

#### Jewish Roots in Portugal 10 days – 9 nights Self Drive Tour Lisbon, Tomar, Coimbra, Oporto, Lamego, Viseu, Trancoso, Belmonte, Castelo Branco, Castelo de Vide, Evora Heritage, Culture, History, Discovery, Fun

## Day 1: Lisbon

Arrival at Lisbon airport and private transfer to the hotel. Check-in. Rest of the day free. Overnight in Lisbon.

#### Day 2: Lisbon

Breakfast at the hotel. Pick-up at the hotel and transfer to the car rental office to pick-up your car. We suggest a tour of Lisbon to find all about the Jewish legacy in the Portuguese capital. It is known that until 1496 there were three Jewish Quarters in Lisbon. Besides strolling through Alfama, we will visit the church of São Domingo, in Rossio, in Largo de S. Domingos, where the Jewish Massacre of Lisbon took place in 1506. In the afternoon drive towards the district of Belém, where were built the monuments alluding to the time of the Maritime Discoveries in the 15th and 16th centuries. Stop at the Belém Tower (classified as World Heritage by UNESCO), the 15th century fortress and departure point of caravels, and at the Discoveries Monument to mark the 500th anniversary of the death of Henry the Navigator. Then visit the Monastery of Jeronimos (classified as World Heritage by UNESCO), a masterpiece of Manueline architecture. Overnight in Lisbon. [B]

## Day 3: Lisbon, Tomar, Coimbra

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. Set off to Tomar to visit the Synagogue and Luso-Hebrew Museum of Abraham Zacuto. A very rare example of a medieval Jewish temple and of pre-Renaissance Portuguese art, the Tomar Synagogue is the only one of its kind from this period to have been fully preserved in Portugal. Before leaving, it is mandatory to visit the Templar's Castle and the Convent of Christ in Tomar, a unique monument in the history of the western world, awarded the classification of world heritage by UNESCO. Built on a site that was originally used for Roman worship, this vast monumental complex illustrates seven centuries of Portugal's history and contains several important mementoes of decisive moments in the history of the western world. In the afternoon continue to Coimbra to check-in at the hotel. Overnight in Coimbra. [B]

#### Day 4: Coimbra, Oporto

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. On the banks of the Mondego River, Coimbra is famous for its University, the oldest in Portugal and one of the oldest in Europe, which over time has shaped its image to become "the city of students". In the Middle Age, the city housed three Jewish quarters (we suggest reading http://www.centerofportugal.com/jewish-coimbra/). Stroll around the old part of the city (we suggest walking the cobble stone streets going from the university to the 12 c. cathedral known as Sé Velha and continuing down exiting to the "baixa' or lower city through the Almedina door). Then, heading to Oporto for check-in at the hotel. Overnight in Oporto. [B]

#### Day 5: Oporto

After breakfast at the hotel discover the Jewish Oporto and walk along the streets where a community was born and developed, a community that is supposed to have appeared just before the foundation of Portugal. The Jewish quarter of the city was situated deep in the heart of the village, which, in the 12th century, was located near the Cathedral, in the area that is today defined by the ruins of the Convent of Monchique, by the Torre dos Clérigos, Sé, Alfândega do Porto and the square and tunnel of Ribeira – and where some Jewish altars still survive in private estates. Walk towards the area of Palácio da Bolsa and the old Mercado Ferreira Borges. This is where another Jewish quarter once stood, with a synagogue in its center, in what is today known as Rua do Comércio do Porto. In the Boavista area, the hub of Jewish life in the 17th and 18th centuries, visitors can see the Kadoorie synagogue, the largest synagogue in the Iberian Peninsula and Jewish temple built between 1929 and 1937. In the afternoon, you will take a 50-minute cruise through the Douro before heading back to the hotel. Overnight in Oporto. [B]

# Day 6: Oporto, Lamego, Viseu

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. Departure to Lamego. From the 15th century on, Lamego had two



Jewries: the old Jewry near the Porta do Sol and the new Jewry next to the Church of Santa Maria de Almacave. They occupied Rua Nova, Rua da Seara, Rua da Cruz and Rua da Fonte Velha, amongst others. In Rua Nova, the inscription on the right-hand side of the pointed arch doorway indicates that it could have been a synagogue, despite the present day Christian symbols. In the afternoon continue towards Viseu, an ancient city, built of grey stone but at the same time green, lively and welcoming, Viseu was considered the best of Portugal in the quality of life ranking. In this region Aristides de Sousa Mendes was born, a Portuguese diplomat who has saved 30,000 lives from the Holocaust when he was in Bordeaux, France, as a Portuguese consul. Check-in at the hotel. Overnight in Viseu. [B]

# Day 7: Viseu, Trancoso, Belmonte, Castelo Branco

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. Departure towards the medieval town of Trancoso, strongly marked by an ancestral Jewish presence. The town's historic center, surrounded by walls, allows us to discover the façades of old houses, where regular granite stones follow the sinuous outline of the streets, kept since the middle ages. We will visit to the Isaac Cardoso Jewish Culture Interpretation Centre. Founded in 2012, the goal of this space, where the modern Beit Mayim (the Well of Living Water) Synagogue stands out, is to be a place for culture and debate by teaching about the ancient legacy that Beira's Jewish communities have left behind. Then leave to Belmonte, which is, perhaps, the Portuguese town with the strongest Jewish presence and it stands out because it was a unique case, within the Iberian Peninsula, where Hebrew culture and tradition have lasted since the early 16th century until today. Visit the Jewish Museum, the first museum that portrays the History of Jewish people in Portugal, as well as its integration in the society and the decisive role it played in Portuguese culture, art, literature and trade. End the day in Castelo Branco, city that became a refuge to a large community of New Christians (Marranos) when the Jews were expelled or forced to convert by the Inquisition. Check-in at the hotel. Overnight in Castelo Branco. [B]

**Day 8: Castelo Branco, Castelo de Vide, Evora** Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. Before heading

to the Alentejo region, visit the Garden of the Bishop's Palace in Castelo Branco, one of the most original examples of the Baroque in Portugal. Castelo de Vide is a mediaeval charming town with white houses also known for its Jewish quarter. After some time to visit the city continue to Évora, standing in the middle of the beautiful plains of Alentejo, a walled city declared World Heritage by UNESCO. Visit the Roman Temple, dating back to the 3rd century AD and recovered in the 19th century, and the strange Chapel of Bones, built in the 16th century, with its pillars and walls covered by bones. Check-in at the hotel. Overnight in Évora. [B]

# Day 9: Evora, Lisbon

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. Return to Lisbon and check-in at the hotel. Take advantage of this lat evening to visit a Fado House for dinner and listen to popular songs. Overnight in Lisbon. [B]

# Day 10: Lisbon

Breakfast at the hotel and checkout in time to drop-off the car at Lisbon airport and board your flight back home. [B]

[B] = Breakfast

Note: Most monuments are closed on Mondays and on national holidays.





## Portugal 2018

## Your Tour includes:

- Private transfer from Lisbon airport to the hotel
- Private transfer from the hotel to rental agency
- 9 nights accommodation:
  - Lisbon 3 nights
  - ∘ Coimbra 1 night
  - Oporto 2 nights
  - $\circ$  Viseu 1 night
  - Castelo Branco 1 night
  - o Evora 1 night
- 8-day car rental including:
  - Car Category C (Opel Astra or similar)
  - o Unlimited Mileage
  - CDW (Collision Damage Waiver)
  - TP (Theft Protection)
  - VLF (Vehicle License Fee)
  - ASC (Airport Service Charge)
  - AD (Additional Driver)
  - ∘ Tax.

# Hotels in your Tour:

City	Hotel Name	Tripadvisor		
		F		
Lisbon	Mundial	5		
Coimbra	Vila Galé Coimbra	4		
Oporto	Vila Galé Oporto	4		
Viseu	Príncipe Perfeito	3.5		
Castelo Branco	Tryp Colina do Castelo	4		
Évora	M'Ar de Ar Muralhas	4.5		
Hotels will be confirmed at time of booking				

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#### **Tour Prices:**

Season	2 Pax	4 Pax	Single Sup.	Dinner Sup.
Jan-Mar	\$1,685	\$1,165		
Apr-Jun	\$1,869	\$1,265	\$549	\$289
Jul-Oct	\$1,975	\$1,319		

In the periods below the rates applied are those from July to October:

• March 29th to April 1st, 2018;

• May 10th to 13th, 2018 (if overnight in Lisbon).

The supplement in half board basis does not include drinks.

Tour Code: PT04LIS18OT

- Private full day tour in Lisbon
- Private full day tour in Oporto
- Official English-speaking guide for tours
- 50-minutes cruise in the Douro River
- Entrance fee to Monastery of Jerónimos in Lisbon
- Hotel taxes

## Tour does not include:

- · International or domestic airfares
- · Any taxes relates to airfares or airports
- Meals not mentioned under inclusions
- Travel insurance
- Tips to guides or drivers
- Expenses of a personal nature
- Any item not mentioned as "Included"
- City Tax at Lisbon (1 Euro per person, night)
- Other Services not mentioned