



# Writer's ITINERARY

The important cultural and natural heritage that Vila do Conde has is unquestionable. Its unique geographical situation, «between pine forests, river and sea», and its people, have contributed, over more than ten centuries, so that this locality is today the holder of a rich historical heritage that is embodied in its monuments, in its traditions and festivities, in its gastronomy and in the varied and vast proposals of tourist offer.

Most visitors, whether occasional or those who seek our town for more or less prolonged stays, are unaware of one of the facets of this heritage that we consider to be of great importance: its connection to some of the most important figures of Portuguese culture. Vila do Conde is present in the biography of some of the most prominent names of the second half of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Camilo Castelo Branco, Antero de Quental, Eça de Queiroz, Guerra Junqueiro, Robert and Sonia Delaunay, Eduardo Viana, José Régio, Júlio-Saúl Dias, Ruy Belo, are just some of the names that have been inscribed in the history and culture of this county.

Taking as a pretext the sentimental geography of the writers and painters who were born and lived in Vila do Conde, taking their places as reference, a visit to the city is thus proposed. On each point of the marked itinerary, specific information will be provided on the highlighted figure and its connection to the place.

Based on biographical information, some of which are present in the work of each of the authors, the intention is to establish a pedestrian circuit to be included in the tourist offer available to those who visit us or who live here.

We named this project Writer's Routes, because we intend to invite you to travel one or several paths, affective paths of creators who bequeathed us their work inscribed in one or several mediums: painting, poetry, fiction, drawing. These writings have thus a plural meaning: they are described, explained, documented paths.

Accept this invitation to come over and discover them.

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## I. AFONSO SANCHES

. Afonso Sanches was a renowned troubadour poet. 15 poems are known of his authorship, including friend songs, love songs and sneering and cursing songs. The Son of King Dinis, he and his wife, Teresa Martins, are responsible for the foundation of the Monastery of Sainte Claire of Vila do Conde, in 1318. It was a religious institution for noblewomen of the most powerful and influential in northern Portugal. The Church of Sainte Claire houses the tombs of its founders and two of their children, who died during childhood.

. Location: Largo Afonso Sanches | . Latitude: 41.35263 . Longitude: -8.73947

## 2. JOSÉ RÉGIO

Considered one of the greatest names in Portuguese Literature, he is the author of a vast work in poetry, novels, short stories, theatre, essays and various collaborations in numerous magazines and newspapers of the time. The House of José Régio, currently of municipal property, belonged to his godmother Libânia, the writer's great aunt. Régio would inherit it in shares, after the death of his father. After his retirement, he turned it into his permanent home, furnishing and decorating it with pieces he collected throughout his life.

. Location: Avenida José Régio | . Latitude: 41.3532 . Longitude: -8.74026

### 3. EÇA DE QUEIROZ

. On December 1st, 1845, a male child was baptized in the Mother Church of Vila do Conde. His name was José Maria and the prior of Vila do Conde, Fr. Soledade Silos, registered on his baptismal certificate that he was a child of an unknown mother. This child would become the writer Eça de Queiroz and after the religious act he was transported by his godmother, Ana Leal de Barros, to her modest house, on Rua da Costa. Here he remained until the death of his nurse in 1851, a servant to the Carneiro Pizarro family, owner of the manor house next to the House of Eça de Queiroz.

. Location: Rua da Costa | . Latitude: 41.35560. Longitude: -8.74299

#### 4. CAMILO CASTELO BRANCO

Considered the greatest Portuguese prose and fiction writer of the 19th century, Camilo is, even today, a name wrapped in the mythical aura of his troubled personal life. His experiential journey made him travel through different locations. Vila do Conde was one of the lands where he lived, accepting the suggestion of the Vila Conde doctor Bento de Freitas Soares, who had advised him to use the sea air as a palliative for his nervous crises. Between the years 1870-1871, he occupied a small house at the southern end of Praça Velha, today Largo Antero de Quental.

. Location: Largo Antero de Quental | . Latitude: 41.35630. Longitude: -8.74289

## 5. ANTERO DE QUENTAL

At the end of the summer of 1881, the poet and philosopher Antero de Quental arrived in Vila do Conde. He had rented a small house in Praça Velha, now Largo, named after him. He lived in Vila do Conde for ten years, the last of his life and perhaps the most productive of all his work. In the vast correspondence he wrote to friends and family, he described his occupations in Vila do Conde: reading, writing, going for walks. The Chapel of Sainte Catherine, the beaches of Our Lady of Guidance and Caxinas, the trips to Azurara and Mindelo, are just examples of some of his itineraries.

. Location: Largo Antero de Quental | . Latitude: 41.35630 . Longitude: -8.74334

## 6. GUERRA JUNQUEIRO

A writer for the 70's Generation and political fighter in opposition to the Monarchy, Guerra Junqueiro lived in Vila do Conde between 1899 and 1906. He moved from Porto, where there was an outbreak of the bubonic plague, and sought the clean air of the land where his friend Antero de Quental had also lived. He lived in a house, in what is now called Avenida Bento de Freitas. At House of Guerra Junqueiro, a private property, a tombstone was placed marking the centenary of his birth, in 1950. Here, his daughter Maria Isabel met her husband Luís Mesquita de Carvalho, a lawyer.

. Location: Avenida Dr. Artur da Cunha Araújo | . Latitude: 41.35371. Longitude: -8.74737

## 7. ROBERT E SONIA DELAUNAY

In 1914, Amadeo de Souza-Cardoso, Eduardo Viana, Almada Negreiros, among others, invited the Delaunays, who had guested them in Paris, to launch the *Orfeu* magazine. In the spring of 1915, the couple arrived in Lisbon and headed to Vila do Conde, where they settled with the painters Samuel Halpert and Eduardo Viana. The house they occupied, number 7 on Avenida Bento de Freitas, was designated by Sonia as *La Simultanée*, where they would stay for about a year.

. Location: Avenida Bento de Freitas | . Latitude: 41.35165 . Longitude: -8.75283

## 8. JULIO - SAÚL DIAS

Júlio Maria dos Reis Pereira was born in Vila do Conde on November 1st, 1902. He signed his paintings as Julio and his 6 poetry titles under the pseudonym Saúl Dias. He was an assiduous contributor to the magazine *Presença*, of which his brother, the writer José Régio, was one of the founders. The different designs that the magazine presented throughout its publication are his own. After his marriage, he moved to the house on Avenida Júlio Graça, where he set up his studio, which he used during his vacations and after his retirement.

. Location: Avenida Júlio Graça | . Latitude: 41.35221 . Longitude: -8.74796

## 9. RUY BELO

. Rui de Moura Ribeiro Belo, the poet Ruy Belo, was born on February 27th, 1933, in S. João da Ribeira, municipality of Rio Maior. In 1961, he entered the Faculty of Arts of the University of Lisbon with a scholarship from the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation. It was at this time that he met Maria Teresa Marques, from Vila Conde, with whom he would marry in the Church of Sainte Claire, in Vila do Conde, in 1966. Ruy Belo spent long periods in this village by the river Ave, during his vacation or, when, with his wife, they visited relatives. Two of the most beautiful poems of his work are dedicated to Vila do Conde: Portugal SacroProfano- Vila do Conde and Esta Rua é Alegre.

. Location: Rua de S. Bento | . Latitude: 41.35252 . Longitude: -8.74365

## 10. EDUARDO VIANA

He attended the National School of Beaux Arts between 1896 and 1905. Disillusioned with the Portuguese academic environment, he left for Paris, where he would reside between 1905 and 1915. It was at this time that he met the Delaunay couple and other names in painting and French culture. It is because of his influence that the couple travels to Portugal where they meet and share with a group of intellectuals from the Portuguese avant-garde. At Viana's suggestion, the painters settled in Vila do Conde between 1915 and 1916. Viana continued to reside in the village after the French couple left. He would move to 28, Rua do Lidador in the fall of 1916.

. Location: Rua do Lidador | . Latitude: 41.35138 . Longitude: -8.74224

