Cruise Details

Name:	Enticing Douro (Taste of Christmas) (Smithsonian Journeys)
Reference:	AMAPC271203DOXJ
Operator:	Ama Waterways
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	AmaSintra
Regions:	Douro
Departs On:	03 Dec 27
Departs From:	Porto
Arrives On:	10 Dec 27
Arrives At:	Porto
Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	7

Itinerary

Day 1: Porto (Portugal)

EMBARKATION – PORTO, PORTUGAL. Board the ship for your Enticing Douro cruise. (D)

Arrives On: 03 Dec 27

Day 2: Entre-os-Rios (Portugal)

ENTRE-OS-RIOS. Entre-os-Rios translates to “between the rivers,” and this small village is, quite appropriately, located at the confluence of the Tâmega and Douro rivers. This tranquil village offers an authentic slice of Douro River life. In the afternoon, indulge in a traditional Portuguese lunch with your fellow travelers in Entre-os-Rios at a local quinta – a country estate – for a truly authentic culinary experience. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 04 Dec 27

Day 3: Régua (Portugal)

RÉGUA – PINHÃO. Visit the Baroque-style Palacio de Mateus and its gardens. Inside the house, you'll see interesting furnishings, paintings and a ceiling of intricately carved wood. The gardens here are considered some of the most beautiful in Portugal. Later in the day, savor the flavors of Portugal's renowned fortified wine, vinho do porto, made exclusively in the Douro Valley. Head to a local quinta for your authentic Port-wine tasting experience and enjoy the sweet nectar of this fascinating region. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 05 Dec 27

Day 3: Pinhão (Portugal)

Arrives On: 05 Dec 27

Day 4: Vega de Terron, Portugal (Portugal)

VEGA DE TERRÓN, SPAIN – SALAMANCA. Drive to Salamanca, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Built of golden sandstone, Salamanca is known as a "living museum," and you will have an opportunity to step back in time to the Middle Ages during your escorted tour, which includes the city's elegant university buildings, the New Cathedral, the intriguingly decorated House of Shells and Plaza Mayor. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 06 Dec 27

Day 5: Barca d'Alva (Portugal)

BARCA D'ALVA. Spend time soaking up the beauty of the Douro River as you cruise to Barca d'Alva, where you will visit Castelo Rodrigo, a small fortified village perched high on a hilltop with centuries-old walls, steep narrow streets and fantastic views. You can also opt to hike up to the village should you wish a more active exploration. While here, taste some delicious locally grown produce. Be treated to an exclusive dinner at Quinta da Avessada, where you'll enjoy an authentic and traditional dining experience complete with entertainment. Quinta da Avessada is also a fascinating interactive museum commemorating the history and culture of wine in the Alto Douro region, so you'll have fun discovering all the various stages of wine production as well as doing plenty of tasting. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 07 Dec 27

Day 5: Pinhão (Portugal)

Arrives On: 07 Dec 27

Day 6: Régua (Portugal)

RÉGUA. Travel to picturesque Lamego, home to one of the most important pilgrimage sites in all of Portugal, where you'll go to the Nossa Senhora dos Remédios (Sanctuary of Our Lady of Remedies). The shrine features a staircase of nearly 700 steps, beautifully decorated with white and blue tiles, which the more active adventurer will want to climb on a guided hike. Concluding both tours, you will have the opportunity to sample local traditional specialties, such as bôlas de Lamego, bread filled with smoked ham; presunto, a type of dry-cured ham; and Espumante, a Portuguese sparkling wine. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 08 Dec 27

Day 7: Porto (Portugal)

PORTO. The colorful city of Porto blends the best of old and new, which you can discover on an escorted tour of the historic quarter, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, including the Cathedral, one of the city's oldest monuments; and the São Bento Railway Station, known for its blue and white tile panels depicting scenes from Portuguese history. You'll also enjoy a tasting of Port, Portugal's most renowned contribution to the world of wine. If you prefer to get more active, you can go on a guided hike and then enjoy a Port wine tasting. Enjoy a free afternoon to explore all of Porto's charms on your own. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 09 Dec 27

Day 8: Porto (Portugal)

PORTO – DISEMBARKATION. Disembark the ship and prepare for your flight home. (B)

Arrives On: 10 Dec 27

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.
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