



and



Summer cruises, 4 nights, Porto/Barca d'Alva/Porto

Departures: Mondays 20 July, 3, 10 & 17 August 2009

Monday

Check in at Vila Nova de Gaia quay
Douro Cruiser departs to Regua
Lunch on board
Arrive Regua, free time
Dinner on board
Overnight on board at Regua

Tuesday

Breakfast service
Douro Cruiser departs to Barca d'Alva (Spanish border)
Lunch served on board
Arrive Barca d'Alva
Dinner on board
Overnight on board at Barca d'Alva

Wednesday

Breakfast service
Optional land tour to Salamanca (lunch included at 4* hotel)
Dinner on board
Flamenco show on board
Dinner on board
Overnight on board at Vega Terron (Spanish side of river)

Thursday

Breakfast service
Douro Cruiser departs to Pinhao
Lunch on board
Arrive Pinhao, free time
Depart by bus to a wine Quinta for tasting and dinner
Portuguese music show at the Quinta
Overnight on board at Pinhao

Friday

Breakfast service
Douro Cruiser departs to Porto
Lunch on board
Arrive Porto by Ribeira neighbourhood towards the mouth of the Douro
Check out

Ship : MS Douro Cruiser, 65 all outside cabins (38 on upper deck with balcony, 27 main deck with panoramic window), lift, swimming pool, bar, restaurant and gift shop

Prices

Cruise: **EUR 445.00** per person sharing double cabin on main deck

Single person supplement: **EUR 215.00**

Supplement for upper deck cabin: **EUR 39.00** per person

Optional tour to Salamanca: **EUR 70.00 per person**

Important

A minimum of 70 reservations is required for each cruise to take place. If necessary we will accept provisional bookings free of charge until confirmation, when payment of 50% deposit will be required to secure

To check availability please go to
<http://portuguese-portfolio.com/cruise.shtml>

Optional Tour to Salamanca

Salamanca is a city full of tradition in the centre of the Castilla e León region. The city was founded by Celtic-Iberian tribes on the banks of the river Tormes. Later it was occupied by the Romans and Arabs and finally reconquered by Christians in the 12th century.

During the 13th century the oldest university in the Iberian Peninsula was founded here. The city was visited by kings, princes, bishops and artists who contributed to its enrichment over the centuries. This is why people say Salamanca is a "living museum".

Our visit will take us back to olden times and remind us of the Middle Ages. But the monuments are not the only remarkable features: 40,000 students study at this cheerful, fascinating and cosmopolitan city. The walking tour with the local guide will take you to visit the New Cathedral, University, House of Shells and, of course, the beautiful "Plaza Mayor", where, once upon a time, we could watch bullfights. In 2002, Salamanca was Capital of Culture and the city has been a World Heritage site since 1988.

Full day tour (10 hours)

Highlight visits to the University and Cathedral

Schedule

0815-0845 Board the bus

0830 Depart to Salamanca

1030 Arrive Salamanca

Upon arrival your escorts will take you to the Plaza Mayor, the heart of the city, and show the way to the best shops, cafés and monuments, which you have free time to explore

1230 Lunch at a local restaurant

1400 The guides will meet us at the restaurant to start the walking tour

Our tour starts at Plaza Mayor. Built in the 18th century, the Plaza went through various changes until it acquired the appearance it has today (until mid 1900 it was a garden). From there we move on to the House of Shells, a Gothic building from 1493. It was built when two members of important families in Salamanca were married. The Shells and the Lilies decorating the walls were the symbols of each family. Nowadays it is a public library.

Our next stop is the University, which dates back to the 13th century when King Alfonso IX founded the School of Salamanca. The building we will visit is from the 16th century and houses the Escuelas Menores. You will be able to see a classroom and appreciate the baroque patio. The façade was created in a very rich Plateresque style. And before we proceed try to find the frog which is represented there.

Our last stop is the New Cathedral built between 1513 and 1733 in Gothic style. It was constructed because the population was increasing and the old one could no longer accommodate the congregation. The latter was never demolished as the people couldn't decide which building they preferred.

1600 End of the tour and free time

1700 Departure to the ship