

INTERNATIONAL STUDY TOUR FAQ

PORTUGAL

GENERAL INFORMATION

Destination:

Lisbon, Portugal

Faculty Lead:

Franco Saccucci
saccuccif@macewan.ca

Course credits:

3 credits

Availability expectations:

- Pre-departure program on campus:
March 21, March 28 and April 11, 2026.
- Travel period:
April 22 to April 30, 2026 (9 days/7 nights).
- A student may choose to extend their stay at the destination before or after the official dates of the tour at their own expense.

Key administrative dates:

- Enrollment deadline:
January 13, 2026 (while seats last).
- Payment of the full cost (tour and tuition fees):
no later than January 13, 2026.
- Given the nature of the study tours, which involve bookings and pre-payments to local service providers several months before departure, all **payments are non-refundable.**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

1. Why take part in a Business Study Tour?

Part of MacEwan's strategic vision *Teaching Greatness* is to ensure that our graduates are versatile, future-ready and culturally aware. Study tours provide you with unique opportunities to develop your global mindset and the ability to operate in unfamiliar and complex settings. While study tours differ in length, destination and cost, they all offer carefully crafted programs and affordable opportunities to experience first-hand what it means to do business internationally. Past destinations include Austria, Belgium, Brazil, China, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Japan, Morocco, South Korea and the United Arab Emirates.

These unique learning experiences also count as three-credit courses. Destinations are different every year and students can enrol multiple times, and even annually. While study tours are primarily designed for business students, they are open to non-business students who are interested in exploring the world.

2. What makes Portugal a great destination for a Study Tour?

Lisbon, Portugal offers a compelling destination for a study tour thanks to its dynamic blend of historical significance, economic transformation and global business relevance. It is one of Europe's fastest-growing tech hubs and a gateway to both European and Lusophone markets. Lisbon provides students with first-hand exposure to international business practices, innovative ecosystems and sustainable development initiatives. The city's rich cultural heritage, strategic location and thriving entrepreneurial scene make it an ideal setting for students to explore global commerce in a context that bridges tradition and modernity, offering valuable insights into the complexities of operating in diverse economic environments.

The study tour will include professionally organized visits to Portuguese companies across diverse sectors, providing students direct engagement with international business operations, management practices and market strategies in a European context. These site visits will be complemented by a guided city tour of Lisbon, providing cultural and historical context that enriches the academic experience. Additionally, students will have scheduled free time to explore the city independently, encouraging personal discovery and reflection.

3. Who can participate?

- Must be in good academic standing (GPA of 2.0 or higher).
- Must have completed 24 MacEwan University or post-secondary transfer credits. Students could participate after completing just two terms of study at MacEwan.
- Students who have already taken a study tour course must have a 75% or higher in their professionalism/contribution component on previous study tours to be eligible for another tour.
- Both business and non-business students can apply regardless of their areas of study. A limited number of seats is available to non-business students on a first-come, first-served basis. All students must contact the business academic advisors to enroll.

4. I have taken a study tour course before, am I allowed to take it more than once?

A student can take the course more than once to travel to different destinations. Please confirm with a program advisor whether you are allowed to use it as a credit course toward your program of study.

5. I am a non-business MacEwan student, can I join a tour that is organized by the School of Business?

All MacEwan students, including those enrolled in non-business programs, are welcome to enroll in business study tours while seats last. Please confirm with your program advisor that this course can be used as a credit course toward your program of study.

6. What is the cost of the tour to Portugal?

- This is a 3-credit course, and tuition fees apply accordingly.
- The cost of the tour to Portugal is \$2,700.

7. Do I need to purchase an insurance?

Yes, if you are not already covered under an insurance policy. Please note that your SAMU insurance may not be sufficient. You are encouraged to double-check with the insurer and make sure you have proper health and trip cancellation coverage.

8. What is included in the price?

- Student accommodations (double occupancy), in a 3-star hotel such as Hotel Dom Carlos Park or equivalent.
- All breakfasts and two dinners.
- Field visits to Portuguese organizations and cultural sites/museums, as well as one university campus tour and lecture.
- A field guide and ground transportation to program activities.
- Public transportation pass for the duration of the study tour, which is the main means of transportation.

9. What is not included?

- Tuition fees.
- Airfare.
- Airport transfer (Note: airport to hotels is easy and convenient).
- Travel/health insurance.
- Visas and vaccinations (when applicable).
- Anything that is not included explicitly in the program.

10. When should I buy my flight tickets?

Like any other course, a study tour may be cancelled (with full reimbursement) by the School of Business. For instance, this may be the case if the number of students enrolled by the closing date is insufficient to go ahead with the tour. **It is recommended that you do not buy your tickets before the final decision is made when the enrollment period ends.** You will receive a confirmation email from the faculty leader of your tour in due time.

11. How do I enroll in this study tour course?

If you are ready to enroll, please contact an a business advisor (business@macewan.ca), and they will add you to the tour if you meet the requirements.

Please note that the number of seats is limited, and enrollments will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Your seat is only confirmed when you pay the fees. Late applications will be placed on a waitlist in case new seats become available.

12. What if I have a question that is not covered in this list?

For general questions about this course's program and conditions, please contact the tour's faculty leader: **Associate Professor, Franco Saccucci** (saccuccif@macewan.ca).

13. What does the Study Tour's schedule look like?

Below is a **tentative** schedule to give you a preliminary idea about what to expect. Please note this is **subject to changes** as we confirm details and availability with local partners and service providers.

DAY	ACTIVITY
Wednesday, April 22	Depart for Lisbon, Portugal.
Thursday, April 23	<p>Arrive at Lisbon Humberto Delgado Airport (LIS).</p> <p>Transportation from the airport to your hotel at your own expense.</p> <p>Check into hotel. 7 nights twin rooms with private bathrooms incl. breakfast at the 3-star Hotel Dom Carlos Park (or equivalent).</p> <p>Public transportation pass for the duration of your entire stay in Lisbon.</p> <p>Orientation session by your on-site coordinator at the hotel.</p> <p>Free time to explore your new surroundings on your own.</p>
Friday, April 24	<p>Breakfast at the hotel.</p> <p>Public transportation during the day.</p> <p>Internal Briefing on Lisbon in the European Union Economy (Arranged by MacEwan University faculty lead).</p> <p>Visit to the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Lisbon, a key network hub, to learn more about their overview of trade, how SME support is done and the promotion of exported goods.</p> <p>Welcome dinner at a restaurant in Lisbon to kick off the program.</p>
Saturday, April 25 <i>National holiday in Portugal – Liberty Day</i>	<p>Breakfast at the hotel.</p> <p>Public transportation during the day.</p> <p>Visit to Jerónimos Monastery. As you enter, your eyes are drawn to the awe-inspiring intricacy of the Manueline style, with its delicate carvings and ornate details adorning every surface. Breathe in the hallowed air of this UNESCO World Heritage site, immersing yourself in the rich history and cultural significance of this magnificent symbol of Portugal's maritime past.</p> <p>Visit to Museu do Dinheiro (Coin Museum). Located in a former church, it showcases the fascinating history of money, coins and economic exchange through interactive exhibits.</p>
Sunday, April 26	<p>Breakfast at the hotel.</p> <p>Transportation by private bus during the day.</p> <p>Admission to the Parque e Palácio Nacional da Pena in Sintra. Located in the Sintra hills, the Park and Palace of Pena are the fruit of King Ferdinand II's creative genius and the greatest expression of 19th-century romanticism in Portugal, denoting clear influences from the Manueline and Moorish styles of architecture.</p> <p>Enjoy the rest of the evening at your leisure in the town of Sintra. Feel free to wander the little streets and discover what else the city has to offer. The Palace of Sintra is a good place to visit, a former royal residence famous for its twin chimneys and mix of Gothic, Manueline and Moorish architectural styles.</p>

Monday, April 27	<p>Breakfast at the hotel.</p> <p>Public transportation during the day.</p> <p>Visit to Energias de Portugal (EDP), an energy distribution company. Here you will be able to learn more about their renewable strategy, ESG and their global operations.</p> <p>Visit to SGS Portugal, a consulting company, to gain insight into the company's operations and explore their ongoing projects in testing, inspection, certification, quality management and global supply chain solutions.</p> <p>Walk around LX Factory with your coordinator to see the different ateliers and art stands. The LX Factory is a vibrant creative hub in Lisbon, housed in a former industrial complex, and features shops, restaurants and art spaces. It serves as a cultural hotspot where artists, designers and entrepreneurs come together, offering a unique mix of innovation, creativity and urban culture.</p>
Tuesday, April 28	<p>Breakfast at the hotel.</p> <p>Public transportation during the day.</p> <p>Visit to Nova School of Business and Economics, followed by a guest lecture on entrepreneurship.</p> <p>Visit to Quidgest, a software company that specializes in software development, to learn more about their company and current projects of enterprise software and digital transformation.</p>
Wednesday, April 29	<p>Breakfast at the hotel.</p> <p>Public transportation during the day.</p> <p>Classroom available in the afternoon at or near your hotel for the student presentations with your faculty leader.</p> <p>Use your last afternoon in Lisbon for final discussions and reflection.</p> <p>Farewell dinner at a restaurant in Lisbon to wrap up the program.</p>
Thursday, April 30	<p>Breakfast at the hotel.</p> <p>Transportation at your own expense from the hotel to the airport.</p> <p>Depart from Lisbon Humberto Delgado Airport (LIS) to Canada (airfare not included).</p>