



## Visit Lisbon and ride the vineyards of Ribatejo, Portugal



### Itinerary

The Ribatejo region close to Lisbon is the home land of the world famous Lusitano horse. Here you can ride on horseback through the endless unspoilt countryside and appreciate why this region has a National Fair dedicated to horses. In November every year Lusitano horse experts and fans travel from all points of the globe to Golega to enjoy this traditional festival where horses, riders and visitors meet to enjoy a unique and colourful fiesta. The Ribatejo region has been associated with wine since the days of the Romans and in 2000 the region won the highest wine certification in Portugal. We invite you to ride the Ribatejo Wine Route on Lusitano horses and enjoy an itinerary that blends tradition with cultural, and gastronomy with heady wines, picturesque wine cellars and vineyard tended with skill and affection.

### Day One

Arrive at Lisbon airport and head towards the historic city of Santarem (1 hr driving) and to your hotel. All the hotels that we have selected are full of character and reflect the charm of this wonderful area. In addition they are all well appointed with all the facilities that you would expect in quality accommodation. You can choose to stay in the centre of the historic city or in a Quinta (typical Portuguese Estate) on the outskirts of the city. This afternoon you will begin riding in the heart of the vineyard region of Ribatejo on well trained Lusitano Horses. Choose from lessons on these beautiful horses with expert instructors or relax and enjoy the magnificent scenery of this verdant area. The stables are located in beautiful and historic buildings in an area of outstanding natural beauty.

### Day Two

This morning you will be riding again with the opportunity to improve your equestrian skills aboard a fine Lusitano horse. Today you will be riding through the magnificent vineyards of this unspoilt countryside. Later this afternoon you may like to take the opportunity to visit nearby Golega (40 minutes by car), this is the capital city of The Lusitano Horse and you will be reminded of this round every corner of the city's cobbled streets! The prestigious stud, Coudelaria do Alter is also within driving distance (1½ hours), this is the jewel in the crown of the Portuguese Lusitano Horse breeding programme. Here you can visit the museums and view the thematic displays, visit the stables and meet the stallions, mares and foals that are the basis of this hugely successful breeding programme. There is also an equestrian display on certain days of the week.

### Day Three

After breakfast this morning we have organised a longer ride for you through the vineyards including a picnic lunch. This evening we recommend a stroll around the historic centre of Santarem or we can also arrange a guided tour of the local bodegas with wine tasting.



### Day Four

Today you will be heading for Lisbon, the capital city of Portugal. Here we have organised a guided tour of this spectacular city with one of our excellent local guides, we can include tickets to watch the wonderful display by The Royal Riding School of Portugal (Wednesday performances) and/or tickets to visit The Carriage Museum. For those who already know the city we can offer you the opportunity to enjoy a tour of the historic city of Sintra by horse drawn carriage (35 minutes from Lisbon). Lisbon has excellent train links to Sintra. This evening we suggest that you enjoy a traditional Portuguese dinner in one of the restaurants of the Fado of Lisbon to complete this unforgettable equestrian escape.



### Day Five

Return to the airport for your return flight.

## Prices

Included in your horse riding holiday price of £650

- 4 nights of accommodation B&B (3 in Santarem-Ribatejo and 1 in Lisbon)
- One equitation class
- 2 hacks (2 hrs + 3 hrs & picnic)
- Lisbon guided visit (4 hours) including Museo dos Carros and Equestrian Riding School visits
- Fado show + dinner

### Optional Extras

- Additional ride
- Additional lesson
- Transfers hotel-stables-hotel

### Optional Activities

- Guided tour to Sintra with horse drawn carriage tour included
- Guided tour to Golega & Alter do Chao National Stud
- Guided tour through the Ribatejo wine route



Santarem-Lisboa 5 days / 4 nights 3 & 4 stars accommodation: £650 pp

Single supplement of £

Transfers from Lisbon or Faro airport are available, prices on request.





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*equestrian escapes*

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