



Itinerary 2 – The Dão & Douro Wine Regions

Thursday 3rd February – Post Workshop Tour

Dão is a Portuguese wine region situated in the Região Demarcada do Dão with the Dão-Lafões sub region of the Centro, Portugal. It is one of the oldest established wine regions in Portugal. Dão wine is produced in a mountainous region with a temperate climate, in the area of the Rio Mondego and Dão rivers in the north central region of Portugal. The region became a *Denominação de Origem Controlada* (DOC) appellation in 1990. The Dão region is the origin of the **Touriga Nacional** vine a typical portuguese grape which grows at its best in this area.

Depart from Porto and transfer to **Viseu**. Dinner and accommodation at the **Pousada**

Friday 4th February – Post Workshop Tour

Dão Sul is the most important producer in the Dão Wine Region We will visit two of the three estates in this region: Casa de Santar & Quinta de Cabriz.

Casa de Santar - History

Returning victoriously from the battle of Navas de Tuloza, July 12th, 1212, King Alfonso II set up his camp close to the legendary Roman road that linked Seia to Viseu. From that day on, this land became known to all as Assentar ("where the King set up camp"), later Assantar, and finally Santar, as it is called today.

Years later, King Sancho II, offered the Quinta do Casal Bom, or Casa de Santar, to one of his nobles who had distinguished himself in battle. Casa de Santar is still today home to the Countess of Santar and her family. Casa de Santar, a manor house built between the 17th and 18th centuries, is surrounded by lovely gardens, fenced by hedges and boxwood that lead through a maze of flowers to the imposing wine cellars.



The wine cellars are built of granite, with beautiful antique ceramic tiles and an ambience of the past, enclosing the most modern, and advanced wine making equipment. There are written records that establish that grape was first planted in Santar in the early 17th century, giving this impressive property a history of 400 years of wine making.

Quinta de Cabriz - History



Quinta de Cabriz, an estate near Carregal do Sal, with a magnificent house and chapel of the 17th century, is nowadays one of the main promoters of regional development with the conversion of old vines and new plantations with modern culture techniques.



With the successful elaboration of the first wines, Dão Sul advanced step by step until the realization, in 1998, of its more ambitious project: the construction of a great complex, where in a harmonious way, wines of quality and tourism get together.



After lunch, the **Douro Valley** will be our next destination.



The Douro valley is spectacularly beautiful with the hills falling steeply down to the water's edge becoming more and more sparsely populated and wild the further inland one travels, with more of the land being given over to terraces of vines and, to a lesser extent, olive groves. This is port country and was, in fact, the world's first demarcated wine region being established in 1756. Evidence of the port industry can be seen along the valley with all the famous company names - Cockburns, Taylors, Sandeman and others - appearing on large placards on the hillsides



The colour of the land changes throughout the year as the vines mature. February and March though also see the almond trees in blossom, particularly in the upper reaches, creating blankets of pink-white everywhere which, with fine weather, brings the Portuguese out for the first picnic of the year.



Accommodation **Douro Palace Hotel** . Dinner in one of the most traditional wineries of the area: **Quinta da Pacheca**.



Saturday 5th February – Post Workshop Tour

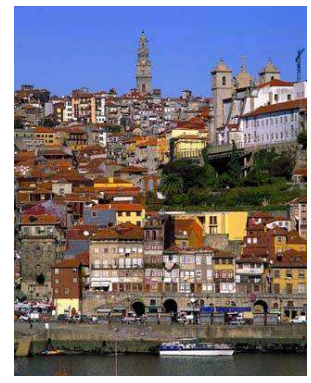
Dilema today. How to get back to Porto? We have two choices. We can either get a typical **Rabelo** boat (used to take the Port Barrels down the river to Porto) which might be a bit chilly or we can go for the warmer option of going on one of the **Great Train Journeys** of the world out of Regua.



After breathtaking views of the Douro valley it's a visit to the **Sandeman** estate **Quinta do Seixo** which is one of the largest wine producers of the country. The excellent Sandeman Port wines as well as the table wines from *Casa Ferrerinha* are produced here. The project with its stunning views and the modern design is fascinating and recently was awarded the Best of Wine tourism 2010 by the Great Wine Capitals. Tour of the vineyards and Wine tasting. Lunch will be served at the **Quinta da Bela**



En route to Porto we will visit the **Quinta da Baseira** and **Quinta do Freixo** (sustainable wine making process). A chance to sample some organic Vinho Verde. Both Baseira and Feixo's vineyards are located on the right banks of the famous Tâmega River, in Amarante. Visit to the wineries and the Distillery Museum



Accommodation at the **Hotel do Teatro** Farewell dinner at F.E. l'Fresco,

Sunday 6th February – Post Workshop Tour

Transfer to Porto Airport.