

Western Algarve Discovery Tour

Destination: Portugal

Trip code: AGLEL



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

The coastline and rugged interior of the Western Algarve remain one of the least spoilt parts of the region and on this Discovery Tour, we'll explore the very best it has to offer. We shall make our way across the length and breadth of the Algarve, discovering its Arabic and Moorish past, well-preserved castles and fantastic bird and sea life.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Half-Board en-suite accommodation.
- The services of an experienced HF Holidays leader.
- Full day excursions with all essential transport.
- €60 for entrance fees.
- 'With flight' holidays include return flights from the UK and hotel transfers.

HOLIDAYS HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover Loulé's Arabic-inspired covered market selling fresh produce and regional handicrafts.
- Visit the best-preserved castle in the Algarve at Silves.
- Explore the centre of Tavira located on the Gilao River, a haven for migratory birds and sea life.

- Soak up the spectacular views from the 10th century Moorish Castle at Aljezur.

TRIP SUITABILITY

Discovery holidays involve active sightseeing and you should expect to spend lots of time on your feet. Optional short walks of approximately 2½ miles allow you to stretch your legs and see the best of the local scenery.

ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival Day

Day 2: Portimão, Alvor, Lagos & Cabo De São Vicente

Our first stop today is Portimão where we will enjoy a stroll through the old harbour and along the riverside gardens before heading to Alvor. Alvor has retained its fishing village charm and we'll explore its maze of cobbled streets. Our next stop is Lagos, where the 16th-century city walls enclose the old town's pretty streets, picturesque plaza and churches. Our last stop of the day is Cabo de São Vicente, Europe's most south-westerly point.

Day 3: Faro, Loulé & Milreu

We start the day in Algarve's capital, Faro, where we explore the winding cobbled streets of the old town and some of its historic buildings. From here we head inland to Loulé where we'll discover the attractive old quarter and see the local artisan traditions of basket making and embroidery. Our final stop is the ruins of a grand Roman villa at Milreu.

Day 4: Tavira, Vila Real De Santo Antonio, Castro Marim & Alcoutim

Today we'll explore Tavira and some of its more historic attractions. From here we'll head to the Spanish border, visiting Vila Real de Santo Antonio and Castro Marim with its huge hilltop castle, before taking a scenic drive up the Guadiana to Alcoutim.

Day 5: Free Day

On our 7-night holidays we allow one free day where there is no organised excursion. This is an ideal opportunity for you to relax, enjoy the hotel facilities or explore the area independently.

Day 6: Silves, São Bartolomeu De Messines, Alte & Paderne

Silves is a gorgeous town of orange rooftops and boasts one of the best-preserved castles in the Algarve. We begin our day here before travelling inland, through lush green countryside, to São Bartolomeu de Messines, birthplace of one of the Algarve's most famous poets. From here we continue to the charming village of Alte, with spotless cottages displaying patios and balconies overflowing with flowers. Our final stop of the day is Paderne, a typical country village with some beautiful dusty pink and faded coral facades.

Day 7: Monchique & Aljezur

Today we'll travel north to the wooded mountain area of Serra de Monchique which separates the Algarve and the Alentaja. We shall visit the market town of Monchique; the centre being characterised by lots of narrow cobbled streets set on the hillside. There is a very relaxed pace here which is ideal for pottering around and appreciating the fantastic views. In the afternoon we'll visit Aljezur, established by Berbers in the 10th Century and the Islamic influence in the area can be seen in the Castelo de Aljezur.

Day 8: Departure Day

ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Belavista Da Luz - Western Algarve

The 4-star Hotel Belavista da Luz enjoys an elevated position overlooking the coastal resort of Luz. The hotel is built in a horseshoe shape wrapped around colourful gardens and the two outdoor swimming pools. Modern and stylish bedrooms have either a balcony or terrace and some have distant sea views. The restaurant produce a delicious mix of meals with some traditional Portuguese dishes as well as international favourites. A short walk down the hill you will find shops, services and the extensive beach.

Accommodation Info

Rooms

There are 39 spacious en-suite bedrooms offering:

- air conditioning
- television
- telephone
- bathtub with overhead shower
- hairdryer
- refrigerator
- tea and coffee making facilities
- safe
- balcony or terrace.

Facilities

As a guest, you can enjoy the use of:

- two outdoor swimming pools
- tennis and pool facilities
- free access to a small gym
- Steam room and sauna.

Your Evenings

The friendly atmosphere of our Guided Walking holidays continues into the evening.

Enjoy a glass of wine or beer whilst listening to your leaders outlining the next day's walks. On some evenings there may be some live music and the leaders will be checking for local events going on nearby. You may just like to relax in the hotel bar or on the terrace outside chatting with your fellow guests.

TRAVEL DETAILS

THE HASSLE-FREE OPTION

Book your holiday 'with flight' and choose between Gatwick and Manchester flights to Faro airport. For flight times and prices please see the Dates & Prices tab.

If you choose this option we automatically include return transfers between the airport and the hotel. The

coach transfer takes approx 1 hour to the Hotel Belavista da Luz.

THE FLEXIBLE TRAVEL OPTION

Alternatively, tailor your journey to suit you by booking your holiday 'without flight' allowing you the freedom to book your own flights from your local airport.

If you choose this option, transfers are not included in the price. However, below are some suggestions to help you reach your destination:

We can book you a seat on the HF Holidays' transfer coach from Faro airport. This is timed to meet the HF Holidays' flights* (provisional flight times can be found on the dates and prices tab or you can call us on 020 8732 1220 for more information). Cost per single journey is £24.50

Why not let us book you a private taxi transfer at a cost of £82.00 per single taxi journey?

Transfers must be pre-booked. Please call 020 8732 1220 for more details

USEFUL HOLIDAY INFORMATION

What To Bring

Suitable, comfortable footwear for rough, wet or uneven terrain

HOW TO BOOK

When you're ready to book, you can choose to **book online** or book **over the phone**. Our website offers secure online booking for our holidays, is available 24/7, and offers more in-depth information about all our holidays. If you prefer to call us, our experienced and knowledgeable team are available to answer any specific questions you have and can offer guidance as to which holiday is best suited to your needs.

Our office is open: Monday to Friday: 9am – 7pm Saturday & Sunday: 9am – 1pm Bank Holiday Monday: 9am – 1pm

PAYING YOUR DEPOSIT

To secure the holiday of your choice, you will need to pay a deposit: UK & European Holidays: £150 per person and Worldwide Holidays: £250 per person. You can pay your deposit by debit or credit card with no additional card fees charged or make an online BACS payment directly into HF's bank account, please see details under BACS payments. You can also pay your deposit by cheque within seven days of booking. Cheques should be made payable to 'HF Holidays Ltd' with your booking reference / Order ID on the back.

NON-MEMBER FEE

Non-members can join our holidays by paying a Non-Member's fee of £10 per person per holiday. Alternatively, full membership is available from £100 – visit hfholidays.co.uk/membership for details.

BACS PAYMENTS

Please quote your booking reference / Order ID when you make your payment online: Bank Name: Svenska Handelsbanken AB (publ) Account Name: HF Holidays Ltd Account Number: 35923304 Sort Code: 40-51-62 IBAN: GB92HAND40516235923304 Swift / Bic Code: HANDGB22

Once we have received your booking and deposit, we will send a confirmation invoice to the lead name. Please check this carefully. For bookings 'with flights' it is essential that the names on your booking confirmation invoice match those on your passport for bookings overseas. Please advise us immediately of any

errors. Any name changes after the balance of your holiday has been paid will be subject to a fee levied by the airline.

MANAGE MY BOOKINGS

Payments can also be made through the Manage My Booking function on our website. Click on the link at the top of our homepage. This is available to all customers who provide an email address at the time of booking.

YOUR FINAL BALANCE

The balance is due 10 weeks before departure. As with paying your deposit, you can pay your final balance by debit or credit card, make an online BACS payment directly into HF's bank account or pay by cheque.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is an important part of any booking and essential for one of our holidays. HF Holidays works with specialist. Insurance Brokers Campbell Irvine Direct. For more information or to obtain a quote call them on 01702 427 236 or visit hfholidays.co.uk/insurance

PEACE OF MIND

ATOL:

The air holidays and flights in this brochure are ATOL-protected, since we hold an Air Travel Organiser's Licence granted by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 710. In the unlikely event of our insolvency, the CAA will ensure that you are not stranded abroad and will arrange to refund any money you have paid us for advance bookings. For further information visit the ATOL website atol.org.uk

MEMBER OF ABTOT:

HF Holidays is a member of ABTOT (The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited) which provides financial protection under the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992 for HF Holidays Ltd and in the event of their insolvency, protection is provided for the following: 1. non-flight packages commencing in and returning to the UK; 2. non-flight packages commencing and returning to a country other than the UK; 3. flight inclusive packages that commence outside of the UK and Republic of Ireland, which are sold to customers outside of the UK and Republic of Ireland. 1, 2 and 3 provides for a refund in the event you have not yet travelled. 1 and 3 provides for repatriation. Please note that bookings made outside the UK and Republic of Ireland are only protected by ABTOT when purchased directly with HF Holidays Ltd.

TRIP NOTE VALIDITY

These Trip Notes are valid based on the date printed at the bottom of the page. They will occasionally be updated post booking and pre-departure. We will send you the latest trip notes prior to departure through a link in your pre departure documents or we can send you a copy in the post if preferred.

In booking this trip you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call HF Holidays and ask to speak to one of the team about this itinerary.

The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; so please be prepared to be flexible where necessary. At times, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned due to weather conditions, political, physical or other factors. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

PRICE GUARANTEE

We promise that our earliest published prices will always be the best and if we reduce our holiday price after your booking has been confirmed, we will pass this reduction on to you. Our price promise applies if any

subsequent offer price is for an identical holiday, duration, location and date and does not cover any optional extras, flights or additional services.

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