useful informations

HERITAGE SITES

Chapel of Nossa Senhora da Confiança Mother Church of S. João Baptista Chapel of Misericórdia (17th c.)

Chapel of Santo António

Chapel of São Rafael

Chapel of São Sebastião

Chapel of Santa Maria Madalena

Town Pillory of Pedrógão Pequeno

Philippine Bridge of Cabril

Moinho das Freiras

Roman cobblestones

PLACES OF INTEREST

Philippine Bridge

Tunnel

Moinho das Freiras

WHERE TO EAT

Restaurant "Gerações" - 236 487 144

Restaurant "Sabores da Montanha" - 236 480 008

WHERE TO STAY

Casal Maio - 274 030 511

Hotel da Montanha - 236 480 000

Quinta de Santa Teresinha - 274 600 160; 918 795 406

LOCAL CRAFTS

Wicker basketwork, tinwork, woven linens decorated with hand-embroidered motifs in a variety of stitch styles: openwork, Richelieu and satin stitch.

LOCAL CUISINE

"Cartuchos" of Cernache (cone-shaped sweet almond pastries), fish soup, "Bucho and "Maranho" (similar to haggis), "Filhós" and "Coscoréis" (fritters), "Aguardente de Medronho" (spirit distilled from the fruit of the strawberry tree) and cheeses.



Philippine Bridge

trail signage



correct path

code of conduct



wrong way





Keep to the signposted route. Avoid making unnecessary noise;
Observe the wildlife without causing disturbance;
Do not damage the vegetation;
Do not leave litter or other signs of your presence;
Do not light fires. Do not collect samples of plants or rocks;
Treat the people you meet with politeness.

useful contacts

Emergency (Fire/Police/Ambulance): 112 SOS Forestry Department: 117 Poisons Line: 808 250 143 Sertā Police Station (GNR): 274 600 730 Sertā Fire Station: 274 603 528 Sertā Health Centre (24hr A&E): 274 600 800 Trail promoter

Sertā Câmara Municipal: 274 600 300 Sertā Tourist Information: 274 600 326 Pedrógão Pequeno Parish Council: 236 487 070 ADXTUR – REDE ALDEIAS DO XISTO SCHIST VILLAGE NETWORK: 275 647 700; 960 101 873

www.aldeiasdoxisto.pt

_sponsors







_supporters









_route in phase of registration and approval by:











distance duration type of route altitude gain highest/lowest point

7,0 Km

3h 00min circular

396 m

A

179 m

179 m

Pedrógão Pequeno Schist Trail II

Anticlockwise: the trail starts at the Pedrógão Pequeno marketplace and heads downhill towards the River Zêzere, following an old cobbled street. At the end of the descent it is worth making a detour onto the Philippine Bridge. The trail continues along the Levada Route, passing through a tunnel to reach Moinho das Freiras. On exiting the tunnel the loop down to Moinho das Freiras can be made either by going down via the tarmac road and coming back up via the waterside path, or vice versa. After completing the loop the trail starts to climb towards the village of Painho. On arriving at the "lavadouro" (old community laundry place) the trail turns to the left, and next to some shrines turns left again to enter the pinewood. After 1km, next to Fonte das Aveleiras, the trail leaves the tarmac and re-enters the pinewood by a path on the right. After a few metres the trail passes through a tunnel under the IC8 road to return to the start point.

Clockwise: on leaving Pedrógão Pequeno the trail passes through a pedestrian tunnel under the IC8 road. Shortly afterwards the trail turns to the right to follow a path leading to Fonte das Aveleiras, and from there heads towards the village of Painho. After passing the last houses the trail continues along an earth road, which then joins the tarmac road down to the waterside at Moinho das Freiras. From Moinho das Freiras the trail follows a small riverside path, which leads uphill to the picnic area next to the Moinho das Freiras tunnel. After passing through the tunnel the trail follows the Levada Route, at the end of which it is worth making a detour onto the Philippine Bridge. The trail returns to Pedrógão Pequeno following the old cobbled street uphill.



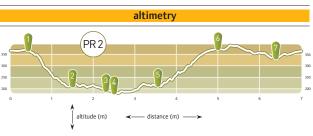
Places of interest and their distances from the start point:

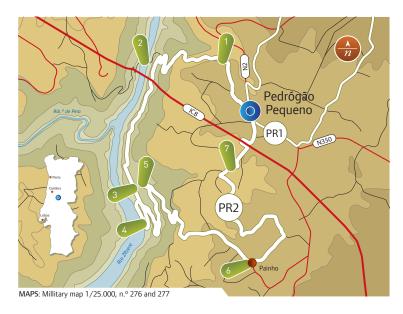
- 1 _ Roman Road _ 400m
- 2 _ Philippine Bridge _ 1500m
- 3 _ Moinho das Freiras Tunnel _ 2300m
- 4 Moinho das Freiras (Bouçã Reservoir) 2500m
- **5** _ Viewpoint _ 3600m
- 6 _ Painho Village _ 5000m
- 7 _ Fonte das Aveleiras _ 6300m



Start and end point:

_Mercado Municipal (Marketplace) of Pedrógão Pequeno (39°54'40.41"N 08° 7´49.55"W)



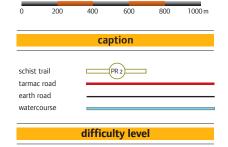








Moinho das Freiras - (Bouçã Reservoir)



The degree of difficulty is indicated by four different categories, each of which is evaluated on a scale of 1 to 5 (where 1 is easiest and 5 is most difficult).



All year. Caution with heat in summer.



Pedrógão Pequeno

According to local tradition it was the Roman Consulate Aulo Curcio who founded Pedrógão Pequeno in 150 BC. However, recent studies indicate that the area had already been populated since the Final Bronze Age (1250-750 BC), during which period a "castro", or hill fort, was constructed. Remains of this still exist on the hill of Nossa Senhora de Confianca.

After periods of occupation by Romans and Moors, the territory became a possession of the Portuguese Crown before being handed to the Order of the Temple by King D. Afonso Henriques in 1165. Shortly afterwards, in 1194, King D. Sancho I passed control of Pedrógão Pequeno to the Knights Hospitaller (later the Order of the Knights of Malta), who implemented extensive strategic measures. The Order's Prior, Álvaro Gonçalves Camelo, made frequent visits to the area and in 1454 Prior Vasco de Ataíde granted the town municipal autonomy, thus freeing Pedrógão Pequeno from the County of Sertã.

The rights, freedoms and guarantees of the small municipality were confirmed on 20th October 1513, when King D. Manuel I granted a Town Charter. Pedrógão Pequeno´s independence continued until 6th November 1836, when Minister Manuel da Silva Passos passed a decree dissolving this and other small municipalities across the country. The two parishes (Pedrógão Pequeno and Carvalhal) of the extinguished municipality were initially integrated into the Country of Oleiros, but a new decree in 1837 placed them under the aegis of Sertã. Reduced to the status of a simple parish Pedrógão Pequeno received its first administrative authority, located first in the Junta de Paróquia and later in the Junta de Freguesia.



Pedrógão Pegueno Pillory

> natural heritage

This area of "charneca" (*heath*) is ideal for observing nature in its most untouched state. The natural heritage is extremely rich and very varied. Along the trail it is possible to see oaks on the escarpments of the Cabril dam, as well as many other tree species. These include **cork oak** (*Quercus suber*), **Portuguese oak** (*Quercus faginea*), **strawberry tree** (*Arbutus unedo*) and **maritime pine** (*Pinus pinaster*).

The animals that make this habitat their home include partridges (Alectoris rufa), crows (Corvus corax), herons (Ardea cinerea), black kites (Milvus migrans), blackbirds (Turdus merula), buzzards (Buteo buteo), rabbits (Oryctolagus cuniculus), weasels (Mustela nivalis), wild boar (Sus scrofa), hares (Lepus capensis), badgers (Meles meles), mongooses (Herpestes ichneumon) and otters (Lutra lutra).

The River Zêzere is home to carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), largemouth black bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), barbel (*Barbus bocagei*) and perch (*Perca fluviatilis*).