

The Atlantic Route of Traditional Salt Making

The 'Atlantic Route of Traditional Salt Making' has been developed under the leadership of the Provincial Council of Álava. Included in the project are 13 organisations from four countries - Spain, France, Portugal and the United Kingdom.

All participants are united by the goal of creating a tourism trail known as "The Traditional Salt Route of the Atlantic". The central idea of this route is based on the appreciation of the natural and cultural heritage of salt producing sites as catalysts for regional development.

The main objective of the ECOSAL ATLANTIS project is the development of joint, integral and sustainable tourism based on the cultural and natural heritage of traditional Atlantic saltworking sites.

The project focuses on three key activities designed to develop tourism in Atlantic saltworking sites:

- Heritage;
- Economic development;
- Biodiversity and Eco-tourism.

These activities respond to the four specific objectives of the project:

- To establish guidelines for the management of the natural and cultural heritage of saltworking sites on the basis of a common heritage database.
- To evaluate, enhance the value of and promote the traditional Atlantic saltworking sites by means of a network of players implementing joint actions.
- To maintain or restore the habitats typical of saltworking sites in the framework of eco-tourism.
- To promote the conservation and understanding of Atlantic saltworking sites by circulating information and creating trans-national synergies.



Figueira da Foz, Portugal

The Portuguese Route



There are four main sites to promote the heritage of salt making in Portugal.

Three are located on the Atlantic coast and one is inland, using brine derived from rock salt deposits in the mountains.



Marinha Santiago Da Fonte

T_ (+351) 234 37 0211

www.ua.pt

The Santiago da Fonte Salt Flats, owned by the University of Aveiro, are located in the Grupo do Sul of 'Salgado de Aveiro'. They include a restored storage area that has two purposes: to support the production of salt and to develop scientific research programmes. Visits must be booked in advance.



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Jardins De Sal Da Figueira Da Foz

T_ (+351) 233 428 895 / 940

www.figueiradigital.com

The type of salt flat and the production technology used have features that are not found in other saltmaking regions in Portugal, providing the Figueira Salt Flats with the characteristics of a Salt Garden.



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Ecomuseu Marinha Da Troncalhada

T_ (+351) 234 406 485

www.cm-aveiro.pt

Key section of the City Museum, this facility displays the methods and experiences of the Aveiro salt works, 'the windows of Heaven' of Almada Negreiros, typical of the natural and picturesque landscape of Ria de Aveiro [Natura 2000].



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Salinas De Rio Maior

T_ (+351) 243 991 121

www.cm-riomaior.pt

Rio Maior is home to the only operational inland salt flats in Portugal. They are 75 km from Lisbon and 30 km from the sea. They contain water that is seven times saltier than sea water and are a marvel of nature as well as a living museum with 800 years of history.



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