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Ficha viaje



5 Days - Gardens of Portugal

Discover Portugal's most charming gardens on this Private Tour.

- Private **Guided Tour in Porto** where you will pass peculiar places
- Visits to the **most stunning Northern Portuguese gardens**
- A chance to see an **incredible collection of camelias**
- A visit to **amazing quinta's** with their **wonderful gardens**

Itinerario ampliado

Day 1: Welcome in Porto

Our tour guide will be waiting for you at the Francisco Sá Carneiro International Airport in Porto to give you a **warm welcome**, the necessary **assistance** and to escort you to your hotel. **Accommodation at Porto.**

Day 2: Porto

After breakfast at the hotel, you will enjoy a **private guided tour** in the historical center of **Porto**. The private tour begins in front of the Porto City Hall, from there you visit the city's most emblematic monuments with a grand ending at the Port wine cellars in Vila Nova de Gaia, on the other side of the Douro River. In a **colourful urban landscape**, with many centuries of history, you will pass through peculiar places. On this private tour you will get to know the most picturesque corners and witness the magnificence of the great architectural symbols of the "unvanquished" city, like the **Cathedral**, the neo-Classical **Stock Exchange Palace**, the Cathedral Neighbourhood and the **Church of St. Francisco**, all top exponents of Baroque art. **Garden of Quinta de Santo Inácio**: the house and gardens of this estate, Quinta de S. Inácio, are dated from the XVIII century. Today, the garden and surrounding woods are classified as being of public interest: a centenary romantic garden, bordered by shrubs, with azaleas, rhododendrons, camellias and other flowers, topped by a canopy of various species of eucalyptus, oaks, pines and many other trees.

Day 3: Porto / Vila do Conde

Botanical Garden of Porto: in 1949, the Portuguese government purchased a family estate on the outskirts of the city to install the Botanical Garden of the **University of Porto**. The estate included a house, built in the second half of the nineteenth century, surrounded by gardens and farming ground. Today the garden is in the central area of town. The original gardens were maintained and extended and the agricultural land and woods were transformed into a wooded park.

Garden of Casa Villar d'Allen: the current estate of Quinta Villar d'Allen is a result of the **merge of several estates**, established in 1839 by John Allen, an English businessman and great-great-grandfather of the current owners. He purchased and **unified the Quinta da Arcaria and Monte Pedrinha** and expanded them in 1869 and 1872, together with the first Countess Villar d'Allen, his daughter-in-law. The estate has a **large collection of camellias** flourishing among a variety of exotic plants from North and South America, Australia and Asia. Villar d'Allen also has gardens with specific characteristics, like a nursery-garden or exterior ornamental plants.

Quinta Vilar de Matos: the quinta's **camellias** are considered by the International Confederation of the Camellias as **one of the best in the world**. This estate has approximately 30.000 camellias plants with over 1050 different varieties in many different colours and sizes. Paulino Costa Curval exports camellias to Japanese collectors because some of the species growing at his estate are no longer available in Japan, where the flower symbolizes fortune, friendship and harmony.

Day 4: Porto, Santo Tirso, Guimarães and Celorico de Basto

Garden of Casa do Casal: the house of Casa do Casal was rebuilt in the second half of the nineteenth century and its **gardens** were **reclassified** from 1945 onwards. Once you're inside, in addition to the two towering redwoods, you will also find the estates' **oldest camellias** as well as other forest species. At the rear end of the house, on the path to the park, you can find an extensive collection of hundreds of different varieties of camellias. Among them, a special note goes to the three varieties created at this house and to the exuberant and rare shaped ones, some of which are also scented. At the park, the spotlight is drawn to the **variety of large trees**, some of them over a century old (cork trees), creating a different environment to the camellias.

Garden of the Monastery of Landim: the Origins of the Monastery of Santa Maria de Landim go back to the **Middle Ages**. Completely renovated by the owners, it is considered to be a great **example of preservation**, which celebrates the millennial monastic foundation. The garden still has the **XIX century garden** that has a large area of century-old trees, with camellias, rhododendrons, azaleas and a magnificent forest of oaks, coloured by beech-trees, acacias and arbutus-trees. You will absolutely enjoy the variety of flowers during this tour.

Garden of the Pousada Santa Marinha: on the hillside, overlooking the historic city of **Guimarães**, stands the majestic Pousada Santa Marinha. It is a result of the conversion of the former Augustinian convent, dating from the XII century. It is relatively close to the city's historic centre that was classified by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. The Garden of the Pousada Santa Marinha is located within the Penha Park with its' century-old trees and the **magnificent Monastery Garden** with its' granite fountains, multiple balconies and terraces overlooking the city, making it a place of **exceptional beauty**.

Garden of Casa do Campo: the Casa do Campo is a perfect architectural example of the **typical northern nobility home**, with its' granite tower and the nucleus from which the residential body is slowly added. It is said that the garden was created in the mid XVII century by the rebuilder of the house. Proof for this theory is the **pink coloured camellia** on the northeastern side of the garden which is close to **250 years old** and among the oldest in Portugal. The garden was transformed and expanded in the XIX century, based on a rectangular shaped area divided by a central axis and transversal sections with a granite fountain at its centre giving it an interesting symmetrical characteristic. About the same time, in the lands of Basto, a new way of pruning trees was initiated, giving rise to a true creation of green sculptures and simply impossible to be indifferent to the huge cylindrical camellia sculptures that flank the entrance to the garden.

Day 5 - End of the private tour

Private transfer from the hotel to the International Airport of Porto.

Price per Person in a Double Room

- More than 14 Persons: 520€
- From 08 to 13 Persons: 680€
- From 04 to 07 Persons: 790€
- From 02 to 03 Persons: 1140€

The Price includes:

- 4 nights in a Double Room with breakfast buffet
- Private transfers between Porto Airport and hotel
- Modern and comfortable car, mini-bus or coach
- Private English speaking guide during the whole tour
- Visits, entrances and activities as mentioned in the program

Options:

You can choose the category of hotels that best fits your expectations and budget. The hotels selected for this tour are comfortable and modern. However, you can always choose to stay in 'Luxury' or 'Premium' hotels, which will give you the advantage of the best accommodation available in Portugal.

- Single Supplement: 230€
- Accommodation in Premium Hotels: 120€
- Accommodation in Luxury Hotels: 300€
- Meals (Lunch + Dinner): 175€

The Price does not include:

- Flights to and from Portugal
- Personal expenses

Incluido

No Incluido

Hoteles