

Client: Inspira Santa Marta Hotel Yellow News  
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FROM TOP: Views of Miradouro de Santa Luzia; traditional shops at A Vida Portuguesa; custard tarts and white port, the gilded interior of Louis shoe shop



Take a bone-rattling tram journey along the ancient cobbled streets of Alfama



DREAM DESTINATION  
**LISBON**

*The Portuguese capital is a tourist-friendly mix of old-world charm and cutting-edge cool*

H&M shot an advertising campaign with David Beckham here recently while Katy Perry, Rihanna and Selena Gomez have all been spotted in Portugal's sunny capital.

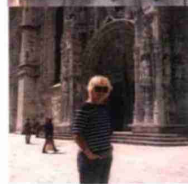
**STAY** Inspira Santa Marta Hotel is an eco-boutique establishment behind an 18th-century façade, 20 minutes from the main bustle of the city. Centred around a huge wood-clad atrium, each room is thoughtfully designed along Feng Shui principles, and ethical work practices are foremost. If you need to revitalise after a day of sightseeing, there's a spa, gym, games room and bar. **DO** From the city centre, jump on to yellow tram 28 for a bone-rattling journey along the ancient cobbled streets of Alfama. Then head west and take tram 15 to Belem for a visit to the fascinating 16th-century Jeronimos Monastery. Pick up a traditional Portuguese custard tart from Pastéis de Belém – they've been baking them since 1837. Relax and people-watch from one of the cafes on Carmo Square (Largo do Carmo) with its historic convent ruins, shady trees and view of the extraordinary 45m-high Santa Justa elevator.

**SHOP** Book an insider's shopping trip with guide Marta Monteiro and visit A Vida Portuguesa. Set in an old

warehouse, its walls are lined with retro-packaged hand creams, soaps, sardine tins and olive oils. Check out innovative bespoke womenswear designers Storytailors, or get fitted for exquisite, butter-soft leather gloves at Luvaria Ulisses.

**EAT** For lunch, join the locals and eat octopus and tomato rice at Restaurante Alpendre (R. Augusto Rosa 32-34). For a dress-up dinner, go to chef José Avillez's Mini Bar (R. António Maria Cardoso 58) – try the 'Epic' 11-course tasting menu, and the exploding olives. If you still have room, finish the evening with a shot of traditional cherry liqueur from hole-in-the-wall bar Ginjinha (Praça Dom Pedro IV 71).

**SEE** Make time for sunset drinks at the rooftop bar terrace of speakeasy-style Insolito (R. São Pedro de Alcântara 83). Try the Hat Trick oyster bar snack with a gin, lime and spirulina cocktail. **PRICES AND FLIGHTS** From £114 per night, on the Early Booking Offer. Visit inspirahotels.com for more information and Shop Tour details. The Shop Tour costs from £61 per person and includes a two-hour, expert-led tour exploring the architecture and interiors of selected stores. Return flights from London Stansted to Lisbon with Ryanair cost from £63.



FROM TOP: The distinctive tram 28 in Alfama; Open restaurant at Inspira Santa Marta Hotel; picture director Deborah; Castle outside the 16th-century Jeronimos Monastery



TRAVEL BLOG SPOT

KAT TANITA

@kattanita

Splitting her time between New York and Paris, this globe-trotting beauty's fashion, lifestyle and travel snaps are effortlessly cool. Kat has also launched her own travel app, With Love From Kat, providing her followers with hotel, restaurant and shopping recommendations.

WORDS: DEBORAH CASTLE PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES; ANAÏS; DEBORAH CASTLE; INSPIRA/SANTA MARTA