

Built in the first half of the 19th century, in the historic center of the town, for residence of the Costa Lima family, this palace, despite unfinished, it was a bold building for the era. Inspired by the romantic style, it denotes some Moorish features on its façade. The façade has large dimensions and contains doors and dozens of windows that reveal its splendor. Inside, the magnificent hall stands out, with its vaulted entrance followed by a colossal staircase to the first floor, lined with painted plaster and worked marble and illuminated with the palace's three skylights.

Municipal Library – Rojão Palace



Archbishop of Évora. Miguel de Sousa (his real surname was Távora), then of Santo António in 1752 by dispatch of D. Friar which ends up leading to the institution of the parish Square there was a strong housing and urban core, Around this hermitage and the Santo António's stopped going to the village of Caridade to worship. because of its existence the local residents and porch, but of great importance to the locality, António, small, narrow and equipped with a chancel this square it was located the hermitage of Santo Square (Lower Reguengos) was the village center. In Reguengos and Lower Reguengos, Santo António's

Santo António's Square



its roots go back to 1887, with the determination of the Parish Council of Reguengos to build a church close to the new Town Hall. After the deliberation of the Parish Council, which had the donation of 14 contos de réis that Manuel Augusto Mendes Papança left in his will, the project was entrusted to architect António José Dias da Silva (designer of Campo Pequeno's bull ring arena), which designed the building with the romantic spirit of the Gothic-Manueline period. The first stone would be laid on the 27th of October 1887. On the 25th of August 1912 it was inaugurated.

Santo António's Mother Church



City Park



Mestre Batista's Museum



Victor Martelo Public Pool



Rojão Palace – Art Galleries

Outros pontos de interesse em Reguengos de Monsaraz

Built and inaugurated in 1932, designed by sculptor Costa Mota, in homage to a distinguished a local personality to whom a good part of the enlargement and development of the municipality is accredited. Manuel Augusto Mendes Papança begins his functions as President of this Municipality at the beginning of 1852, one of his first actions was a payment of 8 thousand réis (réis = current currency at the time) to the National Treasury. For 20 years he endowed the village of basic buildings for its development, as well as urban improvements with the goal of improving accessible routes and supply methods to the municipality.

Bronze Bust

Manuel Augusto Papança's



New Town Hall

In 1869, Manuel Augusto Mendes Papança, then President of the Town Hall, inaugurated, after years of constant and aggressive changes of plans and locations, the new Town Hall of Reguengos. Work carried out in the neoclassical style, in the, also new, Praga da Liberdade (Liberty Square), which would occupy gradually the administrative and social center of the new village. It should be noted that the symmetry of the main façade of the building presents a taste of classical antiquity, where, under a triangular front supported by columns and perfect back arches, is the coat of arms of the county.



A Look on The County

In the County of Évora, the town of Reguengos de Monsaraz stands out, whose magnificent setting on the Alentejo plain and in the blue waters of the Alqueva reservoir make it a tourist destination of reference in the region.

Bordered by the Counties of Redondo and Alandroal to the north, Mourão to the east, Moura and Portel to the south and Évora to the west, the town of Reguengos de Monsaraz is located in a predominantly agricultural region, which constraints the livelihoods associated to agriculture - essentially extensive farming of cereals, olive and vineyard.

The climate, typically Mediterranean, with hot, dry summers and short rainy winters, characterizes the vegetation, wildlife, landscape and the people of this region.

Thus, Reguengos de Monsaraz offers exceptional environmental conditions that encourage the enjoyment of outdoor activities in contact with nature, such as boating, hiking or horse riding through dirt roads, hunting, fishing...

Here you can also enjoy a trip back in time to wander through the historic medieval village of Monsaraz and visit several archaeological remains of megalithic monuments throughout the County. Mainly located in the Parish of Monsaraz, some of them are worthy of emphasis at a European level.

In addition to a rich historical heritage and a striking landscape, the County holds a strong identity characterized by traditional customs and practices, which are reflected in the cuisine, wines and arts and crafts, most notably in São Pedro do Corval, Portugal's largest pottery centre.

In autumn and winter, the traditional festivals of the villages and the medieval town of Monsaraz take on particular importance, such as the Festival in Honor of Senhor Jesus dos Passos (September) as well as the nativity scene with life-size figures in the streets and the singing of Janeiras in Monsaraz (december and first days of january).

Reguengos de Monsaraz

By the XVIII century, Reguengos unfolded into two villages, the Upper and Lower, and in the latter there was a hermitage dedicated to St. Anthony. Then these villages underwent a major urban and demographic boost, especially the core formed around the hermitage of St. Anthony, which became evident in the actions of its inhabitants regarding pastoralism, woolen and farming of vineyards. These actions were definitive for the dismemberment of the villages of Reguengos regarding the parish of Caridade, which led, in 1752, to the request for the establishment of the new parish of Santo António dos Reguengos, which would be established later that year.

In the following century, the economic boom of the villages of Reguengos - due to the operation of the wool factory, founded by José Maria Papança, and the allotment of lands on the outskirts of Reguengos and its wide distribution by the old trustees of the House of Braganza - was a force of technical progress and development of the village which, along with the growth of the population, is one of the administrative bases that led to the first transfer of the County's seat from Monsaraz to Aldeia dos Reguengos, on April 17, 1838. However, the disputes between Monsaraz and Vila Nova dos Reguengos – established back then by Charter of Queen D. Maria II (1840) for services rendered by the inhabitants of Reguengos to her cause – only ceased in 1851, when the County's seat was definitely established in Vila Nova dos Reguengos, putting an end to the successive changes that occurred during this period. This is the turning point for the people of Vila Nova dos Reguengos.

In 1852, he appears with his own administration and it's the beginning of the first term of office of Manuel Augusto Mendes Papança, the greatest personality of the County (was Mayor from 1852-1865, 1868-1871 and 1876-1877). It's during the term of office of Manuel Augusto Mendes Papança, that the village undergoes great urban changes. Soon after, new long streets were built, the ancient paths were adapted and the village received a new centre. In fact, the main centre of the village moved from Praça

de Santo António to Praça da Liberdade, where the new Paços do Concelho was built (opened in 1869). It was also in this square that the new church was built, whose project of António José Dias da Silva dates from 1887.

Other buildings essential for the operation of Vila Nova dos Reguengos were built, such as the Hospital (1871), new wells in several locations of the village, the Municipal Slaughterhouse (1871), the Cemetery (1866) and the paving of the streets (1871). The urban outbreak was duly accompanied by agricultural development and the establishment of textile, wine and olive growing industries.

The Mayor, Manuel Papança, was one of the promoters of this project, creating a Commission of large landowners to purchase a large area of land from House of Braganza in Reguengos, to divide it into plots of land, to distribute them by the population at low costs, given the condition of the plantation of vineyards (1 million vines were planted) prodigiously developing wine production in this region.

This expansion of the late XIX century helped to unify the cores of the Upper and Lower Reguengos. Arising from the century change is the emergence of industrial units, such as grain mills and the new power station (1904), which were adapted into old abandoned buildings.

In the beginning of the century and accompanying this industrial growth, the train station would revolutionize the transport of people and goods and mainly expand the core of the village with a connecting road that would gradually be surrounded by houses. On December 9, 2004, Reguengos de Monsaraz is elevated to the administrative status of town.

The Municipality of Reguengos de Monsaraz recommends discovering our municipality using digital media.



VisitReguengos





Astrotourism

The region around the Alqueva, the Great Lake, was the first destination in the world to receive the distinction through the quality certification “Starlight Tourism Destination”, granted by the Foundation Starlight, with the support of the United Nations Organization for Education, Science and Culture (UNESCO, the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and the Astrophysical Institute of the Canary Islands (IAC). With a night sky that holds unique particularities for the practice of Astrotourism, the Municipality of Reguengos de Monsaraz becomes a window to the universe, with na invaluable scientic and cultural knowledge.



Monsaraz

Monsaraz has the ability to make us retreat in time and look at the history of Portugal, the region and county, showing the diferente stages through which its people passed until the today. For those who venture out to discover narrow streets, sunny nooks and crannies or high spots, the feeling of dazzle and surprise caused by the magnificent and traditional landscape now enriched by the beauty of the Alqueva, the Great Lake.



The Great Lake Alqueva

The reservoir of the Alqueva dam, with its 250 km² of surface, 83 km long and more than 1,100 km of margins, emerges as the largest artificial lake in Europe. Along the more than 200 km of banks in the county, you can enjoy nautical activities and unforgettable boat rides among hundreds of islands and corners of the immense lake. The river beach of Monsaraz, located near the Nautical Center of Monsaraz and the first beach on the Great Lake Alqueva, is considered as a "Blue Flag Beach", "Accessible Beach" and "Healthy Beach".



Landscape and Nature

In the diversity and abundance (?) in which a symbiosis of smells that change according to the seasons of the year, diferente sonorities can be discovered due to the native and migratory fauna that can be seen throughout the region, especially near the Great Lake Alqueva. In terms of landscape, the municipality is marked by the differences of the region of Monsaraz compared to the remaining ones. In this one, the recent presence of the Great Lake Alqueva marks the landscape, giving Monsaraz an additional captivating beauty. On the other hand, the plains sometimes slightly bumpy, are the reality of mostly the rest of the county.



Wines and Enotourism

Among vines, cellars and wine vats, all experiences related to vineyards and wine are part of the millenary history and culture of the Municipality of Reguengos de Monsaraz, where the vineyards are interrupted by megaliths monuments, hermitages and centuries-old structures. Undoubtedly, this is a region that has developed its wine production over the millennium, which led to what we are today: The Wine Capital of Portugal is a region that produces some of the best wines in the world, being known through the presence of its wines in more than fifty countries spread across the five continents, as well as the presence of several producers in the municipality proving their excelency in the world of wines and wine tourism.



Gastronomy

In the lands of our municipality, it is perfect the relationship between regional dishes created by the people who live here and the wines produced by us, both enriched by the influences of a climate with accentuated characteristics throughout the year. The gastronomy of this region is a reflection of the wise use and combination of aromatic herbs, olive oil and bread. Consequently, the presence of the traditional Alentejo bread, the olives, cheese and sausages is mandatory. The Açordas, migas (bread crumbs), silarcas, fava beans stew, pork migas (crumbs), lamb stew and hunting dishes, all of them of excellent quality and extraordinary confection. To complete, finish with the famous conventional sweets with eggs, sugar, almonds and walnuts. To all this add the wines from the region and you will have the perfect combination for a get to know our lands and our people in depth.



Blankets of Reguengos

The manufacture of the Manta do Alentejo (Alentejo Blankets) on maneuvered looms by the talented weavers eternalizes the patterns of Arab origin, reproducing the most vivid colors of the region's spring fields. The Alentejo blankets were first used by shepherds to protect themselves from the cold, but nowadays they are used in the most diverse purposes. This art, symbol of Alentejo culture and the authenticity that distinguishes it, results in a noble product that delights craft lovers and traditions of Reguengos de Monsaraz.



Pottery in São Pedro do Corval

The tradition of ceramics in São Pedro do Corval, the Largest Pottery Center in Portugal, and one of the largest of the Iberian peninsula, dates back to prehistoric times. Between pots, potters' wheels and kilns we can discover unique utility pieces, from traditional to modern, that transport us to ancient times in which clay was molded to the needs of the works of the fields and of the humble lives in Alentejo, making us understand how tradition evolves over time.



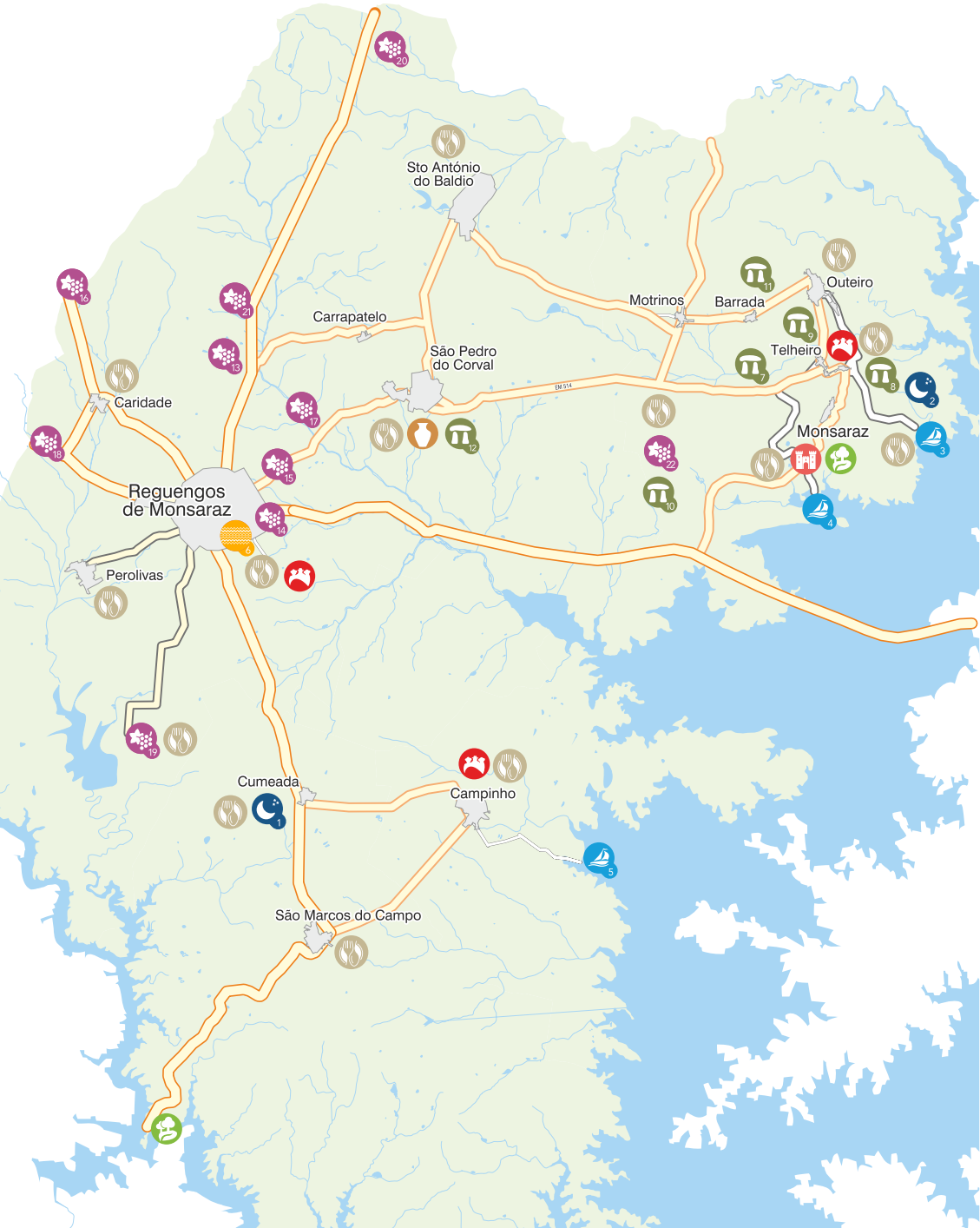
History and megalithism

The municipality of Reguengos de Monsaraz is a testament to man's age-old interest in region. From dolmen to cromlechs, not forgetting the menhirs (isolated or in groups), the municipality is the privileged heir to more than 150 archaeological finds that were left by our ancestors, who lived here more than 6000 years ago. These lands, which were once some of the most densely populated from prehistoric times, promise a unique experience for lovers of history and archeology.



Cante Alentejano

The Cante Alentejano, distinguished as Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO, is part of the strongest traditions of the Alentejo, and also from the municipality of Reguengos de Monsaraz. Cante Alentejano has always been closely associated to field work and thanks to the peasants there was a constant passage from generations of this importante tradition that still exists today in the municipality of Reguengos de Monsaraz. In addition to expressions of Cante Alentejano in the countryside, at home women took the opportunity to express themselves and to continue this important demonstration of culture that distinguishes the Alentejo people.



Astrotourism

- 1 Observatório Oficial Dark Sky® Alqueva
- 2 OLA - Observatório Lago Alqueva



The Great Lake Alqueva

- 3 Fluvial Beach of Monsaraz e Nautical Center
- 4 Quay Berth of Monsaraz
- 5 Quay Berth And Picnic Area Of Campinho



Blankets of Reguengos

- 6 Fabricaal - Fábrica Alentejana de Lanifícios



History and Megalithism

- 7 Dolmens 1 And 2 of Olival Da Pega
- 8 Cromlech of Xerez
- 9 Menhir of Belhoa
- 10 Menhir of Barrocal
- 11 Menhir of Outeiro
- 12 Rocha dos Namorados (Lovers' Rock)



Wines and Enotourism

- 13 Adega do Calisto
- 14 Adega José de Sousa
- 15 CARMIM
- 16 Casa de Sabicos
- 17 Elite Vinhos
- 18 Ervideira
- 19 Esporão
- 20 Monte das Serras
- 21 Monte dos Perdigões
- 22 São Lourenço do Barrocal



Monsaraz



Landscape and Nature



Pottery in São Pedro do Corval



Gastronomy



Cante Alentejano



turismo@cm-reguengos-monsaraz.pt