

**PROVISIONAL ITINERARY & GENERAL INFORMATION**  
**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September**



This September sees the Portuguese Air Force airbase of Beja, southeast of the capital Lisbon hosting the NATO Tiger Meet and using this event to hold a weekend airshow at the site as well as the traditional Spotters Days.

Although the squadrons and aircraft types do not change that often, you can be sure that many of the fighters will have new and striking 'tiger' schemes compared to the usual lackluster operational grey' liveries we see all the time.

We spend one day on-base at the official Spotter's Day of **24<sup>th</sup> September**, and return on the **27<sup>th</sup> September** for the first day of the weekend air show.

In between the flying focused days at Beja, we will be visiting both sites of Portugal's national aircraft collection.

The Portuguese Air Force Museum in Sintra is a must-see for aviation enthusiasts. It is one of the largest air museums in Europe and is set in a former air base with more than 100 aircraft on display. Visitors can see historic planes, helicopters, engines, and uniforms. Highlights include vintage fighters, Cold War jets, and Portugal's first aircraft. The museum tells the story of Portuguese military aviation from its early days to today.

We will also visit the smaller Portuguese Air Force Museum site at Alverca which sits just north of Lisbon in a historic military complex. It opened in a former hangar in 1971. The museum shows how Portuguese military aviation began. Including examples of early air frames, naval aircraft, vintage trainers, and colonial-era jets.

Various artifacts are displayed including engines, instruments, uniforms and weapons. A special "Pioneers" room honors early Portuguese flyers from WWI and the inter-war era with medals and photographs. The displays also incorporate a section on Portugal's Air Force in Africa during the Portuguese colonial wars from 1961-1974. The collection includes fighters like the F-86 Sabre and Hawker Hurricane, plus helicopters such as the Alouette II.

## **PROVISIONAL ITINERARY (all times local)**

### **DAY 1: TUESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER**

From 06:05 please check in at the British Airways desks in the South Terminal at Gatwick for our flight to Faro (BA2660). Then meet your Ian Allan Tour Manager and fellow enthusiasts who will be gathering in the immediate vicinity.

We recommend that you arrive at check-in/bag drop at least 2 hours prior to departure.

→ <b>Gatwick Airport, Terminal S</b>	<b>Flight: BA2660</b>	<b>Departs: 08:05</b>
→ <b>Faro Airport</b>		<b>Arrives: 1105</b>

After Passport Control, Baggage Reclaim and Customs we enter the Arrivals Hall (meeting up with any members of our group who have flown in from other UK/EU airports).

We leave the airport and drive through the Portuguese countryside for around 90 minutes to our hotel in Aljustrel. We stay overnight in the Flag Hotel Villa Aljustrel. On-site facilities include a bar, free Wi-Fi and for the more adventurous sauna, Turkish bath and a gym!

Nothing formal has been arranged for our evening meal but there are a number of nearby options in the town as well as the hotel restaurant.

### **DAY 2: WEDNESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**

Official NTM Spotter's Day. We will depart the hotel at early to ensure we are near the front of the queue and not the back! Times to be confirmed as Spotters Day info is release.

We will drive from the Beja Air Base and continue for 2-hours to our hotel for the next 3-nights, the Hotel B&B Lisboa Motijo, Lisbon. The property has free wi-fi, free breakfast, free 24-hour tea & Coffee and a bar.

### **DAY 3: THURSDAY 25<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**

We leave after breakfast for an easy 1-hour drive to the Portuguese Aviation Museum complex at Sintra. A former air base with more than 100 aircraft on display including vintage fighters, Cold War jets, and Portugal's first aircraft. The museum tells the story of Portuguese military aviation from its early days to today. We return back to the Hotel B&B Lisboa Motijo, Lisbon.

### **DAY 4 : FRIDAY 26<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**

This morning, we have a short drive to the second site that makes up the Portuguese collection of aircraft and visit for an easy 1-hour drive to the Portuguese Aviation Museum complex at Alverca.

This compact site opened in former aircraft hangars in 1971 just North of Lisbon in an historic military complex. The museum shows how Portuguese military aviation began, including examples of early air frames, naval aircraft, vintage trainers, and jets from the countries Colonial War era. Once fully explored, we return back to the Hotel B&B Lisboa Motijo, Lisbon.

### **DAY 5 : SATURDAY 27<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**

This morning, we are up early for the 2-hour drive southwards back to Beja and the airbase hosting the Tiger Meet for 2025. We aim to arrive early to the gates for the first day of the planned 2-day airshow, but full details of the event are not yet published.

On conclusion of the day's events on base we will drive to our final overnight stop at Hotel de Moura, en-route for Faro. The hotel offers a bar, Free wi-fi and a complimentary breakfast. Arrangements for our evening dining plans will be made with the group before we arrive.

## DAY 6 : Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

This morning, we leave the hotel and head towards Faro Airport for our return flights home.

Subject to departure time from the hotel this will be gentle drive to get us back for this evening's flights.

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|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| → <b>Faro Airport</b>                | <b>Flight: BA2663</b> | <b>Departs: 18:55</b> |
| → <b>Gatwick Airport, Terminal S</b> |                       | <b>Arrives: 21:50</b> |

Having landed back at Gatwick, whilst waiting for our luggage in Baggage Reclaim, we bid each other farewell until we meet on an Ian Allan trip once again.

Tour Price Per Person	IAAT Tour: 509
<b>From £1185.00</b>	Price based on sharing a twin-bedded room on a bed and breakfast basis.
<b>From: £265.00</b>	Single room supplement
<b>From £450.00</b>	Land-Only (No flights). <i><b>Please speak with one of our consultants before booking.</b></i>

### TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- Flights on the scheduled services of British Airways from London's Gatwick Airport, as stated.
- UK and Portuguese airport taxes, and UK Passenger Service Charge
- 1 piece of hold baggage and 1 piece in the cabin
- Minibus transport throughout trip as stated
- 5 nights hotel accommodation in rooms with en-suite facilities & continental breakfast
- Services of an Ian Allan Tour Manager throughout

### NOT INCLUDED

- Meals, other than those stated
- Cost of the NTM Spotter's Day Pass (if any)
- Aviation Museum Entrance Tickets
- Visa - not required by UK/EU passport holders
- Travel insurance
- Personal expenditure, e.g. telephone calls, laundry, drinks, etc.
- Tips and gratuities