

Tour “Trails in the Romanesque Douro”

In this new program we challenge you to discover some of the extraordinary natural, historical and architectural heritage of the Douro and Paiva valleys. Unique islands who bare witness to tales of tragic lovers, local gastronomy and the green wine, precious Romanesque churches that witness our history, are just a few of the ingredients you'll find in this Tour. Accept our invitation and be most welcome!

Program:

09h00 Departure from Porto | Torre dos Clérigos

10h00 Boat crossing to Castelo Island, in Castelo de Paiva

Castelo Island is located in the confluence of rivers Paiva and Douro and is a magnificent place where to play water sports, observe the remains of a xv-century hermitage, or just enjoy the beauty of the landscape.

11h30 Memorial of Sobrado, in Castelo de Paiva

Memorial of Sobrado is an example of funerary architecture, a Romanesque funeral-commemorative monument, that has been dated to the mid-thirteenth century. It is related to the transfer of the body of Princess D. Mafalda, daughter of King Sancho I and granddaughter of King Afonso Henriques, to the Convent of Arouca.

12h00 Lunch service in local traditional restaurant

14h00 Optional: Visit and wine tasting in the green wine producing estate Quinta do Outeiro

Having been in the same family for over 300 years, this estate, facing River Paiva's slopes, extends over 14 hectares and has always maintained a recognized quality wine production.

15h30 Visit to the Romanesque church of Saint Mary Major of Tarouquela | Cinfães

Initially one of the first female monasteries of the Benedictine Order built to the south of the Douro, nowadays the historical importance of Tarouquela is only shown in the remnant Church, built in the XIII century, where the influence of the Romanesque is very clearly perceived on decoration details such as the ornamentation of the chevet's sculpture, both outside and inside, one of the finest examples of Romanesque architecture within the Portuguese territory.

17h00 Visit to the Romanesque Church of Saint Christopher of Nogueira, in Cinfães

Dramatically modified in the Modern Period, when the chancel (late 18th century) was rebuilt, large windows were opened, and buildings were attached to it, the Church of Saint Christopher is structurally a medieval building that fits into the so-called “românico de Resistencia” [resistance Romanesque] style, in which some persistence's of Romanesque flavor are combined with early Gothic signs.

18h00 Return to Porto, with a brief stop at Teixeira viewpoint.

One of the most impressive viewpoints in the Romanesque Route, it offers us an amazing view over the mouth of Bestança river, whose spring is born in Montemuro mountain, at 1200 meters high. From here we also view Porto Antigo, an important Douro quay for centuries, as well as Mosteirô bridge, that links Porto Antigo to Porto Manso, just across the river.

19h30 Expected time of arrival at Porto | End of our services

Conditions:

- ✓ Requires previous booking; confirmation is subject to existing availability;
- ✓ We confirm the tour with a min. and max. no. Of 04 – 08 people;
- ✓ Price: Up from € 70,00 p/person (VAT included)
- ✓ Availability: Wednesday to Sunday, except 25th December and 1st January

Price includes:

- ✓ Our driver, that will accompany you all the way;
- ✓ Transport in a 9-seater van with air-conditioning;
- ✓ All the insurances required by Portuguese law for the tourism activity;
- ✓ Boat crossing to Castelo Island;
- ✓ Booking and entry on the mentioned Romanesque monuments;
- ✓ Booking of lunch and chosen optional visits.

Price does not include:

- ✓ Lunch payment;
- ✓ Optional: Visit and wine tasting at Quinta do Outeiro: € 10,00 p/person;
- ✓ Entry on Monuments or Museums other than the mentioned ones.

Bring with you: comfortable clothing and shoes; camera; water.