

PORTO
& NORTH

 visit Porto & North
Portugal

ITINERARIES

PORTO



AWAKE TO PORTO.



When Porto and the North of Portugal invite you to awake, you can be certain you will have a good trip.

Open yourself to this itinerary and discover **the most exclusive experiences to watch, feel and appreciate** the true essence of Porto.

Get ready to make an appointment with the historic places and the numerous landscapes of Porto and the North of Portugal we have to offer you.

Fasten your seat belt and feel free to visit our home that is now also your home.

Page by page, you will also be able to find some recommendations for organised experiences and suggestions of partners so that you can enjoy a peaceful visit. Get in touch with us for a more personalised service. We guarantee completely safe experiences.

SELECT THE
NUMBER OF
DAYS OF YOUR VISIT.

1 DAY PORTO AND VILA NOVA DE GAIA

MORNING

In Porto you will find a little bit of everything, for everyone. Typical houses, picturesque streets, parks and gardens to relax, places to play and walk, and also unique tourist spots. Start with the **Historic City Centre of Porto**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1996. One of the most famous monuments is **Torre dos Clérigos** (6€), where you will have to climb 225 steps to have a 360° view of the city, and the well-known **Livraria Lello** (starting at 5€). Then head towards the **Sé Cathedral** (3€), here you can enjoy sacred art and stroll through its cloisters. Close by, be sure to visit **Church of Santa Clara** (4€), one of the best examples of Baroque-style guilt carved wood.

Close to **Praça da Ribeira** and **Infante D. Henrique Garden**, discover two of the most visited monuments in the city: **Palácio da Bolsa** (10€) and the **Church of São Francisco** (8€).

We recommend

End the morning with the privileged views of Porto and Gaia on the **6 Bridges Cruise** (starting at 14€), with a duration of 50 minutes.

More information [here](#).

NOTE: All prices shown are the general tariff and may be subject to changes.
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AFTERNOON

In the afternoon, we recommend that you cross the Douro River to **Vila Nova de Gaia**. **Cais de Gaia** is an excellent spot to take pictures, with **Luiz I Bridge** and the traditional **Rabelo Boats** as backdrop.

Close by is **Espaço Porto Cruz** (starting at 10€). It is a multimedia centre where you will get to know more about the production of Port Wine in the Douro Valley, with tastings for kids and grown-ups.

Still in the heart of the Historic Centre of Gaia, you will find the most recent attraction in this city – the **World of Wine** (starting at 14€). Here you will be delighted with the different restaurants, shops, and the central square with a privileged view of Porto. And of course, the five museums you can visit, such as the **Chocolate Museum – The Chocolate Story** (15€), and the **Cork Museum – Planet Cork** (15€).

We recommend

As an alternative, you can go on a guided 50 minutes **Tuk-Tuk** tour (starting at 13€), to discover the alleys and hidden corners of the city centre. Don't forget the beautiful view from **Serra do Pilar Viewpoint**.

More information [here](#).

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WHERE TO TASTE PORTO AND THE NORTH OF PORTUGAL?

PORTO

- O Comercial (Portuguese, Mediterranean and European cuisine)
 - Chez Lapin (Portuguese cuisine)
 - DOP (signature cuisine)
 - Raíz (Mediterranean, European and contemporary cuisine)
-

VILA NOVA DE GAIA

- Food & Friends (European, Mediterranean and international cuisine)
- Mercearia do Bernardino (European and Portuguese cuisine, with vegetarian options)
- The George- Restaurant & Terrace (European, Mediterranean, and contemporary cuisine)

WHERE TO REST IN PORTO AND THE NORTH OF PORTUGAL?

PORTO

- Sheraton Porto Hotel&SPA (Hotel ★★★★★)
 - Selina Porto Hostel (Hostel with the option of private rooms)
 - Feel Porto (Tourist Apartments)
-

VILA NOVA DE GAIA

- Holiday Inn Porto Gaia (Hotel ★★★★★)
- House of Sandeman Hostel&Suites (Hostel with the option of private rooms)
- Hotel Hilton Porto Gaia (Hotel ★★★★★)



DAY 1

PORTO AND VILA DO CONDE

MORNING

Start with a walk in downtown Porto, along **Avenida dos Aliados**, where the **City Hall** stands out, as well as many other buildings of different architectural styles.

Relatively close, you will find **São Bento Station**, a train station known for its concourse decorated with tile panels that depict different milestones in Portuguese history.

A must-see attraction is **Torre dos Clérigos** (6€), where 225 steps will lead you to the top with a 360° view of the city. And be sure to visit the famous **Livraria Lello** (starting at 5€) and immerse yourself in this magical space.

The **Church of Santa Clara** (4€), which has recently undergone a long restoration process, is considered one of the best Portuguese examples of baroque gold-lined churches and is therefore well worth a visit.

We recommend

If going up and down the hills of Porto is an obstacle to visiting the historic centre, a **Segway Tour** (starting at 49€) will be a great way to combine knowledge and accessibility. You will discover the most important points of interest in the city with a three-hour guided tour. It requires no effort on your part and has several breaks so that you can hear the best stories and legends about the city.

More information [here](#).

AFTERNOON

Dedicate the afternoon to **Vila do Conde**, approximately 30 minutes away from Porto.

Here you will find single-story houses, narrow streets and cobblestone pavements, as well as the monumental **Santa Clara Monastery** and its **Aqueduct**.

Visit **Casa de José Régio** (1.10€), the house chosen by the poet to live in after his retirement. And get lost in the **Mercado Municipal** [Municipal Market], which hosts periodic fairs such as the **Vila do Conde's Fair** (every Friday), the **Mercado Rural** [Farmer's Market] (every Saturday) and the **Feira das Velharias, Coleções e Alfarrábios** [Antiques, Collectors and Used Books Fair] (3rd Sunday of the month), as well as seasonal fairs (Easter, Christmas, Summer Market, among others).

Other places you will like are the **Mother Church of Vila do Conde** and the **Museu das Rendas de Bilros** [Bobbin Lace Museum] (1.10€), where you can watch live the production of bobbin lace.

On the riverfront of Vila do Conde you can visit an impressive replica of a **Nau Quinhentista** [16th-century ship].

We recommend

A visit to **Vila do Conde Porto Fashion Outlet**, to get to know the latest fashion trends. This is a favourite place for shopping lovers, with more than 150 brands and discounts for everyone.

More information [here](#).

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WHERE TO TASTE PORTO AND THE NORTH OF PORTUGAL?

VILA DO CONDE

- Adega Gavina (seafood, Mediterranean and European cuisine)
- O Cangalho (Portuguese, Mediterranean and European cuisine)
- Garfo Torto Restaurante Bar (sushi, Mediterranean and European cuisine)

WHERE TO REST IN PORTO AND THE NORTH OF PORTUGAL?

PORTO

- Bessa Hotel Baixa (Hotel ★★★★)
- Nice Way Hostel (Hostel with several room types)
- Hotel Infante Sagres (Hotel ★★★★★)

VILA DO CONDE

- Villa C Boutique Hotel (Hotel ★★★★)

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DAY 2

MATOSINHOS AND PORTO

MORNING

Start the day with the bustle of **Mercado de Matosinhos** [Matosinhos Market] and the smell of the sea breeze in what is the World's Best Fish Destination.

Make sure you visit the main attractions of Matosinhos – **Casa da Arquitectura** (starting at 4€), and the modern **Cruise Terminal** (5€), visits can only be made on Sundays. We recommend a walk along the **Waterfront Promenade** of Matosinhos, with the beach always by your side. Here, be sure to go to the beach, play in the sand and, if the water temperature allows it, go for a swim in the sea.

We recommend

Get to know the day-to-day life of local fishermen and the coast with a **local guide** (85€).

Experience the busy and demanding life of the fish market, discover the best fish in the market and visit a traditional Matosinhos' Fish Cannery. This guided tour (85€) includes lunch - the main course will obviously be a delicious fish.

This is an adventure with the best fish in the world that you will not want to miss.

More information [here](#).

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AFTERNOON

Following the Matosinhos waterfront towards Porto you will find **São Francisco Xavier Fort** (better known as **Castelo do Queijo**). Next to it is **Parque da Cidade** [City Park], the only urban park in Europe with a seafront and 83 hectares of greenery and lakes. Here you can also visit the **Sea Life** aquarium (10€)¹ to discover life under water, with more than 3000 marine creatures.

Last but not least, near **Avenida da Boavista** discover a unique place that mixes nature, architecture and contemporary art. **Fundação de Serralves** [Serralves Foundation] (general ticket: 20€) has established itself as one of the main cultural icons in the country with its **Museum of Contemporary Art**, building by the famous architect Álvaro Siza Vieira, and its 18 hectares **Park**, with a great diversity and magnificent harmoniously interconnected spaces, where the **TreeTop Walk**, walkways at the treetop level, stands out.

¹Promotional price at Porto Official Tourism Offices

We recommend

A **tour of contemporary architecture** (starting at 150€ per person) is a different experience that will take you to discover iconic buildings in Porto and Matosinhos. A reflection on contemporary architecture and an imperative experience of main icons, such as Casa da Música, Faculty of Architecture of Porto, Vodafone Building, Serralves Foundation, Cruise Terminal, Casa de Chá da Boa Nova, among others. All this following the rhythm of your interests and exclusively for you.

More information [here](#).

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WHERE TO TASTE PORTO AND THE NORTH OF PORTUGAL?

MATOSINHOS

- O Valentim (European and traditional cuisine)
- Restaurante Marisqueira Serpa Pinto (European, Mediterranean and seafood cuisine)
- Palato Restaurante (seafood, American Diner and Portuguese cuisine)

WHERE TO REST IN PORTO AND THE NORTH OF PORTUGAL?

PORTO

- Yotel Porto (Hotel ★★★★★)
 - Hotel América (Hotel ★★★)
 - The Brewmaster's House- Casa da Picaria (studios)
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MATOSINHOS

- Hotel Tryp Porto Exponor (Hotel ★★★★★)

DAY 1

PORTO AND MATOSINHOS

MORNING

Your tour in the *Invicta* city (undefeated city-Porto) should start with the discovery of the **Historic Centre of Porto**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Discover the churches, the typical houses, the streets and the main avenues. Listen to the street cries of traders at **Bolhão Temporary Market**, discover the soul of **Rua Santa Catarina**, **Avenida dos Aliados**, **Torre dos Clérigos** (6€), **Livraria Lello** (starting at 5€), the **Museum of Natural History and Science at the University of Porto** (5€) and the **Cathedral of Porto** (3€). Close by, be sure to visit the **Church of Santa Clara** (4€), one of the best examples of the Baroque-style art of gilded wood carving.

We recommend

With an expert local guide, visit the most iconic monuments, be dazzled with the stories of the city and discover its Mediterranean influenced cuisine. Go on a **Food tour** (60€) that will take you to grocery stores, the markets and the most typical establishments. You will have the opportunity to discover the secrets of Port wine, the flavours of Portuguese tapas and the history of Portuguese canned sardines. And best of all, the tastings are included.

More information [here](#).

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AFTERNOON

After striding down the glossy cobble stoned hills and narrow streets of this medieval historic centre, be dazzled by the view of **Cais da Ribeira**. Before crossing the famous **Luiz I Bridge** and tasting the Port wine, visit **Palácio da Bolsa** (10€), **Church of São Francisco** (8€) and **MMIPO - Museu da Misericórdia** (6€).

Then, feel free to enjoy a guided tour of the **Port Wine Cellars** (starting at 13€), where you will learn about the history and the winemaking and aging process of this traditional wine.

To end the first day in the best way, we suggest you head to **Matosinhos** to stroll along the seafront, where you will be able to discover the architecture of the **Leixões Cruise Terminal**. Relax on one of the **outdoor cafés/restaurants** on the seafront and enjoy the splendid view of the sunset.

At dinner, take advantage of what is considered the destination with the best fish in the world, in one of the typical restaurants or in the traditional **market**.

We recommend

A guided **bicycle tour** (29€) through the historic area and along the river bank up to Foz, with a duration of 3 hours

More information [here](#).

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WHERE TO TASTE PORTO AND THE NORTH OF PORTUGAL?

PORTO

- Cantinho do Avillez (signature cuisine)
 - Fish Fixe (traditional cuisine)
 - Chez Lapin (traditional cuisine)
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MATOSINHOS

- Lusíadas (Mediterranean cuisine, seafood)
- Casa de Chá da Boa Nova (signature cuisine, Michelin Star)
- Mercado Food & Drinks (Mediterranean cuisine, seafood)*

*This restaurant enables you to choose the fish that will be cooked from one of the various stalls in the Market.

WHERE TO REST IN PORTO AND THE NORTH OF PORTUGAL?

PORTO

- Villa Galé Porto Ribeira (Hotel ★★★★★)
- Selina Porto Hostel (Hostel with the option of private rooms)
- Feel Porto (Tourist Apartments)



DAY 2

AROUCA AND SANTA MARIA DA FEIRA

MORNING

Awake to nature. Drive from Porto to Arouca and drop in at **Arouca GeoPark**. Here, follow the path of **Passadiços do Paiva** [Paiva Walkways] (1€), the World Travel Awards-winning destination, recognised by UNESCO as a **Geological Heritage of Humanity**. Begin the walk at **Espiunca** and get ready for 8 km of immense open-air green over a valley. Discover the **geosites**, breathe the Northern air and rest halfway, on a **river beach** with crystal clear waters.

We recommend

A **guided tour** (85€) to discover **Passadiços do Paiva**, starting and ending at your accommodation in Porto. This experience includes a picnic lunch and a tasting of the typical local liqueur – Pinguça.

More information [here](#).

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AFTERNOON

Now that you have awoken to one of the most beautiful green areas in the region, head towards **Santa Maria da Feira** and discover one of the most typical medieval villages in Porto and the North of Portugal. Here, go up to the imposing **Santa Maria da Feira Castle** (3€) where the famous medieval journey takes place each year. Still at the city centre, visit the **Museu Convento dos Lóios** [Lóios Convent Museum] (1€) and learn more about the history and heritage of Santa Maria da Feira. At the end, breathe the pure air at **Quinta do Castelo**, a park located on the hillside of the castle. A place of great natural beauty.

We recommend

A visit to the only ornithological park in the country, the **Zoo de Lourosa** (4€). With 500 birds from 150 different species and spread over 80 habitats, this is certainly one of the places to discover.

More information [here](#).

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WHERE TO TASTE PORTO AND THE NORTH OF PORTUGAL?

AROUCA

- O Décio (traditional Portuguese cuisine)
 - Assembleia Wine Bar & Restaurant (steakhouse)
 - Zé Mota (steakhouse, European, traditional Portuguese cuisine)
-

SANTA MARIA DA FEIRA

- Norte (pub and Portuguese cuisine)
- Baco.come (traditional Portuguese and Mediterranean cuisine)
- Tábua Rasa (traditional Portuguese, Mediterranean and European cuisine)

WHERE TO REST IN PORTO AND THE NORTH OF PORTUGAL?

AROUCA

- Hotel Rural da Freita (Country Hotel ★★★)
 - Hotel São Pedro (Hotel ★★★)
 - Quintãs Farmhouses (Agritourism)
-

SANTA MARIA DA FEIRA

- Nova Cruz Hotel (Hotel ★★★★★)
- Feira Hostel & Suites (Hostel with the option of private rooms)
- Hostel da Praça (Hostel with the option of private rooms)



DAY 3

ESPINHO AND GONDOMAR

MORNING

On the third and last day, there is a windy and white-water Porto and North of Portugal to discover in **Espinho**, a small town located **15 km from Porto**. Start at the **Museu Municipal** [Municipal Museum] (starting at 1.20€), housed in an old fish cannery, where you can learn more about the ancestral technique of fishing – the *arte xávega* (beach seine net fishing).

Then go on a space mission, especially dedicated to children. **Take the family** to fly high at the **Planetarium** (4.50€), the most innovative scientific research centre in the country.

Before lunch, feel the salty wind on your face, on a walk along the *Ecovia do Litoral de Espinho*, an extension of 12 km with the sea as backdrop.

Reserve the last hours of the morning to travel towards **Gondomar**. But first make a short stop in **Miramar** and visit one of the most beautiful beaches in the area of Porto, where you will discover **Senhor da Pedra Chapel**, right on top of the sea, a place where you can take good pictures.

We recommend

Make your first sea manoeuvre in **Espinho**. Learn to surf with an instructor, in a comfortable environment. Take courage to try a 1h30 class on what is considered by experts to be one of the best beaches for surfing.

More information [here](#).

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AFTERNOON

Finish with a flourish in **Gondomar**, the capital of the Portuguese jewellery. To start, we suggest you visit **Casa Branca de Gramido** and the **Interactive Tourist Store** in Gondomar, where you can find an exhibition about the **history of Filigree**. Then, register for a **workshop at CINDOR – Centro de Formação Profissional da Indústria de Ourivesaria e Relojoaria** [Professional Training Centre for the Jewellery and Watchmaking Industry]. It will cost you 3€ and the piece you produce will be offered to you.

We recommend

A 4-hour guided tour to discover the workshops of the **Filigree Route** (250€/up to 7 persons) starting at your place of accommodation.

More information [here](#).

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WHERE TO TASTE PORTO AND THE NORTH OF PORTUGAL?

ESPINHO

- Grão de Soja (vegetarian)
 - A Cabana (traditional Portuguese cuisine and seafood)
 - Aquário Marisqueira de Espinho (traditional Portuguese cuisine and seafood)
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GONDOMAR

- Casa Velha D'Aldeia (traditional Portuguese cuisine)
- Choupal dos Melros (traditional Portuguese cuisine)
- O Bom Retiro (traditional Portuguese cuisine)

WHERE TO REST IN PORTO AND THE NORTH OF PORTUGAL?

ESPINHO

- Hotel Solverde Spa & Wellness Center (Hotel ★★★★★)
 - Hotel Apartamento Solverde (Hotel ★★★★)
 - Casa da Granja – Charming Hotel (Hotel ★★★★)
-

GONDOMAR

- Tapada de São Domingos (Country House)
- Goldnature (Rural Tourism)
- Pousada Palácio do Freixo (Pousada and National Monument)

TALK TO US

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Hi, talk to us in real time.

