

PORTIMAO, PORTUGAL

Portimao, Algarve Countryside by 4WD

ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE

Enjoy the thrill of **off-road jeep driving** in the hills of the Algarve and discover the unspoiled side of the Algarve. En route you'll enjoy the beautiful landscapes surrounded by amazing vegetation and travel along routes which are inaccessible to tour coaches. You will set off from Portimao, where your jeep will follow in convoy towards the **Monchique Mountains** where you will visit the **Casais Cork Plantation** and **Caldas de Monchique**, the highest point in the Algarve. Continue on to Fóia. Stops will be made along the way to enjoy the scenery and learn about the characteristics of the area's fauna and flora. Continue on your journey by visiting an old farm where you will be invited to **taste the Algarve famous firewater, "Medronhos,"** and honey produced as in old times.

Please note: This tour is not recommended for wheelchair guests or those with mobility or walking limitations.

PRICE\$99

Portimao, Scenic Western Algarve

ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE

This tour will take you west along the coast, past fine golden sands, turquoise waters, ochre cliffs, and rocks sculpted into fantastic shapes. Before heading inland to Portimão, you will see a busy deep-water fishing port on the **Arade River**, where brightly colored boats float in the bay. Your first stop will be at the historical town of **Lagos**. Its sturdy medieval walls testify to its importance in the 15th century, when shipyards built the caravels. Reminders of the past can be seen around every corner, including the **site of Europe's first slave market** and the ornately gilded **Chapel of St. Anthony**, whose interior contains a magnificent set of Baroque carvings, Baroque glazed tiles, and several 18th century paintings. You will also visit the **Municipal Museum** situated next door, where you will see local handicraft objects, pottery shards, religious statuary, lobster pots, fossils, assorted muskets, and swords. Continue to the wild headland of **Cape St. Vincent**, passing numerous small villages of white houses, sporting decorative chimney pots. The windblown Cape St Vincent, with its **200-foot-high cliffs** facing the Atlantic, lies at the extreme southwest of Europe. Before returning to the ship, you will have a photo stop at **Baleeira Viewpoint** where there are excellent views of the Algarve Coastal areas and its beaches.

Please note: On Mondays and public holidays the Chapel of St. Anthony Chapel and the museum are closed. An alternate site will be substituted. The pavement is cobblestone and uneven at Cape St. Vincent so not recommended for those with mobility issues.

PRICE\$69

Portimao, Wine Tasting & Charming Silves

ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE

From Portimao harbor you'll take a drive to **Quinta dos Vales**, a park center that is home to one of the leading wine producers in the up and coming Algarve wine market. Here, you'll enjoy a **tour of the winery** and a **wine tasting**. Afterwards, your drive will continue to **Silves**, the former Moorish capital of the province of Algarve, which was known as Xelbe by the Moors. The town's two most visible buildings, its red sandstone **Castle** and the red and white **Cathedral**, are reminders that in medieval times this was the most strongly fortified and most strenuously fought over place in the Algarve. You will have **free time** to spend in Silves before returning to your ship.

Please note: This tour involves walking over some uneven and cobblestone ground, including steps. Flat comfortable walking shoes are recommended. Passengers are advised to exercise caution at Silves Castle as not all areas have handrails. As coaches are no longer permitted in Silves, there will be a minibus shuttle service to take you up to the historical center.

PRICE\$99