Portugal

2013 Rotary International Convention
Lisbon, Portugal
23-26 June

LISBON, JUNE 2013

Local Sightseeing Tours

Half Day and Full Day Tours

Transportation: Pick-up/Drop-off will be provided either between the Convention Center or hotels. Listing of the selected hotels and schedule will be released later in the year.

General Terms & Conditions

• All presented motor coach tours were specially designed and prepared for the 2013 Rotary International Convention.
• All tours include deluxe air-conditioned coaches and official guide throughout the itineraries presented.
• All Tours are subject to availability by the time of booking.
• All tours are inclusive of all services as per described, on each itinerary and governmental and service taxes in place by the time of printing of this brochure.
Shall VAT or any other taxes change, by governmental law; all rates will be adjusted accordingly.

L1 HISTORICAL LISBON TOUR

Daily – Morning and Afternoon (On Mondays tour does not include visit to the Monastery)

Price: € 38,00 per person (Minimum of 6 participants)

Visit this remarkable City, with nearly 2.500 years of history. Marvel through its downtown and historical districts. Highlights of this tour include the 12th century fortress of St George's, located on top of one of Lisbon's seven hills, overlooking the downtown, the Tagus River and the former Moorish quarter of Alfama, where still exist buildings that have survived the 1755 big earthquake. Then, west of Lisbon, visit the historical Belem, home of the shipyards where, in the 15th century were built the Portuguese Caravelas (sailing boats) and from where expeditions departed to find the maritime ways to Africa, Asia and Brazil, in glorious sea adventures that have compared the Portuguese navigators with the American first astronauts. In Belem, will visit the Jeronimos's Monastery, a master piece of the Manueline style, and stop by the famous landmarks Belem Tower and the Monument to the Discoveries. Return to your Hotel.

L2 LISBON & TAGUS RIVER TOUR

Daily - Morning and Afternoon

Price: € 40 per person (Minimum of 6 participants)

A visit to the Portuguese Capital City is never complete if not including a sailing on the Tagus River.
Lisbon, when seen from the river is even more attractive. It is from this perspective that one can better understand the layout of the city, identify its famous landmarks and be impressed by the contrast and yet the perfect blend between the old and the new city's architecture.
This is a tour not be missed. It will start with a transfer from the various Hotels or convention center, as indicated on the pickups list, to the pier where boat is docked.
River cruise will move along the river, will include views of the Nations Park, where the convention center is located, and all of the downtown areas towards Belem historical district. Return to the pier and transfer back to selected Hotels.

L3 SINTRA AND ESTORIL COASTLINE TOUR

Daily - Morning and Afternoon (On Wednesdays Sintra Palace is replaced by Queluz Palace)

Price: € 63,00 per person (Minimum of 6 participants)

Lisbon features a unique geographical setting that includes different landscape areas and experiences. Sintra, located NW of Lisbon, is a delightful small Town, full of historical sites dating back to the Arab occupation in the 12th century. Later on, Sintra was the summer residence area for the Portuguese Royal families and Nobels, and, due to its romantic setting, was immortalized by the British poet Lord Byron, as the "Little Eden". Our tour will visit its historical centre and the National Palace, built over a former Moorish palace. From this area, one can admire the many manor houses and see the medieval castle built up on top of the mountain. Then, tour will continue around this beautiful mountain, reaching a totally different environment – the wild and beautiful coast line of Guincho, with its superb beach areas, cliffs and where, close by, is located Cape Roca, the westernmost point of Continental Europe. Tour will return to Lisbon, via Cascais, a cosmopolitan former fishing village, and the Estoril coast line.

L4 LISBON CULTURAL TOUR

Daily -full day, except on Mondays

Price: € 86,00 per person (Minimum of 6 participants)

Lisbon, with its rich history, features numerous Museums offering a vast art collection and excellent insight into the past. This tour will allow visitors to discover and experience some of the best museums in the Portuguese Capital City – **The Ancient Art Museum**, is set in a beautiful former 18th century palace, overlooking the Tagus river. It is probably the most emblematic Portuguese Museum with a unique collection of decorative art, paintings, silverware and oriental and African crafts and decorative elements.
The Maritime Museum, located in the west wing of the Jeronimos's monastery, at the Belem historical district, houses a comprehensive collection of art crafts, old vessels, miniatures and paintings, related with the saga of the Portuguese navigators and the history of the Portuguese Navy. **The Glazed Tiles Museum**, is located East of Lisbon in a former convent, which includes the world's unique Madre Deus Church, famous for its outstanding beauty and glazed tiles panels. This museum is meant to tell visitors the history of this ancient art for which Portugal is famous.
The Gulbenkian Foundation's Museum, is located on the home of the famous philanthropic foundation, immortalizing its patron, Mr Calouste Gulbenkian, and houses world famous collections of Egyptian art, Oriental works and pieces from Turkey, Persia, Syria, Caucasus, India and the Far East. The modern art was not forgotten and the museum also exhibits many art pieces of the 20th century.
Lunch will be included en route, at local restaurant.

L5 SINTRA AND ESTORIL COASTLINE TOUR

Daily -full day, except on Tuesday and Wednesday

Price: € 85,00 per person (Minimum of 6 participants)

Lisbon features a unique geographical setting, which includes different landscape areas and experiences. Sintra, located NW of Lisbon, is a delightful small Town, full of historical sites dated back to the Arab occupation in the 12th century. Later on, Sintra was a summer retreat for the Portuguese Royal families and Nobels, and, due to its romantic setting, was immortalized by the British poet Lord Byron, as the “Little Eden”.
Tour starts by visiting the Queluz National Palace, a true gem of the Portuguese 18th century architecture, including beautiful French style gardens, which has housed the Portuguese Royal Family as its favorite summer Palace.
Continuing on to Sintra, some leisure time to explore its historical center on your own, you may visit the National Palace or shop at the local small stores.
After Sintra, will proceed on to Cape Roca, the westernmost point of continental Europe, from where you can enjoy breathtaking views of the ocean and the wild Atlantic coast.
Tour proceeds towards Cascais, a cosmopolitan small town, via the Guincho coastal road. There will be time to explore this lovely former fishing village, with its lovely bay and fishing boats floating just next to large yachts or schooners.
Return to Lisbon, driving east along the Estoril coastline.
Lunch will be served at a local restaurant, during the course of the tour.

Note: in order to avoid congestions, this tour may be reversed and itineraries crossed over.

L6 THE SILVER COAST AND THE SHRINE OF FATIMA

Daily -full day.

Price: € 89,00 per person (Minimum of 6 participants)

Travel NW along the magnificent Silver Coastline one of the nicest areas of Portugal. Wild and full of traditions related with the Atlantic Ocean and fishing villages, the Silver coast houses truly hidden secrets which will be revealed to visitors during the course of the day. Depart Lisbon towards one of these well kept secrets – the medieval walled town of Obidos. Nestled inside a 12th century fortress, with its white washed well preserved houses, the town of Obidos has kept its traditions, monuments and well kept cobblestone streets, allowing visitors to travel to the past, exploring not just the town and its walled fortification, but also its small churches, small shops and original bars. You may end the visit with a well deserved famous liquor “Ginginha” served on a chocolate made cup.
From Obidos, you will continue along the coast in direction of Nazare. Still an active fishing village, famous in the past for the tradition of having its fishing boats pulled out of the ocean, to the beach, by a pair of bulls helped by the fishermen wives and children. Another famous tradition of Nazare, is the traditional female outfits that include seven skirts dressed simultaneously.
Lunch will be served en route, at a local restaurant.
After lunch, a stop will be made at the famous Fatima’s pilgrimage site. Well known for its Roman Catholic Shrine and Basilica, Fatima is recognized by the Vatican as a site where the Virgin was seen by three little shepherds. This apparition is celebrated on the 13th day of May and October every year ever since.

L7 ARRABIDA MOUNTAIN & THE SOUTHERN LISBON WINE REGION

Daily -half day morning tour.

Price: € 55,00 per person (Minimum of 6 participants)

Depart heading South of Lisbon, crossing the Vasco da Gama bridge, one of the longest in Europe, 17 kilometers, on the way to Azeitão. This region is famous for a small creamy lamb's cheese and the excellence of its wines. The tour will stop for a visit to the historical wine-cellars of José Maria da Fonseca, the producers of "Moscatel" wine, as well as many other wine qualities. At the end of the tour one will have the opportunity to sample the various wines here produced.
From Sesimbra the tour proceeds for a scenic drive by the coastal road along the Arrábida Mountain, a preserved Natural Park due to its unique vegetation in Europe, offerings superb views over the mouth of the Sado River and the Atlantic Ocean.
The tour continues by passing through Setúbal, one of the most important fish-caning centers along the Sado River. A town of great traditions dated from the Celtic Cetobriga which housed the Roman settlers who held in Setúbal fish-salting tanks.
Return to Lisbon, via the April 25th Bridge, over the Tagus river.

Note: in order to avoid congestions, this tour may be reversed and itineraries crossed over.

L8 CENTRAL PORTUGAL HISTORICAL HERITAGE TOUR & THE SHRINE OF FATIMA

Daily -full day.

Price: € 89,00 per person (Minimum of 6 participants)

Departure to Alcobaça a city that became notable after the first king of Portugal built in it a church to celebrate the conquest of Santarem from the Moors in 1147. Visit to Monastery of Alcobaca, one of the most magnificent gothic monuments in the country.
Facing the Church's main altar are the magnificently stone-carved medieval sarcophagus of the King Dom Pedro I who died in 1367 and his lover the Galician born Dona Inez de Castro, made Queen after her death, and whose secret love story has been sang by many poets.
Lunch is included and will be served at a local restaurant.
The tour will proceed to Batalha for a visit to the superb Monastery of Santa Maria da Victória, which celebrates the victorious battle of Aljubarrota in 1386 against the Spanish armies. This magnificent monument built in 1388 is the most beautiful example of the Portuguese Gothic architecture. Later in 1509 were added the Unfinished Chapels, the Cloisters in Manueline style, and in 1563 the Renaissance Chapels and Cloisters. The Monastery also houses the tomb of the Unknown Soldier, a tribute to the Portuguese soldiers that died on World War I.
The tour will proceed to Fátima, the well known Roman Catholic Marian Shrine.
Visit the Basilica and the Chapel of Apparitions that marks the place where the three shepherd children had the visions in 1917.
Return to Lisbon, via the A1 motorway.

L9 THE SOUTHERN PLAINS, EVORA AND MONSARAZ

Daily - full day.

Price: € 85,00 per person (Minimum of 6 participants)

South of Lisbon, after crossing the Tagus, the Country becomes flat and incredibly attractive with its huge plains, immense plantations of cork and olive trees, cattle raising farms and most of the Portuguese traditional agricultural products.
Southeast of Lisbon, after approximately 90 minutes drive, tour reaches Évora, the capital of the upper Alentejo province. Classified as «Museum Town and World Heritage» by the Unesco in 1986. Évora was first known by the Celts as "Ebora", by the first Roman settlers as Ebora Cerealis and in 27 BC as Liberitas Julia. In the suburbs of Évora there are cromlechs, menirs and dolmens, as well as remains from the Neolithic 3.500 BC.
In Medieval times the town held the courts of the Portuguese Kings of the 1st dynasty and of the 2nd dynasty from 1165 to 1559. The Roman-Gothic Cathedral dating from 1186, the Church of St. Francis built in 1480 with the macabre "Chapel of Bones", and the ruins of the Roman Temple of Diana are some of the places of great interest to be visited. Small streets with Manueline (Gothic-Naturalist) geminated-windows and porticos as well as the «Moucharabieh», verandahs of Mudejar influence, lead to the Praça do Giraldo, the meeting point of Évora's inhabitants.
Lunch is included and will be served at a regional restaurant.
The tour will proceed south to Monsaraz for a walking visit to this unique white-painted village within the ramparts of a Medieval Castle, conquered to the Arabs in 1167 and donated to the Knights Templar Religious and military order.
The main street with Gothic houses, the cistern and the Town-Hall with the Gothic fresco of the «Earthly Justice» are to be admired. From the walls of this unusual town, one can also admire parts of the "Big Lake", the waters of the Alqueva dam, which have formed Europe's largest artificial lake.
Return to Lisbon, late afternoon.