

SOUTHWEST ALENTEJO AND COSTA VICENTINA ON A CAMPERVAN

Portugal will be the next destination to win a special place in your heart. The world is at your feet with a campervan as your travel companion. You'll be surprised by the level of comfort you can get on four wheels! Let's go!!

With a length of approx. 120 km, the Natural Park of Southwest Alentejo and Costa Vicentina extends from São Torpes, south of Sines, to Burgau, already on the Algarve coast.



SUGGESTED ROUTE - Six days program:

Day 1: Lisbon – Sines - Samoqueira Beach - Porto Covo - Pessegueiro Island

Day 2: Vila Nova de Milfontes - Cabo Sardão - Almogrove (hike)

Day 3: Zambujeira do Mar - Amália, Odeceixe, Amoreira and Monte Clérigo beaches

Day 4: Aljezur - Praia da Arrifana - Praia da Bordeira or Carrapateira - Praia do Amado - Aldeia da Pedralva

Day 5: Cabo de São Vicente - Fortaleza de Sagres - South Coast beaches (up to Burgau)

Day 6: Return to Lisbon



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Day 1: Lisbon – Sines - Samoqueira Beach - Porto Covo - Pessegueiro Island



From Lisbon to Sines it is 160 km, about 2 hours by car. We recommend that you follow the coastal road to Porto Covo (EM554). On the way, let yourself be enchanted by the coastal plateau with steep cliffs that hide small beaches like Samoqueira, where you can stop to watch magnificent rocks carved by the sea.

In Porto Covo, take a stroll through this small village of white houses, recovered by the Marquis of Pombal after the 1755 earthquake. Over the side, you can see the abandoned Pessegueiro Island, not a peach tree, but traces of Roman occupation and the ruins of a fort built in the century. XVII that defended this part of the coast. If you want to see the island more closely, head to the beach of Ilha do Pessegueiro, about 4.5 km from Porto Covo, and follow the signs “Ilha do Pessegueiro”

Day 2: Vila Nova de Milfontes - Cabo Sardão - Almogrove (hike)



From Porto Covo, continue to Vila Nova de Milfontes, a must-see when it comes to the best of the Alentejo Coast. Unlike the nearby beaches, hidden between cliffs, at the mouth of the River Mira the beaches are characterized by the vast expanse of sands. Highlight for Praia das Furnas, winner of the contest “7 Maravilhas - Praias de Portugal”, in the category of river beaches. Inside the village, you can see the fortress, the Mother Church and the monument to aviators that recalls the first air crossing between Portugal and Macau.

We suggest the Dunes do Almogrove route for a hike, and it is a good sample of the Fishermen's Trail for those who do not want to walk a lot. The first part crosses agricultural fields and, in our opinion, is not particularly interesting. The second part, on the other hand, is entirely coastal, extending from the long sandy beach of Brejo Largo to the vast beach of Almogrove. In the dunes, the vegetation is exuberant and wild flowers abound: rosemary, rosemary, prawn, myrtle, aroeira, perpetual sand. Discover quiet and desert beaches. Take off your boots to cross the stream at Foz dos Ouriços beach. It is a privilege to be able to walk in one of the most beautiful and well-preserved coastal areas in Europe!

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Day 3: Zambujeira do Mar - Amália, Odeceixe, Amoreira and Monte Clérigo beaches



Continue on the road to Zambujeira do Mar, an old fishing village whose beach won the contest “7 Wonders - Beaches of Portugal”, in the category of urban beaches.

You can visit other beautiful beaches: Amália, Odeceixe, Amoreira and Monte Clérigo. All have good access by car, with the exception of Praia da Amália, which can only be reached on foot through a trail of intense vegetation. The access is well signposted and is done next to the house of the famous fado singer, who used to spend the summer there.

Day 4: Aljezur - Arrifana Beach - Bordeira or Carrapateira Beach - Amado Beach



We suggest starting the day in Aljezur, a small village with typical houses of rural Algarve architecture. You can walk up the hill and, at the top, visit the castle walls, where fights between Moors and Christians took place.

Continue this journey through the paradise of surfers, hippies, nature lovers, thinkers, hikers, fishermen, trekkers. It is impossible not to be amazed by the good energy and natural scenery of these three beaches in the municipality of Aljezur. Arrifana is located in a bay surrounded by high cliffs. The one at Bordeira or Carrapateira has an extensive beach full of dunes, as well as the unusual mouth of a stream. Amado, considered one of the best Portuguese beaches for surfing, has a little bit of both, presenting both escarpments and a vast sandy beach.

In the end, it is also worth visiting the village of Bordeira, walking through the narrow streets, looking at the white houses outlined in blue and yellow, stopping at the village cafe and visiting the lovely church of Nossa Senhora da Encarnação.

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Day 5: Cabo de São Vicente - Fortaleza de Sagres - South Coast beaches (up to Burgau)

On the last day of the tour, we suggest to continue driving along the coast, Vicentina Natural Park, exploring some areas of the Algarve with little tourist pressure, wild and rugged natural landscapes, as well as some of the most beautiful beaches in the region.

Go to Cabo de São Vicente, which gave the name to the Vincentian coast. Considered a sacred place since the century. IV BC, where successive peoples worshiped the sun-related deities, Cabo de São Vicente became, after the transfer of the body of S. Vicente, a place of pilgrimage for Christians.



Next, head to the Sagres Fortress, another place with a strong mythical load for the Portuguese, also located on a high promontory that precipitates dramatically in the sea. It was from there that, in the century. XV, Infante D. Henrique planned and started the Discoveries, founding Vila do Infante and the fortress that protected it. Under his command, the area became a center of maritime activity, where cartographers, astronomers and navigators gathered, and where the techniques that would lead Portugal to discover new worlds by sea were refined.

Sagres is today an old fishing village with a beautiful bay and a port. Nearby, there are some beaches such as Mareta, Martinhal, Tonel and Beliche, very popular with scuba diving, surfing and windsurfing. Traveling east, along the south coast, you will find other beaches such as Barranco, Ingrina, Zavial, Salema and Burgau, the ones with the most difficult access being those that sometimes remind us of the Algarve of old and offer practically deserted beaches.



Day 6: Return to Lisbon.

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About your Campervan:

- Integrated GPS
- Rear View Camera
- 4 seats with 3 point safety belts (safety for car baby seats)
- 2 double beds (length 188 cm – width 120 cm)
- Interior Bathroom Specs: washbasin / hot water shower / chemical toilet
- Kitchen Specs: sink / 2 burner gas stove / 80 litre fridge / table for 4 ppl / complete kitchen utensils
- Rotating front seats
- 160 liters clean water tank
- Electricity 12V / 220V
- First Aid Kit
- Fire extinguisher
- Security safe
- Many storage compartments



Here's some essential information for Campervan travellers in Portugal:

Fuel: A litre of fuel isn't cheap when compared to other European countries. But still, fueling your rental motorhome in Portugal will not break your bank, as it is a fairly compact country. Also, your campervan hire will always run on diesel, allowing you to save between 0,20€ and 0,30€ per litre compared to unleaded fuel.

Speed Limits: Speeding limits for your motorhome or campervan ride on Portuguese freeways are 120km/h (75mph), 100km/h (62mph) on expressways, 90km/h (56mph) outside of inhabited places, and 50km/h (31mph) within inhabited places.

Roads & Highways: Highways in Portugal are well maintained and are the main transport network in the country. Regional roads are scenic, often taking you right along coasts and past quaint villages. These roads can, however, be less maintained and take much longer to traverse. Also, beware of (weary) truck drivers when taking regional road

Tolls: Portugal has tolls on freeways and on both Lisbon's bridges, where you need to follow a ticket system. You can pay by card or with cash. Our campervans always pay class 2 tolls in Portugal.

Camping Rules: Legally, wild camping is not allowed in Portugal, although it's not controlled. But you have proper parking spots, paid or free to use, to spend a good night's sleep inside your rental RV in Portugal.

Cost of travelling: Portugal is an accessible country when we talk about the cost of travelling, whether you are road tripping on a motorhome or enjoying a more traditional kind of holidays. A mid-range three-course meal for two costs about €35.

Weather: In Portugal, along the year, for each rainy day there are two days of sun. The hottest months are during summer, July and August, and the coldest are during winter times: November, December and January.

Food: Portugal is an oasis on this matter. Codfish, Iberian Pork (Porco Preto), bread, freshly-caught seafood, steak, you name it! And don't miss any of the typical pastries: Pastéis de Nata, Arroz Doce, Doce de Ovos, Torta de Sintra, Travesseiros, and so on.

Quotation:

	Jul. & Aug. 2020	Sep. 2020	Oct. 2020	Nov. & Dec. 2020
Six days / five nights rental price, per person, from	€ 280,00	€ 240,00	€ 200,00	€ 175,00

Includes: Minimum 4 people: 5 nights rental, pick-up and drop-off at Lisbon airport (until 12h00), ultra protection plan including unlimited kms; 24/7 road assistance; 4 drivers; windows protection; passengers insurance.

Remark: A security deposit on the amount of 300€ will be asked upon check-in, and returned in the end of the trip in case of no damages.



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