

2023

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PORTUGAL'S ENCHANTING DOURO VALLEY

Round-Trip Porto Aboard *AmaDouro*

October 13 – 21, 2023

with Catherine McKenna,

Margaret Brooks Robinson Professor of Celtic Languages and Literatures



HARVARD
Alumni Travels



Livraria Lello, Porto, Portugal

Portugal's Enchanting Douro Valley: Round-Trip Porto Aboard *AmaDouro*

On a magical cruise through Portugal's stunning Douro Valley. Sail along the "golden river" (*rio d'ouro*) aboard *AmaDouro*, one of Europe's most luxurious riverboats, and witness the picturesque landscapes of terraced hillsides and lavish gardens.

Go behind the scenes of the region's magnificent palaces and museums. The Douro Valley is the world's oldest demarcated wine region, and you will also visit historic vineyards and wineries that beautifully combine contemporary architecture with expansive gardens.

In Porto, behold masterpieces by Joan Miró and other artists at the minimalist Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Serralves. Explore the Museu de Lamego, which displays 16th-century Flemish tapestries and religious art in an opulent 18th-century episcopal palace. Cross the Spanish border into ancient Salamanca, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Join experts for tours of one of the world's oldest universities, and the Museo Art Nouveau y Art Déco in Casa Lis, a stunning early 20th-century mansion with a stained-glass façade.

Conclude with an in-depth exploration of Porto's grand architecture and private galleries, and enjoy onboard performances of Portugal's traditional *fado* music, as well as a private concert at Porto's Casa da Música, designed by Rem Koolhaas. Travel in the company of members from The Metropolitan Museum of Art and The National Trust for Historic Preservation as well as alumni from the University of Chicago and the College of William & Mary. An optional Porto prelude is offered.

Activity Level 3:

In October, temperatures in northern Portugal are pleasantly mild, ranging from 56 to 72°F (13 to 22.5°C). It is advisable to bring some warm clothes and layered clothing is recommended. A sun hat, sunscreen, a raincoat or umbrella, and comfortable but sturdy walking shoes are essential. Smart casual dress is appropriate most of the time. For dinners and special occasions like the welcome and farewell events, more formal attire is recommended, although jacket and tie are not required.

Study Leader

Catherine McKenna
Margaret Brooks Robinson Professor of Celtic Languages and Literature



Catherine McKenna is Harvard's Margaret Brooks Robinson Professor of Celtic Languages and Literatures, specializing in the literature and legends of the Celtic-speaking peoples of Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Brittany, and Cornwall. From ancient times down to the present, the peoples of Scandinavia, Scotland, and Ireland have been linked by the waterways that seem to divide them—the North Atlantic, the North Sea, and the Irish Sea—in what is sometimes described as "the Irish Sea Cultural Province." Catherine McKenna has studied and taught the history and culture of the northern European world at many different moments in history, from the prehistoric to the medieval to the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries and on into our own day. She received her Ph.D. from the Department of Celtic Languages and Literatures at Harvard.

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Map of the region (left); Fundação de Serralves, Porto, Portugal (right); Universidad de Salamanca (below left) and Casa Lis (below right), Salamanca, Spain

Schedule by Day

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

Departure

Depart on an overnight flight to Porto, Portugal.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

Porto, Portugal / Embark *AmaDouro*

Upon arriving in the morning, you will be transferred to the Fundação de Serralves, a cultural institution that features the Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Serralves, a striking minimalist museum of contemporary art. The museum was designed by Álvaro Siza, a Pritzker Prize-winning architect. After lunch, you will board *AmaDouro* and gather for a welcome dinner in the evening. L,D

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

Porto/ Peso de Régua

This morning, make sure to be on deck as we cruise under a magnificent iron bridge designed by Gustave Eiffel. In the afternoon, take a drive to the family-owned wine estate, Quinta da Aveleda, known for its delightful gardens. Sample its *Vinho Verde* and enjoy a private dinner while overlooking the vineyard. To end the evening, return to *AmaDouro* and attend a lively onboard performance of Portuguese folk music. B,L,D

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

Pinhão / Barca d'Alva

Attend a morning lecture on board as *AmaDouro* navigates through the valley to Barca d'Alva. This afternoon, discover Castelo Rodrigo, a fortified hilltop village with scenic views of slopes adorned with almond trees and vineyards. Pass through the village's 16th-century walls and climb the narrow medieval streets. Refresh yourself with a tasting of regional wine and delicacies. B,L,D



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

Barca d'Alva / Vega de Terrón, Spain / Salamanca

Cross the Spanish border to Salamanca, a UNESCO-listed city of golden sandstone. On a guided tour, admire the elegant buildings of the Universidad de Salamanca, founded in 1218 and the third oldest still-operating university in the world. Linger in the 18th-century Plaza Mayor, a grand achievement in Spanish Baroque architecture and one of the most beautiful town squares in Spain. You may enjoy a leisurely afternoon in town, or opt for a visit to the Museo de Art Nouveau y Art Déco. This museum is housed in Casa Lis, a graceful 1905 mansion with a sweeping, stained-glass façade. Rejoin our vessel in Vega de Terrón for dinner. B,L,D

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Santuário de Nossa Senhora dos Remédios, Lamego, Portugal (left) and Casa da Música, Porto, Portugal (right)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

Vega de Terrón / Pinhão, Portugal / Peso de Régua

Spend the morning cruising through the picturesque Pinhão Valley, near where the Rio Pinhão meets the Douro. Then transfer to Sabrosa, known as the birthplace of Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan, for a visit to Quinta do Portal, a family-owned boutique winery with centuries-old vineyards. Learn about their commitment to sustainability, including their unique way of planting and the installation of photovoltaic panels to produce half of the winery's electricity. You will also tour the strikingly modern cellars, which were designed by Álvaro Siza, and enjoy a wine tasting experience. B,L,D

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

Peso de Régua / Lamego / Entres-os-Rios

Nestled amid the Douro Valley's terraced slopes, Lamego is best known for the Santuário de Nossa Senhora dos Remédios. Visit this ornate Baroque church and descend its exuberant staircase, which zigzags to the gardens below. Make your way to the Museu de Lamego, housed in a grand, 18th-century episcopal palace, for a private look at its eclectic religious art and 16th-century Flemish tapestries. This afternoon, *AmaDouro* passes through Barragem

do Carrapatelo, a hydroelectric dam with the highest lock in Europe. This evening, stop for drinks at a private estate with majestic views of the valley (*pending confirmation*). As the sun sets, observe why the Portuguese named the Douro the "river of gold" (*d'ouro*). B,L,D

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

Entres-os-Rios / Porto

Return to Porto for a morning tour and private concert at Casa da Música, a landmark of 21st-century architecture designed by Rem Koolhaas. Alternatively, enjoy a walking tour featuring the opulent former stock exchange Palácio da Bolsa; the São Bento Railway Station, filled with murals made up of more than 20,000 *azulejo* tiles, all designed and painted by artist Jorge Colaço in the 1930s; and the Livraria Lello, one of the most beautiful bookstores in the world. Savor lunch aboard *AmaDouro*, or you may choose to enjoy a traditional meal at leisure in one of the city's stylish restaurants. This afternoon, delight in private tours of some of the city's top art galleries. Alternatively, delight in a vintage Port tasting at a working wine cellar on a hillside above the city. This evening, the captain hosts a festive farewell dinner. B,L,D

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

Porto / Disembark / Return

Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for flights home. B

Optional Prelude in Porto, Portugal

OCTOBER 11–14, 2023

Enjoy an in-depth exploration of Porto, including a tour of the Igreja e Torre dos Clérigos, an 18th-century Baroque church and tower. Gather for a welcome dinner at a seaside restaurant designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Álvaro Siza. In the nearby town of Guimarães, stroll through its UNESCO-listed historic center and join the owners of a private art gallery for a tour. Discover the treasures in the ancient Roman city of Braga, including beautiful Baroque churches and the 13th-century Sé de Braga (Braga Cathedral). End with a special visit to Porto's Museu Nacional de Soares dos Reis before joining the main program.

Prelude rate per person:
\$2,299 double rate /
\$2,799 single rate

Optional prelude rate includes: Two nights at the Vila Foz Hotel & Spa in Porto with two breakfasts, one lunch, and one dinner. Sightseeing as noted.

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Ship Details

Launched in April 2019, this luxury river vessel features 51 spacious, elegantly appointed staterooms and suites. Staterooms include Entertainment-On-Demand, featuring free high-speed Internet access, unlimited Wi-Fi, movies, music, and English-language TV stations; climate-controlled air conditioning; and an in-room safe. The ship's Panoramic Lounge is a stylish and inviting space to enjoy a glass of wine or a cocktail along with nightly entertainment. *AmaDouro* also features a massage room, fitness room, sun-deck swimming pool, and a gift shop, as well as the culinary delights of the Main Restaurant, where guests are able to sample the region's famous Port wine.

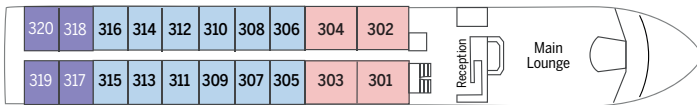


AmaDouro's Main Restaurant (left) and Portugal's traditional fado singers (right)

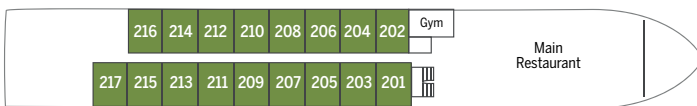
Sun Deck



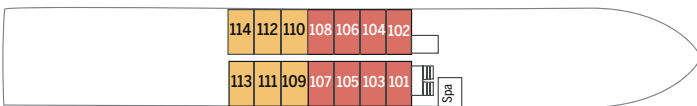
Porto Deck



Lisbon Deck



Douro Deck



Rates Include

- Seven nights cabin accommodations aboard *AmaDouro*
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; thoughtfully selected wines and beers at lunches and dinners
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation and entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/pier/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers; customary shipboard gratuity
- Taxes, service, and portage charges

Not Included: International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than as noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; trip insurance; excess baggage; optional Porto prelude; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Rates Per Person

DECKS / CABIN NUMBERS	DOUBLE RATES	SINGLE RATES
Douro / 109 to 114 Panoramic Window, 161 sq. ft.	\$6,999	\$9,999
Douro / 102 to 108 Panoramic Window, 161 sq. ft.	\$7,999	\$11,599
Porto / 317 to 320 French Balcony, 161 sq. ft.	\$9,999	\$14,999
Lisbon / 201 to 216, 218 Outside Balcony, 215 sq. ft.	\$10,999	\$16,999
Porto / 305 to 316 Outside Balcony, 215 sq. ft.	\$12,999	Inquire
Porto / 301 to 304 Suite, Outside Balcony, 323 sq. ft.	\$15,999	Inquire



AmaDouro in Porto, Portugal

Cover: *The Douro Valley*. Trip Registration page: Azulejo, Porto, Portugal (top); and Porto, Portugal (bottom)

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To review this program's terms and conditions, visit alumni.harvard.edu/travel/trips/douro-2023.

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