
GEEO ITINERARY

Portugal 4/9/2023

Day 1: Lisbon Arrive at any time. We recommend arriving a day early if you have the time to better explore this world-renowned city.

Arrive at any time. We recommended arriving a day early if you have the time to better explore this world-renowned city. There are no planned activities until an evening welcome meeting. Check the notice boards or ask at reception for the exact time and location of the group meeting, typically 6:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. After the meeting, you might consider heading out for a meal in a nearby local restaurant to further get to know your tour leader and traveling companions. Please make every effort to arrive on time for this welcome meeting. If you are delayed and will arrive late, please inform us. Your tour leader will then leave you a message at the front desk informing you of where and when to meet up.

Day 2: Lisbon (B, D) Take an orientation walk. Explore Lisbon as you wish for the rest of the day. In the evening enjoy a Fado night and traditional Portuguese dinner in one of Lisbon's oldest neighborhoods.

Enjoy an orientation walk of Lisbon. The rest of the day is free for exploration. See our optional activities section further below for our suggestions on what to do with your time. If you have already explored Lisbon on the previous day, you could opt to take a day trip into the foothills of the surrounding mountains to Sintra. In the evening enjoy a Fado (Portuguese Folk Music) night and traditional Portuguese dinner in one of Lisbon's oldest neighborhoods.

Day 3: Lisbon/Coimbra (B) Travel to Batalha. Visit the historic Batalha Monastery with free time to wander the grounds. Continue to the medieval capital of Portugal, Coimbra.

Leave Lisbon behind and head north to the small hill town of Batalha. We visit the Bathala Monastery, which was built to commemorate the victory of the Portuguese over the Castilians at the battle of Aljubarrota in 1385. The elaborate, Gothic-style architecture of this UNESCO site is considered to be one of the masterpieces of the region. We then continue to the medieval capital of Portugal, Coimbra. Approximate travel time: 2 hrs by private vehicle

Day 4: Coimbra (B) Enjoy a free day to explore Coimbra. Opt to visit the famous University of Coimbra, explore the winding streets and the riverfront filled with restaurants and bars.

Enjoy a free day to explore Coimbra. Explore the winding streets and the riverfront filled with restaurants and bars. Opt to visit the famous University of Coimbra, a UNESCO World Heritage site since 2013 (and also the inspiration for Harry Potter's Hogwarts). Portugal's most prestigious university, the University of Coimbra is a must see landmark. The Joanina Library (Biblioteca Joanina) is one of the most ornate libraries in the world with it's breathtaking frescoes, intricate carvings and gold-leaf touches. Also in Coimbra you will find Conimbriga, the best preserved Roman ruins in Portugal. If you feel you have the time you can opt for a day trip to the nearby medieval town of Óbidos and/or the Templar city of Tomar.

Day 5: Coimbra/Porto (B) Continue to the historic and vibrant coastal town of Porto in the afternoon, and take an orientation walk upon arrival.

Continue to the historic and vibrant coastal town of Porto in the afternoon, and take an orientation walk upon arrival. Set aside the Douro River, Portugal's second city is one of the most interesting destinations in Europe. With its Medieval architecture, it's Dom Luis I Bridge and Art Nouveau cafes, there's something for everyone. Approximate travel time: 1.5 hrs by train

Day 6: Porto (B) Enjoy a free day in this UNESCO World Heritage city. In the evening enjoy a visit to the port wine cellars and tasting.

Enjoy a free day to explore Porto. Opt take a cruise down the Douro Valley, or explore the city which gained UNESCO World Heritage designation in 1996. Head down Allias Avenue to see the French-inspired buildings. Bargain at the Bolhão Market. Wander the city's World Heritage-listed Ribeira district, visit São Francisco church, the palatial former 19th-century stock market Palácio de Bolsa or head to the Clerigos Tower for a panoramic view of the city. We will finish off the day with a tour of the cellars of the region's famed export - Port wine. Learn about the art of Port making and the processes that render its rich taste. Indulge in a tasting and raise a glass to a day well spent. Saúde!

Day 7: Porto (B) Depart at any time.

Our trip concludes today, and you may depart Porto at any time. Want more adventure? Book two or more GEEO trips in the same year and receive a discount! GEEO will give you 10% off of the lesser value program(s) (up to 3 programs). If you don't see a program that interests you that pairs with this trip, but still would like to extend your time abroad, let us know. We will work with you to find a non-teacher trip from our tour operator's much larger catalog. Even better, if you are an educator, we can still offer you a discounted price on the trip you choose!