



PO6 A Taste of Two Countries

A grand tour around the north western corner of the Iberian Peninsula, taking in both Portugal and north-west Spain.

From Porto the route heads north to explore Viana do Castelo, the Atlantic coast and the delightful Minho region before crossing the border to Galicia's Rias Baixas and the chance to visit Santiago de Compostela. Then it's inland to El Bierzo in the province of León, right on the Camino de Santiago, before heading south to Salamanca, Spain's oldest and grandest University city. Then, on the final leg back towards Porto, you'll discover the many delights of the Douro Valley.

In each stop you will find excellent regional wines of a very high standard as well as distinct local cultures and gastronomic treats. Full of contrasts, the only constant is the warm welcome you'll receive from the Spanish and Portuguese you meet along the way.

Itinerary Overview:

Stage	Itinerary	Nights	Location	Services	Drive Time
1	Day 1 to 3	2 nights	Porto, Porto	HOPO2 3-star Hotel 1 x Twin/Double	20mins from Porto airport
2	Day 3 to 5	2 nights	Minho Coast, Vila de Punhe	HMIN2 3-star Hotel 1 x Twin/Double	50mins from airport (car hire pick-up)
3	Day 5 to 7	2 nights	Galicia, Rias Bajas, San Amaro	HAMA1 Boutique-Hotel 1 x Twin/Double	1hr 40mins
4	Day 7 to 9	2 nights	León, El Bierzo, Villafranca del Bierzo	HVDB1 4-star Parador 1 x Twin/Double	2hrs 40mins
5	Day 9 to 11	2 nights	Salamanca Province, Salamanca	HSAL5 5-star Hotel 1 x Twin/Double	2hrs 50mins
6	Day 11 to 13	2 nights	Douro Valley, Vale de Mendiz	HDOU2 4-star Hotel 1 x Twin/Double	3hrs 20mins

Includes:

- Accommodation in our listed hotels - 2 sharing 1 std. double ensuite, B&B
- Economy 4-door car hire from leaving Porto
- Guide book to Northern Spain and Portugal
- [Personal Travel App](#) including highlights, weather forecast and restaurant suggestions for all areas en-route
- Instructions to find all accommodation

Excludes:

- Flights - but we are able to advise
- One-way car hire charges, where applicable (see your quote email)
- The following car hire extras - these can be added at pick-up point
 - extra driver
 - child seats
 - GPS
- Parking fees where applicable (mostly city stops, unless specifically included) - please ask us about parking charges
- Local tourist taxes where applicable

Stage 1

Porto



Highlights

- Ribeira, Porto's fascinating historic centre, a World Heritage site
- Cross the impressive Dom Luis I iron bridge to the Port Wine Lodges
- Visit WOW! - the World of Wine
- Art for all from finest museums to simple galleries
- Walk the lanes, sail the river, live and breathe Porto

HOPO2 3-star Hotel, Porto

[See full details](#)

Accommodation: 1 x Twin/Double, B&B



This gorgeously romantic, Baroque castle, full of character, set in its own beautiful gardens, is the perfect base to visit historic Porto.

Built in 1887 as a private house, this listed building with its imposing tower is wonderfully atmospheric and, being set on a vantage point, commands lovely views of the city.

The location is excellent - fairly near the centre (a twenty minute walk) with on site parking and the metro just a short walk away - and the manicured gardens with their stunning "azulejos" provide respite from the hustle and bustle of the city.



Main facilities	• 24 hour reception • Activity/tour booking service • Wi-Fi all areas • Spacious grounds
Room facilities	• En-suite bathroom • Air conditioning • Tea/coffee making facilities
Dining	• Breakfast only • Bars/restaurants within walking distance of the hotel
Room types	• Double, twin, (castle or garden) superior, suite, family suite • Room(s) adapted for guests with reduced mobility
Other	• On-site parking (extra charge) • No pets allowed

Stage 2

Minho Coast



Highlights

Delightful Caminha and the fortress towns of Valença, Monção and Melgaço

Historic step in the Portuguese Santiago pilgrim way

Viana do Castelo with its windswept Atlantic coastline

Graceful Ponte de Lima with its Roman bridge

Sample the Vinho Verde wine and hearty local fare

HMIN2 3-star Hotel, Vila de Punhe

[See full details](#)

Accommodation: 1 x Twin/Double, B&B



As you come up the long vine-covered cobblestone drive to this grand C17th manor house, you immediately feel a certain magic, the pull of the past...

Surrounded by vineyards and woodlands, the delightful grounds with courtyards, lawns, shrubberies, and a lovely pool area create a feeling of total relaxation and serenity. Read a good book or wander in the woods!

Its charming and enthusiastic owners, Joao and Ana, transformed the old farm buildings on the estate into cosy traditional cottages and then with flair and imagination added two more very modern minimalist properties - very chic - all blending in happily with the lush vegetation.



Main facilities	• Activity/tour booking service • Wi-Fi all areas • Spacious grounds • Swimming pool (outdoor, all year)
Room facilities	• En-suite bathroom • Air conditioning
Dining	• Breakfast only
Room types	• One and two-bedroomed cottages • Not suitable for guests with reduced mobility
Other	• On-site parking (free) • No pets allowed

Stage 3

Galicia, Rias Bajas



Highlights

- Feast on delicious shellfish, locally farmed
- Take a trip to the idyllic islands of Cies & Ons
- Lively Vigo, Europe's largest fishing port
- Cambados, at the heart of the Albariño wine region
- Get active! Watersports for all in the Rias

HAMA1 Boutique-Hotel, San Amaro

[See full details](#)

Accommodation: 1 x Twin/Double, B&B



Looking out over Albariño vineyards and rolling hills beyond, in the heart of the Salnes valley with its mild and agreeable climate in the Rias Baixas, this very special hotel, with a pool and an excellent restaurant, is a dream come true. The owners spent many years searching for the perfect location and this is it!

A harmonious blend of century old stone buildings with dynamic modern features and oriental touches, creating a feeling of tranquility and well being.

Fantastic beaches, ancient towns and cities, impressive monasteries and churches, busy resorts, wonderful river walks and bodegas galore are all within very easy reach.



Main facilities	• Activity/tour booking service • Wi-Fi all areas • Spacious grounds • Swimming pool (outdoor, all year)
Room facilities	• En-suite bathroom • Air conditioning
Dining	• Restaurant, open to the public • Bars/restaurants within walking distance of the hotel
Room types	• Double, twin, superior and superior with terrace; connecting rooms available • Room(s) adapted for guests with reduced mobility
Other	• On-site parking (free) • Pets allows by prior arrangement - please consult

Stage 4

León, El Bierzo



Highlights

Las Médulas - extraordinary red-rock landscape formed by Roman mining

El Bierzo, lost in time, steeped in history

Wines, peppers cured meats & so much more

Ponferrada with its Knights Templar castle

Historic Villafranca del Bierzo, right on the Camino

HVDB1 4-star Parador, Villafranca del Bierzo

[See full details](#)

Accommodation: 1 x Twin/Double, B&B



The Parador de Villafranca del Bierzo is one of the more modern Paradors yet enjoys a setting which is truly steeped in history - right on the Camino de Santiago in the historical capital of Galicia.

Set at the confluence of two rivers and surrounded by the vineyards and hills of El Bierzo this a location sure to please nature lovers as well as foodies and history buffs.

The Parador is also equipped with all mods cons and has two swimming pools, one outdoor and the other heated, sauna and rooms for meetings, conferences and events.



Main facilities	• Wi-Fi all areas • Swimming pool (outdoor, all year) • Swimming pool (outdoor, seasonal) • Swimming pool (indoor)
Room facilities	• En-suite bathroom • Air conditioning
Dining	• Restaurant, open to the public • Restaurant/dining room for guests only
Room types	• Double and twin rooms; Junior suites and suite. • Room(s) adapted for guests with reduced mobility
Other	• On-site parking (free) • Pets allows by prior arrangement - please consult

Stage 5

Salamanca Province



Highlights

- Salamanca - truly monumental university city
- Toro, Rueda & Sierra de Salamanca wines
- Delicious jamon from Guijuelo
- Historic Tordesillas, Toro & Zamora
- Sierra de Francia & villages of Las Batuecas

HSAL5 5-star Hotel, Salamanca

[See full details](#)

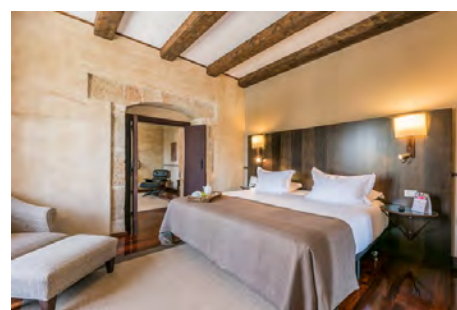
Accommodation: 1 x Twin/Double, B&B



Housed in a Dominican convent from the 16th-century this magnificent, 5-star hotel is right in the centre of Salamanca. The Plaza Mayor, Cathedrals, Old & New and all the other main sights are a short walk from the door.

The rest of the rooms are located in a four storey building with magnificent views over the rooftops to the cathedrals and cloisters.

A stylish bar and library area on a lower level of the main building gives onto the terrace and courtyard whilst the restaurant, the wine cellar and the breakfast room are located in the former refectory of the Dominican Convent, in an impressive, atmospheric wine cellar.



Main facilities	• 24 hour reception • Wi-Fi all areas • Spacious grounds • Swimming pool (outdoor, seasonal)
Room facilities	• En-suite bathroom • Air conditioning • Tea/coffee making facilities
Dining	• Restaurant, open to the public • Bars/restaurants within walking distance of the hotel
Room types	• Double, twin, single, superior, various suites • Room(s) adapted for guests with reduced mobility
Other	• On-site parking (extra charge) • Public parking nearby (pay locally) • Electric vehicle charging station • Pets allows by prior arrangement - please consult

Stage 6

Douro Valley



Highlights

- Fabulous Douro scenery - take an unforgettable boat trip
- World Heritage Douro vineyards, the World's oldest!
- Romantic Amarante on the River Tamega
- Lamego - famous stairs of Nossa Senhora dos Remedios
- Superb gastronomy in the atmospheric "adegas" taverns

HDOU2 4-star Hotel, Vale de Mendiz

[See full details](#)

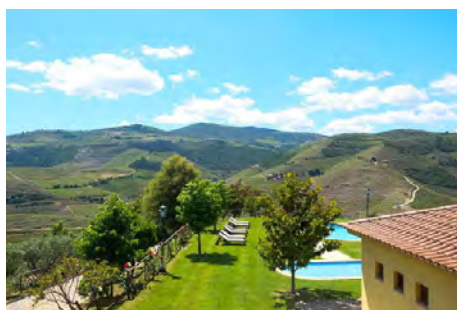
Accommodation: 1 x Twin/Double, B&B



Perched high above the Douro in the delightful Vale de Mendiz (known as the valley of gold), with the most stunning views of the surrounding hills and terraced vineyards snaking their way down the valley to Pinhao, this lovely, small rural hotel makes a perfect base for exploring the region.

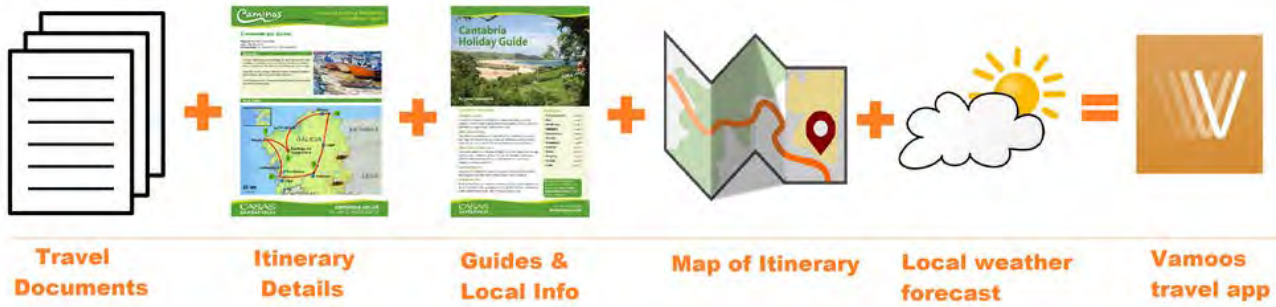
At one time the Magalhaes family home and estate, producing port since 1870, it was transformed into a hotel with all modern comforts in 2005.

In this unforgettable setting the friendly, efficient and informative staff can organise a wine tasting and tour of their vineyards and trips on foot, by bike, boat and jeep, and will ensure your stay is a special one.



Main facilities	• Activity/tour booking service • Wi-Fi all areas • Spacious grounds • Swimming pool (outdoor, all year) • Swimming pool (outdoor, seasonal)
Room facilities	• En-suite bathroom • Air conditioning
Dining	• Restaurant/dining room for guests only
Room types	• Double, twin, triple • Not suitable for guests with reduced mobility
Other	• On-site parking (free) • Pets allows by prior arrangement - please consult

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- + Point to point directions
- + Regional guides to the areas you will be visiting
- + A general food and vocab guide
- + A map with each hotel geo located
- + Directions to find each hotel (embedded within the map)
- + Local weather forecast

Also, if you have any other travel documents that you'd like to load to the application you can send them to us and we'll load them on there for you.

What our clients say...

"We loved your Vamoos app - it really enhanced our pre-holiday planning and meant we had everything at our fingertips without having to have WiFi during the trip. The detail provided was exceptional. Everyone should us

"The package included everything we needed from a superb App called Vamoos which included daily routes (offline maps), hotel details and local information to Lonely Planet Guides and ferry and hotel bookings for the tours."

"We particularly liked the Vamoos app which placed all our holiday information - and more at our fingertips"