



PO9 Secrets of Centro de Portugal

Discover the many charms of Las Beiras and Estremadura, together known as Centro de Portugal.

From the delightful Art-Nouveau seaside town of Aveiro, with its pretty gondolas, head inland to Coimbra, the country's most historic University city. From there go south to Estremadura where the awe-inspiring religious architecture of Batalha, Alcobaca and Tomar sit within striking distance of the equally impressive surf-washed Atlantic coast. Then it's onwards and very much upwards into the Serra da Estrela mountains and there beyond to the high plains of the Planalto, at the frontier with Spain, dotted with historic fortress towns. End your trip in delightful Viseu, the granite city at the heart of the Dão wine region.

Itinerary Overview:

Stage	Itinerary	Nights	Location	Services	Drive Time
1	Day 1 to 3	2 nights	Aveiro and Las Beiras, Viseu	HNBE2 4-star Hotel 1 x Twin/Double	1hr 10mins from Porto airport
2	Day 3 to 5	2 nights	Coimbra, Coimbra	HCOI3 3-star Hotel 1 x Twin/Double	1hr
3	Day 5 to 8	3 nights	Estremadura, the Monastery Towns, Batalha	HBAT1 Boutique-Hotel 1 x Twin/Double	1hr
4	Day 8 to 10	2 nights	Serra da Estrela, Manteigas	HSDE1 Boutique-Hotel 1 x Twin/Double	2hrs 30mins
5	Day 10 to 13	3 nights	Planalto and the Fortress Towns, Castelo Rodrigo	HPLA1 3-star Hotel 1 x Twin/Double	2hrs 50mins
6	Day 13 to 15	2 nights	Aveiro and Las Beiras, Viseu	HNBE5 4-star Hotel 1 x Twin/Double	2hrs 10mins

Includes:

- Accommodation in our listed hotels - 2 sharing 1 standard double ensuite, B&B
- Economy 4-door car hire
- Guide book to 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

Aveiro and Las Beiras



Highlights

- Discover Art-Nouveau Aveiro from a gondola-like 'Moliceiro'
- Sail or kayak in the estuary, go surfing in the ocean
- Gaily-painted seaside houses of Costa Nova do Prado
- Visit the Vista Alegre porcelain factory
- Playa de Barra and the wild dunes of São Jacinto

HNBE2 4-star Hotel, Viseu

[See full details](#)

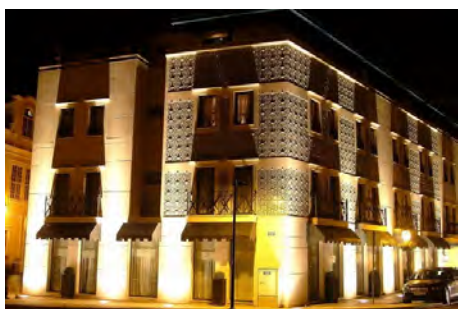
Accommodation: 1 x Twin/Double, B&B



Right on the water beside the main canal in Aveiro, this elegant, classical hotel with its modernist exterior is a fine example of the Art Nouveau architecture which is the trademark of the city of Aveiro.

The hotel's interior is charming, with a perfect balance of old and new, creating a very relaxing atmosphere.

Here you're in the very best spot of all, at the heart of the historic old town overlooking the main canal where the colourful, gondola-like 'Moliceiros' come and go. An essential part of any visit to Aveiro these boats offer the best way to discover the city's charming canals and waterways - straight from the hotel door!



Main facilities	• 24 hour reception • Activity/tour booking service • Wi-Fi all areas
Room facilities	• En-suite bathroom • Air conditioning • Tea/coffee making facilities
Dining	• Breakfast only • Bars/restaurants within walking distance of the hotel
Room types	• Standard double / twin rooms; 3 superior and 9 deluxe rooms; 3 suites with private terrace • Room(s) adapted for guests with reduced mobility
Other	• On-street parking • Public parking nearby (pay locally) • No pets allowed

Stage 2

Coimbra



Highlights

- Coimbra University - stunning buildings, views and museums
- Sé Velha, Portuguese Romanesque at its finest
- Take in a fado show - Coimbra style of course
- Jewish Quarter - especially magical by night
- Roman ruins at Conimbriga

HCOI3 3-star Hotel, Coimbra

[See full details](#)

Accommodation: 1 x Twin/Double, B&B



This three-star, family run, city hotel is ideally located in central Coimbra just a short walk from the old town, the riverside and the university.

Nearly all the rooms offer wonderful views to the city and the breakfast room and roof-top terrace have one of the best views Coimbra has to offer.

The staff are exceptionally helpful and friendly and will go out of their way to make sure you feel at home from the moment you enter and get the most out of your stay in the city.

The hotel offers free valet-parking, making your arrival even more welcoming!



Main facilities	• 24 hour reception • 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	• Standard double / twin rooms; Superior rooms on upper floors (recommended) balcony and view; family rooms • Room(s) adapted for guests with reduced mobility
Other	• Garage parking (free) • On-street parking • Electric vehicle charging station • Pets allows by prior arrangement - please consult

Stage 3

Estremadura, the Monastery Towns



Highlights

- The magnificent monasteries of Batalha and Alcobaça
- São Martinho do Porto a little pearl set on a string of surf washed Atlantic beaches
- The Convent at Tomar, delightful city of the Templars
- Sierras de Aire y Candeeiros Nature Park - riddled with caves
- Medieval Óbidos with its famous white houses

HBAT1 Boutique-Hotel, Batalha

[See full details](#)

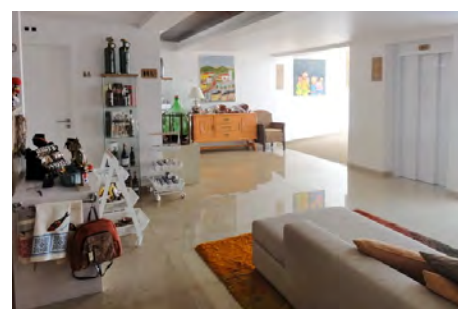
Accommodation: 1 x Twin/Double, B&B



Set in a residential area above the town of Batalha, with its astonishingly beautiful C14th Monastery of Santa Maria da Vitoria, this delightful, family run hotel will embrace you at once with its informal and relaxing atmosphere.

The hotel is light, bright and colourful with a modern, elegant design and the owner's original paintings and objects d'art adding a very special touch. The bedrooms are commodious, most having balconies and some offering spectacular views of the monastery. Not only is the owner an artist, but the she also produces all the homemade jams and honey served at breakfast!

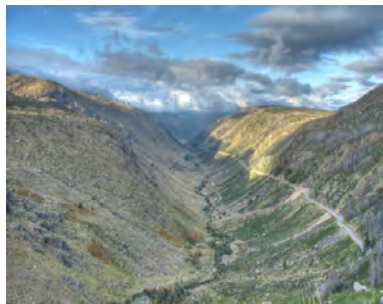
Please note: Outdoor pool seasonal depending on weather conditions.



Main facilities	• Wi-Fi all areas • Swimming pool (outdoor, seasonal) • Swimming pool (indoor)
Room facilities	• En-suite bathroom • Air conditioning • Tea/coffee making facilities
Dining	• Breakfast only • Bars/restaurants within walking distance of the hotel
Room types	• Doubles and twins (some superior with balcony and view); triples and singles; adjoining rooms • Room(s) adapted for guests with reduced mobility
Other	• On-site parking (free) • On-street parking • No pets allowed

Stage 4

Serra da Estrela



Highlights

Walking, cycling, kayaking and much more in the Serra da Estrela Nature Park

Visit the Burel Wool factory in Manteigas

Scale the Torre peak - Portugal's highest

Manteigas and Sabugueiro - charming mountain villages

Rich Jewish heritage and historic castle of Belmonte

HSDE1 Boutique-Hotel, Manteigas

[See full details](#)

Accommodation: 1 x Twin/Double, B&B



A breath of fresh, mountain air, this delightful small hotel-spa at the heart of the Serra da Estrela is full of surprises and is everything a mountain lodge should be, and more.

Direct from the hotel you can enjoy lovely walks through the boulder-strewn sierra to the lake at Rossin, for which full instructions and a picnic can be provided of course, even a kayak to take out on the lake.

At the very centre of the Serra da Estrela it's a practical base to visit the mountains of course, with its highest point at Torre (2000m), as well as the historic towns and villages below; Belmonte, Sabugal, ... if you ever do venture out!



Main facilities	• Activity/tour booking service • Wi-Fi all areas • Swimming pool (indoor)
Room facilities	• En-suite bathroom • Air conditioning
Dining	• Restaurant, open to the public
Room types	• Standard, suites and superior rooms. • Room(s) adapted for guests with reduced mobility
Other	• On-site parking (free) • Electric vehicle charging station • No pets allowed

Stage 5

Planalto and the Fortress Towns



Highlights

- Fortress towns - Trancoso, Almeida, Castelo Rodrigo
- Paleolithic rock-art in the Côa Valley 22000 years old!
- Local wine and olive oil of the Beira Alta
- Faia Brava nature reserve; wild horses and large birds of prey
- Jump the border to Ciudad Rodrigo and Salamanca

HPLA1 3-star Hotel, Castelo Rodrigo

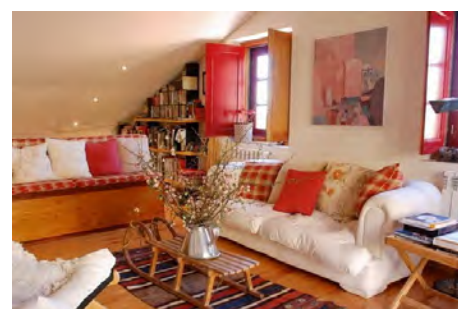
[See full details](#)

Accommodation: 1 x Twin/Double, B&B



In a privileged position in the tiny walled village of Castelo Rodrigo, with the eponymous castle looming large, this delightful guest house is a treasure and makes the perfect base from which to discover the historic fortress towns of the Planalto, once Portugal's first line of defence against the Castilian and the Moor.

The guest-house is housed in three buildings, each lovingly restored and decorated with great taste and each with its own lounge area. The upper house houses the main dining room with a sunny terrace which leads down to the garden with swimming pool, all of which command wonderful views over the surrounding countryside.



Main facilities	• Activity/tour booking service • Wi-Fi all areas • Swimming pool (outdoor, seasonal)
Room facilities	• En-suite bathroom • Air conditioning • Tea/coffee making facilities
Dining	• Restaurant/dining room for guests only • Bars/restaurants within walking distance of the hotel
Room types	• Standard double / twin rooms, superior rooms bird series and tree series with modern decor (recommended) ; one suite; 2/3-bedroom villa • Not suitable for guests with reduced mobility
Other	• On-site parking (free) • On-street parking • Electric vehicle charging station • Pets allows by prior arrangement - please consult

Stage 6

Aveiro and Las Beiras



Highlights

- Discover Art-Nouveau Aveiro from a gondola-like 'Moliceiro'
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- Visit the Vista Alegre porcelain factory
- Playa de Barra and the wild dunes of São Jacinto

HNBE5 4-star Hotel, Viseu

[See full details](#)

Accommodation: 1 x Twin/Double, B&B



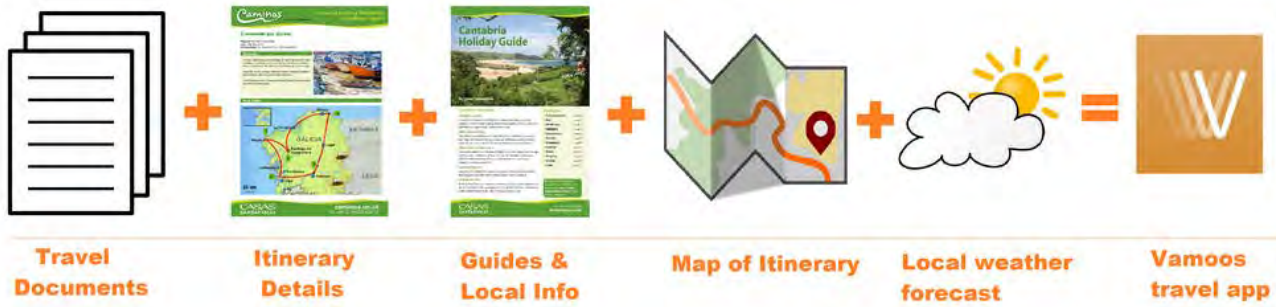
Situated right in the heart of Viseu old town, in a building of great architectural and historical-cultural value, this charming hotel is part of one of the seven doors of the old Afonsina city walls, Porta de Soar de Cima. It was opened in 2007 and has been completely refurbished with modern facilities while maintaining its original facade.

Straight from the door you have all the main sights of Viseu; the Cathedral, the Grao Vasco Museum, the Roman walls. The Jewish Quarter and the Old Town are a pleasure just to wander around and offer plenty of shopping and fine eateries.



Main facilities	• 24 hour reception • Wi-Fi all areas
Room facilities	• En-suite bathroom • Air conditioning
Dining	• Restaurant, open to the public
Room types	• Single, Double or Twin, Superior. • Room(s) adapted for guests with reduced mobility
Other	• On-street parking • Public parking nearby (pay locally) • No pets allowed

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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.

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"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."

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