TOP 5 WINERIES IN PORTUGAL

Portugal wine tours are great fun. Here we explore 5 of our favourite locations and describe what makes them so special.

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In Portugal we are spoilt for choice with many amazing winery visits in the hugely varying wine regions. Starting in the south in historic Setúbal and the sprawling Alentejo there are some big names such as José María da Fonseca, Bacalhôa, as well as Esperança and J Portugal Ramos. All fine visits.

Heading north through the central Lisboa and Tejo regions, some favourites are coastal Casa Santa Maria and aristocratic Casa Cadaval with its magnificent Lusitano horses. Lua Peto is a colourful highlight of the Bairrada and we are spoilt for choice in the north with the Douro and Vinho Verde regions.

2 QUINTA DE SOALHEIRO, VINHO VERDE

Set in the middle of a wonderful little village in Vinho Verde this is a real treat. The 'sunny place' produces stand out Alvarinho wines and offers fine views across the River Minho to Spain. This is a hardworking winery and owner Luis Centeira makes the visit and tasting thorough and highly entertaining. Truly memorable especially when combined with lunch at their nearby family run Quinta da Folga, where cuts of pork from their own pigs are the highlight.

Luis on the balcony at Soalheiro