



## Off road / road adventure – Portugal

Sept 5<sup>th</sup> – Sept 14<sup>th</sup> 2010

**Book now – limited spaces**

### Itinerary –

Fancying something new with your large adventure bike? No where to really test your bikes real capabilities and your own? Then read on.

This is a tour with a difference. It is aimed at solo riders wishing to experience some of the superb trails in the mountainous regions of Portugal. This trip has been designed for novice riders to experienced riders – all levels are catered for – if you don't want to do something you do not have to – its that simple. You ride the off road pieces only if you are comfortable.

A 10 day trip, with ferry crossing from Plymouth to Santander, with 7 days in Portugal. 4.5 off road, others on some of the best motorcycling roads in Europe, undiscovered by most. Visit the Estrela mountains at 6650 feet, Coimbra, stay at a magnificent 17<sup>th</sup> century manor house, and the great off trails all around Gois and Lousa. Accommodation is 4 star with private facilities, and all have secure parking, great food and are a real treat after a days riding.



### Day 1 Plymouth to Santander

We will use the excellent Brittany Ferries service from Plymouth to Santander. These sailing offers the fastest way to get to Spain and the facilities on board are second to none. The sailing is at 16.00 allowing time to travel down to Devon during the day. Twin-berth, en suite cabins have been booked for both crossings in which solo riders will be asked to share, as there are no single cabins. Any solo rider who wants exclusive use of a twin berth cabin should contact us and we

will try and arrange it subject to availability and a surcharge. There is a wide range of services on board during the voyage with shops, bars, lounges, restaurants, cinemas and sun decks for your enjoyment.

### **Day 2 Santander to Guarda**

Once safely off the ferry we will be met by Motocadia and our tour leader, we will then leave Santander and begin the ride to Portugal. In order to eat up the miles we will take the direct route through Palencia, Valladolid and Salamanca before crossing the Portuguese border and continuing to the first overnight stop at Guarda. Here accommodation has been reserved at a 4 star Hotel in Guarda, where all the rooms are en suite. Tonight there will be a group welcome dinner in the hotel. Distance 320 miles

### **Day 3 Guarda to Avo, via Covilha, to Coimbra**

After breakfast we will load up and ride south of Guarda, the route will take you on one of the finest roads in Portugal, along the edge of the Serra de Estrela Mountains. At Aldeia das Dez, we will drop off our luggage and have lunch. After lunch we will spend the rest of the day riding the trails, making our way towards Coimbra. On the trails the group will be led by 2 experienced local guides and personnel from Motocadia to ensure you get the most from your rides, in the hills around Gois and Arganil. Tonight we will stay overnight in Coimbra, at a magnificent 17<sup>th</sup> century manor house. Dinner free to explore the local restaurants. Mileage 170 – with the off road section

### **Day 4 Exploring off road the - Serra Hills around Gois,**

Today we will remain in these regions, seeking out some scenic trails and enjoying some magnificent views whilst riding some great tracks. Lunch will be taken at a mountain retreat. Again tonight we will stay in Coimbra. Dinner free to explore the local restaurants. Mileage 100







### **Day 5 Coimbra to Lousa, Avo, exploring the Serra da Lousa range**

After breakfast we will again mount up and enjoy more trails, towards Lousa, luggage will be collected and taken to our hotel in Aldeia das Dez. Lunch will be again on the trails. Accommodation will be in Aldeia das Dez, for the next 3 nights, a superb mountain retreat. Dinner tonight will be a group affair, included, with local wine. Mileage 110

### **Day 6 - Aldeia das Dez trail circuit back to Aldeia das Dez**

After breakfast we will head out back on to the trails, lunch will be on the trails and dinner will be a group affair. You will ride trails up to 3500 feet, riding in the Serra da Lousa range. Mileage 100

### **Day 7 -Aldeia das Dez client choices –**

1. Another off road day if you wish, finished by 3PM – rest of day to relax
  2. A road ride of around 150 miles, on some brilliant tarmac, finishing by 3PM back at the hotel
  3. Free day – just relax by the pool
- Dinner at the hotel, included. .  
Mileage- max 150



### **Day 8 – Aldeia das Dez to Salamanca via Serra de Estrela**

Today we head to the top of Portugal at 6650 feet, via some great mountain roads, then we head down to Covilha, where we will join the main road and head North to Gurada and then East to Salamanca, arriving mid afternoon. The rest of the day is free time, before meeting for a farewell dinner, which is not included in the tour cost. Mileage; 185



### **Day 9 – Salamanca to Santander**

Breakfast will be from 8AM with a departure time no later than 9.30AM, we will again take a direct route back to Santander for the late afternoon sailing back to the UK. The check in time is at 15.00 for the 16.30 sailing. Cabins again have been reserved for the crossing on the same basis as the outward journey. Once on board and changed you are free to relax and choose your dining experience for the evening from the selection on board. Mileage 200 miles

**Please note - New changes to ferry for 09 – Returns to Portsmouth at 5PM on the Monday not Plymouth at 10AM.**

### **Day 10 – Arrive Portsmouth at 5PM**

Ride home.

**Fancy a go? Are you up to a great adventure!**

#### **Tour includes;**

- Return shared ferry fare with cabin accommodation both ways
- 1nights half board accommodation in Guarda, 4 star hotel  
Welcome dinner in Guarda
- Three nights half board in the mountains, with local wine , 4 star.
- Two nights B&B accommodation in the 4 star manor house in Coimbra
- One night in Salamanca
- 4 lunches, off road
- Maps and route details, hotel directions, travel pack
- Off road trail Guide – Portuguese, multi lingual
- Tour Leader to accompany the group from Santander return

**Not included:** Petrol, lunches and meals other than those mentioned, drinks, any admission charges, Autoroute tolls, local entertainments not included in the programme or travel insurance.





#### Prices –

- **Total cost per bike / rider - £1349, based on a shared ferry cabin and shared hotel room.**
- A supplement of £295 will apply for single hotel room accommodation, ferry cabin still a shared basis..
- The cost is based on a shared cabin basis, both ways.
- If you want to make your own way to Guarda in Portugal and not use the ferry from Plymouth to Santander return we will deduct of course the cost of the ferry, please talk to us at the time of booking.

**Motocadia reserves the right to ask for any additional costs if the ferry firm increases its fares.**

#### General Points -

**Road riding** - Riders should be able to cope with all levels of riding, including mountain riding, and roads with numerous curves of difficulty.

**Off road riding** – The trip has been designed for large 200kgs bikes, riders need to have some level of off road experience, and be able to deal with climbs, descents, riding on loose stone / grit, and be confident in their own capabilities. Any obstacle has an option for riders – if you are not sure you do not have to do it.

#### Bike spec –

- All bikes must have enduro tyres fitted, such as the Continental TKC80, this has been used for the last 3 years with no issues.
- We suggest tyres are filled with tyre seal to avoid punctures, such as - **ULTRASEAL**, when this has been fitted by riders we have had no issues with punctures, when not riders have had punctures. Punctures slow the whole trip down and Motocadia can not be help responsible for fixing these, its up to the rider.
- All riders should bring some tyre weld, tools and puncture repair kits.



**Riders must be prepared that their bike may get dropped, if this worries you please do not come. In this photo Ian's bike was fine, he just hit a rut. In the last 3 years we have had no major issues, off road, but the nature of off road riding means this could happen to you.**

#### **Clothes –**

- Suitable off road boots, jackets and protective clothes should be taken by each rider.
- Consider also that you will be riding on the road as well
- Camel water pack

#### **Booking –**

- Limited to 15 spaces, on a first come basis.
- Deposit - £250 – none refundable.
- Payment – a further £400 is due 3 months before departure, and the remainder of the balance is due 7 weeks before departure. If you cancel up to 7 weeks in advance the ferry company have the discretion to offer you a token for use on the ferry at another time, valid for 2 years, less than 7 weeks notice they do not have to offer you anything, you will lose the ferry amount of the price

**Contact for booking – Julian at Motocadia at – [www.motocadia.com](http://www.motocadia.com) or phone direct – 07771 904525**



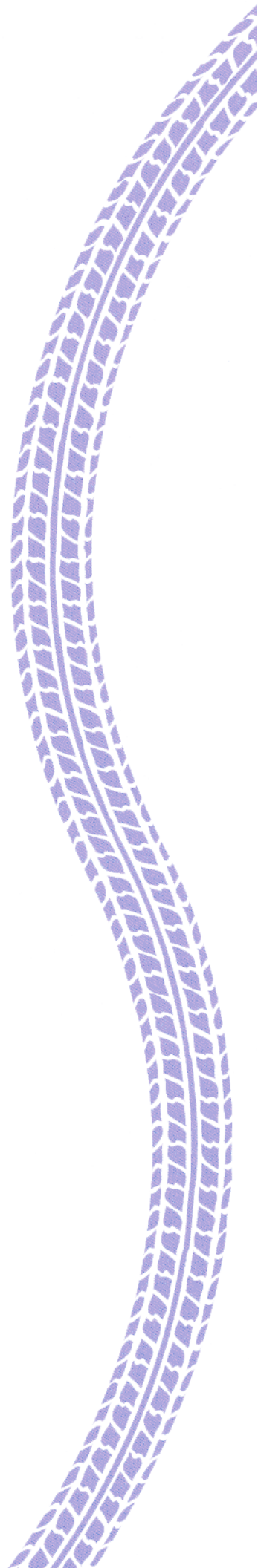




**Fancy a go?**



**All kinds of riding awaits you.**







**Evenings of food and fun**



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