

12 HISTORICAL VILLAGES, WELL WORTH A VISIT

Start in Almeida and finish wherever you like. You have 600 km to explore.



Living history

ALMEIDA
40°43'36"N,
6°54'15"W



ALMEIDA _BELMONTE_ _CASTELO MENDO_ _CASTELO NOVO_ _CASTELO RODRIGO_ _IDANHA-A-VELHA_ _LINHARES DA BEIRA_ _MARIALVA_ _MONSANTO_ _PIÓDÃO_ _SORTELHA_ _TRANCOSO_

OUR HISTORY, YOUR TIME



12 VILLAGES, ENDLESS ENJOYMENT

Wander the narrow streets of a centuries-old village. Take up position where soldiers once faced each other in battle. Or just enjoy the beauty of a wild landscape. Portugal's Historical Villages in Beira Interior are a unique destination for tourists and history lovers and are guardians of testimony that dates back centuries.

The guides do much more than contemplate slower times and genuine experiences. There are days full of excitement, extreme sports, hikes, good food, river beaches, culture and landscapes - everything you need for enjoyable days.

Life here is excitement. And the rest is history.

Start by exploring the two villages closest to Almeida, then go on to the rest.

CASTELO MENDO
19 km

CASTELO RODRIGO
21 km

N40° 35.6454', W006° 56.9364'



CASTELO MENDO

Total immersion in history
A village that preserves the most genuine marks of the centuries in its architecture, traditions and inhabitants
Every April, the most authentic medieval fair on the most authentic stage

Where to eat



Where to stay



Travel Agencies
Tourist Animation



ALMEIDA



OUR HISTORY, YOUR TIME

N40° 46.8498', W007° 20.982'



CASTELO RODRIGO

The warm, yellow colours of the houses make you want to explore every street. And up at the top, the castle guards stories worth hearing.
A few minutes away, Serra da Marofa has a forest full of biodiversity where we find the famous replica of the Cristo Rei statue.

CONTACT DETAILS

Almeida Municipal Council

www.cm-almeida.pt

Almeida Tourist Office (10:00–18:00)

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Living history

ALMEIDA PEARL OF THE INLAND REGIONS

Because of the need to modernise its outdated medieval structures, after the Restoration (1641) Almeida set about building a new war infrastructure that was suited to the new artillery and would enable it to control the border.

The stronghold is hexagonal in shape and consists of six bulwarks, each with its own ravelin. The town within the walls still has a substantial number of military buildings and very interesting civil architecture.



6

16th century house

Façade with narrow door to first floor (dwelling) and wide door (trade) with signs of Jewish presence



Key

1 - São Francisco or Cruz double doors, 17th century
2 - Former Nossa Senhora do Loreto Convent and Barracks and Military Hospital, 16th, 17th and 18th century
3 - Casa Nobre mansion, 17th/18th century
4 - Casamatas, 17th/18th century (now the Military History Museum)

4

Casamatas (Military History Museum)

Today, the 20 underground rooms beneath the S. João de Deus Stronghold house the Military History Museum.



Historical recreation
Historical re-enactment of the Siege of Almeida in August 1810

5 - Casa da Roda dos Expostos, 19th century (dated 1843)
6 - Casa Quinhentista mansion, 16th century
7 - Praça Alta square
8 - Doble Ravelin- Blood Hospital, 18th century
9 - Armoury and guardhouse, 19th century
10 - D'EL Rey Horse Riding Centre, 20th century (former ammunition depot in the 17th century)
11 - Double doors of Santo António, 17th century
12 - Almeida Castle, 13th-14th / 16th
13 - Torre do Relógio clock tower, 1830
14 - House with coat of arms - Brigadier Vicente Delgado Freire, 18th / 19th century
15 - House of Field Marshall Manuel Leitão de Carvalho / Leitões Palace, late 17th / 1st quarter 18th century

16 - House with coat of arms of António Pereira Fontão Júnior, 18th century
17 - House of João Dantas da Cunha, 18th century (dated 1769)
18 - Terreiro Velho, 20th century
19 - Corpo da Guarda Principal main guards barracks, 18th century (1790)
20 - Beira General Inspectorate / Praça de Almeida Governors' House, late 17th / early 18th century
21 - Quartel das esquadras barracks, 18th century (1736-1750)
22 - Misericórdia Church, 17th century
23 - Casa da Câmara, 16th century
24 - Casa dos Vedores Gerais (General Inspectors' House)
25 - Praça Alta square



1

São Francisco or Cruz Gate

Porta Magistral gate, 17th century, designed by Pierre Garsin



TOWN GATES

Today, the fortress that once served as a link is now known for its two large gates that open onto the square and three posterns, which were of an exclusively military nature. In line with the new international fortification methods, Almeida's fortress played an extraordinary defensive role that surprises its visitors.



10

Picadeiro D'EL Rey – horse-riding centre

Old ammunition depot, which in the 17th and 18th century was also the artillery regiment's barracks

21

Quartel das esquadras barracks,

dated 18th century (1736-1750), once the infantry barracks



9

Ammunition depot and Guard House, 19th century

The ammunition depots are located in the St^a Bárbara or Paiol Ravelin.

19

Corpo da Guarda Principal main guards barracks, 18th century (1790)

Current headquarters of the Almeida municipal council

20

Beira General Inspectorate / Praça de Almeida Governors' House, late 17th / early 18th century

Now Almeida Court

22

Misericórdia Church, 17th century

The church backed onto the old hospital, now Lar da Misericórdia care home.

5

Casa da Roda dos Expostos

Dated 1843 and currently a museum, which illustrates its former social role.

