



ITINERARY POINTS



1. KING DINIS SQUARE | LARGO D. DINIS
Place where the castle of *Coimbra* was. It was probably built in the 11th century under the leadership of the first governor *Sesnando*. The castle had two main towers: the keep, with a cistern inside, and the tower of *Hercules*, pentagonal, built by *King Sancho I* (second king of *Portugal*). Later, in 1773, the castle began to be demolished for the construction of the *Astronomic Observatory of the University of Coimbra*, a project abandoned due to the slope of the hillside. In this square the highlight goes to the monument to *King Dinis* (King of *Portugal* founder of the Portuguese *Studia Generalia*, in 1290), executed by *Francisco Franco* and inaugurated in 1943.
COORDINATES: 40.208024, -8.423163

2. POSTERN GATE | PORTA DA TRAIÇÃO
At the top of the *Coureira de Lisboa* was the *Postern Gate* that in *Portugal* is known as the *betrayal gate*, since, from a military point of view, it is what is commonly referred as a false door or a disguised door. This one had the shape of a horseshoe arch and was usually closed; it was only open to allow the escape or to let messengers or spies pass in case of longstanding siege.
COORDINATES: 40.206870, -8.423915

3. WALL TOWER | TORRE DA MURALHA
Going down the *Coureira de Lisboa* one can see part of the old wall watchtower. It is now transformed into a look out point that once belonged to a private residence.
COORDINATES: 40.206473, -8.426884

4. WALL SECTION (COUREIRA DE LISBOA) | TROÇO DA MURALHA (COUREIRA DE LISBOA)
The *Coureira de Lisboa*, which connects the *Alta* to the *Baixa*, follows the line of the old wall of *Coimbra*.
COORDINATES: 40.206547, -8.427007

5. PANORAMIC VIEW OVER THE CITY | VISTA PANORÂMICA SOBRE A CIDADE
From here one can see the *Mondego* river and the upland of *Santa Clara*. It is easy to understand that, in fact, from the wall one had a clear view of the surroundings and that would easily allow to anticipate the arrival of the enemy.
COORDINATES: 40.206594, -8.427159

6. WALL SECTION (COUREIRA DA ESTRELA) | TROÇO DA MURALHA (COUREIRA DA ESTRELA)
Here one can see a section of reinforcement to the old wall and the architectural detail of the cylindrical buttresses that still help to support the *Coureira da Estrela*, a slope that connects the *Baixa* to the *Coureira de Lisboa*.
COORDINATES: 40.206682, -8.428247

7. BELCOUCE GATE AND TOWER | PORTA E TORRE DE BELCOUCE
Built by *King Sancho I*, in 1209, it was demolished on the founding of the *St. Anthony's College of the Estrela* of the *Order of Saint Francis*, in 1715. A small part of the tower was taken to the tower room with a terrace. The current building was designed by the architect *Raúl Lino*, to be a hotel unit, which never happened. After being occupied by a factory, it was modified and adapted to the residence of *Ángelo da Fonseca* family, its owners. The property has been leased to different institutions, namely the Portuguese State, which had the district delegation of the *Civil Government* installed here for many years, until its extinction.
COORDINATES: 40.207146, -8.428859

8. DEVICE TOWER - D. JOANA TOWER | TORRE DO ENGENHO - TORRE D. JOANA
These two towers were part of a set of at least four towers which, together with the *Barbican* (a second curtain wall), were built to reinforce the defence in the nearest walled area of the suburb. The name of *Device Tower* is because inside the tower there was the defensive device called *trebuchet* (war machine).
COORDINATES: 40.208777, -8.428626

9. ALMEDINA TOWER AND ARCH | WALLED CITY INTERPRETATIVE CENTRE | TORRE E ARCO DE ALMEDINA | NÚCLEO DA CIDADE MURALHADA
Main gate of the walls of the city of *Coimbra*, whose foundations date back to the time of Islamic occupation. Over the centuries it has been under several renovation and restoration, particularly in the 16th century, when it received the top addition to be used as the *Aldermen House* and is therefore also known as the *Relation Tower*. Nowadays hosts the *Walled City Interpretative Centre*, whose purpose is the recovery of the existence of the wall, in the collective memory, demonstrating its defining influence on the urban organization of the city.
COORDINATES: 40.208950, -8.428902

10. BARBICAN ARCH | ARCO DA BARBACÃ
Built in the Manueline period (16th century) it is a pointed arch that constituted the entrance to a second defensive enclosure, serving as reinforcement to the city wall. On the upper face of the arch, it has a sculpture of the *Virgin with the Child*, attributed to *Jean of Rouen*, with the *Portuguese royal shield* below.
COORDINATES: 40.208950, -8.428902

11. SUB-RIPAS HOUSE | CONTENTA TOWER | CASA DE SUB-RIPAS | TORRE DA CONTENTA
Old defensive tower of the city wall, adapted to a residence in the 16th century, and bought by *João Vaz*, who later also buys the buildings on the opposite side of the street, joining them through a walkway arch. Particularly noteworthy are the Manueline portal, of the first half of the 16th century, and the profusion of bas-reliefs attributed to *Jean of Rouen* ateliers that were in the area.
COORDINATES: 40.209491, -8.428337

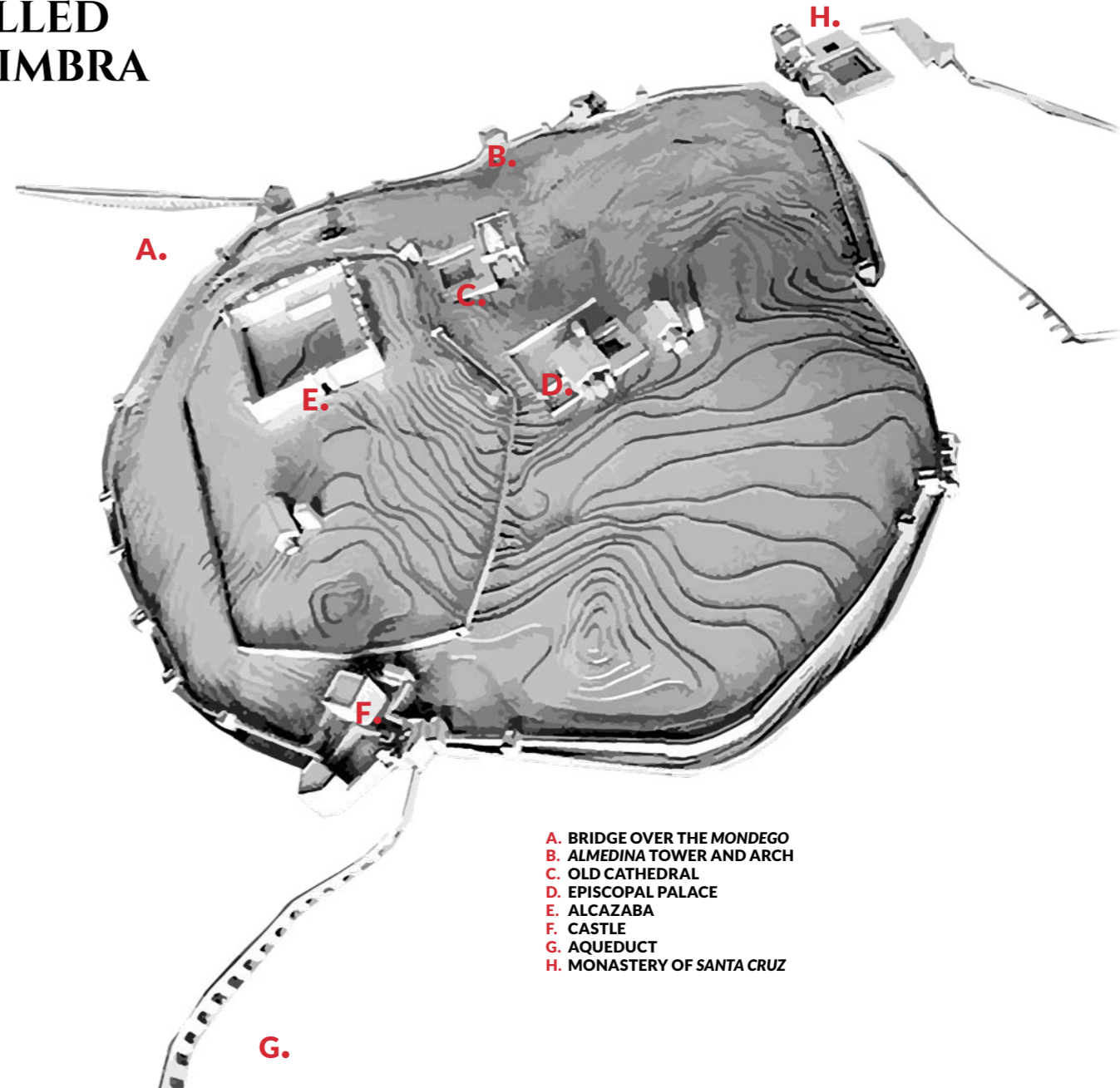
12. ANTO TOWER | COIMBRA GUITAR AND FADO INTERPRETATIVE CENTRE | TORRE DE ANTO | NÚCLEO DA GUITARRA E DO FADO DE COIMBRA
Tower of medieval origin integrated in the old wall of *Coimbra*, which still holds a bit of the wall walk. During the 16th century it was adapted to a

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

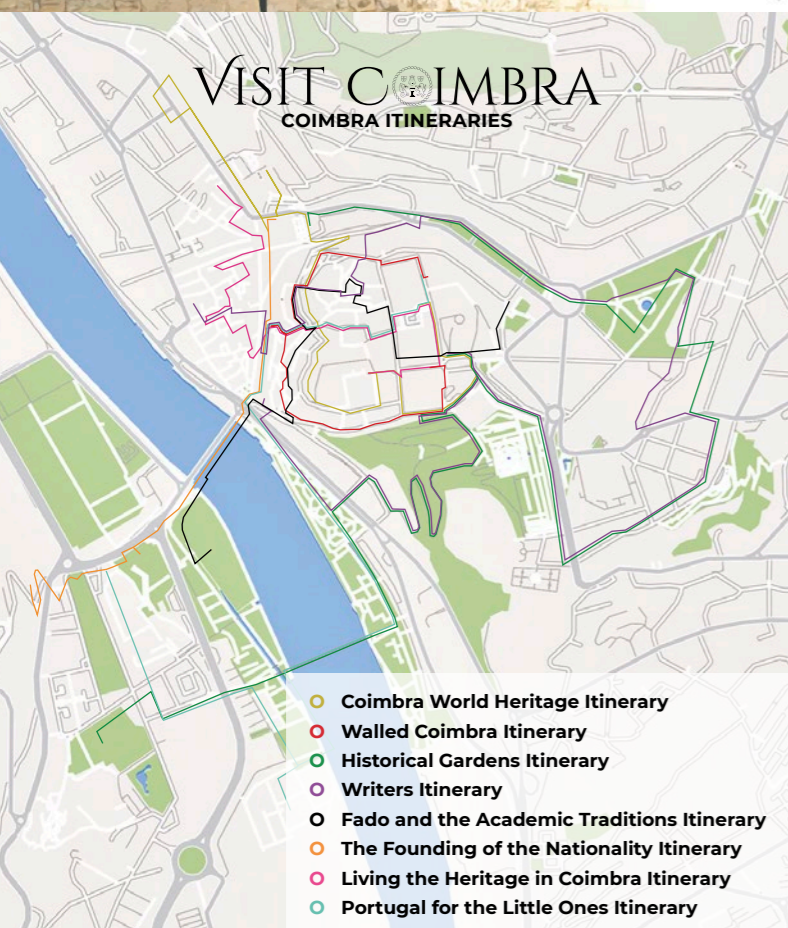
13. APOSTLES COUREIRA AND ST. AUGUSTINE FENSE | COUREIRA DOS APÓSTOLOS E CERCA DE SANTO AGOSTINHO
Going up *Rua do Colégio Novo* is easily visible a section of the old medieval wall of *Coimbra* that supports part of the *Coureira dos Apóstolos*. The *Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences*, whose building dates from the 16th century, was first built to be the *Saint Augustine's College*; this construction took advantage of part of the wall of *Coimbra*.
COORDINATES: 40.210668, -8.427123

14. CHIMICO TOWERS | TORRES DO CHIMICO
On the backside of the old *Chemistry Laboratory*, today the *Science Museum of the University of Coimbra*, one can see part of the old medieval wall, as well as identify two old watchtowers.
COORDINATES: 40.210085, -8.423552

WALLED
COIMBRA



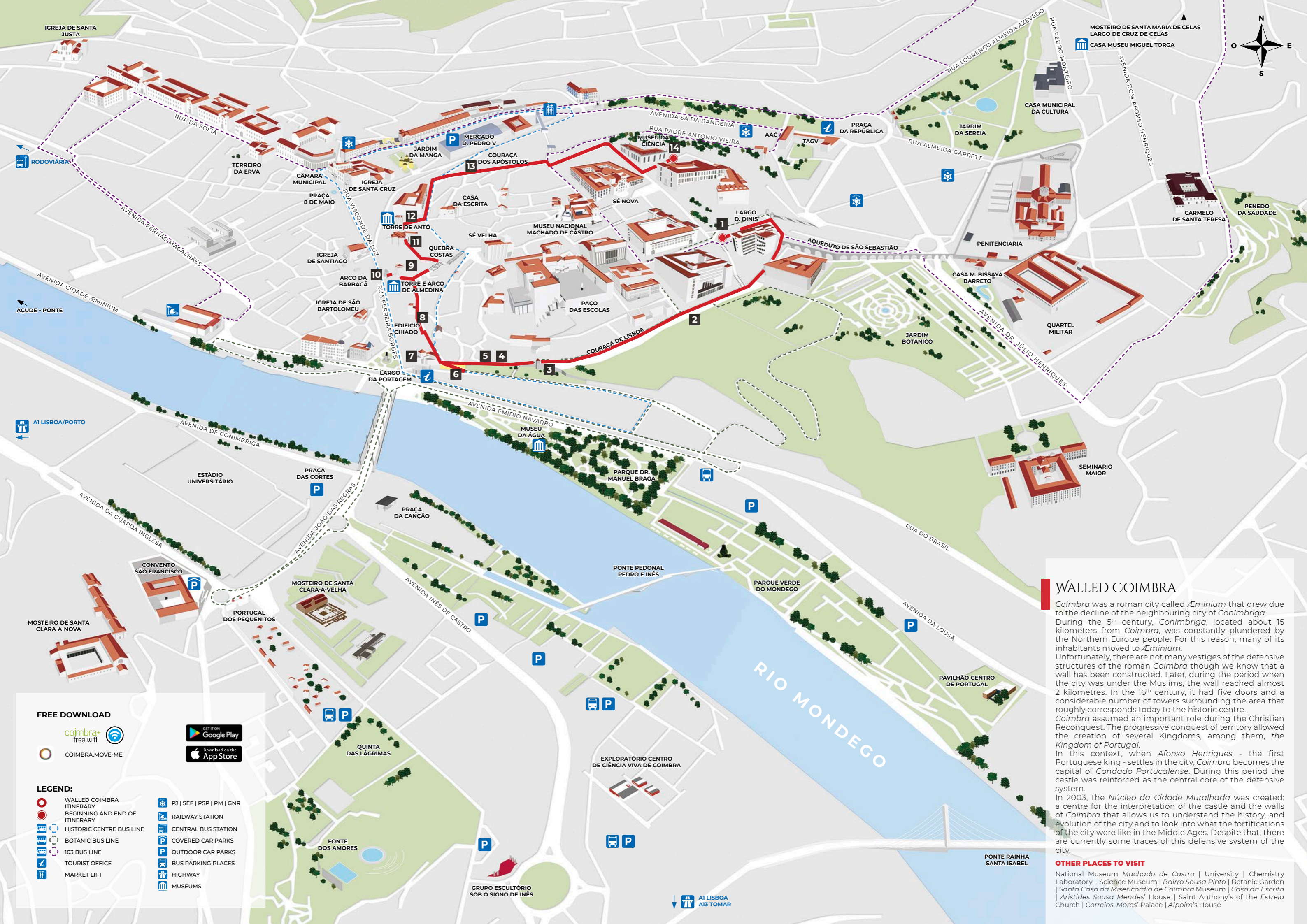
- A. BRIDGE OVER THE MONDEGO
- B. ALMEDINA TOWER AND ARCH
- C. OLD CATHEDRAL
- D. EPISCOPAL PALACE
- E. ALCAZABA
- F. CASTLE
- G. AQUEDUCT
- H. MONASTERY OF SANTA CRUZ



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WALLED COIMBRA

Coimbra was a roman city called *Aeminium* that grew due to the decline of the neighbouring city of *Conimbriga*. During the 5th century, *Conimbriga*, located about 15 kilometers from *Coimbra*, was constantly plundered by the Northern Europe people. For this reason, many of its inhabitants moved to *Aeminium*. Unfortunately, there are not many vestiges of the defensive structures of the roman *Coimbra* though we know that a wall has been constructed. Later, during the period when the city was under the Muslims, the wall reached almost 2 kilometres. In the 16th century, it had five doors and a considerable number of towers surrounding the area that roughly corresponds today to the historic centre. *Coimbra* assumed an important role during the Christian Reconquest. The progressive conquest of territory allowed the creation of several Kingdoms, among them, the *Kingdom of Portugal*. In this context, when *Afonso Henriques* - the first Portuguese king - settles in the city, *Coimbra* becomes the capital of *Condado Portucalense*. During this period the castle was reinforced as the central core of the defensive system. In 2003, the *Núcleo da Cidade Muralhada* was created: a centre for the interpretation of the castle and the walls of *Coimbra* that allows us to understand the history, and evolution of the city and to look into what the fortifications of the city were like in the Middle Ages. Despite that, there are currently some traces of this defensive system of the city.

OTHER PLACES TO VISIT
 National Museum *Machado de Castro* | University | Chemistry Laboratory - Science Museum | *Bairro Sousa Pinto* | Botanic Garden | *Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Coimbra* Museum | *Casa da Escrita* | *Aristides Sousa Mendes' House* | Saint Anthony's of the *Estrela Church* | *Correios-Mores' Palace* | *Alpoim's House*

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