



MIAMI BEACH
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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MBCC-9-Day Cascais Sister City & Food & Wine Experience in Portugal-Dec. 2019

Dec 19, 2019 - Dec 27, 2019

Join New York Times Travel Show Speaker, [Sheree M. Mitchell](#) (Miami, Florida) and local culinary superstars for an exclusive wine and food experience in Portugal. From off-the-beaten path small production wineries and speciality food shops to *rising* Michelin-starred restaurants and exclusive trips into the internationally-acclaimed Douro Valley, you are sure to see a side of Portugal that is rarely accessible to most tourists. Grab your passport, your camera, and your appetite and let's go! *This program was tailor-made for the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce with special participation by The City of Cascais.*

Specific details about the Sister City Signing Ceremony Day will be made available ASAP

Places visited: Lisbon, Évora, Vila Viçosa, Porto, The Douro Valley (Pinhão, Vila Real and Ucanha), Cascais, Sintra, Estoril.

**Note about hotel categories: Due to the difference in the hotel star rating system between Portugal and the U.S., you'll notice that some of the properties selected for this program are five star Portuguese properties which are equivalent to solid four star American hotels. If you'd like to read more about the star rating system for international hotels, visit bit.ly/HOTELS33*

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December 19 - THURS: Day 1: Welcome to Cascais

You'll Fall in Love with Lisbon! - Hotel Cascais Miragem

December 20 - FRI: Day 2: Cascais. Sister City Signing Ceremony

Cascais & The City of Miami Beach Sister City Ceremony - Hotel Cascais Miragem

December 21 - SAT: Day 3: Alentejo

Full Day in Alentejo - Hotel Cascais Miragem

December 22 - SUN Day 4: Cascais & Sintra

Jewish Culture in Cascais and Sightseeing Around Cascais & Sintra - Inspira Santa Marta Hotel, Tivoli Lisboa

December 23 - MON. Day 5: Enjoy the Magic of Lisbon!

December 24 - TUES. Day 6: (OH) Porto, How I Love Thee!

All Great Things Head North - InterContinental Porto - Palacio Das Cardosas, Hotel PortoBay Flores

December 25 - WED. Day 7: Porto

O(h) Porto...How I Love Thee! - InterContinental Porto - Palacio Das Cardosas, Hotel Porto Palácio

December 26 - THURS. Day 8: The Douro Valley

Welcome to the Douro Valley: UNESCO World Heritage Site - InterContinental Porto -Palacio Das Cardosas

December 27 - FRI. Day 9: Departure

Boa Viagem!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER & PAY](#)



You'll Fall in Love with Lisbon!

Welcome to Portugal! Independent arrival to Lisbon Airport (Humberto Delgado Airport).

If you are traveling with the MBCC group, an airport transfer to Cascais will be included. If you are coming independently, you'll need to arrange your own airport transfer. [Immersa Global](#) will be happy to assist with this.

Arrive to the hotel. An early check in will be requested for the group but it cannot be guaranteed. If you'd like to secure an early check in by reserving the previous evening, please contact [Immersa Global](#).

Lunch at the hotel while the guest rooms are being prepared.

After lunch, there's an optional complimentary two-hour museum visit to [Casa Das Historias Paula Rego](#) for those who'd like to explore. *Must reserve in advance no later than November 15th.* [Contact Immersa Global](#).

17h30: Depart for the elegant [Casa de Santa Maria](#) where you'll enjoy a welcome cocktail dîatoire hosted by the City of Cascais. This evening you'll meet Mayor Carlos Carreiras, Deputy Mayor Miguel Pinto Luz, distinguished members and friends of Cascais. The food and wine for this event have been thoughtfully selected by Sheree Mitchell of Immersa Global to give you a proper introduction to the rich gastronomic heritage that Portugal offers. **Attire: SemiFormal**

Overnight in Cascais.

Meals included: *Lunch and Cocktail Dîatoire*

HOTEL: Hotel Miragem Cascais



Hotel Cascais Miragem

Av. Marginal, 8554

+351 21 006 0600

December 20 - FRI: Day 2: Cascais. Sister City Signing Ceremony



Cascais & The City of Miami Beach Sister City Ceremony

-----Final Details to Be Confirmed by the City of Cascais-----

After an early breakfast at the hotel, depart for today's event venue (to be confirmed by Cascais).

Meet and network with local business leaders and City of Cascais representatives. Learn about the economic developments and social programs that have led Cascais to become an international model for a multicultural/multifaith resident-friendly city and an environment for economic growth.

Enjoy a three-course lunch with representatives of the City of Cascais.

Immediately after lunch, you'll return to the hotel to rest and prepare for this evening's events.

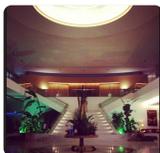
Participate in the official Miami Beach/Cascais Sister City Ceremony. (Cascais will provide a detailed itinerary soon.)

Depart for Michelin-mentioned restaurant, Porto Santa Maria, for a very special four-course dinner celebration. Meet entrepreneur and restaurateur, Rodrigo Saragga, as he invites you on a exclusive tour of Porto Santa Maria's impressive wine cellar. You'll quickly understand why this internationally-known fine dining spot has seen the likes of Brad Pitt, the King of Sweden, and Bill Clinton.

Overnight in Cascais.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

HOTEL: Hotel Miragem Cascais



Hotel Cascais Miragem

Av. Marginal, 8554
 +351 21 006 0600



Full Day in Alentejo

Enjoy a full breakfast at the hotel.

Depart at **9h30** to the Alentejo for an authentic Iberian country experience.

Visit one of the oldest properties in the region. Learn how this estate became a government-protected sanctuary for millennial olives trees. Next visit the underground winery that has recently racked up awards for its sleek and creative design. *(You'll quickly be reminded of a very popular museum!)*

Travel to what's considered the most romantic village in the Alentejo: **Vila Viçosa**. Join a guided tour of the village and the award-winning Marmoris Hotel. (You'll have a completely new appreciation for marble after you see this place!)

Next get your appetite and camera ready for an amazing culinary experience with rising Michelin-star **Chef Pedro Mendes**, *"from Alentejo (south of Lisbon and north of the Algarve) has been reintroducing the acorn (and other obscure foods) back into the Portuguese diet, but at the haute-cuisine level. He's been silently transforming what was commonly known as poor peoples' food into gorgeous elaborate "Michelinesque" dishes for years. Mendes is also a pioneer in sustainability in ultra high-end restaurants. Unlike most, he challenges himself to work with food (and personnel) from a 50 kilometer radius from wherever he's stationed. (He's an attractive, motorcycle-riding, headstrong badass who's unapologetically disrupting the fine cuisine experience in conservative Portugal.) It's advised to follow him closely as he will continue to innovate well beyond the confinements of the status quo."* - Sheree M. Mitchell, *New York Times Travel Show 2018*

After lunch, visit Évora, a UNESCO World Heritage Site for a guided walking tour where you'll learn about an explore:

- **St. Francisco Church**
- **Bones Chapel**
- **Giraldo Square**
- **Mouraria – Moorish Quarter**
- **Agua de Prata Aqueduct**
- **Roman Temple**
- **The Cathedral**
- **Espirito Santo Church – Igreja do Espirito Santo**

After the tour, return to Cascais. Enjoy the rest of the evening at your leisure.

Overnight in Cascais.

Meals included: Breakfast and Lunch.

Wine Activity: private winery visit including commented tasting. Wine pairing with lunch.

HOTEL: Hotel Miragem Cascais



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Hotel Cascais Miragem

Av. Marginal, 8554



Jewish Culture in Cascais and Sightseeing Around Cascais & Sintra

Today you'll be switching hotels so make sure to have everything packed and ready to go when you depart for your first activity this morning.

After a full breakfast at your hotel, depart at **9h30** to meet with members of the local Jewish community where you'll present the gifts from Miami Beach.

Meet Rabbi Eli (originally from the US). He'll share with you his experience researching and writing his latest book *Jewish Voices from Portugal*.

11h30: Depart for Cabo da Roca

Get ready for a picture-worthy visit to the westernmost point of the European continent, **Cabo de Roca**. (Historical records indicate that there was a fort on Cabo da Roca in the 17th century that played an important part in guarding the entrance to Lisbon's harbour, forming a defensive line along the coast, especially during the Peninsular Wars.) *Make sure you take a jacket, it gets very windy here.*

Travel over to the magical village of **Sintra**. Your certified local guide will explain how this village for centuries used to be the resort town of Portuguese nobles.

Enjoy a three-course gastronomic lunch at one of the finest five-star hotels in the region.

As you approach Lisbon, stop by majestic Jerónimos Monastery, an UNESCO World Heritage Site, for a quick visit. This breathtaking structure happens to be the best (surviving) example of Manueline style architecture, also known as Portuguese late Gothic

Arrive to the hotel. Check in and enjoy the rest of the evening on your own. Dinner on your own. Recommendations provided.

Overnight in Lisbon.

Meals included: *Breakfast and Lunch*

HOTEL: Inspira Santa Marta Hotel (4* option) or Tivoli Avenida Libertade (5* option)





Inspira Santa Marta Hotel

R. de Santa Marta, 48

+351 21 044 0900



Tivoli Lisboa

Av. da Liberdade, 185

+351 21 319 8900



After a full breakfast buffet at your hotel, enjoy a "best of" visit to two of Lisbon's most impressive museums: The Gulbenkian Museum and the National Tile Museum. These are two *must-visit* cultural centers in Lisbon.

Enjoy lunch on your own. **Recommended:** Time Out Market / Mercado da Ribeira

After lunch you'll participate in a guided walking tour with one of Portugal's most popular certified tour guides: Teresa. During this 3.5 hour program, you'll visit and learn about:

- **Bairro Alto**
- **The Great Earthquake of 1755**
- **Chiado**
- **Baixa Pombalina**
- **Carnation Revolution**
- **Rossio Square**
- **Praça do Comércio**
- **Portuguese Inquisition**
- **Carmo Convent**
- **The Age of Discovery**
- **Santa Justa Elevator**
- and much more

After the tour, return to the hotel and get ready for an authentic Portuguese dining experience in one of Lisbon's best kept secrets.

Overnight in Lisbon.

Meals included: *Breakfast and Dinner*

Hotel: Inspira Santa Marta (4*) or Tivoli Avenida de Libertade (5*)





All Great Things Head North

Today you'll be switching hotels so make sure to have everything packed and ready to go when you depart for your first activity this morning.

After an early breakfast, we'll say *até logo* to Lisbon as you begin your journey north to Portugal's second largest city: O Porto. It's about a 3.5 hour drive from Lisbon. *There will be restroom and snack breaks along the way.*

Arrive to Porto. Drop luggage off at hotel and enjoy lunch on your own.

Participate in a guided tour of [Casa da Musica](#)- one of the most well-known music halls in the Iberian Peninsula, designed by the famous **Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas**.

Next you'll have the option of:

(A) Visiting the famous **Vila Nova de Gaia** (across the river) where you'll enjoy a VIP Port lodge visit. Your private guide will take you to the family's aging cellar and vintage museum. You'll end the tour in the new and modern VIP tasting room where you'll enjoy a *commented* tasting of **10, 20 and 40 year old Tawnies**.

(B) Or participating on a guided tour of the world famous [Serralves Contemporary Art Museum](#).

After your afternoon activities, return to the hotel to refreshen up. You'll enjoy a lovely three-course dinner at one of Porto's most under-visited palaces!

Overnight in Porto.

Meals included: Breakfast and Dinner.

Optional Wine Activity: private VIP Port Wine visit and commented tasting.

Hotels: Porto Bay Flores (4*) or InterContinental (5*)



InterContinental Porto - Palacio Das Cardosas

25 Praça da Liberdade, Porto, Porto, PT, 4000-322
22 003 5600



Hotel PortoBay Flores

Nº 27 Rua das Flores, Porto, Porto, PT, 4050-416



O(h) Porto...How I Love Thee!

After breakfast, get ready for an interactive walking tour of Porto. You'll learn about:

(Most of the buildings will be closed due to the Christmas holiday. Luckily Porto is known for being a gorgeous outdoor museum which we are sure that you will enjoy.)

- **Gothic Church of Saint Francis**, a UNESCO World Heritage site
- **The iconic Dom Luis I Bridge**
- **Palace of São João Novo** that was home to the Porto elite
- **Casa Oriental** that still produces traditional cans of sardines
- **Virtudes Lookout Point** which has the best view of Porto
- **Gaia** and its cellars where port wine is stored

Enjoy an **authentic Northern Portuguese lunch** with the group. Afterward, resume the walking tour with your guide.

After the tour, you are free to enjoy the rest of the evening on your own. Dinner at leisure. (Recommendations provided.) *Overnight in Porto.*

Meals included: *Breakfast and Lunch*

Hotels: Porto Bay Flores (4*) or InterContinental (5*)



InterContinental Porto - Palacio Das Cardosas

25 Praça da Liberdade, Porto, Porto, PT, 4000-322
22 003 5600



Hotel Porto Palácio

Av. Boavista, 1269
+351 22 608 6600



Welcome to the Douro Valley: UNESCO World Heritage Site

After an early breakfast at the hotel, get ready for an action-packed full day tour of breathtaking sights and unforgettable private wine tastings, gourmet lunch, and 18th century palaces as you explore the world-renowned **Douro Valley**.

Participate in a guided tour of the gorgeous 18th century **Mateus Palace** and gardens.

Visit one of the best lookout points the lower Douro River Valley. You'll be amazed at how gorgeous this place is (and amazed at how anyone can produce wine here)!

Next travel over to a very unique winery with a unique history. Learn how one entrepreneurial family from England a few generations ago left the UK to try their luck at producing wine in the heart of Portugal's wine region. Enjoy a **special *bon voyage* lunch and a wine tasting** at the winery.

Then visit the famous **Caves da Murganheira** in Ucanha where you'll go deep into the ancient wine cellars (*caves*) to learn how Portugal's most popular sparkling wine is produced. After the visit, enjoy a *commented* sparkling wine tasting.

Return to Porto. Dinner at leisure. (Recommendations provided.)

Overnight in Porto

Meals included: *Breakfast and Lunch*

Wine Activity: two private winery visits including commented tastings.

Hotel: InterContinental (5*)



InterContinental Porto - Palacio Das Cardosas

25 Praça da Liberdade, Porto, Porto, PT, 4000-322 22003 5600



Boa Viagem!

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel and transfer on your own to the airport. The program officially ends this morning after check-out.

We hope you've enjoyed Exploring Portugal with Local Culinary Experts. This program was tailor-made for the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce. *Boa viagem!*

Meals included: Breakfast

**Please note that this is a working itinerary and modifications may occur depending on the availability of our hosts and certain events. The itinerary is subject to change. All changes will be announced.*





Arrival to Lisbon Airport on December 19, 2019

Humberto Delgado Airport in Lisbon, Portugal.

Airport Code: LIS



Departure Airport on December 27th, 2019

Francisco Sá Carneiro Airport (Porto Airport) in Porto, Portugal.

Airport Code: OPO



Note regarding modifications to this itinerary:

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Immersa Global, LLC and Partners

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SMM Advisory, Lda is the local destination management partner for Portugal. NIPC: 515006920.



Revised June 17, 2019. SMM

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