

NORTHERN PORTUGAL VERDE



NORTHERN PORTUGAL

Vinho Verde wines, palaces, traditions, fairs and sweets

The stunning beauty of the Minho region serves as the backdrop for the Vinho Verde Route. Crossing these paths means discovering the origins and flavors of the millenary wine culture and immersing yourself in the history of Portugal, a wine - producing destination par excellence. The World Heritage Cities and a valuable set of monuments from various eras mark the region and are, in themselves, a reason for a visit. Tradition and modernity in the culture and production of Vinho Verde combine to provide moments of pleasure in modern, secular or family farms, where the hospitality of the people will not fail to seduce visitors. Start discovering the Vinho Verde Route and let yourself fall in love with a unique wine!



PORTO | VIANA | CAMINHA | VILA N. CERVEIRA | VALENÇA | MELGAÇO | MONÇÃO

Departing from Porto and travelling along the coast bathed by the Atlantic Ocean, you will reach Viana do Castelo, located at the mouth of the Lima River, a city founded in the 13th century by D. Afonso III, king of Portugal. The sea has always been the city's raison d'être and, during the Age of Maritime Discoveries (15th and 16th centuries), ships and caravels set sail from Viana shipyards for the routes to India and the Americas. At the top of the Santa Luzia hill there is a fantastic view over the Lima River and the city. Proceed to Caminha, a fortified frontier town at the mouth of the Minho River, which was the stage of several ancient battles between Portugal and Spain. Pass by Vila Nova de Cerveira, located near the border with Spain and by the Minho River, where you find a ferryboat crossing to Goyan, in Galicia. Then proceed on to Valença, a city surrounded by walls and a fortified frontier, built in the military style of the 17th-18th centuries. Time for lunch. Try Solar do Bacalhau. After the meal, departure to the village of Melgaço, located in a region where Vinho Verde wines are produced. You must visit the Solar do Alvarinho, and try the several varieties of this unique wine in the world. Then, arrival to Monção, overlooking the Minho river, with its pleasant terraces and viewpoints, such as the esplanade of Nérís. On the outskirts of Monção, pay a visit to the noble Palace of Brejoeira, to the Gardens and its Old Cellar, where the famous Vinho Verde wine Alvarinho and the brandy "Palácio da Brejoeira" are produced. Wine tasting. Accommodation at the Hotel Convento dos Capuchos, in Monção, whose flats are monks' former cells, restored and modernised.

MONÇÃO | ARCOS DE VALDEVEZ | PONTA DA BARCA | PONTE DE LIMA | BARCELOS

Located by the river Vez, which gave it its name, Arcos de Valdevez is a typical village of Alto Minho, with a green landscape, sunny architecture and a river that marks the life of the population. You can find old manor houses in its streets, towers, bridges and temples which mark traditions throughout the centuries. It is the birthplace of a great inventor: Father Manuel António Himalaya, with a life dedicated to science. Next is Ponte da Barca, a place of history and tradition. The Medieval Bridge, together with the Pombaline Market and the Pillory, are the landmarks of a town characterised by aristocratic 17th and 18th century buildings, always surrounded by large trees and green spaces, giving the town its very own very special magical atmosphere. Not long after, you arrive at Ponte de Lima, a land full of history and a legendary and stately town, promoter of the International Garden Festival, it is the capital of Residential Tourism. The manor houses and farmhouses form an unequalled set that mould the landscape throughout the municipality. It is the birthplace of another Lima valley great character: the saintly Blessed Francisco Borges Pacheco, who toiled humbly in the evangelisation of the "Japões". Departure for Barcelos. Arrival and accommodation at Art'Otel Barcelos.

NORTHERN PORTUGAL VERDE



BARCELOS

This day is dedicated to visiting Barcelos, known as the capital of handicrafts, it is colourful, welcoming, full of tradition and one of the most emblematic places of popular Minho art, whose distinct regional identity has given us the legend of the Barcelos Cock, a symbol of Portugal that is known worldwide. Barcelos is also a crossing point on the millenary "Caminho de Santiago" (pilgrimage route to Santiago de Compostela, in Spain). You will visit the medieval bridge over the river Cávado, the historical centre and its gardens, the Largo do Apoio, the first square in the town with medieval town planning features, the Palace of the Counts of Barcelos, which dates back to the late Middle Ages, the Campo da Feira or Campo da República, where every Thursday one of the oldest craft and vegetable fairs in Europe is held (since 1412), the 15th-century town hall, and walk along the cobbled streets. You will also get a chance to see the 15th century Town Hall, the 18th century Passeio dos Assentos or Passeio das Obras - in provincial rococo style - and the Pottery Museum, which was created under the name of Regional Museum of Popular Ceramics. It is housed in the former Casa dos Mendanhas, an emblematic 18th century building in the city. Accommodation at Art'Otel Barcelos.

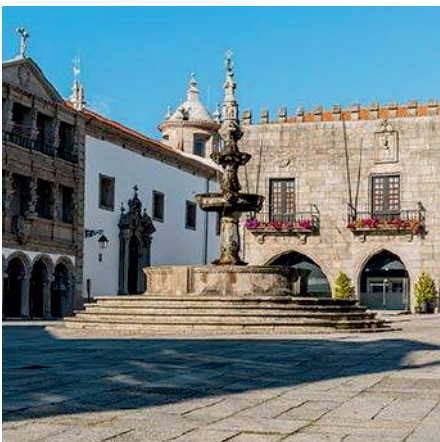
BARCELOS | AMARANTE | PENAFIEL | PORTO

Departure from Barcelos towards Amarante, located between the Serra do Marão and the river Tâmega, the most extensive affluent of the Douro river that originates in Galicia and that flows through the heart of the city, highlighting the picturesque houses that rise up on both banks. In the 13th century, São Gonçalo, a Benedictine monk and today its patron saint, arrived on the site. He is given the credit for the construction of a sturdy bridge over the Tâmega river. The bridge perpetuates the memory of the population's heroic resistance to Napoleon's forces which invaded Portugal in the early 19th century. The sweet delicacies of Amarante are famous, and they are easily found in the many pastry shops of the town. Here are the names of some of them: Papos de Anjo, Brisas do Tâmega, Toucinho do Céu, S. Gonçalo cakes and the "galhofas". You must try them all. On the first Saturday of June, there is a festival in honour of São Gonçalo, to whom single women resort to find a husband. Proceede the trip through the Vinho Verde wine region to Penafiel, visiting Quinta da Aveleda, which results of a passion of several generations and a family jewel of the Guedes family since 1870. Wine tasting and lunch. After the meal, departure towards Porto.



NORTHERN PORTUGAL VERDE

#WETRAVELTOGETHER




www.transalpinodmcportugal.pt

 facebook.com/TransalpinoDMC

 Transalpinodmc

incoming@transalpino.pt
Rua João da Silva 4C
1900-271 Lisboa, Portugal

 +351 218 436 440

 **Transalpino** / DMC
PORTUGAL