

EduPlus – Apprenticeships and internships in sunny Portugal Portfolio Services -cultural programme (Northern Portugal)



During weekends *EduPlus* offers to the participants the opportunity to participate in a cultural program.

The northern part of Portugal offers some of the most beautiful places to visit. Among them, our Partners will find:

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Viana do Castelo



A port city located in northern Portugal, in the Costa Verde region ("Green Coast") at the mouth of the Lima River which flows into the Atlantic Ocean. The beginnings of the city date back to ancient times, when a Celtic settlement was located on a hill above the city of Monte de Santa Luzia (Saint Lucia Hill). Some time later it was conquered and occupied by the Romans. The official date of foundation of Viana do Castelo is the year 1253. The founder of the city was then the king of Portugal - Alfons III (1210-1279). Viana do Castelo experienced its greatest heyday in the 16th century during great geographical discoveries. At that time, deep-sea ships were built in local shipyards, and thanks to shipping, trade was also rapidly developing. The most important of them include 16th-century Romanesque parish church (Igreja Matriz), 16th-century Paços do Concelho (former town hall), 16th-century Renaissance Queen's Fountain in the Republic Square (Chafariz da Praça da

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Rainha), 18th-century Church of Our Lady of Sorrows (Igreja da Senhora da Agonia), designed by the famous French architect Gustav Eiffel, an impressive iron bridge connecting Viana do Castelo with Santa Maria Maggiore, the eighteenth century Palacio dos Tavoras and built in the years 1903-1943 and towering over the city extremely picturesque monumental Lucia Sanctuary (Santuário de Santa Luzia). This temple was built on the model of the Paris Basilica Sacré Coeur.

The city is famous for its unusual view extending from the windows of the local Temple, which was hailed by National Geographic as one of the most beautiful views in the world.



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Ponte de Lima



A city in northern Portugal, located on the Lima River, about 28 km north-west of Braga. Its origins date back to ancient times, when the Romans built a bridge here (Ponte Romana), which was to be a stop on the route of an important trade route leading from Braga to Spanish Astorga. Shortly thereafter, a small settlement formed around the crossing, which quickly developed into a significant commercial center of the region. The city is known mainly for one of

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the largest and most well-known markets in Portugal, organized every other Monday. A characteristic element of the Ponte de Lima panorama is the Roman bridge leading to the old town, the landscape with an exotic palm tree in the background. You can walk around this 277-meter-long, 4-meter-wide bridge closed to cars, called Ponte Velha. We start the tour of the city from the main square of Largo de Camões (directly at the bridge). The square has a 17th-century chafariz, i.e. a fountain. In the corner of the square there is a remnant of the fourteenth-century defensive walls - Torre de São Paulo. At Passeio 25 de Abril, a pedestrian street, there are numerous small shops with local products. A walk to the south, along the Lima River, along the shady, plane-lined avenues of Avenida Dom Luis Filipe, allows you to see the former convent of São Francisco and São António dos Capuchos. The building, originally from the 16th century, now houses a museum of sacred art.

On the other side of the bridge is Igreja de Santo António, dating from the nineteenth century. The picturesque object, with a beautiful tower, is often photographed, it blends in well with the palm tree and hills in the background.



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Porto



Porto is the second largest city of Portugal, in the opinion of many, completely different from Lisbon. It constantly fights in the for the title of the most beautiful city of Portugal. Porto offers not only great architecture of the center, interesting monuments, but also the world-famous Porto wine. There is an old saying in Portugal that says: "They work in Porto, they pray in Braga, they study in Coimbra, and they spend money in Lisbon" - it reflects the atmosphere of Porto, which is the most important city in northern Portugal, but we must not forget that Porto offers also an innovative architecture that contrasts with the historic center and a number of attractions that together make the city unique. There is no shortage of postcard views, because the city lies on a hill and there is no problem to find a picturesque shot of the Douro River,

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which means "Golden" in



Portuguese.

The place to start exploring is the Town Hall which dominates the northern end of Avienda dos Aliados. It was built in 1920 and is one of the largest town halls in Europe with a 70 meter high granite tower and an impressive clock. Going down the main street we pass the historic Estação de São Bento Porto railway station on the left and a little further on the right side the Se Catedral do Porto. Strolling along Rua de Augusto Rosa you can see the Funicular dos Guindais cable car. From the tunnel you can see one of the most characteristic points of the city - the bridge of Louis I (Ponte de Dom Luís I), which was designed by the engineer Théophil Seyrigow, who a few years earlier, together with Gustav Eiffel designed the Ponte Dona Maria Pia bridge, which is also located in Porto. To see the best panorama we go over the bridge towards Vila Nova de Gaia. Along the coast there are many benches where we can sit and take a look at the river, admiring one of the most famous panoramas of Porto. You will see, among others traditional wooden barges that were once used to transport wine down the river. It is worth going to the magnificent church and tower of Clerigos - Igreja e Torre dos Clérigos - on Rua S. Filipe de Nery.

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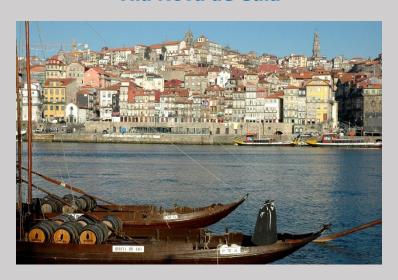
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Nearby is the Universidade do Porto building, the famous Livraria Lello Bookshop Porto library together with the magnificent Igreja do Carmo church, which is entirely decorated with Portuguese azulejos (ceramic tiles).

Vila Nova de Gaia



The city located on the left bank of Douro, which in old times competed with old Porto, is now the main port wine production center. In the city, you can admire the numerous antique boats, enter one of the numerous cafes and restaurants, or visit one of the wine factories. It is here that the cellars of the famous port wine are located. On the narrow streets are the basements of over 50 companies producing this drink. Here the port is bought and aged. The cellars can be visited with a guide. To get here from Porto, just cross the Dom Luís I bridge. After dark from the shores of Vila Nova de Gaia you can watch the panorama of illuminated Porto.

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BRAGA



Braga is one of the oldest cities in Portugal and also one of the oldest Christian cities in the world. There are about 30 religious buildings in the city. The name of the city comes from its founders, which was the ancient tribe of the Celts - Bracari. Once Braga was the seat of the Primate of Portugal. Braga is famous for many impressive churches, and above all for the Cathedral. The history of the city dates back to Roman times - Braga was then called Bracara Augusta. It was then an important center at the intersection of trade routes. In Braga you can see many monuments such as the arched gate Arco da Porta Nova, which served for many years as the main entrance to the city. It was built in the 18th century.

Another monument is the cathedral built in 1070, after the reconquista times. The cathedral's attention is drawn to a beautiful altar carved from white stone and a statue of the Nursing Mother. Treasury - Museu de Arte Sacra is a real decoration of the temple.

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Here you can see the tremendous wealth of treasures that have been accumulated over the centuries. You can also visit the magnificently carved baroque choir and powerful organs. Nearby is Antigo Paço Episcopal (Old Episcopal Palace), which currently houses offices. Behind the palace is Jardim de Santa Barbara, a beautifully maintained and extremely colorful garden. Praça da República or Republic Square also called Arcada is the largest square in the city. It is located in the historic center of the city. The square was built in the late Middle Ages and the name Arcada comes from the arcades that can be admired there, built by King Rodrigo de Moura Teles in 1715. On the square there is the church of Igreja da Lapa and two of the most famous cafes in the city - Vianna and Astória.

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Bom Jesus do Monte



Bom Jesus do Monte (Good Jesus from the Mountain) is next to Fatima one of the largest and most visited shrines that can be found in Portugal. It is located in the northern part of the country on a picturesque forested hill (400 meters above sea level), about 5 km from the center of Braga. This temple was built in the second half of the 18th century in the place of a small chapel dedicated to the Holy Cross. The main initiator of the construction of the sanctuary was the archbishop of Braga - House of Rodrigo de Moura Teles (1644-1728). The designer of the entire establishment, however, became the outstanding Portuguese architect Carlos Amarante (1748-1815). The heart of the whole complex is the monumental Baroque church Igreja Bom Jesus, located on an extremely picturesque hill (Monte Espinho), to which over 100 meter high monumental Baroque-Rococo stairs lead. Their lower part with numerous chapels and the Fountain of the Five Wounds of Christ creates an extremely interesting Way of the Cross. Going further we come across the

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most interesting part of the approach symbolizing the five human senses (Escadaria dos Cinco Sentidos): sight, smell, hearing, touch and taste. In addition, there are numerous fountains and sculptures depicting biblical and allegorical figures. The last, highest part of the approach is the symbols of the three virtues (Escadaria das Tres Virtudes): Faith, Hope and Love. Being at the very top it is worth paying attention to eight figures in front of the church depicting m. Pilate and Herod and the people who condemned Christ. You can also reach the top of the hill by the funicular railway built in 1882 (this is the oldest structure of this type on the Iberian Peninsula). However, most of the faithful people cover their entire journey on their knees. The sanctuary together with the stairs leading to it, symbolizes a spiritual journey to heaven and is a religious symbol of Portugal.





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Guimaraes



The city was the first capital of Portugal, it is called the cradle of Portugal (Berço da Nação Portuguesa). Here the first king of Portugal, Alfonso I, was born. In the 12th century, a reconquista began - the struggle for the expulsion of the Moors from the Iberian Peninsula. Even after moving the capital to Coimbra in 1143, the city did not experience a fall and to this day many medieval buildings have survived. The historic center of Guimarães (inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2001) is full of squares and narrow streets. There are many medieval churches and monasteries here - including Church of Our Lady of Olives (Igreja de Nossa Senhora da Oliviera) and today also the function of the town hall Monastery of St. Clare (Convento de Santa Clara). In the city center, on Rua D. Teresa, is the Convento de Santo António dos Capuchos. A castle from the 10th century rises on the northern outskirts of the Old Town. The castle was originally a fortress, protecting the city's

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inhabitants from the attacks of the Moors and Normans. In the 12th century - after expansion by Alfonso I the Conqueror - it was the first seat of the Portuguese kings. Below the castle is the Chapel of St. Michael (Capela de São Miguel). The ducal palace of Paço dos Duques de Bragança from the 15th century is the former residence of the Bragança family. Located on Rua Conde D. Henrique, the palace can be visited daily. Today Guimarães is a city that attracts crowds of tourists, mainly because of the wealth of monuments and its unique atmosphere of a medieval city.





In addition, on the last Thursday of the stay, the students will be taken to the largest market in Portugal, which is located in the city of Barcelos and will visit the beautiful city of Esposende wich is located by the ocean.

Welcome!

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