

# Portugal

Our extensive programme to Portugal stretches from the Minho and Trás os Monte districts of Northern Portugal to the Monchique hills, sun drenched beaches and whitewashed towns of the Algarve.

Europe's westernmost country is a laidback, relaxed and friendly land. Its people are warming and charming, and the roads and towns, largely, calm and uncongested. National monuments and archaeological sites blend into the open countryside, extensive vineyards, olive groves, forests, and a long and varied coastline.



## Northern Portugal

Blessed with some of the most spectacular scenery in the country – lush countryside, terraced hillsides adorned with Port wine estates, rugged mountains and long sandy beaches.

See pages 12-19



## Centro – the heart of Portugal

A rich heritage of fortified towns and castles, idyllic villages with slate-roof houses painted in white and ochre and a world of Roman columns and mosaic pavements as found in Conimbriga.

See pages 20-23



## Lisbon Region

Lisbon, the capital of Portugal, can rightly stand amongst the loveliest of all European cities. Here, past and present stand side by side in harmony.

See pages 24-29



## Alentejo – the gastronomic soul of Portugal

A landscape of sweeping fields of wheat and sunflowers rising to hills crowned with tiny white-washed villages and castles. Forests of pine and cork and mighty rivers await visitors to the Alentejo.

See pages 30-39



## Algarve

Think of the Algarve... mile upon mile of golden sand beaches interrupted only by craggy outcrops of rock. The land of the Moors and their intriguing legacy is evident in local architecture, music and language.

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### SUNVIL WEBSITE

Within our brochure you will find a good selection of properties, suggested itineraries and regional information that Sunvil offer. However, for additional properties, photos, itineraries and general information on Portugal please visit our website [www.sunvil.co.uk/portugal](http://www.sunvil.co.uk/portugal)





Daily temperatures (°C)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Porto	13	14	15	16	18	21
Lisbon	14	16	17	19	20	22
Algarve	15	16	17	19	21	24

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Porto	22	23	22	19	16	14
Lisbon	24	25	23	21	17	15
Algarve	26	26	24	21	18	16







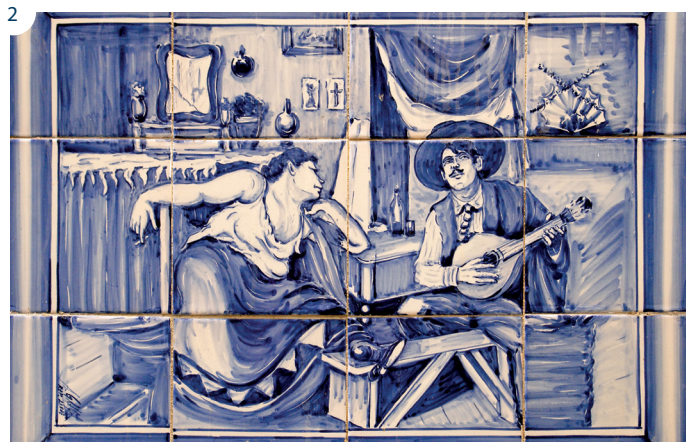
# Portugal... what not to miss

Here is a selection of some of the many highlights to be found in Portugal which we hope will inspire you to travel and experience them for yourselves.



## Conimbriga

Conimbriga is without doubt the most important Roman site in Portugal. Intricate mosaic floors, a complex of baths and an aqueduct still stand and there is an excellent museum displaying finds from archaeological digs in the area.



## Fado

Lisbon is the city of Fado music, sorrowful tales of passion, yearning and of unrequited love. For live musical performances head to the fado houses in the districts of Alfama and Bairro Alto.





### Festival of São Antonio

Between 12-14 June the Portuguese capital celebrates St Anthony, the patron saint of the city. During the festival, there are street stalls selling grilled sardines, fado music is played, people dance and a parade takes place on the Avenida da Liberdade.



### Monchique

Surrounded by the wooded hills of the Serra de Monchique, this whitewashed hilltop market town offers excellent views, narrow cobbled streets and an excellent terrain for hiking, horse riding and cycling. Monchique is also famous for the locally produced honey.



### Monsanto

One of the twelve historical villages of Portugal, Monsanto has evolved over the years around the granite boulders that dominate the landscape. There are narrow lanes, a castle, spectacular views and souvenir shops selling hand-woven goods.



### Port wine

All major port wine producers have their cellars in Vila Nova de Gaia and many offer port wine tastings for visitors. One of our favourites is Sandeman's Port Cellar whose tour includes a short film, museum visit and a tasting.



### Wild flowers

March through to May sees the plains of the Alentejo erupt with colour - vast swathes of intense purple, white, red, yellow and blue stretch before your eyes. This is the 'Provence of Portugal'.



### Walking trails of the Alentejo

Try one of the new Transalentejo self-guided walking trails located near the Alqueva Lake and Guadiana River. Enjoy the local flora and scenic rural landscapes and villages on these well marked trails.