



INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**  
IU Travels

# PORTUGAL ADVENTURE

**2026 YOUNG ALUMNI JOURNEY**



## ADVENTURER

US Departure Date: **June 27, 2026**  
Porto Land Tour Start Date: **June 28, 2026**  
Algarve Coast Return Date: **July 5, 2026**

Land package from: **\$2495**

Visit our website [www.aesu.com/iu](http://www.aesu.com/iu) for more details and to book.



# START YOUR **ADVENTURE**

## **Dear Young Alumni and Friends!**

Can you think of a better way to travel than with fellow IU Alumni?

The Indiana University Alumni Association young alumni travel program, designed for recent grads ages 22 – 35, offers you this opportunity by bringing you together with individuals in the same age range, with similar backgrounds and experiences, while enriching you on well-designed, hassle-free tours of the world.

These programs provide social, cultural, and recreational activities and many opportunities for learning, enrichment and enjoying a connection back to Indiana. Our journeys are of great quality and value, operated by a travel company with over 48 years of experience in the young travel market.

In this brochure you will find a detailed itinerary, travel dates and pricing.

If you have any questions about this tour, please contact our tour operator, AESU Alumni World Travel, by calling 800-638-7640 or email [alumni@aesu.com](mailto:alumni@aesu.com).

To make an online booking, please visit our young alumni tour landing page [www.aesu.com/iu](http://www.aesu.com/iu) and select this tour to be directed to the tour web site.

We are looking forward to traveling with you this coming season.

Sincerely,

Your Indiana University Alumni Travel Team

Travel insurance is compulsory. Some schools or alumni associations may offer travel insurance to you at a reduced rate. If not, AESU also offers group travel insurance. Ask our reservations agent for details or visit this link: <https://www.generalitravelinsurance.com/get-a-quote.html?partner=AESU3922>

# PORTUGAL ADVENTURE

Discover Portugal's perfect mix of charm and adventure. Start in Porto's vibrant old town, crossing the iconic bridge to Vila Nova de Gaia for unforgettable port wine tastings. In Lisbon, stroll Alfama's cobblestones or ride Tram 28 through baroque cityscapes. Head south to the Algarve, where dramatic cliffs, golden beaches, and thrilling watersports await. Portugal is becoming popular fast so pack your bags and experience its magic before the secret's out!

## 9-DAY TOUR OF PORTO, TOMAR, LISBON, AND THE ALGARVE COAST

### Transportation and Lodging

- 7 nights in superior tourist class hotels or better with private bath/shower, 2-share rooms
- All intra-European transportation by air-conditioned motor coach as per itinerary
- Airport transfers included with purchased AESU group airfare

### Meals

- 7 continental breakfasts
- 3 specialty dinners including:
- 1 tapas lunch in Tomar

### Activities & Admissions

- Tuk-tuk ride in Lisbon
- Guided tours in Porto, Tomar and Lisbon with a local expert
- Lello Bookstore Porto
- Vila Nova de Gaia Port Wine tasting from Porto
- Admission to UNESCO World Heritage Site Convento de Cristo
- Beach yoga class in Lagos

### Sights

- Porto city center, UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Luis I Bridge
- Sao Bento train station
- Lello Bookstore
- Vila Nova de Gaia
- Scenic drives through Portugal
- Town of Tomar and UNESCO World Heritage site
- Convento de Cristo
- Almourol Castle
- Lisbon sights:
- Discoveries Monument honoring Henry the Navigator
- Belem district and historic Alfama quarter
- Jeronimos Monastery, UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Portugal's Alentejo region
- Sagres Fortress and Cabo de São Vicente, Europe's southwestern-most point
- Spectacular coastline views
- Arco do Triunfo, Gruta do Capitão, Benagil Caves

### PLUS

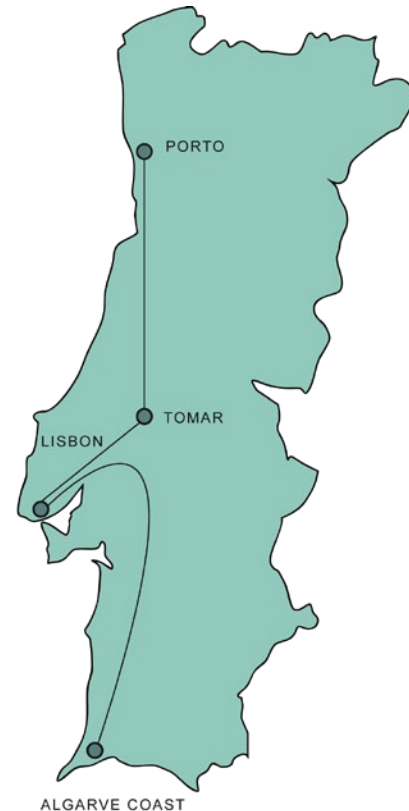
- Private tour director for the entire duration of the land tour
- All service charges and local taxes

### Optional Excursions (not included in land package price):

- Porto – Excursion to Douro Valley incl. Rabello boat ride, wine tasting and lunch
- Costa Alentejana - Horseback riding

### HOTELS

Hotels are centrally located and many offer great extra amenities such as pools, gyms or roof-top bars. All land package rates are based on two people sharing a room. If a single room is desired, a supplement of \$645 applies. If traveling solo and not wanting to pay the single supplement, AESU will attempt to arrange a share with a same-gender traveler. If a share cannot be arranged the single supplement will apply.



### EXPERIENCES

This trip has been carefully designed for young travelers and features fantastic inclusions and highlights. For a glossary of these key aspects, visit: [www.aesu.com/aspects-awt](http://www.aesu.com/aspects-awt)



### ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE/ACTIVE

This trip features a full and active itinerary sometimes at a fast pace and offers activities with higher intensity. For more details, please visit: <https://www.aesu.com/activity-levels-awt/>





# PORTUGAL ADVENTURE ITINERARY

- DAY 1**      **FLIGHT TO PORTUGAL**  
 Today, we embark on our overnight flight to Porto, Portugal’s ‘capital of the North.’  
**Meals:** In-flight
  
- DAY 2**      **LAND TOUR START DAY: PORTO**  
 Welcome to Porto, Portugal’s vibrant coastal city known for its rich history, stunning architecture, and lively atmosphere. During free time this afternoon explore the charming streets of the historic old town, admire the colorful azulejos, and soak in the views along the Douro River. Famous for its port wine, this city blends tradition with modern, creative energy. Tonight, join us for a welcome orientation to get familiar with the trip, followed by a delicious welcome dinner at a local restaurant where we get a true taste of Porto’s culinary delights.  
**Inclusions:** Transfer from airport to hotel included with purchased AESU group airfare | Welcome dinner and orientation  
**Meals:** In-flight | Dinner
  
- DAY 3**      **PORTO**  
 Kick off the day with an immersive tour of Porto led by our local historian. As one of Europe’s oldest cities, its town center is a UNESCO World Heritage site, packed with history and charm. We check out iconic spots like the Luis I Bridge, Porto Se Cathedral, Clerigos Tower, Avenida dos Aliados, and the stunning interior of Sao Bento train station. Our tour wraps up at the Insta-famous Lello Bookstore—whether into books or not, this 1906 neo-Gothic masterpiece is a must-see, with its intricate spiral staircase and stained-glass skylight. Fun fact: it’s said to have inspired the ‘Grand Staircase at Hogwarts’ in Harry Potter! JK Rowling even lived in Porto while teaching English in the early ‘90s. After some free time, we’ll cross the Douro River to Vila Nova de Gaia, the heart of port wine country. The waterfront is lined with historic wine lodges and tasting rooms, where we dive into the world of Portugal’s famous sweet red wine. Cheers to the perfect day in Porto.  
**Inclusions:** Guided morning walking tour of Porto with a local historian | Porto town center, UNESCO World Heritage Site | Luis I Bridge | Sao Bento train station | Lello Bookstore admission | Vila Nova de Gaia | Port wine tasting  
**Meals:** Breakfast



**DAY 4****PORTO**

Take today to further explore Porto and its surroundings on your own or join us on an optional scenic escape to the stunning Douro Valley, where lush vineyards meet winding rivers. We start our day with a private cruise on a traditional Rabelo boat, the same kind that used to carry port wine barrels down the Douro. Sip on local wine and enjoy snacks as we glide through the picturesque valley. Afterward, head to a local winery for a tasting of world-class wines and a delicious lunch, set against the backdrop of rolling hills and grapevines. Back in Porto, cap off the perfect day with a night out, where you can soak in the soulful sounds of live Fado music in one of the city's cozy bars.

**Inclusions:** Porto town exploration

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Optional activity:** Full-day Douro Valley excursion incl. Rabelo boat ride, wine tasting and lunch at a local winery

**DAY 5****PORTO – TOMAR - LISBON**

We begin our epic journey south to Portugal's vibrant capital, Lisbon, with an exciting stop in the charming town of Tomar. Once the legendary headquarters of the Knights Templar in the 12th century, Tomar is home to the breathtaking Convento de Cristo, an awe-inspiring national monument steeped in history. We also catch a glimpse of Almourol Castle, dramatically perched on the banks of the Rio Tajo, offering incredible photo ops—a former strategic stronghold during the epic Christian-Moorish battles. After fueling up with a mouthwatering tapas lunch, featuring local flavors and fresh ingredients, we continue to Lisbon. Upon arrival, hop on a Tuk-Tuk for a fun and laid-back tour of the city's winding streets, historic sites, and hidden gems. This is the perfect way to kick off your Lisbon adventure and soak in the city's vibrant atmosphere.

**Inclusions:** Scenic drive to southern Portugal | Town of Tomar | Tapas lunch | Guided tour of Tomar, led by a local English-speaking expert |

**Tomar sights include:** UNESCO World Heritage Site Convento de Cristo | Almourol Castle and much more

**Meals:** Breakfast | Lunch

**DAY 6****LISBON**

Today is free to dive into the vibrant culture of Lisbon. Kick off your adventure with a ride on the iconic Tram 28, which whisks you through the city's coolest neighborhoods and takes you to must-see spots like St. George's Castle. For a unique experience, hop on a funicular railway to tackle the steep hills of the old town, to wander through the enchanting Alfama district, discovering charming shops, cozy restaurants, exotic gardens, and traditional Fado clubs along the way. If you're feeling adventurous, stroll through the historic Belém district, where legendary sailing ships once set off into the unknown. Snap a pic at the Discoveries Monument, honoring Henry the Navigator and his epic 15th-century expeditions, then marvel at the stunning Jerónimos Monastery, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Feeling whimsical? Consider a trip to Sintra, a fairytale town straight out of a storybook and also a UNESCO World Heritage site. In the evening, rejoin fellow travelers for a delicious dinner filled with Portuguese delights—perfect for sharing your day's adventures.

**Inclusions:** Free day in Lisbon | Dinner of Portuguese delights

**Meals:** Breakfast | Dinner

**DAY 7****LISBON – ALGARVE COAST**

This morning, we are setting off on an exhilarating journey south along the breathtaking coastline to the iconic Algarve region! Get ready for an optional horseback ride across picturesque meadows, golden dunes, and lush coastal forests on the stunning Costa Alentejana. Feel the sea breeze and soak up the beauty of this incredible landscape. Next, we head to Cabo de São Vicente, the southwesternmost point of mainland Europe. This dramatic spot, where the sea meets the sky, is perfect for snagging that Instagram-worthy sunset shot. Plus, catch a glimpse of Sagres Fortress, perched high above the rugged cliffs and offering jaw-dropping views of the Atlantic Ocean below. Once we arrive at our hotel, relaxation and adventure await. After settling in, you can unwind or dive straight into the local scene.

Explore the charming town of Lagos, renowned for its vibrant nightlife, stunning beaches, and rich history. Wander through its cobbled streets and discover hidden gems around every corner. The Algarve truly has something for everyone, making it the ultimate base for our unforgettable adventures.

**Inclusions:** Portugal's Alentejo region | Cabo de São Vicente, southwestern-most point of mainland Europe | Sagres Fortress | Spectacular coastline views

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Optional activity:** Horseback riding in Algarve region

## DAY 8

### ALGARVE BEACHES

The stunning Algarve coastline is calling your name—and it's easy to see why. With its dramatic cliffs and golden beaches, this sun-soaked paradise offers something for everyone. Whether you crave adventure, live for water sports, or just want to unwind with a book on the sand, the Algarve delivers. We begin our day with a calming sunrise yoga session right on the beach, letting the soothing sounds of the ocean set the tone. From there, the day is yours to shape: ride the waves surfing, trek scenic trails lined with wildflowers, or simply float in the crystal-clear sea.

As the afternoon unfolds, get ready for an unforgettable experience aboard a beach BBQ cruise. We'll sail along the coast, taking in the iconic sea caves and rock formations before anchoring at a secluded beach. There, a delicious BBQ feast awaits—grilled meats, fresh seafood, and refreshing drinks, all served beachside. Enjoy some beach games, take a dip in the ocean, or simply relax as music and good vibes fill the air. This isn't just a meal—it's a sun-soaked celebration of Algarve's natural beauty and laid-back charm.

Please note: Please note that all water and beach activities are subject to weather and sea conditions. In the event of inclement weather, activities may be modified, rescheduled, or substituted with alternative experiences to ensure the safety and enjoyment of all participants.

**Inclusions:** Breathtaking cliffs, caves and beaches of Algarve | Fun in the sun | Beach yoga class | Farewell BBQ beach cruise

**Meals:** Breakfast | Dinner

**Optional activity:** Kayaking

## DAY 9

### TRAVEL HOME

After a delicious breakfast, it's time to wrap up our incredible journey together. As our land program comes to an end, we gather to bid farewell to our newfound friends and fellow adventurers who have turned this trip into an unforgettable experience. We shared thrilling moments, explored stunning landscapes, and created memories that will last a lifetime. It's not just about the destinations; it's about the amazing connections we have made along the way. As we part ways, let's start planning our next adventure—because if this trip taught us anything, it's that the world is full of exciting places waiting to be explored together. Until next time, keep the spirit of adventure alive, and don't forget to stay in touch with your travel buddies.

**Inclusions:** Transfer from hotel to airport included with purchased AESU group airfare

**Meals:** Breakfast | In-flight

“ **VERY WELL COORDINATED — LOTS OF LOGISTICS WERE SEAMLESSLY PUT TOGETHER — GREAT ITINERARY, TOO.** ”

### TOUR DIRECTORS

Our qualified tour directors and staff of local experts mean a trouble-free journey with the added security of group travel. Show the tour director and driver your appreciation with a tip. We suggest \$6-7 per person/per day for your tour director and \$4 per person/per day for your driver. To learn more visit [www.aesu.com/tour-directors](http://www.aesu.com/tour-directors)

By booking your trip with AESU, you are agreeing to all the terms and conditions as outlined on our website: [www.aesu.com/terms-conditions-awt/](http://www.aesu.com/terms-conditions-awt/)