

MANGUALDE, VISEU, ILHAVÓ

A THREE DAY TRIP 23 - 25 May, 2025



The two nights of this trip are spent in an 18th century palace not far from **Viseu**, which has been converted into a 5-star hotel with an excellent restaurant, where we can wander through the three museums in the hotel and visit its cheese-making unit. Nearby, we visit one of Portugal's iconic privately-owned stately homes, which is on a par with many National Trust properties in the UK.

We will also visit the impressive gothic cathedral in Viseu and also the Grão Vasco art museum next door. On the third day we visit Ílhavo on the coast, before returning to Lisbon. Here we visit the Vista Alegre porcelain museum and chapel and browse the 'seconds' shop. In Ílhavo we also visit the award-winning Maritime Museum, which is dedicated to the centuries' old activity of fishing for codfish, whose main feature is a cut-away original wooden fishing boat that used to fish off Newfoundland.

Day 1, Friday, 23 May.

We break our journey to the Dão region for lunch, before booking into the [Parador Casa da Ínsua](#) near **Mangualde**, originally the home of the 4th Governor of Mato Grosso in Brazil from 1772 to 1788. During the afternoon we can either relax in this 5-star hotel and its romantic gardens or visit the three small museums, which display original drawings, maps and artefacts from 18th century Brazil and also exhibits depicting local rural life and crafts, including the estate's own cheese-making unit. The hotel shop sells home-produced wine, cheese, and craftwork.

300 km

Day 2, Saturday, 24 May.

In the morning we visit the city of **Viseu**, where we stop at the Cathedral square to visit the 15th century Cathedral, a mix of Manueline, Renaissance, Gothic and Mannerist styles. Next we visit the adjacent recently-renovated [Museu Grão Vasco](#), which houses a fine collection of religious and classic Portuguese and Brazilian art. After lunch at a typical local restaurant, we head for Mangualde nearby, where we partake in a guided visit to the impressive [Palácio dos Condes de Anadia](#), which dates back to 1644, followed by an optional wine tasting of the estate's Dão wines, including a white wine made from red grapes from the centuries-old Baga variety, grown in the Palace's 10 hectares vineyard inserted in its fully-walled farm of 50 hectares.

50 km

Day 3, Sunday, 25 May.

During the morning we visit **Ílhavo**, which for centuries has been associated with the fishing industry, not only in the Aveiro lagoons, but also much further afield in Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Greenland, where the Portuguese have been fishing for codfish since the 15th century. We visit the [Maritime Museum](#), where we see an original wooden clinker 'mother boat' schooner where the fisherman would spend seven months at sea, rising at 4 am to row out in freezing temperatures in small 'dory boats' to fish for cod with two mile-long lines and 700 hooks! Nearby we visit the [Vista Alegre factory and museum](#), which produces 50,000 pieces of porcelain a day for IKEA! The museum has pieces dating back to 1826 and a British-built wooded fire engine from 1818. Lunch is on the sea front at Costa Nova, famous for its Dutch-style houses.

360 km



Mangualde – Casa de Ínsua



Mangualde – Casa de Ínsua



Mangualde – Palácio Condes de Anadia



Mangualde – Palácio Condes de Anadia



Viseu – The Cathedral



Viseu – Museu Grão Vasco



Ílhavo – Vista Alegre factory & museum



Ílhavo – Vista Alegre factory & museum



Ílhavo – Maritime Museum



Ílhavo – Maritime Museum



Ílhavo – 'Costa Nova'



Ílhavo – 'Costa Nova'

Price: €500 p/person sharing a room, €150 single room supplement. All inclusive. €40 surcharge for non-Members.