



ALGARVE'S "CENTRE" REGION TOUR

This tour features the central region of the Algarve and its largest county, Loulé. This is a region of stark contrasts between the mountain areas and the coastline, between the past and present. This is also where the touristic "golden triangle" lies, encompassing the resorts of Vilamoura, Vale do Lobo and Quinta do Lago, but there are many other idyllic places with some beautiful beaches. There is much on offer and the itineraries can be customised, depending on the client's preferences, climate and day of choice. We can start out by breathing in the fresh beach air and wrap up with a delicious dinner in the mountains, or catch the early morning mountain breeze and end the day watching the sunset. It's up to you.

This tour includes the stops below. Kindly note these are our personal recommendations, however all our tours can be fully tailor-made to each client's requirements.

- **Vale do Lobo**

Vale do Lobo, Vale do Garrão, Quinta do Lago, are idyllic settings with beautiful beaches, lush vegetation, golf courses and holiday resorts.

- **Loulé**

Walking through the old streets of Loulé will take us back in time to the 2nd century BC when the trading activity began. It was occupied by the Romans and then by the Moors. With the arrival of the latter, Al-'Ulya' (Loulé) was established, referenced for the first time on the eve of the "Reconquista" in the Arabic chronicles of Ibne Saíde and Abd Aluhaid as being a small Almedina (city).

Here we will visit the farmers' market, one of the town's most revered buildings and the little market of the Fall/Spring. We will also stroll along the narrow streets and visit the medieval castle and city wall with a stop at the Calcinha Café, one of the most emblematic historical cafés in Portugal. Wrapping up the tour with the famous Chapel of Our Lady at the top of the hill in the vicinity of Loulé's urban centre.

- **Querença**

This quaint village is part of the county of Loulé in the hinterland (Barrocal), with an abundance of nature, architecture and tradition. It was inhabited since ancient times by many different peoples and cultures.

One of its heritage sites is the Fountain of Benemola, of great natural beauty, a symbol of the region's diverse landscape and a must see. Its main church dating from the 16th century with a doorway in the Manueline style faces the Cross perched on a rock on top of the hill.



Leopoldo Figueiredo

+351 965 594 751

terraalgharb@hotmail.com

Terra D'Al Gharb,
Unipessoal Lda.
Rua Ilda Stichini nº4
8100-231 Loulé

NIPC 514 688 882
RNAAT 118/2018
TVDE 7496/2018



- **Salir**

We head into Salir, a village in the Algarve's hinterland where several archaeological discoveries have been made from different eras.

- **Alte**

Our journey continues into Alte, the most typical village of the Algarve. We will take a stroll along the fountains, see the vicar's fall and go past the old church.

- **Paderne**

Our journey ends in Paderne, a pretty rural village of the hinterland. It was occupied by Phoenicians, Romans, Visigoths and Arabs, the latter left a strong heritage such as the castle, the medieval bridge and the fountain.

This tour ends with the optional dinner in a familiar atmosphere, a typical game recipe and an assortment of cheeses, charcuterie, liqueurs, wines and the local brandy (Medronho), or a typical Algarvean dinner at the well-known "O Veneza" restaurant.



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