WineNot Boutique Tour

Sip, Savor, and Soak Up the Sun in Portugal: From Lisbon to Algarve

October 10-17th, 2026

Join WineNot Boutique for a unique journey through Portugal, where vibrant cities, sun-drenched coasts, and rich culinary traditions come together in perfect harmony. From the soulful charm of Lisbon to the golden beaches of the Algarve, this 8-day experience blends history, gastronomy, and natural beauty. Discover Moorish castles and colorful markets, cruise along limestone cliffs, and learn to cook authentic Cataplana. Savor local wines and olive oils at boutique estates, craft your own blend in Comporta, and indulge in fresh seafood on a desert island. Enjoy hands-on experiences, luxurious stays, and unforgettable flavors—all curated with care and passion. This is not just a trip—it's a celebration of Portugal's timeless spirit and your love for food, wine, and connection.

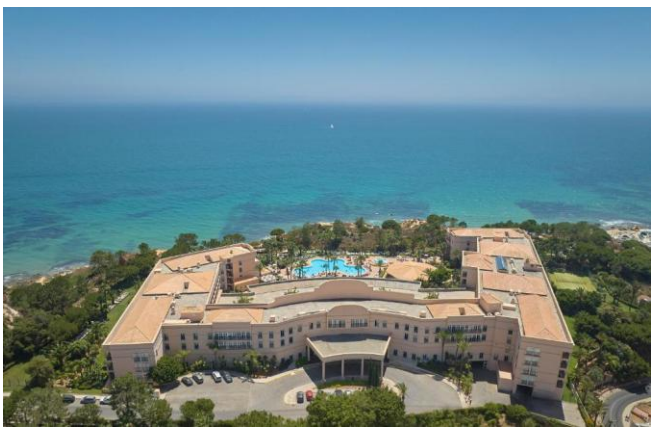
Day 1: Saturday
Arrival in Lisbon – Welcome to Portugal's Capital of Light!

Upon arrival in Lisbon, your guide will welcome you at the airport and accompany you to the modern and scenic **Parque das Nações** district for a memorable first lunch.

We'll dine at **Cantinho do Avillez**, a relaxed bistro by **José Avillez**, one of Portugal's most renowned chefs. Known for his two-Michelin-starred Belcanto, Avillez has shaped modern Portuguese cuisine with his creative flair and deep respect for tradition. At Cantinho, enjoy soulful yet inventive dishes in a stylish riverside setting, complete with garden and water views—an inviting start to your culinary adventure.

After lunch, we journey south to the golden coast of Algarve. Check in at the brand-new **PortoBay Blue Ocean**, a 5-star retreat perched above the iconic Falésia Beach. Scheduled to open in 2025, this elegant resort promises serene ocean views, direct beach access, lush gardens, and stylish rooms with private balconies. With an inviting spa, indoor-outdoor pools, and gourmet dining, it sets the perfect tone for our week of relaxation and discovery.

This evening, gather for a delicious buffet dinner at the hotel, followed by time to unwind and take in the sea breeze.



Day 2: Sunday
Silves & the Flavors of the Algarve Countryside

After breakfast at the hotel, we journey inland to **Silves**, the ancient capital of the Algarve and one of the region's most charming historic towns. Nestled on a hilltop overlooking the **Arade River**, Silves was once a flourishing Moorish city, rivaling Lisbon in its importance. Its red sandstone **castle**, winding cobbled streets, and peaceful orange groves offer a glimpse into Portugal's layered past—where Roman ruins and Islamic architecture still echo through time.

Our afternoon unfolds at **Morgado do Quintão**, a family-owned organic estate hidden in the Algarve's serene countryside, where the **Monchique mountains meet the Atlantic breeze**. Set among ancient olive trees and sun-drenched vineyards, this estate is dedicated to reviving native grape varieties and traditional winemaking practices. Enjoy a guided tour of the vineyard and cellar, followed by a leisurely **lunch under the canopy of century-old trees**, paired with a selection of the estate's elegant, low-intervention wines.

After this sensory journey through the flavors of the land, we return to the hotel for an evening at leisure—perfect for a sunset walk along **Falésia Beach** or a relaxing spa visit.

Day 3: Monday
Lagos Market Flavors, Cataplana Workshop & Coastal Wonders

After breakfast, we journey to **Lagos**, one of the Algarve's most enchanting towns. Steeped in maritime history, Lagos was once a launching point for Portugal's great explorers. Today, it delights visitors with its whitewashed buildings, colorful tiles, lively squares, and a coastline carved by wind and sea. Beyond its charm and cobblestone streets, Lagos offers a glimpse into Portugal's adventurous spirit and enduring connection to the ocean.

Our morning begins with a hands-on **Cataplana cooking experience**, led by a passionate mother-daughter duo from *The Kitchen Lagos*. Known for their warm hospitality and love of Portuguese cuisine, they'll guide us through the preparation of **Cataplana**—a flavorful seafood stew named after the traditional copper pan it's cooked in. Before cooking, we'll explore the **Lagos Municipal Market**, where fresh fish, herbs, and local produce awaken the senses. Afterward, we'll enjoy the dish we've created together over a relaxed lunch paired with Algarve wines.

In the afternoon, we embark on a **private boat cruise** along one of the most spectacular stretches of the Portuguese coast. Towering limestone cliffs, secret beaches, and hidden grottoes line our route—but the crown jewel is the breathtaking **Benagil Cave**. Accessible only by sea, this otherworldly cavern features a massive dome with a circular opening overhead, letting sunlight flood onto its golden sands. It's one of the Algarve's most iconic and photogenic natural wonders—a place that feels both sacred and surreal.

We return to the hotel by early evening, with time to relax and enjoy the peaceful rhythm of the coast.

Day 4: Tuesday
Faro's Old-World Charm, Island Dining & the Art of Olive Oil

After breakfast, we begin the day with a visit to **Faro**, the cultural heart of the Algarve. Often overlooked by beachgoers, Faro's **historic center** is a quiet jewel, wrapped in medieval stone walls and filled with treasures from its Roman, Moorish, and Portuguese past. As we stroll through the **Cidade Velha**, you'll encounter cobbled streets, a Gothic cathedral, Renaissance arches, and whitewashed houses where storks nest above the rooftops.

From the city docks, we'll board a **speedboat** for a scenic ride through the **Ria Formosa Natural Park**, a pristine lagoon system teeming with wildlife and considered one of Portugal's seven natural wonders. Our destination is an unspoiled **desert island**, where we'll enjoy a memorable **seafood lunch** at the island's only restaurant—an elegant wooden structure with panoramic views of the ocean and dunes. Known for its simplicity, freshness, and flavor, this hidden culinary haven serves **grilled fish, clams, and rice dishes** that celebrate the essence of coastal Portuguese cuisine. Paired with crisp local wines and gentle sea breezes, this is a true highlight of the trip.

In the afternoon, we continue inland to **Monterosa**, a renowned boutique olive oil estate located in the Algarve hills. Surrounded by traditional olive groves, Monterosa is celebrated for its **award-winning extra virgin oils** and dedication to sustainable farming. During your visit, you'll explore the olive mill, learn about both ancient and modern pressing techniques, and enjoy a guided **tasting** of their elegant oils—each one revealing the complexity and richness of the region's terroir.

Return to the hotel in the early evening. Enjoy the rest of your night at leisure—perhaps with a stroll along the beach or a drink under the stars.

Day 5: Wednesday
From Rice Fields to Winemaking Dreams in Comporta

After breakfast and check-out, we leave the southern coast behind and journey north to the serene coastal region of **Comporta**—a hidden gem where nature, elegance, and rural tradition harmonize. Just under two hours from the Algarve, Comporta feels like another world, with sweeping rice fields, pine forests, and soft white sand dunes stretching toward the sea.

Our first stop is the **Rice Museum**, located in a beautifully restored former rice mill. Here, we explore Comporta's deep connection to rice cultivation, discovering how the land and lifestyle have been shaped by this humble grain for generations. The museum offers a rare glimpse into the region's agricultural soul—an essential part of its slow, soulful rhythm.

We continue to the elegant **Herdade da Comporta estate**, where we'll enjoy a **scenic lunch surrounded by vineyards and rice paddies**. This peaceful, nature-infused setting is the perfect place to savor seasonal local cuisine, paired with estate wines and the gentle sounds of the countryside.

After lunch, we dive into a memorable hands-on experience: **"Winemaker for a Day."** With guidance from an expert oenologist, begin by tasting a selection of base wines—including single-varietal expressions—and learn how aroma, texture, and structure influence the final blend. Then, create your own custom wine by experimenting, adjusting, and fine-tuning to your taste. Once satisfied, you'll **bottle, cork, and label your wine**, complete with a hand-designed label—a special souvenir to take home and share with friends and family.

In the late afternoon, we continue to Lisbon and check in at **PortoBay Marquês**, a stylish 4-star hotel just steps from Avenida da Liberdade. With modern rooms, a rooftop terrace, small pool, and spa, it offers the perfect balance of comfort and city charm.

Day 6: Thursday
Lisbon's Timeless Charm – Streets, Sweets & City Views

After breakfast, we set out to explore the soulful beauty of Lisbon, one of Europe's oldest and most enchanting capitals. Built across seven hills and overlooking the Tagus River, Lisbon dazzles with its light, color, and history. As we **stroll through the heart of the Baixa and Alfama districts**, winding alleyways lead to sun-drenched plazas and panoramic viewpoints. Along the way, we'll **ride one of the city's iconic yellow trams** and **pause for a bold espresso and a warm *Pastel de Nata***—Portugal's beloved custard tart and a sweet taste of tradition.

The afternoon is free to **explore at your own pace**, perhaps **visit a museum**, **browse artisan shops**, or **relax at a riverside café** while soaking in the city's charm.

In the evening, we gather for a **traditional dinner** accompanied by a **live Fado performance**. This deeply emotional music, born in Lisbon's old neighborhoods, weaves together Portuguese, Afro-Brazilian, and Moorish influences, and has been recognized by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage. **Performed by soulful singers and accompanied by acoustic guitar and the Portuguese guitarra**, Fado speaks of love, longing, and the spirit of Lisbon. Tonight's meal includes a **three-course menu with wine pairings**, served in an intimate venue where the music brings Lisbon's soul to life.

Day 7: Friday
Palaces, Coastal Views & a Farewell to Remember

After breakfast, we leave Lisbon for a short drive to **Queluz**, where we visit the magnificent **National Palace of Queluz**—a masterpiece of 18th-century architecture. Often compared to Versailles, this former royal residence dazzles with its baroque gardens, gilded ballrooms, and ornate tilework that reflect Portugal's golden age.

We continue to the storybook town of **Sintra**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site nestled in the hills. With its misty forests, pastel-colored palaces, and romantic gardens, Sintra has inspired poets, royalty, and travelers for centuries. During our **guided walking tour**, we wander through the historic center, with its winding streets and eclectic architecture, then enjoy **free time for lunch** at one of the charming cafés or taverns—recommendations will be shared by our guide.

In the afternoon, we return to Lisbon by way of the scenic coastline, stopping in **Cascais**, a sophisticated seaside town once favored by Portuguese nobility. Enjoy panoramic views of the Atlantic, elegant promenades, and a moment to soak in the fresh ocean breeze.

Our journey concludes with a **special farewell dinner** at **Estórias na Casa da Comida**, a historic Lisbon restaurant known for its rich legacy and contemporary revival. Originally the first restaurant in Portugal to receive a Michelin star in the 1980s, it has been lovingly renovated with traditional tilework, lush garden views, and a fresh culinary vision led by a new generation of chefs. The elegant menu highlights modern interpretations of Portuguese classics, paired with exceptional local wines.

As we raise our glasses one last time, we celebrate the **memories made, the friendships formed, and the vibrant culture** we've shared together in Portugal.

Day 8: Saturday
Until We Meet Again

After breakfast, we check out and say farewell to Lisbon. A **private transfer will take you to Lisbon Airport**, just a short 20-minute drive from our hotel, depending on traffic.

As we part ways, we carry home not only souvenirs but also the memories of golden palaces, soulful music, coastal sunsets, and the joy of discovering Portugal together.

ACCOMMODATIONS

PortoBay Blue Ocean 5★ – Albufeira
Scheduled to open in the summer of 2025, the brand-new PortoBay Blue Ocean promises a luxurious and tranquil stay along the stunning coastline of Algarve. Set amidst expansive green spaces with breathtaking views of the world-famous Falésia Beach, this elegant retreat features rooms with private balconies, cozy contemporary décor, and all the comforts of a seaside escape. Guests can enjoy diverse dining options, including a buffet restaurant with live show cooking and a stylish Brasserie next to the outdoor pool. The hotel also boasts indoor and outdoor pools, a full-service spa, gym, and sports courts. With direct beach access, the soothing rhythm of the waves and refreshing sea breeze make this a perfect spot to relax and unwind.

PortoBay Marquês 4★ – Lisbon
Tucked away on quiet Duque de Palmela Street, just steps from Marquês de Pombal Square, the PortoBay Marquês offers a peaceful retreat in the heart of Lisbon. Its central location provides easy access to Avenida da Liberdade, Eduardo VII Park, and many of the city's top attractions. The hotel combines classic elegance with a touch of industrial chic, creating a warm, modern ambiance. Rooms and junior suites are equipped with 40" LED TVs, tea and coffee makers, free Wi-Fi, climate control, USB and HDMI ports, and luxurious Rituals bath amenities. Guests can enjoy a restaurant and two bars—one located on the rooftop terrace, which also features a small outdoor pool with jets, a solarium, gym, sauna, and Turkish steam bath, all with panoramic views of Lisbon.

Price for the Tour:

$4,795 (per person, double occupancy) when paid by cash or check.
$5,495 (per person, single occupancy) when paid by cash or check.
**3% extra costs will apply to credit card payments*

Included in the price:

- Organization of the program as detailed
- Accommodation at the described hotels, 7 nights with breakfast (BB)
- Transportation for the group in a deluxe mini-bus, as per the program; 2 bottles of water per person per day on the bus
- Official English-speaking guide with the group
- 8 meals, including wine, with 2 meals hosted at wine producers
- Visits and tastings at wine producers, an olive oil estate, and the Rice Museum
- Entrance fees to Silves Castle, Queluz Palace, and other sites as per the program
- Market visit and cataplana cooking workshop in Lagos
- Private speedboat cruise to Benagil Cave (3 hours), with one or two boats depending on group size
- Private speedboat transfers to a desert island
- "Winemaker for a Day" experience
- Guided city tours: Silves, Lagos, Faro, Lisbon, and Sintra
- Tram ride in Lisbon with a stop for coffee and *pastel de nata*
- Dinner with Fado show
- Tips for guide and driver
- City taxes in Albufeira and Lisbon

Not included:

- Meals not specified above
- Travel insurance
- Porterage service at hotels
- Personal expenses and items not mentioned above