



PORTUGAL

Three Days in Faia Brava

Visit the birding paradise of Faia Brava Reserve in this 3 day experience. Spend a night under the stars and taste Portugal's finest wines.



VULTURES AND EAGLES. A BIRDING PARADISE

Faia Brava reserve is the first privately owned natural reserve in Portugal. It is bordered by the Côa River, it is **part of the Archeological Park of the Côa Valley**, a UNESCO world heritage site. Oak forests and former cropland returning to nature are home to griffons, Egyptian and black vultures, golden and Bonelli's eagles.

In this experience you will enjoy hiking past gorges and forests, as well as **getting to know the rich cultural and historical heritage of the Coa Valley**. All this is complemented by delicious local cuisine and some of Portugal's finest wines, sourced from the renowned Douro Valley.

Fernado Romao will be your guide to the Faia Brava Reserve. He has been guiding in nature for 20 years. When he is not showing his beloved Coa Valley to guests, he can be found behind the camera as he is a well known photographer as well.



DAY TO DAY PROGRAMME

Day 1

Arrival at Casa da Cisterna followed by leisure time.. perhaps take a dip in the pool? Three - course dinner at Casa da Cisterna. In the late evening, you will be taken for a visit to the rock engravings, a UNESCO world heritage site. Overnight at Casa da Cisterna.

Day 2

Breakfast at Casa da Cisterna. Full day hiking or 4x4 safari in Faia Brava area, incl picnic lunch, with Fernando Romao. After exploring the Faia Brava area, you will switch accommodation and can settle in at Star Camp, in the middle of the Faia Brava nature reserve. Dinner and overnight at Star Camp.

Day 3.

Breakfast at Star Camp. Morning experience in the vulture hide with your guide Fernando Romao. Departure around lunchtime.



DETAILS

Days

3 days/ 2 nights

When

May to October

Accommodation

Casa da Cisterna & Star Camp

Guide

Fernando Romao

How to get there

Closest airport is Porto, but you can also use Madrid or Lisbon as your arrival gate into the Greater Coa Valley as well. You can rent a car from the airport for an easy 3 hr drive to Castelo Rodrigo. You can also reach Porto by train.

Languages

English, Portuguese



PRICES

per person (based on 2 people)

- €510

Single supplement

€95

Price includes

- One night incl breakfast and dinner at Casa da Cisterna
- One night incl breakfast and dinner in Star Camp
- One picnic lunch
- Guided visit to UNESCO rock engravings in Coa Valley
- Full day guided hiking or 4x4 trip though Faia Brava
- Half day guided Vulture hide experience
- 5% rewilding levy

The cost does not include

- Flights and transfers to/from the airport or train station
- Internal transfers between accommodations.



OUR RESPONSIBILITY

As a result of rural depopulation and associated land abandonment across much of the Mediterranean, grazing livestock numbers have plummeted, leading to a very significant **increase of landscapes without any form of grazing**. As a result, many landscapes are now covered by young, often monotonous forest or dense scrub.

By bringing back grazing – this time not with livestock but with (semi-) wild herbivores such as wild horses and Tauros – Rewilding Europe and its local partners can significantly reduce the risk of fire in the Greater Coa Valley rewilding area. Reintroducing such herbivores will also **improve conditions for populations of roe deer and Iberian ibex**. Natural grazing by these species leads to the creation of more diverse mosaic landscapes, with open spaces that act as effective firebreaks.

Supporting local enterprises

Through financial loans and expert business advice, Rewilding Europe Capital (REC) is helping a growing number of local entrepreneurs create rewilding-focused enterprises across our operational areas. Star Camp, Casa da Cisterna, our guide Fernando Romao from Wildlife Portugal and Fly Camp are all pioneering nature-based tourism models which are helping to reinforce the rewilding agenda here. Rewilding Europe promotes these enterprises through the increasingly popular European Safari Company.

Read more about our work in the Greater Coa Valley [here](#)



WHAT TO BRING

We recommend you to dress in layers.

CHECKLIST

- Hiking shoes
- Sun hat
- Water bottle
- day pack
- Long pants
- Hat and gloves
- Jacket
- Raincoat or poncho
- Sun protection cream
- Non-smelling mosquito/tick repellent and camp shoes (sandals)
- Binoculars
- Personal toiletries/medicines and ...
- a **sense of adventure!**

