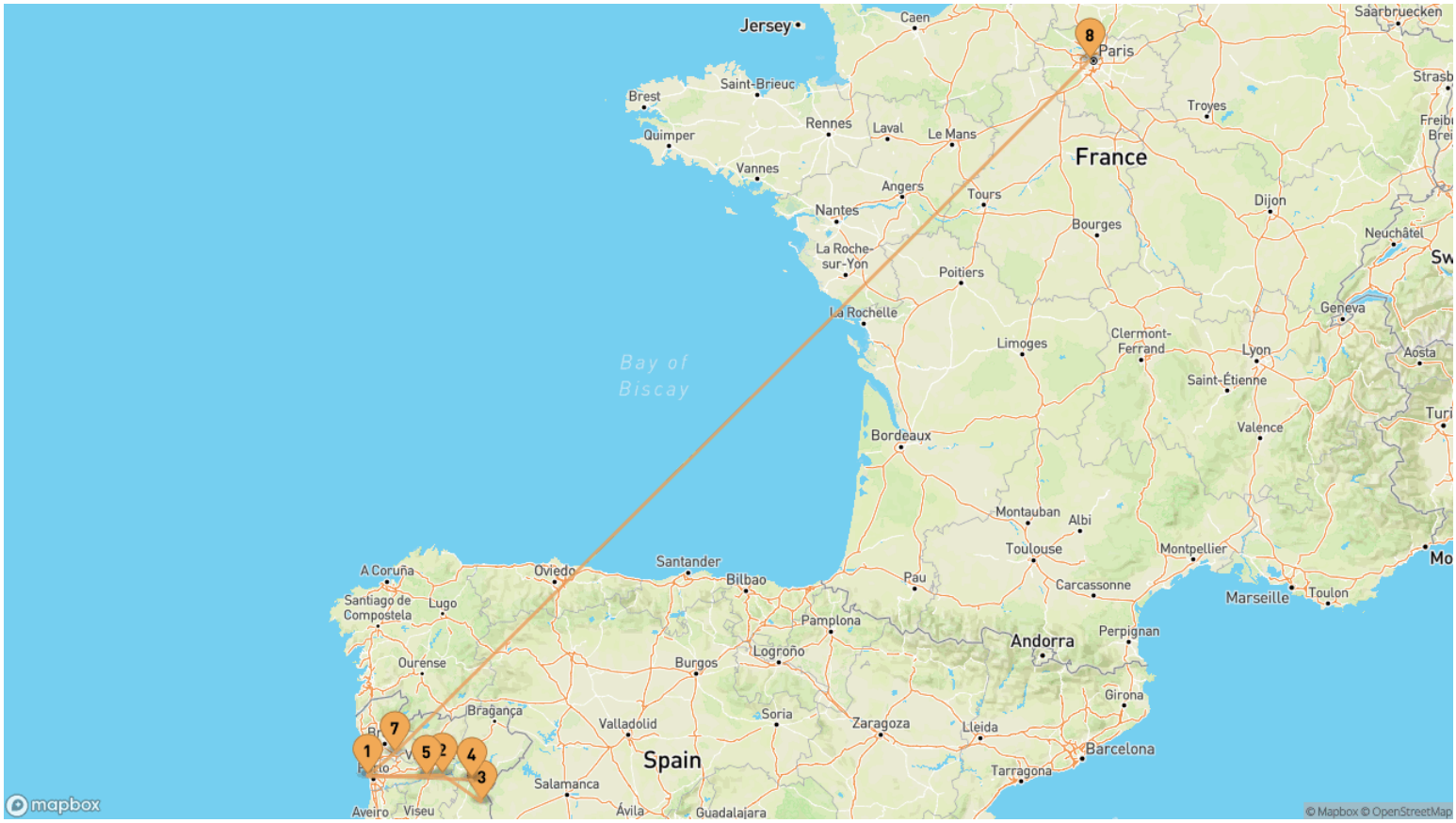
ALMA MUNDI - Douro Gold Cruise - charter

- Regions / Countries: **Portugal** **France**
- Duration: **8 Days / 7 Nights**
- Tags: **Mainland port, Popular, Village, City, Romantic, Nightlife**
- URL: https://embarq.travel/boats/duoro-spirit/alma-mundi-douro-gold-cruise-charter/



Day 1



Portugal / Port

Mainland port, Popular

> Porto is a coastal city in northwest Portugal known for its stately bridges and port wine production. Its historic center is a UNESCO World Heritage Site of narrow cobblestone streets brimming with romantic buildings spanning the centuries and a Romanesque cathedral. In the medieval Ribeira (riverside) district, narrow cobbled streets wind past merchants' houses and cafes.

DAY 1: FRANCE - PORTO

Departure to Porto on a scheduled flight. Upon arrival, welcome and transfer to the port of Porto (Vila Nova de Gaia). Boarding the M/S Douro Spirit. Installation and welcome cocktail. Dinner on board.

Day 2



Portugal / Pinhao

Mainland port, Village

The sleepy town of Pinhão is situated between the Douro and Pinhão Rivers. This small village is surrounded by terraced vineyards and produces exceptional port wine. The biggest names in port have quintas, or wine estates, nearby. During the grape harvest every year in autumn, Pinhão attracts workers and wine enthusiasts from across Europe.

DAY 2: REGUA – CASA DE MATEUS – PINHAO

The M/S Douro Spirit begins its navigation through the Douro Valley where the small villages seem suspended in the middle of the vineyards and olive groves. Lunch on board.
In the early afternoon, arrival in Regua. Located in the heart of the valley, the city was the center of the Port wine trade in the 13th century. Visit the Douro Museum. Housed in a former warehouse, this modern territorial museum aims to preserve and promote the heritage of the Alto Douro wine region, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
Then, departure for the Casa de Mateus. Visit of this elegant 18th century mansion, a true jewel of baroque art, and discovery of its gardens. Composed of flowered paths, exotic plants and a magnificent cypress tunnel, They are a marvel of landscape art. The lake, in which the sumptuous residence is reflected, perfectly extends the whole.
Dinner* and evening in a quinta in the heart of the vineyards. Return on board to Pinhao and night at the quay.
*Dinner may be replaced by lunch.

Day 3



Portugal / Rodrigo Castle

Mainland port

Castelo Rodrigo is a charming historical village located in the eastern part of Portugal, near the border with Spain. Perched atop a hill, the village is dominated by its imposing castle, which dates back to the 12th century. Castelo Rodrigo is known for its well-preserved medieval architecture, including its narrow cobbled streets, whitewashed houses, and Gothic churches. The village is also surrounded by stunning natural scenery, with rolling hills and vineyards. Visitors can enjoy exploring the castle, wandering the historic streets, and sampling the local cuisine and wines.

DAY 3: BARCA D'ALVA – CASTELO RODRIGO

Morning sailing to Barca d'Alva, on the Spanish border, through the deep and steep-sided valleys of the Douro. Here, the river has been widened by its successive dams that regulate its flow and produce a large part of the electricity consumed in the country. In the afternoon, departure for Castelo Rodrigo. From the top of a hill, this small medieval village dominates the plateau that extends towards Spain, to the East, and up to to the Douro Valley, to the North. Walk through the narrow and steep streets of the village, whose houses offer pretty 16th century facades and Manueline-style windows.
Night at the quay.

Day 4



Portugal / Pocinho

Pocinho, nestled in the Douro Valley of Portugal, offers a tranquil escape surrounded by breathtaking scenery. This charming village is renowned for its stunning landscapes, picturesque vineyards, and rich cultural heritage. Visitors can explore historic landmarks, enjoy leisurely walks along the Douro River, or embark on scenic boat tours through the valley. With its peaceful ambiance and natural beauty, Pocinho is a hidden gem waiting to be discovered by travelers seeking an authentic Portuguese experience.

DAY 4: BARCA D'ALVA – SALAMANCA – POCINHO

Day dedicated to discovering Salamanca, a UNESCO World Heritage Site for the splendor of its old town. Panoramic tour of the city passing through the Plaza Mayor, one of the most beautiful monumental squares in Spain. Visit the university, founded in 1215 on the Patio de las Escuelas. Visit the new cathedral, built between the 16th and 18th centuries, which presents a mixture of Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque styles. The façade highlighted by a delicate stone lacework protects an interior with richly decorated vaults. Lunch of local specialties in a restaurant in the city. Free time in the afternoon to stroll around this ancient city. Return on board and resume navigation to Pocinho.

Day 5



Portugal / Regua

Mainland port

Régua is a picturesque town located in the heart of Portugal's Douro Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its stunning vineyards and port wine production. Régua is situated on the banks of the Douro River and is surrounded by rolling hills covered in grapevines. The town is known for its charming historic center, with narrow streets, colorful houses, and traditional Portuguese architecture. Régua is also a popular starting point for exploring the Douro Valley, with boat tours, wine tastings, and scenic drives available. Visitors can enjoy the town's lively atmosphere, sample the local cuisine and wines, and immerse themselves in the region's rich winemaking culture.

DAY 5: POCINHO – LAMEGO – REGUA

In the morning, M/S Douro Spirit continues its navigation through the lush Douro Valley, in a unique landscape of vineyards spread over every single patch of mountain.
After lunch on board, discovery of a quinta (winery) and wine tasting in an exceptional setting. Continue by coach to Lamego, where the sovereignty of Afonso Henriques was recognized in 1143. Visit of the imposing 12th century cathedral century; it has undergone many modifications over the centuries, and today offers a real mix of architectural styles.
Then visit the Lamego Museum, housed in a former 18th century episcopal palace. It presents valuable collections of sculptures, paintings and tapestries.
Folk show on board.

Day 6



Portugal / Port

Mainland port, Popular

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DAY 6: REGUA - PORTO

In the morning, continue sailing to Porto. Lunch on board. In the afternoon, departure for the visit of Porto. At the mouth of the Douro, the city dominates the river and bears witness to a rich history of two millennia. Its historic center is classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. With its bridges and monuments, its azulejos, its flower-filled balconies and its shopping streets, the city has no shortage of attractions. Visit the cathedral, the Sé, whose forecourt offers a superb view of the river and the roofs of the city. This Romanesque-style fortress church, remodeled in the 17th and 18th centuries, is one of the oldest monuments in the city. Not far from there, the railway station houses in its hall more than 20,000 earthenware tiles retracing the history of Portugal. Then, visit the Stock Exchange Palace, located in the heart of the historic center and classified as a National Monument. Construction of this neoclassical building began in 1842 on the ruins of the Franciscan convent that had been destroyed by fire. The palace has remarkable rooms, the most impressive of which is undoubtedly the Moorish Hall, inspired by the Alhambra. The city tour ends with a wine tasting in one of the cellars of Vila Nova de Gaia. After dinner, fado evening on board.

Day 7



Portugal / Guimaraes

DAY 7: PORTO - BRAGA - GUIMARAES

In the morning, departure by coach to Braga to discover the exceptional heritage of this city, once nicknamed the "Rome of Portugal". Braga is still today one of the main religious centers of the country.
Discovery of the Sanctuary of Bom Jesus. The grand staircase leading to the summit consists of 17 landings decorated with symbolic fountains, allegorical statues and other baroque decorations. The monumental ensemble dominates the city and offers a breathtaking panorama of the city and its surroundings .
Walk through the historic center to admire the many churches and historic buildings, and visit the Sé, the city's cathedral. Built in the 12th century, it is the symbol of the city and the oldest cathedral in the country.
Lunch at the restaurant. In the afternoon, continue the excursion to Guimaraes, located northeast of Porto and birthplace of the first king of Portugal, Afonso Henriques. Discovery of the historic center, along the Largo da Oliveira, a remarkably preserved medieval complex, then visit the palace of the Dukes of Braganza, whose architecture evokes the castles of Burgundy.
Return on board in Porto and night at the quayside.

Day 8



France / Paris

City, Mainland port, Popular, Romantic, Nightlife

DAY 8: PORTO - FRANCE

After breakfast, disembarkation and transfer to Porto airport. Flight to France on a scheduled flight.


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