



Dear Members and Friends,

As always, we hope you are enjoying our wonderful town and taking full advantage of everything it has to offer. We are offering our 37th event in March. Hard to believe. Time flies! For those who attend our events we hope you are having as much fun as we are.

We try our best to host unique events, but at times it is nice just to have a social gathering and meet each other. There are so many new people joining our dynamic community, and socials give all of us an opportunity to meet each other. We have rarely planned anything before noon, so Steve thought it would be a good idea to try it. Please see April's social gathering.

We strive to do new things, but some of our past events have been so popular we receive requests to repeat them for those who weren't here or were not able to attend. Please see March, which will be the second time we have repeated an event. We may start repeating a few other popular events moving forward. As always, we welcome your ideas.

NEW EVENTS

MARCH - Event #37
Dragão Stadium (Estádio do Dragão) and Sports Museum - Private Tour
Thursday, March 27 at 15:00h

We originally did this tour September 2022 (event #6) and received rave reviews. If you have not done this before, it is a great tour and a world class museum. Included in the tour is the history of FC Porto and the stadium, the VIP areas, a locker room, the entry tunnel used by all the teams, and a chance to get on the field. Dragão is the home field for the most popular team in the region. We have made arrangements for a private tour of the stadium and the museum. They do not give these tours on game days, so our group game outing will have to wait for another day.



When: Thursday, March 27 at 3pm

Where: Museum Entrance - Dragão Stadium

Cost:

- €17-20 per person (dependent on our group size)

- €15 for seniors (65+) *If you qualify for this discount, please let us know when you RSVP
- €10 for FC Porto Card holders

Tickets will be purchased at the stadium. They accept credit cards. There will be an additional €2-3 charge for the private tour guide - We will collect at the stadium and is to be paid in cash.

Details: We are limited to 30 so RSVP quickly to secure your spot. You must arrive at least 20 min early to arrange payment.

APRIL - Event #38
Coffee and Eats Social - Bee Garden
Thursday, April 17 at 10:30am - 12:30pm+



Join us for our first morning social! We had our 4th of July event here last year. Bee Garden consistently receives high ratings and is a great venue with a central location.

When: Thursday, April 17 from 10:30am - 12:30pm (or longer)

Where: Bee Garden: Rua do Bonjardim 726, Porto

Cost: Whatever you order

Details: No RSVP required. Just bring your best morning mood and a friend or two.

May - Event #39
Bolhão Market - Private Behind-the-Scenes Tour
Friday May 2 at 17:00h and 18:30h

One of the jewels of Porto, the iconic Bolhão Market has a rich history dating back to its inception in 1839. The neoclassical building that now exists was built in 1914 and recently underwent massive restoration and modernization, closing its doors in 2018 and finally completed and unveiled to the public four years later in 2022.

Join us on Friday May 2 for a very special, unique, in-depth tour focusing on the architectural and engineering redesign of the Bolhão. This "technical" guided tour will be led by architect Rita Machado Lima, who helped lead the project. The Bolhão project was carried out by the studio of architect Nuno Valentim, which has been recognized with several national and international awards, including for the Bolhão.

The tour will include a behind-the-scenes look at many of the architectural and engineering improvements that shoppers and tourists never see -- including a modern, newly excavated underground space below the market floor where deliveries are made and kept, and the hidden tunnel that gives delivery and garbage trucks access!

In addition, we hope to add, as a bonus to this event, an olive oil & olive tasting experience. Stay tuned!!



When: Friday May 2

Cost: 16€ per person

Time: Tours start at 17:00 and 18:30. Each tour is 90 minutes and limited to 15 people. You **MUST RSVP** for this one! When you RSVP, please specify which time you prefer. We'll make every effort to accommodate your preference.

IMPORTANT NOTE: You must arrive **AT LEAST** 30 minutes before your tour time to pay at the Market Information Desk, located just inside the Rua da Formosa entrance (the lower, southern entrance). Payment may be made by card, cash or MBWay. After you pay, feel free to get a glass of wine and stroll around, but not too far! Tours will start promptly at the Market Information Desk.

RECAP

January - Event #35 Fino Golf Club - Taco Tuesday Social

This was our 3rd event in Matosinhos. We had an incredible turnout, despite the heavy rains. Great tacos and a festive crowd!



February - Event #36
Port Wine and Douro Wine Institute - Tour and Tasting + Post-Event Social



Many took advantage of this unique opportunity to learn more about Port wines from the industry's authority. After being closed for repairs for a year and a half, the newly remodelled museum was worth the wait. It was so popular we had to break out into 3 groups to accommodate everyone. We had our most successful post-event social ever.

Kind regards,

Jamie Makuuchi

afpop Porto Area Event Organiser

E-mail: porto@afpop.com