

Optional study visits, Saturday 8th September

Option 2: Visit to the town of Melgaço (Portugal), Arbo (Spain) and the Alvarinho/Albariño Route

The town Melgaço is located alongside the Minho River that separates Northern Portugal from the Spanish province of Galicia. The unique landscape of Melgaço illustrates the important aspects of local history and the rich and diversified cultural heritage. The manor houses, palaces and stately homes with their different architectural styles reflect the grandeur of the social and artistic life of the region. Discover the megalithic monuments, cloisters and monuments related to religious, civil and military architectures such as churches, castles, bridges and, most importantly, the influence of local traditions and lifestyles on the conservation of the cultural landscape.

Melgaço has on its riverside many cellars, proprieties and Alvarinho wine-growers. Some cellars are part of the Alvarinho Route. But they all deserve a visit. Vineyards are organised alongside the slope of the valley in the form of terraces. The vineyards benefit from a micro climate that is protected by mountains on either side of the valley. It is often said that the region gathers the five S's to produce an excellent wine: *solo, sol, sofrimento, sabedoria and sossego* (earth, sun, suffering, knowledge and peacefulness).

Enjoy a walk along the vineyards, visit cellars where the aroma can be breathtaking, taste the wines...and as wine and food go well together, taste the local gastronomy to recover your energy...

Program:

- Walk in the historical centre of Melgaço.
- Visit and wine tasting at Solar do Alvarinho.
- Lunch at Quinta do Reguengo, circled by a splendid vineyard of Alvarinho with a specialized cellar, where you can appreciate the taste of the region's wines.
- Visit and wine tasting at Quinta de Soalheiro.
- Visit the Albariño wine museum at Arbo (Spain)
- Visit the bodega "As Laxas" at Arbo and taste the excellent wines.

The price per person for all day tour, all included – € 80 (includes a guide, transport, wine tasting, welcome by local hosts and lunch).



Walk in the historical centre of Melgaço.



Visit and wine tasting at Solar do Alvarinho.



Lunch at Quinta do Reguengo, circled by a splendid vineyard of Alvarinho with a specialized cellar, where you can appreciate the taste of the region's wines. The Quinta do Reguengo is located alongside the Minho River with Spain on the other side.



Visit and wine tasting at Quinta de Soalheiro cellar (Melgaço).

Visit the bodega "As Laxas" (Arbo-Spain) and taste the albariño wines.

Visit the Albariño wine museum at Arbo (Spain), an original place of cultural broadcast where the visitors can use the latest technologies to familiarize oneself with the Condado de Tea wines and also the "lamprea".