

Brand and Paula's Portugal



Piódão

A first look at days out, favourite tables and places to explore. Pick what appeals, linger a little, and leave the rest for another day.

Choose a day

Open the main map

Tap the links throughout. Live maps and websites open outside this PDF and need internet.

Choose your day

Nothing here is a must-do list. Tap a day to jump straight to it.

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Using the live map

Check one day-trip layer at a time. Expand the first layer's drop-down; yellow markers show **Our Stay**.

App won't open it? Copy the map link into Safari. This PDF has links, not live map layers.

Santa Comba and Caramulo

Coffee, a mountain outlook and a late-afternoon pause by the water.

Santa Comba Dão [OPEN >](#)

Start with coffee downtown and a little time to look around.

Caramulinho [OPEN >](#)

Make the viewpoint the scenic stop. Decide on the day how much walking you want to do.

Museu do Caramulo [OPEN >](#)

Follow the mountain views with the museum. Check its current opening arrangements before setting out.

Senhora da Ribeira [OPEN >](#)

Save the river beach for late afternoon: a pleasant place to stop and enjoy the water views.

A shorter version: downtown coffee and the river beach. The mountain and museum can be another outing.

Côja and Piódão

Make lunch the anchor, then choose the extra stops you feel like.

Coffee in Côja [OPEN >](#)

Begin gently with a coffee before continuing towards Piódão.

Piódão and lunch [OPEN >](#)

Explore a little, then eat at **O Solar dos Pachecos**. Brand and Paula know Thiago, who works there.

Optional village stops

Add [Avô](#) or [Oliveira do Hospital](#). Boutique Jugais is an optional souvenir stop.

Bobadela for the evening [OPEN >](#)

Consider the olive-oil museum and Olea restaurant. Confirm the museum visit and dinner arrangement in advance.

Keep it simple: Côja, Piódão and lunch are already a lovely day. The rest is a choice, not a checklist.

A day in Coimbra

Give the day one fixed point: your timed visit to the Joanina Library.

Begin in the Baixa [OPEN >](#)

Enjoy the lower town at your own pace, with time to stop for a drink or browse.

Solar do Bacalhau [OPEN >](#)

Make this the lunch stop, arranging the meal around your university entry time.

University and library [OPEN >](#)

Book the **Biblioteca Joanina** for a specific date and time. Check the official visit details before purchasing.

[University visitor information and tickets](#)

A conditional extra

Add the Machado de Castro Roman cryptoporticus **only if the museum confirms it has reopened and access is available.**

The museum has been closed for works; do not build the day around this optional visit.

[Museum closure information via Coimbra University](#)

Dão history and wine

Begin with history, then choose a village or winery before dinner.

Casa do Passal [OPEN >](#)

Visit the Museu Aristides de Sousa Mendes in Cabanas de Viriato. Confirm the visit arrangements first.

Choose an optional stop

Consider [Oliveira do Conde church](#) or a pre-arranged visit to [Quinta das Marias](#).

Santar [OPEN >](#)

Leave time to look around the village rather than rushing straight to the next stop.

Cabriz for supper [OPEN >](#)

Ask about a wine-pairing meal. Brand and Paula know **Carlos, Flavio and Vanessa** here.

Reserve tastings and supper directly. If wine is part of the day, arrange a designated driver or other transport.

A taste of the Douro

A fuller outing. Choose one main winery experience and leave room to enjoy it.

Lamego [OPEN >](#)

See Nossa Senhora dos Remédios and its staircase. The full climb is optional.

Pinhão and Carvalhas [OPEN >](#)

Make Pinhão and a pre-booked visit to Quinta das Carvalhas the centre of the day.

Quinta da Pacheca [OPEN >](#)

An optional alternative or brief extra, not a second full winery tour you have to fit in.

Castas e Pratos [OPEN >](#)

Finish with supper in Régua's old station setting, if the timing suits.

Do not squeeze in every stop. Book ahead and arrange a designated driver or other transport for tastings.

Roman ruins to the coast

Conímbriga, a castle, then Figueira da Foz. A change of scenery for a day out.

Conímbriga [OPEN >](#)

Begin with the Roman site. Allow time to look rather than treating it as a quick photo stop.

Montemor-o-Velho [OPEN >](#)

Make the castle your second stop. Check current visitor access before you go.

Figueira da Foz [OPEN >](#)

End at the coast, with time for a seaside pause and a meal if you feel like staying.

An unhurried version

Choose Conímbriga and the coast, or the castle and the coast. There is no need to give every place equal time.

Outdoor stops depend on the weather. Recheck opening days and access before setting out.

Tomar and Fátima

Make Tomar the main visit, with Fátima afterwards and Ourém only if it fits.

Convento de Cristo [OPEN >](#)

Start in Tomar and give the convent the attention it deserves. Check current access and book as needed.

Fátima [OPEN >](#)

Continue to the sanctuary for time to look around or pause quietly.

Optional Ourém [OPEN >](#)

Add a look around Ourém only if the day still feels comfortable. It is fine to leave it for another trip.

May planning: 12-13 May brings major pilgrimages to Fátima, so expect a much busier visit and plan transport carefully.

[Portugal tourism pilgrimage information](#)

The Convento de Cristo lists 1 May as a closing day. Recheck for your travel date.

[Convento de Cristo visitor information](#)

Batalha and Alcobaça

Two main visits, with an optional coast or castle stop if there is time.

Batalha Monastery [OPEN >](#)

Begin with Batalha and allow room to enjoy the building without watching the clock.

Alcobaça Monastery [OPEN >](#)

Continue to Alcobaça. Plan a proper lunch break rather than rushing between the two.

Optional Nazaré [OPEN >](#)

Choose a seaside finish if that is what appeals most.

Optional Porto de Mós [OPEN >](#)

A castle stop is another choice. Do not feel obliged to add both extras.

Batalha lists 1 May as a closing day. Check all monument opening dates and tickets before committing to the day.

[Batalha official visitor information](#)

Familiar faces and tables

These personal connections are part of what makes the trip special.

George and Dragon

Miguel is the familiar name here.

The Return

The owners are **Paulo and Elsa**. Confirm that it is open and serving before making plans.

Cabriz

Look for **Carlos, Flavio and Vanessa**. Reserve for the Dão supper.

O Solar dos Pachecos

Thiago works here in Piódão and knows Brand and Paula.

Solar do Bacalhau

Coimbra lunch, timed around the Joanina Library visit.

Find the pins in the main map. Check opening days and reservations directly.

Bikes and beyond

Ecopista do Dão

A possible sequence: **Ninho D'Arara** in Tondela, **Barba Azeda** at Parada de Gonta, then **Viseu**. Choose your turnaround before riding.

Tondela to Viseu is about **29.5 km one way**, or **59 km there and back**. A shorter out-and-back is perfectly worthwhile.

[Official greenway distance leaflet](#)

Open the separate bike map

Check current route conditions, bike hire and return transport. This guide does not assess route safety or promise a riding time.

Save these for a longer trip

[Porto](#), [Braga](#), [Sintra](#), [Lisbon](#), [Cascais](#), [the Algarve](#) and [Valença / Tui](#) are ideas for overnight trips or a separate itinerary, not local day plans.

Based on Brand and Paula's selected places. Visitor notes checked 30 October 2026; reconfirm for your travel dates.