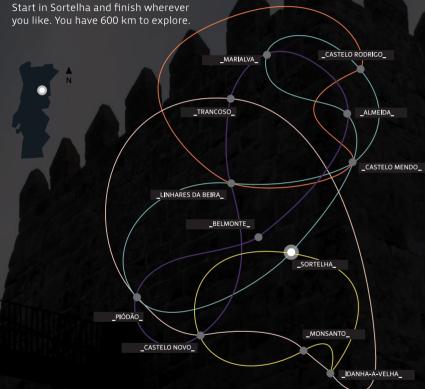
12 HISTORICAL VILLAGES, WELL WORTH A VISIT

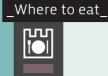






_ALMEIDA_BELMONTE_CASTELO MENDO_CASTELO NOVO_CASTELO RODRIGO_IDANHA-A-VELHA_ LINHARES DA BEIRA MARIALVA MONSANTO PIÓDÃO SORTELHA TRANCOSO

OUR HISTORY, YOUR TIMÉ





ALDEIAS HISTÓRICAS D PORTUGAL

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 eniov 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, 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 Sortelha, then go on to the rest.

BELMONTE 19 km

MONSANTO

55 km



Pedro Álvares Cabral left from here to discover Brazil. Jewish people came here in search of a place to live in peace. The Jewish Museum is a must to learn the history of the new Christians.

CENTRO 20 PORTUGAL O

Where to stay





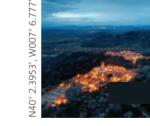


MONSANTO

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

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

SORTELHA OUR HISTORY, YOUR TIME ALDEIAS HISTÓRICAS D PORTUGAL Living history



CONTACT DETAILS

Sortelha Tourist Office T: (+351) 271 381 07 10:00-13:00 | 14:00-18:00 (Summer);

ALDEIAS HISTÓRICAS D PORTUGAL

SORTELHA

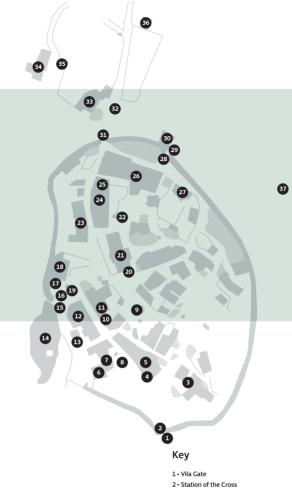
A VOYAGE INTO THE PAST

Sortelha is one of the oldest, most beautiful towns in Portugal. It has kept its physiognomy all this time and is considered one of the best preserved. A visit to its streets and alleys, enclosed in a defensive ring and watched over by a lofty 13th century castle takes outsiders back to past centuries among medieval tombs, by the Manueline pillory or in front of the renaissance church.





Rua do Forno street n the end building you find the old village oven, which has been restored and is now a coffee shop.



Bracejo A traditional handicraft technique in Sortelha



Old lady's head A curious granite formation moulded by the whims of nature a few metres east of the False Door.





10 - House with Manueline window



11 - 16th century house 12 - Almas House

21 - Nossa Senhora das Neves/ Parish

13 - Village oven 14 - Castle 15 - Castle gate 16 - Station of the Cross 17 - Traitors' Gate 18 - Town hall and prison 19 - Pillory 20 - Station of the Cross

Church

22 - Bell tower

23 - Town house

24 - Parish residence

25 - Governor's House

28 - Station of the Cross 29 - False door

37 - Old lady's head

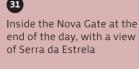
26 - Judge's house 27 - Arab house

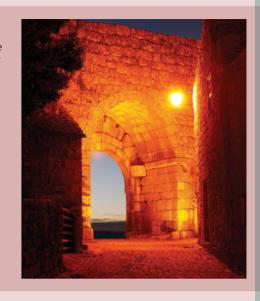


Undulating walls following the terrain. Be sure to see the gargoyle and raised doorway in the tower.









EIGHT HUNDRED YEARS OF HISTORY

The fortification was built by order of King Sancho I. It is a typical rock castle sitting on an imposing outcrop with a separate donjon. Sortelha received a charter from King Sancho II in 1228 and was the seat of the municipality until 1855. It was more important in the reigns of King Dinis and King Manuel, who granted it another charter to encourage its repopulation in 1510.



It was through this gate that the medieval road to Covilhã passed. A stone on the right displays standard measurements

Santiago Chapel.



As you leave the walled section by the Nova Gate, you will find a group of

buildings in a wide open space looking out over a stunning landscape.

They are the old Misericórdia Hospital, the ruins of Misericórdia/Santa

Rita Church (or São João Church, according to the Parish Memoirs) and



