

Lamego

Portugal

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



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Overview

Lamego is a hill town of about 11,000 people in the Douro wine region, a short drive south of the river. It is known for a baroque pilgrimage sanctuary, a Gothic cathedral and a medieval castle. The centre is small and easy to cover in a day.

The town suits a slow trip of one or two nights. Many visitors combine it with Douro river towns, monasteries in the Varosa valley and cellar visits. Lamego is also the home of Raposeira sparkling wine.

When to visit

May, June and September are the best months for sightseeing and walking the sanctuary stairway. July and August are hot and dry. Winters are cool and wet, with frost on some nights.

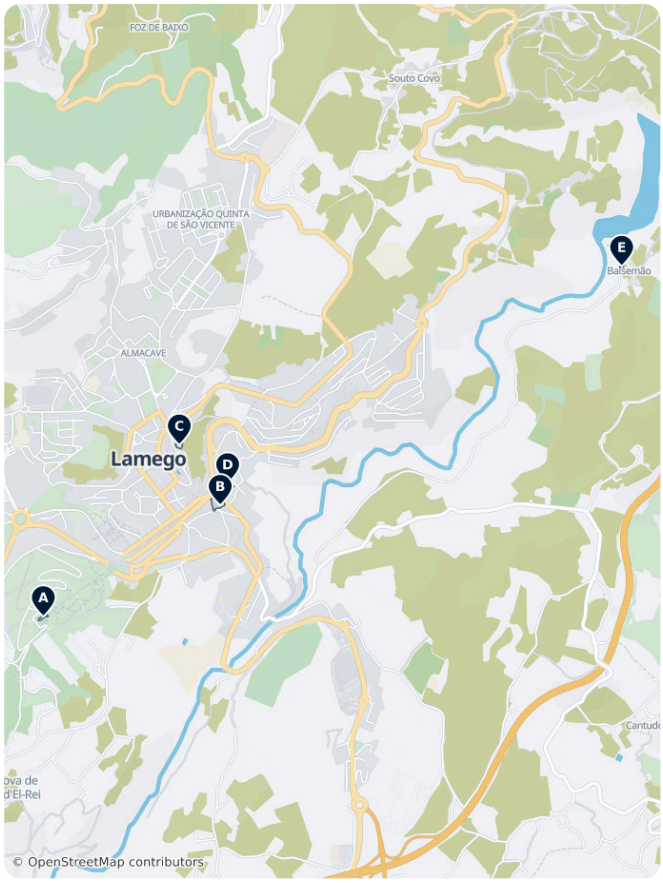
The main event is the Festa de Nossa Senhora dos Remédios. It runs from late August into early September, and the main day is 8 September, a municipal holiday. Book rooms early for this period.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for hiking	10° / 14° Feels like 6°	3° / -3°	13 rainy days · Dry air
February	Good Good for hiking	12° / 17° Feels like 8°	3° / -3°	Dry air
March	Good Good for hiking	15° / 21° Feels like 11°	4° / -1°	12 rainy days · Dry air
April	Good Good for hiking	17° / 24° Feels like 14°	6° / 2°	Dry air
May	Great Great for sightseeing	21° / 28°	9° / 4°	Dry air
June	Great Great for sightseeing	26° / 35°	13° / 8°	Dry air
July	Good Good for sightseeing	32° / 38°	15° / 11°	27 sunny days · Dry air · UV 9 (Very high) · Up to 8 days above 35°
August	Fair Fair for sightseeing	32° / 39°	16° / 11°	26 sunny days · Dry air · Up to 9 days above 35°
September	Great Great for sightseeing	27° / 34°	13° / 8°	Dry air · Calm winds
October	Good Good for sightseeing	21° / 29°	10° / 5°	13 rainy days · Dry air
November	Fair Fair for hiking	14° / 19° Feels like 11°	5° / 0°	13 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for hiking	11° / 15° Feels like 7°	3° / -2°	14 rainy days · Dry air

Best months: May, June, September

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights



- A Santuário de Nossa Senhora dos Remédios stands on a hill above the town. A baroque stairway of 686 steps in nine flights leads up to it, with chapels, fountains and statues. The current church was built between 1750 and 1905.
- B Sé de Lamego is mainly Gothic, with a medieval tower. It has a Renaissance cloister and is a National Monument.
- C Castelo de Lamego has a 12th-century keep. Next to it is an 11th-century cistern with a vaulted roof, built by the Muslims.
- D Museu de Lamego is in the former Episcopal Palace. It holds Grão Vasco panels from the cathedral and 16th-century Flemish tapestries. The museum is closed for renovation and has no announced reopening date, so check its website before you plan a visit.
- E Capela de São Pedro de Balsemão is a small early medieval chapel on the edge of town. It has three naves and a Gothic bishop's tomb.

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What to experience

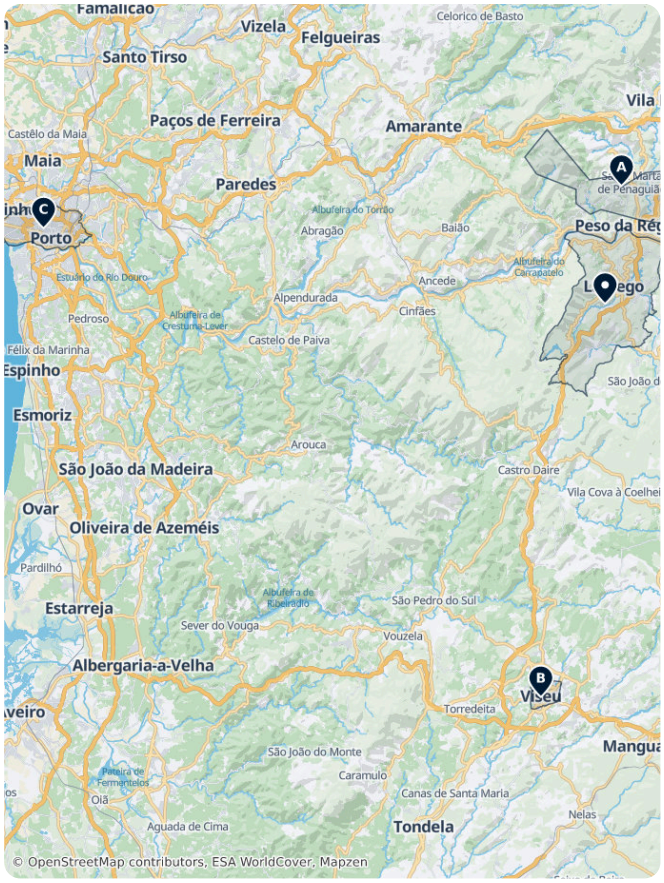
Lamego has a calendar of local fairs and festivals.

- Weekly market on Thursdays.
- Feira de Santa Cruz on 3 May.
- Festa de São João on 24 June, with the Feira da Bôla in late June.
- Feira Medieval in July, in the castle quarter.

Day trips

The Douro, the Varosa valley and Viseu are all within an hour. The list starts with the closest.

- Peso da Régua, about 15 minutes by car or bus. A Peso da Régua is a Douro river town with the Museu do Douro and boat departures from Cais da Régua. Trains continue east to Pinhão and Pocinho.
- Tarouca monasteries, about 25 minutes by car. Salzedas and São João de Tarouca are Cistercian monasteries in the Varosa valley. São João was founded around 1140 and was the first Cistercian house in Portugal. Salzedas has an 18th-century cloister by *Carlos Gimach*.
- Viseu, about 50 minutes by car or 45 minutes by bus. B Viseu has a historic centre. The Museu Nacional Grão Vasco beside the cathedral shows paintings by *Vasco Fernandes*.
- Porto, about 1 hour 20 minutes by car. C Porto is possible as a long day trip, but most visitors stay overnight.



Getting there

- By air: Porto airport (OPO) is the nearest major airport, about 130 km away. Rede Expressos buses to Lamego also stop at the airport.
- By train: Lamego has no train station. Take the Douro line train to Régua, then a bus of about 15 minutes to Lamego. The municipal line 103 goes to the Régua railway station. Check CP before you travel, because buses replace trains on part of the line during works.
- By bus: Rede Expressos runs coaches from Porto Campanhã via Amarante, Vila Real and Régua, or via Viseu. The journey takes about 2 hours. Coaches also run from Lisbon via Coimbra and Viseu. From Viseu the bus takes about 45 minutes.

Getting around

- Local buses: five urban lines, called the Verdinhos, serve the centre. Municipal lines 101 to 112 reach the parishes. Timetables and fares are on Vale do Ave Transportes, and tickets can also be bought in its app.
- On foot: the centre is compact but hilly. The sanctuary is 1.5 km from the cathedral, a walk of about 30 minutes, almost all uphill.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

The centre is compact but hilly. The sanctuary stairway is a steep climb.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Low

Steep streets make cycling hard for most visitors.

Driving

- A car is not needed for the town itself. It is the practical choice for wine estates, monasteries and villages in the valley.
- The A24 has three junctions near Lamego. It has been toll-free since 1 January 2025.
- Some other motorways on routes from Porto may charge electronic tolls. Ask your rental company about the transponder.

Food & drink

Lamego is known for presunto (cured ham), roast kid with oven rice and ham rolls called bôlas. Try the local sparkling wine, made by the traditional bottle method. The town lies in the Douro wine region, so Port and Douro wines are easy to find.

The Caves da Raposeira offer guided cellar tours that end with a tasting. Reservations are by email or through their website.

What to eat & drink

LUNCH

Caldo Verde
A simple, comforting soup of shredded kale, potato, and slices of chourico sausage.

Francesinha
A hearty Porto specialty: a meat-stuffed sandwich covered in melted cheese and a spiced tomato-beer sauce.

DINNER

Bacalhau
Salt cod, Portugal's national dish, said to be prepared in hundreds of different ways across the country.

Sardinhas Assadas
Charcoal-grilled sardines, especially popular in summer street festivals and along the coast.

Arroz de Marisco
A rich, soupy seafood rice, similar to paella but wetter, packed with shellfish.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Pastel de Nata
A small custard tart in flaky pastry, best eaten warm with cinnamon and sugar.

DRINKS

Vinho Verde
A young, light, slightly sparkling white wine from northern Portugal, meant to be drunk within a year of harvest.

Port Wine · Vinho do Porto
A fortified wine from the Douro Valley, aged in cellars around Porto, ranging from sweet ruby to complex aged tawny styles.

Ginjinha · Ginãa
A sweet liqueur made from sour cherries, traditionally served in a small cup, sometimes with a cherry at the bottom.

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Safety & health

- Normal care with valuables is enough in Lamego.
- July and August are hot. Carry water and walk the sanctuary stairway early or late in the day.

History

Lamego has been a stronghold since Roman and Visigothic times. The Muslim cistern at Castelo de Lamego dates from the 11th century. King *Fernando Magno* took the town in 1057. The keep was built in the second half of the 12th century.

Tradition says the first Cortes of Portugal met in Lamego in 1143 and confirmed *Afonso Henriques* as king. Historians treat this as a legend. The town was also an important wine trading centre from the 17th century.

The pilgrimage began with a chapel dedicated to Santo Estêvão in 1361. A new church was started in 1568, and the present sanctuary at Santuário de Nossa Senhora dos Remédios was built between 1750 and 1905. The bishops' palace, now Museu de Lamego, was rebuilt in 1776.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Portugal at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY



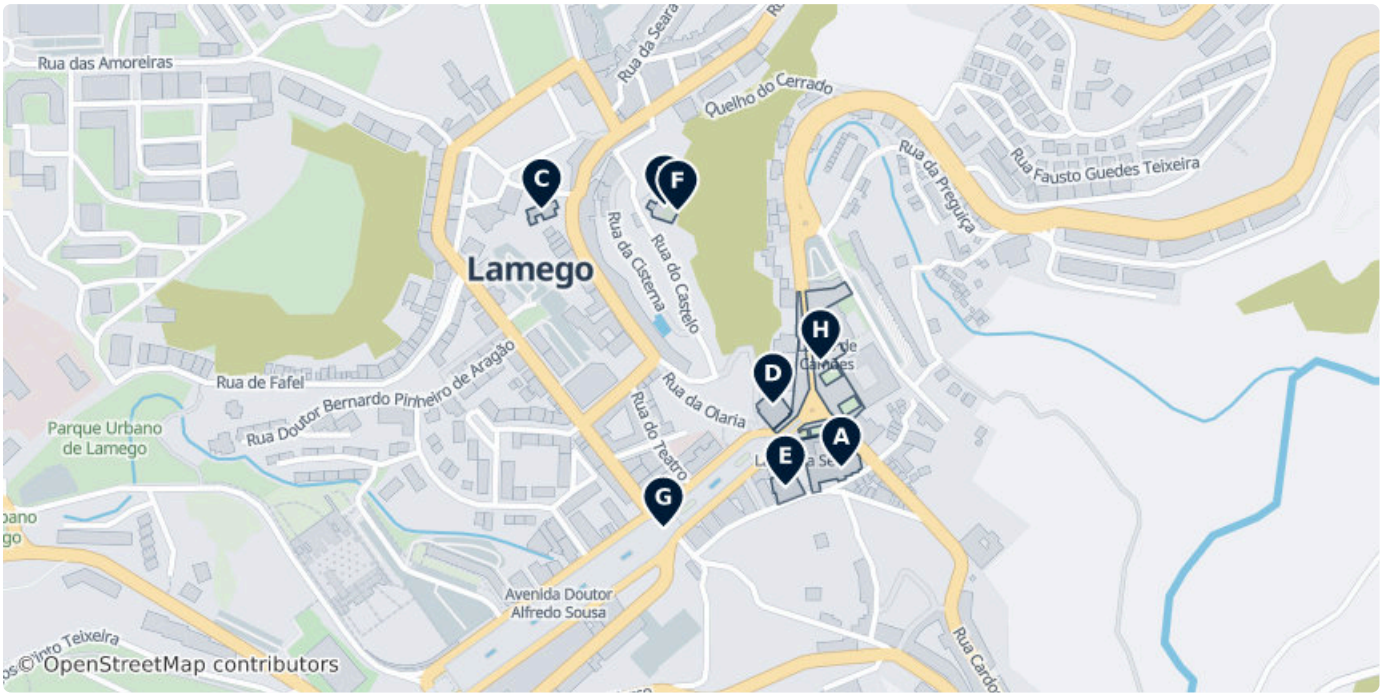
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LANGUAGES
Portuguese

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Lamego Essentials

Lamego Essentials highlights the historical core of one of Portugal's oldest cities in the Douro Valley. The selection features the 12th-century Lamego Cathedral with its Gothic and Renaissance elements, and the medieval castle overlooking the town. It includes significant religious sites like the Igreja de Santa Maria de Almacave, traditional public squares such as Largo de Camões, and cultural venues like the Teatro Ribeiro Conceição, housed in a former 18th-century hospital. These landmarks represent Lamego's transition from a Romanesque stronghold to a refined ecclesiastical center.





A Our Lady of the Assumption Cathedral, Lamego

The Our Lady of the Assumption Cathedral also called Lamego Cathedral is a religious building affiliated with the Catholic Church that was...

Rua Virgílio Correia, 5100-157 Lamego, Portugal
(41.09653, -7.80640)



B Castle of Lamego

The Castle of Lamego is a medieval castle located in the civil parish of Lamego, in the municipality of Lamego, Portuguese district of...

97 Rua do Castelo, Lamego 5100128, Portugal
(41.09917, -7.80877)

Tu–Su 10:00–18:00

C Igreja de Santa Maria de Almacave

Romanesque church originally built in the 12th century. It is traditionally cited as the meeting place for the first Portuguese Cortes (parliament) in 1143.

(41.09914, -7.81041)

D Teatro Ribeiro Conceição

A municipal theater housed within the former Hospital da Misericórdia. It features a preserved 18th-century Baroque facade and serves as the city's primary performing arts venue.

Largo de Camões, 5100-211 Lamego, PT
(41.09717, -7.80731)

trc.cm-lamego.pt

E Arquivo-Museu Diocesano de Lamego

Diocesan archive and museum containing collections of sacred art, liturgical objects, and historical documents related to the Bishopric of Lamego.

5100-098 Lamego (41.09634, -7.80715)

Tu–Su	09:00–13:00, 14:00–18:00

diocese-lamego.pt/arquivo

F Miradouro do Castelo

Elevated viewpoint situated within the medieval castle's perimeter, providing panoramic vistas over Lamego’s historic center and the surrounding hills.

(41.09912, -7.80859)

G Soldado Desconhecido

A memorial monument honoring the Portuguese soldiers who fought and died during World War I.

(41.09592, -7.80878)

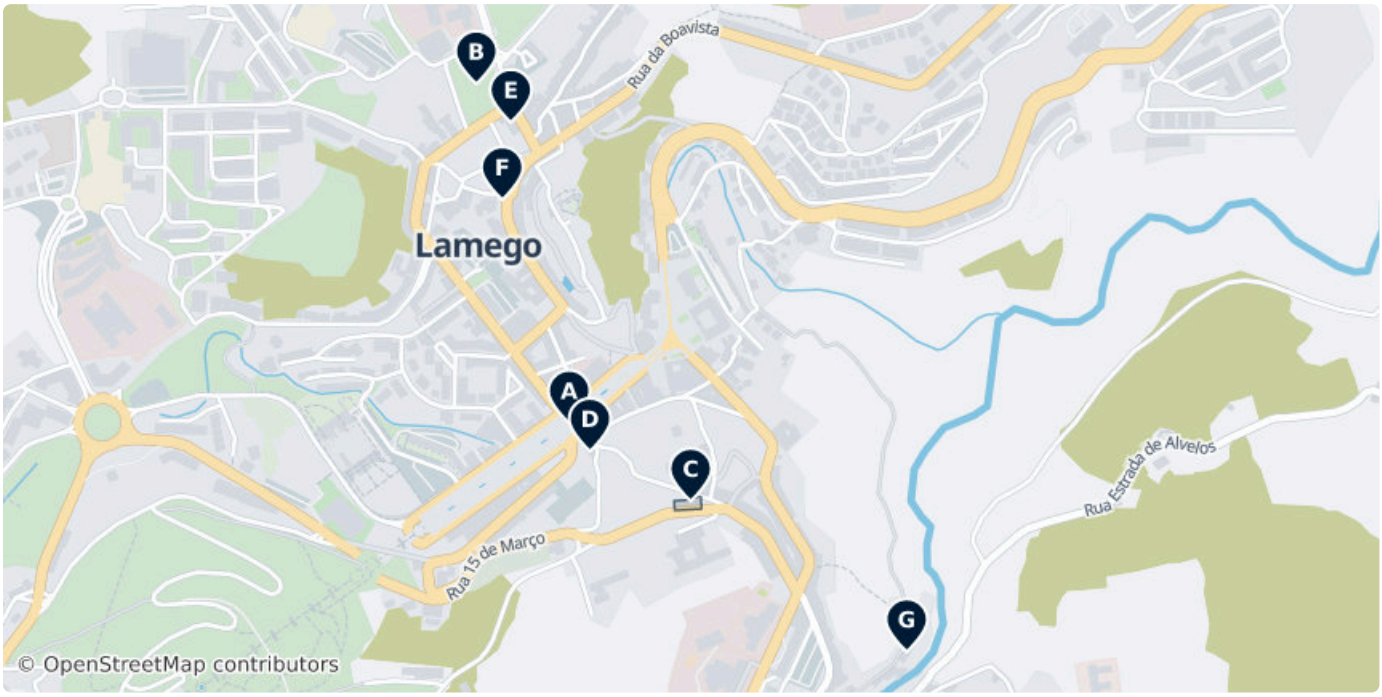
H Largo de Camões

A central pedestrian square featuring traditional Portuguese pavement, located adjacent to the cathedral and the city's main historic thoroughfares.

(41.09761, -7.80667)

Lamego's Hidden Gems

Lamego’s historical landscape is defined by its architectural diversity, ranging from the solemn Soldado Desconhecido memorial to the 18th-century Baroque facade of Casa dos Pinheiros de Aragão. The city’s spiritual heritage is preserved in the Igreja do Espírito Santo and the Capela de Nossa Senhora dos Meninos. Central to the town’s layout, Jardim Da República provides a landscaped green space adjacent to the Palácio da Justiça, a former aristocratic manor house. These sites commemorate pivotal national events, including the 1143 Treaty of Zamora.



A Soldado Desconhecido

A solemn monument dedicated to the Unknown Soldier, commemorating the fallen in World War I.

(41.09592, -7.80878)

B Jardim Da República

Central public garden featuring landscaped paths and historical monuments, serving as a focal point for city life.

(41.10094, -7.81060)

C Palácio da Justiça (Tribunal de Trabalho e Conservatória)

An imposing former manor house characterized by its neoclassical elements, now housing the city's Labour Court and Registry.

29 Rua das Canastras, Lamego 5100006, Portugal
(41.09477, -7.80639)

D Igreja do Espírito Santo

A small historic chapel featuring traditional religious architecture and serving as a quiet place of worship.

9 Rua das Canastras, Lamego 5100006, Portugal
(41.09551, -7.80837)

E Casa dos Pinheiros de Aragão

An 18th-century Baroque manor house that exemplifies the architectural style of the Portuguese provincial nobility.

(41.10037, -7.80992)

F 850 Ano do Tratado de Zamora

A monument commemorating the 850th anniversary of the Treaty of Zamora, the 1143 agreement that established Portugal's independence.

(41.09923, -7.81010)

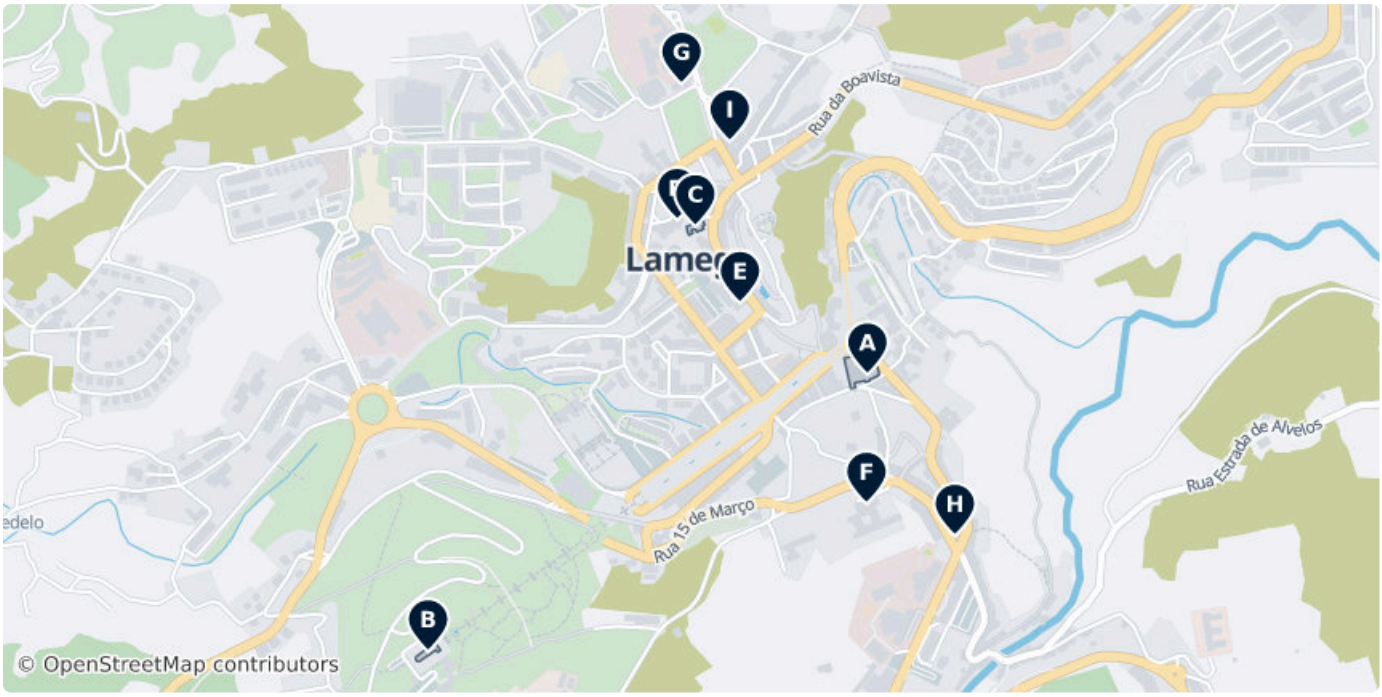
G Capela de Nossa Senhora dos Meninos

A traditional Catholic chapel dedicated to Our Lady of the Children, reflecting local religious heritage and stone craftsmanship.

7 Rua Senhor dos Meninos, Lamego 5100, Portugal
(41.09254, -7.80215)

Religious Heritage of Lamego

Lamego's religious landscape is defined by deep historical roots dating back to the Romanesque era and flourishing during the Baroque period. This collection highlights the monumental Santuário de Nossa Senhora dos Remédios, famous for its 686-step staircase, alongside the 12th-century Sé Cathedral. The list includes sites of political significance, such as the Igreja de Santa Maria de Almacave, and various convents featuring the intricate gilded woodcarvings and traditional Portuguese tilework that illustrate centuries of ecclesiastical influence.





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Rua Virgílio Correia, 5100-157 Lamego, Portugal (41.09653, -7.80640)



B Santuário de Nossa Senhora dos Remédios

An 18th-century Baroque shrine famous for its monumental zigzag staircase of 686 steps. The site features ornate fountains, statues, and blue-and-white tile panels overlooking the city.

Medelo, 5100-000 Lamego, Portugal (41.09167, -7.81665)

santuarioremedios.pt, (+351) 969 0463 77

C Igreja de Santa Maria de Almacave

Originally a Romanesque church, this site is historically significant as the traditional meeting place of the first Portuguese Cortes in 1143. The interior features 17th-century gilded woodcarvings.

(41.09914, -7.81041)

D Paço Episcopal

This 18th-century Baroque palace served as the residence for the bishops of Lamego. It now houses the Lamego Museum, showcasing significant Flemish tapestries and sacred art.

11 Rua das Cortes, Lamego 5100132, Portugal
(41.09925, -7.81083)

E Igreja de São Francisco

A 16th-century church and former Franciscan monastery featuring a Baroque facade and an interior decorated with elaborate gilded woodcarvings and traditional tilework.

48 Rua de Almacave, Lamego 5100109, Portugal
(41.09779, -7.80937)

F Convento e Igreja de Santa Cruz

A 17th-century convent and church showcasing Mannerist and Baroque architectural elements, representing the city's extensive monastic history.

Rua 15 de Março, Lamego 5100208, Portugal
(41.09426, -7.80642)

G Convento das Chagas

Founded in 1588, this convent features a Renaissance portal and an interior decorated with 18th-century tile panels and gilded altars.

Jardim da República, Lamego 5100, Portugal
(41.10164, -7.81073)

H Igreja do Desterro

A 17th-century church renowned for its rich Baroque interior, featuring exceptional gilded woodcarvings and painted ceilings that cover nearly every surface.

4 Rua do Desterro, Lamego 5100208, Portugal
(41.09370, -7.80436)

I Igreja de Nossa Senhora da Graça

An 18th-century church with a simple facade and traditional interior, serving as a key site within Lamego's historic religious district.

37 Rua Torta, Lamego 5100167, Portugal
(41.10063, -7.80961)

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