

BOMPORTO

HOTELS

MOKE®

*Tiles, Tagus
& Tomorrow*



The Lumières (LIS)

The Vintage (LIS)

The Rebello (OPO)

FROM MEDIEVAL ALFAMA TO THE CITY OF THE FUTURE

This route follows the Tagus east and doesn't look back.

Starting from the hilltop neighbourhoods above the river, it descends through Alfama, Lisbon's oldest surviving quarter, before tracing the waterfront through the city's industrial past and out to the modern boulevards and striking architecture of Parque das Nações. From medieval streets to Expo '98 in a single afternoon.

The river is your constant reference point throughout. The further east you go, the wider it gets, until it starts to feel more like a sea than a river.

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

DISTANCE: Approx. 20–25 km

STARTING POINT: The Lumiares (Bairro Alto) or The Vintage (Príncipe Real) - both hotels are well positioned to head east towards the river. Journey to the first stop is approximately 10–15 minutes from either property.

→ *STOP 1 – Graça Viewpoints*

Start high. The view from Graça sets up everything that follows.

The Miradouro da Graça looks out over the castle, the red rooftops, the river and the bridge. It's the full width of Lisbon in one frame. The Igreja da Graça is right beside it, one of the oldest churches in the city, and much quieter than the more visited landmarks below.

Get your bearings here before heading down into Alfama.

→ *STOP 2 – Alfama*

Alfama survived the 1755 earthquake that destroyed most of the city, which means its streets still follow the original Moorish layout: narrow, steep and winding, with no logic that makes sense from a map. It's a neighbourhood best experienced slowly, on foot where possible, taking in the tiled facades, the hanging laundry, the sound of fado drifting from open windows.

DID YOU KNOW? The name Alfama comes from the Arabic al-hamma, meaning "hot springs" or "baths." Lisbon was under Moorish rule for over four centuries before 1147, and Alfama is the clearest trace of that history still visible in the city today.



→ 📍 *STOP 3 – Santa Apolónia & The Waterfront*

Leaving Alfama behind, the city begins to open up.

The riverside avenue alongside Santa Apolónia station is one of the most enjoyable stretches of driving in central Lisbon — wide, unhurried and running directly alongside the Tagus. Ferries cross the river, cruise ships dock nearby, and the historic skyline gradually gives way to open water and wider roads.

This is where old Lisbon ends and the rest of the route begins.

→ 📍 *STOP 4 – Marvila*

A neighbourhood still figuring out what it wants to be, which makes it one of the most interesting in Lisbon right now.

Former warehouses and factory buildings have become galleries, breweries, studios, concept restaurants and cultural spaces, and the streets between them are covered in some of the best large-scale street art in the city. The transformation is still in progress, which gives the area a creative energy that more established neighbourhoods have lost.

WORTH A LOOK: The murals are reason enough to drive slowly through Marvila. Keep an eye on the walls.

→ 📍 *STOP 5 – Parque das Nações*

Suddenly, Lisbon looks very different.

Built for Expo '98 on what had previously been industrial land and oil storage facilities, Parque das Nações represents Lisbon's deliberate leap into the future: wide boulevards, bold architecture and expansive public spaces designed entirely around the river. The roads feel almost generously wide by Lisbon standards.

DID YOU KNOW? Before Expo '98, this entire area was largely derelict industrial land and oil refineries. The transformation of the site took less than three years.



→ 📍 *STOP 6 – Oceanário & The Marina*

Park the MOKE and explore on foot.

The Oceanário de Lisboa, designed by Peter Chermayeff for Expo '98, is one of the finest aquariums in Europe and worth a visit if time allows. The waterfront promenade around it is one of Lisbon's best summer spots: locals walk, cycle, have ice cream or simply sit with the river in front of them. The marina is quieter, with sailing boats moored alongside terraces overlooking the Tagus.

OPTIONAL: The Telecabine Lisboa cable car runs alongside the river from Estação do Oriente towards the marina, offering aerial views over the whole area. The journey takes about ten minutes.

→ 📍 *RETURN – with one last stop*

Head back west along the riverside, following the Tagus back towards the city centre.

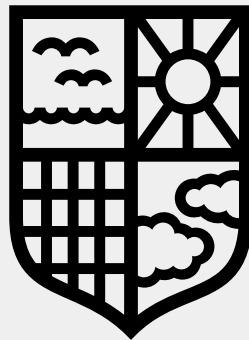
As the skyline of historic Lisbon gradually reassembles on the horizon, pull up at Ribeira das Naus for the sunset. Take a seat on the wide wooden steps that lead down to the water and watch the light change over the Tagus. The river turns gold, then orange, then pink, with the Ponte 25 de Abril and the Cristo Rei statue silhouetted across the water. It's one of the best spots in the city to catch the end of the day.

From there, Cais do Sodré is a five-minute walk and a natural place to finish with a drink before heading back to the hotel. The waterfront bars along the strip are relaxed and well-suited to the end of a long afternoon on the road.



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