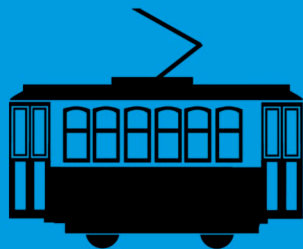


the pico guide to lisbon



things to do



drink a *ginginha* (sour cherry liqueur) at any of the tiny places around rossio square that specialize in this drink.



eat a grilled *sardinha* (sardine). in the summer-time, you'll find them everywhere. in the off season, buy them canned in a myriad of seasonings and colorful tins.



portuguese wines are still a well-kept secret. from the unique *vinho verde* (green wine) to refreshing *brancos* (whites) to bold *tintos* (reds), the range and quality of local wines will impress the most demanding wine lover.



eat *bacalhau* (salted cod). it is, without a doubt, the most beloved portuguese dish and many people here will proudly swear there's over a thousand recipes for cod. you'll find at least one cod dish in most restaurant menus.



order a *feijoada* (bean stew with different cuts of meat and sausages), the classic portuguese comfort food. it's nourishing but heavy, which is why it's best eaten at lunch time.



try *azeite* (olive oil), unquestionably one of the best in the world. any good grocery store will sell a wide variety of high quality but very affordable olive oil.



eat a *pastel de nata* (custard tart) because no visit to lisbon is complete unless you have tried this heavenly pastry.



snack on a *pão de deus* (god's bread), a brioche style roll topped with coconut and just the right amount of sweetness. have it plain or with cheese and ham.



order a *sopa* (soup) and start your meal in classical portuguese style. the most famous is *caldo verde* (kale and potato soup with slices of sausage), but *açorda* (garlicky bread soup with fish or seafood), *canja* (chicken broth), and a long list of hearty vegetable soups are all integral part of the local cuisine.



eat a *prego* (beef sandwich) or a *bifana* (pork steak sandwich) and...



...wash it down with an ice cold *imperial* (20 cl tap beer).



drink a *bica* (espresso), a *pingado* (espresso with a drop of milk), a *meia-de-leite* (latte) or a *café com cheirinho* (espresso with a drop of liquor) and you'll understand why the portuguese don't mess around when it comes to drinking coffee.



enjoy the music. *fado* (fate) is an old musical form, but it's still being sung by singers like camané and carminho. for a more contemporary sound, look for names like 'dead combo', 'a naifa' or rodrigo leão, a former member of 'madredeus'.



walk. despite its hilly terrain, lisbon is a compact city and most of the sights are within walking distance from each other. a stroll through alfama, lisbon's oldest quarter, should not be missed.



admire the *azulejos* (tiles). you won't have to go far to see them since many building facades are richly decorated with tiles. if you want to know more about their history, don't miss the stunningly beautiful tile museum.



look where you're walking, you may be stepping on art. thanks to an undying love for the *calçada portuguesa* (portuguese cobblestone), lisbon's sidewalks are full of exquisite flourish designs.



for little more than 1€, you can literally travel through some of the most celebrated portuguese public art of the last decades. all you have to do is get on the subway and explore the wonderfully decorated stations.



go to the gulbenkian foundation, visit their two art museums, then stroll through its modernist garden, a quiet oasis amid the bustle of lisbon.



visit the *casa das bicos* (the house of spikes). built in the 16th century, its unusual facade makes it one of lisbon's iconic buildings. it is the home of the josé saramago foundation dedicated to the nobel literature laureate.



take the tram 28 and cross the city. along the way, you'll have the chance to catch a glimpse of different neighborhoods. the last stop is the poetically named 'cemetery of pleasures'.



every year, lisbon welcomes many luxury cruises, but a much cheaper option (1-3€) is to get on one of the city's ferries and take in the superb views of lisbon from the tagus river.



stop by one of the many city's street *quiosques* (kiosks) for a snack or a drink and watch as *alfacinhas* (the inhabitants of lisbon) go about their daily lives.