

Lisbon Explorer - Portugal
September 28-October 5
7 nights / 8 days
Approximate Cost \$1,622 Double / \$1,999 Single

Day 1 - Santander to Palencia

Upon arrival the group will be transferred to their hotel in Palencia.

Overnight: Europa Centro Hotel, Palencia (D)

Day 2 - Arrival in Cascais

Today we make our journey through Spain and Portugal to our home for the next 5 nights, Cascais. Enjoy the scenery in route to the Atlantic coast, arriving at our hotel in time for dinner.

Overnight: Hotel Vila Gale, Cascais (B, D)

Day 3 - Lisbon

Today, we enjoy a full day step-on guided excursion to Lisbon. Set on seven hills on the banks of the River Tagus, Lisbon has been the capital of Portugal since the 13th century. It is a city famous for its majestic architecture, old wooden trams, Moorish features and more than twenty centuries of history. Following disastrous earthquakes in the 18th century, Lisbon was rebuilt by the Marquês de Pombal who created an elegant city with wide boulevards and a great riverfront and square, Praça do Comércio. Today there are distinct modern and ancient sections, combining great shopping areas with culture and sightseeing in the Old Town, built on the city's terraced hillsides.

Overnight: Hotel Vila Gale, Cascais (B, D)

Day 4 - Óbidos & Sintra

After breakfast, our guide will meet us for a full day step-on guided tour, starting with a morning visit to Óbidos. As pristine as it is picturesque, Óbidos remains a perfectly photogenic jumble of cobblestone alleyways, whitewashed churches, colorful houses and dazzling tiles all embraced within the protective walls of a 12th century castle. In the afternoon we visit the charming town of Sintra. The whole town is a UNESCO World Heritage site on account of its 19th century romantic architecture. The town still retains much of its medieval layout, with labyrinthine streets, steps and arcades.

Overnight: Hotel Vila Gale, Cascais (B, D)

Day 5 - Cascais

Today is at leisure, providing us with the perfect opportunity to explore the winding lanes and local museums or relax on one of the three beaches.

Overnight: Hotel Vila Gale, Cascais (B, D)

Day 6 - Queluz Palace & Gardens

This morning we visit Queluz Palace and Gardens, designated a National Monument in 1910. The National Palace of Queluz and its historical gardens are a remarkable example of the harmonious link between landscape and architecture. After our visit here, we return to our hotel to enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

Overnight: Hotel Vila Gale, Cascais (B, D)

Day 7 - Cascais - Salamanca

Today, we travel to our overnight hotel in Salamanca with the remainder of the day at leisure.

Overnight: Abba Hotel Fonseca, Santander (B, D)

Day 8 - Tour ends

After breakfast, the group will be transferred to Madrid Airport

Overnight: N/A (B)