

HeartCycle Bicycle Touring Club JEWELS OF PORTUGAL 2022

- Dates:** Arrival strongly suggested for Saturday, May 7, 2022, or earlier. Tour commences Sunday, May 8, and runs through Friday, May 20, 2022
- Leaders:** Janet Slate (coordinator); **SAGs:** two experienced and knowledgeable guides provided by touring company along with air-conditioned support vans
- Miles:** Approximately 332 miles (average 42 mi/day) with ~21,000 vertical feet of climbing in 8 days of riding (that's an average of ~2,600 ft/day)
- Rating:** Intermediate-Advanced
- Riders:** 18 (includes tour coordinator)
- Price:** \$5,200 double occupancy if 12-18 riders (or \$5,550 if 8-11 riders). Deposit \$800 at registration. Balance due by March 8, 2022. Single supplement: +\$825 (only have three singles available due to small hotel size in one of the towns).
- Cancellation:** Before December 9, 2021, \$75 fee; December 10, 2021–February 8, 2022, 50% of deposit; after February 8, 2022, no refunds. *Travel insurance is strongly advised.*



OVERVIEW

A 13-day fully supported and guided tour, this tour consists of 8 riding days, 3 free (non-cycling) days, and 2 travel days. The 332-mile route is through central Portugal, starting in Évora, cycling north, west, then south, ending in Óbidos.

We have contracted with a local touring company who has the expertise to show us the “jewels” of Portugal. Personal accident insurance and liability insurance are provided by tour company. Travel to Lisbon to commence the tour; transportation to and from the airport or pickup at your Lisbon hotel is included.

Bicycles are included in the price of the tour. Choices are as follows:

- CUBE Attain GTC SLT Disc Carbon road bike (with Shimano Ultegra components, [CUBE Bikes](#)),
- Scott Sportster hybrid bicycle ([Scott hybrid bicycles](#)), or
- Bosch e-bike (extra 360 Euro fee) ([Hybrid eBike powered by Bosch eBike](#)).

The touring company includes a jersey and water bottles too.

The route enables us to experience the landscape and culture, cycling on low traffic roads, and visiting places of historic interest. Some of the sites we visit can only be done through a guide service.

The tour includes 12 breakfasts, 9 dinners and 1 lunch including wines, cheeses and desserts, and daily energy bars, nuts, fruits, and water. Lunch is at your own expense, although the guides will take us to cafes en route.



ITINERARY

Sunday, May 8 (Day 1). The touring company will meet us at a selected location in Lisbon and/or the Lisbon airport for a 1-hr, 30-min drive from Lisbon to Évora, the capital of Portugal's south-central Alentejo region, where they will give us a briefing about the tour. Lodging for 2 nights will be in a modern 5-star hotel located inside the city walls: [M'AR De AR Aqueduto - Historic Design Hotel & Spa](#)



Monday, May 9 (Day 2). Free day to explore Évora, a UNESCO World Heritage site. [Évora](#)

Tuesday, May 10 (Day 3). 41 miles, 2170 ft of elevation gain. Cycle through a cork-oak forest and vineyards. Tour a cork processing plant. Demonstration at a small pottery factory in Redondo. Lodging in a convent built in 1182 with impressive collection of 18th century Portuguese tile mosaics and converted to 4-star hotel: [Hotel Convento de São Paulo](#)

Wednesday, May 11 (Day 4). 29 miles, 2200 ft of elevation gain. Cycle the marble and wine region of Alentejo; visit Joao Portugal Winery and tour a marble mine. Lodging in Vila Vicosa, the “capital of marble,” in a 5-star hotel: [Alentejo Marmòris Hotel & Spa](#)

Thursday, May 12 (Day 5). 52 miles, 3410 ft of elevation gain. Cycle past farms and vineyards, through small villages. Lodging in a 14th century monastery converted to a luxury hotel: [Hotel Pousada Mosteiro do Crato](#)

Friday, May 13 (Day 6). 37 miles, 3220 ft of elevation gain. Cycle to a medieval small town near the Spanish border. Lodging in an 18th century manor house, designated a national monument: [Casa Amarela](#)

Saturday, May 14 (Day 7). Non-cycling day to visit Marvão, the highest medieval village in Portugal and its castle, where the border was defended from Spanish invaders. Visit [Roman ruins at Ammaia](#)



Sunday, May 15 (Day 8). 64 miles, 3770 ft of elevation gain. The longest day of the tour is through rolling countryside. Lodging in a 4-star hotel in a rural area: [Hotel Segredos de Vale Manso](#)

Monday, May 16 (Day 9). 42 miles, 2920 ft of elevation gain. Cycle through Fatima, a destination for pilgrimages, visited by several popes. Visit a limestone cave. Lodging for 2 nights will be in a 4-star hotel located close to the monastery in Batalha: [Hotel Lis Batalha](#)

Tuesday, May 17 (Day 10). Free day to visit a 14th century monastery and museums in Batalha. [Batalha Monastery](#)

Wednesday, May 18 (Day 11). 35 miles, 1350 ft of elevation gain. Cycle to the coast to a typical fishing village and a surfing destination. The Monastery of Alcobaça, built in the 12th century, is another UNESCO World Heritage site. Lodging in a 4-star hotel located close to the historical town of Alcobaça: [Your Hotel & Spa Alcobaça](#)

Thursday, May 19 (Day 12). 32 miles, 2030 ft of elevation gain. Cycling toward and along the coast with views of the ocean and beaches to one of Portugal's best-preserved medieval towns, Óbidos. Lodging in a 4-star hotel near the historic center: [Josefa d'Óbidos](#)

Friday, May 20 (Day 13). Depart after breakfast for the 1-hr, 15-min drive to Lisbon airport. Option to stay in Lisbon to do more exploring on your own and visit other parts of Portugal.

TOUR COORDINATOR

For questions contact:

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