

# Portugal, through the Designer's Lens

Hosted by product designer Dana D'Amico & Insider's Travel owner, Joanna Wivell

*March 10-17, 2024*

## What to expect

Join us on an unforgettable 7-night trip starting in Lisbon and ending in Porto, led by the prolific US product designer, Dana D'Amico. We'll explore Portugal's rich culture and design heritage, visiting the magnificent palaces of Sintra, and taking in the breathtaking sea views of Nazaré, home to some of the largest waves in the world. During our stay at the beautiful Alcobaça monastery, we'll indulge in local cuisine and connect with an award winning Portuguese glass and crystal designer to gain his perspective while we enjoy the stunning landscapes that surround us.

Discover how Portugal's design traditions have evolved to fit into our contemporary world with visits to Lisbon's tiled facades, the Bordallo Pinheiro factory, and the renowned Vista Alegre Museum. We'll also take a trip down the Douro River on a Caravelle boat for a wine tasting and lunch at Quinta Nova, one of the Douro's oldest wineries.

Our adventure ends in Porto, where we'll explore its enticing mix of architecture and indulge in its culinary delights. Through this trip, gain an intimate insight into how Portugal's history has shaped its design and culture. **This is the perfect blend of history, culture and design, providing an immersive experience that will leave you with unforgettable memories.** And, of course,

## Highlights

- Welcome dinner at Cantinho de Avillez, by one of Portugal's leading chefs, Jose Avillez
- Guided tour of the National Tile Museum
- Tour of Sintra's treasured castles, (Pena Palace, Quinta da Regaleira & Monserrate)
- Visit the beloved Bordallo Pinheiro factory in the charming 15th century town Caldas da Rainha
- Private tour of the Monastery of Alcobaça, built in the 12th century, a UNESCO heritage site
- Lunch, tour & cooking class with Hugo Amado, award winning crystal designer
- Sunset cocktails overlooking the sea in Nazaré, followed by dinner at Michelin star restaurant
- Meet the Creative Director of Vista Alegre while touring the village & museum
- Douro River boat trip to the Quinta Nova Winery

# Your Hosts

*Dana D'Amico* is a New York City based Industrial Designer, Consultant and Educator. She brings over twenty years of experience working with numerous renowned brands ranging from housewares such as Martha Stewart and Crate & Barrel to the fashion houses of Vera Wang for Wedgwood, Calvin Klein and Ralph Lauren. Working hands-on with the factories that produce her designs, she travels the world and is involved in all aspects of product development.

“Producing a strong body of work while developing meaningful creative partnerships and connections, Portugal has become a home away from home. Inspired by the historic and evolving legacy of ceramics and glass, I design for the limitations and opportunities the materials offer. Pairing this understanding with the outstanding craftsmanship, skills and experience of the partnering factories, I have created meaningful collections of decorative accessories, dinnerware, serveware and more.”

Further integrating global education Dana has designed and taught courses abroad connecting academia and industry working with factories in Italy, Germany (Riedel), Portugal (Vista Alegre). Locally she is an adjunct professor at Rhode Island School of Design, Pratt Institute and Parsons School of Design. She also continues to produce her own designs which are sold internationally.

“Meeting Joanna was meant to be, during a film festival in Madrid we struck up a casual conversation on our unique perspectives on travel and the rest is history. So excited to offer this experience.”

## A few words from your hosts:

DANA D'AMICO "Come with me to one of my most inspiring destinations, Portugal. My design career has led me to interesting places for production, some of which I continue to return to with a sense of belonging and deep appreciation. I have forged friendships and creative partnerships which I'd like to share.

Portugal's immense beauty, rich history & craft traditions are the basis of this tour. The textural landscape including tile façades, stone sidewalks, rolling hills spotted with castles and cliffside beaches create the backdrop for this memorable experience.

Inspired by the pride and respect for tradition and origins, traditional crafts are evolving as we speak. I am proud to be a part of this and want to share my access and understanding with you, introduce you to my creative network and share my inspiration."

JOANNA WIVELL "I have loved working with Dana to put this tour together. Having organized trips through Spain and Portugal for the past 15 years, be they with a focus on fashion, wine, food or music - it has been great to showcase Portugal's rich heritage in design with an industry expert like Dana. While in essence this tour comes through the focal lens of design, it is also about discovering Portugal through its contrasting landscapes, its people, its atmosphere, its wines and cuisine. From the striking cities of Lisbon and Oporto to the more intimate smaller town experiences such as Alcobaca and Nazaré. True to the *Insider's Travel* way, we meet insiders along our journey and they also happen to be Dana's friends. We want you to end the tour feeling you have been nourished, not just by meeting talented creators, but also through learning about Portugal's long-standing traditions, meeting experts, enjoying long lunches around the table, sampling paired wines, forming connections and having fun. And for this I can find no better partner than Dana."

## Experts joining us en route:

Alda Tomás - Creative Director of Vista Alegre

Hugo Amado - Award winning crystal designer

# Trip Itinerary

## Day 1. Sunday, March 10th

1900 Meet in reception of Hotel Corposanto for a welcome drink before dinner.

Hotel: Corposanto 5\*

## Day 2. Monday, March 11th

Walking tour of **Lisbon** through the ages taking in Rossio Square, the Chiado district with views to the castle and the Alfama district. A light lunch and on to the tile museum housed in the Madre de Deus convent with work from the 15th century to the present day

Dinner at Cantinho de Avillez, by one of Portugal's leading chefs, Jose Avillez.

Hotel: Corposanto 5\*

## Day 3. Tuesday, March 12th

Check out and board our luxury bus to **Sintra**. We visit the Pena Palace, Quinta da Regaleira and Monserrate.

Hotel: Lawrence's, Sintra 5\*

## Day 4. Wednesday, March 13th

Check out and drive to 15th century town, **Caldas da Rainha**, known for its ceramic fruit and vegetables. We visit the **Bordallo Pinheiro** factory followed by lunch. We continue to **Alcobaça**, chosen in the 12th century as the site for Portugal's largest church. We check into the converted Monastery of Alcobaça.

Dinner is prepared by our friend and chef Miguel accompanied by some Portuguese opera.

Hotel: Montebelo Mosteiro Alcobaça 5\*

## Day 5. Thursday, March 14th

Award-winning Portuguese designer, **Hugo Amado**, is a local to Alcobaca. What better than a designer in love with his home-town to show us around the monastery?! After lunch, we go on to the small town of Nazaré with its awe-inspiring sea views and home to one of the largest waves in the world.

Sunset cocktails in Nazaré and then onto our Michelin star favorite, the Taberna d'Adelia for dinner.

**Hotel:** Montebelo Mosteiro Alcobaca 5\*

## Day 6. Friday, March 15th

We check out of Alcobaca and drive to the town that was created around for the factory of Portugal's most reputable porcelain brand Vista Alegre. After 200 years of operation, Vista Alegre is still as relevant now as it ever was. We are greeted by Vista Alegre's creative director, Alda Tomás, visit the showroom and take a specially guided tour of the museum.

We have lunch at Montebelo Vista Alegre. We continue our journey north to Porto for a guided visit to the Se Cathedral. Then it's onto Taylors for a visit to their porthouse and tasting with dinner.

**Hotel:** Torel Avantgarde 5\*

## Day 7. Saturday, March 16th

Douro Day!

We head down the Douro valley, visit the tiled railway station of **Pinhoa** and board our **private Caravelo boat**, sailing past the region's premium vineyards. On to the stunning **Quinta Nova**, one of the first wineries to make quality non-Port wines in the region. We enjoy a wine tasting and lunch with views over the valley.

We head back to Porto for our special farewell dinner at the awarded **Porto Cantinho de Avillez**.

**Hotel:** Torel Avantgarde 5\*

## Day 8. Sunday, March 17th

After breakfast we end the tour and say our goodbyes.

End of tour

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Price: \$5,200 USD per person

Single Supplement: \$1,265 USD

Deposit: \$600 USD per person

- ♥ 2 nights at Hotel Corposanto 5\*
- ♥ 1 night at Lawrence's, Sintra 5\*
- ♥ 2 nights at Montebelo Mosteiro Alcobaca 5\*
- ♥ 2 nights at Torel Avantgarde 5\*
- ♥ All breakfasts
- ♥ 6 lunches, 5 dinners
- ♥ Tours hosts
- ♥ All entrances as mentioned in the itinerary
- ♥ All applicable taxes

Not included: Airfare & flights; any meals not mentioned above; travel insurance, gratuities for guides

To book your place, please fill out [THIS BOOKING FORM.](#)

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