

Madison Haynes is a senior studying agribusiness management, with minors in crop science and farm management. She is from Butler, Indiana. Read below to learn about Madison's study abroad experience in Portugal.

I have always had an interest in studying abroad while being at Purdue and I finally decided that I would go during my junior year. I did not know much about Portugal and had never heard much about it, so that was one reason I chose this destination. Another reason is because a lot of my friends were going, so we all decided to go together. I was excited to learn about the way a different country goes about agriculture and their culture, especially one that produces different products than the United States.



I went on the Agriculture in Portugal Study Abroad Spring Break 2025. We went to cities such as Lisbon, Evora, Alentejo, and Monsaraz. We focused on agriculture in Portugal while we were there, such as olive oil production, wine production, and cork production. A typical day was waking up early and eating breakfast at the hotel, going on a tour of a city or hopping on a bus to go to our destination for the morning.

We drove all throughout Portugal to visit different historical sites and places. We also were able to visit a university while we were there to learn about their agricultural program. We then would finish the day with dinner and going out or staying at the hotel.



It was crazy to see how people lived in Portugal compared to the States -- how different the streets and driving are. Even sitting down to have a meal was way different than it is here in the United States. Most of the people that we met were extremely nice and welcoming.

My time abroad made me extremely grateful for the life that I have, for the place that I live, and for the college that I attend.

I would definitely tell other students to study abroad – to put yourself out there and just go! Even if you don't have the best time there, no matter what, you will walk away with a different perspective, your eyes will be opened, and you will realize how good you have it here.

