



## TOUR ITINERARY

Europe / Portugal / Algarve

# Algarve Bike Tour

Scenic Cycling on Portugal's Southern Atlantic Coast

RIDING  
LEVEL

2

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Ride along the Guadiana River, gaining an understanding of how this natural border between Portugal and Spain has played a key role in the region's history
- Spend an evening with our friends at their artisanal salt flats, where you'll cook traditional dishes seasoned with hand-harvested *fleur de sel*
- Enjoy a 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
- Meet Octávio—a sustainable surfboard shaper to the pros—and learn about his specialty trade
- Relax on a private beach or sip poolside cocktails while overlooking the Atlantic



# 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 our first hotel of the week. After a bike fitting and safety review, we'll set off on a loop through the pine-scented landscape of the eastern Algarve. Back at the hotel, enjoy a lunch of fresh local seafood with glorious views of the Atlantic Ocean. The afternoon is yours to spend as you wish. Follow the wooden boardwalk to hotel's bohemian beach club or lounge 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:** Praia Verde, Castro Marim

**Accomplished:** 20 miles / 32 km, elevation gain: 1,175 feet / 358 meters

**Longer Option:** 27 miles / 44 km, elevation gain: 1,925 feet / 587 meters

**Accommodations:** [Octant Praia Verde](#)

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## TOUR ITINERARY

DAY  
2

### Rivers and Salt Pans

Today's route follows 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 Alcoutim's 13th-century castle for striking views all the way to Spain. After, choose to ride some extra miles or shuttle straight back to the hotel. 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:** Castro Marim, Alcoutim

**Accomplished:** 27 miles / 43 km, elevation gain: 1,944 feet / 593 meters

**Longer Option:** 43 miles / 70 km, elevation gain: 3,529 feet / 1,076 meters

**Accommodations:** [Octant Praia Verde](#)

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DAY  
3

### The Venice of the Algarve

Fuel up with a hearty breakfast and a steaming cup of coffee before we begin today's ride to the picturesque coastal village of Cacela Velha, called one of Portugal's prettiest towns 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 westward 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. Spend the rest of the afternoon settling into your room or treat yourself to a massage. 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:** Cacela Velha, Tavira

**Accomplished:** 24 miles / 39 km, elevation gain: 1,354 feet / 413 meters

**Longer Option:** 30 miles / 49 km, elevation gain: 2,211 feet / 674 meters

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

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## TOUR ITINERARY

DAY  
4

### Cruising Ria Formosa

Today we continue biking west from Tavira along the Atlantic coast and the Ria Formosa—a fascinating lagoon ecosystem known for its rich biodiversity and significant ecological importance. Here, orange groves and cork forests are replaced by charming fishing villages, including Fuseta, where, weather permitting, we'll board a catamaran for lunch and a private cruise through Ria Formosa's protected canals, salt marshes, and barrier islands. Afterwards, ride or transfer to our final hotel, a luxurious finca-style property hidden among the olive trees. We'll spend the evening at one of our favorite restaurants in the historic market town of Loulé: dinner is a showcase of local ingredients accompanied by perfect pairings from the sommelier.

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations:** Tavira, Fuseta, Moncarapacho, Loulé

**Accomplished:** 15 miles / 24 km, elevation gain: 628 feet / 192 meters

**Longer Option:** 19 miles / 31 km, elevation gain: 1,013 feet / 309 meters

**Accommodations:** [Octant Vila Monte](#)

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DAY  
5

### Surf and Sip

This morning's ride takes us inland 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. Back on our bikes, we continue riding on spectacular country roads where we stop for a delicious picnic lunch of fresh salads, local olive oil and fruity Portuguese wine. Tonight, we'll toast our week together before heading to an elegant meal at the hotel restaurant.

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations:** São Brás de Alportel

**Accomplished:** 31 miles / 49 km, elevation gain: 1,939 feet / 591 meters

**Longer Option:** 32 miles / 51 km, elevation gain: 2,129 feet / 649 meters

**Accommodations:** [Octant Vila Monte](#)

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## TOUR ITINERARY

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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## YOUR TOUR DETAILS

### Preparing for Your Tour

#### Travel Services

DuVine can assist with extended reservations at the first and final hotels on your scheduled itinerary, or with private transfers to and from your bike tour. DuVine's travel advisor partners are happy to assist with flight reservations. If you are not already working with an agent, please request a referral from your **Tour Coordinator**.

#### Travel Protection

DuVine offers a **Travel Protection Plan** to help protect your travel investment, your belongings, and most importantly, you. The offered Travel Protection Plan is non-refundable, but it is strongly recommended in the unfortunate event that you have to cancel or leave your trip.

NOTE: Plan benefits, limits, and provisions may vary by state or jurisdiction. In order to receive full benefits, Travel Protection must be purchased within 21 days of initial tour deposit. This plan is available to citizens of the U.S. and Canada only.

#### Gratuity

Gratuities are much appreciated to thank DuVine guides for exceptional service, support, and expertise. The industry standard is for each guest to tip 10-15% (U.S. tours and Cycle + Sail tours) or 7.5-10% (all other tours) of their trip price. The recommended per-traveler amount is an appropriate gratuity for your guide team as a whole. (It is not necessary to tip this amount *per* guide.) Tips are customary at the end of your tour, and local currency is always preferred. We recommend bringing extra cash or visiting the ATM at the beginning of your trip.



#### Share Your Experience

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[@duvine](https://www.instagram.com/duvine)  
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## YOUR TOUR DETAILS

### Bikes

DuVine's top-of-the-line bikes are tuned to perfection and fit specifically to you. Our performance bikes from premier manufacturers feature light frames, smooth-rolling tires, comfortable seats, and wide gear ranges for the best ride possible. Please [see our website](#) for the exact bike models offered on tour. E-bikes are available in most destinations on a first-come, first-served basis. Electric assist provides an extra boost to your own pedal power, so you can ride longer distances, tackle tougher climbs, and maintain a faster pace. Contact your Tour Coordinator if you are interested.

### Electrical Overseas

If you're traveling abroad, you will most likely need an [adapter](#), which allows your device's plug to fit into foreign outlets. North American devices run on 110/125V electricity while the majority of the world runs on 220/240V. Converters and transformers change the voltage of electricity to match your device.

### Training

First and foremost, get out on your bike and start logging some miles. Experience with the elements and terrain will help with your comfort level (balance, unexpected conditions, etc.) on tour. Nothing compares to the real thing, but if you can't cycle outside, consider spin classes. Always remember, training is a gradual process—don't try to overdo it or push yourself when you aren't ready. However, the most important part of training is to enjoy your ride! [Download a training guide](#) based on your Tour Level.

### Travel Sustainably

DuVine is committed to sustainable travel and has been a 100% carbon neutral company since 2022. While cycling is an inherently eco-conscious mode of travel, we continuously seek ways to lessen our footprint, whether it be biodegradable water bottles or compostable gear mailers. [Read more](#) about sustainability at DuVine.



# YOUR PACKING LIST

## On The Bike

Cycling jerseys or athletic shirts  
Cycling shorts  
Cycling shoes (if you bring your own pedals)  
Sneakers (if you don't bring your own pedals)  
Cycling sunglasses  
Athletic socks  
Arm/leg warmers  
Lightweight, waterproof, wind-resistant jacket or vest  
Bike gloves  
Bike saddle/cover (if you prefer your own)

## Off The Bike

Walking shoes  
Hiking shoes (if required)  
Long + short-sleeved shirts  
Sweater/jacket for evenings  
Dinner attire (dressy casual) + dress shoes  
Swimsuit

## Travel Items\*

Travel confirmations + tickets for air, rail, etc.  
Passport, including photocopy  
Local currency  
DuVine Tour Itinerary (with meeting + departing info)  
Health insurance information  
Medications  
Cycling gear (+ pedals) if riding on Day 1

\*We recommend keeping these items in your carry-on

## Additional Items

Cell phone + charger  
Photography gear + charger  
Power/plug adapter  
Toiletries  
Sunscreen, hat, + other sun protection gear  
Insect repellent

## What We Provide

- Bike saddle
- GPS (where available)
- Flat pedals
- DuVine t-shirt and jersey
- Helmet
- Water bottle
- Snacks/nutrition
- Drawstring bag

## Order DuVine Gear

Want DuVine bike shorts to match your complimentary jersey? To order, contact [tourcoordinators@duvine.com](mailto:tourcoordinators@duvine.com). Gear is shipped free of charge to DuVine guests in the U.S. and Canada. For expedited shipping and guests outside of the U.S. and Canada, additional shipping fees will apply.

## Do I need to bring special gear?

- Cycling shorts are designed to provide extra padding when spending the whole day in the saddle. Don't forget the chamois cream!
- If you bring your own cycling shoes, you must bring your own pedals. If you've never used clip-in pedals before, we don't recommend using them on tour.
- Arm and leg warmers are essential for cooler weather. Wear them with your short-sleeve jersey and shorts for lightweight, easy-to-pack, and effective warmth.
- Bike gloves are a preference, but are recommended for Level 3 and 4 tours. The padding in gloves can ease arm, shoulder, and joint fatigue.

## Dressing for the Weather

- The location and time of year of your tour can bring all kinds of weather, from extreme heat to relentless rain. Check extended forecasts before your trip and pack accordingly.

## Before You Go

- Ensure your passport is valid for 3-6 months after return date.
- Call your bank/credit cards to notify them of upcoming travel.
- Please limit your luggage to one medium-sized suitcase and one carry-on.

## BIKE SAFETY

We strongly suggest you read these simple safety instructions and watch our [brief safety video](#). They will help you bike safely before and during your tour!

- Wear a helmet—this is mandatory on tour!
- Familiarize yourself with traffic laws and obey them. Bikes do not have the right of way, but most drivers are respectful to cyclists on the road. Always ride in the direction of traffic.
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times. Knowing what is in front of and behind you may help prevent an accident.
- Alert other riders around you by announcing the presence of traffic (“car up”) or pot holes (“pot hole”).
- When riding as a group, maintain distance between yourself and other cyclists
- Learn the hand signals to indicate when you are stopping or turning.
- Operate your bike consistently and predictably—avoiding erratic movements.
- Keep at least one hand on the handlebars at all times.
- Primarily use your rear brake.
- Always be aware of weather and road conditions and how they may affect your ability to brake.
- Never wear headphones or use speakers during rides.
- Always listen to additional instructions from your guides on tour.

If you have chosen an e-bike, be aware that it is slightly heavier, faster, and more powerful than a non-electric bike. Therefore, you should anticipate a different reaction when riding downhill, braking, or dismounting from an e-bike. Your guides can offer further instruction during your bike fitting and safety review.

