

Lisbon

Like the seven sun-dappled hills that overlook the sparkling Rio Tejo, Lisbon has had its ups and downs. But today it's positively thriving. We've combed the cobbled streets to find the best *bacalhau* and the creamiest *pastéis de nata* and discovered daringly modern architecture among red-tiled townhouses and baroque churches. Allow us to guide you through this eminently liveable (did we mention there are sandy beaches?) and fast-changing city.

Need to know

Get to grips with the basics

- 01 **Find your way:** Use Lisbon's legendary seven hills to orient yourself. In the centre with the river behind you? Príncipe Real and Bairro Alto are on the São Roque hill to your left, while Alfama and Castelo are on the Graça and São Jorge hills to your right.
- 02 **Best foot forward:** Exploring the city on foot? Steep inclines combined with Lisbon's pretty but precarious cobbled streets mean that comfortable shoes are a must.
- 03 **Beach bound:** Take the short drive over the Ponte 25 de Abril to the 15km of surf beaches and bars on Costa da Caparica, a lively resort that's adored by the Portuguese but virtually unknown by tourists.
- 04 **Little and often:** Add a couple of euros to your bill in *tascas* and *café*s and 10 per cent in more upmarket venues. It's customary to round up taxi fares too.
- 05 **Midnight feast:** It's normal to dine quite late here: most people meet for pre-dinner drinks at 20.00 and have dinner at 21.00, although some restaurants serve until 23.00 or even later.

Hotels

Get a room

- 1 Casa C'Alma, Príncipe Real
Eye for design

Casa C'Alma's interiors come courtesy of Lisbon-based Arkstudio and combine Portuguese tradition and Scandinavian design. Each of the five bedrooms has a distinct character.

48 *Praça das Flores*, 1200-192
+351 919 430 494
acasacalma.com

- 2 Santa Clara 1728, São Vicente
Royal flush

Every fixture in this light-drenched hotel has been carefully considered, from the freestanding Portuguese stone baths to the pinewood floors.

128 *Campo de Santa Clara*, 1100-473
+351 934 418 316
santaclarat1728.com

- 3 Palácio Belmonte, Castelo
Secret history

The 15th-century Palácio Belmonte is a listed national monument. A combination of old and new runs throughout the 10 suites.

14 *Pátio Dom Fradique*, 1100-624
+351 21 881 6600
palaciobelmonte.com

Food and drink

Stepping up to the plate

- 1 Bistro 100 Maneiras, Chiado
It takes two

Spread across two floors of an art deco-style mansion in Lisbon's upmarket Chiado, the white-walled Bistro 100 Maneiras serves painterly dishes with Portuguese, Yugoslavian, Italian and French influences.

9 *Largo da Trindade*, 1200-466
+351 910 307 575
100maneiras.com/bistro

- 2 Bairro do Avillez, Chiado
Portuguese provenance

Chef José Avillez sources Portuguese ingredients, serving them with both reference to traditional approaches and a much-refined palate. Seafood and fish predominate and the lobster-and-crab rice is exemplary.

18 *Rua Nova da Trindade*, 1200-303
+351 21 583 0290
bairrodoavillez.pt

- 3 Tapisco, Bairro Alto
Dining car

The long room offers both table and bar seats and is reminiscent of a railway lounge, with industrial lighting and red-leather upholstery. The name is a play on *tapas* and *petiscos* (the Portuguese word for snacks taken with drinks).

81 *Rua Dom Pedro V*, 1250-093
1351 21 342 0681
tapisco.pt

- 4 Hello, Kristof, Santa Catarina
Say hi

Along with coffee you'll find breakfast offerings, a selection of homemade cakes and a range of toasts topped with ingredients such as avocado and smoked salmon. There's also a back wall dedicated to international magazines.

103 *Rua do Poço dos Negros*, 1200-336
hellokristof.com

- 5 Park Bar, Bairro Alto
Blue-sky thinking

Lisbon's original rooftop bar can be tricky to find, situated as it is on the roof of a municipal car park. But it's worth searching for. There's a friendly atmosphere thanks to a mix of local and international guests and DJs and the bar serves cocktails, wine and beer, as well as various snacks.

58 *Calçada do Combro*, 1200-115
+351 21 591 4011

Retail

Bringing the old and the new

- 1 A Vida Portuguesa, Anjos
Good for gifts

Chock-full of beautiful Portuguese-made products – from port to preserves, soap to stationery, kitchenware to shoes – Catarina Portas's alluring shops are unrivalled for souvenir-hunting and personal treats.

23 *Largo do Intendente Pina Manique*, 1100-285
+351 21 197 4512
avidaportuguesa.com

- 2 Cortiço & Netos, Graça
Piles of tiles

Displayed on simple pine shelves in a pixelated patchwork, the ever-expanding collection now includes more than 300 different patterns and millions of square metres of tiles, which are sold both individually and in batches.

66 *Calçada de Santo André*, 1100-497
+351 21 136 2376
corticoenetos.com

- 3 Casa Pau-Brasil, Príncipe Real
Brazil in Lisbon

A celebration of Brazil in the capital, Casa Pau-Brasil features some 20 brands from the South American country. The colourful products on offer include Granado soaps and Nina Write notepaper, or full-on *carioca* classics in-the-making, such as furniture by Jader Almeida.

42 *Rua da Escola Politécnica*, 1250-096
+351 21 342 0954

- 4 Mini by Luna, Príncipe Real
Woman's touch

This attractive shop, complete with a garden, has been treating women and children to the finer things in life since 2012. The womenswear range includes pieces by Pomandère, Anniel, Polder and American Vintage.

74 *Rua Dom Pedro V*, 1250-094
+351 21 346 5161
mimibyluna.com

Vocabulary

Talking the talk

- 01 **Obrigado:** Thank you (women say *obrigada*)
- 02 **Bom dia:** Good morning
- 03 **Boa tarde/noite:** Good afternoon/night
- 04 **Bica:** Espresso
- 05 **Imperial:** Small draft beer
- 06 **Tudo bem?** Literally, "Everything well?"
- 07 **A conta:** The bill
- 08 **Lanche:** Not lunch, not dinner but that vital late-afternoon snack



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