Douro Wine Region - World Heritage (Douro Vinhateiro – Património mundial)

The Alto Douro Wine Region is a zone particularly representative of the landscape that characterizes the vast traditional wine-producing region of Douro River, the oldest regulated wine-growing region of the world. The cultural landscape of the Alto Douro combines the monumental nature of the valley of the River Douro, made of steep slopes and poor soil and rough, with ancestral and continuous action of man, adapting the space to the agricultural needs of Mediterranean type that the region support. The classification of the Alto Douro Wine Region by UNESCO, the figure of evolving and living cultural landscape, occurred on 14 December 2001 at the 25th session of the World Heritage Committee, held in Helsinki.

City Peso da Regua (Cidade Peso da Régua)


The city Peso da Regua is located on the north bank of the River Douro, in the Vila Real district, considered the capital of the demarcated Port wine region. This owes its development to the Marques de Pombal who in 1756 created the General Company of Alto Douro Viticulture and sent delimit with granite landmarks (Feitoria marks) the areas of production of the best wines. It was then created the first demarcated region in the world. Régua is a modern city that just met your municipality condition after pombalina time in the year 1836. However, we can highlight the following noteworthy historical heritage visit:

- the Church of S. Faustino, built where once stood the chapel of the Holy Spirit;
- the Chapel of the Lord's Cross, from the eighteenth century;
- the Chapel of the Seven Corners (eighteenth century);
- The house “Casa Vaz” (eighteenth century);
- the House Dispensary “Casa do Dispensário” (eighteenth century);
- the home of Real Companhia Velha, the former headquarters of the Royal Company of Alto Douro (High Douro) wines, current headquarters of the Douro Museum;
- Railway Station, where the first train arrived on July 14, 1879.
Douro Museum (Museu do Douro)  (http://www.museudodouro.pt/)

The **Douro Museum**, as a territory museum has the task of representing the natural and cultural heritage of the Douro Wine Region, devoted to the World Heritage status by UNESCO as cultural, evolving and living landscape. It is located in the city of Peso da Regua, a result of the building of the former rehabilitation work "General Company of Agriculture of the Upper Douro Vineyards Wine Region". It was inaugurated on December 20, 2008.

The Company House, which houses the Douro Museum, is one of the most emblematic buildings of the history of the demarcated region. Its construction is directly related to the founding of the General Company of Agriculture of the Upper Douro Vineyards which in 1756 created the first regulated wine region in the world. The Company was responsible for the geographic demarcation and regulation of the production and marketing of Douro wines. Which holds the monopoly of "Port wine" to administer constructed this building headquarters, tellingly monumentality of his power, the Régua warehouse.

The Douro Museum's estate includes the following collections: collection of ethnographic objects of the Douro region, with special emphasis on elements associated with the wine industry Douro; the collection of labels and Port Wine posters; and a collection of art. It also has in its custody several collections in deposit scheme from individuals and private institutions.

The Douro Museum consists of a central space - Exhibition Area - where is situated the permanent exhibition "Douro, Matter and Spirit." In this engaging exhibition space is located the restaurant 'The Company', the Shop, the Archives, the Library, the Reading Room, Wine Bar and Terrace in the Garden overlooking the Douro river. In the next room is another modern architecture building covered with black shale panels, where is located the Educational Service.

The Pinhão village is located on the right bank of the Douro River in the heart of Upper Douro Wine Region where are located many of the major producing farms of port wine (known as Quintas). This owes its name to the location at the mouth of the river Pinion, a tributary of the Douro. Nestled between two rivers, and situated on a slope in steps over the Douro has a beautiful landscape dotted by farms and solar a typical unique beauty of the Alto Douro Wine Region.

The Port wine, the main source of development of this village of Alijó municipality, came when in 1638, Cristiano Kopke, a German citizen, decided to found in Porto, a company linked to the export of wines.

Among the main heritage of Pinhão is the train station, built during the nineteenth century well known for its representative tiles of production of Port wine from the grape harvest, the treading of the grapes to the transport of wine Rabelo boats River down to the cellars in Vila Nova de Gaia. In addition to this architectural legacy, we highlight the Road Bridge over the River Douro designed by Gustave Eiffel in the nineteenth century, the Railway Metal Bridge, bridge over the River Pinhão, the Mother Church, Cruise, Rabelo Boat, old solar (old manor houses), Homesteads (Quintas) with visits in all-Land vehicles and above the Douro landscapes that invite tourists to seasonal visits with special emphasis on the harvest and lagaradas.
The Castle of Bragança, one of the most representatives of medieval architecture, was built in 1409 by order of King D. João I, on the foundations of the time of the first king of Portugal, D. Afonso Henriques. Comprising an impressive bail tower and a double wall, the whole is very well maintained and the square of weapons, known as Citadel or village, where is the Church of Santa Maria and Domus Municipalis, keeps the old medieval houses with narrow streets and small whitewashed houses. In bail tower, 33 m high, worth mentioning some Gothic artistic elements, including the battlements, windows and stone weapons of the House of Avis, founded by King D. João I.

Inside it is installed the Military Museum. It is worth climbing to the top floor, the view over the city and the surrounding landscape. Fifteen towers and three gates form the walls, which highlights the Tower of the Princess, old dependency of the House of Mayors guarding the legend of a princess taken prisoner, and the Village Gate that welcomes the visitor to the castle.
Military Museum (Museu militar)

The Military Museum of Bragança was founded in 1932 at the initiative of Colonel António José Teixeira, commander of Infantry Regiment No. 10 quartered in the citadel since the mid-century. The estate consists of the private collection of António José Teixeira and pieces donated by the soldiers who had participated in military units based campaigns in Bragança, including Africa and France during the 1st World War. The set shows the evolution of light weapons between the sixteenth and twentieth centuries, occupying three floors of the bail tower of the Bragança Castle.

Domus Municipalis

This curious building, which is within the walls, next to the Church of Sta. Maria, near the Castle, may date from the twelfth century and that could have served in this case as a town hall or meeting place of the influential county men. Anyway, it is a unique building in the Iberian Peninsula. It is a Romanesque building, built in 1501, with two levels, but only if you visit the factory which is at street level, called "Town Hall", used for meetings. Highlight the various windows and capitals, each different. Below this is the water tank or the water room where we stored the water coming from rainfall.
Santa Maria Church (Igreja de Sta. Maria)

Building of the temple of St. Mary of the Assumption - or Sardão in the popular voice - you can go back to the town's beginnings. Its primitive traces nothing was detected, reaching today the interventions and the most significant changes that have occurred over the century. XVI, XVII and XVIII.

The present temple, erected in the 3rd quarter of five hundred (sec. XVI), features a divided inside into three naves by arches supported by cotto Mudejar columns. The chancel must date from 1580 and the chapel of Figueiredos from 1585. From century XVII will date some altarpieces and the image of St. Mary Magdalene (altar) of Valladolid school. The sec XVIII come decorative elements, joanino altarpiece of the chancel and the average nave ceiling. The façade, dates from 1701-1715, and boasts a baroque portal with pseudo-Solomonic columns.

http://www.360portugal.com/Distritos.QTVR/Braganca.VR/vilas.cidades/Braganca/IgrejaStaMariaInt.html

Iberian Museum of Mask and Costume (Museu Ibérico da Máscara e do Traje) (http://museudamascara.cm-braganca.pt/PageGen.aspx)

Located in the citadel, within the walls of Castle of Bragança, it was inaugurated on 24 February 2007. The museum aims to preserve and promote the identity and culture of the people of this border region, united by millennia of history. It comprises costumes and typical masks of certain Winter Festivals and Carnival of Tras-os-Montes, Lazarim and Zamora district, allowing the visitor to contact at any time of the year, with a multiplicity of parties, characters and rituals, unique elements of our culture. Divided into three floors, the 1st dedicated to Transmontanas’ winter holidays, the 2nd to parties of Zamora and 3rd to Carnival of the two regions. Craftsmen, creators of this heritage also have a prominent space on the 3rd floor of the museum.
**Museu Abade de Baçal**

In 1915 it is created the Regional Museum of Art Works, Archaeological parts and Numismatic Bragança. In 1925 opens to the public under the direction of Baçal Abbot (Pe. Francisco Manuel Alves), which, from 1935, is now its patron, is headquartered in the building of the former Episcopal Palace of Bragança, with the advent of the Republic passes to state supervision, the subject of successive reuses and refurbishments. The Museum's collection includes currently much of the booty from the Bishop's Palace, which stands the chapel itself. Even the sacred art collections, can be distinguished from a sixteenth-century storm rare, some baroque sculptures of unquestionable quality, the triptych of St. Ignatius Martyrdom the Annunciation and even the Ark of the Holy Oils.

**Centre for Contemporary Art Graça Morais (Centro de Arte Contemporânea Graça Morais)**

The Contemporary Art Centre, opened in June 2008, originates from the agreement signed in February 1999 between the municipalities of Bragança and Zamora. This occupies a century building. XVIII sent build by Francisco Xavier da Veiga Cabral and subsequently acquired by José Sá Vargas. The works of recovery and adaptation of the old manor house and embody the architectural work of Souto Moura began in October 2004 and continued until June 2008. Dedicated to Graça Morais, born in Vieiros (Vila Flor, Bragança District) it brings together an important part of the estate of the painter. Besides organizing temporary exhibitions of the artist, is also dedicated to the presentation of promoting other artists and other art forms.
Route of Churches (Rota das Igrejas)

The Bragança municipality has an important religious architectural legacy with notable churches that are part of the route of the churches of the city, the Minor Basilica of Saint Christ of Outeiro and Monastery of Castro de Avelãs.
Rio de Onor

The village of Rio de Onor is part of the Montesinho Natural Park, municipality of Bragança, being crossed by the border with Spain. On the one hand, Rio de Onor, the other, Rihonor de Castilla. This village community is one of the best preserved of the Montesinho Natural Park, with mountainous typical schist houses with porches balconies, very well recovered. Enjoy moments of complete rest by staying in a tourism unit, or Rio de Onor campsite. The raiana village is crossed by the River Onor, also known as Contensa river and its river beach invites the moments of rest, along the clear waters of the river!