Walking The Algarve's Coast

Trip Code: SGPA

Version:

WALK & TREK	SELF-GUIDED	2 LEISURELY



HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore Lagos and discover its prestigious role in Portugal's Age of Discovery
- Hike deserted clifftop paths and the Great Coastal Path to Ponta da Piedade
- See the striking birdlife of Ria Formosa National Park where flamingos dance gracefully in the sun
- Watch colourful fishing boats bring in the catch of the day, for you to enjoy in the local restaurants each evening

AT A GLANCE

- 6 days walking and sightseeing
- Thursday and Saturday departures throughout the dates listed
- Friday departures also available end March to end October
- Join at Lagos / End in Tavira

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE

Introduction

From the wild west to the tranquil east, experience deserted coastal paths along Portugal's enthralling Algarve coast. Witness surfers catching the swell in the waters off laid-back Sagres, stand in awe at nature's artwork at Ponta da Piedade where rock formations stand proud out of the Atlantic to the soundtrack of crashing waves, and take a dip at secluded beaches. This is a holiday to fuel your senses, from the smell of the salty sea air, to the sight of rocks changing colour in the sun, or the taste of freshly caught seafood at the local restaurants.

Your walks will take you along quiet clifftop paths, through the Ria Formosa National Park that teems with birdlife, and along golden beaches to the pretty, traditional villages of Figuera and Fuseta, and to the bustling resorts of Albufeira and Tavira. This trip has been designed so that you can experience everything this fantastic region has to offer, and staying in 4-star hotels with swimming pools each night means you can unwind at the end of every day with all your creature comforts, whether that be with a good book by the pool, or with a glass Vinho Verde in the bar. After all, this is your holiday!

Is this holiday for you?

This superb self-guided holiday is all about enjoying the popular Algarve through new eyes, on foot, at your own pace. Staying in a selection of fantastic 4-star hotels with pools makes for the perfect environment in which to relax after a day of hiking, as well as allowing you to enjoy the many restaurants and facilities of popular tourist resorts. Your walks will take you on well-established coastal paths, rocky trails, and elevated cliff paths, walking for 4-5 hours and with no more than around 500m of ascent in a day. If you love to experience a destination anew, then you will love this year-round getaway.

Itinerary

Version:

Holiday Information

What's Included

- All accommodation as described
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Self-guided information pack containing your map and route notes
- Luggage transfers
- Transfers to/from your walks as per itinerary
- Welcome briefing
- Navigation App and GPX tracks available

What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Travel to Lagos
- Travel from Tavira
- Visas (if applicable)
- Tourist Taxes may apply and are usually under 5 Euros per person per night
- Some meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Local public trains/buses
- Boat trip to Tavira Island
- Personal equipment
- Any additional activities/excursions indicated as optional

Your Self-Guided Pack & Route Notes

Each self-guided holiday comes with comprehensive route notes and a map or pocket guidebook of the area you are exploring. The route notes contain information about the places you will visit and the local transport you might need, along with the detailed route notes for your daily walks or cycle rides. We even include some tips for the best places to stop for lunch.

You can expect to receive your Self-Guided Pack containing your route notes, a map or guidebook, and all your relevant documents, no later than 3 weeks before your holiday start-date. We will send your documents using a signed-for courier so that you can track your package and know that it is safely on its way to you. For bookings of more than 4 people we will send an additional Self-Guided Pack. If you do not need this additional pack please inform our Sales Team. Your pack will be sent to the lead booker, so please remind them to pack it before setting off.

Should your self-guided trip be part of a longer adventure requiring you to leave home more than three weeks before your holiday start-date, please inform our Sales Team so that we can make alternative delivery arrangements.

GPS Travel App

This holiday includes a GPS navigation app, which contains the routes for you to follow each day, as well as attractions, coffee stops and points of interest along the way. The app does not need to have Wi-Fi connection to work, you simply follow the instructions we provide you to download the app to your personal smartphone device before you leave home and you are ready to go.

While the travel app is running, your phone battery charge can be consumed faster than normal, so we strongly recommend that you pack a power bank with you just in case you require it.

Self-Guided Families

Our Self-Guided Holidays are perfect for your next family holiday and are suitable for children of all ages.

Our partner hotels and accommodations are able to provide cots for young children, and some offer family rooms. We can also arrange hire of children's bikes and tag along bikes for most of our self-guided cycling trips and with trips such as Lake Constance and the Danube offering routes on designated cycle paths you can rest assured in keeping your family safe.

As a parent we trust that you know your own child's capabilities, so please read the itinerary details to ensure the distances covered each day are suitable for your family. If this is a first time walking or cycling holiday for your family, a centre-based trip is a fantastic option as it allows you to easily opt out of a day's walking if a day of building sand castles, swimming in the pool, or visiting museums is calling instead.

Please discuss this further with our Sales Team who will be happy to assist in picking the best trip for your family.

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

Your trip starts at your hotel in Lagos. All of our self-guided holidays are sold on a Land Only basis, allowing you the flexibility to choose the travel method that best suits you. The nearest airport for this trip is Faro Airport, served by many departures from UK regional airports.

If you are flying to Faro Airport you can travel via public transport to Lagos - the journey takes approximately 2 hours. From the airport, take the shuttle bus to Faro Train Station from where you can take the train to Lagos.

Alternatively, it is possible to arrange a private transfer - please ask our Sales Team for more information.

Your trip ends in Tavira, from where you can take the bus or train to Faro Airport - the journey takes approximately 1-2 hours and requires one change along the way.

Alternatively, you can take a taxi from Tavira to Faro Airport for approximately 40 Euros - the journey takes approximately 30 minutes.

Meal Plan

This trip is on a bed and breakfast basis to allow you the most flexibility during your holiday.

Special Diets

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide for special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your meals with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

Food & Water

Water from the taps is perfectly drinkable on this holiday - please use this to fill your personal bottles for your daily activities. We do not encourage the purchase of single-use plastic bottles.

The Portuguese are passionate about food. It is a reason for celebration, time with family, and socialising with friends - and evening meals are typically enjoyed late into the evening with a glass of wine. One of Portugal's national obsessions is *Bacalhau*, a dried salted cod which features heavily on menus alongside other delicious seafood as, after all, Portugal has almost 1,800km of coastline. It is not all about amazing local seafood though, as Portuguese cuisine is centred on simple, fresh, flavourful cooking and includes many meaty stews such as *Cozido a Portuguesa*, which contains a variety of cooked meats, sausages, and vegetables cooked together slowly in a rich broth and usually served with rice and accompanied by one of the country's fantastic wines.

And it's not just savoury dishes and wine the Portuguese are passionate about. The *pastel da nata* is not only a dessert, it is a constitution and it is served in almost every cafe. These delicious custard filled pastries topped with cinnamon are at once flaky, creamy, and utterly delicious. Originally known as Pasteis de Belem, these moreish delights were created by the monks of the Mosteiro des Jeronimos monastery in Lisbon, where they have been made and sold since 1837.

Accommodation

We have hand-picked a great selection of 4-star hotels for you on this trip, all chosen for their great locations and hospitality. Each hotel offers comfortable bedrooms, and lovely communal areas including a restaurant and bar area, and a great buffet breakfast to fuel you on your hikes - and some also have a pool where you can cool off after a day on the trails. Please note that this trip is offered with double/twin or single rooms.

It is also possible to arrange additional nights' accommodation in Lagos before your trip and Tavira at the end of your trip if you wish to extend your stay and enjoy the beaches for which this region is so popular - just ask our Sales Team for details.

Baggage Allowance

Your main luggage will be transferred between each of your hotels while you are out on your walk. We ask that you please ensure that each piece of your luggage is under 20KG and that your luggage is ready for collection in the morning on the day of each hotel change. You will also need a daypack to carry your daily essentials with you whilst you are walking.

General Information

Passport & Visas

Europe

Your passport must meet 2 requirements. It must be:

- less than 10 years old on the day you enter (check the 'date of issue')
- valid for at least 3 months after the day you plan to leave (check the 'expiry date')

For the latest details on visiting countries within the EU or the European Economic Area (EEA), please check the UK Government website

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders.

A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required**,** and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

For other nationalities, please refer to your own Government website for the latest information.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates *(see Health & Vaccinations below),* **and visas for your holiday.** Please ensure that you check the FCDO for the latest advice for **each country visited** before travel.

Health & Vaccinations

Vaccinations:

You should be up to date with the routine vaccinations recommended in the UK for overseas travel.

You must also contact your doctor or travel clinic to check if there are specific vaccinations or other preventive measures that you need for the area you are visiting, in good time before you are due to depart.

Please ensure you are looking at the recommendations for all countries visited on your holiday plus recommendations for any borders you cross.

On holidays to more remote areas you should also have a dental check-up.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates.

Please check the FCDO and Travel Health Pro. For all of your intended destinations for up-to-date advice.

Severe Allergies:

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips.

Currency

The currency for part or all of this holiday is the Euro.

Preparing for your Holiday

The advantage of a self-guided walking holiday is that you decide the pace however, getting some additional exercise before coming on an active holiday makes a lot of sense. The fitter you are, after all, the more enjoyable your walks will be. You should be comfortable with walking 5 to 6 hours for consecutive days on sandy or rugged paths. The routes are along the coast, so a head for heights is recommended.

Climate

The Algarve enjoys a sunny microclimate with over 300 days of sunshine a year. Summers are dry and hot, yet the south-western tip of the continent enjoys a mild climate all year round thanks to the influence of the ocean.

Spring (April to June) and Autumn (September and early October) are delightful, however a little rain is possible, with daytime temperatures of between 16 and 22 degrees Centigrade, with matching sea temperatures. Temperatures tend to be a little warmer in Autumn than in Spring, although the latter is an excellent time of year to enjoy the spring flowers.

Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's **'Travel Aware'** campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. All other nationalities should check their government websites for relevant information.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

Books

- Rough Guide to The Algarve

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our Travel Insurance page for further information and to get a quote.

Equipment Information

Self Guided Equipment List

- Hiking boots with good-grip soles
- Hiking socks

- Long / short hiking trousers
- Functional base layer top and leggings
- T-shirts
- Fleece / extra warm layer
- Windproof jacket
- Waterproof jacket
- Waterproof trousers
- Hat, gloves, and neck gaiter
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Sunhat
- Small first aid kit inside your rucksack
- Water bottle or hydration pack
- Mobile Phone (ensure your data package covers your destination)
- Power bank
- Waterproof phone cover
- Camera (and batteries / memory card)
- Reusable sealable picnic boxes for picnics
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping to avoid the use of plastic bags

- Walking poles
- Headtorch with spare batteries
- Personal wash kit
- Your self-guided route notes
- Rucksack (approx. 20L)

Land Only Information

Please note that our 'from' price listed is based on 4 persons on twin or double occupancy, however we can quote for any number of travellers including solo travellers - contact our Sales Team for a quote.

This trip is available for departures on Thursdays and Saturdays throughout the dates listed, with additional departures on Fridays between the end of March and the end of October.

When considering your travel dates, you might like to investigate any seasonal opening times of attractions and points of interest.

All of our self-guided holidays are sold on a Land Only basis allowing you the flexibility to choose the travel method which best suits you. You may even wish to make this holiday part of a bigger adventure or pair it with one of our other holidays. We can arrange additional nights' accommodation before or after your self-guided trip - please ask our Sales Team to find out more about this.

Our Sales Team will be happy to provide you with a quote for scheduled flights, or alternatively you may wish to book your own flights with a low cost carrier from your nearest regional airport.

Please DO NOT book your flights before you have received your booking confirmation and your deposit has been taken.

We offer some transfers to your accommodation from the nearest airports - please refer to the 'Joining Arrangements & Transfers' section for further details for this trip.

Why Choose KE

Why KE

Walk on the wild Atlantic coast by day and relax in handpicked 4-star hotels by night. Plus, each hotel has a swimming pool so you can feel soothed and refreshed after a day on the trails.Staying in Lagos for the first three nights, and Tavira for the last two nights of your holiday allows you to get more out of your time in these historic coastal towns, or to easily swap a day of walking for a day lounging by the pool. After all, this is your holiday to spend as you wish!

Please Note This document was downloaded on 09/11/2026 and the trip is subject to change