



## Portugal

February 13-22, 2025







## **Table of Contents**

Welcome Letter	3
About Dube Travel	4
Portugal Partners	5
Travel Dates & Itinerary	6-7
Excursions & Highlights	8-9
Hotel Options	10
Trip Pricing	11
Group Payments & Policies	12
Promotional Support	13
References	14
Next Steps	15

# Welcome Letter

It is with great pleasure that I submit to you, Dube Travel's proposal for travel services for Cardinal Spellman High Schools trip to Portugal.



In this proposal we will outline our qualifications, our package and price, in addition to the added value features that we will offer. While the locations and prices are always of utmost importance, we also feel that there must be more to the reason for choosing a company to work with. Any company can offer a certain hotel category at a certain price. Many will try to base their offer on "lowest price guarantee" or a more aggressive "free trip" policy. We feel it very important to underline the other features that should carry significant value in making the decision...features such as company history, integrity, service, and as important – Catholic values and faith. Many of these issues are not part of the consideration process of many organizations as it is the bottom line that most are concerned with. We are hopeful that the combination of the attractive pricing we have presented, our strong partnership and resources in Portugal, you will find our option to be satisfactory and preferential.

If upon review, you have any questions, comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Again, we appreciate the opportunity to offer our services and are hopeful to earn your trust and business.

Prayerfully,

Chris Dube  
President



# About Dube Travel

## Company History

Dube Travel Agency was founded by Paul Dube on July 1, 1962. In the past 62 years, our company has grown to be one of the largest, most respected agencies in the State of Maine, and one of the leading Pilgrimage and WYD companies in the country. We are a family owned company which allows us to insure that our family and faith values are the primary ruling principles in running our company and that is what has allowed us to succeed and continue to grow.

We have three locations in Maine. Our home office is located in Auburn, with branch offices located in Hallowell, Maine. Our company handles travel in all areas including business travel, vacation travel, and group travel. Our pilgrimages and World Youth Day Tours are run from our Group Department.

## Travel Leaders Affiliation

In 1995, we joined Carlson Wagonlit Travel, a worldwide travel franchise group. This allowed us to gain significant clout in the industry and buying power with our vendors. In 2008, the franchise group was sold and renamed "Travel Leaders". Travel Leaders maintains strong market presence which allows us to leverage that with the tour companies we use throughout the world, whether it be airlines, hotels, car companies, restaurants, etc...

## Group Travel Experience

Our first World Youth Day was in 1997, to WYD Paris with the Salesian Youth Ministry and the Diocese of Portland Maine. Since then we have grown our numbers of pilgrims for each event. In addition, we handle dozens of pilgrimage and group departures each year.

## WYD Krakow

For WYD Krakow in 2016, Dube Travel was honored to be selected as the exclusive partner in the United States for Mazurkas Travel, the official appointed travel company of WYD Krakow. We moved over 3,000 pilgrims from over 30 diocese across the United States to Poland during this amazing event.





# Our Portugal Partners

Successful trips start with considerable and careful planning. Careful planning includes partnering with companies that are leaders in their destination and have resources that would not be available otherwise. We are proud to say that we are partnering with two leaders in Portugal to insure that we have the resources that will help our groups.

For Lisbon, we are very excited about working with our long lasting European partner, Osiris Travel has been in business for over 20 years and has a very long and rich experience in organizing Group travel.

Osiris is based in Lisbon and focuses on groups and events in Portugal.

Osiris will be assisting us with transportation, accommodations, sightseeing, guides, dinners, and event coordination. Our Lisbon Manager, Teresa Torres has worked with us for years and is committed to making Portugal a huge hit for all of our groups!



**TAP Airlines** is the flag carrier of Portugal. It is headquartered in Lisbon with its main hub at Lisbon International Airport. It operates on average 2,500 flights a week to 90 destinations in 34 countries worldwide .

Dube Travel will partner with TAP and Sata Azorean Airline for departures from and to Boston. Because Dube Travel is a bonded accredited travel agency, we work directly with the airlines to insure we can get our pilgrims in and out of Europe on convenient connections.



# Travel Dates and Itinerary

(13 February 2025)      **FLIGHT TO PONTA DELGADA ON SATA #280 LEAVING BOSTON AT 9:20 PM**

## **DAY 1 (14 February 2025): ARRIVAL IN PONTA DELGADA | SETE CIDADES | PONTA DELGADA**

Arrival at Ponta Delgada airport at 6:15 AM and reception by your local guide. Start discovering Europe's hidden secret, the Azores! Departure to Sete Cidades. Stop off at the Grota do Inferno viewpoint, which boasts one of the most beautiful landscapes on the island due to its altitude (1,000 meters). Then stop off at the Vista do Rei viewpoint, known for the fact that on July 6, 1901, King D. Carlos and Queen D. Amélia were there. Visit Lagoa das Sete Cidades, one of Portugal's 7 wonders, a place of excellence for nature sports enthusiasts. Then a visit to Vila dos Mosteiros, a picturesque parish where the sunset is incomparable. Proceed to your hotel in Ponta Delgada. Dinner and accommodation at the hotel in Ponta Delgada.

## **DAY 2 (15 February 2025): PONTA DELGADA | LAGOA DO FOGO | FURNAS | PONTA DELGADA**      Breakfast.

Today, discover Fogo Lake, the 2nd largest of São Miguel. Enjoy its landscape and the crystal-clear water as well as the caldera of the volcano where the lake sits. Descend towards Caldeira Velha, a natural monument with magnificent waterfalls and natural thermal pool. Continue to Furnas Valley, inserted in one of the three active central volcanoes of S. Miguel Island. Here the smell of sulphur and bubbling fumaroles are characteristic. Visit of Terra Nostra Park (subject to availability), a bicentennial garden with unique species and a splendid thermal pool (bathing possibility). The park is a unique repository of trees, plants, and other plants species from around the world. Return to your hotel. Dinner and accommodation at the hotel.

## **DAY 3 (16 February 2025): PONTA DELGADA | LISBON**

Breakfast. Transfer to Ponta Delgada airport. Flight to Lisbon on SATA # 120 at 8:35 AM. Arrival at Lisbon airport at 11:50 AM and reception by your local guide. First tour of Lisbon, one of the oldest capitals of Europe. Lisbon is a city of pastel colors and cobblestone streets, of vistas and monuments. Promenade in one of the typical old quarters of Lisbon, Alfama, walking through its narrow streets with Arab influence, its winding alleys, colorful houses, and endless stairs. It is also the place where we can find St. Anthony Church. Private transfer to your hotel. Dinner and accommodation at the hotel in Lisbon

## **DAY 4 (17 February 2025): LISBON | QUELUZ | SINTRA | CASCAIS | LISBON**

Breakfast. Day tour around Lisbon coast. Departure towards Queluz, known for its royal palace (entrance included). This graceful building, inspired by Versailles, does not lack privacy despite the luxury and the fantasy of its decoration. The French gardens add a charming note of freshness and tranquillity. Proceed to the medieval village of Sintra, former Royal summer residence and chosen to inspire writers and poets, such as Lord Byron who named it "the Garden of Eden". Its exceptional location at the foot of the mountain that bears his name, has been for centuries the privileged residence of princes, artists, and writers. Proceed to Cape da Roca, the westernmost point of continental Europe. Drive along the beaches of Guincho and visit of Cascais and Estoril, renamed seaside resorts close to Lisbon. Return to Lisbon. Dinner and accommodation.

## **DAY 5 (18 February 2025): LISBON**

Breakfast. In the morning, visit the National Tiles Museum, set in the former Madre de Deus Convent, and one of the most important Portuguese museums by the singularity of its collection, that allows a journey through the history of tile, from 15th century till present days. Proceed to the historic district of Belém, where we can find many of the most prestigious monuments of the city, including the Jerónimos Monastery (visit of the interior) and Belém Tower (exterior), both good examples of the 16th century's Manueline style, and the Monument to the Discoveries (exterior). Opportunity to taste the delicious "Pastéis de Belém", the typical pastry of Lisbon. For dinner, enjoy the most typical evening of Lisbon, the Fado. Dinner of Portuguese specialties accompanied by the sound of Portuguese guitars and the voices of a woman or man. He or she will sing the Fado, the national song, that speaks of several feelings of the Portuguese, including the "saudade" (nostalgia).

# Travel Dates and Itinerary (Continued)

## DAY 6 (19 February 2025): LISBON | ÓBIDOS | NAZARÉ | BATALHA | FÁTIMA

Breakfast. Day tour of the Silver Coast. Depart towards Óbidos and stop at this medieval village surrounded by the walls of its castle and typical for its white limed houses. Continue to Nazaré, a picturesque and colorful fishing town, the most traditional of Portugal. Move onto Batalha to visit its Monastery (UNESCO World Heritage), a gothic masterpiece with most finely stained-glass windows. Depart to Fátima, one of the most important Catholic shrines in the world. Every year, it welcomes millions of pilgrims from all over the world. Free time for personal visits. Dinner and accommodation at the hotel in Fátima.

## DAY 7 (20 February 2025): FÁTIMA

Breakfast. Discover Fátima, where the Blessed Mother appeared in 1917 to three simple little shepherds. Visit the holy places at the Shrine of Fatima, including the Basilica and the Chapel of the Apparitions (Capelinha). Continue to Valinhos, where Our Lady appeared in August 1917 after the children were released from prison; Aljustrel, the hamlet where the original homes of the children are, and the Parish church where the children were baptized and the cemetery. Dinner and accommodation at the hotel.

## DAY 8 (21 February 2025): FÁTIMA | COIMBRA | FÁTIMA

Breakfast. Day tour to Coimbra, city of Arts and Letters, one of the oldest university cities in Europe. Coimbra houses the oldest university of Portugal. Visit to the main buildings of the Old University (upon availability), such as the Manueline style chapel with its 18th century organ, the senate room (Sala dos Capelos), the main room of the University, and the Library, one of the most beautiful libraries in the world. Stroll in the oldest part of Coimbra, made of narrow streets that lead to the top of the hill. Small demonstration of Fado de Coimbra, a unique musical expression in the world, a serenade fado so different from what you hear in Lisbon. Played and sung by the University students, according to tradition, it is played only by men. Likewise, to play and sing Fado de Coimbra it is necessary to wear the cover, which must be drawn. Return to Fátima. Dinner and accommodation at the hotel.

## DAY 9 (22 February 2025): FÁTIMA | SANTARÉM | DEPARTURE FROM LISBON

Breakfast. Leave Fátima and continue to Santarém, one of the oldest cities in the world. Walk through its narrow streets to the Church of St. Stephen, containing the oldest recorded Eucharistic miracle (entrance upon availability). This miracle has been on continuous display since 1269 A.D. Private transfer to Lisbon airport. Depart Lisbon on TAP# 215 at 5:20 PM and arrive in Boston at 8:05 PM.





# Excursion and Destination Highlights

Portugal holds such amazing beauty and pilgrimage sights to experience God's great work! Fatima being the most significant and powerful!

## FATIMA

You do not have to be Catholic to have heard the powerful story of Fatima. Fatima is without question a highlight on this itinerary and will be the backdrop for much of what our focus will be on during our time there.

It started on May 13, 1917, when three children were tending sheep. Suddenly, the sky lit up and a woman — Mary, Our Blessed Mother, "a lady brighter than the sun" — appeared standing in an oak tree. In the midst of bloody World War I, she brought a message that peace was coming. The war raged on, and on the 13th day of each of the next five months, Mary would visit again to call for peace.

Word spread, bringing many curious pilgrims. The three kids — Lúcia, Francisco, and Jacinta — were grilled mercilessly by authorities trying to debunk their preposterous visions, but the children remained convinced of what they'd seen.

Finally, on October 13, 70,000 people assembled near the oak tree. They were drenched in a rainstorm when suddenly the sun came out, grew blindingly bright, danced around the sky, then plunged to the earth. When the crowd came to its senses, the sun was shining and the rain had dried.

In 1930, the Vatican recognized the Our Lady of Fátima.

We are able to coordinate a private Mass in Fatima for the group if desired.





# Excursion and Destination Highlights

Dube Travel will be including opportunities to see things that make Portugal famous, especially Fatima! There are of course many other sites to see and explore such as the Belem district, Santarem, Sintra, and Coimbra . We will include key areas as part of our itinerary.

## City Tour

One of the best ways to become familiar with Lisbon is to take a brief introductory city tour. All of our groups will include a panoramic city tour of Lisbon that will give you an understanding of the “lay of the land” and see some of the sights that Lisbon is famous for including the Tower of Belem, The Cathedral, Church of St. Anthony, Downtown Baixa District plus more.



## Eucharistic Miracle of Santarem

The small town of Santarem is located about one hour from Lisbon, on the way to Fatima. The Miracle of Santarem took place sometime in the mid 1200's. We will visit the small parish church where the host is still displayed, learn about the story of the woman who stole a host from the church. There is also a small museum we will visit as well. We can have the option to have Mass here.



## Sintra

This small town just outside of Lisbon would serve as a wonderful backdrop for exploring the history of Portugal!



# Hotel Options

We are happy to offer the following hotels for your Portugal trip. All Hotels are conveniently located. Breakfast and dinner daily is included with all hotels.

## Azores Hotel Option

### VIP Executive Azores Hotel

This 4-star Hotel has 1 restaurant on 2 floors, as well as a panoramic restaurant (reserved for private events), located on the 8th floor, with panoramic views over the city and the sea. At the Hotel you can also enjoy an outdoor swimming pool, squash, gym, bar, private parking and beauty/hairdressing salon.



## Lisbon Hotel Option

### Avani Avenida Liberdade Lisbon

The Avani Avenida Liberdade Lisbon Hotel is an urban oasis on Lisbon's main shopping street. The convenient location is close to Lisbon's famed Baixa and Chiado districts, with shops, restaurants and bars just minutes away.



## Fatima Hotel Option

### Hotel Estrella

Located close to the Sanctuary of Fátima, This is probably the best-located hotel in Fátima – the Sanctuary is just across the road. The interior design was inspired by the local region, and transports visitors to a unique place of tranquillity.





# Trip Pricing

## Package Inclusions

This Portugal Package will include the following:

- Airfare from Boston to Ponta Delgada
- Airfare Ponta Delgada to Lisbon on Sata, Azorean Airlines
- Airport / hotel transfers in Azores, Lisbon and Fatima
- All touring as described in itinerary in Motorcoach
- 2 Nights hotel in Ponta Delgada
- 3 Nights hotel in Lisbon
- 3 Nights hotel in Fatima
- Visit to Eucharistic Miracle in Santarem
- Hotel taxes & Lisbon City Tax
- Breakfast and dinner daily at hotel
- Dinner and Fado show for group
- Entrance fees to:
  - Caldeira Velha (subject to availability) /São Miguel
  - Terra Nostra Park (subject to availability) /São Miguel
  - Royal Palace /Queluz
  - Tile National Museum /Lisbon
  - Jerónimos Monastery /Lisbon
  - Santa Maria da Vitória Monastery /Batalha
  - Old University (subject to availability) /Coimbra
- Return flight from Lisbon to Boston on TAP Airlines
- English Speaking guide Services for duration of trip

PRICES BELOW ARE PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY:

**\$3,499.00**

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:

**\$599.00**

# Group Payments and Policies

## Payment process

In order to secure your space, Dube Travel requires a one time, non-refundable Group deposit of \$500 to secure the space. Within 30 days, we require a \$350 per person deposit. We are able to customize a payment schedule that may work with either frequent lower payments or less frequent higher payments.

\$500pp  
Final Balance

October 15, 2024  
December 15, 2024



**Payments**

Again, this is a sample payment plan and we will work with you to find what works best for your group.

## Complimentary Policy

As the saying goes, "There are no such thing as a free trip". Many companies will automatically price in 1 free for every 10 which is good for many groups. However those "free trips" are factored into the cost of those paying and if you don't have the perfect number to match the free trips, your group has over paid. The approach at Dube Travel is to price out what you need for free trips. Perhaps you have a budget for your leaders trip so no frees are needed. This will give the lowest price. The price in this proposal is based on 1 free for every paying 10 passengers. If you prefer a different ratio, just let us know what you need.

## Changes

Once Dube Travel receives names, name changes can be done free of charge up to 3 months of departure. After final payment date, there will be a \$50 change fee in addition to hotel or airline fees that are assessed up until 1 month prior. Within 30 days is a \$350 name change fee plus additional vendor cost.

## Cancellation and Refund Policy

The initial deposit is non-refundable. All cancellations after November 1, 2024 all payments are non-refundable.

## Cancellation Insurance

Due to the numerous possibilities of unforeseen circumstances, Dube Travel HIGHLY RECOMMENDS THE PURCHASE OF CANCELLATION INSURANCE. We expect the cost for the insurance to range from \$150- \$180 pp. We also offer a Cancel for Any Reason program for an additional cost. This insurance can be purchased by calling our office, through the online portal we would place on your WYD Site, by mail, or calling Allianz. This information would be discussed with each participant.

## Deviation Policy and Use of Frequent Flyer Miles

Deviations are discouraged. Upon airline approval, a limited amount of deviations will be permitted but MUST BE SUBMITTED no less than 6 months prior. A deviation fee of \$250 will apply. It is also discouraged to utilize frequent flyer mileage for the flight as we are unable to wait for separate flight arrivals. You would be responsible for getting to the hotel on your own.





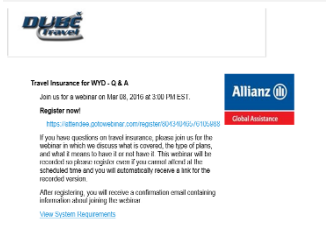
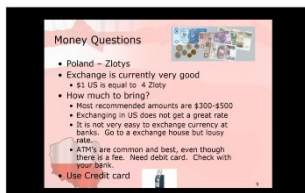
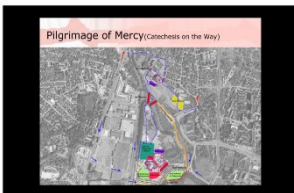
# Promotional & Preparational Support

While the actual trip itself only last about 1 + weeks, there are about a year of planning, promoting, coordinating, and organizing prior to that. This is a very detailed process. It is very important that any support of the organizing effort be strong and consistent. Our objective is to be as supportive and integral in that process as you need us to be. Based on that, Dube Travel is proud to offer the following support to your group.

**E-mail updates** – All participants that have signed up will receive periodic e-mail updates on things that are happening in Lisbon.

**Webinars** - In addition to live meetings, Dube Travel can help with Update Webinars which can be addressed to a variety of topics. For example, we have done webinars with George Weigel, The State Department in Krakow, Allianz Insurance, cell phone rentals, plus itinerary and prepare to go discussions, plus many more! These can be recorded and sent to group leaders to access at their convenience.

**Presentations** - Dube Travel will do a presentation in pre-determined location for those potentially interested in attending the trip. The Dube Travel portion will review the package being offered, travel information relating to Portugal, documentation and any other relevant information. This is usually a popular meeting for parents who may have many questions and concerns about sending their child on this international experience.



**Document Meetings** – For groups large enough, prior to departure, Dube Travel will hold or participate in a preparation meeting for all group participants to review all documents, review the trip itinerary, documentation requirements, packing tips, and all other relevant information.

WYD Flight Information		
<b>7/21</b>	LH#417	Dulles-Frankfurt 3:25p - 5:20a (22rd)
	LH#1346	Frankfurt-Warsaw 7:55am-9:30 am
<b>8/1</b>	LH# 1613	Warsaw-Munich 1:15 pm- 2:50 pm
	LH# 414	Munich-Boston 3:35 pm - 7:00 pm



# References



ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON  
66 BROCKE DRIVE  
GRANTVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02151-3239

## Letter of Reference for Dube Travel Company

The Archdiocese of Boston has worked with Chris Dube and the Dube Travel Company for the past 3 World Youth Days: Madrid (2011), Rio (2013), and Krakow (2016), taking over 500 youth, young adults and adult leaders. Our experience with Dube Travel has been extremely satisfactory and rewarding. Of particular note is Chris' faith. He often says that "pilgrimage is not merely something we do, but who we are." He is a faith filled man of God and an active Catholic who understands the mission and goals of planning and executing a pilgrimage.

Each World Youth Day the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston (RCAB) drafts its own unique specifications and tentative schedule, and sends them out to bid. Dube Travel consistently responds with better prices than other agencies, great hotel locations, and innovative ideas that complement our vision.

Chris has been excellent to work with; returning calls and email inquiries quickly, demonstrating a willingness to work with our last minute changes and issues, and being readily available to travel to our headquarters to meet with us or our parents and leaders. After the terrorist attacks in Paris, Chris proactively set up meetings with the US Consulate in Poland, the World Youth Day authorities, and the USCCB to assess safety concerns and to strategize accordingly. Chris then made that information available via webinars to our parents and group leaders.

Traditionally, during our preparation time for WYD, our Archdiocesan team meets regularly with group leaders in order to: give them a real sense of the culture of the host country, provide latest details about the itinerary and travel accommodations, and to offer formation and training on youth evangelization, accompaniment and the meaning of pilgrimage. Chris Dube was able to be present at our meetings when requested, and was readily available to answer questions and concerns presented by the group leaders.

Dube Travel took the responsibility of collecting all registrations and monies from the pilgrims, and was also able to work with groups and individuals that required special travel arrangements before WYD and afterwards. Some of our pilgrims were travelling from countries other than the US, and some were continuing to travel to other European countries following WYD. Chris and his staff made those arrangements right up until 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

Chris and Dube Travel worked with us on all aspects of the WYD pilgrimage and because of their knowledge of the host country, they were able to secure entrance into some of the tourist sites that we wanted to see. In Rio we were able to tour the Christ the Redeemer statue on Corcovado. In Poland we were able to see Auschwitz and Birkenau before WYD began. Many pilgrims who came with other groups did not have these same opportunities.

Looking ahead to WYD in Panama, Chris has kept us informed as to possible change in dates for WYD 2019, and has already visited the country and begun making plans.

We are grateful to Chris Dube and the Dube Travel staff for their tireless work in helping to shape these pilgrimages into a profound opportunity for conversion, vocation and mission.

We highly recommend Dube Travel as a travel partner for groups considering going to WYD.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Office of Lifelong Faith Formation and Parish Support



# Next Steps

It is our sincere hope that within these pages, we have given you several reasons that you may consider using Dube Travel to handle your Group Travel Needs. If any questions remain, or you need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us at any time to discuss it further as we would be most happy to make ourselves available to insure you have the information required to make your decision.

If a formal presentation to a selection committee would be helpful, we would be happy to do so via webinar, or if better and possible, a live presentation. The more we are able to communicate and answer any questions, the better it is for all.

While we would love to work with your group, we understand there are many good choices available to groups. It is our strongest recommendation that whomever you are considering that you check references from both their past customers as well as the vendors and destination partners that were used in previous tours. All companies will say they do a great job, however it is critical that this claim be validated from both sides.

Thank you again for the opportunity to present our program for Portugal to you. Please do not hesitate to reach me at the following for questions, concerns, or to take the next step:

Chris Dube  
1-800-879-3823  
cdube@dubetravel.com

It is our hope that we are able to serve your group. Regardless, we thank you for your consideration of Dube Travel.

Prayerfully,

Chris Dube  
Dube Travel

