

BOMPORTO

HOTELS

MOKE[®]

*Rivers, Ruins &
Reinvention*



The Lumiaries ^(LIS)

The Vintage ^(LIS)

The Rebello ^(OP0)

FROM A HIDDEN PALACE GARDEN TO THE BANKS OF BELÉM

This drive heads west along the river and keeps surprising you.

It starts in a forgotten royal garden that most Lisbon residents have never visited, passes through a former textile factory turned creative hub, skirts the Tagus past one of the city's most striking contemporary buildings, and ends at Belém, where Portugal's Age of Discovery began and the river finally feels like the sea.

ESTIMATED TIME: 3–4 hours (depending on how long you linger)

DISTANCE: Approx. 15–18 km

STARTING POINT: The Lumiares (Bairro Alto) or The Vintage (Príncipe Real) - head west through the city to Belém, approximately 20 minutes from either hotel.

→ *STOP 1 – Tapada das Necessidades*

Head west and find one of Lisbon's best-kept secrets.

The gardens of the old royal palace of Necessidades are wild, romantic and almost entirely unknown to visitors. Overgrown paths, ancient trees, a small lake and the occasional peacock make this feel more like a forgotten estate than a public park. It's one of those Lisbon places that locals tend not to mention. Entry is free.

→ *STOP 2 – LX Factory*

A 19th-century industrial complex that quietly became one of Lisbon's most interesting spaces.

The old Companhia de Fiação e Tecidos Lisbonense - a former textile factory - now houses independent restaurants, concept stores, studios, a bookshop and a weekly Sunday market. The buildings are mostly unchanged on the outside, which makes the contrast with what's inside all the more interesting.

WORTH A LOOK: Ler Devagar, the bookshop inside LX Factory, is one of the most extraordinary bookshops in Portugal. A former printing press, still with its industrial machinery intact, now stacked floor to ceiling with books. It's worth the stop on its own.



→ **STOP 3 – MAAT**

One of Lisbon's most striking contemporary buildings, right on the water.

The Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology sits directly on the Tagus, its undulating white tiled roof walkable from end to end. You don't need to go inside to make the most of it, as the rooftop terrace offers some of the best views of the river, the Ponte 25 de Abril and the Cristo Rei statue across the water.

→ **STOP 4 – Belém**

This is where Lisbon faces the sea.

Wide riverside gardens, monumental architecture and the constant presence of the Tagus make Belém feel different from the rest of the city: more open, more ceremonial, and with a sense of history that's hard to ignore. The ships that left for Brazil, India and the coast of Africa in the Age of Discovery departed from here.

WORTH A LOOK:

- **PASTÉIS DE BELÉM** (Rua de Belém 84): The original custard tart, made to a secret recipe since 1837. The queue is part of the experience. Order at least two.
- **MOSTEIRO DOS JERÓNIMOS:** One of the finest examples of Manueline architecture in the world, built to commemorate Vasco da Gama's voyage to India. Entry to the church is free.
- **JARDIM BOTÂNICO DE BELÉM:** The botanical gardens of the old royal palace: peaceful, shaded and a good place to finish the day before heading back.

→ **RETURN**

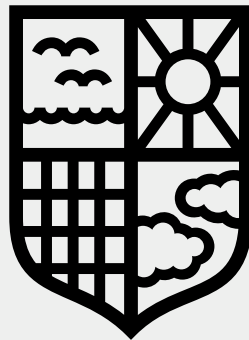
Follow the river back east towards the city centre.

The return drive along the Tagus at the end of the afternoon is one of the best stretches of road in Lisbon. The light changes quickly here, and with the water on one side and the city gradually reassembling on the other, it's a good way to let the day settle.



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