

Coimbra

portuguese
culture 101

TRAVEL THROUGH
PORTUGUESE CULTURE
WHILE STUDYING IN
UNIQUE CITIES.

Coimbra

Known as “the city of students”, Coimbra’s vibe revolves mostly around the university. A UNESCO World Heritage site, the University of Coimbra is the oldest in the country and one of the oldest in Europe.

Located on the banks of the Mondego River, the city boasts a great wealth of heritage and history, and was even declared the capital of the kingdom by the first king of Portugal. Between monuments, historical buildings and the streets which lead to the top of the city, Coimbra is also the perfect starting point if you wish to visit some of the most beautiful landscapes in Portugal, located just a few kilometers from the city.

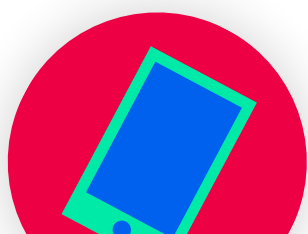
PLAYLIST

A collection of songs to keep you company while exploring the city. Get the playlist of artists from Coimbra and surrounding areas by scanning the code.



Gonçalo Saraiva

Born and raised in Coimbra, Gonçalo Saraiva spends his days indulging in his passion for photography while capturing the essence of the city. He wanders through streets and alleys searching for the perfect angle and unforgettable moments among those who walk the sidewalks. These opportunities are truly endless since, in addition to the great variety of places, his awareness of each day provides him with an unique point of view. You can find him on Instagram under [@goncalo_saraiva27](https://www.instagram.com/goncalo_saraiva27).



The cooler cultural venues



CASA DAS ARTES BISSAYA BARRETO

You'll find this meeting place, meant for artistic creation without boundaries, bang in the center of Coimbra. An open space of exploration between artists and audience, with work rooms for artistic residencies which can also be adapted to welcome all sorts of projects and activities.

AV. SÁ DA BANDEIRA 83,
3000-351 COIMBRA

SALÃO BRAZIL

A must-see venue centrally located and occupying a century-old building and traditional billiards room. An eminent cultural center, it's well known for its showcases of both established artists and emerging names.

LARGO DO POÇO 3, 1º
ANDAR, 3000-335 COIMBRA

239 837 078

[FACEBOOK.COM/
SALAOIBRAZIL](https://facebook.com/salaoibrazil)

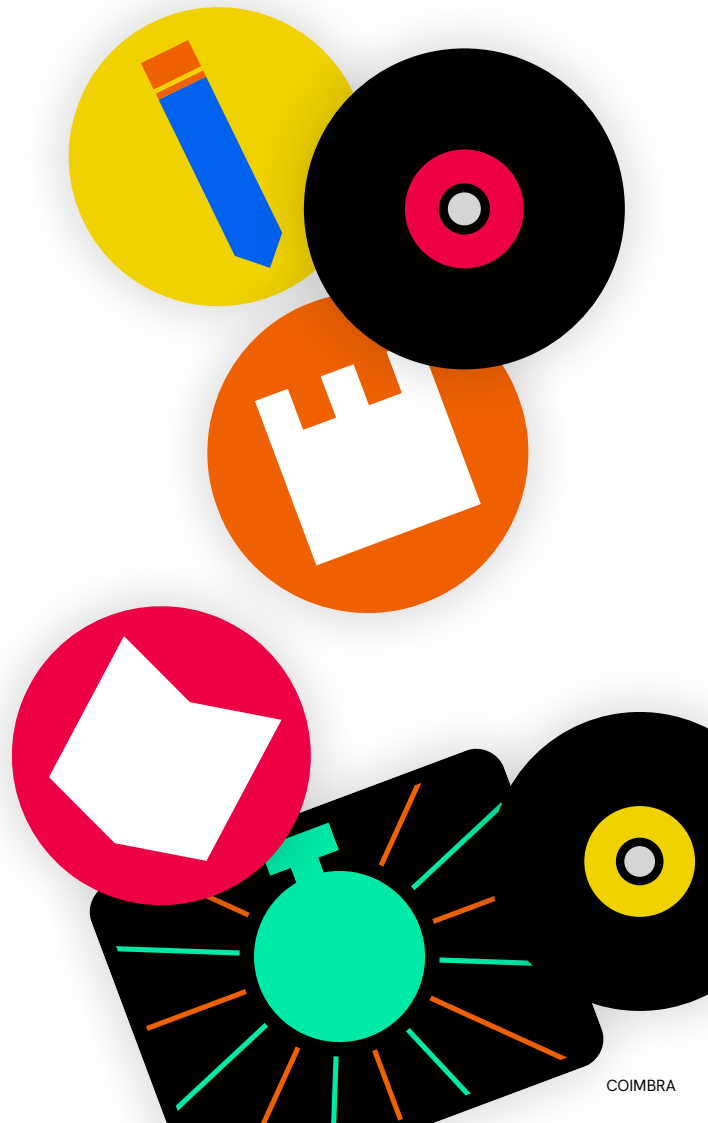
O TEATRÃO

This Municipal Theater Workshop is a venue with a packed calendar, showcasing not only in-house productions but also performances of artists and styles which deviate from the norm of standard theater. Their extensive catalogue of artistic courses and workshops is well worth checking out.

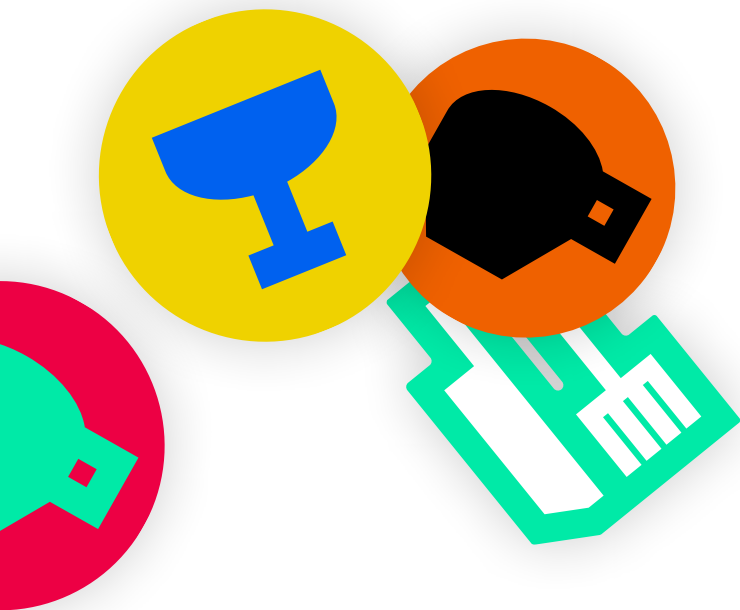
RUA PEDRO NUNES,
3030-193 COIMBRA

912 511 302

[OTEATRO.COM/OFICINA-
MUNICIPAL-DO-TEATRO](https://oteatro.com/oficina-municipal-do-teatro)



The best restaurants at nifty prices



MARIA PORTUGUESA

Between the Portuguese or Mediterranean appetizers and cuisine on Maria Portuguesa's menu you'll find plenty of options to show your stomach some love. Go in for a traditional evening, flavored with the delicacies of the area, while listening to Portuguese music.

RUA JOAQUIM ANTÓNIO
DE AGUIAR 128, 3000-230
COIMBRA



925 344 924

[FACEBOOK.COM/
MARIAPORTUGUESA
COIMBRA](https://facebook.com/mariaportuguesa.coimbra)

COURAÇA

Known for its tapas, Couraça is both handily located in the city center while also providing an amazing view over the Mondego River. Some people say it's a criminal offense to visit and not try a taste of the Ovos Rotos and "one of the best francesinhas in Coimbra". Are you really going to risk it?

COURAÇA DE LISBOA 30,
3000-434 COIMBRA

239 826 100

[FACEBOOK.COM/
CAFECOURACA](https://facebook.com/cafecouraca)



PRAXIS

The old brewing tradition in Coimbra is celebrated here, the craft taking full advantage of the renowned properties of Coimbra's water. Inquisitive visitors can also observe, on site, all the steps that go into making Praxis beer, while sampling the tasty morsels on the menu.

RUA ANTÓNIO GONÇALVES
28/29 SANTA CLARA,
3040-375 COIMBRA

239 440 207

[BEERPRAXIS.COM](https://beerpraxis.com)



The best places to snap that killer Gram

CLAUSTROS E TOPO DO CONVENTO SÃO FRANCISCO

The Convent of São Francisco has been an hospital, barracks and even a textile manufacturing plant. Today it's become a place focused both on culture and events in the fields of science, innovation and entrepreneurship. Its historical architecture, along with the more recent renovations employed to rehabilitate the space have turned it into one of those spots guaranteed to be a huge hit on Instagram.

AV. DA GUARDA INGLESA 1A,
3040-193 COIMBRA

COIMBRACONVENTO.PT



BALOIÇO COM VISTA PARA O RIO MONDEGO

This wooden swing has enough room for two people, you can swing to your heart's content in a spot that has become increasingly famous for its "instagrammable" potential. This wooden swing has room enough for two people, the tricky bit being to find the perfect balance while posing for the photo.

RUA DO BRASIL 39,
3000-175 COIMBRA

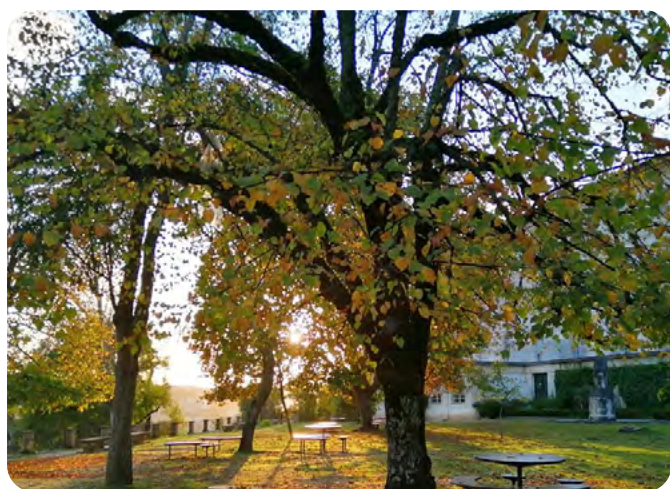
MIRADOURO DO VALE DO INFERNO

On the hillside of Santa Clara you'll find a lookout point with views of the Choupal, the Lapa dos Esteios, the Quinta das Lágrimas and the picture perfect turns of the river which runs through the city. Take your phone or camera and capture the different details of the city which, on the cloudiest days, becomes a mysterious sight.

LADEIRA VALE DO INFERNO,
COIMBRA



The best gardens, parks, and chill out spots



JARDIM BOTÂNICO DA UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA

Take an afternoon and get to know the city better and what it has to offer, wandering through the Botanical Garden, which is next to the S. Sebastião Aqueduct. A nature stroll in the peace and quiet which might make you lose track of time. Free admission.

CALÇADA MARTIM
DE FREITAS,
3000-456 COIMBRA



PARQUE DE SANTA CRUZ

Next to the Praça da República (Republic Square), the former place of meditation of the monks of Santa Clara is now one of the city's largest green spaces. It's an iconic park for all, particularly for students, who hang out in the garden after classes.

PRAÇA DA REPÚBLICA,
3000-019 COIMBRA

PARQUE VERDE

A place where you might be pleasantly surprised by someone reciting poems or a sudden book fair. The space has a skatepark, a picnic park and also four pavilions for water sports and other activities. You can also try a go in a canoe, or in an inflatable or paddle boat.

PARQUE VERDE DO
MONDEGO, 3040-255
COIMBRA

Unmissable shops



RUA DE QUEBRA COSTAS

In the heart of downtown you'll find most local shops and typical fado houses, which make this street one of the most charming in the city of Coimbra. In this historical district you'll find the usual shops with souvenirs of the city, but also bars and restaurants with affordable prices.

RUA DE QUEBRA COSTAS
3000-088 COIMBRA

LIVRARIA DO CONVENTO SÃO FRANCISCO

Lose yourself among the books on illustration, design, photography or architecture, for children and grown-ups, in the Convento de São Francisco Bookshop. It's the perfect store to pick up a few gifts, with a wide range of offerings, or to simply go and pay a visit to the gallery space.

AV. DA GUARDA INGLESA 1A,
3040-193 COIMBRA



LUCKYLUX

An iconic record store where you can do some shopping and, if in doubt, even ask the owner - Rui Ferreira - for suggestions. Well known in the Coimbra musical scene, Rui manages a number of successful bands in the city and has worked with several renowned artists such as The Legendary Tigerman, Belle Chase Hotel, Wraygunn, Sean Riley & The Slowriders. If you bump into him in the shop, it's fair to say you'll probably leave with a lot more records than you planned on buying.

RUA DO SARGENTO-MOR 11,
3000-382 COIMBRA

[FACEBOOK.COM/
LUCKYLUXCOIMBRA](https://www.facebook.com/LUCKYLUXCOIMBRA)



Best places to dive into books

TEATRO ACADÉMICO GIL VICENTE

A quiet place right in the center of the city, something difficult to find in Coimbra where there is always movement. The terrace overlooking the Praça da República is ideal to study while enjoying the good weather and to do group projects.

PRAÇA DA REPÚBLICA,
3000-343 COIMBRA

239 052 563

TAGV.PT



BIBLIOTECA GERAL DA UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA

Known for being very silent, the atmosphere is of extreme concentration. Each person has a desk to be comfortable, since hundreds of students frequent the space in the most difficult times. You can access the website to see if there are still seats available and how many people are waiting in line.

LARGO PORTA FÉRREA,
3000-447 COIMBRA

239 247 280

UC.PT/BGUC



VARANDA DO FÓRUM COIMBRA

Perfect for group projects, the balcony of Fórum Coimbra has a wonderful view over the city, which will give you inspiration to finish any more complicated project or even study for that class that does not give you a break.

AV. JOSÉ BONIFÁCIO DE
ANDRADE E SILVA 1,
3040-389 COIMBRA

239 801 700

FORUM-COIMBRA.COM



Unexpected spots



RUÍNAS DO MOSTEIRO DE SANTA CLARA-A-VELHA

Step into the Monastery of Santa Clara-a-Velha and explore the ruins of this unique area of the city. Besides the incredible church with rather unique details and features, you'll also find the largest Gothic cloister in Portugal.

RUA BAIXO 57, 3040-266
SANTA CLARA



CLAUSTRO DA MANGA

Behind the Monastery of Santa Cruz you will find this small, almost 500 year old pocket. Lose yourself exploring the lakes, the dome, the corridors that provide access to the towers and also consider having lunch while being lulled by the peacefulness of the garden.

RUA OLÍMPIO NICOLAU RUI
FERNANDES 182,
3000-122 COIMBRA



GALERIA DE SANTA CLARA

A place devoted to various artistic expressions where you can enjoy exhibitions, installations, cinema, concerts, talks, workshops and much more. The support given to the city's younger residents is one of the distinguishing aspects of the Santa Clara Gallery, providing music bands with sound equipment for rehearsals or even space to present their work.

RUA ANTÓNIO AUGUSTO
GONÇALVES 67,
3040-241 COIMBRA

916 692 565

[FACEBOOK.COM/
GALERIASTACLARA](https://www.facebook.com/GALERIASTACLARA)



A skip and a jump away



PRAIAS DA FIGUEIRA DA FOZ

If you're a fan of surfing or water sports you're going to love this weekend plan. The beaches of Figueira da Foz are only 1h by train or bus from Coimbra. Grab your swimsuit and sunshade and enjoy the hottest days on the central shores.

AV. 25 DE ABRIL 4,
3080-079 FIGUEIRA DA FOZ

60KM FROM COIMBRA

SERRA DA LOUSÃ

At an altitude of 1,200 meters, at the highest point of the Serra da Lousã, you'll find the Trevim swing, a giant wooden structure where every photo will make your followers green with envy. Around this area you can further explore the shale villages, typical of certain regions of Portugal's interior, and venture out by car along the roads that run along the mountain range.

40°04'37.7"N
8°11'28.6"W

45KM FROM COIMBRA

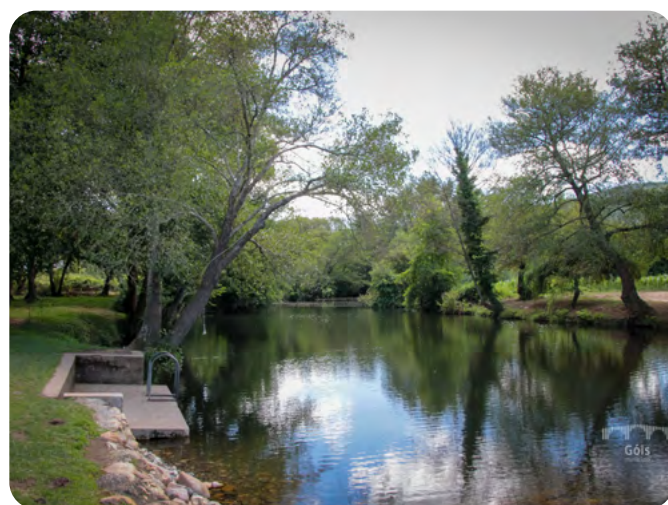


PRAIAS FLUVIAIS DE GÓIS

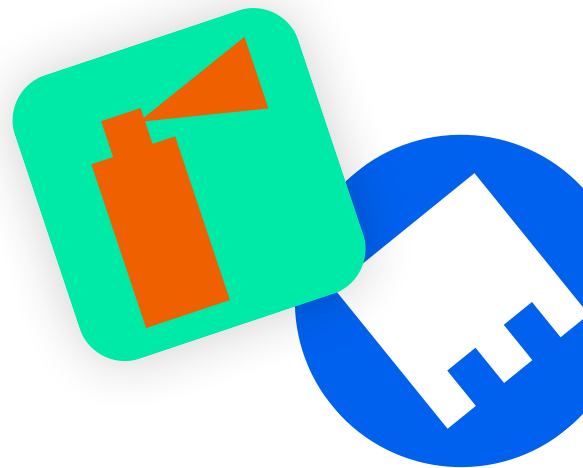
Who said there couldn't be a river beach in the centre of a village? In Góis, you can chill out at Peneda River Beach, on the banks of the River Ceira, enjoying the contrast between the natural and urban landscape on a beach lauded for being accessible to all. To get there, just take the bus to Serpins and then a 20 minute ride to the small town.

40°9' 15.05"N
8°6' 42.96"W

40KM FROM COIMBRA



Public Art at Large



SAMINA

The artist SAMINA made his debut in the world of street art at the age of 14 and has since been in a constant quest for new emotions and experiences. His work brings together his own style, employing stencil techniques, with other elements that underlie street art, graphic design, painting and architecture.

ESCADAS DE SÃO
BARTOLOMEU 3
000-180 COIMBRA

[BEHANCE.NET/JSAMINA](https://www.behance.net/jsamina)



ADD FUEL

The artist Diogo Machado, known as Add Fuel, left his stamp in Coimbra with the mural "Tem Sempre Encanto". This graphic designer and illustrator continuously develops his unique visual universe filled with science inspired creatures. He has recently shifted his focus towards the reinterpretation of traditional tile design.

AV. FERNÃO DE
MAGALHÃES, 132,
COIMBRA

[ADDFUEL.COM](http://addfuel.com)



GUSTAVO BASTOS

On the facade of the Faculty of Science and Technology you'll find a tribute by the artist Gustavo Bastos to the Mathematics Department of the University of Coimbra. The bas-reliefs, sculpted in 1967, explore the idea of mathematics as the science of nature and thought.

EC SANTA CRUZ,
3001 - 501 COIMBRA



Essential Contacts

The Erasmus + agency aims to bring the Erasmus + Programme closer to students and adapt it to the diversity of national education, training systems.

PRAÇA DE ALVALADE 11,
1700-037 LISBOA

210 101 900

ERASMUSMAIS.PT

CÂMARA MUNICIPAL DE COIMBRA
COIMBRA CITY COUNCIL
239 857 500

POSTO DE TURISMO
MUNICIPAL TOURISM OFFICE
239 857 186

EMERGÊNCIA
EMERGENCY
112

GNR
POLICE
239 794 300

BOMBEIROS VOLUNTÁRIOS DE COIMBRA
FIRE DEPARTMENT
239 822 383

**CENTRO HOSPITALAR E UNIVERSITÁRIO
DE COIMBRA**
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
239 400 400

TURISMO CENTRO DE PORTUGAL
CENTER TOURISM OFFICE
239 488 120

SERVIÇO DE ESTRANGEIROS E FRONTEIRAS
FOREIGNERS AND BORDERS SERVICE
239 853 500

UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA
239 859 900

INSTITUTO POLITÉCNICO DE COIMBRA
239 791 250



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