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## Alentejo

Type Easy to moderate

Duration 6 days with 5 days cycling (ask us for the shorter version)



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# Alentejo Heritage Self Guided Bike Tour

*Cycling in Alentejo - Tradition as your tour mate*

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- Picturesque landscapes of Alentejo and immense cork and olive tree meadows
- The beauty of UNESCO city of Évora
- The fortress city of Elvas - UNESCO city
- Local handcraft and cork work

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Programme

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# Programme

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### Day 1

#### Arrival

Arrival to Lisbon airport in the morning, and VIP transfer to UNESCO Évora city. Situated in the calm province of the Alentejo, Évora provides culture, architecture, history, monuments and peace of mind.

It is commonly known for its strong Roman influence, due to the large amount of archaeological vestiges found here relating to the time of the Roman occupation when Évora was named Liberitas Julia. Évora was also once occupied by the Visigoths, and in 715 it was conquered by the Moors, and conquered back again by the warrior Geraldo "Sem Pavor" (literally meaning "fearless"), and in the Middle Ages Évora was one of the wealthiest cities in the Portuguese kingdom. In 1551 the University was founded here, and is still nowadays a symbol of youth and knowledge.

We'll be doing a briefing about your cycling holidays, and a warm up ride so you can get accustomed to your bike.

Afterwards you can enjoy your Hotel, located in the city center, and a lovely dinner

Should you wish to include a walking tour in Evora, please let us know so that we can check availability (not included on the price).

Accommodation: M'Ar de Ar Aqueduto 5\*

Stage: 30km

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### Day 2

#### Wine and Cork

Enjoy your breakfast and then meet our team for a day of great cycling!

The outskirts of Évora are known for having some of the most perfect roads for cycling – it's normal to find a local group of cyclers enjoying their time and training for their particular cycling sports events.

Alentejo is a famous wine region notorious for producing high-quality wines, with ancestral traditions related to wine and wineries and unique landscapes, so today we bike to visit to one of the most famous wineries of Alentejo, which produces the limited edition wine Pera Manca. There's also time to learn more about such a versatile product like cork, when biking through the cork forests and the traditional villages that survive thanks to this unique industry.

We'll finalize our loop ride at your Hotel.

For tonight's dinner explore the city on foot and have dinner at one of the many local restaurants, known for their traditional dishes. We recommend "sopa de cação" (dogfish soup) or "migas" (bread soup)!

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Accommodation: M'Ar de Ar Aqueduto 5\*

Stage: 60km

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### Day 3

#### From picturesque to luxurious

Today we say goodbye to Évora and our historical hotel.

Our bikes takes us through the Alentejo plains, passing by Redondo a lovely small village in the heart of the region, famous for its pottery and quality top wine. Admire the typical white washed houses, with colored bands around doors and windows.

In Redondo, old techniques are still used to produce the traditional pottery and clay work, with flowers and naif images of rural life. Our aim is to arrive at Vila Viçosa, known as the "Princess of the Alentejo", a land of churches, monasteries, chapels, hermitages, and convents. It is widely known for the abundance of marble in the region, extracted and exploited in more than 160 quarries. For the next two nights, you'll be staying at Alentejo Marmóris Hotel & Spa, a Unique Hotel in the world, a real museum dedicated to marble, being owned by a family that for generations has been working in this business.

Relax in such a luxurious atmosphere.

Night at Alentejo Marmóris Hotel & Spa.

Stage: 57km

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### Day 4

#### Fortress city

Following breakfast, today's ride will take us to the fortified city of Elvas, built inside star shaped walls.

With it's strategic location and located next to the spanish border, since early times had a crucial defensive role for the region.

Occupied since ancient times, offers a rich heritage from megalithic monuments to medieval fortresses.

One of the highlights is the huge Aqueduct, that you can observe while cycling to the city, built in 1498 and concluded in 1622, with an extension of about 7.800 meters and a total of 843 arches, some of them reaching more than 30 meters high.

For the next 2 nights you'll be staying at the historical S. Paulo Convent, a building of the 18th century, fully renovated and now a boutique hotel.

Enjoy this quiet atmosphere and be sure to try the Satsanga Spa.

Night at Vila Galé Collection Historic Hotel

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Stage: 35km

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### Day 5

#### **Vast plains**

Enjoy your breakfast and then meet our team for another day of great cycling! Alentejo is famous for its vast plains and here and there cork trees and olive fields. Admire the beauty of such a landscape on this loop ride that will take us to Campo Maior, a typical village famous for its Festival of Paper Flowers, organized by the locals, decorating the entire village with paper flowers carefully handmade, months in advance. Curious but a bit macabre is their Bone Chapel, built after a tragedy that killed more than 2 thirds of the population, in the 18th century

We'll be passing by the Caia reservoir, with a beautiful landscape, perfect for a photo, on our return to Elvas and our historical hotel.

Enjoy your last evening here with local flavours.

Night at Vila Galé Collection Historic Hotel

Stage: 65km

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### Day 6

#### **Goodbye Alentejo**

After Breakfast it's time to say goodbye to the Alentejo. A transfer\* will be made to the Lisbon Airport at 10h00.

\*If you intend to departure from a different Airport or with a different schedule, please contact us to quote and organize your transfer

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Details

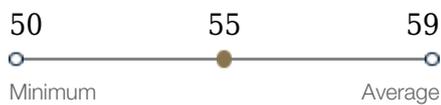
# Details

*Details*

### Type



### Distance/day



### Total distance (km)

0

### Total altimetry

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### Duration



6 days with 5 days cycling (ask us for the shorter version)

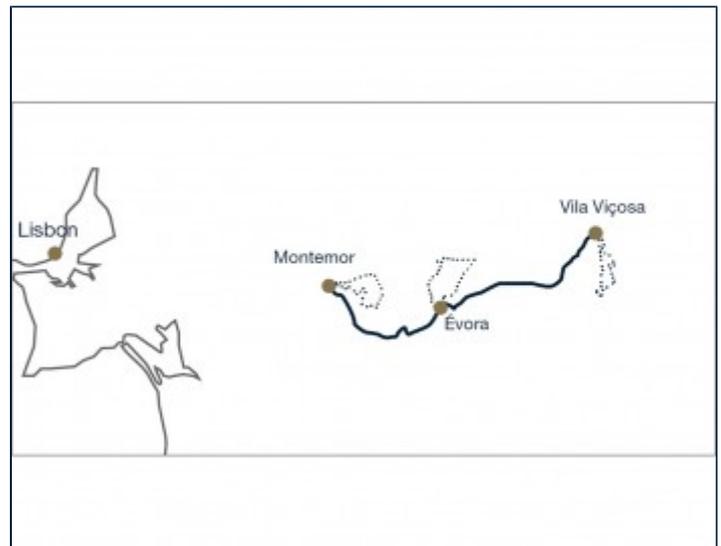
### Trails



66% Tar 34% Smooth dirt

### Bike Type

MTB with hybrid tyres



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### Details

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#### *What is included on the Guided*

- 5 Nights in double accommodation
- 5 Breakfasts
- 5 Bike rides
- Bike and helmet
- Mini-Pump, Saddle Bag
- Quick tyre repair kit (spare inner tube and multi-tool kit)
- GPS with with route and POI's
- Spot Me location device
- Cell phone for emergencies
- Backpack, water bottle, bike jersey, casual polo and luggage tags with Bike Tours Portugal Logo
- Insurance
- Arrival transfer lisbon airport – 1st hotel) Aeroport Lisboa, at 15h on fixed departures
- Departure transfer (last hotel – lisbon airport, at 10h00 on fixed departures
- Luggage transportation (hotel-to-hotel)
- Technical assistance in case of necessity
- Tire repair€90/Tire

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#### *Not included on the Guided*

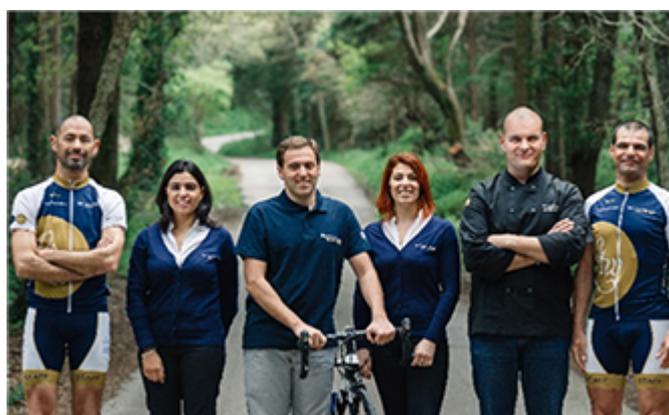
- Lunches
- Dinners
- Bike shorts and shoes
- Extra equipment non specified as included
- Bike shorts and shoes
- Air fares
- Mini-bar and extra consumptions not mentioned on the programme
- SPA treatments

## Alentejo Heritage Self Guided Bike Tour

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Why choose us?

# Why choose us?



"Luxury on Two Wheels" means what it says: Unforgettable, premium cycling experiences, where no expense is spared to offer you the most exclusive lodgings; gourmet cuisine that deliciously combines tradition with innovation; genuine points of interest; the kind of personal service only possible with small groups; and highly customized, educational cycling routes.

Last but not least, our Tours are not only family-friendly but family-oriented: from the choice of accessories that range from tandem bikes to baby chairs, to our selection of routes that are accessible enough to be made by beginner cyclists, every detail of our Tours was carefully designed with family and friends in mind. Whether a member of your group is 8 or 80, he or she will certainly enjoy our rides with minimum effort and complete comfort.

We're sure you'll compare us to others. We actually hope you do, as you'll quickly realize the differences between a "Cycling Holiday" and "Luxury on Two Wheels".



Get in touch. We're happy to help!

## Our team

From customer support to route planning, on-tour bike repair and gourmet picnics, everyone in our team is passionate about Portugal, Cycling, and making your stay nothing less than spectacular.

## Our Vans

### Luxury on the Road

Our trailers were custom-built to be the perfect partner for all our Guided Tours. Not only can they hold all necessary bikes and equipment, they also have plenty of space for our client's luggage. A fully-equipped kitchen, water closet, built-in repair shop and wi-fi hotspot complete our 'hotel on the road'.



## Our Vans

### Premium Support

Used in both our Guided and Self-Guided Tours, our Vans holds up to 8 passengers and their luggage, and 8 bicycles. Equipped with a mini-bar, double air conditioning, 12V USB charger and wi-fi hotspot, it's a perfect companion for all our Tours.

