. The ship's Panoramic Lounge is a stylish and inviting space to enjoy a glass of wine or a cocktail along with nightly entertainment. *AmaSintra* also features a massage room, fitness room, sun-deck swimming pool, and a gift shop, as well as the culinary delights of the Main Restaurant, where guests are able to sample the region's famous Port wine.



AmaSintra (top), Panoramic Lounge (center), and Suite (above)

## CRUISE RATES

Deck	Cabin	Double	Single
Douro Deck	109-114	\$7,499	\$9,999
Panoramic window, 161 sq. ft.			
Douro Deck	101-108	\$8,499	\$11,999
Panoramic window, 161 sq. ft.			
Porto Deck	317-320	\$10,499	\$15,999
French balcony, 161 sq. ft.			
Lisbon Deck	201-218	\$11,499	\$17,999
Outside balcony, 215 sq. ft.			
Porto Deck	305-316	\$13,499	Inquire
Outside balcony, 215 sq. ft.			
Porto Deck	301-304	\$16,499	Inquire
Suite, Outside balcony, 323 sq. ft.			

## RATES INCLUDE

- Seven nights cabin accommodations aboard *AmaSintra*
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; thoughtfully selected wines and beer at lunches and dinners
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Taxes, service, and portage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers; customary shipboard gratuities

**NOT INCLUDED IN RATES** International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than what is noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.