



Portugal's River of Gold

September 13-23, 2018

Join your friends from New England Church and Viking River Cruises on the Douro River, Portugal's "river of gold." Experience the renaissance of Lisbon, newly invigorated with trending galleries and restaurants. Explore two of Iberia's oldest university towns: Coimbra, Portugal and Salamanca, Spain. Roam the port warehouses of Porto. Enjoy an evening of traditional cuisine, wine and *fado* singing. Cruise the Douro River Valley, the world's oldest demarcated wine region and a UNESCO Site. Our 10-day cruise tour includes a hotel stay in Lisbon and the added bonus of a visit to Spain.

Thursday, September 13 – Chicago

We board our bus at the church bound for O'Hare for our overnight flight to Lisbon.

Friday, September 14 – Lisbon, Portugal

Welcome to Lisbon; we will be met at the airport by our Viking representative and transferred to the superior first-class Hotel Tivoli Lisboa (or similar) in the heart of Lisbon. Relax this afternoon and evening or explore the city a bit on your own. Meals on our own.



Saturday, September 15 – 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 take a walking tour through the narrow streets of the Alfama District where you learn about Lisbon's long, multicultural history. (B; Lunch and Dinner on your own)



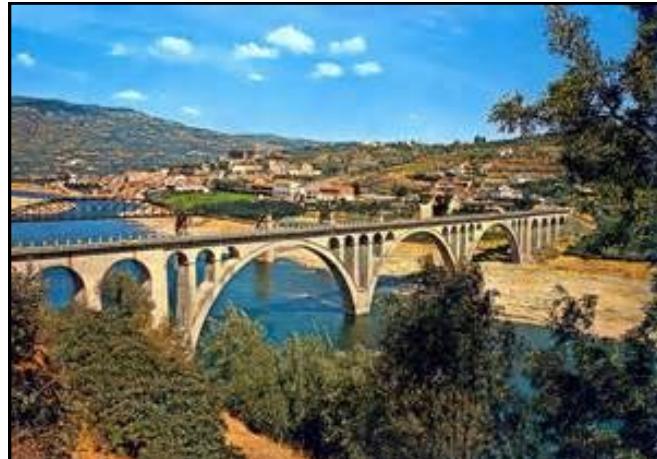
Sunday, September 16 – Porto

After breakfast, we check out of your hotel and take a scenic ride to Porto. We will stop for lunch in Coimbra, birthplace of six Portuguese kings and home to one of Europe's oldest universities. Upon arrival in Porto, we will be driven to the dock at Vila Nova de Gaia to board your ship. After boarding, there will be time to relax and get settled in our staterooms before a welcome cocktail and dinner is served. (B, L, D)

Monday, September 17 – Porto

After breakfast, a city tour of Porto will acquaint us with this charming riverside community whose historic center is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Admire its graceful bridges, baroque cathedrals and romantic 16th–19th century buildings nestled together on narrow cobbled streets. Our tour will include a visit to a typical port winemaking facility before returning to our ship for lunch.

There will be time this afternoon to explore Porto on your own, or take an optional excursion to Guimarães, another UNESCO World Heritage Site. Guimarães's medieval quarter is characterized by narrow streets, a main square, 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, Afonso Henriques.(B, L, D)



In Guimaraes, the town where "Portugal was born," tiles decorate everything, from the wall of palaces to park seats.



Tuesday, September 18 – Régua & Pinhão

This morning we sail along the Douro, arriving late morning in Régua. After lunch, disembark for a tour to Vila Real, site of the extraordinary Mateus Palace (the building depicted on the Mateus Rosé wine labels). This stunning baroque palace was the home of the last count of Vila Real; its pinnacled facade, grand stairway, richly-appointed interiors and priceless objects on display will astonish you, as will the palace's enchanting formal gardens featuring cedar-lined walkways, exquisite sculpted hedges, statuary, and serene bodies of water. As you depart, catch glimpses of the town's ornamental carvings and tiled walls. We will visit Quinta do Seixo, one of the area's iconic port wine-making institutions, seeing the vineyard and touring the facility to learn how these unique Portuguese products are crafted. Afterward there will be

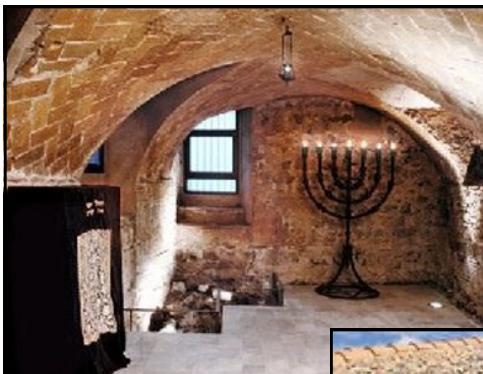
time to sample the libation in their tasting room. We rejoin our ship in Pinhão for dinner. (B, L, D)



Wednesday, September 19 – Barca D'Alva

This morning we sail east along the Douro. We will see dramatic, sheer rock formations, picturesque terraced vineyards and graceful bridges and trestles along the way; we 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 tour to 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 facades and the distinctively Portuguese Manueline-style windows. We will see Sinagoga Street, a remembrance of the Jewish community established by refugees from the Spanish Inquisition and visit the local church as well. As we ride back to our ship, we'll stop from time to time to admire panoramic views. (B, L, D)



Thursday, September 20 – 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 featuring traditional Spanish music. 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. (B, L, D)



Friday, September 21 – 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. We rejoin our ship in Pinhao where we remain docked overnight. (B, L, D)



Saturday, September 22—Régua

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)



Sunday, September 23 – Porto

After breakfast, disembark and proceed to the airport for your return flight. Or, extend your time in the region with a 2-night extension to Santiago de Compostela, Spain. (B)

PRE-TRIP EXTENSION

LISBON
\$549

INCLUDED:

- 2 breakfasts
- Guided walking tour
- Services of a Viking Host
- Transfers to hotel & ship



Tuesday, September 11 - Fly from Chicago to Lisbon

Wednesday, September 12 - Lisbon

Welcome to Lisbon; we will meet you at the airport and transfer you to the First-Class Hotel Tivoli Lisboa (or similar) in the heart of Lisbon. Relax for the remainder of the day or begin exploring the city a bit on your own. A Viking host is available to help you plan your time in Lisbon so you can make the most of your visit.

Thursday, September 13 - Lisbon

This morning, take a walking tour of Lisbon, including a cable car ride up to the Bairro Alto (Old Town) and a guided walking tour of the city's most colorful district to catch panoramic views of the city. The remainder of your day is free to explore the waterfront area or visit some of the lovely public parks, such as the Eduardo VII Park or the Jardim Botânico (Botanical Garden). Enjoy your evening exploring Lisbon's lively nightlife, with its atmospheric restaurants and clubs. (B)

Friday, September 14 - Lisbon

Today, you have free time to explore Lisbon on your own. You might like to visit the Gulbenkian Museum in order to see its astounding collection of Egyptian, Greek, Roman, Islamic, Asian and European art, or the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art next door. You may choose to take a scenic ride up to the charming town of Sintra. Then continue on to nearby Cascais and Estoril, where you get a feel for Portugal's world-famous beaches before heading back to Lisbon. Those coming for the cruise will meet you in the hotel this evening. (B)

MADRID
\$699

INCLUDED:

- 3 nights in the InterContinental Madrid Hotel (Or similar)
- 3 breakfasts

Madrid city tour

Services of a Viking host

(Flight from Madrid to Lisbon to board the ship is included if air is purchased from Viking)



Monday, September 10 - Fly from Chicago to Madrid

Tuesday, September 11 - Madrid

Transfer to the hotel. The rest of the day is yours to explore the vibrant Spanish capital. A Viking host is available to help you plan your time in Madrid so you can make the most of your visit. Early evening, we will have a Welcome Briefing to learn more about our time in Madrid.

Wednesday, September 12 - Madrid

After breakfast, depart on a comprehensive tour of Madrid. A panoramic drive takes you past the lush Royal Botanical Garden and the Royal Palace, the official home of the Spanish royal family. Later, alight your coach for a walking tour through Madrid of the Hapsburgs, rich in baroque and Renaissance buildings along winding streets that lead to grand churches and picturesque fountains. You will also visit the famous Prado Museum, a splendid repository of Spanish art, from Velázquez to Picasso. This evening, you might enjoy a night out for an optional tapas dinner and wine tasting. (B)

Thursday, September 13 - Madrid

Explore Madrid on your own today. You might return to the Prado Museum to browse its collections in depth or linger a while in a café to tap into the city's social scene. Alternately, take an optional full-day journey to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Toledo, Spain's open air museum of magnificently preserved architecture and art spanning Christian, Moorish and Jewish cultures. (B)



Friday, September 14 - Madrid to Lisbon

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and fly to Lisbon, where you will join the other guests as they arrive. (B)

POST-TRIP EXTENSION

ROAD TO SANTIAGO

\$549

Take a ride along the northern Portuguese coast; stop in Braga to visit the baroque pilgrimage church of Bom Jesus with its spectacular zig-zag staircase. Cross into Spain and visit the Galician capital of Santiago de Compostela, whose unforgettable Old Town is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



INCLUDED:

- 2 nights in NH Collection Santiago de Compostela (or similar)
- 2 breakfasts
- Guided walking tour
- Fully escorted by our Viking Tour Director
- Hotel & ship transfers

Sunday, September 23—Porto & Braga

After your final cruisetour breakfast, disembark and begin your journey along the northern Portuguese coast. Stop in Braga to see the baroque pilgrimage church of Bom Jesus with its spectacular zigzag staircase, traditionally negotiated on one's knees—or ride the clever water-weighted funicular, one of the first of its kind in Europe. Have lunch in Braga before continuing your journey into the western part of Spain. You will reach Santiago de Compostela around dinnertime; check in to the centrally located NH Collection Santiago de Compostela (or similar) and enjoy a walk through the Old Town and perhaps a traditionally late Spanish dinner. Your Viking Tour Director is available to help you plan your time in Santiago de Compostela so you can make the most of your visit.

Monday, September 24—Santiago de Compostela

After breakfast, take a walking tour of Santiago's city center, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Begin in the Plaza del Obradoiro, a wide city plaza that contains the striking medieval Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela (also known as "Santiago"), one of the most famous sites for religious pilgrimages in Spain. Complete your tour with a visit to the Museum of Pilgrimages and Santiago, which will help you understand the history and emotional draw of the pilgrimage tradition, extremely popular among Europeans to this day. Enjoy a free afternoon in the charismatic Old Town—visit the Museum of the Galician People or just enjoy wandering the narrow streets, lingering by the fountains and people-watching at the sidewalk cafés. (B)



Tuesday, September 25—Santiago de Compostela

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and proceed to the airport for our return flight. (B)



THE VIKING HEMMING

Hemming was a Danish king for only two years, but his reign helped shape the future of Franco-Danish relations immeasurably. He was best known for signing the Treaty of Heiligen with the Frankish emperor Charlemagne in 811.



This intimate ship was custom built to sail Portugal's Douro River, with state-of-the-art engineering, deluxe accommodations and streamlined Scandinavian interiors. Like our Viking Longships, there are a variety of stateroom classes, all with sweeping river views.

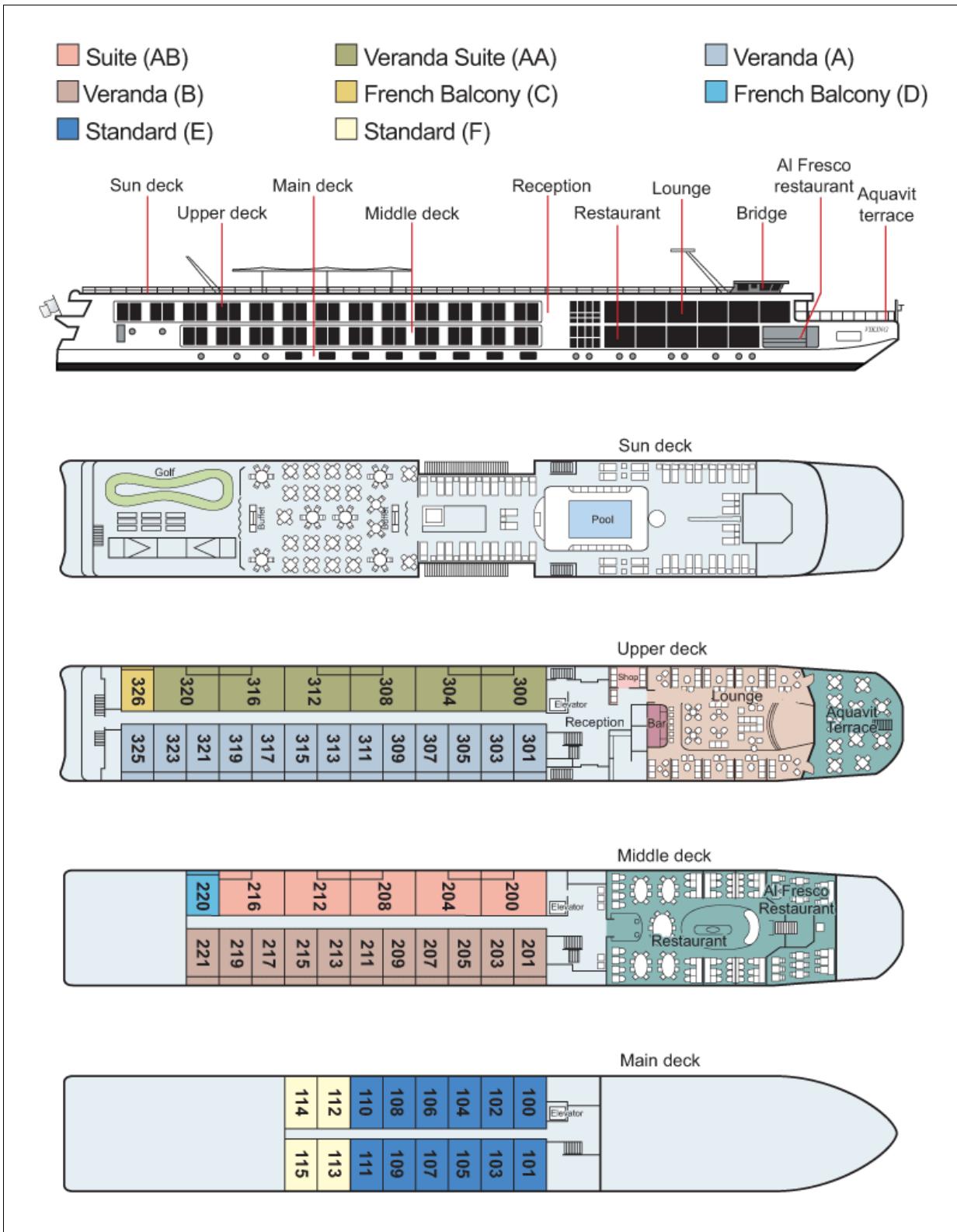
VIKING HEMMING SHIP FEATURES

- All staterooms are outside with river view
- All staterooms & suites have hotel-style beds with optional twin-bed configuration
- Private bathroom with shower; premium bath products; bathrobe & slippers upon request
- 40" flat-panel TV with infotainment system featuring movies on demand, National Geographic & more
- Telephone, safe, hair dryer & individual climate control
- Bottled water replenished daily
- The Lounge & bar with floor-to-ceiling glass doors that lead to an open air Aquavit Terrace
- Restaurant with floor-to-ceiling windows for panoramic views and an al fresco restaurant
- Sun deck with shaded sitting area and al fresco dining area, swimming pool, solar panels & putting green
- Library corner & onboard boutique
- Elevator
- Free wireless Internet
- Laundry service
- Voltage: 220V & 110V (U.S. outlet) in stateroom



This ship has only 53 cabins holding 106 passengers. The diagram below gives you the location of cabin categories.

- Veranda A:** light blue, odd-numbers 301-325; (185 square feet)
Veranda B: pink, odd numbers 201-221; (185 square feet)
French Balcony C: yellow, 326 (one cabin only); (150 square feet)
French Balcony D: teal blue, 220 (one cabin only); (150 square feet)
Standard E: dark blue, cabins 100-111); (155 square feet)





In 1756, Portugal's Douro Valley was established as the world's first protected wine-producing region, and is today a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Check out the informative, and beautifully filmed, introduction to wine making in Portugal on the Viking website. www.vikingrivercruises.org



TRIP COST

Prices below are per-person, double occupancy, including cruise, air, port taxes, all meals on board ship, and transportation to the airport from the church. These prices reflect the two-for-one price from Viking, including the group discount and a current promotion of \$500 discount on airline fee. Your deposit of \$600 includes a \$200 non-refundable administrative fee.

These prices are based on a minimum of 30 travelers in our group.

In addition, there is a discount for previous Viking travelers. If you have traveled with Viking within the last year, you may subtract \$200 per person from these amounts. If you have traveled with Viking at any time, you may subtract \$100 per person.

Additionally, vouchers are available for purchase for \$100 which give you \$200 off the price below, available to the first 30 people who request them.

Category A: \$6,674

Category B: \$6,374

Category C: \$5,624 (only one cabin available, first come, first served)

Category D: \$6,024 (only one cabin available; first come, first served)

Category E: \$5,524

Category F: \$5,474

INCLUDED IN THE TOUR

- Roundtrip transportation from New England Church to O'Hare Airport
- 10-day crusetour (8-day cruise) visiting 2 countries, 6 ports, and 3 additional cities by land
- 2 nights at the Hotel Tivoli Lisbon (or similar)
- Visit 5 UNESCO World Heritage Sites
- 8 included shore excursions with local guide and headset
- A folkloric music performance, wine-making demonstration, and flamenco show
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Beer, wine, and soft drinks with onboard lunch & dinner
- Meals: 9 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 7 dinners
- 24/7 specialty coffees, teas, & bottled water
- Riverview stateroom
- Room steward & twice-daily housekeeping service
- Evening turndown service
- Hotel-style bed with optional twin-bed configuration; luxury linens & pillows
- 40" flat-screen LCD TV, with interactive programming
- Complimentary Movies On Demand
- Security safe
- Hair dryer
- 110/220 volt outlets



RIVER CRUISING: A BETTER WAY TO EXPLORE

Nothing compares to a river. How else but on a river can you journey into the very heart of the world's greatest cities and most charming towns, discovering the true nature of the land and its people? Where else but on a river could you be gently carried along on an elegant, intimate ship, docking right in the heart of town, strolling off to begin your exploration? How else but on a river would you travel with such ease, unpacking just once and enjoying the ever-changing scenery along the banks? Comfortable and convenient, river cruising offers a greater variety of destinations than you can find any other way. Spend less time getting there, and more time being there. Small wonder so many people have fallen in love with this relaxing, immersive and thoroughly enjoyable form of travel.

River cruising offers a uniquely comfortable way to explore new destinations. Unlike a bus tour or driving on your own, you unpack just once and settle into a comfortable home away from home. You get your own room, indulge in meals that are included as part of your fare, and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow passengers on an intimately scaled ship. There's no packing and unpacking, switching hotels, or lugging baggage around. Also, unlike an ocean cruise, there's an ever-changing mural of breathtaking scenery from your ship, so the journey itself becomes part of your discovery. Because a river has no waves, sea sickness is never a concern. In addition, because each river cruise ship's scale is limited so it will fit into the locks and canals along the river, ships are always small in scale, with typically just under 200 guests. These are just a few of the reasons why river cruising is truly the most relaxing way to travel.

