## 12 HISTORICAL VILLAGES, WELL WORTH A VISIT

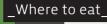






\_ALMEIDA\_BELMONTE\_CASTELO MENDO\_CASTELO NOVO\_CASTELO RODRIGO\_IDANHA-A-VELHA\_ LINHARES DA BEIRA MARIALVA MONSANTO PIÓDÃO SORTELHA TRANCOSO

# **OUR** HISTORY, **YOUR TIMÉ**









#### 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 full of excitement. And the rest is history.

Start by exploring the two villages closest to Belmonte and then move on to the rest.

**SORTELHA** 19 km

**CASTELO NOVO** 

**PROVERE** 

45 km



Immersion in times gone past. A lesson about the history of our people or just the pleasure of seeing

beauty, there's a lot to see in Sortelha. The bicycle trails are great for cyclists wishing to enjoy stunning landscapes.







Where to stay







**BELMONTE OUR** HISTORY, YOUR TIME ALDEIAS HISTÓRICAS D PORTUGAL Living history



This is a village for the senses. Listen to the sound of the water in the fountains and the river. Feel the light and warmth of a sunny dawn. Feast your eyes on the contrasting colours.

In the cherry season, a visit to Fundão is a tasty

### **CONTACT DETAILS**

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### ALDEIAS HISTÓRICAS D PORTUGAL

### **BELMONTE**

### A PAST WITH HISTORY, A HISTORY WITH FUTURE

The town of Belmonte in Cova da Beira commands a broad view of the eastern slopes of the Serra da Estrela mountains and fully justifies its name. Tradition has it that the name Belmonte comes from its location (beautiful hill). Some say, however, that it comes from 'belli monte', the hill of war.

A sunny place, with good people, endless vistas and centuries-old history







#### Key

- 1 Belmonte Castle
- 2 Tourist Office 3 - Santiago Church and Cabral Pantheon
- 4 S. António Chapel 5 - Calvário Chapel
- 6 Bet Eliahu Synagogue
- 7 Banda de Música



#### Roman Villa at Quinta da Fórnea estate

Among the main features of this villa are the frigidarium, tepidarium and caldarium baths in the spacious grounds.



Belmonte Castle 1 and its magnificent Manueline-style window



- 9 Pillory
- 10 Jewish Museum 11 - Parish Church 12 - Belmonte Municipal Council
- 13 Solar dos Cabrais mansion Now Municipal Library and Archive
- 14 Museum of the Discoveries 15 - 7êzere Eco-museum
- 16 Statue of Pedro Álvares Cabral 17 - EMPDS - Tourism
- 18 Olive Oil Museum
- 19 Municipal Auditorium 20 - Music School 21 - Multi-purpose pavilion
- 22 Ouinta da Fórnea estate 23 - Nossa Senhora da Esperança Convent, now a luxury hotel
- 24 Relmonte sport pavilion
- 25 Centum Cellas (Colmeal da Torre)



Belmonte's history, heritage and traditions are all described in its museums. But if you're looking for its secrets, they are hidden along natural trails.

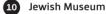
Add Belmonte Castle, Santiago Church, the Jewish Museum, the Zêzere Eco-museum, the Olive Oil Museum, the Museum of the Discoveries, Centum Cellas, Quinta da Fórnea estate, Casa da Roda and the Ethnographic Space to the landscape and explore all its nooks and crannies.



Bet Eliahu Synagogue The Jewish presence

in Belmonte dates back to the 13th century and continues today.

**Belmonte Castle** The Cabral family made it their home in the 14th century.



Centuries of Jewish culture all in one place

Zêzere Eco-museum

Museum of the

An interactive museum recounting a journey lasting more than 500

Discoveries

Follow the River Zêzere from source to mouth Old Belmonte olive press and mill, 19th century

Now the Olive Oil Museum

Centum Cellas

The imposing, monumental nature of this building has resulted in countless interpretations of its purpose







