

Lisbon Portugal Port Guide

**Lisbon is a city rich in culture and history.
It's a great place to visit and explore.**

Portugal is historically and strategically important in the domination of the seas and discovery of the World. Lisbon celebrates this with impressive monuments and museums in memory of Prince Henry the Navigator, who planned the explorations, Vasco de Gama who discovered the sea route to India, and countless other explorers, crusaders, and cartographers.

The Golden Age for Lisbon began when explorers found a sea route to India. A new form of architecture, Manueline, was developed to reflect the glory of achievements of the discoveries. This style is unique to the Portuguese and buildings they've influenced in Madeira, the Azores, Morocco, the Canaries, and fortresses in India. Several buildings in Lisbon are listed as UNESCO heritage sites.



In many ports, the question is, "How do I get out of the port to see the sites?" When your cruise ship docks in Lisbon, you've arrived. You don't have to leave the city to see the sites. I've listed 14 important tourist sites in Lisbon and 3 outside the city.

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CAVEAT

I've tried to be accurate, but recognize things change. Please verify information for your travel plans. Opinions expressed are my own. You are free to use and share this document, but do not use it for commercial purposes. This port guide is protected by copyright law - see the last page of this port guide for more information

Tom Sheridan

Lisbon, Portugal Cruise Ship Ports

There are 3 cruise ports for Lisbon:

Alcântara port is next to the “25th of April bridge”. It looks like San Francisco's Golden Gate bridge.

Santa Apolónia is near the historical and cultural center of the city, next to the train station.

A new port is under construction adjacent to Santa Apolónia. The first phase was completed in December 2010 with a second phase scheduled for completion in 2011. I assume cruise ships may be docking at the new port beginning in 2011, but the new passenger terminal will not be constructed until 2013.

NOTE: A cruise ship might use any of the dock areas.



Alcântara port has room for two cruise ships next to the 25th of April Bridge.

To find the port on a Google Map, enter **Doca de Alcantara, Lisboa, Portugal**



The website for the port authority is

http://www.portodelisboa.pt/portal/page/portal/PORTAL_PORTO_LISBOA/PORTO_LISBOA/LOCALIZACAO

There are restaurants and shops at the marina. The port authority describes the passenger terminals:

Access to most attractions is easy by taxi, as is the connection to the airport which is only 10 - 20 minutes away. The terminal has a crafts store and public telephones. There is a parking area for buses, a shuttle bus to the centre of the city (when requested) and a taxi stand. Equally located close to the city centre, the tourist can use the train line Cascais-Cais do Sodré or the bus and is only 15 minutes away from the main tourist attractions.

Does it make a difference where your cruise ship docks in Lisbon?

I've been to Lisbon four times on Princess ships. They always docked next to the bridge. My wife walks with a cane, so we don't travel great distances on foot. I've always used the ship's excursions to tour the city and visit areas outside the city.

If you want to explore the city on foot, docking next to Santa Apolónia or the new docks would be a better place to start. **But at some point, you'll need to use public transportation or taxicabs because you can't walk to all the tourist sites.** The trams, buses, Metro, and trains will get you to every tourist site in the city and there are hop-on buses that stop everywhere.

This map shows 7 of the 14 most important tourist sites in Lisbon

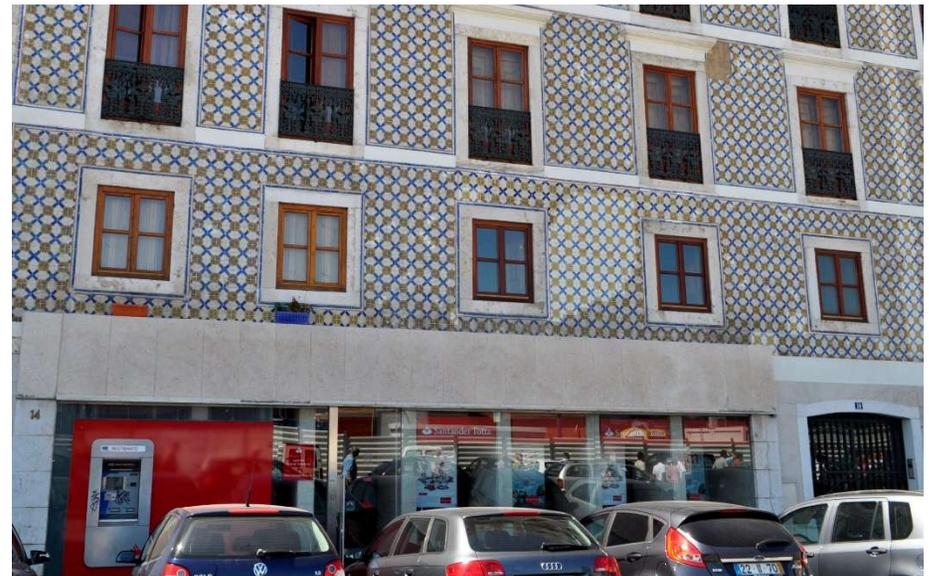
For each location, I provide a short description and the exact location to enter into Google Maps to find this site. I also reference relevant websites for more information as well as open hours, price of admission, etc. where applicable.



Since I have already described the Santa Apolónia cruise ship port, I will begin with a description for #2 Alfama. On the next page.

2- Alfama is the oldest part of Lisbon. To find this area on Google Maps, enter **Alfama, Lisboa, Portugal**. It's a large area. If you wish to visit a specific location, search for the name of that location on Google Maps.

Buildings are decorated with wrought iron balconies and tiled walls. The ship's city excursions stop here and allow travelers a half mile walk. **CAUTION: the streets are cobblestone, narrow, and steep in some areas. Wear comfortable shoes.**



3- The Cathedral is Lisbon's oldest building. To find this on Google maps enter, **Se Catedral de Lisboa, Portugal**
For information on the Cathedral, see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lisbon_Cathedral

It was built in 1150 and has two bell towers and a rose window. The most important sacred object is a casket with remains of St. Vincent, patron saint of Lisbon.

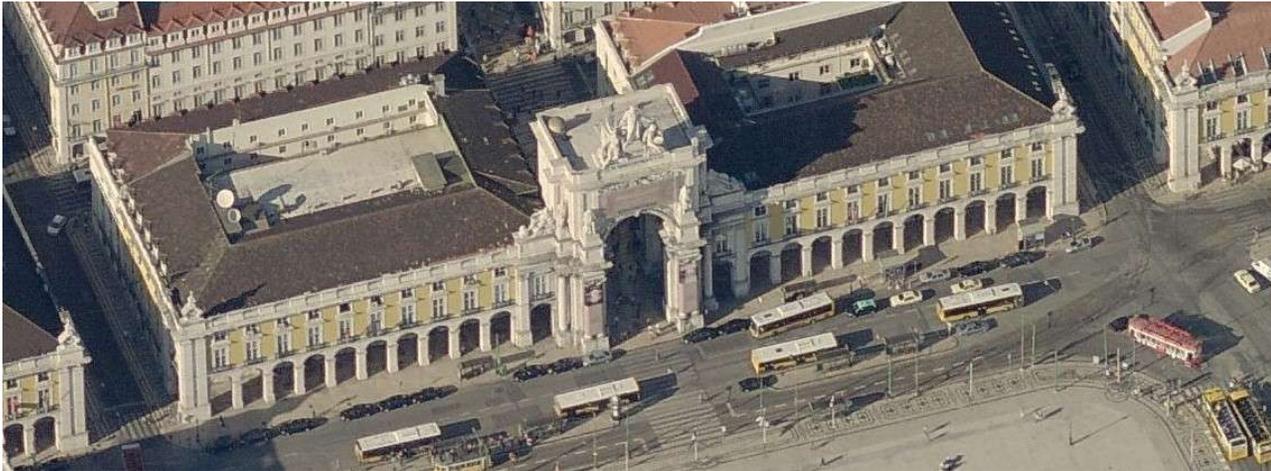


4- Rua Augusta Arch on Praça do Comércio The highly-commercialized and tourist-friendly *Rua Augusta*, just north of the *Praça do Comércio*

To find this on Google Maps, enter **Praça do Comércio, Lisboa, Portugal**

This website has stunning photos of the area

<http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=pra%C3%A7a+do+com%C3%A9rcio%2c+lisboa%2c+portugal&qvvt=pra%C3%A7a+do+com%C3%A9rcio%2c+lisboa%2c+portugal&FORM=IGRE#x0y0>



5- Castelo São Jorge dates back to the 5th century. It has a commanding view and is one of the most visited sites in Lisbon.

To find it on Google Maps, enter **Castelo Sao Jorge Lisboa, Portugal**



The official website is

<http://www.castelodesaojorge.pt>

The website is in three languages PT, EN, and ES

Click on “EN” at top of the page for English

Admission Price: 7.00EUR.

Hours: 9am-9pm Mar-Oct,
9am-6pm Nov-Feb

Directions:

Climb up the hill from Rossio or take tram 28 or bus 37.

6- Baixa/Chiado (no photo) is the heart of the city. To locate it on Google Maps, enter **Baixa-Chiado, Lisboa, Portugal**

Pombaline Baixa is an elegant district and one of the first examples of earthquake resistant construction. Buildings incorporate a wood-lattice frame to distribute forces from earthquakes. In this area, you will find the Rossio or Pedro IV Square which has been one of the main squares from the middle ages. It's a meeting place for tourists.

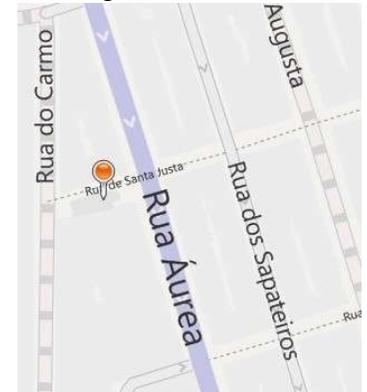
7- Elevador Santa Justa is located at Rua Aurea & Rua de Santa Justa (see map right)

To locate it on Google Maps, enter **Elevador Santa Justa, Rua Augusta, Lisboa, Portugal**

For photos, see this website <http://www.guiadacidade.pt/pt/poi-elevador-de-santa-justa-14011>

Santa Justa elevator (a.k.a. Carmo Lift), has a grand architectural style and filigree. It's connects the downtown *Baixa* district with the upper neighborhood of *Bairro Alto*. It was built by a follower of Gustave Eiffel which explains its similarity to the Eiffel Tower.

It's 45 meters high. At the top, there is a winding steel stairway to a viewing platform which gives the best panoramic view of the city. The price is ~ 3 Euros, summer hours are normally 7 AM-9 PM. In the summer, it's open until 11 PM.



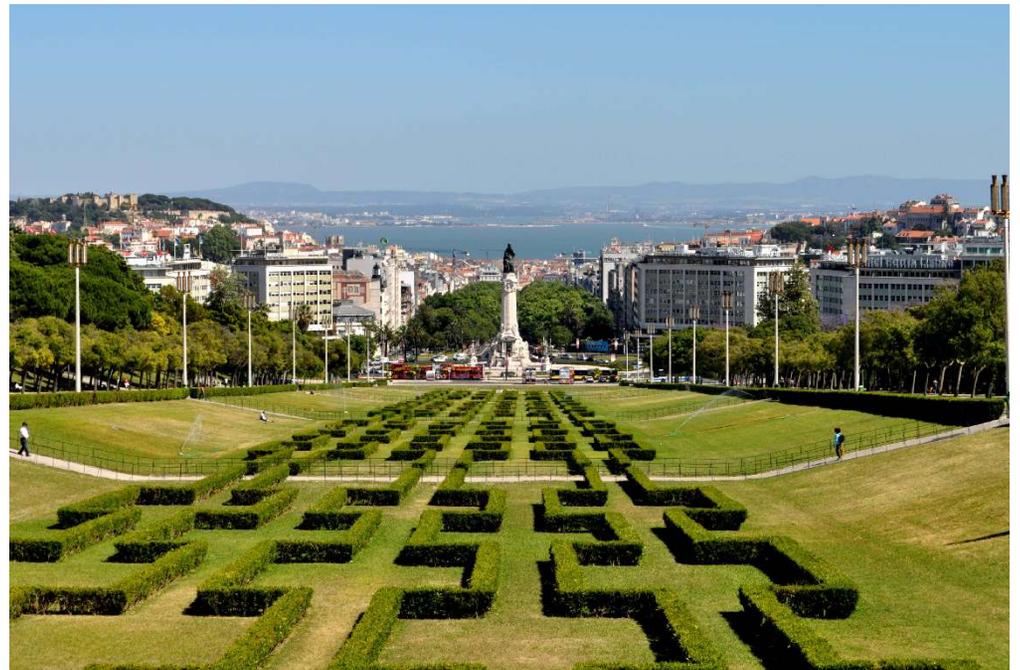
Tourist Sites in Lisbon 6 km North of Baixa/Chiado metro station.



There are two important tourist sites about 6 km North of **6- Baixa/Chiado metro station.**

The first is **8- Parque Eduardo VII.** It's a scenic formal park with great views down the hill to the harbor (photo right). To find this park on a Google Map enter this address: **Alameda Cardeal Cerejeira, 1070 Lisboa, Portugal** It's in an "upscale" area.

The second site is the **bullring for Lisbon #9 on the map.** It's described on the next page



9- Campo Pequeno Bullring is shown on the map above and the aerial photo below.

To find the bullring on a Google Map, enter this address: **Campo Pequeno, 1000 Lisbon, Portugal**



Praca de Touros do Campo Pequeno

Avenida da Republica

Lisbon 1000-082

Portugal

The primary use for the site is for concerts throughout the year. There's a small shopping mall, food court and multiplex cinema on the lower level..

Bullfighting still takes place every Thursday and sometimes on Sunday at 10 PM from April 1st to October. The bullfights are different from those in Spain and other countries. It starts with a horseman in 18th century uniform teasing the bull with spears, followed by other men on foot to further provoke the animal with a pink cape. Then come the "forcados," eight men grabbing the bull by the horns in a "man vs. beast" show.

Portuguese law prohibits the killing of the bull (in public, at least), so weakened and then slaughtered out of the arena.

I haven't visited this site and do not wish to.

10- The 25th April Bridge (Ponte de 25 Abril) is next to the Alcântara cruise port.



To find it on Google Maps, enter **Doca de Alcantara, Lisboa, Portugal**

Built by the same engineers who built San Francisco Bridge, it's very similar but not exactly the same. You need distance to appreciate the bridge and photograph it. Be sure to be on deck when your ship enters and leaves port. You can also photograph the bridge from the hills of the city.

On the other side of the river from the port, there is a statue of Cristo Rei (Christ the King). It's similar to, but smaller than the stature in Rio de Janeiro. The statue has an observation tower at 184 meters. If you're not afraid of heights, it might be a good place to view and photograph the city.

This map shows the important tourist sites West of the 25th April Bridge and Alcántara Cruise Port



It's two miles from the Alcántara port to Torre de Belém (#14 on this map) and it's along a major divided highway. Fortunately, there are several transportation options including trams, buses, local trains, and cabs. Also, the hop-on bus stops at these sites. For me, the simplest is the ship's tour of Lisbon which includes stops at these sites, Alfama, Parque Eduardo VII and drives around the city.

You don't really need a map for this area because these sites form a right triangle. Find the Monument to the Discoveries and it's only 1200 feet to the Monastery and Maritime Museum. There's an underpass under the highway for pedestrians to walk between the Discoveries Monument and the Monastery/Maritime Museum which are next to one another. The photo at right shows the Monument to the Discoveries in front of the Maritime Museum (on the left) and the Monastery (on the right).

Be sure to be on deck with your camera as your ship enters and leaves port. You'll have great views for postcard shots.

There are many other tourist sites in this area. I can't cover all of them because I have not visited them. For example, there is a national museum with a collection of horse drawn coaches. It has the largest collection in the world of ostentatious coaches of the wealthy elite. To find the coach museum on Google Maps enter **Museu Nacional dos Coches, Praça Afonso de Albuquerque, Lisboa, Portugal.**



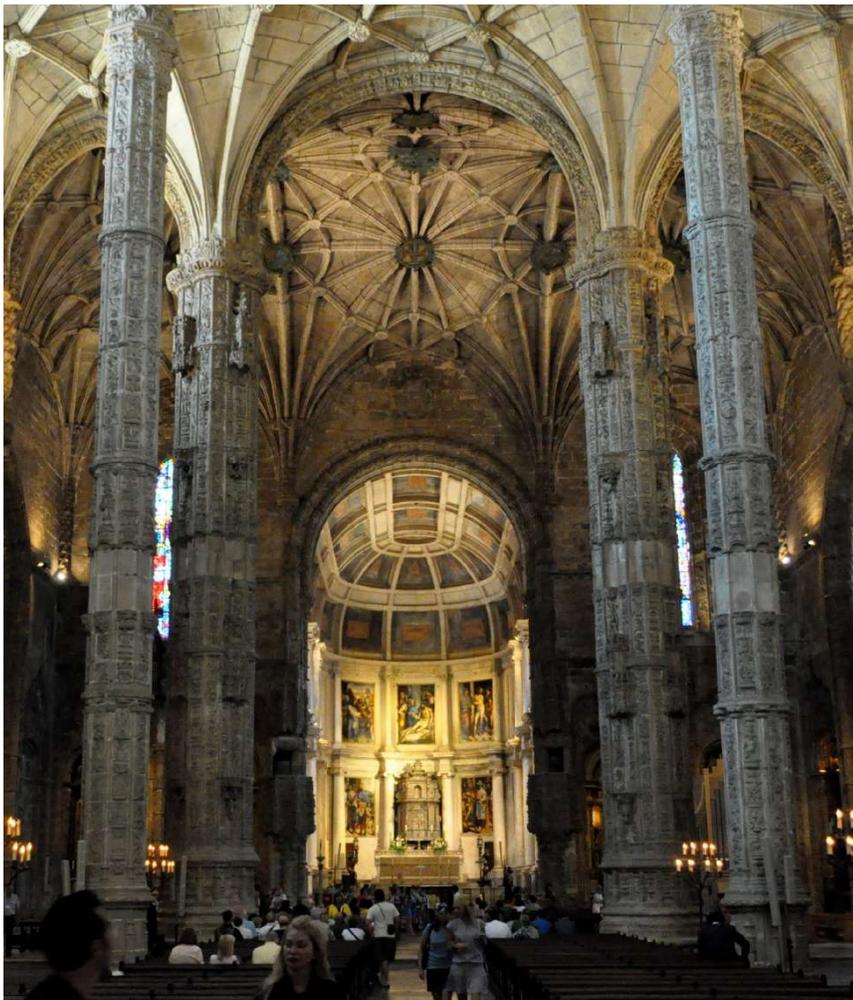
11- Mosteiro dos Jerónimos a UNESCO World Heritage Site

The Jeronimos Monastery is the most impressive symbol of Portugal's power and wealth during the Age of Discoveries. The house for the Hieronymite monks was built on the same site of the Ermida do Restelo, a hermitage founded by Henry the Navigator in 1450. Vasco da Gama and his men spent the night in prayer at this hermitage before departing for India in 1497.

The current structure was built to commemorate Vasco da Gama's successful return from India. It was originally meant as a church for the burial of the House of Aviz and became a house of prayer for seamen leaving or entering port. Construction began in 1502 and took 50 years to complete.

The monastery church contains the casket of Vasco da Gama (photo above-right)

To locate this site on Google Maps, enter **Mosteiro dos Jerónimos, Praça do Império, Lisboa, Portugal**



Carvings of plants found by the explorers (above)

12- Maritime Museum is in the West wing of Jeronimos Monastery.

Enter through the double doors at the right in this photo.

Hours are 10AM-5PM (Oct.-March), 10AM-6PM (April-Sept.) (**Closed Mondays**)

To locate this site on Google Maps enter **Maritime Museum, Praça do Imperio, Lisboa, Portugal**



Maritime Museum

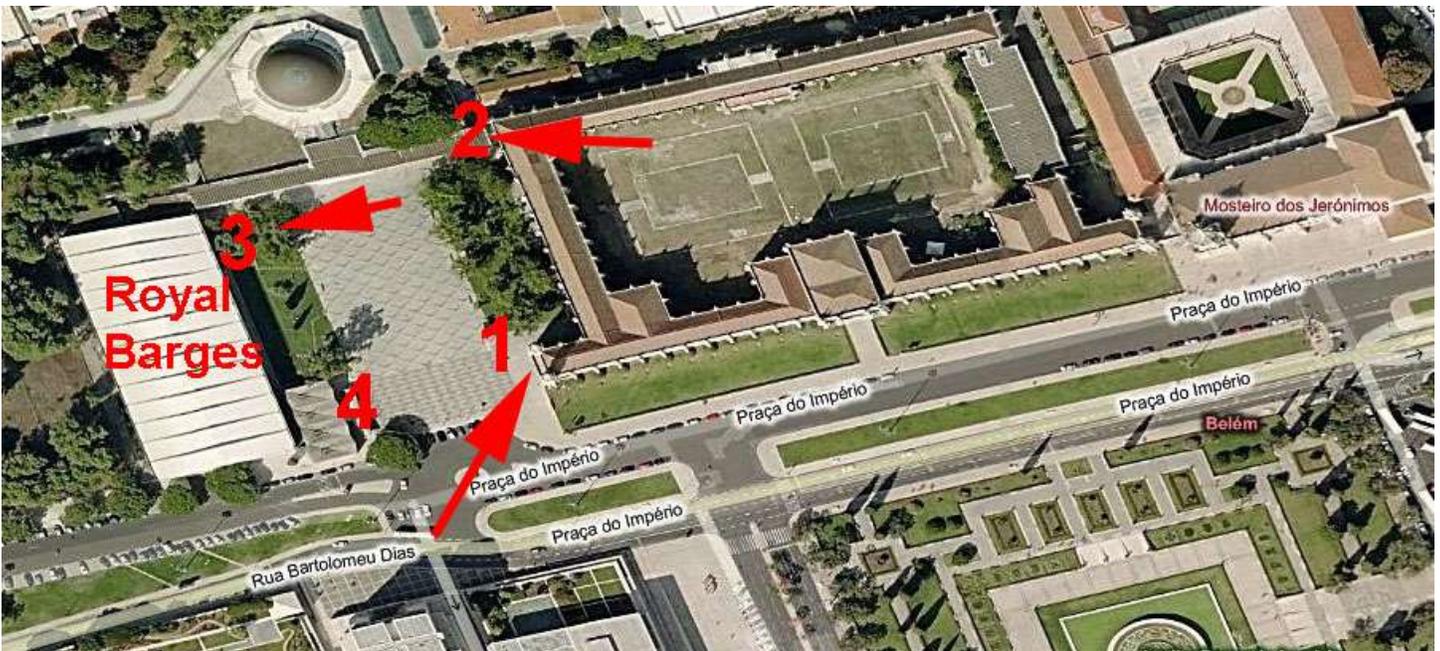
This is one of the most important museums in Europe depicting Portugal's domination of the seas. There are 17,000 items on display including model ships from the Age of Discovery onward. Be sure to view the 18th century ceremonial "Royal" Barges. One was built for Queen Maria I and was used for almost two hundred years, transporting famous passengers including Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany and Queen Elizabeth II of England. There is also a 19th century royal cabin from the yacht of Queen Amelia. The exhibit includes the seaplane "Santa Cruz" that made the first crossing of the south Atlantic in 1922. And the museum has replicas of 16th century maps showing the world as it was known by the explorers.





CAUTION: SEE AERIAL PHOTO BELOW

Many travelers fail to see the exhibit of Royal Barges. ENTRANCES- EXITS ARE CONFUSING. You enter the Maritime Museum thru the double doors at #1 in the photo below. The exit is at #2. Most travelers don't realize there is another entrance #3 to see the Royal Barges in a different building. This is the ONLY entrance to the display of Royal Barges. Item #4 on the map is the entrance/exit for the visitor center with snacks, drinks, souvenirs, and toilets. You CANNOT enter the display of Royal Barges from point #4.



Royal Barges



13- Discoveries Monument (Padrão dos Descobrimentos)

To locate this on Google Maps, enter **Padrao dos Descobrimentos Av. de Brasília 1400-048 LISBOA**

The Discoveries Monument was built on the North bank of the Tagus River in 1960 to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the death of Prince Henry the Navigator.

It represents a three-sailed ship ready to depart, with sculptures of important historical figures such as King Manuel I carrying an armillary sphere, poet Camões holding verses from *The Lusiads*, Vasco da Gama, Magellan, Cabral, and several other notable Portuguese explorers, crusaders, monks, cartographers, and cosmographers, following Prince Henry the Navigator at the prow holding a small vessel. The only female is queen Felipa of Lancaster, mother of Henry the navigator, the brain of the discoveries.

Inside is an exhibition space with temporary exhibits, an interesting film about the city of Lisbon, and an elevator that takes visitors to the top for some bird's-eye views of Belem and its monuments

This link is the official website with detailed information on how to get there by bus or tram.

Click on English for the language and select “Place, how to get there from the Performances Menu”

<http://www.lisbonexperience.pt/>



My only complaint about the ship's excursion tours is that they only spend a few minutes at this monument. It might be due to limited parking area. The bus spends adequate time at all the other sites, but you have to run from the bus to take a photo of this monument which is one of the most important monuments in Lisbon. Note the bridge in the lower right hand corner of this photo.

14- Belém Tower (*Torre de Belém*, also know as the Tower of St Vincent)

To locate this on Google Maps, enter **Torre de Belem, Praça do Imperio 1400 Lisboa, Portugal**

The tower was built around 1515 as part of a defense system for the city. It was used as a fortress until 1580, when Lisbon was invaded by Spanish troops. After that, it was used primarily as a political prison. The tower is judged a masterpiece of the Manueline architectural style that represents the Portugal's era of exploration and its maritime discoveries that were influential to the modern world. It's a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

For more details and photos, see **this website**

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bel%C3%A9m_Tower



The tower is at the end of a large park. Our tour bus stopped at the park and gave us reasonable time to walk around and take photos. I walked to the war memorial adjacent to the park.

The Monumento Aos Combatentes Da Guerra do Ultramar is the Portuguese monument to the fallen soldiers throughout the past 50 years, both in defending the old colonies and preserving peace. The names of all of the soldiers who perished in these battles is written on the walls that surround the monument and in the center of the lake is a flame which burns as a mark of respect.

Sintra, Cascais , and Obidos



This map has a reference point of the 25th of April Bridge in Lisbon and shows Cascais, Sintra, and Obidos. Note the scale of 10 km (6.2 miles). Obidos is the furthest from Lisbon. It's about 100 km (62 miles). Obidos is normally a separate tour. Cascais and Sintra are usually included in a single tour because they are closer together and relatively close to Lisbon. We've used ship excursion tours to these sites. The tours were fine.

Mobility Issues:

Sintra is on the side of a mountain with winding, narrow, steep walkways, and many low-height steps. If you have difficulty walking steep slopes, you'll be limited, but it's a great place to visit = our favorite.

Cascais is on the coast. It's an old fishing village. The streets and walkways are wide, with no steep slopes.

Obidos is a walled city on top of a hill. It's a gentle, rising slope to walk from the parking area to the top. Use care if walking the ramparts at the top of the wall, I almost fell on the stairs – there are no handrails. Apparently building codes for medieval walled cities didn't include handrails and uniform step height.

Sintra = A Must See



Sintra is an old Moorish city which has been the summer residence of Portuguese kings and the aristocracy for 600 years. It's at the base of **coastal mountains that rise sharply through and above the city.** Many streets are **steep and narrow – wear comfortable shoes.**

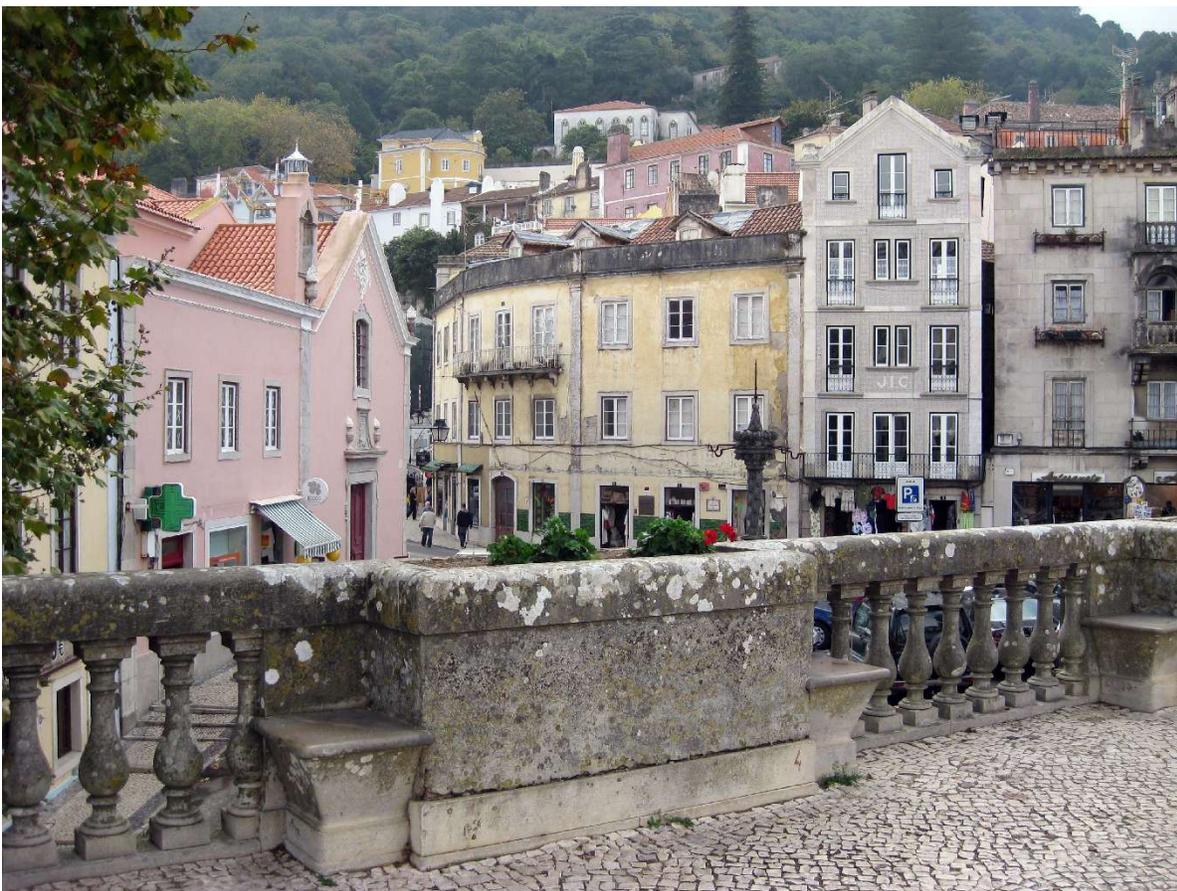
The landmark of Sintra is the National Palace (Palacio Nacional), with its huge, conic, white twin chimneys, which rise above the large palace kitchen, and are visible from quite a distance. It is one of the most important examples of regal architecture in Portugal and for that reason is classified as a National Monument.

Portugal is famous for manufacture of Azulejos (tile) which is used to decorate walls, fountains, houses, and even street signs. There are many shops in Sintra selling hand painted tiles. The tile is gorgeous!

The shops we visited did not sell over the internet. You can carry the tile or they'll mail it to you. We carried it. We created a beautiful wall hanging with 4 tiles mounted in a custom, recessed frame lined with felt.



There are many small shops featuring local crafts like pottery, ceramics, lace and fantastic pastries.



Cascais



From its humble beginnings as an old fishing village, Cascais has been transformed to an elegant, upscale coastal town. Fishing is still active today and the catch is auctioned at the harbor.

The transformation began in 1870 when King Luis I decided to convert the 17th century *Citadela* to his summer residence. It soon became a fashionable area with palaces and mansions for the elite. The area attracted artists in the thirties. Today it attracts an international working community, young people seeking sophisticated nightlife, and tourists.

Attractions include beautiful historic buildings, upscale hotels, fine restaurants, museums, boutiques, etc. Windsurfing is practical only for the most experienced owing to the dangerous waters. Nearby is *Boca do Inferno*, "mouth of hell" where rough seas create a booming noise and impressive spray.



Obidos

Obidos is one of Portugal's classic walled settlements. As you enter town, you'll see Roman aqueducts.



You gradually walk up the hill from the parking area to the castle. The slope is reasonable/easy to walk and the cobblestone pathways are wide. Buildings are whitewashed and have red tile roofs. Flowers were abundant when we visited in the fall.

You can walk around the top of the city walls.



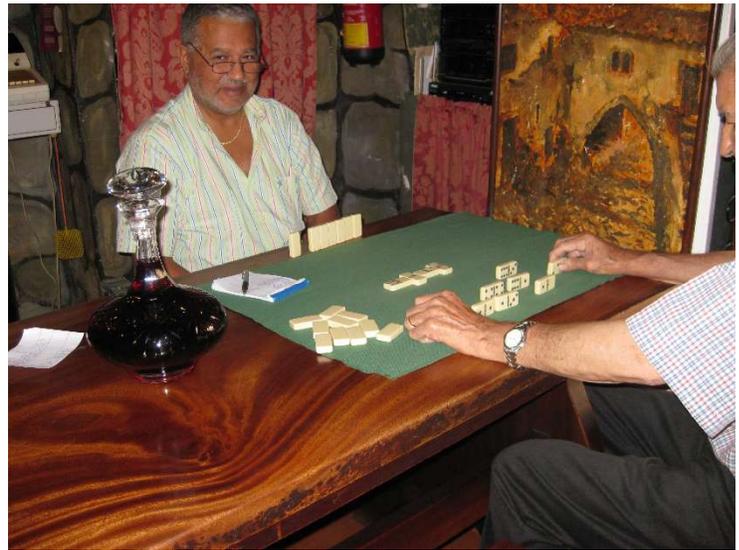
King D. Dinis offered Óbidos as a wedding gift to his wife. She was later immortalized as the Holy Queen. As a result, Obidos enjoyed fame and glory which led to sovereign sponsorship of social works, religious patrimony, and administrative power.

There are a number of shops selling souvenirs, handicrafts. Hand painted tile is especially attractive.

Be sure to try **Ginja d' Óbidos**, a premium cherry liquor made exclusively from Óbidos cherries. It's served with a small piece of fruit in the bottom of the glass and is a favorite Portuguese drink.

We visited a local bar to have a glass of Ginja. The locals were friendly.

There was not much to do when we visited Obidos in October and there were not many shops. It's probably more exciting when they have the summer medieval festival and other events. Check the official website <http://www.obidos.pt/> to determine events scheduled when you plan to visit. Click on the UK flag on the website for English



Using maps to plan your cruise vacation to Lisbon

A place to start – study the map for the Lisbon hop-on bus.

The advantage of a hop-on bus map is that shows ALL tourist sites in Lisbon. Whether or not you use a hop-on bus, this map can familiarize you with the city. It's a great a place to start when planning your vacation.

The hop-on bus website is at this link

http://www.isango.com/portugal-tours/lisbon-tours/lisbon-hop-on-hop-off-sightseeing-tour_7880

Click on “download the tour route map”. It's on the web page in the section called Tour Information just above the words “Customer Reviews”. Save the map to your computer. Enlarge the scale to see more detail.

If you have problems downloading the hop-on bus route map from the above website, you can download it from my web site at www.TomsPortGuides.com/LisbonHopOnBusMap.pdf

Hop-on buses stop in front of the cruise ship terminals

Olisipo Bus Tour stop # 6 is at Santa Apolonia train station next to the ship

Tagus Bus Tour stop # 14 is at the bridge in front of Alcantara cruise ship port



The map also shows a route for a Hills Tramcar tour of the old city

Hop-on bus tours cost \$ 27 and tickets are good for 48 hours:

The hop-on bus website is a great resource to learn about tourist sites in Lisbon. I'm sure it's a great way to see the city, but I have not used hop-on buses in Lisbon.

Map of ALL bus and tram routes and stops in Lisbon, plus metro lines

Carris is the company responsible for ALL Lisbon buses, trams, elevador-funicular trams, subways, and trains. They offer:

- Daytime services including 745 buses on 78 routes, 57 electric trams on 5 routes, and 4 elevadores. They operate the stationary elevador lift at Santa Justa and three funicular elevador tram lines (da Gloria, da Bica, and da Lavra) which travel steep grades on city streets.
- Two night services: Dawn Network, every night with regular fares and Night Bus service, a free service working on Fridays, Saturdays and holiday's eve.
- Special services for people with reduced mobility, Bike Bus service and Mob Carsharing;
- Tourist services by [Carristur](#)

Their website has a lot of useful information on public transportation for planning your vacation. See this website <http://www.carris.pt/> Click on the UK flag for English.

They have published a 2011 map showing routes for ALL buses and trams.

Download this map from this site: <http://www.carris.pt/en/network-map/>

If you have problems downloading from this website, you can download it from my website at www.TomsPortGuides.com/2011-LisbonBusTramMap.pdf

The map is an extremely high resolution pdf file which you can enlarge on your computer monitor to see every detail, and it's razor sharp. I enlarged the map 350% on my computer screen and did a PrintScreen to create this image below. Note the sharp detail showing the routes (which are dashed orange lines) for electric trams 12E and 28E. I've added arrows to highlight two of the tram stops near Castelo de Sao Jorge.



Detailed Metro Area maps

Lisbon Metro Authority, which is probably part of the Carris Group, has a useful website:

<http://www.metrolisboa.pt/Default.aspx?tabid=288>

By clicking on a metro station such as Martim Moniz, you will see a highly detailed map around the metro station showing all streets, major tourist attractions, bus stops, tram stops, and taxi stands. The maps can be saved to your computer as high resolution pdf files. Below is a screen shot of a section of the map enlarged 350% on my computer screen. Note the location of electric tram stops near Castelo de Sao Jorge.



Interactive map of Lisbon

This map shows all tourist sites and streets, but it does not show bus or tram stops. This map is NOT downloadable to your computer, you have to use PrintScreen to save sections of the map. To view the map, see this website <http://www.hot-map.com/en/lisbon>

Tips on printing maps

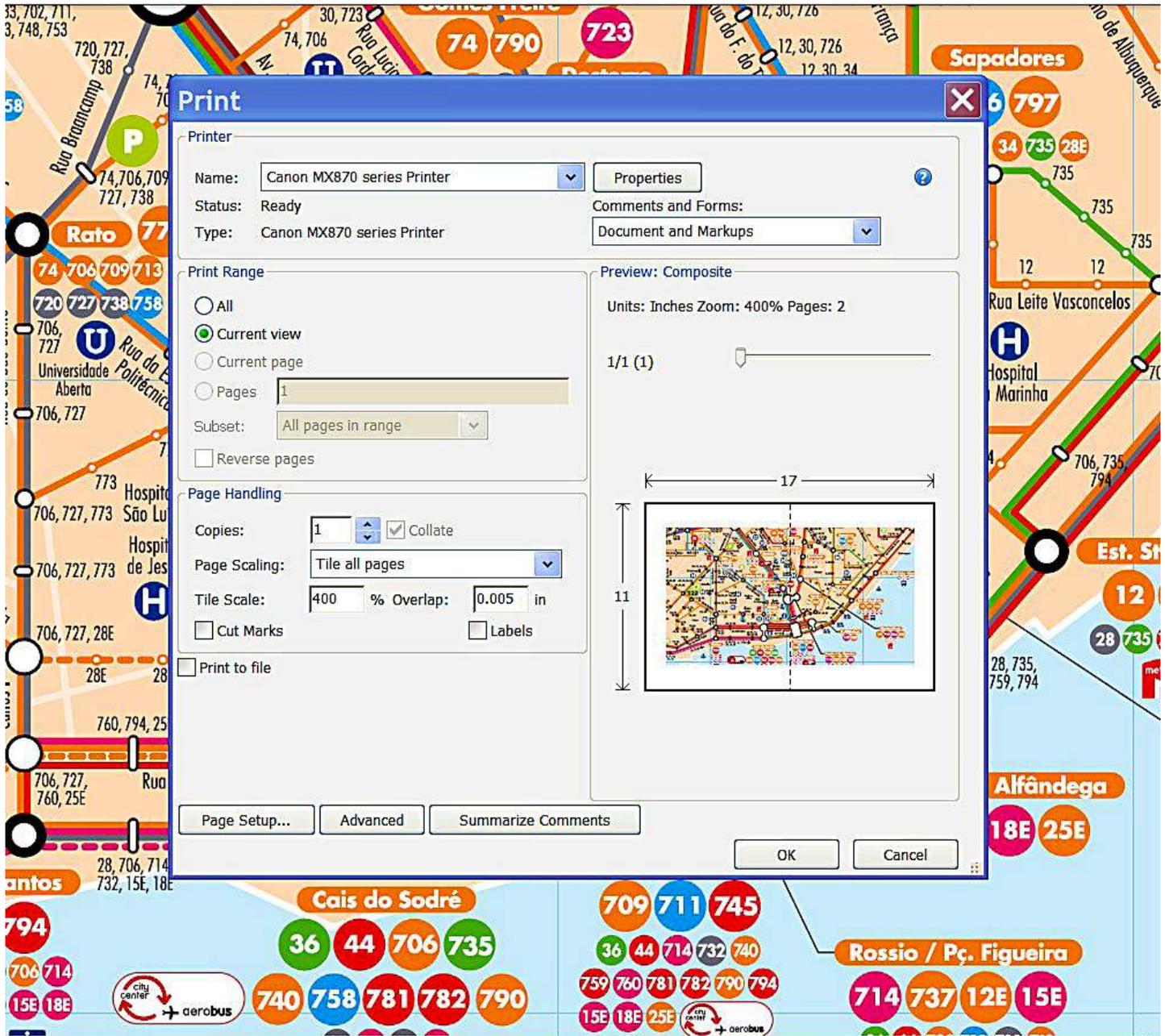
A high resolution pdf map is great because you can magnify it significantly to show detail and yet the map is still razor sharp and very readable. I hate the idea of using a jeweler's loupe to read a map and I dislike tiny little print. I like to enlarge maps so all the text is about a 12 point size or even larger.

You can make some amazing maps if your printer allows you to print:

The “**current view**” of what you see on the monitor, “**scaling**” the image to a different magnification, and “**tiling**” the sheets so you can paste them together to make one large map.

Below is a screen shot from of my Canon MX870 printer. I opened the file **2011-LisbonBusTramMap.pdf** I moved to the area of interest and increased the magnification to 400%. Use whatever magnification looks best to you and center the map around your area of interest. Then I turned on my printer, and from the menu at the top of the PDF file, clicked on “File Print”.

My printer control screen opened. I set it to print “current view”, Tile scale = “400%”, and Page scaling = “Tile all pages”. It showed that it would need two sheets to print the map. Here is the screenshot of my monitor.



When I clicked “OK”, I got a beautiful map that is highly legible. You'll probably want to adjust your monitor and printer to magnification of somewhere between 200 and 400%. You can print out different areas to create several maps covering the sections of Lisbon of most interest to you.

Now that you know all about Lisbon maps, there is no excuse for not having a great cruise vacation!

Tom Sheridan

Pickpockets

Pickpockets are here to stay

You'll find pickpockets in most big cities at public places such as train stations, tourist sites, on public transportation, and around ports.

Don't be a target

The more we “stand out”, the easier it is for thieves to notice us. It's not wise to wear flashy or expensive jewelry, watches, necklaces.

Calculate your potential loss

Don't carry much cash and never carry valuables. Many ports, including those in the US require picture ID and a cruise card to pass security to get back on the ship. I carry a drivers license, an old passport, or a copy of my passport.

NEVER carry passports unless absolutely necessary. Two passports cost \$ 200. But the cost to get new passports in Europe can be \$ 2000. Been there, done that. We lost our passports in Switzerland on Friday. The earliest we could replace them was Monday. You'll need to book hotels for 4 days on an urgent basis, travel to the city where the US embassy is located, pay for all meals and incidentals, and rebook your flights to the US.

Don't use your spouse's credit card account

If two people have the same credit card account # and one of the cards is stolen, both cards will be invalid! Use different account numbers!

Protect what you carry

<http://www.corporatetravelsafety.com> and similar companies sell a gazillion different protection devices. They are good and a sound investment. I carry at least two, sometimes three types of neck, waist, and wallet protectors. This distributes the items I carry to different locations to minimize losing everything. My Nikon camera has a wire lined strap.

Beware of Aggressive Pickpockets

Aggressive pickpockets operate in some cities like Barcelona and Naples. They don't simply bump into you, they aggressively engage you. *On May 18, 2011 a man from a cruise ship was walking near the Naples port. Two men on a scooter pushed him down after attempting to grab his Rolex watch. He died of head injuries sustained during the attack.*

Check the latest travel warnings before you cruise

Search the web for updated pickpocket and crime information for each city. Government agencies tend to post the facts in an unemotional way.

Travel in Portugal - Crime

(Issued by Canadian Government May 31, 2011)

In the larger urban centres of Lisbon and Porto, pickpocketing and bag snatching are on the rise, especially at tourist attractions, restaurants, and public transportation facilities, including train stations and airports.

In Lisbon, particular caution should be exercised on electric tram number E28 to the Castle of São Jorge, number E25 to Prazeres, and number E15 to Belem, at the train stations of Santa Apolonia, Oriente, Rossio, and Cais do Sodre, as well as in the districts of Alfama, Bairro Alto, and Intendente.

Exercise caution if going to the suburb of Queluz to visit the palace, and avoid the northeast suburb of Amadora. If visiting the Estoril coast, be careful at Guincho Beach near the town of Cascais, at the Mouth of Hell tourist site, as well as in the village of Sintra and at its castle and palace.

In Porto do not walk alone after dark, especially along the waterfront of the Douro River.

Do not leave food or drinks unattended. There have been incidents of food and beverages being spiked with drugs or other substances.

Do not leave personal belongings unattended. Pay attention to your surroundings and avoid showing signs of affluence. Ensure personal belongings, passports, and other travel documents are secure at all times and avoid carrying large sums of cash.

The emergency number for police, fire, and ambulance is 112

For the full citation, see http://www.voyage.gc.ca/countries_pays/report_rapport-eng.asp?id=242000#3

Goal of Port Guides - Your Feedback Is Important

Goal

Port guides are designed to help you plan a great cruise vacation

by providing information including:

- Where the ship docks,
- Whether you can walk to the nearby town,
- Things to see and do,
- Options for self-guided or organized tours, and
- Travel issues unique to the port area.

With this information in hand, you can plan the cruise for your priorities. Knowledge of ports is important because you have to make many decisions and commitments long before your ship arrives in the port.

Why feedback is important

User feedback helps me fine tune the subjects included, the length of guides, format, etc. And I welcome offers to collaborate with me by providing information for inclusion in the guides.

The guides serve as an introduction to a port and are not intended to answer every question about the details of each port and tourist destination. There are other sources of information such as www.CruiseCritic.com for your detailed questions. Knowledgeable CC members will share their information.

Schedule

I created my www.TomsPortGuides.com website in April 2011 and posted 10 port guides by June. My goal is to add at least one new guide a month.

I wish you a great cruise vacation.

Regards,

Tom Sheridan

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