Best things to do in Oporto

Forged by some of history's leading architects, Porto's majestically adorned valleys combine Latin charisma, Baroque flair, and a peculiarly British streak as sweet as the region's Port wine. Here's what to see in one of the world's most charismatic cities!



Luis I Bridge

Gustave Eiffel's - Luis I Bridge is as spectacular as the views from it. Cross the Douro to the famous Port wine cellars of Vila Nova de Gaia for sun-soaked panoramas of both cities!



Clerigos Tower

The highest point in a low city, sailors once used the Clerigos Tower as a guide into the riverfront square. Great views await if you can manage the 240 steps to the top!



Porto Cathedral

The imposing facade is one of Porto's oldest monuments, but the time-honored Gothic and Baroque alterations of its chapel have made the unique Porto cathedral sightseeing essential!



Região Vinhateira do Alto Douro (Douro Valley)

UNESCO World Heritage. Tour the banks of the Port wine-producing river Douro for breathtaking landscapes and a glass or six of the region's beloved purple tipple - straight from the barrel!



Casa da Música

This colossal cubist bubble quickly became an icon for the city when it was finished in 2005. The Casa da Música offers guided tours of its many features, as well as a dynamic performance program!



Palácio da Bolsa (Stock Exchange Palace)

The arrogance of an empire exerts itself in this pompous Stock Exchange Palace Palácio da Bolsa. Splendid sculptures and frescoes round off a breathtaking historical curio.



Livraria Lello & Irmão

Is this the most beautiful bookstore in the world? It's certainly up there. Pick a book and read it over coffee on the first floor, as JK Rowling did when she lived in the city!



Church of São Francisco

Igreja de Sao Francisco is Porto's most famous church. The Gothic style church has interior baroque decoration although its exterior is Gothic style with a rose window. It was originally constructed for use by the Franciscan Order in 1223 but the church gained its famous interior decoration in renovations carried out in the 17th and 18th centuries by Filipe da Silva and Antonio Gomes.



Cais da Ribeira

This Porto area is considered one of the most beautiful places in the world it is also one of the best places to get views across the city. Ribeira means riverside and Cais da Ribeira is basically the district on the banks of the Douro River and running up into the heart of historic Porto's UNESCO World Heritage Site. In this area there is a network of narrow alleys lined with old buildings leading down to the Praca da Ribeira or Ribeira Square.



Funicular dos Guindais

The funicular line was constructed in 1891 and is still used by locals to get around the city and by tourists for the brilliant views. The funicular connects the Batalha (higher ground) by Cais de Gaia to the Ribeira (quayside) area at the base of Dom Luis Bridge. It takes about 3 minutes to reach the top station once you have emerged from the tunnel and these three minutes are the best time to grab a shot of the breathtaking views. From the funicular you can see Dom Luis Bridge, the Ribeira quayside, Mosteiro da Serra do Pilar, Cais de Gaia, wine lodges and the port boats sailing along the River Douro.



World of Discoveries Interactive Museum

This exciting, multi-sensory attraction takes you on an amusement park-type ride through the history of the Age of Discovery; Porto is an appropriate location for this attraction as it was the home city of Henry the Navigator. The interactive museum and theme park reenacts the adventures of the Portuguese navigators who set off to discover the New World starting in 1415. The special effects include 4D presentations, fog, laser light effects, moving "boats", costumed actors and large pieces of scenery.



Serralves Museum - Porto's Cultural Eden

This world-class museum displays cutting-edge international contemporary art in a striking minimalist building by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Alvaro Siza Vieira. Like the Guggenheim, there is no collection permanently on display, with temporary exhibitions taking up the entire space, as well as that of the separate "Casa de Serralves," a pink Art Deco construction located in the surrounding formal gardens (which are magnificent and worth a visit in their own right).



Passeio das Virtudes

This is one of the best spots to look at the river views, the Arrabida bridge and the sunset! In the summer there are some live acts at sunset and there is usually a small crowd enjoying the sunlight on the grass.



Foz

To fully discover Porto and its history you must go to Foz do Douro. Facing the Atlantic you'll be struck by an incredible quality of life, the utmost romantic walks where every evening sun and sea merge into one spectacular climax. These beaches proudly display the blue flag eco-label, a sign of high quality unpolluted seawater. Take a stroll under the "Pergola da Foz" built in the 1930s. As the story goes, the Mayor of Porto's wife at the time, had been so enchanted by the pergola of the "Promenade des Anglais » in the French town of Nice that she simply had to have the same in Porto. Here it is called the "Praia dos Ingleses" a reminder that the English (and other British citizens!) have always enjoyed a close relationship with Portugal. Enjoy the beaches, walk, stroll with your lover, run, jog, sprint, race, or... pedal gently...as you like.



Caves do Vinho do Porto

Get into the cellars, taste our stunning ports and experience a memorable fado show. Everything you need to know about Portowine from the vineyard to the glass, in an unique format that includes an interactive museum tour, guided tour and a premium winw tasting. For example: Porto Calém, Sandeman, Taylor's Port, Ferreira, Ramos Pinto).



Best Restaurants in Oporto



A cozinha do Manel

Rua do Heroísmo, 215

Tel.: 00 351 919787598

Adega de São Nicolau

Rua de São Nicolau, 1

Tel.: 00 351 222008232

Belos Aires

Rua de Belmonte, 104

Tel.: 00 351 223195661

Book

Rua de Aviz, 10

Tel.: 00 351 917953387

Cafeina

Rua do Padrão, 100

Tel.: 00 351 226108059

Camafeu

Praça de Carlos Alberto, 83

Tel.: 00 351 937493557

Cantina 32

Rua das Flores, 32

Tel.: 00 351 222039069

Cervejaria Brasão

Rua de Ramalho Ortigão, 28

Tel.: 00 351 934158672

Cruel

Rua da Oicaria, 86

Tel.: 00 351 222010326

Puro 4050

Largo de São Domingos, 84

Tel.: 00 351 222011852

Traça

Largo de São Domingos, 88

Tel.: 00 351 222081065

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Antiquum

Solar do Vinho do Porto, Rua de Entre Quintas, 220

Tel.: 00 351 914785760

Cantinho do Avillez

Rua Mouzinho da Silveira, 166

Tel.: 00 351 223227879

DOP

Largo de São Domingos, 18, Palácio das Artes

Tel.: 00 351 222014313

Flow

Rua da Conceição, 63

Tel.: 00 351 222054016

O Paparico

Rua Costa Cabral, 2343

Tel.: 00 351 225400548

Pedro Lemos

Rua Padre Luís Cabral, 974

Tel.: 00 351 220115986

Shows and Exhibitions

Coliseum of Oporto

- 15 Nov. (21:30) Take 6
- 16 Nov. (21:00) Spoon
- 17 Nov. (22:00) HMB A Primeira Década
- 22 Nov. (21:30) Les ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo

Hard Club

22 Nov. (20:30) - EPICA VUUR + Myrath

Sá da Bandeira Theater

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17 to 26 Nov. - "Os 39 degraus"
6° e Sábado - 21:39
Domingo - 18:00
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Rivoli Theater

- 18 Nov. Auditorium (16:00) Teatro Praga "Romeu & Julieta" Uma excelente e lamentável sobremesa
- 18 Nov. Coffee House (17:00) Music with Pedro Borges

Serralves Museum

- 16/09/2017 to 07/01/2018 Jorge Pinheiro: D'aprés Fibonacci e as coisas lá fora
- 30/09/2017 to 11/02/2018 Primeira Vista: Coleção de livros e edioções de artistas da Fundação Serralves - Museu Arte Contemporânea
- 01/10/2017 to 07/01/2018 Projectos Contemporâneoas: Daniel Steegnum Mangrané
- 08/05/2017 to 28/01/2018 Coleção de Serralves: 1960-1980

Casa da Música

- 14 Nov. (19:30) The Tallis Scholaris
- 17 Nov. (20:30) Fado à mesa
- 18 Nov. (18:00) Sinfonia n°2 de Sibelius Orquestra Sinfónica do Porto
- 19 Nov. (18:00) Alexander Romanovxky Ciclo Piano
- 21 Nov. (19.30) Quarteto de cordas de Matosinhos