DOURO
Comunidade Intermunicipal
VILA REAL
www.discoverdouro.pt

Vila Real

A city that combines history and contemporaneity, with a privileged geographical location in northern Portugal, near the border with Galicia, serving as a gateway to the Douro, World Heritage site.

The scientific knowledge and research that emanate from the University of Trás-os--Montes and Alto Douro and the green spaces and protected areas of great environmental value make Vila Real a privileged destination for academia and biodiversity. For those seeking moments of pure adrenaline, the speed and sound of vibrating sports engines take place at the legendary Vila Real International Circuit.

For more relaxing and laid-back moments, the new Pedestrian Routes provide the discovery of some of the most idyllic places and breathtaking landscapes. Its gastronomy has a taste of memory and quality products, nationally and internationally recognized.

The Black Pottery of Bisalhães, Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity; the Corgo Natural Trails, and the museum unit of the Biel Power Station make Vila Real an even more unique destination. Also noteworthy are the five national monuments in the municipality: House of Mateus, Chapel of S. Brás, Rupestrian Sanctuary of Panoias, Vila Real Cathedral, and Quintela Tower.

Discover the city you see and feel!

TOP 10 to visit

1. House of Mateus

Tourist reference of Baroque architecture, the emblematic and historic House of Mateus, originating from the 18th century and attributed to Nicolau Nasoni, allows visitors to travel through time and learn about various periods of Portugal, Europe, and the world's history. From its library and permanent exhibition to the valuable museum collection, chapel, and lush gardens, there are plenty of reasons to visit this landmark of Vila Real's architecture and landscape.

EN322 | 5000-291 Vila Real
GPS: 41.297647, -7.713509

Op. Hours: Mon to Fri | 9h-18h30
Sat and Sun | 9h-19h00

+351 259 323 121 / visitas@casademateus.pt
www.casademateus.pt

TOP 10 to visit

2. "Covilhete"

"Covilhetes" are intrinsically linked to the gastronomy of Vila Real, with roots dating back to the 19th century and to the traditional festivities of Popular Saints. They got their name from the small forms of black clay where they were originally made.

This product, now available at various points of sale, incorporates and highlights the "maronesa" beef, typical from the Alvão Natural Park, being one of the city's reference delicacies.

The "Covilhete" is part of the Vila Real Table, elected one of the 7 Wonders of the Table of Portugal, in 2018.

+351 259 308 170 / animatur@cm-vilareal.pt
www.cm-vilareal.pt

TOP 10 to visit

3. Rooster Combs

Having changed its name from Lard Pastries or Vila Real Pastries to Rooster Combs, this traditional sweet with a filling made of almonds and eggs has its origin on a creation of the nuns from the Convent of Our Lady of Amparo, belonging to the Order of Saint Clare.

The "Cristas", now considered one of the most representative specialties of Vila Real's conventual pastry, were recognized as one of the 7 Wonders of Portuguese Sweets in 2019.

+351 259 308 170 / animatur@cm-vilareal.pt
www.cm-vilareal.pt

TOP 10 to visit

4. Bisalhães Black Clay

Intangible Cultural Heritage in Urgent Need of Safeguarding by UNESCO, the Bisalhães Black Clay represents an ancient tradition of producing utilitarian and decorative pottery, passed down through generations and now endangered due to the scarce number of artisans.

The firing process takes place in an open ground kiln. Once the pieces are arranged, they are covered with green pine branches, which are set on fire. The fire is smothered with twigs, moss, and earth to prevent the release of smoke and to achieve the characteristic black color.

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www.cm-vilareal.pt

TOP 10 to visit

5. Corgo Natural Trails

The Corgo Natural Trails are part of a geologically significant fault, comprising a route of about 1 kilometer, between the Blacksmiths Neighborhood and the Old Town, in the center of Vila Real. This section is part of an ongoing project that aims to connect the urban environment to the UTAD Eco Campus and Botanical Garden through the Corgo Park, featuring a path characterized by natural beauty and biodiversity. This route will eventually become part of the museum space of the Biel Power Station.

+351 259 308 170 / animatur@cm-vilareal.pt
www.cm-vilareal.pt

TOP 10 to visit

6. Corgo Park

Easily accessible and in the heart of Vila Real's urban center, the Corgo Park is situated on the banks of the river from which it takes its name, favoring the practice of various sports and leisure activities. Throughout its entire length, there are multi sports facilities, pedestrian trails, municipal pools, playgrounds, picnic areas, cafes, a maintenance circuit, as well as some recovered structures of old mills that were there.

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www.cm-vilareal.pt

TOP 10 to visit

7. Theater and Café-Concert

Host to numerous events, the Vila Real Theater is part of a modern complex located on the banks of the Corgo Park. It comprises three auditoriums, one of which is outdoors, a café-concert, an exhibition hall, a gallery--bar, two rehearsal rooms and technical areas, in addition to the Museum of Sound and Image.

Its multiple resources allow it to present large-scale, high-quality, and diverse shows, ensuring a cultural offer of recognized merit.

Alameda de Grasse 15B | 5000-703 Vila Real
GPS: 41.298835, -7.734405

Theater Op. Hours: Tue to Thu | 14h-24h
Fri and Sat | 14h-2h
Sun, Mon and Holidays | 14h-20h

Café-Concert Op. Hours: Mon to Sun | 14h-2h

+351 259 320 000 / geral@teatrovilareal.com
www.teatrovilareal.com

TOP 10 to visit

8. Old Town Museum

This museum, with its unique architecture, is located in a historically and scenically significant area, where the city of Vila Real originated. It is the result of archaeological campaigns carried out in recent years in the Old Town, comprising two exhibition spaces.

In its surroundings, there are also two visitable archaeological areas: the Town's Gates structure and the urban fabric remains on S. Dinis Street.

Rua de Trás-os-Muros | 5000-657 Vila Real
GPS: 41.292843, -7.745853

Op. Hours: Tue to Sun | 9h30-12h30 / 14h-17h

+351 259 308 178 / mvv@cm-vilareal.pt
mvv.cm-vilareal.pt

TOP 10 to visit

9. Museum of Archaeology and Numismatics

This Museum, housed in an eighteenth-century building, serves as a starting point for interpreting the region, known for its wealth of heritage remains and with a long tradition of archaeological research. The space offers two exhibition areas, both permanent and temporary, a complementary educational service, and a documentation center that includes, among other items, works on local history, archaeology, and significant numismatic collections.

Av. 1º de Maio | 5000-564 Vila Real
GPS: 41.297488, -7.743035

Op. Hours: Tue to Sun | 9h30-12h30 / 14h-17h

+351 259 308 180 / museu@cm-vilareal.pt
museu.cm-vilareal.pt

TOP 10 to visit

10. São Domingos Church | Cathedral of Vila Real

It corresponds to the church of the convent with the same name, having been consecrated as Cathedral of Vila Real in 1924. Its construction, dating back to the 15th century, consists of three Romanesque naves with influences from the Gothic style, as evidenced by the verticality of its interior and its ogival arches. Also integral to its composition are the stained glass windows designed by João Vieira, inspired by the Gospel according to St. John, the lateral tombs, and its modern symphonic organ.

Av. Carvalho Araújo 89 | 5000-657 Vila Real
GPS: 41.296344, -7.746503

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www.cm-vilareal.pt

Useful Contacts

National Emergency Number: 112

Firefighters – Green Line: 800 202 425

Vila Real City Council
Av. Carvalho Araújo | 5000-657 Vila Real | GPS. 41.294623, -7.746224 | T. +351 259 308 100 | geral@cm-vilareal.pt | www.cm-vilareal.pt

Vila Real Tourist Interactive Store
Av. Carvalho Araújo 94 | 5000-657 Vila Real | GPS. 41.296838, -7.745839 | T. +351 259 308 170 | Tm. +351 933 095 424 | animatur@cm-vilareal.pt

Trás-os-Montes and Alto Douro Hospital Center, E.P.E.
R. dos Lagoeiros 43 | 5000-185 Vila Real | GPS. 41.310233, -7.760078 | T. +351 259 300 500 | geral@chtmad.min-saude.pt | www.chtmad.com
Health Center Vila Real I
R. Doutor Manuel Cardona | 5000-558 Vila Real | GPS. 41.301202, -7.740280 | T. +351 259 320 050
Health Center Vila Real II
R. dos Três Lagares - Qt. da Redonda | 5000-577 Mateus | GPS. 41.301202, -7.740280 | T. +351 259 302 090

Public Security Police - District Command of Vila Real
EN2 | 5000-523 Vila Real | 41.295372, -7.755435 | T. +351 259 330 240 | cpvreal@psp.pt | www.psp.pt

Republican National Guard - Territorial Command of Vila Real
Avenida 1º de Maio | 5000-651 Vila Real | 41.300682, -7.740413 | T. +351 259 303 290 | ct.vrl@gnr.pt | www.gnr.pt

DOURO PASSPORT

"Discover and live a unique experience!" is the slogan of the Douro Passport, the project by CIMDOURO that promotes tourism in the 19 municipalities it comprises. This promotional action aims to showcase the Douro in its differences and riches, highlighting monumentality, culture, and people as the most important aspects of this immense region of World Heritages and endless potential.

Counting on partnerships with the Porto and Northern Portugal Tourism Board and the Douro and Porto Wine Institute, CIMDOURO believes that these entities give an extraordinary dimension to the Douro Passport, converging towards its success. The Douro Passport is a project that stems from a practical, simple, and dynamic idea, allowing visitors to get their passport at the interactive Tourism stores of the 19 municipalities. In this territorial wandering, they will begin a journey of discovery through the 76 points of interest in a geographical area of over 4 thousand square kilometers, collecting the respective stamps. After completing their "journey" through the CIMDOURO territory, tourists receive a certificate of excellence and an exclusive gift. To complement and enhance the experience, there is also an available application that assists visitors in their travels through additional information on the various points of interest.

DISCOVER DOURO

Welcome to Douro! This tourist destination, a World Heritage site, offers you a perfect blend of stunning landscapes, globally renowned wines, and a rich and diverse cultural heritage.

On this website, you will discover some highlights of what to visit, where to stay, and what to eat in the region. From suggestions of iconic sites and remarkable experiences, such as the essential boat cruise, wine and regional products tastings, to visits to numerous viewpoints with breathtaking views, museums, natural parks, and historic and picturesque local villages, here you will find a variety of inspirations for your visit. To ensure you make the most of this territory, we provide you with various accommodation options, from charming hotels with luxurious and comfortable facilities, to hotels in the main cities of the region, or even country houses that offer a peaceful and relaxing environment amidst nature.

The Douro is also known for its rich and varied gastronomy, resulting from the influences of the populations from the Beiras, Trás-os-Montes, Galicia and Porto, which have contributed to its diversity and which you can experience in the numerous dining establishments present in the territory.

DOURO

Comunidade Intermunicipal

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NORTE 2020
PROGRAMA OPERACIONAL REGIONAL DO NORTE

PORTUGAL 2020

União Europeia

Fundo Europeu de Desenvolvimento Regional

DOURO
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