



The Minho

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Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Margarida da Praça (p438)
- ➔ Portuguese Inn (p425)
- ➔ Carmo's Boutique Hotel (p447)
- ➔ Pousada do Gerês-Caniçada/São Bento (p456)

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Taberna do Félix (p426)
- ➔ Cor de Tangerina (p433)
- ➔ Taberna do Valentim (p439)
- ➔ O Abocanhado (p458)

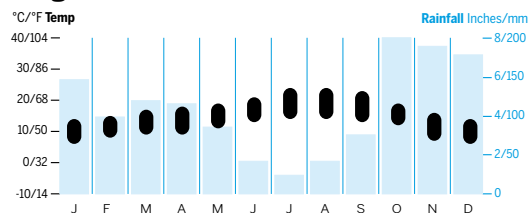
Why Go?

The Minho delivers world-class natural beauty with a knowing smile. Here are lush river valleys, sparkling beaches and granite peaks patrolled by locals – who seem particularly in tune with their homeland, whether they are charging 2m waves along the Costa Verde or shepherding their flock into high mountain meadows. This is, after all, the birthplace of the Portuguese kingdom, and it would be hard to find better-preserved landmarks than those uplit and on display in the Minho's gorgeous old cities.

Then there's the bold, sharp and fruity *vinho verde* to consider. This young wine is fashioned from the fruit of miles of vineyards that wind along rivers, over foothills and into Minho mountain villages. The crops are eventually crushed and bottled in community *adeegas* (wineries), giving each destination its own flavour. Of course, if you sip enough along the way, they may all blend into one delicious memory.

When to Go

Braga



May In the first week of the month, Festa das Cruzes turns Barcelos into a fairground.

23 & 24 Jun Braga's Festas de São João bursts with pagan energy and fireworks.

Sep Festas de Senhora, Peneda, features candlelit processions and a gushing waterfall.

