



Queen Isabel

12 Nights

Jewels of Spain, Portugal & the Douro River



Summary

Two intriguing countries and one dramatic river equal a grand adventure

Before setting sail on the Douro River, experience three legendary Spanish cities: Salamanca, the lovely “Golden City”; Madrid, renowned for its museums, stately royal palace and vibrant nightlife; and Toledo, the city of El Greco and a magnificent tribute to the three great cultures that forged Spain.

Cruise through the UNESCO-designated Douro Valley, where grapes have been grown for 2,000 years, visiting picturesque quintas and meeting the winemakers who operate them, as well as tasting the wine. Get even closer to natural treasures at the Douro International Natural Park, where you can get a better understanding of the flora and fauna of the land with an intimate boat cruise, and at the Quinta Aveleda’s gardens, offering an enchanting landscape that boasts a cascading waterfall, graceful swans swimming, peacocks flaunting their colours and so much more. Visit the walled village of Castelo Rodrigo, a site that dates back to the 12th century, and the pilgrimage town of Lamego to see the monumental baroque Sanctuary of Nossa Senhora dos Remédios. Travel through the verdant countryside to Óbidos, a charming hilltop town that has entranced visitors since the 13th century en route to Portugal’s colorful capital of Lisbon.

Reward your inner explorer with the “Jewels of Spain, Portugal & the Douro River,” blending captivating cities, picturesque villages and unparalleled scenic cruising through this less-traveled corner of Europe.

Overview

Country:	Spain - Portugal
Cities:	Madrid, Salamanca, Barca d’Alva, Pinhão, Régua, Caldas de Aregos, Entre-os-Rios, Porto
Season:	April till October 2018
Duration:	13 days /12 nights
Port of departure:	Madrid
Starting Price:	\$ 5799

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Itinerary



Day 1: Madrid

Featured Excursions:

“Madrid at Your Doorstep” vicinity walk

Arrive at Madrid–Barajas Airport, where you will be transferred to your hotel. Join a guided walk to begin getting acquainted with the city.

Day 2: Madrid

Featured Excursions:

Choice of Madrid city tour with Prado Museum OR exclusive guided “Go Active” walking tour with Prado Museum visit, and dinner with flamenco show

Choose one of two ways to explore Madrid—both giving you a sense of Madrid’s layout and architectural highlights. Join the panoramic tour of this metropolis, showcasing Madrid’s top sights, or take in some of the key sites on a guided active walk through the historic city. Both tours are followed by an excursion to the massive Prado Museum and its acclaimed collection of European art. In the evening, enjoy dinner and a flamenco show at one of the city’s finest venues.

Day 3: Madrid (Toledo)

Featured Excursions:

Toledo city tour

Known as the “City of Three Cultures,” Toledo, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, has been heavily influenced by Judaism, Christianity and Islam, all of which have peacefully co-existed here for centuries.

Day 4: Madrid, Salamanca, transfer to Vega de Terron

Featured Excursions:

Full day Salamanca tour

Travel from Madrid to Salamanca, where you’ll be guided through this UNESCO-designated city known as the “Golden City” for the distinctive patina of its centuries-old sandstone buildings. You’ll have a chance to visit Salamanca’s food hall as well as sample many of the city’s delights. You’ll then journey to the Spanish border town of Vega de Terrón to embark your ship.

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Day 5: Barca d'Alva (Castelo Rodrigo), Pinhão

Featured Excursions:

Choice of Castelo Rodrigo OR half day scenic cruise at the Douro International Natural Park
Travel through wonderfully scenic countryside to Castelo Rodrigo. Take a guided tour of the walled village of Castelo Rodrigo, and while here, sample delicious local treats, such as honey and olive oil. If you prefer a different type of experience to better understand the flora and fauna of the land, you'll want to go on a half-day scenic cruise at the Douro International Natural Park.

Day 6: Pinhão, Régua

Featured Excursions:

Choice of Quinta do Seixo guided tour and tasting OR famous Pinhão wine estate and visit to family-owned quinta, and Douro Museum
Journey to Quinta do Seixo—a prestigious Port wine estate—for a tour of its state-of-the-art facility, and sample some of their famous Port. Others may prefer to enjoy a scenic drive through Pinhão before visiting a famous wine estate and family-owned quinta. Afterwards, learn about the region's winemaking history during a special lecture at the Douro Museum.

Day 7: Régua (Lamego), Caldas de Aregos

Featured Excursions:

Lamego walking tour with wine tasting at a local quinta
Stroll through this pilgrimage town of Lamego to the monumental baroque Sanctuary of Nossa Senhora dos Remédios. Later, enjoy a wine tasting at a lovely local quinta.

Day 8: Entre-os-Rios (Amarante)

Featured Excursions:

Choice of Quinta Aveleda visit and gardens OR Amarante walking tour
Wander through the Quinta Aveleda's gardens, where you'll find a thatched house for geese, peacocks flaunting their colours and graceful swans. If you prefer, stroll through Amarante and discover the unique heritage bequeathed by the town's patron saint, ranging from a beautiful Dominican monastery to delicious sweets.

Day 9: Porto (Guimarães)

Featured Excursions:

Choice of Guimarães city tour OR "Soul of Porto" Ribeira district walking tour
Enjoy a panoramic tour of UNESCO-designated Guimarães, with a wonderfully well-preserved Old Town. Alternatively, you can explore Porto's UNESCO-designated Ribeira district on foot, including the Rua dos Flores, the newly restored pedestrian zone. In the evening, enjoy a Gala Dinner onboard your ship.

Day 10: Porto

Featured Excursions:

Choice of Porto city tour OR exclusive "Do as the Locals Do" Porto walking tour
Get a feel for vibrant Porto on a panoramic tour showcasing the UNESCO-designated 19th-century Stock Exchange Palace. For those wanting a more active exploration, climb 249 steps to the top of Clérigos Tower for the best view in Porto.

Day 11: Porto, Óbidos, transfer to Lisbon

Featured Excursions:

Guided stroll through Óbidos and family-style lunch
As you head south to Lisbon, you'll stop in Óbidos, a hill town that has entranced visitors since the 13th century. It's so charming that the kings of Portugal traditionally gave it to their queens as a wedding

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present. From Óbidos, head to a local restaurant for a traditional Portuguese lunch before arriving in Lisbon.

Day 12: Lisbon

Featured Excursions:

Choice of Lisbon city tour OR exclusive “Do as the Locals Do” Lisbon walking tour
You’ll have a choice as to how you wish to explore Lisbon—via a guided tour or doing as the locals do. Your guided tour takes you to the Belém Tower, the Manueline Jerónimos Monastery, the Alfama district and Rossio Plaza. You’ll even get to sample a traditional delicacy—pastéis de Belém—at a famous pastry shop. For a taste of local life, hop on one of the traditional yellow trams that toil up and down the steep streets. Visit the ancient castle of St. George, and take a fun spin through historic neighborhoods in a tuk tuk.

Day 13: Lisbon

Transfer to Lisbon Portela Airport for your flight home.

Prices Include

12-night cruise in a River view stateroom
All transfers on arrival and departure days
All meals on board: 12 breakfasts, 8 lunches, 8 dinners
Unlimited beverages onboard, including fine wine, beer, spirits, soft drinks, specialty coffee and tea, and bottled water
Explore 2 countries
Entertainment on board
13 excursions, including “Choice Is Yours” options, all fully hosted by English-speaking local experts
Guided “Go Active,” “Do as the Locals Do,” “Village Day”, and “Gentle Walking” programs
5 UNESCO World Heritage Sites
Exclusive Epicurean Adventurer Program
Cultural enrichment, including a Signature Lecture: “The Magical Douro River Valley”

Prices Exclude

International airfare
Port charges

Category	Ship	Price
Category 5	Queen Isabel	5799
Category 4	Queen Isabel	5999
Category 3	Queen Isabel	6699
Category 2	Queen Isabel	6899
Category 1	Queen Isabel	7499
Suite	Queen Isabel	9399

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Starting price per person in \$US

Payment facilities available with CFC

This is a product sheet elaborated in order to give you a quick overview of our package with details pertaining to hotels, flights and proposed tours. This is not a tailor made quotation and should you wish to have specific details reviewed to better suits your need please do not hesitate to contact one of our travel consultants or visit one of our branches.

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