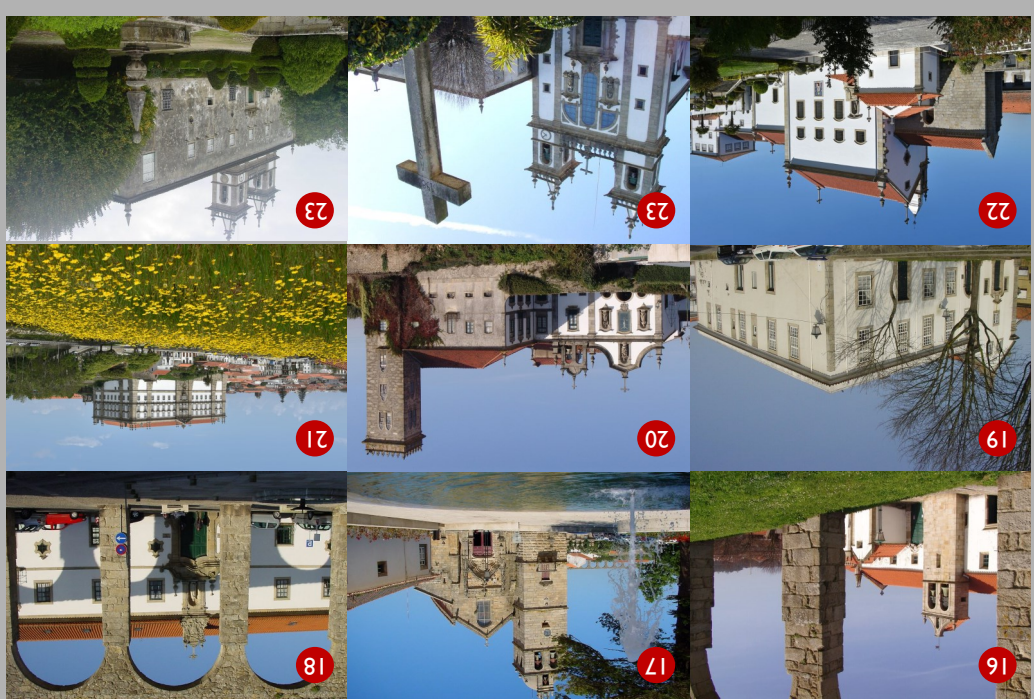
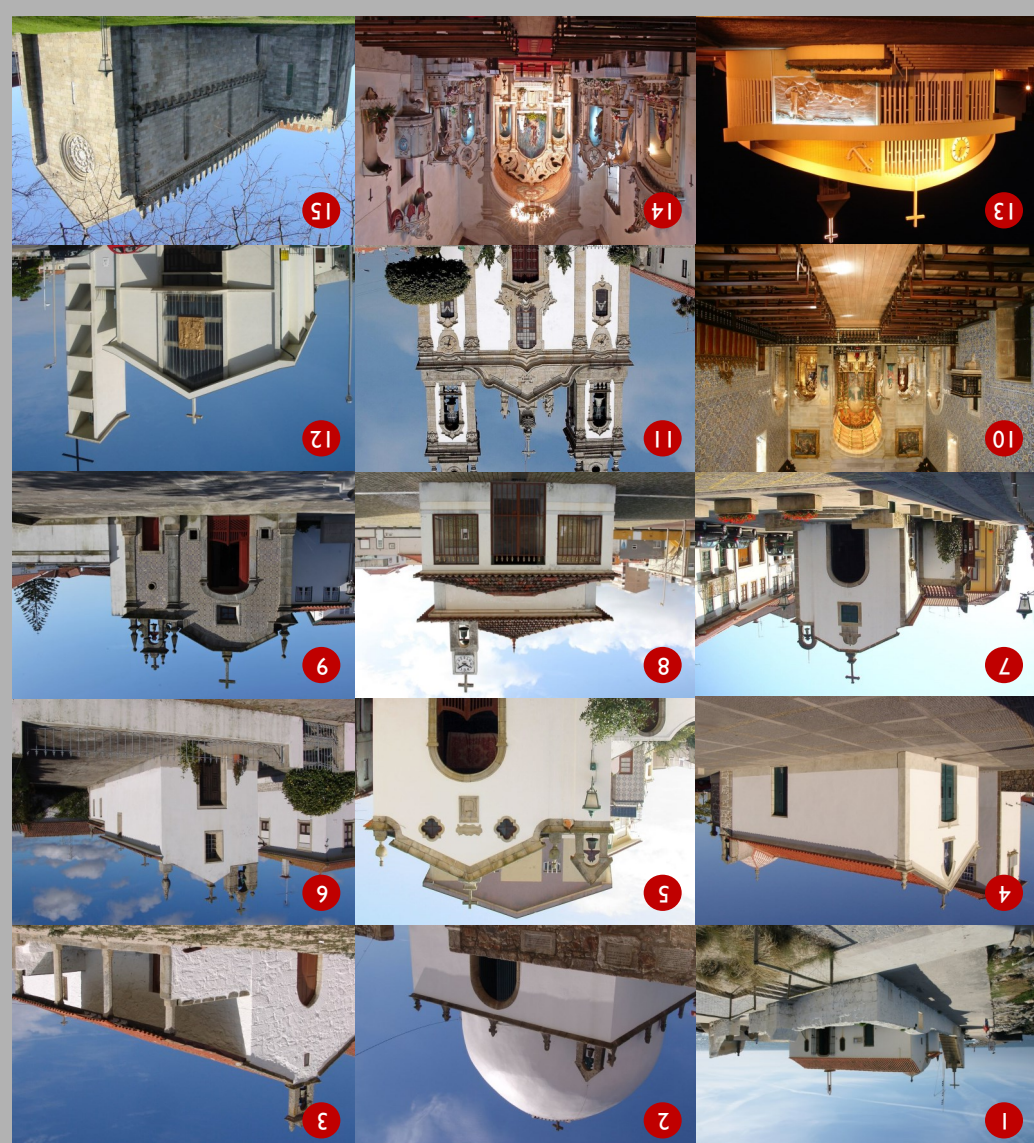


Religious Heritage ITINERARY



10 chapels, 8 churches and 3 former convents. This is the richness of the dimension of the religious heritage that you can find without even having to leave the city of Vila do Conde. In the itinerary here proposed, whoever trails it will travel back in time, spanning about 10 centuries of religious devotion, and witnessing a unique built heritage in the national panorama. Get lost in the streets of this city of enormous religious tradition and set out to find a source of stories that each chapel, church or convent contains within its walls.

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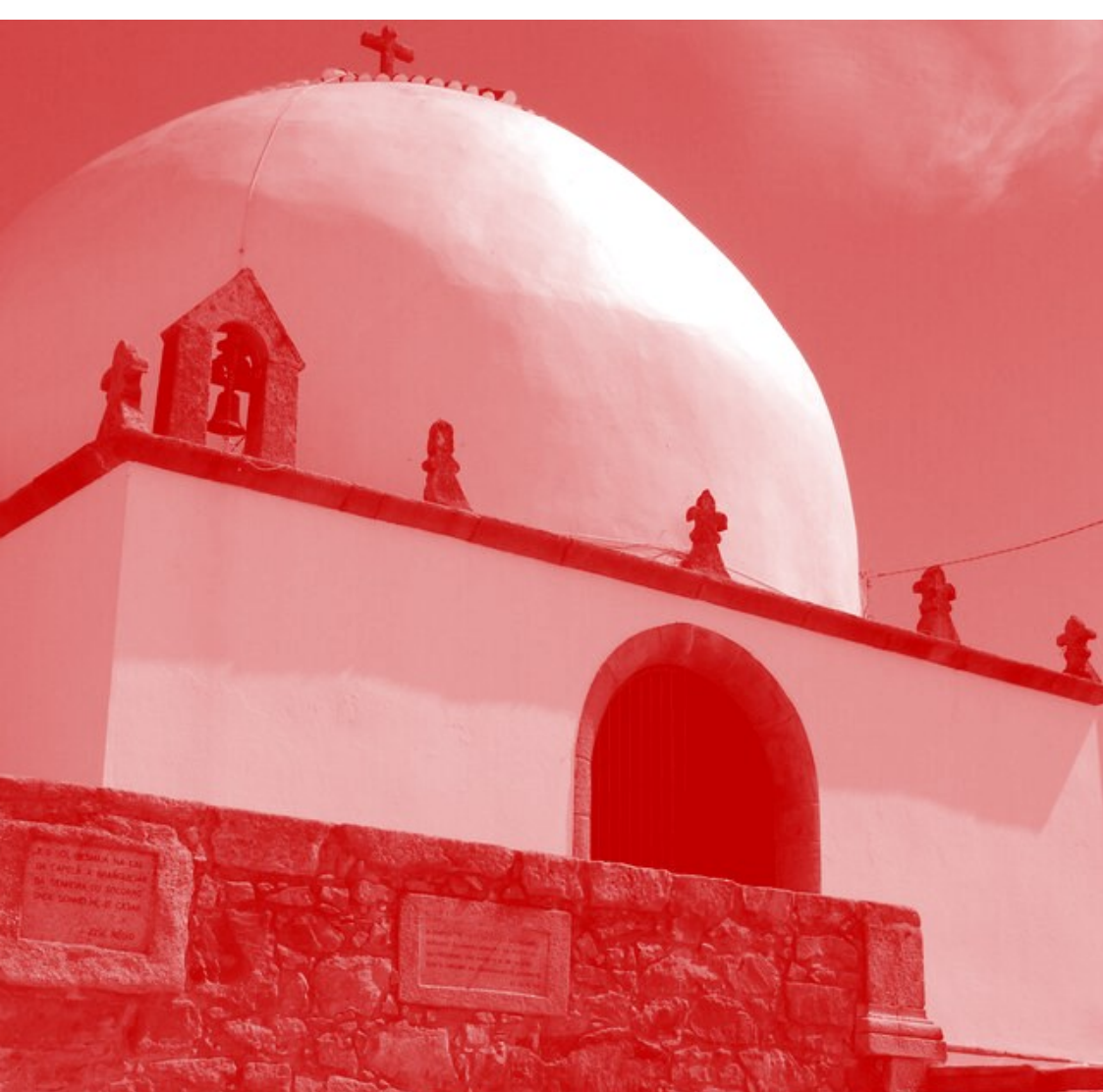
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Religious Heritage ITINERARY



1. OUR LADY OF GUIDANCE CHAPEL

. This chapel would probably have already existed in 953, being referenced, but designated as hermitage of St. Julian. Besides its religious use, the hermitage functioned initially as a point of support for the defense of the estuary. It has beautiful 17th and 18th century tiles and ceilings paneled in coffins decorated with biblical scenes.

. Location: Avenida Marquês Sá da Bandeira

2. OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHAPEL

. It was ordered to be built by Gaspar Manuel Carneiro, a professed knight of the Order of Christ and the chief of the routes of India, China and Japan, and by his wife Bárbara Ferreira de Almeida, both of whom are buried there. On the inside, it's beautifully decorated with 18th century tiles.

. Location: Rua do Socorro

3. ST. CATHERINE CHAPEL

. The date of construction of this chapel seems to point to the 15th century, thus being one of the oldest in Vila do Conde. The execution of the main altarpiece, or carving, is from the 18th century.

. Location: Largo de Santa Catarina

4. ST. AMARO CHAPEL

. This chapel was probably built by devotion of the Pinheiro family of Barcelos in the 16th/17th century, and in this place there was a tower that allowed to watch the north access of the Mount of the Monastery.

. Location: Rua de Santo Amaro

5. ST. BENEDICT CHAPEL

. It was built in the first half of the 17th century by Manuel Barbosa and his wife Maria Baía, thus bearing on the façade the Barbosa's stone of arms. The interior features stone pavement, with the founder's grave, with its stone of arms and inscription.

. Location: Rua de São Bento

6. ST. PETER CHAPEL OF FORMARIZ

. It is, together with the Mother Church, the only chapel that has a baptismal font, because in times this community was a Parish and this temple was considered a Mother Church. The Parish Cross of Formariz that is to be found in the Museum of Religious Art, inside the Mother Church of Vila do Conde, is a silver object, dating from the 16th/17th century and, according to the

oral tradition of the population, this Cross was hidden in a well to escape the looting of the Napoleonic Wars.

. Localização: Rua da Igreja de Formariz

7. SAINT ROCH CHAPEL

. This chapel was built by its local devotees in 1580, for having saved them from the plague. Inside, the walls are lined with tile panels.

. Location: Largo de São Roque

8. FISHERMEN DISTRICT CHAPEL

. According to local testimonies, this chapel must have been constructed in the middle of 20th century, at the time of the construction of the first houses of this district.

. Location: Bairro dos Pescadores, Caxinas

9. OUR LORD OF AGONY CHAPEL

. Built in 1695 by Pedro da Silva so that the prisoners, serving sentence in the public jail in a building contiguous to the one of the Town Hall, could listen to the Sunday Mass. In its interior, one can find 18th century tiles that line the walls.

. Location: Praça Vasco da Gama

10. MERCY CHURCH OF VILA DO CONDE

. Its construction began in 1559. Inside, the walls are covered with richly decorated tiles and the ceilings are covered with wooden coffins. Its organ, once belonged to the extinct Monastery of St. Simon of Junqueira, was acquired in 1773.

. Location: Largo Dr. António José de Almeida

11. OUR LADY OF LAPA CHURCH

. In the early 16th century, a chapel existed on the site, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, who also had the invocation of Our Lady of Lapa by Father Manuel Álvares. Nicolau Nasoni was presumably the architect of this church, as the layout is characteristic of his work.

. Location: Rua da Lapa

12. OUR LADY OF EXILE CHURCH

. Built in the 1970's, the Church of Our Lady of Exile replaced a small chapel, once existing on the same place. This more modern building, has a translucent glass frontage, adding bold lines to its architecture and on the inside we can find the original religious images of sculpture of the primitive chapel.

. Location: Avenida Júlio Graça

13. OUR LORD OF NAVIGATORS CHURCH

. Designed by the architect priest Manuel Gonçalves, it is dedicated to the protector of fishermen and sailors and was built on the same land where the original church was located, inaugurated in 1928. From that original temple come the images that are to be found in the current crypt

. Location: Av. Dr. Carlos Pinto Ferreira, Caxinas

14. OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH

. The Foundation of the male convent of Barefeet Carmelites, a building with baroque and rococo characteristics, took place in the second half of the 18th century. Its portal displays a masonry work in Johannine style.

. Location: Largo do Carmo

15. SAINT CLAIRE CONVENT CHURCH

. The beginning of the construction of this religious monumento of Gothic, Manueline, Baroque and Rococo characteristics took place in 1318. Inside, the nave is covered with richly decorated carved coffins. Also of note is the Chapel of the Founders, with their tombs.

. Location: Largo D. Afonso Sanches

16. SAINT FRANCIS CONVENT CHURCH

. The church of St. Francis, built in the 16th century and also called Our Lady of Incarnation, has a stone portal of Ançã stone. Next to the pórtico of the church, on the south side, are two chapels that were built after the Foundation. One is dedicated to St. Anthony and the other to St. Blaise.

. Location: Rua D. Nuno Álvares Pereira

17. MOTHER CHURCH OF VILA DO CONDE

. Its construction underwent a fundamental impulse with the passage of King Manuel I by Vila do Conde, in 1502, who defined the layout of the plant, granted a subsidy and created a tax for it. Of note is the heavily decorated pórtico, whose authorship is attributed to Juan de Castillo.

. Location: Rua da Igreja

18. OUR LADY OF THE INCARNATION CONVENT

. The Convent of Our Lady the Incarnation or Convent of St. Francis was founded in 1522, about 200 years after is neighbouring Monastery of St. Claire. As the female branch of the Order of St. Francis, the niece of on the abesses of St. Claire decided to create

in Vila do Conde a Convent of brother of the same order. Today, the convent is owned by the Third Order of St. Francis and a Private Institution of Social Solidarity is using its facilities.

. Location: Largo Dr. Acácio Barbosa

19. OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CONVENT

. This building was founded in 1778, where the former Ursuline nuns hospital stood. With the extinction of the religious orders in 1834, the building began to function as the Court of Vila do Conde. Since the late 1980's, the former convent has been adapted to receive a varied set of municipal services.

. Location: Largo do Carmo

20. OUR LADY OF ANGELS CONVENT

. With the extinction of the religious orders, the convent of Azurara was sold to José Monteiro da Silva, a native of Vila do Conde, who later donated the property to Ezequiel Carneiro Pizarro Monteiro, a family in which the convent was maintained until 1930, in which it was then again sold. Since 1990, it is owned by the Third Order of St. Francis of Azurara.

. Location: Rua Francisco Gonçalves Monteiro, Azurara

21. MONASTERY OF SAINT CLAIRE

. Although founded in 1318 by D. Afonso Sanched and D. Teresa Martins, the building was on the brink of ruin in the 17th century. However, with the extinction of the monastic orders in 1834, works for a new convent were left incomplete. Between 1929/1932, the General Direction of National Buildings and Monuments carried out works of intervention and conclusion of the façades.

. Location: Largo D. Afonso Sanches

22. SAINT SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD MONASTERY

. The Foundation of the Monastery of Vairão occurred in 974 and 1021 it was a double community of both monks and nuns. The office of the Vairão Monastery, currently in the Torre do Tombo, is one of the oldest documents in Portuguese. In 1141, King Afonso Henriques gave a letter of donation to the monastery with a very large perimeter.

. Location: Largo do Mosteiro, Vairão

23. SAINT SIMON MONASTERY

. The Foundation of the Monastery of St. Simon and St. James by D. Areas took place in the 11th century. In 1181, King Afonso Henriques conferred it a Letter of Couto.

. Location: Adro do Reverendo Padre Adélio, Junqueira

