



FEELING JAMES BOND IN THE PORTUGUESE RIVIERA

Secret mission in Cascais. This Portuguese town, with its more than 650 years of history, combines glamour and tradition in equal parts. It's a destination for the European bourgeoisie since the 19th century, but also for the English and German spies during World War II. In fact, it was the perfect scenario for the creation of the most popular character in the film industry: James Bond.

Following the course of history of Portugal as a neutral country, Cascais and specially its neighbour village Estoril have become, beyond a safe haven in a Europe in turmoil, a place of vital importance during World War II, where diplomacy and espionage coexisted.

The region hosted many European personalities, several royal families, and charismatic artists, running away from an Europe at war in search of a safe place. The concentration of such important people forced the belligerent countries to send their secret agents here.

The necessary ingredients of magic and mystery were created, giving the Portuguese Riviera a unique atmosphere that still prevails.

It was not by chance that Ian Fleming created his famous character - the secret agent 007 James Bond - in 1941, shortly after his last stay in this region.

James Bond is quite possibly the most charismatic character of the seventh art. Up to a total of seven actors have played Agent 007, who wraps himself in an atmosphere of glamor and luxury.

It is important to understand the environment where Ian Fleming portrayed the double agent Dusan Popov, who liked to relate with the bourgeoisie of the time and who lived an endless number of hilarious adventures in the village of Estoril during the World War II.

In 1969 Estoril appears as background of James Bond adventures on the sixth 007 movie "On Her Majesty's Secret Service", based on the novel with the same name. In the film, Bond (George Lazenby) faces Blofeld (Telly Savalas), who is planning to hold the world ransom by the threat of sterilising the world's food supply through a group of brainwashed "angels of death".

Along the way Bond meets, falls in love with and marries Contessa Teresa di Vicenzo (Diana Rigg).

Palácio Estoril Hotel



It's also known as the 'whispering hotel', due to the English and German accommodation during World War II. Built in 1930, the Palácio is one of the most sophisticated and luxurious complexes in Estoril, with elegant and classic decoration and personalized attention. In addition, its wonderful garden – combined with a fantastic spa – is a haven of relaxation.

In addition, since its foundation the Hotel Palácio has been not only the second residence of the Spanish, Italian, French, Bulgarian and Romanian royal families (is still the place chosen by their descendants), but also a choice for the millionaire Charles Guggenheim, the French writer Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, the British writer and spy Ian Fleming, the future Prime Minister of India Indira Nehru or the economist John Keynes, among many others.

In February 2011, the hotel created the Royal Gallery, where one can appreciate countless photographs and letters from the kings and the European nobles who have stayed there. Today, several artists, film directors, athletes, heads of state and governments choose this hotel, which was once the stage for the filming of the movie '007: On Her Majesty's Secret Service'.

a) **Room 524**

In 1969, this hotel was one of the settings for the 6th James Bond film: "007 – On Your Majesty Secret Service".

The cast stayed at the Hotel Palácio Estoril, in the course of 1968. The exterior of the Hotel, the lobby, the pool and the rooms' view, are an integral part of many of the scenes of the film.

In the movie, James Bond stays in room 516, currently room 524, and receives the keys from the young concierge José Diogo, still today one of the Heads of the Concierge Desk.

Further info: <https://www.palacioestorilhotel.com/hotel/James%20Bond>

b) **007 Cocktail**

As a homage to Ian Fleming's life, while being one of the places that inspired him to write his first novel, the hotel created a signature cocktail based on what has been Mr. Fleming's favorite drinks.

The cocktail named "007 Martini", is a strong and powerful drink, with Vodka, Gin and Lillet Licquor.

It's part of the hotel bar menu and can be ordered throughout the year:

https://www.palacioestorilhotel.com/Content/downloads/Menus/Menu_Bar_Estoril_Hotel_Palacio_Estoril.pdf

E-mail: info@hotelestorilpalacio.pt | Website: www.palacioestorilhotel.com

Estoril Casino

This casino inspired agent 007's first novel and film 'Casino Royale'. It is the largest casino in Europe and the largest gaming and leisure complex in Portugal. It was also one of the scenarios in the filming of the movie '007: On Her Majesty's Secret Service', which starred Australian actor George Lazenby after the seasonal departure of Sean Connery.

In this casino, agent Dusan Popov used to play Black Jack and it is rumored that one day he ruined the German spies. Ian Fleming himself, eager to repeat the feat, asked the English intelligence service for money to emulate Popov at the table. It's a place where dreams can come true.



Further Info: <https://www.bbc.com/reel/video/p086f8jn/the-playboy-serbian-spy-who-inspired-james-bond>

Website: <http://www.casino-estoril.pt/>

Guincho Beach



This is one of the longest beaches in the region. It has some of the best restaurants in the country, such as Fortaleza do Guincho – awarded with a Michelin star – and the Porto de Santa Maria, which has attracted celebrities as the USA president Bill Clinton.

Guincho beach is one of the scenarios that appear in the James Bond movie '007: On Her Majesty's Secret Service' (1969).

'On Her Majesty's Secret Service', James Bond is overcome by a woman in a Mercury Cougar car.

At the Guincho beach, the agent prevents this same woman from committing suicide. Afterwards a fight with 2 suspicious men who try to murder 007. While the fight takes place on the sand, the mysterious woman disappears.

About Ian Fleming's life in Estoril

In 1939, he was recruited into the British Navy secret services, led by John Godfrey. Together with him he settled in the Hotel Palácio, in Estoril, in May 1941. This period coincided with the "Operation Goldeneye", led by Fleming, which consisted on the maintenance of a spy network in the Iberian Peninsula, in anticipation of a possible Nazi invasion of the territory. During his stay in Portugal, he contacted the Portuguese authorities as part of that operation.

On his trips to Casino do Estoril, Fleming would have speculated on the identity of its gamers, among whom were spies, aristocrats in exile, and wealthy refugees in search of distraction. One of these was spy Dusko Popov, double agent "Trycycle", who Fleming met at the Casino.

Popov comes to boast of being the inspiration for the character of James Bond.

After the end of the war, Fleming became a journalist - his contract provided him a generous three-month annual vacation period. It was during this period that Fleming wrote Casino Royale, the first romance with spy 007, published in 1953. Fleming has in his memories of Casino do Estoril one of the inspirations for the baccarat game between Bond and Le Chiffre, which Fleming places in the fictional French hermal area of Royale-les-Eaux.

About Dušan "Duško" Popov

Serbian spy, triple agent who served MI6 and Abwehr during World War II. While working for the English, he passed on false information to the Germans, and was also a secret agent of the Yugoslav government in exile. For the Germans, his code name was Ivan; for Yugoslavs, it was Duško; for the MI6 it was Tricycle.

It was in Portugal, presumably in Estoril, that Popov passed on information to the Germans. On one of his missions, he was in Portugal before leaving for the United States, where he reportedly informed the FBI (on August 12, 1941) of the impending bombing of Pearl Harbor.

He stayed at the Hotel Palácio four times:

- January 7, 1941 (we don't know when he checked - out)
- March 16, 1941 (we don't know when when he checked - out)
- June 29, 1941 (leaving on August 10)
- March 31, 1944 (leaving on April 12, 1944)

In all Accommodation Bulletins, he declared 'Lawyer' as a profession.

In Estoril, he met Ian Fleming. On a mission at Casino do Estoril, the two collaborated, with Fleming controlling Popov. His loose, risky style and his busy emotional life were undoubtedly one of the main influences on Ian Fleming's creation of secret agent James Bond. In fact, there are several documentaries that call him 'The real James Bond'.

In 1974, he published his autobiography 'Spy / Counter-spy'.

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