



1. ACADEMIC ASSOCIATION OF COIMBRA | ASSOCIAÇÃO ACADÉMICA DE COIMBRA

The construction of the *Academic Association of Coimbra* complex began in 1954, with a project of the architects *Alberto José Pessoa* and *João Abel Manta*. The new academic facilities were made up of a series of buildings, where various services - *canteens, bars, gymnasiums, theatres, rehearsal rooms, and the building for the cultural and sportive units*. This building reveals a stylistic rupture with the *monumental classicism* adopted at the new buildings on the *Alta* of the University.

The building is classified as a *World Heritage Site* since 2013.

GARDENS OF THE ACADEMIC ASSOCIATION OF COIMBRA | JARDINS DA AAC
Built at the former *Quinta da Ribela* from the Priors of the *Monastery of Santa Cruz*, the layout of the new buildings of the *Academic Association of Coimbra*, sketched by *Manuel Ferreira da Costa Cerveira*, ended up using a garden space, without requiring the trees to be taken down, allowing a requalification of the space according to the landscape.

It was also installed a reversible urban equipment using regular geometric forms and discreet materials in all the architectural surfaces: wood, glass and metallic structures.

MURAL OF THE CULTURAL ACTIVITIES OF THE ACADEMY | MURAL DAS ATIVIDADES CULTURAIS DA ACADEMIA - Tile board representing the activities of the *Academic Association of Coimbra*, namely *cinema, dance, photography, choirs, press, reading, radio, academic theatre* and the *Orfeão* (traditional choir of the academy).

It was promoted by the Portuguese Government and made by *Abel Manta*, who first designed it on cardboard, in 1958, and then executed it in tiles, in 1960, at the *Viúva Lamego* Factory.

MURAL OF THE ACADEMIC UNIFORM OF THE UNIVERSITY OF COIMBRA | PAINÉIS DO TRAJE ACADÉMICO DA UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA - Set of seven panels typifying scenes with the evolution of the academic uniform of the *University of Coimbra*. The panels were commissioned to *Abel Manta* by the Portuguese Government in the context of the construction of the building for the *Academic Association of Coimbra*; the mural was inaugurated in 1961.

2. UNIVERSITY OF COIMBRA | PALACE OF STUDIA GENERALIA | UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA | PAÇO DAS ESCOLAS

Iconic place of *Coimbra* composed of several structures of great beauty. The building is classified as a *World Heritage Site* since 2013.

IRON GATE | PORTA FÉRREA - Entrance of the old Royal Palace to which were added, in 1634, two portals with allegorical sculptures of the ancient Faculties (*Medicine, Law, Theology and Canon Law*), the founding monarch, *King Dinis*, the monarch who definitively establishes the *Studia Generalia* in *Coimbra*, *King João III*, and the *Sapientia*, the institution's insignia.

MONUMENT TO KING JOÃO III | MONUMENTO A D. JOÃO III - Monumental statue, inaugurated in 1948, representing the monarch. It transmits an hieratic and some formal rigidity, suggestive of the historicist and modernizing character of the official ideology of the *Estado Novo* (1933-1974), followed by *Francisco Franco*, its author, considered one of the protagonists of the regime's official statuary.

VIA LATINA - A big colonnade built in the end of the 18th century, which name remembers the old rule that forbidden, beyond that point, any other language to be spoken, besides the Latin.

CEREMONIES HALL | SALA DOS CAPELOS - Former throne room adapted, in the 17th century, to host the most important acts of the academic life (solemn opening of the academic year, PhD graduations, insignia placement, investiture of Rectors, among others).

ACADEMIC GUARD ROOM | SALA DOS ARCHEIROS - During the reform, conducted by the *Marquis of Pombal*, this room was adapted to keep the weapons of the *Royal Academic Guard*.

PRIVATE EXAMINATION ROOM | SALA DO EXAME PRIVADO - Old royal chamber, that was remodelled in the beginning of the 18th century. The name remembers the time when some of the oral exams were taken behind closed doors.

STUDIA GENERALIA | GERAIS - Occupying part of the old Queen's wing, the two storey classical style courtyard, around which the *Studia Generalia* classrooms were disposed, is a result of a remodelling work, with the upper floor being executed by *Manuel Alves Macamboa* and *José de Carvalho*.

TOWER | TORRE - Symbol of the University and of the city itself, it was built during the 18th century, replacing the previous one, designed by *Jean of Rouen* (16th century). The Italian architect who designed the work, *Antonio Cannevari*, added baroque aspects in Italian style. The construction was overseen by the Portuguese architect *Gaspar Ferreira*.

At the top, there is a small balcony with four clocks below (one on each side), joined by four bells that rule the academic life: the *Cabra* of 1741, the *Cabrão* of 1824, the *Bolão* of 1561 and the *Quartos*.

MINERVA'S STAIRS | ESCADAS DE MINERVA - Due to the reforms that were made in the building, it was given to *Gaspar Ferreira*, around 1724, the task of remaking the communication ladders between the University and the public street.

SAINT MICHAEL'S CHAPEL | CAPELA DE SÃO MIGUEL - Former oratory of the *Royal Palace*, dating from the 12th century, it was remade through major enlargement construction works projected by *Marcos Pires* and *Diogo de*

Castilho, during the reign of *King Manuel I*. The portal is an allegory to the political ideology of *King Manuel I* - *he is King by divine right!*

JOANINA LIBRARY | CASA DA LIVRARIA | BIBLIOTECA JOANINA - Commonly known as *Joanina Library*, a unique and internationally recognized work, made during the reign of *King João V*, whose large portrait, by *Domenico Duprà*, fills in the last room of the library.

ACADEMIC PRISON | PRISÃO ACADÉMICA - Established, in 1593, in the north wing of the building, it was transferred, in 1773, to what had been left of the old royal jail, built by *King João I* in the late 14th century, and which was serving as the infrastructure for the *Joanina Library* building.

SAINT PETER'S COLLEGE | COLÉGIO DE SÃO PEDRO - Founded in 1574, by *King Sebastião*, to receive graduates for University teaching.

Occupying the former wing of the Dames and knights, it was given to the University for lodging of the Rectors and the Royal Family, after the extinction of the religious orders in *Portugal*.

3. SALVADOR CHURCH | IGREJA DO SALVADOR

Romanesque temple built over a former one. In the 12th century, there were renovation works done in the church, as confirmed by the inscription on the right side of the main door, dating from 1175. Over the centuries, it underwent through several renovations and restructurings works that eventually allowed it to be hidden among the houses that were being built half walls. However, it still preserves the Romanesque portal, with an octagonal column with flowers and decorated shells.

COORDINATES: 40.209530, -8.425464

4. REPÚBLICA MARIAS DO LOUREIRO AND PAÇOS DA REPÚBLICA BACO

The word *República* used to describe this unique student housing (similar to the *fraternities* in North America,) first appeared in the 19th century, after the *Portuguese Liberal Revolution* (1820-1834). The *Paços da República de Baco* was founded on April 30th, 1933. This *República* has been in the present building since 1972. During its existence, it has received many generations of students, some of whom turned out to be notorious politicians and intellectuals, such as *António de Almeida Santos*, *José Niza*, among others. The *República Marias do Loureiro* is a female *República* since July 16th, 2003, by decree of the *Council of Repúblicas* reunited in the *Real República Prá-Kys-Tão*. This *República* is in the same building where, in the 1920's, four students also founded the first female university residence in *Coimbra*. *Domitília Hormizinda Miranda de Carvalho* was the first female student to be graduate in Mathematics (1894), Philosophy (1895) and Medicine (1904), being one of the first to live in the house.

COORDINATES: 40.209601, -8.425629

5. REAL REPÚBLICA RÁS-TE-PARTA, PAÇOS DA REPÚBLICA DOS INKAS AND REAL REPÚBLICA DO BOTA-ABAIXO

The *Real República Rás-Te-Parta* was founded in the year 1943. One of its most distinguished residents was *Adriano Correia de Oliveira*, an interventionist singer and one of the biggest names in the *Song of Coimbra*. Next to it also stands the *Paços da República dos Inkas*, whose origin goes back to 1954. In *São Salvador street* one can find the *Real República do Bota-Abaixo* founded in 1950; the name recalls a period marked by several demolitions in the *Alta*, namely the 40's of the 20th century, as part of an urban reform made in the University.

COORDINATES: 40.209928, -8.425957

6. ANTO TOWER | COIMBRA GUITAR AND FADO INTERPRETATIVE CENTRE | TORRE DE ANTO | NÚCLEO DA GUITARRA E DO FADO DE COIMBRA

Tower of medieval origin integrated in the old wall of *Coimbra*, which still holds a bit of the wall walk. During the 16th century, it was adapted to a residence. At the end of the 19th century, the Portuguese poet *António Nobre* lived here a short period of time while studying at the university, which gave rise to the name by which the tower is nowadays known. At the present day hosts the *Coimbra Guitar and Fado Interpretative Centre*.

COORDINATES: 40.209869, -8.428254

7. OLD CATHEDRAL | SÉ VELHA

When the Bishop's seat was transferred from *Conimbriga* (near *Condeixa*, circa 15 kilometres from *Coimbra*) to *Æminium* (Roman *Coimbra*) a temple would have been built in this area. However, the only physical evidence that proves the existence of an older building dates from 1117 - a date inscribed on the church's consecration stone.

The current building dates from the second half of the 12th century, with the design of the French Master *Robert*, following the second phase of *Coimbra's* Romanesque style.

The outside is solid, symmetrical, crowned with a battlement, with a few openings and with a portal decorated under a clear Islamic influence. On the North side of the cathedral it's worth mentioning the *Porta Especiosa* (the *special, beautiful, delicate door*) by *Jean of Rouen*, with an elegant Renaissance decoration. Inside the highlight goes to the high altar of the chancel, *Flamboyant*, executed by the Flemish sculptors *Olivier of Gand* and *Jean of Ypres*.

Also worth mentioning is the cloister, begun in 1218, the first Gothic experience in *Portugal*.

Near the Old Cathedral, one can see a tileboard in a house remembering that: "in this house lived the troubadour of freedom *José Afonso* (*Zeca*)", a musician and notable interpreter of the *Song of Coimbra*, probably the greatest Portuguese interventionist singer of the 20th century. Nearby also lived *Edmundo Bettencourt* and *Lucas Junot*, two of the most important personalities of the *Song of Coimbra* giving it a new development in the beginning of the 20th century.

During the Academic festivals and traditions, the Old Cathedral is a symbol of one of the most important moments for any student of *Coimbra*. Every year, the *Monumental Serenade* is performed on the staircase of this church, marking the beginning of *Queima das Fitas*: the academic celebration that symbolises the end of the academic year. That night, at midnight when the bells ring 12 times, the students, dressed in black with the traditional uniform of the University, they all line up in a chorus of silence to listen to the typical song of the students of *Coimbra*. For some of them, it is the first time they dress in black and marks the beginning of a long path; for others, it is time to say goodbye and to take with them all the knowledge and experiences that the city has given to them.

COORDINATES: 40.208813, -8.427045

8. PAÇOS DA REPÚBLICA DOS KÁGADOS

The *Paços da República dos Kágados* was founded in 1933. It was in this *República* that on December 11th, 1948, the six *Repúblicas* - *Kágados, Baco, Rás-te-Parta, Pagode Chinês, Palácio da Loucura* and *Jástá* - founded the first *Council of Repúblicas*, having in propose the increasing of their number and guaranteeing their subsistence. From this date on, the *Friendship Pact* between the republics (those who lived in a *República*) would come into force.

COORDINATES: 40.208813, -8.427045

9. REAL REPÚBLICA PRA-KYS-TÃO

The *Real República Prá-Kys-Tão* was founded in 1951. It is now settled in the in the so-called *Casa da Nau*, from the 16th century, whose name comes from its curious form, remembering us of a boat. This house was also home to other previous *Repúblicas*, such as the *República Transatlântica*, prior to 1908.

COORDINATES: 40.207474, -8.428268

10. PONTAGE SQUARE | LARGO DA PORTAGEM

Noble entrance into the city, benefiting from an old stone bridge, built during the reign of *King Afonso Henriques* and reformed during centuries, that followed, namely during the reign of *King Manuel I*. The name of the square remembers the time when one had to pay to cross the bridge into the city. The current bridge dates from the middle of the 20th century, a project made by *Edgar Cardoso* and *António Franco e Abreu*.

On this square, next to the slope, stood before the *Pontage Prison*, dating from 1592. Due to its poor condition it was closed in the mid-19th century. In the center of the square stands the statue of *Joaquim António de Aguiar*, a politician from *Coimbra*, became famous for having signed the decree that extinguished the religious orders in *Portugal*, on May 30th, 1834. The statue, design by *Costa Mota*, was placed here in 1913; it represents the statesman with a feather in his right hand and a paper in his left hand, a symbol of his legislative work.

The square is surrounded by beautiful buildings, namely *the Hotel Astoria* and the *Agency of the Banco de Portugal*, both designed by the architect *Adães Bermudes*, whose decorative richness reveals the different revivalist influences along with the new art nouveau. The *Largo da Portagem* is one of *Coimbra's* favourite places for students: during the two major academic festivities - the *Festa das Latas* and *Queima das Fitas* - this square is filled with black caps: it is a stopping point before crossing the bridge over the *Mondego* towards the place where the festivities take place.

COORDINATES: 40.207449, -8.425953

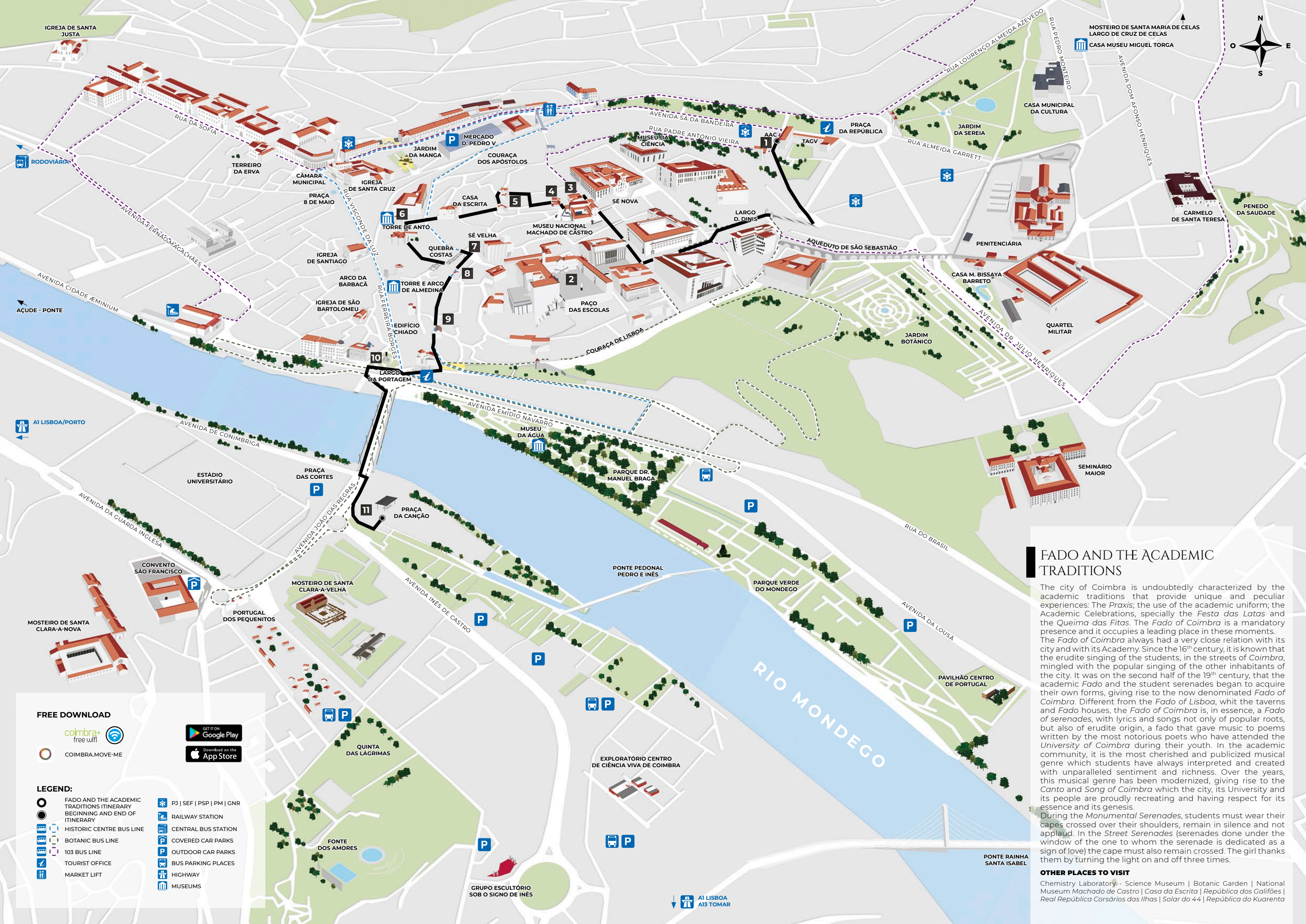
11. SONG SQUARE | PRAÇA DA CANÇÃO

An ideal place for concerts and outdoor events. Here is where the two major parties of the *Academy of Coimbra* take place annually: the *Festa das Latas* and the *Queima das Fitas*. The origins of the *Queima das Fitas* date back to the year 1899 when, for the first time, in April, the *Centenary of the Sebenta* was held, in which the students, as a form of protest against the main teaching instrument (the *Sebenta* - a lithograph sheet) and also criticizing the many civic centenaries celebrated in the last 19th century, they presented themselves in public, in a parade, having fireworks, a soiree and few *Garraíadas*.

MONUMENT TO MUSIC | MONUMENTO À MÚSICA - Sculptural group of figurative contemporary art, inaugurated on October 10th, 2001, conceived by the *Conimbricense* (from *Coimbra*) artist *Vasco Berardo* (1933-2017). It's set on a stepped platform covered with black and white marble slabs, forming chess. The artist allegorically represented *Music* with a grand piano and its bench, a child holding a large trombone from which materialized musical notes come out.

COORDINATES: 40.204057, -8.430737

- Coimbra World Heritage Itinerary
- Walled Coimbra Itinerary
- Historical Gardens Itinerary
- Writers Itinerary
- Fado and the Academic Traditions Itinerary
- The Founding of the Nationality Itinerary
- Living the Heritage in Coimbra Itinerary
- Portugal for the Little Ones Itinerary



FADO AND THE ACADEMIC TRADITIONS

The city of Coimbra is undoubtedly characterized by the academic traditions that provide unique and peculiar experiences: The *Praxis*; the use of the academic uniform; the Academic Celebrations, specially the *Festa das Latas* and the *Queima das Fitas*. The *Fado of Coimbra* is a mandatory presence and it occupies a leading place in these moments. The *Fado of Coimbra* always had a very close relation with its city and with its Academy. Since the 16th century, it is known that the erudite singing of the students, in the streets of *Coimbra*, mingled with the popular singing of the other inhabitants of the city. It was on the second half of the 19th century, that the academic *Fado* and the student serenades began to acquire their own forms, giving rise to the now denominated *Fado of Coimbra*. Different from the *Fado of Lisboa*, whit the taverns and *Fado houses*, the *Fado of Coimbra* is, in essence, a *Fado of serenades*, with lyrics and songs not only of popular roots, but also of erudite origin, a *fado* that gave music to poems written by the most notorious poets who have attended the *University of Coimbra* during their youth. In the academic community, it is the most cherished and publicized musical genre which students have always interpreted and created with unparalleled sentiment and richness. Over the years, this musical genre has been modernized, giving rise to the *Canto and Song of Coimbra* which the city, its University and its people are proudly recreating and having respect for its essence and its genesis.

During the *Monumental Serenades*, students must wear their capes crossed over their shoulders, remain in silence and not applaud. In the *Street Serenades* (serenades done under the window of the one to whom the serenade is dedicated as a sign of love) the cape must also remain crossed. The girl thanks them by turning the light on and off three times.

OTHER PLACES TO VISIT
 Chemistry Laboratory - Science Museum | Botanic Garden | National Museum Machado de Castro | *Casa da Escrita* | *República dos Galifões* | *Real República Corsários das Ilhas* | *Solar do 44* | *República do Kuarenta*

FREE DOWNLOAD

coimbra+ free wifi

COIMBRA.MOVE-ME

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store

LEGEND:

- FADO AND THE ACADEMIC TRADITIONS ITINERARY
- BEGINNING AND END OF ITINERARY
- 🚌 HISTORIC CENTRE BUS LINE
- 🚌 BOTANIC BUS LINE
- 🚌 103 BUS LINE
- 🗺️ TOURIST OFFICE
- 🚶 MARKET LIFT
- 🚉 PJ | SEF | PSP | PM | GNR
- 🚉 RAILWAY STATION
- 🚉 CENTRAL BUS STATION
- 🅑 COVERED CAR PARKS
- 🅑 OUTDOOR CAR PARKS
- 🅑 BUS PARKING PLACES
- 🛣️ HIGHWAY
- 🏛️ MUSEUMS