

Walking tour by the river: São João da Foz - Cais das Pedras

Stories and places around the outfall of Douro

(walking itinerary of c. 3.6 quilometers by the river bank)

São João da Foz is an ancient settlement near Porto, but historical separated from the city. It was, from centuries, owned by the Benedictine friars of Santo Tirso. But, precisely 500 years ago, on November 20, 1519, king Manuel I of Portugal granted a bill of rights to São João da Foz, integrating the small village directly under the Crown.

Always a village of fishermen, São João da Foz saw his equipments and facilities developed in the 1520s to 1540s by the hand of Dom Miguel da Silva, bishop of Viseu and cardinal in the Papal court in Rome. Dom Miguel da Silva hired an Italian master architect (who was disciple of Raphael himself), named Francesco da Cremona.

With Francesco da Cremona and Dom Miguel, São João da Foz saw the building of a magnificent Renaissance church, as well as the *São Miguel-o-Anjo* lighthouse. Today, the church of São João Batista is practically completely destroyed, only the altar and the apse, inside the São João da Foz fort, is precariously preserved. The lighthouse, actually the oldest in Portugal, is still present in the territory, although not always well remembered.

The fort itself was built in the second half of the 16th century and was completed in the middle of the Portuguese Restoration Wars in 1647. It was the scene of various political and military events, notably during the French Invasions and the 1832-34 civil war.

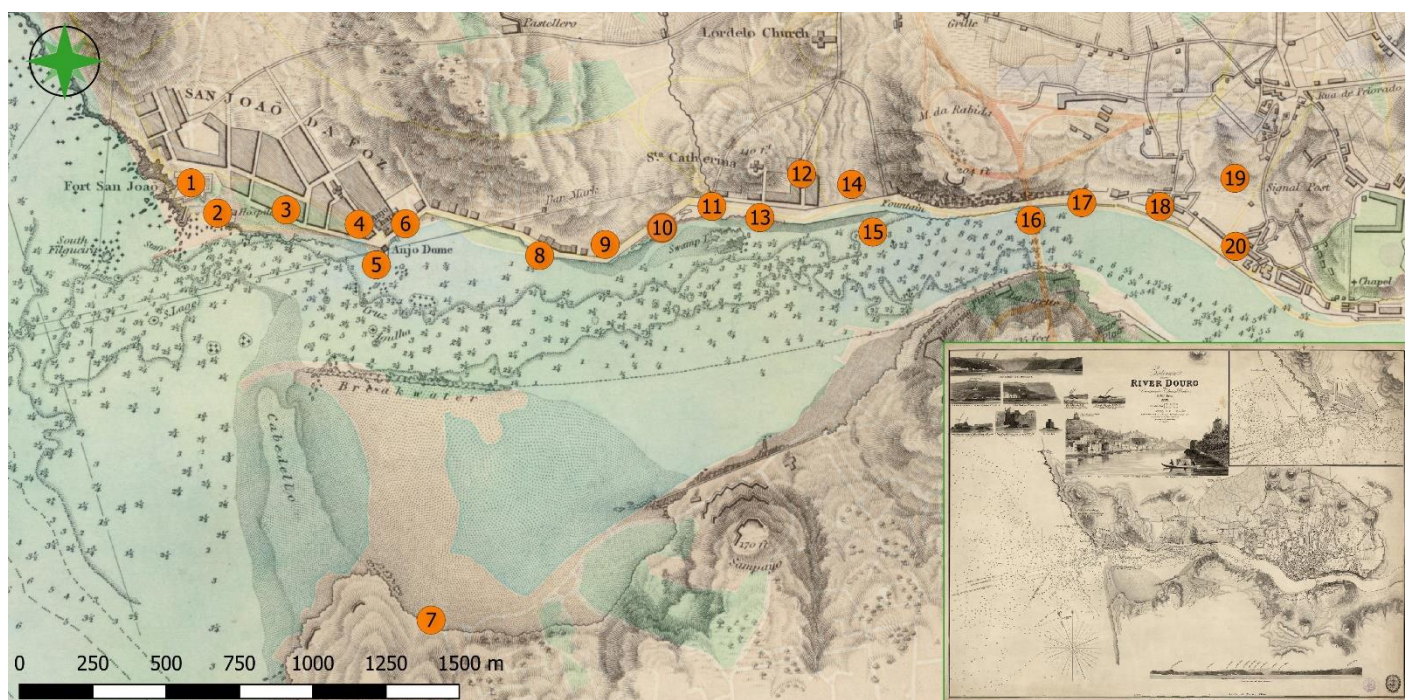
In the early 1870s, Foz do Douro was the destination for the first urban transport line built in Portugal: the line of trams that connected the old *Porta Nova*, in Ribeira, to *Passeio Alegre*, in Foz.

Across the waterfront, upstream, past Lordelo and Massarelos, we can see the memories of the region's industrial landscape, from

the former *Cais do Ouro* shipyard, where Ceuta's armada was built, to the cement yards that supplied the *Arrabida Bridge*, passing by the old gasometer of the city, the Royal Army Arsenal, the refrigerated warehouses of codfish, the old iron foundries of *Bicalho* and Porto's tram museum.

Alongside historical memory, the natural life of the Douro estuary is also part of this multifaceted course, where nature and humans, along centuries of interaction, had permanent model the territory.

- The tour will take place between 10 am and 12:30 pm, on October 12.
- Inscriptions can be done until October 9 with the cost of 12 euro by person to Green Conservation participants, and 20 euro for everyone else.
- Gathering and starting point will be at 10 am, at Universidade Católica Portuguesa Campus.



1. São João da Foz fortification
2. Sanatorium
3. Passeio Alegre and Nasoni's obelisks
4. Poet Eugénio de Andrade's house and tram terminus
5. São Miguel-o-Anjo lighthouse, river pilots house, telegraph tower and tide gauge
6. Senhora da Lapa's chapel
7. Cabedelo natural reservation and tower of Bacalhau
8. Irene Vilar's The Messenger (sculpture)
9. English water treatment facilities in Sobreiras
10. Monument to the conquest of Ceuta and migrant birds observation post

11. Ribeira da Granja river mouth and the English sewer ventilation cabin
12. Royal Arsenal of the Portuguese Army
13. Lordelo do Ouro's shipyard
14. City former gasometer facilities
15. The Gandufe barge
16. Arrábida Bridge
17. The Bicalho harbour
18. Fridge warehouse for codfish
19. The tram museum
20. General fish fridge warehouse

GREEN CONSERVATION
OF CULTURAL HERITAGE
October 10-12, 2019



YOCOCU
Youth in Conservation of Cultural Heritage