

Museums and Info centers of the European Geoparks Network



GEPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL – UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

CENTRO CULTURAL RAIANO – IDANHA-A-NOVA

INTRODUCTION

Broad institution becoming a multidisciplinary, technical and functional reference, Centro Cultural Raiano coordinates primary actions of research, preservation and communication referred to the cultural and natural heritages of Idanha municipality and Geopark Naturtejo's territory. Centro Cultural Raiano aim to support the remaining museums of the network in the fields of research, conservation, documenting, promotion and education; to create the museological programs and cultural activities, educational programs and guided visits.



Centro Cultural Raiano cultural centre and Geopark's head office; photo: CCR.



Agriculture exhibition; photo: CNC.



Restore and Conservation Lab; photo: Ana Poças.



Pedagogical ateliers; photo: CNC.

EXHIBITIONS

The exhibition places comprehend 3 rooms. The biggest of all (900 m²) presents the exhibition "Agriculture in the Farms of Idanha", since the opening of CCR occurred in February 1997; the other two rooms (150 m²) are for temporary exhibitions. Being the head office of the Municipal Museums Network, CCR has also a store for reserves and a restore lab (being enlarged nowadays).

ACTIVITIES

CCR has two auditoriums, one indoors – used for regular presentation of cinema (Wednesday and weekend) and different events of show arts, seminars and conferences – and one outside – for show events during Summer.

Besides these equipments, CCR has a multiuse room (100 m²), where take place workshops, small meetings and seminars (max. 50 people), workshops for schools and educational actions.

PROJECTS

Soon, CCR will be the main visitor's gate to Geopark Naturtejo through an interpretive, interactive and experimental centre, with special concepts for handicapped people.

CONTACTS

Address: Av. Joaquim Morão 6060-101 Idanha-a-Nova

Tel. 277202900

Fax. 277202944

E-mail: ccraiano@sapo.pt/ ccraiano@iol.pt

Open: Tuesday to Sunday, from 10h00 – 12h30; 14h00 – 18h30. Free admission; There is a booklet in Portuguese about the exhibition.

How to get there: Bus everyday from Castelo Branco.

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GEPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL – UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

CULTURAL FORUM DE IDANHA-A-NOVA

INTRODUCTION

Cultural Forum has the main purpose to show the pile of religious heritage of Idanha-a-Nova. It is also important as aim to safeguard this heritage and inventorying it.



Particular aspect of the temporary exhibition;
photo: Joana Rodrigues



Detail of the permanent exhibition;
photo: Joana Rodrigues



Detail of the permanent exhibition;
photo: Joana Rodrigues



Cultural Forum head office;
Photo: Joana Rodrigues.

EXHIBITIONS

There is a permanent exhibition about Sacred Art that changes its pile depending on the parish of Idanha-a-Nova that is going to be exposed. The main theme will always be Sacred Art changing only the provenance of collections.

There is also a temporary exhibition that changes inside the theme Traditional Arts.

ACTIVITIES

Cultural Forum develops several cultural manifestations like concerts (jazz, fado, traditional chants) theatre, lectures, workshops and DVD presentations

It is also made guided visits to organised groups.

Cultural Forum has an auditory with 100 seats and an agreeable place to sociability among the visitors.

PROJECTS

- Inventorying of religious heritage of the Idanha-a-Nova parishes.

Address : Rua de S. Pedro, n.º 31. 6060-121 Idanha-a-Nova

Tel./Fax: 277208029

Leaflet in Portuguese.

Open: monday to friday: 10.00-12.30 e 14.30-18.30

Saturday, Sunday and holydays: 14.00-18.30

Free Admission

How to get there: bus everyday from Castelo Branco

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GEOPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL - UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

GASTRONOMY MUSEUM - MONSANTO

Museus d' Idanha

INTRODUCTION

The Gastronomy Museum focus the context of feeding practices and food production on culture, wealth, patrimony, economy, science, geography, history, anthropology and technology.

The meaning of the Gastronomy Museum is to be simultaneously research and documentary centres, a place for information and preservation of immaterial heritage, a place for fun and learning.



Marquês da Graciosa Manor; photo: Nuno Capelo.



Pumpkin ID exhibition; photo: Nuno Capelo.



Party Sweets exhibition; photo: Nuno Capelo.



Workshop on Jams; photo: Nuno Capelo.

EXHIBITIONS

The long term temporary exhibitions show as main purposes: to be the fuel to revitalize and valuing of the building patrimony related to gastronomy/food (presses, mills, ovens, stores, markets); to use this patrimony to start local initiatives for development; to contribute for the improvement of regional restaurants.

ACTIVITIES

Temporary exhibitions, workshops for general public and for the municipal educational service.

CONTACTS

Address: Rua Marquês da Graciosa, nº 16 6060-091 Monsanto
Tel. 277312012

Open: every days, from 10:00-13:00 to 14:00-18:00 (Summer) and from 9:30-13:00 to 14:00-17:30 (Winter).

Free Access; Internet available.

How to get there: Bus everyday from Idanha-a-Nova and Castelo Branco.

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GEOPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL – UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

WATERMILLS COMPLEX OF PENHA GARCIA

INTRODUCTION

Set of ladle-boarded wheel watermills, some of them were preserved to show the working and domiciliary environments of the place. Besides, it is presented the remaining municipal milling heritage, including several typologies of mills auctioned by water and some uncommon specimens of wind mills. In this context of secular use of natural resources, it is shown the important geological heritage of Ponsul valley, with emphasis for Paleontology.



Watermills in the Ponsul gorge; photo: CNC.



Ladle-boarded wheel watermill; foto: CNC.



Fossils House; photo: CNC.



Watermill still working; photo: CNC.

EXHIBITIONS: Located on a majestic natural scenery, the watermills complex is part of local geology, being composed by the mills, of weird architecture controlled by the geological formations, but also watercourses, straw yards, pigsties, ovens, kitchen-gardens,... The Ti Serrano watermill reveals the dimension of milling space and the technology employed since, at least, the 16th century, until the beginnings of the eighties of the 20th century. Other mills emphasize the tools associated to miller's life. One of the straw yards, known today as Fossils House, stores an exhibition of more than 400 trace fossil specimens representing about 17 different behavior types, as well as some minerals from the local formations.

ACTIVITIES: This complex is part of the Fossils Route, integrating the research project about quartzite formations with abundant invertebrate trace fossils from the Ponsul river gorge. By this reason, it is common guided visits for schools and street theatre about smuggling.

PROJECTS: The project Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia has the main purpose to interpret, protect and promote the Ponsul gorge concerning geology, history, ethnography and nature sports. Fossils Route and Fossils House will be prepared within new pedagogical concepts. A local company will start to animate the climbing school, the ranch and the bread and panning for gold circuits.

CONTACTS

Address: Penha Garcia Tourism Office – Rua do Espírito Santo 6060 Penha Garcia

Tel. 277366011/277366349

Open: Every days, from 10:00-13:00 to 14:00-18:00 (Summer) and from 9:30-13:00 to 14:00-17:30 (Winter).

Free Admission; Internet available.

How to get there: Bus everyday from Idanha-a-Nova and Castelo Branco.



Museus d' Idanha

GEOPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL – UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

OLIVE OIL MUSEUM/OLIVE PRESSES COMPLEX OF PROENÇA-A-VELHA

INTRODUCTION

The presses complex of Proença-a-Velha – Olive Oil Museum plays a role of particular relevance. It started by buying an old farm in Proença-a-Velha village belonging to one of the important land owners in the region. Beirão type of farm is a remarkable example of architectonic and functional synthesis, where once reunited several practices related with the work of big farms. When placed near the villages, its structure became complex due to the integration of other functionalities and related equipment, with emphasis for the olive press.



Olive press complex; photo: CNC.



Rods olive press; photo: CNC.



Hydraulic olive press; photo: Nuno Capelo.



Sausage Festival; photo: Nuno Capelo.

EXHIBITIONS

The farm of Proença-a-Velha, besides the houses and straw yards, has two olive presses, one with two rods and tank with three millstones powered by animal traction, and another mechanical one, with two hydraulic presses. To complement the technological trend, it was transferred the mechanical components of a press from Fundão which shows a central screw press with two huge stone as complementary weights and an industrial tank powered by hydraulic traction.

ACTIVITIES

Guided visits; events to promote traditions and local products promoted by the Parish (Olive oil, Sausage and Soups festivals).

PROJECTS

One of the straw yards will become a room to synthesize the history of olive oil in Portugal, while another one will be converted in a modern olive oil production unit, full time operating and completing the sequence started by the previous structures and bringing the press complex to present times. In the yards, below a big roof, it is intended to have an area to perform workshops for schools.

CONTACTS

Address: Rua da Igreja nº 4 6060 Proença-a-Velha
Tel. 277312012

Open: Tuesday to Sunday, from 10:00-13:00 to 14:00-18:00 (Summer) and from 9:30-13:00 to 14:00-17:30 (Winter).

Free admission.

There is leaflet and book in Portuguese.

How to get there: Bus everyday from Idanha-a-Nova and Castelo Branco.



Museus d' Idanha

GEOPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL – UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

MEDELIM HOUSE

INTRODUCTION

Remarkable recovering project, Medelim House is one of the best examples of manor architecture in the region and a place with several potentialities. The developing exhibit program starts from details of local culture, showing the community where it inserts. Due to its features, as well as the architectonic one found in the village, the architectures of the region and associated themes assumes special relevance.



Freire House; photo: Nuno Capelo.



Temporary exhibition;
photo: CNC.



Vessels Room; photo: CNC.



Temporary exhibition;
photo: CNC.

ACTIVITIES

Temporary exhibitions. During 2007 will be opening the exhibition "Stones of Fire and Water", showing utilitarian square stone typologies used at home in the region.

CONTACTS

Address: Largo de S. Sebastião, nº 3 6060 Medelim

Tel. 277202900.

Fax. 277202944.

E-mail: ccraiano@sapo.pt; ccraiano@iol.pt.

Open: Weekends and holydays, from 10h00-13h00 to 14h00-18h00 (Summer); from 9h30-13h00 to 14h00-17h30 (Winter).

Free Admission.

How to get there: Bus everyday from Idanha-a-Nova and Castelo Branco.

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Museus d' Idanha

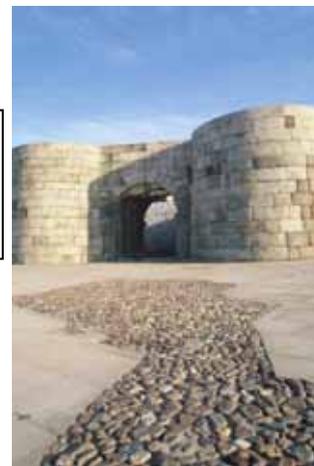
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MONUMENTAL COMPLEX OF IDANHA-A-VELHA

INTRODUCTION

Protected architectonic and archaeological set (National Monument and Historical Village), inserted in the wider concept of Site Museum. It is composed by several areas, included in an urban circuit, where points out the Roman ramparts, the pillory, the Cathedral, the Templar tower, the old press, the Marrocos manor (closed), the epigraphic pavilion (in conclusion) and the contemporary architecture of the conservation interventions occurred during the last decade.

Idanha-a-Velha Historical Village; photo: Pedro Martins.



Inside the ancient Cathedral; photo: CCR.



Olive oil press; photo: Pedro Martins.



Thematic visits; photo: CNC.

EXHIBITIONS: In the beginning of the 4th-to-5th century it was built here, or adopted, a church for cult. During the 6th century the cathedral was built next to the first one, but it is in the Muslim domain that was built the church with the architectonic style found nowadays. The old rods press from Marrocos Manor was restored to represent the technologies employed in an important economical activity for the village since the 18th century. The rampart shows an oval plant, adapted to the natural irregularities, with a perimeter of 750 m. The thick wall recycles abundant building material from previous times. It is reinforced by semicircular and rectangular towers regularly placed. Upwards Castelo street, it is found the main tower, built by the Templars in the 12th century. The tower was erected on a podium of the Roman city public square main temple, the forum.

ACTIVITIES: Guided thematic visits by the village urban circuit and to the monuments. Temporary exhibitions in the cathedral. During May there are the celebrations of the Our Lady with activities included in the Animation of Historical Villages.

PROJECTS: In the second semester of 2006 opens the epigraphic pavilion, which presents part of the local epigraphic collection. The epigraphy found in Idanha-a-Velha is one of the biggest and more representative collections in the country, with many elements belonging to the Roman period.

CONTACTS

Address: Idanha-a-Velha Tourism Office – Rua da Sé 6060 Idanha-a-Velha

Tel. 277914280

Open: Everyday, from 10:00-13:00 to 14:00-18:00 (Summer) and from 9:30-13:00 to 14:00-17:30 (Winter).

Free admission; internet available.

There are leaflets in Portuguese, Spanish, English and French. How to get there: Bus from Idanha-a-Nova (Monday to Friday).

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MUSEUM OF FRANCISCO TAVARES PROENÇA JÚNIOR

INTRODUCTION

The Museum of Francisco Tavares Proença Júnior's mission is to study and research, collect, document, conserve, interpret, exhibit and disseminate the cultural heritage that makes up its collection, with particular emphasis on archaeology and textiles, and within the latter on Castelo Branco embroidered bedspreads, regarded as an identifying feature, both as sources of scientific research and aesthetic gratification.



Episcopal Palace; photo: FTPJ Museum.



Archeology Room; photo: FTPJ Museum.



The Regional Embroidery Workshop-School; photo: FTPJ Museum.



Garden at the Episcopal Palace; photo: CNC.

EXHIBITIONS: The exhibition "*Archeology: Francisco Tavares Proença Júnior collections*" The exhibition is dedicated to the Museum's founder and organized into three areas: artifacts from the Castelo Branco region; presentation of a DVD entitled "Francisco Tavares Proença Júnior: archaeologist, archéologue" and an exhibition of artifacts collected in other regions where the Museum's founder worked. The exhibition area dedicated to "*Memories of the Diocese*" has the first room for religious iconography. The following exhibition examines "*Traditional Linen and Silk-Making Technologies*". In the Regional Embroidery Workshop/School witnesses the art of producing Castelo Branco embroidery. Here, works of embroidery produced in the workshop are on display and can be acquired or ordered. The exhibition area entirely dedicated to "*Embroidered Fabrics*" goes from religious textiles, followed by traditional costume and finishes with an area displaying Indo-Portuguese embroidered bedspreads. The Episcopal Palace Garden, *ex-libris* of the city and dated from 1720, shows an important collection of granite statues.

ACTIVITIES: The Regional Embroidery Workshop/School was created with the aim of producing, conserving, restoring and divulging regionally embroidered fabrics. The Laboratory is used to restore textiles from the museums under the auspices of the Portuguese Institute of Museums and from the MFTPJ's own collection, while caring for their conservation as well. The Educational Services develops initiatives aimed mainly at schools at different levels of the educational system, but also at adults. The shop/bookshop sells publications produced by the Museum and other institutions and merchandising. The Dom Fernando de Almeida Library is specialized in books on archaeology and art history.

CONTACTS: Address: Largo Dr. José Lopes Dias 6000-462 Castelo Branco. Tel. (351) 272 344 277; Fax (351) 272 347 880 E-mail: mftpj@ipmuseus.pt; www.mftpj-ipmuseus.pt; www.ipmuseus.pt; Open: Tuesday to Sunday: from 10.00-12.30 to 14.00 -17.30. Ticket: 2 €; there are leaflets in Portuguese and English. How to get there: Everyday by train from Lisbon, Oporto and Guarda. By bus from Santarém, Braga, Fafe, Porto, Guarda, Covilhã, Fundão, Coimbra, Viseu, Portalegre, Évora, Beja, Faro, Bordaeux, Tours, Paris, Geneve, Zurich, Basel (Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday); Reims, Metz, Luxemburg (Tuesday and Saturday).

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CARGALEIRO MUSEUM – CASTELO BRANCO

The Cargaleiro Museum – Castelo Branco born with a central purpose: to promote presentation of “high quality cultural contents”, enabling to transit by this museum several collections of the Manuel Cargaleiro Foundation. It is a Museum of Author, created through a partnership between Castelo Branco Municipality and Manuel Cargaleiro Foundation, to allow to new publics the interaction with Art(s), outside the main cities. The Museum is located in the Cavaleiros Manor, a distinct and noble building dated from 1753 and placed in the Historical Area of Castelo Branco.



Cavaleiros Manor, now the Cargaleiro Museum; photo: CNC.



Temporary exhibition; photo: Castelo Branco Capital da Beira Interior.



Reception; photo: Castelo Branco Capital da Beira Interior.



Workshops for schools; photo: Castelo Branco Capital da Beira Interior.

EXHIBITIONS: Cargaleiro’s style of life started in 1945, with 18 years old, through the modeling of clay. It’s a chronological synthesis with emphasis, besides the exuberant and permanent happiness, for percussive affirmation of the beginnings of the fifties of last century, for consolidation as value of the School of Paris and for the renovation by ways of diverse experimentation until the recent Italian stage of Vietri-sul-Mare, already in the transition of the millennium. The first floor has a room with works belonging to the private collection of Manuel Cargaleiro, which focus pottery of Pablo Picasso, paintings of Vieira da Silva, Arpad Szènes, Almada Negreiros, polychromatic ceramics of Jorge Barradas and Danielle Lescolt, among others. A filmed interview with the artist Manuel Cargaleiro gives the context to the visit.

ACTIVITIES: Books presentation and other editions and music performances.

PROJECTS: It is on plan the Educational Service focused to the development of activities and workshops with children from every schools.

Address: Rua dos Cavaleiros, nº 23 6000-189 Castelo Branco
Tel.: 272337394;

E-mail: museucargaleiro.castelobranco@mail.telepac.pt
Open: Tuesday to Sunday: from 10.00-13.00 to 14.00-18.00;
Ticket: 2€; free for students and groups.

There are leaflets in Portuguese, English, French and Spanish; book in Portuguese. How to get there: Everyday by train from Lisbon, Oporto and Guarda. By bus from Santarém, Braga, Fafe, Porto, Guarda, Covilhã, Coimbra, Fundão, Viseu, Portalegre, Evora, Beja, Faro, Bordaeux, Tours, Paris, Geneve, Zurich, Basel (Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday); Reims, Metz, Luxemburg (Tuesday and Saturday).

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GEOPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL – UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

THE STONE-CUTTER MUSEUM – ALCAINS CULTURAL CENTRE

INTRODUCTION: The Stone-cutter museum starts from a spontaneously initiative of Alcains community but is now a Municipal institution, with the aim of to study, preserve and promote practices and ways of life in the work of the stone-cutters, in any space and time, without geographical or historical limits, emphasizing the conscience that Alcains stone-cutters are part of the civilization adventure that is the relationship between Man and Stone. This has also the ambition of keeping alive the techniques and traditional know-how in order to, through them, reply to the needs of conservation and restore of architectonic heritage. In this work, the manual skills, the patience and sensibility of the stone-cutter acquire again all their importance.



Goulões Manor – Museum; photo: SC Museum.



Detail from the permanent exhibition; photo: SC Museum.



Stone-cutter songs; photo: CNC.



Permanent exhibition; photo: SC Museum.

EXHIBITIONS: The permanent exhibition “Labor of the Stone-cutter” develops through a journey that follows the rock work to produce squared stone. It shows older and more traditional tools used by the Stone-cutters during operations as well as their evolution, leading to the abandonment and replacement by industrial machines. The images presented document activities and techniques conducting to the production of forms or the aesthetic creation on the rock and show the main information about the evolution of stone work in Portugal. From the more important innovations stand out those that emphasized the stone industry until then restricted to the use of human and animal strength. It is also presented problems which today are references for development conception of the relationship between Man and rock – problems in the present with important influences for the future.

ACTIVITIES: For the younger public, the Educational Service develops ludico-pedagogical activities for children and young people; guided visits for schools and other publics; workshops for young people on stone art and cultural patrimony, starting from the exhibitions (permanent and temporary) of the Stone-cutter Museum; development of specific actions with schools and universities, corresponding with their curricular programs; thematic visits to the temporary exhibitions.

CONTACTS

Address: Rua das Fontainhas, 1 6005-057 Alcains

Tel.: 272 900220; Fax: 272 900229

E-mail: museudocanteiro@sapo.pt

Open: Tuesday to Friday – 9.30h – 12.30h | 14.00h – 17.30h; Saturday and Sunday – 14.30h – 18.30h.

Adult ticket – 1€ ;Students and older than 65 – 0,50€; Children and groups – free. There is leaflet and booklet in Portuguese and English. How to get there: Everyday by bus from Castelo Branco and by train, from Lisboa, Porto, Castelo Branco, Covilhã and Guarda.

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SACRED ART MUSEUM OF CASTELO BRANCO

INTRODUCTION

Sacra Art Museum of the Holly House of Mercy from Castelo Branco was installed in Graça Convent, which was built in the 17th century. This convent has good museographic conditions. Here it is possible to admire a collection of images dated since the 16th century. The visitor can admire two crucified Christ images, in ivory, dated from the 16th and 17th century. Reference also for a set of the Mercy's Procession Flags, canvas painted with scenes of Passion and Worship to Virgin. In the museum it is integrated the Graça Church, built in 1519, and the Fonecas Chapel, which may be also visited.



The Museum is located in the Graça Convent; photo: CNC.



Liturgics environment; photo: CNC.



Flags Room; photo: CNC.



Agriculture Room; photo: CNC.

EXHIBITIONS: The museum is composed by four rooms with the permanent exhibition. Room 1 shows several religious tools and some paintings of saints from the 16th century onwards. It must be referred the choir shelf with liturgical books from the 18th century. Room 2 exposes many images; between them stand out two sculptures of the Coimbra School, from the 16th century, representing the Virgin with Christ and S. Mathews. Room 3 re-creates the liturgics environment, standing out S. James image, aged from the beginning of the 16th century and two crucified images of Christ, made of ivory, being the testimony of some of the best realizations of the Portuguese sculptors about the theme of Crucifixion. At the Room 4 it is referred the magnificent set of wood Flags from the Holly House of Mercy, from the 17th century, which recently still went out to the streets during the Eastern celebrations.

PROJECTS: Recently, it was opened the museum about the agriculture history of the region, where it is possible to find many everyday tools that were references in the agrarian landscape of Castelo Branco.

CONTACTS

Address: Rua Bartolomeu da Costa, Apartado 42 6001-909 Castelo Branco. Tel. 272348420 – Ext. 237; Fax: 272322185

E-mail: scmcb.museu@netvisao.pt.

Open: Every days from 9.00-12.00 to 14.00-15.30.

Ticket: 0.50€; There is leaflet and booklet in Portuguese, English and French. How to get there: Everyday by train from Lisbon, Oporto and Guarda. By bus from Santarém, Braga, Fafe, Porto, Guarda, Covilhã, Fundão, Coimbra, Viseu, Portalegre, Évora, Beja, Faro, Bordaeux, Tours, Paris, Geneve, Zurich, Basel (Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday); Reims, Metz, Luxemburg (Tuesday and Saturday).

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GEOPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL – UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

ETHNOGRAPHIC AND CULTURAL MUSEUM OF NINHO DO AÇOR

INTRODUCTION

The rods press of Ninho do Açor is an important building made traditionally in granite, and located in a noble area of the Ninho do Açor village. This building keeps one of the most ancient technologies related with olive oil, but still widely used in the region until mid-20th century.



Old olive oil press now restored; photo: CNC.



Inside the press; photo: C. M. Castelo Branco.



Detail of the big rods; photo: C.M. Castelo Branco.



Old loom; photo: CNC.

EXHIBITIONS

The old Horta da Fonte rods press was completely recovered. There are numerous tools referred to the olive oil traditional activity. In the same room can be found other tools applied traditionally for wool and linen activities, as well as several handcraft donations of locals.

ACTIVITIES

In the museum the Parish develops several formative actions about many different themes.

CONTACTS

Address: Largo António Carvalho Santiago 6000-590 Ninho do Açor.

Tel. 936619243/45/46

Open: Monday to Friday, from 9:00-12:30 to 14:00-17:30.

Admission free. How to get there: Bus (Monday to Friday) from Castelo Branco.

GEOPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL – UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM OF LOUSA

INTRODUCTION

The Ethnographic Museum of Louisa constitutes an identity for Louisa community, where unites immaterial heritages with representative patrimonies of material culture of a changing society. Louisa Dances here musealized could only be it in a symbolic way, because is a patrimony of gestures, rhythms, sounds and sensibilities hardly described by museographic techniques. The best way to protect this heritage is giving continuity to the cultural and life practices still occurring in Louisa nowadays. The olive oil technological cycle was musealized in an old mechanic press dated from 1951, taking to daily practices which Louisa community considers of strong importance for its cohesion and self-esteem.



Lagar Novo, today is a museum; photo: CNC.

Olive oil Room; photo: CNC.



Dances Room; photo: CNC.



Detail of the machines room; photo: CNC.



EXHIBITIONS

Olive oil Room is composed by 3 areas that follows the technological cycle of olive oil production: the reception, weighing and choice of olive; the machines room with, at a lower level, the olive oil room. The Dances Room shows "Louisa Dances". Here it is possible to find music, lyrics, dances presented in photography and film, dresses and music instruments. "Louisa Dances" are composed by three different dances: "Maid Dance", "Men Dance" and "Scissors Dance".

CONTACTS

Address: Largo do Chafariz 6005-232 Louisa

Tel: 272330339

Open: Tuesday to Friday, from 14:00 to 17:30, Saturday and Sunday, from 14:30 to 18:00.

Free admission.

Leaflet and booklet in Portuguese and English.

How to get there. Bus everyday from Castelo Branco.

GEPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL – UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

TRANSBORDERLAND HANDCRAFT CENTRE AND TRADITIONAL PRODUCTS OF NISA– EMBROIDERY MUSEUM

INTRODUCTION: The Embroidery Museum is part of the Transborderland Handcraft and Traditional Products Promotion Centre created by the Activartes partnership, composed by the municipalities of Nisa, Vila Velha de Ródão and Deputación de Badajoz (Spain). It is a museum that promotes services and information to the handcrafters and producers, presents permanent exhibitions and enables to include all the municipal politics concerning the support to revaluation of traditional arts and employment crafts. The Embroidery Museum shows the work of the women handcrafters included in the traditional environment of the old workshops still existent in Nisa.



The Museum building placed in a street from Nisa historical centre; photo: CNC.



Loom Room with an exhibition of traditional embroidery; photo: CNC.



Embroidery and Basted Room; photo: CNC.



Bobbin lace; photo: Tourism of Nisa.

EXHIBITIONS

The ground floor shows the Basted embroidery and an ancient type of basted, complemented with photos. In the first floor, the Room 1 presents the tools for linen production; Room 2 has a traditional kitchen with remains from the now extinct House of People Folkloric Group and several donations. Lastly, Room 3 has the traditional bed room from Nisa, with its Basted and other traditional embroidery types. In the garden there is a place for old agriculture tools.

PROJECTS

- Potter's earth Museum (with architecture project)

This museum will work as the Embroidery Museum.

- Reserves and Restore Centre

The Centre will work in a Manor bought by the Municipality. - **Documentation Centre and Educational Services (with architecture project)**

To implement in the building of the Old Jail, located next to the Reserves and Restore Centre. These areas will have a place for archive, study and reading rooms, a small auditorium, a room for the educational services (to work the clay).

CONTACTS

Address: Rua Dr. Francisco Minguéns, nº 27 6050-359 Nisa

Tel: 245410000

Fax: 245412799

Open: Monday to Friday, from 9:00-12:30 to 14:00-16:30; Saturday: 10:00-13:00.

Free Admission. There is leaflet in Portuguese.

How to get there: Bus (Monday to Friday) from Lisboa, Abrantes; Guarda, Covilhã and Castelo Branco.

Museums and Info centers of the European Geoparks Network

GEOPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL – UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

ALPALHÃO HOUSE

INTRODUCTION

The Alpalhão House is an example of collaboration between School and Community, for sustainability of cultural traditions. The House presents to the visitors the typical and rural house of the village. Entering here it is like to do a trip back to the past, to the traditions and daily life of the ancestors. From the old kitchen, with the pots and earthenware, to the traditional rooms, with iron made beds and crockery, and the garret, where they kept the agriculture tools and those for cheese making.



Traditional house of Alpalhão; photo: CNC.



Traditional Room; photo: CNC.



Primary School; photo: CNC.



Kitchen; photo: CNC.

EXHIBITIONS

In the ground floor there is a recreation of an agrarian traditional house and its rooms: kitchen, bedroom, dining room, room for the animals. At the first floor, it shows traditional activities of Alpalhão: music, sausage, milling, seam, shoemaker and school. Still possible to find is a bedroom of local bourgeoisie. The contents were prepared with donations from the citizens of Alpalhão.

ACTIVITIES

The students from the Alpalhão primary school is doing the inventory of the contents exposed in the House of Alpalhão with the help of their teachers.

CONTACTS

Address: Rua do Castelo, nº 55 6050-031 Alpalhão.

Tel. 245742154

Open: During the week contact the Parish; Saturday and Sunday: from 15:00 to 17:00.

Admission fee: 1€.

How to get there: Bus (Monday to Friday), from Nisa, Castelo Branco and Lisboa.

Museums and Info centers of the European Geoparks Network



GEPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL – UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

OLIVE OIL MUSEUM

INTRODUCTION

In the first half of the 20th century opened its doors to olives coming from the surrounding area a private olive oil press, bringing innovation to the Council due to its architectonic structure and mechanical devices. The building is composed by 3 rooms, a multifunctional hall which, besides other events, here is presented temporary exhibitions beyond the places used for services of the parish of Sarnadas do Ródão.



Former a press, now museum and parish hall; photo: CNC.



Reception and Olive Room; photo: CNC.



Machines Room; photo CNC.



Olive oil Room; photo: CNC.

EXHIBITIONS

In the Reception, Weighing and Storing Room it is found the beginning and end of olive transformation cycle. Here it is shown the granite granaries, the weighing machine for the olive, the electric screw for the transport of olive for the millstones, the water pressure pump who activated the hydraulic devices and the olive husk mixer. At the Machines Room, there are olive iron granaries and two hydraulic presses with the characteristic rush baskets. The Olive oil Room, in the lower floor, shows decantation devices, the olive oil scales and the small daily objects of the pressman chief.

ACTIVITIES

The Reception Room is a show room for traditional music and Christmas concerts. Frequently, there are formative workshops about different themes.

CONTACTS

Address: Rua do Barreiro, nº 15 6030-116 Sarnadas do Ródão
Tel. 272997829

Fax. 272997827

E-mail: jfsarnadasrodao@sapo.pt

Open: Monday to Friday, from 9:00-13:00 to 14:00-17:00.

Free admission; There booklet in Portuguese and English. Internet available.

How to get there: Bus (Monday to Friday) from Castelo Branco and Vila Velha de Ródão.

Museums and Info centers of the European Geoparks Network



GEOPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL – UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

ARCHEOLOGY MUSEUM OF RÓDÃO

INTRODUCTION

It is an ancient, deep and solid history offered by the Ródão Museum: A history made of *Cruziana* and fossil trunks, stone tools, polished axes and earthenware, rock art and epigraphy, millstones and tiles, cannon-balls and paintings coming from French Invasions

The evocation of the Ródão's memory, presented in this museum, may be used as a starting point for a deeper knowledge of the landscapes and the people – who are here waiting for the visitor.



The Museum at the town's centre; photo: CNC.



Section for landscape setting; photo: CNC.



Tejo's Rock Art; photo: CNC.



School visits; photo: CNC.

EXHIBITIONS

One single room shows, by chronological succession of events, the main periods of the landscape and building history and cultural territory of Ródão. In the landscape section, the geological and geomorphological setting is prepared emphasizing common fossils and rocks from the area. In the Paleolithic section it is evidenced the stone tools from the time of recollecting-hunters. The Rock Art from the Tejo Valley occupies a central space by its importance at the national context. Besides a film that reminds all the developed fieldwork, there are graphics and representations of the carved symbolisms, as well as a chronology for those representations. Neolithic and Calcolithic section is, at the most part, composed by the findings from the excavations made only in some of many dolmens existent in the region and vestiges from copper and gold metallurgy. Proto-history section reveals metallic tools and weapons. The Roman domain and its landscape marks and territorial classification of the region are found in a section about the Roman Period. The Portuguese Period is reinforced in a section where prevails the French invasions.

CONTACTS

Address: Largo do Pelourinho 6030-212 Vila Velha de Ródão

Tel. 272540308

Fax. 272540301/272545295; E-mail: cmcdvvr@gmail.com.

Open: Monday to Friday, from 9:00 to 17:30.

Free access; library and internet are available.

There is booklet and leaflet in Portuguese.

How to get there: Train everyday from Lisboa, Porto, Castelo Branco, Covilhã and Guarda; by bus everyday from Lisboa, Castelo Branco, Covilhã, Abrantes and Guarda.

Museums and Info centers of the European Geoparks Network



GEPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL – UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

CENTA – CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF ARTS

INTRODUCTION

CENTA is a multidisciplinary professional structure that supports creators in the field of artistic residencies, it is a guarantor of work conditions necessary during the process of creation, giving visibility to this artists thru public presentations, guided tours to the residencies, promoting the dialogue between artists, and the population in general. its main goals are, to offer adequate work conditions related to the creative process and to the investigation in the field of contemporary Art, to contribute to strength the cultural identity of local populations thru the creation of local cultural dynamics. CENTA is located in Tapada da Tojeira, a farm that produces bio-olive oil.



Aerial view from Herdade da Tojeira farm; photo: CENTA.



Activities for Primary School; photo: CENTA.



Luísa Ferreira photography project; photo: CENTA.



Oven workshops; photo: CENTA.

EXHIBITIONS

The Fine Arts Department presents works specially prepared for Tojeira farm, composed by paintings, sculptures and photos, commenting and exemplifying the concepts of *site specific*, *installation*, *land art* and *ephemeral art*. Today is coordinated by the creator Nuno Carrusca which besides the organization of guided visits and workshops, promotes the meditation/researching residences.

ACTIVITIES

CENTA developed and produced high diversified projects like legends, people and flock integration in the village (Tojeira Project, Sibila Cassandra Act, Salgueiral Project, Experimenting the Farm) and essentially urban projects (Lisboa After Hours, Home Readings), educational projects for schools (@Existir, Theater Workshop), Fine Arts temporary exhibitions (National Road variant n.º1, ADOIS) and creation of a Fine Arts Department, the F.A.D..

PROJECTS

Besides the aforementioned projects is being prepared several Fine Arts exhibitions included in an educational program and conferences, the participation in a Cova da Beira radio talk show, the collaboration in a magazine for Contemporary Dance edited by C.E.M. (professional structure from Lisboa) and the creation of the "(I)mobile Point" by the performer Maria Belo Costa.

CONTACTS

Address: Herdade da Tojeira 6030-006 Vila Velha de Ródão
Tel: 272545314; Fax: 272545314
E-mail: centa@mail.telepac.pt; centa-tojeira@blogspot.com.
Open: Everyday, from 10:00 to 19:00.

Museums and Info centers of the European Geoparks Network



GEOPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL – UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

ASSOCIATION FOR STUDIES OF HIGH TEJO

INTRODUCTION

The Association for Studies of the High Tejo (ASHT) born in 1987. It is composed by a multidisciplinary team whose aim is to archeological, ethnographic and anthropological studies. More recently, develops projects for Environmental Education and promotes studies about biological inventoring and environmental impact. The ASHT develops also juvenile animation initiatives, with activities for free time occupation and pedagogical discover of local Nature and Patrimony.



Temporary head office of ASHT;
photo: CNC.



Recycling workshop;
photo: ASHT.



Educational activities;
photo: ASHT.



Pedestrian trails/thematic visits;
photo: ASHT.

EXHIBITIONS: ASHT organizes and cooperates in temporary exhibitions about regional archeology and environment. The works are exposed at the head office or in regional places and events.

ACTIVITIES: ASHT develops fieldwork and excavations, publishing the results in 3 publications edited by the Association. The pedagogical workshops with local schools are common. Animation activities and thematic visits are organized.

PROJECTS:

- Archeological studies at the Geopark territory;
- Environmental studies in Portas do Ródão and Portas do Vale Mourão areas;
- Valorization of Ródão castle, Senhora do Castelo chapel and surrounding areas;
- Revision of the archeological map of Vila Velha de Ródão;
- Application of Portas do Ródão as Natural Monument;
- Implementation of foot paths network at Ródão.

INTRODUCTION

Address: Avenida da Bela Vista (Antigos CTT) 6030-201 Vila Velha de Ródão; Tel./Fax: 272541122

E-mail: altotejovvr@mail.telepac.pt; www.altotejo.org

There are leaflets about almost all the initiatives of ASHT in Portuguese. This association edited regularly 3 different publications, Açaфа, Preservação and Boletim Informativo.

Open: Monday to Friday from 9.00-12.00 to 13.00-17.30.

Activities with symbolic fees. There is a library and the internet is available. How to get there: Train everyday from Lisboa, Porto, Castelo Branco, Covilhã and Guarda; by bus everyday from Lisboa, Castelo Branco, Covilhã, Abrantes and Guarda.

Museums and Info centers of the European Geoparks Network



GEOPARK NATURTEJO MESETA MERIDIONAL – UNESCO EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK

SCIENCE ALIVE CENTRE OF FOREST

INTRODUCTION

The Centre, unique in Portugal dedicated to forest, runs as a place of regional development – scientific, cultural and economic, but essentially as a place where Science and Technology come from labs and universities to go to the visitors.

It's integrated in the network of National Science Alive Centres, where it's possible to touch, experiment, discover, ...



Science Alive Centre;
Photo: CNC.



Auditory;
Photo: CNC



Guided visit;
Photo: CNC



Educational programs;
Photo: :
www.floresta.cienciaviva.pt

EXHIBITIONS

Science Alive Centre presents a variety of permanent and interactive exhibitions divided in three areas, distinguishing Forest by thematic sources of Well-being, of Life, of Richness and several temporary exhibitions.

ACTIVITIES

Permanent exhibition and labs work with educational programs. There are several sporadic activities developed during the year that consider not only the forest theme but also other themes on science, arts and technology.

There are also birthday parties with animation.

Address: Associação Centro Ciência Viva de Proença-a-Nova, Moitas, 6150-345 Proença-a-Nova

Tel.: 274 670 220 /Fax: 274 670 228

E-mail: info@floresta.cienciaviva.pt

Http://: www.floresta.cienciaviva.pt

Leaflet in Portuguese.

Open: Tuesday to Friday: 10.00 - 18.00 e Saturday, Sunday and holidays 11.00 – 19.00

Admission: adults - 3€; children 3-14 years old, seniors >65 years old, students and youth card – 2€; children < 2 years old – free; scholar groups – 1,50€.