



PLACES TO VISIT

Discover and explore some of the places that we have chosen for you

❖ Carvalhal (Buddha Eden Garden) / Óbidos e Lagoa de Óbidos

Leaving Areias do Seixo, turn right onto the main road. At the roundabout with olive trees on it, turn left towards A-dos-Cunhados. Go through the village and follow signs for the A8 motorway. Join the A8 in the direction of Leiria. If you wish to visit the Jardim da Paz "Buddha Eden" (Buddha Eden Garden of Peace), exit at Junction 12 and continue towards Carvalhal, following signs for Buddha Eden Garden.

Covering an area of approximately 35 hectares, the Buddha Eden Garden was designed by José Berardo in response to the destruction of the Giant Bamiyam Buddhas in central Afghanistan. He started to create this large oriental garden in 2001 as a tribute to the colossal sculptures carved into the rocks of the Bamiyam valley, which had been cultural and spiritual references for centuries. Buddha Eden Garden is a place of reconciliation with no religious leanings. It is open to everyone, irrespective of religion, race, nationality, gender, age, social or cultural status. It encourages union, communication and meditation as ways of rediscovering contentment.

www.buddhaeden.com

Back on the A8, exit at Junction 15 and travel towards **Óbidos**, one of the best preserved walled towns in Portugal. With its whitewashed houses, cobbled streets, town walls and **Óbidos Castle**, a stop here is a must on any trip through Portugal and a place where you can admire the charm and romanticism of this small Portuguese gem. The area has always been inhabited and it is

known that the Romans settled here too. The layout of the town today undoubtedly dates from Moorish times. In 1148, the first king of Portugal, King Afonso Henriques, captured Óbidos from the Moors.

Wander through the streets and alleyways of whitewashed houses and don't forget to try the **Ginginha de Óbidos**, an intense, bittersweet liqueur made from sour cherries (ginjas), and which is believed to date back to the 17th century.

There are events happening in Óbidos throughout the year, including art exhibitions and classical music concerts, as well as major events, such as the Christmas village, international chocolate fair, Medieval market and opera festival. Check out the town's events calendar at

www.cm-obidos.pt/events/

Why not also visit **Óbidos Lagoon**, famous for its fishing and wide variety of waterfowl? It's also known for its eels and shellfish, and is surrounded by forest and woodlands. Various sports, such as rowing, canoeing, windsurfing and sailing, are also possible here.

Tourist Information Office

Rua da Porta da Vila, Óbidos

Tel: +351 262 959 231

www.cm-obidos.pt/turismo

May to September: open daily from 9.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m.

October to April: open 9.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. on weekdays and 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. at weekends and on public holidays.