



Highlights of Portugal & Morocco with Martha Ryan

14 days | Oct 18 2025—Oct 31 2025

Travel into the heart of Morocco, and explore the maze-like medinas of the imperial cities. Then, relive the Age of Discovery, when explorers brought treasures from around the world—now on glorious display in Portuguese palaces.



Your tour package includes

- 12 nights in handpicked hotels
- Breakfast daily
- 4 dinners, some with beer or wine
- 2 wine tastings
- 2 food tastings
- 1 cooking class
- 13 sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach
- 1 on-tour flight

Included highlights

- Moroccan cooking class
- Medina of Essaouira
- Oualidia
- Cité Portugaise
- Cathedral of Coimbra
- Lamego
- Douro Valley grape harvest
- Casa de Mateus
- Portuguese wine tastings

Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 3.5 hours daily across moderately uneven terrain, including paved roads and cobblestone streets, with some hills and stairs.

For more information, contact

<https://groups.goaheadtours.com/groups/tours/zvp-ryan> | 1-800-438-7672 | manitoumartha@aol.com

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14 days

Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Marrakech today.

Marrakech → 3 nights

Day 2: Arrival in Marrakech

Included meals: welcome dinner

Welcome to Morocco! Sip a welcome drink with your Tour Director and fellow travelers on a terrace overlooking the lively Djemaa el Fna market. Then, enjoy a welcome dinner.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Marrakech

Included meals: breakfast

Get a feel for the history of Marrakech, one of Morocco's imperial cities, on this morning's guided tour.

- Pass through the sophisticated Gueliz district
- Marvel at the massive Koutoubia Mosque, which features a minaret that reaches nearly 200 feet high and dominates the city's skyline
- Enter the UNESCO-listed Medina of Marrakech to see the Bahia Palace
- Step inside the evocative Saadian Tombs, the mausoleum for the 16th-century ruling princes

Return to your hotel and spend some time relaxing before experiencing Marrakech's market culture on this afternoon's guided tour.

- Visit Djemaa el Fna, a festive, open-air market where musicians, snake charmers, and clowns perform during the evenings
- Walk through the city's vibrant souks to see the many products being sold by the local vendors

Day 4: Cooking class & Majorelle Garden

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Visit a local cooking school and learn how to make Moroccan cuisine, including the famous chicken tagine, and tea during a hands-on cooking class. Enjoy eating the traditional cuisine for lunch.

This afternoon, enter Majorelle Garden, which was designed by French architect Jacques Majorelle and purchased by legendary fashion duo Yves Saint Laurent and Pierre Bergé in 1998.

- Stroll through the twelve-acre botanical garden
- Visit the Berber Museum and Yves Saint Laurent memorial

Enjoy a free evening in Marrakech or add an excursion.

+ Traditional Hammam Spa Visit & Dinner

Essaouira → 2 nights

Day 5: Argan Forest & argan oil shop

Included meals: breakfast, tasting

As you make your way to Essaouira, visit an Argan Forest and learn how empowered women command the production of the famous oil in an otherwise male-dominated culture.

- Join a local guide for a walk through an Argan forest and learn about the ecology and lifecycle of the Moroccan trees
- See why the trees are nicknamed "the Tree of Life" not only for its fruit but its impact on the local culture
- Visit a women run argan oil shop and discover the secrets to producing argan oil, a delicious and rich substance with health benefits used in products all around the world
- Sit down for tea with a Berber villager and experience Moroccan hospitality

Day 6: Sightseeing tour of Essaouira

Included meals: breakfast, tasting, dinner

Set off on a guided tour of the UNESCO-listed Essaouira and learn more about this port city made famous by the Orson Welles film *Othello*.

- View the Clock Tower and the attached Sidi Mohammed Ibn Abdallah, the largest mosque in the city
- Explore the Moulay Hassan Square, which hosts the Gnaoua Festival every year bringing in artists and musicians from around the world
- Walk the walls of the Skala de la Kasbah rampart and take in the views of the ocean and the medina of the city

Tonight, sit down for an included dinner with your group.

Casablanca → 1 night

Day 7: Casablanca via El Jadida & Oualidia

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Travel from the quiet Essaouira to the bustling Casablanca, stopping along the way for a guided sightseeing tour of El Jadida and lunch in Oualidia.

- Walk through the old Cité Portugaise and see the Church of the Assumption and the underground Portuguese Cistern
- Visit Oualidia and sit down for an included lunch, then, enjoy free time to explore the seaside town

Continue on to your hotel in Casablanca.

Lisbon → 2 nights

Day 8: Sightseeing tour of Casablanca & flight to Lisbon

Included meals: breakfast

This morning, your Tour Director will introduce you to the seaside city made famous by Old Hollywood.

- See the Hassan II Mosque, the largest in Morocco
- Pass through the fashionable La Corniche waterfront area

Later, fly to Lisbon and enjoy a free evening to explore Lisbon on your own.

Day 9: Sightseeing tour of Lisbon

Included meals: breakfast

Get to know the Portuguese capital on a tour with a local guide.

- Admire views of the city from Eduardo VII Park and pass the Praça Marquês de Pombal as you travel along Avenida da Liberdade.
- Stop at the waterfront to discover the city's maritime heritage at the Monument to the Discoveries and Tower of Belém.
- Pass by the impressive church at Jerónimos Church, built to honor voyagers.
- Embark on a walking tour through this historic Rua dos Sapateiros and Praça da Figueira, past the Santa Justa Lift, and the Rua Augusta Arch, before ending in Restauradores Square.

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Spend a free evening getting to know Lisbon on your own, or add an excursion.

+ Lisbon Cooking Class & Dinner

Douro Valley Countryside → 2 nights

Day 10: Douro Valley via Coimbra

Included meals: breakfast

Drive north and stop to explore Coimbra on a guided walking tour of the city's chapel and the country's first university.

Later, enjoy a free evening in the Douro Valley on your own.

Day 11: Lamego & Wine Tasting

Included meals: breakfast, wine tasting, dinner

Pay a visit to Lamego, a town nestled among the terraced slopes of the Douro Valley's Port wine region, for a walking tour with your Tour Director.

- View the stunning, zig-zagging staircase that leads to the town's Sanctuary of Our Lady of Remédios
- Take time to relax or explore the town during free time

Spend the afternoon at a local Port wine vineyard in the Douro Valley.

- Travel to Vila Real, stopping along the way to take in the jaw-dropping views of the Douro River Valley
- Set off on a guided tour of the vineyard and learn the origins of Port wine
- Soak in breathtaking views of the surrounding landscapes throughout the vineyard
- Sample three different Port wines, including the much-loved Aged Tawny

This evening, sit down for an included traditional farmhouse dinner featuring local specialties.

Porto → 2 nights

Day 12: Casa de Mateus & wine tasting

Included meals: breakfast, lunch, wine tasting

Pass the rolling hills and small villages as you make your way to Porto. Then, stop at a local restaurant to enjoy an included lunch featuring regional food and wine.

Continue your day by visiting a winery in the Douro Valley. You'll sample three wines that come from some of the most prestigious wine-producing areas in Portugal.

In the afternoon, explore Casa de Mateus, an historic mansion and hub of artistic, cultural, educational, and social science activities.

- Admire the architecture of the Baroque-style mansion, which is set against the beautiful backdrop of the Portuguese countryside
- Tour the mansion and its gardens, which were designed by architect Nicolau Nasoni in the 18th century

This evening, settle in to your Porto hotel.

Day 13: Sightseeing tour of Porto

Included meals: breakfast, tasting, farewell dinner

Get to know Porto as you join your local guide for a tour of the city.

- Visit icons such as Liberty Square, Carmelitas Church, and the Baroque-style Clérigos Tower
- Stop for coffee and a sweet treat at a local cafe
- Visit Porto's central market, where local merchants sell fruits, vegetables, flowers, and more
- Take a scenic drive through the local neighborhoods and past the Douro riverfront

Spend a free afternoon to explore the city at your own pace, or add an excursion.

Tonight, attend a farewell dinner with your fellow travelers and celebrate your trip together.

+ Douro River Cruise & Port Wine Cellar Visit

Flight Home

Day 14: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport to board your flight home.

Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: <https://groups.goaheadtours.com/groups/tours/zvp-ryan> | 1-800-438-7672

Day 4: Traditional Hammam Spa Visit & Dinner

From \$99.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info. (5 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Do as the Moroccans do and pay a visit to a hammam, or bath house. Going to a hammam has been a mainstay in Moroccan culture since the times of the Roman empire and visiting one is seen as a time to socialize with friends and relax. Today, you'll visit a luxury resort outside of Marrakech and head to the steam room to unwind and enjoy the serenity of the spa. After, sit down for an included dinner of traditional Moroccan cuisine at the resort's restaurant. Please note: There are separate facilities for men and women. Towels are provided.

Day 9: Lisbon Cooking Class & Dinner

From \$129.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info. (4 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Under the guidance of a professional chef, you'll cook a three-course meal featuring traditional Portuguese cuisine. Learn about the country's most famous foods and the flavors that make them unique to this corner of the world. Then, enjoy your meal for dinner alongside a glass of regional wine.

Day 13: Douro River Cruise & Port Wine Cellar Visit

From \$89.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info. (3.5 hours, departs in the afternoon)

Float along the beautiful Douro, the Iberian Peninsula's third-longest river. Take in scenes of Porto's vibrant waterfront and the historic city of Vila Nova de Gaia, home to the region's centuries-old Port wine warehouses. As you cruise, you'll drift under five of the river's most iconic old-world bridges, passing colorful hillside villas and traditional rabelos (flat-bottomed boats) along the way. Back on shore, pay a visit to one of Porto's most prestigious wine cellars. During a guided tour, you'll learn about the long history of Port wine, as well as the ins and outs of its production and warehousing. Then, sit down to taste three of the cellar's world-famous vintages.

*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at [goaheadtours.com/terms](https://groups.goaheadtours.com/terms)