



Road Route N247: From Cascais Waterfront to Ericeira's World Surf Reserve

Surrounded by Sintra–Cascais Natural Park, this mythical road offers a little bit of everything we want for this summer: viewpoints with stunning views, long sandy beaches, mountainous landscapes to get lost and typical villages to take the best photos and enjoy the Portuguese gastronomy.

STEP 1 – FROM CASCAIS TO THE ROCA CAPE

Starting in Cascais and heading towards Cabo da Roca, right at the beginning of the route we face the emblematic Farol de Santa Marta (open to the public) and Boca do Inferno, the most popular viewpoint of the region.

For a coffee stop nothing better than Casa da Guia, with its variety of shops, restaurants and cafeterias. On the other side of the road, the 9 kms bike path invites the most enthusiastic visitors to go for a bike ride to Guincho beach.

While driving, we pass by the Fort of São Jorge de Oitavos (old military device, also open to the visitor) and by the Cabo Raso Lighthouse.

The architecture on the surroundings reminds us the importance of the sea throughout the history of Portugal and also Cascais incredible role in protecting the city of Lisbon, during the glorious times of the portuguese discoveries.

As we arrive at Guincho beach, the smell of the seaside air is the watchword. Monte Mar, Porto de Santa Maria and Panorama restaurants are a must for fish and seafood lovers. For haute cuisine one cannot miss the tasting menu at the Michelin star restaurant of the Hotel Fortaleza do Guincho.

From Guincho beach, visit options may vary according to the tourists personal interests.

For hiking lovers we recommend trekking on a section of the Great Route “Caminho do Atlântico”(GR11), part of the Great European Route E9, which starts in Saint Petersburg and ends in Portugal, at Cabo de São Vicente. For those who have less time but would love to try one of the small walking routes (average hiking time: 3 hours), Cascais offers a set of 4 small routes, shwcasing small rural villages, coastal cliffs and an amazing forest scenery.

For those who do not want to enjoy this uneven terrain alone and without preparation, *Walk Hike Portugal* and *Surpresa Natural* provide the best guided hikes. Guided bike tours in this environment are also available with *Lisbon Bike Tours & Outdoors*.

Between hike pauses we recommend a strategic stop at the cafeteria of *Duna da Cresmina Interpretation Center*, which view to the beach does not disappoint.

Close to this road, the *Peninha* viewpoint and its breathtaking panorama over Cascais and Lisbon are worth a small detour. On the surroundings, picnic lovers will find the ideal setting at *Quinta do Pisão eco-farm*, while driving the mythical road that was the stage of the former Portuguese Rally.

STEP 2 – FROM CABO DA ROCA TO ERICEIRA

Heading north, Cabo da Roca- the westernmost point of continental Europe - is a mandatory stop to admire the immensity of the Atlantic Ocean.

Considering the visit to the most western point deserves a celebration, why not taste the most western wines of Europe at *Adega Viúva Gomes* or *Casal de Santa Maria*?

Along the road, the contrast between the sea and the mountains remains, orienting ourselves so that we don't get lost while we continue heading north.

On our way we find genuine and beautiful villages that deserve a driving break. Although we are close to Lisbon, it seems that we have already traveled hundreds of miles far from civilization.

Following this route, nature lovers continue to find many reasons to walk. The natural wonders of *Fojo* and *Pedra de Alvidrar*, next to *Adraga* beach, justify a walk or a bike ride towards north.

Right next door, *Praia da Adraga*, considered by the renowned British newspaper *The Independent* as one of the ten most beautiful beaches in Portugal, provides the ideal time for a break.

If the weather gets hot and you need to take a bath, the ocean pool at *Arribas Sintra Hotel* is the best option to rest and refresh.

Further north, the *Azenhas do Mar* viewpoint is one of the most beautiful pearls of the Portuguese coast and a visit not to be missed.

At our final lap the road takes us to the town of Ericeira, a World Surfing Reserve. Formerly a fishing village, Ericeira is today an important tourist resort mainly for its connection to surfing. Marked by a very unique atmosphere, it is worth the visit and the walk along the coast.

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