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TOUR ITINERARY



Europe / Portugal / Douro Valley

Douro Valley Bike Tour

Oporto and Northern Portugal's World Heritage Wine Region

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TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit UNESCO World Heritage-listed treasures including the town of Guimarães, cradle of a nation, and the Douro Valley, one of the most exceptional wine regions
- Cycle the lush valleys and verdant pastures of the Trás-Os-Montes region
- Visit a premier Douro winery for an exceptional dinner and wine pairing
- Glide down the placid waters of the Douro River on a morning boat cruise
- Stay at the most exclusive hotel properties in Portugal







Arrival Details Airport City: Oporto, Portugal Pick-Up Location: The Yeatman Hotel in Porto Pick-Up Time: 9:30 am

Departure Details

- Airport City:
 Oporto, Portugal
 - Drop-Off Location:
- Oporto Airport or Porto-Campanhã Train Station

Drop-Off Time:

 Oporto Airport (10:30 am), Porto-Campanhã Train Station (11:00 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**.



Tour By Day

PRE-TOUR

Porto Pre-Night (Optional)

Arrive in Oporto and make your way to The Yeatman, your home for the evening. Located next to the new World of Wine village, the Yeatman is a luxury wine hotel and spa with spectacular views over the UNESCO World Heritage city and the Douro River. The rest of the day is yours to explore the city. In the morning enjoy your included breakfast before your DuVine tour begins.

Inclusions: Hotel, Breakfast Accommodations: The Yeatman Hotel Price per person in double occupancy: \$350 Price in single occupancy: \$650

DAY 1

From the Coast to the Interior

Welcome to Portugal! Your guides will meet you in Oporto for a transfer to the UNESCO town of Guimarães. On a guided tour, learn about the major events that took place here in the 12th century and lead to the birth of an independent nation, as evidenced by the inscription "*Aqui nasceu Portugal*" ("Portugal was born here"), which can still be seen in the city's old wall. Then it's off to our hotel for a light lunch followed by a bike fitting and safety talk. Our first ride will take us through Vidago's verdant countryside before we return to the hotel for dinner in the Grand Ballroom restaurant.

Meals: Lunch / Dinner Destinations: Oporto, Guimarães, Vidago Accomplished: 13 miles / 21 km, elevation gain: 1,010 feet / 308 meters Longer Option: 15 miles / 24 km, elevation gain: 1,574 feet / 480 meters Accommodations: Vidago Palace Hotel

^{DAY}₂ Taking It Up a Notch to Chaves

Breakfast will power us up for today's ride to the town of Chaves, just south of the Spanish Galicia border. Pedal into the heart of Trás-Os-Montes, which translates to "Behind the Mountains"—an area that was long isolated from the rest of Portugal and still remains largely unknown to foreign visitors. With the option to hop in the van for this morning's first section, set out from our hotel for a climb shaded by century-old sycamore trees. We'll stop in the charming mountain town of Boticas, then continue past small valley hamlets and family farm plots. Descend into Chaves, once the frontline of the Portuguese defense against Spanish incursion, and enjoy lunch in the city's historic downtown. Ride or shuttle back to our hotel where the afternoon is yours to lay out by the pool or enjoy the spa. Tonight, we'll dine at a boutique winery owned by our friends Manuel and Angelina for a meal of barbecued local meats, fish, and veggies, all accompanied by wines from the estate.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner Destinations: Boticas, Chaves, Loivos, Souto Velho Accomplished: 40 miles / 65 km, elevation gain: 3,559 feet / 1,085 meters Shorter Option: 19 miles / 30 km, elevation gain: 1,092 feet / 333 meters Accommodations: Vidago Palace Hotel

DAY

3

From Behind the Mountains to the River Below

Today we ride south towards the Douro Valley and our destination in the riverside wine town of Pinhão. Whether you choose to begin pedaling from our hotel or start further out from the mineral-water village of Pedras Salgadas, the destination is the same: we'll reach the town of Vila Real and home of Casa de Mateus, recognized locally for its unusually-bottled rosé wine. After lunch, cut across the northern ridge of the upper Douro before an exhilarating descent through charming hamlets and hillsides rippled with terraced vineyards. Our final stretch brings us to the majestic Douro River and our hotel for the night, located right on its banks. This afternoon, choose to lounge by the pool or head into town to shop for wine at the local boutiques. Tonight we'll dine at our favorite historic *quinta*, a Portuguese wine estate. Our meal is paired with voluptuous red table wines and finished with the estate's own vintage Port.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Pedras Salgadas, Casa de Mateus, Pinhão **Accomplished:** 43 miles / 69 km, elevation gain: 2,755 feet / 840 meters **Longer Option:** 50 miles / 81 km, elevation gain: 3,690 feet / 1,125 meters **Accommodations: Vintage House Douro**

Let the Douro Lead the Way

This morning we step straight from our hotel grounds aboard a traditional Rabelo boat and embark on a river cruise up the Douro. Mother nature has done her part in this UNESCOprotected valley, providing an exceptional climate for ideal wine growing conditions. But the human element of engineering is impossible to ignore, with vineyards hand-carved out of the schist over hundreds of years. After lunch on dry land, it's time for an afternoon spin along the Douro's riverbank to the town of Peso da Régua and our magnificent hotel for the next two nights. This evening you're free to dine on your own; choose a trendy wine bar or a *tasquinha* (tavern restaurant) in town, depending on your mood.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch Destinations: Pinhão, Peso da Régua Accomplished: 17 miles / 27 km, elevation gain: 1,273 feet / 388 meters Longer Option: 25 miles / 41 km, elevation gain: 2,703 feet / 824 meters Accommodations: Six Senses Douro Valley

DAY 5

The Making of a King

Today's ride promises to be our most challenging—but not without its rewards (or the option to fall back on the support van). Pedal to the city of Lamego, first following the upper banks of the Douro overlooking the river below. Tackle a steep section, then turn inland for a gradual climb up sinuous vineyard-sided roads above the river valley. It was here in Lamego that the Bishop of Braga crowned the first King of Portugal, Afonso Henriques, in 1140. Pause for coffee and a light snack at a local *pastelaria* before a rewarding descent toward our lunch spot at a local family-run winery, where the flavorful menu pulls from seasonal produce and is paired with wines of the estate. Our final evening begins with an aperitif, followed by a gastronomic dinner to remember at our hotel's contemporary restaurant.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner Destinations: Lamego Accomplished: 29 miles / 47 km, elevation gain: 3,254 feet / 992 meters Longer Option: 35 miles / 57 km, elevation gain: 4,271 feet / 1,302 meters Accommodations: Six Senses Douro Valley

Obrigado for Everything, Oporto!

Our adventure has come to an end. Extend your journey a little longer with a night or two downriver in Oporto, or our guides will transfer you to the Oporto airport to continue your travels.

Meals: Breakfast Destinations: Oporto

