Porto: Spend at least two days sampling Porto’s heady mix of port wine, azulejos and impressive riverside location. 1¼hr to Coimbra.

Lisbon: You’ll need at least three days to cover the basics in Lisbon, with regular breaks for the city’s signature egg custard tarts. 2hr to Évora.

Évora: Few Portuguese cities boast the diversity of architecture that Évora does. A ring of defensive town walls contains Roman and medieval sites. 4hr to Faro.

Coimbra: Call in at the hilltop Velha Universidade (Old University) before enjoying some student nightlife and Coimbra’s own take on fado. 2hr to Lisbon.

Sagres & Cabo de São Vicente: The dramatic cliffs at Cabo de São Vicente mark Europe’s most southerly point. It’s also a big surfing location. 5hr to Lagos then to Sagres.

Faro: The de facto capital of the Algarve has history, food, architecture and an easy-going vibe. 4hr to Faro.