



Caminha

Landscape Patchwork



Clock Tower

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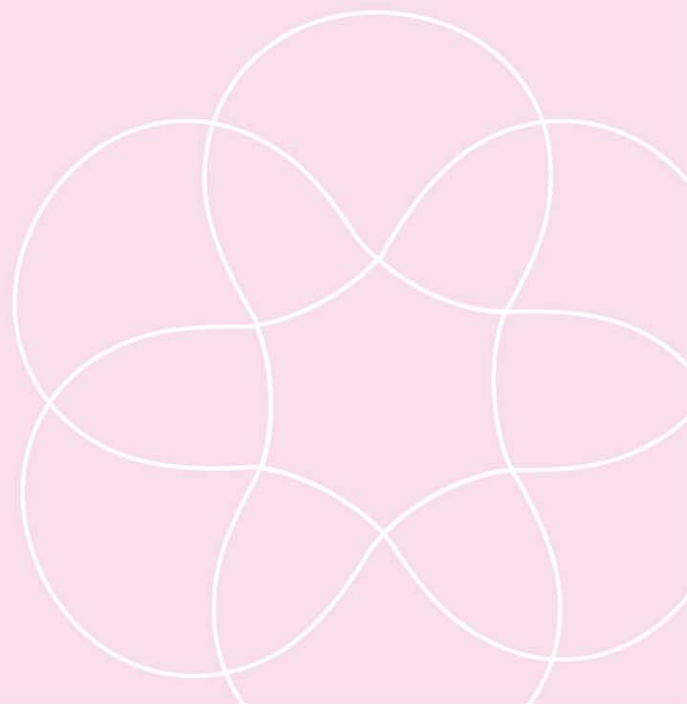
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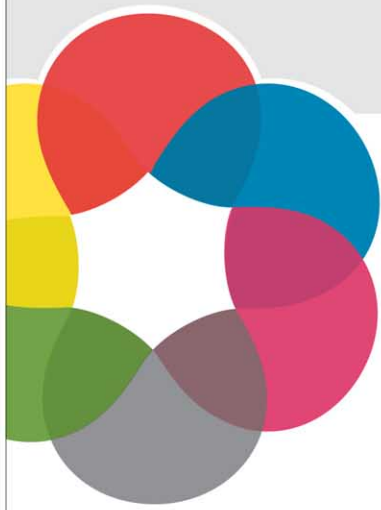
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“Landscape Patchwork“



Caminha - Airview

Hugged by Sea, Rivers and Mountain, Caminha embrace us into a genuine “Patchwork of Landscapes”, luxuriant vegetation, crystal clear and friendly waters from the rivers Minho, Coura and Âncora, lush green hills which cover several villages, and the imposing and omnipresent Serra d’Arga with its 700-meters height.

The beautiful beaches of Foz do Minho, Moledo, Vila Praia de Âncora and Forte do Cão (Fortress) with its splendid whiteness and brightness, are the landmark of Caminha, a source of tourist attraction, where history and the built-in heritage complete this patchwork of imposing monuments spanning all historical ages. There are an array of leisure areas and vantage points to discover. The summer also brings a vibrant nightlife all-year-round in several places across the county, and a gastronomy intensely marked by the flavours of the sea, river and inland.

A Region full of History



Forte da Ínsua (Fortress) – Built between 1649 and 1652, is located on a small rocky islet at the mouth of the River Minho, near the coast

With an extensive natural and cultural heritage, the county of Caminha amazes the visitor by its medieval 'look' at this county town centre. Across the whole region, the visitor "breathes" the History of Portugal itself which is extended like a printed book through the town's cobblestones, alleyways, romantic corners, and in the various spaces rich in artistic, religious, military or urbane details, by simply walking across its villages.

In the outskirts of the town, there is still remains of ancient civilizations, mostly ascribed to prehistoric and proto-historic periods, like rock engravings, burial mounds, dolmen and fortified hilltop stone forts ('castros'), in an extensive number of monuments and ancient remains that have lasted until our times, which are kept alive through a large number of guide-books and itineraries, available for any specific age the visitor wish to "visit", in a comprehensive mixture of past and present.



01



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- 01 Parish Church of Caminha – Gothic with renaissance details
- 02 Church Balcony - Igreja da Misericórdia de Caminha – 16th century
- 03 Battlements – Built during the 17th century
- 04 Fountain - Renaissance, from the first half of the 16th century, located at the centre of the public square in Caminha (Praça Conselheiro Silva Torres)

Other Monuments in the Town...

Clock Tower – Main tower of the medieval battlements in Caminha, at the main Square (Praça Conselheiro Silva Torres)

Town-hall – 16th-century building

Casa dos Pitas – Manueline style, 17 century



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- 01 Praça da República (Square) (V.P. Âncora)
- 02 Cruzeiro da Independência (Stone Cross of the Independence) - Built in 1940 in the parish of Lanhas
- 03 Ponte Férrea (Iron Bridge) – Project commissioned to Gustave Eiffel, finished in 1878
- 04 Forte do Cão (Fortress) – Military defensive building built between 1699 and 1702, located in Âncora



01 Forte da Lagarteira (Fortress) - Military stronghold dated from the 17-18th century, located at Portinho de Vila Praia de Âncora

02 Chapel of S. Pedro Varais – Romanesque monument from late 13th century, in Vile

03 Medieval bridge of Vilar de Mouros – Romanesque style, its construction is ascribed to the 14/15th century

04 Dolmen of Barrosa – Burial megalithic monument, is national monument since 1910, Vila Praia de Âncora

Other Monuments across the Region...

Rock engravings in Lanhelas

Monte do Calvário/Chapel N^a Sr^a Lurdes – Religious and landscaped complex dated from 1904, Vila Praia de Âncora

Monastery of S. João D'Arga – Romanesque, is supposed to be built during the 13th century, Arga de S. João

Visit Caminha and have a close encounter with History through its beautiful spaces still preserved...

Caminha is Amusement



By its roots and entrepreneurial spirit, the 'caminhense' community displays an increasing dynamism, thus contributing for the large cultural offer the county boasts.

Let be seduced by the diversity Caminha has to offer:

- through recreating history of the medieval times, which fill the streets of the town's historical centre with amusement, music, theatre, and plenty of fantasy. It's a challenge to enact the medieval spirit, all dressed up or interacting with walker-ons and artisans, and tasting the delicacies of the region, in taverns and bars that amuse the Medieval Fair of Caminha;
- through promoting the traditions and ties the County is attached to since the beginning of times with the sea, through the Festival of the Sea and Sardine;
- through musical shows in which the motto is diversity to please the public, with highlights to the Festival of Vilar de Mouros, internationally acclaimed by all music lovers;
- through theatre sessions in which the amateur theatre displays the traditional talent of this people;
- through fascinating literary meetings highlighted by the Book Fair;
- through exhibitions of the art galleries, in particularly the "Arte na Leira", encompassed by the Serra D'Arga as backdrop, and by its unique surrounding, the rudeness of the crags in each stone and waterfall. This has become one of the most celebrated events in the whole Caminha municipality, where distinct works of painting, sculpture, drawing, photography, pottery, jewelry, glass, fashion and furniture can be seen and admired.

The Caminha council joins to the great amusement shows that are becoming recognized by the international scene.



- 01 Medieval Fair of Caminha
- 02 Festival of Vilar de Mouros
- 03 Festival of the Sea and Sardine
- 04 Arte na Leira in Argã de Cima
- 05 International Kite Festival of Moledo

A reality to know...

Nature's Pristine Recesses



Serra D' Arga

To discover the natural beauties of the county, the visitor should enjoy the weekend in contact with nature. The visitor should do what is considered by many to be a perfect combination between Man and the Environment. Choose from one of the various icons of this patchwork! Should you decide for the mountain, you will be faced with one of the most pristine environments, pure nature and typical rural life, seen from its fertile fields, natural pools, variegated fauna and flora. Participate in pedestrian tracks where this rare and wild beauty can be appreciated, and have a close look to century-old traditions which survive and enchant. Mixing with the green of the landscape or taking a ride of bike or by foot, a picnic in the Mata Nacional do Camarido or in the Pinhal da Gelfa. Take a health challenge by choosing the river banks, either walking or riding a bicycle through the echo-tracks. Enjoy a well-deserved rest at the sunny beaches or dive into the deep blue of the crystal water of its rivers. Because Man is the perfect combination with the nature, let yourself be taken away by the amazing beauty that is waiting for you.



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- 01 Track of Serra D' Arga
- 02 "Mata Nacional de Camarido" (National Wood of Camarido)
- 03 Estuary of the River Minho
- 04 Estuary of the River Âncora



- 01 Sand-dune Vegetation (detail)
- 02 Echo-track of the Atlantic - Vila Praia de Âncora
- 03 Moledo Beach
- 04 Azenha (water-mill) of Vilar de Mouros



- 01 Vila Praia de Âncora Beach
- 02 Fauna (detail)
- 03 Monastery of S. João D'Arga
- 04 Horses - Serra D'Arga

Active Freedom



Surf

In case you choose sea sports, like surf, windsurf, sailing, kitesurf or bodyboard, plunge into the waves of the beaches of Camarido, Moledo, Vila Praia de Âncora or Forte do Cão (Fortress), fine for the practice of different sports, including its excellent therapeutic qualities. For those who prefer more calm sensations, you can choose from different river options, like kayak, canoe, boat journeys and rowing, modality which has given credit to the Caminha region.

The BTT and the enduro (motorcycle sport) are also modalities quite practiced across the dazzling valleys and hills of this terrestrial paradise.



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- 01 Kayak
- 02 Climbing
- 03 Horse riding
- 04 Bike rides
- 05 Enduro

A Know-How Tradition



Carpets – Corpus Christi Festivity

Art and festivity, symbols of a genuine and popular culture expressed in great moments of fruition and social gathering, like the Popular Festivities and Saint's Day Festivals, which take place in our municipality round three special events: the Festivities of St^a Rita de Cássia (council ones), the Festivities of Sr^a da Bonança, and its strong worship by the people linked to the sea activities, and the popular festivity of S. João D`Arga, one of the most ancient and traditional of the Upper Minho, region, where the colourful of the local ethnography, costumes and fittings convey a lifestyle of this people..

Attend and follow the tradition of a know-how linked to the popular arts is to know and appreciate different types of handicraft of our municipality: from the fireworks to the copper wares, flax weaving, laces and embroideries (sweetheart's scarf), regional costumes, basketwork, ironwork, sweet things, palmettos, pottery and painted tiles, and boats' miniatures are a whole set of hand-made unique pieces that Caminha still manufactures and retains.



- 01 Copper works
- 02 Regional Costume
- 03 Municipal Festivity of St^a Rita de Cássia
- 04 Festivity of Sr^a da Bonança - Naval Procession
- 05 Flax works

Flavours from the Sea and Inland



Showcase of Fish and Seafood

Tasting the great variety of delicacies from the county of Caminha is to have a taste of its culture, habits and tradition of all these people scattered across this landscape patchwork, and get involved with the full flavours from the sea and inland. From the hills of the Serra D´Arga, we can enjoy tasting the meat dishes, from the intensive home-grown produce turned to the small livestock and vegetables, which the kid from the Serra D´Arga is a fine example. From its rivers and sea, the trout, salmon, shad, rock-bass, sardine, plaice and lamprey, these are some of species best used in the local fare, among which are the Fishermen’s Stew or Dry Plaices dishes.



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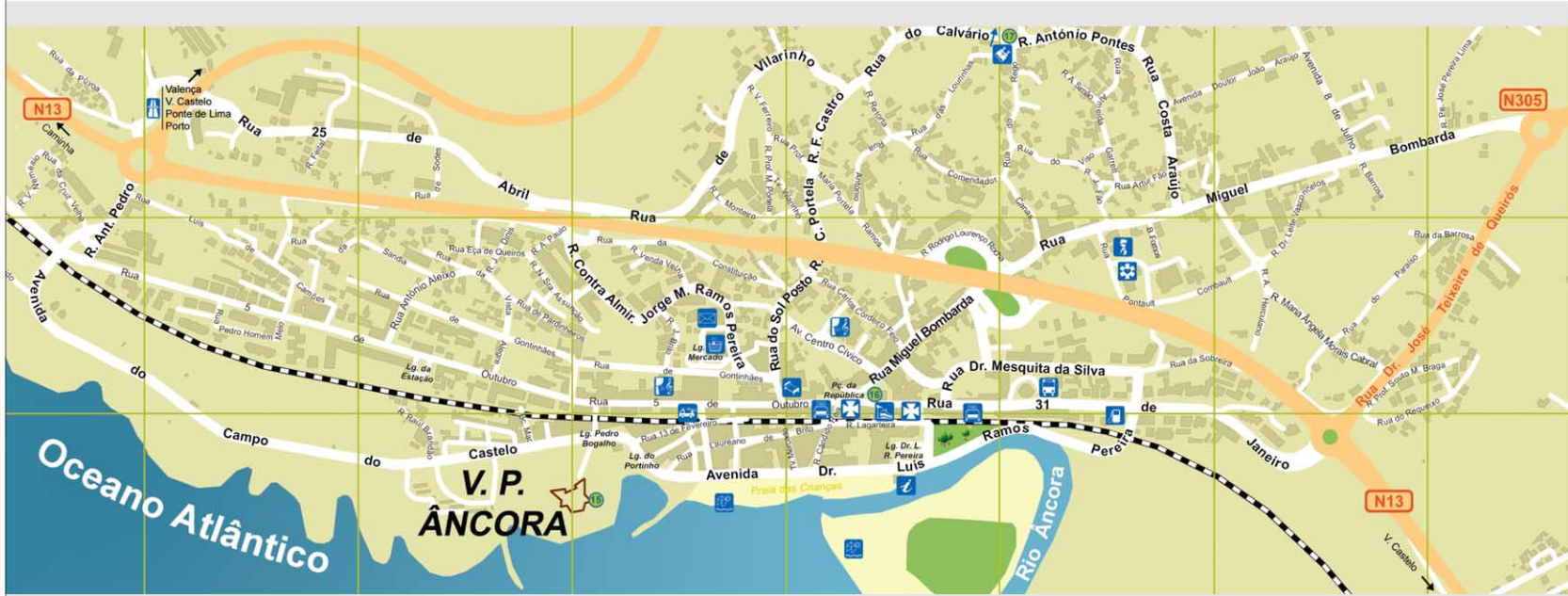
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- 01 Kid 'Serra D'Arça' fashion
- 02 Sweet - "Os Caminhenses"
- 03 Grilled Sardines on the tile
- 04 Fish Stew
- 05 Seafood Rice

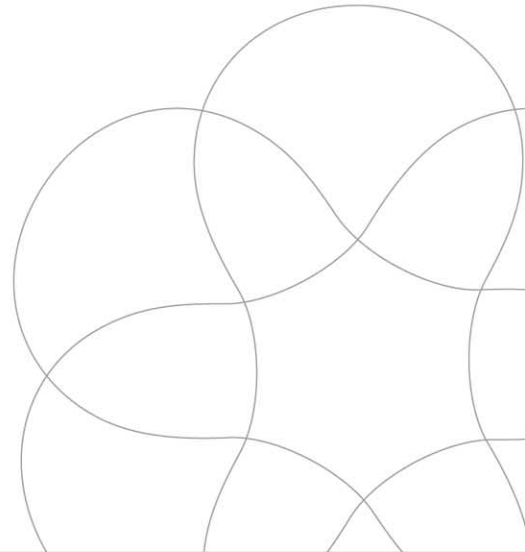
Map of Vila de Caminha



Map of Vila Praia de Âncora






- | | | | |
|---|--|----|--|
| 1 | Defensive Complex of Caminha | 10 | Church of N ^ª Sr ^ª do Amparo |
| 2 | Parish Church of Caminha | 11 | Gate of the Defensive Complex of Caminha |
| 3 | Chapel of S. João | 12 | Church of N ^ª Sr ^ª da Agonia |
| 4 | Celebration landmark of the 1st Centenary of "Defesa do Minho" | 13 | Town-hall |
| 5 | Clock Tower | 14 | Technical-Administrative Building |
| 6 | Church of Misericórdia | 15 | Forte da Lagarteira (Fortress) |
| 7 | Fountain | 16 | Chapel of Sr ^ª da Bonança |
| 8 | Casa dos Pitás | 17 | Monte do Calvário |
| 9 | Church of St ^º António | | — — — — — Railway Line |



Map of the Caminha Region



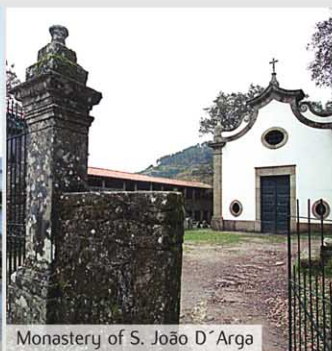
- 1 Forte da Ínsua (Fortress)
- 2 Forte da Lagarteira (Fortress)
- 3 Chapel of S. Pedro de Varais
- 4 Forte do Cão (Fortress)
- 5 Stonecross of the Independence
- 6 Monastery of S. João D'Arga
- 7 Medieval Bridge of Vilar de Mouros
- 8 Dolmen of Barrosa
- 9 Pincho (Viana do Castelo) (small stream lakes)
- 10 Interpretation Center of Serra D'Arga

- 1  Belvedere of "Senhora das Neves"
- 2  Belvedere of "Fraga"
- 3  Belvedere of "Calvário"

“What nature offered and the Man still preserves”
Visit the Caminha region



Wharf of Rio Minho – Seixas



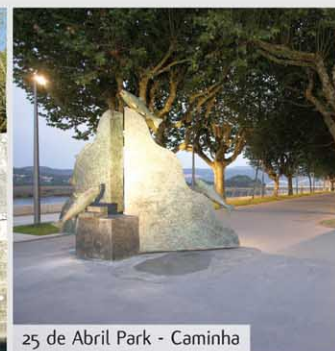
Monastery of S. João D'Arga



Forte do Cão (Fortress) - Âncora



Calvary - Vila Praia de Âncora



25 de Abril Park - Caminha



1 – View of Belvedere of the Senhora das Neves



2 - View of Belvedere of the Fraga (Crag)



3 - View of the Belvedere of the Calvário (Calvary)

Useful Information:

Municipal Museum of Caminha

Rua Dr. Luciano Amorim Pereira da Silva

Tel.: +351 258 710 300

Timetable: Tuesday to Saturday: 09h30-12h30 e 14h00-18h00

Sunday: 10h00-12h30 e 15h00-17h30

Museological Department of the Historical Centre of Caminha

Praça Conselheiro Silva Torres (Square)

Tel.: +351 258 710 300

Website: www.torredorelogio.com

Timetable: Tuesday to Sunday: 10h00-12h30 e 14h00-18h00

Municipal Library of Caminha

(with access facility to the Internet)

Rua Dr. Luciano Amorim Pereira da Silva

Tel.: +351 258 710 300

Timetable: Monday to Friday: 09h00-12h30 e 14h00-18h00

Saturday: 09h30-12h30

Game Library/Library of Vila Praia de Âncora

(with access facility to the Internet)

Lugar do Rego, Vila Praia de Âncora

Tel.: +351 258 912 678 / 258 956 030

E-mail: biblioteca@cm-caminha.pt

Timetable: Monday: 14h30-18h30

Tuesday to Friday: 10h00-12h30 e 14h30-18h30

Saturday: 15h00-18h00

Internet Space

Parish Council of Vila Praia de Âncora

Rua Miguel Bombarda 88-A

Tel.: +351 258 911 546

Timetable: Monday to Friday: 09h00-12h30 and 13h30-17h00

Interpretation Centre of Serra D'Arga

Arga de Baixo

Tel.: +351 258 721 708

E-mail: cisa@cm-caminha.pt

Tourist Office of Caminha

Rua Ricardo Joaquim Sousa

Tel.: +351 258 921 952

Tourist Office of Vila Praia de Âncora

Avenida Ramos Pereira

Tel.: +351 258 911 384



Town-hall
of Caminha



Windsurf



Gelfa Beach



Regional Costumes



Praça Conselheiro Silva Torres (Square)



Passageway at Mouth of the River Minho