

Lisbon



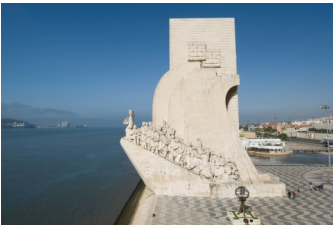
Mosteiro dos Jerónimos

The Jerónimos Monastery was built in the 16th century. The construction of the monastery and church began with the King Manuel I in 1501 and was completed 100 years later. It was built with the money that came from the profits of the pepper trade. The Jerónimos Monastery was once populated by monks of the Order of St Jerome, whose spiritual job for four centuries was to comfort sailors and pray for the king's soul. When the order was dissolved in 1833, the monastery was used as a school and orphanage until about 1940. It is considered an Unesco World Heritage Site.



Torre de Belém

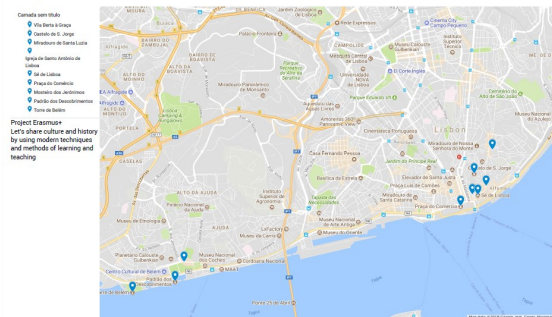
Torre de Belém is a fortified tower on the bank of the Tagus River. The tower was built in the early 16th century and it is a great example of the Portuguese Manueline style. The architect was Francisco de Arruda. It was built on a small island in the Tagus River next to Lisbon shore. At that time the fortress was very important in the protection of Lisbon, because of its location and it was also a ceremonial gateway to enter in Lisbon.



Padrão dos Descobrimentos

The Discovery Monument is an iconic monument located on the bank of the River Tagus. It was built in 1940. The structure is dedicated to the adventurers and explorers who helped to establish Portugal as a 15th century superpower. On the monument there are 33 figures related to the Portuguese maritime travels. On the ground there is a compass rose in which we can see the routes of the Portuguese discoveries. Padrão dos Descobrimentos is 56 meters high and 20 meters wide.

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Lisbon



Vila Berta

Built in the first decade of the XX century, between 1902 and 1908, this peculiar group of buildings constructed for the factory workers, is considered one of the most complete and interesting quarters in today's Lisbon, that still persist from those times. Its structure consists of two lines of buildings turned into an interior street: the buildings have two or three floors, separated by small gardens and on the second floor they have square iron balconies. Vila Berta conceived by the industrial and architect Joaquim Francisco Tojal, received its name from the architect daughter's name (Berta).



Alfama

Alfama is one of the oldest districts of Lisbon, and it is amazing to walk by the narrow cobbled streets and ancient houses. Alfama became inhabited by the fishermen and the poor, and its condition as the neighbourhood of the poor continues to this day. Alfama is a labyrinth of streets and it is best explored by simply getting lost in it. Around every corner or steep climb is a delightful tiny plaza, unique shop, funky café or a wonderful viewpoint. Alfama is an adorable district, which could easily take a full day to explore.



Castelo de São Jorge

Saint George Castle is a Moorish castle. The strongly walls and towers are from the medieval period of Portuguese history, in the 10th century. It was very important when the Christian forces defended Lisbon in the 12th century. When Lisbon became the capital of the kingdom in the 13th century, the castle was a fortified residence of Afonso III, the governor. In the 14th century, King John I married the English princess Philippa of Lancaster and dedicated the castle to Saint George, a warrior-saint. From the castle we can see the historic centre of Lisbon and the Tagus river and it is one of the main tourist sites of Lisbon.



Miradouro de Santa Luzia

This is one of the most romantic places in Lisbon. It's a terrace next to a small church of the same name, offering a beautiful panoramic view. We can see The dome of the National Pantheon, Santo Estêvão Church and São Miguel Church. At the centre there is a bougainvillea garden, where is the bust of an historian known man Júlio de Castilho and two tile panels, one illustrating St. George's Castle being taken over from the Moors in the 12th century, and the other showing "Praça do Comércio" before its destruction in the earthquake of 1755. Other small tiles with geometric shapes cover the walls of the terrace.

Lisbon

Igreja de Santo António

Built in the place where Saint Anthony was born in 1195, this church is dedicated to the saint, known as the wedding saint and protector of lost objects. Saint Anthony is also known in the world as Saint Anthony of Padua. Married people come here to visit the church and thank the saint their blessing.



Sé de Lisboa

The Lisbon Cathedral "Sé" de Lisboa is a Roman Catholic church. It was the first religious building in the 12th century by the first king of Portugal, Afonso Henriques. The architect of the Lisbon Cathedral was Mestre Roberto. "Sé" has been modified several times and survived many earthquakes. The monument has massive solid walls, two imposing clock towers and several archetypal styles, especially the Romanesque.



Terreiro do Paço

Terreiro do Paço, also known as The Trade Square (Praça do comércio), is one of the largest squares in Europe. It is located in Lisbon downtown, in front of the Tagus River, near the "Cais das Colunas". This place was the Royal Palace of Portugal for two centuries and it was destroyed during the earthquake of 1755. In the centre of the square, we can see the, 14m high, bronze equestrian statue of the King José I. This beautiful square was built in 1775 by Joaquim Machado de Castro, the main Portuguese sculptor of the 18th century.



Ribeira das Naus

Ribeira das Naus is a place in Central Lisbon which currently has touristic functions and in the past it was a place where many of the Portuguese explorers' ships were built.

