

## ITINERARY | DAY-BY-DAY



### Fun Seekers Journey of Purpose & Discover to Portugal with Edyie and Buddy Rapone

10 days / 8 nights

May 2-11, 2025

\$4,999 (Based on double occupancy)

\$1,299 (Single supplement)

Explore the delightful cities of Lisbon, Fatima, Coimbra, Caldas da Rainha, Nazaré, and Óbidos on the mainland and the beautiful Island of São Miguel, one of the nine jewels of the Azores.

**BOOK NOW 401.231.7237**

- Enjoy a guided tour of **Esteral Cathedral and Garden**, also known as **Basilica do Sagrado Coração de Jesus** (Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus), this vast neoclassical monument is one of Lisbon's most eye-catching landmarks of the 18th-century monuments.
- Visit **Óbidos**, the "Wedding City" with its cobbled alleys and whitewashed houses. Enjoy a tasting of **Ginjinha (cherry liquor)** a traditional Portuguese liqueur.
- Make a trip to **Fatima** to visit the shrine of **Our Lady of Fatima**. This Marian pilgrimage center evokes the apparitions of Our Lady to three Shepherd children Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta, in 1917.
- A full-day journey exploring the best of Sintra and Cascais Coast will have you stop to explore **Queluz Royal Palace**, the **World Heritage site of Sintra** and meandering walking visit to the town of **Cascais**.
- Explore the Alentejo region including a visit to the Wine Estate - **Herdade do Esporão** for lunch and a private walking tour in **Evora**. The cities of Elvas and Évora, listed as World Heritage by UNESCO, show the tenacity of the people evoking memories of the past and a delightful place to explore for an afternoon.
- Visit **Ponta Delgada** (Azores) for three nights for the chance to go on a food sampling tour with your private guide. Sample cheese, pastries and the most delicious pineapple grown on the islands.
- Further explorations in the region will include a site often called one of the **seven wonders of Portugal**, **Lagoa das Sete Cidades** plus visits to King Belvedere viewpoint, local pineapple plantations and the island's rural countryside. Considered to be one of the most enigmatic places in the Azores, Sete Cidades is birthplace of the saddest Azorean love story, where two broken hearts once cried to create the green and blue hues of the water.
- Enjoy a half day private tour in **Sao Miguel - Gorreana Tea Farms** and Furnas Valley.
- Time will allow to explore independently in **Terra Nostra** to enjoy the thermal waters.
- Farewell **FADO dinner show** will feature a singer and two musicians (Portuguese guitar and classical guitar) – performing the music that makes it the national song.

#### What's Included:

- 5-star accommodations throughout.
- All transportation, activities and meals noted.
- Group transfers to and from the international airport.
- Economy roundtrip flights from Boston International
- Local English-speaking guides throughout,
- Economy flight from Lisbon to Ponta Delgada.

#### Not Included:

- Personal expenses at the hotel.
- Meals not specified and alcoholic beverages.
- Tips for local driver and guides.
- Travel Insurance.
- Passport renewal or issuance.

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## ITINERARY | DAY-BY-DAY



📍 Boston, Massachusetts

### DAY 1, Friday, May 2, 2025

#### Depart for Portugal Today

Depart from Boston today on TAP Air Portugal departing at 6:15pm to Ponta Delgada, Sao Miguel Island, Azores (via Lisbon).

📍 Ponta Delgada Azores

### DAY 2, Saturday, May 3

#### Arrival in Azores

Arrive at 9:40am in **Ponta Delgada**. Upon arrival, the group will be met and transferred to your local hotel.

Drop your bags at the **5-star Grand Hotel Atlantico**. The Grand Hotel Açores Atlântico is one of the most emblematic hotels in Ponta Delgada, well-known for its prime location, close to the historic center, facing the marina and boasting exceptional Atlantic Ocean views. You will enjoy **sea view room with private balcony**. Rooms will have free Wi-Fi, a safe, AC, mini-bar, hairdryer, and toiletries as well as a bathrobe for your comfort.

Enjoy **lunch at a local restaurant** before heading out with your private guide for a **tour of Ponta Delgada, the capital of Sao Miguel Island**. Marvel at the architecture, plazas and portside views and learn all about the unique history of this beautiful island.

Visit the **local market** to sample some unique and delicious foods including cheeses, local pastries and the oh so sweet island grown pineapple.

Dinner is on your own this evening. Optional Mass.

**Overnight: 5\* Grand Hotel Atlantico. (or similar)**

**Included meals: Lunch & food tastings**

📍 Ponta Delgada, Azores

### DAY 3, Sunday, May 4

#### Sete Cidades and Ribeira Grande

After breakfast, head out on a full day tour with your local guide. Begin with a visit to a **Pineapple Plantation** to see how they are grown and cultivated and to savor the sweet taste of this island treasure.

Continue to **Lagoa das Sete Cidades**, considered one of the **7 Wonders of Portugal** and one of the most iconic lakes in the country. According to legend, the love story of Sete Cidades is about a **blue-eyed** princess who falls in love with a **green-eyed** shepherd who is betrothed to a prince from another kingdom. The princess and the shepherd meet in secret, cry together, and their tears form two lagoons that reflect the colors of their eyes. Continue explorations of these breathtaking landscapes including stops at Lagoa de Santiago and Vista do Rei (Kings viewpoint).

After a lunch stop (own expense) continue to **Ribeira Grande** the capital of the Azorean Baroque and explore this picturesque town on foot with your guide.

Return to the hotel for a welcome dinner.

**\*Welcome dinner may be switched to Day 1 depending on flight arrival times**

**Overnight: 5\* Grand Hotel Atlantico. (or similar)**

**Included meals: Breakfast, Dinner**





📍 Ponta Delgada, Azores

## DAY 4, Monday, May 5

### Day Trip to the Coast and Thermal Lakes

Today's journey begins with the beautiful seaside town of **Vila Franca do Campo**, the island's governmental town in the XV century. Enjoy a taste of the famous **Queijadas da Vila**, a traditional pastry developed by nuns during the XVI century, before making your way to **Furnas Lake**.

Furnas Lake, also known as Lagoa das Furnas in Portuguese, is a **crater lake** in the parish of Furnas on the island of São Miguel in the Azores Archipelago. The lake is surrounded by the ancient Furnas Mountain with its green rim. It is known for its mineral-rich geothermal pools.

A special lunch has been planned for you at a local restaurant to enjoy a traditional **Cozido das Furnas** (a meal cooked in sealed pots using the islands hot springs known as fumarolas).

In the afternoon visit the **Terra Nostra Botanical Garden**, which dates to **1775**, where you can relax in its thermal pools.

If time permits after enjoying the thermal pools, visit to **the Gorreana Tea Factory**, where you will learn about the island's tea industry and the tea production, still operated by 19th century machinery. Enjoy a tasting of the famous green and black tea while admiring the lush plantations and dramatic coastlines.

Return to the hotel where dinner is on your own this evening.

**Overnight: 5\* Grand Hotel Atlantico 5\* (or similar)**  
**Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch**

📍 Lisbon

## DAY 5, Tuesday, May 6

### Fly to Lisbon

After breakfast check out and head to the airport for your flight to **Lisbon**. Upon arrival you will be met by your local driver to transfer to your hotel. **5 Star VIP Grand** located between the historic and the business centres of Lisbon, the **VIP Grand Lisboa Hotel & SPA** is fully equipped for the comfort and great experience of the customers. With a total of 295 rooms, including 31 suites, the hotel offers leisure and entertainment facilities, like an outdoor swimming pool and gymnasium, as well as restaurants and a Bar.

After check in head into the center of Lisbon for a **Panoramic Tour via a traditional tram** (4pm). The old Lisbon trams are one of the most unique ways to know the city. Going up and down the seven hills of Lisbon since the late 19th century, these picturesque trams fit perfectly in all the alleys and narrow streets of the Portuguese capital. This ride allows you to absorb the atmosphere of the old neighborhoods. Enjoy a tasting of port wine and Pastéis de Nata during your exclusive ride. *Group will be divided into separate cars for comfort.*

Head to dinner at a local restaurant.

**Overnight: VIP Grand 5-star (or similar)**  
**Included Meals: Breakfast & Dinner**





## ITINERARY | DAY-BY-DAY

📍 Lisbon

### DAY 6, Wednesday, May 7

#### Day trip to Explore Fatima & Coimbra

This morning head out after breakfast to visit **Fatima**. Visit the shrine of *Our Lady of Fatima*: This Marian pilgrimage center evokes the apparitions of Our Lady to three Shepherd children Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta, which occurred in 1917 and were recognized in 1930. The site was a country ground called Cova da Iria and belonged to Lucia's parents, who later donated it to the sanctuary. It was here that the first appearance took place. The sanctuary includes the Basilica, the square of the prayers, and the chapel of the apparitions, the Church of the Holy Trinity, and the pyre where people burn candles asking for blessings.

After a local lunch enjoy a private walking tour of **Coimbra**, the capital of Beira Litoral Province dating back to Roman 400 AD period. Entering the city, you will find traces of the past at the old University. A monument should on the campus is a highlight of your visit and you cannot miss the University chapel and its Baroque library.

Next, enjoy a city tour including a visit the **Old Cathedral** (1162) one of the oldest temples in Portugal; the **New Cathedral** (1598) Jesuit Temple and former school; **Academic Quarter**, where we can see the various academic republics, private houses where students live today, and where illustrious Portuguese poets once lived. Onward see **Almedina**, gateway to the ancient Moorish walled city; **Inquisition Courtyard**, where catholic convictions made thousands of deaths through Fire to witches, Jews, and other infidels; **St. James Church**, a must-pass for all pilgrims heading to Santiago de Compostela; and finish in **Santa Cruz Church** (1131), founded by the 1st King of Portugal where he is buried next to his son.

You will have free time for shopping and tasting regional sweets.

Return to the hotel with dinner on your own.

**Overnight: VIP Grand 5-star (or similar)**

**Meals: Breakfast & Lunch**

📍 Lisbon

### DAY 7, Thursday, May 8

#### Tour to Caldas da Rainha, Nazaré, Óbidos

After breakfast today, head out to explore **Caldas da Rainha**. The town owes its name to the thermal spring that was much appreciated by Queen Dona Leonor, wife of the 15th century King Dom João I, who had the opportunity to confirm the curative properties of these waters when they cured her of a wound that for a long time had not healed, although she had tried various treatments.

**Nazaré Beach**, with its mild climate and natural beauty, has one of the most ancient traditions connected to fishing in Portugal. The long sandy half-moon-shaped beach, which is also the town's seafront, is known for its grandeur and for the brightly colored awnings that decorate the white sandy beaches, contrasting with the blue of the water.

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.

**Óbidos** is thoroughly charming small town, completely enclosed by **medieval walls** - and although much was rebuilt after the 1755 earthquake, it retains a captivating feel with its cobbled alleys and whitewashed houses. To the Portuguese, it is known as the "Wedding city" after a custom whereby the ancient kings gave the village to their queens as a wedding present. You will see a **well-preserved castle** within the walls and a maze of streets and white houses that are a delight to stroll amongst. Along with the medieval porticoes, the colorful window boxes, small squares, many fine examples of religious and civil architecture from the town's golden days provide a host of reasons for visiting. **Enjoy a tasting of Ginjinha (cherry liquor) while in Óbidos.**

Return to the hotel with dinner on your own.

**Overnight: VIP Grand 5-star (or similar)**

**Meals: Breakfast & Lunch**





📍 Lisbon

## DAY 8, Friday, May 9

### Day trip to Alentejo & Évora

After breakfast, head out to explore the **Alentejo Region**. The plains extend as far as the eye can see start close to the Tagus. While to the north, the pace is set by the green of the flatlands, further south the landscape combines with the sun, the heat, and a slower pace of life. This is the Alentejo! To the north are the pastures of the marshlands, in the vast interior is unending flatness and fields of wheat waving in the wind, and at the coast you will find wild, beautiful beaches waiting to be discovered. The landscape of the coast is hilly and rugged, with small, sheltered coves between the cliffs, many of which are ideal for surfing. You will also breathe the scents of the countryside here, the aromatic herbs that season the fish, seafood, and other regional fare to are often accompanied by the region’s excellent wines.

Lunch will be at a **local wine estate** where you will have a private tour before you dine on a gourmet meal.

This afternoon tour invites you to explore the medieval city of **Évora**, classified by UNESCO as a World Heritage City, due to its excellent preservation over the centuries. An open-air museum according to UNESCO since 1986. Its walls have been guarding the streets and buildings practically unaltered throughout the centuries. Visit the enigmatic **church of St. Francis** and its *Chapel of the Bones*.

Continue up the narrow streets of the old town reaching the **Giraldo Square** where the inquisition once had its headquarters. Visit the millennium-old Roman Temple and visit the interior of the 13th-century cathedral. In the 16th century, Évora thrived with culture and tradition in its university as much as it still does today. Finish your walking tour with the wonderful 16th-century university, once a prestigious Jesuit college.

Return to the hotel with dinner on your own.

**Overnight: VIP Grand 5-star (or similar)**

**Included meals: Breakfast & Wine Estate Lunch**

📍 Lisbon

## DAY 9, Saturday, May 10

### Day Trip to Explore Sintra & Cascais Coast

This morning head out after breakfast for a full-day journey exploring the best of Sintra and Cascais Coast. Start your explorations with a stop to see **Queluz Royal Palace**. Queluz Palace and its gardens are one of the finest examples of late 18th-century Portuguese architecture. Commissioned by Pedro III, husband of Queen Maria I (1734-1816), and used as the royal residence, this palace is one of the finest examples of late 18th-century Portuguese architecture.

Continue to the **World Heritage Site of Sintra**. A town of palaces, landscapes, culture, art, and of great romantics who passed through here. Learn about the ancient myths of Celtic bards, the Moorish legends, the passions of the Christian Reconquest, and a masonry that makes this site so unique in the world and yet so magical!

Enjoy free time to grab lunch this afternoon.

Visit **Cascais** in the afternoon. Once a small fishing village only, the town of Cascais managed to maintain its seafaring traditions combined with the aristocratic and royal presences of the late 19th and beginning of the 20th century. Walking by its animated town center you will find the cosmopolitan life side by side with the Atlantic.

Return to Lisbon for a farewell FADO dinner and show.

**Overnight: VIP Grand 5-star (or similar)**

**Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner**

📍 Lisbon

## DAY 10, Sunday, May 11

### Depart for the U.S.

*An opportunity to attend Mass will be provided for Saturday evening of Sunday morning.* Checkout and head to the airport for your flight home.

**Included meals: Breakfast**