

## malaparadois - English version - Sintra

Sintra is one of those places full of magic and mystery where nature and man have combined a symbiosis so perfect, that UNESCO recognized it as a World Heritage Site since 1995.

If on top of Sierra, the century. XIX birthplace of the Pena Palace, the result of the dream of a king photographer, D. Ferdinand of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, the fairies will sprinkle the mountain is as Monserrate palaces, involved in the exuberance of its exotic park and farms as Regaleira, to carry us into the world of initiatory symbols. Walking through Sintra can descend to the Neolithic in Tholos do Monge, enjoy the horizons in Moorish castle walls, feel the austerity of the Capuchin Convent, sensitize themselves in the nooks of Pena Park, site of love and exoticism. In the historic town center make an exciting roadmap for the human past, made of winding streets, stairways and arches.

The Pena Palace is the most fascinating building of the royalty of Portugal, seductive set of multiple tastes that give you a strange beauty. Within its walls you will feel the echoes of news that D. Manuel I received the discoveries in India and Brazil or the voice of Luis de Camoes reciting the "Lusiads" for the King Sebastian and see more vast and rich Mudejar tiles on the Iberian Peninsula. The most blessed place of the whole habitable globe awaits.

But the Palace also brings macabre stories such as King Alfonso VI who lived for nine years stuck in one room while his brother Dom Pedro stole his throne and his wife, claiming that Alfonso VI was crazy. Nowadays hovers doubt Afonso VI was really crazy or if it was his brother is crazy smart. Anyway, the bars on the window still in place and can be seen by tourists.

To get to the Pena Palace in Sintra, Portugal is necessary to get the transport of the Park. The transfer is very cheap and the ride in this small bus/tram is fantastic. The Pena National Palace sits high on the Sintra hills and is reached by car up a step and the rest of the route on a bus of a private company that takes care of the place. In Portuguese and great historical importance romantic style houses nowadays concerts of classical music and exhibitions.

Traveled , I and Flavia Ghelli , to Sintra to see the Pena Palace , considered patrimony of UNESCO and one of the most beautiful and preserved castles in the world, The Pena Palace is undoubtedly wonderful. "You are transported to a time that no longer exists...".

The small town of Sintra has about 25 thousand inhabitants and in its heyday was the favorite summer resort of the Portuguese kings. The historic center is full of nice restaurants and alleyways. Other attractions of the city are more distant from the center and to visit all the ideal is to rent a car since Sintra is full of hills and make the whole journey on foot besides taking a long time is very tiring. Another good option is to visit the most charming town in delightful carriage rides or horseback.

Built in the eighth century by the Moors during their occupation, the Moorish Castle is about two summits of the Serra de Sintra. Definitely won , after several attempts, by D. Afonso Henriques, in 1147, there was built the first Christian chapel Council, dedicated to St. Peter. To visit the site you need to make journeys take an average of 40 minutes between the woodlands of Sintra. Comfortable clothing and shoes help to walk.

The Palace and Quinta da Regaleira are formed by gardens, wells, towers, lakes, statues and caves, considered by Portuguese components of alchemical and sacred journey.





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