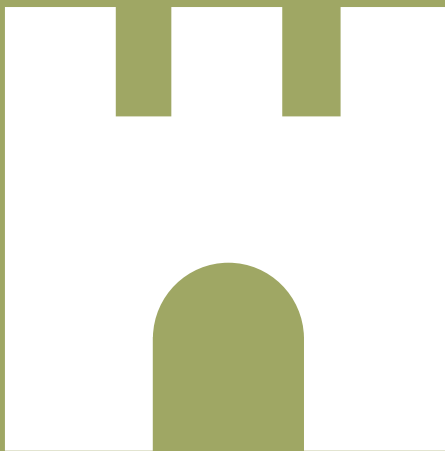




CASTLES NORTH OF PORTUGAL

www.portoenorte.pt



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With their imposing presence in the Portuguese territory, the Portuguese see their castles as the symbols of resistance and timelessness in which they take great pride. In Porto and in the North of Portugal we are honoured by the concentration of a great number of examples of this nation's defensive bastions and grateful for the beauty of the forms and diversity of styles of these walled structures that were bequeathed to us by our ancestors.

Authentic founding milestones of the nation, the castles were the scene of epic battles, defeats and reconquests of the sovereignty of the territory. Although tragedy and death often occurred in these places in the past,








today they are shrouded in mystery and romanticism. Stories of kings and knights, princesses imprisoned in castle keeps, forbidden love and unusual legends involving giants and wraiths are just some of the attractions these monuments have to offer, which symbolize a region with more than nine centuries of history - the cradle of Portugal. Reasons to visit the castles of northern Portugal abound: vigilant fortress-squares at the border with Spain; cities and villages surrounded by medieval walls; beautiful historic centres within castle walls; ingenious cisterns; battlements with cannons and castle keeps with sublime views over natural

landscapes, astonishing those more careless visitors.

In the metropolitan area of Porto, Minho, Douro and Trás-os-Montes we welcome you at any time. Our castles await you as well. Some have been transformed into magnificent accommodation units, where you can live in a real fairy tale, and others into places of historical re-enactments, medieval fairs, musical and pyrotechnic shows but, above all, places imbued with history with so much to tell and to be experienced...



N
↑

-  Castles
-  World Heritage
-  Cruise Terminal
-  Airport
-  Aerodrome
-  UNESCO Creative Cities Network
-  Protected Areas



CASTLE OF SANTA CRUZ

ARCOS DE VALDEVEZ

In all likelihood Valdevez was the head of the entire Ribeira-Lima until the 12th century

Deeply connected to the genesis of the lands of Valdevez, the Romanesque castle of Santa Cruz, in Vila Fonche, assumes a role of particular interest in local history. In all likelihood Valdevez was the head of the entire Ribeira-Lima until the 12th century. It quickly took on a strategic position of real support to a defensive line at the border with Galicia, based at the Monção-Lindoso axis. It represented the rear of the castles of Monção, Melgaço and Castro Laboreiro.

Arcos de Valdevez's Judicial Office was originally based at the Castle of Santa Cruz - a physical support to the defence and security, as well

as a stimulus to the settlement of populations. The new royal strategy of defence reinforcement and dynamics based on border castles, undertaken from the 13th century onwards with more complex structures (now holding a more offensive nature rather than defensive), condemned the old castles in such a way that in the Enquiries of 1258 Santa Cruz had already been abandoned. At the site, occupied by the giant granite block, it is now possible to discern the general features of the former defensive structure, with traces of the elementary, low wall, and the foundations of the Castle Keep, located at the highest point of the granite outcrop.

**location**

Monte do Castelo - Vila Fonche, Arcos de Valdevez

GPS: 41°50'58"N 8°26'48"W

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Casa das Artes de Arcos de Valdevez

Phone number: +351 258 520 520

email: casadasartes@cmav.pt

www.casadasartes-arcosdevaldevez.blogspot.pt



PALACE OF GIELA

ARCOS DE VALDEVEZ

The construction of the “tower house” of Giela marks a new era of protection, and manorial and royal domain over the area

The Palace of Giela is a remarkable example of the medieval and modern private civil architecture. Its genesis is deeply linked to the origin and formation of the land of Valdevez. The construction of the “tower house” of Giela marks a new era of protection, and manorial and royal domain over the area. Nowadays, we can see the medieval tower and the residential body with Manueline windows and a fortified entrance.

The tower was probably built in the mid-14th century. The residential area was built in the late 15th century, beginning of the 16th century, and completed in 1573. In the 17th and 18th centuries

several changes to the residential body were made, which led to a period of decline and abandonment from the 19th century onwards. In 1999 the property was acquired by the local authority. Today, the property is undergoing rehabilitation works, which have already allowed its opening to the public in July 2015. It is worth pointing out that the tower will host its main attraction (with a floor dedicated to it), the so-called “Battle of Valdevez” that occurred in 1141 when Afonso Henriques opposed his cousin Alfonso VII of León and Castile, and which laid down the foundations of the independence of Portugal.



Legends & Stories

Legend of the Enchanted Moorish of Giela

Once upon a time there was a Moorish king. He lived in a beautiful palace, on a high place called Giela, overlooking the peaceful valley through where the transparent Vez River flows.

The monarch had a very beautiful daughter. One day the princess managed to have one of her father's horses harnessed and rode towards the river bank of Vez. Suddenly, upon raising her eyes towards the opposite river bank, she saw a young knight coming out of the woods - a Christian warrior lost from his army. One could say that a love arrow struck both hearts. On that exact moment, two dozen Moorish soldiers emerged; the Knight fought fiercely and then suddenly he disappeared into the woods to save himself. On that day, the princess swore that her heart will forever be his, of the knight with the blue eyes. Centuries later, in the sleeping landscape, there are those who claim to have seen a woman's figure by the river still gazing at the dark trees of the river bank...

location

Giela, Arcos de Valdevez
GPS: 41°50'59"N 8°24'30"W

opening hours

from Tuesday to Sunday: 10.00-18.00
closed on Monday

contacts

Casa das Artes de Arcos de Valdevez
Phone number:+ 351 258 520 520
email: casadasartes@cmav.pt
www.casadasartes-arcosdevaldevez.
blogspot.pt

visit

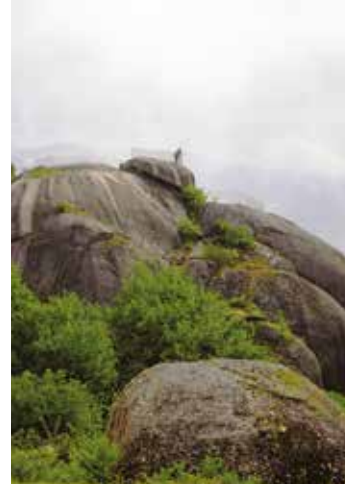
Monument dedicated to the Battle of Valdevez (1141)
Historic Centre of Arcos de Valdevez
Church of Lapa (18th century)
Pillory of Arcos de Valdevez (16th century)
Casa das Artes (cultural centre) and Jardim dos Centenários

discover

Palace of Giela
Peneda-Gerês National Park/Porta do Mezio (Mezio Gateway)
Peneda/Soajo Mountain

savour

Cachena meat with rice and beans, mountain goat, "pica no chão" (chicken blood rice), codfish à la Lavrador, "Cozido à Minhota" (boiled varieties of meat, potatoes, smoked sausages and kale), "rojões" (fried pork meat) and



"papas de sarrabulho" (a sort of porridge with shredded pork meat and blood), "charutos d'ovos" (typical sweet with almonds) with oranges of Ermelo, traditional honey cake, "Rebuçados dos Arcos" (sweets), Vinhão (wine grape variety), white Vinho Verde

experience

Porta do Mezio (Mezio Gateway)
- World Biosphere Reserve (PNPG)
"Grande Rota de Montanha" (hiking trail) - Arcos de Valdevez
Ecovia (Greenway) from Jolda S. Paio to Sistelo

get to know

"Espigueiros do Soajo" (typical granary)
"Rebuçados dos Arcos"

"Concertinas" (musical wind instrument)
Wood work
Tin work and oil lamps

enjoy

Dramatization of the delivery of the Manueline Royal Charter to Valdevez
13 and 14 June
Soajo Traditional Arts and Crafts Fair
From 31 July to 2 August
Festivals of Nossa Senhora da Lapa
From 6 to 10 August

did you know that...

Father Himalaya was born in Arcos de Valdevez in the 19th century and was one of the greatest Portuguese scientists and inventors. He created the Pyreliophorus, a remarkable solar machine that won the Grand Prize of the Universal Exposition in St. Louis/ USA (1903).

The Battle of Valdevez that occurred in 1141 was in fact a tournament/ joust in which the knights of Afonso Henriques opposed his cousin Alfonso VII of León and Castile. This event was fundamental to the independence aspirations of our future king, because without an open confrontation, which would have been unfavourable to the "Portucalense" side, the foundations of the future young Portuguese nation could finally be laid down.



CASTLE OF FARIA BARCELOS



The castle is part of an archaeological set with an extended chronology, holding remains of human occupation dating back to the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Romanization period

The ruins of the Castle of Faria are located in Monte da Franqueira, on the northern side. The castle is part of an archaeological set with an extended chronology, holding remains of human occupation dating back to the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Romanization period. In the highest part of the settlement, we can see the remains of the medieval castle with the two walls and the base of the Castle Keep; the remaining ruins comprise the foundations of the houses from the Iron Age settlement as well as part of the settlement that underwent Romanization. In 1373, the castle was besieged

by the Spanish army by order of Pedro Sarmento, resulting in the death of the Alcayde of Faria, Nuno Gonçalves, leading to what became known as the "Feito dos Alcaydes de Faria" (the Glorious Feat of the Alcaydes of Faria). In this attack, the castle must have been severely damaged, eventually falling into ruin.

did you know that...

Afonso Henriques resided in this castle in January 1128. The rocks from the Castle of Faria were used to build the convent of Franqueira.

Legends & Stories

The Alcayde of the Castle of Faria

In 1373, in the reign of Ferdinand I, the Spanish army invaded Portugal through the Minho region. The Portuguese troops tried to stop the enemy's advance by battling in the fields to the north of Barcelos. During the battle, the Spanish/Castilians imprisoned the alcaide of the Castle of Faria, Nuno Gonçalves, and took him to the castle to force the surrender of the Portuguese. At the castle gates, the alcaide called out his son to not surrender the castle. The Spanish/Castilians killed Nuno Gonçalves before his son, but still the latter would not surrender the Castle of Faria. This heroic act became a legendary moment in the history of Portugal, immortalising the courage of Nuno Gonçalves, as well as the bravery and courage of the Portuguese people in the defence of their realm.

location

Rua de Nossa Senhora da Franqueira
Milhazes, Barcelos
GPS: N 41.496719 O -8.646931

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Direção Regional da Cultura do Norte
Phone number: +351 226 197 080
email: geral@culturanoorte.pt
www.culturanoorte.pt



WALL AND TOWER OF PORTA NOVA BARCELOS

This tower, formerly known as “Torre do Cimo da Vila”, controlled one of the most important outgoing flow of carts and carriages of Barcelos in the 15th century

In the early 15th century, Afonso I, 8th Count of Barcelos and later 1st Duke of Bragança, engaged in the construction of a sophisticated city wall around Barcelos, a symbolic and quite innovative operation, especially with regard to fortification, which was completed in the mid-15th century. At the time, this wall had three main gateways; today, only the Tower of Porta Nova remains. It is a granite tower with a quadrangular base, about 20 metres high, and the walls are approximately 2.36 metres wide and originally in U shape, with only three sides in stone and a wooden shelter on the south side, facing

the small town. The layout of the gateway was at a 90° angle. This tower, formerly known as “Torre do Cimo da Vila”, controlled one of the most important outgoing flow of carts and carriages of Barcelos in the 15th century, which connected Barcelos to Viana do Castelo and Ponte de Lima. The Interpretation Centre of the City and the Barcelos Cockerel has been in operation in this space since July 2013.



did you know that...

In addition to their defensive function, the walls of Barcelos also served to control more effectively the toll charges to those entering Barcelos. The Tower of Porta Nova had various functions throughout the centuries, namely as a gaol from the 16th century to mid-20th century.

location

Largo da Porta Nova, Barcelos
GPS: 41°31'51.33"N 8°37'11.22"W

opening hours

Monday to Friday: 10.00-18.00
Saturday, Sunday and public holidays:
10.00-13.00/14.30-17.30

closed on 24 and 25 December, 1 January,
Good Friday and Easter Sunday

contacts

Centro de Interpretação da Cidade e do Galo
de Barcelos (Interpretation Centre)
Phone number:+ 351 253 824 261
email: turismo@cm-barcelos.pt
www.cm-barcelos.pt

visit

Historic Centre of Barcelos
Ceramics/Pottery Museum of Barcelos
Chapel of Nossa Senhora da Franqueira
Convent of S. Salvador de Vilar de
Frades
Sanctuary of Senhora da Aparecida
Balugães

discover

Castro Monument of Galegos
Santa Maria
Artisanal Shops of the Barcelos
Cockerel
City Guide "O mundo encantado do
Figurado de Barcelos" (The
Enchanted World of the Figures of
Barcelos)

savour

"Papas de sarrabulho" (fried pork
meat and a sort of porridge with
shredded pork meat and blood) à la
Barcelos, roast cock à la Barcelos,
delicacies with cod fish, "pica no
chão" (chicken blood rice), sweets
typically sold in festivals, "sonhos"



(fried sweet dumplings coated with
cinnamon and sugar),
"queijadinhas" (star-shaped
sweet), "bolo das Cruzes" (typical
cake alluding to the Festival of the
Crosses), Vinho Verde

experience

"Montes Panorâmicos" (Panoramic
views)
Way of St. James
Annual Hiking Programme
"Caminhar para Conhecer Barcelos"

get to know

Arts and Crafts Routes of Barcelos
Equestrian Centre Irmão Pedro
Coelho
Vinho Verde Wine Cellars



enjoy

Barcelos Market
every Thursday
Festival of the Crosses
From 25 April to 3 May
Crafts Exhibition of Barcelos
From 31 July to 16 August



CASTLE KEEP BRAGA

It is a Gothic building about 30 metres high that is still inserted in the urban structure of the city

From the old Castle of Braga there remains the Castle Keep (Torre de Menagem), the only vestige of a unique medieval citadel built by Portuguese King, D Dinis. The works took place at a very slow rate and the new wall proved to be ineffective, as in the 1370s the city was conquered with apparent ease by the Castilian troops.

It is a Gothic building about 30 metres high that is still inserted in the urban structure of the city. It presents battlements and machicolations, and a double window at the top, in addition to the coat of arms of D. Dinis. After the construction of the castle, the attention was directed towards the

walls, which led to the construction of several towers and gateways. In 1906, the Castle of Braga was demolished, of which only the Castle Keep remained. Later, the Castle Keep and some sections of the medieval wall were classified as National Monument by Decree published on 4 June 1910. The Castle Keep currently works as a cultural space.

Legends & Stories

Legend of the Castle of Braga

In 1906 the castle was destroyed with a great fuss amongst advocates of its maintenance and advocates of its destruction. At the time, the Castle Keep operated as a gaol and many questioned whether "the filth in which the tower lies, and the filth and disaster of everything surrounding it are actually part of its merit!" ("Correio do Minho", 5 September 1905).

Interestingly, four years later, the Decree of 24 June 1910 classified the Castle Keep as a National Monument.

The walls in the historic centre would today be part of the great heritage and one of the tourist assets of Braga. Some sections are still visible in the Castle Keep, the Museu de Imagem (Image Museum) (open to the public) and the Ruins of the Escola Velha da Sé (reservations through the Department of Archaeology of the City Council).

location

Terreiro do Castelo, Braga
GPS: N 41.551346 O -8.423860

opening hours

Winter

From Tuesday to Saturday:

10.00-12.00/14.00-17.00

Summer

From Tuesday to Saturday:

10.00-13.00/14.30-19.00

closed on Monday and Sunday

contacts

Câmara Municipal de Braga (City Council)

Phone number: +351 253 203 152

email: cultura@cm-braga.pt

www.cm-braga.pt

visit

Cathedral and Treasure -Museum
Sanctuary Bom Jesus do Monte
Monastery of Tibães
Municipal Stadium
D. Diogo de Sousa Museum

discover

Historic Centre of Braga
S. João da Ponte Park
Fonte do Ídolo (Fountain of the Idol) and Roman Thermae of Maximinos (Alto da Cidade)

savour

Codfish à la Braga or à la Narcisa, "papas de sarrabulho" (a sort of porridge with shredded pork meat and blood), "rojões" (fried pork meat) à la Minhota, roast kid à la Braga, duck rice à la Braga, "frigideiras" (special meat puff pastry), Abade de Priscos pudding;



"fidalguinhos", "súplicos", "cavacas de Morreira", "sameirinhos", "moletinhos do dia de S. Vicente", "mexidos", "talassas", "viúvas de Braga" (traditional sweets); Vinho Verde, Altar Wine

experience

River Beach of Adaúfe
Hiking Trail "À procura da nascente do Rio Este pela Via Romana XVII"
Pedagogical Farm

get to know

Sacred Art and Ecclesiastic Garments
Viola Braguesa and Cavaquinho (ukelele)
Votive Candle of Braga

enjoy

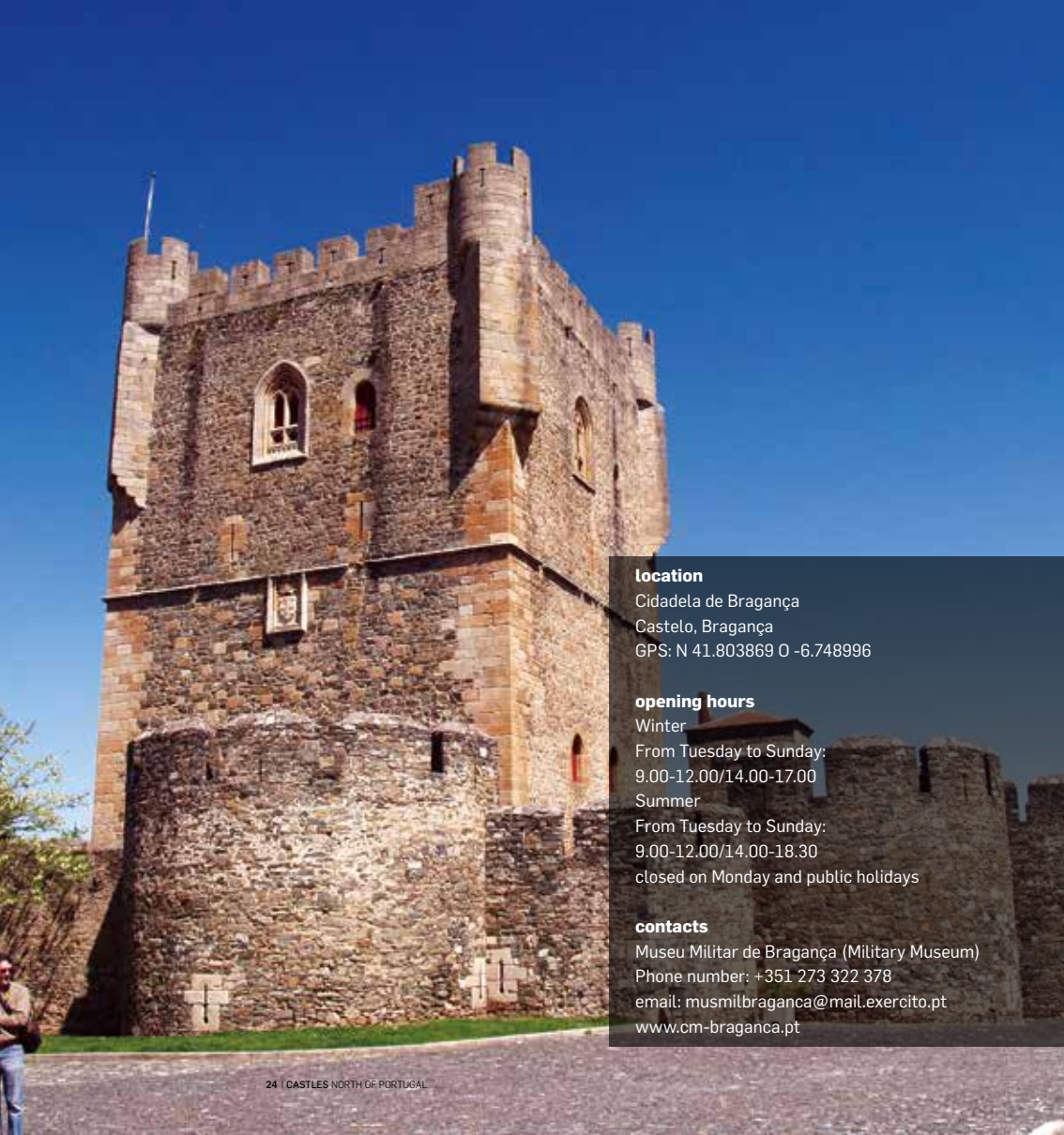
Holy Week
29 March - 5 April
Braga Romana
From 20 to 24 May
St. John Festival
From 13 to 24 June

did you know that...

Braga is more than two thousand years old. Founded by the Romans in the 16th century BC, Bracara Augusta would have had autonomous government structures, with a senate and magistrates.

As convent capital, it would have exercised legal, religious and economic functions over the vast territory of the province of Gallaecia.

The Cathedral is the oldest in the country, and its construction was ordered by the parents of Afonso Henriques, and consecrated in 1089, prior to the founding of the nation.



CASTLE OF BRAGANÇA BRAGANÇA

It is in the reign of King Sancho I, after granting the Royal Charter in 1187, that the first donations to this “Bragançana” fortification, where the castle lies, were made

location

Cidadela de Bragança
Castelo, Bragança
GPS: N 41.803869 O -6.748996

opening hours

Winter
From Tuesday to Sunday:
9.00-12.00/14.00-17.00
Summer
From Tuesday to Sunday:
9.00-12.00/14.00-18.30
closed on Monday and public holidays

contacts

Museu Militar de Bragança (Military Museum)
Phone number: +351 273 322 378
email: musmilbraganca@mail.exercito.pt
www.cm-braganca.pt

The Castle of Bragança is located on top of a hill, on land that once belonged to the Benedictine monks of the Monastery of Castro de Avelãs, whose features favour human occupation. The access is made through two gateways: “Porta do Sol” and “Porta da Vila”. Bragança exists as a settlement since the 12th century. It is in the reign of King Sancho I, after granting the Royal Charter in 1187, that the first donations to this “Bragançana” fortification, where the castle lies, were made. It was most certainly its topographical and military conditions that made this settlement so important.

However, the present appearance of the castle was due to the interventions undertaken in the reign of King John I (D. João I). The trapezoidal enclosure, reinforced by seven turrets, included the fortress (including the Tower of the Princess), and the castle keep. It is a Gothic building, 33m high by 17m wide, and all its sides are guided by the four cardinal points. The building took roughly 40 years to build. With the passage of time the village became a city, more precisely in 1464 when, at the request of Ferdinand I, 2nd Duke of Bragança, Afonso V granted the Royal City Charter.

Legends & Stories

Legend of the Tower of the Princess

An orphaned princess lived in the castle with her uncle. Amongst the many knights that attended the soirées, one fell in love with the princess. However, as he did not have a reputation, he decided to go to war.

The princess swore to wait for him (...). As time went by, the princess refused all suitors, and eventually her uncle wanted to know the reason. Realising that his niece was determined to wait for the knight, he decided one evening to enter the princess' room wrapped in a sheet, pretending to be a ghost. He disguised his voice and said: "I am the knight who swore to return, but died." Scared, the princess made the sign of the cross, and at that moment a door opened and a bright light came through. Thereafter, the tower where the princess was became the Tower of the Princess, and the gateway through where such bright light came, as the manifestation of God, became known as "Porta do Sol".



CASTLE OF OUTEIRO BRAGANÇA

Despite the few traces left from its greatness, the castle played a major role in the history of Portugal

Situated on the round summit of Outeiro at an elevation of 812 metres, it was classified as Property of Public Interest in 1955. Its construction dates back to the Middle Ages, and must have been rebuilt in the reign of D. Dinis, in the late 13th century. The origin of the previous fortification is unknown. In the reign of D. João I (King John I), the defences were strengthened with the reconstruction of the walls damaged by the conflict that lasted between 1383 and 1385. In 1438 King Afonso V donates to Afonso I, Duke of Bragança and Count of Barcelos, the then small town of Bragança and its castle, along with

the Castle of Outeiro. At the end of the 17th century, the castle was assaulted by Spanish troops in the context of the Restoration War. In a dominant position on top of a hill called Monte do Castelo, about one kilometre east of Lugar de Outeiro, halfway between Bragança and Vimioso, this fortification served as a lookout in the Middle Ages, guarding the border between Trás-os-Montes and the kingdom of León. The castle has an irregular oval plan with thick walls of granite stone. The decay of the castle starts with King D. Manuel, since, with the Royal Charter of 1514, the population moves from the castle towards the valley.



Despite the few traces left from its greatness, the castle played a major role in the history of Portugal.

location

Aldeia de Outeiro, Bragança
GPS: N 41.682512 O -6.591596

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Câmara Municipal de Bragança
(City Council)
Phone number: +351 273 304 200
email: turismo@cm-braganca.pt
www.cm-braganca.pt



visit

Domus Municipalis
Iberian Museum of Masks and Costumes
Abade de Baçal Museum
Graça Morais Contemporary Art Centre
Minor Basilica of Holy Christ of Outeiro (Sto. Cristo de Outeiro)

discover

Village of Rio de Onor
Village of Montesinho
Monastery of Castro de Avelãs - Castro de Avelãs

savour

"Butelo" (special smoked sausage from Trás-os-Montes) with dried green bean pods, kid à la Montesinho, trouts in vinegar sauce, "feijoada" (bean stew) à la Transmontana, boar with chestnuts, "Bragançano" lamb, chestnut liqueur

experience

"Rota da Terra Fria" (Route through Trás-os-Montes)
Olive Oil Route
Way of St. James

get to know

Cantarinhas Fair
History Festival
Festival of Butelo and Casulas

enjoy

Folar (Easter cake) Fair, Izeda from 26 to 28 March
Festival of Traditional Music of Lombada, Palácios 25 and 26 July
Winter Rituals
Boys' Festival 25 and 26 December
Festival of Sto. Estevão from 4 to 11 January

did you know that...

King Pedro I clandestinely married Inês de Castro in the Church of S. Vicente. The marriage was celebrated by D. Gil, dean of the Cathedral of Guarda at the time and later bishop. The Convent of S. Francisco was founded by St. Francis of Assisi himself in 1214 when he returned from his devout pilgrimage to St. James of Compostela.



CASTLE, CITY WALL AND CLOCK TOWER CAMINHA

It is believed that King Afonso III promoted the construction of the medieval castle to defend the maritime hamlet

Therefore, in 1260, according to inscription, the walls were completed and later the castle, after receiving the Royal Charter in 1284. What now remains from this property, which included several towers and gateways, are several sections of the wall, arches (such as "Arco do Marquês", with the coat of arms of Portugal) and the castle keep or Clock Tower (*Torre do Relógio*). The Clock Tower has 2 floors, a square plan, surmounted by a pyramid with a bell and battlements. On the façade with access to the small town, there is a door with a semicircular arch, crowned by the image of N^ª S^ª da Conceição (Our Lady of Conception)

and the coat of arms of Portugal. With the Restoration War, King John IV began the construction of the 2nd ring of walls surrounding the extramural housing complex. From the modern fortress there remain three major sections - the bastion in front of the Mother Church, connected to a section of the medieval wall; the bastion on the west side, at a tight angle, and a third shorter bastion involving the urban fabric. A significant section of the wall directed towards Minho River integrates bastions, convents and houses. During the 19th century, the towers and walls were demolished, and the stone was reused to build the abutments of the bridge over Coura River and the pier on Minho River.

Legends & Stories

Legend of the Clock Tower

Between reality and fiction, the dukes of Caminha, Miguel de Menezes and wife Juliana, were a couple in love, removed from the bustle of the court. It was in the year of 1641, in the bustle of the Restoration War, when the couple received the visit of the duke's father, the Marquis of Vila Real, lord of the lands of Entre Douro e Minho granted at the time by Philip II. The austere father announced that a conspiracy was taking place against King John IV and his son would be a part of it!

The Duke refused to no avail and the Duchess cried, foreseeing the tragic end. However, as a loyal son, he obeyed. When the conspiracy was discovered, the plotters were executed, including the Duke of Caminha.

His tower and palace in the old city walls of Caminha were destroyed and the ground was covered in salt so nothing would flourish thereafter!

location

Centro Histórico, Caminha

GPS: 41°52'33.98"N 8°50'19.69"W

opening hours

from Monday to Saturday:

9.00-13.00/14.00-17.30

closed on Sunday and public holidays



contacts

Câmara Municipal de Caminha (City Council)

Phone number:+351 258 710 300

email: geral@cm-caminha.pt

www.caminhaturismo.pt

visit

Mother Church of Caminha

(15th - 16th century)

Church of Misericórdia

(16th century)

Fountain of Caminha

(16th century)

Museum of the Historic Centre of

Caminha - Torre do Relógio

Valadares Municipal Theatre

discover

Traditional villages of Serra d'Arga

Historic Centre of Caminha

National Woods of Camarido

savour

Lamprey rice, allis shad in vinegar sauce, "sardinha de rabito ao alto" (sardines dish), sole à la Lanhelas, kid à la Serra D'Arga, sea bass of Ínsua, fish soup "chorinha"; "rocas doces" of Lanhelas, "mocas", "caminhenses" (traditional sweets); honey from Serra D'Arga, jams, biscuits, liqueurs

experience

Boat trips on Minho River

Birdwatching in the estuaries of rivers Minho and Coura

Water sports in the beaches of Moledo and Vila Praia de Âncora

get to know

Local crafts: artistic coppers, linen work, pottery and ceramics, embroidery and lace, "palmitos" (floral tradition), miniature boats Art Galleries - "Arte na Leira"

enjoy

Medieval Fair of Caminha

from 22 to 26 July

Vilar de Mouros Festival

from 30 July to 1 August

Festival of Senhora da Bonança -

Patroness of the fishermen

2nd weekend of September

did you know that...

The trading port of the mouth of the Minho River was one of the most important of northern Portugal, and the boats would go towards the torre da Lapela (Lapel Tower), in Monção, selling several products amongst the populations in the Portuguese and Galician margins. During the second French invasion, Marshal Soult tried to overtake the Portuguese border through Minho River, but his troops were harshly repelled by the cannons of the Forts of Ínsua and Caminha, forcing them to retreat and penetrate Portugal through the border of Trás-os-Montes.



CASTLE OF ANSIÃES CARRAZEDA DE ANSIÃES

The 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th centuries were marked by the exponential growth of this walled stronghold

With a geographical location providing excellent natural conditions of defence, the Castle of Ansiães emerges with an ancient history, whose beginning dates back to around the 3rd millennium BC. Since that time, the geomorphological characteristics of the site have significantly contributed to an almost successive occupation of the topography. This tendency towards natural defence is particularly important during the process of the Christian Reconquest, when Ansiães receives its first Royal Charter from the King of León, Ferdinand the Great. The 12th,

13th, 14th and 15th centuries were marked by the exponential growth of this walled stronghold. Afonso Henriques in 1160, Sancho I in 1198, Afonso II in 1219, and finally Manuel I in 1510 recognised its importance and issued Royal Charters to the small town of Ansiães. In the late 15th century, and particularly in the 16th century, a demographic trend with depressive character begins to affect the site. In the following centuries this movement eventually escalated, culminating in the transfer of the Town Hall to Carrazeda de Ansiães in 1734.



Legends & Stories

Legend of Vale da Osseira

Legend has it that many years ago, when the Castle of Ansiães was conquered by King Ferdinand the Great from the Moors, the latter fled away through "Porta da Traição" (Betrayal Gateway). This gateway gives access to a very bumpy road that leads to a forested valley located between Seixo de Ansiães and Vilarinho da Castanheira. When the Christians realised the Moors were fleeing, they pursued them, which led to a fierce battle between the hordes, resulting in the death of all infidels. The bodies would have stayed there and exposed to the elements and the depredations of the animals.

After a few years, the few residents that dared to go to or passed by the site found immense human bones, leading the citizens to call the site Vale da Osseira (Valley of the Bones).

location

Lavandeira, Carrazeda de Ansiães
GPS: 41°12'08.73"N 7°18'18.14"W

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

CICA -Centro Interpretativo do Castelo de Ansiães (Interpretation Centre)
Phone number:+351 278 610 200
email: cica@cmca.pt
www.castelodeansiaes.com

visit

Centro Interpretativo do Castelo de Ansiães (Interpretation Centre)
Museum of Rural Memory, Vilarinho da Castanheira
Windmill of Carrazeda de Ansiães
Dolmen of Vilarinho da Castanheira
Dolmen of Zedes

discover

Historic Centre of Carrazeda de Ansiães
Water Mills (with ladle-boarded wheels) of Ribeiro do Coito |Vilarinho da Castanheira
Rock Art of Fonte de Seixas | Parambos



savour

Roasted kid, rice pudding, wine

experience

Hiking trails: Trails of Linhares, Castelo, of Foz do Tua, Fraga de Ferraduras, Pala da Moura
Tourist Circuits: " Do castelo e dos moinhos", " Do castelo e do Douro"
Birdwatching

get to know

Crafts: cooperage, lace (used for trimming)
Carnival traditions: "Enterro do Pai da Fartura"

enjoy

Folar (Easter cake) Fair

from 2 to 4 April
Fair of the Apple, Wine and Olive Oil
from 28 to 30 August
Book Fair
from 13 to 15 November

did you know that...

Lopo Vaz de Sampaio, renowned combatant in the lands of Africa and India, was the 8th viceroy of India between 1526-1529.



CASTLE OF ARNOIA CELORICO DE BASTO

Romanesque castle that is part of the process of fortification that marked the European territory between the 10th and 12th centuries

Romanesque castle, situated in the once land of Basto, that is part of the process of fortification that marked the European territory between the 10th and 12th centuries. Positioned on a mountain summit, its structure includes four defensive elements: the castle keep (the roof and set of battlements were restored in the 20th century), the fortified square tower, a single gateway and the cistern. Archaeological remains have been identified concerning the occupation of the fortress between the 14th and 16th centuries. This period is already of decay of the structure that, in time of peace, was a mere symbol of

administrative organisation and of feudal power that protected the territory. The definite abandonment took place from 1717 onwards, when the elites left the small town of Basto, transferring the seat of the council to its current location. The memory of the small town of Basto still exists along the branch road that led to its origin and that connects the old road of Lixa to the important route Amarante-Arco de Baúlhe, today identified as the village of Castelo. The pillory, the court hearings and the apothecary shop remind us of the busy road along which the village has developed.



Legends & Stories

Legend of the Castle of Arnoia

According to oral tradition, at the time when the territory was disputed between Moors and Christians, the Castle of Arnoia was surrounded by a large Moorish army. As the castle garrison was at a disadvantage against their enemy, the chances of winning the battle were very slim. Therefore, at dusk, with the help of the local population, they lit torches that were then tied to the horns of the goats of the village's herds. When the Moors saw so many lights on the hillock of the castle, they counted each goat as being two men, and in face of such strong opponent, they withdrew from conquering the castle and retreated.

location

Lugar do Castelo - Arnoia, Celorico de Basto
GPS: 41°21'48.68"N 8°3'6.51"W

opening hours

Centro Interpretativo do Castelo de Arnoia (Interpretation Centre)
from Tuesday to Sunday:
10.00-13.00/14.00-17.00
closed on Monday and public holidays
(1 January, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, 1 May and 25 December)

* The medieval wall is always open to the public, but the castle keep is dependent on the opening hours of the interpretation centre.

contacts

Centro Interpretativo do Castelo de Arnoia (Interpretation Centre)
Phone number: +351 255 322 355
email: cirr.arnoia@valsousa.pt
<http://mun-celoricodebasto.pt>

visit

Monastery of Arnoia
Religious heritage of the Romanesque Route
Tourist Circuit: Mills of Argontim
Urban Park of Freixeiro

discover

Village of Castelo
Traditional Centre of the Town of Celorico de Basto
"Castro" (hill fort) of Ladário

savour

Kid roasted in wood oven, grilled steak of "Barrosã" veal, chicken blood rice, jam and biscuits with camellia petals, jams of various fruits, traditional sweets ("pão de ló", "cavacas", "galhofas", "rosquilhos"), Vinho Verde from the sub-region of Basto (main varieties: "azal", "arinto", "vinhão" and "padeiro")

experience

Hiking Trail: PR1 CBT "à volta do Castelo e antiga Villa de Basto"
Rail Trail of Tâmega
Tour: "Camélias, património de encantar" (manor houses and traditional gardens of camellias)

get to know

Embroidery in gold thread, on velvet and linen
Festival of Nossa Senhora do Viso
Festival of S. Bartolomeu do Rego - Lavoura dos Cães

enjoy

International Festival of Camellias
from 20 to 22 March
City Festivities (in honour of St. James)
from 24 to 26 July
Food and Crafts Fair
from 14 to 16 August



did you know that...

The settlement that was formed at the foot of the hillock of the Castle of Arnoia, formerly called Villa de Basto, was the seat of the municipality from 1520, when it received the Royal Charter, to 1719, when it was transferred to the current location, the then Vila Nova de Freixeiro. João Pinto Ribeiro, the hero of the Restoration of Independence in 1640 and outstanding figure of the History of Portugal, was connected by family ties to Celorico de Basto.

Legends & Stories

Legend of the Castle of Chaves

The primitive base of the castle is prior to the Roman occupation of the Iberian Peninsula. In fact, it is thought to date back to the time of the Visigoths, when it was just a "castro" (hill fort), and then conquered by the Muslims and strengthened from the 8th to the 11th century. At the time of the Christian Reconquest, the castle was taken by the Kingdom of León. But it is later conquered in the reign of Afonso Henriques and annexed to the "Condado Portucalense" (County of Portugal). The castle goes back to Spanish hands around 1221, because Alfonso IX, King of León, under the pretext of ensuring his Portuguese wife Theresa the possession of the castles left to her by her father (Sancho I) by bequest, and whose fulfilment had been opposed by her brother (Afonso II), invaded Portugal and conquered Chaves, which would only return to the Portuguese hands 10 years later. In 1253, the castle serves as the venue for the wedding between Afonso III and Beatrice of Castile.



location

Praça de Camões - Chaves
GPS: N 41.739922 O -7.471975

opening hours

Monday to Friday: 9.00-12.30/14.00-17.30
Saturday and Sunday: 14.00-17.30
closed on public holidays

contacts

Município de Chaves (City Council)
Phone number: +351 276 340 500
email: municipio@chaves.pt
website www.chaves.pt

THE KEEP OF THE CASTLE OF CHAVES CHAVES

The Castle Keep remains as the living history of the troubled times of the Christian Reconquest

Considered a National Monument since 22 March 1938, there were several adversities that reigned in the history of the Castle of Chaves. From what survived, only the Castle Keep remains as the living history of the troubled times of the Christian Reconquest and a real dowry for the resolution of various political problems between the Portuguese and Spanish. Chaves becomes part of the Portuguese territory in the reign of Afonso Henriques, which received the Royal Charter in 1258 by order of Afonso III, who married in Chaves with Beatrice of Castile, the illegitimate daughter of King Alfonso X of Castile. By obtaining

the status of small town by Royal Charter, and therefore becoming a populational, economic and strategic centre in the line of defence of the borders of the Portuguese territory, there was a need for the reconstruction of the castle and castle keep during the reign of King Denis (D. Dinis). Outside, a garden was built where some objects from the Museum of the Flaviense Region are now displayed. The garden is enclosed by walls built at the time of the fortification of the small town, and the Restoration Wars. The site has an excellent panoramic view over the valley of Chaves.



CASTLE OF SANTO ESTEVÃO CHAVES

The fortress was held by the Spanish monarch, and only returned to the Portuguese crown in 1231

Dating back to the 11th/12th century, the first references to this site date back to the 11th century and they mention a large, possibly fortified rural property. In 1212, the castle already existed as in this year it was conquered by Alfonso IX of León, under the pretext of defending the rights of his wife Theresa. For nineteen years long, the fortress was held by the Spanish monarch, and only returned to the Portuguese crown in 1231, when the peace treaty of Sabugal was signed. The strategic position of Santo Estevão determined that some of the contacts between the two peninsular crowns would be held

there, as in 1253 when Afonso III received his future wife, Beatrice of Castile, in the castle.

location

Vila de Santo Estêvão, Chaves
GPS: N 41.759361 O -7.419270

opening hours

Visits by prior appointment

contacts

Junta de freguesia da Vila Medieval de Santo Estêvão (Parish Council)
Phone number: +351 276 351 214
www.chaves.pt



CASTLE OF MONFORTE DE RIO LIVRE CHAVES

The Castle Keep, built in 1312, is the remaining key element and one that gives the castle the military image par excellence

The Castle of Monforte de Rio Livre owes its name to the existence of a medieval municipality bearing the same name and located therein that was extinct in the last century. Most of the currently built set dates back to the late 13th century and first half of the 14th century. Inside, there was the Town Hall, the parish church and the chapel of Nossa Senhora do Prado, still standing in the 18th century. The Castle Keep, built in 1312, is the remaining key element and one that gives the castle the military image par excellence.

Legends & Stories

The Monster of the Castle of Monforte

Legend has it that the Castle of Monforte was once the property of the Moors, and there lived a young woman named Basília, in the company of her father and many servants. News came to the castle that a young Christian warrior named D. Telmo fought the Moors to help his own people.

As his accomplishments were so heroic, the young Basília fell in love with him without ever meeting him. Despite knowing he was a great enemy of her father, she felt more in love with him as the days went by. After knowing about this passion, the father decided that it was best she married one of the rich Moors of the region. But the young woman refused marriage and shut herself in her room, never wanting to see anyone. The angry father decided to cast a spell on her, turning her into a monster. On the outskirts, people would talk about a monster that would haul itself through the castle on certain nights.

location

Freguesia de Águas Frias - Chaves
GPS: N 41.762302 O -7.355883

opening hours

Always open to the public



contacts

Município de Chaves (City Council)
Phone number: +351 276 340 500
email: municipio@chaves.pt
website www.chaves.pt

visit

Thermal Spa of Chaves
Roman Bridge
Mother Church
Church of Misericórdia

discover

Historic Centre of Chaves

savour

Pastry of Chaves, smoked ham, "fumeiro" (smoked meat), rice with smoked sausages, pork



spine, "milhos" (traditional corn dish), "rabanadas" (fried bread slices sprinkled with sugar and cinnamon) with honey

experience

Thermal and Water Route
Thermal Spa of Chaves
Viewpoint overlooking the city

get to know

Basketry and Pottery of Vilar de Nantes

enjoy

Trade Fair "Sabores de Chaves"
First weekend of February,
Easter, first weekend of August
Aqua Flavie and Festival of the

People – Roman Market
Third weekend of August
All Saints Fair
from 30 October to 1 November

did you know that...

The city was originally a Roman settlement, in a place where there were medicinal water springs and where the crossing of the Tâmega River was possible. The Forts of São Francisco and São Neutel were important defensive bastions of the city and nationally against the French invasions.



“TORRE DO GALO” FREIXO DE ESPADA À CINTA

Some sections of the wall is what remains from the old castle, with an almost circular plan that currently encloses the cemetery and the “Torre do Galo”

Some sections of the wall is what remains from the old castle, with an almost circular plan that currently encloses the cemetery and the “Torre do Galo” (or Clock Tower). The tower adjoins one of the sections of the wall on the west side, and presents a heptagonal plan with 25 metres in height. All seven sides of the tower have different widths, ranging between 5 and 8 m (east side); on the north-east side at a higher level there is a door with a pointed arch, which is accessed by two flights of stairs in opposite directions; on the upper third of the tower, four sides present very narrow window slits, not aligned on the same plane nor centred; on the

west side we can see the primitive coat of arms of the small town. The top consists of a balcony and battlements supported by a corbel table.

On the roof terrace there is a quadrangular bell tower supported by pilasters at the angles with gargoyles and surmounted by pinnacles; all sides have openings with a semicircular arch, three of which present a single bell while the north side presents double bells; the top consists of a pyramidal pinnacle with a clock and iron weather vane. Inside: three hexagonal vaulted floors connected by a stairway develop inside the wall frame, forming a snail shape at the north-east angle.

Legends & Stories

Legend of the Foundation of Freixo de Espada à Cinta

Legend has it that a Gothic noble called "Espadacinta" arrived at this site after a battle with the Arabs on the banks of the Douro River. He rested under the shade of a huge ash tree (Portuguese "Freixo") where he hung his sword, and therefore perpetuating the name given to the village that later began to develop around the castle: Freixo de Espadacinta.

location

Praça Jorge Álvares - Freixo de Espada À Cinta
GPS: 41°05'33.09"N 6°48'16.39"W

opening hours

Winter
Monday to Sunday: 9.00-17.00
Summer
Monday to Sunday: 9.00-19.00
closed on public holidays: 25 December, 1 January and Easter Monday
* The key is available in the Tourist Information Centre

contacts

Posto de Turismo de Freixo de Espada à Cinta (Tourist Information Centre)
Phone number: +351 279 653 480
email: turismo@cm-fec.pt
www.cm-freixoespadacinta.pt



visit

Mother Church
Church of Misericórdia
Convent of S. Felipe Nery
Museum of Territory and Memory
- Interpretation Centre of the Silk

discover

Rock Engraving of the Horse of Mazouco
Pavement of Alpajares
Candedo

savour

Smoked sausages, roasted kid
almond sweets
demarcated wine region

experience

Panoramic boat trip on the International Douro
Pavement of Alpajares Trail
River Beach of Congida

get to know

Handmade products in silk
"Sete Passos" (Procession of the Seven Steps)
"Enterro do Entrudo" (pagan ritual)

enjoy

Almond Blossom Festival
First and second weekends of March
Festival of Nossa Senhora dos Montes Ermos



Third weekend of August
Festival of Soups and Snacks
Last weekend of October

did you know that...

The great poet and politician Guerra Junqueiro is from Freixo de Espada à Cinta.
The first written Monograph on Japan was performed by Jorge Álvares, also from Freixo de Espada à Cinta.



CASTLE OF GUIMARÃES GUIMARÃES

The castle was expanded and remodelled by order of Count Henry (Conde D. Henrique), at the end of the 11th century, and later by King Denis, at the end of the 13th century

The Castle of Guimarães was built in the 10th century by order of the Countess Mumadona. The fortification was intended to protect the monastery from Norman and Saracen invasions which then reached the Iberian Peninsula.

The castle was expanded and remodelled by order of Count Henry, at the end of the 11th century, and later by King Denis, at the end of the 13th century. In the following centuries, other monarchs left their mark by submitting the castle to various works of improvement. However, with the passage of time new warfare tactics arose and the

castle lost its defensive function, entering a state of progressive abandonment and degradation. In the 20th century, the castle is restored and classified as a National Monument.

Legends & Stories

Legend of the Castle of Guimarães
In 1836, a member of the Patriotic Society of Guimarães defended the demolition of the Castle of Guimarães and the use of its stones to pave the streets of Guimarães. The justification lay in the fact that the castle had served as a political prison in the reign of Miguel I (1828- 1834). Although this proposal had not been accepted,



with four votes in favour and fifteen against, the subject raised a heated discussion.

In 1881 the remains of the castle were recognised as Historic Monument and saved from barbarism. In the 20th century, a great restoration work allowed it to be reopened on 4 June 1940, on the occasion of the 8th centenary of the foundation of the country. Successive restorations allowed the castle to enter the 21st century in a good state of conservation and open to the public.

location

Rua Conde D. Henrique, Guimarães
GPS: 41°26.883"N 8°17.429"W

opening hours

Monday to Sunday: 9.30-18.00
closed on public holidays: 1 January,
Easter Sunday, 1 May and 25 December
*The Castle Keep is closed at lunchtime

contacts

Paço dos Duques de Bragança (Palace of the Dukes of Bragança)
Phone number:+351 253 412 273
email: pduques@culturanoorte.pt
<http://pduques.imc-ip.pt>

CITY WALL OF GUIMARÃES GUIMARÃES

In the mid-13th century, the construction of the final demarcation of the city wall of Guimarães was initiated

D. Sancho I circuted the higher part of the small town on a horse so he could demarcate it, and therefore it is likely that the city walls date back to this period: in the mid-13th century, the construction of the final demarcation of the city wall of Guimarães was initiated by order of King Afonso III, unifying the higher and lower parts of the small town. In the reign of King Denis, the construction of the wall was furthered, and he was largely responsible for its conclusion on a date prior to 1322.

In this year the siege of the small town takes place by order of Prince Afonso against his father King Denis. The walls witnessed more sieges: in

1369 - the siege of the small town by King Henry II of Castile, and in 1385 - the siege of the small town by the forces of King John I. The latter is who jurisdictionally unifies the communities of the upper (Castle) and lower parts (Borough) of the small town, ordering both to become one people, by incorporating the upper part in one municipality, Guimarães. At present, from Mumadona Square and along Alberto Sampaio Avenue, we can observe the most extensive section that remains from the city wall, just over 150 metres, although the portion of the pavement is about 3 m above its base. Next to Toural Square we can still see "Torre de Alfândega" (Customs

Tower), which was the southernmost point of the wall. In Santo António Street we can also see the remains of a small section of the wall between the houses.

location

Avenida Alberto Sampaio, Torre da Alfândega
(Largo do Toural), Guimarães
GPS: 41°26.684"N 8°17.470"W

contacts

Câmara Municipal de Guimarães
(City Council)
Phone number:+351 253 421 200
email: geral@cm-guimaraes.pt
www.cm-guimaraes.pt

visit

Palace of the Dukes of Bragança
Alberto Sampaio Museum
Oliveira Square
Toural Square
Church of São Francisco

discover

Historic Centre, World Heritage,
Citânia de Briteiros, Penha Mountain

savour

Codfish with corn bread, roasted veal, "pica no chão" (chicken blood rice), "rojões e papas de sarrabulho" (fried pork meat and a sort of porridge with shredded pork meat and blood), stuffed tripe, rice

with beans and fried codfish, rice with octopus, "toucinho-do-céu" (almond cake) and "tortas de Guimarães" (traditional sweet), Vinho Verde from the region

experience

Cable car of Guimarães
Guimarães Sightseeing Tour by bus
Wagon rides

get to know

Embroidery of Guimarães
"Cantarinha dos Namorados"
(Lovers' Coin Jar)

enjoy

Afonsina Fair
from 26 to 28 June
"Gualteriana" (in honour of St. Gualter) and City Festivities
First weekend of August
Festivities in honour of St. Nicholas
From 29 November- 7 December

did you know that...

There is a replica of the Statue of Afonso Henriques, by sculptor Soares dos Reis, in the Castle of São Jorge in Lisbon, which was inaugurated in 1947 for the celebration of the 800 years of the Conquest of Lisbon from the Moors. Afonso Henriques died in 1185 at the age of 76, and therefore became the Portuguese king with the longest reign.





CASTLE OF LAMEGO

LAMEGO

The tower is quadrangular and has openings on its sides for natural light in order to provide the tower with a housing function

The castle keep, with about 20 metres high, is quadrangular and has openings on its sides for natural light, some of which were transformed into window slits in the 16th century by order of the last Count of Marialva, Francisco Coutinho, perhaps with the intention of providing the tower with a housing function. It possesses a place-of-arms in an irregular hexagon shape, whose wall, with about 90 metres in circumference, is provided with an allure, accessible from the north side by a flight of stairs. Between 1939 and 1940, when the centennials of the Foundation and

Restoration of the nationality were celebrated, the castle underwent restoration works, in which the bell towers and bells were removed from the tower in order to add the battlements. Access to the old borough of the Castle is made through two fortified gateways.

Legends & Stories

Legend of Ardínia and Tedo

At the time when the Moors had control over this territory, a Muslim king lived in the Castle of Lamego and he had a very beautiful daughter, Ardínia. Legend has it that Ardínia fell in love with a Christian knight called

Tedom Ramires. In order to consummate their feelings, she fled to Christian lands but her father managed to find her in the small chapel of São Pedro by the Távora River. Ardínia, who had converted to the Christian faith, was drowned in this river by her father.

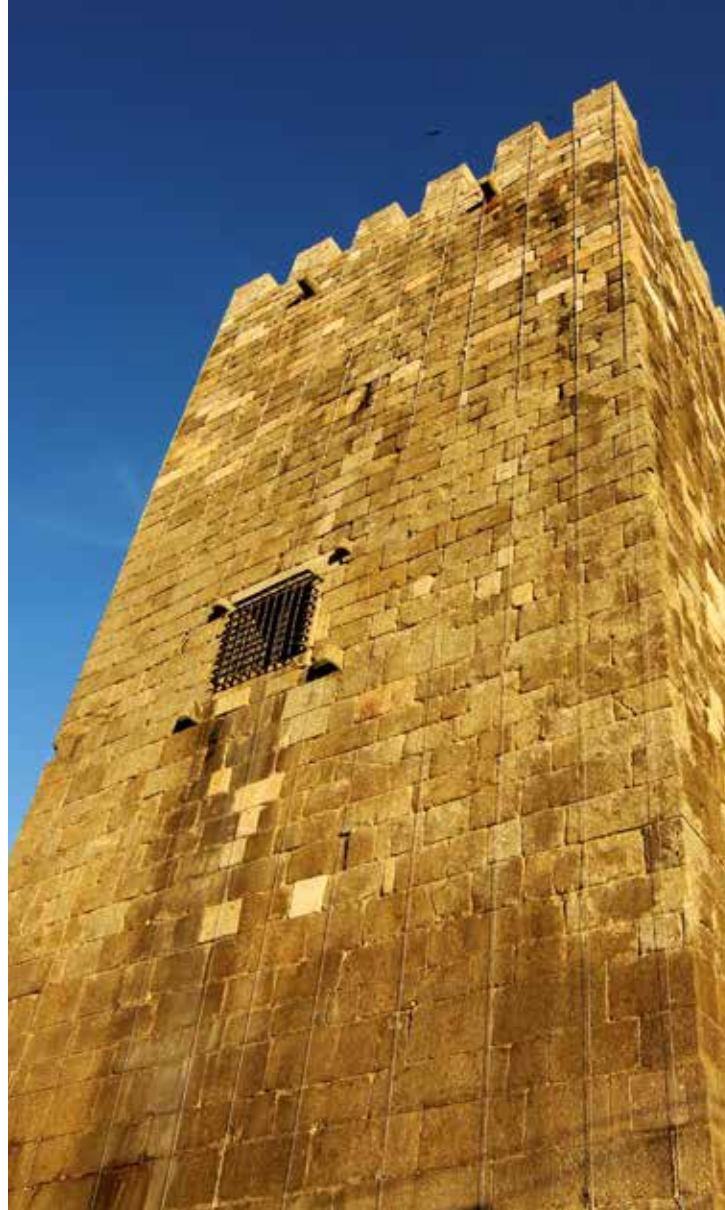
When her beloved knight found out what had happened, he vowed to never marry, and so he stayed single until his death in a battle against the Muslims, next to Tedo River, which according to legend took his name. Legend has it that the waters of the rivers Távora and Tedo still turn red with the blood of Ardínia and Tedom, and that on foggy nights the soul of the princess wanders around the castle, and one can almost hear her crying.

location

Bairro do Castelo, Lamego
GPS: 41°05.954"N 7°48.517"W

opening hours

Winter (from 1 October to 31 March)
from Tuesday to Sunday:
10.00-13.30/14.00-17.00
Summer (from 1 April to 30 September)
from Tuesday to Sunday:
10.00-12.30/14.00-19.00
closed on Monday, 31 December and
1 January



contacts

Câmara Municipal de Lamego (City Council)
Phone number: +351 254 609 600
email: camara@cm-lamego.pt
www.cm-lamego.pt

visit

Cathedral of Lamego
Lamego Museum
Sanctuary of Nossa Senhora dos Remédios
Ribeiro Conceição Theatre
Chapel of S. Pedro de Balsemão

discover

Historic Centre
Biological Park
Anta de Mazes (village)

savour

Wild rabbit, roasted kid, delicacies with smoked ham, traditional "Bola" of Lamego (ham, smoked ham, wine and garlic marinade, tuna, chicken, sardine and codfish), "enchidos" (typical Portuguese smoked sausages) with pork, "Biscoito da Teixeira" (traditional cake), "Lamegos" (typical sweet), table wines from the Douro and Porto region, sparkling wine

experience

Boat trips on Douro River
Hiking Trails
Monument Tour



get to know

Works in granite and schist
Pottery
Masks of Lazarim

enjoy

Festivals in honour of Nossa Senhora dos Remédios (Our Lady of Remedies)
from 20 August to 9 September
"Montra da Cereja" (local cherry trade fair)
from 22 to 24 May
Holy Week
form 19 March to 5 April

did you know that...

The legendary "Cortes de Lamego" (assembly of the representatives of the nation) allegedly occurred in Lamego, where the acclamation of Afonso Henriques as king of Portugal and the "Rules of Succession to the Throne" were made.



location

Castelo, Centro Histórico de Melgaço
GPS: 42°6'51.07"N 8°15'35.37"W

opening hours

Winter (from 1 October to 31 March)
from Tuesday to Sunday:
10.00-13.30/14.00-17.00
Summer (from 1 April to 30 September)
from Tuesday to Sunday:
10.00-12.30/14.00-19.00
closed on Monday, 31 December and 1
January

contacts

Núcleo Museológico de Melgaço (Museum)
Phone number: +351 251 410 191
email: nucleomuseologico@cm-melgaco.pt
www.cm-melgaco.pt

CASTLE OF MELGAÇO MELGAÇO

The castle has a rounded plan with three towers reinforcing the wall, two quadrangular and a third in the middle, with a pentagonal shape

The medieval fortification (12th century) is on a higher level, dominating the small town with its castle keep and walls that make up a rounded nucleus, from which develops the oldest urban area and that corresponds to the historic centre. The Castle of Melgaço has therefore a rounded plan with three towers reinforcing the wall, two quadrangular from where the wall extended, surrounding the small town, and a third in the middle with a pentagonal shape, facing the walled town. In the centre of the castle there is the castle keep that now houses a museum. What remains from the north-west tower are some arrow

slits, and from the south tower three machicolations. In front of the tower and along the wall, there is a square cistern. What remains from the old defensive system are the castle walls, its keep and part of the wall facing north and west towards the gateway "Porta da Vila". Classified as a National Monument, the Castle Keep holds inside an exhibition that tries to show the built heritage of the municipality and the historical development of the small town, thus creating expectations and motivating the visitor to discover the municipality's heritage.

Legends & Stories

Legend of Inês Negra

Once the echoes of the battle of Aljubarrota had ended, the consolidation of the independence of the kingdom, the recapture of the fortress-squares held by the Castilians and the establishment of the authority of King John I – Mestre de Aviz became urgent, as well as leading the Portuguese flag to the fortress-squares in the far north of Portugal. In Melgaço, the Portuguese supporter of the Castilians proposed a single combat to resolve the dispute: she would fight another woman, Inês Negra, a patriotic. It is an impetuous fight. They trample on each other, pull each other's hair, overthrow one another, and the fight continues.

The supporter of the Castilians falters and leaves the fight, weakened and covered in blood. It is the delight of the crowd and glory of Inês Negra, the heroine of the Lusitanian hordes.

The Portuguese enter the fortress, and the body of Inês' opponent lies with a dagger in her heart. Inês climbs up the tower, embraces the battlements and shouts: "- You have returned to us! You belong to the King of Portugal!"



CASTLE OF CASTRO LABOREIRO MELGAÇO

The current building dates back to the 13th century, and its construction is usually attributed to King Denis

The Castle of Castro Laboreiro is located on top of a hill of difficult access, adapting to the terrain morphology. Although some documentary references may suggest the existence of an earlier castle, the current building dates back to the 13th century, and its construction is usually attributed to King Denis. It has an approximately oval plan, with the currently remaining curtain wall built on the cliffs. At the main entrance, towards the east we have the gateway "Porta do Sol". The gateway "Porta da Traição" or "Porta do Sapo" lies north, with a semicircular arch. According to the drawings of Duarte D'Armas,

around 1505 the castle of Castro Laboreiro had the walls reinforced with five square towers surrounding the castle keep, and a cistern further north.

Legends & Stories

The enchanted girl

In Lugar do Quinjo, Castro Laboreiro, there lived an enchanted princess in the form of a serpent carrying a flower stuck in her mouth. Every 100 years she would go to the fair of Entrimo, in Spain, where she would recover her human form. There she said that whoever wanted to break her spell should go to Lugar do Quinjo and kiss the flower that she held in her mouth.



In more recent times, a young man, after knowing the existence of the serpent, remembered the mother of his beloved who disapproved their love. When the mother found out about their love she cast a spell on her daughter: "– From now on you shall slither like the snakes at the top of Quinjo."

The girl disappeared without a trace! Desperate, the young man climbed up the mountain and asked the serpent how to break the spell? She replied that he just needed to be brave enough to kiss her on the mouth. He courageously approached the serpent and kissed her, and suddenly he was holding in his arms his beloved.

They returned happily to Ribeiro de Baixo and later got married.

location

Freguesia de Castro Laboreiro, Melgaço
GPS: 42°1'22.29"N 8°9'29.36"W

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Câmara Municipal de Melgaço
(City Council)
Phone number:+351 251 410 100
email: geral@cm-melgaco.pt
www.cm-melgaco.pt

visit

Alvarinho Manor House (Main house of the Route of Vinho Verde Alvarinho)
Melgaço Medical SPA
Sports and Leisure Complex of Monte de Prado - Training Centre of Melgaço
Lamas de Mouro Gateway (PNPG)
Melgaço Museum of Cinema - Jean Loup Passek

discover

Castro Laboreiro and Branda da Avelreira (Aldeias de Portugal - network of tourist villages)

savour

Lamprey with rice à la Bordatesa, fried lamprey with eggs or coal-

roasted lamprey, roasted mountain kid, smoked ham steaks, traditional "fumeiro" of Melgaço - GI (smoked ham and varieties of smoked sausages), corn and rye bread, sweet tripe; trouts from Minho River, Alvarinho wine

experience

Extreme sports: rafting, canoeing, rappel, slide, canyoning, hidrospeed
Municipal Network of Hiking Trails (7 trails)
Wine Tourism - Route of Vinho Verde Alvarinho

get to know

Crafts: Weaving with linen and wool (blankets and rugs)
"Bonecas Castrejas" (Dolls representing the women from Castro Laboreiro)
Handmade Valentine handkerchiefs

enjoy

Alvarinho and Meat Festival from 1 to 3 May
Melgaço Alvarinho Trail 31 May
"Melgaço em Festa" – City Festivity August

did you know that...

The Alvarinho wine variety has a secular tradition in the municipality of Melgaço.
The wines produced in this region



are therefore the result of an accumulation of experiences and knowledge, a cultural heritage that previous generations have bequeathed to us.
The "Fumeiro" of Melgaço - IG is prepared and cured under natural conditions, and possesses recognised and signed scrolls that are more than 500 years old.



CASTLE OF MIRANDA DO DOURO

MIRANDO DO DOURO

In the north-west corner we see the gateway "Porta da Traição", while in the centre of the tower there is a water well

Built in the reign of King Denis, the Castle of Miranda do Douro has a rectangular shape, reinforced in the corners with four towers. The castle keep, the tallest tower, enclosed the weakest side. In the north-west corner we see the gateway "Porta da Traição" while in the centre of the tower there is a water well. The castle was destroyed on 8 May 1762 by the explosion of the powder magazine when the city was taken by the Spaniards, at the behest of Charles II, during the Seven Years' War.



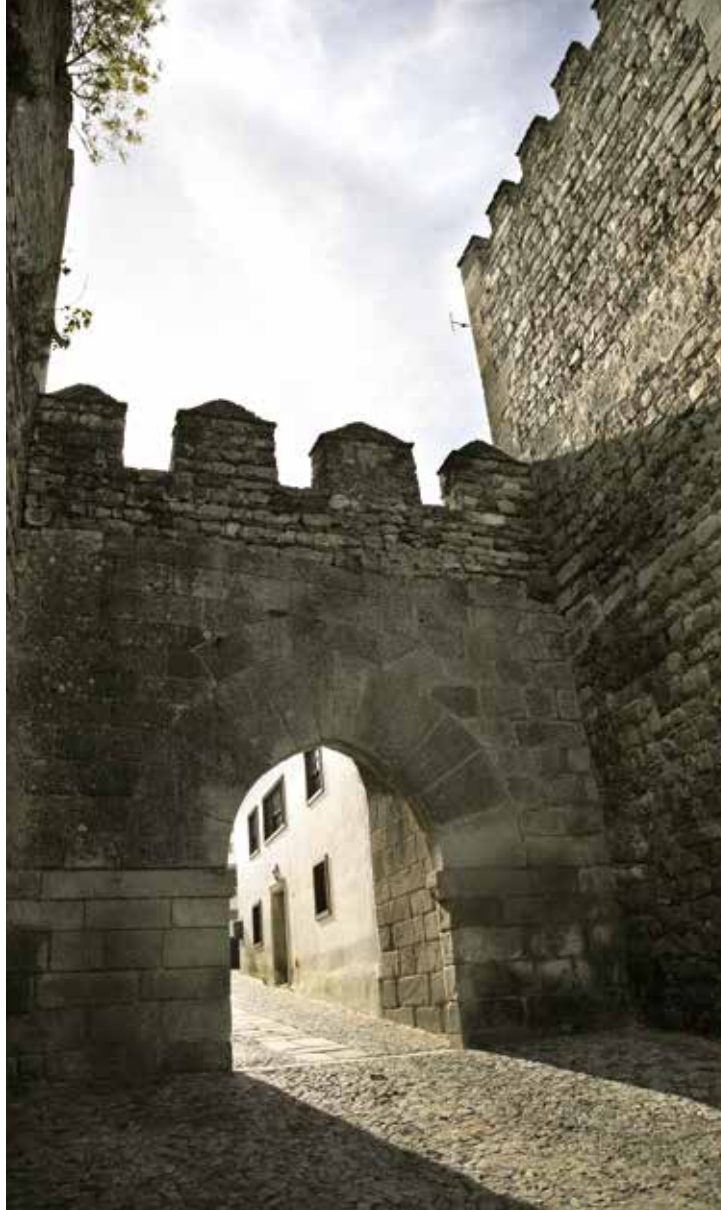
Legends & Stories

Legend of Young Jesus in a Top Hat (Menino Jesus da Cartolinha)

When Miranda do Douro was surrounded by Spanish troops, on the verge of its walls being taken, a boy arises from nowhere. The boy encourages an uprising amongst the population by shouting in the streets.

Miraculously, the population gained strength and managed to drive out the invaders. The castle was saved by the boy who had disappeared, making people believe that it had been a miracle performed by Jesus, the Young Jesus in a Top Hat.

Today, this image can be visited in the Cathedral of Miranda do Douro.



location

Largo do Castelo, Miranda do Douro
GPS: 41°29'47.44"N 6°16'30.70"W

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Câmara Municipal de Miranda do Douro
(City Council)
Phone number: +351 273 430 020
email: geral@cm-mdouro.pt
www.cm-mdouro.pt

visit

Museum of the Lands of Miranda
Casa das Quatro Esquinas
(medieval house)
Casa da Cultura (cultural centre)
Frades Trinos Garden
Episcopal Palace

discover

Historic Centre of Miranda do Douro
"Castro" (hill fort) of São João das Arribas
Fraga del Puiu (viewpoint)

savour

Steak à la Mirandesa, coal-roasted Mirandese lamb, "tabafeia" (typical smoked sausage), "bola doce" (traditional cake), traditional sweets ("roscos", "sodos"), wine from Trás-os-Montes region

experience

Ecological Cruise of the International Douro Natural Park
Hiking Trail: "De Miranda do Douro ao S. João das Arribas"
Viewpoint of the Cathedral

get to know

Regional Costumes ("Capa das Honras")
"Pauliteiros" (group of men who dance to the traditional rhythms of Miranda do Douro)
Mirandese Language

enjoy

Mirandese Flavours Festival
from 13 to 15 february
"Bola Doce" Festival
from 2 to 4 April
Famidouro (Crafts and Activities Fair)
from 14 to 23 August

did you know that...

In 1545 Miranda became the capital of Trás-os-Montes after King John III elevated it to city, becoming the first diocese in the Miranda-Bragança region.



CASTLE OF MIRANDELA MIRANDELA

We are before a military architecture of Gothic style, whose constructive and organisational model has an offensive function

We are before a military architecture of Gothic style, whose constructive and organisational model has an offensive function, and the castle keep would have been next to the wall and at the highest point (assuming today its location in the Távoras Palace). The documentation states that the Castle of Mirandela had a wall, four gateways ("Porta de Santo António", "Porta de Santiago", "Portela" and "Postigo de São José"), a castle keep (which is also defined by Ernesto de Sales as a fortress), a barbican (in front of the gateway "Porta de Santo António"), bastions and a moat. The castle

would have had an elliptical plan. The only visible trace of the existence of a castle on the site is the gateway "Porta de Santo António" facing west and towards Tua River, which would have been the main gate of the castle. Other remains have currently been identified, although not visible, such as two sections of the wall: one in Travessa de Santo António, within the archaeological work undertaken in the area, and another section in "Pensão Praia" (guest house).

**location**

Rua de Santo António, Mirandela
GPS: 41°29'03,4054"N 7°10'57,8104"W

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Câmara Municipal de Mirandela
(City Council)
Phone number: +351 278 200 200
email: geral@cm-mirandela.pt
www.cm-mirandela.pt

visit

Armindo Teixeira Lopes Municipal
Museum
Historic Centre and Medieval

Bridge of Mirandela
City Gardens
Church of Misericórdia of Mirandela
Religious and Natural Heritage of
the Municipality

discover

Vale de Telhas (village)
Torre de D. Chama and Abreiro
(villages)
Rock Engravings of Serra dos
Passos

savour

"Alheira" (sausage made of meat
and bread) of Mirandela, coal-
roasted veal steak with seasonal
vegetables, "feijoada" (bean stew)
à la Transmontana, roasted kid à la
Transmontano, watercress soup,
dried green bean broth, garlic soup,
fried river fish, trouts with olive oil,
roasted codfish with rye bread,
"Tordos de Cheiros" (traditional
dish with thrushes), rabbit stew,
partridge with cabbage, roasted kid
with rice, goat and sheep cheese,
olive oil from the Trás-os-Montes
region; "Folar de Carne" (typical
Easter cake with smoked meat),
Easter cakes, "Papos de anjo",
"bolinhos de azeite" and "aletria"
(typical sweets of Mirandela);
traditional jams, almonds, figs and
honey; wines from the
Trás-os-Montes region

experience

Hiking Trails: Tua River, Vale do
Lobo and Entre Rios
River beaches: Quintas, Vale de
Juncal, Maravilha, Dr. José Gama
Park
Guided tours through the heritage
and olive oil presses

get to know

Traditional Boys' Festival of Torre
da D. Chama
Pig slaughter of Romeu
Crafts: weaving of Lamas
d'Orelhão; tin work of Torre
D. Chama; basketry of Mirandela;
bellows of Vale Maior

enjoy

City Festivities
from 25 July to 2 August
New Olive Oil Flavours Festival
from 1 to 31 January
Themed Fairs and Festivals
throughout the year

did you know that...

Mirandela played an active role
during the counter-revolution
(1910- 1919) between the
monarchists and the republicans,
especially in 1919, where it is still
visible the mark of a fired cannon
on the right bank of Tua River
(there are photographs that
actually illustrate such moment).



In January 1997 a work entitled
"Cidade-Jardim" (Garden City)
was printed and edited by the City
Council of Mirandela. It is a hymn
to the beauty and charm of the
gardens of Mirandela. The work
had the coordination of António
Sérgio, and Miguel Dias was
responsible for the text and André
Pregtizer for the photographs.



CASTLE OF MOGADOURO MOGADOURO



In the second half of the 12th century the castle is donated by Afonso Henriques to the Templars

The Castle of Mogadouro is located in the current historic centre of Mogadouro. Its initial construction dates back to the late 11th century. In the second half of the 12th century the castle is donated by Afonso Henriques to the Templars, who carry out reforms in the design and architecture of the castle, in particular in the construction of the castle keep. In the 13th and 14th centuries Gothic elements are introduced in its architecture in order to adapt it to an “active” defensive system. From the 15th century onwards, the Távora family transformed the castle into their palatial residence until 1759, when their assets were

confiscated in favour of the crown. Until 1834, it becomes the residence of the so-called “Juizes de Fora” (magistrates appointed from outside the municipality by the King of Portugal), falling into ruin thereafter.

Legends & Stories

Once upon a time, there was a girl who was herding goats and used to go to the cliffs. While herding the goats, she would spin yarn and sing. One day, when seated and feeling sad, because it was getting dark, she got up to see where her goats were, and she saw at the other end a boy. Startled, she thought of fleeing, but with gestures the boy calmed her

down and she remained with her goats. As the days passed the boy would accompany her, near the small town. One day he hurt himself with a nail, screaming with pain, the girl got scared and ran off towards the Castle. She disappeared down the stairs of a tunnel. As the days passed and as the girl never reappeared, the boy grew anxious and decided to enter the tunnel, but all he saw was a well. Feeling sad, he started singing the same songs. Suddenly, the girl reappears and, startled, he fell into the well. She cried for him but he never reappeared. People say that the girl's sighs are heard on moonlit nights, at the other end of the small town.

location

Largo da Misericórdia, Centro Histórico de Mogadouro
GPS: 41°20' 18,00"N 6°43'13,00"W

opening hours

always open to the public
Visits to the interior of the castle keep by prior appointment

contacts

Câmara Municipal de Mogadouro
(City Council)
Phone number: +351 279 340 100
email: geral@mogadouro.pt
www.cm-mogadouro.pt



CASTLE OF PENAS ROÍAS MOGADOURO

The two still visible turrets indicate that this fortification must have been built in the beginning of the 12th century

Positioned at the top of the hill, north of the current village of Penas Róias, its castle played a leading role in the defence of the territory against Muslim incursions and in the consolidation of the borderline of Trás-os-Montes against the neighbouring kingdom of León during the formation of the Portuguese nationality. The two still visible turrets indicate that this fortification must have been built in the beginning of the 12th century. After the royal donation to the Templars, around 1145, the Castle of Penas Róias underwent important structural reforms in the late 2nd half of the 12th century,

clearly visible in the castle keep, located in the centre of the fortress, from where the command of military operations would take place in a besieging situation. After several exchanges between the royal power and the Templars, in 1457 Álvaro Pires de Távora acquires the Castle. Meanwhile, according to the drawings of Duarte d'Armas, the Castle was still in a relatively good conservation state. In 1759 the castle returns to the crown and with the extinction of the former Municipality of Penas Róias in 1836, it rapidly falls into ruin. It has become a National Monument since 1945.



location

Povoação de Penas Roías, Mogadouro
GPS: 41°23'32,00"N 6°39'15,00"W

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Câmara Municipal de Mogadouro
(City Council)
Phone number:+351 279 340 100
email: geral@mogadouro.pt
www.cm-mogadouro.pt

visit

Pillory of Mogadouro
Mother Church
Church of Misericórdia of
Mogadouro
Chuch and Convent of S. Francisco

Parque da Vila (Town Park) of
Mogadouro

discover

Historic Centre of Mogadouro
"Castro" (hill fort) of Vilarinho dos
Galegos
Rural Villages

savour

Veal steak, roasted or stewed kid
and lamb,
Easter cake, "enchidos" (typical
Portuguese smoked sausages, such
as "salpicão", "chouriça", "alheira",
"bulho"), goat and sheep cheeses

experience

International Douro Natural Park
Hiking Trail: "Rota da Cascata da
Faia da Água Alta"
Viewpoints overlooking Douro River

get to know

Masks of Mogadouro
Folk Festivals
Typical Rural House of
Trás-os-Montes

enjoy

Gorazes Fair
from 15 and 16 October
"Terra Transmontana" Festival
from 11 to 13 July
Almond Blossom Festival
from 28 February to 22 March



did you know that...

Gualdim Pais, Master of the Order
of the Temple, might have been the
architect of the Castle of
Mogadouro.

Between 1509- 1510, Duarte
d'Armas, the squire of King Manuel
I, designs the Castle of Mogadouro,
which is then transformed, into a
palatial residence of the Távora
family.

The construction and subsequent
defence of the Castle of Penas
Róias were undertaken under the
orders of the Knights of the Order
of the Temple. Duarte d'Armas, the
squire of King Manuel I, draws the
Castle of Penas Róias between
1509-1510.

Legends & Stories

Deu-la-deu Martins, wife of the alcaide of the small town of Monção, became the heroine of Monção thanks to her craftiness, in the troubled period of the Fernandine wars in the second half of the 14th century.

Thus, when the small town of Monção was surrounded by enemies and living in an anguish and hunger phase, Deu-la-deu gathers the last loaves of bread and throws them over the walls, eluding the besiegers and freeing her people.

location

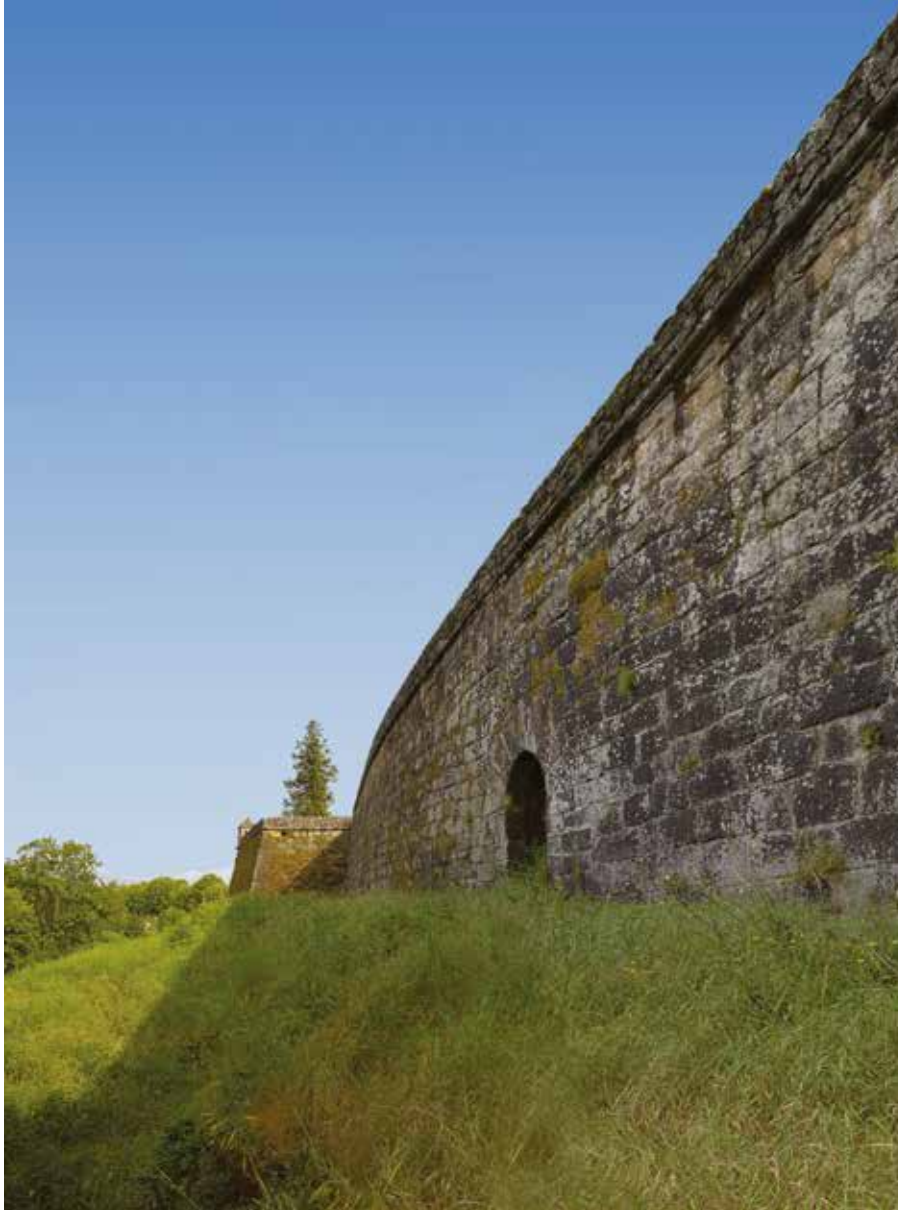
Centro Histórico de Monção, Monção
GPS: 42°3'23.22"N 8°32'17.43"W

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Loja Interativa de Turismo de Monção
(Interactive Tourist Shop)
Phone number: +351 251 649 013
email: turismo@cm-moncao.pt
www.cm-moncao.pt



CASTLE OF MONÇÃO MONÇÃO

It is the demarcation of the primitive wall that marks the urbanism of Monção, thus presenting a circular plan and roads that cross the medieval complex

According to Carlos Alberto Brochado de Almeida, in the 13th century the settlement that occupied the hill overlooking Minho River earned the right to claim their rights as a dynamic urban centre devoted to trade relations, which were established thanks to their proximity to the river and the communication lines between Galicia and Minho. Later on, during the reign of King Denis, the refurbishment of its walls and the construction of the Mother Church take place. According to the cited author, it is the demarcation of the primitive wall that marks the urbanism of Monção, thus presenting a circular plan and roads that cross the medieval complex.

According to the same historian, the defence of the small town was

restructured after the wars with Castile, which included the construction of the barbican, three gateways and a tower "Torre da Couraça".

The only plans that are known from the first walls of the small town of Monção date back to the 16th century, when Duarte d'Armas performs a survey of all the country's fortifications, and in such survey are the drawings of the Castle of Monção with the description of the aforementioned elements. The existence of the barbican, or second wall, is probably due to the urban expansion and need to strengthen the defensive line and access to the river. From the initial five gateways, we are left today with "Porta do Rosal", "Porta de Salvaterra" and "Porta das Caldas".

Legends & Stories

The Queen's Trout

According to legend, a queen called Aragúncia sought shelter on top of Monte de São Martinho, after running away from her husband. Her husband went after her, surrounding the hill, hoping the queen would surrender from hunger and thirst.

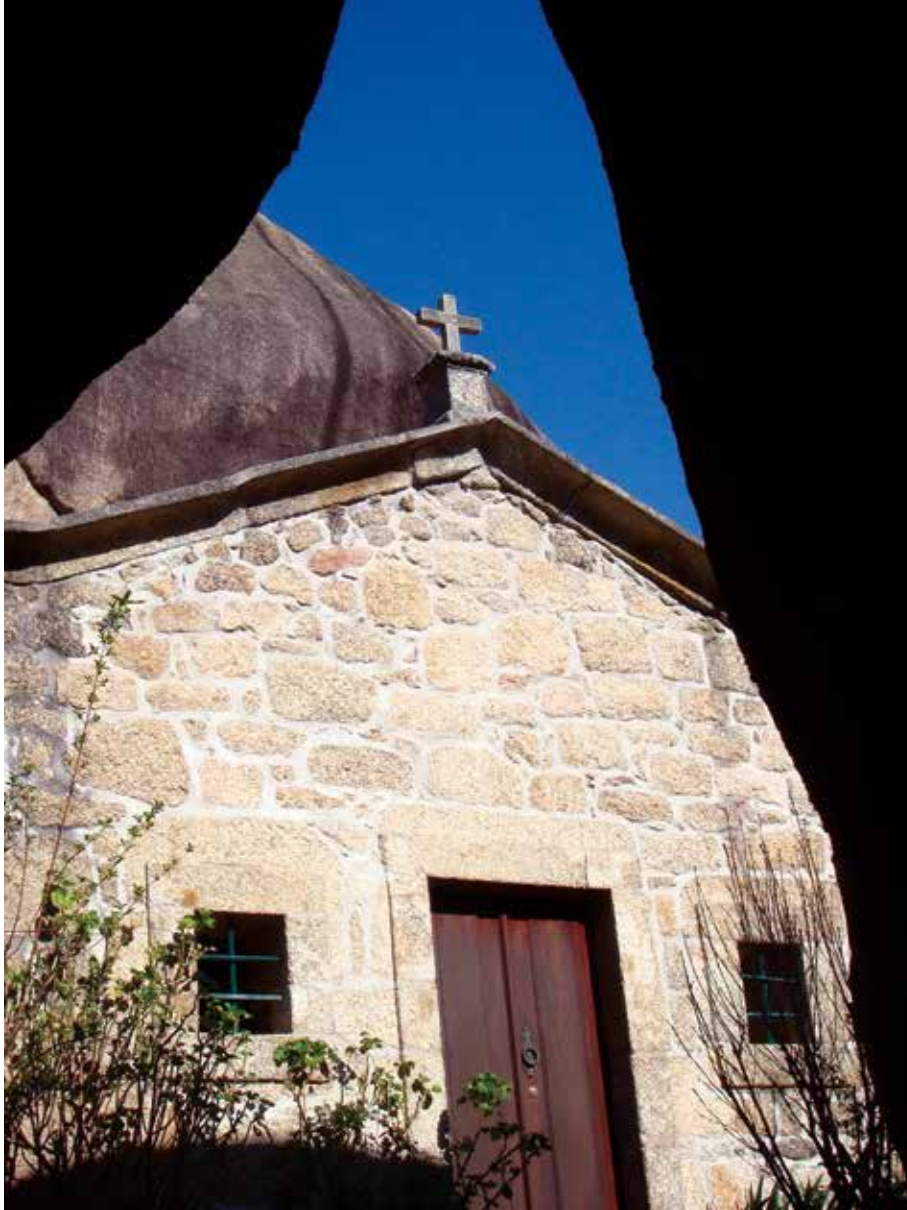
But Aragúncia managed to drink water from a small fountain. After several days, when hunger began to set in, a golden eagle appeared over the cliff with a trout in its claws, which it then dropped. Although plagued by hunger, Aragúncia sent the trout to the king so he could be satiated. Faced with such feat, the king lifted the siege and decided to forgive her.

location

Monte de São Martinho da Penha, Abedim
GPS: 41°59'25.42"N 8°31'31.74"W

contacts

Loja Interativa de Turismo de Monção
(Interactive Tourist Shop)
Phone number: +351 251 649 013
email: turismo@cm-moncao.pt
www.cm-moncao.pt



HILL CASTLE OF PENHA DA RAINHA MONÇÃO

On this rocky hillock venture into the so-called "Jardim da Rainha" (Queen's Garden) and the small chapel of São Martinho

At the top of the hill of São Martinho or Penha da Rainha we are able to see the remains of an ancient hill castle and, at the same time, enjoy the magnificent panoramic views over the region.

In the past, the Judicial Office of Penha da Rainha was based at the castle, covering the area of the current municipality of Monção to the Mouro River, and ending in Merufe. At that time, the settlement had such importance that the bishop of Tui, Dom Pedro I, consecrated the church of São Martinho in 1204. In 1268 the settlement received the Royal Charter from Afonso III. Later on, when the Judicial Office was extinguished, the settlement

disappeared completely, and the castle eventually fell into ruins. In the early 18th century, the priest of the parish of Abedim used the stones from the ruins to restore the parish church.

What remains today from this important fortification is the site and some small marks of the wall, as well as some remnants of the old castle keep on a rocky hillock.

On this rocky hillock venture into the so-called "Jardim da Rainha" (Queen's Garden) and the small chapel of São Martinho, the last relic worthy of worship. The current chapel dates back to the 18th or 19th century, showing no signs of the original temple.



LAPELA TOWER MONÇÃO

The old fortress was almost completely demolished by King John V in order to use its stones to repair the fortress of Monção

The Lapela Tower can be found under a granite outcrop on the left bank of Minho River, which used to be a watchtower belonging to an ancient castle. Venture into this Gothic castle keep - the only remnant of the fortress built by Afonso Henriques to protect the Portuguese northern border - and feel the mysticism that these walls still exude... The old fortress was almost completely demolished by King John V in order to use its stones to repair the fortress of Monção. For this reason, we can now only admire the tower and a cistern.

location

Rua do Castelo, Lapela
GPS: 42°3'23.22"N 8°32'17.43"W

opening hours

Visits by prior appointment: Junta de freguesia de Troporiz/Lapela (Parish Council)
by phone +351 251 654 493 or by email: troporiz.lapela@gmail.com

contacts

Loja Interativa de Turismo de Monção (Interactive Tourist Shop)
Phone number: +351 251 649 013
email: turismo@cm-moncao.pt
www.cm-moncao.pt

visit

Palace of Breijoeira
Interpretation Centre of Castro de São Caetano
House Museum of Monção
Hill Castle of Penha da Rainha
Lapela Tower

discover

Village of Montanha de Santo António de Vale de Poldros – Riba de Mouro
“Castro” (hill fort) and Viewpoint of Nossa Senhora da Assunção
“Castro” of São Caetano

savour

Lamprey from Minho River, lamb à la Monção; “roscas”, “rosquilhos” and “papudos” (typical festival sweets)

experience

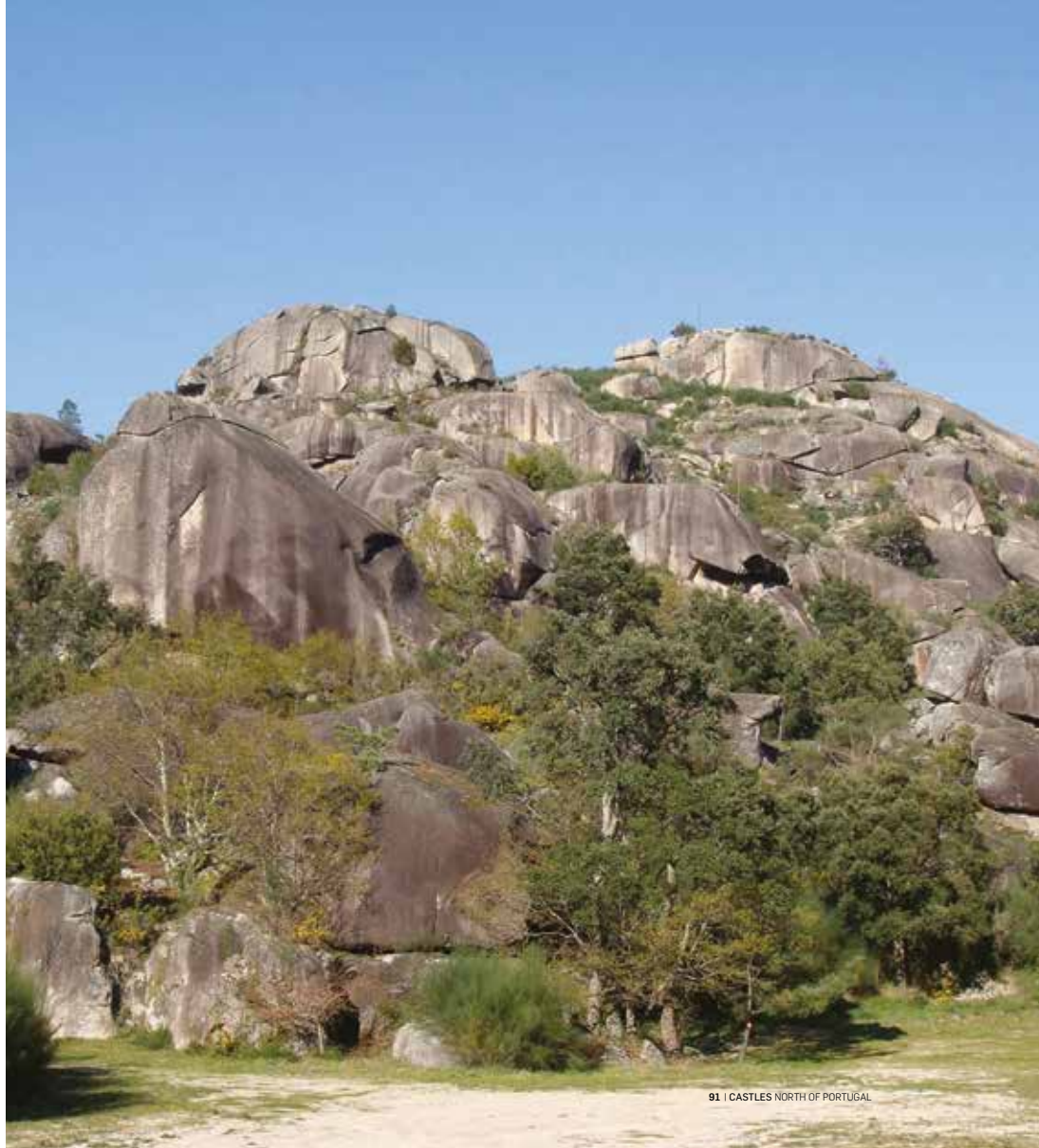
Hiking Trail of Carvalheira, Abedim
Rail Trail of Minho River
Long-distance Hiking Trail

get to know

Casa do Linho of Moreira (crafts shop)
Crafts and Antiques Fair
(every last Sunday of the month)

enjoy

Corpus Christi and Coca Festival
weekend after Corpus Christi



Alvarinho Fair
First weekend of July
Lamb Festival
First weekend of October

did you know that...

Deu-la-Deu Martins. Heroine of Monção who, during the Fernandine wars, freed Monção from the Castilian siege in the 14th century. Combat between St. George and the Dragon, Coca. Monção is one of the few municipalities that continues to represent the fight between Saint George and the Dragon after the religious celebrations of Corpus Christi.



CASTLE OF MONTALEGRE MONTALEGRE

An inscription tells us that the reconstruction was completed in 1331 during the reign of Afonso IV, while another inscription refers to the year 1580

Built on a Neolithic "Castro" (hill fort) and refurbished by the Romans, the medieval castle emerges in a highly strategic position. The first written records date back to the 13th century during the reign of Afonso III. An inscription tells us that the reconstruction was completed in 1331 during the reign of Afonso IV, while another inscription states that the castle was repaired in 1580. When the position of alcaide disappeared in the 18th century, the castle witnessed indifferent to the partial demolition of its walls. The stones of the turrets and battlements were used to build pens, barns and dwellings.

Today, the four towers still stand, as well as the stairway with access to the south-west tower, the wall that connects the latter to the old clock tower turned towards the small town, and the wall connecting the fourth tower and the castle keep (north), built during the reign of King Denis. In the north-west sector we can see the foundations of small forts, restored by the Directorate-General of National Monuments. At the centre there is a rectangular cistern with an interior stairway and a depth of up to 30 metres. In the east and south side we can still see the foundations and corners of the ancient walls surrounding the fortress.



Legends & Stories

The Castle of Montalegre is shrouded in legends and oral traditions. For example, it is said that every year at midnight, on St. John's day, three beautiful girls will appear, sitting on golden chairs, and that the enchantment cast upon them cannot be lifted. Legend has it that one day the girls offered a woman an apron full of jewellery, warning her that she could not tell anyone about the jewellery. When the woman was on her way home, a friend approached, asking her what she was carrying in her apron. The woman replied that she was carrying a great treasure, and when she opened her

apron to show the jewellery it had turned into coal.

location

Terreiro do Açougue, Montalegre
GPS: N 41.8259 O -7.79097

opening hours

Winter (October to May)
Monday to Sunday:
10.00-13.00/14.00-18.00
Summer (June to September)
Monday to Sunday: 10.00-19.00
*The surroundings, walls and enclosure of the castle are accessible. Only the towers of the castle are not open to the public

contacts

Ecomuseu de Barroso - Espaço Padre Fontes (Ecomuseum)
Phone number:+351 276 510 203
email:geral@ecomuseu.org
www.ecomuseu.org

visit

Ecomuseum of Barroso - "Espaço Padre Fontes", Montalegre
Ecomuseum of Barroso - "Casa do Capitão", Salto
Ecomuseum of Barroso – Interpretation Centre of the Region's Birdlife, Tourém
Ecomuseum of Barroso - "Corte do Boi", Pitões das Júnias
Ecomuseum of Barroso – Interpretation Centre of the Mines of Borralha, Borralha

discover

Village turned into Ecomuseum, Paredes do Rio
Monastery of Pitões
"Castro" (hill fort) of São Vicente, Chã

savour

"Cozido à Barrosã" (boiled varieties of meat, potatoes, smoked sausages and kale), roasted kid, grilled steak of "Barrosã" veal, smoked ham, "enchidos" (typical Portuguese smoked sausages), "filhós de sangue" (traditional pastry made of corn flour, eggs and pork blood); "aletria" and "rabanadas" with honey (typical sweets)

experience

Hiking Trails: "Trilho das Aves", "Rotas do Contrabando", "Trilho do Rio Carrilheiras de Barroso"
Mushroom Foraging

get to know

Portuguese bull fights
Harvesting and Threshing time in Paredes do Rio (2nd week of August)
Coarse wool garments

enjoy

Friday the 13th
every Friday 13 of the year
Smoked Meat Festival



from 22 to 25 January
Congress of Traditional Medicine in Vilar de Perdizes
5 and 6 September

did you know that...

The municipality of Montalegre is the birthplace of the well-known and admired priest, António Lourenço Fontes, best known as "Padre Fontes". Greatly devoted to Barroso, he has developed a great amount of work towards the promotion of the municipality of Montalegre, especially through culture and anthropological studies.



TOWER OF THE CASTLE OF AGUIAR DE SOUSA PAREDES

The Tower of the Castle of Aguiar de Sousa was important in the defence of "Portucale" - County of Portugal

Hill castle classified as a Monument of Public Interest, the respective Special Protection Area - SPA (Ordinance No. 466/2012, 2nd Series of the Official Gazette, No. 183 of 20.09.2012).

The Tower of the Castle of Aguiar de Sousa has been identified as a fortified place of strategic interest to the lands of Vale de Sousa since the 10th century, when Christian chronicles refer to the siege of the castle by Almanzor during his incursions into Santiago de Compostela. It was important in the defence of "Portucale" - County of Portugal.

According to the diagnostic surveys, occupation could be

placed between the 11th-12th centuries and 14th century - identification of the ancient wall and medieval pottery. Currently, it integrates the Romanesque Route.

Legends & Stories

The Tower is associated to the castle bearing the same name that since ancient times has become part of the collective memory and rooted in the popular tradition. Oral tradition takes us to the fights against the Moors, to the enchanted Moorish girls, to the secret passages connected to the river...

The castle was early seen as a site of strategic defence, appearing since the 10th century, when Christian chronicles refer to the siege of the castle by Almanzor during his incursions into Santiago de Compostela, as a fortified place of interest for the lands of Vale do Sousa.

location

Lugar da Torre, Aguiar de Sousa
GPS: N 41.123975 O -8.437653

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Câmara Municipal de Paredes
(City Council)
Phone number: +351 255 788 973
255 788 952
email: arqueologia@cm-paredes.pt;
turismo@cm-paredes.pt
www.cm-paredes.pt

visit

Tumulus of Brandião
Senhora do Salto (point of interest integrated in the Romanesque Route)
Gold Mines of Castromil
Church of São Pedro de Cête
Small chapel of Sra. do Vale

discover

Mountain of Muro de Baltar -
Vandoma
José Guilherme Square

savour

Roasted kid with oven-baked rice;
"sopa seca", "cavaco" (traditional sweets); Vinho Verde from the region

experience

Public Art Open Circuit
Hiking Trail: "Caminhos de Sobrosa"
A tour through the Aqueduto Golf
Course of Vila Cova dos Carros

get to know

Wood crafts (miniatures)

enjoy

City Festivities of Rebordosa in honour of Saint Michael
First Sunday of July
City Festivities of Paredes in honour of the Divine Saviour
Third weekend of July
Medieval Fair of Vilela
First weekend of August



did you know that...

Paredes is a major producer of furniture, its main economic activity. Paredes holds an international event called ART ON CHAIRS. The European Union has awarded it as the best European project of the Year 2014.



CASTLE OF PENEDONO PENEDONO

This unusual example of Gothic military architecture is associated with the mythical figure of Álvaro Gonçalves Coutinho, best known as “Magriço”

Prior to the foundation of Portugal... The earliest reference to the castle dates back to 960. But it should be even earlier, as there were horizontal courses of stone found at the base of the structure, characteristic of Arabic constructions, showing traces of a first construction.

The small castle with the characteristics of a castle-like dwelling, of polygonal plan and forming an irregular hexagon, is placed at 930 m high on a hill of cyclopean granite outcrops. The castle has 70 m in perimeter and is reinforced in the corners by turrets, provided with machicolations and flanking the only existing access, a

gate with a pointed arch. We can still see the cistern, the alure and the “conversadeiras” (two benches facing each other) in its interior, which indicate the existence of an intermediate floor. This unusual example of Gothic military architecture is associated with the mythical figure of Álvaro Gonçalves Coutinho, best known as “Magriço”, born in Penedono and immortalised by Camões in his epic work “The Lusiads”, which narrates the prowess and feats of the Twelve of England (Portuguese chivalric legend). The castle was classified as a National Monument on 16 June 1910.



Legends & Stories

Legend of the White Stones

In ancient times, in the lands of Pena do Dono a Muslim noble family lived in the castle and ruled the surrounding lands.

The castle governor had a very beautiful daughter who he nurtured and made him feel very happy and proud. One day, the Christian troops laid siege to the castle, and with great sacrifice and courage they broke through the walls and entered the castle. Seeing that the Christian troops had entered, the beautiful Moor hid her treasures within the thick wall in a box, and in a similar one a terrible secret, a malady that

would cause immediate death to anyone who touched it. She placed two white stones, side by side, to create uncertainty about which box guards the treasure. Until this day, no one dared to go up the wall and take the white stones with the fear of not being able to figure out the box that hides the treasure, and instead unleash a terrible plague upon oneself and the people of Penedono.

location

Praça 25 de Abril, Penedono
GPS: N 40.990038 O -7.393732

opening hours

Winter (September to June)
Monday to Friday: 9.00-18.00
Saturday and public holidays:
10.00-12.30/14.30-18.00
Sunday and holy days: 14.30-18.00
Summer (July to August)
Monday to Friday: 9.00-19.00
Saturday Sunday and public holidays:
10.00-12.30/14.30-19.00

contacts

Posto de Turismo de Penedono (Tourist Information Centre)
Phone number:+351 254 508 174 / 925 200 170
email: turismo@cm-penedono.pt
www.cm-penedono.pt

visit

Interpretation Centre of Penedono
Museum of the Olive Oil Press,
Póvoa de Penela
Sanctuary of Santa Eufémia
City Hall (cloisters and gardens)
Viewpoint of Santa Luzia, Póvoa de Penela

discover

Historic Centre of Penedono
Megalithic necropolis of Nossa Senhora do Monte
Megalithic necropolis of Lameira de Cima

savour

Kid roasted in wood oven, boar with chestnuts, "marrã" (traditional pork dish), sweets made with chestnuts, "ouriço de castanha" (typical sweet from Penedono), chestnut liqueurs

get to know

Hiking Trail: "Na Rota do Sirigo"
Crafts made of Sedge, Beselga
Wool Blankets, Castainço

enjoy

Festival in honour of St. Peter
29 June
Medieval Fair of Penedono
from 3 to 5 July
"Mercado Magriço" (event that promotes local economy)
from 6 to 8 November



did you know that...

Álvaro Gonçalves Coutinho, the famous "Magriço", was born in Penedono and immortalised in "The Lusians" by Luís Vaz de Camões. The "Magriço" was one of the Twelve of England (Portuguese knights) that went to England on a horse, unlike the other eleven who went by boat, in time to defend the honour of the English Lady destined to him.



CASTLE OF LINDOSO

PONTE DA BARCA

The Castle was reinforced by works conducted in the 17th century, but it still almost perfectly retains its medieval architecture

The foundation of this castle should date back to the beginning of the 13th century, in the reign of Afonso III. The exact year should be between 1220 and 1258, as the enquiries conducted in the former do not make any reference to it, while in the latter does. The castle was restored and expanded by King Denis, to whom some attribute the construction of the castle keep, where he resided during his hunts in Gerês.

The castle was reinforced by works conducted in the 17th century, but it still almost perfectly retains its medieval architecture.

It played a decisive role in several

conflicts, first with Castile and later with Spain. Today, it is open to the public, and it also has a museum that portrays the evolution of the garrisons that occupied this square as well as the expansion of the territory.

Legends & Stories

Over the years, Lindoso, the result of its strategic location, was connected to the defence of the border and affirmation of the independence of Portugal. The foundation of the castle should date back to the beginning of the 13th century, in the reign of Afonso III. The exact year should be between 1220 and 1258, as the enquiries conducted in the former do not make any reference to it, while in the latter does. Legend has it that the first visit King Denis (who succeeded Alfonso III) made to the site he considered it "so lively and exquisite that Lindoso must be its name". As a result of this praise, the castle undergoes restoration and expansion works. Some even attribute the construction of the castle keep to that monarch, who resided there during his hunts in Gerês.

location

Lugar do Castelo, Lindoso
GPS: 41°52'2.08"N 8°11'56.55"W

opening hours

Winter (October to March)
Monday to Sunday:
10.00-12.30/14.00-17.00
Summer (April to September)
Monday to Sunday:
10.00-12.30/14.00-18.00

contacts

Porta do Lindoso (Gateway of PNPG)
Phone number:+351 258 578 141
email: geral@cmpb.pt
www.cmpb.pt
facebook: <https://pt-pt.facebook.com/pages/Porta-de-Lindoso-PNPG>

visit

National Park of Peneda-Gerês (PNPG)
Set of "Espigueiros" of Lindoso (typical granary)
Dam of Alto Lindoso
Hydroelectric Power Station of Paradamonte

discover

Megalithic necropolis of Serra Amarela
Village of Lindoso

savour

Grilled steak of "Barrosã" veal, kid, "cozido" (boiled varieties of meat, potatoes, smoked sausages and kale), "sarrabulho" (a sort of porridge with shredded pork meat and blood), lamprey; "rabanadas" with honey, "leite-creme" (traditional sweets); red and white Vinho Verde from Ponte da Barca, traditional liqueurs: orange, tangerine, wine, coffee

experience

Hiking Trails in Serra Amarela



Canoeing in the Lake of Lindoso
Observation of fauna and flora in the National Park of Peneda-Gerês

get to know

Handmade Valentine handkerchiefs and traditional embroidery
Harvesting and Threshing Rye "Pai Velho" (carnival tradition)

enjoy

"Pai Velho" (carnival tradition)
Carnival
Festival of Nossa Senhora da Madalena
Last weekend of July
Festival of S. Bartolomeu from 19 to 24 August

did you know that...

The Castle of Lindoso was the scene of decisive fights and battles in the Restoration War in the 17th century and in reclaiming Portugal's independence. The set of "Espigueiros" of Lindoso (about 60 granaries) is the largest existing cluster of its kind in the Iberian Peninsula, the oldest dating back to the 18th century and the most recent to the 20th century.



contacts

Município de Ponte de Lima (City Council)
Phone number: +351 258 900 400
email: geral@cm-pontedelima.pt
www.cm-pontedelima.pt

CITY WALLS, TOWER OF SÃO PAULO AND PRISON TOWER PONTE DE LIMA

Next to the Prison Tower there is the gateway "Porta Nova", the only entrance to the medieval town that has survived up to our days

From the defensive system of the medieval town of Ponte de Lima, built in the second half of the 14th century, we can still see some remarkable elements, survivors of the long demolition process of the wall, which began in the 18th century and continued on a large scale in the 19th century. What remains from the old city wall consists of two towers, a gateway and a small wall fragment, all located in the lower part of the old town, facing the river.

The Tower of São Paulo is set between the Prison Tower and "Torre dos Grilos", which can no longer be seen. The Prison Tower

served as a prison until the 20th century. It was the largest tower. Next to the Prison Tower there is the gateway "Porta Nova", the only entrance to the medieval town that has survived up to our days.

location

Passeio 25 de Abril, Ponte de Lima
GPS: 41°46'2,437"N 8°35'5,947"W

opening hours

Wall and Tower of São Paulo
Always open to the public
Prison Tower
from Monday to Saturday:
9.30-13.00/14.00-17.30
closed on Sunday and public holidays



location

Praça da República, n°50
Ponte de Lima
GPS: 41°46'0,007"N 8°35'0,640"W

opening hours

The exterior is always open to the public

contacts

Município de Ponte de Lima (City Council)
Phone number:+351 258 900 400
email: geral@cm-pontedelima.pt
www.cm-pontedelima.pt

visit

Plátanos Avenue
Terceiros Museum (sacred art)
Portuguese Toy Museum
Camões Square
International Garden Festival

discover

Quinta de Pentieiros
Protected Landscape of the Lakes
of Bertiaandos and S. Pedro de
Arcos
Fortnightly Market

savour

"Arroz de sarrabulho" (a sort of porridge with shredded pork meat and blood), lamprey rice, lamprey à la Bordalesa, codfish with onions; "leite creme" (traditional sweet); white and red Vinho Verde, Vinhão and sparkling wine

experience

Lima River
Greenways
Bike Park

get to know

Crafts
Traditional Folk Dance
Statue of Queen Theresa

enjoy

Festival "Feiras Novas"
12 September
Popular Festival "Vaca das Cordas"
5 June
Horse Fair
from 25 to 28 June

did you know that...

The Anthem of Ponte de Lima is a poem written by the "Limiano" poet and diplomat António Feijó. Ponte de Lima is the oldest town of Portugal.



PALACE OF THE MARQUIS PONTE DE LIMA

The Palace of the Marquis of Ponte de Lima is what remains of a set that also consists of castle and tower, built in the 15th century at the behest of the alcaide Leonel de Lima, next to the medieval wall of the town. The residence, called from the 18th century onwards as Palace of the Marquis of Ponte de Lima, was originally conceived as a structure formed by a central body with tower to the east, while the current west tower was an addition of the 18th century.



FERNANDINE WALL

PORTO

It was rebuilt by Ferdinand I between 1368 and 1437, with funds from the wine transfer tax, and had a length of about 2500 metres and average height of 10 metres

The Fernandine Wall replaced the old medieval enclosure that in the 14th century became too small, given the development of the city. It was rebuilt by Ferdinand I, assuming the same name, between 1368 and 1437, with funds from the wine transfer tax, and had a length of about 2500 metres and average height of 10 metres. It included battlements and was reinforced by numerous cubic turrets and square towers. At present, there are still two visible sections of the medieval wall, one located next to Arnaldo Gama Street, called "Trecho dos Guindais" and another next to "Escadas do Caminho Novo", called "Trecho do Caminho Novo".

It is an integral part of the Urban Wine Route.

location

Escada dos Guindais (Guindais Funicular)
GPS: N 41.143065 O -8.608346

opening hours

Entry through Instituto Ricardo Jorge
(National Health Institute Doutor Ricardo Jorge)
Monday to Friday: 8.30-1730
Saturday, Sunday and public holidays by prior appointment
Phone number: +351 223 401 100

contacts

Instituto Ricardo Jorge
Phone number: +351 223 401 100
email: inforporto@insa.min-saude.pt



visit

Historic Centre - World Heritage Site
 Luís I Bridge
 Cathedral
 Clérigos Tower and Church
 Church of S. Francisco de Assis (National Monument)

discover

Ribeira

Aliados Avenue

Serralves Museum and Garden

savour

"Caldo verde" (traditional kale soup), corn bread, codfish à la Gomes de Sá, lamb from St. John

Festival, "tripas à moda do Porto" (pork entrails stewed with white beans), "francesinha" (typical Portuguese sandwich covered with melted cheese and beer sauce); "doces de ovos", "biscoito da Teixeira", "pão-de-ló" (traditional sweets); Port wine

experience

Cruise on the Douro River
 Crystal Palace Gardens
 Majestic Café

get to know

Lello Bookshop
 S. Bento Station
 Casa da Música

enjoy

St. John Festival
 June
 "Serralves em Festa"
 30 and 31 May
 Nos Primavera Sound
 (Music Festival)
 June

did you know that...

Prince Henry was born in this city in 1394 in what is now called "Casa do Infante". He was the Prince Navigator, who launched the era of the Portuguese maritime discoveries. The inhabitants of Porto are known as "Tripeiros" because, according to tradition, they donated all the meat to the navy that had left to conquer Ceuta in 1415, and were left with only the entrails to eat, which gave rise to one of the most traditional dishes, "Tripas à moda do Porto".



CASTLE OF LANHOSO PÓVOA DE LANHOSO

The countess Theresa took refuge in this medieval stronghold on numerous occasions, where she was once under siege by her half-sister Urraca, Queen of León

The Castle of Lanhoso, located on a magnificent massif, is an important reference point, in terms of culture and heritage, of the municipality of Póvoa de Lanhoso.

The countess Theresa, mother of Afonso Henriques, took refuge in the 12th century in this medieval stronghold on numerous occasions, where she was once under siege by her half-sister Urraca, Queen of León.

In 1128, defeated in the battle of S. Mamede, Theresa returns to the Castle of Lanhoso to then leave to Galicia, forced by her son, to live in exile.

Architecturally, this medieval bastion has undergone profound

reforms. The original structure had a wall with a gateway framed by two defensive turrets, and three square turrets that disappeared leaving us today with only faint remains.

A deep architectural reform promoted by King Denis, at the end of the 13th century, changed the original structure. It was at this time that the previous buildings were destroyed to make way for the imposing castle keep, housing since 1996 the Museum of the Castle of Lanhoso.

Legends & Stories

Theresa took refuge in 1121 in the Castle of Lanhoso to escape the army of Urraca, Queen of León. However, due to its geostrategic condition, this medieval stronghold did not yield to the attacks of the Galician soldiers while, on the other hand, Theresa could not get rid of the siege, surrounding Monte de Lanhoso.

After a few days of fighting, and the Portucalense army almost perishing of hunger, the countess decides to attack in the dead of night, catching by surprise the invading armies. In this battle, the Portucalense troops killed more than a thousand soldiers of Urraca, and from then on the hillside, where the battle supposedly took place, became known as "Valdemil Mortos", alluding to the number of dead soldiers, and eventually evolving to "Valdemil", the name that still remains today.

location

Rua do Pilar, Póvoa de Lanhoso
GPS: 41°35'12,31"N 8°16'52,25"W

opening hours

Winter (October to May)
Wednesday to Sunday:
10.00-12.30/14.30-17.30
closed on Monday and Tuesday
Summer (June to September)



Tuesday to Sunday:
10.00-12.30/14.30-18.00
closed on Monday

contacts

Câmara Municipal da Póvoa de Lanhoso
(City Council)
Phone number:+351 253 634 312
email: castelo.lanhoso@mun-planhoso.pt
www.mun-planhoso.pt
www.facebook.com/castelodelanhoso

visit

Sanctuary of Nossa Senhora do Pilar
Sanctuary of Nossa Senhora do Porto de Ave
Romanesque Church of Fontarcada
Gold Museum
Interpretation Centre of Carvalho de Calvos

discover

Medieval Bridge of Esperança
Tourist Village of Carreira
"Castro" (hill fort) of Lanhoso

savour

Kid à la S. José, steaks à la Romaria; "rochas do Pilar", "cavacas" (typical sweets); Vinho Verde

experience

River Beach of Verim
Leisure Park of Pontão
Viewpoint of S. Mamede

get to know

Filigree
Basketry
Works in stone and wood

enjoy

Festival in honour of St. Joseph
19 March
Steak and Melon Festival
First weekend of September
"Estrela de Natal" (Christmas Village - DiverLanhoso and Garfe, village of the cribs)
from 5 December to 4 January

did you know that...

Maria da Fonte, or Minho Revolution, is the name given to a popular uprising that took place in the spring of 1846 against the Chartist government headed by António Bernardo da Costa Cabral. Martim Moniz, born in Póvoa de Lanhoso, was linked to the conquest of Lisbon from the Moors, and sacrificed his own life in an assault attempt to one of the city gates, putting his body between the two knockers, thus allowing the Christians, led by Afonso Henriques, to enter the city.



CASTLE OF SANTA MARIA DA FEIRA SANTA MARIA DA FEIRA

It is regarded as one of the most complete examples of Portuguese medieval architecture

The Castle of Santa Maria da Feira, formerly the head of the Land of Santa Maria, is regarded as one of the most complete examples of Portuguese medieval architecture, since it holds a wide range of defensive resources used between the 11th and 16th centuries.

It played a decisive role both in the military actions that culminated in the conquest of Coimbra in 1064, as well as in the support of the independence cause of Afonso Henriques.

The castle owes its current physiognomy to the changes introduced by the Pereira family, to whom it was delivered in 1448. The ancient fortress acquired the

characteristics of a palatial residence. In the 16th and 17th centuries, the changes extended towards the place-of-arms with the construction of the Counts' Palace and, in the exterior, the chaplaincy.

Today, the castle is prepared to play the role of cultural centre in the vast region in which it operates and that actually was the Land of Santa Maria.

Legends & Stories

Legend of the Castle of Feira

The most current version refers to the existence, at the bottom of the stairway, of a secret passage, so the castle defenders would be able to flee when they were under siege. From this arose the ingenious legend. As the people wanted to make sure of the existence of such underground gallery, they sent a black man down the well in order to look for it. In order to know the direction of that mysterious passage, the black man took a bell where he would ring constantly. The curious ones followed the sound of the bell and thus reached the main square of the small town. Then, the sounds deaden and... The black man never appeared. Today, there is a local saying that whenever someone insists on something with an excessive and unjustified confidence, they are waiting for the return of the black man.

location

Alameda Dr. Roberto Vaz de Oliveira
Santa Maria da Feira
GPS: 40°55'15,4"N 8°32'34,79"W

opening hours

Winter (November to March)
Tuesday to Friday: 9.00-12.30/13.00-17.00

Saturday, Sunday and public holidays:
9.00-12.30/13.00-17.30
[last visit: 30 minutes before closing time]
Summer (April to October)
Tuesday to Friday: 9.30-12.30/13.30-18.00
Saturday, Sunday and public holidays:
10.00-12.30/13.30-18.30
closed on Monday

contacts

Castelo da Feira
Phone number: +351 256 372 248
email: castelo.feira@clix.pt
www.castelodafeira.com

visit

Loios Convent Museum
Terras de Santa Maria Paper Museum
Santa Maria de Lamas Museum
Lourosa Zoo - Ornithological Park
S. Jorge Thermal Spa

discover

"Castro" (hill fort) of Romariz
Visionarium - Science Centre

savour

"Fogaça" (traditional sweet bread),
"caladinhos" (traditional biscuits),
Châmoa liqueur

experience

Castle Route
Park of Ribeiras Rio Úima
Porto Carvoeiro (village)



get to know

Crafts: pottery, wooden artefacts, works in cork, lace, crochet and handmade footwear

enjoy

Imaginarius - International Street Theatre Festival of Santa Maria da Feira
22 and 23 May
Medieval Journey in the Land of Santa Maria
from 29 July to 9 August
"Perlim - Uma Quinta de Sonhos" (A Farm of Dreams)
from December to January 2016

did you know that...

The Medieval Journey in the Land of Santa Maria is the largest medieval re-enactment in Europe, held in midsummer for 12 consecutive days, in the historic centre of Santa Maria da Feira. With rituals that persist through time, the "Fogaceiras" Festival is one of the largest religious events in northern Portugal and the most characteristic festivity in the municipality of Santa Maria da Feira.



“PORTA DO SOL” SERNANCELHE

Built at the southern end of the Douro region, the castle of Sernancelhe guarded the mouth of the Távora River in the 10th century

The ruins of the once castle of Sernancelhe are located in the Historic Centre of Sernancelhe. Built at the southern end of the Douro region, near Serra da Lapa and the road that connected Guarda and Lamego, the castle of Sernancelhe guarded the mouth of the Távora River in the 10th century. It was built by the Order of Malta but the remains regarding occupation in this site, from the Neolithic to the Romanization of the Iberian Peninsula, suggest that other defences of the settlement might have existed before the construction of the medieval castle. It is worth visiting the site and still see the sections of the walls and the gateway “Porta do Sol”.



Legends & Stories

The legends regarding the ancient castle of Sernancelhe, namely the battles between Christians and Moors dating back to the time of the Christian Reconquest, still persist in the imagination of the local community.

location

Rua do Castelo, Sernancelhe
GPS: 40° 54'4.62"N 7°29'43.68"W

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Câmara Municipal de Sernancelhe
(City Council)

Phone number:+ 351 254 598 300

email: geral@cm-sernancelhe.pt

www.cm-sernancelhe.pt

visit

Mother Church of Sernancelhe dedicated to St. John the Baptist
Manor House of Carvalhos
"Casa dos Condes da Lapa e Barões de Moçâmedes" (Manor House of Soveral), Pillory of 1554,
House of the Commendation of the Order of Malta

discover

Historic Centre of Lapa

savour

Fish from the river of Vila da Ponte,

cheese from Lapa; "fálgaros da Tabosa do Carregal", "cavacas de Freixinho" (typical sweets); chestnut jam

experience

Hiking Trails: Route of the chestnut and the chestnut tree, Trail of Lamosa, Trail of Aldeia da Faia

get to know

Quilts or Blankets of Sernancelhe
Tin work of Faia
Basketry of Sernancelhe

enjoy

"Aquiliniana" Fair
from 29 to 31 May
SERnancelhe+Cultura (cultural event)

from 26 to 28 June
Chestnut Festival
from 23 to 25 October

did you know that...

The first Royal Charter is granted to Sernancelhe on 26 October 1124, i.e. 19 years before the Foundation of the Portuguese Nationality.

The Priest João Rodrigues, born in Sernancelhe, was the author of the first grammar of the Japanese language.



CASTLE OF TORRE DE MONCORVO

TORRE DE MONCORVO

Archaeological works took place from 1988 to 2001 in order to reveal some of the ruins of the old castle and surrounding buildings

location

Largo do Castelo, Torre de Moncorvo
GPS: N 41.17536 O -7.05189

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Loja Interativa de Turismo de Torre de Moncorvo (Interactive Tourist Shop)
Phone number: +351 279 252 289
email: turismo@torredemoncorvo.pt
www.torredemoncorvo.pt

In Torre de Moncorvo the name "Castle" is especially applied to the rectangular space overlooking the Francisco Meireles Square, defined by strong stone walls and whose platform serves as the Town Square. The medieval fortification of Torre de Moncorvo, built by order of King Denis around 1295, was originally just a walled enclosure, where the new town was located. The castle might have been built in the first half of the 14th century, located at the southern end of the trapezoidal enclosure. Its corners were protected by circular bastions, while its interior was comprised of two square towers

associated with a building that might have been the residence of the alcaides. The enclosure surrounding the medieval urban area had 3 or 4 gateways. Today, we can only see the Arch of Senhora dos Remédios to the east, and the remains of the southern gateway. Archaeological works took place from 1988 to 2001 in order to reveal some of the ruins of the old castle and surrounding buildings, which are in a recovery and musealization phase.



CASTLE OF MÓS TORRE DE MONCORVO

The “castle” is an oval enclosure that protected the primitive settlement

The ancient medieval town received the Royal Charter from Afonso Henriques in 1162. It had a castle classified as Property of Public Interest, whose wall was built in schist. Only the remains of several sections of the wall can be seen today. The “castle” is an oval enclosure that protected the primitive settlement. The south entrance is known as “barbacã” (barbican). There is a street that runs through the fortified space.

location

Lugar de Mós, Torre de Moncorvo
GPS: N 41.16009 O -6.90859

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Loja Interativa de Turismo de Torre de Moncorvo (Interactive Tourist Shop)
Phone number:+351 279 252 289
email: turismo@torredemoncorvo.pt
www.torredemoncorvo.pt

visit

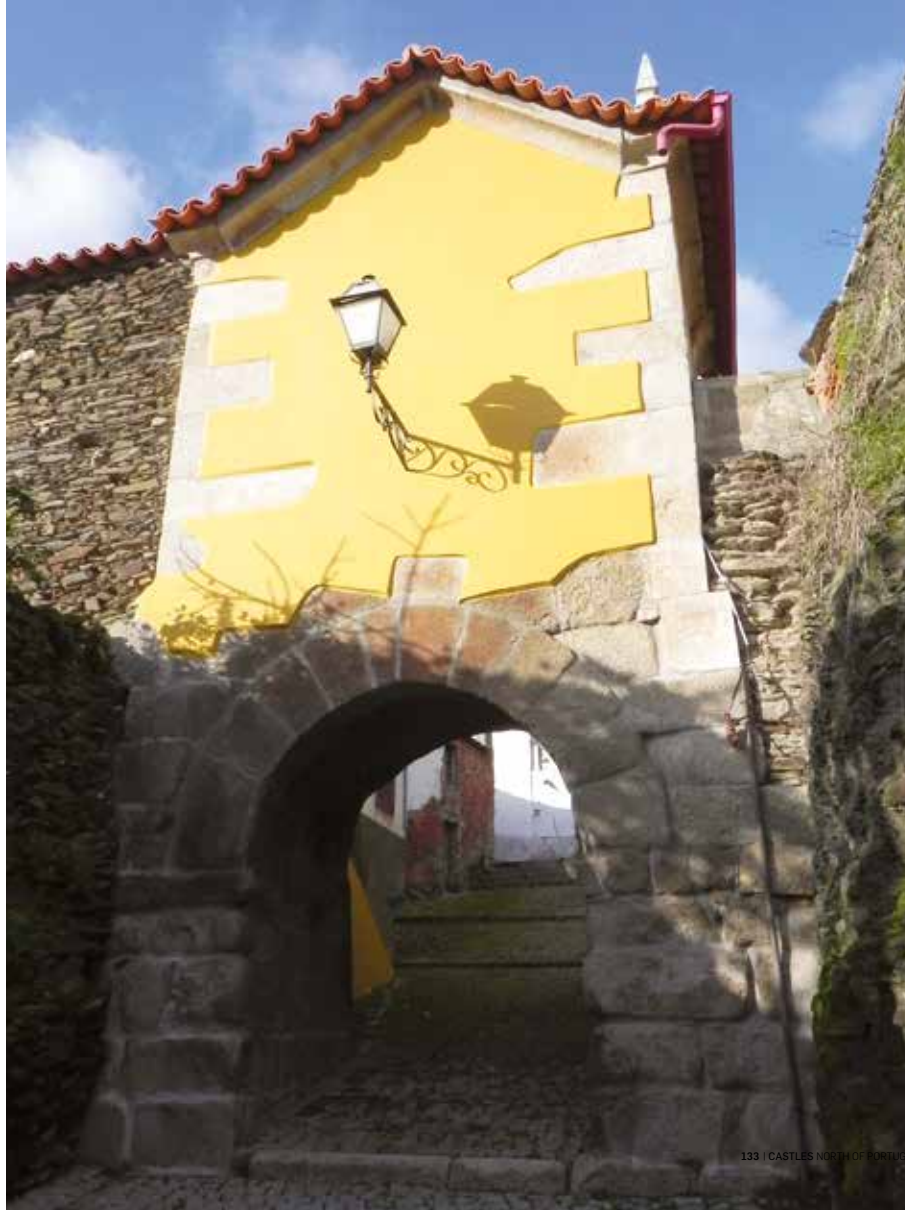
Mother Church of Nossa Senhora da Assunção
Church of Misericórdia of Moncorvo
Church of Santiago Maior
Sacred Art Museum of Torre de Moncorvo
Iron Museum of Moncorvo Region

discover

Historic Centre of Torre de Moncorvo
Village of Mós
"Castro" (hill fort) of Cidadonha or Cigadonha, Carviçais

savour

Broad bean stew with chorizo, kid stew, "cozido" à la Transmontana (boiled varieties of meat, potatoes, smoked sausages and kale), grilled steak, cowpea stew, partridge, rabbit, hare and boar, roasted river fish, "migas de peixe" (sort of fish bread-soup) seasoned with *mentha cervina*; "alheiras", "salpicão", "chouriço", "chouriço de mel", "morcelas", "tabafeia" (typical Portuguese smoked sausages); lamb stew and coal-roasted lamb, fried fish with "Ribeira" sauce, "migas de peixe" (sort of fish bread-soup), fish in vinegar sauce, "caldeirada da Ribeira" (traditional stew), "amêndoa coberta" (toasted almonds covered in fondant); "cavacas", "canelões", "delícias" and almond "bilhós" (traditional sweets)



experience

River Beach of Foz do Sabor
Rail Trail of Sabor
Reboredo Mountain

get to know

"Partidela da Amêndoa"
(traditional cultural event)

enjoy

Medieval Fair of Torre de Moncorvo
from 19 to 22 March
Celebration of the Holy Week
from 28 March to 5 April
Festivals in honour of Our Lady of Assumption
from 13 to 15 August

did you know that...

Constantino, "The King of Florists", was born in Torre de Moncorvo on 18 August 1802. Although of plebeian origin, he held a prominent position as an artist in Genoa, Paris and Lisbon. His fame was universal, "he astoundingly mimicked the natural flowers, not only their flexibility, colour, aroma and freshness, but also nature's accidents." Júlio Máximo de Oliveira Pimentel, 2nd Viscount of Vila Maior, was born in Moncorvo on 5 October 1809. He was a soldier and politician, as well as Governor of the Province of Trás-os-Montes in 1823.

Legends & Stories

"Porta do Sol"

There was a beautiful princess named Contrasta, the daughter of an old king who reigned here. One day, a Moorish prince joined his army and attacked this land to take Contrasta. Sad and moribund, the king retired into the palace garden. Flower petals fell and turned into stones, forming a huge wall that served as the king's grave. This wall became a fortress.

The Moorish prince was angry, because he wanted to claim victory, but that was not possible as he could not find the dead king's body. He found the other princess, sister of Contrasta, and killed her. The birds said to her: "You, oh beautiful one, you will be Queen of the Sun." In her place is a gateway: "Portas do Sol" (Gateway of the Sun).

Contrasta assists her dying sister and the Moor left her in agony under a tree. The leaves murmured: "You shall be crowned." The Moor was pushed towards the bottom of the valley and turned into a river at the foot of the princesses that he had murdered.



location

Intramural perimeter of the current fortress of Valença - Recinto Magistral
GPS: 42°1'49.88"N 8°38'41.52"W

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

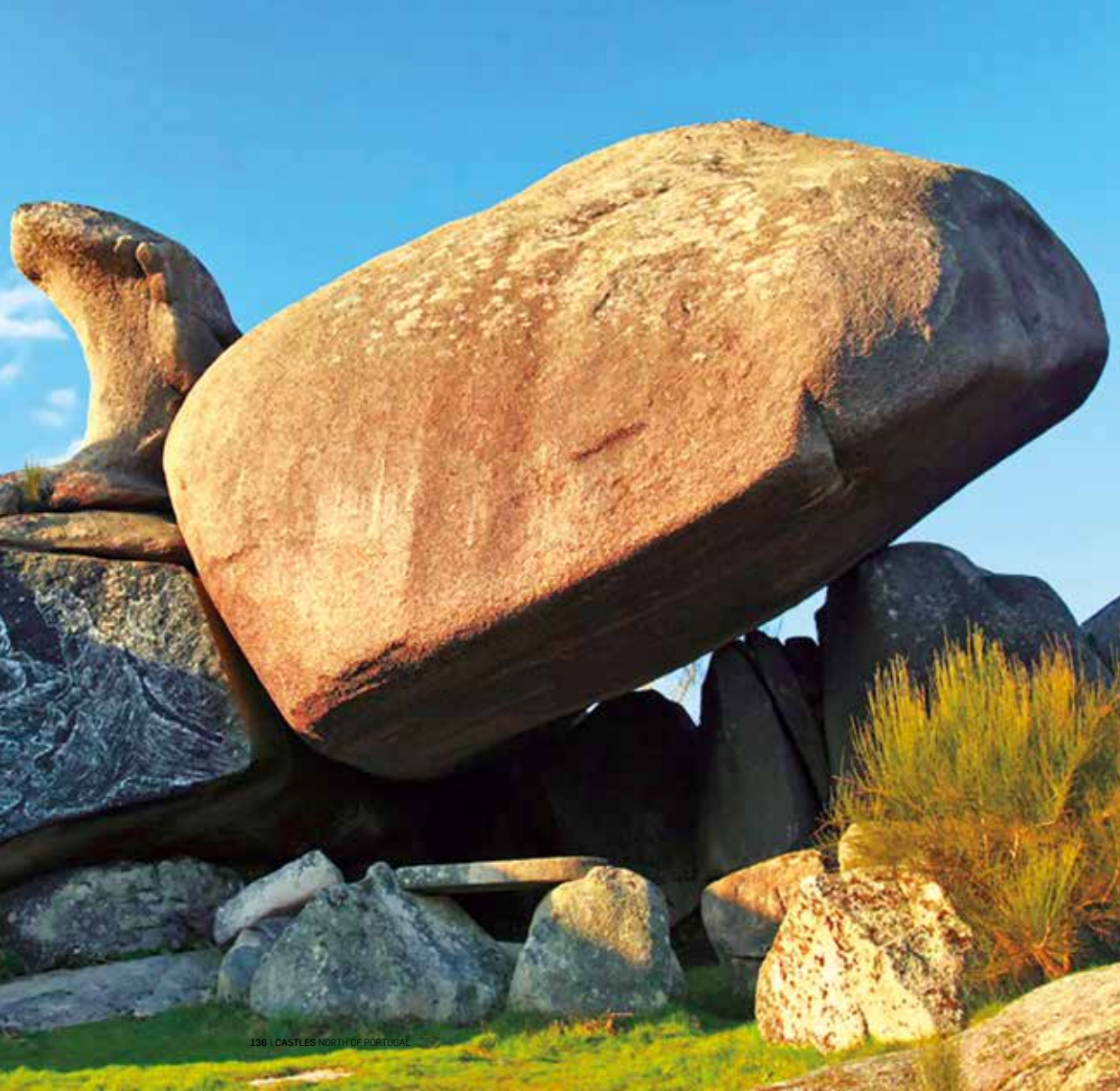
Câmara Municipal de Valença (City Council)
Phone number: +351 251 809 500
email: gap@cm-valenca.pt
nmuseologico@cm-valenca.pt
www.cm-valenca.pt

REMAINS OF THE MIEVIAL CASTLE OF VALENÇA VALENÇA

The city had been shifted to a higher position, an excellent point of support for any military initiative on Portuguese territory

In the second half of the 12th century, the fortification of Contrasta (Valença) became insufficient for an effective defence. The small fortification was face to face with an important episcopal centre, Tui, and later, after the intervention of Ferdinand II in 1170, its defensive capacities were expanded. The city had been shifted to a higher point, which provided a better control over the surrounding area and lessen its vulnerability, establishing itself as an excellent point of support for any military initiative on Portuguese territory. The Portuguese monarch grants the Royal Charter and allows the

development of a reinforced, fortified urban centre in Contrasta, thus consolidating its position on the natural border of the river. This strategic initiative was aimed at counteracting the force exerted between Lima and Minho by the episcopal city of Tui. The intervention of the Portuguese king strengthened the tenuous urban component of the area. As Contrasta was located at one of the extreme edges of the national territory, its affirmation would have been important, along with the processes of urban development of the three major cities to the north of Douro: Braga, Guimarães and Porto.



CASTLE OF FURNAS VALENÇA VALENÇA

It was a significant example of a Romanesque fortress that has not been restructured in the Gothic era

It was a significant example of a Romanesque fortress that has not been restructured in the Gothic era. From the early 13th century, all the regional strategic interest was shifting towards the Minho river border, to Valença and Monção, sadly neglecting the castle. The fanciful shapes of the overlapping boulders, the sites and memories of the fossil fields and the broad hill castle, the shelters that echo the lives of ancestors and the presence of animals, as well as the queen's garden are places and ways that promote amongst the local community the creation of fables that nowadays continue to honour this place.

location

Freguesia de Boivão, Valença
GPS: 41°59'22,83"N 8°33'2,47"W

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Núcleo Museológico de Valença (Museum)
Phone number:+351 251 806 020
email: nmuseologico@cm-valenca.pt
www.cm-valenca.pt



visit

Municipal Museum
Church of Santo Estevão
Baluarte do Socorro (bastion)
Paiol de Marte (Tourist Shop),
Coroada
Chapel of Bom Jesus, Coroada

discover

Roman stairway and "Afoncina"
Gateway
Gaviarra Gateway
Casa do Eirado (15th century house)

savour

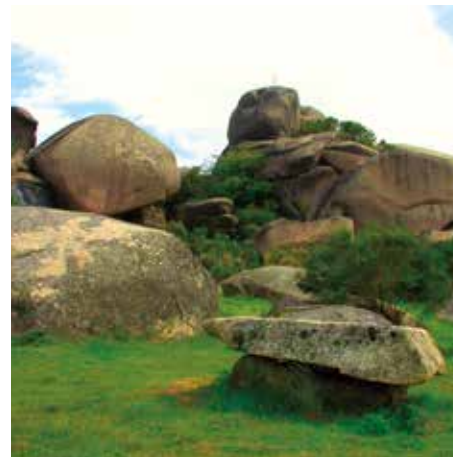
Codfish à la S. Teotónio, kid à la
Sanfins, "caldo verde" (traditional
kale soup), "borrachinhos de
Valença" (typical sweet)

experience

Biotype of Veiga da Mira
Rail Trail of Minho River
Monte do Faro (viewpoint)

get to know

Lenços de Namorados (Handmade
Valentine handkerchiefs of
Valença)
(red cross-stitch patterns)
Collective Exhibition of the
Portuguese Broom
(day before 1 May)
"Lanço da Cruz", Paschal Cross in
Sra. da Cabeça (traditional festival
where the parish priests of Valença
cross the Minho River towards Tui
with the Paschal Cross)



enjoy

Weekly Market
every Wednesday of each month
Festivals of Nossa Senhora da
Cabeça
Easter Monday and Tuesday
Festival of Senhora do Faro
15 August
All Saints Fair
1 November

did you know that...

S. Teotónio (Saint Theotonius) was
born in Ganfei - Valença, in 1082,
and he is the First Portuguese
Saint.
The image of Our Lady of Mount
Carmel in the interior of the
Military Chapel of Bom Jesus, from

the 18th to the 20th centuries, was
the patroness of the Infantry
Regiment No. 21 of Valença.
The Church of Santo Estevão was
the seat of the Collegiate,
displaying a Gothic-Mudejar
episcopal chair, dating back to the
15th century.



ARCH OF D. DINIS VILA FLOR

Inside we can see the old houses that tradition suggests to be the remains of the local Jewry

King Denis granted the Royal Charter to Vila Flor in 1286, and ordered the construction of an enclosure of walls surrounding the small town with five gateways with arches. Today, only the Arch of D. Dinis (or "Portas da Vila") - 3.5 m wide by 4 m high - can be seen. Through this gateway we can penetrate the dense atmosphere that surrounds the historic area of the town. Inside we can see the old houses that tradition suggests to be the remains of the local Jewry. Property of Public Interest by Decree No. 40361, in the Government Gazette No. 228 of 20 October 1955.

Legends & Stories

While heading towards his beloved Elizabeth of Aragon, King Denis passed through the small town that was once Póvoa de Além Sabor, and was amazed by the beauty of the lands, so beautiful and flowery. He granted it the Royal Charter in 1286, poetically naming it Vila Flor (Flower Town). In order to defend the population from the attacks of Castile, the King ordered the construction of a ring of walls, of which remains the Arch of D. Dinis, joining the pillory and the Roman fountain as classified heritage.

location

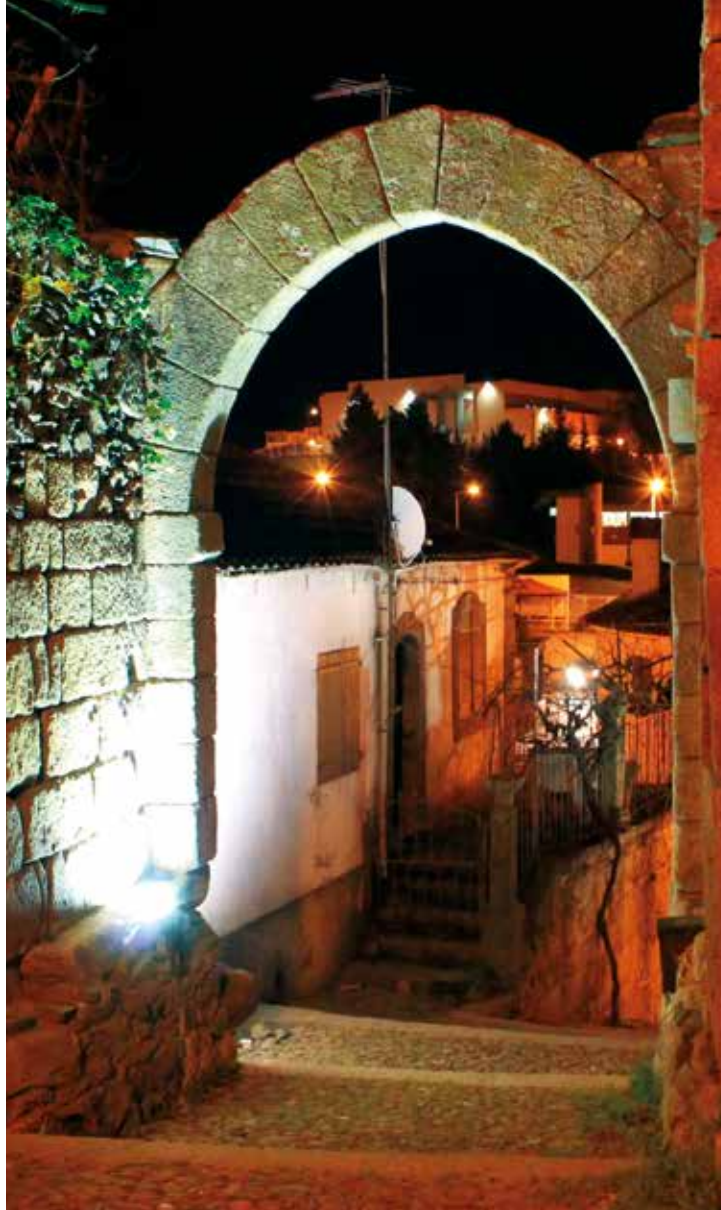
Rua Portas da Vila, Vila Flor
GPS: 41°18'21.69"N 7°9'6.87"W

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Câmara Municipal de Vila Flor
(City Council)
Phone number: +351 278 510 100
email: geral@cm-vilafior.pt
www.cm-vilafior.pt



visit

Dra. Berta Cabral Municipal
Museum
Roman Fountain
Lemos Manor House
Mother Church
Praça da República (main square)

discover

Typical streets of the Historic
Centre
(Nova, Saco and Portela)
Medieval crosses of Santa Comba
de Vilarça
Gallows of Freixiel

savour

"Enchidos" (typical Portuguese
smoked sausages), kid roasted in
wood oven, fried river fish in
vinegar sauce, "terrinho" cheese,
olive oil, mushrooms, fruit from
Vilarça, honey, wine from the
Douro region

experience

Tua Valley
Tourist Complex of Peneireiro
Sanctuary of Nossa Senhora da
Assunção

get to know

Contra dance of the "Grupo de
Danças e Cantares" of Vila Flor
Annual Gala of "Cantar os Reis"
(traditional event celebrated

around the Three Kings' Day)
Celebration of the Popular Saints

enjoy

Festival and Pilgrimage of Nossa
Senhora da Assunção
15 August
TerraFlor - Fair of Regional
Products and Flavours
From 22 to 24 August
Town Festivities in honour of
St. Bartholomew
From 22 to 24 August

did you know that...

While passing through this
borough, called at the time "Póvoa
d'Álem Sabor", King Denis, the Poet,
was delighted and struck by the
beauty of the landscape and, in
1286, he affectionately renamed it
"Vila Flor".
The honoured artist Graça Morais
(painter) was born in the
Municipality of Vila Flor.



CASTLE OF CERVEIRA VILA NOVA DE CERVEIRA

We call it castle, but it is in fact an enclosure because, in addition to its military function, it has always harboured private houses in well-defined roads

The castle began its history in the 14th century with the foundation of Vila Nova de Cerveira. The Castle of Cerveira, of oval plan and measuring about 260 metres in perimeter (with a major axis of 90 metres and a minor axis of 65 metres), is defended by eight square towers, five of which abut the southern curtain wall, very susceptible to an attack. We call it castle, but it is in fact an enclosure because, in addition to its military function, it has always harboured private houses in well-defined roads. Access to the castle was made through the Castle Keep. We can still see the shield of King Denis surmounting this entrance.

A gateway on the side of the river was opened, called "Porta da Traição". The barbican involving the castle is from a later time, the Portuguese Crisis of 1383–85. This second lower ring of walls was either ordered by King Ferdinand I or King John I. In the 20th century, after the rehabilitation works on the castle, and with a different perspective on the heritage, a process of adaptation to a Hostel took place. The Hostel, called D. Dinis, in honour of the king, was inaugurated in 1982. Although it closed, the Castle of Cerveira still remains a must-see.

Legends & Stories

Legend has it that long ago in these parts there were only deer, led by an imposing Deer King. They defended these lands of any man who dared to come here. The Romans came, then the Barbarians and even Muslims. All were defeated by the Deer King. Over the years, the deer began to die, one by one, until there was only their king. At that time, an important and courageous Portuguese noble dared to confront it. The Deer King was old and succumbed to its injuries from the strong fight, eventually dying in the high mountains of Cerveira, accompanied by the noble's banner. In order to pay homage to it, the Deer is still the greatest symbol of the Lands of Cerveira.

location

Terreiro - Praça da Liberdade, Vila Nova de Cerveira
GPS: 41°56'25.40"N 8°44'39.22"W

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Loja Interativa de Turismo de Vila Nova de Cerveira (Interactive Tourist Shop)
Phone number: +351 251 708 023
email: turismo@cm-vncerveira.pt
www.cm-vncerveira.pt

visit

Historic Centre
Leisure Park of Castelinho
Aqua Museum of Minho River
Convent of S. Paio
Castros Manor House

discover

"Aro Arqueológico"
(archaeological site dating back to the Iron Age/Early Middle Ages) and the Fort of Lovelhe
Fortified Settlement of Cossourado
Rock Engravings of Serra da Gávea

savour

"Debulho de sável" (traditional dish made with the lesser parts of the allis shad from Minho River), lamprey from Minho River, "galo de cabidela" (cock and giblets rice), codfish à la Maria José; sweet biscuits, corn biscuits; "cerveirenses", "trovadores" (typical sweets); gourmet jams, Vinho Verde

experience

Boat trips on Minho River
Rail Trail - "Caminho do Rio"
Interpretation Trail of Ribeira Covas (village)

get to know

Casa do Artesão (promotion of



local crafts)
Interpretation Centre of the Water Mills of Gávea
"Queima de Judas" (folk festival)

enjoy

International Biennial of Art of Cerveira
(Every two years, from the third weekend of July to the third weekend of September)
City Festivities in honour of St. Sebastian
First weekend of August
History Festival
Third weekend of August



did you know that...

On 15 February 1809 the Castle of Cerveira repelled the French army in their second invasion attempt of the Portuguese territory. Today, one of the cannons used in the defence of the Minho border can still be seen in the Castle of Cerveira.



CASTLE OF NUMÃO

VILA NOVA DE FOZ CÔA

In 960 it belonged to Châmoa Rodrigues, who donated it to the convent of Guimarães through his aunt, the Countess Mumadona

It is located on top of a rocky hill between two deep valleys irrigated by the tributary streams of Douro River. From this castle we can see the castles of Ansiães, Ranhados and Penedono, as well as Castelo Melhor and Castelo Rodrigo. With remains from the late Neolithic to Roman times, the place name derives from the pre-Roman word "Nauman", meaning "strong city". In fact, some scholars of the 18th and 19th centuries even located here the famous Numantia of the Celtiberians, conquered by the Romans in 133 BC and that is now considered to be close to Soria (Spain). However, others claim that the place name may derive instead

from the Arabic name "Numān", a testimony of Islamic occupation. At an altitude of 704 metres, in 960 the Castle of Numão belonged to Châmoa Rodrigues, who donated it to the convent of Guimarães through his aunt, the Countess Mumadona. Meanwhile, it must have been occupied by the Moors, reconquered by Ferdinand I, the Great, of León in 1055. With regard to its structure, it presents an irregular plan with three gateways ("Porta do Poente", "Porta do Arco" and "Porta de S. Pedro") and a castle keep with two window slits. The Church of Santa Maria, built inside the castle and now in ruins, still displays its Romanesque

architecture. Outside the walls there is a necropolis with graves dug in the rock, near the ruins of the old Chapel of São Pedro. It is a national monument and has recently undergone rehabilitation works.

Legends & Stories

The Castle of Numão must have suffered in the battles against the Moors, as it underwent improvement works in 1189, in the reign of Sancho I. There are still remains of a Christ in enamelled bronze of Limoges, which can be appreciated in Numão, and that witnessed the presence of French crusaders in the battles against Islam.

location

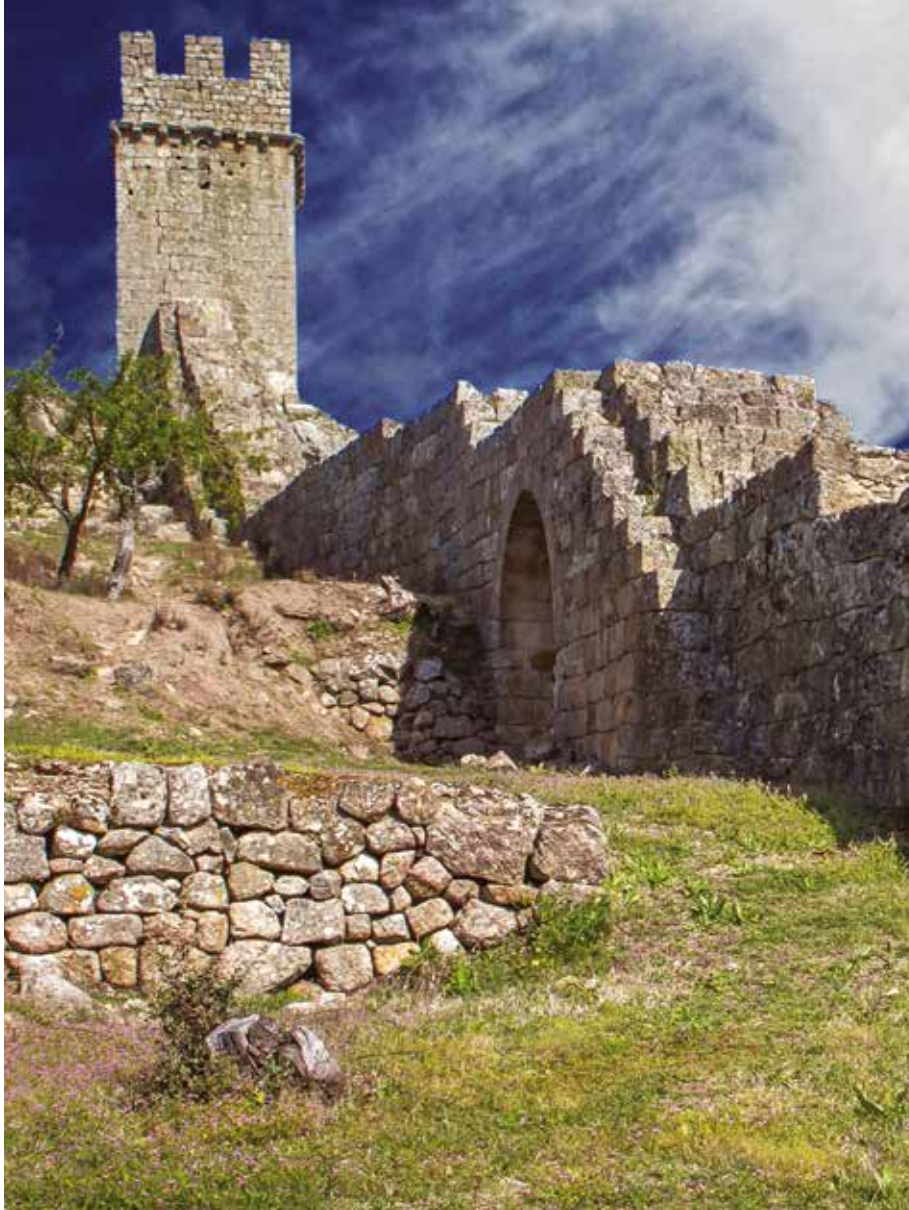
Estrada do Castelo, Numão - Vila Nova de Foz Côa
GPS: N 41.099105 O -7.290750

opening hours

Always open to the public

contacts

Câmara Municipal de Vila Nova de Foz Côa (City Council)
Phone number: +351 279 760 400
email: correio@cm-fozcoa.pt
www.cm-fozcoa.pt



visit

Museum of Art and Archaeology of the Côa Valley
Mother Church of Vila Nova de Foz Côa / Pillory
Historic Area
Casa Grande Museum
High Performance Centre of Pocinho

discover

Historic Centre of Foz Côa
Archaeological Park of the Côa Valley
Archaeological Circuit of Freixo de Numão

savour

"Migas de pilongas" (sort of bread-soup with a seasonal type of mushrooms), mushrooms stuffed with almonds, sorrel salad, asparagus omelet, "migas de peixe" (sort of fish bread-soup), river fish, roasted kid, game dishes (boar, rabbit, hare, partridge), almond sweets, "súplicas" (biscuits), "folares" (Easter cakes); "coscorões", "bolas toscas", "livradas" and "picadas" (typical sweets); "licor da 4ª classe" (liqueur)

experience

Rabelo Boat Trips - Boat "Senhora da Veiga"
World Heritage Sites: Alto Douro

Wine Region, Rock Engravings
Hiking Trails: "Caminhos do Douro",
Route of Viewpoints, Almond Blossom Route

get to know

History of the Rope-house
Lace and Embroidery
"Partida da Amêndoa" (traditional cultural event)

enjoy

34th Almond Blossom and World Heritage Festival
from 20 February to 8 March
4th Douro Superior Wine Festival
from 22 to 24 May
5th CINECOA - International Film Festival
October

did you know that...

The ropes used by Vasco da Gama on his trip to India were made in Foz Côa, and the ropes present in the slender Manueline pillory located in the Town Square are a tribute to the rope makers of Foz Côa. According to Emeritus art researcher, Professor Vítor Serrão, the paintings in the chancel of the Mother Church are by the 16th-century Portuguese painter, António Leitão, whose work is also represented at the Jerónimos Monastery in Lisbon.



CASTLE OF AGUIAR

VILA POUÇA DE AGUIAR

This is a hill castle, supported by a gigantic granite cliff, dating back to the 9th/10th centuries

The Castle of Aguiar is an important tourist attraction, because it results from a unique combination of nature and human ingenuity. This is a hill castle, supported by a gigantic granite cliff, dating back to the 9th/10th centuries. The enquiries of 1220 refer to an operational fortress, which could have integrated a manorial residence. This National Monument (1982) benefits from the facilitated accesses and the viewpoint implemented at the highest point of the fortification, providing a panoramic view over the Aguiar Valley.

Legends & Stories **Legend of the Maimed** **(O Decegado)**

Following the heroic act that would eternalise Duarte de Almeida, the chief lieutenant of King Afonso V, born in Sabrosa, as the Maimed for having raised the national flag entrusted to him in the Battle of Toro (1476) with his teeth, as his hands were cut off by the enemy, legend has it that, moribund, he went towards the Castle of Aguiar. In the Castle there lived his beloved Luísa. In addition to the loss of his upper limbs, the Maimed mourned the betrayal inflicted by Luísa, who had thought him dead in battle:



"May I die with a heart as icy cold than to see from a strong love such ingratitude unfold" (translation of excerpt from *Noites de Insónia* (1874) by Camilo Castelo Branco).

location

Lugar de Castelo - Telões, Vila Pouca de Aguiar
GPS: 41°28'09"N 7°40'48"W

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

Museu Municipal Padre José Rafael Rodrigues (Museum)
Phone number: +351 259 403 103
www.cm-vpaguiar.pt



visit

Roman Mining Complex of Tresminas
Pedras Salgadas Spa & Nature Park
Padre José Rafael Rodrigues Municipal Museum
Leisure Park of the Dam of Falperra, Alvão
Forest Park

discover

Roman Mining Complex of Tresminas
Aldeia do Castelo (village)

savour

Kid à la Serrana, "fumeiro" (smoked meat), "rabanadas" (fried bread slices sprinkled with sugar and cinnamon) with honey

experience

Wolf Interpretative Trail
Birds of Prey Interpretative Trail
Veronica Micrantha Interpretative Trail

get to know

Works in granite
Traditional Husking

enjoy

Vila Pouca de Aguiar City and Granite Fair
From 5 to 7 June

Roman Gold Festival
From 18 to 19 July
Traditional Onion Fair
25 September

did you know that...

The viewpoint at the top of the Castle provides a privileged view over the Penacova - Régua - Vérin fault, about 300 million years old, which led to the formation of the extensive and fertile valley that extends between the mountains of Alvão and Padrela, from Vila Real to Chaves, as well as the formation of granite and medicinal mineral waters of the region.
The Castle of Aguiar was the scene of one of the episodes of the campaign of Afonso Henriques for the independence of the County of Portugal.



QUINTELA TOWER VILA REAL

It is one of the few examples of civil-military architecture that proves the nobility's presence in the lands of Trás-os-Montes

The Quintela Tower is a building from the 13th century, a period of increased agricultural and demographic development in Vila Real. The square manorial tower is a robust and towering building that received balcony windows and corner lookouts in the 14th century. It is one of the few examples of civil-military architecture that proves the nobility's presence in the lands of Trás-os-Montes. In 1910, when the Portuguese Monarchy ended, the Tower was classified as a National Monument. Only fortune prevents its disappearance, as the mason who had bought it in the early 20th century to reuse the carved stone,

found such process too expensive, and therefore allowed it to survive to the present day. In the 80s, it was subject to a full restoration work by the former IPPAR (now IGESPAR - Institute of Management of Architectural and Archaeological Heritage).

location

Quintela - Vila Marim, Vila Real
GPS: N 41.2974 O -7.7802

opening hours

Visits by prior appointment
Phone number: +351 259 320 340
email: museu@cm-vilareal.pt



contacts

Museu de Vila Real (Museum)
Phone number:+351 259 320 340
email: museu@cm-vilareal.pt
<http://museu.cm-vilareal.pt>

visit

Numismatics Museum
Vila Velha Museum
Cathedral
New Chapel
Carreira Gardens

discover

Sanctuary of Panoias
Vila Velha (Old Town)
Village of Lamas de Olo

savour

“Tripas aos molhos” (cow’s tripe and intestines with smoked ham and parsley), PDO Maronesa meat, “reca D’Aleu” (traditional slow-roasted pork dish), “covilhetes” (small meat pies); “cristas de galo”, “pitos de Santa Luzia”, “cavacórios” (typical sweets); wines from Vila Real’s Wine Cellar

experience

Hiking Trail along the Corgo River (Corgo Park)
Portuguese Inland Route to Santiago de Compostela/Rail Trail of Corgo
Alvão Natural Park

get to know

Black Pottery of Bisalhães
Linen of Agarez
International Racing Circuit of Vila Real

enjoy

City Festivities of Vila Real
June
Crafts and Food Fair
Last weekend of November
Antiques Fair
Second Saturday of the month

did you know that...

Vila Real was once known as the Court of Trás-os-Montes as the Marquises of Vila Real were living there, holding strong links to the Portuguese Royal Palace. Vila Real was the first Portuguese city to produce hydroelectric power.



CASTLE OF ALGOSO

VIMIOSO

Its excellent strategic position, overlooking Angueira River, was an important factor for the settlement of populations from the Chalcolithic period

In the 12th century Mendo Rufino (or Bofino), lord of the region by donation from Afonso Henriques, ordered the construction of fortifications to guard the border with León. However, some authors advocate a previous construction, dating back to the Islamic period. But the chronology of occupation of this site might have actually been even more archaic. In fact, its excellent strategic position, overlooking Angueira River, was an important factor for the settlement of populations from the Chalcolithic period. Recent and urgent archaeological excavations exhumed important material evidences that revealed a complex

stratigraphy, corresponding to different historical phases of occupation: the Chalcolithic, Bronze/Iron Age, Late Roman Period, Middle Ages and Early Modern Age.

Legends & Stories

Legend of the Wizard of the Castle of Algosó

The Christians decided to expel the Moors by invading the Castle of Algosó. A wizard that only cared for gold lived in the castle. He foresaw the attack on the castle and fled, taking the gold with him. He buried it next to a fountain. At the time a girl appeared to get some water. Afraid of revealing the secret to the girl, the wizard cast a spell on her, and said: " - A snake you will become so your mouth will forever be numb!" And so she was turned into a snake, remaining next to the fountain. The Christians took possession of the castle.

The wizard disappeared without a trace.

People say that on the night of St. John, a very beautiful girl appears, dancing next to the castle. When someone tries to approach her, she disappears towards the fountain, dragging the skin that transforms her back into a snake.

PARAFITA, Alexander - "A Mitologia dos Mouros: lendas, mitos, serpentes e tesouros", Edições Gailivro, 2006, page 371)

location

Aldeia de Algosó, Vimioso
GPS: N 41.462194 O -6.579099

opening hours

Castle and respective Reception Centre
Winter

Tuesday to Sunday:
9.00-12.30/14.00-17.30

Summer

Tuesday to Sunday:
10.00-12.30/14.00-18.30
closed on Monday

contacts

Centro de Acolhimento do Castelo de Algosó (Reception Centre)
Phone number:+351 226 197 080
email: algoso.castelo@gmail.com
www.patrimoniomoterritorio.pt
www.cm-vimioso.pt; <http://castelodealgoso.blogspot.pt/>

visit

Mother Church of Algosó and Vimioso
Fonte Santa (fountain) in the Chapel of S. João Baptista, Algosó
Romanesque Bridge, Algosó
Casa da Cultura (cultural centre) of Vimioso
Traditional Dovecotes, Uva

discover

Village of Uva
Village of S. Joanico
Village of Caçarelhos

savour

Steak à la Mirandesa, roasted kid,

"Butelo" (special smoked sausage from Trás-os-Montes) with dried green bean pods, wild mushrooms, regional "fumeiro" (smoked meat), "alheira" (sausage made of meat and bread), berry jams, chestnut pudding, traditional liqueurs

experience

Birdwatching, Vila Chã da Ribeira Nature Walks
Routes and Trails: "Rota da Terra Fria" (Route through Trás-os-Montes), Route of the Castles

get to know

"Cantar das Janeiras" (traditional event celebrated around the Three Kings' Day)
Carnival in the Parish of Santulhão
"Escrinhos" (baskets made of straw, reed and bramble)

enjoy

Bread Fair
Palm Sunday
Senhora do Castelo Festival
15 August
Fair of Art, Crafts and Flavours
Weekend before Christmas

did you know that...

Every year at the weekend prior to Easter the AEPGA association performs the Donkey Ride entitled "Por Terras De L Rei" (Through the



King's Lands) to rest and simply contemplate nature in the company of the Miranda Donkey. Through the slopes, vineyards and olive groves, and through huge oak trees and a stunning landscape, the tour goes towards the Lands of Algosó where the Castle is placed, overlooking the valley of Angueira River, on an imposing rocky outcrop.



CASTLE OF VINHAIS

VINHAIS

The Barbican must have been built in the 16th century, with several quadrangular towers and cubic turrets

It is a Romanesque and 16th-century military architectural complex which features an irregular plan with buildings in schist and a double wall. The Barbican must have been built in the 16th century, with several quadrangular towers and cubic turrets.

It has two gateways, one of which is a double gateway with a semicircular arch to the north-west, facing Arrabalde Square, holding two niches, one on top of the extrados and another in the soffit, both protected by a small window glass. The former is simple, but the one in the soffit is tripartite, holding an image of Saint Anthony of Padua. From the outer

part, only the arch remains, built in the wall frame of the buildings that flank it. However, the inner gateway still retains part of the original structure, with one of the side turrets on the left. With regard to the other turret, only the lower part of the building can still be observed. To the south lies another gateway, also with a semicircular arch and an empty niche with a window glass, where once there must have been the image of Senhora das Portas in the soffit, facing the church of São Facundo.

On the outer part, we can detect the presence of walls in schist that refer to the second ring of walls, in particular to one of its cubic turrets.

Inside, the urban fabric develops in a disorderly fashion, developing around the square where the pillory, the Medieval Town Square and the Parish Church of Nossa Senhora da Assunção are located.

Legends & Stories

According to the occurrence described by Francisco Manuel Alves in his manuscript "Memórias Arqueológico-Históricas do Distrito de Bragança" during the Restoration War, a girl named Victoria was leaving a white quilt to dry on the wall of the convent, after she had previously washed it. As the wall of the convent was quite low, some Spanish soldiers jumped over it and stole the quilt. Some novices and nuns were at their windows when they saw the theft and began to shout: "- Victoria! The quilt!" But as Victoria did not seem interested in the occurrence, the novices and nuns continued to shout: "- Victoria! Victoria!"

In hearing such shouts (Victoria meaning victory), the defenders of the castle thought that the end of the siege was near, and therefore they intensified their fire and so did the populations in the exterior. The sounds of the drumming and the bells ringing made such noise and commotion that the Spanish

thought that the power of the world was upon them. They ended the siege and fled on their horses, disappearing through "Rio de Fornos e Muymenta", leaving as witnesses the portable iron chairs of the Spanish general Pantoja and the cauldron where he had left his meal.

Location

Centro Histórico de Vinhais
GPS: 41°50'06.59"N 7°00'02.90"W

opening hours

always open to the public

contacts

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visit

Solar dos Condes de Vinhais
Cultural Centre
Sacred Art Museum
of the Order of St. Francis of
Vinhais
Museum of Smuggling
Green Park of Arts and Crafts
Biological Park of Vinhais

discover

Moimenta Village
Serra da Coroa (mountain)
Monte da Ciradilha (hill)

savour

"Sopa das matanças", "sopa das malhas", "sopa das alheiras", "sopa de nabos", "caldo de cascas" (typical soups); "salpicão de Vinhais", "alheira de Vinhais", "butelo", "chouriça de carne", "chouriça doce", "chouriço azedo" (typical smoked sausages); river fish, trouts from Tuela, boiled spring greens with "linguiça" and "chouriço de pão" (typical smoked sausages), "javali no pote" (traditional boar dish), dried green bean pods with "butelo" (special smoked sausage from Trás-os-Montes), "feijoada" (bean stew) with boar, Easter cake, "pastéis de massa tenra" (typical small meat pies), "cuscos" (Trás-os-Montes product made from wheat flour), chestnut pie, chestnut pudding, rice pudding, chestnut cake; "pastel de nata" with chestnut, "bolo rei" (Portuguese Christmas cake) with chestnut; "bolinhos das Clarissas" and "canelões de Vinhais" (typical sweets)

experience

Via Augusta XVII (path)
Ciradilha Trail
Fragas do Pinheiro (trail)

get to know

Wooden Masks of Ousilhão and Vila Boa
Wicker Baskets of Cidões



enjoy

Smoked Meat Festival
Second weekend of February
"Dia dos Diabos" (traditional festival)
Ash Wednesday and following Saturday
Rural Castanea (chestnut festival)
Last weekend of October

did you know that...

The first monarchical incursions took place from 4 to 5 October 1911 in the Galician border of Vinhais, exactly one year after the revolution that led to the victory of 5 October 1910, giving rise to a republican regime in Portugal. Professor Barahona Fernandes, the psychiatrist responsible for the introduction of Psychoanalysis in Portugal, was born in Vinhais.

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