

Portugal's River of Gold

12 DAYS/ 11 NIGHTS

October 31st - November 11th, 2018



**Early
Booking
Discount**
**2-FOR-1 Cruise
Discounted Price**

Take a relaxing journey through the wonderfully scenic Douro River Valley. It is one of Europe's most pure and unspoiled rivers decorated with deep cleft gorges, lush vineyards, and sleepy fishing villages. Begin in the capital Lisbon and enjoy 3 days of touring Portugal's best sights including Sintra, and Fatima the "Altar of the World". We then proceed to Porto at the mouth of the Douro River to embark your cruise ship. The river takes you on a winding easterly course between steeply terraced vineyards, stopping at ports of call largely unchanged for centuries with charming town squares, colorful castles, baroque mansions and historic monasteries. At the Spanish border you'll indulge in a scenic ride into Spain to visit the medieval city of Salamanca before your leisurely voyage back to Porto. See unspoiled vistas and sample Portuguese specialties like salt cod, hearty soups and stews and of course the area's sensational ruby and tawny ports. If you have never visited Portugal, you are in for a treat; or, see a dramatic new side of this beautiful country on the Douro River.

Best of Times Travel Exclusive Bundle Package

- **3-day/2-night Pre-Cruise Best of Times Travel Exclusive Land Package** visting Lisbon, Sintra, Fatima. Plus special vineyard tour with Wine Tasting Included.
- **10-day/9-night cruise** onboard Deluxe Viking Torgil
- **Roundtrip Airfare** from Logan Airport
- **Roundtrip Transportation** to Airport - with Hometown Pick-Up Guarantee*
- **Travelers Insurance** by TravelSafe Protect-A-Group
- **Best of Times Travel Professional Tour Director** throughout trip**
- **All Touring Included** with private, English-speaking guides
- **25 meals:** 10 breakfasts, 7 lunches and 8 dinners
- **Unlimited Wines, Beers, and Soft Drinks** with every Lunch and Dinner on board the Ship
- **Old World Highlights:** Port lectures by our knowledgeable Cruise Manager, themed dinners, and onboard music performances
- **All Luggage Handling** Costs Included
- **All Driver Gratuities** Included for transfers
- **Welcome Cocktail Reception** On Board Ship
- **Payment of all port charges**
- **Special Early Booking & Past Passenger Discounts**

The Places We'll Visit:

- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Lisbon | Cascais |
| Sintra | Fatima |
| Porto | Regua |
| Barca D'Alva | Salamanca |
| Bitetos | Pinhao |



Please Call Best of Times Travel at 1-800-343-8999 For Information and Reservations

12 DAYS/ 11 NIGHTS - October 31st - November 11th, 2018

Special 2-FOR-1 Discounted Cruise Price & Special Bundle Package with Early Booking & Final Payment			
CAT A Verandah Cabin Upper Deck	CAT B Verandah Cabin Middle Deck	CAT E Standard Cabin Main Deck	CAT F Standard Cabin Main Deck
Regular Price \$11399^{pp} Our Package Price \$5699^{pp}	Regular Price \$10999^{pp} Our Package Price \$5499^{pp}	Regular Price \$9499^{pp} Our Package Price \$4749^{pp}	Regular Price \$9399^{pp} Our Package Price \$4699^{pp}

Add \$400 per person Taxes & International Transfers

Prices are per person based on double occupancy.

A Valid Passport is REQUIRED for this program

The Places We Will Visit:

DAY 1, Departu USA - Board your overnight flight to Portugal.

DAY 2, Lisbon, Estoril & Sintra - Welcome to Lisbon, one of Europe's most beautiful cities, which lies on several hills along the Tagus River. We begin by traveling to Estoril and pass by white sandy beaches and amazing 17th Century fortresses. From here we depart for Sintra, which is one of the most delightful mountain villages in Portugal. High up on a rocky peak sits the Castelo da Pena (National Palace of Sintra). See this fairy tale castle up close and in person as we take time to visit this masterpiece of architecture. We will have free time for lunch on our own in Sintra and experience firsthand the bewitching beauty that inspired poets such as Lord Byron. After lunch we head for the beautiful Quinta de Santana Wine Estate in the countryside. We will have a private visit of the vineyard followed by a wine tasting in the old wine cellar. This afternoon we check into our first-class Hotel in the heart of Lisbon with the rest of the afternoon and evening to enjoy at our leisure. (D)

DAY 3, Lisbon, Fatima, Porto - After breakfast, enjoy a scenic drive to Obidos a beautiful small medieval town still surrounded by the old city walls. We then arrive in Fatima, the "Altar of the World", renowned for its Basilica shrine dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Explore the town and enjoy lunch on your own before continuing back to Lisbon. The evening is to enjoy at our leisure (B)

DAY 4, Lisbon - After breakfast, embark on a half-day tour of Lisbon. Begin at Belém with a tour of the Jerónimos Monastery, one of the most prominent examples of Portuguese late Gothic Manueline style of architecture. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, along with the Tower of Belém that you also explore. Then jaunt up the hill for a walking tour of the maze-like Bairro Alto (Old Town), where you learn about Lisbon's long, multicultural history; afterward walk back down toward the water's edge on the narrow streets of the Alfama District. (B)

DAY 5, Porto, Portugal - Have breakfast, then check out of your hotel and take a scenic ride up the Portuguese coast to Porto. You will stop for lunch in Coimbra, birthplace of six Portuguese kings and home to one of Europe's oldest universities. Upon arrival in Porto, proceed to the dock at Vila Nova de Gaia to board your ship. Then, after boarding, you can relax and get settled in your stateroom before a welcome cocktail and dinner is served. (B, L, D)

DAY 6, Porto & Bitetos, Portugal - After breakfast, take a city tour of Porto, a charming riverside community whose historic center is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Admire its graceful bridges, baroque cathedrals and romantic 16th- through 19th-century buildings nestled together on narrow cobbled streets. You will see Foz do Douro, an old fishing village where the wealthy families of Porto have always kept their summer homes. Visit a typical port wine-making facility, then return to your ship for lunch. This afternoon you have time to explore Porto on your own, or take an optional excursion to Guimarães, another UNESCO World Heritage Site. Guimarães has a medieval quarter with narrow streets, a main square and palaces and monasteries dating back to the 10th century. In the 12th century, it was Portugal's first capital and home to its first king, Don Afonso Henriques. (B, L, D)

DAY 7, Régua & Pinhão, Portugal - This morning we sail along the Douro, arriving late morning in Régua. Disembark for a visit to Lamego, a small town known for its baroque Sanctuary of Our Lady of Remedies, dating back to the 14th century and still used by pilgrims today. Visit the shrine, decorated with exquisite tilework in the Moorish manner, and descend the grand baroque staircase. You also see the town's Gothic cathedral and the ruins of 12th-century Lamego Castle with its unusual vaulted cistern. Visit Quinta do Seixo, one of the area's iconic port wine-making institutions. See the vineyard and tour the facility to learn how these unique Portuguese products are crafted, then sample the libation in their tasting room. (B, L, D)

DAY 8, Barca D'Alva, Portugal - This morning, we sail east along the Douro. You will see dramatic, sheer rock formations, picturesque terraced vineyards and graceful bridges and trestles along the way; you will also pass through two of the river's locks at the Valeira and Pocinho Dams. We'll arrive at Barca d'Alva, not far from the Spanish border, during lunchtime. This afternoon, enjoy a half-day tour to Figueira de Castelo Rodrigo. Located approximately 2,200 feet above sea level and surrounded by almond trees, Castelo Rodrigo is one of Portugal's 12 historic parishes; its streets are narrow and steep and its houses still present 16th-century façades and the distinctively Portuguese Manueline-style windows. Here you will see Sinagoga Street, a remembrance of the Jewish community established by refugees from the Spanish Inquisition; you can visit the local church as well. (B, L, D)

DAY 9, Salamanca & Vega de Terrón, Spain - Today you have a full-day excursion to Salamanca, Spain. This ancient city, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is a living museum that takes visitors back to the Middle Ages; yet it is also a cosmopolitan and multicultural city with a large population of international students. Take a ride through the Iberian countryside to Salamanca, then spend some time exploring the shops and cafés of the Plaza Mayor (Main Square) on your own. Lunch is served at a local restaurant that features an unforgettable flamenco show. Your afternoon guided city tour takes you to the Gothic House of Shells, the 13th-century Salamanca University and the New Cathedral, built from 1513 through 1733. The Old Cathedral still exists and can be visited during free time. Rejoin your ship in Vega de Terrón. Spend your evening at leisure as your ship remains docked overnight. (B, L, D)

DAY 10, Pinhão, Portugal - This morning, we sail west along the Douro passing some of the area's quintas (vineyards), where you may catch glimpses of vintners tending their vines. After breakfast, disembark for a scenic drive up to the little village of Favaios, and make your way to one of the last traditional bakeries in the Douro River Valley. Discover how bread was made in the old days and how it tasted with a sample fresh from the oven. Visit the local museum for a wine-and-bread repast, and explore a typical Portuguese village not yet discovered by the masses. Then continue for lunch at Quinta da Avessada, a rustic centuries-old winery in the heart of the Douro Wine District (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), and sample some local varieties of port, such as moscatel. Rejoin your ship in Pinhao where you remain docked overnight. (B, L, D)

DAY 11, Régua, Portugal - Arrive in Régua after breakfast then disembark for a visit to Lamego, a small town known for its baroque Sanctuary of Our Lady of Remedies, dating back to the 14th century and still used by pilgrims today. Visit the shrine, decorated with exquisite tilework in the Moorish manner, and descend the grand baroque staircase. You also see the town's Gothic cathedral and the ruins of 12th-century Lamego Castle with its unusual vaulted cistern. Return to your ship for lunch and scenic afternoon sailing along the Douro, back toward Porto. Arrive in port during a festive farewell dinner; we are docked overnight so feel free to take an evening stroll or enjoy the activities in the Lounge. (B, L, D)

DAY 12, Porto, Portugal - After breakfast, disembark and proceed to the airport for our return flight. * B = Breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner

*Most New England Locations within 50 miles of Logan Airport. Group pick-up in their home town regardless of the number of passengers.

** There is a minimum requirement of 30 paying Best of Times customers to ensure the services of a Best of Times Travel Professional Tour Director.