



TAKE A DETOUR!

TAKE A DETOUR www.detours.pt

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## WHY DETOURS?

# Join us and provide your clients a unique experience in Porto and Northern Portugal.

This region has a special charm and fascination. Northern Portugal is characterized by dazzling landscapes, world class wine and gastronomy, nice beaches, welcoming people and rich culture worthy of a country with over 850 years of history.

We avoid the ordinary programs and suggest different approaches to our territory.

Our goal is to organize engaging experiences and to create long-lasting memories for our guests.

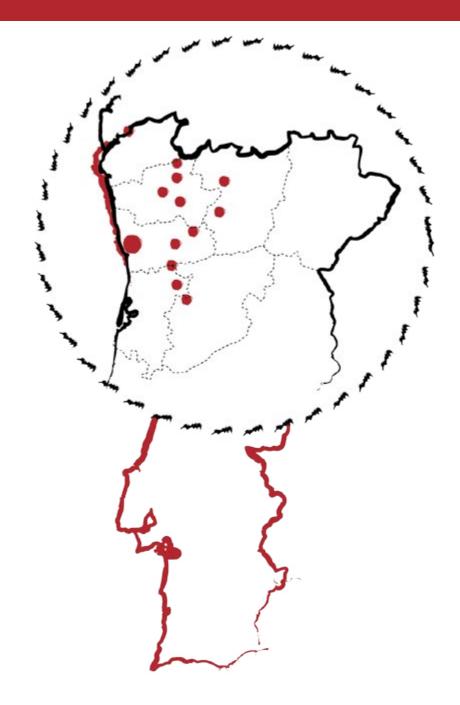
Our regular tours are divided in three categories: Adventure, Nature and Culture. They have been perfected for years and are now a solid and safe choice for those seeking out of the box activities in Porto and Northern Portugal.

Besides the regular tours, we have the possibility to develop all our programs in private.

In an effort to create awareness for your clients, we offer special conditions for Inspection Visits and Fam Trips.

This catalog is our way to show you some of our options. We keep on doing our field work to find the perfect solution for your clients!

Take a Detour,



## SOME OF OUR PARTNERS

Abreu DMC | Buzz DMC | Citur |

Doc DMC | Destination Services | Ibercruises |

Living Tours | Mr Travel | Splendid Evasion|

Top Atlantico DMC

**ADVENTURE** 

# Extreme canyoning

#### Overview

Get ready for a day filled with great rappelling moments, sky-high jumps and amazing views and spots that can only be reached with the proper guides and material. Connect with the natural surroundings on a canyoning activity suitable for beginners and the more experienced alike. Navigate your way through the rivers, abseil down rocks and more.

#### **Highlights**

- Take part in an amazing canyoning activity in Northern Portugal
- Get an adrenaline rush and experience a sense of personal triumph
- Benefit from the services of the best canyoning guides in Portugal
- Connect with the natural surroundings
- Jump, slide, abseil and climb rocks





# What you can expect

We will pick you up at your accommodation and guide you through mountain backroads for a great day of Canyoning.

Connect with nature on an amazing small group canyoning activity with specialized guides trained to ensure your safety at all times. Avail of the high-quality equipment and boots ideal for this kind of activity. Hike along the river beds and jump off – or abseil down – several different types of rock.

Portugal offers a great variety of rivers where canyoning can be practiced and we chose the best ones for you!

This is the perfect Detour for the more adventurous. Many say that this is the most immersive nature activity you can make. Feel connected with the surroundings and venture out into a world of sensations. Are you a first timer? Don't worry... this activity can be adapted for beginners!

Take an alternative route if you don't feel comfortable rock climbing and jumping, and travel at your own rhythm without feeling rushed. Encounter a variety of lagoons, waterfalls and different landscapes of stunning beauty. At the end of the activity you have a traditional picnic waiting for you! Come with us and explore the beauty of our nature. Go beyond your limits!

















# Rafting Adventure Tour

#### Overview

Rafting is a sport activity consisting of the descent of fast rivers in inflatable boats called Rafts. The Paiva River is considered the best river in Portugal for Rafting. Considered in 2006 the river with the cleanest waters of Europe, reserves a very direct contact with nature and allows to feel the strength of the brave waters, especially when its flow is high. Depending on its flow, it promises great adrenaline even for those who habitually practice this sport. Since it is a river that is fed mainly by the rains, the descents in the river Paiva are made (usually) from October to April.

## **Detour Highlights**

- Enjoy a combination of adventure, sport, and fun
- Explore the beautiful landscapes of the Paiva River
- Try a rapid experience while rafting
- Whitewater Rafting
- Embark on a popular, exciting yet safe activity
- Learn from the professional instructors, who will guide you through each stage of the activity





## What you can expect

Come with us down the most powerful river in Portugal! Rafting is an adrenaline shot that is at your reach in a memorable day!

The Paiva river is waiting for you! We take care of everything!

We will go to your accommodation, pick you up and Arouca Geopark here we go! At the heart of this region, the Paiva river flows with all its magnificence.

Once on location, there are back up facilities to increase your comfort as you gear up for the activity. A safety briefing is held, followed be a demonstration of all the necessary techniques to be used.

With all the safety and skillful guides this will be the most

radical experience you will have in Portugal! Choose adventure! Take a Detour!

This Detour is available in English and Portuguese. Come with us and explore the beauty of our nature. Go beyond your limits!



















# Surf Porto Experience

#### Overview

Surfing is surely the fastest growing water activity In Portugal.

Known for being the spot with the largest wave ever surfed (24m or 80ft) the Portuguese Atlantic coastline has a lot more to offer, including extremely good options for first timers or beginners! Our suggestion is that you gather your group and provide them a great surfing experience. In Matosinhos beach, just a few kilometers away from Porto there are conditions to accommodate groups of considerable size with all the comfort and quality.

#### **Highlights**

- Matosinhos Beach and Atlantic Coastline
- Perfect ocean conditions for Surf Lessons
- Gear adapted to your surfing level
- Opportunity to relax at the beach after the class
- Great fish restaurants in walking distance





# What you can expect

With more than 900km of Atlantic shore and a mild weather, Portugal is a surf paradise. Come and enjoy our beach, sun, sea and waves with 100% commodity and safety.

We will wait for you at Matosinhos Beach (near Vagas Bar -at the southern tip of the beach) or if you prefer we will pick you up at your accommodation and take you there! Try out your wetsuit, grab your board and.... LET's GO!

Your experience will start with a safety briefing and a demonstration of the basic moves you need to know to achieve success!

We will be in the water between one and two hours, depending on the weather and ocean conditions, as well as the fitness level of the guests.

At the end of the activity you can choose between grabbing a transfer back to city center or just staying at the beach and relaxing!

If your activity is during the morning we strongly advise you to hang around the fish restaurants of Matosinhos (walking distance from the surf lesson spot) and try their wonderful fish dishes!















#### **ADVENTURE**

# Stand Up Paddle

#### Overview

Stand Up Paddling is an ancient method of surfing that became famous in the 60's in Hawaii. Recently, it upgrades its status as a sport on its own and it has become ever more popular, showing a big growth rate around the world nowadays.

It's a sport developed with a large board and a paddle, usually in spots with calm waters.

Near Porto there are ideal conditions for going through with this activity, combining wonderful scenery with quiet water spots.

SUP is also considered an activity with very low environmental impact, allowing its practitioners relaxation, leisure and fun, as well as moments of introspection and contemplation.

## **Highlights**

- Enjoy the landscape with minimum environmental impact
- Relaxing and gliding on calm waters
- Mingle in a different context from the day-to-day
- Exercise you balance and coordination
- Having moments of introspections and tranquility





# What you can expect

Near Porto there are ideal conditions for going through with this activity, combining wonderful scenery with quiet water spots.

SUP is also considered an activity with very low environmental impact, allowing its practitioners relaxation, leisure and fun, as well as moments of introspection and contemplation.

We will pick you up at your accommodation and take you straight to spot where the activity is held (it may change considering tidal and wind factors). Once there, a small security briefing takes place and a demonstration of the paddling technique is done.

After this small introduction, a nice Stand Up Paddle ride takes place, lasting between one hour and two hours depending on the weather and the guest's fitness level.

We will then bring you back to your accommodation!



















# **Buggy Off-Road Adventure**

#### Overview

This is the best choice for those who love to drive and strong emotions. The activity starts close to the Serras do Porto Park, and follows through vineyards and rural landscapes. For 3 hours, you will have the change to drive on the Shakedown circuit of the Portuguese stage of the WRC, the cornbread museum, the typical village of Quintandona and the ruins of Castro Mozinho. This is a delightful way of getting to know the region, joining fun and knowledge as you explore Northern Portugal's nature and culture. Each Buggy has capacity for two people and at the beginning of the activity a safety briefing and driving procedures takes place for greater quality of your experience. Having a Driver's License is mandatory!

#### **Highlights**

- Quintandona Preserved Village
- Castromil mines
- Castro de Mozinho
- Cornbread museum
- Driving an all-terrain vehicle





# What you can expect

Your day starts with a convenient pick up in Porto.

Our guide will drive you to the briefing location where you can leave your belongings and start your adventure!

Specialized monitors will accompany you throughout the route, stopping at the reference spots and explaining more about the region.

The cultural experience is very important... however, the main word to describe this activity is... FUN!

Whether its raining or sunshine, driving a buggy provides a feeling of liberty and well-being that will make this day memorable! Feel like a professional driver as you drive along the Shakedown stage where the superstars of the WRC entertain thousands of people!

At the end of the activity we will come back to Porto with a smile on the face and the feeling of a well spent day!

Join us!







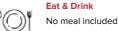


















# Paiva Walkways Tour

#### **Overview**

This full day tour will take you to "Arouca Geopark" where the Paiva River flows at the bottom of a glorious valley. The Paiva Walkways or Passadiços do Paiva that follows the river path is our goal. Once there, you will have chance to go for an 8 Km path with one of the best views in our country! At the end of the hike, its time to appreciate the region's fabulous gastronomy and taste the local liquor "Pinguça".

#### **Highlights**

- Adventurous hiking experience over intricate wooden walkway
- Far-reaching views from soaring heights of the Paiva Gorge
- Mouthwatering local delicacies featuring Posta Arouquesa
- Get off the beaten path and escape the crowds
- "Pinguça" Tasting
- Free hotel pickup and drop-off included
- Small group ensures personal service
- Led by a local guide





# What you can expect

Get ready to be amazed by one of the most beautiful riverside hikes in Europe. The Arouca Geopark region is quickly becoming one Portugal's favorite nature destinations.

In the heart of this development are the Paiva Walkways, a project that was recognized on the World Travel Awards in the categories of "Europe's Leading Tourism Development project" and "Europe's Leading Adventure Tourist Attraction" in 2018. The Paiva Walkways follows the Paiva River path for 8 Km providing glorious views and amazing connection with nature.

Begin your day with a convenient pick up at your hotel followed by a one and half hour drive to the start of this great trail.

Your personal guide will give you great insights about life in Portugal and our ways and traditions making the way to the Paiva Walkway go by in a flash! The hike along the river is filled with geologic, natural and archeological interest located in the most beautiful surroundings.

After this 3-hour hike, a great lunch is required!

And there is nowhere better to have a great lunch than in this

Taste the best meat in Portugal at Alvarenga, famous for its "Posta Arouquesa", a delightful piece of grilled beef that will make you regain all your stamina!

End your day with a "Pinguça" tasting, a great Portuguese liquor. Experience the best nature and gastronomy Portugal has to offer!

Take a Detour



Min. 2 – Max – 16



Typical Regional Lunch + Pinguça Tasting



Arouca Geopa



8 hours



All year



#### NATURE

# Transfer from Porto to Paiva Walkways

#### Overview

Please join this private, reliable, and comfortable transfer from Porto to the beginning of the Paiva Walkways (entrance of Areinho). Get ready to be amazed by one of the most beautiful riverside hikes in Europe. Enjoy the day at your own pace... We advise you to gather some information about the hike before venturing out! The Paiva Walkways follows the Paiva River path for 8 kilometers providing glorious views for an amazing connection with nature.

Our transfer back will be waiting at the end of the hike (entrance of Espiunca) to bring you back to Porto.

#### **Highlights**

- Enjoy an 8-kilometer hike along the most beautiful walkway in Portugal
- Benefit from a private transfer from Porto to Paiva Walkways entrance
- Avoid the hassle of waiting in line for a public transportation
- Relax and enjoy the views along the way
- City stop in Arouca for a coffee break
- Make your time worthwhile with a convenient pick-up and drop-off from your accommodation





## What you can expect

Our driver will pick you up at the set time and will bring you to the entrance of the Paiva Walkways (entrance of Areinho).

You will arrive at the Paiva Walkways between 10:30 and 11a.m., depending on pick up locations and traffic.

Once there, enjoy your day as you see fit! Take pictures, hike, relax or sunbathe at Vau River Beach, the choice is yours!

At 4 p.m. our transfer back to Porto will be waiting for you at Espiunca entrance.

Take a Detour!



Min. 2 – Max. 16



No meal included (Picnic – Extra 8€)



Arouca Geopa



Duration 8 hours



All year



NATURE

# Peneda-Gerês National Park Tour

#### Overview

Immerse yourself in Portugal's wild landscape on this full-day small-group tour of Gerês National Park from Porto. Explore the Peneda-Gerês National Park, viewing incredible mountains, local fauna and flora, amazing viewpoints and the Tahiti waterfall. Enjoy a picnic lunch in Gerês and admire the gorgeous surrounding scenery as you rest. This small group tour ensures a more personalized experience.

## **Highlights**

- Beautiful natural landscapes of Peneda-Gerês National Park
- Discover in the magnificent natural running waters of the park
- Mellow trek to see the beautiful lagoon at Tahiti Waterfall
- Swim in the therapeutic cold waters
- Lovely pastoral mountain views along the drive
- Hike into the wild and enjoy the beautiful surroundings
- Be amazed with viewpoint of Pedra Bela





# What you can expect

Peneda – Gerês National Park is perhaps the most exciting destination for local and international tourists specifically for nature lovers. We will pick you up at your accommodation at about 9 am and take you out for a day to remember!

This Detour will show you the most amazing spots of the Peneda Gerês National Park while details about the local traditions, flora and fauna are given by our guides.

The park was created in 1971 and since then it has been the only one of its kind in our country. More recently, in 2009, it was declared a World Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO, status that reinforced the protection measures taken to keep the beauty and natural importance of the region.

The total area of the National Park covers around 70 000 hectares; therefore, it has many hidden gems and picturesque locations for you to explore with us.

Along your day you will be able to visit several landmarks of the park, including the famous Tahiti Waterfalls (Fecha de Barjas) where you can enjoy a refreshing swim and the Pedra Bela Viewpoint which has an incredible view over the whole landscape.

Our guides have local knowledge and will take you through a trip deep inside this natural paradise with all the safety and plenty of fun. Picnic in one remote idyllic location is included!















## Douro Valley 4×4 Tour

#### Overview

A full-day tour of Douro Valley in a 4×4 vehicle, departing from Porto. See Portugal's enthralling landscape up-close, including the terraces vineyards of its most famous wine region, which is also an UNESCO World Heritage Site. Along the way, taste the region's world-class wines and enjoy a picnic lunch.

#### **Highlights**

- Visit a Port Wine "Quinta"
- A full-day tour of Douro Valley by 4×4, departing from Porto
- Adventurous ride through Douro's backroads on a 4×4 jeep
- Landscapes of the Douro Valley—a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Insightful commentary on the region's traditions & culture
- Chance to visit an authentic vineyard with port tasting
- Meet local wine industry experts
- Enjoy a scenic picnic lunch
- Get off the beaten path and escape the crowds





## What you can expect

This is the perfect (De) tour to stroll around the Douro Valley Wine region off the beaten path. We will pick you up in your accommodation and take you to Régua, from where we will start this amazing Detour.

This region has been shaped by human action since the roman times and in 1756 became one of the first regulated and demarcated wine regions in the world by hand of "Marquês de Pombal" one of the most important figures in the history of Portugal. On the year of 2001 it was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Aboard a 4×4 vehicle you will be crossing the mountains through the vines and having a picnic in a place with superb views.

Make sure that you take your time to appreciate the twists and turns of this sinuous river and to understand a little better the traditions and rituals of the locals. During the afternoon you will have the opportunity to do a Port Wine Tasting in a typical Douro "Quinta" and learn a bit more about Port Wine and its qualities.

By going deep inside the vineyards, you will be able to feel all the intensity of this magical place, there is no doubts that this is a great way to know the Douro Valley – UNESCO World Heritage Site!

















#### CULTURE

## Secret Porto Walking Tour

#### Overview

In this walking tour you will be able to enjoy Porto's lifestyle by following though lesser known spots and hearing stories from the local guides that we born and raised here!

It is the ideal choice for those who enjoy getting to know people and understanding the city's pace and modern lifestyle. Nonetheless, important information regarding historical and architectural details will be passed on to better understand the development of the city until these days.

## **Highlights**

- Insider look to Porto
- Local knowledge and advices
- Hidden spots and alleys
- Relaxed attitude
- Pick up and drop off at your accommodation





# What you can expect

We welcome you to our city, Porto. The city where we grew up and live, the city which we relish and cherish, the city we want you to love.

With its medieval origins, Porto is a city that endured the passing by of centuries, having had times of great success and others of great difficulty while keeping its charisma and pride. These qualities were recognized by Queen D. Maria II, that named the city as "Invicta Cidade do Porto", Porto the Undefeated City.

Walk with us through narrow alleys and amazing stairways. Feel the buzz of the old city and the warmth of its inhabitants. Discover hidden viewpoints and embrace the "Tripeiro" spirit.

We will stop in nice gardens and go down to the river that offers some of its smoothness to a colorful, tight and chaotic landscape of an historical center that evolved without urban planning and logistical concerns.

Come with us and be astounded by this magical place!





















## Porto Local Food Tour

#### Overview

This is the perfect Detour for gastronomy lovers.

One of the main features of a culture is its gastronomy. It reflects centuries of history and represents the connection between the inhabitants and the natural resources of the region.

In this tour the goal is to show our guests the ingredients and dishes that are part of life in Porto. The route across the city's historical center that connects the several stopping points for food and beverage tastings is also an opportunity to get to know the city a little better.

## **Highlights**

- Drinks Included
- Tastings adaptable to personal dietary restrictions
- Stopping points adapted to the day of the tour
- Explanation about the origins and characteristics of the ingredients/dishes
- Full time guide





# What you can expect

Our guide will meet you at your accommodation and will guide you through the streets of Porto to our degustation spots.

On the first stop you will taste the famous Portuguese tart "Pastel de Nata", a reference of the gastronomy not only of our city, but for the whole of Portugal.

With a sweeter taste in our mouth, we go for a small hike in the city where you will hear about the city lifestyle and traditions.

The second stop will be at a famous local café that offers a delicious "Sandes de Pernil Misto". This sandwich is made with slowly roasted pork and sheep cheese in a slightly toasted bread loaf.

Our recommendation is that you choose the house sparkling wine to go along with it. We continue our gastro tour to a tiny restaurant that has a combined pork dish of local delicacies along with chicken gizzards or fried codfish coated in batter.

To go along with it we suggest the house's "Vinho Verde" or the typical beer "Super Bock". To end the day, we stop nearby to try a nice "Prego no Pão", a sandwich with beef loin and cheese. This one goes well with the local wine "Espadal" a classic in Porto.

We hope that at the end of the day local gastronomy is another reason for you to be in love with our town.

Take a Detour!









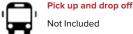
Location
Porto Historical City Center



4 hours



tala .... and door





## Porto Craft Beer Tour

#### Overview

While Portugal may be famous for its wine, the Craft Beer trend that is growing around the world has its own ambassadors in Porto! We invite you to come and appreciate the art of the Master Brewers inside their natural habitat, the brewery! Understand the process of brewing and feel free to ask your questions regarding every aspect of the production! Along the activity the guests will be able to feel, smell and taste all the components of the beer and enjoy a fine tasting at the end of the visits. Depending on the timing available and the size of the group, we can arrange visits to one or two breweries and a great finale at a local brew pub where the guests will be able to try different craft beers produced in Portugal. All in all, this is a great activity to spend half day in an enjoyable and relaxed manner!

#### **Highlights**

- Overview all the process of brewing
- Get familiar with the ingredients used
- Try craft beer directly from the beer tank
- Personalized explanation by a Master Brewer
- Tasting of more than 8 kinds of craft beer





# What you can expect

Our day starts with a visit to a brewery where we will have the opportunity to see in loco all the raw materials used to produce the beer. We can feel the aromas and textures and understand their role on the result.

At the end of the visit, we get to taste the freshly brewed beer straight from the beer tank!

Next, we head for the second stopping point, a slightly small brewery where we will be welcomed by the Master Brewer and will be able to understand the similarities and differences between the several producers. A nice tasting of the homebrewed beer also takes place in this spot!

Our tour ends in one of the best beer pubs in Porto, where

we will be able to choose amongst 5 different types of craft beer and have a big picture about the craft beer scene in Portugal. In this pub there is always a great variety of freshly brewed beer produced all around Portugal.

Our host will explain the characteristics and the specificities of the chosen beer!





























