

Pauwels Travel Bureau
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Photo: Courtesy of Target Travel

Sweet Bakery Goes to Portugal

Thursday, September 10th – Sunday, September 20, 2020

Join Brantford's favorite baker Stacey Bester, owner of Sweet Bakery, on a tour to stunning Portugal, one of Europe's most beautiful and charming countries, a haven for food & wine lovers, filled with culture & beautiful scenery. You will get a taste of Portugal, visiting Lisbon, Sintra, Cascais, Obidos, the Douro Valley & Porto. All while enjoying food tours, cooking class, winery visits, a cruise down the Douro River & so much more along the way!

Tour cost from Toronto, based on double occupancy: \$4, 875.00 per person, taxes included

Single supplement: \$945.00 in a classic room

B = breakfast, L = lunch, D = dinner

PROPOSED ITINERARY (subject to change)

DAY 1 –Thursday September 10: Flight from Toronto

Evening departure from Toronto to Lisbon with Air Transat. Dinner and a light breakfast will be served on board.

DAY 2 – Friday September 11: Lisbon

(D)

Arrival at Lisbon Airport and meet & greet by our English-speaking assistant. Transfer by private coach to the hotel and check-in. Enjoy the rest of the day relaxing and exploring on your own. Dinner in a typical restaurant near the hotel. Overnight in Lisbon (Hotel Exe Liberdade 3* or similar).

DAY 3 – Saturday September 12: Sintra – Colares - Cascais

(B, L,)

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. In the morning departure to Sintra by private coach with English-speaking guide. Sintra is a delightful Portuguese town that is situated within the hills of the Serra de Sintra. Hidden within these pine covered hills are extravagant palaces, opulent mansions and the ruins of an ancient castle. In Sintra visit National Palace and Palacio de Pena. The Palacio Nacional da Pena is one of the finest tourist attractions in Portugal and exemplifies the 19th century Romanticism style of architecture. The palace is a hedonistic mix of vividly painted terraces, decorative battlements and mythological statues, all of which stand in stark contrast to the lush greens of the Parque de Pena forest. The interior of the Pena Palace is equally as fascinating, being restored to reflect the decor in 1910, when the Portuguese nobility fled to Brazil to escape the revolution. Surrounding the Palacio da Pena are forested grounds, which continue the design ideals of Romanticism, with hidden pathways, mystical ornaments and stunning vistas. The National Palace is a gothic palace, boasting an extensive history and ornately painted ceilings. Lunch in a typical restaurant in Sintra historical center. In the afternoon proceed to Colares and visit a winery, including tasting. The vineyards in this small wine region west of Lisbon on the Atlantic coast look like something that slithered up from the sea. Trained low to avoid the biting wind that blows incessantly off the ocean, the vines resemble green serpents snaking along the sand. It's as if vines from a more conventional region had come to the beach on vacation and had collapsed in a deep slumber. Colares produces what may well be Portugal's most distinctive still wines. The reds, made of the ramisco grape, are high in acid and powerfully tannic, so much so that they are aged for years in the cellars before they are released. The current vintage on the market is 2007. Proceed to Cascais and visit of the city center with our guide. Dinner on your own in Cascais. Return to Lisbon. Overnight in Lisbon (Hotel Exe Liberdade 3* or similar).



DAY 4– Sunday September 13: Lisbon

(B, D)

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. In the morning walking food tour in Baixa and Alfama areas with our English speaking guide. Alfama is the oldest district of the city and is a maze of narrow streets that

stretch from the banks of the estuary up to the castle. Historically this was the section of the city where the poor lived, just outside of the city walls. Today Alfama is rejuvenated with trendy bars and cafes set amongst the crumbling charm of the ancient buildings. The Baixa district boasts of the grandeur that Portugal once commanded, with wide avenues and magnificent squares. The area was completely rebuilt after the 1755 earthquake and was one of the first cities to follow a grid plan street layout. Baixa is the heart of Lisbon and is where many of the capital's finest tourist attractions are located. Eat as the locals do during a gourmet walking experience. You'll learn about Portuguese cuisine as we stroll down winding alleys to find unique places full of culinary treasures. Lunch on your own. Afternoon at leisure. In the evening BBQ dinner in a typical farm just outside Lisbon. Overnight in Lisbon (Hotel Exe Liberdade 3* or similar).



DAY 5 -Monday September 14: Lisbon

(B)

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. Full-day at leisure. Lunch and dinner on your own. Overnight in Lisbon (Hotel Exe Liberdade 3* or similar).

DAY 6 -Tuesday September 15: Lisbon - Obidos - Douro Valley

(B, D)

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. In the morning departure to Obidos by private coach. "The Wedding Town" was the traditional bridal gift of the kings of Portugal to their queens, a custom begun in 1282 by Dom Dinis. The town has hardly changed in appearance since then: its cobbled streets and steep staircases wind up to the ramparts, from where you can gaze across a countryside of windmills and vineyards. The parish church, Igreja de Santa Maria (in the central Praça), was chosen for the wedding of the ten-year-old child-king Afonso V and his eight-year-old cousin, Isabel, in 1444. It dates mainly from the Renaissance, though the interior is lined with seventeenth-century blue azulejos (or painted tiles) in a homely manner typical of Portuguese churches. The retable in a side chapel on the right-hand side was painted by Josefa de Obidos, one of the finest Portuguese painters and one of the few female artists afforded any reputation by art historians. One corner of the triangular fortifications is occupied by a massively towered Castle built by Dom Dinis which has been converted into a Pousada. Explore Obidos on your own. Lunch on your own. In the afternoon proceed to Douro Valley. Check-in at the hotel. Dinner at the hotel. Overnight in Douro Valley (Hotel Rural Casa dos Viscondes da Varzea 4* or similar)



Photo: Courtesy of Target Travel, Town of Obidos

DAY 7 – Wednesday September 16: Douro Valley

(B, L, D)

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. Full-day excursion to Douro Valley by private coach and English-speaking wine. A UNESCO World Heritage site since 2001, the Douro is a majestic wilderness, one of the oldest demarcated wine regions in the world, but a surprisingly silent place, apart from three bustling weeks of harvest each autumn.



Photo: Courtesy of Target Travel-Quevedo Winery

Visit Quevedo winery in S. Joao da Pesqueira. Quevedo is part of a new generation of small family wineries based in the Douro Valley. They grew grapes to make Port wine for merchants based in Vila Nova de Gaia until Portugal joined the European Union in 1986. Then the legislation changed and allowed both grape growers and wineries in the Douro Valley to export their wines directly to the retailer. It was then that the brand “Quevedo” was born. From the sub-regions of the Cima Corgo and the Douro Superior, Quevedo cultivates 100 hectares of vineyards across six properties. The vineyards diversity provides grapes of varying aromas and flavors which helps them craft their wines. Wine tasting and lunch at the winery. In the afternoon visit another winery in the region. Cruise on the Douro River in a barco rabelo. This two-hour boat trip will take you through the Douro River in a traditional boat, the rabelo. This small craft was used to deliver the port wine from the Alto Douro, to the cellars in Vila Nova de Gaia.

From the boat you'll have a privileged view of the Douro Valley, sailing through a stretch of the river not seen from the main roads. You'll see its unique landscapes, with vineyards and terraces and many wineries. The Alto Douro Vinhateiro region is a particularly representative section of the extraordinary scenery of the Douro Demarcated Region, the first demarcated region in the world. The departure point is in Pinhão, a village in the heart of the Douro, where you'll return at the end of the tour. Along the way, you'll have the opportunity to pass by Tua. Return to the hotel. Dinner at the hotel or nearby restaurant. Overnight in Douro Valley (Hotel Rural Casa dos Viscondes da Varzea 4* or similar)



DAY 8 – Thursday September 17: Duoro Valley-Porto

(B, L)

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. In the morning cooking class at the hotel. Join Countess Maria for an organized cooking session with her in one of the palace's old kitchens, using a stove and cooking pots dating back to the early 1800's. You will have a truly delightful experience -- from the very first greeting, to the food preparation with her and her wonderful staff, to eating the meal you will prepare. Maria's riches to rags to riches story is incredible. She is an amazing woman and a marvelous host who makes her guests feel immediately at home. Lunch is included. In the afternoon departure to Porto by private coach. Check-in at the hotel. Dinner on your own. Overnight in Porto (Hotel Porto Coliseum 4* or similar)

DAY 9– Friday September 18: Porto

(B, L)

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. In the morning half-day guided tour of Porto. Our tour begins in one of the most charming monuments of the city, the Cathedral of Porto. Located on the highest part of the city, its construction began in the 12th century. The Cathedral of Porto is considered a National Monument, for its religious, architectural, and historic value. Crossing the famous Aliados Avenue, surrounded by a vast architectural complex with Art Nouveau and Art Deco façades, we will continue our tour towards the São Bento Railway Station. This place may be one of the greatest highlights of the tour - this train station seems like a true tile museum! Its tile panels tell the history of the North of Portugal through dazzling blue and white tiles. The main atrium is covered by more than twenty thousand tiles! Take time to appreciate the most exquisite landscapes of Porto and Vila Nova de Gaia, while crossing the iconic D. Luís I Bridge, built by one of the disciples of Gustav Eiffel - the French engineer who participated in the construction of the Statue of Liberty in New York and the Eiffel Tower in Paris. Vila Nova de Gaia is famous for the stunning Port Wine Cellars, your next stop. Have the opportunity to visit a Wine Cellar and learn all about the winemaking process that has lasted for centuries and that is the basis of this world-famous wine. A port wine tasting is included, the perfect opportunity to savour some of the best. Visit also Palacio de Bolsa, a 19th century building owned by the Porto Commercial Association and is located in Praça do Infante D. Henrique, the former economic and

commercial heart of Porto. The palace no longer works as a stock exchange but remains the headquarters of the Association and is mainly used for major events, such as events and official receptions. In 1957, Queen Elizabeth II was received in Palácio da Bolsa, in a great ceremony. It was built in 1842, over the ruins of the former St. Francis convent, which was burned in 1833, during the Civil War. Between 1833 and 1842, Porto's businessmen made their trade on the streets, because they didn't have any building for that. Inside you'll find a great mix of artistic styles and decorative arts, very typical of Art Nouveau and other movements. Lunch in a typical restaurant. Afternoon at leisure. Dinner on your own. Overnight in Porto (Hotel Porto Coliseum 4* or similar)



DAY 10 -Saturday September 19: Porto

(B, D)

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. Follow the lead of the food-obsessed Porto inhabitants and spend a morning hopping between bars on this 3-hour food tour in Porto! With an experienced guide, you'll learn about the history of Portuguese gastronomy and discover the delights of small-plate dining on visits to 3 of Porto's best bars. Loosen your belt and wash down finger-licking dishes with local wine, port or beer, on this must-do gastro tour! The guide will take you walking around town on the way to your first restaurant of the afternoon. As you walk, your guide will chat to you about Portuguese gastronomy, and of the explosion of its popularity on the international stage. Bars and restaurants here are not typically as crowded as neighbouring Spain, people here like to sit down and taste with no rush. In some places, on the other hand, we will share food and finger-eat. The dishes served each afternoon will vary, but you can expect a selection of food ranging from niche regional specialties to all-time Portuguese classics. Portuguese cuisine has many Mediterranean influences due to the Portuguese Colonial Empire that started to expand overseas in the 15th century. The influence of its former colonies is notable especially in the wide variety of spices used, as you will see on the famous Porto pastries. Lunch on your own. Afternoon free at leisure. Farewell dinner in a typical restaurant. Overnight in Porto (Hotel Porto Coliseum 4* or similar)



DAY 11 – Sunday September 20: Porto

(B)

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. In the morning transfer to Porto airport by private coach for your return flight to Toronto.

Tour cost from Toronto, based on double occupancy: \$4, 875.00 per person, taxes included.

Single supplement: \$945.00 in a classic room

(Please note single rooms will be in the classic room categories, while double rooms are in superior rooms)

Included in the price are:

- Return flight from Toronto to Lisbon/Porto, with Air Transat. Includes all taxes & fuel surcharges;
- Accommodation, based on double occupancy, in centrally-located, very comfortable 3 and 4-star hotels;
- The surcharge for single use of a double room is \$945.00. Note there are a limited number of single rooms available
- Breakfast daily, 2 food tours, 3 wine tastings, 4 lunches & 5 dinners;
- Boat cruise on the Douro River
- Transfers, all visits and sightseeing as described in the itinerary;
- Pauwels Travel tour escort;
- 2 hr. Plaza Premium Airport Lounge pass if you register more than 90 days prior to departure.

Not included:

- Wine, beer, mineral water, and similar beverages with lunch or dinner;
- Tips to guide & driver: suggested amount of \$5.00 per person, per day;
- All items of a personal nature;
- Travel Insurance is available with Manulife, but premium depends on age, type, etc. Please call for rates.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSITS:

Reservations should be made as early as possible to ensure the departure of your choice. A deposit of \$750.00 required at the time of registration. Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of your deposit and registration form. No reservations will be accepted without a signed application form.

REFUND OF UNUSED ARRANGEMENTS:

Because the rates of Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. are based on group participation, no refund can be made for any tour accommodation or tour service or tour feature not taken. If cancellation occurs while the tour is in progress, no refund can be made for the tour portion not taken. We strongly suggest that to allow for any unexpected contingencies, you purchase the all-inclusive insurance.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Refund of deposit is made if cancellation is received in writing by Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. more than 90 days prior of the departure date of the tour less a \$500.00 non-refundable administrative fee per person. For cancellation received in writing 90 days prior or less the following cancellation charges apply:

90 days to 61 days before departure: 25% of tour cost

60 to 31 days before departure: 50% of tour cost

Within 30 days prior to departure: 100% of tour cost

RESPONSIBILITY:

The acceptance of the initial service to be provided under the tour shall be considered an acceptance by the tour member of those conditions. We also reserve the right to decline, to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. We reserve the right without notice, to withdraw any part or all of the tour. Factors such as airline schedule changes, hotel overbookings, inclement weather, travel warnings by the Canadian Government etc. may necessitate changes in the itinerary. There may also be other circumstances in which changes become necessary or advisable.

By commencing the tour, I agree to the release and agreement as included below.

RELEASE & AGREEMENT:

By placing my deposit and commencing the tour I understand and agree to the following:

1. That all tours are delivered in conjunction with other service providers, including but not limited to travel agent and booking services, airlines, hotel and accommodation providers, transportation providers including but not limited to coach, train and ferry services, restaurant providers, and local guides. We shall not be held responsible for the failure by any person or company to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. All hotels, transportation and other travel services are provided subject to all the terms and conditions under which they are offered to the public generally.
2. I know that tour programs include walking, and may including hiking and fitness programs that have potential hazardous activities associated with them. I should not participate prior to approval by my physician. I assume any and all other risks associated with these events included

but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather including high heat and/or humidity.

3. To release, indemnify and hold harmless Pauwels Travel Bureau and their affiliates (which term shall include parents, subsidiaries, officers, directors, shareholders, agents and employees of Pauwels Travel Bureau as well as Pauwels Travel themselves) (the "Released Parties") from, and agree not to sue the Released Parties for, any claims that I may have arising from, or in connection with, any personal injury, bodily injury, mental anguish, emotional distress, physical, property or other damage that I may suffer from any cause whatsoever related in any way to my participation in this tour. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, I release, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from, and agree not to sue them for any personal injury, bodily injury, mental anguish, emotional distress, physical, property or other damage that I may suffer from the Released Parties' negligence other than from intentional or reckless acts by such parties. I further agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from any and all acts of God, war (whether declared or undeclared), terrorist activities, incidents of politically motivated violence, illness or quarantine, strikes or government restrictions or the acts or omissions of any other agents over which the Released Parties have no direct or indirect control, including, without limitation, airlines, railways, bus companies, hotels, shipping companies, guides and sub-contracted agents or tour operators. This release also includes activities not offered that may be considered risky. I further release any Tour Directors, bus drivers or other individuals involved in my tour.
4. That the air carrier's liability for loss of or damage to baggage or property, or for death or injury to person, is limited by their tariffs, or the Warsaw Convention, or both.
5. That Pauwels Travel Bureau shall have no liability or responsibility for me when I am absent from activities, such as visits to friends or relatives or during stay-ahead/stay-behind option periods if the stay-ahead/stay-behind period does not include the services of a Tour Director.
6. To abide by directions of my Tour Director or other leadership personnel during my tour. Failure to do so may result in my termination from tour immediately. I understand that to disobey such rules or directions are to waive the right to any refund, and that I may be sent home at my own expense. The participant and family undertake full financial responsibility for any damage caused by the participant and agree to pay his/her return home on the first available flight, should his/her behavior be deemed detrimental to the welfare of the group.
7. To abide by all local laws when in Canada and abroad, including those concerning drugs and alcohol. (Minors must have parents' permission to use alcohol even if the local law would otherwise permit them to.) I understand that if I abuse or disobey such laws, even unintentionally, I waive my right to a refund, and Pauwels Travel may send me home at my own expense. I also understand that should local authorities be involved, I will be subject to the laws of the country I am visiting.
8. That if I become ill or incapacitated, Pauwels Travel and its employees, or a designated chaperone may take any action they deem necessary for my safety and well-being, including securing medical treatment (at my own expense) and transporting me home. Pauwels Travel retains the right, in its sole discretion, to contact the traveller's parent(s) and/or guardian or emergency contact with

regard to health issues or any matters whatsoever that relates to the traveller's tour. These rights transcend any and all privacy regulations that may apply. In the event of a medical emergency, Pauwels Travel will attempt to cause appropriate treatment to be administered, and the traveller authorizes Pauwels Travel to do so. Pauwels Travel, however, makes no warranty that it will be able to cause effective (or any) emergency treatment to be administered.

9. That Pauwels Travel may use any film likenesses taken of me and any of my comments while on a tour for future publication and also use my contact information for future Pauwels Travel communications.

A WORD ABOUT *GROUP* AIRFARES:

Please note that when booking one of our air inclusive tours, Pauwels Travel has negotiated reduced rates with the airline that we are able to confirm and lock in up to 359 days before travel. While it is wonderful to share the savings and flexibility this provides with you, our valued guests, the privilege does come with some restrictions. In some cases it may not be possible to collect frequent flyer miles, you may not be able to check in online 24 hours before travel, or you may need to try checking in with your ticket number rather than your booking reference and, in almost ALL cases we are not able to offer advanced seat selection.

It is the airline that makes the reservation and has control over the booking so it is their policy, not ours, that prevents us from assigning specific seats. If a request is made, it is passed on to the airline by our staff when they submit the names to the airline, i.e., 30-60 days prior to departure. Calling us several days before you leave will not change this fact nor will getting upset with our staff.

If a certain type of seat is indispensable to you, we suggest that you book our tour on a "land only" basis and make individual flight arrangements, in which case you may be able to get the seat of your choice; Pauwels Travel would be happy to assist you with that reservation at absolutely no additional charge. We will offer you the best fare available, but please note that this can only be done once a tour is a guaranteed departure because your individual airfare's conditions are likely to involve cancellation penalties.

We thank you in advance for your kind understanding of the above!

Please book ____ seat(s) on the "Sweet Bakery goes to Portugal" tour, September 10 – 20, 2020.

Enclosed is my/our deposit of _____ (\$750 per person, plus insurance premium if taken.)

Deposit and insurance premium, if taken, are due with registration. You will be invoiced for an interim payment of \$1000.00 and the balance will be due 45 days prior to departure.

WE REQUIRE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT (INFORMATION PAGES ONLY) VALID 3 MONTHS AFTER TOUR TO BE SENT IN WITH YOUR APPLICATION.

PASSPORT NAME(S): Please indicate the appropriate title (Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr., Ms.)

Surname _____ First _____ Middle(s) _____

Surname _____ First _____ Middle(s) _____

If applicable, give your commonly used first name as you would like it to appear on your name tag: (e.g. "Liz" for "Mary Elizabeth")

Address _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

If traveling alone, is a SINGLE ROOM REQUIRED? YES _____ NO _____

If sharing, what is your bed preference: twin _____ double _____?

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: We find the earlier a request is made, the more success we have in filling it, so please list any dietary requests, allergies, any special physical needs or frequent flyer numbers, etc. here. We cannot ensure requests made 30 days or less prior to departure will be possible.

Insurance: Please call the office for premiums, then record them below and add premiums to your deposit.

I /we would like to purchase (please check and record your rate):

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

All-inclusive Package _____ Non-medical Package _____

Other _____ OR Decline Insurance _____

PAYMENT: Cheque payable to Pauwels Travel Visa Mastercard American Express

Amount Paid: _____ Card Number: _____

Expiry: _____ Security Code: _____ Signature: _____

"I/we agree to the terms and conditions attached to the program, have indicated our insurance choice, indicated any special requests and included payment".

Date _____ Signature(s) _____

Please forward this completed and signed form, copy of passport and payment to:

PAUWELS TRAVEL BUREAU LTD.

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