



DISCOVER LISBON'S TAGUS RIVER

From iconic architecture to nature reserves, waterfront dining to a river cruise, there's plenty to enjoy along Lisbon's magnificent waterway



From L-R: Belém Tower, Parque das Nações and 25 de Abril Bridge & Santuário do Cristo-Rei

The mighty Tagus River, which winds through Lisbon to meet the Atlantic Ocean beyond, played a key role in the development of the vibrant city of today. From Lisbon's establishment as a Roman port, through the expeditions of the great Age of Discovery, the Tagus has been at its heart and home to a wealth of activities and attractions for travellers to enjoy both on and alongside the water.

From discovering some of the city's greatest monuments and tranquil nature reserves teeming with wildlife to alfresco dining in some of its coolest neighbourhoods, here are some of the waterside highlights that visitors to Lisbon can enjoy in 2021.

Stunning architecture old and new

The riverside is home to some of Lisbon's greatest monuments, from the magnificent UNESCO World Heritage-listed Jerónimos Monastery and Belém Tower to the Monument to the Discoveries, which commemorates the golden age of Portuguese history, and the 2,278-metre long 25 de Abril Bridge - one of Lisbon's most notable landmarks.

In contrast, contemporary Lisbon can be seen in the striking architecture of the Parque das Nações (Park of Nations) district, which also boasts beautiful views of the river. Originally built for Expo 98, it has since been transformed into one of the city's coolest neighbourhoods where striking structures and futuristic design create a model of modern urban living and entertainment – while the boardwalk is the perfect spot for riverside jogging, a favourite pastime amongst local Lisboetas!

For the ultimate “old meets new” experience, visitors should head to the MAAT Museum (Museum for Art, Architecture and Technology). This spectacular riverside cultural centre comprises an ultramodern new building inspired by the rippling of the water with the Tejo Power Station, one of Portugal's most prominent examples of early 20th century industrial architecture.

Waterside eating and drinking

The old port district of Alcântara is one of Lisbon's trendiest areas. Sitting beneath the 25 de Abril Bridge, visitors will find Docas de Santo Amaro, a marina filled with waterfront eateries and uber cool rooftop bars ideal for taking in the stunning river views whilst sipping a drink or two. Visiting Alcântara also offers the perfect opportunity to see three Lisbon classics into the same picture: the 25 de Abril Bridge, the River Tagus and the breathtaking Santuário do Cristo-Rei statue in the background. Other great areas for alfresco riverside dining include the Cais do Sodré district and the Parque das Nações, which is home to a wide selection of lively waterfront bars and restaurants.

Panoramic views

Located on the south bank of the river, the Santuário do Cristo Rei statue is a great spot for unspoilt views of the river. However, only a short drive from this popular attraction visitors can find the lesser-known Elevador da Boca do Vento (Boca do Vento Elevator) in Almada which offers breathtaking views across the water to the city beyond.

Wetlands and wildlife

Just one hour from the city, the [Tagus Estuary Nature Reserve](#) is Portugal's largest wetland and one of the country's best spots for bird watching, with thousands of migratory birds resting here on their long flights, including spectacular flocks of flamingos in autumn, while others make this their permanent home. Scenic hiking and biking trails are the perfect way enjoy this peaceful oasis on the city's doorstep.

Take to the water

For a true Tagus experience, visitors can take to the water on a variety of craft, from classic 3-mast sailing boats to "hop on, hop off" sightseeing cruises, traditional fishing boats, catamarans and for adrenaline lovers – speedboats. Visitors looking for a romantic experience can enjoy a sunset dinner cruise while, for something fun and truly unforgettable, an amphibious vehicle tour allows visitors to explore Lisbon by land and water, all without leaving their seat!

For more information on Lisbon, visit: www.visitlisboa.com

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About Turismo de Lisboa

Turismo de Lisboa is a non-profit organisation established through an alliance of public and private bodies operating in the tourist sector. It has around 930 associated members. Since its inception in 1998, the main objective of the association is to improve and increase the promotion of Lisbon as a tourist destination and therefore enhance the quality and competitiveness of the city.

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