



A golden tour

Gold is the colour that provides the theme for a three-day tour in which you can appreciate the magnificent ostentatiousness of art and architecture in the Lisbon region.

Your first day is dedicated to touring the city of Lisbon and your journey begins in Belém, from where the first vessels set sail for distant lands to start the Portuguese expansion overseas. On their return, they brought with them untold riches that financed great works, such as the building of the Mosteiro dos Jerónimos. Now housed in this building is the Maritime Museum, where you can see the 18th-century "Bergantim real" (Royal Barge), a genuine jewel of naval construction. You can also appreciate other treasures used for land transport, such as King João V's Coach at the National Coach Museum. This belonged to the king who commissioned the building of the Aqueduto das Águas Livres, with its 35 huge arches spanning the Vale de Alcântara, one of Lisbon's great landmarks.

Continue on to the National Museum of Ancient Art. Amongst the museum's many remarkable pieces are the Mogul Cabinet, bearing witness to the intermingling of Eastern and Western cultures, and the Chinese porcelain bottle coolers, forming part of a unique set in the whole world. Next comes the Basílica da Estrela, whose magnificent dome stands out on the city's skyline, and after this the Igreja dos Paulistas, lined with valuable gilded wood carvings and stucco work.

The Igreja de São Roque will be your next stop. Inside is the admirable Chapel of St John the Baptist, made entirely of marble and semi-precious stones, and next to this is the Sacred Art Museum, where you can find the Reliquary of St. John de Britto decorated with silver low-relief carvings. From the top of the Elevador de Santa Justa, you can appreciate the view over the Baixa Pombalina, the city's downtown area rebuilt after the 1755 earthquake, an example of urban planning based on a uniform grid system. Later, at the National Tile Museum housed in the Convento da Madre de Deus, you can form an idea of what the city was like before this earthquake by looking at the 23-metre-long tile panel known as the "Grande Panorama de Lisboa", but first you should visit the churches of Menino Deus and Santa Engrácia, with their multi-coloured marble decorations. To round off your day, visit the Igreja da Madre de Deus, with its excellent carved and gilded woodwork and decorative tiles offering you a dazzling spectacle of gold and blue.

Next morning, visit the gardens and palace of the Marquises of Fronteira, bearing testimony to the splendour and sophistication in which the nobility lived in the 17th and 18th centuries. After this, head out of town to the Palácio Nacional de Queluz. Spend some time exploring its sumptuous interiors, such as the Throne Room, with its walls lined with carved and gilded woodwork and mirrors, and then enjoy a stroll through the gardens embellished with fountains and lakes. Continue on to Mafra and spend the rest of the day admiring the vast architectural complex formed from the Royal Palace, Basilica and Convent. Your visit will necessarily take some time, but make sure to see its six unique organs, the two carillon bells set among 112 others, and the magnificent library.

On the third day, head for Alcobaça and visit the Monastery, classified as World Heritage. Built in the 12th century in Gothic style, it was subjected to a series of alterations visible in the façade (altered in the 18th century) or in the Sacristy, which houses a special baroque artistic treasure – the Sanctuary and the Altarpiece of the Death of St. Bernard. Continue your journey on to Santarém, where you can appreciate the decorative splendour of the Cathedral's ceilings and altars, and, at the Casa-Museu Anselmo Braamcamp, you'll find a remarkable pair of still lifes painted by Josefa de Óbidos. By way of homage, you should end your tour at the Igreja da Graça, which houses the tomb of Pedro Álvares Cabral, the discoverer of Brazil, from where the vast quantities of gold came that resulted in the glorious period of



Portuguese baroque.



Points of interest along the Itinerary

- Museu de Marinha
- Museu Nacional dos Coches
- Aqueduto das Águas Livres
- Museu Nacional de Arte Antiga
- Basílica da Estrela
- Igreja de Santa Catarina ou dos Paulistas
- Igreja de São Roque - Lisboa
- Igreja do Menino Deus - Lisboa
- Igreja de Santa Engrácia, Panteão Nacional
- Igreja da Madre de Deus
- Palácio dos Marqueses de Fronteira
- Igreja do Seminário (Sé Catedral)



Points of interest along the Itinerary

Museu de Marinha

Praça do Império - Belém
1400-206 Lisboa
Tel. : +351 21 362 00 19
Fax : +351 21 363 19 87
Website : www.museumarinha.pt
E-mail : geral@museumarinha.pt

Museu Nacional dos Coches

Praça Afonso de Albuquerque
1300-044 Lisboa
Tel. : +351 21 361 08 50
Fax : +351 21 363 25 03
Website : www.museudoscoches-ipmuseus.pt
E-mail : mncoches@ipmuseus.pt

Aqueduto das Águas Livres

Início na Fonte da Água Livre, perto de Carenque.
Tel. : 218 100 215
Website : <http://museudaagua.epal.pt>

Museu Nacional de Arte Antiga

Rua das Janelas Verdes, 9
1249-017 Lisboa
Tel. : +351 21 391 28 00
Fax : +351 21 397 37 03
Website : <http://mnaa.imc-ip.pt>
E-mail : mnarteantiga@imc-ip.pt

Basílica da Estrela

Praça da Estrela
1200-667 Lisboa
Tel. : +351 213 960 915
Fax : +351 213 960 994

Igreja de Santa Catarina ou dos Paulistas

Calçada do Combro, 82
1200-001 Lisboa

Igreja de São Roque - Lisboa

Largo Trindade Coelho
1200-470 Lisboa
Tel. : +351 213 460 361

Igreja do Menino Deus - Lisboa

Largo do Menino Deus
1100-001 Lisboa



Igreja de Santa Engrácia, Panteão Nacional

Campo de Santa Clara

1100-471 Lisboa

Tel. : +351 21 885 48 20

Fax : +351 21 885 48 39

Website : <http://www.igespar.pt/pt/monuments/51/>|<http://www.igespar.pt>

E-mail : panteao@igespar.pt

Igreja da Madre de Deus

Rua da Madre de Deus, nº 4-B

1900-312 Lisboa

Tel. : +351 218 149 617

Palácio dos Marqueses de Fronteira

Largo de São Domingos de Benfica, 1

1500-554 Lisboa

Tel. : +351 21 778 20 23

Fax : +351 21 778 49 62

Website : <http://www.frenteira-alorna.pt>

E-mail : frenteiraalorna@mail.telepac.pt

Igreja do Seminário (Sé Catedral)

Praça Sá da Bandeira (Largo do Seminário)

2000-135 Santarém

Tel. : +351 243 304 060

Fax : +351 243 304 067



Suggestions

Baroque Lisboa

During the reign of Dom João V (1706-1750), Portugal was suddenly bursting with important works of art and attracting great artists from all over Europe. And in Lisbon, you will find some of the finest examples of the exoticism and grandeur of Portuguese baroque.

Start the Igreja da Madre de Deus, a church boasting an interior that is completely covered with carved and gilded woodwork and decorative tiles. After this, move on to Bairro Alto, one of the city's oldest districts, where you will find the Igreja de São Roque with its 'valuable' chapel.

Before taking in the breathtaking spectacle of the coaches of Dom João V, at the Museu dos Coches, pass by the Aqueduto das Águas Livres, which has the highest stone arch in the world.

There are architectural jewels to be found just outside Lisbon too, which you should do your best to visit, such as the Convento de Mafra, 40 kilometres from the city, and one of the country's most important baroque creations.

On your return to Lisbon, allow yourself to be seduced by the charms of Sintra. The enchanting countryside that surrounds the town has been classified by UNESCO as a world cultural landscape.

Lisbon's azulejos

Begin in the Tile Museum, located in the Madre de Deus church cloisters. With a huge collection of multicoloured tiles, from carpet patterns to reproductions of engravings, portraits and scenes from daily life and the bible, the Tile Museum tells of the evolution of tiles. One highlight to the exhibition is the priceless, blue and white mural depicting a panoramic view of the Lisbon that existed prior to the 1755 earthquake.

Move onto the Bairro Alto, and the Jesuit church of São Roque with its magnificent majolica tiles in a diamond point pattern.

Take a break for lunch while continuing your tile hunt. Try the Trindade beer-hall, with its interior finished in 19th century tiles by "Ferreira das Tabuletas". The same artisan carried out the historically significant tile façade on a building in the Largo Rafael Bordalo Pinheiro.

In the suburb of Benfica, the Fronteira Palace and its gardens depicting a range of themes that include everything from battles, with scenes from the war of Restoration, to monkeys playing trumpets.

And to ensure you get to all these locations in the best possible style, try the Lisbon metro. Many stations feature tiled designs by various leading contemporary artists.

Lisbon's Lower Town

Even today, this is still the area of town where much of the city's business is concentrated, a tradition that dates from other times, as can still be seen in the names of the streets: jeweller's stores in the Rua do Ouro (Gold Street) and the Rua da Prata (Silver Street) and draper's shops and clothes stores in Rua dos Fanqueiros (Drapers' Street).

As this is the heart of the city, it also proved to be the natural place for establishing the headquarters of Portugal's main banks. The streets that run parallel to Rua Augusta identify the various tradesmen and craftsmen, who have continued to do business there since the time of the Maritime Discoveries.



The Baixa was almost completely destroyed by the earthquake of 1755, having later been reconstructed by the king's minister, the Marquês de Pombal, which is why it is more popularly known as the Baixa Pombalina. This visionary statesman conceived of a uniform and perpendicular architecture for the city centre, making no distinction between the various social strata that lived here, a phenomenon that can still be seen today.

Queluz Palace

Queluz Palace, with its gardens, statues and fountains, is reminiscent of Versailles. It is home to a valuable collection of decorative art, including Portuguese furniture, Arraiolos carpets, royal portraits, Chinese and European porcelain and jewellery.

The rooms have an intimate feel, and are decorated with gilded woodcarvings and paintings, finely illustrating the evolution in taste from the second half of the 18th century to the first quarter of the 19th century, passing from the rococo to the neoclassical style.

The Palace is part of a much larger estate that includes French-style geometric gardens, annexes to the old kitchen that have been converted into the renowned Cozinha Velha restaurant, and the Royal Guard's barracks, which have been converted into the Pousada de Queluz.

These days, the palace is host to frequent concerts and regularly welcomes heads of state, government officials and diplomats.

And at the open-air riding school, between April and October, visitors can see a performance by the Portuguese School of Equestrian Art.

Discovering Mafra

Its 2 carillons and 6 organs make the church unique in the whole world and its library is considered to be the most beautiful in Portugal, with more than 38,000 volumes. This palace was the official summer residence of the Portuguese royal family until 1910, when Portugal was proclaimed a republic.

The hunting ground known as the Tapada Nacional de Mafra was created in the mid-18th century as a park designed for the private relaxation of the king Dom João V and his court. The Tapada has a great wealth of flora and fauna, including red deer, wild boar, fallow deer, foxes, wolves, partridges and many different species of birds. The woodland is enclosed by a wall and there is a small country tourism hotel housed in the former hunting lodge, as well as two small museums.

The grounds may be visited on a special tourist train, on foot, by bicycle or on horseback. You can also do some archery with either a longbow or crossbow and even go hunting.

Situated very close to Lisbon, this is a most pleasant place for a short trip, combining the beauty of the architecture with that of the vegetation.



Useful contacts

Posto de Turismo - Lisboa Welcome Center

Praça do Comércio
Loja 1-R/C
1100-148 Lisboa
Tel. : +351 21 031 28 10
Fax : +351 21 031 28 99
Website : www.vistlisboa.com
E-mail : atl@visitlisboa.com

Posto de Turismo - Sintra

Praça da República, 23
2710-616 Sintra
Tel. : +351 21 923 69 22 - +351 21 923 11 57
Fax : +351 21 923 69 39
Website : www.cm-sintra.pt
E-mail : dtur@cm-sintra.pt

Posto de Turismo - Mafra

Palácio Nacional de Mafra – Torreão Sul
Terreiro D. João V
2640-492 Mafra
Tel. : +351 261 817 170
Fax : +351 261 817 179
Website : www.cm-mafra.pt
E-mail : turismo@cm-mafra.pt

Posto de Turismo - Alcobaça

Rua 16 de Outubro nºs 7 e 9
2460-017 Alcobaça
Tel. : +351 262 582 377
Website : www.rt-oeste.pt
E-mail : turismo_alcobaca@turismodoeste.pt

Posto de Turismo - Santarém

Rua Capelo Ivens, 66
2000-039 Santarém
Tel. : +351 243 304 437
Fax : +351 243 304 401
Website : www.cm-santarem.pt
E-mail : posto.turismo@cm-santarem.pt