

# **MAGICAL DOURO CRUISE (Porto – Porto)**

TOUR DAYS: 09 DAYS / 08 NIGHTS
DEPARTURE DAYS: SELECT WEDNESDAYS

USA/CANADA -PORTO- CALDAS DE AREGOS - PINHAO - BARCA D ALVA - POCINHO - REGUA - PORTO - USA/CANADA



Soak up the beauty of one of Europe's most impressive River landscapes as you sail through the Douro Valley, the world's oldest demarcated wine region!

# **TOUR SUMMARY:**

Experience the magnificent river cruise on the Douro River. The Douro Valley is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site with one of the most beautiful canyons in the world containing gorgeous, terraced vineyards that can only be truly admired from the river. Enjoy magnificent views of rocky landscapes and a region of fine wine production from the comfort of your river cruise. Start your cruise with the UNESCO World Heritage town of Porto, the birthplace of Port Wine. Next visit the sleepy town of Pinhao, situated at the scenic confluence of Douro and Pinhao Rivers, it is known for its terraced vineyards. You'll have the chance to explore Vila Real, a city rich in heritage and tradition. Sail to the quaint little villages of Barca D' Alva and Pocinho on the northern Spanish border where you will have an opportunity to visit the 16<sup>th</sup> Century Castelo Rodrigo, one of the historical parishes of Portugal. A short excursion gives you an opportunity to visit pilgrimage town of Lamego, with its impressive Cathedral and 'stairway to heaven". Cruise ends with the sail back to Porto.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Explore Porto, the Birthplace of Port Wine, a UNESCO World Heritage site
- Experience the Douro Valley, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Visit Regua, a port wine region of Portugal in production since the 18th century
- · Enjoy walking through the narrow and steep medieval streets of Castelo Rodrigo historical parish
- Discover Vila Réal and the formal gardens at the Mateus Palace near Pinhão
- Tour Lamego a charming episcopal and commercial town with its "impressive stairway to heaven"



### **TOUR PRICES:**

Departure Dates	NEW YORK	TORONTO Standard Main Deck HD	Single Supp.
	Standard Main Deck HD		
02-Jul-2025	\$4199	\$5599	\$1299
23-Jul-2025	\$3999	\$5399	\$999
05-Nov-2025	\$3499	\$4699	\$549

**TOUR LODGING INFO:** 07 Nights Accommodation + 01 Night on board flight Accommodation will be provided on a twin-sharing basis

CITIESNIGHTSRiver CruiseCruise07 NightsMS Douro Queen

### **TOUR PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

- International roundtrip airfare from various gateways
- 07 nights accommodation on Double sharing basis on a listed Superior vessel
- Full board meal plan while on board cruise
- Coffee/tea after lunch and dinner
- Welcome and farewell reception by the captain
- Onboard entertainment
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Guided tour in Pinhao and visit to a traditional Quinta
- Services of an experienced and multilingual Cruise Manager and local tour guides
- Complimentary use of Swimming Pool and Spa
- Luggage service between pier and cabin during embarkation and disembarkation
- \$300/pp Chamber Royalty or Commission
- 1 FOC in double sharing room complimentary on every 20 passengers
- All port and passenger taxes
- Passenger and Port Taxes
- All Cruise taxes and fuel surcharges

# **TOUR PACKAGE DOES NOT INCLUDE:**

- Items of personal nature, tips and gratuities
- Baggage fees may apply and vary by carrier
- Visa fees if applicable
- Items not mentioned as being included

### **EXTRA SERVICES:**

### **CABIN UPGRADES**

### 05 Nov

# Upgrade to Upper Deck Aft with balcony (OX)

Price per person in twin sharing:

Single supplement:

USD 499 per person
USD 175 per person

# Upgrade to Upper Deck Front with balcony (OV)

Price per person in twin sharing:

Single supplement:

USD 749 per person
USD 249 per person

### **Upgrade to Upper Deck with balcony (OD)**

Price per person in twin sharing: USD 899 per person



Single supplement: USD 299 per person

09 Apr & 23 Jul

Upgrade to Upper Deck Aft with balcony (OX)

Price per person in twin sharing: USD 549 per person Single supplement: USD 349 per person USD 349 per person

**Upgrade to Upper Deck Front with balcony (OV)** 

Price per person in twin sharing: USD 749 per person Single supplement: USD 499 per person

**Upgrade to Upper Deck with balcony (OD)** 

Price per person in twin sharing:

USD 899 per person
Single supplement:

USD 549 per person

<u>02 Jul</u>

Upgrade to Upper Deck Aft with balcony (OX)

Price per person in twin sharing: USD 649 per person Single supplement: USD 549 per person

**Upgrade to Upper Deck Front with balcony (OV)** 

Price per person in twin sharing: USD 799 per person Single supplement: USD 649 per person

Upgrade to Upper Deck with balcony (OD)

Price per person in twin sharing:

USD 899 per person
Single supplement:

USD 749 per person

Arrival or Departure Transfers (Min. 02 Pax)

Transfer from Porto Airport to Pier and vice versa USD 149 per way Per person

Optional Tours Package	Price
Guided tour through Porto with wine tasting in wine cellar	X
Guided tour through the tranquil town of Pinhao	X
Excursion to Castelo Rodrigo	X
Excursion to the Pilgrim city of Lamego	X
Package price per person	USD 235

# All-Inclusive Restaurant and Bar Drink Package: USD 275 per person From 9:00 until Midnight (Open Bar)

- House wine (white, rosé and red)
- Sparkling wine
- · Draft and bottled beer, non-alcoholic beer
- Cocktails and Long drinks
- Mineral Water, soft drinks, juices
- Bottled water for your cabin and excursions
- Specialty coffees (non-alcoholic)
- Hot chocolate and tea

The services can only be booked for the duration of the cruise and for all persons accommodated in the cabin. Minibar is not included and all drinks that are not listed above are posted to your onboard account.

\*This can only be booked for both guests sharing the same cabin



### **TOUR ITINERARY:**

**DAY 01 (WED): USA/CANADA - PORTO** 

Make your own way to the airport for your flight to Porto. Enjoy inflight meals and services on board. Overnight onboard flight

**DAY 02 (THU): ARRIVAL PORTO EMBARKATION**  (-/-/D)

Upon arrival at Porto airport, transfer to the pier. Check-in begins at 17:00hrs. This evening, enjoy a welcome reception with the captain and crew.

Overnight on board

DAY 03 (FRI): **PORTO – CALDAS DE AREGOS**  (B/L/D)

Spend the morning on board the cruise enjoying on-board entertainment facilities. Perhaps you can join us for a guided tour of Porto, one of the oldest European centers, it is also known as the birthplace of port wine. It is a charming riverside community with a historic center that is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You can admire beautiful bridges, baroque cathedrals, and romantic architecture that lines its narrow, cobblestone streets. Ship will sail towards Caldas De Aregos Overnight on board

### Optional Excursion: Guided Tour of Porto - Price is Part of Excursion package

A unique opportunity to admire the city of Porto, you will love the old, preserved districts of this city of immense character, classed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Porto is not only a city rich in vestiges from a glorious past, but also the young-spirited, warm capital city of a region marked by its winemaking as well as its closeness to the ocean. During the tour, visit one of the wine cellars for a wine-tasting session and get a chance to taste the most popular wines of Porto. Return to the ship in the evening to board, enjoy your evening meals on board as your ship sails towards Caldas De Aregos.

#### **DAY 04 (SAT): CALDAS DE AREGOS – PINHAO**

(B/L/D)

Your journey continues to Pinhao, a quaint little town surrounded by terraced hillsides that produce some of the best port wines, it is located on a particularly lovely bend of Douro. The sleepy little town holds little interest except for its delightful railway station which is beautifully decorated with hand-painted tiles. Perhaps enjoy a city tour of Pinhao or choose to take an excursion to Vila Real and the most beautiful Palace of Mateus.

Overnight on board

## Optional Excursion: Guided Tour of Pinhao - Price is Part of Excursion package

Enjoy a guided tour of the sleepy town of Pinhao, a town synonymous with great Port wines and magnificent Table wines. Surrounded by the terraced hillside, located at the confluence of Pinhao and Douro rivers, wineries and their competing signs dominate the scene. Although the town offers little of architectural or historical interest, it has a delightful train station adorned with blue and white tiles, along with several large, very well-preserved hand-painted panels portraying historic scenes of the surrounding area, thus giving visitors a good idea of how the Douro looked before the dams were built and the river was made navigable.

# Optional Excursion: Vila Real and Mateus Palace - Bookable only on board

Leave from Pinhão for Vila Real, where aristocrats built grand palaces during the 16th and 17th centuries. The architecture of the religious buildings is here extremely varied. Take a panoramic tour of the city by coach, followed by a tasting of the local pastry, Cristas de Galo. Then set out to explore Mateus Palace, the most beautiful and astonishing manor in all of Northern Portugal. The subtle mixture of granite, white walls and extravagance from the Age of Enlightenment such as ledges covered in statues and Baroque-style pilasters is a striking feature. Behind the manor is a delightful garden with box hedges, more statues, and a spectacular 115-foot cedar tunnel. After our tour, return to our ship in Regua or Pinhão.

#### **DAY 05 (SUN):** PINHAO – BARCA D' ALVA

(B/L/D)

This morning sail towards Barca D' Alva, a quaint Portuguese river port near the Spanish border. This tranquil town is shadowed by mountains and surrounded by miles of gorgeous countryside filled with vineyards and orchards. Known for being one of the most typical localities in Portugal, it is a region of unique landscapes and is dominated by scores of Almond trees, which when blossom, give a typical white and pink hue to the village. This tiny port is your gateway to the Quinta do Seixo, a historic port wine-making facility typical of the Douro region. Overnight on board

Optional Excursion: Excursion to Castelo Rodrigo - Price is Part of Excursion package



Explore one of the historical parishes of Portugal, with an excursion to Castelo Rodrigo, a small, fortified village perched high on a hilltop. Initially founded in 13<sup>th</sup> Century, it was renovated in 16<sup>th</sup> Century. Enjoy walking through the narrow and steep medieval streets. Among the sights is the Chafariz dos Pretos in the market square, a one-of-a-kind fountain decorated with striking black faces. In the olden days, it also stood on the route taken by the pilgrims traveling to Santiago de Compostela. Legend has it that none other than St. Francis of Assisi spent the night here on his pilgrimage to the tomb of St. James.

DAY 06 (MON): BARCA D ALVA- POCINHO (B/L/D)

Absorb the scenic surroundings of Barca D' Alva or just enjoy the onboard entertainment facilities. Perhaps you can take a same-day excursion to the Spanish University town of Salamanca or take a walk through the village to explore its hidden charms. Early evening sail towards Pocinho, a quaint little village in North of Portugal. Perhaps you can choose to take a walk through the beautiful valley, visit Coa Valley Museum or see the impressive site of Pocinho Dam.

Overnight on board

# Optional Excursion: Guided tour of Salamanca (lunch included) - Bookable only on board

Departure by coach towards Salamanca where you'll meet up with your guides. Since 1988, the Old Town of Salamanca has been listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. The classified area extends to the major part of the city as it used to be until the middle of the 20th century and is responsible for its growing popularity. We'll visit the cathedral whose successive extensions created a mixture of styles going from late Gothic to Baroque, including Renaissance. Afterwards, we'll visit one of the world's oldest Universities which first opened in 1218. You'll enjoy lunch and be free to discover the city on your own. Return on board in Vega de Teron.

DAY 07 (TUE): POCINHO – REGUA (B/L/D)

Experience the on-board entertainment and recreation facilities or just admire the beautiful coastline of Douro, as you sail to Regua, a town of ornamental carvings and tiled walls. It is the region's largest riverside town which grew into a major port-wine production region that thrives since the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It is also the place where world's first-ever demarcated region for wine production was set up. A base to explore the scenic vineyards, the town itself gives you many vantage points for jaw-dropping views of Douro Valley. Relax on board the ship, perhaps you can take an excursion to tour the city of Lamego.

Overnight on board

### Optional Excursion: Excursion tour to the city of Lamego - Price is Part of Excursion package

Enjoy a late afternoon excursion to Lamego, a charming episcopal and commercial town where you'll get to discover the Nossa Senhora dos Remedios Sanctuary. This 18th-century church stands out with its white façade dominating a baroque staircase with 686 steps ending in a shrine built in the rocaille style and adorned with azulejos. The first stone was laid on February 14th, 1750 and gave way to the construction of a massive temple overlooking the city and providing a breathtaking view over the misty mountains of the surrounding landscape. Return on board in Regua.

DAY 08 (WED): REGUA – PORTO (B/L/D)

Your magical journey along the river Douro continues with your return to Porto. Enjoy the breathtaking views along the river and get lost in these beautiful valleys, green areas, and extensive vineyards. Arrive late in the afternoon at Porto. Perhaps you can go out to explore the city of Porto on your own or remain onboard to enjoy the onboard facilities.

Overnight on board.

# Optional Excursion: Excursion tour to Guimarães — Bookable only on board

Enjoy an afternoon excursion to the Cradle of the Nation of Portugal Guimarães. Begin the tour of this university town on foot to discover its historical treasures. Get the chance to discover the Nossa Senhora de Oliveira Church (outdoors), the most important religious building in the city. The medieval heart of Guimarães is a labyrinth of lanes and picturesque plazas framed by 14th-century buildings. Continue to the Palace of the Dukes of Braganza, a medieval estate and former residence of the first Dukes of Braganza with striking architecture. The palace is closed on May 1 and Easter Day.

At the end of our visit, return on board in Porto.

DAY 09 (THU): PORTO - USA/CANADA (B/-/-)

After you have enjoyed breakfast on board, you will disembark the river cruise in Porto at 9:00 am. Transfer to the airport for your flight back home.

### **END OF OUR SERVICES**

