

SERA (State Employees Recreation Association) presents...

Sunny Portugal

with Optional 4-Night Madeira Island Post Tour Extension

October 5 – 14, 2025



Book Now
& Save
\$350
Per Person

Upgrade to Elite Airfare! See inside for details.



For more information contact
Lowee's Group Tours
(717) 657-9658
ckelly@lowees.com



10 Days • 13 Meals: 8 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 3 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Lisbon, Choice on Tour: “Calcadas” Walking Tour or “The Way of the Cod” Tour, Belem, Cork Factory, Evora, Alentejo, Lagos, Algarve, Portimão, Setúbal, Portuguese Riviera, Obidos, Sintra, Choice on Tour: National Palace of Sintra or Walking Tour, UNESCO World Heritage Sites

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2, 3	Turim Marques Hotel , Lisbon
Day 4	Vila Gale Evora , Evora
Days 5 – 7	Vila Gale Lagos, Algarve
Days 8, 9	Vila Gale Cascais Hotel, Cascais

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Sunday, October 5, 2025 Overnight Flight Ancient castles and Roman ruins, groves of orange and almond trees, quiet whitewashed villages, and welcoming locals – Portugal is waiting for you.

Day 2: Monday, October 6, 2025 Lisbon, Portugal - Tour Begins Say hello to Lisbon, Portugal's capital and a city full of authenticity, where old customs and ancient history intermix with cultural entertainment. Tonight, join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner. (D)

Day 3: Tuesday, October 7, 2025 Lisbon Choose how you want to explore Lisbon today because **it's your choice!** Discover the art and tradition of Portuguese sidewalks during a locally led walking tour **-OR-** venture with your Tour Manager on foot and discover the city through the lens of the businesses and streets connected with the country's most loved fish, *bacalhau* (salted codfish). After, travel to Belem and see the iconic Belem Tower (UNESCO). View the façade of the 16th-century Jeronimos Monastery* (UNESCO) and learn about the importance of this iconic site. Tonight, you may choose to join an optional tour to listen to local artists perform traditional *Fado* music, a UNESCO intangible cultural heritage highlight. (B)

Day 4: Wednesday, October 8, 2025 Lisbon - Evora Today, make your way through Portugal's charming countryside. Visit a family-owned cork factory, where you'll learn about the product's importance to the local economy and why Portugal is the world's top cork producer. Your journey then takes you to Evora (UNESCO) – the “Museum City of Portugal.” In the afternoon, take time to explore this medieval walled city and see its well-preserved Roman temple up close. (B)

Day 5: Thursday, October 9, 2025 Evora - Lagos Journey to the stunning coasts of the Algarve - the southernmost region of Portugal. On the way, visit a local gin distillery. Learn how one man took a homemade drink and implemented traditional Portuguese stills and local ingredients to craft a premium gin. Savor the flavors of these botanicals before continuing your journey south. This afternoon, keep the day balanced and fruity at a winery. Indulge in full-bodied wines from the Alentejo region during a winery tour, tasting, and light lunch before continuing on your drive. Later, switch the rich taste of local wine and spirits for salty ocean air in Algarve. This evening, explore the historic resort town of Lagos, where Moorish and Renaissance influences meet towering seaside cliffs. Many celebrated voyagers began their explorations from this bustling port city. (B, L)

Day 6: Friday, October 10, 2025 Lagos It's your day to experience the Algarve on your own. Geraniums, camellias, and oleanders grow alongside fig, orange, and almond trees, while brightly colored fishing boats bob in the sea. Protected by hills to the north and warmed by the sea, the Algarve's mild climate and beautiful beaches attract visitors from all over the world. You may choose to join an optional boat tour** today that gets you closer to some of the most famous coastal scenery in Portugal. (B, D)

Day 7: Saturday, October 11, 2025 Lagos - Portimão - Monchique - Lagos This morning venture along the coast to discover the importance of the sardine canning industry in the Algarve. Then, continue to Monchique, a mountain village nestled within a rich landscape, to learn the secrets of regional bread and fruits. Sample them with a savory picnic lunch featuring freshly prepared Algarve seasonal and local specialties. Return to Lagos for an evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 8: Sunday, October 12, 2025 Lagos - Setúbal - Cascais En route to the Portuguese Riviera, stop in Setúbal a colorful industrial city and one of southern Europe's best-kept secrets. See the *Mercado* (Farmers Market) do Livramento up close. It is considered one of the best fish markets in the world, and it's also rich with displays of fresh fruits and vegetables. Meet local artisans at a family-run shop and learn how the famous hand-painted Portuguese tiles, *azulejos*, are made. Then, head to the Portuguese Riviera. Mansions scattered throughout Cascais and Monte Estoril all hint at this area's history as a haven for exiled European royals and nobility. (B)



Book Now & Save \$350 Per Person:

Double \$4,449; **Double \$4,099***
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For bookings made after Apr 06, 2025 call for rates.

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Washington, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$549 per person.

Please call for rates from other gateways.

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from WAS

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• * Elite Air pricing (Premium Economy, Business Class or First class) is valid until 8 months prior to departure, after which rates are subject to change and will be quoted based upon availability.

† Refer to the reservation form to choose your upgrade option

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. **(See registration form for consent.)**

Day 9: Monday, October 13, 2025 Cascais - Obidos - Sintra - Cascais Explore the picture-perfect city of Obidos, where white-washed houses sit snug within medieval city walls, and toast with a ginjinha, a sour cherry liqueur served in a small chocolate cup. Continue on to Sintra (UNESCO), a breathtaking hub that served as the summer residence of Portuguese kings for six centuries. Then, **it's your choice!** Explore the quaint hilltop village of Sintra

and take some time to wander through the winding streets **-OR-** join a guided tour of the National Palace of Sintra, considered the best-preserved medieval palace in Portugal. Bid Portugal goodbye during dinner in Cascais and celebrate the end of your unforgettable journey. (B, D)

Day 10: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 Cascais - Tour Ends Your tour ends today. (B)

Experience It! The Algarve

Postcard-worthy coastlines brushing against crystal clear water, stunning cliffs plunging into the rocky waves below, and awe-inspiring vistas that will leave you speechless – this is the Algarve. The southernmost region of Portugal, the Algarve is home to a perfect combination of historical architecture and sandy beaches. Although every area of the Algarve offers unique charms and is a perfect setting for a relaxing getaway, some of the favorite cities of this region include Lagos and Portimão, for their charm and good food. While in the Algarve, be sure to sample some of the fresh seafood, indulge in local figs and oranges, and maybe even buy a piece of intricately painted pottery.

EXTEND YOUR VACATION WITH

Optional 5 Days 4-Night Madeira Island Post Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$1,699.00 USD double, \$2,099.00 USD single, land & air inclusive

For more information on extensions and options for this tour visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1265937>

PLEASE NOTE:

Book Now rates valid until Apr 06, 2025, valid on air inclusive packages only.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 2. This means you like a balanced approach to travel. Walking two to three miles over the course of a day is no problem for you. You can partake in a two-hour leisurely walking tour, covering up to two miles (with included breaks). You can handle a variety of terrains, from cobblestone streets to moderate hills with relative ease and without assistance. You can climb two flights of stairs with ease. There may be 1 to 2 days on this tour when walking tours can cover 3 to 4 miles over uneven terrain. During your Choice on Tour in Lisbon, one of the walks offered requires walking 2 miles on cobblestone streets and uphill at times. Lisbon is a hilly city and all sidewalks are cobblestoned which can get slippery when wet. Expect some full days balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. You can handle altitudes up to 6,000 feet. While this level is appropriate for travelers that require mobility assistance devices, there could be times when you may have to sit out on some of the included activities.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

*Please note that you will only see the Jeronimos Monastery from the exterior.

**Due to inclement weather or challenging sea conditions, operation of the optional boat tour will only be reconfirmed on the day of service.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Air passengers will arrive into and depart from Lisbon, Portugal airport. All transfers will depart from Cascais to Lisbon airport (approximately a 40-minute drive).

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.



Effective for travel in May 2025, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS visa waiver, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of March 30, 2025 are based upon availability. Final payment due by July 07, 2025. Deposits are refundable up until April 06, 2025.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

**For important reservation information visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1265937>.
You can also find this information on your tour documents.**



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BOOKING NUMBER: 1265937

TOUR: Sunny Portugal Lisbon, Alentejo, Algarve & Portuguese Riviera

DEPARTURE DATE: October 5, 2025

GROUP NAME: SERA (State Employees Recreation Association)

Available Options

Personalize your tour by adding an optional activity below. Our recommended options have been carefully chosen to help enhance your individual experience. Complete the provided Prepaid Options Form to reserve your options.

Availability is limited and reservations are on a first come, first serve basis. Payment must be received no later than 15 days prior to departure. Prices are subject to change.

Children under the age of 18 **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

Algarve



Algarve's Coastal Cruise

\$50 USD

Set sail on the clear blue waters of the Bay of Lagos to experience the stunning Ponta da Piedade with some of the most beautiful and famous coastal scenery in Portugal, including pristine beaches and rocky cliffs that are simply breathtaking. Upon arrival at Ponta da Piedade transfer to smaller boats... then, it's off to explore the magical grottoes! Take in the striking rock formations sculpted by the sea for thousands of years as you weave in and out of tiny inlets, serene grottoes and impressive caves. This excursion may not operate based on weather conditions. Also due to weather conditions, this excursion may operate in the afternoon. *Duration: Approximately 2 hours.* Please note a minimum of 10 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

Lisbon

A Night of Fado

\$120 USD

Fado: the perfect blend of voice and guitar. Declared a UNESCO World Heritage Cultural Patrimony, as a celebrated form of world music that captures what it is to be Portuguese. The word Fado comes from the Latin word fatum, which means fate or destiny. It is a style of music that is all about deep feelings: the disappointments of love, the ups and downs of life. No one knows quite how Fado first came into being, but to this day, Portugal's traditional music remains at the very heart of the country's culture. In one of Lisbon's most popular Fado restaurants, professional performers entertain you while you enjoy a typical Portuguese three-course dinner with wine included. *Duration: Approximately 4 hours.* Please note a minimum of 10 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

Extend your vacation with

Optional 5 Days 4-Night Madeira Island Post Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$1,699.00 USD double, \$2,099.00 USD single, land & air inclusive
5 Meals: 4 Breakfasts, 1 Dinner

Day 10: Cascais - Lisbon - Funchal, Madeira

Fly to Madeira Island, the "Pearl of the Atlantic" where you arrive in the early afternoon. Madeira boasts a subtropical climate, majestic mountain ranges and volcanic caves. After free time for lunch on your own in the colorful Santa Maria district, go on a walking tour of Funchal's old downtown with its quaint narrow streets and historical sites, such as a 15th-century cathedral. Visit the Botanical Garden of Madeira with its collection of more than 2,500 plants from all continents.

Day 11: Funchal

The day is yours. During your free time, you may choose to visit the Sacred Art Museum and learn how the sugar-cane trade allowed for the purchase of Flemish art dating back to the 15th century. Or simply relax and enjoy the amenities that your hotel has to offer. Then gather in the evening for a traditional dinner known as an *espetada*. Folk dancers and lively music entertain you as you feast on a favorite local dish cooked over an open fire. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

Day 12: Funchal - Câmara de Lobos - Porto Moniz - Funchal

Begin your day with a tour that takes you to Câmara de Lobos, a traditional village on a picture-perfect bay that served as a special retreat for Sir Winston Churchill. It was here that Madeira's natural beauty captivated him and inspired many of his paintings of the island. Drive along mountain roads, passing banana plantations and vineyards while en route to the world's second-highest cliff, Cabo Girão. After, visit a sugar mill and learn about the importance of sugar cane production in the early 15th century. Sample some local specialties made at the mill before leaving for the fishing village of Porto Moniz. Here, enjoy free time for a swim* (weather permitting) in the natural volcanic rock pools before returning to Funchal. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 13: Funchal - Lisbon

Board your flight and return to the metropolitan energy of Lisbon. Enjoy your afternoon as you please. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 14: Lisbon - Extension Ends

Depart for home with Portugal in your heart as your tour ends today. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Please Note:

The overall activity level of this extension is a level 2. This means you can partake in a two-hour walking tour covering up to 2 miles (including breaks), over a variety of terrains. You can climb two flights of stairs with ease and handle altitudes up to 6,000 feet. While this level is appropriate for travelers that require mobility assistance devices, there could be times when you may have to sit out on some of the included activities.

A **Hosted Extension** is great for travelers who like to spend full days exploring places on their own by foot or public transportation. A dedicated Tour Manager will not be present during this extension.

Extensions are subject to availability and applicable charges at time of request.

We reserve the right to cancel this extension if a minimum of 4 passengers is not met to operate.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Air inclusive rate is valid for guests who have purchased our air package for the full tour, depending on the air schedule selected. Rate may vary for those who have purchased their own air.

An internal flight is required in order to participate on this extension and is included in the final price, quoted at time of booking.

During your extension, your local guide or driver guide will provide included sightseeing services and will be available via a local office at other times.

*Bathing suits are required if partaking in the thermal water pools at Porto Moniz.