12 HISTORICAL VILLAGES, WELL WORTH A VISIT Start in Idanha-a-Velha and finish wherever you like. You have 600 km to explore. CASTELO MENDO_ LINHARES DA BEIRA _BELMONTE_ ALDEIAS HISTÓRICAS Living history _ALMEIDA_BELMONTE_CASTELO MENDO_CASTELO NOVO_CASTELO RODRIGO_IDANHA-A-VELHA_

LINHARES DA BEIRA MARIALVA MONSANTO PIÓDÃO SORTELHA TRANCOSO

OUR HISTORY, **YOUR TIME**

Where to eat





CASTELO NOVO



Where to stay









Tourist Animation

IDANHA-A-VELHA OUR HISTORY, OUR TIME Barragem ALDEIAS HISTÓRICAS D PORTUGAL Living history

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 or genuine experiences. There are days full of excitement, extreme sports, hikes, good food, culture, river beaches and landscapes - everything you need for enjoyable days.

Life here is excitement. And the rest is history.

ALDEIAS HISTÓRICAS ® PORTUGAL

Start by exploring the two villages closest to Idanha-a-Velha, then go on to the rest.

MONSANTO 15 km

CASTELO NOVO 46 km



It is Portugal's most Portuguese village. This status springs from its natural beauty, unique architecture and, above all, its people's hospitality.

CONTACT DETAILS There are few places offering such pleasant landscapes for nature tourism.

Idanha-a-Nova Municipal Council T: (+351) 277 200 570 / F: (+351) 277 200 580 geral@cm-idanhanova.pt Idanha-a-Velha Tourist Office

(09:30-13:00 / 14:00-17:30)

contrasting colours.

a tasty option.

T: (+351) 277 914 280 | turismo@cm-idanhanova.pt

This is a village for the senses. Listen to the water in the river and fountains. Feel the warmth and

light of a sunny dawn. Feast your eyes on the

In the cherry season, a visit to Fundão is







ALDEIAS HISTÓRICAS D PORTUGAL

IDANHA-A-VELHA

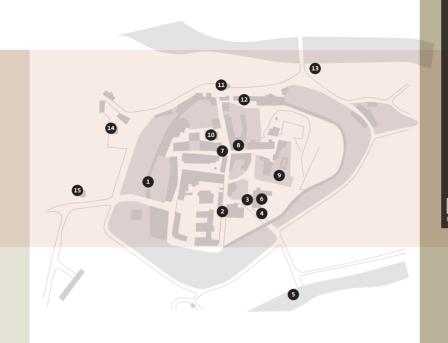
THE WARS OF FAITH

Thanks to its fine collection of ruins, it has some of the country's most important archaeological sites. It stands in a place where a Roman city once lay, the capital of Civitas Igaeditanorum (1st century BC) and later the episcopal seat during occupation by the Suebi and Visigoths.

It was occupied by Muslims in the 8th century and taken back by Christians in the 12th century. It was donated to the Knights Templar in the 13th century and still has traces of different ages that attest to permanent occupation by various civilisations.



Casa Marrocos Built in the mid-20th century, it boasts finely worked balconies and stonework.



- 1. North Gate
- 2. Santa Maria Church or Cathedral
- 3. Lagar de Varas / Tourist Office
- 4. Roman dwelling
- 5. Stepping stones across the River Pônsul
- 6. Epigraphic Archive
- 7. Pillory
- 8. Village oven
- 9. Templar Tower
- 10. Parish Church 11. São Dâmaso Chapel
- 12. Palheiros de São Dâmaso -
- Archaeology Workshop 13. Roman bridge
- 14. Espírito Santo Chapel
- 15. São Sebastião Chapel



Santa Maria Church or Cathedral

prominent in the reign of King

Founded at the dawn of

Manuel.

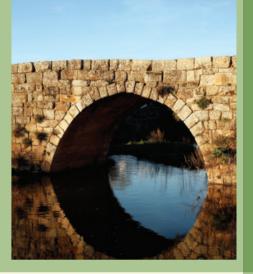
Christianity, it was highly

An exceptional landscape, a broad view of the village.





Of Roman origin and a link on the important road between Mérida (Emerita Augusta) and Braga (Bracara Augusta), it was rebuilt several times in the Middle



On arriving at Idanha-a-Velha we are first struck by the monumental walls. Its history starts at the North Gate.

The village that awaits you along Rua da Palma is oval and 745 metres long. It has seven defensive towers of different shapes.

They are semi-circular or quadrangular and mark different moments in history and will also be a highlight of your visit.



Lagar de Varas / Tourist Office The building is

mportant to ndustrial archaeology and bears witness to the way the community used its resources and its ability to process agricultural produce from the

Epigraphic Archive This is contemporary building housing a vast collection of inscriptions

The town was founded by the Romans in the 1st century BC and made a municipality about 100 years later. It has survived the invasions of Germanic tribes. Under the Suebi it became the seat of a bishopric, a status that it maintained at intervals until the 12th century. The legend of King Wamba, one of its best known, dates back to this time.

Today Idanha-a-Velha (National Monument) has been renewed.

Idanha-a-Velha's buildings are the fruit of occupation by many peoples who settled there and adapted its spaces and buildings over the centuries.



