

(We are going to be updating this document until the wedding so keep an eye on it if you are looking for recommendations)

Exploring Lisbon and Surroundings

Welcome to Portugal! We're thrilled you'll be joining us to celebrate in the Lisbon area. Whether you're discovering Portugal for the first time or returning to explore, here are some recommendations to make the most of your visit:

Top Attractions

- **Historic Lisbon:** Discover the charm of **Belém** with its iconic Tower, Jerónimos Monastery, and famous Pastéis de Belém pastry shop. Wander the historic streets of **Alfama**, known for its Fado music and viewpoints like Miradouro da Senhora do Monte. Don't miss **Baixa-Chiado** for beautiful squares and bustling shops.
- **Sintra:** Just a short train ride from Lisbon, Sintra is a fairytale-like town with colorful palaces such as **Pena Palace** and mystical sites like **Quinta da Regaleira**.
- **Cascais:** For a relaxing beach day, head to this charming coastal town with beautiful beaches, fresh seafood, and lively streets.

Local Experiences

- **Fado Night:** Experience Portugal's soulful Fado music in **Alfama**. We recommend booking at a traditional venue to truly feel the atmosphere.
- **Wine & Olive Oil Tasting:** Discover Portugal's wine and olive oil through tastings at **Time Out Market** or **Lisboa Wine Bar**.
- **Tile Workshop:** Portugal is famous for its Azulejos (tiles). Join a workshop to create your own souvenir tile.

Dining Recommendations

- **Traditional Portuguese Cuisine:** For an authentic experience, try tasquinhas (small restaurants) like **A Taberna da Rua das Flores** or **Time Out Market** for a taste of Portuguese small plates, or "petiscos."
- **Modern Fusion:** Lisbon's innovative culinary scene shines at places like **Mini Bar** and **A Cevicheria**, blending Portuguese flavors with a creative twist.
- **Sweet Treats:** Don't leave without trying the famous pastéis de nata! We recommend **Manteigaria** and **Pastéis de Belém**.

Getting Around Tips

- **Public Transport:** Lisbon's trams and metro system make exploring easy. Consider the **Lisboa Card** for unlimited travel and discounts on major attractions.

- **Walking Tours:** Lisbon's scenic hills and historic sites are best enjoyed on foot. Join a local walking tour or explore on your own to uncover hidden gems.

Day Trip Options

- **Évora:** A UNESCO World Heritage site, Évora offers Roman ruins, the famous Chapel of Bones, and historic architecture.
- **Arrábida Natural Park:** For nature lovers, this park features serene beaches and stunning natural views.

Language & Cultural Etiquette

- **Basic Portuguese Phrases:** A friendly "Bom dia" (Good morning), "Obrigado/a" (Thank you), and "Por favor" (Please) go a long way!
- **Local Customs:** Tipping is appreciated but not expected, and saying "Bom apetite" before a meal is a nice local touch.
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