



National Trust *for* Historic Preservation

**National Trust Tours**

Featuring Study Leader **John Meffert**

# Spain and the Douro River Voyage

**CULTURE, CUISINE & WINE**



**October 27 – November 6, 2026**

**T**he romantic Douro River winds through northern Portugal, creating a landscape of sculpted hills and terraced vineyards. Begin your journey in Porto, a delightful city painted in shades of scarlet and gold, nestled along the banks of the romantic river. Board your 7-night cruise and set sail through one of Europe's most unspoiled regions, passing steeply sloping vineyards, storybook villages and terraced hills that define the Alto Douro. Along the way, discover riverside towns and learn about the rich winemaking traditions that have shaped this region for centuries. Admire stunning examples of Portuguese tilework and hear the stories behind the quaint villages you visit. Disembark in Vega de Terrón and continue overland to Salamanca, home to one of the world's oldest universities. Conclude in Madrid, Spain's vibrant capital, where grand plazas and a welcoming spirit await. This unforgettable journey offers a perfect blend of scenic cruising, cultural exploration and culinary delights.

### Exclusive Highlights

- 7-night river cruise aboard *Porto Mirante*, an exclusively chartered deluxe riverboat.
- 2-night hotel stay in Madrid, Spain, at the deluxe *InterContinental Madrid*.
- Specially arranged food and wine tastings throughout the valley.
- 3 UNESCO World Heritage Sites — The Old City of Salamanca, Spain; the Alto Douro Wine Region and the Historic Centre of Porto, Portugal.



**Above: Castelo Rodrigo, Portugal**  
**Cover: Porto, Portugal, Douro River**

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National Trust for Historic Preservation

# National Trust Tours

## Dear National Trust Traveler:

Embark on a spectacular nine-night land and river adventure from medieval Porto to magnificent Madrid. Spend seven nights aboard the deluxe *Porto Mirante*, gliding through the picturesque heart of northern Portugal before culminating your journey with a memorable finale in Spain's capital city.

As the ship navigates the UNESCO-listed Douro River Valley, you'll be immersed in a landscape of rambling vineyards, rolling hills and dramatic river gorges — scenery best admired from the water. Along the way, explore three UNESCO World Heritage Sites that showcase the richness and variety of this itinerary. Begin in Porto's historic city center, which dazzles visitors with its celebrated cellars and golden sunsets. Continue through the Alto Douro Wine Region, where wine has been crafted for over two millennia — most famously the world-renowned port wine. Then, cross into Spain to Salamanca, the "Golden City," home to one of the oldest universities in the world, and spend two nights embracing Madrid's spirited rhythm.

On this voyage, experience cultural and historic highlights; savor tastings of locally produced cuisine; hear traditional music and marvel at unforgettable views. Book now for this unparalleled program, while space is still available!

Sincerely,

Meg Annacone-Poretz  
Director, National Trust Tours

## Study Leader



**John Meffert**, consultant on Heritage Conservation Services, has a long tradition with the National Trust. He has served as the Director for our Southern Office and was the director of the Preservation Society of Charleston, the oldest nonprofit organization in the United States, responsible for preserving the historic resources of Charleston, S.C. John has delighted many study tour groups with his lectures and insights on preservation, and receives rave reviews as study leader.

### Other opportunities to travel with National Trust Tours and Gohagan & Company:

Island Life® Greek Isles and Ephesus  
May 27 to June 4, 2026  
September 9 to 17, 2026  
October 7 to 15, 2026

Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea  
July 9 to 19, 2026

For a full list of travel programs visit  
[www.nationaltrusttours.com](http://www.nationaltrusttours.com)

*The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a private, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to saving historic places and revitalizing America's communities.*

Learn more at  
[www.savingplaces.org](http://www.savingplaces.org)

### Travel Insurance

USI Travel Insurance Services offers a plan designed specifically for National Trust Tours travelers, providing coverage for Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Emergency Medical and more. You can upgrade your plan with Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR) coverage and be reimbursed up to 75% of your pre-paid, non-refundable trip costs. Purchase travel insurance today:  
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**Day 1 | October 27**

Depart your home city.

**Day 2 | October 28** **D**

Embark | Porto, Portugal

Arrive in Porto and transfer to the *Porto Mirante*. Spend the afternoon exploring at your leisure; then gather for dinner.

**Day 3 | October 29** **B-L-R-D**

Porto

Join a guided tour of Porto's historic quarter, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. See the Porto Cathedral, one of the city's oldest monuments, and Liberty Square, the town's central plaza that connects the historic and modern parts of the city. The plaza is ringed with inviting shops and cafés. Witness the São Bento Railway Station, a beautiful station filled with incredible azulejos — distinctive blue-and-white, hand-painted tiles. This afternoon, indulge in a port tasting. You will have a choice on how you arrive at the traditional wine estate — by motorcoach or a scenic hike.

**Day 4 | October 30** **B-L-D**

Porto | Cruising the Douro River Valley | Peso da Régua

As the boat gently winds its way along the river's path, steep terraced vineyards rise on either side, carved into the hillsides by generations of winemakers. Rolling hills dotted with olive groves, whitewashed quintas and charming stone villages create a patchwork of rustic beauty. In autumn, the valley glows with hues of gold and crimson as the vines turn with the season.

**Day 5 | October 31** **B-L-D**

Peso da Régua | Lamego | Pinhão

After breakfast, venture out for your chosen excursion to Lamego. Visit this ancient

and picturesque town on foot or by motorcoach. Lamego is home to one of the Nossa Senhora dos Remédios, an important pilgrimage site set on a spectacular hilltop. The church is accessed by a double staircase of 686 steps and nine terraces, decorated with statues and azulejos.

This afternoon, visit the Pinhão Railway Station, famous for its lovely azulejos that depict scenes of local significance — winemakers, folk culture and local landscapes.

**Day 6 | November 1** **B-L-D**

Pinhão | Vila Real

Step into a world of artistry, heritage and timeless beauty at the enchanting *Plaza Mayor Square, Salamanca, Spain*

*Plaza Mayor Square, Salamanca, Spain*





*Salamanca University, Spain*

Mateus, famously depicted on the iconic Mateus Rosé wine label. This magnificent estate features three main structures — the elegant manor house, the historic winery and a beautifully crafted chapel. Next, enjoy an authentic dining experience. From fresh seafood to hearty regional dishes, Portuguese cuisine offers a true taste of the country's cultural heritage.

**Day 7 | November 2 B-L-D**

Pinhão |  
Vega de Terrón, Spain  
Spend time soaking up the beautiful scenery while sailing from Pinhão to Vega de Terrón, an alluring



*Peso da Régua, Portugal*

riverside village in western Spain near the Portuguese border. Upon arrival, disembark for a local food tasting experience.

**Day 8 | November 3 B-L-R-D**

Vega de Terrón  
Travel by coach to the enchanting hilltop village of Castelo Rodrigo, a fortified settlement steeped in history and surrounded by ancient walls dating back to 1296. Upon arrival, set out on a guided walking tour through its narrow, cobbled streets, where time seems to stand still. Discover the village's fascinating past, from its strategic importance during medieval conflicts to its well-preserved architectural

heritage. Wander past centuries-old stone houses with red-tiled roofs and visit historic landmarks like the old cistern and medieval church.

Gather for a Farewell Reception this evening.

**Day 9 | November 4 B-L**

Vega de Terrón |  
Disembark | Salamanca |  
Madrid

Disembark and travel to Salamanca for an excursion. This vibrant city is known as a nucleus of education, culture and art, and the city's historic center is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Called Spain's "Golden City," Salamanca is



*Pinhão Railway Station, Portugal*



*Nossa Senhora dos Remédios, Lamego, Portugal*



*Nossa Senhora dos Remédios detail*

filled with historic buildings in a mix of architectural styles, many of which are made of gold-colored sandstone.

Enjoy a traditional Spanish lunch at a local restaurant.

Continue to Madrid and check into the *InterContinental Madrid*. You are then free to enjoy dinner on your own this evening and begin exploring Madrid!



*Prado Museum, Madrid, Spain*

**Day 10 | November 5** **B-R**

Madrid

Set off to explore the wonders of Madrid today. An insightful tour reveals Madrid's elegant, tree-lined boulevards; large, landscaped parks; architecture and lovely fountains. Stop in to the Prado Museum, which boasts one of the world's finest collections of European art, renowned for its superior

collection of artworks by Goya, El Greco and Rubens, among others.

Tonight, raise a toast during a Farewell Reception.

**Day 11 | November 6** **B**

Madrid | Return to Home City

Following breakfast, transfer to the airport for your return flight home.

*Note: This itinerary is subject to change due to local conditions.*

## Prime Port Wine

The Douro River Valley is famous for producing many varieties of wine and, more famously, for the distinctive fortified wine called port, which cannot be produced anywhere else in the world. This region's unique topography and geography, and the number of microclimates along the twisting Douro River, are responsible for the diverse variety of delicious grapes that can grow here...and, consequently, the number of different wines that can be produced.

Port, a local specialty loved the world over, is made of a blend of up to 40 kinds of grapes. The grapes are picked by hand (machines can't harvest as well as humans) and are usually crushed by foot (machines tend to break the seeds, releasing too much tannin and a bitter flavor). The stomping takes place in granite vats called lagares, which then drain into fermentation tanks made of cement or steel. However, the fermentation process is halted before completion by the addition of brandy (usually imported from South Africa). This stabilizes the port for long-term aging and creates a distinctive dry sweetness that truly enjoy.





*Douro River Valley*



*Tapas, Madrid, Spain*

## PRE-TOUR EXTENSION



## Lisbon, Portugal

**October 25 to 28** (Program Begins: October 26)

Experience two nights in Lisbon, the capital of Portugal. Join a guided tour to explore this multicultural metropolis with its rich history. Stroll through the city center on foot, making your way from the Bairro Alto district to the lively Rossio Square. Visit Coimbra, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its medieval architecture and historic university. Accommodations will be at the *Dom Pedro Lisboa* hotel.

**Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$1,095**

**Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$1,425**

*Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*

## INCLUDED FEATURES

- 7-night cruise along the Douro River aboard the deluxe riverboat *Porto Mirante*.
- 2-night stay in Madrid, Spain, at the deluxe *InterContinental Madrid*.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- Included Meals | 9 breakfasts, 7 lunches and 7 dinners.
- Complimentary liquor, house wine, beer, nonalcoholic beverages and minibar service throughout the cruise; complimentary house wine and beer at lunch and dinner and nonalcoholic beverages at all meals during the land program.
- Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Director accompanies you throughout the program. (1 for every 40 guests).
- Expert lecturers and local guides enrich your experience with their knowledge and insight.
- Specially arranged food and wine tastings throughout the Douro River Valley.
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- Complimentary water is available in your hotel, stateroom and on excursions.
- Our extensive pre-departure materials better prepare you for your travel experience.
- Complimentary travel mementos.



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### **GOHAGAN & COMPANY AIR | Your Air, Your Way**

*Advantages of booking your air with Gohagan include:*

- Our experts know the best flight itineraries that work with your travel program's start and end times, and they will work to find the best rates comparable to those available to the public.
- Free group transfers and luggage handling for arrivals and departures during the designated transfer window.
- 24-hour emergency support throughout the program to handle any schedule changes and unexpected delays.
- Flexibility to change or cancel reservations up to 60 days prior to departure with minimal penalties on applicable tickets.

# The Gohagan Difference – An Inclusive Luxury Experience

For your comfort and convenience, our fares are comprehensive. We offer incredible inclusions not typical of all providers.

## Included in your Rate:

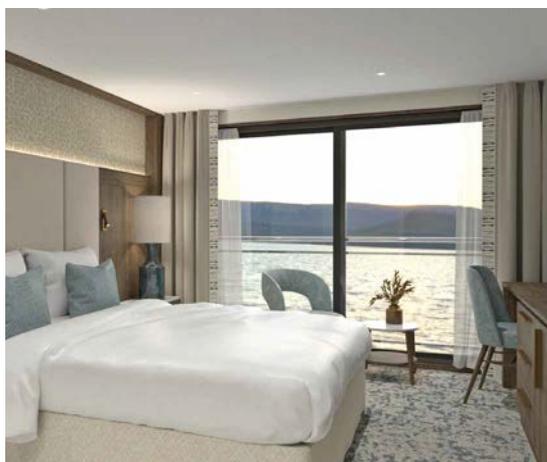
- Shore Excursions
- Wi-Fi/Internet
- Beverage Package
- Port Charges & Gratuities
- Travel Director(s)

A VALUE  
of up to  
**\$2,400**  
per person

**2026 DEPARTURE DATE** | October 27 to November 6 | Tour Begins: October 29

Category	Description	Standard Rate	Special Savings Rate*
<b>A</b>	Stateroom with two beds; French balcony; comfortable chair. 172 sq ft   Diamond Deck (Deck 3), mid & aft.	\$7,995	<b>\$6,995</b>
<b>B</b>	Stateroom with two beds; French balcony; comfortable chair. 172 sq ft   Ruby Deck (Deck 2), mid & aft.	\$7,495	<b>\$6,495</b>
<b>C</b>	Stateroom with two beds; comfortable chair. 172 sq ft   Emerald Deck (Deck 1), mid.	\$6,495	<b>\$5,495</b>

All staterooms are river-view and feature: one double or two twin beds; flat-screen TV, included mini-bar, Nespresso® machine, beauty products by RITUALS®, hairdryer, in-room safe, air conditioning, private bathroom. All rates are in U.S. dollars, per person, based on double occupancy, including taxes.



**\*The Special Savings Rate is valid if booked by 5/11/26 and paid in full at booking. These Special Savings consist of \$500 Early Booking and \$500 Pay-in-Full Savings.**

- Single supplements apply in select categories at 125% of the per person cabin fare, plus taxes, with limited availability. Single rates for all other categories are at 200%. Special Savings still apply. (Cabin fare is the standard rate less taxes.)
- Deposit amount is \$1,500 per person. Final Payment is due at least 120 days prior to departure.
- Full ship information and deck plans are available on our website at [gohagantravel.com](http://gohagantravel.com).
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**SPECIAL SAVINGS\* AVAILABLE  
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## PORTO MIRANTE

The latest addition to the Viva fleet is the Porto Mirante, which made its debut in 2024. Guests are greeted by a warm, multilingual crew that ensures a welcoming and friendly atmosphere. The riverboat offers luxurious accommodations paired with a relaxed, easygoing ambiance. Each stateroom and suite includes a flat-screen TV, complimentary minibar, RITUALS® bath products, hair dryer, safe, air conditioning and a private en-suite bathroom. Staterooms and suites on the upper and middle decks also feature elegant French balconies.

