

portugal. go deeper

into

culture



think west



	<b>THE SOUL</b>
2	The Oceans
4	Cultural Encounters
6	Tiles
8	Fado
10	Fun and Festivities

	<b>TIME AND PATHWAYS</b>
12	Roots
14	Ramparts and Heritage
16	Holy Places
18	Museums

20	<b>ETERNAL FUTURE</b>
----	-----------------------

	<b>USEFUL INFORMATION</b>
22	Go Deeper
23	Map
24	Contacts

Cover: View from the Tower of Belém to the Tagus River (15th century). The control tower for the sea traffic of the Port of Lisboa (20th century) is visible in the background, Lisboa.

Backpage: A detail of a Manueline column of the Unfinished Chapels of the Batalha Monastery, Lisboa region.

# the oceans



Following the Christian reconquest and the defining of Portugal's national borders in the mid 13th century – borders that have remained practically unchanged to the present day - the Portuguese turned to the sea and set out on expeditions that would lead to the discovery of oceans and ports that were hitherto unknown. The fact of having a long coastline and a passion for the sea were undoubtedly strong motivations. Another determining factor was the resoluteness of Prince Henry, Grand Master of the Order of Christ – the Portuguese continuation of the Knights Templar. He created a

centre of learning for knights, seafarers and cartographers, who from 1415 were pioneers in a long series of explorations. In far-off lands, from the coasts of Africa to the coasts of India, from the seas of China to those of Japan, and to Brazil in the West, the Portuguese were the first European maritime explorers and left behind them their language, religion, art and science, at the same time as introducing commerce and cultural exchanges with the most diverse civilisations.

Since the time of the so-called Manueline style – late Portuguese Gothic architecture featuring

sculptured motifs with a maritime theme – until the present time, Portuguese art and inspiration have been noticeably influenced by the sea.

However, as if this was a form of virtual reality or a dream that was always possible, this sentiment goes beyond art, as demonstrated by the last World Expo' of the previous millennium, EXPO 98. Taking as its theme The Oceans, a Heritage for The Future, the Portuguese once again showed their firm commitment to a route of discovery and to safeguarding the earth's largest, deepest and most indispensable element.



Main image: View over the Parque das Nações and the Tagus river in Lisboa.

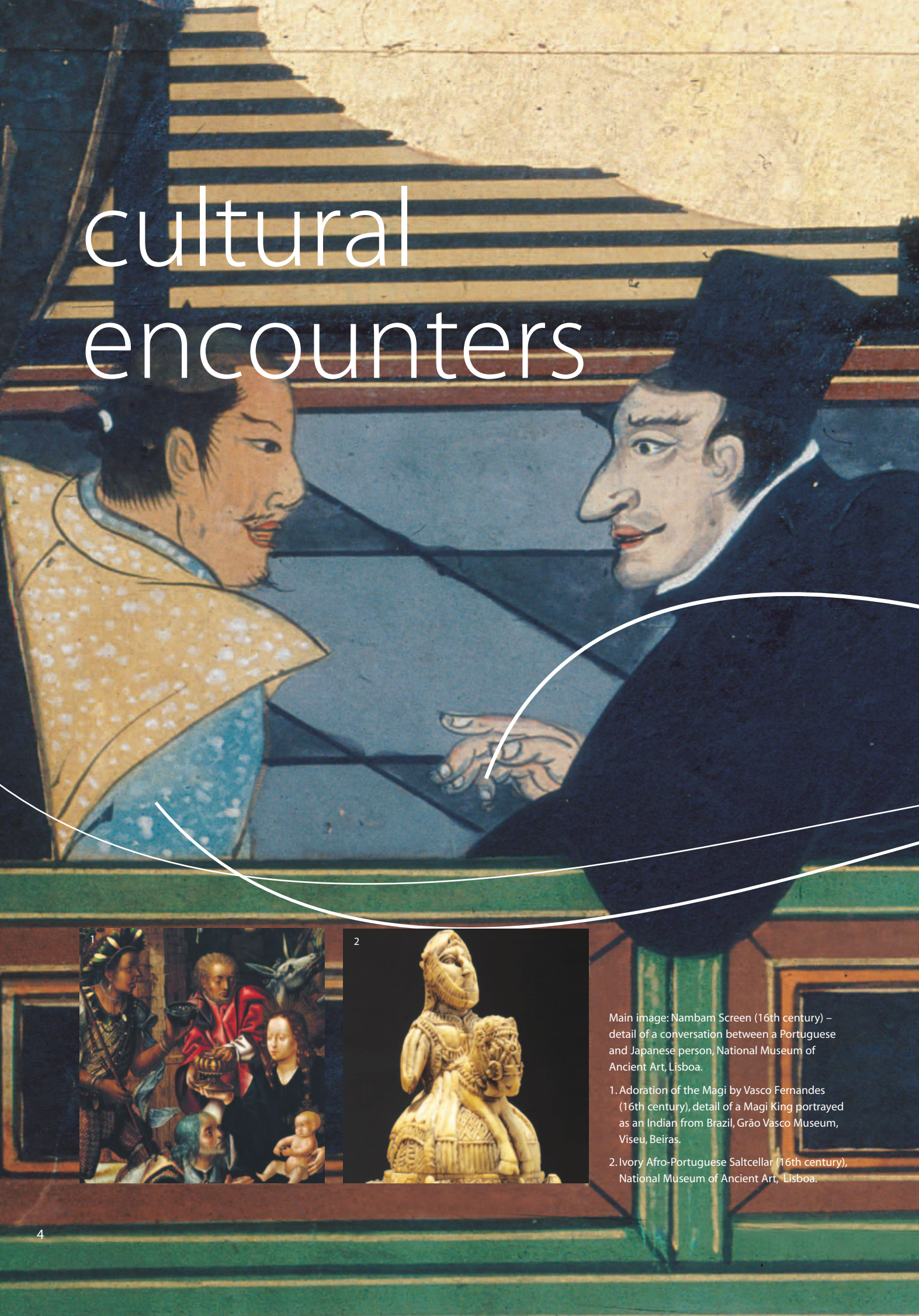
1. Regatta on the river Tagus in front of the Tower of Belém, in Lisboa.
2. The Saint Catherine of Mount Sinai ship, Maritime museum, Lisboa.

### 10 WAYS TO ENJOY THE OCEANS

- > In Oporto, go down to the Ribeira, a UNESCO World Heritage area, and visit Prince Henry's house (Casa do Infante D. Henrique).
- > Visit the Convent of Christ (Convento de Cristo) in Tomar in the Lisboa region, home of the Knights Templar.
- > In the Lisboa region, admire the Monastery at Batalha (Mosteiro da Batalha) that houses Prince Henry's tomb and the Unfinished Chapels (Capelas Imperfeitas).
- > Find out everything about the maritime history of Portugal in the Naval Museum (Museu da Marinha) in Lisboa.
- > Climb up to the lookout on the Monument to the Discoveries (Padrão dos Descobrimentos) (1960) and enjoy one of the most beautiful views of Lisboa.
- > Travel back in time to the era of the Portuguese Discoveries at the Tower of Belém (Torre de Belém) and the Monastery of Jerónimos (Mosteiro dos Jerónimos) in Lisboa.
- > Visit the Lisboa oceanarium in the Parque das Nações.
- > In Setúbal, south of Lisboa, visit the Church of the Convent of Jesus (Igreja do Convento de Jesus) (14th and 15th centuries) and discover 15th century Portuguese paintings.
- > In the Algarve, discover the Sagres Promontory, the site of the famous Sagres School of Navigation, founded by Prince Henry the Navigator.
- > Have fun at Peter's Sport Café in Horta on the island of Faial in the Azores, a meeting place for sailors from all over the world.

And many more...

# cultural encounters



Main image: Nambam Screen (16th century) – detail of a conversation between a Portuguese and Japanese person, National Museum of Ancient Art, Lisboa.

1. Adoration of the Magi by Vasco Fernandes (16th century), detail of a Magi King portrayed as an Indian from Brazil, Grão Vasco Museum, Viseu, Beiras.

2. Ivory Afro-Portuguese Saltcellar (16th century), National Museum of Ancient Art, Lisboa.

## 10 OTHER CULTURAL ENCOUNTERS

- > *In the Municipal Museum at Viana do Castelo, (Porto e Norte region) you can find remarkable items of Indo-Portuguese furniture as well as one of the largest collections of Portuguese ceramics.*

---

- > *Visit the Bolhão market in Oporto or Lavradores market in Funchal (Madeira) and go back in time to the colourful bustle of markets at the time of the Discoveries.*

---

- > *Also in Northern Portugal, see the Flemish tapestries in the Lamego Museum.*

---

- > *In Lisboa, discover the Anastácio Gonçalves House Museum (Casa-Museu Anastácio Gonçalves) and the Medeiros & Almeida Foundation (Fundação Medeiros e Almeida) with its collections of valuable Chinese porcelain.*

---

- > *In the Macau Scientific and Cultural Centre Museum (Museu do Centro Científico e Cultural de Macau) in Lisboa, learn about the major cultural ties between Portugal and China.*

---

- > *Enter the 18th century world of the Portuguese aristocracy and admire the artistic inspiration and influences at the Ricardo Espírito Santo Silva Foundation (Fundação Ricardo do Espírito Santo Silva) in Lisboa.*

---

- > *In the Church of São Roque (Igreja de São Roque) in Lisboa, be dazzled in the Chapel of St. John the Baptist (Capela de São João Baptista).*

---

- > *Enjoy vibrant music from Africa's Portuguese-speaking countries and dance in the famous B'Leza, in a former Lisboa convent.*

---

- > *In the Alentejo, enjoy the surprise of seeing oriental porcelain from the Companhia das Índias and exhibits of Japanese Nambam art in the Portalegre Municipal Museum.*

---

- > *In the Museum of Sacred Art (Museu de Arte Sacra) in Funchal, learn about the importance of the island of Madeira in relation to the Orient Route.*

*and many more...*

At the time of taking its first steps as a nation, Portugal was already a place where different cultures – Christian, Muslim and Jewish - lived peacefully together. But it was the contact with different civilisations throughout the 15th and 16th centuries that made Portugal a living example of the crossover of Portuguese and European inspiration with the customs and artistic heritage of other continents. This exoticism can still be seen today, both when passing through the streets of cities such as Lisboa and in museum collections. It is reflected in African artefacts made of wood and ivory, in Indo-Portuguese furniture, in Chinese porcelain decorated

according to European taste, as well as in the famous Japanese Nambam screens, depicting the arrival of the Portuguese and their customs in Japan.

In turn, the Portuguese came back to Europe with new ideas and sciences, flavours, knowledge, precious stones and exotic timber. These exchanges of foreign products that were hitherto unknown stimulated scientific knowledge and the creation and purchase of specific masterpieces, from paintings to jewellery.

This cross-fertilization of inspiration and tastes has bequeathed an atmosphere of rare charm in Portugal that can nowadays be

sampled both in the nature of the people and their gastronomy. The Portuguese distinguish themselves from other nationalities by their tolerance and openness towards other cultures and by their diligence in understanding and trying to speak the languages of visitors. In Portuguese cuisine, pepper, nutmeg and cinnamon are just some of the many spices that enhance the flavours of the dishes, as well as other products that used to be considered exotic in the past, but which having been introduced and made familiar by the Portuguese, have become as indispensable as corn, tomatoes, rice and tea.



# tiles

In Portugal, tiles (azulejos) reminiscent of the influence of the Moors during the Middle Ages were - and still are - used here to a far greater extent than in most other European countries. Throughout Portugal, in streets, on façades and inside buildings, there are tiles that represent the different styles and languages of times past and present and fill any visit to the country with colour.

Originating from the Arabic term *al-zuleique* meaning "small, smooth and polished stone", the production of tiles in Portugal on a national scale began at the end of the 15th century.

However, it was not until the 18th century that tiles began to "invade" churches, palaces, houses, gardens, fountains and staircases. Based on geometric patterns and telling the life story of saints or using secular themes such as the fables of La Fontaine, sometimes using captions like an early type of cartoon, tiles became the main feature of Portuguese decoration.

Following a notable resurgence in popularity in the second half of the 20th century, tiles are now prominent again in public art, and it is a must to visit the Lisboa underground stations

where works by great Portuguese artists such as Vieira da Silva or Júlio Pomar are on permanent display.

Situated in the convent of the Madre de Deus Church in Lisboa, the National Tile Museum houses a magnificent collection of tiles, of which the outstanding feature is a priceless blue and white mural depicting a panoramic view of the city of Lisboa before the earthquake in 1755. Here, it is possible to see the historical, technical and artistic development of the tile in Portugal, from the 15th century until the present time.



**MORE TILES THAT ARE WORTH SEEING**

- > Dream of tiles - stay in magnificent manor houses such as the Solar da Rede de Mesão Frio and pousadas such as the one at Santa Marinha in Guimarães (Porto e Norte region).
- > Discover the different Portuguese styles and motifs in the Misericórdia Church and the cloisters of Oporto Cathedral.
- > Find one of the best Portuguese collections of 18th century tiles in the convent of Santo António dos Olivais in Coimbra, Beiras.
- > In the National Palace (Palácio da Vila) of Sintra in the Lisboa region, discover examples of the first tiles ever made in Portugal.
- > Visit the Fronteira Palace (Palácio Fronteira) in Lisboa and read the stories of the fantastic tiled panels.
- > Take some tiles home: visit the famous Viúva Lamego and Constança factories or the shop at the National Tile Museum (Museu Nacional do Azulejo) in Lisboa.
- > Discover the Hotel Convento de São Paulo in Redondo, Alentejo, and its imposing 17th century tiles.
- > Take a break at the pousada in Arraiolos also in the Alentejo and wonder at the 16th century tiles in the Convento dos Lóios.
- > In Madeira, ride up by cable-car to the gardens of Monte Palácio in Funchal - amongst the exotic plants and fountains you will see tiled panels dating from all periods of history.
- > Visit the Frederico de Freitas House-Museum (Casa-Museu Frederico de Freitas) in Funchal, Madeira, and the fantastic section devoted to tiles.

and many more...

Main Image: Tiles of Lisboa, Cécília de Sousa, 1988, National Tile Museum, Lisboa.

1. Church of Saint Lourenço, and an example of the combination of golden engraving and tiling, Almancil, Algarve.
2. Church of Saint Ildefonso (XVIIIth century), Porto.
3. The Madre Deus Convent, where the National Tile Museum is located, Lisboa.





### 10 IDEAS FOR ENJOYING FADO

- > *In May, head for Coimbra, Beiras region, for the university celebrations known as the Queima das Fitas (burning of faculty ribbons) and hear a serenade of Coimbra Fado.*
- > *Whatever the time of year, call in for a drink at the À Capela bar, also in Coimbra.*
- > *Visit the Casa do Fado e da Guitarra Portuguesa in the heart of Lisboa's Alfama district and learn about the history of Fado.*
- > *In the Amália Rodrigues House-Museum (Casa-Museu Amália Rodrigues) in Lisboa, discover the private life of this great Fado singer, her dresses, jewels and memorabilia.*
- > *Lose yourself in night-time Lisboa, in the maze of streets in the historic district of Alfama, amongst voices and the sound of guitars.*
- > *Visit the Bairro da Mouraria, Lisboa's former Moorish district and the birthplace of Severa, the first legendary singer of Fado.*
- > *In Lisboa, stroll among the fashionable boutiques and bars in the Bairro Alto and take the opportunity to experience the atmosphere of the many Fado houses.*
- > *In Senhor Vinho in Lisboa's Lapa district, and in Parreirinha de Alfama, find the power and depth of feeling of Fado.*
- > *Still in Lisboa, learn how Fado evolved in terms of style and generations in the welcoming Clube de Fado.*
- > *Go to a record shop and buy a cd by one of the new Fado artists such as Mariza, Mísia or Camané.*

*And many more...*

Main image: Amália Rodrigues, portrait by Enric Ribó. The Museum House of Amália Rodrigues



# fado

Of uncertain origin – born of the troubadour ballads, of a sense of longing or awaiting the return of the caravels from their voyages of discovery or from the Lundum chant of the black slaves from Brazil – fado derives from the Latin word *fatum*, or destiny.

Initially popular in origin, mainly associated with places of ill repute and illicit passions, at the end of the 19th century Fado found its way into the homes of the nobles and bourgeoisie where the piano became an alternative to the guitar.

The voice of Amália Rodrigues made Fado known internationally. A performer, who on her death was compared by the foreign press with

great divas such as Ella Fitzgerald, Edith Piaf and Ollum Kalsum, Amália incorporated into Fado the great Portuguese poets, from the composers of mediaeval ballads, to Camões and the most highly acclaimed modern writers. She also established the tradition of wearing the classic black dress under a shawl when singing. Amália's natural stage presence, her sense of putting on a show and her vocal range paved the way for the exceptional new talents of today, who are now becoming increasingly well known and sought after for performances worldwide.

Originally accompanied by a classical guitar and a Portuguese twelve - stringed guitar, and influenced

by troubadour, Arab and English traditions – Fado is still sung to the sound of these instruments, sometimes accompanied by the double bass, saxophone or even an orchestra.

It is a unique and unforgettable experience to spend a candlelit evening listening to the sound of this national song, either in Coimbra, Portugal's oldest university city, where Fado is sung by students in their black gowns, or in Lisboa. Here, Fado is bolder and more full of anguish, and can be heard in the traditional districts of Alfama and Bairro Alto, sung by both acclaimed, famous performers, and also by random impromptu singers but still with an intensity of voice and feeling.

# fun and festivities

Portugal is the ultimate destination for night owls. A showcase for the newest and most talented musicians (from techno, funk, pop, hip hop and electroclash to the fusion between electronics and jazz, opera or traditional Portuguese music), this is a country with new sounds to offer the world. Add to this the sort of people who like to spend the night on the dance floor, and it is clear why Portugal is increasingly becoming a sought after destination for all-night fun. In Lisboa, are some of the leading bars and night-spots in Europe, attracting top international DJs. They are grouped altogether in the riverside area by the Tagus known as the Docas and also in the Bairro Alto - a mecca of alternative culture with interior design shops and cult-status

bars and restaurants. In Oporto they stretch from the mediaeval Ribeira district by the River Douro as far as Foz and other nearby towns such as Matosinhos and Gaia.

And there are other types of festivities in Portugal. From North to South, in the Azores and Madeira, the liveliness of traditional festivals is such that even the most timid feel inspired to take part. This is thanks both to Portuguese folklore, which is rich in traditional national costume, music, dances of pagan origin, and the unique nature of live displays that can only be seen in Portugal such as Portuguese bullfighting - in which the bull is not killed but merely immobilised by *forcados* - and demonstrations of equestrian skills with Lusitano horses.

The jewel in the crown of all celebrations is the culture of a people who give themselves unashamedly to the pleasures of the table. The varied cuisine with fish, shellfish, succulent fruit and the aroma of herbs and spices, is rounded off with sublime and celestial desserts of originally developed in convents, and enlivened by excellent wines, not forgetting the mythical Port and Madeira. Gluttony is therefore not regarded as a sin but as a mystical experience.

One of the main characteristics of the Portuguese soul is to indulge in human pleasures - having fun is sacred and knows no boundaries. It begins at sunrise and lasts until the start of the next new, sunny day.



Main image: The music festival of Paredes de Coura, Porto e Norte.

1. The Festival of Trays, Tomar, Lisboa region.
2. Festivities in Campo Maior, the Alentejo.

### 10 WAYS TO SPICE UP YOUR STAY

- > Spend Easter in the ancient city of Braga in Northern Portugal (Porto e Norte region).
- > Celebrate the festival of St. John - Oporto's most revered saint – in which the whole city takes to the streets on the night of 23 June.
- > Get ready for fantasy with Fantasporto, Oporto's International Festival of Fantasy Cinema during February and March.
- > Dance till dawn in Europe's liveliest discotheques such as Lux or Kapital in Lisboa, Estado Novo in Matosinhos or Urban Sound or Act in Oporto.
- > Portugal's rock festivals are not to be missed: South-West (Zambujeira do Mar in the Alentejo) and at Vilar de Mouros (Porto e Norte region) the Super Bock Super Rock in Lisboa and the Optimus Hype@Meco in Meco, south of the capital.
- > In June and July, attend a performance of music or dance in the Royal Palace during the Sintra Festival, near Lisboa.
- > Party time in Lisboa – on June 12 on the eve of St. Anthony's Day, join in the open-air celebrations in the historical areas of the city, not forgetting the City of Lisboa Festivals that go on all summer.
- > Be amazed at the beauty of the festivals at Campo Maior, in the Alentejo, and the colourful parade during the Festa dos Tabuleiros in Tomar, Lisboa region.
- > Experience the colourful New Year celebrations and fireworks in Funchal, Madeira.
- > Why not bring back home with you a cd of Portuguese music by Rodrigo Leão, The Gift or Belle Chase Hotel.

and many more...

# roots





Main image: Castle of Guimarães, Porto e Norte region.

1. Lusitanian Warrior ( 200 B.C.), National Archeological museum, Lisboa.
2. Dolmen, Torres reservoir, the Alentejo.
3. Bracelet, Bronze age, National Archaeological museum, Lisboa.

Past millennia have left deep impressions on what is now Portugal. It can be interesting to track the oldest of these, the enormous dinosaur footprints at Lourinhã, which date from the Upper Jurassic period. From prehistoric times, man has also left traces of his presence - menhirs, dolmens, cromelechs and the rock paintings at Foz Côa (classified as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO). Dating from the Iron Age, the ancient fortified villages of Sanfins and Briteiros in Northern Portugal are well worth visiting.

Following the extremely long and courageous resistance put up by the Iberian Peninsula against the Roman Empire, the Lusitanian people

#### Don't miss:

- > In Porto e Norte region, the rock drawings in the Vale do Côa Archaeological Park.
- > At Conímbriga, Beiras, the mosaics, houses and gardens in the largest archaeological centre for Roman remains in Portugal.
- > At Lourinhã Museum in the Lisboa region, the fantastic dinosaur eggs as well as amazing finds from the Jurassic Period.
- > The National Ethnography Museum (Museu Nacional de Etnografia) in Lisboa.
- > The origins of Portugal's capital in the City of Lisboa Museum (Museu da Cidade de Lisboa) with the help of

innumerable archaeological discoveries.

- > The Roman hippodrome in the Roman ruins of Miróbriga, the Alentejo.
- > The Escoural Caves and Almendres Cromelech near Évora, the Alentejo.
- > On the banks of the River Guadiana, the Roman, palaeo-Christian and Islamic culture in the Archaeological Museum in Mértola, the Alentejo.
- > The Silves Museum, in the Algarve.
- > In the Algarve, the Archaeological and Lapidary Museums (Museu Arqueológico e Lapidar Infante D. Henrique), Faro.

and many more...

(of Celtic origin) were defeated in the 2nd century BC by the Romans who introduced their language and culture to Portugal. Prior to the Moorish invasions in the 8th century, the Portuguese territory had been overrun by other ethnic groups – the Suevi and the Visigoths – who left behind the first traces of palaeo-Christianity.

The arrival of the Arabs also influenced the culture of the entire country, from agriculture to construction. It is particularly visible in castles, often of Moorish origin, which were restored by the Christians after the Reconquest. For those wishing to journey through all those centuries and layers of history,

the town of Mértola in the Alentejo is an unmissable stopping-off point.

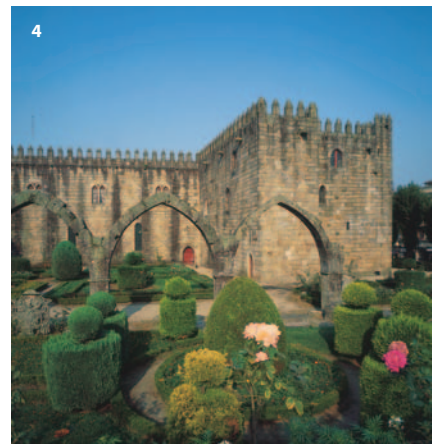
Early in the 12th century during the Crusades, Henry of Burgundy pledged to support the defence of the sepulchre at Santiago, receiving as a reward from King Alfonso VI of Leon and Castile, the hand of his daughter Teresa and the earldom of Portucale - a region which corresponds to the present coastal area of Northern Portugal (Porto e Norte region). Their son, Afonso Henriques, was to proclaim himself the first King of Portugal in 1143. His descendants continued his policy of enlarging the territory and in the mid 13th century, established Portugal's present day borders.

# ramparts and heritage



Main image: View of the city walls of Vila de Obidos, Lisboa.

1. Throne Room, Queluz Palace.
2. Gates of the city, Ponta Delgada, S. Miguel, Azores.
3. Piódão, an historic village, in Beiras.
4. Former Archbishop's Palace, Braga, Porto e Norte.





**Don't miss:**

- > In Guimarães, in the Porto e Norte region, the castle where the first king of Portugal was born and the nearby Palace of the Dukes of Bragança.
  - > A fine example of Portuguese baroque is the Monastery of Tibães in the Porto e Norte region.
  - > The gardens of the Bishop's Palace (Paço Episcopal) in Castelo Branco, Beiras, and the kings of Portugal, sculpted in stone all the way up the beautiful staircases.
  - > A route that includes historic Portuguese villages - try Manor House Tourism.
  - > One of the most complete examples of European rococo: the National Palace of Queluz, former summer residence of the Portuguese royal family, half way between Lisboa and Sintra.
  - > The fairy tale atmosphere of the romantic Pena Palace, on top of the Sintra mountain ridge.
  - > The National Palace of Ajuda in Lisboa, one of the last royal residences, with its magnificent collections of furniture, paintings, sculpture and a wide variety of other treasures.
  - > The magical town of Óbidos, 100 km north from Lisboa.
  - > In Vila Viçosa, the Alentejo, the Ducal Palace (Paço Ducal), residence of the royal family until the early 20th century.
  - > The magnificent Palace of the Captains General (Palácio dos Capitães Gerais), former residence of Governors of the island of Terceira in the Azores, situated in the city of Angra do Heroísmo, and classified by UNESCO.
- and many more...

Setting off on one of the Castle Route trails could be an excellent starting point in order to become better acquainted with the history of Portugal, by imagining oneself as a chatelaine or troubadour in one of the fantastic mediaeval fortresses. Built in strategic places, castles were the kingdom's first line of defence and nowadays offer panoramic views stretching over many kilometres.

One of Portugal's best examples of a fortress can be seen in Almeida, a town in the Beiras region. When viewed from the air, it is in the shape of a 12-point star.

With their more refined interiors and without military structures to

protect them, the palaces were used as residences for monarchs, bishops and nobles, and visiting them is another excellent way of becoming acquainted with Portuguese customs and styles. The National Palace in Sintra - its presence heralded by conical chimneys - houses one of the best collections of Portuguese tiles and furniture.

In Portugal, many castles, palaces and stately homes have been turned into pousadas or used for Turismo de Habitação (manor house tourism), opening their doors to visitors and receiving them with the welcoming and generous spirit that is typical of Portugal.

The inestimable contribution made by Portugal to world cultural heritage can also be a reason to travel around the country and discover its hidden treasures that are embodied in stone and in the landscape; there are now fourteen World Heritage sites that have been classified by UNESCO. The historic centre of Évora with its striking Roman and Renaissance monuments set in the town's mediaeval street system and the Douro Valley from where Port wine originates – the first wine region in the world to be demarcated, in 1756 – are examples of places that visitors will want to share with those closest to them.



# holy places

## Don't miss:

- > In Braga (the Porto e Norte region), the oldest cathedral in the country and the Sanctuary of Bom Jesus.
- > The church and tower of the Clérigos and the Church of São Francisco in Oporto.
- > In the Beiras, the beautiful Guarda Cathedral, the starting point for exploring the city and the region.
- > In the historic centre of Coimbra, Beiras,

the tomb of the first King of Portugal in the Church of Santa Cruz.

- > In the historic city of Santarém, in the Lisboa region, the Gothic churches of Santa Clara and Nossa Senhora da Graça.
- > In Lisboa, the treasures of the Cathedral and the Church of St. Vincent (Igreja de São Vicente de Fora) - patron of the city.
- > The turret of Évora Cathedral and the treasures of the Museum of Sacred Art

(Museu de Arte Sacra).

- > In the Algarve, the striking contrast of gilded carving with 18th century tiles in the Church of São Lourenço in Almonacid.
  - > Funchal Cathedral and its remarkable artistic development and Flemish influence.
  - > In the Azores, the chapels (Impérios) built in honour of the Holy Spirit.
- and many more...



Main image: Central aisle, Alcobaça Monastery, Lisboa region.

1. Festivity of S. Walter, the Porto e Norte region.
2. "Charola" of the Convent of the Knights Templar of Tomar, Lisboa region.
3. Funchal Cathedral, Madeira.

From small chapels to large cathedrals, holy places tell the history of art and architecture in Portugal, and their beauty is a reflection of the spirituality of its people and history.

The Church played a determining role in the founding of the kingdom of Portugal and in shaping its identity, with monastic orders such as Cluny and the Cistercians, with social, economic and cultural organisations, and by means of military orders through the consolidation of borders and royal and noble power. Scattered across Northern Portugal, examples of Roman churches can be visited as well as the curiously eccentric fortress churches such as Oporto Cathedral, the Old Cathedral in Coimbra and Lisboa Cathedral.

The monastery at Alcobaça in the Lisboa region is one of the most impressive and beautiful testimonies to Cistercian Gothic architecture in the whole of Europe, forming part of UNESCO's World Heritage together with the nearby monastery at Batalha, an even larger example of Portuguese Gothic genius, started at the end of the 14th century and including the so-called Manueline style which can be seen in the Unfinished Chapels (Capelas Imperfeitas).

However, whether in its original or modified form, it is the baroque style above all that has stamped its mark on churches throughout Portugal, especially in terms of interior decoration, with its gilded

carving, tiles, statues and paintings.

The basilica at Fátima in the Lisboa region, inspired by the neo-classical style, contrasts with the simplicity and deep spirituality of the Chapel of Apparitions (Capela das Aparições). Here, the image of the Virgin Mary, revered by millions of pilgrims from all parts of the world, can be marvelled at.

Catholic in terms of its heritage and faith, but open-minded and tolerant of other religions, Portugal has citizens from other religious beliefs such as Islam and Judaism. All three religions have their particular guardian angels and messengers, one revered example being St. Michael, the Angel of Portugal.

# museums



## Don't miss:

- > The work of Amadeo de Souza-Cardoso - a leading pioneer of modernism - in the museum of the same name in Amarante in the Porto e Norte region.
- > In Viseu, Beiras, the must-see Grão Vasco Museum, and the treasures of the Cathedral's Museum of Sacred Art (Museu de Arte Sacra da Sé).
- > In Oporto, the important 19th century Soares dos Reis National Museum and the Romantic Museum.
- > In the Alberto Sampaio Museum in Guimarães, in the Porto e Norte region, the silver and enamel Gothic altar piece.
- > The Roman cryptoportico in the Machado de Castro National Museum in Coimbra .
- > The rich collections in the National Museum of Ancient Art (Museu Nacional de Arte Antiga) in Lisboa with works by Nuno Gonçalves, Bosch, Dürer and many other Portuguese and international geniuses.
- > The extraordinary collection housed at the Calouste Gulbenkian Museum in Lisboa.
- > In the Arpad Szenes /Vieira da Silva Museum in Lisboa, the work of this painter who was born in Portugal and whose work was of major importance in the art world, as well as that of her Hungarian-born husband.
- > In the Belém district of Lisboa, the Coach Museum (Museu dos Coches) and the Design Museum in the Belém Cultural Centre.
- > In the Convent of the Conception (Convento da Conceição) and Queen Leonor Museum (Museu Rainha D. Leonor) in Beja in the Alentejo, the collections of tiles, paintings and baroque art.

and many more...





An excellent starting point for a cultural tour of Portugal, the country's museums and their exhibits are an ideal way to learn about the history of Portuguese and world art. Begin, for example, with the Monstrance (Custódia de Belém) symbolic work dating from 1506 and housed in the National Museum of Ancient Art in Lisboa. Between Belém and Alfama, discover the strong contrasts between the traditional and the contemporary, as you see how Lisboa was at the time of the Discoveries and the modern city of today.

From archaeological sites to the most recently converted industrial spaces, the museums of Portugal house prehistoric exhibits as well as those of Roman, Visigothic and Mozarabic origin or Jewish influence, together with Roman and Gothic art from the very start of the Portuguese nation. But it was the fusion of cultures and economic power due to

commerce, from the 16th to the 18th century, that gave an exotic and extravagant quality to Portuguese art and a unique splendour to major acquisitions and commissions. The statues, paintings, tapestries, oriental porcelain, furniture, items in gold, jewellery and tiles displayed in Portuguese museums are typical examples of those eras of luxury and excess. They are national treasures and their history should be known.

If your preference is for modern and contemporary art, major works by national and international artists are to be found in various parts of Portugal, such as the collection in the Museum of Contemporary Art in Sintra, the Chiado Museum in Lisboa or in the Serralves Museum in Oporto, designed by the acclaimed Portuguese architect, Álvaro Siza, and which contains an important collection of contemporary art dating from the late 1960s until the present time.

Main image: Detail of a coach with gold engraving, National Coach museum, Lisboa.

1. Serralves Contemporary Art Museum, the Porto e Norte region.
2. S. Vicent Panels, National Museum of Ancient Art, Lisboa.

# eternal future



A common thread running through all forms of Portuguese national inspiration, be it canonic literature from Camões to Pessoa, to contemporary acts such as the enormous vitality evident in Music, Design and modern Dance, is the permanent prevailing passion for movement. The Portuguese enjoy life, exhaling the senses and emotions and the intensity of form.

In this way a visit to Portugal means being transported to a poetic and architectural fantasy, the main arts of a people who dare to dream of defeating time and space. Examples of this from the past are the Manueline

style, but above all, the exuberant baroque, which left its mark from the north to the south of the country – from the monumental architectural complex of the convent of Mafra to the Church of St. Francis in Oporto, the stately home of the House of Mateus in Vila Real to the Joanina Library of the University of Coimbra, it is easy to understand why Portugal is one of the jewels in the Council of Europe's Baroque Routes. And today, this is also the case with the great names of modern architecture, from the generation of Fernando Távora, including Álvaro Siza Vieira and Eduardo Souto Moura, to the more recent

generations of Gonçalo Byrne, Carrilho da Graça or the Mateus brothers.

In the nation's ongoing romance with the sea and the waves, in the permanent state of longing and nostalgia associated with parting and returning, Portugal and the Portuguese are still a paragon of union - union between past and future, east and west, dream and reality.

In this western corner of Europe, under its bright sky and sunshine, are people who enjoy encounters of all kinds. You are therefore invited not only to visit Portugal but to come back again and again, with hopefully an ever increasing desire to return.



Main image: Portuguese Pavilion, Architect Alvaro Siza Vieira, Parque das Nações, Lisboa.

1. Museum of Contemporary Art, Sintra.

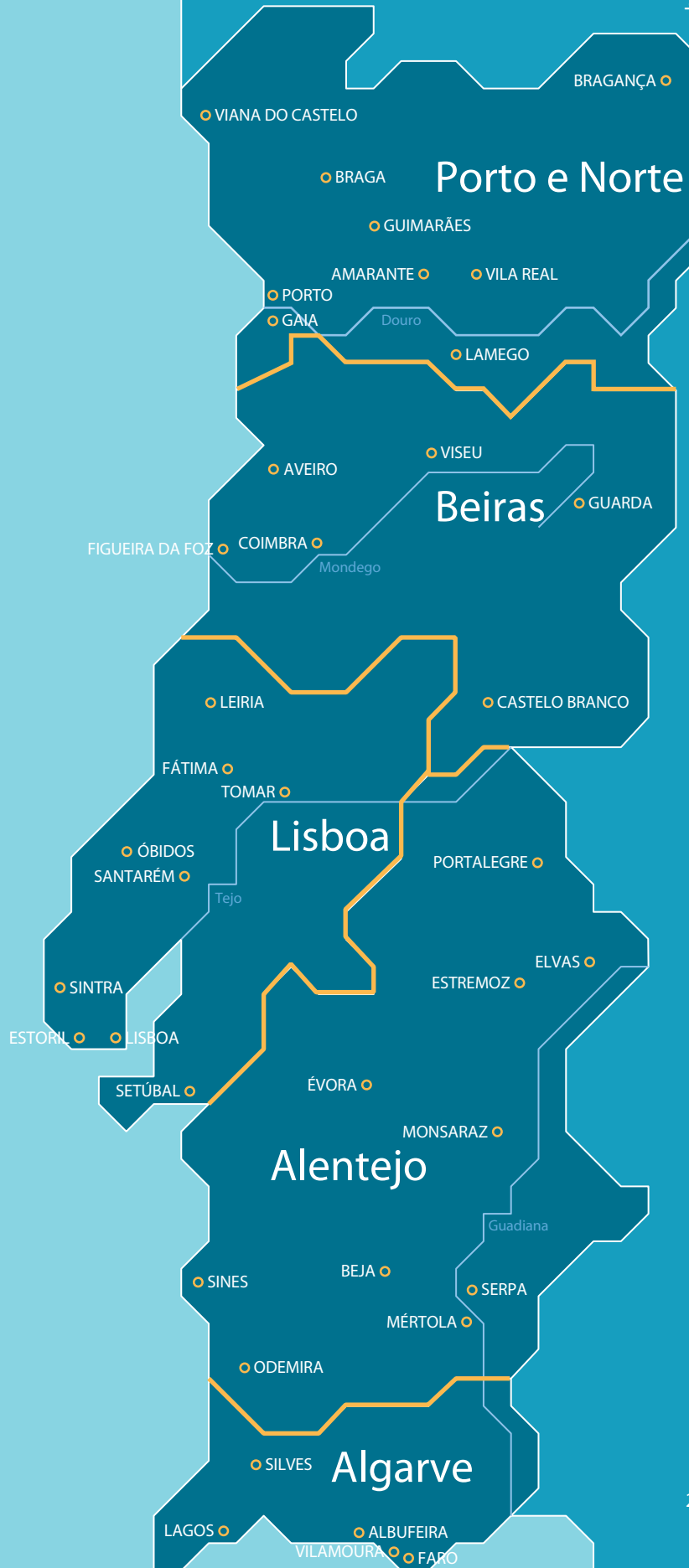
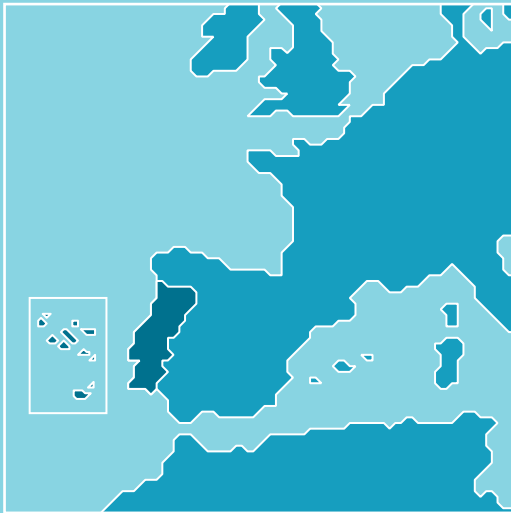
2. Design Museum, Lisboa.

3. Oil painting on canvas (around 1916), Amadeo de Souza-Cardoso Municipal Museum of Amarante, the Porto e Norte region.





# portugal



# contacts

Find out more about Portugal by checking out these websites:

[www.portugalinsite.com](http://www.portugalinsite.com)  
[www.portugal.org](http://www.portugal.org)

Or for regional information:

LISBOA  
[www.visitlisboa.com](http://www.visitlisboa.com)

PORTO E NORTE  
[www.adeturn.pt](http://www.adeturn.pt)

BEIRAS  
[www.turismo-centro.pt](http://www.turismo-centro.pt)  
[www.rotadaluz.aveiro.co.pt](http://www.rotadaluz.aveiro.co.pt)

ALENTEJO  
[www.rtevara.pt](http://www.rtevara.pt)  
[www.rt-planiciedourada.pt](http://www.rt-planiciedourada.pt)  
[www.rtsm.pt](http://www.rtsm.pt)

ALGARVE  
[www.rtalgarve.pt](http://www.rtalgarve.pt)

AZORES  
[www.drtacores.pt](http://www.drtacores.pt)

MADEIRA  
[www.madeiratourism.org](http://www.madeiratourism.org)

## Portuguese Tourist Offices in English Speaking countries:

### TOURIST SUPPORT IN PORTUGAL

Tourist information (contact centre)

**T** 808 78 1212

**E** [turismo@icep.pt](mailto:turismo@icep.pt)

Green line (free)

**T** 800 296 296

### AUSTRALIA

Suite 201, 234 George Street  
SIDNEY NSW 2000

**T** 00-61-2-92412710

**F** 00-61-2-92412269

**E** [miguelfont@icep.pt](mailto:miguelfont@icep.pt)

### SOUTH AFRICA

4th Floor, Sunnyside Ridge,  
Sunnyside Drive,  
Parktown – PO Box 2473 – Houghton  
2193 JOHANNESBURG

**T** 00-27-11-484 34 87

**F** 00-27-11-484 54 16

**E** [icepjhb@mweb.co.za](mailto:icepjhb@mweb.co.za)

### CANADA

60 Bloor Street West, Suite 1005  
TORONTO, ONTARIO M4W 3B8

**T** 00-1-416-921 73 76

**F** 00-1-416-912 13 53

**E** [iceptor@idirect.com](mailto:iceptor@idirect.com)

### UNITED KINGDOM

11 Belgrave Square  
London SW1X 8PP

**T** 020 7201 6666

**F** 020 7201 6633

**E** [tourism@portugaloffice.org.uk](mailto:tourism@portugaloffice.org.uk)

### IRELAND

54 Dawson Street  
DUBLIN 2

**T** 1800 94 31 31

**F** 00-353-1-670 91 41

**E** [tourism@icep.pt](mailto:tourism@icep.pt)

### USA

590 Fifth Avenue, 3rd Floor  
NEW York NY 10036 – 4702

**T** 800 767 8842

**F** 00-1-212-764 61 37

## PHOTOGRAPHS

António Sacchetti  
Francisco Almeida Dias  
José Manuel  
José Pessoa (DDF/IPM)

José Carvalho Pina  
João Paulo  
João Silveira Ramos  
Luís Pavão (DDF/IPM)

Paulo Magalhães  
Rui Cunha  
Rui Morais de Sousa  
Rui Vasco



Image: Princess's quilt (detail from a room from Castelo Branco), Francisco Tavares Proença Júnior museum, Castelo Branco, Beiras.

