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The City

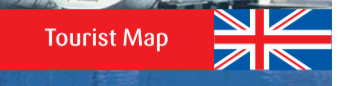
Spread along the Atlantic Ocean, 28 Km north of Oporto, Póvoa considers itself to be a "city of leisure" due to its spaces and equipments and to its privileged location as the starting point of excursions into the urban and rural areas of Northwest Portugal (Porto, Viana do Castelo, Braga, Guimarães, Ponte de Lima, Gerês,...)



Informação Turística. Realização de Acções de Promoção e Animação Turística.

Póvoa de Varzim

It's good to be here



Urban Areas

1 Beach

The Póvoa de Varzim beach is large, has good amenities and can be easily accessed by all members of the public. The sea that laps its beach is constantly livened up by the traditional fishing boats, sports and leisure craft and the countless fans of sports such as surfing and body-boarding. Running parallel to the beach is the Banhos Avenue, an area absolutely perfect for enjoying some relaxation and leisure.

2 City Park

Designed by Professor Sidónio Pardal, the City Park of Póvoa de Varzim is a spacious area with delightful spots and a variety of equipment, inviting you to relax or practice a sport. The lake which possesses an impressive central island covers 2 hectares and is an integral part of the whole landscape, making this a privileged space of contemplation.

3 Largo do Passeio Alegre

This large square, located in the seaside heart of the city, was drastically refurbished in 1998, which helped further strengthen its position as a popular leisure area in the city, thus fully justifying its name. Apart from being an excellent "living room", well served by catering and leisure establishments, it is also the arena for countless cultural events in the spheres of literature, music, dance, fashion, exhibitions and so on.

4 Praça do Almada

The civic centre of the city, it is surrounded by an architectural landscape of considerable aesthetic merit, where the buildings' granite facades are combined with tiles and wrought iron. It was redecorated in 2007 to restore its past beauty and its traditional role as a favourite point for people to meet and wander around. Here we can find symbols of the history of Póvoa de Varzim, such as the Paços do Concelho (town hall) building, the Monument to Eça de Queirós, who was born here, the Pillory da Póvoa and the old Bandstand.

Museums

5 History and Ethnography Public Museum

The arms coated building dates back to the second half of the 18th century. Known as the Carneiros manor-house, it has been subject to several changes in the structure and in detail all over the years. The Museum, founded in 1937 by the Póvoa-born ethnographer António dos Santos Graça, is of great ethnographic interest and contains a vast collection that gives an insight into the unique Fishing Community of Póvoa. Rua Visconde de Azevedo, 17. Telephone: +351 252 090 002, Fax +351 252 090 012. e-mail: museu@cm-pvarzim.pt. Tuesday to Sunday, 10 a.m./12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m./5:30 p.m. Closed on holidays.

6 The S. Pedro de Rates Romanesque Church Museological Centre

This section of the Municipal Museum has been adapted in keeping with its location and environment and is used to preserve and show the history, legends, art and archaeology of the Romanesque Church of S. Pedro de Rates.

Largo Conde D. Henrique Telephone: +351 252 957 034 e-mail: museu@cm-pvarzim.pt Tuesday to Saturday 9:30 am/12:30 pm - 2:30 pm/5:30 pm

7 Cividade de Terroso Archaeological Centre

This building has a small auditorium/projector room and a reception area where visitors are introduced to the Cividade de Terroso, one of the most important archaeological sites of Pre-roman culture in the Northwest of the Iberian Peninsula. Rua da Cividade de Terroso Telephone: +351 252 692 515 e-mail: museu@cm-pvarzim.pt Tuesday to Saturday 9:30 am/12:30 pm - 2:30 pm/5:30 pm

8 S. Pedro de Rates Eco-museum - Water and Bread Itineraries

An 8 km walk through the historic village of S. Pedro de Rates, based on a broad concept of heritage, which aims to preserve and appreciate everything that defines and embodies its cultural identity - the Romanesque church, the historic centre, the pilgrim's route to Santiago de Compostela, the flax, bread and wine production, the art of schist and rural architecture, the wind and water mills, traditional tools, the festivals, the dances, the singing, the rural scenery...

Monuments

9 S. Pedro de Rates Romanesque Church (12/13th c.)

This temple has its roots in a modest chapel from the Reconquest time which was rebuilt at the end of the 11th c., under D. Henrique and D. Teresa. The building grew in importance during the reign of King D. Afonso Henriques (the 1st king of Portugal), when construction of the present church began in the middle of the 12th c.; the works ended a century later. It is a remarkable example of the Romanesque style in our country. Built of heavy granite. It has little openings, with a rose window, in the upper facade.

10 Rates Pillory (16th c.) and Ancient City Hall (1753)

Symbols of the administrative autonomy enjoyed in Rates until 1836. An ancient village, S. Pedro de Rates was the junction of important roads (Roman road, Santiago path; links to Oporto, Viana, Braga, etc.)

11 Póvoa Pillory (16th c.)

Comprehending a stone column standing on steps, with an armilar sphere on the top of the shaft, the badge of the King D. Manuel who gave autonomy to Póvoa de Varzim in 1514. This armilar sphere is the sole piece of the original pillory set up on this year and rebuilt later on 1854.

12 Aqueduct (18th c.)

Standing on 999 arches, it carried the water from Terroso springs to the monastery of Santa Clara, in Vila do Conde. It was built up in 1795 to 1714, and crosses the parishes of Beiriz and Argivai.

13 Fortress Nossa Senhora da Conceição (18th c.)

Life and property's guardian, it was

built up for the protection against pirates' attacks, during the kingdoms of D. Pedro II and D. João V (1701 to 1740); it has a pentagonal trace and comprehends four bastions linked by the walls.

14 Igreja Matriz (Mother Church - 18thc)

Its construction started in 1743 and ended in 1757; it is the oldest and more significant church in the city and marks the growth and settlement of the region. This baroque church shows, in its several altars, an impressively rich golden "Rocaille" carving.

15 City Hall (19th c.)

The front arch, designed in 1790/91 by the French engineer Reinaldo Oudinot, suggests the architectonic and decorative structure of the Oporto English Factorship. It was inaugurated on December 28, 1807. Between 1908/10 it went under great improvement and decoration works oriented by the ethnologist Rocha Peixoto and the Belgian painter Joseph Bialman: tower and inside and outside tiles.

16 Church of Senhora das Dores (19th c.)

A pentagonal and baroque styled church. It dates back to the 18th century although the six surrounding chapels were only accomplished in 1866. Full size sculptures represent the six grieves of the Holy Mother, the seventh being placed on the high Altar.

Archaeology

17 Cividade de Terroso

This ancient city is located on the top of the hill at about 153 m high; it was occupied for a long period (800/700 BC - 3rd c. AC) and its remains provide important study elements to the History of Roman Hillfort peoples and the Roman settlement. It was found in early 20th century where excavation began by the hand of Rocha Peixoto, and since 1980 there have been archaeological excavation works for study and improvement. The most significant assets of this Archaeological Station are exhibited at the Municipal Museum (the "Núcleo de Arqueologia").

18 S. Félix Hill

This is the highest point of Rates mountain, at 202 meters high. An exclusive sightseeing, you may look at the whole region and observe its rich environment. You'll see the wind-mills, some of them turned into holiday houses, and the S. Félix chapel as well as the hotel under the same name.

19 «Campos Masseur»

A clever way to exploit the dunes where excellent horticulture production is obtained in small lots and through intensive culture. In Aguçadoura and Estela areas, the dunes were dug out close to the ground-water level - allowing a more or less steady moisture degree all over the year - and the fields were shaped as a kneading troughs ("maseira"). Vineyards are cultivated in low areas protected from the sea winds, strengthened by fences and enjoying a warmer climate. These two factors

(moisture and temperature) operate then like a natural greenhouse.

A Place of pilgrimage

20 The Pious Alexandrina de Balasar

Alexandrina Maria da Costa was born in Balasar on 30th March 1904 and died in the same village on 13th October 1955. She was always considered to be a saint and is known all over Portugal as the «Saint from Balasar». She was beatified on 25th April 2004. Many «pilgrims» met her personally and witnessed her goodness and Christian wisdom during her lifetime. The pilgrimage, now to the Parish Church where her tomb is located, continues to the present day.

Festivities

In the city Póvoa de Varzim, for its tradition and rich celebrations, we highlight: Semana Santa (Holly Week) - prodigious in religious and profane events; S. Pedro (St. Peter) - a whole week of fun which climax is in the night of 28th to 29th of June - local bank holiday; Nossa Senhora da Assunção (Our Lady Assunção) - fishermen patroness, August, 15; Nossa Senhora das Dores (Our Lady Dores) - mid September when popular parties meet the typical ceramic fair.

21 Casino da Póvoa

This beautiful neo-classical building was built between 1930 and 1934 (designed by José Coelho and Rogério Azevedo). It was clearly influenced by the French school of Garnier (Paris Opera, the Monte Carlo Casino). It was built from scratch to be a casino and it has always featured as one of the main tourist amenities in Póvoa de Varzim, offering gaming, entertainment and a restaurant, in addition to being extremely interesting architecturally. Casino da Póvoa - Edifício do Casino da Póvoa de Varzim Telephone: +351 252 690 888, Fax +351 252 690 871 e-mail: reservas.cpovoa@estoril-sol.com www.casino-povoa.com From Sunday to Thursday, from 3 pm to 3 am Friday, Saturday and the eve of bank holidays, 15th July to 31st August and 15th to 31st December From 4 pm to 4 am

22 Marina da Póvoa

The marina is located in a quiet and safe area (LAT. 41° 22'N/LONG. 08°46'W) and is equipped with 18 meter berths, drinking water and electricity among other services. The harmony between the marina and traditional fishing activities guarantees a pleasant stay. Clube Naval Povoense - Rua da Ponte, 2 Telephone: +351 252 688 121/2, Fax +351 252 688 123 e-mail: marinadapovoa@mail.telepac.pt http://marinadapovoa.com

23 Estela Golf Course

Spreading along the beach, in the Rio Alto dunes, there is this 18 holes - 72 pair - Scottish-like link, you still can enjoy an exquisite sea and rural landscape. Rio Alto, Estela. Telephone: +351 252 601 814 e-mail: geral@estelagolf.pt www.estelagolf.pt

Sports Facilities

Póvoa offers top quality sports facilities where many international competitions take place. Among them are the 20 S. Pedro de Rates Shooting Area (4 Olympic ditches - they used trenches in the 1st W.W., 4 universal ditches, 5 propeller installations, 4 compact Sporting facilities); 21 indoor heated Olympic (size) Swimming pool; 22 Municipal Sports Hall; 23 Municipal Stadium; the 24 Rates Park Adventure Park, with recreational and sporting activities, etc.

25 Axis Vermar Congress Hall

The Congress Hall building is located next to the 208 room hotel and is equipped with the latest technology. It includes an auditorium (seats 550) and 5 large reception rooms, all fully equipped and with natural lighting. Smaller meeting rooms are also available. Axis Vermar Conference & Beach Hotel Rua da Imprensa Regional Telephone: +351 252 298 900, Fax +351 252 298 901 e-mail: reservas@axisvermar.com www.axisvermar.com

Handicraft

"Poveira" Sweater - White wool knitted, crossed stitch hand embroidery with sea drawings. The beauty and originality of these pieces, whose ethnographic value is undeniable, has seduced Portuguese and foreign visitors, and they have even provided fashion designers with inspiration.

Rag rugs - Woven on wooden looms, they use rags as a raw material to make beautifully coloured rugs or settee throw-overs.

Flax - the origins of the flax loom and weaving are lost in the mists of time. It is an activity which has always been linked to country people and one which today is practically confined to the parish of S. Pedro de Rates.

Beiriz rugs - real master pieces which are woven by women in tough rustic looms. Fábrica de Tapetes de Beiriz Rua Adelino Bouças, Beiriz Telephone: +351 252 299 010



Tourism Office

Praça Marquês de Pombal 4.490-442 Póvoa de Varzim Telephone: +351 252 298 120 Fax: +351 252 617 872 E-mail: pturismo@cm-pvarzim.pt www.cm-pvarzim.pt/turismo N 41°22'47.727" W -8°45'42.856"

Timetable: June 15 till September 15 Monday to Friday: 9 am/7 pm Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays: 9:30 am/1 pm - 2:30 pm/6 pm September 16 till June 14 Monday to Friday: 9 am/1 pm - 2 pm/7 pm Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays: 9:30 am/1 pm - 2:30 pm/6 pm

Useful Telephone Numbers

Bombeiros Voluntários Rua Santos Minho Telephone: 252 291 500

Hospital da Póvoa de Varzim Largo das Dores Telephone: 252 690 600

Hospital Clípvoa (Hospor) Lugar de Penouces Telephone: 252 690 900 Câmara Municipal Praça do Almada Telephone: 252 298 500 / 252 090 000

GNR (Guarda Nacional Republicana) Largo das Dores Telephone: 252 240 350

PSP (Policia de Segurança Pública) Praça Marquês de Pombal Telephone: 252 298 190

Policia Municipal Rua Rocha Peixoto Telephone: 252 090 004





Tourist Accommodation

- 1 Axis Vermar Conference & Beach Hotel ★★★★★**
Rua da Imprensa Regional
4490-518 Póvoa de Varzim
Tel: 252 298 900 | Fax: 252 298 901
www.axis-hotels.com
E-mail: reservas@axisvermar.com
N 41°23' 28,031" | W -08°46' 23,688"
- 2 São Félix Hotel Hillside & Nature ★★★★★**
Monte de S. Félix
4570-345 Látidos | Póvoa de Varzim
Tel: 252 607 776 | Fax: 252 607 444
www.saofelixhotel.com
E-mail: geral@saofelixhotel.com
N 41°26' 06,661" | W -08°42' 57,628"
- 3 Estalagem Estela Sol ★★★★★**
Lugar de Contriz | E.N. 13
4570-229 Estela | Póvoa de Varzim
Tel: 252 600 050 | Fax: 252 600 051
estalagemestelasol@gmail.com
N 41°27' 37,635" | W -08°44' 59,437"
- 4 Estalagem de Santo André ★★★★★**
Avenida de Santo André
Aver-o-Mar | 4495-012 Póvoa de Varzim
Tel: 252 615 666 | Fax: 252 615 866
www.estalagensantoandre.com
reservas@estalagensantoandre.com
N 41°24' 56,532" | W -08°47' 09,089"
- 5 Grande Hotel da Póvoa ★★★**
Largo do Passeio Alegre, 20
4490-428 Póvoa de Varzim
Tel: 252 290 400 | Fax: 252 290 401
www.gdhpovoa.com
grandehotelpovoa@elphoteis.com
N 41°22' 44,919" | W -08°46' 00,862"
- 6 Sol Póvoa Hotel ★★★**
Rua José Morneiro, 100
Aver-o-Mar | 4490-100 Póvoa de Varzim
Tel: 252 290 510 | Fax: 252 290 519
www.solpovoa.com
info@solpovoa.com
N 41°23' 45,967" | W -08°45' 55,636"
- 7 Hotel Avenida ★★**
Avenida Mouzinho de Albuquerque, 54
4490-409 Póvoa de Varzim
Tel: 252 615 206 | Fax: 252 617 295
www.hotelavenida-povoa.com
E-mail: hotelavenida.povoa@gmail.com
N 41°22' 52,865" | W -08°45' 54,067"
- 8 Hotel Contriz ★★**
Lugar de Contriz | E.N. 13
4570-229 Estela | Póvoa de Varzim
Tel: / Fax: 252 644 473
www.hotelcontriz.com
geral@hotelcontriz.com
N 41°27' 42,942" | W -08°44' 57,742"
- 9 Hotel Costa Verde ★★**
Avenida Vasco da Gama, 56
4490-410 Póvoa de Varzim
Tel: 252 298 600 | Fax: 252 298 609
www.hotelcostaverde.com
info@hotelcostaverde.com
N 41°23' 12,228" | W -08°46' 10,270"
- 10 Hotel Luso Brasileiro ★★**
Rua dos Cafés, 16
4490-595 Póvoa de Varzim
Tel: 252 690 710 | Fax: 252 690 719
www.hotelusobrasileiro.com
info@hotelusobrasileiro.com
N 41°23' 50,935" | W -08°46' 01,171"
- 11 Hotel Torre Mar ★★**
Rua Gomes de Amorim, 2121
Aver-o-Mar | 4490-091 Póvoa de Varzim
Tel: 252 298 670 | Fax: 252 298 679
www.hotel-torre-mar.pt
info@hotel-torre-mar.pt
N 41°24' 02,141" | W -08°46' 02,336"

Camping:

- 12 Parque de Campismo e Caravanismo Orbitur Rio Alto ★★★★★**
Lugar de Rio Alto
4570-275 Estela | Póvoa de Varzim
Tel: 252 615 699 | Fax: 252 615 599
www.orbitur.pt
rioalto@orbitur.pt
N 41°27' 47,456" | W -08°46' 22,756"

Key:

- 📍 Tourist Information Centre
- 🏪 Casino
- 🍽️ Restaurant
- 🎵 Bar/ Disco
- 🏛️ Museum
- 🚤 Marina
- 🎣 Fishing Harbour
- 🎪 Playground
- 🎭 Show Venue
- 📖 Library
- 🎪 Bullfighting Ring
- 🏢 Conference Centre
- 🏠 Travel Agents
- 🚒 Fire Station
- ⚖️ Law Courts
- 🏥 Health Centre
- 🏪 Chemist
- 🏪 Market
- 🧺 Laundrette
- 🚶 Pedestrian/ Cycling Route
- 🛒 Shopping area
- 🌿 Historic area
- 🌳 Green area (under construction)

