



Sara and the St Francis Bear's Great Portuguese Adventure



A Journey Full of Faith, Fun and Wonderful Memories

Chapter One: The Adventure Begins

On the morning of **25 July 2026**, Sara was very excited.

A great adventure was about to begin!

Standing beside her was her very special travelling companion: the **St Francis Bear**.

The little bear was ready for the journey. Although he did not really need a suitcase, he insisted that he was a very important traveller.

“Have you packed everything?” Sara asked him.

“Yes!” replied the St Francis Bear proudly.

“What have you packed?” Sara asked.

The bear thought for a moment.

“My courage, my curiosity and my sense of adventure!”

Sara laughed.

“That sounds perfect!”

Soon, Sara and her family climbed into the car, and their long journey to Portugal began.

Their adventure would take them across several countries, through beautiful landscapes and towards a summer full of sunshine, fun and unforgettable memories.

The St Francis Bear pressed his little nose against the car window.

“Portugal, here we come!” he said.

And off they went!



Chapter Two: Through France

Their first big part of the journey took them through **France**.

As they travelled along the roads, Sara watched the beautiful scenery passing by.

There were fields, villages, forests and long roads stretching towards the horizon.

The St Francis Bear looked out of the window.

“Are we in Portugal yet?” he asked.

Sara smiled.

“Not yet, Bear. We still have a long way to go!”

The bear sighed dramatically.

“Well, adventures are supposed to be long!”

And so they continued.

The family travelled through France, enjoying the journey and imagining all the exciting places waiting for them ahead.



Chapter Three: Across Spain

Next, they travelled through **Spain**.

The landscape slowly began to change as they travelled further south.

The St Francis Bear was fascinated.

“So many countries!” he said. “And we are travelling through all of them!”

Sara nodded.

“That is part of the adventure.”

They continued driving, getting closer and closer to Portugal.

After a long journey, filled with excitement and anticipation, something very special finally happened.

On **26 July 2026**, they arrived in...



PORTUGAL!

The St Francis Bear could hardly believe it.

“We made it!” he shouted.

Sara smiled.

“Yes, Bear. Our Portuguese adventure has finally begun!”



Chapter Four: Exploring the North of Portugal

Their first stop was in the beautiful **Viana do Castelo region**, in the north of Portugal.

It was a wonderful place filled with beautiful landscapes, history, traditions and friendly people.

Sara and the St Francis Bear were ready to explore.

They visited many beautiful **local churches**.

Inside, everything was peaceful and calm.

The St Francis Bear looked around with great curiosity.

“I think St Francis would have loved visiting these places,” he whispered.

Sara smiled.

“I think so too.”

They took their time exploring and learning about the beautiful places they visited.

Every church had its own story.

Every walk led them somewhere new.

And every day brought another adventure.



Chapter Five: Walks and River Adventures

The north of Portugal was perfect for exploring.

Sara and the St Francis Bear went on many lovely **walks**, enjoying the beautiful countryside and fresh air.

The bear loved being outdoors.

He listened to the birds singing.

He watched butterflies flying past.

And he looked carefully at every tree, flower and little creature they found along the way.

One day, they went to the river.

The water looked cool and refreshing.

The St Francis Bear looked at the water nervously.

“Are you sure it isn't too cold?” he asked.

Sara dipped her toes into the water.

“It will be fun!”

Slowly, the St Francis Bear joined the adventure.

Soon, everyone was enjoying a refreshing **bath in the river**.

The bear splashed and laughed.

“This is much better than I expected!” he shouted.

Sara laughed.

“I told you so!”



Chapter Six: Funfairs and Music

The adventures continued!

Sara and the St Francis Bear visited exciting **funfairs**, filled with bright lights, music and laughter.

The bear was amazed.

“So many things to see!” he said.

There were rides, games and delicious treats.

The St Francis Bear wanted to try everything.

“I think we should go on that one!” he said, pointing towards a very exciting ride.

Sara looked at the ride.

“Are you sure?”

The bear suddenly looked less certain.

“Maybe we can start with something smaller!”

Everyone laughed.

They also enjoyed wonderful **concerts**, where music filled the warm summer evenings.

Sara and the St Francis Bear listened to the music together.

The bear gently tapped his paw along to the rhythm.

“This holiday has everything,” he said.

“Churches, rivers, funfairs and music!”

Sara smiled.

“And there is still more to come!”



Chapter Seven: A Special Stop in Fátima

After their wonderful time in the north of Portugal, it was time to continue their journey south.

They were heading towards Lisbon and their Portuguese home.

But before arriving, they made a very special stop.

They visited the beautiful **Sanctuary of Our Lady of Fátima**.

As Sara and the St Francis Bear arrived, they could feel the peaceful and special atmosphere around them.

The sanctuary was beautiful and full of history.

Sara and her family spent time walking around and taking in the surroundings.

The St Francis Bear sat quietly beside Sara.

“This is a very special place,” he whispered.

Sara nodded.

“Yes, it is.”

For a little while, they simply enjoyed the peace and quiet.

Then, with wonderful memories in their hearts, they continued their journey towards Lisbon.



Chapter Eight: Home in Portugal

Finally, Sara, her family and the St Francis Bear arrived at their Portuguese home on the outskirts of **Lisbon**.

After travelling through France, Spain and Portugal, everyone was ready for some rest.

But there was no time to be bored!

The Portuguese summer weather was beautiful.

The sun was shining.

The sky was blue.

And the swimming pool was waiting!

Sara loved spending time in the pool.

The St Francis Bear loved it too...

Although he had to be careful not to get his fur too wet!

Together, they enjoyed the warm days, swimming, playing and relaxing.

“This is the perfect holiday!” said the bear.

Sara agreed.



Chapter Nine: Fun at the Beach

Of course, no Portuguese adventure would be complete without visiting the **beach**.

Sara and her family enjoyed the beautiful coast, the warm sunshine and the sound of the waves.

The St Francis Bear loved the sand.

He made tiny pawprints as he walked along the beach.

Sara and the bear watched the waves rolling towards the shore.

They played, relaxed and enjoyed the beautiful weather.

“This is definitely one of my favourite places,” said the bear.

“But you said that about the river!”

Sara reminded him.

“And the funfair!”

The bear thought for a moment.

“Then Portugal has lots of my favourite places!”

Sara laughed.

That was something they could both agree on.



Chapter Ten: The Amazing Eclipse

One day, something very special happened.

Sara and her family were going to watch an **eclipse**.

The St Francis Bear was very excited.

“What is going to happen?” he asked.

Sara explained that they were going to watch a very special event in the sky.

But everyone had to be very careful.

They made sure to use the proper eclipse glasses to protect their eyes.

Sara put on her glasses.

The St Francis Bear put on his very special bear-sized glasses.

Together, they looked up at the sky.

“Wow!” whispered the bear.

Everyone watched in amazement as the eclipse took place.

It was something Sara and the St Francis Bear would never forget.

The sky had given them one more magical memory from their Portuguese adventure.



Chapter Eleven: Time to Return Home

After many wonderful weeks in Portugal, the time finally came to begin their journey home.

The holiday had been filled with adventures.

They had travelled through **France and Spain**.

They had explored the beautiful north of Portugal.

They had visited churches.

They had walked through beautiful places.

They had enjoyed refreshing baths in the river.

They had visited funfairs and listened to concerts.

They had stopped at the special **Sanctuary of Our Lady of Fátima**.

They had enjoyed their Portuguese home, the swimming pool and the beautiful beaches.

And they had watched an incredible eclipse.

The St Francis Bear looked a little sad.

“I don't want the adventure to end,” he said.

Sara gave him a hug.

“It isn't ending, Bear.”

The bear looked surprised.

“It isn't?”

“No,” said Sara. “This adventure is ending, but there will always be another adventure waiting for us.”

The bear smiled.

“I like the sound of that!”



Chapter Twelve: Home Again

Sara, her family and the St Francis Bear returned home during the **Bank Holiday weekend**.

They arrived with tired legs, happy hearts and lots of wonderful memories.

The St Francis Bear looked at all the photographs and remembered everything they had experienced.

The long drive.

France.

Spain.

Portugal.

The churches.

The river.

The music.

The funfairs.

Fátima.

The swimming pool.

The beach.

And the eclipse.

“What an adventure!” said the bear.

Sara smiled.

“Yes, Bear. It really was.”



The Adventure Continues...

The St Francis Bear thought about everything they had seen and done.

Then he looked at Sara.

“So... where are we going next?”

Sara smiled mysteriously.

“You will have to wait and see.”

The bear's eyes opened wide.

“Another adventure?”

“Yes,” said Sara.

“Very soon!”

The St Francis Bear jumped with excitement.

He might have just returned from Portugal, but he was already ready for another journey.

Because the world was full of wonderful places to explore.

There were new countries to visit.

New people to meet.

New stories to discover.

And new memories waiting to be made.

The St Francis Bear looked at Sara.

“Promise you will take me with you?”

Sara smiled and gave him a big hug.

“Of course, Bear.”

And so, Sara and the St Francis Bear waited excitedly for their next adventure.

Where would they go?

What would they discover?

What amazing memories would they make?

Nobody knew yet.

But one thing was certain...

Wherever Sara goes, the St Francis Bear will always be ready for an adventure.



The End...

Or perhaps...

The Beginning of the Next Adventure!