The Enchanting Douro River
Round-Trip Porto Aboard M.S. AmaVida
With Malcolm McNee
Associate Professor of Spanish and Portuguese
April 16–24, 2018
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CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

**SPEND** seven nights exploring the stunning Douro Valley aboard a luxury river vessel

**SAMPLE** Vinho Verde, Port, and other local vintages at specially arranged tastings

**CROSS** the border into Spain to discover UNESCO-listed Salamanca, city of golden sandstone

**DINE** at a family-owned wine estate with cellars designed by a Pritzker Prize-winning Portuguese architect

**EXPERIENCE** a performance at Rem Koolhaas’ Casa da Música, which according to the London Observer, “explodes every preconception of what a concert hall should be”

**ENJOY** a private dinner overlooking the vineyard of a family-owned wine estate

**TRAVELING WITH YOU**

Dear Alumnae, Parents, and Friends of Smith:

Portugal’s Douro River Valley, best known as the birthplace of Port wine, boasts a rich cultural history and rustic charm. Join us next spring for a delightful voyage aboard the luxury riverboat M.S. AmaVida, as we cruise through verdant landscapes, stepping ashore to explore timeless villages and savor excellent local varietals.

We are delighted to be accompanied by Malcolm McNee, Associate Professor of Spanish and Portuguese at Smith. He will be joined by Nadine Orenstein of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and K. David Jackson, Professor of Portuguese at Yale University.

Begin in Porto with a private lunch at the Serralves Foundation, home to an excellent collection of contemporary art in a building designed by a Pritzker Prize–winning Portuguese architect, Álvaro Siza. Then embark AmaVida for a seven-night cruise. Admire Baroque architecture and Flemish tapestries in Lamego and cross the border to spend a day in Salamanca, Spain, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Wander the narrow streets of Castelo Rodrigo, a fortified hilltop village, and enjoy exclusive dinners and tastings at family-owned wine estates and a thousand-year-old monastery. Return to Porto for a private concert at Casa da Música, designed by Rem Koolhaas, and a sampling of vintage Ports on a hillside overlooking the city.

For those who wish to spend more time ashore, an optional three-night prelude in Lisbon, Portugal and a three-night postlude in Santiago de Compostela, Spain are offered.

We hope to welcome you on this voyage, co-sponsored by The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the alumni associations of Harvard and Yale Universities.

Warmest wishes,

Elizabeth Bigwood
Director for Travel, Office of Alumnae Relations
Smith College
An optional three-night prelude in Lisbon, Portugal is offered April 13–17, 2018. Please call Academic Arrangements Abroad for details at 212.514.8921 or 800.221.1944.

MONDAY, APRIL 16: U.S. DEPARTURE
Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Porto.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17: PORTO, PORTUGAL
Upon arrival, transfer to Serralves, a cultural institution whose strikingly minimalist museum of contemporary art was designed by Álvaro Siza, a Porto native and Pritzker Prize winner. Following lunch in Serralves’ idyllic gardens, embark the awaiting AmaVida. Gather tonight for our welcome dinner.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18: PORTO / REGUA, PORTUGAL
Be on deck this morning as AmaVida cruises below a magnificent iron bridge designed by Gustave Eiffel. In the afternoon, drive to Quinta da Aveleda, a family-owned wine estate with delightful gardens. Sample its Vinho Verde and enjoy a private dinner overlooking the vineyard. Tonight attend a lively onboard performance of Portuguese folk music.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19: REGUA / BARCA D’ALVA, PORTUGAL
Lamego, nestled amid the Douro Valley’s terraced slopes, is best known for its Shrine of Our Lady of Remedies, an ornate Baroque church with views of the town. Descend the church’s exuberant staircase, which zigzags to the gardens below. At the Museum of Lamego, admire eclectic religious art and 16th-century Flemish tapestries, housed in a grand, 18th-century episcopal palace. Attend an onboard lecture this afternoon as AmaVida wends her way through the valley to Barca d’Alva.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20: BARCA D’ALVA / VEGA DE TERRÓN, SPAIN
Cross the Spanish border to spend a day in UNESCO-listed Salamanca, city of golden sandstone. On a guided tour, admire the elegant university buildings and Plaza Mayor, one of the most beautiful squares in Spain. Visit the Museum of Art Nouveau and Art Deco, housed in Casa Lis, a graceful 1905 mansion with a sweeping, stained-glass façade. Rejoin our vessel for dinner in Vega de Terrón, Spain.

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Porto, photo by Carlos ZGZ (left); Casa Lis, photo by Raúl Hernández González, Salamanca (right)
SATURDAY, APRIL 21: VEGA DE TERRÓN / PINHAO, PORTUGAL
Spend the morning in Castelo Rodrigo, a fortified hilltop village overlooking slopes studded with almond trees and vineyards. Pass through its 16th-century walls, climb the narrow, medieval streets, and refresh with a tasting of regional wine and delicacies. A special private dinner is arranged this evening in Sabrosa at Quinta do Portal, a family-owned boutique winery with centuries-old vineyards. Tour its strikingly modern cellars, also designed by Álvaro Siza.

B,L,D

SUNDAY, APRIL 22: PINHAO / REGUA / BITETOS, PORTUGAL
Call at Régua for a morning visit to the Douro Museum, housing exhibitions on the cultural heritage of the region. This afternoon AmaVida passes through Carrapatelo Lock, the country’s first hydroelectric dam and the highest lock in Europe. Dine tonight in the Convento de Alpendurada, an 11th-century Benedictine monastery with majestic views of the valley below. As the sun sets we will see why the Portuguese named the Douro the “river of gold” (d’ouro).

B,L,D

MONDAY, APRIL 23: BITETOS / PORTO
Return to Porto for a morning tour and private concert at Casa da Música, a landmark of 21st-century architecture designed by Rem Koolhaas. Lunch is aboard AmaVida, or you may choose to lunch at leisure amid the art galleries lining Miguel Bombarda Street. This afternoon admire the beautiful views of Porto from the enchanting Crystal Palace Gardens, followed by a vintage Port tasting at W & J Graham’s 1890 Lodge, a working wine cellar on a hillside above the city. Tonight the captain hosts a festive farewell dinner.

B,L,D

TUESDAY, APRIL 24: PORTO / U.S. RETURN
Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for flights home.

B

An optional three-night postlude in Santiago de Compostela, Spain is offered from April 24–27, 2018. Please call Academic Arrangements Abroad for details at 212.514.8921 or 800.221.1944.
Launched in 2013, M.S. AmaVida brings environmentally responsible luxury cruising to the Douro River Valley. All cabins face outside and most offer balconies. Enjoy panoramic views of terraced vineyards from AmaVida’s sun deck, and experience gourmet dining with an al fresco option. Other onboard amenities include an elevator, spa, fitness center, heated pool, and complimentary internet access. The sun deck’s photovoltaic solar panels provide power for the ship’s operating systems, helping to preserve a pristine area that the National Geographic Society has designated a top sustainable destination.

CRUISE RATES
(Per Person)

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<th>Cabins</th>
<th>Decks</th>
<th>Double Rates</th>
<th>Single Rates</th>
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<td>Douro</td>
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<td>Suite with balcony</td>
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RATES INCLUDE

- Seven nights cabin accommodations aboard AmaVida
- All meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner); bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals; thoughtfully selected wines at lunches, dinners, and planned tastings
- Airport/pier-airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Customary shipboard gratuities
- Taxes and service charges; gratuities to guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED IN RATES
International airfare; passport fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than wine at lunches, dinners, and planned tastings; personal items and expenses; airport transfers for those not on suggested flights; trip insurance; luggage in excess of one suitcase; optional Lisbon prelude or Santiago de Compostela postlude; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.
To reserve a place, please contact Academic Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, fax: 212-344-7493; or complete and return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person (of which $500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to Academic Arrangements Abroad. Mail to: Academic Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address
City State Zip
Telephone (home) (business)
Fax E-mail

ACCOMMODATIONS
AmaVida cabin preference (1) (2)
I wish to share a cabin with

OPTIONAL PRELUDE & OPTIONAL POSTLUDE
☐ I/We wish to join the optional prelude in Lisbon, Portugal
☐ I/We wish to join the optional postlude in Santiago de Compostela, Spain

Hotel Room Preference ☐ One bed ☐ Two beds ☐ Single

FORM OF PAYMENT
☐ Enclosed is my check (payable to Academic Arrangements Abroad) ☐ Debit card ☐ Credit card

Name on debit/credit card
Debit/credit card number
3- or 4-digit security code Expiration date

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the Terms & Conditions of this Program (see www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required) Date
Signature (required) Date

On the front cover: Douro River Valley. Back Cover: Serralves, photo by Vanessa Fermino
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Alumnae House
33 Elm Street
Northampton, MA 01063

Reserve by August 31, 2017 for Early Booking Savings of $1,000 per person