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## Art and Culture

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### ABOUT



The land that is now Portugal has been inhabited for thousands of years and its national boundaries have been defined for eight centuries. This long history is reflected in a particular culture that is the result of the mixture of the many peoples who settled here and those that the Portuguese encountered on their journeys of Discovery.

It is found in the [villages](#) and **towns**, in the **monuments** and **traditions**, which bring together influences that the Portuguese have applied creatively. And the omnipresent **sea** has also shaped our personality and taken us beyond the continent of Europe, enabling us to learn and share with the rest of the world.



Torre de Belém ©Turismo de Lisboa

[Manueline art](#), [tiles](#) and [fado](#) are unique expressions and genuine symbols of the Portuguese, but also a contribution to [World Heritage](#). There are **22 such classifications by UNESCO** in Portugal, including monuments, landscapes and intangible heritage.



Azulejos\_Palácio Pereira Forjaz ©António Sacchetti

By choosing a region, an itinerary or a specific theme, you can discover a **unique heritage** and **different landscapes**, all within a short distance, which still retain the authenticity of local customs. Moreover your tour will be complemented to perfection by the traditional [cuisine](#) and the customary **hospitality in rural accommodation**.