



## TOUR ITINERARY

RIDING  
LEVEL

2

Europe / Portugal / Algarve

# Algarve Bike Tour

Scenic Cycling on Portugal's Southern Atlantic Coast

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Ride along the Guadiana River, discovering its historical importance as the natural border between Portugal and Spain
- Enjoy a guided visit in the market town of Loulé and connect with local craftsmen
- Meet Octávio—a sustainable surfboard shaper to the pros—and learn about his specialty trade
- Have lunch on a catamaran in Ria Formosa, a protected coastal lagoon in the Algarve known for its barrier islands, salt marshes, and abundant bird life
- Spend an evening with our friends at their artisanal salt flats, where you'll cook traditional dishes seasoned with hand-harvested *fleur de sel*



## ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

### Arrival Details

- ✈ **Airport City:**  
Faro, Portugal
- 📍 **Pick-Up Location:**  
Hotel 3HB Faro
- 🕒 **Pick-Up Time:**  
9:30 am

### Departure Details

- ✈ **Airport City:**  
Faro, Portugal
- 📍 **Drop-Off Location:**  
Faro Airport
- 🕒 **Drop-Off Time:**  
9:15 am

**NOTE:** DuVine provides group transfers to and from the tour from the pick-up and drop-off locations stated on the itinerary. In the event your train, flight, or other travel falls outside the arrival or departure times or locations, you may be responsible for extra costs incurred in arranging a separate transfer.

### Emergency Assistance

For urgent assistance on your way to tour or while on tour, please always contact your guides first. You may also contact the Boston office during business hours at +1 617 776 4441 or [emergency@duvine.com](mailto:emergency@duvine.com).



# TOUR ITINERARY

## Tour By Day

DAY  
1

### Olá to the Algarve

Meet your guides in Faro, then transfer to the tranquil hilltop village of Barranco do Velho. We'll get to know each other over a cup of coffee at a local café, then get to know our bikes during a fitting and safety review. Our first ride explores inland Algarve, taking us over rolling hills, past cork oak forests, and through rural farmlands. Stop for a light lunch in Salir's picturesque town square, then ride the rest of the way to our first luxury hotel. Spend the rest of the afternoon settling into your room or squeeze in some time by the pool. This evening, we toast the week ahead with a welcome drink, followed by a fabulous farm-to-fork dinner.

**Meals:** Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations:** Barranco do Velho, Salir, Ombria

**Accomplished:** 15 miles / 24 km, elevation gain: 955 feet / 291 meters

**Longer Option:** 21 miles / 34 km, elevation gain: 1,330 feet / 405 meters

**Accommodations:** [Viceroy Ombria Algarve](#) or [Octant Vila Monte](#)

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DAY  
2

### The Artisans of Loulé

Get an early start with our morning ride to the market town of Loulé. Inhabited since the late Paleolithic period, Loulé became an important trading post for the Phoenicians and Carthaginians before the arrival of the Romans. Later, the Moors made it their stronghold until the 13th century, when it was conquered by the king of Portugal. Today, Loulé's history is on full display: our local guide João will take us on a tour of the town's medieval streets and ancient ramparts, visiting the lively indoor market and artisan handcraft producers that have gravitated to Loulé over the years. After lunch, choose to take your bike out for some extra miles or hop in the van and head back to the hotel. We'll spend the evening at one of our favorite restaurants in downtown Loulé: dinner is a showcase of local ingredients accompanied by perfect pairings from the sommelier.

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations:** Salir, Loulé

**Accomplished:** 17 miles / 28 km, elevation gain: 1,620 feet / 494 meters

**Longer Option:** 24 miles / 39 km, elevation gain: 2,193 feet / 668 meters

**Accommodations:** [Viceroy Ombria Algarve](#) or [Octant Vila Monte](#)

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## TOUR ITINERARY

DAY  
3

### Surf and Sip

Fuel up with a hearty breakfast and a steaming cup of coffee before we begin today's ride to the town of São Brás de Alportel. Portugal's legendary surfing spots have recently piqued the public interest, and our friend Octávio's trade is one of the most unique in Portugal—or anywhere. We'll visit the workshop where he custom-shapes cork and other sustainable surfboards for renowned professional surfers like Alex Botelho. After our visit with Octávio, we'll ride to the coastal town of Fuseta where, weather permitting, we'll board a catamaran and enjoy lunch within the protected wetlands of Ria Formosa. Comprised of canals, salt marshes, and barrier islands, this fascinating lagoon ecosystem has been a Natural Park since 1987. Ride or transfer to our next hotel in Tavira, a lovely riverside town known as the "Venice of the Algarve" for its Renaissance and Baroque architecture, abundance of charming churches, and impressive proximity to both the Gilão River and the beach. This evening, take a stroll through the old town, where echoes of Moorish influence linger in the architecture and narrow streets. Your guides are happy to suggest some excellent restaurants for dinner on your own.

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch

**Destinations:** São Brás de Alportel, Fuseta, Tavira

**Accomplished:** 24 miles / 40 km, elevation gain: 1,302 feet / 397 meters

**Longer Option:** 38 miles / 60 km, elevation gain: 1,785 feet / 544 meters

**Accommodations:** [Palácio de Tavira](#)

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DAY  
4

### Coasts and Rivers: Between Spain and Portugal

Today we continue biking east, following the stunning Atlantic coast towards Spain and the Guadiana River that separates the two countries. Along the way, we'll stop for lunch in the charming coastal village of Cacela Velha, a town hailed as one of Portugal's most picturesque by Condé Nast. Fill your lungs with some sea air and enjoy one of the region's most iconic views of the Ria Formosa and the Atlantic Ocean. From there, continue cycling to our next hotel, a private, 19th-century estate surrounded by orange groves. Tonight we pay a visit to our friend Jorge's family-owned salt flats, where we'll learn how delicate *fleur de sel* is harvested and participate in preparing our dinner of typical dishes of the Algarve.

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations:** Tavira, Cacela Velha

**Accomplished:** 23 miles / 38 km, elevation gain: 1,793 feet / 547 meters

**Longer Option:** 33 miles / 52 km, elevation gain: 2,803 feet / 854 meters

**Accommodations:** [Casas da Quinta de Cima](#) or [Octant Praia Verde](#)

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## TOUR ITINERARY

DAY  
5

### Cruising the Guadiana

On our final day of riding, we follow the Guadiana River upstream to the fortified town of Alcoutim. Once a haven for smugglers spiriting coffee and alcohol across the river between Spain and Portugal, Alcoutim's charming streets are steeped in history. Lunch is served in town—although the menu leans more on fresh salads and seafood than Iron Age contraband. If time allows, we'll check out the Alcoutim's 13th-century castle for striking views all the way to Spain. After, close out the week with some extra miles or shuttle straight back to the hotel. Tonight, we'll gather to toast our week together before heading to the hotel restaurant for a memorable farewell dinner.

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations:** Castro Marim, Alcoutim

**Accomplished:** 32 miles / 52 km, elevation gain: 2,120 feet / 647 meters

**Longer Option:** 48 miles / 78 km, elevation gain: 3,894 feet / 1,187 meters

**Accommodations:** [Casas da Quinta de Cima](#) or [Octant Praia Verde](#)

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DAY  
6

### Adeus, Algarve!

After a final gourmet breakfast, choose to extend your stay at our final hotel or catch a ride with your guides back to Faro for your journey home.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Destinations:** Faro

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