

# ART AND ARCHITECTURE TOURS: Garth Newel Piano Quartet in Portugal

September 27 to October 7, 2023



Porto

Over ten days next fall, Garth Newel Music Center and Art and Architecture Tours invite you to join our exciting survey of the history, landscape, arts, crafts, colors, music, food, and wine of Europe's small but culture-rich southwestern corner. Starting from Lisbon and led by professional Portuguese guide Cristina Duarte, this tour has been organized both to engage your mind and delight your senses. Our itinerary begins and ends in Lisbon, proceeding through the countryside to Oporto in the north, with side trips along the Douro River to visit Portugal's beautiful terraced vineyards, to its historic university city of Coimbra, the medieval town of Óbidos, the royal retreat of Sintra and coastal villages.

The Garth Newel Piano Quartet will delight us with three performances in remarkable historic settings, and we have selected three lovely hotels—2 5-star and 1 4-star—in convenient, historic settings, to ensure your physical comfort as well as your aesthetic sensibility.

- **Hotel Aurea Museum, Lisbon 5\***
- **Hotel Dos Templários, Tomar 4\***
- **Hotel Pestana Porto – A Brasileira, Porto, 5\***

For more information contact John Braymer with Art and Architecture Tours LLC at [jwbraymer@comcast.net](mailto:jwbraymer@comcast.net).

**At the time of this writing nearly half the available spots are spoken for with deposits.**

After surveying this holiday designed for you, just copy the last page for your registration form to send with your deposit to Art & Architecture Tours LLC, 4208 Sulgrave Road, Richmond, Virginia 23221. With registrations arriving daily, we expect to reach capacity in time to finalize our hotel bookings March 1.



Azulejos at Pinhão



Garth Newel Piano Quartet



Pestana Hotel Porto – A Brasileira

## • **The tour includes:**

- All transportation on the program itinerary
- 4 lunches and 8 dinners, Drinks included with soft drinks and wine, 1 bottle wine for 2 people
- Entry fees/experiences mentioned in the program
- Headphones for the entire tour

**The fee for double occupancy is \$5,995 per person.**

**The single-occupancy supplement is \$1,300.**

**Please feel free to contact [info@artandarchtours.com](mailto:info@artandarchtours.com) with any questions you have about Art and Architecture Tours.**



Joanina Library, Coimbra



São Roca Church



Óbidos

## Garth Newel Piano Quartet in Portugal TOUR SCHEDULE

- **WEDNESDAY, September 27, 2023 | Lisbon (Day 1)**—This is your arrival day to get settled in and rested up at Lisbon’s **Eurostars Hotel Aurea Museum**.

This 5-star property on the banks of the Tagus River boasts an archaeological exhibition that will guide you through the different eras that define the city’s identity today—from the Roman occupation and the Islamic invasions to the beginning of voyages searching for a new world. Modern facilities include an indoor pool, restaurant, massage room and Turkish bath.

- **THURSDAY, September 28, 2023 | Lisbon (Day 2)**—After breakfast in the hotel, we will explore the **historical downtown** of Lisbon, a quarter reconstructed after the great earthquake of 1755.

The Marquis of Pombal, a central figure in the Portuguese Enlightenment, led the redevelopment project, an early exercise in city planning. The restrained classicism known as the “Pombaline” style is characteristic of the district.

We will visit the magnificent gilded **São Roque Church** with the **Chapel of St. John the Baptist**, a masterpiece of 18th c. Italian art specially commissioned for this location. It is one of the richest chapels in the world.

The morning will also include a visit to the **National Theatre of São Carlo**. Lisbon’s historic opera house was inspired by great Italian theatres like the San Carlo of Naples and La Scala in Milan.

Now within an easy walk to our hotel, we will break for lunch on our own.

The afternoon is free for an easy stroll through the district to return to the hotel, or you may choose an alternative specialist visit:

For those interested in the history of Portuguese tile art, you can choose to visit the **Museu Nacional Do Azulejos**. Transportation provided.

We will end our first tour day with a **Welcome Dinner** at a restaurant a short walk from the hotel.

- **FRIDAY, September 29, 2023 | Lisbon (Day 3)** —After breakfast, our morning visit takes us away from the busy downtown to the late 17th c.

**Fronteira Palace**, home of the Marquesses des Fronteiras. Located near the entrance to Monsanto Park, the palace is noted for its collection of tiles decorating various rooms, rococo ornamentation, as well as the Baroque statuary, fountains, and tiles in its harmoniously conceived garden.

Lunch on your own.

Our afternoon will take us into the **Belém Quarter**, where Portugal’s key role in setting of the Age of Discovery is commemorated. Most prominent of the sites on our tour are the **Belém Tower**, the **Discoveries Monument** (1960) and the **Jerónimos Monastery and Cloister**.

One of the first monuments in Europe to be listed as a World Heritage Site, this monastery was built in the 1500s, paid for with the profits made in the spice trade with the East. The resident monks, of the Order of Saint Jerome, were supposed to pray for the king’s soul. They were also responsible for the recipe of the famous custard tarts (the “pastéis de Belém” or “pastéis de nata”).

The church features tree-trunk-like columns that seem to grow into the ceiling, and it holds the **tomb of explorer Vasco da Gama**. Its vaulting is considered one of the most extraordinary examples of the technology of Gothic architecture in Europe in a style called “Manueline,” a Portuguese Gothic that developed under the reign of King Manuel I.

The entire monastery is a remarkable masterpiece of **Manueline architecture**, with ornamentation mixing naturalistic elements and religious and royal symbols. It glorifies the Age of Discovery, Portugal’s power at sea, and its contact with distant lands. Coral, sea monsters and ropes are sculpted in the **magnificent cloisters**, which are unlike any other in the world.

**The Belém Quarter is clearly a good place to sample the monks’ famous custard tart – the “pastel de nata.”**

**Fado Dinner** —Our day reaches a perfect ending with a dinner where the melancholic sounds of **Fado**, the traditional Portuguese music, resonate through the room. A music style designated by UNESCO as an “Intangible Cultural Heritage,” *fado* reflects the Portuguese mentality and expresses feelings of passion and love.

- **SATURDAY, September 30, 2023 | Lisbon, Tomar (Day 4)**

This morning we check out of our Lisbon hotel.

Our first visit of the day takes us to the **Gulbenkian Museum and Foundation**, housing the vast collection of industrialist and art collector Calouste Gulbenkian.

The story behind this collection is nearly as astounding as the collection itself, given that Gulbenkian was Armenian, with British citizenship, and at times significant portions of the collection were in London, Europe, and the National Gallery in Washington. The collection is historically and artistically broad: works of Egyptian, Greek, Roman, Islamic and Asian art, as well as European works by the likes of Rembrandt and Monet.

We will have lunch on our own in the Gulbenkian café.

**Garth Newel Piano Quartet Concert**

The Quartet’s first concert will take place in the **Convento dos Cardeaes**. This 17th c. convent survived the great earthquake of 1755 and preserves its original baroque and rococo interior.

The church also features a notable altarpiece from 1693, which is **one of the finest examples of gilded wood carving in Lisbon**. This blending of gilt and blue-and-white tile panels is typical of Portuguese baroque, and this is one of the most significant and best-preserved examples in the city.

Following the concert, we will travel north to Tomar where we will lodge at the **Hotel dos Templários**. After check-in, Cristina will lead us on an orientation walk to our dinner near the hotel.

- **SUNDAY, October 1, 2023 | Tomar, Óbidos (Day 5)** — In Tomar, our visit to the **Convent of Christ** will introduce us to a series of historical events starting with its founding by the Templar Knights, but evolving in purpose and design with the changing military, political, religious, and aesthetic developments over 500 years.

Notably we will visit the **Renaissance cloister**, deemed the best Renaissance design in Portugal, as well as the masterwork of the Manueline style, the **Window of the Chapter House**. Its sculpted stonework of ropes, coral, and vegetation is singular in its architectural impact.

At midday, we will visit the walled medieval town of **Óbidos**, where the whitewashed houses decorated with flowers are immediately enchanting. We will be free for lunch in Obidos. In the afternoon we will explore the



Monastery of Batalha



Vineyards of the Douro River Valley



National Palace of Sintra

## Garth Newel Piano Quartet in Portugal TOUR SCHEDULE

imposing **Batalha Monastery**, distinguished for its unfinished chapels. We will have dinner together at the hotel in Tomar.

### • **MONDAY, October 2, 2023 | Coimbra, Porto (Day 6)**

**University of Coimbra (est. 1290)** — Today we visit Coimbra, site of Portugal's oldest university. In 2013 UNESCO designated the university a World Heritage Site, noting its role in the development of higher education in the Portuguese-speaking world, as well as its architecture and traditions. Of special note is the **Joanina Library**, one of the crown-jewels of the Portuguese baroque period and home to a large library of early works.

#### **Garth Newel Piano Quartet Concert**

A downtown walk will be followed by lunch and the second concert by the Garth Newel Piano Quartet. Both take place at the **Quinta das Lagrimas**, a charming hotel within an 18th century palace. It was in the 14th c. manor house here that the crown Prince Pedro and Inês de Castro carried on their ill-fated love affair.

Following the concert, we will continue to Porto where we will check into the 5-star **Hotel Pestana Porto – A Brasileira** followed by dinner in the hotel.

### • **TUESDAY, October 3, 2023 | Douro Valley Pinhão (Day 7)**

Today we will drive to the Douro River Valley to embark on a cruise in a traditional Portuguese Rabelo boat, once used to transport wine from the Douro Valley to the wine caves in Porto. Through the colorful Douro Valley, we will view the great variety of terraced landscapes and the high cliffs that add great drama to this important wine region.

Our five senses will be spoiled during a special “farm-to-table” lunch at the **Quinta do Portal**, a 5th generation family-owned fine winemaker. The vibrant cuisine will be paired with Quinta do Portal wines in a relaxed and informal environment overlooking the Pinhão Valley vineyards.

Afterwards we will explore Quinta do Portal's wine cellars (designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Alvaro Siza Vieira) where their premium Port wines, fortified Moscatel wines and olive oil are stored.

Of course, we will also enjoy tasting three of this winery's production!

Dinner on your own in Porto.

### • **WEDNESDAY, October 4, 2023 | Porto (Day 8)**—Porto, a Baroque city, is rich in architecture and historical monuments, like the **Stock Exchange Palace**. During our walk we see picturesque shops, pubs, and markets, enchanting us with their flavors and history.

In Porto we will also be immersed in the Portuguese tile tradition—the azulejos. As an alternative to the expensive tapestries that decorated churches, palaces and other rich halls, Portugal began to employ painted tiles to depict important events in its history as well as to provide decoration.

Among others we will visit the best example of azulejos--the **São Bento** train station beautifully covered in historical scenes painted in tile.

Lunch on your own at the river bank Ribeira.

#### **Garth Newel Piano Quartet Concert**

In the later afternoon we will visit the **Museu Romantico** which recreates a nineteenth-century aristocratic house. Here the Garth Newel Piano Quartet will provide tour guests with the third of its tour concerts (6:00 p.m.)

Following our private concert, we will visit the historic **Graham's Cellars**, built in 1890 on a hill in Vila Nova de Gaia with spectacular views over the Douro River—the historic center of Porto.

Our port wine tasting takes place in Graham's fully functioning 19th c. cellars where generations of wines have aged in some 3200 oak barrels. In this atmospheric, historic setting of pine beams and cast-iron pillars of the 19th c., we will enjoy our tasting. Dinner will follow in the cave restaurant.

### • **THURSDAY, October 5, 2023 | Nazaré, Convent Alcobaca, Lisbon (Day 9)**

**Nazaré's** fame is based on its enormous waves for surfing--where one of the world's largest waves, 30 meters in height, was registered and surfed by the famous American surfer, Gareth McNamara. As a fishing village, Nazaré is also known for the fishermen's wives wearing their 7 layers of skirts. They are friendly, loud, good humored, and proud women who always seem to have a joke or story to tell. We will have lunch in Nazaré.

On our return trip to Lisbon, our tour takes us to Alcobaca, about 80 miles north of Lisbon. The **Alcobaca Monastery**, dating from the 12th century, was built by order of the first king of Portugal, D. Afonso Henriques. This great Monastery, the first Gothic building in Portugal, originally belonged to the Cistercian Order and was once one of the richest and most famous abbeys in all of Europe. Here we will see the exquisite Gothic tombs of real life lovers, D. Pedro and D. Inês de Castro. The effigies of these lovers lie feet to feet preserving a rich and poetic power.

Upon our return to Lisbon's Hotel Aurea Museum, we will have dinner at a restaurant close by the hotel.

### • **FRIDAY, October 6, 2023 | Sintra, Cascais (Day 10)**—Everyone falls in love with the romantic town of **Sintra**, another World Heritage Site, with its fairy-tale palaces and mysterious landscape. Here we visit the **National Palace of Sintra** (also called the **Sintra Town Palace**) from the middle ages with the unmistakable silhouette formed by its two conical chimneys. The palace is an important example of the medieval royal palaces in Portugal, with beautiful tiling and painted ceilings.

Following lunch we will have a scenic ride to **Cascais** where a brief walking tour will introduce us to this charming and elegant harbor village. Finally, we head toward the Atlantic Ocean to the furthest western point of Europe, **Roca Cape**, where the sea winds promise to replenish our souls.

In the evening, our Farewell Dinner will take place at the private **Eça Queiroz literary club** in the historic center of Lisbon. Both Portuguese and foreign notables have visited the Circulo as guests or speakers, including Maurice Maeterlink and T. S. Eliot, both Nobel Prize for Literature winners, Graham Greene, and Gabriel Marcel. Musical entertainment will follow the dinner as we say our farewells.

### • **SATURDAY, October 7, 2023 | Departures**

**Ten days exploring Europe's southwest "corner" — full of history, color, and passion...and the music of the Garth Newel Piano Quartet...**

# ART AND ARCHITECTURE TOURS: Garth Newel Piano Quartet in Portugal

September 27 to October 7, 2023

## COST AND CONDITIONS

Per Person (double occupancy): \$5,995

Single Supplement: \$1,300

This tour includes ten (10) nights' accommodation (September 27-October 7 2023); all breakfasts; four (4) lunches and eight (8) dinners; all entrance fees, private coach transport; expert guiding; and three concerts by the Garth Newel Piano Quartet. Not included are transportation to and from Lisbon; meals not listed in the program; other expenses of a personal nature; tips for tour guide, driver, and hotel personnel.

A deposit of \$2000 will hold your place in the tour with final payment due by March 31, 2023. Please return your registration form to 4208 Sulgrave Road, Richmond, Virginia 23221, or scan and email to [jwbraymer@comcast.net](mailto:jwbraymer@comcast.net). Please make payment by check to Art and Architecture Tours LLC or by credit card. Payment by credit card carries a 4% service fee.

Pricing is based on current exchange rates as of November 1, 2022. While we do not anticipate a significant change in exchange rates, we reserve the right to adjust the fee to maintain the standard of this tour should a substantial change in the exchange rate occur. Participants will be notified by July 1, 2023, should an adjustment be necessary.

Art and Architecture Tours LLC reserves the right at its sole discretion to alter the itinerary as circumstances beyond its control require.

All participants are strongly encouraged to enroll in a travel insurance program at the time of registration for the broadest possible coverage including trip interruption, medical emergencies, etc.

Cancellations following registration will be honored with a refund, less a \$500 administrative fee, until March 31, 2023. After March 31, cancellations will be honored with a refund only if the registrant secures a replacement for the reserved place.

## TOUR REGISTRATION

Full legal name on passport \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Passport # \_\_\_\_\_

First name to appear on name tag \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Food allergies or special requirements \_\_\_\_\_

Name of roommate \_\_\_\_\_

**TOUR FEE (DOUBLE OCCUPANCY) IS \$5995 PER PERSON.** (A limited number of double accommodations for single use are available; we encourage single travelers to seek compatible roommates. If this is not possible, the single supplement fee is \$1300.)

\$2,000 deposit due upon registration

\$3,995 balance due March 31, 2023

\$1,300 Supplemental fee for single lodging due March 31, 2023

Total payment enclosed/applied

### METHOD OF PAYMENT:

Checks payable to Art and Architecture Tours LLC. Mail to 4208 Sulgrave Road, Richmond, VA 23221

By credit card (Please note that a 4% credit card fee is passed on to you.)

You may mail or return by email to [jwbraymer@comcast.net](mailto:jwbraymer@comcast.net).

VISA  MasterCard  AmEx

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code of billing address \_\_\_\_\_

**TOUR CONDITIONS:** All tour members are encouraged in the strongest terms to obtain travel insurance to cover the entire cost of their travels. Art and Architecture Tours LLC (AAT LLC) acts only as agents for the tour members with respect to transportation, hotels and restaurants, and exercises every care possible. AAT LLC assumes no responsibility to any person or entity for liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, breakdown, disruption of advertised schedules, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any ship, ferry, airplane, train, automobile, motor coach, carriage, or any other conveyance used in carrying out these tours, or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. We cannot accept responsibility for losses or additional expense due to delay, refusal of visa, or changes in air or other services, lost baggage, sickness, weather, strike, war, violent acts, quarantine, acts of God, or any other causes beyond our control. All such losses will be borne by the passenger, as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to the itinerary or accommodations as may be deemed necessary for carrying out the tour. The right is reserved to cancel any tour prior to departure, in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The price of the program is based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect on November 1, 2022, and is subject to adjustment in the event of change in tariffs, taxes or exchange rates. Registration for this tour shall be deemed to be acceptance of these conditions.

**About Art and Architecture Tours LLC,** Founded by John Braymer in 2015, Art and Architecture Tours has become recognized for carefully curated travel ventures that exceed the expectations of discriminating tour members. Mr. Braymer, with more than 50 years of study and travel abroad, assembles itineraries that help participants integrate their travel curiosity with their interest in history, culture, architecture and the arts. With a Ph. D. in English (graduate work begun in 1970 under Oxford dons), Mr. Braymer has studied art and architectural history at the undergraduate and graduate levels with additional study in the United Kingdom and Italy. He is retired as chief executive of the American Institute of Architects/Virginia and he is Founding President of the Branch Museum of Architecture and Design in Richmond, Virginia. He also founded and published *Inform*, an architecture and design magazine, for 25 years.

**Please feel free to contact him at [info@artandarchtours.com](mailto:info@artandarchtours.com) with any questions you have about Art and Architecture Tours.**