

Read more about 111 places along the Algarve >>>

EXPERIENCE THE AUTHENTIC ALGARVE

The shores of the south of Portugal have been geared towards providing a luxury beach-holiday destination for over half a century now. But only minutes away from the coast is an invisible temporal membrane through which you can pass into the real Algarve, embedded in ancient traditions, soaked in renaissance romance and dotted with idyllic fishing villages.

In the shadow of the hotel high-rises, medieval castles and baroque churches sublimely awaken the memory of the former kingdom and its illustrious history of naval navigation, when the Algarve was the gateway to the New World, as valuable knowledge from four continents made its way here, as the plurality of cultures shaped the Algarve into precisely the charming and headstrong coast that it has remained to this day.

This alternative travel guide is as idiosyncratic as the Algarve itself, bringing together 111 places that offer unconventional encounters for authentic experiences of the coast and its people. Track down the spirit of the chosen knights on barren cliffs; read Portuguese poetry in an old slaughter house; search for the tears of the sea in the sand; relax with a view of Spain in the saline mud baths of ancient salt pans; taste strawberry-tree liqueur in the mountains; and find out the price some pay for the ascension from Purgatory.

No matter where you may be, between the cape at the end of the world in Sagres and the river border to Spain, in the mountains, on the islands, in lively harbour cities or abandoned mountain villages, you will encounter a different Algarve and fall in love again and again with each of these 111 places.

You may just find yourself visiting again soon...