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DISCOVER PORTUGAL



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Discover Portugal

Portugal has long been celebrated for its landscapes, heritage and unmistakable sense of hospitality. Yet today, discovering the country means going beyond its iconic cities and landmarks. Increasingly, travellers are seeking experiences that feel authentic, personal and memorable – and Portugal is perfectly placed to deliver them.

From the historic streets of Lisbon and Porto to the vineyards of the Douro Valley, from the golden beaches of the Algarve to the dramatic landscapes of the Azores and Madeira, Portugal offers remarkable diversity within a remarkably accessible destination. But its greatest attraction may lie in the stories, encounters and discoveries found along the way.

A journey through Portugal can mean sharing a meal with local producers, tasting a wine at its source, learning traditional crafts, walking ancient trails or exploring villages where time seems to move differently. It can be an adventure in nature, a cultural immersion or simply the pleasure of discovering a hidden place away from the expected route. This shift from sightseeing to experience is transforming the way destinations are perceived – and Portugal has much to offer in this new era of travel. Its culture is lived rather than displayed, its gastronomy is deeply rooted in place, and its landscapes invite exploration.

Discover Portugal – and discover the experiences that make a journey truly unforgettable.

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Madeira

The Essence of Atlantic Portugal

In the heart of the Atlantic Ocean, around 1 hour and 45 minutes from Lisbon, lies Madeira – a destination where Portugal's natural beauty, craftsmanship and hospitality take on a distinctive island character. The archipelago's dramatic volcanic landscapes, year-round mild climate and deep-rooted traditions have made it one of Europe's most distinctive and rewarding places to visit.

Madeira is more than its islands; it is a way of life. The pace is unhurried, the scenery immersive and the experiences authentic – shaped by people who have learned to live in harmony between mountains and sea. Here, visitors discover the best of Portuguese island life: exceptional gastronomy, scenic drives, memorable walking routes and a genuine sense of welcome.

LAND OF NATURAL WONDERS. Madeira's geography is its first revelation. Rising from the ocean floor, its peaks reach 1,862 metres, creating a spectacular network of ridges, valleys and cliffs that shift constantly with the light. From the ancient Laurissilva forest – a UNESCO World Heritage Site – to the high plateaus of Paul da Serra, every corner of the island invites exploration.

Hiking remains one of Madeira's signature experiences. The levadas – narrow irrigation channels built centuries ago to carry water from the wetter north to the sunnier south – have evolved into some of the island's most scenic walking routes, leading visitors through lush vegetation, waterfalls and tunnels. Coastal paths, meanwhile, reveal the island's dramatic volcanic scenery and vast Atlantic views.

Whether exploring for half an hour or a full day, every route offers a close connection with nature.

THE FLAVOURS OF MADEIRA. Madeira's cuisine tells the story of its landscape and its people. Fresh fish, tropical fruit and local produce are transformed into



Seixal
@Francisco Correia



Levada do Rei
@Henrique Seruca

dishes that combine simplicity, quality and tradition. Grilled meat skewers cooked over laurel wood, known as espetada, bolo do caco served with garlic butter, and lapas – limpets grilled with lemon and herbs – are among the island's essential flavours.
Its wines are equally emblematic. Madeira Wine, with its distinctive ageing process and remarkable longevity, has been prized internationally since the 15th century and remains one of Portugal's great ambassadors. In contrast, the refreshing poncha – made with sugarcane spirit, honey and citrus – captures Madeira's convivial spirit and is best enjoyed at a local bar after a day spent exploring the mountains or the sea.

CULTURE, HERITAGE AND CRAFT. Madeiran identity is as vibrant as its scenery. Funchal, the capital, combines the charm of a southern European city with the rhythm of island life. Cobbled streets, colourful markets and elegant gardens coexist with contemporary galleries, welcoming cafés and a thriving culinary scene. Mercado dos Lavradores remains a sensory showcase of the island's produce, from exotic fruits and flowers to freshly landed fish.
Throughout the year, Madeira celebrates its traditions with festivals that reflect both devotion and joy. The Flower Festival in spring, the Atlantic Festival in summer and the renowned end-of-year fireworks display reveal the island at its most expressive. Away from the major events, local arraiais – traditional street festivities – fill villages with music, food and laughter, bringing communities together as they have for generations.
The island's artisans preserve skills passed down through centuries. Embroidery, wickerwork and tapestry continue to flourish, sustained by families who have transformed craftsmanship into a living cultural legacy. Visitors can discover these traditions in workshops across the island, as well as at dedicated museums and cultural spaces in Funchal. ▶



Vereda do Pico Ruivo
@Francisco Correia



Ponta da Calheta, Porto Santo
@Carlos Gouveia



Pico Ruivo @Duarte Sol

A DESTINATION FOR EVERY SEASON. Thanks to its subtropical climate, Madeira is a destination for every season. Mild temperatures throughout the year make it possible to hike in winter, swim in natural pools in spring and enjoy long outdoor dinners in autumn. Each season brings a different perspective: spring bursts with colour, summer invites sea-based adventures, autumn celebrates the harvest and winter sparkles with festive traditions.

The nearby island of Porto Santo, just a short flight or ferry journey away, offers another side of the archipelago. Its nine-kilometre golden-sand beach, calm turquoise waters and slower pace provide a striking contrast to Madeira's dramatic terrain. Together, the islands offer a compelling balance between energy and tranquillity.

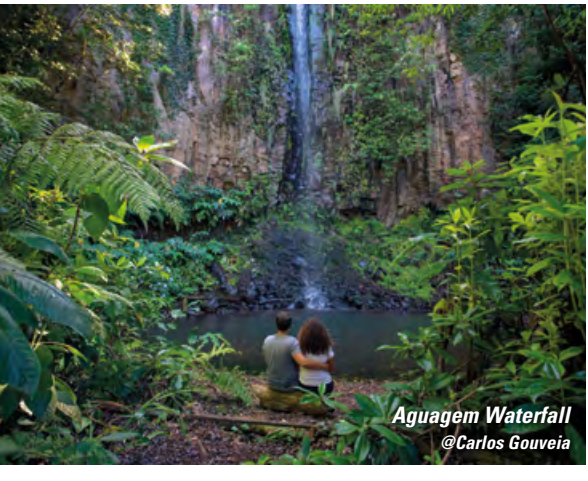
SUSTAINABILITY AND WELLBEING. Sustainability is deeply rooted in Madeira's way of life. Limited resources, agricultural traditions and close-knit communities have long fostered a culture of respect for the land and sea. Today, that legacy informs initiatives in nature tourism, local sourcing, conservation and marine protection.

Madeira is recognised as an EarthCheck Silver Certified (level IV) sustainable tourist destination in 2026. Its protected natural areas, including the Laurissilva forest and marine reserves, are central to preserving the archipelago's biodiversity for future generations.

Wellbeing here goes beyond the physical: Yoga by the ocean, time spent among the laurel trees and the quiet of a cliff-top viewpoint all offer an opportunity to reconnect. The island's hotels and bou-



Lagoa Beach, Porto Santo
@Henrique Seruca



Aguagem Waterfall
@Carlos Gouveia



Caminho do Pináculo e Folhadal, Laurisilva Forest *@Francisco Correia*



Poncha
@Ricardo Paulino

tique retreats embrace this balance, combining comfort with a strong sense of place, local character and contemporary design.

THE SPIRIT OF WELCOME. Perhaps what visitors remember most about Madeira is not only its scenery or cuisine, but its people. The Madeirans' warmth, humour and openness make every encounter feel personal. Whether it is a winemaker sharing their craft, a market seller offering a fruit to taste or a family inviting visitors to try homemade bolo de mel, these moments reveal the true essence of the island.

For travellers seeking the best of Portugal – authenticity, flavour, beauty and soul Madeira offers it all in one extraordinary destination.

MADEIRA ISLANDS

The Azores

An Island-Hopping Journey



Sete Cidades, São Miguel

THE EXTRAORDINARY DIVERSITY OF THE AZORES MAKES THE ARCHIPELAGO AN IDEAL DESTINATION FOR A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY, EXPLORED ISLAND BY ISLAND.

Nine islands, nine distinct personalities, brought together in an archipelago shaped by volcanic origins and surrounded by the vastness of the Atlantic. While each of the nine islands has its own unique character, a first journey might focus on three: São Miguel, Terceira and Faial. Together, they offer a compelling introduction to the diversity of the Azores, combining spectacular landscapes, rich heritage, distinctive gastronomy and vibrant island life.

SÃO MIGUEL. The largest and most populous island in the archipelago, São Miguel is often the starting point for a first encounter with the Azores. Its generous scale allows for a varied itinerary, taking in the city of Ponta Delgada, dramatic coastlines and the extraordinary lakes scattered across its volcanic interior. The City Gates (Portas da Cidade), the Church of São Sebastião, São Brás Fort and the historic streets and buildings give Ponta Delgada a character all of its own. Here, architecture in dark volcanic stone sits alongside gardens and waterfront spaces, reflecting the island's close relationship with the sea.

Yet it is inland that São Miguel reveals some of its most iconic scenery. Set within an ancient volcanic caldera, the Sete Cidades massif is home to two of the Azores' most celebrated lakes: the Blue Lake and the Green Lake. Their contrasting colours, surrounded by lush vegetation, have become one of the defining images of the archipelago.

Further inland, Lagoa do Fogo offers a landscape of striking beauty. Encircled by dense vegetation and largely untouched by development along its shores, the lake lies within an ancient volcanic crater.

Further east, Lagoa das Furnas provides the setting for one of the Azores' most distinctive experiences. Here, volcanic activity rises to the surface through fumaroles and thermal springs. It is in the naturally heated ground of the caldera that the traditional cozido das Furnas is slowly cooked.

TERCEIRA has a character of its own, shaped above all by an exceptionally rich historical heritage. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Angra do Heroísmo was for centuries a strategic waypoint on the Atlantic routes. Its historic centre, with its elegant streets, churches and colourful façades, preserves the legacy of the city's former importance.


Portas da Cidade, Ponta Delgada


Faial


Angra do Heroísmo, Terceira


Terceira

Beyond Angra, Terceira opens onto a more rural and distinctly volcanic landscape. Serra do Cume, where vast green pastures are divided by traditional stone walls, is one of the island's most spectacular viewpoints and offers a striking perspective over the countryside.
Terceira's natural heritage also extends beneath the surface. Algar do Carvão, an ancient volcanic chimney, offers the rare experience of entering the interior of a volcano.

FAIAL ISLAND is among the most evocative islands of the archipelago. Known as the "Blue Island", it takes its name from the profusion of hydrangeas that line its fields and roads, their blooms extending almost to the edge of the sea.
The city of Horta is the island's main urban centre and one of the Atlantic's most iconic ports. For generations, it has been a natural stopping point for sailors crossing the ocean. Yachts and sailing vessels from around the world continue to call at its marina, whose walls and pavements have become an extraordinary open-air gallery, covered with paintings and messages left by crews over the decades.


Ponta dos Capelinhos, Faial

At the western tip of the island, Ponta dos Capelinhos bears witness to the volcanic eruption that took place between 1957 and 1958. The stark, almost lunar landscape created by the eruption forms a dramatic contrast with the lush green scenery that characterises the rest of Faial.
At the heart of the island lies the Caldeira, another essential stop. This immense volcanic depression, carpeted with vegetation, can be admired from its rim or explored on foot along a network of trails, offering a closer encounter with the island's volcanic origins.

Algarve

One Destination, Endless Possibilities



Lagos

FEW PLACES CAN BRING TOGETHER SUCH AN EXTRAORDINARY RANGE OF ATTRACTIONS WITHIN A SINGLE DESTINATION AS THE ALGARVE.

From golden beaches and warm waters to dramatic cliffs, picturesque villages, world-class golf courses, historic heritage, exceptional gastronomy and remarkable natural landscapes, the Algarve offers an experience of extraordinary breadth – equally suited to those seeking rest and those drawn to a more active escape.

ALONG MORE THAN 200 KILOMETRES OF ATLANTIC COASTLINE, the landscape unfolds in an ever-changing succession of settings. There are broad, sweeping beaches made for long summer days with family, as well as secluded coves tucked between rugged cliffs, reached by flights of steps or discreet coastal paths.

The ocean shifts between calm, crystal-clear waters and more energetic stretches sought out by surfers and water-sports enthusiasts. Yet all share the intense light that has long defined the region, together with a privileged climate that makes it possible to enjoy the Algarve throughout much of the year.

In summer, the region moves to the rhythm of its beaches, waterfront promenades and lively evenings by the sea. During the quieter months, however, another Algarve emerges – more peaceful, more intimate and perhaps more authentic – inviting visitors inland to discover small towns, explore the countryside and experience nature without the crowds.

A WEALTH OF NATURAL LANDSCAPES. But the Algarve extends far beyond its familiar image of sun and sea. Its extraordinary natural diversity is one of the region's greatest assets.

Along the coast, protected ecosystems coexist with dramatic cliffs, sand dunes, barrier islands and coastal lagoons. The Ria Formosa Natural Park, one of Europe's most important wetland areas, is a remarkable sanctuary for wildlife, where flamingos, herons and dozens of migratory species find shelter. Further west, the Southwest Alentejo and Vicentine Coast Natural Park offers a wilder, remarkably unspoilt landscape, defined by towering cliffs and beaches that remain almost untouched. Near the Guadiana River, the Castro Marim and Vila Real de Santo António Marsh Nature Reserve reveals yet another facet of the region, with salt pans, marshlands and distinctive habitats that make it a particularly rewarding destination for birdwatching.


Falésia


Benagil


Cape São Vicente


Ria Formosa

Away from the coast, the barrocal unfolds as a quintessentially Mediterranean landscape, with orange groves, fig trees, almond trees and carob trees woven into a deeply rural setting. Higher in the hills, small villages preserve ways of life rooted in long-standing traditions, where time seems to move at a gentler pace.
This is a less familiar Algarve, but one increasingly sought out by travellers in search of nature-based experiences, walking and hiking, cycling and horse riding.

THE ART OF GOLF. Golf also occupies a prominent place in the Algarve's identity as a destination. Regarded as one of Europe's leading golfing regions, the Algarve is home to dozens of internationally recognised courses, many designed by some of the most respected names in the sport and in golf-course architecture.
From Vilamoura and Quinta do Lago to Vale do Lobo, Lagos and Tavira, courses unfold through exceptional landscapes, where manicured greens meet the deep blue of the Atlantic.
The Algarve's reputation as a golfing destination be-


Aljezur



Golf



Tavira



Silves

gan to take shape in the second half of the twentieth century, notably through the influence of Sir Henry Cotton, one of the sport's historic figures, who played an important role in bringing international attention to the region.

Today, professional and amateur golfers continue to be drawn to southern Portugal for its favourable climate, high-quality facilities and outstanding choice of hotels and resorts.

FORTRESSES, CHURCHES AND ANCIENT WALLS. Beyond nature and sport, the Algarve possesses a rich historical and cultural heritage, shaped by the many civilisations that have passed through the region over the centuries.

The legacy of Moorish rule remains visible in numerous towns and villages, particularly in traditional architecture, castles and historic urban layouts.

Silves, once the capital of the Moorish Algarve, still commands attention with its imposing red-stone castle. Tavira preserves one of the region's most elegant historic centres, while Lagos retains a profound connection to Portugal's maritime history.

At Sagres and Cape São Vicente, the Atlantic takes on an almost symbolic presence, recalling the age of the Portuguese Discoveries and the navigators who set out towards the unknown.

Fortresses, churches, city walls and small museums are scattered throughout the region, bearing witness to the Algarve's rich historical and ethnographic heritage. In towns such as Loulé, Olhão and São Brás de Alportel, traditional markets and popular festivals continue to preserve customs deeply woven into the region's identity.

THE FLAVOURS OF THE ALGARVE. Gastronomy is another of the region's great treasures. Shaped by both the sea and the rural interior, Algarvian cuisine combines simplicity with depth of flavour.

Fresh fish and seafood take centre stage in many of the region's signature dishes, from cataplana and octopus rice to Algarvian-style clams and traditional fish stew.

Inland, the cuisine becomes more robust. Carob bread, cured meats, game and slow-cooked dishes reflect the region's enduring connection to the land and to the traditions of the hills.

In the world of pastry, almonds, figs, carob and hon-


Cataplana


AquaShow


Conrad Algarve



ey take pride of place, featuring in delicacies such as morgados, Dom Rodrigo, fig-and-almond confections and traditional almond cakes.

Algarvian wines have also gained increasing recognition in recent years, complementing the region's culinary diversity. Full-bodied reds, fresh whites and delicate rosés provide the perfect accompaniment to the flavours of the Algarve.

The Algarve has established itself as a destination for welness, relaxation and understated luxury

EXPERIENCES FOR EVERY TASTE. The Algarve has also established itself as a destination for wellness, refinement and understated luxury. Spa retreats within five-star hotels, thalassotherapy centres, thermal resorts and programmes devoted to health and relaxation attract visitors in search of physical and mental renewal.

Monchique, with its thermal waters and lush mountain landscapes, has become particularly associated with this slower, restorative side of the region.

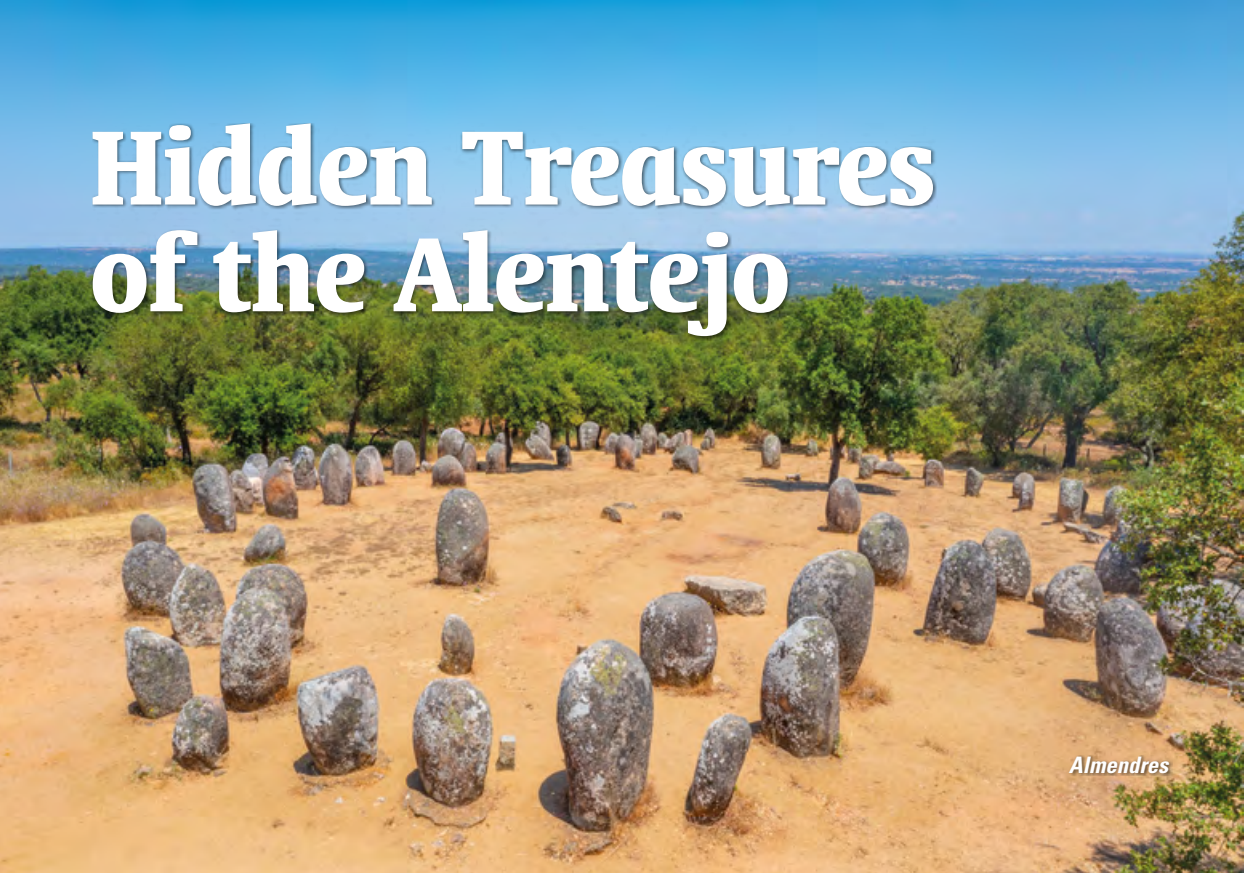
At the same time, the Algarve continues to reinvent itself as a premium destination. Modern marinas, five-star hotels, internationally acclaimed restaurants, exclusive water-based experiences, private boat excursions and highly personalised services coexist with the authenticity of traditional fishing villages and the relaxed atmosphere that remains one of the region's defining qualities.

For those seeking adventure, the possibilities are almost limitless: surfing, windsurfing, stand-up paddleboarding, diving, dolphin watching, jeep excursions, hiking trails, cycling, horse riding and water parks all form part of the region's extensive offering.

And it is precisely this ability to bring such a remarkable variety of experiences together within a single destination that makes the Algarve so distinctive.

Here, every traveller can find a rhythm of their own — whether that means unhurried days on the beach, gastronomic escapes, adventures in the great outdoors or simply moments of complete relaxation.

Hidden Treasures of the Alentejo


Almendres

THE ALENTEJO IS CELEBRATED FOR ITS GOLDEN PLAINS AND UNHURRIED WAY OF LIFE. BEYOND ITS BEST-KNOWN DESTINATIONS LIE HIDDEN TREASURES, PERFECT FOR TRAVELLERS SEEKING AUTHENTICITY, TRANQUILLITY AND A SENSE OF HISTORY.

At the heart of the Alentejo, two of the region's most enigmatic prehistoric sites continue to fascinate researchers and visitors alike.
Near Évora, the Almendres Cromlech is the largest megalithic complex of its kind on the Iberian Peninsula, with more than 90 standing stones arranged in concentric circles. Raised more than 7,000 years ago, the monument is believed to have served both astronomical and ritual purposes, although much of its original meaning remains shrouded in mystery.
A few kilometres away, the Escoural Cave, in the municipality of Montemor-o-Novo, contains rock engravings dating back more than 30,000 years. Discovered in 1963, it is the only known site in Portugal with Palaeolithic cave art.

EVORAMONTE CASTLE. Perched high on the slopes of the Serra d'Ossa, in the municipality of Estremoz, Evoramonte Castle is one of the Alentejo's most striking fortresses.
Its origins date back to the twelfth century, when the region was reconquered from the Moors by Geraldo Sem Pavor, around 1160. During the reign of King Dinis, in 1306, the fortification of the village was ordered, and sections of its original walls and gates remain today.
The castle as it stands now, with its distinctive Renaissance character, was built in the sixteenth century on the orders of the Dukes of Braganza, after an earthquake destroyed the earlier medieval tower. Square in plan and reinforced by four circular turrets, it is remarkable for its austere elegance, softened by finely carved Manueline details in the stone.

JUROMENHA. Set against the banks of the Guadiana, the village of Juromenha, in the municipality of Alandroal, preserves the atmospheric remains of a once-powerful past.
Formerly a strategic stronghold guarding the frontier, it retains fragments of its fortifications, churches


Evoramonte


Juromenha


Moura


Pulo do Lobo


São Domingos Mine

and abandoned houses, all softened and weathered by time. Today, Juromenha appeals to those drawn to history, solitude and the distinctive landscapes of the deep Alentejo – a place where silence is as much a part of the experience as the ruins themselves.

MOURA is a place where Islamic heritage and ancient legends are woven into the serene landscape of the Alentejo plains. One of the best-known legends tells of Salúquia, a Moorish princess who, believing that her beloved had been killed, threw herself from the castle tower – a tragic tale said to have given the town its name.
The castle still preserves traces of its Islamic past within its walls, standing as a tangible reminder of the centuries when Moorish culture shaped the region. In the historic centre, the Mouraria is one of the largest and best-preserved Moorish quarters on the Iberian Peninsula, making it an ideal place to explore on foot, at an unhurried pace.

PULO DO LOBO. Deep within the Guadiana Valley Natural Park, near Mértola, Pulo do Lobo is one of Portugal's most dramatic waterfalls. Here, the Guadiana narrows abruptly between steep, rugged rocks before plunging through the gorge in a powerful and thunderous cascade. According to local legend, only a wolf could leap from one side to the other — hence the name, which translates as "Wolf's Leap".
This is a landscape of raw, untamed beauty, where the force of the river and the surrounding rock create an almost primordial atmosphere. It is also an important habitat for the black stork, golden eagle and Eurasian eagle-owl, alongside numerous other threatened bird species.

MEMORIES OF THE MINING ERA. Near Mértola, São Domingos Mine stands as a remarkable monument to the Alentejo's industrial past. Exploited since Roman times, the mine reached its height between the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, when intensive pyrite extraction transformed the area and shaped the lives of an entire community.
Today, the abandoned workings, former railway terminal and striking Acid Lagoon tell the story of a place whose fortunes were once dictated by what lay beneath the surface. The ruins remain a powerful reminder of the mining era — and of the communities that grew, flourished and ultimately faded with the riches of the Alentejo's subsoil.



Troia Peninsula

BETWEEN THE DEEP BLUE OF THE ATLANTIC AND THE TRANQUIL WATERS OF THE SADO, THE TROIA PENINSULA BRINGS TOGETHER PRISTINE NATURE, HISTORIC HERITAGE AND A SOPHISTICATED TOURISM OFFERING.

Just a few kilometres from Setúbal, across the Sado estuary, Troia has established itself as one of Portugal's most distinctive destinations. One of its greatest assets is undoubtedly its extensive coastline. With broad sandy beaches and clear waters, the region is widely regarded as one of Portugal's finest seaside destinations. Its environmental quality, combined with lower visitor density, creates a more peaceful and exclusive experience.

DOLPHIN WATCHING. Yet Troia offers far more than sun and sea. The Sado estuary is home to one of the region's most emblematic attractions: dolphin watching. Its resident population of bottlenose dolphins is one of only a few in Europe, while organised boat trips offer a close yet responsible encounter with these animals in their natural habitat, reinforcing the destination's ecological appeal.

ROMAN RUINS. Another unmissable attraction is the Roman Ruins. This archaeological complex reveals the region's historical importance as a centre for the production of fish preserves, notably the famous garum.



Roman ruins

The surviving structures, including salting tanks and remains of dwellings, offer a fascinating journey into the past and enrich the cultural experience.

TROIA'S TOURIST OFFERING is equally defined by comfort and contemporary sophistication. Troia Resort encompasses hotels, a marina, casino and internationally renowned golf course, designed in harmony with the surrounding landscape. The resort attracts a diverse clientele, from leisure travellers to golfers seeking one of Europe's finest courses.

Despite its tourism development, Troia has maintained a remarkable balance between economic activity and environmental conservation. Its proximity to the Arrábida Hills further enhances the region's natural appeal, offering visitors trails, viewpoints and a rich diversity of wildlife.

PALMELA



A place to discover just 30 minutes from Lisbon









HISTORY & HERITAGE NATURE WINE & GASTRONOMY

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Município Palmela conquista



Palmela

Portugal's Hidden Gem next to Lisbon

Just 30 minutes south of Lisbon, Palmela is a destination where historical heritage, wine, nature and authentic Portuguese culture come together. Dominated by its impressive medieval castle and surrounded by vineyards, rolling hills, and the stunning landscapes of Arrábida Mountain, Palmela offers visitors an unforgettable short break away from the crowds.

HISTORY AND HERITAGE. Begin your visit at Palmela Castle, one of Portugal's most remarkable medieval fortresses. Explore its ancient walls, towers, and courtyards while discovering centuries of history linked to the Military Order of Saint James.

Perched on a hilltop, Palmela acts as a natural watchtower. From the ramparts of Palmela Castle or the São Pedro viewpoint, you will experience breathtaking panoramic views that stretch across the Tagus and Sado river estuaries, the Arrábida mountains, and—on clear days—all the way to Lisbon and Sintra.

Afterwards, walk through Palmela's charming historic centre. The narrow streets, traditional houses, local shops and small cafés reveal the town's authentic character. The Church of São Pedro is a must-visit, renowned for its spectacular 18th-century tile (azulejo) panels depicting the life of Saint Peter.

NATURE TOURISM AND HIKING TRAILS. One of the best way to experience Palmela's landscape is on foot, exploring the municipality's well-developed Network of Walking Trails (Rede de Percursos Pedestres) designed to lead hikers through hidden valleys, traditional windmills, and panoramic ridges.

In Fernando Pó, on the country side, lays the "Jardins de Vinhas" Walking Trail; located in the heart of the wine-producing flatlands, this circular trail offers a immersion into rural life, taking you directly through vineyard gardens where you can walk alongside the celebrated Castelão and Moscatel grapevines and welcoming family-run wineries.

In contrast to the flatlands, the spectacular Arrábida Mountains hugs the town of Palmela and is officially recognized as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. This protected sanctuary for nature lovers showcases unique Mediterranean vegetation, dramatic limestone cliffs, and stunning coastal scenery, providing world-class opportunities for hiking and cycling that perfectly balance the region's rich biodiversity with its active tourism routes.

WINE, CULTURE AND RURAL TRADITIONS. Discover also why Palmela is one of Portugal's Motherland of wines, with many award- winning wines beyond its borders. A visit to a local winery offers the op-





portunity to taste celebrated wines, particularly those produced from the Castelão grape variety, which has become a symbol of the region. You can also taste the famous Setúbal Muscat Wine perfectly paired with the famous regional Sheep's cheese (Queijo de Azeitão), and the traditional "Fogaça de Palmela" sweet biscuit. The Palmela Wine Route offers a deeper insight into the region's rich winemaking heritage. Many wineries welcome visitors for vineyard walks, cellar tours and Wine Tours Experiences.

Beyond the vineyards, explore Palmela's rural villages and countryside. Traditional windmills, agricultural estates, and local craft traditions reveal a slower pace of life and a strong connection to Portugal's cultural roots.

Before leaving, return to Palmela Castle for one final sunset. As the golden light spreads across the vineyards, mountains, and coastline, it becomes clear why Palmela is considered one of Portugal's most captivating destinations, with a 360-degree view of the region.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Best time to visit – Spring and autumn offer pleasant temperatures and beautiful landscapes, while summer combines perfectly with nearby beach visits.

Getting there – Palmela is easily accessible by car or train from Lisbon.

Recommended stay – Three days are enough to explore the main attractions, while a full week allows visitors to fully enjoy the region's wine culture, gastronomy and natural beauty.

Rich in history, surrounded by nature, and renowned for its wines, Palmela offers an authentic Portuguese experience that rewards travellers seeking to discover one of the country's best-kept secrets.

Município Palmela conquista

Visitpalmela.pt



Lisbon, a Truly Romantic City

LISBON HAS REPEATEDLY BEEN NAMED ONE OF EUROPE'S MOST ROMANTIC CAPITALS. WONDERING WHY?

Over recent years, Lisbon has consistently featured in studies and surveys as one of Europe's most romantic capitals, as well as a thoroughly gay-friendly destination.
Here are some of the best cultural and leisure experiences for couples looking to share a romantic escape.

THERE ARE COUNTLESS REASONS TO LOVE LISBON – its monuments, ideal conditions for outdoor pursuits, delicious food, or simply all of these things and more. One thing is certain: even a lifetime would not be enough to experience everything there is to see and do. Beyond the city's most popular attractions, those familiar names found in every top-ten list, Lisbon itself – and the surrounding region – creates unforgettable moments in the most unexpected places.
There is the romance of taking Tram 28 and catching glimpses into the homes lining the climb towards Graça; the unique sensation of arriving in Cascais by train, following the coastline beside the mouth of the Tagus; or the peaceful atmosphere of Lisbon Zoo. These are just some of the experiences that can turn a stay into an unforgettable one.

BREATHTAKING VIEWS. If you arrived in Lisbon by air, chances are you have already enjoyed one of the city's finest views. But with your feet firmly on the ground, you can climb to viewpoints and rooftop terraces offering spectacular panoramas.
Famed for its seven hills, seemingly designed to reveal Lisbon from every possible angle, the city is full of places where you can pause and watch life unfold below. And if you would rather climb a different kind of staircase in shoes more elegant than hiking boots, there is no shortage of rooftop terraces, restaurants and bars offering sweeping views across the city. Could anything be more romantic?

MUSEUMS AND MONUMENTS. Romance can also grow from shared cultural interests. If that sounds like you, Lisbon is the city for you, with an exceptional range of museums and cultural spaces, from great landmarks to more unexpected collections.
From historic sites to the city's newest museum and architectural projects, there is always something new to discover in a capital that never stops reinventing itself. From classical to contemporary, from visual arts to the performing arts, from listed mon-









uments to immersive exhibitions, Lisbon always has a remarkable exhibition to explore or an impressive monument to discover.

SUN AND SEA. In a city where 290 out of 365 days can be blessed with sunshine, it is hardly surprising that there is such an abundance of beaches, swimming pools and gardens to enjoy.
From the urban beaches along the Cascais coast to the multicultural atmosphere of Costa da Caparica; from the secluded, crystal-clear coves of Arrábida to the mysterious sands of Sintra, there is no shortage of places by the sea where you can enjoy the restorative pleasures of sun and water.
And if sand is not your thing, there are countless public and private swimming pools where you can cool off on the hottest days. If all you want is sunshine, choose one of the city's many gardens and terraces and make the most of Lisbon's generous light.

LISBON IS A DREAM DESTINATION for food lovers, wine enthusiasts, gourmands and romantics alike. From chef-led restaurants to centuries-old taverns, there is always a table waiting for you.



The famous codfish, prepared in a seemingly endless variety of ways, is a must. Fresh fish and seafood bring the Atlantic to your plate, whether presented with sophisticated flair or simply served straight from the grill.
For those who prefer to go out after dark, bars and clubs across the region offer live music, bands, DJs and even karaoke. There are even entire neighbourhoods devoted to nightlife and a bohemian spirit.



Lisbon Oceanarium

IN THE HEART OF LISBON'S PARQUE DAS NAÇÕES, THERE IS A PLACE WHERE THE SILENCE OF THE WATER INVITES REFLECTION AND AWAKENS A DEEPER AWARENESS OF THE NATURAL WORLD.

Opened during Expo '98, the Lisbon Oceanarium remains one of Portugal's foremost scientific attractions, welcoming millions of visitors from around the globe. More than an aquarium, it has become a place of discovery, environmental education and ocean conservation.

EMOTION AND REFLECTION. Designed by American architect Peter Chermayeff, the building seems to float above the waters of the Tagus estuary. Inside, the journey unfolds through four distinct ecosystems — the North Atlantic, Antarctica, the Temperate Pacific and the Tropical Indian Ocean. At their centre lies a vast tank holding some five million litres of seawater, creating the illusion of a single, boundless ocean where species from distant habitats drift through the same blue world. Sharks, rays, shimmering schools of fish and the enigmatic ocean sunfish vie for attention.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES. In recent years, the Oceanarium has deepened its commitment to education through programmes and temporary exhibitions devoted to sustainability. Workshops for children, guided visits and scientific projects bring visitors closer to the fragile balance of marine life, exploring themes such as biodiversity conservation and the growing threat of plastic pollution. The message is simple yet profound: protecting the oceans means protecting life itself. The institution also participates in international initiatives dedicated to safeguarding marine ecosystems.



INSPIRING FUTURE GENERATIONS. As it approaches three decades since opening, the Lisbon Oceanarium remains a place where science, culture and sustainability meet beneath the surface of the sea. At a time when environmental challenges are becoming increasingly urgent, Lisbon's modern aquarium fulfils a role that reaches far beyond entertainment: inspiring new generations to look at the ocean not merely as a vast and beautiful landscape, but as a living heritage upon which our future depends.

EXPLORE THE

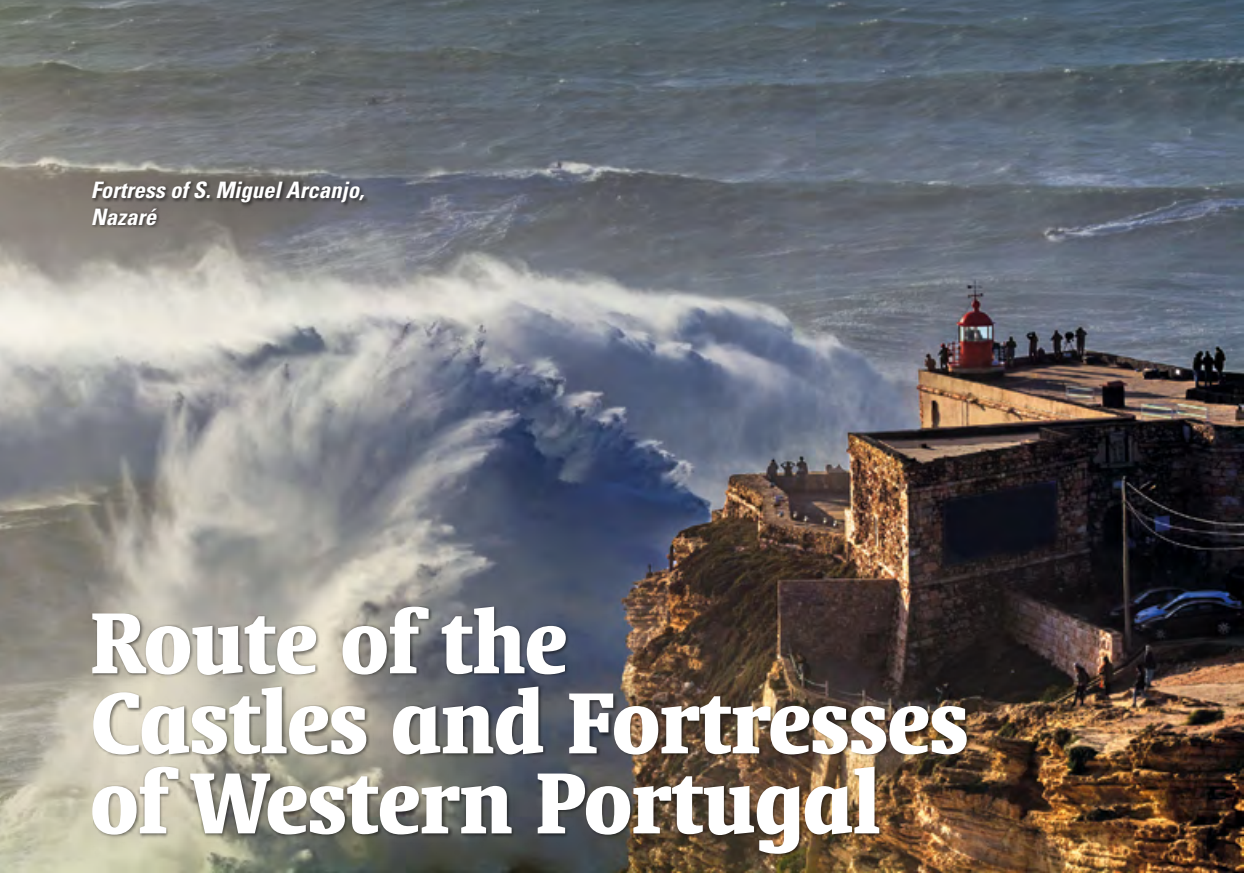
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Fortress of S. Miguel Arcanjo, Nazaré

Route of the Castles and Fortresses of Western Portugal

TALKING OF CASTLES AND FORTRESSES IS AN INVITATION TO THE IMAGINATION AND TO JOURNEYS INTO THE PAST. THESE ANCIENT STRUCTURES INVARIABLY EVOKE LEGENDS AND EPISODES FROM PORTUGAL'S HISTORY.

The Western region, whose strategic location was crucial to territorial conquest and coastal defence, is rich in castles and fortresses, each an attraction in its own right and a compelling reason to visit. The hardest part is deciding where to begin.

THE ADVENTURE CAN BEGIN IN NAZARÉ, a land of fishermen, giant waves and breathtaking landscapes. Perched high on the headland, the Fortress of S. Miguel Arcanjo, commissioned by King Sebastião in the 16th century to strengthen the defence of the bay against pirate attacks, is now one of the town's most emblematic landmarks. Beside the lighthouse, it commands an extraordinary view over the Atlantic and Praia do Norte, where legendary giant waves attract surfers from around the world.

CONTINUING TO ALCOBAÇA, a visit to the remains of two ancient castles is highly recommended. Of the Castle of Alcobaça, captured from the Moors by King Afonso Henriques in 1148, little remains beyond traces of its former defensive structures, but the hilltop location offers magnificent views over the town and surrounding valleys. Further south, the Castle of Alfeizerão, medieval in origin and built in the Romanesque style, retains part of its walls and evokes the strategic importance of this stronghold.

ÓBIDOS is a true town-monument, where narrow streets, whitewashed houses and remarkably preserved walls retain an unmistakably medieval atmosphere. The castle, originally a Muslim fortification later expanded by the Portuguese, dominates the town and remains one of its defining landmarks. Walking along the ramparts is unmissable: from the walls, rooftops, fields and, in the distance, the landscape stretching towards the Atlantic unfold before you.

IN PENICHE, there are several places of interest, and it is worth allowing time to explore its particularly rich military heritage. The Castle of Atouguia da Baleia, associated with the former town and its importance during the Middle Ages, preserves elements of the old fortification and the Church of São Leonardo.


Alcobaça


Óbidos


Fortress of Peniche


Castle of Torres Vedras


Fortress of São João Baptista, Berlenga

The Fortress of Peniche, built from 1557 onwards to strengthen coastal defences, is one of the region's most impressive military complexes. Turned into a political prison during the Estado Novo dictatorship, it also became closely associated with the history of resistance to the regime.
Further south stands the Fort of Praia da Consolação, built to protect this stretch of coastline, while in the Berlengas archipelago, the Fortress of São João Baptista appears to rise from the rocks above the sea. Built in the 17th century, it is one of the most striking settings along this route.

IN TORRES VEDRAS, the region's military heritage takes on particular significance. The Castle preserves traces of its medieval past and commands sweeping views over the surrounding landscape. A short distance away, the Fort of São Vicente forms part of the famous Lines of Torres, a defensive system built in the early 19th century to halt Napoleon's forces during the Peninsular War. Trenches, ditches and military structures still bear witness to the scale of this remarkable feat of military engineering.
The Fort of Alqueidão, in Sobral de Monte Agraço, was also part of this defensive line and is one of the most revealing places for understanding the military strategy behind the Lines of Torres.



Góis on the wings of the wind: where the N2 comes to Life

There comes a moment when the engine falls silent and the only sound left is the River Ceira whispering as it cuts through the rock. Anyone travelling along National Road 2 knows that the journey is made up of choices. But on entering Góis, the focus shifts shifts from the path beneath your your wheels to the passage of time. Seen through the eyes of those who live here and welcome visitors, this stretch of Portugal's great backbone offers a much-needed pause, where the landscape is no longer mere scenery, but something you can feel on your skin.

GÓIS APPEARS ON THE MAP like a secret kept among ancient mountain ranges. The road winds along in slow, sweeping curves, skirting deep hillsides where schist peeks through the green of the vegetation. It is a clear invitation to leave the rush of everyday life behind. In Alvares, the kilometre 300 marker is more than just a photo opportunity; it is a symbolic threshold between simply passing through and truly staying awhile. In Góis, water accompanies you at every turn. Misty mornings give way to sunshine reflected in the river beaches of Peneda and Canaveias, on the Ceira, and Alvares, on the Sinhel stream. Góis calls for neither rigid itineraries nor rushing. Visitors can climb to the Miradouro dos Poemas and admire the white houses nestled into the bend of the valley, walk to the Cabril gorge, or lose themselves in the quiet of the Schist Villages of Pena, Comareira, Aigra Nova and Aigra Velha.

AT THE TABLE, rest is made all the more comforting by the region's most authentic dishes, prepared at the unhurried pace of times gone by. The distinctive aroma of chanfana, the tradition of Sinhel goat, the richness of tibornada and the freshness of Ceira-style trout come together with the sweetness of gamelinhas and mountain heather honey. Every flavour tells the story of a people who welcome visitors with open arms. Here, gastronomy is not a luxury; it is a natural extension of the land itself.

For the Municipality of Góis, the EN2 is much more than a road to travel along: it is a meeting point between memories and horizons. It is proof that, in Central Portugal, there is a place where you can stop, take a deep breath and truly feel at home. A legendary road that connects the country, but which finds its soul and identity in Góis.

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Guimarães

Where Portugal Was Born



Castle of Guimarães

IN GUIMARÃES, EVERY STREET SEEMS TO TELL A STORY. BETWEEN WROUGHT-IRON BALCONIES, GRANITE STONE AND FLOWER-FILLED CORNERS, VISITORS QUICKLY UNDERSTAND WHY THE CITY IS KNOWN AS THE PLACE "WHERE PORTUGAL WAS BORN".

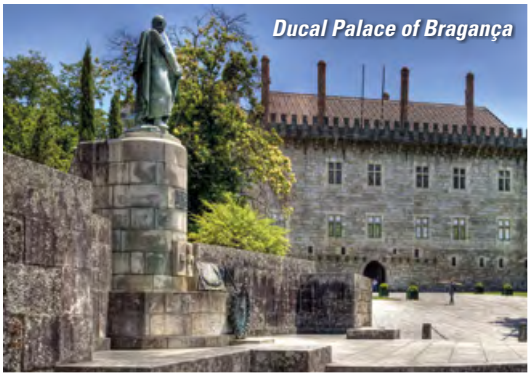
The invitation begins in the historic centre, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and an exemplary urban ensemble preserved across the centuries, from its medieval layout to the houses, squares and plazas that reached the 19th century. The designation was extended to include the Couros area, a district where water and labour helped shape the city. Former tanneries, workshops and paths along the stream, some restored for visitors to discover at their own pace. This is living heritage, extending far beyond monumental architecture to embrace the people, crafts, devotions and everyday life that give the city its character.

From the former structures associated with the tanneries to the monastic complexes, each adds another layer to the portrait of a city that has grown without losing its identity. Along the way, bridges, canals and discreet passageways reveal a less obvious Guimarães, equally rewarding for photographers, urban walkers and travellers who prefer to explore at their own pace.

BECAUSE IT IS EASY TO REACH AND EASY TO STAY, Guimarães is perfect for a short escape or a longer visit. The city lends itself naturally to slow travel, with charming hotels, a strong gastronomic scene and a centre where almost everything can be reached on foot. From here, travellers can also explore the surrounding landscape, following its lush green contours, without overlooking the rich cultural and culinary offerings. Indeed, once Guimarães enters the itinerary, it has a habit of stealing the spotlight.

Let yourself be drawn along the lines of the façades to Praça de Santiago and Largo da Oliveira, where daily life unfolds against a magnificent historic backdrop. Streets, squares, cafés, shops, crafts and the feeling of stepping into a medieval setting that remains, above all, a lived-in neighbourhood. Between walks, peek into galleries, small bookshops and cultural spaces that give Guimarães a youthful energy, perfect for those who love history but have an appetite for creativity.

THEN CLIMB TO GUIMARÃES CASTLE, the great symbol of Portugal's origins, and let your gaze sweep across the rooftops towards the hills. Just a few steps away, the Paço dos Duques de Bragança evokes the splendour of the 15th century, with its spacious halls, courtyards and the atmosphere of a noble residence that brings to mind the alliances, journeys and in-


Ducal Palace of Bragança


Chapel of Saint Francis


Wrought-iron balconies

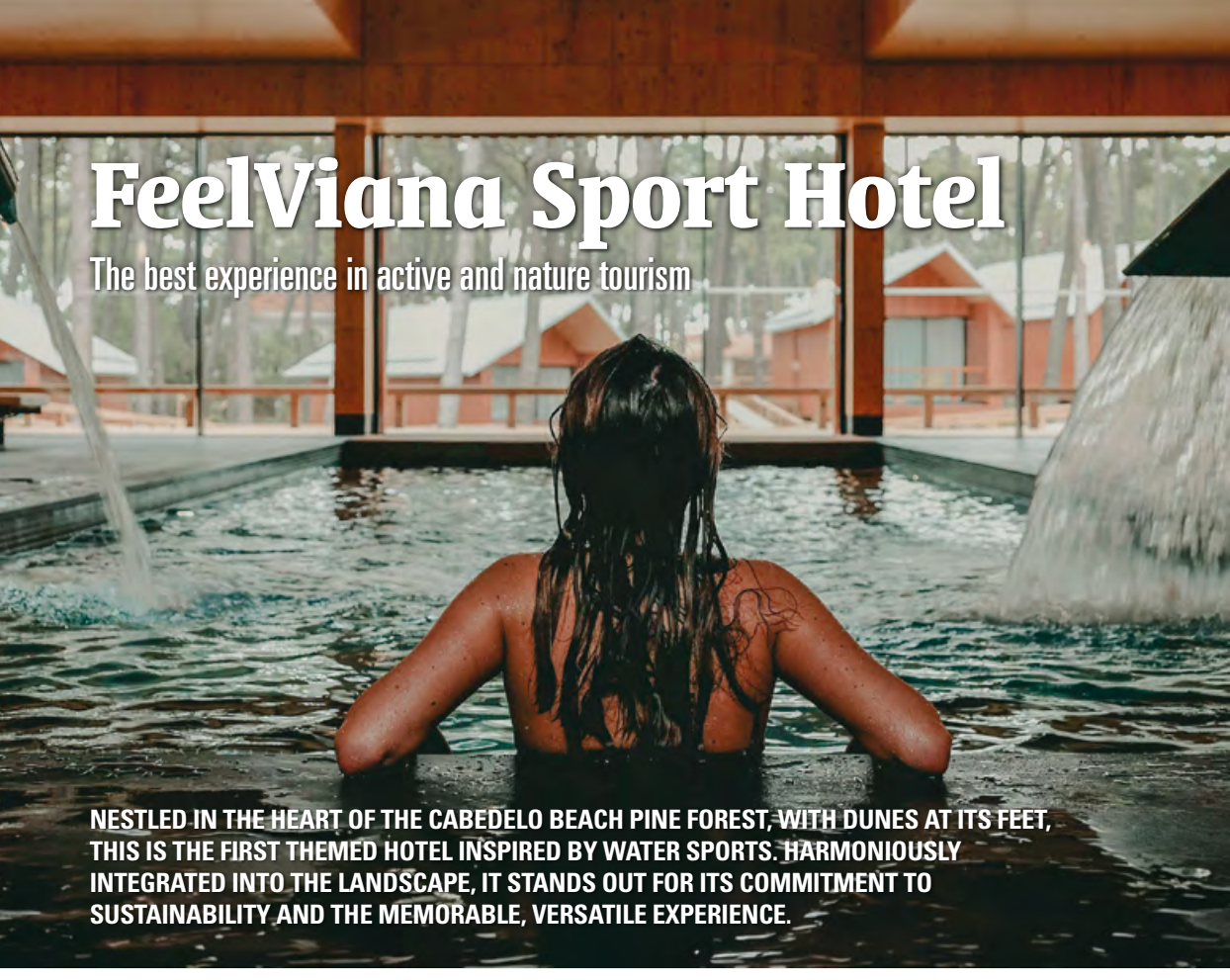

Largo da Oliveira


Sanctuary of Penha

trigues of another age. Nearby, the Church of S. Miguel do Castelo preserves the tradition linking this place to the baptism of Afonso Henriques. All around, greenery and small details make the visit memorable.

GUIMARÃES IS A LIVING CITY, contemporary and surprisingly green. In 2026, it holds the title of European Green Capital, recognising its commitment to sustainability through community initiatives and urban policies shaped with European ambition and a human scale. The result can be felt in a more walkable city, carefully designed public spaces, an increasingly close relationship with nature and a programme throughout the year celebrating the street, sport and culture.

TO BREATHE DEEPLY, head towards Penha Mountain, where trails wind between rocks and trees, generous viewpoints open across the landscape and a natural refuge lies just minutes from the city centre.
Back in town, surrender to the simple pleasures of life. Tables laden with comforting food, pastries to accompany a coffee and cool drinks that taste of summer, even on the greyest days. Ending the day on a terrace, with the illuminated Historic Centre nearby, is the kind of memory worth taking home.
Guimarães captivates by bringing the rare within easy reach. It offers a World Heritage Site you can touch, a founding history you can feel and a vision of the future that is already taking shape. Come with time. Bring your curiosity. And be prepared to return, because some cities are visited, while others stay with you.



FeelViana Sport Hotel

The best experience in active and nature tourism

NESTLED IN THE HEART OF THE CABEDELO BEACH PINE FOREST, WITH DUNES AT ITS FEET, THIS IS THE FIRST THEMED HOTEL INSPIRED BY WATER SPORTS. HARMONIOUSLY INTEGRATED INTO THE LANDSCAPE, IT STANDS OUT FOR ITS COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY AND THE MEMORABLE, VERSATILE EXPERIENCE.

The Feelviana Sport Hotel stands out as the Portuguese first sports-themed hotel, combining sustainability, superior comfort and contact with nature in the Praia do Cabedelo pine forest, in Viana do Castelo, north of Portugal.

BUILT OF WOOD, WITH A CHARM ALL ITS OWN and a comprehensive range of amenities, FeelViana quickly transcended Portugal's borders to establish itself as a premier destination for water sports enthusiasts, who choose the hotel's excellent facilities to enjoy an active yet relaxing vacation in a setting where the tranquility is "disturbed" only by the chirping of birds. It is a hotel that prioritizes sports but is also ideal for a short break, business travel, or a taste of local cuisine (see separate article).

THE FEELVIANA SPORT HOTEL offers unique conditions for kitesurfing, windsurfing, surfing, wing foiling, or SUP (Stand Up Paddle), activities supervised by professionals of recognized expertise. The complex features a wide range of equipment for these sports that is unparalleled in the country. Among them is the country's largest water sports center, Club North by FeelViana.

THE ACCOMMODATION is extremely spacious, featuring minimalist decor and views of the sea or the pine forest. There are 55 rooms across four different categories: standard rooms, suites, junior suites, and bungalows. All come equipped with the amenities expected of contemporary resorts.

AS A PLACE WHERE HEALTH AND WELLNESS ARE TOP PRIORITIES, the hotel features an elegant spa located on the ground floor, where guests can enjoy a range of treatments, massages, exfoliations and various Eastern therapies that promote physical and mental rejuvenation. For fitness enthusiasts, there is also a very well-equipped gym designed to meet the needs of muscle toning and cardiovascular exercise. The wellness offerings are complemented by classes in Eastern disciplines and an indoor pool, complete with a Turkish bath and a sauna.

SUSTAINABILITY IN ALL ACTIVITIES

With a restaurant open to guests and the general public, the FeelViana Sport Hotel is a guardian of the traditional flavors of the Alto Minho region, prepared and presented in line with the most contemporary culinary trends. A space that features signature dishes, such as the famous fish rice.

Here, the concept of sustainability is a fundamental pillar of all operations. Priority is given to the protein provided by the local land and sea, favoring local producers who adhere to sustainable practices on economic, social, and environmental levels. In addition to the restaurant, another dining space, our Tavern, that serves a variety of small dishes, while the lounge bar offers refreshing and sensory drinks, including a remarkable selection of cocktails. FeelViana Sport also features a beach bar right on Cabedelo Beach, right next to the water sports center, a great spot for sharing and socializing over a cold drink, snacks, or light meals.

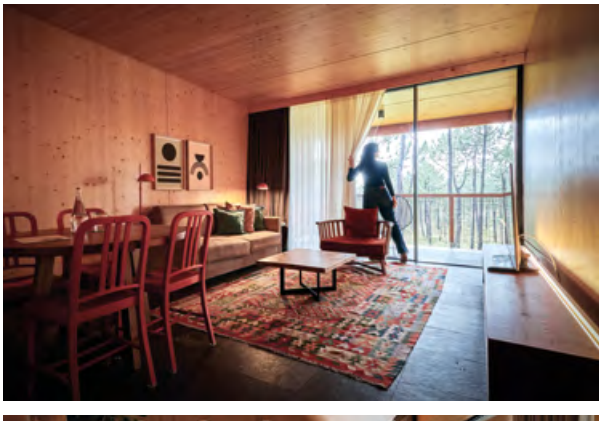
The use of solar energy, a drastic reduction in single-use plastics, water efficiency, pine forest cleanup efforts, and maintenance of the dune system are among the initiatives the hotel consistently undertakes to protect the entire ecosystem. These practices have earned the complex a prestigious European environmental excellence label: the EU Ecolabel.

FeelViana Nature will be located a short distance from FeelViana Sport Hotel. It will open in the next summer and complement the existing offering with a glamping concept.











FEELVIANA
SPORT HOTEL

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Douro International Natural Park



VISITING THE DOURO INTERNATIONAL IS TO ENTER A LANDSCAPE WHERE TIME SEEMS TO MOVE MORE SLOWLY.

The Douro International Natural Park is one of the country's most impressive protected areas, stretching across some 86,000 hectares along the Spanish border. Covering the municipalities of Miranda do Douro, Mogadouro, Freixo de Espada à Cinta and Figueira de Castelo Rodrigo, the park takes its name from the Douro River, which winds through deep gorges here, forming a natural frontier between the two countries.

It is a landscape of contrasts, where silence seems to take on another dimension and nature reveals itself in all its power. Human presence, though centuries old, has adapted to a territory shaped by a harsh climate and dramatic terrain, creating a remarkable relationship between nature and culture.

BETWEEN CLIFFS AND VALLEYS. The Douro International is known for its sheer cliffs and deep valleys, where the river has carved its way through granite and schist over thousands of years. In places, rocky walls rise hundreds of metres above the Douro, creating a landscape of almost dramatic grandeur. This rugged geography has also given rise to distinctive microclimates, supporting an extraordinary diversity of habitats and species.

The best way to discover this landscape is to follow the walking trails that cross the park or seek out some of its most spectacular viewpoints. From the São João das Arribas Viewpoint, near Miranda do Douro, the eye travels along the river gorges and cliffs stretching towards Spain. At Fraga do Puio, in Picote, a platform suspended above the gorge offers a vertiginous perspective over the Douro and one of the most striking ways to experience the wild character of the landscape. Along the way, small villages, stone walls and cultivated fields reveal that, despite its untamed appearance, this is also a landscape shaped by centuries of human presence.

A WILDLIFE SANCTUARY. The park is a true refuge for several threatened species, particularly cliff-dwelling birds that find exceptional nesting conditions along the Douro's rocky escarpments. Golden eagles, griffon vultures and Egyptian vultures are among its most emblematic species, soaring above the gorges or riding the warm currents rising from the cliffs. The isolation of these rocky habitats and the limited human presence help preserve this remarkable ecosystem. The diversity of wildlife extends far beyond birds. The Douro International is one of the few







places in Portugal where the Iberian wolf can still be found. Although sightings are rare and require considerable patience, the possibility of travelling through a landscape where this elusive predator still survives adds a special dimension to the experience.

MIRANDA AND ITS TRADITIONS. Beyond its natural wealth, the region is distinguished by a deeply rooted cultural identity. Miranda do Douro is the birthplace of Mirandese, Portugal's second official language, still spoken by many local inhabitants. Folk traditions such as the Pauliteiros de Miranda, traditional costumes and religious festivals give the region a character of its own, deeply rooted in time and resilient in the face of modernity. At the table, flavours such as posta mirandesa, lamb and cured meats reveal a cuisine shaped by the land and generations of local knowledge.

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM. In recent years, the park has established itself as a destination for nature tourism, with a growing focus on the sustainable appreciation of the territory. Marked walking trails, birdwatching, boat trips along the Douro and visits to traditional villages are among the experiences attracting visitors from Portugal and abroad.



Douro Internacional



BTL 2027
The International Tourism Industry Hub in Portugal

Where markets meet, business happens, and the Portuguese choose their next holiday. From March 3rd to the 7th, 2027, BTL – Better Tourism Lisbon Travel Market returns to Lisbon, bringing together destinations, companies, buyers, and tourism professionals from diverse markets, reinforcing its position as Portugal's international tourism industry hub.

With over 1.700 exhibitors, 125 destinations, and 85.000 visitors, BTL combines promotion, business, networking, and experiences, connecting the industry directly to professional markets and end consumers.

A BUSINESS-ORIENTED EVENT. The Hosted Buyers program is one of the key motors of BTL's international framework. During two days, over 200 buyers from 42 markets attend 3.800 B2B meetings with participating companies. As a result, over 500 companies gain direct access to international professionals seeking new destinations, products, and experiences.

TOW DAYS TO CHOOSE AND BOOK HOLIDAYS. BTL is also one of the largest direct sales platforms for holidays in Portugal. During the two consumer (B2C) days, thousands of attendees explore destinations, hotels, tour operators, travel agencies, and experiences—enabling them to search, compare, and book their next holiday directly at the fair.

With more than 300 B2C sales points, BTL nurtures



the connection between tourism offers and consumers into effective business, placing the Portuguese market in direct contact with those who promote and sell tourism.

PORTUGAL MEETS THE WORLD. Featuring over 125 destinations, BTL creates a unique venue to showcase offers, forge commercial relationships, and develop new markets. Simultaneously, it anchors Portugal in the global tourism market by bringing together destinations, accommodation, distribution networks, tour operators, technology, transport, and experiences.

BTL 2027 is where Portugal meets the world — and where the world meets Portugal.

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