

PORTUGAL 2027

A JOURNEY THROUGH PORTUGAL'S HISTORY, CULTURE, AND UNFORGETTABLE LANDSCAPES

AFRICAN AMERICAN TRAVELERS

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GET TO KNOW OUR TEAM



Lawrence McLean
Founder / CEO of AAT Trip Host

A GUIDE TO
HELP YOU KNOW
ABOUT OUR
TEAM MEMBERS

Lawrence McLean developed the concept of AAT in 2012, as a result of the constant let down of friends backing out of travel plans, or simply not sharing his interest in traveling any further than the Caribbean. He started the group, African American Travelers of Philadelphia, followed by another chapter in New York, on meetup.com. Since then, he has led thousands from around the country, on the most epic, unforgettable, international tours. AAT's groups have perused six continents, including its, signature, annual NYE in Dubai experience, and taking travelers "Home for the Holidays" to Africa to Ghana, year after year. According to "Madame Noir" Lawrence has been recognized as one of the three US entrepreneurs who is changing the perception of travel to Africa.



Andrea McLean
Host Assistant

Andrea McLean is known for traveling with style. She has worked in customer service and sales for many years, mastering 60-second pitches since the spunky age of 6! She is focused on customer satisfaction, engagement, and bringing a smile to our travelers' faces. Some believe that she may have been a comedian in her past life. Whenever she is around , there is always laughter.



William McLean
Host Assistant

William Mclean is our newest addition to the team. William is currently in college majoring in business acquiring relevant skills that will not only enhance your traveling experience with African American Travelers but ensure that your experience is our top priority. William loves building connections and meeting new people, as our entire team is incredibly eager to present our customers with the opportunity to develop lifelong friendships and memories as that will last forever.

THE ITINERARY

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3RD



USA → PORTUGAL



3:00 PM
CHECK IN
PORTO PALÁCIO HOTEL



8:00 PM
BLACK AND GOLD HOST DINNER

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 4TH



PORTO CITY & PORT WINE EXPERIENCE

9:00 AM
DEPART FOR A PRIVATE PORTO AND VILA NOVA DE GAIA TOUR

- São Bento Railway Station and azulejo tile panels
- Porto Cathedral
- Historic center
- Ribeira waterfront
- Dom Luís I Bridge
- Clérigos area
- Livraria Lello exterior photo stop

2:00 PM
VILA NOVA DE GAIA

- PORT WINE CELLAR VISIT
- GUIDED PORT WINE TASTING

3:45 PM

- SIX BRIDGES CRUISE ON THE DOURO RIVER OR
- ADDITIONAL CELLAR/TASTING EXPERIENCE

5:30 PM
RETURN TO HOTEL

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5TH



MORNING FREE TIME



12:00 PM
CHECK-OUT

PORTO → LISBON



3:30 PM CHECK-IN
SHERATON LISBOA HOTEL & SPA

6:00 PM
OPTIONAL
COOKING CLASS

10:30 PM
OPTIONAL NIGHTLIFE OUTING.

THE ITINERARY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6TH

LISBON CITY TOUR

9:00 AM
DEPART FOR TOUR

- Belém Tower exterior and Monument
- Jerónimos Monastery exterior
- Pastéis de Belém tasting
- Praça do Comércio and Baixa

1:00 PM
GROUP LUNCH

2:00 PM
CENTRAL AND HILLSIDE LISBON

- Alfama viewpoints and historic lanes
- Rossio and Avenida da Liberdade
- Miradouro photo stop
- Optional brief Black history context integrated into the general city tour

5:00 PM
RETURN TO HOTEL

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7TH

SINTRA, CABO DA ROCA & CASCAIS TOUR

8:00 AM
DEPART LISBON FOR SINTRA

9:00 AM

- PENA PALACE TIMED-ENTRY
- PANORAMIC GROUNDS

11:30 AM

- SINTRA HISTORIC CENTER
- QUINTA DA REGALEIRA

1:45 PM
GROUP LUNCH IN SINTRA

3:15 PM
DRIVE TO CABO DA ROCA

4:15 PM
CASCAIS

- WATERFRONT FREE TIME
- PHOTO STOPS

5:45 PM
RETURN TO LISBON

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8TH

MORNING FREE TIME

12:00 PM
CHECK-OUT

LISBON→ LAGOS

3:30 PM CHECK-IN
HOTEL MARINA RIO

THE ITINERARY

MONDAY, AUGUST 9TH

MORNING FREE TIME

1:00 PM
OPTIONAL PRIVATE YACHT OR CATAMARAN PARTY

5:00 PM
RETURN TO LAGOS MARINA

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10TH

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

- Kayak/boat tour at Ponta da Piedade **or**
- Benagil/Marinha coast cruise

1:00 PM
OPTIONAL BEACH-CLUB AT A SELECTED ALGARVE VENUE

FAREWELL DINNER

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11TH

CHECK OUT / FLY HOME

12:00 PM
CHECK OUT HOTEL / TRANSFER TO AIRPORT

THE EXTENSION

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12TH

CHECK OUT HOTEL / TRANSFER TO AIRPORT

3:00 PM
CHECK IN
CALOURA HOTEL RESORT

7:00 PM
BLACK AND GOLD WELCOME DINNER

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13TH

SETE CIDADES & LAGOA DO FOGO EXCURSION

8:30 AM
DEPART FOR TOUR

SETE CIDADES HIGHLIGHTS
• Vista do Rei viewpoint
• Blue and Green Lakes panorama
• Sete Cidades village and crater scenery
• Additional weather-dependent viewpoints

CENTRAL-ISLAND HIGHLIGHTS.
- Ribeira Grande or pineapple-plantation stop
- Pico da Barrosa / Lagoa do Fogo viewpoints
- Salto do Cabrito, Caldeira Velha

5:30 PM
RETURN TO HOTEL

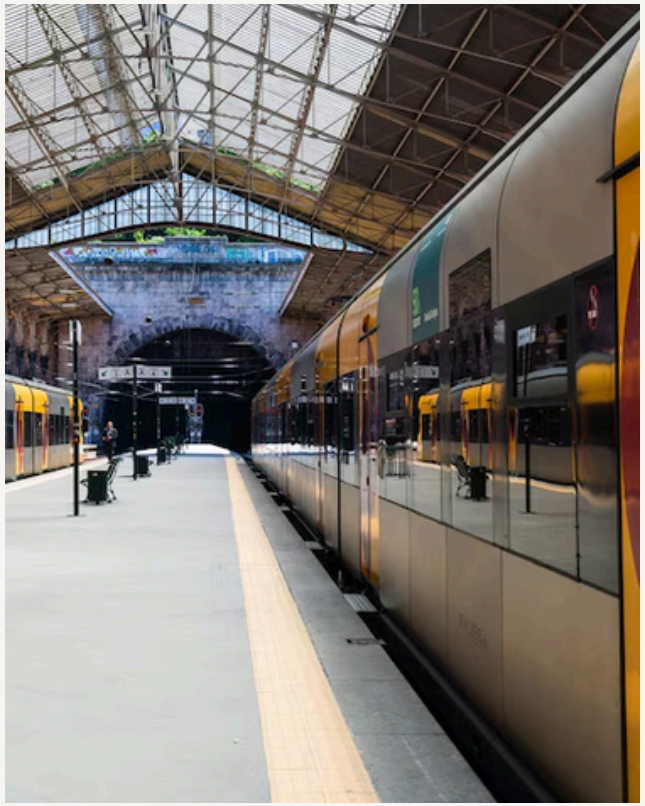
SATURDAY, AUGUST 14TH

FREE TIME / CALOURA RESORT DAY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15TH

CHECK OUT HOTEL / TRANSFER TO AIRPORT

IN DEPTH



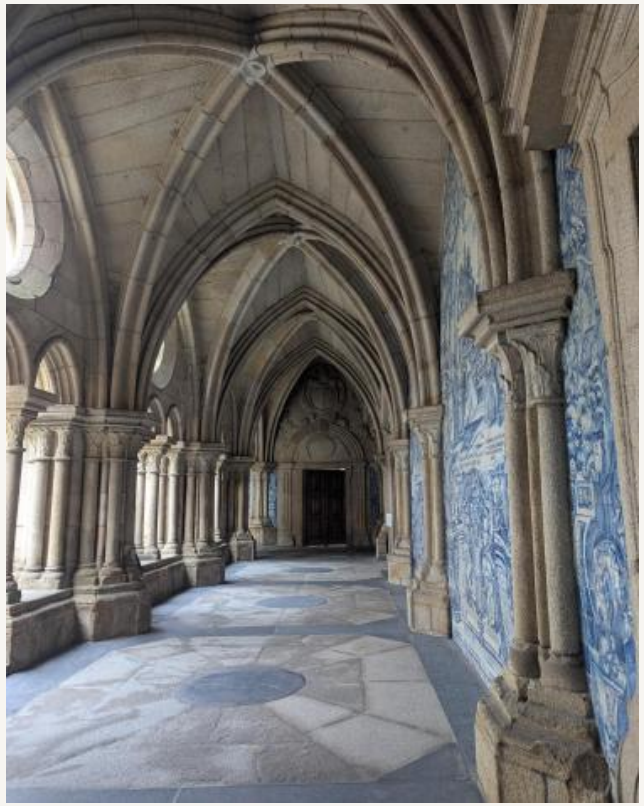
SÃO BENTO RAILWAY STATION AND AZULEJO TILE PANELS

São Bento Railway Station is a historic railway station in the heart of Porto, famous for its grand entrance hall decorated with approximately 20,000 traditional blue-and-white azulejo tiles. The panels depict scenes from Portuguese history, culture, and traditional life, making the station one of Porto's most iconic landmarks.



PORTO'S HISTORIC CENTER

Porto's Historic Center is a UNESCO World Heritage site built along the hills overlooking the Douro River. The area preserves much of Porto's medieval urban layout and historic buildings, with architecture representing different periods, including Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, and Neoclassical styles. The area includes important landmarks such as Porto Cathedral, São Bento Railway Station, and other historic churches and public buildings, making it an important part of the city's cultural and architectural heritage



PORTO CATHEDRAL

Porto Cathedral is one of Porto's oldest and most important religious landmarks, located in the city's historic center. Its Romanesque core dates to the 12th century, with later Gothic and Baroque additions reflecting the cathedral's long history. The cathedral's Gothic cloister is decorated with traditional Portuguese azulejo tiles, while its elevated position provides views over Porto and the Douro River.



RIBEIRA WATERFRONT

Ribeira Waterfront is one of Porto's most picturesque and lively areas, stretching along the Douro River in the city's historic center. The waterfront is lined with colorful historic buildings, traditional restaurants, cafés, and terraces overlooking the river, creating a lively atmosphere throughout the day. From Ribeira, you can enjoy views of the iconic Dom Luís I Bridge, watch boats traveling along the Douro, and take in the charming architecture and riverside scenery that make this one of Porto's most memorable areas to explore.



DOM LUÍS I BRIDGE

Dom Luís I Bridge is one of Porto's most iconic landmarks, spanning the Douro River and connecting Porto with Vila Nova de Gaia. Completed in 1886, the impressive iron bridge was designed by Belgian engineer Théophile Seyrig and features two levels, with the upper deck carrying the Porto Metro and the lower deck used by road traffic. Pedestrian walkways on both levels offer beautiful views of the Douro River, Porto's historic waterfront, and Vila Nova de Gaia.



CLÉRIGOS AREA

The Clérigos area is a historic part of central Porto centered around the iconic Clérigos Church and Tower, a Baroque complex designed by architect Nicolau Nasoni in the 18th century. The 75-meter Clérigos Tower is one of Porto's most recognizable landmarks and offers panoramic views across the city and the Douro River. The surrounding streets connect visitors to nearby landmarks such as Livraria Lello, Cordoaria Garden, and the Carmo and Carmelitas churches, making the area a popular place to explore Porto's architecture, history, and city-center atmosphere.



PORT WINE CELLAR VISIT

Visit a traditional Port wine cellar in Vila Nova de Gaia, where Port wine is traditionally aged and stored. Explore the historic cellar spaces and learn about the traditions and processes behind one of Portugal's most famous wines.



BELÉM TOWER EXTERIOR & MONUMENT

Belém Tower is one of Lisbon's most recognizable landmarks, standing on the banks of the Tagus River at the entrance to the city's port. Built around 1514 by Francisco de Arruda, the fortified tower was constructed to help defend Lisbon and commemorates Vasco da Gama's expedition. Its distinctive Manueline architecture features detailed stonework, maritime symbols, the royal coat of arms, the armillary sphere, and the Cross of the Order of Christ. During the exterior visit, travelers can admire the tower's striking design and its important connection to Portugal's Age of Discoveries.



JERÓNIMOS MONASTERY EXTERIOR

Jerónimos Monastery is one of Lisbon's most important historic landmarks, located in the Belém district along the Tagus River. Construction began in 1502 under King Manuel I, and the monastery is renowned for its richly decorated Manueline architecture, with intricate stonework and maritime-inspired details reflecting Portugal's Age of Discoveries. The monastery was originally associated with the Order of St. Jerome and was built in connection with Portugal's royal and maritime history. During the exterior visit, travelers can admire its impressive façade and distinctive architectural details from outside.



LIVRARIA LELLO EXTERIOR PHOTO STOP

Livraria Lello is one of Porto's most recognizable cultural landmarks, known for its striking Neo-Gothic façade on Rua das Carmelitas. Opened in 1906, the building was designed by engineer Francisco Xavier Esteves and features elaborate architectural details, including sculpted elements and figures representing Art and Science on the façade. During the photo stop, travelers can admire the distinctive exterior and capture photos of one of Porto's most iconic buildings



PONTA DA PIEDADE KAYAK/BOAT EXCURSION

Ponta da Piedade, near Lagos in Portugal's Algarve, is a spectacular coastal formation shaped by erosion, with dramatic cliffs, rock formations, sea caves, and grottos. A boat excursion allows travelers to see these formations up close from the water and, depending on the route and sea conditions, travel into the caves and along the small coves tucked between the rocks



PRAÇA DO COMÉRCIO

Praça do Comércio is one of Lisbon's most impressive public squares, opening directly onto the Tagus River and surrounded by elegant 18th-century buildings. The square was rebuilt after the devastating 1755 Lisbon earthquake and became an important part of the city's reconstruction. Just beyond the square is Baixa, Lisbon's traditional downtown district, known for its orderly streets, grand plazas, pedestrian areas, shops, cafés, and distinctive Pombaline architecture. Together, Praça do Comércio and Baixa offer travelers a chance to experience the heart of central Lisbon and see how the city was transformed after the earthquake.



BAIXA

orderly grid of straight streets and elegant façades. The district was rebuilt following the devastating 1755 earthquake under the direction of the Marquis of Pombal, creating a new urban layout that became known as Baixa Pombalina. Today, the area remains one of Lisbon's busiest central districts, where historic architecture, traditional commerce, and modern businesses come together.





ROSSIO SQUARE

Rossio Square, officially Praça de D. Pedro IV is one of Lisbon's best-known historic squares in the heart of the city. It has served as an important meeting place for centuries and is recognized for its distinctive Portuguese calçada pavement and the statue of King Pedro IV at its center. The square is surrounded by historic buildings and has long been part of Lisbon's lively downtown life, making it a natural place to experience the city's historic center.

AVENIDA DA LIBERDADE

Avenida da Liberdade is one of Lisbon's grandest and most recognizable avenues, extending north from the Restauradores area toward Praça do Marquês de Pombal. The broad avenue is known for its Portuguese calçada pavement, landscaped pedestrian promenades, trees, monuments, and elegant buildings. It is also one of Lisbon's prominent shopping areas, with luxury hotels, upscale boutiques, and international brands along the avenue.



SINTRA HISTORIC CENTER

Sintra's Historic Center, also known as Vila Velha (Old Town), is the heart of the historic village, surrounded by the lush landscape of the Sintra Mountains. The area is characterized by narrow streets, winding alleys, and staircases that lead through the historic town. At its center stands the Sintra National Palace, recognizable by its two distinctive conical chimneys and centuries-old connection to Portugal's royal history. Exploring the historic center offers travelers a closer look at Sintra's historic character and its unique relationship between architecture and the surrounding mountain landscape.



MIRADOURO PHOTO STOP

Stop at a traditional Lisbon miradouro, or viewpoint, for panoramic views across the city. From these elevated terraces, travelers can take in Lisbon's historic rooftops, distinctive hills, and, depending on the viewpoint, views toward the Tagus River. It's a great opportunity to pause, take photos, and enjoy one of the city's classic scenic perspectives.



PENA PALACE TIMED-ENTRY

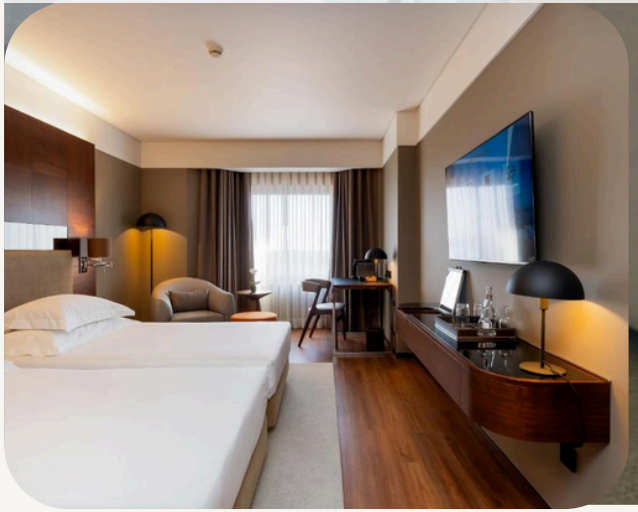
Visit Pena Palace, one of Portugal's most distinctive landmarks, perched on a hilltop in the Sintra Mountains. Built in the 19th century for King Ferdinand II, the palace is famous for its colorful Romanticist architecture, ornate details, and dramatic setting above Sintra. A timed-entry visit allows travelers to enter the palace at their designated time and explore its richly decorated interiors while taking in views across the surrounding landscape.





ACCOMMODATION

PORTO PALÁCIO HOTEL BY THE EDITORY





ACCOMMODATION

SHERATON LISBOA HOTEL & SPA









ACCOMMODATION

HOTEL MARINA RIO





ACCOMMODATION

CALOURA HOTEL RESORT

